



# Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

December 2012

On behalf of all the Town Councillors and staff  
at Shipston Town Council, The Mayor, Fay Ivens,  
wishes all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Everyone is invited to join the Mayor for festive coffee and mince pies on  
Friday 7th December at 10am, New Clark House.

For details of this and the Mayor's Charity Gala Dinner, please see pages 8 and 9

## What a year! Shipston Forum recalls some of the highlights

2012 has been a whirlwind of activity in Shipston, thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of local volunteers.

For once, the sun truly shone on the annual Wool Fair, at which the Shipston Tapestry was launched. Woolly activities were swiftly followed by a wonderful weekend of Diamond Jubilee celebrations, including a community Songs of Praise and Flower Festival, plus a fun-packed event at the Sheldon Bosley Hub. The torchlight procession to the beacon is still talked about as one of the most memorable events in Shipston.

Hot on the heels of the Jubilee came the Shipston Proms – two weeks of eclectic musical performances to suit all tastes. The Last Night of the Proms celebration was one of the best-attended and enjoyable finales to this established Shipston event. We have also celebrated the 100 year anniversary of Shipston Town Band, culminating in a spectacular concert in October, while numerous other concerts, activities and fairs have taken place.

But it hasn't all been about events. 2012 saw the purchase of the police station by Shipston Town Council, the saving of the public toilets in Telegraph Street and the successful conclusion of a long-term battle for a new scout hut. In May, we saw the election of several new faces to represent the town and the Town Council is now operating without councillor vacancies for the first time in over a year. We also recently saw the successful reopening of Shipston Youth Club, under new management.

There have been plenty of challenges along the way, particularly in budget and planning terms, with many proposals for major developments coming forward and increased financial pressure on popular services.



*Our stone sheep has presided over plenty of activity this year*

As we head into December, there is no sign of a slow down in the events programme, with the Victorian Evening, Mayor's Charity Gala Dinner and several concerts among the highlights this month. All of these events and achievements are made possible thanks to the colossal amount of work done by Shipston residents, raising money for a broad variety of local and national charities.

Mayor, Fay Ivens, said "I feel privileged to have been Mayor during 2012, with the opportunity to attend so many important events in and around the town. On behalf of my fellow councillors, I would like to express our sincere thanks and congratulations to the many volunteers who have worked so hard to deliver exciting and successful fundraising events in Shipston."

## Neighbourhood Plan gets green light to proceed

Shipston Town Council has voted to proceed with the development of a Neighbourhood Plan following a positive response from the public at the October launch event. This should be a community-led initiative, with the Town Council's role being primarily to fund and oversee the process to ensure it meets the criteria set by government.

The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) provides an opportunity for all residents to have a say in how the town should be developed. Through a series of community engagement activities, views will be sought on a range of planning issues including employment, housing development and infrastructure.

Work is now underway to develop a dedicated website – [www.Shipstonnp.org](http://www.Shipstonnp.org) – and community engagement plan to publicise the NP process. An overview of the next steps, will be included in the January Forum. In the meantime, please visit [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org) to download the scoping document, which explains the process to date.



## Mayor's column

It was a delight to be invited to present the trophies at the Shipston-in-Bloom annual Presentation Evening to the winners of the town garden competition. I would like to thank the committee and helpers for all of the time and hard work they put in to 'Keep Shipston Blooming'. Without a doubt, the beautiful floral displays around our town keep it looking so vibrant.



I spent a fun morning at Shipston Primary School as a judge at the 'Bake Off'—some of the cakes which the pupils had made were sensational - the only disappointing part for me was not being able to actually taste any! I am looking forward to returning to School later this month when I begin my 'Meet the Mayor' sessions, starting with year 6.

The Town Band Centenary Concert at the Townsend Hall was a truly wonderful occasion, which I thoroughly enjoyed (see pg 6).

Many congratulations to Shipston Sports Club for organising such a superb Bonfire and Fireworks display. The scene was set with a beautiful moonlit night before I lit the bonfire along with the Town Crier. The stunning firework display lit up the sky.

On Remembrance Sunday, Shipston Town Band led the parade followed by members of Shipston branch of the Royal British Legion and other Shipston organisations. I felt privileged and proud to be part of the parade in my role as Mayor, and honoured to lay a wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of Shipston Town Council and the townspeople of Shipston. The packed service at St Edmunds Church was very emotional as we remembered by name all those from Shipston who gave their lives at War.

We have been proud to represent Shipston at the Judicial Service of the High Sheriff of Warwickshire and the Civic Service of the Mayor of Leamington. We also attended, along with the Deputy Mayor, a Drum Head Service at Whitnash.

We have also attended the Civic Dinners of the Mayor of Southam and the Chairman of Stratford District Council.

Fay Ivens

## Shipston Town Council takes a view on major planning applications

Major planning proposals were in the spotlight once again at the November town council meeting.

Philip Vial, chair of the Planning Working Group, reported that Banner Homes is hoping to build 66 homes on its site on the Campden Road. The developer intends to delay any application until the Neighbourhood Plan has been completed. However, current council policy objects to any major development along the Campden Road.



Cala Homes has appealed against the decision to reject its planning application on the Norgren site and a public inquiry will be held in February 2013. Councillors voted to maintain the council's opposition to the development.

The appeal against the decision to reject proposed new houses on Hornsby Close will be heard on the 18th December. Having previously not made a representation, councillors voted to object to the application on a number of planning grounds including environmental impact, sustainability, and impact on existing residents and amenities.

Although Shipston Town Council does not have any powers to make decisions on planning matters, it does submit a view on each one which is a material consideration when the district council assesses applications. If you have a view on any application in Shipston, please share your thoughts with the Town Council as early as possible in addition to responding directly to any consultation.

## Double your donation to keep The Townsend Hall flourishing

Shipston's Townsend Hall Management Committee is calling on residents to support the Hall's future by donating £10 and taking part in the Heart of England Community Foundation's Grow Your Tenner campaign.

Trustee, David Squires, said, "refurbishment of old buildings is an on going challenge for everyone and the Townsend Hall is no exception. During the last few years, we have spent in excess of £100,000 on improvements to the hall which has enabled us to attract a wide variety of events and clubs to benefit the local community, but we need to raise more funds to maintain these facilities."



Every £10 donated online will be matched by the Heart of England Community Foundation, effectively doubling the donation for the Townsend Hall.

Donating online only takes a minute and all the details can be found on the 'local giving' page at [www.townsendhall.com](http://www.townsendhall.com). All donations will be greatly appreciated and will help secure the future for this important local amenity.

## Food bank arrives in Shipston

St Edmund's Church has launched a Food Bank to help local residents if they find they have run short of food and the cupboard is bare.

