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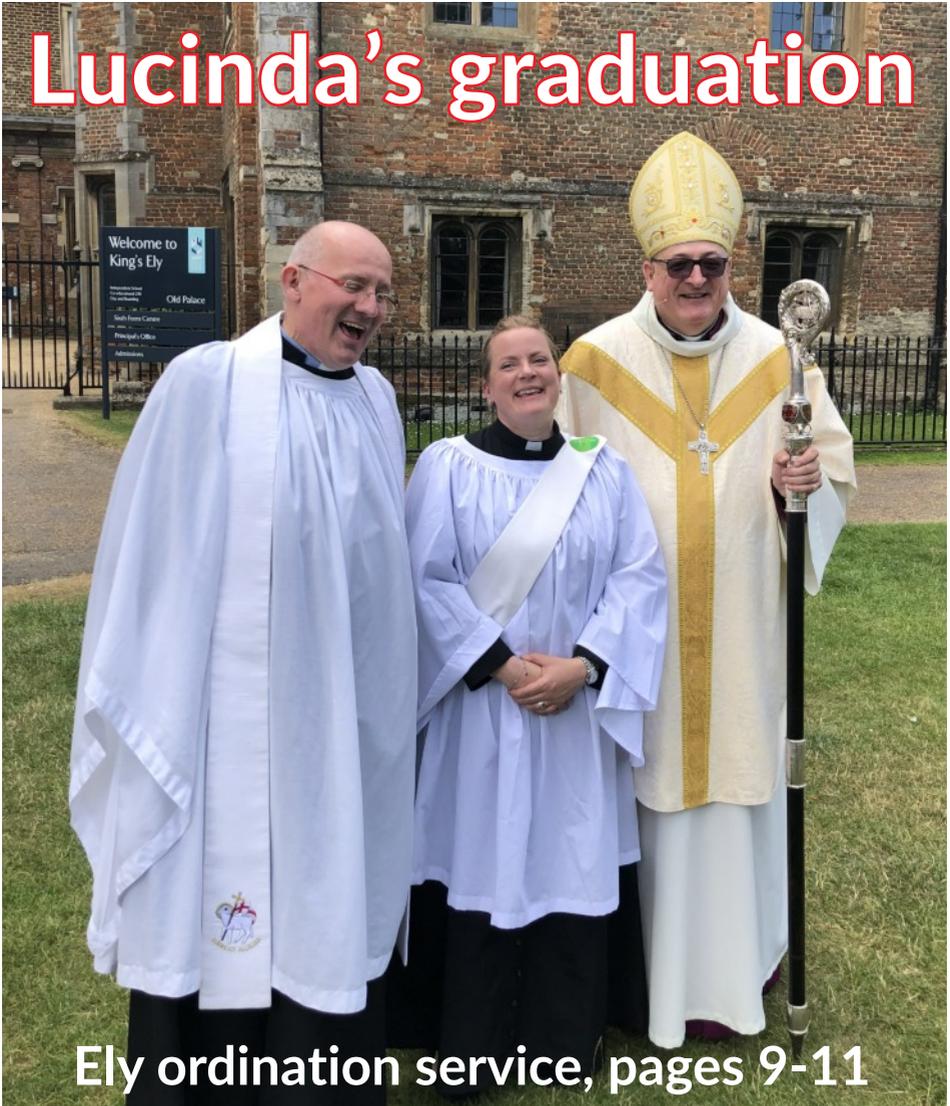
MESSENGER

August 2022

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Lucinda's graduation



Ely ordination service, pages 9-11

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Who's who at St Andrew's

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Parish priest

Rev Dr Simon Taylor 840256

Assistant priest

Rev Clare Coates 07818 618795

Curate

Rev Lucinda Howard 07763 477821

Churchwarden

Alastair MacGregor
07855 269844

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Rob Needle 844227

Parish Administrator

Gillian Sanders 07752 373176

Youthworker

Zoe Clayton 894656

Children's Ministry

Sue Brown 01954 264246

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John Bryden 07803 706847

PCC secretary

Nicky West 07927 531719

Treasurer

Chris Bow 841982

Verger

Clare Kerr 842984

Captain of bellringers

Tony Smith 843379

Church flowers

Jackie Nettleton 721366

Stapleford-Nachingwea Link

Trish Maude 242263

Mothers' Union

Hilary Street 840548

Johnson Memorial Hall

Gillian Sanders 07752 373176

Friends of St Andrew's

Tony Hore 843796

Gift Aid secretary

Lisa MacGregor 07523 668731

SERVICES at St ANDREW'S

See the St Andrew's Noticeboard for this month, and the church website at standrewstapleford.org for full details. The services include:

9am BCP or CW Communion

10.30am Communion, Services of the Word, Messy Church and Forest Church

SERVICES AT OTHER CHURCHES

Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston (Roman Catholic)

Sundays 8.45am and 11.15am

Shelford Free Church (Baptist)

Sundays 10.30am

Christenings and Weddings

Christenings take place during Sunday worship.

For both Christenings and Weddings, contact the parish priest.

Stapleford MESSENGER

Editor

Contact staplefordmessenger@gmail.com

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From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

THE Oscars this year were more 'lively' than usual. It's a little while back, but you might remember the mini-furore when Will Smith marched on stage and slapped the presenter, Chris Rock. He did so when Rock used his supposedly comedic monologue to poke fun at Smith's wife Jada over her alopecia. Smith shouldn't have done it, of course, but then neither should Rock, so it was all a bit of a mess. The Academy responded by ejecting Smith, but with no hint of remorse at managing to choose, once again, a presenter whose comedy was simply offensive. They have form for it.



The Academy also managed to upset international treasure and general good egg Liza Minnelli. She was due to present an award alongside Lady Gaga. Minnelli uses a wheelchair some of the time, but did not want to appear in it. Her choice, which she was entitled to make, and the Academy agreed. The plan was to bring her on stage in a break and help her to sit in a director's chair. But at the last moment the organisers changed the arrangements so she was wheeled on, protesting but getting on with it, trouper that she is.

Anyway, that bit of the goings-on made me think back to Minnelli's glory days. She was fantastic in the film *Cabaret*. If you have never seen it you really should. Minnelli acts and sings the role of a rather sad American cabaret singer, Sally Bowles, working in Berlin in 1931, stuck in a love triangle with a British academic and a decadent German playboy, all against the sinister backdrop of the rise of the Nazi party and the collapse of the Weimar Republic.



It is great stuff. My favourite song is 'Life is a Cabaret', though actually I prefer Louis Armstrong's version. That is not saying a lot, since I mostly prefer Louis Armstrong's version of anything. There are various recordings online if you take a look, including one with one of my mini-heroes, 'Trummy' Young on trombone. He and Louis had a great rapport on stage. On one recording of, I think, the St Louis Blues, Armstrong is singing 'I had a woman' in typical blue-sy style, and you can hear Young chuntering away in the background 'So what, I had five of 'em.' But I digress.

The lyrics of 'Life is a Cabaret' go like this:

'No use permitting
 some prophet of doom
 to wipe every smile away.
 Come hear the music play.
 Life is a Cabaret, old chum,
 come to the Cabaret.
 Start by admitting,
 from cradle to tomb
 isn't that long a stay.
 Life is a Cabaret, old chum,
 only a Cabaret, old chum,
 come to the Cabaret.'

The Minnelli version has an extra couple of verses, including the neat little story of her housemate Elsie: 'she wasn't what you'd call a blushing flower... as a matter of fact, she rented by the hour', but Armstrong leaves out all the jokey stuff. He gets that this is a serious song with a serious theme. Is the here and now all there is? The *Cabaret* answer is yes, it is. The message is that life is just like the mix of performances in a cabaret, and not that long a one, so enjoy it while you're here.

Which brings me to my usual - Christian - landing zone. I love the song, but the message is wrong.

I think, incidentally, that both Minnelli and Armstrong, both Christians, would know that. They would probably know St Peter's first letter. Peter wrote this to communities of Christians living around the Black Sea and suffering greatly under Roman persecution, martyrdom in the arena just for being Christian and all that. The letter seems peculiarly relevant as we hear about the present suffering of Kherson, Odesa and Mariupol and all those other cities along the same coast. Suffering just for the accident of birth of being Ukrainian.

Despite all the suffering of his time, Peter starts by writing 'Praise be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.' An odd thing to write to those suffering, but maybe no worse than Sally Bowles' forced cheerfulness as jackboots marched. And Peter had his reasons, way more profound than her 'make the best of the here and now'. Peter went on to say why those suffering - and all of us in fact - should praise God: 'In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade, [an] inheritance... kept in heaven for you.'

It's cracking stuff. A real, tangible, living hope because, says Peter, Christ was himself raised from the dead. Try checking out the evidence before you make your mind up on that. And if you have made up your mind without checking the evidence, then think again. If the claim is true - spoiler alert, it is - then what would it mean for those listening to 'Life is a Cabaret' and assenting to its rather dismal message? And what would it mean for you? Maybe you would find the inheritance kept for you!

