



Around
Little
Shelford
Winter 2025

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All Saints Church

www.all saints littleshelford.org

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Parish Council

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Independent Community Website

Editor – David Martin

www.littleshelford.online davidm1961@gmail.com

Newsletter Contributions

newsletter@allsaintslittleshelford.org

Contributions for the spring edition should be emailed to the address above (or delivered by hand to the Church Office in the North Building of the Churchyard) by **Friday 27th February 2026**. As space is limited, articles should be less than 340 words and adverts should fit within half an A5 page.

Please send photos for the front cover of the next edition, ideally of a Little Shelford scene in spring, to newsletter@allsaintslittleshelford.org

Dear friends,

I recently came across the moving story of a Ukrainian soldier called Kyrylo, crouching low in his trench on the front line. The falling shells had been enough to make the earth shake – and now they were followed by a brief moment of silence.

In the quiet, Kyrylo reached for the Bible which someone had given him. He carried on reading what was for him a new book. 'I feel warmth inside me while reading,' he explained. 'I have never experienced anything like this in my life. I realised that it was God who came to me, a sinner, at the age of 57. He came here, to the swamp, to the horrors of the war, to find me.'

It is a graphic picture of God's heart for lost people, echoing what he said through the Old Testament prophet Ezekiel – '**I myself will search for my sheep.**' (Ezekiel 34:11).

As an account taken from a present-day conflict, I had half intended to tell Kyrylo's story in church as part of our observance of Remembrance Day in November. Somehow that didn't happen. But in fact, it is a fitting illustration of what we are going to celebrate in a few weeks at Christmas.

Christians believe that God is not distant and aloof – he is a tender shepherd, who showed up himself in human history, in the person of Jesus Christ. He entered into our world to be born in Bethlehem – and he still comes to us today, right where we are, even in the deepest pit or the darkest of circumstances, to seek us out as a good shepherd.

Perhaps if we are getting on in years, we might think that the opportunity is over, for us to know the loving care of God in our lives. But the Christmas message tells us that God is absolutely committed to seeking us, however old we are and however far we have wandered from him.

I hope you will know the love of the Good Shepherd this Christmas – and please be assured you would be very welcome to celebrate his coming with us at All Saints Church.

With love from

Simon Scott

What's on at All Saints

All Saints is a friendly, informal church family in the village of Little Shelford. We're always glad to have visitors, so whether you're investigating Christianity, looking for a church to settle into or just visiting the area, you are welcome to join us at a Sunday service.

Details of services and other activities may be found on the All Saints website. Go to www.all saints littleshelford.org or scan this code:



The usual pattern of Sunday services is:

9.30 am - A family service where adults and children join together for the first half hour before children leave for their own teaching groups:

Minis and Creche (0-Reception), Kids (Year 1-4), Pathfinders (Year 5-8) and Deeper (Year 9+).

11.00 am - A quieter, more reflective service.

6.00 pm - Sunday @ 6 is a relaxed and informal service with contemporary songs.

During school holidays and at special times of the year (e.g., Christmas and Easter) the pattern of services and activities may change.

Regular Mid-week Activities

Home Groups meet for Bible study, prayer and fellowship on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Wednesday afternoon.

A **Church Prayer Meeting** replaces Home Groups once a month.

A **Women's Group** meets on Thursday mornings.

All Saints Tots meets on Wednesday mornings in the Village Hall.

To find out more contact the **Church Office**: 01223 847815, office@allsaints littleshelford.org

Please see the back cover for a full list of our Christmas events and services!

Nativity Trail and Campfire Carols

Sunday 14th December

Trail around the village, 2-3.30pm

Carols around the campfire in the churchyard, 4pm

The trail starts and ends at the church porch.

It will take you on a tour of Little Shelford where you will meet some characters from the Christmas story!

When you have completed the trail, there will be crafts and refreshments in the North Building at the back of the churchyard.

At 4pm, we will gather in the churchyard around a campfire for carols and a short talk.

Everyone is welcome!

Christmas Eve Nativity Service

Wednesday 24th December, 4pm

Join us for a celebration and retelling of the Christmas story. Children are very welcome to come in fancy dress and take part in the service.

If any children would like to borrow a traditional costume from our nativity wardrobe, these will be available to borrow from the North Building before the service.



Lighten Our Darkness

Tuesday 16th December, 7-8pm

A quieter, reflective time, for any who seek peace at a busy season of the year, or who want to pause, to remember, to pray, to find comfort.

