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Issue

# Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

VOL X No 5

FEBRUARY 2009

PRICE 40p

*Possible Expansion of Cambridge City –  
County Council's Position Explained (p3)*

*Practical Ways to Tackle Global Warming (p20)*



*Sawston By-Pass Crossing Concerns (pp2 and 29)*

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## GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Mrs S Saunders 842588	Mr M Seekings 843416	Mr A Smith 562474
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Dr G Kenney 211547	Mr A G Orgee 891464	
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</b>		
Mr C Nightingale 511769	Miss J Dipple 843650	
Mr A Berent 843875		
<b>CLERK TO THE COUNCIL</b> Mrs W Burbidge 840616		

## GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

*Summary of items from the December meeting*

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

*Hotel & Golf Course* (minute 3). Cllr: Nightingale said he and Mrs Hodge had talked with Duncan Ward about the Section 106 for the hotel and golf course project. The County Council proposes to use the S106 to re-surface the roundabout at Shelford Bottom instead of on the agreed traffic calming in Hinton Way. The County Council says it cannot justify the 30mph flashing signs or the pelican crossing, both of which had already been approved with the developer.

*Abberley House* (minute 5). Still no response about the Section 106 for this development.

*Implement Shed* (minute 6). The Chairman said he had spoken to the Architect Tim Page who has reservations as to whether the base of the present implement shed is strong enough to withstand concrete blocks. Cllr: Coggins explained the reasons as to why the decision had been taken to replace the shed and said that the recreation ground committee had held a meeting in November to discuss the details; also time has been spent obtaining estimates. All of which he feels in retrospect has been a waste of time. The meeting was adamant that this was not the case but felt it would be sensible to arrange for a structural engineer to look at the site before proceeding further.

### FINANCE

*Expenses.* It was proposed that expenses incurred by the clerk for the previous six months be passed for payment.

*Accounts.* It was **resolved** that 18 accounts totalling £8,426.77, as presented by the Clerk be approved for payment.

*Sports Club Payments.* It was proposed that the contribution made by the sports clubs towards the upkeep of the recreation ground for the 2009/10 season should be increased by varying amounts according to their requirements.

*Precept.* The proposed budget requirements for each committee, together with all other annual costs were presented to the meeting. Following a full discussion the budget for 2009/2010 was agreed and a precept proposed. This will be presented to the full Council for their approval at the meeting in January.

*Casual Staff.* It was propose that the staff at the cemetery should be given a Christmas gift in the form of a John Lewis token.

*Restriction sign* It was proposed that the Parish Council should finance 'keep clear' road markings at De Freville Road.

*Please note that there are no Planning Application notes this month.*

## COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

### **The Sawston–Stapleford/Great Shelford cycleway**

We, together with local parish councils and many local residents, have been very concerned about safety where the Sawston–Stapleford/Great Shelford cycleway crosses the A1301 road. Over the years there have been numerous attempts to improve safety at this point (see also article on page 29).

Recently the County Council has been successful in getting the government to designate Cambridge as one of 10 Cycling Demonstration Towns. This designation comes with a significant amount of government funding – in the case of Cambridge, £3.6 million to be precise – and covers not only the city itself but also villages lying within a six mile radius.

We have made strong representations to the County Council to have some of this money specifically allocated to address the safety issues on the Sawston–Stapleford/Great Shelford cycleway. In doing this we know that we have the support not only of very many local residents but also the support of the parish councils of Great Shelford, Little Shelford, Sawston and Stapleford. We are also approaching the national cycle body Sustrans for help and support. We will report further in the next edition of the *Village News*.

### **Winter road gritting and salting**

Decisions about whether to grit and salt our roads are taken after very careful consideration of detailed weather forecasts. The recent prolonged spell of continuously low temperatures has meant that there have been more occasions than in a typical winter when the County Council's salting and gritting teams have had to be called out. The cost of each gritting and salting of the county's roads costs just over £20,000. Salting and gritting budgets are based on average winters so a particularly severe winter with more than the usual number of very cold nights can lead to a considerable overspend. However, all decisions are taken in the interests of public safety and we are very grateful for the work done in keeping our roads safe.



## Simply the best!!

The Government Inspectors from the Audit Commission have named Cambridgeshire as the most improved County in England based on its performance over the last three years. We have been ranked first out of the 388 Counties. 86% of our indicators showed improvement against a National Average of between 67% and 72%. The particular areas of improvement were Trading Standards, and Planning where Cambridgeshire was rated first out of all the County Councils.

We also had sustained improvement in Social Care for older and vulnerable people, and everyone now knows how committed we are to top quality services and support to all members of the Community. Our improved indicators are evidence of hard work, dedication and commitment to top quality services and the Audit Commission confirms this. We will try to continue the upwards trend of our services and Value for Money, because as you know our community charge is extremely low in comparison with the rest of England, and the Government gives us less than most other County Councils.

In the Council's Annual Performance Assessment (APA) OFSTED found standards in Education in Cambridgeshire were good and the Inspectors praised the way the Council used the views of young people in developing the Strategic Plan.

*County Councillors Tony Orgee and Gail Kenney*

## REPORT OF EXPANSION OF CAMBRIDGE CITY

The headline 'City could treble to the size of Manchester' appeared on the front page of the *Cambridge Evening News* on Saturday 17 January 2009. You may well wonder what this means and what are the implications for villages such as Great Shelford that are close to Cambridge.

Firstly, it should be appreciated that development in this area is the subject of a number of major planning documents prepared by various bodies, including local District and County Councils, and which are subject to review by the East of England Regional Assembly. Consultants acting for the local councils predict a substantially lower rate of growth in Cambridgeshire than the government's consultants, so there is no agreement on the figures to be planned for. Also local councils are being pressured to decide on their strategy for growth to 2031 (as opposed to 2021 as already planned) by this month (January 2009). This is an unacceptably short timescale for the work to be carried out, and we ask why there is such a tremendous rush to get plans in place for development from 2021 to 2031.

As part of their review, the East of England Regional Assembly asked the consultants Arup to carry out a Regional Scale Settlement Study; regional scale settlements are defined as single new developments of greater than 20,000 dwellings, accommodating about 40,000 people and providing, or allowing good access to, jobs for 18,400 workers. Arup have just (January 2009) produced their report which makes it clear that the options in the report need to be evaluated against other growth options such as smaller scale new settlements or more dispersed growth across the region **before** a conclusion is reached about the future regional strategy.

The overall outcome of the proposals made in Arup's report would, **if adopted**, lead to large scale regional centres of 300,000 to 400,000 population in Cambridge, Norwich and Chelmsford. This is where the newspaper headline about Cambridge trebling in size comes from. However, other parts of the report indicate that the physical capacity of Cambridge City is unlikely to be able to accommodate the required levels of growth, and that what should be considered is not just the City of Cambridge but also all the districts within Cambridgeshire. The report discusses six potential locations for a regional scale settlement in Cambridgeshire and concludes that the strongest option for the location of such a settlement in the county is at Huntingdon /Alconbury.

### **So what does all this mean?**

The report suggests possible sites for large scale settlements **if** that is the development strategy adopted for the East of England. However, discussions continue both within Cambridgeshire and within the East of England about what development strategy should be adopted. Interpretations of the report vary, but in our view the figure of 300,000 to 400,000 population refers more to the Cambridge sub-area, not just to Cambridge City itself. The sub-area extends to the ring of market towns, Ely, Huntingdon, Newmarket, Royston, Saffron Walden, surrounding Cambridge

For residents of Great Shelford the future will see the major developments in the Trumpington area that are in current planning policies, developments that are already well advanced in the planning process. However, we do **not** expect to see Cambridge City itself trebling in size and swallowing up a whole swathe of surrounding villages.