Did you know, incidentally, that Armstrong recorded a song called 'Goin' to Shout All Over God's Heaven'. Not a great song, to be honest, but it goes like this:

'I've got a crown, you've got a crown,
all of God's children got a crown.
When I get to heaven goin' to put on my crown,
goin' to shout all over God's heaven.'

Well, yes. **Every blessing to you all, Simon**

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St Andrew's Noticeboard

- 7 AUG 9 AM BCP COMMUNION
 10.30 AM ALL AGE FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION
 Psalm 150; Luke 11.1-8
Praise the Lord
 6 PM CHORAL EVENSONG
 Genesis 15.1-6; Hebrews 11.1-3
- 14 AUG 9 AM BCP COMMUNION
 10.30 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP
 Psalm 16; Colossians 2.6-15
Keep me safe
- 21 AUG 9 AM SUNG CW COMMUNION
 10.30 AM ALL AGE MESSY FOREST CHURCH
 Psalm 121; Luke 11.9-13
I lift my eyes to the hills
- 28 AUG 9 AM BCP COMMUNION
 10.30 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP AND BAPTISM
 Psalm 40.1-10; Colossians 3.1-11
I proclaim your saving acts
- 4 SEPT 9 AM BCP COMMUNION
 10.30 AM CW COMMUNION
 Philippians 1.1-11; Luke 14.25-33
I thank my God
 10.30 AM FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION

The church is open every day as a place to come and pray or enjoy a moment of quiet reflection.

FROM THE REGISTERS

- 26 June – Baptism of Freya Rakauskaite
 18 July – Funeral of Liz Mackew
 28 July – Funeral of Norman Sherrington
 30 July – Wedding of Alice Trowsdale and Matthew Leach

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HAVE you a story to tell or an event to publicise? Or perhaps you have an opinion to share on an issue that is important to you. If so, drop us a line on staplefordmessenger@gmail.com - after all, it's your magazine and we would love to hear from you.

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THE words, cool, calm and collected, have been playing in my head. Now, in a time of extremely high temperatures, they feel inappropriate.

Unreasonable heat makes me feel hot, bothered and uncomfortable, unsuited for an unwelcome challenge. Yet some people enjoy the rarity of tropical degrees. As individuals we must be tolerant.

Being unruffled, composed and truly together is often enviable. In past months speeches have been made displaying ultimate confidence and assurance. Much has to be questioned. Was truth spoken, could warmth and sincerity be detected? Was sugar-coating involved to impress; perhaps directing us away from reality? Slick words, careful expressions spoken with dignity and respect can sway opinion. No need for fluster, bluster, anger and rage. Time teaches judgement. Eye contact, gentleness and quiet composure demonstrates hope. Simple delivery away from scripts and microphones highlight truth, humility and sensitivity.

Words remembered. Sharp, mean, cruel rather forgotten. Unperturbed, mild mannered, worth listening. It is more than that - it can be deep-hearted regard. A person I knew could walk into a room and command admiration. Unquestioned authority was evident. Democracy, not dogmatism or dictatorship. Shining eyes, reassuring smile, neat, tidy, still and ultra-positive, my Principal was never ruffled. Short in stature, petite in build, she had a massive personality. Being devoted to her student family she seemed totally spiritual; happy, harmonious, content and fulfilled. Rare qualities.

We can strengthen the way we are perceived. Lists advise: control breathing, have a routine, deliver words gently, stand firmly, gain perspective and honesty - common sense really? Nature levels and calms. Wonders abound. Natural oils and aromatherapy aid wellbeing. That, combined with exercise, empowers. Music enhances, inspires and lifts. Art works beautifully, colouring books were once popular. Mindfulness, being in the moment, can help comfort and relax. Even tissues have thoughts down the side, 'Fresh blue skies, calm hidden pools, crisp morning.' Bath foam offers a 'calming soak,' best before restorative sleep. Precious and non-precious stones possess unique beauty and significant meaning. Many are said to hold special powers, bringing certain fortune for those wearing or holding them. Interesting. Look up stones for power, authority, clarity; release from tension and anxiety. Prayer comforts. My mother liked this:

God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can and the wisdom to know the difference. **Judith Lee**

St Andrew's Toddlers

WALK past the Johnson Hall on a Monday morning and you may well catch the sound of happy voices, singing, stories and joyful squeals. St Andrew's Toddlers is in session.

Over the last two terms since we re-opened after Covid we have welcomed a lovely group of toddlers and babies with their parents and carers who have formed great friendships and supportive networks.

There is plenty of time for free play with our toys, Playdoh etc. (for the children) and coffee and chat (for the adults) and then each Monday we have a craft which relates to the story we will have later. We have, among other activities, decorated a plant pot and planted sunflower seeds and then read the story of the sower and the seeds, covered a paper person with plasters and then read the story of the good stranger (or Samaritan), made palm leaves and read the story of Palm Sunday.

We are also blessed to have use of the garden so in the good weather we can be in the fresh air enjoying the slide and other outside toys. We are planning a paddling pool for our last week of term when we expect to have warm weather. Later in the morning we have the bible story and also some other favourite stories like 'Where's Spot?' or 'The Tiger who came to Tea' followed by some enthusiastic singing. 'Hop Little Bunny', 'The Wheels on the Bus' and 'Wind the Bobbin' are always popular as are the shakers but we also learn a few new songs.

We will now have a break for the Summer holiday but will be opening our doors again on Monday 12 September. We hope to welcome back our current families but also many new faces. Do come and join us.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: We are also looking for someone to join our team who would enjoy playing with the children, chatting with carers and making coffee. Just once a month or more regularly. Safe recruitment safeguarding procedures will be followed. For more information contact Fiona Holliday at layminister@standrewstapleford.org or 478923.

Fiona Holliday and Rev Lucinda Howard



Looking for a local venue?

The Johnson Hall, next to St Andrew's Church, is an ideal venue for small groups and children's parties. The Hall is **available for hire** for one-off events and regular bookings.

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Tel: 07752 373 176 **Email:** admin@standrewstapleford.org

New curate at St Andrew's



MY name is Lucinda Howard, and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new curate at St Andrew's as of Sunday 3 July. That service at Ely Cathedral was a wonderful occasion and I am touched that many people from the congregation were able to attend the service alongside myself and Simon Taylor, as well as of course Bishop Stephen (who is incredibly tall when he is wearing his bishop's mitre!)

I have just completed two years of training for priesthood in the Church of England at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. My first year was hugely affected by Covid-19 and most of my time was spent at home trying to juggle home-schooling with online theology lectures. However, for my final year we were able to return to college, where I spent a challenging but inspiring time being formed for ministry alongside fellow ordinands (and squeezing in the odd game of croquet!)

I am married to Gavin, and we have two children, Samuel (16) and Hope (14). We live in central Cambridge, just off Mill Road. Having studied American Studies at Nottingham University (as well as time in Wisconsin, USA), I lived and worked in Glasgow for five years in newspaper advertising before deciding to retrain as a primary school teacher. I made the move to Cambridge 18 years ago to study for my PGCE at Homerton college and met Gavin at St Barnabas Church Cambridge, where we were married and where my family still worship. I taught locally at William Westley School in Whittlesford, which I loved but left when we started our family. We have two lively gundogs which I enjoy walking and I love family time on the beach in Norfolk or Dorset, where you will find me in



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My journey towards ordination was a gradual one, founded in a growing



desire to serve the church and wider community in a specific role and to proclaim the joy and hope of the Gospel of Jesus.

You are never more aware of your weakness and failings than when you are considering a significant life-change, but God is faithful and gracious and allowed me to explore my sense of vocation with wise and encouraging people, culminating with my acceptance to train after the bishop's panel selection.

I am thrilled to be serving my curacy at St Andrew's, following in the faithful footsteps of our previous curate Clare and under the wise guidance of our vicar Simon.

Having been placed in this church as a Ridley ordinand, I was already aware of the genuine welcome that you receive when you step through the door of St Andrew's, and I continue to be impressed by how the church blesses the local community as well as its engagement with wider social issues and global concerns. Here is a place where people are living out their Christian faith. It is indeed a small church with a big heart! **Lucinda Howard**

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Stapleford-Nachingwea Link



Tailoring courses ready to go

YOU may remember reading about the project which we ran jointly with our friends in Nachingwea, to provide a Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) Tailoring Course for ten local ladies and to supply each with a sewing machine on successful completion of the course.

The course has now been completed and the ladies are set up and ready to provide a service to the community. They already have two projects under way: supplying wedding dresses and school uniforms.

The first project is being run in conjunction with the Mothers' Union at St Andrew's Church, Nachingwea; the ladies are planning to make wedding dresses to loan to brides-to-be.

The Stapleford Link has sent a supply of donated, easy to wash white silk fabric and is now looking for either lightweight, flimsy material or lightweight, used wedding dresses that we can send. The ladies will then adapt the dresses or create new ones suitable for their local environment.

The second project sees the ladies making the uniforms for the students in the Special Needs classes, for the first time.

If you have either suitable material or dresses please email Julie Moy at nachingwealink@standrewstapleford.org.