Please come and join us.

The Alpha Course

We will be running an Alpha course at All Saints Church, starting in January 2026. This will be a chance to explore the Christian faith and ask any questions you may have. Please call 01223 847815 or email office@allsaintslittleshelford.org if you are interested in joining or would like more information.





Don't miss money coaching

Free expert money coaching

Managing your money doesn't have to be a pain. Learn the skills to make it simple and the best bit, it's totally free!

If you're interested in a three week course please drop an email to Office@allsaintslittleshelford.org or message/ call Kaye on 07546864382 to find out more.

GRANTA Medical Practices

Please find below details of when our surgeries will be open over the Christmas and New Year break.

Please remember to order your repeat prescriptions in plenty of time so that you do not run out of your medication over the holidays. The table below shows you when you will be able to collect your prescriptions, depending on that date you place your order.

DATE	Opening Hours	Repeat Prescription Schedule
Saturday 20.12.25	Opened for pre-booked appointments only (Sawston)	Place order today, pick up 24.12.25
Sunday 21.12.25	Closed	Place order today, pick up 24.12.25
Monday 22.12.25	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up 29.12.25
Tuesday 23.12.25	Open as usual	Place order today pick up 30.12.25
Wednesday 24.12.25 (Christmas Eve)	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up 31.12.25
Thursday 25.12.25 (Christmas Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up 02.01.26
Friday 26.12.25 (Boxing Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up 02.01.26
Saturday 27.12.25	Open for pre-booked appointments only (Royston)	Place order today, pick up 02.01.26
Sunday 28.12.25	Closed	Place order today, pick up 02.01.26

Monday 29.12.25	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up 02.01.26
Tuesday 30.12.25	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up 05.01.26
Wednesday 31.12.25 (New Years Eve)	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up 06.01.26
Thursday 01.01.26 (New Years Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up 07.01.26
Friday 02.01.26	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up 07.01.26
Saturday 03.01.26	Open for pre-booked appointments only (Sawston)	Place order today, pick up 08.01.26
Sunday 04.01.26	Closed	Place order today, pick up 08.01.26

Don't forget, there are Prescription Collection Points at Sawston, Linton and Shelford. Sign up today via cpcib.grantadispensing@nhs.net to pick up your medication at your convenience 24/7, including Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years' Day.

Whilst we are closed, if you need urgent medical assistance please use NHS 111 service. If you have an emergency that poses an immediate threat to life, please ring 999.

Be prepared for common health problems by keeping a well-stocked medicine cabinet at home. Your local pharmacist can offer you advice and guidance on the best treatment for you. Pharmacists can now also prescribe some medications under the "Pharmacy First" service. Please go to <https://www.england.nhs.uk/primary-care/pharmacy/pharmacy-services/> for further information and eligibility criteria.

We wish you all a healthy and peaceful holiday season.

Shelford School News December 2025

There has been a significant change in school this term as we are sharing our headteacher, Mr Grey, with Hauxton Primary School. In July unexpected developments led to Hauxton no longer having headteacher arrangements in place for September. The local authority asked Mr Grey if he would consider taking on the role of Interim Executive Headteacher across both Shelford and Hauxton, a request reflecting his skills and standing within the county's educational community. Governors held a series of emergency meetings in the last two weeks of term to discuss firstly the concept and secondly the practical implications of this arrangement, and after agreeing to go ahead there were further meetings with Hauxton governors to agree details. The nominal split of 3 days in Shelford and 2 in Hauxton reflects the relative sizes and needs of the two schools, but the short distance between them means that Mr Grey can quickly respond to needs in either school. The arrangement is planned to last for a year but is being reviewed by both sets of governors on a regular basis. We are grateful to all staff for their support that has enabled us to help our neighbouring school.

The second half of the autumn term started with reflections on the past as we welcomed several Royal British Legion veterans who spoke about the importance of Remembrance and shared their own experiences. The children learned about the Royal Standard and took part in an act of remembrance, including listening to the Last Post and the Kohima Epitaph, and observing a two-minute silence. On Armistice Day itself there was a special Remembrance service in school.

Now eyes are already looking ahead to the Christmas celebrations. Sunday 30th November (not as incorrectly stated last month!) sees the Christmas Fair in the Memorial Hall, together with the Christmas Lights switch-on organised by the Parish Council. Come along to pick up some Christmas gifts and try your luck in the raffle for Christmas hampers and enjoy warming refreshments. December sees the well-loved routine of nativity performances and carol services leading to the school Christmas Day celebrations before everyone signs off for a well-earned break.