**We feel that** more than enough land has been taken out of the Cambridge Green Belt recently and we will continue to fight for Great Shelford maintaining its status as a large village in the Green Belt and **not** being engulfed by an enlarged Cambridge City.

*County Councillors Tony Orgee and Gail Kenney*



## GREAT SHELFORD FREE CHURCH

[www.shelfordfreechurch.org.uk](http://www.shelfordfreechurch.org.uk)

**Minister:** Revd. Mike McDade    **Tel:** 840343    [revmikemcdade@aol.com](mailto:revmikemcdade@aol.com)  
**Youth Leader:** Paul Joel    **Tel:** 842181    [pauljoel@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pauljoel@hotmail.co.uk)

### OUR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**Coffee Pot** (Tuesday mornings) continues throughout the month on Tuesday mornings for those who wish to pop in for coffee and chat between 10.00am and 11.30am. Many make use of the shopping bus, partly funded by Shelford Parish Council on Tuesday mornings.

**Little Steps Toddler Group** (Wednesday mornings)



Runs from 10.00 am–12noon for children 0–3yrs, and carers.

**Stretchworks** (*Thursdays*) A ladies Keep Fit session, starting at 7.30pm.

**Youth in the Loft** (*Thursdays 7–8.30 pm*) A club night of games, crafts, music and tuck shop.

**CALLINN** (*Friday*). An inexpensive cooked meal served from 12.15pm.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** (*Saturday 21 February at 9.30am* The 'Full English' plus chat.

### OUR REGULAR SERVICES FOR WORSHIP

**Sunday Morning** at 10.30am. (Coffee will be served after the service.) Separate activities for children and young people.

**Sunday Evening Youth led Service** Sunday 8 February at 6.30pm (All ages welcome).

**Sunday Evening Wholeness and Healing Service** Sunday 22 February at 6.30pm.

**Friday Morning** at 11.00am. This is a midweek church service lasting about an hour and is open to any in the community. CALLINN follows (see above).

### CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

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Further information can be obtained from John Sweasey (Church Administrator) at the Church Centre, 29 High Street. Telephone 842181.

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## SHELFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE


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You are now able to send the Practice a request for repeat prescription medication from our website.

Our website address is: [www.shelfordmedicalpractice.nhs.uk](http://www.shelfordmedicalpractice.nhs.uk). When you are using the website, the list of available pages is always at the left-hand side. Clicking on ‘Repeat prescriptions’ in that list will take you to a form that you can fill out:

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- Latest news
- Links
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**Contact Tel.\*** 01223 843661

Please enter your telephone number

**Doctor** - Please select your usual Doctor -

**How do you wish to collect your prescription?** Alliance Pharmacy - Great Shelford

**Prescription request**

Item Description	Strength	Quantity
Aspirin	75mg	28

**Additional Comments**

You must fill in the boxes for your name and telephone number. The form will expand to let you type in as many lines for medicines as you need. The field for selecting ‘your usual doctor’ need not be filled in.

You may choose to collect your medication from Alliance Boots Pharmacy in Great Shelford, or to collect the paper prescription from the Health Centre. Please allow 2 working days before collection of your medication.

When you click on the 'Submit' button at the bottom of the screen, an email message will be created automatically and sent to the Health Centre. You will see a confirmation message on the website page you are looking at, telling you that the email has been sent to us.

We still accept repeat prescription requests on paper or by fax.

*Jennet Ashton, Practice Manager*

## **USING THE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY (A&E) DEPARTMENT AT ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL**

At this time of year there is usually a flurry of comments in the press about the pressures on hospitals. Addenbrooke's is no exception and has been hit hard this year particularly with the winter vomiting bug norovirus. But it is not just epidemics of flu, chest infections and falls in icy conditions that cause the pressure on our hospitals.

Many people go to A&E for problems which are neither accidents nor emergencies. Most of these problems can be dealt with at your GP surgery.

Using A&E for non-emergencies puts unnecessary pressure on the hospital and diverts care away from those most in need. So, before going to A&E, ask yourself if your problem is really an accident or emergency which needs hospital care. If not, then please ring the surgery rather than going to A&E.

We are working in partnership with NHS Cambridgeshire to reduce unnecessary hospital attendances and keep A&E free for those who need it most. **Shelford Medical Practice is open from 8am to 6pm (except Wednesdays 1pm to 2pm).** You may telephone or call in with an urgent problem and talk to the duty doctor. **Sawston Medical Practice is open throughout the day from 8am** and always has both a duty nurse and duty doctor available to assess urgent problems.

*Jenny Parker, Assistant Practice Manager, Sawston Medical Practice*

*Jennet Ashton, Practice Manager, Shelford Medical Practice*

## **POLICE LIAISON**

The next Police Surgery will be held on Wednesday 4 February 9.30–11.00am at the Country Market in the Memorial Hall. PCSO Christopher Wiseman apologises for the delay in starting the January surgery, but he and his colleague were unavoidably detained on an operational matter.

*Martyn Seekings*



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## **SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION (SIA)**

### **GREAT BRITISH FISH AND CHIP SUPPER – FRIDAY 15 MAY**

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 15 May 2009 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre. SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5, you will raise at least £35 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

In 2009 SIA will celebrate its 35th Anniversary and, being that Friday 15 May 2009 is Spinal Cord Injury awareness day, what better way to raise funds than eating Fish and Chips and raising money for SIA. The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed, and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

2009 is the first year that SIA are running the suppers but we already envisage this to be one of our top fundraising initiatives in the SIA calendar over the coming years. Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives.

For more information or to request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633, extn 229, or email [fishandchips@spinal.co.uk](mailto:fishandchips@spinal.co.uk) or visit [www.spinal.co.uk](http://www.spinal.co.uk).



### ♠ ♥ BRIDGE DRIVE ♦ ♣

A Bridge Drive, in aid of the Arthritis Research Campaign (arc) will be held at the **Gog Magog Golf Club**, Shelford Bottom, on **Friday 13 March**. Tickets are £8 each, and include 'a delicious tea'. Contact Ann Cousins on (01223) 709050 or Hilary Mundell on (01223) 842704. Book soon, as tickets go early.

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## SOUTH CAMBS DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

The newly formed South Cambs Decorative and Fine Arts Society (SCDFAS) celebrated its inauguration into the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) on 18 December 2008 at the Scotsdales Charity Centre. This was a very special event and was honoured by the presence of local dignitaries as well as the Chief Executive and the New Societies Advisor from NADFAS Head Office. The Chairman of NADFAS in East Anglia, the chairmen of the three other Cambridge societies and the President of the Ely, West Suffolk, Newmarket, Bury St Edmunds and Saffron Walden branches were all in attendance.



SCDFAS chairman Audrey Williams introduces  
NADFAS Chief Executive David Bell



Janet Canetty-Clarke

Our splendid membership of over 200 enjoyed a seasonal glass before being regaled by a champagne lecture by Janet Canetty-Clarke (see photo left) on 'The Celebration of Christmas in Music and Painting'. Janet sped with intelligence and wit from the academic sparkle of the interpretation of the paintings to the effervescent beauty of her music from piano and tapes. It was a wonderful start in an electric atmosphere to what we hope will be a long-lived addition to the interests available in this area, providing new knowledge and opportunities in an atmosphere of fun and friendship.