The Food Bank takes place at St Edmunds on Wednesday Mornings from 10.00am to 12.00pm and coincides with the church's coffee mornings. Rev Jill Tucker is encouraging those in need to pop in for a coffee and collect a bag of food. There is even a children's corner with toys to keep toddlers occupied.

Rev Jill Tucker said "we can help you with an emergency food pack to help you through a crisis – such as unexpected bills, benefit payment delay, job loss, or on a low income. We would expect a referral through your GP or Care Provider, but I'm very happy to hear from anyone who wants to find out more."

For further details, please contact Rev Jill on 01295 688193. See page 13 for details on how to donate food.

## November's hot topics

**Priority potholes:** Ronnie Murphy has reported potholes in Queen's Avenue directly to Jeff Morris at WCC. Swift action is expected.

**Soggy playground:** Libbylous Playground has been badly affected by flooding recently and has had to be closed on occasion for safety reasons. Arthur Ivens is now checking the playground daily. The gates will be locked if the park is flooded.

**Drains and flooding:** Melanie Trapp raised concerns about flooding on the Darlingscote Road and Fosseway junction. Chris Saint believes the problem may be overland drainage as the Highway drains are working effectively. The drain on Stratford Road by Cripplegate continues to cause problems and will be raised again with WCC.

**Mind your head:** Melanie Trapp raised concerns about congestion in Tilemans Lane and the impact on safety, after narrowly avoiding being hit on the head by a bus' wing mirror. All councillors echoed concerns about the parking issue. The Town Clerk will speak to the bus company to see if any changes can be made to the route during the school run.

**Missing lights mystery:** Ian Cooper raised concerns about streetlights that have been removed but not replaced. Chris Saint will look into what is happening and whether replacements are expected. Shipston Town Council (STC) has requested that any replacements use LED lights if possible.

## Campaigning for Shipston

**Sheep Street changes:** Warwickshire County Council has taken on board recommendations from STC and has updated its plans to alter Sheep Street to safeguard access for emergency vehicles.

**ASL proposal:** ASL has submitted an amendment to its planning application, including a change in the height of the Extra Care Housing and the removal of community allotments. A short period of consultation will follow. As a result, the Stratford District Council planning meeting has been deferred until the New Year.

**Neighbourhood Plan:** STC voted to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan which will be overseen by a Steering Group chaired by Stephen Miles. Ian Cooper (finance), Adrian Jelf (planning) and Richard Cheney (district council) will sit on the group, with others being co-opted if necessary. The new district councillor will also be invited to join.

## Town Council business

**Planning briefing:** A number of councillors attended the meeting with Acting Planning Manager, Peter Yates, who visited Shipston to understand the town better. Some councillors are to take up planning training offered by Mr Yates/SDC.

**Remembrance Sunday:** All councillors congratulated Georgina Beaumont for her handling of the road closures for the Remembrance Parade.

**Highways Schemes:** Chris Saint encouraged STC to put forward suggestions for small highways schemes which could be delivered through the individual county councillors' budget scheme.

**Precept setting:** The precept-setting meeting will be on the 3rd December, which will include the allocation of community grants. Recommendations will be brought to the 10th December full council meeting for sign off.

### A note to contributors

The January Forum is scheduled for distribution on 2nd Jan 2013. Space will be tighter than usual as there will be a special feature on the Neighbourhood Plan. Please send your submissions in as soon as possible. Thank you – and Happy Christmas!

## New Clark House Update

### Winter weather warning

After such a soggy summer, it is hard to imagine anything other than rain coming our way this winter. If you are concerned about flooding, please sign up to the Environment Agency's flood warning system by calling 0845 988 1188. Please report any blocked drains to New Clark House as these can contribute to flooding.



Wet roads can mean icy conditions, particularly at night or in the early morning. Please take extra care when out and about.

If we do have snow, the town council's volunteer snow wardens will help to clear footpaths and entrances to facilities such as the Medical Centre. It's a good idea to ensure you have your own supply of grit to keep your drive or paths as safe as possible.

### Beware door-to-door sales

Reports of door-to-door sellers have increased. While it is not illegal to sell goods door to door, anyone doing so must have a police issued Pedlars Certificate which will indicate that the person has had some background checks made on them and that they are of good character.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team has issued the following advice:

- Place a card visibly in a window stating you don't buy items at the door
- Always keep front and back doors locked, even when you are in the house and ensure that side gates are kept locked.
- Ask to see a Pedlars Certificate
- Do not invite a stranger into your home, even if they ask to use your loo or have a glass of water.
- Do not feel obliged to buy something. If their selling techniques are forceful or you have suspicions, contact the police on 999.

For more advice, sign up for the SNT newsletter (see contact details on pg 15)

**Georgina Beaumont**  
Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180

e: clerk@shipstononline.org

## Mini Masters Tennis Tournament puts players through their paces

An enthusiastic field of 38 juniors aged 5-9 years old came together on Sunday 14th October to participate in the first Mini Masters Tennis Tournament at Shipston High School. A total of 25 players competed in the 8 and under competition, with a further 13 in the 9 and unders.

On what was a beautiful sunny day, 76 matches were played in just 3 hours and the juniors did a great job of putting their coaching into practice with some hard fought matches.

The eventual winner of the 8 and Unders was Joshua Hunter who defeated Samuel Littell 10-4 in the final. In the 9 and Unders, victory went to Jack Boden who defeated Bernardo Fernandez 7-5 7-3.

Organiser, Sarah Bunting, said "I would like to congratulate all players who took part, especially those who were participating in their first tournament. I would also like to thank the four older Juniors – Rory, Meg, James and Isla – and all the parents who gave up their time to assist at the event which we really appreciated."

The tournament was organised by Tennisolutions and

Shipston Tennis Academy. The next tournament will be on Sunday 9th December at Kineton High School. For more information about the event or tennis coaching in general, please contact Sarah Bunting on 07757 538325 or [s.bunting@tennisolutions.co.uk](mailto:s.bunting@tennisolutions.co.uk)



*Mini Orange players show off their certificates*

## Shipston Under 14s Rugby Needs You!

Shipston Rugby Club is calling on all energetic 13 year olds to join its U14s team.



Shipston Rugby Club has a thriving minis and juniors section and is an active participant in local competitive matches. Despite healthy numbers in every other age group, the U14s team desperately needs more players to build a strong team.

Rugby offers great opportunities to get fit, socialise and represent your local town. Shipston Rugby Club also boasts great facilities including an excellent clubhouse and high quality coaching.

So whether you've played before or fancy giving rugby a try for the first time, the U14s team wants to hear from you. Please contact Lesley on 0770 4841 404 for more information.

## Festive family fun awaits at the Primary School Christmas Bazaar

From Santa's grotto to the mysteriously named 'bauble-bobbing', this year's Primary School Christmas Bazaar will be packed full of treats, entertainment and present ideas.