Peter Ede
School Governor

Great Shelford Library News

We will be running our usual events during December

Craft & Chat – Every Friday morning 10.30am -12pm. For adults, no need to book.

Tea & Games – Every Friday afternoon 2.00– 3.30pm. For adults, no need to book.

Story, Rhyme & Duplo Time – Every Tuesday at 10.30am. For children aged 0-4 years. Come and enjoy stories and rhymes led by our wonderful volunteers.

Stay and Play – Thursday 4th, 11th and 18th December. For children aged 0-3 years. 2.00-3.30pm. A relaxed drop-in session for families with young children, £2 per family.

LEGO Club – Fortnightly, Monday 1st and 15th December 4.00-5.30pm. Come along and have some fun making Lego models.

Children's Games Club- Fortnightly, Monday 8th and 22nd December 4.00-5.30pm. Come along and have fun. Board and card games provided. Suggested donation £1.00, no need to book. Parents/carers please stay with your children during all library activities.

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

Christmas Treasure Hunt- We will be running a free fun children's Christmas Treasure Hunt from Monday 15th December.

Christmas and New Year Opening Hours: Great Shelford Library will close for Christmas at 1pm on Wednesday 24th December and reopen at 10am on Friday 2nd January at 10am.

Telephone: 0345 045 5225

Email: Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Web: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Great Shelford Library opening hours:

Monday	3-7pm	Friday	10am-1pm, 2-6pm
Tuesday	10am-1pm and 2-5pm	Saturday	10am-1pm
Wednesday	10am-1pm	Sunday	Closed
Thursday	Closed		

Little Shelford Parish Council Update

Following some recent clearance work at the allotments, we now have a number of new plots available. If you are interested in applying for a plot, please get in touch with our Parish Clerk Beckie Whitehouse littleshelfordparishclerk@gmail.com



And there is more good news.

The fence around the play area on the Wale has been replaced and most of the cost for this has covered by funding. The wobbly bridge has been repaired at no cost of the council, and the zip wire has been mended and is now reopen for use.

Future dates for your diaries:

29th Dec overnight to midnight 30th closure of gate between Courtyards and the Wale Recreation Ground.

8th Feb Village Litter Pick and meet the councillor.

16th February meeting with East West Rail

13th April Annual Parish Meeting

East West Rail Update

A meeting was held with East West Rail Representatives and Parish Councillors in early November.

It is planned that the current automated level crossing on Hauxton Road, even as an upgraded full barrier crossing, will not be adequate with the proposed additional trains from East West Rail. It would effectively be closed continuously at peak times. It is believed the only option is to close the level crossing.

East West Rail are also no longer proposing to build a pedestrian bridge alongside Hauxton Road due predominantly to a space constraint in the area. Instead, both pedestrians and road users will use the new road bridge they propose from Newton Road. Walking around the new bridge roadway will only be around 100 meters longer than crossing the long pedestrian bridge would have been but the whole redirection will take longer for pedestrians.

The Parish Council's suggestion of a roundabout on Newton Road for the junction with the new road proposed has been rejected due to sight lines and positioning constraints with the existing M11 bridge. Instead, there will be a T-Junction with the new road and speed restrictions.

Finally EWR is exploring the opportunity for the creation of an active travel route from Hauxton Level Crossing alongside the rail track on the East Side to meet "Jenny's Path" in Great Shelford allowing access to Shelford Primary School and will continue through to a new ramped footbridge over the West Anglia Mainline to connect to the DNA Path in Great Shelford.

Approximate Future dates:

There will be further consultation sometime after April 2026.

The Development Consent Order submission will probably occur in 2027

The bridge and construction summer 2031.

Level Crossing Closure 2034.

Vacancy for Little Shelford Parish Councillors (2 positions)

Are you passionate about your community?

Do you want to help make a long-lasting change?

Do you have innovative ideas for the council?

Do you have concerns about a specific issue and want to do something about it? If this is you, then we need you.

Do you have a few hours of spare time?

We need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect their community to put themselves forward for co-option to the Parish Council.

What do Parish Councillors do?

Little Shelford Parish Council is made up of 7 voluntary councillors. A full meeting is held every other month, and a Planning Committee Meeting is held in the interim month. Issues are discussed that are important to the local community.