*Audrey Williams, Chairman*



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**Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)**

**Sundays at 10.00 a.m.**

**Holy Communion (Common Worship)**

**Sundays at 6.30 p.m.**

**Evening Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)**

**Morning and Evening Prayer** are said daily, with **Compline** on Wednesday. **Holy Communion** is celebrated each Wednesday and on Festivals at 9.30 a.m. The **First Sunday** celebration each month at 10.00 a.m. is a service with families and young people especially in mind. Children are welcome to stay with us in church or to join our **SUNDAY CLUB**, which meets at the School and in the Rainbow Room for games and activities related to the morning's worship. The focus of our worship each week is given in the pew sheet, available at the back of church. Please help yourself. Prayers are offered each day for the life of the village and those who live and work here. As your parish church we serve the whole community and are always glad to receive prayer requests, whether for regular worshippers or not. If you would like an intention to be included, please contact the Vicar.

### FROM THE REGISTERS

**Holy Baptism  
And Blessing**

25 Jan Léa Joan Collomb-Ward  
James Anthony John Ward

**Blessing**

25 Jan Baptiste Shane Alain Collomb-Robert

**Holy Matrimony**

3 Jan Nigel Cross and Katherine Taylor

**Funeral**

22 Dec 08	Richard Stone	20 Jan	Florence Redgewell
30 Dec 08	Eileen French	21 Jan	Charles Holloway
7 Jan	Vera Cockman	26 Jan	Joan Corney
13 Jan	Dorothy White	28 Jan	Iris Astin
15 Jan	Gwen Cunnison	29 Jan	Maureen Normandale
16 Jan	Leslie Carter		

Applications for baptisms, weddings, and the calling of banns of marriage should be made to the Vicar, The Revd. Michael Goater, at The Vicarage, 12 Church Street, Great Shelford (01223 843654 or 07936 432289; [michael@mickthevic.org.uk](mailto:michael@mickthevic.org.uk)). The Vicar is a Surrogate for granting marriage licences.

### PARISH CHURCH NEWS

Despite the fact that The Great Shelford Christmas Cracker Joke Competition (which would have been in its 6th glorious season) was suspended this year, the customary hoary one-liners and excruciating puns have continued to snow through the Vicarage letter box. Because we've not enjoyed the best of starts to 2009, in the interests of a smile around the Village, I offer the following from the most recent crop. 'What's brown and sweet and glides around an ice rink?' (Bourneville and Dean) 'What do you call a man with brown paper trousers?' (Russell) 'What do you call a woman who stands between the goal posts?' (Annette) 'Who hides in a bakery at Christmas?' (A mince spy) 'What did the scout master say when his car horn was mended?' (Beep repaired). And, last but not least, 'What's ET short for?' (Because he's only got little legs.)



Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to make our Christmas services possible, among whom especially Kim Lane and the choir, the ringers, the Holy Dusters, the caterers (including the Christingers), the Sacristan and Wardens, those who decorated the church so beautifully – and not least your good selves who came. The generosity of Christmas has spilled over into the new year among Shelford folk. The Barn Dance on 17 January in aid of Deanery funds was a successful and hugely entertaining evening. The Friends of St Mary's again paid for our floodlighting of the church over Christmas and the new year, which the Tower Band celebrated in style by ringing in 2009.

The Salvation Army thanked us for the toys from our First Sunday service; an appeal for the work of Christian Aid raised £335; the Christingle service raised £220 for The Children's Society; £162 was donated towards the running expenses of The Chaplaincy to People at Work, and £467 to The Shelford and Stapleford Youth Initiative. Our alms over Christmas and in January were dedicated to The Cambridge Cyrenians and Church Urban Fund.

We were busy on other fronts, too. Twenty-eight people joined us for a Taize-style worship service on 11 January, a broadly favourable response suggesting that we should repeat the event later in the year. On 21 January in the Memorial Hall, Dr Mary Archer spoke to The Friends about Rupert Brooke and the Old Vicarage at Grantchester. Looking forward (and there are still one or two copies of the much prized St Mary's pocket diary available at the back of church in which to record all these events – do help yourself), on Sunday 1 February, Sunday Club meets in the school and at the Rainbow Room to think about stories of Jesus the healer, while the Church school Candlemas service will be held on 2 February at 2.30 p.m. On Wednesday 4 February, 2.30–4.00 p.m., at the Vicarage, the Vicar will be leading by request a study session on the atonement following the preface to a recent pewsheet. On Ash Wednesday, 25 February, there will be no Communion Service at 9.30 a.m. but a Choral Eucharist in the Merbecke setting at 7.30 p.m., with the customary rites of Ash Wednesday. Michael Womack, our Westcott Ordinand, is planning a Lent study course on Wednesday afternoons at The Vicarage. The theme is likely to be 'The Wilderness'; details to follow.

Finally, The Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee have finally and formally approved the amalgamation of Shelford Deanery with part of the former Deanery of Linton and have consented to a change of name to Granta Deanery. This will become effective on 1 March.



## Sunday Club

is now so popular it meets in **THREE** different places! Do come and join the leaders and other children in the **SCHOOL**, in **The Rainbow Room**, or in **church**, on **Sunday 1 February at 9.45 a.m.**

## SHELFORD SCHOOL NEWS

The children and staff are all settled back into school after the Christmas break. Some of the children are involved in the annual Little Shelford Pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'. They are rehearsing very hard and the experience is wonderful for the children.

During this half-term, year 4 will present their assembly, year 6 are going to Sawston Village College to enjoy a French presentation and year 5 are going on the annual residential trip to Burwell house. This is a great trip where the children experience a recording studio and make a DVD of their time at Burwell. They all have a splendid time and return full of tales and with a lack of sleep.

The theme for this half-term's work on developing children's social, emotional and behavioural skills will be 'Going for Goals'! We will be exploring how children can motivate themselves in their learning and across the school. As part of the theme they will be asked to set their own goals, think about how they learn best and consider how they might make wise choices.

The Candlemas service will be held in St Mary's church on Monday 2 February at 2.30pm.

Mrs Evans is collating a directory of people from our parent and community body who can offer a one-off presentation or workshops for a class group or a key stage group. Please let us know whether you can offer expertise from your work life which may be related to an area of the curriculum e.g. science, literacy. Alternatively you may have lived overseas for many years and can contribute to our Geography curriculum regarding a different culture. Maybe you are a practising Jew, Hindu, Muslim or a Christian and are willing to be interviewed about your faith or to offer a workshop relating to a special celebration or festival or your cultural heritage. Please contact the school office for more information if you are interested.

### **RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PTA BY SHOPPING ONLINE!**

The PTA has signed up to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). If you buy through this site you raise funds for the school at no extra cost to you. All you need to do is register for free at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/shelfordprimary](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/shelfordprimary) and use easy fundraising every time you shop on line. Its easy to use just follow the instructions below:

- 1) Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/shelfordprimary>.
- 2) If you want further information about this scheme, click on the square blue 'Read More' link, otherwise click on the red 'Register As A User' link.

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Please do pass the link on to your family and friends.

*Isobel Harper*

## COUNTRY MARKET

On Wednesday 28 January we celebrated Farmhouse Breakfast week – an annual campaign to encourage everyone to wake up to breakfast as part of a healthy balanced diet and active lifestyle – especially important on cold, frosty mornings.

At this time of year our gardens are not such a high priority but we still have a good selection of shrubs available for planting – weather permitting! Other sections of the market are as busy as ever, especially baked produce, preserves and chutneys. What about trying your hand at something a little different to while away a cold winter morning? If you are reading this before Wednesday 4 February, come and join Lisa MacGregor at a 'Beading Workshop' (9.15–11.00am). You can design and make a piece of beaded jewellery from a wide range of lovely glass beads and Lisa will help you to assemble your earrings, bracelet or necklace. A charge will be made to cover costs. It's St. Valentine's Day on 14 February and you can purchase cards and gifts for that special person in your life – no need to go any further than Great Shelford Country Market.

