



Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

April 2014

Housing Needs Survey suggests a positive vibe in Shipston

An independent housing needs survey, commissioned by Shipston's Neighbourhood Plan Housing Topic Group, suggests that overall, attitudes to living in Shipston have improved since the survey was last undertaken in 2005.

The survey, which was primarily designed to identify outstanding needs for affordable and social housing as part of the group's evidence gathering process, also asked residents to rank how they feel about living in the town, including issues such as crime and access to facilities.

Significantly fewer people believe Shipston has a lack of housing now than in 2005, with just 17 percent of respondents citing this as an issue compared with 35 percent previously. However, the associated drop in need for affordable and social housing has been much lower – at just three percent – suggesting there is still a need for more of this type of housing locally. Despite this, only four percent of respondents said that someone in their household had to leave town due to a lack of affordable or suitable housing.

Ninety-five percent of respondents felt Shipston is a nice place to live, compared with 83 percent eight years ago, and only seven percent now feel the town suffers from crime, versus a third of respondents in 2005.

Town Councillor and Neighbourhood Plan representative, Ian Cooper, said: "It's wonderful to see such a positive response to living in Shipston. The reduced demand for housing in general is perhaps not surprising given the amount of development we have seen since 2005, but clearly we still



The above houses are from one of a number of new housing developments since 2005

need to be looking at providing more affordable and social housing to meet existing needs."

The results of the Housing Needs survey, which was supported by the town council, will be considered as part of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, which will look at the amount and type of housing Shipston could accommodate.

The survey was carried out by Warwickshire Rural Community Council. Over 2,500 surveys were sent out and 749 returned, representing a response rate of 30%.

Voting slips at the ready for 3rd April

The by-election being held to fill the post vacated by former councillor, Alan Noyce, is being held on 3rd April. Two local residents have put themselves forward, Dan Scobie and Gwen Kiely.

The polling station will be open from 7am to 10pm at the Sheldon Bosley Hub, Pittway Avenue.

Don't miss this important opportunity to have your say on who should represent the residents of Shipston.

The successful candidate will join the town council until the full council election in May 2015, when all council seats will be up for re-election.

Shipston Rotarians camp out in the Co-op to support the Food Bank

Shipston Rotarians recently went on a mission to support the town's food bank, with fantastic results.

Having identified what food was required, Rotarian, Fay Ivens, produced a flyer inviting shoppers to make a contribution. Armed with flyers and posters, Fay, and fellow Rotarians, Nigel Willis, and Christine Cockell, took up position at the entrance to the larger Co-op in Shipston High Street.

They were met with amazing generosity from shoppers. In just 2 hours they collected 3 full trolley loads (amounting to over £200 worth of food), plus some cash donations. A very worthwhile morning.

Rotarian, Fay Ivens, said "On behalf of Shipston Rotary, I would like to thank Shipston residents for their generosity and the Co-op for allowing us to use their premises."



Mayor's column



After the winter storms and the heavy rain, spring has arrived, and what a lovely display of daffodils Shipston's gardeners have planted in the town this year.

Fortunately, the flooding only threatened and the town has not encountered the problems still around in other parts of the country.

It would be pleasing if residents followed the lead of the "Proud of my Town" group and helped remove some of the litter that is often all too evident. With the better weather, perhaps a general spring clean within the community could be instigated.

At the request of the nearby residents, an inspection of Queen's Avenue Play Area showed signs of vandalism and evidence of irresponsible dog walkers. Time and money has been spent to improve this part of town and notices are displayed to keep it free from dogs. Please respect this area so that it is for all generations to enjoy.

My final fundraising event will be a fashion show at Sheldon Bosley Hub on 17th April, starting at 6.30pm – ladies you are warmly invited to attend.

Tickets are £10, to include food, and can be obtained from New Clark House, 9am to 1.00 pm Monday to Friday.

Finally, I hope you will be able to join me at the Annual Town Meeting on the 24th April.

Veronica Murphy

Shipston gets tough on illegal peddlars

Illegal doorknockers were quickly chased out of Shipston recently thanks to a call from a local resident.

The resident had previously seen a presentation from Police Community Safety Officer, Andy Steventon, warning of the dangers posed by gangs of people peddling inferior household goods (pictured) door to door. Often referred to as 'Nottingham Knockers' there is a strong criminal link to many of these gangs and it has been seen that burglary and theft offences can increase at times they are found to be working an area.



Following the call, Shipston's police team located and arrested one of the gang for peddling without the correct documentation. Following an interview, the arrested male was charged.

PC Craig Purcell, said: "Perhaps the best result from this incident was that the arrested male asked for a map which showed our policing area so his gang knew where to keep away from. He said that most other times they have been stopped they are just sent on their way with a warning and no incentive not to return."

To find out more information about why Shipston SNT take this seemingly minor offence so seriously please read our article at <http://bit.ly/1fNXpCk>.

Fancy featuring on a new BBC One show?

BBC One is looking for people who live in homes in Shipston and the surrounding areas who would be happy to try a home swap holiday for a new TV series. They are particularly keen to hear from people who live in 'interesting homes', such as a converted barn, a charming cottage, a super modern apartment, a historic building, a period house or a unique space.

Would you be happy to swap homes with someone elsewhere in the UK for a short break? If so, please request an application by sending your contact details to Kieran.mccarthy@bbc.co.uk.

For more information, visit www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/shows/beonashow/home_swap_holidays

Calling all volunteers - the Stour Enterprise Centre needs you!

Volunteers are urgently needed at the Stour Enterprise Centre to help man reception during work hours.

The Stour Enterprise Centre on Stratford Road has been providing office space, meeting and training rooms for local businesses for nearly three years. This important business hub has been extremely useful, not only for small businesses but for larger organisations wanting flexible space and training rooms.



Plans are afoot to recruit a full time manager for the centre who would also be responsible for overseeing a new calendar of training events. The centre is now looking for volunteers to assist with manning Reception in the short term until the full time manager is in place.

If you can spare a few hours a week to help us run this facility in exchange for free membership of the centre, please call the Enterprise Centre on 01608 629693 or email info@stourenterprise.co.uk.

For more details about the centre, visit www.stourenterprise.co.uk

March's hot topics

Forthcoming road closure: From 7th – 11th April Darlingscote Road will be closed to allow the drainage system to be repaired. Diversions will be in place.

Opening for play: The Mayo Road playground has been reopened following several weeks of closure because of flooding. The ground is still quite sodden in places and residents are urged to take care but the play equipment is now accessible.