The Parish Council sets a proportion of local taxes to be spent in the Parish, comments on planning applications in the Parish and run projects that help maintain, improve or enhance the local area. Local Government is changing, and Parish Councils are seeing an increase in the responsibilities and opportunities to influence decisions made that affect our local community.

To be eligible to be a Parish Councillor?

You have to be:

- a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, a qualifying EU citizen or an EU citizen with retained rights.
- over 18 years of age

Additionally, you have to be one of the following

- a local government elector for the council area for which you want to stand
- have during the whole of the 12 months occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the council area or within 3 miles of it for the whole period
- have during that same period had your principal or only place of work in the council area or within 3 miles of it for the whole period.

If you are interested, please contact our Parish Clerk Beckie

Whitehouse littleshelfordparishclerk@gmail.com

Cara Coffee Volunteering

Cara Coffee is looking for new volunteers to join its friendly team.

It looks to serve the people of Shelford and the surrounding areas with good quality coffee and tea in a welcoming environment. The roles involved include making coffees using the barista machine, serving customers at the till and preparing light meals and snacks, as well as clearing tables and washing up. If you feel you'd enjoy working as part of that team and enjoy engaging with other people, contact Julie Whitbread for more information: julie.whitbread@romseymill.org



Pavilion Art Group

Friendly group of amateur artists who meet on Mondays, 10am til 12 noon. A few places available in the new year starting on 19 January. If interested, please contact Penny Eames on (07949 123023) or (pjcmagpie@gmail.com) or Susan Amiss (07767 673304) or (susan.amiss7@gmail.com).

2G3S Update December 2025

Dr Bike continues to hold its volunteer-run weekly bike repair sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford, 3pm to 5.30pm every Tuesday. Children are welcome to come and learn how to look after their bikes and do simple maintenance and repairs, but please attend with them (for safeguarding reasons). For more information, contact drbikestapleford@gmail.com. You can also book a time slot at that address, though this is not essential. There will be a special session on Saturday 20 December, 3pm to 5.30pm, but you must book a slot in advance. It would be very useful if you buy a bike online for someone for Christmas and you need help to assemble it! There may be some further Saturday sessions in the Spring.

Water – we are planning a conversation evening about water. We hope to have speakers from Cam Valley Forum and Cambridge Water, and our councillor Peter Fane will talk about planning issues. It will probably be on Thursday 22 January at Cox's Close Community Room in Stapleford, but more details next time.

Repair Café – if you missed our last one, the next one will be on Saturday 7 February at Great Shelford Free Church. Do try and book your repair in advance, see our website for more details.

Neighbourhood Plan – now that the Plan for Great Shelford and Stapleford has been passed, we and our Parish Councils need to ensure that the planning authority takes it on board when looking at planning applications e.g. size of houses, exterior lighting to minimise the effect on wildlife, surface drainage not going into the drains and rivers, energy saving measures in new houses. The Plan can be found on scambs.gov.uk, click through Planning to Neighbourhood Planning, and Appendix 2 gives a useful checklist of things to look at when examining a proposed planning application.

Greater Cambridge Local Plan - Cambridge City Council and SCDC have released a draft of the new local plan for 'Greater Cambridge' for the next 20 years. More information can be found at Greater Cambridge Shared Planning. A public consultation on the draft plan is due to begin on 1 December and will run until 30th January next year.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to mail2G3S@gmail.com to sign up for our monthly newsletter.

Little Shelford Groups

Activity groups in grey. To include a group in this list or to change the contact details, please email newsletter@allsaints littleshelford.org.

Group name	Contact details
All Saints Tots	Polly Stanton 722509 www.all saints littleshelford.org
Badminton Club	James Newman 07717 394176 james@jamesnewman.org www.littleshelfordbadmintonclub.co.uk
Ballet East (ages 3-18)	Jo Thorndyke jothorndyke@hotmail.com
Bowls Club	Ray Saich 842737 pandersaich@gmail.com
Cricket Club	Chris Schofield 563276 chrisscofie@hotmail.com www.littleshelfordcc.com
Good Neighbours Tea Parties	Judy Boothroyd 843313 judyboothroyd5@gmail.com
Local History Society	Ray Saich 842737 pandersaich@gmail.com
Pantomime	Sarah Coppendale 842498 coppendale@btinternet.com
Wildlife Group	Diana Haines 841415 dianahaines42@icloud.com
Physiopilates	cambridgephysiopilates@gmail.com 841968 www.physiopilates.org.uk
Pavillion Art Group	Penny Eames 07949 123023 pjcmagpie@gmail.com
Shelford Bridge Club	Tony Cliff 0753273794 Anthony.r.cliff@gmail.com
Shelford Community Transport	John Dibnah 842054, Marjorie Smith 564922 Rosie Cranmer 513572, Gillian Northmore 504542
Shelford and Stapleford Strikers Football Club	Anthony Stevens 843703 disleystevens@aol.com