Have you ever thought about becoming a Market producer? Anyone, male or female may apply as long as they are over 16 years of age and have suitable produce to sell. Baked goods, savouries, vegetarian dishes, preserves, honey, fruit and vegetables, plants and crafts are amongst the items which can be sold. All must be home-produced and in the case of perishable food, freshly prepared. All Country Markets are run cooperatively, no-one has their own table; all the goods are sold together and everyone helps in the general running of the Market. Interested? If you would like more information why not pop into the market for an informal chat.

*Eve Dockerill*

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## FIVE GENTLE STEPS TOWARDS SAVING THE PLANET

George Orwell was a man with a good understanding of human nature. In an essay entitled *The Art of Donald McGill* he wrote,

*There is one part of you that wishes to be a hero or a saint, but another part of you is a little fat man (or woman) who sees very clearly the advantages of staying alive with a whole skin. His tastes lie towards safety, soft beds, no work...He is your unofficial self...*

He goes on to say that,

*Society always has to demand a little more from human beings than it will get in practice. It has to demand faultless discipline and self-sacrifice, it must expect its subjects to work hard, pay their taxes, and be faithful to their wives (or husbands). The whole of what one may call official literature is founded on such assumptions...*

*Nevertheless the high sentiments always win in the end, leaders who offer blood, toil, tears and sweat always get more out of their followers than those who offer safety and a good time.*

Now I am well acquainted with my unofficial self. It knows perfectly well that it's nicer travelling by car into Cambridge than sitting in a Cambus full of annoying people with horrible coughs, or who insist on yelling into their mobile phone 'I'm on the bus'. It knows that all those 'indulgent' desserts advertised by Marks and Spencers, full of all the things we're not supposed to eat, are totally wonderful. But my official self has to take a hold occasionally!

Now it seems self-evident to me that the kind of consumption that we, in the Western world, indulge in, is unsustainable, and that the price paid for it, by the planet, and by the Third World, makes it totally unacceptable, and that our unofficial selves have taken over. I have always belonged to Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace, but recently I joined a Carbon Challenge Group, run by a group called Cambridge Carbon Footprint, and this made me think a good deal about what I consume and what I buy. (For those of you with internet access, see [www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org.uk](http://www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org.uk)).

I wonder if there are others among you like me, who would like at least to begin to unpick some of the habits we have got into, and which are proving so expensive to the planet? I have put together a short session, lasting two hours, entitled 'Five Gentle Steps Towards Saving the Planet'. In it I propose to look at five issues – food miles, food waste, using local food, transport and energy use – with one suggestion about each which would be easy to adopt.

Now the course is not about inducing guilt about your habits. Speaking as one brought up in a background heavily laced with the Protestant work-ethic, I do not find guilt a particularly helpful reason for doing anything. But I do think that our 'official selves' know that sometimes we have to do the right thing, rather than the most desirable thing. And if we are to give today's children, and the people of the Third World, a decent heritage, then we in the West have to give up a little of what we can have so easily and so cheaply.

I mentioned that we would cover five issues. Here's an example – food waste. Did you know that in Britain we waste one third of the food that we buy? (Food Waste, [www.wrap.org.uk](http://www.wrap.org.uk)). What a truly astonishing figure. It seems clear from this that even if we did no more than stop wasting so much food, we could significantly reduce the food that has to be provided for us in the UK.

You will, of course, have heard of Climate Change. The course will introduce you to the idea of your Carbon Footprint. This 'carbon footprint' is a way of allowing you to measure your impact on the planet and hence your contribution towards climate change. We will put forward some easy suggestions that can make a difference to that impact. We will tell you where to get more information, if you want it. And, hopefully, you will meet other people in Shelford who feel a concern about what we do and how we leave the planet. Perhaps there is the nucleus of a group – 'Sustainable Shelford' to forward some village projects?

If we all make a few small changes, then big results may accrue. Further, YOU are what makes up public opinion. There are many changes that can only happen if you give the supermarkets, big business, the district or county council, or the government permission to forward them. So YOU are important. If you are interested, please come along.

*Helen Harwood*

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## DIARY – FEBRUARY 2009

Date	Event	Time and Place	
4	Beading Workshop (Country Market, see page 18)	9.15–11am	Mem Hall
4	Police Surgery	9.30–11am	Mem Hall
4	WI meeting. Talk: ‘The Man who Drew Cats’ by Rodney Dale	7.30pm	Mem Hall
5	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm	Mem Hall
6	Orchid Society	7.30pm	Mem Hall
6	Little Shelford Historical Society (see page 31)	7.30pm	Little Shelford Mem Hall
10	Shelford Garden Club Talk: ‘The Restoration of the Gardens at Audley End’	7.45pm	Shelford School Hall
11	‘Five Small Steps to Saving the Planet’ (see page 21)	7pm	Mem Hall
11–14	Sawston Youth Drama presents <i>The Boy Friend</i> (see page 31)	7.30pm	Sawston Youth Centre
12	Carpet Bowls	7.30–9.30pm	Mem Hall
13	‘Five Small Steps to Saving the Planet’ (see page 21)	1–3pm	Mem Hall
13	Bridge Drive in aid of arc (see p10)	2pm	Gog Magog Golf Club
19	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm	Mem Hall
20	Rainbow Pre-School Play Morning	9am–12.30pm	Mem Hall
24	Farmers’ Market	9.30am	Mem Hall
26	Carpet Bowls	7.30pm	Mem Hall
27	Whittlesford Village Quiz Evening (see page 29)	7.30pm	William Westley School
28	Farmers’ Market	9.30am–12.30pm	Mem Hall
1 March	North Norfolk Railway Gala Excursion (see page 33)	7.55am pick-up	Tunwells Lane

The Country Market (formerly WI) is held in the Memorial Hall each Wednesday 8.30–11.30.



## WI

Seventeen members ventured out on a very cold night for our first meeting of 2009. We reviewed the events that had taken place over the Christmas period, in particular our Christmas party which had been very successful, as reported last month. The Village Carol singing, at which some members had served the refreshments, had been enjoyed. The funds were going to the Air Ambulance.

We were reminded by Jeanne Green of the plan to go out for supper to The Greyhound pub in Sawston in February. She gave advance notice of the planned Sale and Coffee morning on 18 April (NOT 21 March as originally stated) in the Memorial Hall. Membership booklets for the year were handed out and we were reminded that our subscriptions are now due.

We then adjourned for refreshments, after which Jeanne introduced our Speaker, Vicky Everall, an Image Consultant. Her talk was a real wake-up call to encourage us to value ourselves and make the most of our appearance. She pointed out the importance of choosing the right colours for our clothes, saying that it can make us look younger, slimmer and give us more confidence. There has been a history in this country of discouraging interest in one's appearance for fear of 'vanity'. She appealed to us to do everything we can to encourage young girls to feel comfortable with their bodies and not be afraid to look in the mirror! If any of you out there would like to have a new look, Vicky only lives in Sawston and I'm sure would love to hear from you. We all felt we'd had a tonic, just listening to her.