Responsive highways service: Martin Ferrier congratulated Warwickshire County Council on its fault reporting service. Since reporting the issues, both the unsafe pavement in Hornsby Close and the street lights at the Plantation have been repaired. To report an issue, visit <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/reportroadfaults>

Dog mess misery: Dog fouling is still a particular problem on Tilemans Lane and dog owners are being urged to 'scoop the poop' to help ensure children don't carry the mess into school on their shoes where it could cause a danger to health. Meanwhile, a new dog mess bin is to be installed on Telegraph Street, near the Fire Station.

Poor parking: Parking remains a significant problem across the town, with particular trouble spots including the Driftway, Badgers Crescent/Donnington Road, River Way and Church Street. Local police are continuing to take action to reduce the problem, including issuing penalties where necessary.

Campaigning for Shipston

Plan 'B' rejection: Councillors strongly opposed ASL's recently submitted 'Plan B' application for 143 homes and 72 extra care apartments on the land north of Campden Road. The developers argue that this is their fallback option should the supermarket application not proceed successfully at appeal. Councillors expressed concerns about lack of infrastructure, sustainability and sheer scale of the development.

Understanding the town's infrastructure needs: The newly formed Sustainability Working Group has completed some work to understand what Shipston needs in order to develop and thrive in a sustainable way. The group has looked at medical and housing needs, school places, employment and technology and will be submitting its findings to Stratford District Council as part of the town council's response to the Draft Core Strategy consultation.

Engaging with planners and developers: Going forward, Shipston Town Council will engage more proactively with officers at Stratford District Council, Warwickshire County Council and the health authority to raise awareness of Shipston's infrastructure needs. The hope is that this will help influence the direction given by planning officers to developers when putting together proposals for the town. After much discussion about the pros and cons, the council has also decided to have a 'without prejudice' meeting with ASL to discuss potential s106 monies and uses should either of its planning applications for the Campden Road be approved.

Crackdown on drug crime: Following police work and local intelligence, Shipston's Safer Neighbourhood Team took action against three individuals committing drug offences, including the running of a small cannabis farm. One fixed penalty and two cautions were issued.

Speed checks clock up more offenders: Approximately ten percent of cars monitored during speed checks on Stratford Road and London Road were driving in excess of the speed limit. Depending on the speed recorded, some were taken straight to court, some received fixed penalties and points on their licence and some received caution letters.

Town Council business

Proposed bus shelter: Proposals received from WCC to install a bus shelter at the plantation (at the bottom of Telegraph Street) would require the road behind the plantation (where vehicles currently turn left out of Telegraph Street) to be pedestrianised. STC's General Purposes Working Group doesn't believe this is justified and won't be taking the proposals any further.

Finances on track: Early indications suggest STC is on track to hit its budget for the 2013/14 year.

New Clark House Update



Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting takes place on the 24th April 2014 at Shipston High School. As well as giving residents the opportunity to hear about the key activities the town council has worked on over the last 12 months, those attending will also be invited to ask questions about the council's work. Clubs and societies are also invited to submit their annual reports.

Please could all club and charity representatives submit their reports to the office, ideally via email, by 12pm on the 14th April.

Allotment fee reminder

Thank you to all those who have already paid their allotment fees for 2014/15. For those that haven't, please pop into the office between 9:30 and 1pm on weekdays to settle your account. Timely settlement reduces the number of reminders that have to be sent out, saving both time and money.

Tree testing

Following the April council meeting, we will soon begin working with Warwickshire County Council's arboriculturists to carry out a full inspection of all the trees owned by the council. Following the high winds experienced in recent weeks, some trees were blown down in the cemetery but thankfully, damage was minor and no one was hurt.

Georgina Beaumont

Town Clerk

01608 662180

email:

clerk@shipstononline.org

Badger Valley Children's Centre gets the thumbs up from Ofsted

The team at the Badger Valley Children's Centre has been celebrating a 'good' result following a recent Ofsted inspection.

Inspectors found that the Shipston centre is very successful in securing strong partnerships, building trusting relationships and establishing itself at the heart of the community.

The good grading reflects that the quality of care, guidance and support provided for families is strong. The report states "parents' trust and respect for staff are overwhelmingly positive, they speak highly of the staff, and value their friendly approach which nurtures trusting relationships".

Recommendations for further improvements include increasing the number of two-year olds accessing early education, improving monitoring systems to measure the impact of services and increasing parental involvement in the advisory board and parent's forum.

Head of Centre, Debbie Muitt, said: "I am so pleased that the report recognised the commitment of centre staff and the support from partner agencies. I'm overwhelmed by the support from parents who spoke favourably to inspectors about their positive experiences at both the centre in Shipston and our partner centre in Wellesbourne."



Calling all young cricket enthusiasts!

Shipston-on-Stour Cricket Club is looking forward to another busy season for its junior section in 2014 and is calling on all young residents to consider giving the game a try.

Following the recruitment of another ECB qualified coach over the winter, the club will now be fielding three junior sides in the Cotswold Hills League and are on the lookout for young cricketers of all ages to join their squads.

The Under 11s and Under 13s will be taking the field on Sunday mornings and the Under 15s will be fulfilling their fixtures on Tuesday evenings, with all leagues starting in the first week of May.

There will also be training sessions for all ages from 8 years and over on Thursday evenings from 6pm, starting Thursday 17th April.

The club's annual Junior Registration meeting is at 11am on Sunday 6th April at Shipston Sports Club - all existing and new players and parents are invited along to meet the coaching staff and register for the new season.

For more details on anything junior cricket related contact Junior Head Coach Jack Murphy on murf_jack@hotmail.co.uk or 07833 545474



Last season's Under 14s team

Young people take missionary trip to Moldova

Three of Shipston's young members of Stour Valley Baptist Church recently took the opportunity to attend a mission trip to Moldova, the Eastern European country landlocked between Romania and Ukraine. Sam, Ryan and Olly (all pictured) took the missionary trip with Shipston's joint churches Youth Worker, Olivia Hollowell, and 15 other young people from other churches, spending a week in the poorest country in Europe.

It was seven days without showers, different (but delicious) food, and sometimes having to use a toilet as basic as a hole in the ground! The youngsters ministered to the poor and sick, held the hands of people breathing their last breaths and gave food to people with no clue where their next meal would come from.

They also played football with teenagers, ran kids clubs with children who had been raised by only grandparents, and spent time with children in orphanages who were neglected, unloved, vulnerable and were found with no shoes on their feet.