Bishop James

OUR dear friend, Bishop James Almasi, of Masasi Diocese is coming to the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lambeth Conference from 26 July to 8 August.

Although he cannot come to us in Stapleford on this visit, we are hoping to 'meet' him via Zoom before he returns to Tanzania. **Trish Maude**



Stapleford WI



AT our June meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of the month as usual, members were thanked for their contributions to the WI stall at the village show, and also for the many cakes which had been donated to the refreshment area. Our hoopla stall had been a great success and it was gratifying to hear that we had a queue of eager competitors until all the filled jars were won. Following the business part of our meeting we welcomed our speaker, Fran Saltmarsh, whose interesting, informative talk was entitled 'Here comes the Bride'. Slides showed wedding costumes through the ages and Fran provided lots of fascinating details regarding fashion and customs. The origins and meaning of the well-known rhyme 'Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue' were explained. Whatever is borrowed (usually a piece of jewellery) must be returned in order to bring good luck to the happy couple. A blue ribbon was formerly worn in the hair to represent fidelity. It was Queen Victoria who instigated the custom of a white wedding as we know it. Her train was exceptionally long and it required 12 attendants to carry it. Fran is a talented dressmaker and, using her knowledge of former fashions and her skill, has made some wonderful wedding outfits for family members. These were shown to us and were greatly admired as Fran described the detail and intricacies of their making.

By the time you read this, members will have had a chance to socialise at a lunchtime barbecue. As I sit here typing and trying to keep cool in the current heatwave I am highly confident in predicting this event will happen! The WI is very grateful to one of our members, Helen Hale, who together with her husband Geoff, has watered our centenary tree which was planted on the recreation ground a few weeks ago. The tree is looking very healthy so thank you, Helen and Geoff (mainly the latter!).

Members continue to enjoy the craft and book groups which both provide stimulating discussion and new ideas. The book group meets via Zoom so we are not restricted by needing to limit numbers and we all enjoy our virtual get-together every few weeks. The list of books which have been read is impressively long now and we try to read a wide range of literature.

At the beginning of July members were given the very sad news that our President, Liz Hodgkins (previously Liz Mackew) had died. Liz was a well-known Stapleford resident for many years and her husband, Paul, has written a piece about her for this magazine (Page 17). Liz was a WI member

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for 15 years and our President for the past 12 years. Known for her enthusiasm, drive, humour and involvement Liz was extremely active both in our group here at Stapleford and also at Cambridge Federation level. Liz was a trustee on the Board, Chair of the Events Committee, a WI adviser, and catering coordinator for Federation lunches. Despite her illness and treatment Liz continued to be a driving force in all these roles and her brave, determined approach to remain involved in what she enjoyed so much, is inspiring.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about the WI and its varied activities then please contact Sallie Dixon on 843847. You can also view our website staplefordwi.weebly.com. **Joyce Dobson**

Mothers' Union



TUESDAY 9 August is Mary Sumner Day, so to celebrate, the Branch is having an outing to the Mary Challis Garden in Sawston,

followed by tea and biscuits. The friends of Members are welcome to join us - 2.30pm at the Challis Garden until about 4pm.

The Branch is holding its Autumn Coffee Morning on Thursday 15 September, at 15 Dukes Meadow from 10.30am to 12 noon - there'll be a Bring & Buy and a raffle. Money raised is for the MU Summer of Hope Appeal, which helps to transform communities around the world, via the assistance of the Mothers' Union. **Hilary Street**

Organ recital by John Bryden

In aid of the Stapleford-Nachingwea Link

12 August at 7pm in St Andrew's Church

Another chance to hear our outstanding organist, whose programme will be generally light-hearted and will include Scottish folk songs, the theme from Saint-Saëns's Organ Symphony, 'Gabriel's Oboe' from 'The Mission', Handel's 'Water Music' and Elgar's 'Nimrod'.

Drinks will be served afterwards.

Entrance free but donations welcome which will go towards supporting projects in Nachingwea. We look forward to seeing you.



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Liz Hodgkins (formerly Mackew)

18 May 1951 – 2 July 2022



I HAVE been asked if I would like to write a few words about Liz but where to start?

Liz and I met 15 years ago and we married on 25 July 2010 and my life changed from that day.

Liz always wanted a Morgan car and when she was young she was given a small model and a bottle of Baby Bio, hoping it would grow into a big one. Her

wish came true when she reached 70. Her son, James, rented a Morgan for her to have for the day and she was happy to be driven around as a passenger as she said "I can't reach the pedals". We had a lovely day with me being the chauffeur.

On her bucket list was a trip to Machu Picchu in Peru. We had a marvellous time and other trips included Egypt, Cyprus and Iceland, not to mention Australia to visit the family.

When she reached 70 she wanted to go to New Zealand. Fortunately, we decided to go early in January 2020, after visiting James and the family in Australia, and we were so glad we did. We returned home not knowing what lay ahead with Covid and Liz being diagnosed with cancer.

We did manage to get back to Australia in February 2022 and she knew this would be the last time.

Right through her illness she was determined to carry on with her WI activities, as President of Stapleford WI, a WI Adviser and on the Cambridge Federation Board of Trustees. Being married to Liz for this short time I have so many wonderful memories, which I will cherish for the rest of my life. Everyone said she had a wonderful personality and that it was a joy to be in her company.

She was the most loving and caring person and she has left a big hole, not only in my life, but also her family and friends. She will be missed by all.

I would like to thank Christine, Celia, Sue, Mary and Jackie and all our friends and family for the support they have given Liz and myself and their continuing support now Liz has gone. **Paul Hodgkins**



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Joan's bench



A BIG "THANK YOU" to all who contributed towards the purchase of a bench on the Magog Down in memory of Joan and Ray Barnes. It is now in place, looking over the South Down sheep pastures from the edge of the shelter belt at the side of Shepherd's Walk.



On Thursday 8 September at 11am a group of friends will be gathering around the bench for a small celebration in honour of Joan and Ray. All are welcome to join us. Drinks will not be provided but please feel free to bring your own!

We extend grateful thanks to the Magog Trustees for acquiring and installing the bench on our

behalf. **Wendy Elsbury** (representing **Wendy B, Jacque, Wendy E, Jeannie, Clare, Joan, Lyn**).

From the Messenger Team

WE hope you are enjoying the magazine. We try hard to collect a range of articles on different topics and to reflect life in our village, both events happening and people who live here. Please do write in if you have an event to publicise or have a story to tell, or if you have an opinion about something in the village that you want to share.

We have a strong team but at present our email Inbox is monitored by just one person, who would like some help. It would involve looking at the email inbox on certain days of the week (these can be arranged to suit), a little light editing into house style, and forwarding on to Production. If you're familiar with emails and so on, get in touch with our Inbox at staplefordmessenger@gmail.com to find out more.

It's a great way to find out what's going on in the village and is not time-demanding apart from around copy date, but it would be good to have someone who can help out and cover for holidays and so on. **Helen Hale**

Yesteryear

SYLVIA Morris looks at events in the village in the month of August over the years.

Punctuation, spelling and capital letters are exactly as printed at the time.

1857

EMIGRATION. Between 50 and 60 emigrants left this village, and Little Shelford for Sydney, Australia, a few days since. Some of them were excellent agricultural labourers.

1882

VAGRANCY. Charles Smith, an elderly man, was charged with vagrancy. Mr. W. S. Heffer, farmer, said prisoner came to him and asked to be allowed to lie down in his premises. Prisoner asked for a copper and witness gave him a penny. Someone presently tapped on the window and said "Your stack is on fire." Witness went out, raised an alarm, several persons came and the stack was saved. Prisoner admitted that he had accidentally set light to some hay while lighting his pipe and he was sent to gaol for 14 days, with hard labour.

1915

FARMING ACCIDENT. BOY RUN OVER AND KILLED AT STAPLEFORD. The death of a boy whilst engaged in farm work formed the subject of an inquest held by the county coroner in the house of Sergt Salmon, Stapleford, on Wednesday evening.

John Matlock, Church Street, Stapleford, gardener, said the boy was his son Albert. He was 14 years of age and a farm labourer. Arthur Challis of Stapleford, market gardener, said he saw the lad at 4.15 pm coming out of Mr Pamplin's farm gate. The horse was at full trot. The cart ran over the lad. (Full details and descriptions given.)

1931

Proposition. "That the Clerk write to the CCC pointing out that the School is still lit by oil lamps and suggest the desirability of improving the lighting as the Electric Light is now easily available. (Carried)" (*From the Parish Council Minutes*).

1940

PAPER COLLECTION PROCEEDS. The Shelford and Stapleford Boy Scouts and the Stapleford Girl Guides out of the monies received for the collection of paper, have made donations of 10 guineas to the Red Cross, five guineas each to the Women's and Men's Branches of the British

Legion, and three guineas to Toc H. They propose to make other donations and to invest the remainder of the money in National Savings Certificates.