Next month's meeting will be on 4 February at 7.30p.m. The speaker will be Rodney Dale on Louis Wain – the man who drew cats. *Catherine Spencer*

### **HOW TO CONTACT GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS**

Your articles, letters etc can be sent to us by email at **gsveditorial@yahoo.co.uk**. Paper items should be delivered to Mrs J Amis, 58 High Street, Great Shelford. **COPY DATE FOR NEXT GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS is 13 February**

General telephone enquiries to 571895 or 842553. Advertising enquiries to Mrs E Goater, 843654 or email *gsvnadverts@yahoo.co.uk*.

#### **Editorial Committee:**

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## FOOTBALL CLUB

Happy New Year to all our supporters and a pretty good start to 2009 for all our teams.

Since the last update, our First Team have played 4 league games, winning 2, drawing 1 and losing 1. This leaves them handily placed in fourth spot ready to mount a serious challenge for the title.

The saga of the Invitation Cup game against Ely City rumbles on with the game needing to be replayed yet again, due to Ely fielding an ineligible player.

Our Reserves have won 2 league games, losing 1 and currently stand fourth in Division 2A. They have also progressed to the semi-final of the Creake Shield by beating Fowlmere 5–3. Well done lads.

Our A Team have played 3 league games, winning 2 and losing 1, and now stand in sixth place but with games in hand on those above. Unfortunately, they went out of the John Ablett Cup. Cambs FA found Lode guilty of fielding ineligible players in our recent fixture and have awarded the 3 points to us – justice!

All three teams now need to push on for the remainder of the season and all have good chances of winning trophies for the club.

As always, help is forever needed whether it be on match days, fund raising activities or sponsorship and donations. If you would like to become involved with, or help the Club in any way please contact the Club Secretary, Tony Holden, on **01954 782928**

Finally, if you want to watch good football, come and support the teams – all fixtures can be found on our website.

**Go to [www.greatshelfordfc.co.uk](http://www.greatshelfordfc.co.uk) for further information on the Club. Support Great Shelford FC – a club you should all be proud of.** *PE*

### NEARLY NEW SALE IN AID OF LOCAL PLAYGROUP!!

Sunnyside pre-school playgroup is organising a nearly new sale on 9 May in Stapleford school hall as our next big fundraising event. We will be selling indoor and outdoor toys, books, DVDs, nursery equipment and clothes for children from birth to age 11. For each item sold 75% goes to the seller and 25% to Sunnyside. We are letting you know so far in advance in order that you can start putting aside any of the above you may wish to sell or donate. Further details will follow nearer the event. Many thanks for your support.

*Julia Creed*



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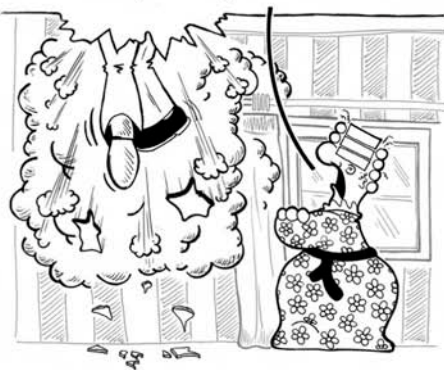
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Our organisation is national and international and there are groups meeting weekly across Cambridgeshire offering family and friends of alcoholics somewhere to find comfort, understanding and encouragement. Anyone is welcome to attend if they have been, or still are, affected by someone else's drinking. **Local meetings take place at Cambridge, Ely, Wisbech, and Peterborough.**

Al-Anon Family Groups is a fully self-supporting, registered charity and there are no membership fees. The fellowship is not allied with any sect, denomination, political entity, organisation or institution and has but one purpose: to help families of alcoholics.

Full details about the location and times of the above meetings and more information about Al-Anon Family Groups can be found at [www.al-anonuk.org.uk](http://www.al-anonuk.org.uk) and by calling the General Service Office on 020 74030888.

*Name and address supplied*

## **THE STAPLEFORD SINFONIA AND SINGERS**

Following the success of our latest Christmas concert, the Stapleford Singers and Sinfonia will be joining forces with the Orchestra and choir of Great St. Mary's (The University Church) in a performance of Elgar's 'The Music Makers'. This will take place on **Saturday 14 March, at 7.30pm**, in the Emmanuel United Reformed Church, Trumpington Street, Cambridge. The concert will also include works by Parry and other orchestral music.

'The Music Makers' is a wonderful work and Elgar includes a number of quotations from his earlier compositions (Sea Pictures, The Dream of Gerontius, The Enigma Variations and both symphonies) and there is no doubting that Elgar felt a strong affinity with the words of the poem by Arthur O'Shaunessey, identifying himself with the 'dreamer of dreams'.

The Stapleford Singers are a very friendly choir and we meet every Monday at 7.45pm in the Primary School hall in Bar Lane. We are always pleased to hear from people who would like to come and sing. If you would like to join us please contact our conductor, Adam Pounds on 01223 843468.

This promises to be a concert not to be missed and further details will follow soon.

*Michelle Cooke*

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## **PARENTS BYPASS ACTION GROUP – SAWSTON, STAPLEFORD, SHELFORDS (PBAGSSS)**

PBAGSSS was formed in response to a series of accidents which have occurred at the cycle crossing on the Sawston Bypass on the A1301 (see picture on front cover). The most recent accident involved a serious injury to a Year 7 cyclist from Sawston Village College last autumn.

Since then, PBAGSSS has met twice with representatives of Cambridge County Council (CCC) and local parish councillors to discuss how safer cycling measures for students using this crossing can be achieved.

At the most recent meeting, on Tuesday 20 January, Amanda Mays, the team leader for the CCC Road Safety Engineering team, was very helpful in discussing a number of affordable, short-term solutions as well as more expensive long term solutions. The details of these discussions can be viewed in the minutes of the meeting.

The Road Safety Engineering Team are part of the Road Safety Service – responsible for assessing scheme bids for safety improvements. As funding is so vital to secure any progress with this problem, it was suggested that residents of these three parishes could support the acquisition of funding by writing letters of support to their parish council as well as key figures at CCC.

If you would like to any more information, please contact me on 01223 474013.

*Karen Rainsford, Correspondence Co-ordinator*

### **STOP PRESS – COUNCIL RECOGNISES PROBLEM**

The Local Authority has confirmed that they will provide free transport for all pupils who live in Shelford and Stapleford, even those who live under the 3-mile limit. They are doing this because they undertook a review of the route to school from the villages last term and concluded that there was no provision of a 'route along which a child accompanied as necessary can walk, and walk with reasonable safety, to school.' Consequently, from 24 February, the children will be entitled to free transport to the College from home.

*June Cannie, Principal SVC*

**The next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* should be available in the shops on Friday 27 February, and subscribed copies delivered shortly after that.**

## SLEEPING BEAUTY IN LITTLE SHELFORD

'Sleeping Beauty' was this year's choice for Little Shelford's annual pantomime, with a large cast of very talented local children. Katie Marshall wrote another great script for them, and Dick Wallin directed, with Hazel Stevenson adding the choreography and sparkle, Lucy Barlow training the singing, David Adams playing the piano wonderfully for the performances, Nick Willoughby accompanying on the drums and Tom Hiom on the guitar, Mariann Bienz keeping the chorus together with help from Maya and Jessy, and of course Sarah Coppendale who always makes sure it all comes together in the end. Judy Boothroyd and her team as ever produced fabulous costumes, and a large group of devoted parents and friends worked as tirelessly as ever on the lighting, sound, music, scenery, programmes, props and all the other essentials.



A happy ending to a happy show

Fiona Jackson was given the lead role; despite being carefully brought up by her parents (played by Melissa Martin and Sam Betz), and despite constant loud warnings from the audience not to touch anything sharp on her sixteenth birthday, she took no notice and fell fast asleep for a hundred years.