The boys brought a much appreciated breath of fresh air to local churches by leading services and songs. They were lucky enough to have some down time exploring Moldova's capital city Chisinau. Sam was most impressed to report back that they even had a Macdonalds!

Stour Valley Baptist Church and the Joint Churches of Shipston Youth Project run a variety of Youth Groups. To find out more please visit SVBC's website www.stourvalleybaptist.org.uk



Youngsters on a mission in Moldova

Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



Pupils use their loaf

Rising bakers from Shipston Primary have been taught how to make Tudor style bread, thanks to the Artisan Bakery in Stratford.

Children from the Swans and Herons classes were treated to a masterclass in measuring, mixing, kneading and plaiting when bakers visited the school to help with the history topic on the Tudors.

The artisan bakers showed children a variety of different flours, and explained the types of bread they made before inviting the children to follow a traditional Tudor recipe. Pupil, Amelia Pletts explained: "Firstly, we had to measure the flour and pour it into a mixing bowl. Next, we added the yeast and salt and then the water. I have never seen yeast before and I was surprised that the yeast smelled so horrible when it makes

such yummy bread."

The children added spices and herbs to bring more flavour into the bread before plaiting it and making different shapes.



Bread was a vital part of the Tudor diet and was eaten with most meals. White bread was eaten by the rich while brown bread was eaten by the poor. Breadmaking in Tudor times was well known for being time consuming and Amelia concluded: "I never knew how much hard work it takes to make bread but it tasted delicious!"

Sporting Success

Congratulations to Shipston Primary's Year 4 mixed football team who proceed to the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Primary Games finals in Rugby. The team, who had two girls playing on the pitch at all times, won all their group and semi-final matches without conceding a goal, then went on to beat Bidford-on-Avon Primary 4-1 in the South Warwickshire final.

Also through to the Primary Games finals are Shipston Primary's Modern Pentathlon team of Lucy Sampson, Caitlyn Buckley and Rebecca Drew, whose points from a timed 400m run and a 25m swim were the combined highest scorers from schools in South Warwickshire.



Shipston High School

Record admission numbers for September 2014

Once again, Shipston High School was hugely oversubscribed with parents putting the school down as first choice for their children moving up to secondary education next year. To try and meet the demand for places the High School has accepted a record 104 new students for next September which is 14 students over its already increased admission number of 90.

As many readers will know, the High School recently received £1.6million of funding to build a new, six classroom state-of-the-art teaching block which is due to be completed by this time next year. Meanwhile for next September the school will be making use of some temporary classrooms until the new block is finished.

Headteacher, Jonathan Baker, said "These are really exciting times for the school especially as we get down to the detailed planning stage of our new teaching block. To help us we have been out to visit several schools with new buildings across the county to see what we can learn from this experience".

Shipston High Ski

On Saturday 15th February 70 students and 8 staff from Shipston High School boarded two coaches destined for adventures in the Austrian mountains.

This year's visit was to the beautiful valley of Montafon. During the five days of skiing the conditions were absolutely fantastic with beautiful blue skies accompanied with fresh snow. The visit was a superb opportunity for students and they took full advantage to learn a new skill and have an



incredible adventure with their close friends.

Plans are already well advanced for next year's visit to Salzburger Sportwelt in Austria and Killington on the east side of the USA in 2016!

Five star food hygiene rating

Following an inspection by the Environmental Health Department of the Stratford on Avon District Council, Shipston High School's kitchens were judged to be rated Level 5 (Very Good), the highest level rating. Congratulations to Mrs Margaret Betteridge and her team for their continued good practice in achieving this award.



Sheep are set to take centre stage at this year's Wool Fair

Arguably the most eagerly anticipated event in the Shipston calendar, the annual Wool Fair, takes place on the 26th May, and plans for the event are well under way.

This year, the sheep will be the star attraction, with over 20 different rare breeds set to make an appearance. The white woolly wonders will be centre stage in the market square, while experts will be on hand to lead the sheep around a mini show ring, while sharing fascinating facts about each breed.

An opportunity to step inside a modern day "Shepherd's Hut" will be among the popular attractions, together with an impressive array of stalls offering tempting treats for everyone.

Many of the town's businesses will be open during the bank holiday event, most of which will no doubt be getting into the woolly spirit in their own unique way. Look out for special window displays in the run up to the Wool Fair.

Look out for the next issue of the Shipston Forum which will contain more information about plans for the day, but in the



Photo by Philip Vial

meantime, block out bank holiday Monday, 27th May in your diary for this first class event.

Shipston Home Nursing unveils busy calendar of events

Shipston Home Nursing is busy planning several fundraising events to suit all tastes. From wine tasting to dancing, jogging to jam making, there are plenty of opportunities coming up to support this popular local charity.



For those with plenty of energy, the SHN annual spring run/jog/walk takes place on Sunday April 6th 10am grounds of Walton Hall, Wellesbourne. For details, see the ad on page 16.

If cooking is more your thing, you can meet famous cookery writer, Pru Leith, on Saturday April 12th at Whichford's Marmalade Festival. For a £5 entry fee, you can take part in a marmalade making competition and enjoy a coffee, all at St Michael's Church, Whichford. Contact Julia 684019 or Sophia 684369 for more details.

Would-be wine buffs might be tempted to "Call my wine bluff" at a fun event in association with Sheldon's Wine Cellars. Full details can be found on page 9.

Finally, if your social calendar is booking up fast, you might want to pencil in the Strictly Hetherington Ball on Saturday September 13th at Hetherington House, Halford. Tickets cost £85 to include a champagne reception, dinner, live band and auction.

For more details, please contact Rebecca Mawle on 674929.

Need a spring clear out? Shipston Primary can help

Bargain hunters and enterprising families alike are being encouraged to head down to the Friends of Shipston Primary School Boot Sale on Sunday 6th April.

Starting at 10 am, the sale could be your opportunity to bag a bargain, unearth a hidden treasure or simply turn your unwanted goods into hard cash, while supporting the Primary School.



Pitches cost just £5 and entry to the sale is free. To book a pitch, please email secretaryfosp@gmail.com or call 07957 295028.

Newbold Plant Sale tempts gardeners for tenth year running

This year will mark the 10th Anniversary of the St David's Plant sale at Newbold. Over the last ten years the Plant Sale has grown in size and reputation with the number and variety of plants increasing year on year. It has become a 'must do' event for gardeners looking for great value, quality plants.

This year's sale will include attractions for all ages, plus a raffle for a unique 10th Anniversary cake.

If the much-anticipated spring has got your green fingers twitching, head to the plant sale on 24th May, 10am to 12:30pm.