1944

BROKE INTO ARMY HUT. Cambs boys bound over. A 12 years-old Stapleford boy who broke into an army building and stole a number of items so that he could play soldiers, appeared together with an eight-years-old Stapleford boy who accompanied him, before the Cambs County Juvenile Court on Saturday ... The magistrate bound over both boys for one year.

1973

FOUNDER'S £750,000 FINALE. When Len Bayes started in business he had just one man working for him – and they achieved a turnover of £2,500 in the first year ... the turnover this year should break though the £750,000 mark ... When he started the business under his own name there was just an old barn on the corner site at Stapleford which he bought from a Cambridge builder. He built a shop “just a shack really” ... The name Shelford Building Supplies came into use 20 years ago, and it is now one of the largest businesses of its type in the area, combining a retail shop with a trade supply and a timber yard. The business was taken over by Travis Arnold, the Northamptonshire builders' merchants, 12 years ago to strengthen their hand in the Cambridge area ... Mr Baynes has been managing director of Shelfords and he is handing over to Mr Neil Ellis who joined the business in 1960.

Granta Medical Practices

WE are already finalising this year's flu clinics and planning the Covid autumn vaccination campaign.

There are still unanswered questions, such as:

- Who will be eligible for the flu vaccine this year?
- When will the Covid vaccines be delivered to us?
- Will we be able to vaccinate patients with the flu and Covid vaccines at the same time?
- Will we be able to hold Covid vaccine clinics at each Granta site, as opposed to Sawston only?

As soon as these queries are resolved we will publicise the vaccine clinic dates and contact our patients to arrange appointments.

In the meantime, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me direct on sandra.east@nhs.net or 0300 234 5555, option 2.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services

Our Time

NOT long ago my father died who had strong opinions on everything, which made things a little difficult if I had an opposite opinion. It also made our relationship a little strained at times, not being able to talk freely and openly about whatever was on our minds.

This left unresolved issues between us, so when he died I was left with regrets that he never told me how he felt about me and his wishes on so many things.

I wrote this poem to hopefully help others to just stop and think more about how best to use your time while you're here to the best advantage and to engage with your family, giving them all the chance to express whatever they need to without raised voices that inhibit free speech.

Michael Gatward

We have a time to sing. A time to dance.

A time to love. And a time for romance.

Our time growing up, naive and unsure,

With a thirst to experience so much more.

A time to be intimate. A time to be close.

A time to share love with the ones we need most.

Time spent with our children brings unimaginable joy.

Immersed in the laughter of each girl or boy,

As we witness their innocence with each new day.

Our reward is beyond measure more than we could say.

Time can be a healer of our heartache and pain.

It can lessen our hurt; help us to move forward to face life again.

Time is so precious not to be frittered away.

So don't look back with Regrets on missed opportunities that passed your way.

We leave this earth as an empty shell.

Fond memories are left on which loved ones may dwell,

Of Time spent together in Happier days.

Enjoyed by so many in so many ways.

Time with our family or with a close friend.

In those whom we trust and can always depend.

A time for love. A time for tears. A time for comfort throughout the years.

Some time on your own to occasionally reflect.

On loved ones not here. To show them respect.

The older you get, the faster time goes. The amount that you have. Nobody knows.

Time has no pause, rewind or repeat,
Each moment makes memories, some bitter some sweet
So cherish each second before it has passed.
Always be kind to each other. As it may be your last.

Great Shelford library



HAVE your children registered for the Gadgeteers **SUMMER READING CHALLENGE** yet? There's still plenty of time to join. Challenge sessions are from 10.30am-12.30pm on Tuesdays and Fridays through

the holidays but children can also drop in any time the library is open to collect their stickers. Holiday packs are available if you'll be away all summer. Stickers are given out each time a book is read - read six books over the holidays and get a certificate and a medal!

OTHER CHILDREN'S EVENTS: please collect a summer event leaflet from the library for details. Places need to be pre-booked and payment in cash at the time of booking is appreciated:

1. LEGO AND DUPLO: Thursday **28 July** 2-3.30pm and 3.45-5.15pm (£2 per child)

2. CAMBRIDGE GUITAR STUDIO – Wednesday **3 August** 2pm (£2 per child). Find out about the guitar and ukulele, listen to them being played and have a free mini-lesson yourself!

3. SNIPPY THE CRAB Author event – Thursday **11 August** 2pm onwards. £2 per child. Local author Alison Miles will explain how she writes and illustrates these popular books. You'll have a chance to try out your own ideas too!

4. THE GADGETY GIZMO MAGIC SHOW: Wednesday **17 August** 2.30-3.45pm. £5 per child

5. LEGO AND DUPLO: Thursday **25 August** 2-3.30pm and 3.45-5.15pm. £2 per child.

POP IN AND CHAT: there will be another supportive get-together for parents and carers of children with additional needs on 10 August at 1.30pm. Children are very welcome too. Please pre-book a place: phone 01954 284 672 or email childandfamilysouth@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

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Stapleford Twinning Association



A GOOD-SIZED group of members and non-members tested their knowledge of Stapleford during our walking quiz in the afternoon sunshine, on Sunday 12 June.

Starting in the Villedômer Garden in the Slaughterhouse Land, the route of the walk included Cox's Close, Church Street, Vicarage Lane, the allotments off Bar Lane, Haverhill Road, the recreation ground, the pavilion, and Bury Road. It ended with some much-needed refreshment in the Three Horseshoes pub! The questions were all about things in Stapleford but with a French connection.

The team with the most correct answers was Gillian Pett and Tony Smith who each received a bottle of Vouvray for their efforts. Vouvray is a white wine from the northern Loire

valley where Villedômer is situated. The runners up were given a set of Stapleford coasters.

For more information about our association go to: twinning.staplefordvillage.org.uk. **Tim Jessop**



The final reckoning in the Three Horseshoes

Stapleford Cricket Club



STAPLEFORD Rec hosted a memorable match for the Beal family when father James and son Bertie put on 153 for the second wicket in Stapleford CC's 168-run victory over Over and Willingham.

James ended up with 114 and 14-year-old Bertie 57 - his first half century in adult cricket - as the hosts amassed an impressive 262-6 from their 40 overs. Which was certainly an improvement on the previous week when they were all out for 45 at Cottenham. **Jon West**

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Stapleford Phoenix



IT has been an exciting few weeks for Stapleford Phoenix, the village's T20 midweek cricket side, as we are in the running to win Division Two of the Cambridge Business House League.

All five league fixtures have been won so far, mainly thanks to the runs scored by left-handed duo Ralph Minter and Aidan Swain. An unbeaten 55 from Ralph allowed us to secure a four-wicket win against The Jaguars, our main rivals for top spot. The hosts were bowled out for 111, with Nusrat Hamid taking 3-23, and Ralph helped us past that total with three balls remaining thanks to his knockout knock.

Phoenixers came through another tough assignment the week after, winning by six wickets at Cambourne. Again Ralph was the top scorer, this time with 43 on an evening when Aidan and David Garman both passed the 30 mark. Victory was secured with four balls to spare.



Nusrat Hamid

Next to fall were QualComm, who were beaten by eight wickets at the Rec after being bowled out for just 103. Stuart Creed and Jon West took three wickets apiece, although a number of those were down to quality catching more than anything else. Once more it was Ralph who steered us home with an unbeaten 46 but we were

also treated to an entertaining cameo from Stuart, promoted up the order so he could get to an 8pm appointment, who hit a six in a quick-fire 29.

Aidan made sure we made it five out of five at Waterbeach with an unbeaten 59 as we chased down a target of 136. It was his first Phoenix 50 having come close on a number of occasions over the past seven seasons. 'Close' also summed up our friendly game with the Firestrickers on the Rec as the visitors ended up winning by just one run.

They also posted just 103, with Jon West taking 3-15 and skipper Gareth Everson weighing in with two wickets with his tossed up tempters. Again Ralph and Aidan prospered with the bat but the Firestrickers bowlers would not be denied and pulled off a victory that with two overs to go seemed impossible.



Stuart Creed

It has been a great season so far, with the competitive games showcasing the talent we have in this village, and the friendlies reminding us it is just a game that is played solely for fun. Forza Phoenix. **Jon West**

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Channel swim news

YOU may recall reading about Sarah's planned swim in a previous magazine, in aid of the charity Aspire that helps those with spinal injuries. Here is her update:



OUR Aspire Gorillas team swam a blinder across the busiest shipping lane in the world, from Samphire Hoe to close to the Pointe de la Courte Dune on the French coast, on 4 July in 12h 33m.

Thank you for your support, encouragement and generosity for such a worthy cause.

We each nailed our two swims, amazing ourselves and our support team. The starter swimmer brought us into France.

My first swim took us into the separation zone and was like a mill pond. I didn't have time to love or hate it because I belted it. My second got us within a few hundred metres of the French coast and

the sea buffeted me about like a cork in a washing machine. No grease or anything else to ward off the cold and the sea. Just a swimsuit, grit, focus and hard work.

We were one of 10 swimming boats that night and day, with all but one making it.

Every team member on board our boat the Optimist was seasick, with some all the way there, except when they were in the water, and all the way back. All but one of us had Covid within weeks of the swim.