	www.pitchero.com/clubs/shelfordandstaplefordstrikers
Sustainable Shelford Environmental 2G3S	Linda Whitebread <i>greengroupssss@gmail.com</i>
Shelford Twinning Association	Penny Pearl 842483/217554 <i>penny.pearl@btinternet.com</i> <i>shelfordtwinning.org.uk</i>
Shelford Garden Club	Helen Chubb 845032 <i>www.shelford.org/gardenpage.htm</i>
Shelfords and Stapleford Youth Initiative (SSYI)	Zac Britton <i>zac.britton@ssyi.club</i>
The Shelfords WI	Vanda Butler 561053 <i>vanda.butler@googlemail.com</i> <i>www.theshelfordswi.wordpress.com</i>
Shelford Community Orchard and Woodland Project (SCOWP)	Gill Davidson <i>davidson.wg@btinternet.com</i> Mike Darsley <i>mdgb59@gmail.com</i>

Little Shelford Defibrillator

The Little Shelford defibrillator can be found attached to the wall of the rear kitchen extension at the **Side Quest Public House, 63 High Street**. When you open the defibrillator, the machine will talk to you and guide you through how to use it.

Waste and Recycling Bins Reminder

Tuesday	9 th Dec	Black bin
Tuesday	16 th Dec	Green & blue bins
Tuesday	23 rd Dec	Black bin
Tuesday	30 th Dec	Blue bin
Tuesday	6 th Jan	Black bin
Tuesday	13 th Jan	Green & blue bins
Tuesday	20 th Jan	Black bin
Tuesday	27 th Jan	Blue bin
Tuesday	3 rd Feb	Black bin
Tuesday	10 th Feb	Green & blue bins
Tuesday	17 th Feb	Black bin
Tuesday	24 th Feb	Blue bin

Little Shelford Pantomime 2026

Selling tickets to the public from 1 December.

Needless to say, it will be as much fun as ever.

On which dates? Wednesday 7 January to Saturday 10 January 2026.

Where will it be held? Little Shelford Memorial Hall.

What time will it start? 7pm every night.

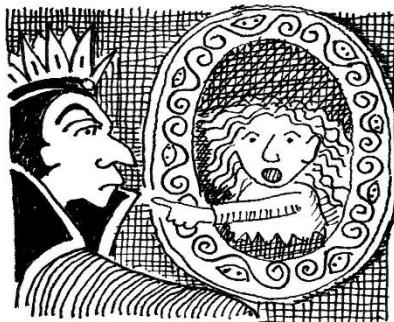
How many are in the cast? Cast of thousands!

Information, e-mail

coppendale@btinternet.com or

telephone 01223 842498.

Tickets £5 (children); £10 (adults) are available from Sarah Coppendale in Stapleford (01223 842498); Rachel Ford in Little Shelford (07974 698495); Holly Gregory in Great Shelford (07876 615753) and Susan Hunter in Sawston (07796 295167). Enjoyment for all the family.



Little Shelford Safari Supper

Saturday 16th May 2026 - Save the Date!

The Little Shelford Safari Supper is back on in 2026 and will happen on Saturday 16th May. It's a night to meet people new to the village and see old friends, travel around for each course and get fed in the process. The evening will start with drinks together, then main courses and desserts in small groups before reconvening at the end of the evening. Everyone contributes in some way, and there are plenty of things to do for those who can't host. There is no need to come as a couple, and dietary issues can be dealt with if known in advance.

Please register interest by

emailing littleshelfordsafarisupper@gmail.com.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

The Macmillan coffee morning was held in the North Building at All Saints Church on 26th September. A total of £332.10 was raised. Thank you to everyone who supported the event through baking and attending!

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Coffee Morning

Remembrance Sunday Poppies

For Remembrance Sunday, the bier in the church was decorated with 38 poppies in memory of all the men from Little Shelford who served in the First World War. It was a tribute to all 38 men, not just those who died in action. The poppies, like the bier, are handmade and the centres are made from real poppy heads.