Look out Shipston – Elvis is coming to town

It may only be April, but Shipston's Proms Committee has been hard at work for some time planning the events that will make up this year's musical fortnight in June and July.

For one night only, Shipston will be welcoming rock and roll legend, Elvis (well, Lee Memphis King to be 100 percent accurate). Winner of BBC World's Best Elvis competition, Lee will take to the stage on Friday 27th June at the Townsend Hall. Tickets are £18 and are expected to be in demand so don't delay – head down to R Clarke Electrical to buy yours today.

Regular events:

- Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- Mon Fitsteps:** 9.30-10.30am, Sheldon Bosley Hub. Other classes available. Contact Michelle on 07764496947.
- Mon St John's Ambulance:** Badgers, 6-7. Cadets 7-8:30. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Mon Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:** 7pm for 7.15pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Rd, Shipston-on-Stour. Call Penny Law 663871
- Mon Shipston Taekwondo:** 6-7pm juniors, 7-8pm adults. Shipston High School. Further combined class available 6.30pm on Thursdays.
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays. 10am-12pm Room No 2, Ellen Badger Hospital.
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Now every Tuesday. 10.45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 0300 555 8171
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Stella, 686224
- Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- Weds Coffee at St Edmunds Church.** 10.30am – 12pm. All welcome.
- Weds U3A Chicago Bridge:** Social Bridge 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Roger Smith on 01608 238400.
- Thur Shipston Stitchers:** 10am to 3pm, alternate Thursdays.
- Thur Story Stomp:** Shipston Library, 11.30am-12pm. Stories and rhymes for children aged 2 – 4. Free.
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club** at Rainbow Fields Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- Thur Safer Neighbourhood Team:** Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House, West Street.
- Thur Stour Singers,** open to all, 7.40pm at Shipston Primary School. Contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group.** Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Age Concern Lunch Club** Stour Court Contact: Linda 01789 722433
- Fri Shipston Probus:** alternate Fridays
- There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. They include: line dancing, badminton, short tennis, yoga, ballet, Calypso kids music, Little Kickers, Zumba, modern jazz dancing, t'ai chi and circuit training. For details, visit www.townsendhall.com or call Lisa Bryan on 07800 771368.**

April Diary

- 2 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library). Books include fiction, children's, cookery, gardening, art etc. To donate books contact Lion David Squires on pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk
- Shipston Widows Lunch.** 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** 'Cupsadaisy' - a demonstration and workshop with Barbara Betts. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519
- 3 Town council elections:** See article on page 1
- 4 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Dementia Cafe:** 'Singing for the Brain' with Andrew Cockerill. 2pm-3.30pm, Community Lounge, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433

- 5 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment & refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com
- 6 Shipston Home Nursing Spring Run, Jog or Walk:** See page 16
- Car Boot Sale:** Friends of Shipston Primary School. 10.00 am at the Primary School. £5 a pitch. To book email secretaryfosp@gmail.com or call 07957 295028
- 8 Shipston Flower Club:** 'Dream Garden' with Zoe Podmore. 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School, Station Road. Visitors £3.50. Contact: Elaine 01608 238255
- Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting:** 7.30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. Visitors welcome. Contact: John Cavana 01295 722287
- 9 Shipston & District Gardening Club:** 'Hellebores' by Glenys Dyer. 7.30pm, Catholic Church, Darlingscote Rd. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 11 Stour Valley Lions Cinema:** 'Philomena'. 7pm Shipston High School. See ad on page 16
- Shipston Music Society:** See ad on page 9
- 12 Mayor's Surgery:** 10am, High Street
- Shipston Home Nursing:** Meet Pru Leith, famous cookery writer. 10am, Whichford's Marmalade Festival, St. Michael's Church, Whichford. Marmalade-making competition, talk and coffee. Entry £5.00. Contact: Julia 684019 or Sophia 684369
- The Carice Singers:** See ad on page 10
- 14 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Shelter Box - Disaster Relief Charity (by Keith McDavid). 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 15 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** 'Design in Contemporary Tapestry' - Jane Freear-Wyld. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Visitors most welcome. Contact: Penny Law 663871
- 16 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Widows:** Meeting. 10.30am-12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- 17 Charity Fashion Show:** 7pm, Sheldon Bosley Hub, Pittway Avenue, Shipston on Stour.
- 18 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting Dementia Carers:** 10.30am-12.30pm, Ellen Badger Hospital (using the Day Unit entrance). Friendly welcome for all visitors. Contact: Carl Watkins 663808 or Lizzy Feather 686013
- 19 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- 22 Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
- U3A Meeting:** See ad on page 8
- 24 Annual Town Meeting:** See ad on page 16. All welcome.
- 26 Shipston PCSO Surgery:** Monthly surgery with PCSO Emma. 10-11am, Shipston Library
- Paul Jones & Dave Kelly:** See ad on page 8
- Shipston Home Nursing Call My Wine Bluff:** See ad on page 9
- 30 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston & District Literary Society:** Mrs Maureen Raybould on 'Lindisfarne and Beyond'. 7.30pm, The George Hotel. Contact: Mary Edwards 01789 450737 or Malcolm Pollard 663482



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR CRICKET CLUB

21 LONDON ROAD, SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR, WARMS CV36 4EP
TEL: 01608 661139 (SHIPSTON SPORTS CLUB)
www.intheteam.com/shipstoncc

SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR
CRICKET CLUB



JOIN YOUR CRICKET CLUB
OR BECOME A SPONSOR

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Shipston-on-Stour Cricket Club would like to see new players at London Road this summer.

Any age, any ability – come down and see us.

Details on the club website www.intheteam.com/shipstoncc

We are also hoping to attract sponsorship from local businesses to help us continue our work promoting grass roots sport in the community.

We can tailor sponsorship packages to suit all budgets – if your company can help us please contact Secretary Neil Harper on harper_neil1@sky.com or 07917 530911

PAUL JONES & DAVE KELLY

FROM THE BLUES BAND



26TH APRIL 8.15PM

DOORS/BAR OPEN 7PM AT THE TOWNSEND HALL



Townsend Hall

PROMOTION

TOWNSEND HALL, SHEEP STREET, SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR, CV36 4AE

TICKETS £17.50 IN ADVANCE, £18.50 ON THE DOOR. FOR TICKETS AND TABLE AVAILABILITY PLEASE CONTACT JENNY ON 01608 661139 or PHOTON CLASSICS & PHOTO POSTERS, LICHFORDTON 12M CREEK FARM - TEL: 01528 511105 OR 01528 511106. WWW.PHOTOCLASSICS.CO.UK
W & CLUNKE ST, BRIS FORD, SHIPSTON ON STOUR - TEL: 01608 661134 | TOWNSEND HALL COUNTRY NUMBER: 01297

Rise Of The Phoenix Comedy Events
Presents a

Stand Up Comedy Night
@ Sheldon Bosley Hub
Shipston On Stour
on Friday, 2nd May 2014

Featuring...