Run by the Friends of Shipston Primary School, this important festive fundraiser is being held on 1st December from 11am-2pm and everyone is welcome. Attractions include a performance by the school choir, a range of stalls offering tempting gift ideas, activities for children, the much-loved 'grab-a-bag' stall and a tombola. This year's raffle will see one lucky ticketholder win a Kindle for Christmas, with other luxury prizes including a scooter and a food hamper.

Don't feel the need to eat before you visit as the children in the school's Kitchen Academy will be selling some delicious food to see you through lunchtime, with all profits on the food going to support the Kitchen Academy next year.

FOSP member, Janice Clarke, said "we are really excited about this year's Christmas bazaar and hope to raise lots of money for the school. There will be plenty to keep children, parents, grandparents and friends entertained and we look forward to welcoming as many people as possible on the 1st."



## No time to rest for Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society as they prepare for Sleeping Beauty

Calling all pantomime fans - make sure you keep a space in your diary for the upcoming performances of Sleeping Beauty by Shipston's Amateur Dramatic Society.

The cast and crew are working hard perfecting their performances and are looking forward to welcoming as many people as possible to their shows.

The performances will be on 31st Jan and 1st and 2nd Feb. Tickets cost £7 for adults and £5 children (except on Thurs when all tickets are £5). See the January Forum for full details or visit John Lyne Home Hardware to buy tickets.

## Shipston Primary School



### Shipston Girls celebrate sporting success

Shipston-on-Stour Primary Girls' Football Team was crowned champions of South Warwickshire after a dramatic penalty shoot out at the NFU. sports ground, Tiddington.

Just days after watching top women's teams Birmingham City and Arsenal Ladies, the girls from Shipston were inspired to raise their game and clinched the South Warwickshire Schools' FA Cup.



The journey to the final saw Shipston winning all three matches in Group 1 including Tanworth (2-0), The Willows (1-0) and Bridgetown (1-0). Shipston Girls then went on to play Bidford in the semi-final where they scored two goals against one scored by Bidford within extra time.

The actual final between Shipston and St Nicolas C of E Primary, Alcester, was full of drama.

*Shipston Primary Girls' Team: Rebecca Drew, Lucy Sampson, Millie Bryan, Katie Plank, Faye Ellery (captain), Catherine Harris, Georgia Cooke, Danielle Nicklin and Freya Robinson.*

Shipston's Freya Robinson said: "Although we felt we played the better football, we somehow couldn't score during normal time or extra time."

In the penalty shootout Catherine Harris made three outstanding saves and Lucy Sampson and Catherine Harris made it 2-1. After a long wait, Georgia Cooke (player of the tournament) smashed home her penalty to send the team to victory.

Jim Armstrong PE Leader at Shipston Primary congratulated the team and said: "The girls' attitude, enthusiasm and willingness to improve has made it a pleasure to coach them: it even made me start taking my FA coaching badges! With Women's football bigger than ever after the introduction of the Women's Super League and massive interest in the Olympics, it is really fantastic that girls' football has established its own identity at Shipston."

Girls' football has gone from strength to strength at Shipston Primary, ever since Birmingham City Ladies Football Club visited two years ago. The school is passionate about giving children the best possible sporting opportunities, forging links to strengthen the PE curriculum and competitive sport. The school has worked with Paul Eden a UEFA 'B' Licensed Coach from Stratford Town FC; Paul Bearman, Stratford Athletics Coach; as well as Olympic Athletes in the past two years.

## Shipston High School

### School trains young counsellors

Following an idea suggested by students themselves, 14 students in their GCSE year have trained to become mentors to younger students at the High School. The training was carried out by experienced counsellors based at the school. The idea came about when the students, now in their last year, remembered how older students had helped them to settle in when they started at the school. As the school continues to grow in numbers, older students have been stepping up to the mark by actively seeking ways to help and support others and develop skills which will be of benefit to them when they move on to further study at sixth form, or beyond, at university. This new venture is another way students are proving themselves to be active citizens by taking on increasing levels of responsibility.

### Peer reading

This academic year, students at Shipston High will be embarking on a "Peer Reading Scheme". Twenty literature-loving volunteers from Year 9 have signed up to work with Year 7 students on their reading. Each Year 9 student will read



*Pictured: Cameron working with Georgina and Paula*

once a week with a member of Year 7 and keep a diary of their progress. It is hoped that this will inspire a joy of reading in the year 7 students; it's also a fantastic opportunity for the Year 9s to hone their leadership and responsibility skills.



### Thank you DASH and Jubilee Crew

During the school year September 2011-July 2012 Drug Action Shipston sponsored 121 sessions of counselling for Shipston High School students.

The school would like to say a big thank you to the DASH committee for their fundraising efforts and continued commitment to the welfare of its 11-16 year olds.

The Young Carers of Shipston High School would like to thank The Shipston Jubilee Crew for their kind donation of £388.83. At their last Forum meeting in October students discussed how they would like to see this money spent. Some of their ideas included a trip to Cadbury World and also The Snow Dome in Milton Keynes. They are also hoping to establish a school link with Young Carers at Kineton High School and this money would help with the travel costs involved, if this becomes successful. Thank you for thinking of our Young Carers, we really appreciate your support.

**The High School's annual Awards Evening took place on 15th November. Look out for a report in next month's Forum.**

**The wait is almost over – Christmas starts here!**

The Shipston Rotary Victorian Evening is almost upon us and will officially launch the start of the festive season in Shipston.

On 7th December, everyone is encouraged to flock to the market square to join the fun, which begins at 6pm. This year's event will have an extra sparkle thanks to the presence of guests, Paralympic Gold Medallist, James Roe, and torchbearer, Camilla Hadland, who will open the proceedings. The celebratory theme for the event is the Diamond Jubilee so now is the time to hunt out your red, white and blue hats, scarves and gloves to get into the spirit.

There will be shopping opportunities aplenty thanks to the array of stalls and local shops taking part, while entertainment will include fire eaters, a ukulele band and face painting. The Lions bookshop will be open from 10am until 8pm on the day, with mulled wine being served from 5pm. If that's not enough, there will also be raffle and tombola prizes so don't forget your lucky mascot. Most important of all, however, Father Christmas has confirmed

his attendance and can't wait to show off his new grotto.

Shipston Rotarians are looking forward to holding another entertaining evening in what has become an integral part of Shipston's calendar. "The Victorian Evening is fun for all the family, good for local shops and businesses, and is a vital part of the fundraising plans of many local charities and good causes." they said.



Photo courtesy of Fosseway Photography

The Victorian Evening runs from 6pm to 8pm.

**A concert worth waiting a hundred years for**

Shipston Town Band celebrated its centenary in spectacular style at its birthday concert on the 26th October.

The concert, which was free for the town to enjoy, featured various pieces that the band has performed in their repertoire over the years. Past conductors joined existing members on the stage, alongside the very talented musician, Kirsty Abbotts.