There was plenty to keep the audience awake, however. The chorus entertained us brilliantly with a variety of songs, dances and acrobatics; Beni Bienz and his friends played jazz for us; knights in shining armour (led by Joe McCrae and Ben Marshall) tried without success to pull the sword from the stone and



become the rightful king of England; a group of troubadours (Alex Saunders, Michael Reik and Matthew Grenz) and the Jester (Donovan Lever) told us terrible jokes and limericks. There were some confident solo singing performances including two lovely songs from Alice Barlow and some stunning ballads from Charlie Bush. Norman Garrick made a wonderful Dame as Sleeping Beauty's Nanny; all of his performance was great, but the highlight was a very skilled and very funny clog dance.

The evil witch, wizard and sorceress (Sophie Wallin, David Ford and Stephanie Hickling respectively) were terrifying, disappearing in a puff of smoke so powerful it set off the alarms in the village hall on Friday night – and not even Duncan Grey's rubber glove over the alarm sensor could thwart them from doing the same on Saturday. Fortunately the lovely dancing and magical powers of the Lilac Fairy (Jacqueline Garrick) with her Best Supporting Fairies, and a kiss from a handsome prince (Amaya Reik) saved the day, woke the princess and made sure it all ended happily ever after. *Libby Ahluwalia*

*Little Shelford Local History Society*

Friday 6 February 2009 at 7.30 pm

Little Shelford Memorial Hall

**Alison Dickens – 'The Grand Arcade: excavations in Medieval Cambridge'**

All Welcome

**SAWSTON YOUTH DRAMA (SYD)**

This talented group of young people are presenting a popular but not so well known musical

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## NORTH NORFOLK RAILWAY GALA WEEKEND SHERINGHAM, NORFOLK – SUNDAY 1st MARCH 2009



Excursion on 1966 Bedford Duple Coach (SUBJECT TO SERVICEABILITY) coach fare £10 per seat; NNR Rover Ticket £16 extra payable on the day if wishing to travel on the railway.

For bookings and details contact: Andy Baker 01353 741367 or John Wakefield 01223 843802

### Pickup points from:

HARSTON (BP Garage)	07.40
HAUXTON (Green)	07.45
LT. SHELFORD (Church Street)	07.50
GT. SHELFORD (Tunwells Lane)	07.55
TRUMPINGTON (Shell Garage)	08.00
CAMBRIDGE (East Road)	08.07
CAMBRIDGE (Arbury/Campkin Rd)	08.15

*Organised by the Cambridge Omnibus Society*

## MUSIC AROUND GREAT SHELFORD WHITTLESFORD MUSIC AND CAMBRIDGE SWING

**Basil Bonner**, substituting for Brenda Knights, will present his recorded choices, including period vocals and some old-fashioned French Jazz, on the afternoon of Wednesday, **11 February**. Newcomers welcome at 1.50 for 2pm in the Whittlesford Community Room, Lettice Martin Croft, Butts Green, to rear of The Lawn.

**Freddie Howe**, ex BT, will introduce a mainly 1940s style Big Band programme, in the evening of Wednesday **25 February**. Newcomers welcome at 7.30 in the same Lettice Martin venue. Details from Gerry Hulford, tel: 830793.

*Basil Bonner*

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## CAMBRIDGE PRESERVATION SOCIETY EVENTS

### Sat 7 February

**Ladies Only Orienteering Taster Session at Wandlebury** 10 am–12 pm. *Meet at the main noticeboard in the car park (TL492 532).* Learn some basic orienteering skills and try out a short course. Over 16s only. Wear long trousers and suitable footwear.

*£3.50 per person (CPS members £2.50) Contact: Jon Gibbs 01223 248706*

### Sat 14 February

**Welcoming Wildlife to Your Garden No. 1** 10 am–4 pm. *Meet at Wandlebury Education Centre.* A series of hands-on workshops at Wandlebury Country Park giving children the information and skills necessary to encourage wildlife into their gardens, including making homes, feeding and habitat creation. Look out for posters, or check our website: [www.cpswandlebury.org](http://www.cpswandlebury.org) for more details nearer the time. Don't forget to bring a packed lunch and dress according to the weather.

*Ages 7–12, cost: £5 per child (CPS members £4 per child). Booking is essential. Contact: Jon Gibbs 01223 248706 for more information and to book a place.*

### Sat 21 February

**Tree and Hedge Planting Day at Coton Countryside Reserve** 10.30 am–3.30 pm.

*Meet at Coton Countryside Reserve, Martin Car Park off Grantchester Road, to the south of Coton Village (TL414577).* Join the Rangers to help plant trees and hedges around the new Coton Countryside Reserve with native species. Drop in any time. Dress according to the weather and wear sturdy footwear. Tools and gloves provided.

**FREE. Contact: Jon Gibbs 01223 248706**

## FARMERS MARKET

Just a reminder that we return on 24 January to the Memorial Hall at 9.30am for our first market of the year.

Your readers, along with our regular customers, may be interested to know that instead of our usual Christmas Raffle we purchased a goat from Oxfam for a family in Africa – it seemed a good way of getting help directly to the people that need it. If anyone wants to know more they can visit the Oxfam website for full details.

*Jan Lupton*





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## LETTER – GREAT SHELFORD ONE-WAY SYSTEM?

We have lived in Great Shelford for over 2 years and love the village, as there are all the necessary shops and services for everyday life and the residents are very friendly. However even in this short time we have noticed an increase in the traffic congestion around the High Street and Woollards Lane and put forward a suggestion which, we think, might improve ‘quality of life’ here.

Could there be any merit in making this a one-way system? We think the advantages would be improved traffic flow with less hazardous driving, plus much easier ‘park and go’ than at present. It would make crossing the road much easier for pedestrians, especially the elderly and young families. Obviously consultation with local businesses and traffic flow studies would be needed first to ascertain the best ‘direction of flow’.

We would be interested in hearing the ‘pros’ and ‘cons’ for this proposal, especially from local businesses.

*Edward and Carol Hatfield*

*Editorial Note: We passed a copy of the above to the Parish Council for comment, and the following response was received. More readers’ views would be welcomed.*

I think everyone who lives here agrees that we have a big traffic problem in Great Shelford and various suggestions have been put forward over the years for consideration. I do not believe it would be possible to make the High Street one-way as this would inevitably lead to more traffic going through Woollards Lane. Also Tunwells Lane could not be one-way either as it is a main route from Stapleford/Sawston through to Cambridge. The only possibility would be to make just Woollards Lane itself a one-way street. This is something we can discuss in the next Parish Council meeting but it is only Cambridgeshire CC Highways who can implement such schemes.

*Parish Cllr: Eileen Bennée, chairman of the Highways sub-committee*

## WHITTLESFORD VILLAGE QUIZ EVENING

The William Westley Primary School PTA Committee are delighted to be able to invite you to enter a team for this year’s Annual Village Quiz, which will be held in the school hall on **Friday 27 February 2009 at 7.30 pm**. This has always been a very enjoyable evening and raises funds for the school.

Teams are restricted to 6 members and the entry fee is £30 per team. Please feel free to bring along your own supper/nibbles. A bar will be provided for the purchase of drinks.

We hope you will enter the quiz and look forward to seeing you on the night. If you would like to enter a team please send a cheque made payable to William Westley PTA. Send it to William Westley Primary School, Mill Lane, Whittlesford, Cambridge CB22 4NE or phone 01223 833104. Please include your team name and a contact telephone number.