Thank You and latest news

Thanks to all those in the village who came to support our Big Breakfast on Saturday 18th October in the Memorial Hall. We had a great turnout and raised over £2,000 towards the cost of running SSYI. Even more importantly, it was a great opportunity for Villagers to meet our Youth Workers and meet some of the Young People we support across the Shelfords, Stapleford, Sawston and Duxford.

Those that attended will have heard from one of our Young Leaders, whose life has been changed for the better by our work and also enjoyed the music from another of our Young Leaders during the morning. Zac Britton, our Lead Youth Worker sums up the activities over the last 3 months.

Zac's update

Our work continues and over the last 3 months we have continued to engage with over 130 young people around the villages each week. Our new 2nd session in Duxford is thriving and as winter approaches numbers on a Friday evening at the Youth Centre in Great Shelford have been growing. It has been great to engage with new year 6's and 7's across many of our groups. We have lots of exciting things in the pipeline for the upcoming Christmas season.

We continue to engage with a number of young people in the community on a 1:1 basis who are particularly in need of support, alongside running ad-hoc sessions with young people in crisis or who need some-one off support or encouragement.

We had our usual stall and football cage set up at the Little Shelford Village Show in September with a small team of young people helping, this marked the end of our bumper Summer of village events! It was amazing to have so many young people supporting the Big Breakfast, lending a hand with clean up, playing music and sharing their experiences of SSYI with those in attendance.



In the half term we took 7 of our young people to Camp Hillcrest in Gloucestershire for a 4-day residential. Emma & Dave from Romsey Mill joined us with 7 young people from Cambourne and Northstowe and we had a great week of skateboarding, scootering and BMXing. Despite a few bruises, a split lip and very little sleep we had a fantastic time away. In the half term we were also able to facilitate a number of 1:1s and other activities including a trip to Adventure Island in Southend.

Our Deeper sessions have been continuing, and the group have just finished looking at the beatitudes. We are exploring running youth alpha again in the spring to encourage more of our young people to explore the Christian faith.

Christmas Plans

With the Christmas season rapidly approaching we have lots to plan, we hope to be involved in the Stapleford Christmas Tree Fair this year, as well as the Shelford Community Carols and the Light Switch on. Alongside our usual selection of Christmas parties, meals and activities. The young people have also been making things to sell at two Christmas Markets they have been planning to run:

- 8th December - Duxford Community Centre - 17.00- 19.00
- 12th December - SSYI Great Shelford Youth Centre - 16:00- 18:00

The Young People would be very happy to see you at either location.

Although the Young People are dreaming big, they are not expecting to raise too much in the way of funds but are conscious that SSYI does cost a lot to run and want to do their bit. But even more importantly they will gain experience, gain a certificate in basic business and cooking hygiene skills and have fun whilst doing so. The majority of resources have been sourced for free and with the help of some very generous donors.

Donations and Volunteers Still needed

Funding for SSYI is a continuous challenge and currently costs over £140,000 per year to run.

To become a regular donor, volunteer or see latest news and our latest video explaining our work, scan the QR code or visit www.ssyi.club or contact our treasurer: John Greaves (jragreaves@yahoo.co.uk).

Little Shelford Cricket Club Update – Winter 2025

We have news from our Festival of Cricket and Annual Dinner plus our Winter training regime and plans for the 2026 Season and new winter Softball Cricket training.

Join us for Boys & Girls Softball Cricket this winter (6-10 yrs)

We are running Softball cricket training every Sunday morning over the Winter from 9-10am for 6-10 year olds at Hills road sports centre Cambridge, contact Neil Orpwood on 07866751651 or neilorpwood@msn.com. Neil is a fantastic softball coach and has run the successful summer Softball training for many years on the Wale. Softball is a great way of being introduced to cricket for Girls and Boys. We would love to see you at our training sessions!

Report on the Festival of Cricket Sunday 7th September 2025

The Festival of Cricket was again a great success. Little Shelford 1st XI beat Great Shelford 1st XI by a sizable margin to retain the Centenary Cup (Now on display in the trophy cabinet in the Side Quest). While the inter-club Junior Tournament for the David Altham Memorial Trophy saw some great Cricket and enabled all our Junior team members to take part. As ever it was great to see so many families and friends of the Club supporting both the Junior Section and the Senior Games and providing an amazing array of “bring and share” food for the Juniors to enjoy over lunch.