The junior band put in an exceptional performance and demonstrated just how important and rewarding it is to enable young people to learn musical instruments.

Mayor, Fay Ivens, said, "the Centenary Concert was a truly wonderful occasion. The band played some superb music and the junior band was fantastic. It was a delight to see the return of some familiar faces and to hear the exceptional talent of these musicians. The finale, when all past members joined in, was an amazing end to the evening. Shipston is lucky to have such a gifted band."

The Town Band will also be holding a festive concert on 9th Dec. See page 9 for details.

**Don't forget to buy your tickets for the Mayor's Charity Gala Dinner on the 15th December. It promises to be a fun festive evening in aid of important local charities.**

**Stour Singers offer double-delight this December**

Stour Singers is looking forward to welcoming everyone to its two concerts in December.

On Saturday 8th, the choir will be tackling an ambitious performance of Bach's Oratorio (Parts 1, 2 and 3). They will be joined by the Cherwell Orchestra, organist, Rachel Bird, and a quartet of international soloists.

The following Friday (14th) will be the group's 'Great Carol Sing', with audience participation encouraged, so now is the time to start practising those festive tunes! For more information see page 8.



**Eyes down everyone – its bumper Bingo month!**

If you're a bingo-lover then Shipston is the place to be this month. There are four different opportunities to play bingo and all raising money for different causes, so you can feel especially good about taking part.

Bumper bingo month begins at 8pm on the 1st December at the Townsend Hall in aid of Shipston Tennis Club. There is then a two-week wait before the next opportunity – Prize Christmas Bingo at the Sheldon Bosley Hub in aid of Shauni's Marathon fund. Shauni will be running the London Marathon in 2013 to raise money for Whizz Kids, a charity that supports children with disabilities.

Just a few days later, there is a second bite of the festive bingo cherry at the Sheldon Bosley Hub, this time in aid of the Hub itself. And for those looking for a lucky strike just before Christmas, the final Bingo night of 2012 in Shipston will be on the 22nd December at the Sheldon Bosley Hub, in aid of Norgren Bowls Club.

Please see the combined advert on page 9 for further details. Good luck!



**Regular events:**

*(Please check with organisers for changes over the festive period)*

- Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- Mon Zumba:** 7:45pm Shipston High School. £5. Other weekly classes also available. Contact: Debbie 07966 746794
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays (11th). 10am-12pm Roman Catholic Hall. Contact: Adrian Collins, 661576
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Alternate Tuesdays (4th and 18th). 10:45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Stella, 686224
- Tues Bridge:** 2pm, Shipston Rugby Club. Contact Val 07516 091786
- Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- Weds St John's Ambulance:** Adults division. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club** at Rainbow Fields Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- Thur Age Concern Gentle exercise and relaxation class:** 2:15-3:13pm, Rainbow Fields. Contact Leigh, 665995
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group.** Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Linda, 662290

**There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. They include: line dancing, badminton, short tennis, yoga, ballet, Calypso kids music, Zumba, modern jazz dancing and circuit training. For more details, visit [www.townsendhall.com](http://www.townsendhall.com) or call Lisa Bryan on 07800 771368.**

**December Diary**

- 1 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm, 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](mailto:pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk)
- Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or [fayivens@aol.com](mailto:fayivens@aol.com)
- Shipston Primary School Christmas Bazaar:** See article on pg 4
- Shipston Tennis club Christmas Bingo:** See ad on page 9
- 4 Multiple Sclerosis Society 'Drop in' meeting:** 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
- SWIB (Supporting Women in Business):** Networking event. 6-8.30pm, El Cafe. To book, contact: Lynette Berry 07540 802118
- Shipston/Stour Community Forum:** Drop-in Surgery 6.30pm, Community Forum 7pm. Shipston High School. Contact: Lizzie Price 01789 260133 or [stratford@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:stratford@warwickshire.gov.uk)
- 5 National Organisation of the Widowed:** Lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Shipston-on-Stour WI:** Christmas Party. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Mal Lawrence 662122
- 6 Story Stomp:** Storytelling for 2-5 year olds. 10.30am, Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- 7 Festive Coffee Morning with Shipston Town Council:** Join the Mayor for coffee and mince pies from 10am-12pm. Free. Raffle to raise money for Shipston Youth Club and Shipston First Responders. New Clark House, West Street. See ad on page 9
- 8 Shipston Dementia Resource and Support Cafe:** Social. 2-3.30pm, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- Chamber of Commerce Business Advice Surgeries:** Free advice sessions by appointment, 1pm to 4pm. Stour Enterprise Centre, Astech Mill, Stratford Road. To book, call 629693
- Annual Rotary Victorian Evening:** For details see ad on page 16
- 8 Shipston Home Nursing:** Vintage Second-Hand Clothes Sale. 9.30am-12.30pm, Sheldon Bosley Hub. Free entry. Contact: Rebecca 674929
- Stour Singers present Bach's Christmas Oratorio (parts 1, 2 & 3):** See ad on page 8
- 9 Shipston Town Band Festive Concert:** See ad on page 9
- 10 Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 11 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Christmas Lunch. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- Shipston Flower Club:** 'Precious Gifts' by Arnaud Metaire. 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School. Non-members welcome. Contact: 01295 788099
- Stour Valley Lions monthly meeting:** 8pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. All welcome.
- 12 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston and District Literary Society:** Christmas Lunch. 12pm for 12.30pm, The Horseshoe. Contact: Mary Edwards 01789 450737 or Malcolm Pollard 663482
- Shipston and District Gardening Club:** Christmas Party. 7.30pm, Catholic Church, Darlingscote Rd. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 14 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Music Society Christmas Concert:** See page 8
- Stour Singers presents The Great Carol Sing:** See page 8
- Sheldon Bosley Hub presents The Bennett Brothers Jazz Band:** 8pm (doors open 7pm). Admission £11.00 including buffet supper. For booking/info, contact: 652705
- Stour Valley Lions Rural Cinema presents 'Hope Springs':** For details, see ad on page 8
- 15 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above
- Mayor's Charity Gala Evening:** For details see ad on page 8
- Prize Bingo in aid of Whizz Kids:** See ad on page 9
- 17 Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Monthly Social. 12.30pm, Horseshoe Inn. Contact: Mike Dobbin 664636
- 18 Sheldon Bosley Hub Christmas Bingo:** See ad on page 9
- 19 National Organisation of the Widowed:** Meeting. 10.30am-12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- 21 Mike Sanchez and his Big Band in Concert:** Townsend Hall. Contact: Sarah 07794 564517
- 22 Calypso Kids:** Christmas Party, Townsend Hall. An hour of music and art, plus a visit from Father Christmas. £6.00 per child, two siblings £10.00, three siblings £15.00. Contact: Emma-Jane 07890399162 or [emmajane@calypsokids.co.uk](mailto:emmajane@calypsokids.co.uk)
- Norgren Bowls Club Prize Bingo:** For details see ad on page 9
- 28 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above
- 29 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above