## ST MARY'S BELL RINGERS

### Ringling in the New Year

More than 30 people gathered in St Mary's to hear the tenor strike Midnight followed by rounds on all 8 bells and to toast the New Year.

### Special Ringing in February

- On Friday 20 February the bells will ring out to celebrate the wedding of Richard Edwards and Louise Nunn

### Special Ringing in January

- On Saturday 24 January a band from the Ely Diocesan Association will attempt a peal of 5,000 changes starting at 9.30am. If the attempt is successful the ringing will last about 3 hours.
- On Saturday 17 January six members of the band, all of whom studied at a Cambridge college, rang 800 changes of Cambridge Surprise Minor to mark the University's 800th anniversary. The colleges represented were: Corpus Christi; Emmanuel; Fitzwilliam; and Homerton (3).
- On Thursday 1 January we rang a quarter peal to welcome in the New Year and to wish a speedy recovery to Malcolm Edward's father who had a triple heart bypass operation on Christmas Eve.



St Mary's Church Bell Ringers and friends welcome 2009.

It was particularly pleasing to 'score' this quarter as the whole band was a little under the weather, including Malcolm who conducted it.

In times past the church bells were used to announce special events. Why not commission a piece of ringing at St Mary's to mark a special event of your own such as a birthday, christening or wedding anniversary? If you would like to have the bells rung please contact either the Vicar or Nick Smith (01223 577980).

*Nick Smith*



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## SHELFORD GARDEN CLUB

### THE CHINESE GOOSEBERRY MAN

Dressed as the plant hunter Ernest Wilson, actor Geoff Hales gave a presentation following some of Wilson's explorations. After gaining some botanical work experience and knowledge, Ernest Wilson was sent to China in 1899 at the age of 23. His instructions were to find and collect *Davidia involcrata* (see photo), a beautiful tree also known as the handkerchief or dove tree. However when he arrived in Hong Kong he was caught up in an epidemic of bubonic plague and had to leave for Hanoi without an interpreter. After several delays and sweltering heat he eventually reached Szemao in Yunnan province, where he met up with Augustine Henry, a medical officer with Chinese Customs, who had been collecting plant specimens and sending them to Kew. Henry was about to return but offered Wilson help in the form of a crude map, which was of such a small scale that it covered an area of 20,000 square miles, on which was marked the position of a single *Davidia involcrata* tree! Undaunted Wilson planned an expedition to Sichuan with an entourage of interpreters, guides and porters to carry his collecting equipment, scientific list, food and medical supplies.



He travelled to Badong and from there into the hills. When Wilson arrived he was horrified to learn that a new wooden house had been built from the *Davidia* tree and only a stump was left. He had travelled 13,000 miles in total and was quite unable to sleep that night at all. Wilson tried to console himself by exploring the nearby hills and in doing so discovered the curious edible climber *Actinidia*, now known as the kiwi fruit or chinese gooseberry. The following month, whilst clambering through dense woods, he came across a magnificent handkerchief tree in full flower. Wilson later gathered a large quantity of the seeds and turned his attention to the new plants that were all around. He found hundreds of trees, shrubs and herbaceous species, including *Acer griseum* (the paperbark maple), *Clematis armandii*, *C. Montana var rubens* and *Magnolia delavayi*. He took specimens and returned home with them in 1902 to Veitch's Nursery, where the *Davidia* seeds eventually germinated and many plants were raised.

Wilson married his sweetheart Helen Ganderton but was shortly sent off again on another trip to China, which was to last 2 years, to track down the alpine yellow poppywort, *Meconopsis integrifolia*, which grew in the Tibetan mountains. From Shanghai, Wilson set off up the Yangtze. However as he

approached the treacherous Yangtze rapids, Wilson watched in horror as 3 of the boats ahead were dashed to pieces on the jagged rocks and the crews drowned. Various rituals were carried out by his crew to appease the water-dragon and the boat was hauled by bamboo ropes to calm waters. Reaching Kiating, Wilson explored the rain soaked Wa-Shan mountains and gathered 200 species before heading west. After several weeks he came across a dazzling sheet of yellow poppywort, their papery blooms fluttering in the mountain breeze. Buoyed up by his success he headed for Songpan and on into the mountains where he found an abundance of the red poppywort *M. punicea*. Further trips led to more finds and Wilson returned home with seeds of some 510 species including *Virburnum davidii* and *Rosa moyesii*.

Despite wishing to remain at home with his family, Wilson was persuaded (by a generous salary) to return to China. This time he took a camera and was able to record his travels. From the city of Chengdu he despatched a consignment of several thousand lily bulbs but, as they had not been packed in clay, over 95% of the bulbs rotted in transit. After meeting up with the American plant hunter William Purdom, Wilson sent his woody plant specimens to the Arnold Arboretum at Boston, where he himself was to work after his return.

Wilson was talked into a fourth trip to China to re-gather conifer seed and collect more bulbs. He returned to Songpan and travelled along the Min valley, where he found the beautiful, perfumed royal lily, *Lillium regale* growing in tens of thousands in rock crevices and high up on the mountainsides. A couple of months later his good fortune was cut short when a rock fall broke his leg in two places. He quickly instructed his men to make a splint from his camera tripod. Luckily an operation saved his leg from amputation but he was unable to continue his exploration. His faithful team used their experience to find some lovely species including the Min fir *Abies recurvata*, and a graceful bamboo *Fargesii murielae*. They also successfully lifted the lilies and packed them in clay for shipment.

Wilson returned to work on his herbarium specimens in Boston and write his book *A Naturalist in Western China* published in 1913. His leg injury meant that arduous expeditions were out of the question but he still managed two year long journeys to Japan to study conifers, cherries and azaleas, this time with his family included.

Helen Chubb

Reference: *The Plant Hunters* by T Musgrave, C Gardner & W Musgrave

Shelford Garden Club's next talk will be

**The Restoration of the Garden at Audley End' by Mike Thurlow**

**Tuesday 10 February – 7 45pm for 8pm start at Shelford School**

## MUCH HADHAM CIRCULAR WALK

Quite a way to go, but lovely, different scenery: well wooded, so good colours in Autumn.

### Getting there

Take the M11 to the Stansted/Bishops Stortford junction. Follow the A120 towards Hertford, then the A1184, passing a hidden Tesco, and finally the B1004 to Much Hadham. Turn left into main street of MH, and park on the left under trees.