Testing...testing...1...2.... Hmm... Hmm "rough"

Why not come along and sample the comedy at the Hub?
-what, with a full bar available "lets get our priorities in order"
- and free parking for all "always a bonus you will be short on excuses not to come and enjoy this most excellent of comedy events!"

To book by phone call - 0845 680 1926 - receive tickets via post or email

To book online - Visit our Facebook page. (Use of the phoenix events in the search engine)

To book in person - Visit the Sheldon Bosley Hub Bar and buy over the counter

Directions

The show will start at 7.30pm and end at 9.30pm approx. please be seated ready for the show to commence - comedians love stragglers!

With... Michael B. Anderson

And others.

...James Alderson

RISE OF THE PHOENIX EVENTS, TEL: 01608664335. EMAIL: SVRESIAS@YAHOO.COM

U3A
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

Shipston-on-Stour Area U3A

Our next Monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday 22nd April at 2 p.m. in the Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour

"Let Me Tell You a Story"
A Memoir of a Wartime Childhood
as related by **Renata Calverley**

Visitors are welcome

Entry and refreshments £2

The Third Age: a time of creativity and fulfilment



Shipston Home Nursing
in association
with Sheldon's Wine Cellars

CALL MY WINE BLUFF

An evening with the BBC & QVC
Saturday 26th April 2014, 7.30pm

You taste the wine, the Panel each opine.
Which Panel member forsooth is telling the truth?

The Chairman: Richard Phillips *Racehorse trainer*
The Panel: Beverley Cressman *QVC Channel Guest Presenter*;
Cornelius Lysaght *BBC Racing Correspondent*;
Mark Pougatch *BBC 5 Live Sports Report & 'Ashes' Breakfast Presenter*

For more details and booking form
contact winebluff@hotmail.co.uk


Sheldon Bosley Hub | Entrance Fee: £15 | Raffle |
5 Lot Auction | Bring your own picnic | Cash Bar



SHIPSTON AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY
PRESENTS

WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY

A BLACK COMEDY BY BRIAN CLARK



DIRECTED BY:
STEFANIE MACE

STARRING:

STEFANIE MACE	SUSAN JACKSON	ASHLEY JACKSON	JESSICA JACKSON	NATASHA SMITH
RUTH REID	MATTHEW COX	MOLLIE PAXFORD	DAVID RYAN	BRIAN GOWERS

7.30PM AT TOWNSEND HALL, SHEEP STREET, SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR

TICKETS - £5 THURSDAY, £7 FRIDAY & SATURDAY

AVAILABLE FROM JOHN LYNE HARDWARE, HIGH STREET OR ON THE DOOR

SUITABLE FOR AUDIENCES AGED 15 AND OVER

08.05.14 - 10.05.14



Rotary Club of
Shipston on Stour
www.shipstonrotary.org.uk

Cotswold Walk

Sunday 4th May 2014

7 mile walk with spectacular views



Enjoy Walking the
North Cotswolds with
magnificent views over
four counties.

refreshments ~ toilets ~ marshals ~ first aid
£5 adults£2 schoolchildren

Walkers may start at any time between 10am & 2pm
Commence at Foxcote Hill, Ilmington, Nr Shipston on Stour, CV36 4LD
Signposted from A429 & A3400 - Free Car Park

For further information or charity sponsorship forms:-
www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk

Or contact:- Rtn Avryl: tel 01789 740 047
email: gerald.newell@btinternet.com

Sponsor

SECCOMBES

CHARITY AND BUSINESS / ESTATE AGENTS
LITTON / PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

'Covering South Warwickshire and
North Cotswolds'.
Tel Nos: Kineton Office - 01926 640498
Shipston on Stour - 01608 663788



Shipston Music Society
www.shipstonmusic.org.uk

Maria Jagusz

mezzo-soprano

In the Methodist Church
New Street, Shipston-on-Stour
@ 7.30pm Friday 11th April 2014

Guests £5.00 - Students & Under 16 £2.00

New Members are always welcome

Brailes Three Hills Walk

In aid of Brailes School
and Brailes Pavilion

**Bank Holiday Monday
5th May
BBQ on the Hill!**

Start at Village Hall from
9am to 11.30am

Adults £4 Children (under 15) £1

Contact: Richard Cheney 01608 685570
E-mail richard.cheney@btinternet.com

The Carice Singers Choir



The Carice Singers consists of some of the UK's most talented singers between the ages of 18-22. Our projects provide invaluable experience to those considering careers as professional singers, and bring students together from around the country. Named after the daughter of Sir Edward Elgar, the choir strives to give invigorated performances of the English Romantic Composers, as well as promoting the singing of choral music in rural churches.

All the Flowers of the Spring
Music by Stanford/Warlock/Delius/Whitacre

Saturday April 12th 2014

St. Mary's Church Tysoe
7.30pm

Tickets £15

To book, please telephone Sue Hunt 01295 680419
or e-mail sue.hunt@onebillinternet.co.uk

Shipston's Neighbourhood Plan

April 2014 Update



Shipston's Neighbourhood Plan has received a real boost with the appointment of two new members to the team.

Following a successful application for funding for a Project Manager, Erry Lilley has taken on the role. Erry will be responsible for supporting the team of volunteers in gathering and sorting evidence and developing the plan. A clearer project timescale will be established with specific milestones to help chart progress and ensure the plan develops in line with the district council's Draft Core Strategy.

The NP team is also delighted to welcome back Stephen Miles who was involved at the outset of the project but had to step back for health reasons. Stephen has now rejoined the team and will be providing professional planning advice and support throughout the process.

In the meantime, the working groups have been gathering more information, which will support the development of initial options. This includes the collation of results from the Housing Needs Survey as reported on the front page, which has provided useful insight for the Housing Topic Group.

Once each of the topic groups has completed initial evidence gathering and initial options have been worked up, further public consultation will take place. Keep an eye out for further updates in the Shipston Forum, visit www.shipstonnp.org or follow @Shipston_NP on twitter.

We need your help!