**For details of festive Church services, please see page 10**

# Stour Singers

Presents

## Bach: *Christmas Oratorio*

(Parts 1, 2, & 3)

with

The Cherwell Orchestra  
leader Judy Springate; Rachel Bird, organ  
and

Sarah Power, soprano; Shelley Coulter-Smith, mezzo-soprano;  
Nathan Vale, tenor; Darren Jeffery, bass-baritone

Conducted by Richard Emms

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 7.30pm, £12.50**  
**St. Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour**

## *The Great Carol Sing For Choir and Audience*

with

Helen Porter, piano; Anne Hume, reader

Conducted by Richard Emms

**Friday, 14 December 2012 at 7.30pm**  
**£7.00 (£5.00 if purchased with ticket for Christmas Oratorio)**  
**The Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour**

Tickets from choir members, R. Clarke, 27 High St. Shipston  
and at the door. (accompanied children free)



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



The Mayor of Shipston

Invites you to a:

## CHARITY GALA EVENING with a flavour of Christmas

at the

*Townsend Hall*

*Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2012*

Gala Dinner followed by  
Dancing and entertainment  
£25 per ticket

7.30 for 8.00 pm – carriages at midnight

Tickets available from New Clark House – 01608 662180



### STOUR VALLEY LIONS – DECEMBER FILM

MERYLSTREEP TOMMYLEEJONES STEVECARELL

# HOPE SPRINGS



Kay (Meryl Streep) and Arnold (Tommy Lee Jones) are a devoted couple. Thirty years of marriage have left Kay wanting to spice things up and reconnect with her husband. When she hears of a renowned couple's specialist (Steve Carell) in the small town of Great Hope Springs, she attempts to persuade her sceptical husband, a steadfast man of routine, to get on a plane for a week of marriage therapy.

**SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2012 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  
Raffle and Refreshments



## SHIPSTON MUSIC SOCIETY Presents

## A Christmas Concert

Given by Burford  
Chamber Choir

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm**

Guests £5.00 / Students under 16 £2.00

*The Townsend Hall*

For Further Details Ring 01608 663207



## FESTIVE COFFEE MORNING

The Town Mayor, Councillor Fay Ivens, invites residents of Shipston-on-Stour to join her for Coffee and Mince Pies at New Clark House

**Friday 7th December  
between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon**

There will be a raffle to raise money for Shipston Youth Club and Shipston First Responders

*All welcome*



Join us  
Shipston Town Band

For a

## FESTIVE CONCERT

On

Sunday 9th December 2012

At

The Townsend Hall

Starting at  
7:30pm

An Evening full of the Christmas Spirit

Featuring

All The Old Favourite Christmas Tunes  
And Some New Ones  
As Always

Its

**Free Admission**

For further information please contact  
Charlie Cox on 01608 662422



## Shipston Primary School CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
11am to 2pm

*Everyone Welcome!*

**Fun & Activities  
for all the family.**



## BINGO BONANZA

Shipston Tennis Club presents:

Great prizes **CHRISTMAS BINGO** Xmas Fayre



Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec, Townsend Hall

**Eyes down 8pm**



Accompanied children welcome. Profits for Shipston Sports Club Tennis section

## PRIZE CHRISTMAS BINGO

My name is Shauni and I am running the Virgin 2013 London  
Marathon in aid of Whizz Kids!!

**15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012**

AT THE SHELDON BOSLEY HUB, PITWAY AVENUE, SHIPSTON

**DOORS OPEN 6:30PM – EYES DOWN 7:30PM**



## Christmas Prize Bingo

Sheldon Bosley Hub (formerly Norgren Social Club)

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

Doors open 6:30pm – Eyes down 7:30pm



## NORGREN BOWLS CLUB PRIZE BINGO

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

Sheldon Bosley Hub, Pittway Avenue, Shipston

**Doors open 6:30 – Eyes down 7:30**



**The Catholic Parish of  
Our Lady and the Apostles**

**SS Peter & Paul, Brailes : Our Lady & St Michael,  
Shipston : St Philip, Ilmington**

**Saturday 22 December**

Vigil Mass	5.30pm	Ilmington
Confessions	10.00am – 10.30am	Brailes
	11.30am – 12 noon	Shipston
	5.00pm - 5.15pm	Ilmington

**Sunday 23 December**

Mass	9.30am	<b>4th of ADVENT</b> Shipston
	11.30am	Brailes

**Monday 24 December**

Confessions	10.00am – 10.30am	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> Brailes
	11.30am – 12 noon	Shipston
Vigil Mass	5.30pm	Ilmington
Carols and Readings	7.00pm	Shipston
First Mass of Christmas	7.30pm	Shipston
Midnight Mass	11.30pm	Brailes (Carols from 11pm)

**Tuesday 25 December**

Mass of the Day	9.30 am	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Shipston
	11.30am	Brailes

**Wednesday 26 December**

Mass	11.30 am	<b>ST STEPHEN</b> Brailes
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**St Edmund's Church of England**

**2nd December at 4pm**

Advent Carol Service at St Edmund's, Shipston

**5th December at 7.30pm**

SHOUT Concert All Saints Honington,  
Tickets £10 in aid of Shipston Youth Club and Honington Church

**8th December at 7.30pm**

Stour Singers Christmas Concert:  
Bach's Christmas Oratorio St Edmunds, Shipston

**14th December at 6pm**

Carol Service at Idlicote

**16th December at 10am/6pm**

Christingle Service St Edmunds, Shipston  
Town Carols: Candlelit Carol Service, St Edmund's,  
Shipston, 6pm, then mulled drinks and mince pies

**20th December at 6pm**

Tidmington Carol Service

**24th December at 4pm**

Blessing of the Crib St Edmunds'

**24th December**

10pm Midnight Mass in Idlicote  
11.30pm Midnight Mass in St Edmund's

**25th December**

10am Family Eucharist of Christmas Day in St Edmunds, Shipston  
10am Family Eucharist of Christmas Day in Honington

**The Methodist Church**

**18th December**

7.30pm  
Candle Light Carol Service

**23rd December**

11.00am  
Morning Worship

**24th December**

6.00pm  
Christmas Eve  
Holy Communion Service

**25th December**

10.30am  
Christmas Day Service

**Quaker Meeting**

**Broad Campden Meeting**

House Lane  
Broad Campden  
Meeting for Worship  
Sundays at 10.30am

**Ettington Quaker Meeting**

Old Halford Rd, Ettington  
Meeting for Worship:  
Sundays at 11am

**Sibford Quaker Meeting**

Sibford Gower Meeting  
for Workshop:  
Sundays at 10.30am

**Stour Valley Baptist Church  
at Shipston High School**

**Christmas Eve 4pm Family Christingle Service**  
followed by mulled wine and mince pies

**Christmas Day 10am short family service**  
bring and show some of the goodies you got!  
at Shipston High School

*our normal services are at 10.30am every Sunday at the High School*

**Contacting the churches**

For contact details for the local churches, please see 'Useful Contacts' on page 15

**News from St Edmund's**

We are in the process of appointing a new Rector of the Shipston Benefice, which includes St. Edmunds, Shipston, with Tidmington, All Saints' Honington and St. James the Great, Idlicote. Unfortunately, the appointment process is a long one and we do not expect to appoint a new Rector until early 2013.