There is still time to donate so please do support this amazing charity that does such good work for those with spinal injuries.

[justgiving.com/fundraising/Sarah-Provan1](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sarah-Provan1). **Sarah Provan**



Stapleford Community Primary School PTA Fun Run



ON the morning of Sunday 26 June, glorious weather welcomed the 171 runners to the annual Stapleford Fun Run in the very picturesque surroundings of Magog Down. The prospect of a prize for the best fancy dress outfit encouraged many runners to dress up for the occasion.

There were three race distances for participants, 1km, 4km and 8km along the unusually (for Cambridgeshire) undulating paths and tracks of the Down.

The winners of each race category are shown opposite, and congratulations both to you and everyone who took part.

A special mention must go to Chloe Phillips, the female winner of the 8km race, who beat her previous best time for the 8km race by 20 minutes. An amazing effort.

The prize for the best fancy dress this year went to a whole family rather than an individual. Congratulations to the Harris family. You can spot them in the Fun Run photo including one member of the family (Dad, John) wearing the inflatable, green alien outfit.

Race entries, donations and sponsorship raised over £1,600, which will be put towards new friendship benches and other much needed equipment for the school.

Sponsors of the Fun Run this year were Gympo's, House of Colour, The Pizza & Kitchen Company, Redmayne Arnold & Harris, Scotsdale's, Shelford & Stapleford Strikers FC and South Cambridge Physiotherapy. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

And thank you as always to the Fun Run organising team, volunteers on the day, cake makers and to Dudu who stepped in at the last minute to provide first aid cover. **Tim Harrison**

Category	First
1km	
Key Stage 1 or below boys	Samuel Zenner Branco
Key Stage 1 or below girls	Ellie Mundell
4km	
Key Stage 2 or below boys	Finlay Crossan
Key Stage 2 or below girls	Evie Park
Key Stage 3 boys	Nate Davies
Key Stage 3 girls	Naomi Payne
8km	
Males	Peter Doughty
Females	Chloe Phillips

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Puzzle Corner

Stapleford Scramble 2

Scramble the letters of each word below to make a new word

In each group the initial letters of the answers are:

S, T, A, P, L, E, F, O, R, D

All the answers are fairly common words

3-letter words: aft cat gel lee low
net tor use wed yap

4: ache cane dual foil grin
gulp lied oafs riot soup

5: brief cheap cruel outer owned
purse ridge torte uplit wakes

6: avocet battle carpel height hustle
ignore images lessen nomads unflag

7: anytime corpses eastern funfair fussier
gyrated lesions rescind tedious treason

8: aspirant crustier fiendish greenies handouts
hustling melanins protease quantise unsoiled

9: algorithm alienator aspirated demeanour gnarliest
gyrations portrayed refastens sailing stationed

Set by Hermes - Answers on page 45



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Local artists' exhibition at Ely

THREE East Anglian artists invite you to their exhibition at the Old Fire Engine House Restaurant and Art Gallery in Ely in August and September. You will be most welcome at the opening Preview, with drinks, on **Thursday 4 August from 6pm to 8pm**. Thereafter the Gallery will be open during restaurant hours: 10.30am to 7pm on Tuesday to Saturday, Midday to 5.30pm on Sundays. It is closed on Mondays.

Harriet Lintott writes "my paintings are in oils and of the landscape (mainly Cambridgeshire), flowers and other still life. I paint from life and am particularly interested in colour and composition." (harrietlintott.co.uk)

Jeremy Lintott writes "I photograph subjects in nature specialising in close-up and macro images. For this exhibition I am showing my interest in the fascinating world of fungi and the bizarre lifeforms known as slime moulds." (bluefernimages.com)

Bill Lintott, who has lived in Stapleford for many years and is father to Jeremy, writes "I show landscape and abstract paintings; my landscape paintings are motivated by the space of the Fens, while my abstract paintings are derived from the colours and forms of the landscape." (williamlintott@btinternet.com) **Bill Lintott**



Clockwise from top left: Flowers by Harriet; Conjunction in acrylic by Bill; Fungi by Jeremy

Stapleford Strollers Walk 105

Views around Ashdon: a circular walk from Bragg's Mill

To get to start of walk

TRAVEL on the A1307 to the far end of the Linton by-pass and turn right on the road signed Bartlow and The Camps. Then turn right in Bartlow on to the road signed Ashdon and Saffron Walden. Take the first road on the left after the Ashdon village sign, signed Steventon End. It is quite easy to miss. Take the first (unsigned) side road to the right and drive up the hill until a car park is reached on the left. This is just opposite the restored Ashdon windmill (Bragg's Mill): CB10 2JE.

Length of walk

Just over 3½ miles. It does go up and down quite a bit on this route, but the good thing is that the views are excellent.

OS Map

The route overlaps OS Explorer maps 209 and 210. If you don't have these maps, use the route map provided, go on to the site maps.the-hug.net and you can run off a free map extract. Or, as many people do these days, use the maps on your Smart phone.

Extra Information

Bragg's Mill is open to the public, usually on the second Sunday of each month, but the covid outbreak caused a lengthy hiatus. Details of current opening times can be found on the information board next to the mill. There is an excellent view across the valley from the front of the mill.

Route of walk

Using the road go left past the mill. The road peters out after a short row of houses. Carry on, but go through the gap before the start of the hedge to the right and walk alongside the hedge line.

Turn right on a path that follows the top of the next field and then, just before a seat, go downhill on a grassy path between two cropped areas. At the end of the field, a road is met. Go right and then almost immediately left at a footpath sign. Follow this path with the hedge line to the right as it goes uphill, at one point swinging right and crossing a small footbridge to then follow the hedge line to the left.

Keep on the path until, at the top of the hill, you emerge on to a cross track. Turn left and walk on until, just before a wood, there is a footpath sign pointing left. Take this path, heading downhill. It descends into the valley

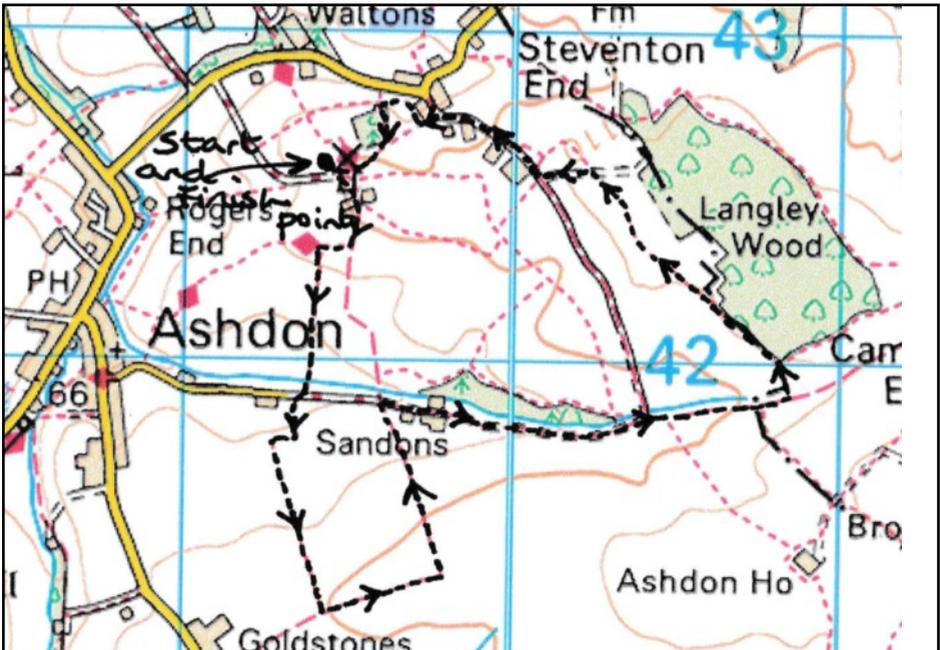
bottom and meets the minor road crossed earlier. Turn right and walk through the farmyard at Sandons.

Keep on beyond, on a loose but solid-surfaced track until a path junction is reached (with a map at the junction, showing local footpaths). Go straight ahead and walk along the left-hand side of a field. Go through a hedge gap at the end of the field and walk on in much the same direction. Look out next for a path to the left (not signed), and take it.

This initially goes to the left of a wood and, subsequently, crosses a cropped field. The line of the path is quite clear. Go through a hedge gap and turn left on a track which soon reaches a larger cross track. Turn right and head downhill, the track soon turning into a tarmacked road with houses on the left.

Look out for a footpath sign on the left. This path goes through part of a garden (you often have to pass a parked car in the driveway) and emerges on to a field. Swing right and follow the field boundary. When the path reaches a wood, cross a makeshift 'bridge' and go left, heading uphill. Ignore the path going right. After the wood, the route crosses a meadow and comes out on to the road immediately opposite the windmill. Turn right and return to your vehicle. **David Barnes**

The Stapleford Strollers do not accept responsibility for any accident or mishap that may happen to any person who follows this route





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2G3S news



WE had a stall at the Shelford Feast on Sunday 3 July, and despite being next to the music stage we



managed to share awareness of our activities, and also held a very

successful bring and buy sale of toys, books, and household items.