The Neighbourhood Plan team urgently needs more volunteers, particularly for the Environment topic group and the Economy topic group. If you are able to get involved - even if only in a limited way - please get in touch via np@shipstononline.org.

Shipston Arts and Crafts Society

It is said that this has been the wettest winter in the UK of all time - so it was with great relief we gathered on Tuesday, 18th February to be transported to the Cote d'Azur and the Mediterranean to hear Mrs Juliet Heslewood talk about the artists and their discovery of that warm, sunny and beautiful area. We were also transported from the Cote d'Azur - Riviera as it is today - back in time when Matisse, Cezanne, Picasso, Van Gogh and other artists discovered the tiny fishing villages of Antibes, Nice and all those along the unspoilt coast. We watched the slides of the paintings, the blue sky and sea, the golden sun-baked land and imagined the warmth, the heat and the simplicity of life before the area was discovered in the 19th century by the wealthy.

Through this time the Impressionists - Art Nouveau artists - developed a new style of art using primary colours i.e. blue with yellow (cool and hot) green with red to show the heat of the sun and the cool of the sea. The paintings of the area were so very different from views of Northern Europe - so bright, full of heat, whereas northern paintings were subdued.

It was a time of discovery of a new form of art, inspired by a new way of life in a new beautiful area of France - all captured on canvas for us of the present day to admire and cherish. A most captivating lecture, expertly given. On 15th April Jane Freear-Wyld will explain design in contemporary tapestry. Visitors most welcome.

Shipston Dementia Café February 2014



We welcomed David Brookes from Brookes Solicitors, Sheep Street, to the February Café, who talked to the members about legal aspects needing to be looked at following a diagnosis of Dementia. Not all dementias follow the same pattern but in all cases it is wise to make provision for a time when Mental Capacity may be impaired and provision has to be made for someone else to administer an estate or deal with day-to-day financial aspects of daily living.

Be legally prepared was the advice that David gave to those present, going on to talk about various aspects of making this a reality, including making a will and the value of creating a Lasting Power of Attorney relating to the person with Dementia. Lasting Power of Attorney needs to be planned, prepared and registered with the Office of the Public Guardian as early as possible as sometimes there can be long delays that create problems and will add to the pressures of those caring for their loved ones. Another aspect to consider is a dementia sufferer's wishes regarding End of Life Care.

The Shipston Dementia Café is a Resource and Support facility and always carries a very good selection of Dementia Information leaflets and books together with the Alzheimer's Society Fact Sheets which give information about dementia and outline some coping strategies.

At the next meeting of the Café on Friday, 4th April we will

welcome Andrew Cockerill who will be encouraging us to enjoy 'Singing for the Brain'.

A warm welcome awaits anyone with dementia and those caring for them so come along to the next Café and join with others in a similar situation and enjoy the friendship, support and help that awaits you at the Stour Court Community Lounge on Old Road Shipston on the first Friday of each month. Local contact Barbara Smith 662433 or the Alzheimer's Café co-ordinator, Charmaine Bird 02476 652602.

Shipston Music Society

It was a warm welcome back to the Music Society for Charles Matthews in the second of his cycle of concerts this season, accompanied this time by the internationally renowned cellist Kathryn Price.

In a change to the published programme they started the evening with a duet titled "Silent Wood" by the Czech composer Antonin Dvořák. Written originally as a piano cycle the work proved to be popular and Dvořák was soon encouraged to make new arrangements for other instruments and this, the fifth piece written for cello and piano, was superbly performed by Charles and Kathryn. There followed a solo performance of Zoltán Kodály's cello sonata Opus 8 by Kathryn on her cello made by Francesco Ruggieri of Cremona with its exquisite tone known as the Lord Douglas.

Following the interval Kathryn and Charles played the sonata in A major by César Frank. The four movements of the sonata alternate between slow and fast which they executed with effortless clarity. The finale was an impromptu performance of the much loved and popular "The Swan" from Camille Saint-Saëns "The Carnival of the Animals". Concluding the evening chairman Richard Baldwin thanked them both for a superb concert which was eagerly supported by the audience with a rapturous applause.

The next meeting of the Music Society will be 11th April - Maria Jagusz mezzo-soprano accompanied by Ashley Catlin -piano. Visitors are always welcome - For more information please phone Richard Baldwin 01608-662178 or visit the web site www.shipstonmusic.org.uk

Shipston Rotary



Shipston Rotary's first meeting in February was for members to discuss forthcoming activities, such as the Cotswold Walk on Sunday 4th May.

At subsequent meetings we have heard a talk from a young lady who had just spent nine months travelling through many countries in South America, a talk and demonstration from Shipston First Responders and an interesting talk about Dogs for the Disabled, including a visit from Wilkie the Golden Retriever.

We were pleased to donate a cheque to the Children's Air Ambulance from the donations received during Christmas for the Tree of Life.

During the last week of the month many of us arranged

and attended the Rotary Youth Speaks Competition, held at the Croft School near Stratford upon Avon. Six teams of varying ages competed and provided informative and at times humorous presentations. A fantastic evening.

If you would like to find out more about Shipston Rotary please visit our website www.shipstonrotary.org.uk or email President John Round jasround@gmail.com

Shipston & District Angling Club

Membership of Shipston and District Angling Club runs from the 1st April to 31st March each year and the 2014/15 season membership book is now available. There is no joining fee, no waiting list, and at £25.00 (£15.00 for OAP & £10 Junior) offers excellent value for money for 365 days on the doorstep fishing each year.

To request your club membership book, contact Rob and Janet Oakey, 13 Green Lane, Shipston On Stour 662639 (please call first).

Club membership allows you access to fishing along approximately four miles of the beautiful River Stour right on your doorstep, starting from the upper Stour at Willington, down to SHIPSTON Sports Club, Fell Mill, all the way to Halford Bridge. In addition we have three outstanding lakes at Aston Magna, just 5 miles from Shipston, available for all year round fishing.

The club has worked hard on a project to transform this venue over the last 5 years from a derelict, tree clogged, severely weeded and silted lake into a beautiful natural environment. The lakes now boast a wonderful variety of fish so whether you are at school, at work or retired, the club waters has something for everyone.

In addition, in partnership with Shipston Sports Club we are repeating last year's successful Summer Fish & Frolics Festival on July 25, 26 and 27th. This includes three days of fishing and three evenings of entertainment, live bands, food and entertainment for the whole community. The festival is sponsored and supported by the town council, national organisations, local clubs and shops.