We were also pleased to welcome Jimmy Altham and Jane Largesse (Photo Left) to award the David Altham Memorial Trophy and to be reminded how much David had contributed to the club as a player over the years. There was also an opportunity for Ian Reid to present awards to the best Junior players and for the parents to thank the coaching team. Our Junior Teams are a great strength of the club and remain an important part of our plans for keeping the club alive when so many village clubs are failing. So, it was great to see the spirit in which the games were played and to celebrate the successes of individual players and our junior teams.



Team Records

U15 XI Season Record. County cup winners. **Progressed to National Regional u15 semi-final** (a first for LSCC). Finished 2nd in their league.

U14 XI Season Record: Finished 4th in their league

U13 XI Season Record: Won u13 league and were **undefeated** all season.

You can see Ian, all our Junior Players and Parents in this photo from the day.



Annual Dinner and Awards Evening a Great Success

We held our annual dinner and awards evening on Saturday 27th September in Little Shelford Memorial Hall. Over 40 LSCC players, Vice Presidents and friends of the club gathered for a very enjoyable evening including a 3 course Indian Meal from our Junior Section sponsor www.navadhanya.co.uk, one of the best Indian restaurants in the area.

We were pleased to distribute our annual awards and to celebrate another enjoyable if challenging season for both Senior Teams. We were also able to celebrate the great success of the Juniors and particularly the u15 XI semi-final appearance and the U13 undefeated season.



Winter Nets for Juniors and Seniors

Our winter nets are in full swing and play an important part in making sure our players are fit and ready for the New Season. We hope Seniors Nets will start on Monday 5th January and run every Monday until late April and will be at Fenners in Cambridge while Junior Nets will be 10 to 11am on Saturdays and Sundays at Hills Road. If you would like to come along and join Senior Nets then please contact Chris Schofield (Club Captain) for more information on chrisschofield@littleshelfordcc.com if you would like to come along to Junior Nets then please contact Jamie Harrison jjc.harrison@ntlworld.com or Ian Reid ian.reid620@ntlworld.com our Award Winning Junior Coaches.

LSCC Annual General Meeting – 25th January 2026 - 2pm - The Wale Pavilion

The LSCC AGM will be on Sunday 25th January at 2pm at the Pavilion on the Wale Recreation Ground. All players, supporters, parents, sponsors, committee members and Vice-Presidents are welcome. Our Vice-Presidents are keen supporters of LSCC and want to see the club continue to thrive. We would welcome more VP's to join us and if you are interested in becoming a VP please the Chairman (davidjhjones@btinternet.com).

150th Anniversary of LSCC

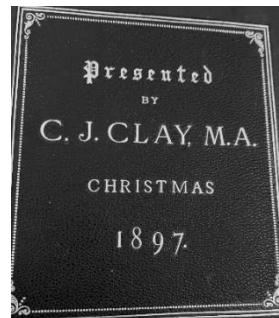
A reminder, we have also started planning for our **150th Anniversary which is in 2027**. We plan to combine our celebrations of this amazing anniversary with the Village Weekend in that year. This has been discussed with LSEC and final agreement we hope will be reached to this plan soon. As a result, we expect the celebrations to take place over the weekend of **10th to 12th September 2027**. Put it in your diary now as we expect some great events and celebrity participation!

Do remember you can view all our matches, results and player statistics, including friendlies and Junior Section games on our ECB Play-Cricket web site: <https://littleshelford.play-cricket.com/> and you can also follow us on Twitter [@LShelsCricket](https://twitter.com/@LShelsCricket).

David JH Jones, Chairman, Little Shelford Cricket Club
davidjhjones@btinternet.com 01223 847213

History Snippet: Who was C J Clay M.A.?

At the LSHS History Day exhibition and information share on Sunday 2nd November at the Memorial Hall, I was asked to host historic artefacts from our Church, All Saints. Our Rector, Simon Scott kindly gave permission to have our 17th Century chalice, the Baptismal Registers, Brass Rubbings of the De Freville Memorials to be on display. He also allowed us to display the large leather-bound Bible and Book of Common Prayer that sit largely unused in the Church Safe (unused simply because they are too large to be practical or an older Bible translation).



We had lots of visitors to look at our exhibits on the day and several of us noticed that both the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer were gifted to the Church by a C J Clay MA. So, this prompted the question, who was C J Clay MA and why would he be donating this Bible and Book of Common Prayer to the Church?