Repair Café

This was held on 30 July at the United Reformed Church in Whittlesford. If you missed this one and have some items for repair, there will be one in Great Shelford on 10 September. Our expert volunteers can repair jewellery, textiles, electrical items, household items, clocks, all sorts of things. For the latest updates/details on Repair Cafes in the area and to book in items for repair, go to cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/repair-cafes.

Future events

There will be a Fruit and Veg Swap session on Sunday 28 August from 2pm to 4pm, at Stapleford Pavilion. Come and swap your surplus apples for someone else's courgette glut!

In time for the energy price hikes in the Autumn, we will be having two conversation evenings: Monday 5 September 'Heat Pumps Explained' by Warren Pope, from Peterborough Environment City Trust. On Monday 3 October our conversation evening will be 'Low-Cost Energy Saving Measures' by Bart Hommels, who has retrofitted his own home and featured in Cambridge's Open Eco Homes.

Our next Nature Walk, led by the very knowledgeable John O'Boyle, will be on 20 August at Nine Wells Local Nature Reserve from 2pm to 4pm. See our website for more details. For all our walks, sturdy footwear and appropriate outdoor wear are advised. These walks are intended to raise awareness of our local wildlife sites and are open to all. After this, our next walk on 17 September starts at the Wale Field in Little Shelford.

For the walks, it is important that you are aware that you attend at your own risk. We do not accept responsibility for any accidents or mishaps that might arise during the activity.

There will be cycle rides again from September onwards.

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Other news

Read on the BBC News website on 5 July: Finnish researchers have installed the world's first fully working 'sand battery' which can store green power for months at a time. The developers say this could solve the problem of year-round supply, a major issue for green energy. Using a silo of low-grade sand, the device is charged up with heat made from cheap electricity from solar or wind. The sand stores the heat at around 500C, which can then warm homes in winter when energy is more expensive, or on dull days when there isn't sun.

In this time of droughts, heatwaves, wildlife fires, floods, glacier collapses, depressing reports highlighting the gap between the Government's words and their actions on the environment, you may feel powerless and depressed. But everyone's efforts add up, so if you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to greengroupssss@gmail.com to sign up for our newsletter, or to get more information about our meetings. We are a friendly group and welcome anyone who wants to come along. Also see our Facebook page and our website. **Helen Hale**

Stapleford Horticultural Society



OVER the Summer months, our members have been enjoying a varied programme of garden visits. Our evening talks resume in September and continue through until February. If you would like to reserve the dates in your diary, the remaining talks in our 2022/2023 programme are as follows:

8 September	Coping with Climate Change	Nigel Start
13 October	The Forward-Looking Gardener	Sharka Baxter
10 November	A Tapestry of Foliage	Geoff Hodge
12 January	Growing Orchids at Home	Zsuzsa Serer
9 February	Twelve Tremendous Trees	Gwenda Kyd

All our talks are on the second Thursday of the month in the Johnson Hall, starting at 7.45pm, and all are welcome. **John Sherwell** 841012

Stapleford Community Primary School

WE have been determined at school to continue to arrange a great variety of trips, visits and visitors as part of the enriched curriculum across the school this year.

A residential visit is such a great way for the older children to experience what is for some their first stay away from home and gain some independence and confidence. Having to share a room, be tidy, get ready for activity after activity on time without the help from a



parent, being at the meeting point with the correct clothing on time, really sees the children dig deep regarding being organised. On top of that, the outdoor adventurous activities appeal, stretch and test the children. A fine example of this was demonstrated this May, when one of the children got out of the canoe as soon as getting into it! Full of self-doubt, but really wanting to join their friends, the pupil tentatively pulled their canoe to be nearer the group. They helped encourage the others with words of advice from the banks of the lake. After several more minutes watching they got back in the canoe, again just watching initially,

until halfway through they took a breath and gave it a go, and with enormous pride, Miss Street, their teacher, watched the pupil join the others and experience a successful paddle on Grafham Water.

Other events and trips this year have included a Jubilee tea party, Anthony Browne MP visiting Y5, local trips out to Wandlebury and into the city to the Museums of Zoology, Archaeology and Anthropology. Other trips ventured further afield to South Angle Farm, Hamerton Zoo and even Wells-by-the-Sea in Norfolk. In addition, there has been a choir event, which saw 70 children singing at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral, and plentiful sporting fixtures that included team and



individual events. The range of experiences is huge and hopefully really memorable too.

The children and staff are looking forward to a much-needed rest before the Y6 transition to Y7 in their next schools. We wish them all the best, we have watched with much pride as they grew and developed into even more outstanding students. **Christine Spain**



Quiz

Islands

THIS quiz round was devised by Charlie Wolfe and orated by Rosey Farmer at the quiz at the Three Horseshoes on Monday 5 July. This quiz is a regular event on a Monday night, with a £2 entry fee per person, half of which goes to local good causes.

Answers on page 51. **Simon Hardwick**

1. What is the world's smallest island nation?
2. Necker Island is a private island owned by whom?
3. What colours make up the flag of the Bahamas?
4. What is the world's most populated island?
5. Napoleon was born on an island and ultimately died on another. A point for each.
6. In what year did Fiji gain independence?
7. What is the largest island of the Philippines?
8. What ancient civilization was based in Crete?
9. Where would you find Tobermory?
10. What animal is on Greenland's national coat of arms?



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Cambridge Flower Club

WE meet at the Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford CB22 4NE at 7.15pm for a demonstration, with refreshments from 6.45pm. New members welcome! Visitors pay £6.

18 August: OPEN MEETING with Katherine Kear, President of NAFAS, 'White Knights', 6pm with stalls and refreshments: Tickets £15.

15 September: Visit to Easton Lodge Gardens, Gt Easton, Dunmow

For more information about these meetings or to enquire about joining Cambridge Flower Club please phone Freda on 891464 or email fredaorgee@gmail.com. **Sian Jones**

Arthur's Shed



WOULD you like to learn a new skill or hobby? Or simply meet new people? Join us for a free session on clay, card-making, paper-crafts or astronomy at Arthur's Shed! We are a purpose-

built studio at the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity site at Shelford Bottom, running sessions open to the public.

To find out more or to book, contact us at 675871, or arthurs.shed@arhc.org.uk, or go to arhc.org.uk/open-to-all/arthurs-shed/.

Hannah Touhey

Puzzle Corner Answers

3: fat, act, leg, eel, owl, ten, rot, sue, dew, pay

4: each, acne, laud, filo, ring, plug, deli, sofa, trio, opus

5: fibre, peach, lucre, route, endow, super, dirge, otter, tulip, askew

6: octave, tablet, parcel, eighth, sleuth, region, ageism, lenses, damson, fungal

7: amenity, process, earnest, ruffian, fissure, tragedy, insoles, discern, outside, senator

8: partisan, recruits, finished, energise, thousand, sunlight, linesmen, operates, antiques, delusion

9: logarithm, rationale, disparate, enamoured, triangles, signatory, predatory, fasteners, originals, antidotes

Rangeford

Retirement care village and countryside park (July 2022)

RESIDENTS will be aware that plans for a new retirement care village and countryside park on land immediately to the east of Stapleford were approved on appeal earlier in 2022. Access will be off Haverhill Road, with additional non-motorised access to the countryside park from Hinton Way. Stapleford Parish Councillors met the owner, Rangeford Villages, onsite in June and subsequently attended a public information event at Johnson Hall in July. Residents have also had opportunities to feedback to Rangeford about its plans via online and in-person consultation.



I won't reproduce here information which, at the time of writing, is available to view online at rangefordconsultation.co.uk. What follows is additional information gathered in conversation with Rangeford and its representatives. Please note that (a) some of the information may change as plans

progress, and (b) while I reproduce our field notes in good faith, I apologise if there are any inaccuracies.

Site ownership and operation:

- Rangeford Villages owns the freehold.
- Its business is owning, developing and operating integrated retirement communities. This is not a care home site so is unlike other retirement property developments by, for example, McCarthy or Churchill.
 - Rangeford has sites in Pickering, Wadswick Green and Siddington Park, which residents may be interested to look at. The one at Wadswick Green is most like that which will be built in Stapleford, and Rangeford will organise a site visit for interested parties.

Potential price and service charges:

- The cheapest 1-bed unit may be £399k, with 1,000sqft 2-beds averaging £600-650k. Prices are set to locality averages.
 - There is no requirement to provide affordable accommodation because this is a Class C2 'residential institution' development. Affordable obligations are linked to Class C3 (residential) developments.
 - Leaseholds will extend for 125 years.

- Service charges will vary by apartment type and care intensity, but are typically £6,000-9,000 per annum. RPI index linked increases occur upon apartment resale.
- Service charges cover: building maintenance; communal spaces; use of the pool, gym, minibus and restaurant; 24/7 onsite assistance; domiciliary care; grounds maintenance; etc. Rangeford can also offer palliative and dementia care.