Meanwhile as the Advent and Christmas season draws nearer, we would like to reassure you that life at all the Churches continues as normal. Rev Jill Tucker, along with Rev Mike Harris and the other members of the ministry team, has taken over much of the day-to-day duties of the parish churches, and can be called upon for the normal Baptisms, Weddings and Funeral enquiries.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the churches who has not been for a while or perhaps have never been to a Sunday morning service (times and dates can be found on your local church notice board). Coffee and biscuits are served after the St Edmunds 10 am service. We especially look forward to welcoming everyone to the Advent and Christmas services, details of which are above.

## Shipston Arts and Crafts Society

The Society met in October to hear Dr Richard Yeomans talk on Islamic Architecture. In fact, Dr Yeomans spoke of the history of the Islamic religion and culture, illustrating with slides of the mosques and citadels built by the people over the centuries.

The faith was started by Mohammed, born in 400 AD, beginning in Mecca - the world's oldest and biggest trading centre. It is still the main place of pilgrimage today for all Muslims. The faith spread across the Middle East, Far East, Asia, into China and even southern Spain, splitting into factions and diversifying, creating the beautiful buildings seen today.

The Arabian people were traders and travellers, not builders, so most of the buildings, either in stone, clay or bricks, were built by Roman, Greek and Byzantine craftsmen, leaving their influence on the varying designs. A mosque was a place of worship and refuge for the travelling people. A citadel is even greater and would also be a place of learning, teaching the Muslim faith and care for the sick.

In Spain the Islamic faith was replaced by the Christian faith, leaving behind the famous Alhambra of Granada as one of the buildings of Arabesque influence. The lecture was a dual learning evening of both the faith and architectural heritage of the Muslim people, which we found most interesting. There is no meeting in December.

## Stour Valley Lions

It's been a very busy time for Stour Valley Lions. On Remembrance Sunday, Lions provided road traffic control for the town's Annual British Legion Parade, following a request from the British Legion. In addition to manning the road barriers Lion President John Cavana also laid a wreath on behalf of Stour Valley Lions.



On the 10th November, Townsend Hall was turned into "Ascot Racecourse" for a Lions fundraising evening. Generous sponsorship from local shops and businesses in the Stour Valley community ensured there was much laughter for the Owners, riders and race goers. The themed race meeting produced close run races by the riders who made the evening a great success, guiding their charges down the course. Lady race-goers joined the 'Ascot Hat parade' wearing flamboyant creations to set the mood during the evening.

## Donations

At the Lions' December meeting, donations will be presented to organisations in the community, including: - Shipston Home Nursing, Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance, Shipston Education Charity. In addition, a donation will be given to Shipston High School to enable the Police to hold a "Prison, Me, No Way" presentation day for the benefit of the student's.

Stour Valley Lions wishes everyone a very Merry Xmas.

## Shipston Music Society: October concert



The 4th annual orchestral concert of the Shipston Music Society's was held in the Townsend Hall on Friday 19th October. This popular concert was performed to a sell out audience by the Orchestra of the Swan, accompanied this year by the orchestra's Chamber Choir and conducted by their artistic director David Curtis.

The evening commenced with "Crisantemi" (The Chrysanthemums) a short, but hard to play piece, written in a single night by Puccini in 1890 in response to the death of Duke Amedeo of Savoy. It was performed by the Orchestras strings section with their usual great passion.

"Centuries of Meditation" was commissioned by the Three Choirs Festival and first performed this year. Written by Dobrinka Tabakova, the young British/Bulgarian composer it is a setting of the words by the 17th Century mystic Thomas Traherne which inspired Tom Denny's four stained glass windows in the Audley Chapel of Hereford Cathedral. The orchestra and choirs performance of this work, like the burnished reds, gold and greens of the window, positively glowed, with superb performances from the soloist's soprano Suzannah Pemberton and bass Simon Oberst. Faure's "Requiem" concluded the evening's programme, a unique work, concentrating on the serene and peaceful acceptance of death as rest.

Dr Brian Hudson thanked the Orchestra and the Choir for their superb performance. The society is looking forward to working with the orchestra again next year with their production of Noye's Fludde.

The next meeting is Friday 14th December and will be the Burford Chamber Choir. For details contact Clare Faulkes on 01608 663207.

## New Adult Tennis Sessions available



New adult tennis sessions are now being held at Shipston Tennis Club and Shipston High School. If you fancy picking up a racquet, ladies coaching is available from 9:30am to 11am on Wednesdays with adult improvers from 7:30-8:30pm, both at the Tennis Club. For the energetic amongst you, Cardio Tennis takes place on Fridays at 10-11am.

For a great Men's Cardio Tennis session, head to Shipston High School on Tuesdays from 7-8pm.

Both cardio sessions are about getting fit and having fun. Prior tennis experience is not essential!

1hr classes £40.50/members or £51/non members for 6 weeks. 1.5hr classes cost £60.75/members or £76.50/non members for 6 weeks.

Places are limited and pre-booking essential. Please email [s.bunting@tennisolutions.co.uk](mailto:s.bunting@tennisolutions.co.uk) or call/text 07757 538325 for further information.

**Shipston Dementia Resource Café**

Having heard about the medical aspects of dementia and the medications prescribed by GPs at the September meeting, the theme for the remainder of the Autumn Programme at the Shipston Dementia Resource Café has been Complementary Therapies. Our speaker at the October meeting was one of the volunteers at the Café, Margaret Wilson MFHT, who spoke of the value of physical contact in communicating with people with dementia. Margaret demonstrated a simple hand massage, which can convey re-assurance, empathy and support and bring a soothing calmness to the recipient.

At the November Café we enjoyed the benefits of Reminiscence Therapy, our memories being stimulated into action by 'trigger' objects which had been brought along by Shirley Warrington from the Warwickshire Reminiscence Action Project (WRAP). Shirley explained that the process of thinking and talking about past experiences can make people feel valued and respected, it gives them a chance to escape from everyday problems and, in a group setting, can create links with other people and forge new friendships. Triggers used should aim to stimulate the senses of sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch, and also movement which can help with co-ordination.

The next Café on 7th December will be a social event. For more information contact Barbara Smith, 01608 662433.