As usual a good place to start is Fanny Wale's book. What mention did that make of Mr Clay? The mention comes with reference to the Manor House and Manor Farm:

"In 1800 the Rev. Henry Finch sold the whole Manor property and house to Mr Law, and his son, the Rev. James Law was Rector of Little Shelford till he died in 1896. Before he died, he sold the Manor House to Mr William Walton, the land to Mr Clay and the Rectory to St Catherine's College".

So, it would appear that the Manor lands were sold to a Mr Clay but not the manor itself. So, was this Mr Clay, the same as our C J Clay M.A.?

My next port of call was the British Newspaper Archive to see if there were specific references to C J Clay M.A. This was fruitful as I found a long article in the Cambridge Independent Press of January 20th 1905 an article headlined "**Death of Mr C J Clay, 40 Years University Printer**". The article tells the interesting life story of Charles John Clay, born in July 1827 and who died in January 1905. I won't repeat the whole article here but it does throw more light on the connection to Little Shelford and All Saints.



Cambridge University Press, from the firm's London office, in Av'e Maria Lane, London. In this he was entirely successful.

Since retiring from business, Mr. Clay has been active as a Magistrate for the town and county of Cambridge, as hon. secretary of the local branch of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society and in the management of Addenbrooke's Hospital. Although the late Mr. C. J. Clay was born in London, he came of a good old Cambridge family. His grandfather was a schoolmaster of good repute, and as Parish Clerk resided for many years in the parish of St. Edward. Our late townsman was a constant worshipper at St. Edward's Church, to which he was much attached, and in its graveyard will be found tombstones recording the death of several of his predecessors".

His connections with Little Shelford needed a little more research to establish why he would generously donate the valuable leather bound Bible and Book of Common prayer to All Saints. This did clarify the situation. The first indication was that in acquiring the land owned by the Manor (although not the Manor House itself) he also acquired the Lordship of the Manor. That he was Lord of the Manor was cited in his Biography on the Cambridge University Alumni web site. Also, there was another reference to Mr Clay in the Fanny Wale Book *"For many years Mr Arthur Austin farmed the Manor land for Mr Clay, the father of the present owner, who lives in London and comes to the farm-house from Saturday to Monday, or for longer times in the summer with his*

wife, who was Miss Mead, and their children. The caretakers of the farm-house are Mr and Mrs Wright".

This was evidenced by the 1901 Census returns for Little Shelford, which records that Charles Felix Clay (Son of Charles John Clay) was staying as a visitor to Manor Farmhouse with the caretakers mentioned by Fanny Wale, Mr & Mrs Wright. So, the Clay Family were Lords of the Manor, owned the Manor Farm and Charles John Clay's son lived there at weekends and in the Summer, while working at the Cambridge University Press Offices in London during the week and living in Paddington. There was also another connection with the Clay Family on the Village History Web Site

(<https://www.littleshelfordhistory.com/village-hall>), Charles Felix Clay generously supported the enlargement of the Memorial Hall in 1931 and gave the land it was built on to the Memorial Hall Trustees. It does appear that Charles John Clay himself never lived in Little Shelford, the Census returns indicate he lived in a rather splendid house in West Road, central Cambridge, but his ownership of Manor Farm and residence there of his son must have brought him to Shelford on many occasions.

Finally, I checked the burial records for All Saints Church and discovered that Charles John Clay and his wife as well as his son Charles Felix Clay and his wife are buried in the Church Yard, along with subsequent generations. So, now we know why Charles John Clay M.A. (Pictured left) generously donated the Bible and Book of Common Prayer to the Church as well as the wider support to the Village by his family. He could no doubt have afforded to purchase the Manor Farm because of the success he and his son had made of expanding Cambridge University Press from an institution that "*has scarcely paid its expenses*" when he was appointed in May 1854 [according to an article in The Patriot Newspaper 29th May 1854] to "*At the end of Charles John Clay's first ten years of office it was estimated that the Press produced about four or five times as much as when he first undertook the management*". [From the History of The Cambridge University Press].

If you think you know more about the Clay Family in Little Shelford please do drop me a line to add to the story of the Clays in the Village at davidjhjones@btinternet.com

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Christmas at

All Saints

LITTLE SHELFORD



**We would love to see you at any of our
Christmas events...**

Carols in the Side Quest Pub

Sunday 7th December, 7pm

Nativity Trail and Campfire Carols

Sunday 14th December

Trail around the village, 2-3.30pm

Carols in the churchyard, 4pm

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 21st December, 6pm

Nativity Service

Christmas Eve, 4pm

Late Night Communion

Christmas Eve, 11pm

Christmas Day Service

Christmas Day, 10am