Occupancy:

- The development will accommodate 220 residents aged 60 years and above.
- The average age of Rangeford retirement care village residents is 78.

Construction timeline:

- A planning application for all reserved matters still to be decided should be submitted at the end of Aug 2022, hopefully with a decision made by SCDC by Jan/Feb 2023.
- Building work would commence mid-2023 with a planned 28 month construction period. Facilities and infrastructure will be built first.
- 60% of the units will be ready for occupation by month 19 of this (so early 2025).

Community access to retirement care village amenities:

- The onsite restaurant will be open to all.
- The general public will be able to access the pool and gym, most likely through an annual restricted membership subscription.

Impact on biodiversity, environment and surrounding landscape:

- The countryside park will offer substantial net biodiversity gain.
- Buildings will be carbon neutral in design. They will follow a 'fabric first' approach and include solar panels, rainwater harvesting, air source heat pumps and electric boilers.
- Sustainable draining will be incorporated into mature planting areas.
- Much of the development will be screened from Magog Down by a 15-20m deep mature planting area. Existing hedgerow to the north of the site will be retained.

Impact on local health and care services:

- Rangeford maintains that the domiciliary care available 24/7 from onsite staff will reduce the impact of a significant addition of older people (with greater health needs) on our community's health and care services.



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- The retirement care village will not have its own GP. However, its residents may, for example, be able to leave hospital quicker after surgery or a illness due to available onsite domiciliary care.

Design:

- Parish Councillors expressed a desire for a design which is sympathetic to the village and its rural setting. Design is subjective, but what has been proposed does not do this and is, arguably, akin to what has been built at Trumpington and Eddington, albeit a max. of 2 storeys high. The designs are available to view online.

- The design relies heavily on variations in brick colour and orientation, and metal balconies and detailing. There will be no external wood or wood cladding in light of the Grenfell Tower fire in 2017.



- The large central pavilion will be ultra-modern and flat roofed.

Countryside park:

- All S106 contributions (used to mitigate the impact of development on the local community and infrastructure) have been allocated to management of the countryside park.

- This will be managed by Magog Trust, with Rangeford offering its design expertise to produce plans for the Reserved Matters application. Magog Trust will be responsible for the planting scheme.

- Land transfer to Magog Trust will occur after the schedule of work for its development is agreed. Development may take 5 years to complete but public access will be available well before this.

- There will be no cycle paths. Paths will be compacted grass, as at Magog Down.

- Pedestrian access will be via the emergency gate on Gog Magog Way, through the retirement care village and hence on into the countryside park. We are unclear at this stage whether this access will include horses and bikes.

- There is no onsite car parking for the countryside park at all – this wasn't included in the outline planning permission so cannot be changed.

Impact on busway:

- Rangeford reps are not enthusiastic about the busway. However, they support the GCP's Option 2 for relocating the Stapleford stop because

this has less impact on their site (see www.greatercambridge.org.uk/CSET-Stapleford2022).

- The Parish Council takes a different view: Option 1 is more desirable because it is less likely to lead to infill development to the east of Haverhill Road.
- If the GCP pursues Option 1, the route of the busway will clip the NE corner of the retirement care village. Irrespective of how much Rangeford may dislike this, it can be achieved through compulsory purchase rights pursuant to a successful Transport and Works Act Order.
- Crossings are required by the Planning Inspector's approval of the retirement care village and countryside park as a single entity. With the busway cutting through the west side of the park, it is as yet unclear how this can be made to work safely. A footbridge would be inappropriate for the location and less mobile users; an underpass might work.

Cllr Jenny Flynn

Stapleford Community Warden Service

Assisting older people to live independently at home. Providing daily phone calls (Monday to Friday) and help with things such as:

- making drinks and light meals
- watering plants
- making appointments
- getting small items of shopping
- collecting prescriptions
- wellbeing contact

(a small weekly fee applies)

For further information call the Warden on
07436 102733 or juliet.hawksworth@ageukcap.org.uk



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A2B travel bus service revisions



DUE to staff shortages and to prevent short notice cancellations changes have been made to the 7A and 31 services until further notice:.

Service 7a only operates Whittlesford - IWM - Heathfield - Hinxton - Sawston - Whittlesford. Service 31 minor re-timings. To see the new timetable go to

a2busandcoach.com.

The company says: "Unfortunately we have lost staff through retirement and long-term illness, however we currently have three drivers awaiting test dates from the DVSA for their PCV examination.

"We had to take a fast decision to avoid the continual cancellations that vary on a day-to-day basis for other operators in similar positions in the area which does not benefit travelling passengers at all, and the quickest way was to have a revamp of routes 31 & 7a so as to still provide a regular operational (albeit reduced) service rather than a 'what can we cover today' service, and for the lack of publicity and info over this we really are sorry.

"We are deeply disappointed that we have had to do this and are confident that in a short period of time we can reinstate services fully and return to our previous operational levels.

"We apologise deeply for the reduced service levels which are as everyone is aware being caused by a multitude of factors including Covid, lack of DVSA examiners, and lack of new entrants into the industry, and we ask that passengers bear with us.

"We would also ask you to please remember it's not your driver's fault that these changes have happened so please still be your usual wonderful self to him or her". **John Wakefield**

Quiz answers

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Nauru | 6. 1970 |
| 2. Sir Richard Branson | 7. Luzon |
| 3. Light blue, yellow and black | 8. The Minoan Civilization |
| 4. Java | 9. Mull |
| 5. Corsica; St Helena | 10. Polar Bear |

Better Ways than Busways

BETTER Ways than Busways (BWTB) is campaigning against a greenbelt busway in South Cambs around Magog Down, advocating instead an alternative route following the A1307 corridor which would deliver the same benefits but at a fraction of the cost. We've had another busy month...

Parish Council/South Cambs District Council (SCDC) Cabinet Liaison meeting

I attended a Parish Council/South Cambs District Council (SCDC) Cabinet Liaison meeting and asked a question on protecting the environment and the carbon cost of the new road. The response from the Leader of the SCDC, Cllr Bridget Smith, was that SCDC are providing homes and decent transport for working families. In the process she failed again to recognise that all the Cambridge South East Transport (CSET) objectives can be achieved with a better route. No answer was forthcoming to the point about the poor economic benefit and the fact that Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC) is expanding towards the alternative route proposed by BWTB along the A1307 corridor.

Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) Executive Board Q&A

A number of us attended in person the GCP Executive Board meeting on 30 June. Noteworthy that Cllr Brian Milnes, our own County Councillor, voted to progress CSET in its current route. We asked several questions and responses by the GCP Officer are set out below.

Q1: CSET was designed to fit with the former Mayor of the Combined Authority's Cambridge Autonomous Metro (CAM). This meant that it had a much higher specification including segregated lanes so that it could be part of an integrated regional transport system. Given that this scheme has now been dropped, will the GCP review the scheme against an optimal scheme in the A1307 corridor?

A1: CSET is a standalone scheme. The route decision predated CAM.

Q2: The 2018 consultation was skewed because only one off-road route was offered as opposed to two on-road (A1307) schemes, thus splitting the votes for the on-road option. By contrast, Anthony Browne MP's consultation (with more respondents than for the GCP's) showed that 81% would definitely not, or probably not, support the GCP busway. In light of this, will the GCP have regard to overwhelming public opinion and review their route?

A2: GCP followed guidance on consultations.

Q3. Over recent years there have been several studies of the Haverhill-Cambridge corridor, all showing a stronger business case than CSET. The business case will be further weakened by the imposition of safety speed limits and additional crossings such as for the Rangeford retirement village in Stapleford, whereas a route through the proposed CBC expansion along the A1307 will improve the on-road business case. Will the GCP therefore reassess the business case for all strategies and make public the outcome of that reassessment?

A3: The GCP complies with its statutory requirements. The full business case will be presented to the Board later.

Q4: CSET poorly serves the villages and undermines existing bus services; it has an adverse impact on the Countryside Park; and it conflicts with the construction of Cambridge South Station.

A4: CSET meets the criteria set out in the Local Plan. Assertions about benefit-to-cost ratios are inaccurate. Following Local Liaison Forum feedback, the route will serve the villages as well.

Q5: The busway will now separate the new countryside park from the retirement village. Where is the compatibility with the Planning Inspector's finding, in granting the planning appeal for the retirement village and associated country park as one unified project?

A5: The busway was included in the Planning Inspector's decision and the GCP have had dialogue with the developers since.

Impact of the Rangeford retirement village on the busway

The busway must now carve through the countryside park and around the retirement village, and hence two alternative busway stop locations in Stapleford are now open for consultation. Misleadingly, the GCP consultation states that Option 2 (the slightly cheaper route) has the bus stop nearer the village: all of 10 metres! What they don't point out it is that Option 2 creates a triangle of land which developers are already earmarking for housing. Issues over access to the countryside park from the retirement village (particularly for older people with mobility issues) and environmental damage are also ignored. The GCP's consultation closes at midday on 22 August. Your opinion will count so please respond:
www.greatercambridge.org.uk/CSET-Stapleford2022.