**Shipston-on-Stour WI**



November means the Annual General Meeting when the past year is reviewed and new Officers and Committee are appointed. 2012 has been an eventful year for Shipston WI – Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, the Olympics and the Branch's own 90th birthday have meant a lot of extra work and planning but it has been worth it!

In her retiring speech Eileen Mitchell reflected that the WI plays a greater part in the life of the Town now than it has since the 1970s, which is greatly to Eileen's credit because she has been the driving force. All but two of the Committee have retired and a new Committee formed. Eileen has retired after three years as President and her place has been taken by Christine Watkins. Christine has been Vice-President of the Branch and will prove an excellent President. Secretary Mal Lawrence and Treasurer Joan Darvell will be missed and as will other members of the Committee. At the moment Shipston WI is in need of a Secretary!

There is concern about the condition of documents about the Town and Parish which were created in the 1970s and 80s. Warwickshire Public Record Office has recognised their historic value and has offered to store them in optimum conditions and help with their conservation. They will be available to researchers and interested parties but remain the property of Shipston WI.

David Howe gave an entertaining talk on the growth of Festivals around the country, and the Edinburgh Festival in particular. The Edinburgh Fringe has seen the launch of many showbiz careers.

Our Christmas Party on 5th December is the next meeting .

**SCAN**



What a great time we had, and such a laugh! Oh, sorry, did you miss it? It was Saturday, 20th October when Shipston SCAN (Senior Citizens Action Network) hosted the screening of the film 'Ping Pong', after which the audience, inspired by the theme of keeping fit, active and competitive in later life, and suitably refreshed, had a go themselves on the table tennis tables. The equipment was provided by the High School and some members of the Youth Club joined us for a bit of intergenerational sport. Someone even suggested it would be good to have a Table Tennis session on a regular basis, perhaps at the Townsend Hall ... anyone fancy taking on this project? We are very grateful to Jan Roberts and Paul Chapman of Stratford District Council for their work behind the scenes and on the day and to West Midlands Later Life Forum who helped with sponsorship.

If you would like to know more about Shipston SCAN please contact Hilary Kelly, Membership Secretary, (01608 662491), who will add your details to our mailing list. Membership is free – it just means that you will receive advance notification of our bi-monthly meetings, reports of previous meetings and information relevant to your age (50+).

**Shipston Home Nursing**



SHN 2012 Christmas Cards are now on sale featuring 6 new designs.

Available to buy in all the usual outlets and medical centres or direct from Rebecca , the cards cost £5.50 for a pack of 10. To see the images please visit [www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk](http://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk)

**Probus**



During October, the Club had two most interesting speakers. Graham Sutherland, Warwick's Town Crier spoke about fakes forgers and frauds, mostly during the Victorian period. Of all the examples, the most amazing was Horatio Bottomley, Bottomley started off life in an orphanage and got away with property frauds, horse racing scams, became an MP and in 1918 made money from war bonds.

Gillian Cane returned to finish her tales of "Life in the Army" with some very amusing incidents. There is no doubt she lived a very charmed existence at a time when there were very few women officers particularly in infantry regiments.

However, the highlight of the month was a visit to the Morgan Car Factory in Malvern. There is no moving production line and the whole factory appears to be chaotic with engines, axles and other components lying around. The cars are truly hand built with each one to an individual order.

A new and exciting car is a three-wheeler based on the original concept but costing \$30,000, which must have a limited market.

## Proud of My Town

### **Katharine House Hospice benefits from local commitment**

Shipston residents, Grace and Roy Tanner, have recently featured in the Katharine House Hospice Newsletter in recognition of their sterling fundraising efforts for the charity, raising over £1,500. Between them, Roy and Grace have provided 30 years worth of support, including Grace's 12 years managing the charity's shop in Sheep Street.

The couple can regularly be found out and about raising funds, whether through entertaining shoppers with Roy's mechanical organ, selling homemade jams and cakes or holding coffee mornings. Scott Bloomfield, Retail trading manager for the hospice, said "Without volunteers like the Tanners, our shops would not be as successful as they are."



### **In the pink!**

The Think Pink coffee morning, in aid of Breast Cancer charities, raised an incredible £980. Huge thanks go to Dolly Smith who made the event possible, supported by fellow volunteers, including Jackie Warner and Melanie Trapp. Thanks also go to everyone who attended and helped to raise such a fantastic sum.

### **Wedding bells**

Shipston Town Council would like to congratulate councillor Alan Noyce on his marriage to Pat Cox. We wish the happy couple a wonderful future together.

### **Leaf litter**

Sandra Benfield, a trader from Church Street would like to thank Fred Holtom for sweeping up the leaves.

### **Ellen Badger Xmas Visit**

Stour Valley Lions attend the Ellen Badger with Santa every year, to brighten up the day of the nurses and inpatients spending Xmas in hospital. This year is no exception and plans are well underway to get Santa there with a bag of goodies. Well done Lions!

## Readers' Letters

### **Letter from Shipston Sports Club**

Shipston Sports Club Ltd would like to extend their grateful thanks to the people who made their Bonfire Night on 2nd November such a success:

Our Mayor and Town Crier for opening the event and lighting our bonfire; Scobie & Nick for building another fantastic bonfire and all the other willing helpers on the night; and most especially to the wonderful townspeople of Shipston-on-Stour, who came along to support our event and made it a great success again.

Congratulations to Mr M Harris, winner of the top raffle prize - a Hot Air Balloon Ride. We hope he and all the other raffle winners enjoy their prizes.

We look forward to welcoming you all back next year.

### **Letter from Rev Jill Tucker, St Edmund's Church**

We have launched a Food Bank in Shipston to help those who need help filling their cupboards during a time of crisis. We would be very grateful for any food donations from residents, particularly tinned items such as tinned fruit, vegetables, meat pies, fish, soups and puddings. Other long life items such as UHT Milk or dried milk, long life fruit juice, sugar, tea, coffee, jam, biscuits, rice, pasta and cereals are also very welcome.

If you can spare any of these or similar items, please drop them in at St Edmund's Church or contact me on 01295 688 193.

### **Letter from the Townsend Hall Management Committee**

The Management Committee of the Townsend Hall would like to take this opportunity, as the festive season approaches, to thank all the organisations and local residents who have supported events at the hall this year.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### **Letter from Martin Ferrier**

I believe there are issues arising from the report into the Shottery planning decision which affect Shipston. The District Council does not appear to have a Draft Core Strategy (the local plan) which stands up to appeal by developers because it is inconsistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

Up to 50% more houses will be needed to satisfy the requirements of the NPPF, that is 3-4,000 more! Actual delivery is already nearly 1,000 houses behind. There will be pressure on Shipston to accommodate even more houses than currently predicted. Shipston can cope with 300 more houses only if at the same time it negotiates for significant improvement in the sustainability of Shipston. To resist more houses you need to demonstrate that Shipston is not sustainable.