Stour Valley Lions

Lions Cinema 'Philomena'

Our next film held at Shipston High School on Friday 11th April will be 'Philomena' (PG13) starring Judi Dench, Steve Coogan, Sophie Kennedy Clark and Barbara Jefford.



When former journalist Martin Sixsmith is dismissed from the Labour Party in disgrace, he is at a loss as to what to do. That changes when a young Irish woman approaches him about a story of her mother, Philomena, who had her son taken away when she was a teenage inmate of a Catholic convent. Martin arranges a magazine assignment about her search for him that eventually leads to America.

Along the way, Martin & Philomena discover as much about each other as about her son's fate. Furthermore, both find their basic beliefs challenged. We look forward to seeing all our regular audience and new members at this film.

Talking Shipston Forum

Lion Judith continues to provide the Forum on CD for the Visually Impaired Club and Shipston Senior Citizen Homes. Lion members, High School students and friends make up the voices on the recordings. If you wish to be included in our CD distribution list please contact Shipston Town Council at New Clark House.

Lions Need New Members

Our ability to hold fund raising events and carry out physical projects in the community is restricted by the number of members we have. Membership numbers ebb and flow but if you are interested in joining us or just giving us some time, please contact John Cavana on 01295 722287.

Shipston on Stour WI



Member, Nicci Williamson, gave a talk to the March meeting on the subject of the Shipston Archives. Shipston-on-Stour WI possesses documents going back to 1922 when the Branch was formed and as well as Minute Books and Accounts, which give a picture of the concerns and interests of Shipston over the past 92 years, the branch also has detailed diaries of particular years with illustrations, maps and photographs. These diaries for 1976 and 1987/8 give a picture of Shipston as it was changing into the town we know today.

In addition, there is a study of trees, completed in 1970, which lists 1095 elms! Elms were known as the Warwickshire weed and hardly any survive today due to the ravages of Dutch Elm disease. It is notable that surviving timberframe houses in Shipston are mainly elm rather than the more widely known oak frame.

All these documents are vulnerable to the ravages of time and circumstance and Nicci was at pains to make this point. Unless funds can be raised and time devoted to conserving such a valuable collection, it could be lost as similar collections have been in the past.

The next meeting will be at 7pm in the Catholic Church Hall on Wednesday 2nd April. The speaker will be Barbara Betts who will be giving a cake making demonstration called "Cupsadaisy". The meeting is open to visitors and all are welcome.

Save Shipston's Heritage

Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute are seeking a saviour who can help with their fast-disintegrating records.

Shipston's branch of the WI was formed in 1922 and possesses Minute Books and documents dating back to that time and before. In addition there are detailed studies of the parish stored in ringbinders. All these papers are fragile and in need of conservation and proper storage.

The WI members are anxious that they should be conserved on behalf of the town because these documents relate to the life of Shipston since 1922,

in which the WI has always played a part. The Public Records Office in Warwick has recognised the importance of the WI papers and is willing to store them where they would be available to interested parties, but they would remain in the possession of the WI.

However, the Branch does not have the expertise nor the finances to do the necessary work. Is there someone in the local area who could help in any way to bring them into a condition where they could be safely stored?

If anyone would be interested in finding out more, please contact Nicci Williamson on 01608 665057 or e-mail gwillia123@aol.com

Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team



Contacting the police

Front office police services are currently available at Warwickshire Direct Shipston, located in Shipston library. Police Community Safety Officer also holds a surgery at Shipston Library once a month. The April one is Saturday 26th 10am to 11am.

In addition, regular surgeries are held at New Clark House which is where Shipston's SNT are based. Surgeries take place fortnightly on a Thursday, from 3:30-3:30pm.

In an emergency, when there is a crime in progress or a life at risk, always call 999 or 112 or use Emergency SMS.

To report less urgent crime or disorder, call 101, the non-emergency number, or Typetalk 18001 101.

Courier Scam

Warwickshire Police is urging residents to be aware of what has become known as the "courier fraud". This is when fraudsters call and trick you into handing your cards and PIN numbers to a courier on your doorstep.

There are many variations of the scam but generally it involves you being called on a landline, by someone claiming to be from your bank or the police. They state their systems have spotted a fraudulent payment on your card or it is due to expire and needs to be replaced.

In order to reassure you that they are genuine, they suggest that you hang up and ring the bank/police back straight away. However, they don't disconnect the call from the landline so that when you dial the real phone number, you are actually still speaking to the fraudster. The fraudster ultimately ends up with your name, address, full bank details, card and PIN.

Remember, never divulge your PIN. If you have given any details cancel cards immediately.

If you get one of these calls end it and call the police on 999 from another phone, or 101 if this has happened in the past. Do not be embarrassed to report a fraud if you have been affected. This is a national scam and many people have been taken in by it.

For more details please visit <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/fraud-az-courier-scam>

Probus



Ron Gallivan's talk on 7th February was entitled "The victory Harvests" and told of the struggle to feed the nation between 1940 and 1945. It stopped Britain being starved into submission by the German U Boats. Every source of labour was used to produce food with the Women's Land Army, German and Italian POWs and thousands of volunteers.

On 21st February, Bob Price took us on a tour of Vietnam, where life has moved on since the war, and like an earlier war in Korea the countries were devastated but have recovered and are now prosperous.

The famous battle at Dien Bien Phu, where the French were defeated is now a beautifully preserved memorial. The country is full of an amazing range of ancient crafts including irrigated paddyfields, pottery, clothing, needlework, food and spices and silkworms. There are a large number of different ethnic groups with their own distinctive dress. The principal form of transport appears to be the motorcycle which can carry entire families or a variety of animals and general goods.

Shipston on Stour Area U3A



Members at the Shipston U3A monthly meeting were recently taken on a captivating journey through the Middle East and parts of Africa by Ann Blagden. Ann's talk on 'The Bellydance' was based on her own experiences throughout the region.

Ann explained that there were differences between the Turkish interpretation on Bellydance which was 'up, up, up' as the dancers wear high heels, to the Egyptian style which was 'down, down, down', where the dancers wear flat shoes. Ann's love of Asian and Middle Eastern music were inspired living within a multicultural environment in London during the 1980's and 90's.

Starting teaching at the Isbourne Centre in 2006, where Egyptian Spirit Belly Dance was born, she aims to give quality time to each of her students, aged 8-89, to help them develop their full potential. This includes the audience, male and female, who were invited to try a few of the basic hand, arm and shoulder movements involved in the 'Bellydance'.