Better Ways than Busways website

A lot of work has gone into a Better Ways than Busways website, which will be ready to launch shortly. This will hold all the relevant reports and images and be the focus of fundraising, with a direct link to Cambridge Past Present & Future's website. CPPF has responsibility for holding the finances

for the campaign. A poster and leaflet campaign is being planned to link people to the website. In the meantime, look out for www.bwtb.co.uk.

Meeting the GCP Exec Board

We have a meeting arranged with the GCP Executive Board (first requested at the beginning of February 2022), albeit Cllr Bridget Smith Leader of South Cambs is unable to attend.

Mayor of Combined Authority consultation

The Mayor’s consultation on the Local Transport Plan closes 4 August. The last section gives an opportunity to state that the current busway proposal is misguided and that there are better alternatives which will not undermine existing bus services. It is very important that lots of responses are made at: <https://yourltcp.co.uk/vision-and-objectives/>.

Next steps

The timetable suggests that we need to get our case formally presented to the Planning Inspector by Summer 2023, so preparations for this, coupled with a fundraising campaign, will get underway this autumn. If you would like to be kept informed, please contact me.

Howard Kettel, BWTB hkettelstaplefordpc@gmail.com

CSET busway consultation leaflet

GREATER Cambridge Partnership (GCP) have recently circulated a consultation leaflet to villagers, detailing two possible options for the route to go round the new retirement village (see Cambridge South East Transport) (CSET) article from Howard Kettel, and Jenny Flynn’s article on the Rangeford consultation). Some villagers felt the diagrams and the text of the two options didn’t match up, and it was queried with GCP, who sent the following statement:

“The correct text is below, unfortunately in the original brochure the statements in bold were the other way around:

“**Option 1:** Option 1 runs about 30 metres into the country park. The bus stop would move about 85 metres to between the changed route and Haverhill Road.

“It would be slightly more expensive than Option 2 and the walk to the bus stop slightly longer for more people.

“**Option 2:** Option 2 runs along the eastern edge of the retirement village just inside the country park. The bus stop would move about 75 metres to between the changed route and Haverhill Road. It would be slightly cheaper than Option 1 and the walk to the bus stop slightly shorter.

“Given the importance we place on delivering high quality consultations, we are taking action to rectify the error, including writing to everyone in Stapleford, uploading a corrected version of the brochure to the website and amending the survey to reflect the revised wording.

“The consultation has been paused and will be relaunched in the afternoon of Monday 18 July. We are extending the consultation period to allow people time to share their feedback and the closing date for responses is now midday on Tuesday 30 August.

“We will take all responses received so far into separate consideration and will be contacting those who have given us permission for any clarification they may wish to give us.”

This information will affect how you interpret Jenny and Howard’s articles, as well as how you respond to the GCP consultation.

Helen Hale, Messenger Team

Parish Council Chair’s report

AT the July Parish Council meeting, much of the discussion centred on the GCP being an unelected body which is able to decide on planning issues without acknowledging concerns and objections from local residents. Greenbelt land is being destroyed in favour of unpopular roadways and developments, and the housing needs of the younger population are neglected.

One member of the public attended the meeting and expressed her concerns and those of other residents. Young families are finding it difficult to live in the area because of housing costs and the village is becoming an area for more wealthy older people.

Rangeford who are now the developer for the retirement village gave a presentation to the public in the Johnson Hall on July 13 about the plans, and some members of the public managed to attend. The plans are available to view online at rangefordvillages.co.uk/villages/stapleford-village.

At present the proposed busway will separate the retirement village from the planned, attached countryside park. The reason the government inspector gave permission for the whole development was the siting of the countryside park alongside the retirement village and accessible to it. Please read Cllr Kettel’s article on the Better Busways campaign for more details, also Cllr Jenny Flynn’s article about the retirement village. Both the intended busway and the retirement village will have a big impact on the village without noticeable benefit for existing residents.



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Cllr Fane and Parish Councillors discussed the Local Plan consultation and the proposed Mingle Lane/ Hinton Way site: the development is proposed for four hectares of the 10-hectare site. Cllr Fane has suggested the proposed development go near the cemetery, with the tree belt to shield the cemetery from development to be planted. This would enable the rest of the site to be a countryside park which has potential to join with the Rangeford countryside park. Further, that the Rangeford development should be accepted as fulfilling the Stapleford & Shelford development allocation. Some responses supported affordable housing near sustainable transport. Some responses want Stapleford and Shelford to remain separated by green space. Cllr Fane expressed his opinion that it was more important for the villages to remain separate to Cambridge. All the Parish Councillors responded with concerns about infill development, and the lack of affordable homes.

The District Councillors reported that walking and cycling routes will be improved. SCDC have also set out their approach to increasing wildlife-rich habitats, trees and access to green spaces. Neighbourhood Plans are to receive additional funding as they are “an essential part of the government’s reforms to help local communities play a much stronger role in shaping the areas in which they live and work”. Work is ongoing to develop Stapleford and Shelford’s Neighbourhood Plan. External support will be needed for this and locality funding will be applied for now. Response to the recent consultation was good, 285 responses received (see separate article on the Plan).

Other matters discussed were the pavilion, and sports clubs. The tennis club agreement has now been signed. Minor repairs have been carried out to play equipment. Provision of broadband for the pavilion is still being sought.

Work on unstable graves has now been completed in the cemetery ensuring that the graves are now safe. The Parish Council continues to work on improvements to the village such as replacing the damaged speed signs and improving disabled access to the recreation ground.

A discussion was held on live-streaming and/or recording Parish Council meetings in the future, to aid transparency and improve public engagement. It was decided to wait for central government to decide on this and perhaps provide funding for the equipment necessary.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday 1 September in the pavilion and you are invited to attend and put your questions and comments to the Council. **Gillian Pett, Chair Stapleford Parish Council**

Neighbourhood Plan

A snapshot of first consultation results

BETWEEN April and June the Neighbourhood Plan steering group ran a first consultation for residents and workers of Stapleford and Great Shelford. This preliminary survey was not intended to represent the community's in-depth consideration so much as to help identify what matters to local people on issues where a Neighbourhood Plan may have some influence. Emerging key themes can be followed up and tested through further research, surveys, discussion and community events, leading to the development of informed planning policies.

We asked questions about:

- what you like about living and/or working here.
- village identity.
- housing needs.
- development locations.
- greenbelt.
- environmental concerns.
- transport choices.
- local economy.
- future concerns about our villages.

A total of 289 responses were received: 58% from people living/working in Great Shelford and 42% from Stapleford, with a healthy representation across all adult age categories.

Below is a very short, qualitative summary of selected findings:

- most of us currently consider Stapleford and Great Shelford as villages but foresee them as part of Greater Cambridge by 2040.
- we need more affordable, starter and small/medium-sized homes.
- new developments should be environmentally sustainable.
- we value our landscape setting, access to it and visual links with it.
- our greenbelt should not be developed or only in very special circumstances.
 - loss of biodiversity and carbon emissions are our biggest local environmental concerns.
 - we most commonly travel by car due to distances involved or for convenience.
 - we would use local shops and businesses more if there was a wider range of shops and services, including access to banking facilities or a cash point.

- thinking about the future of our villages, we are worried about the environmental impact of development, increasing traffic congestion, greenbelt erosion and loss of village character.

Data analysis is ongoing and outcomes will be compiled into a report available for all to read, both online and in hard copy at Great Shelford Library, at the end of the summer.

Cllr Jenny Flynn, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

MUGA

FREE summer tennis and basketball bookings

for local low-income households and Ukrainian refugees

STAPLEFORD Parish Council and Stapleford Tennis Club have joined together to offer 80 hours of free tennis and basketball sessions at Stapleford MUGA (multi-use games area), located at Stapleford Rec, over the school summer holiday period. The scheme is open to Ukrainian refugees living locally and local low-income households.

Free sessions are open throughout August for booking from 12-2pm from Monday through to Thursday on the following days:

- Monday 1 August – Thursday 4 August
- Monday 15 August – Thursday 18 August
- Monday 22 August – Thursday 25 August
- Monday 29 August – Thursday 1 September

Details of the scheme and a link to the ClubSpark booking system are available at staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk and click on MUGA.

A box of donated tennis racquets and balls will be available at the MUGA for use during booked sessions. We simply ask that you return them to the box immediately after use. If you have any racquets, tennis balls or basketballs to donate to the scheme, please email muga@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk.

The scheme will work on a 'first come, first served' basis and by trust. So as many people can benefit as possible, please only book a maximum of one free hour of play per day. In the spirit of the scheme, during these times on these dates we kindly ask that Tennis Club Members and Pay-to-Play users who can afford to pay do not book the MUGA. If a time slot is still free 24 hours in advance, then it becomes open to all for booking. Further terms and conditions are available via the link above.

Jenny Flynn, Stapleford Parish Council

Stapleford Parish Council

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



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Stapleford Parish Council normally meets publicly on the first Thursday of every month. Please check our website for the latest details



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