We need a rethink on the town's relationships with the County Council, District Council, and developers.

Firstly the town council should go through the NPPF and find out objectively where the town stands with respect to sustainability. Secondly it should accelerate the developments of parts of the neighbourhood plan such as sustainability, transport, and housing location, creating an abbreviated plan. We need leverage now in negotiations with the District Council as they struggle to develop an acceptable local plan.

## Got something to say?

Send your letter of up to 200 words to [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org)  
Letters may be edited to fit space the available.

**District Council update**

The District Council is reviewing its planning policies, following the planning Inspectors decision allowing the Shottery housing development to take place. The Inspector said that the Core Strategy should allow for the building of 11,000 to 12,000 houses in the district between 2008 and 2028, instead of the 8,000 proposed by the council's Cabinet. At the time of writing we are not sure what the impact of this will be on Shipston but I do think it will be some time before there are approved planning policies in place that could be a defence against large scale developments here and elsewhere. The NPPF does of course stress that any new development should be 'sustainable'.



Preparations for a Shipston Neighbourhood Plan are progressing. I have been asked to be a member of the steering group that is going to oversee this valuable project. I am very happy to join this body and help to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan is developed in a fair and representative manner and that the views of all Shipston residents are heard and taken into account when considering the future development of Shipston.

I understand that the planning application for a 2,500 sq. metre supermarket, 130 Extra Care houses, 50 market houses and a petrol station in the fields off the Campden Road is now likely to go to planning committee in the new year. I am still maintaining my objection to this developer-led proposal.

**Richard Cheney**  
 t: 01608 685570  
 e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

**This column will alternate between Richard Cheney and the new district councillor to be elected on the 29th November**

**County Council update**

**Remembrance Sunday**

I write just after the Annual Service of remembrance, but before the elections for a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).



There were concerns that Police might not support the parade in Shipston, which cannot take place without traffic control. Councillors had worked behind the scenes to maintain a Police presence and I was pleased to see them in action. Our new PCC will be asked to maintain the budget for this type of work.

**Bus services**

Operating both sides of the County Boundary, services 50 and 50A are subsidised by both Warwickshire and Oxfordshire County Councils.

Oxfordshire's relationship with Stagecoach has led to Sunday service changes on the number 50 to Oxford via Long Compton. There are no changes to the service 50A to Brailes and Banbury.

There will now be four buses, each Sunday, direct to Oxford and four back. I'm sorry for the short notice, but I only learned about the changes a few days before they were introduced on 11th November.

**Community Links transport**

We have lost the funding for our local service where the public could book a Community Links vehicle for the price of a bus fare and this service is at risk. Sadly it costs over £100,000 a year to maintain across the District for less than 350 regular users, so we will look at more innovative ways of helping those who are isolated through lack of transport.

**Councillor Chris Saint**

County Councillor – Shipston-on-Stour Division  
 t: 01608 662290  
 e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Shipston Medical Centre**

**Christmas Opening Hours & accessing help during the Christmas period**

The Surgery will be open at the following times over the Christmas and New Year period:

- Mon 24th Dec: 8am – 1pm & 2:30pm – 4pm (the Duty Doctor will be available on call until 6:30pm)
- Tue 25th Dec: CLOSED
- Wed 26th Dec: CLOSED
- Thur 27th Dec: 8am – 6:30pm
- Fri 28th Dec: 8am – 6:30pm
- Mon 31st Dec: 8am – 6:30pm
- Tue 1st Jan: CLOSED

If you find yourself unwell over the Christmas period consider speaking to a local pharmacist who will be able to offer advice on healthy lifestyles and common ailments. Details of the pharmacies open over the Christmas period will be available online at [www.coventrypct.nhs.uk/default](http://www.coventrypct.nhs.uk/default)

and will also be on display in the local pharmacies.



Additionally you can call the GP Out of Hours Service. The Out of Hours Service has a GP at the Ellen Badger Hospital in the mornings each weekend and on each bank holiday (including Christmas Day). Appointments should be made by calling 0300 130 30 40. The Out of Hours Service will also visit if needed and offer telephone advice.

The Ellen Badger Hospital minor injuries unit, open between 7:30am and 9pm, is available to assist with minor injuries such as cuts, bruises and small burns.

Please do not attend A&E unless it is an emergency or you have had an accident. Instead, please access help from one of the other services above.

**Happy Christmas from all the partners and staff at Shipston Medical Centre**

**Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845**

## Your Town Councillors



**Fay Ivens, Town Mayor**  
*Proud Campaign chair*  
 t: 01608 662133  
 e: fayivens@aol.com



**Veronica Murphy, Deputy Mayor**  
*Communications group chair*  
 t: 01608 664518  
 e: veronica.murphy123@btinternet.com



**Ian Cooper**  
*Finance group chair*  
 t: 01608 663785  
 e: ian@piruk.com



**Brian Healey**  
 t: 07773 337134  
 e: brian.healey@hotmail.co.uk



**Arthur Ivens**  
 t: 01608 662133  
 e: fayivens@aol.com



**Adrian Jelf**  
 t: 01608 663092  
 e: adrianjelf@me.com



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

### 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 01865 600262 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](http://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.



**Alan Noyce**  
*General Purposes Group Chair*  
 t: 01608 661754  
 e: alanhubertnoyce@hotmail.com



**Paul Rathkey**  
*Staffing group chair*  
 t: 01608 664141  
 e: rathersandco@tiscali.co.uk



**Philip Vial**  
*Planning group chair*  
 t: 01608 666275  
 e: ppjvial@googlemail.com



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



**Jackie Warner**  
 t: 07717 391234



**Mark Wildish**  
 t: 01608 238256  
 e: mark.wildish@talktalk.net

### Useful Contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 294491
Shipston Library:	01608 661255
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Forum	01865 600262
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
- Out of hours	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Town Council	01608 662180
Shipston Recycling Centre	01608 663560
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
<b>Local police (non emergency)</b>	<b>101</b>
PC Richard Grove (Beat Manager)	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
<b>Churches of Shipston:</b>	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01295 688193
Methodist Church	01608 661843



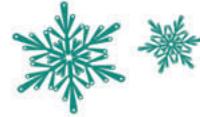
SHIPSTON ROTARY

# Victorian Evening

*fun for all the family*

with special guests

Paralympic Gold Medalist James Roe  
and Olympic Torchbearer Camilla Hadland



*Tree of Life*

visit

## Father Christmas in his grotto

- MARKET STALLS • FIRE EATER
  - PIG ROAST • PUNCH AND JUDY •
  - UKELELE BAND • FACE PAINTING
  - DIAMOND JUBILEE THEMED
- BEST DRESSED WINDOWS** and much more.

# SHIPSTON TOWN CENTRE 7 DECEMBER 2012

## 6 PM – 8 PM



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Charity Commission No: 1035894