**Map and Grid Ref** Explorer 194 GR 428197

### The Walk

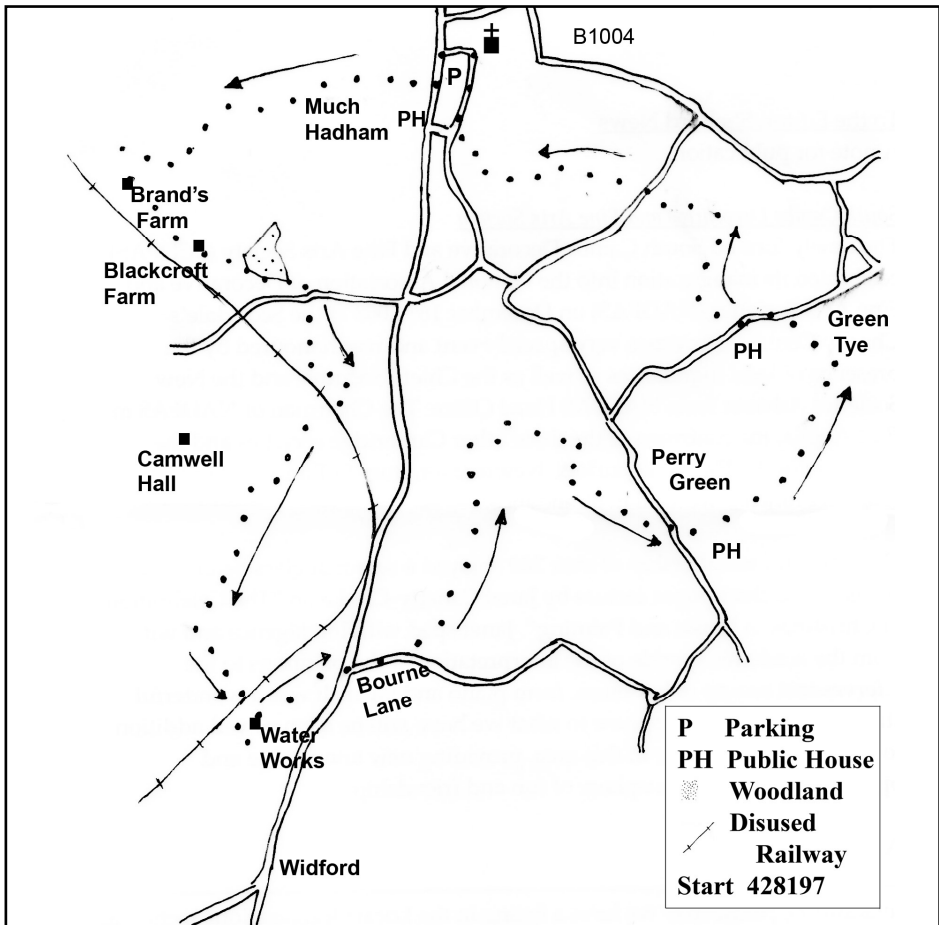
Good paths; interesting views; lovely houses and farms. Pubs in MH, Perry Green and Green Tye. About 8 miles.

From parking point continue into village, ignore turn to church on left, but after about 200 yards take bridleway to right. Keep on this tree-lined track for nearly a mile, turn left on meeting concrete farm road, and soon after keep going forward on grass track, ignoring the farm road to the left. Emerge on to open ground with good view towards A10 (hidden!), and turn sharp left with hedge on left.

Onto good farm road serving Brand's Farm, and soon after Blackcroft Farm on the right, look out for cross-field path to left, heading towards waymark post on far wood edge. Turn right along the wood edge to reach stile, cross and turn right through gate, and head up with cottages on right to find steps down to road.

Cross road, and head across field to waymark post, and then walk down road at back of houses, turn right on meeting estate road. At end of this road, bear right up hill to cross line of old railway, skirt to right round small hamlet and follow round with wood on left: ignore track to farm. Cross road and find gap on to path, with hedge on the left, then cross field to hedged garden, and go forward with hedge to right. At complex junction of paths head straight ahead, down hill, on cross-field path, and re-cross railway line, and turn right.

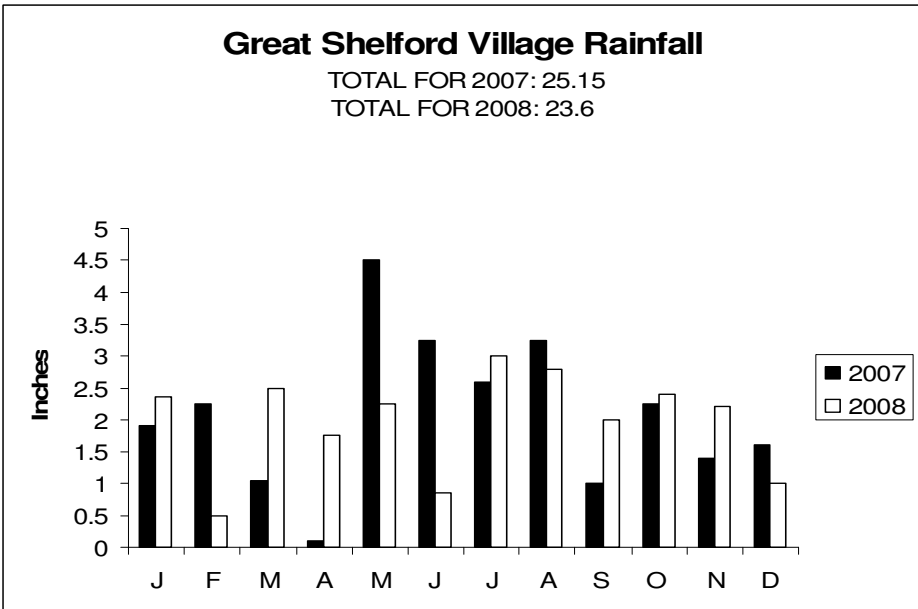
Cross stream, and immediately turn left up concrete road to skirt water works, and finally emerge on main road. Cross road, and head up minor road opposite (Bourne Lane), and soon after turn left through large metal gates on to a delightful shaded woodland walk. After about half a mile, turn right up hill, follow path round top of woodland, and almost immediately turn right up headland path, turn right at top, and then left to follow path down into Perry Green, passing through the grounds of the Henry Moore Foundation (opening hours on website [www.henry-moore-fdn.co.uk](http://www.henry-moore-fdn.co.uk)).



At the green turn right (The Hoops is down the road, on the left), and head to bottom left-hand corner of the green to find path along side ditch. Follow this path as it goes left, and then after half a mile turn sharp left, and emerge on to road in Green Tye beside the Prince of Wales (pub!). Turn left, with greenhouses on right and after 250 yards or so turn right, and after another 250 yards turn right, then left over footbridge, and follow this path down to very narrow minor road. Cross this road and head up hill towards Victorian pile, and skirt its gardens to right and left, and then through gate on right to head down hill through meadow. At bottom, turn left, and then almost immediately right through gate into water meadow. Follow through to emerge onto road, turn right and shortly come to church on right (well worth a visit: Henry Moore window, and gargoyles, Flower Festival third w/e in September), and follow round left to road to parked car.

## CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE

Monday 2–Saturday 7 Feb	<i>Life and Beth</i> by Alan Ayckbourn, starring Liza Goddard
Monday 9–Saturday 14 Feb	<i>Iolanthe</i> by Gilbert and Sullivan
Tuesday 17–Saturday 21 Feb	<i>Where There's a Will</i> by Georges Feydeau
Monday 23–Saturday 28 Feb	<i>God of Carnage</i> by Yasmina Reza, starring Richard E Grant.



### 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, 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*

**LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

Badminton (Little Shelford)	Rosie Cranmer	513572
Bowls Club	Mr John Betts	07917599071
Brownies, Rainbows	Jane Kynaston, 15 Tunwells Lane	842314
Bunch – Feast	Mr Duncan Grey, 45 Hinton Way	842191
Cambridge University Board of Continuing Education	Mrs J Lintott, 7 Haverhill Rd, Stapleford	842008
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Community Association	(for booking Memorial Hall) Mrs S Tilbury-Davis	844384
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Drama	Mrs B Andrews, 3 King’s Mill Lane	843717
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Friends of GS Parish Church	Mr Colin Ball	704438
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	Derek Dobson (Chairman)	840076
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Police		0845 4564564
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St Mary’s Bellringers	Mr N Smith	577980
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Scout & Guide HQ	Mrs Jenny Grey	842191
Sequence Dancing	Mr and Mrs Butler, 134 Macaulay Square	842266
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	Mrs Newman 842514	Mrs Carol Bard 571380
South Cambs DFAS	Mrs S Tilbury-Davis	844384
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Twinning Association	Mrs P Pearl, 14 High Street	842483
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