Nearing the end of her presentation Ann gave a musical demonstration of the skills, including the swaying movement, the shimmies and the hip swerves, which go into the Bellydance, together with beautifully coloured silks culminating in a fantastic 'gold wing' presentation which finished with a shape very much like the Shard in London.

If you would like to join the Shipston on Stour Area U3A please contact the Membership Secretary Jackie Finlay e/mail: jandb@64finlay.fsnet.co.uk

District Council update

I am pleased there will be no increase in the District Council tax for 2014/15 year, but there are issues for future years when savings will have to be made due to cut backs in government grants to local authorities. I think the district and county councils must consider the merging of local government in Warwickshire to form some type of unitary local government. We are told that this could bring annual savings of £12 to £17 million per year to Warwickshire council tax payers.



I also think the district council should look at ways of using the councils' resources to enable the building of affordable housing in the district. I supported a move to this effect recently but, in what was a close vote, the majority of councillors rejected the idea.

At the time of writing we are still waiting for three major planning applications in Shipston to be decided. The appeal by developers of the supermarket and 180 houses will probably be heard in July.

I am very concerned that all these developments are being proposed without any real plans to consider the lack of capacity of our local infrastructure. In particular our schools and medical centre.

I usually attend the Councillors street surgery, 2nd Saturday in the month, by the telephone kiosk in the High Street, between 10 and 12 noon. Please come and speak to me about these or any other issues. Or contact me on the number/email address below.

Councillor Richard Cheney

t: 01608 685570

e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

Richard Cheney & Jeff Kenner take it in turns to provide the content for this column.

County Council update

Economic Development

Warwickshire County Council is part of a consortium of local councils that have got together to take advantage of Government proposals to fund growth in the local economy. The Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) embraces this block of local authorities that is of a size that Ministers will talk to. This should give us the best chance to improve our local transport and highways.



Developing a Strategic Economic Plan for this area has been a challenge, due to a disparity of interests. Coventry is a very different area to South Warwickshire, but we are close to finalising the Plan for submission to Ministers by the time you read this column.

Broadband

I keep pumping away at the apparent lack of progress in rolling out high speed broadband. Part of Shipston was deemed to be economically viable for BT to upgrade at their own expense, but they have been slow to use the public funding provided by the Government and match funded by local councils to provide wider coverage.

Broadband is vital to our local economy and as plans are in place to improve the network, we must continue to pressurise BT to get on with it. They have the contract and it is their responsibility to deliver.

What Council?

There has been a public debate on the future structures for local government countywide that was well attended. Should there be so many councils and might we save your money if there were fewer? Potential savings will be investigated. I spoke and said that we needed efficient services but good local points of contact for residents.

Councillor Chris Saint

t: 01608 664048

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

Shipston Medical Centre

Safer Places

Shipston Medical Centre is very proud to have become the first place in Shipston accredited by Warwickshire County Council under the Safer Places scheme.

Warwickshire County Council launched the Safer Places Scheme following a consultation with people with learning disabilities. 50% of those people who took part in the consultation said that they had been a victim of hate crime. Safe Places are community places where people with learning disabilities can go to get help if they feel unsafe or at risk when they are out and about. Where this occurs the safe place can contact relevant people, such as a support worker, family member, carer or the police.

Safer Places can be spotted by the sticker in the window. To find out more see <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/safeplaces> or telephone 01926 742414 if you are interested in gaining Safer Places accreditation.

The Medical Centre was also awarded Research Ready Accreditation in early March. Research Ready is a quality mark recognising that the practice has good procedures and that staff are appropriately trained to meet the requirements of the national Research Governance Framework.



The accreditation was developed by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) in conjunction with the NIHR Clinical Research Network and the Primary Care Research Networks (PCRN). The practice is already involved in a number of research projects and is likely to expand this area of activity over the coming year.

Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845

Website: www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk

Twitter: @ShipstonMC

Your Town Councillors



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Communications group chair
 t: 01608 664518
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Philip Vial, Deputy Mayor
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Ian Cooper
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Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

New Clark House, West Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4HD

Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Catherine Martin, on 01608 495955 or email: forum@shipstononline.org

Copy deadline: First Wednesday of every month

– but the sooner you can notify the editor of a potential story the better.

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council to support the community and is distributed to all households. If you don't receive a copy, please contact the Town Clerk. The Forum can also be downloaded from www.shipstononline.org

Copies of the Talking Shipston Forum can be requested via New Clark House.

Large print copies are available to read at the Library, New Clark House and the Medical Centre.

While every effort is made to ensure information is accurate, the Town Council does not accept responsibility for material submitted by readers or third parties and does not endorse any organisation or event publicised. Contributions may be edited to fit available space.



Roy Munden
 t: 01608 661102
 e: christinemunden@googlemail.com



Paul Rathkey
Staffing group chair
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Sheelagh Saunders
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 e: sheelaghsaunders@gmail.com



Melanie Trapp
 t: 01608 666939
 e: melanie.trapp@sky.com



Jackie Warner
 t: 07717 391234

Useful Contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 264491
Shipston Library:	0300 5558171
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Severn Trent Emergency Line:	0800 7834444
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
– Out of hours	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Forum	01608 495955
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
Local police (non emergency)	101
PC Craig Purcell	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01608 661843

Please note the new contact number for the Forum Editor (above)



Notice of Annual Town Meeting
Shipston Town Council invites all residents and businesses to attend the Annual Town Meeting on 24th April 2014

Please join us for a review of 2014/2015 and to ask any questions of your town councillors.

If you are the Chair of a local group and would like to have your annual report included, please send it to the Town Clerk, via post or email by 14th April.

Shipston High School, 7pm

All welcome

STOUR VALLEY LIONS FILM

These two unlikely companions are on a journey to find her long lost son.



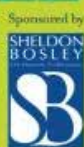
SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL
Friday 11th April, 2014 at 7:00 pm

Advance Tickets £3.50 (£4 on door)
 From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston On Stour.
 Or Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608-661148
Interval for Raffle, Refreshments and snacks



**SPRING RUN
 JOG OR WALK
 AT WALTON HALL**

Sunday 6th April 10am
 In the wonderful grounds of Walton Hall,
 Wellesbourne CV35 9HU



£5 per adult and £3 per child. Dogs on leads welcome
Hot Dogs at the finish line!

To enter a team please contact Rebecca on 01608 674929 or just come along on the day!
 For more information contact Gilda Gardner on 07970 177951

Use it as a team building event or get sponsored and raise more funds for the Charity! Warm up with Jamie Francis Personal Trainer.

**BANK HOLIDAY
 MONDAY**

**SHIPSTON
 WOOL
 FAIR**

