



# Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

May 2012

## All things Woolly and Wonderful as Sheep Wash Town celebrates its roots

Now in its 4th year, the Shipston Wool Fair promises to be a great day out in celebration of the town's sheep heritage.

Taking place in the High Street on Sunday, 27th May, the highlight of the fair will be the exhibition of sheep, including many rare breeds. Brought to the fair with long coats, they will leave after being shorn by expert shearers, Alan Scorer and Alice Hutchins, with traditional shearing methods demonstrated alongside the more modern electrical cutters. To inject a competitive spirit, the audience will be invited to guess the time taken to shear a sheep.

This year's event will also offer visitors the unique opportunity to add a piece of their own history by including some of their work in a modern day tapestry that is being woven to celebrate the Wool Fair. Designed by Ros Lobb of the Stratford Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers, the tapestry will depict the wonderful landscape which surrounds Shipston, including the famous River Stour, where sheep were once brought to be washed, and many of Shipston's prominent buildings.

The day's entertainment will include a musical line up that is sure to please all tastes, from Morris dancing and Gypsy dancing to busking slots, brass bands and jazz quartets.

## The Wool Fair Issue

Also on show will be the Hook Norton Brewery heavy horses, vintage tractors, children's games and a variety of stalls. If that's not enough, Shipston's independent retailers will be offering plenty of opportunities for retail therapy and tasty treats.

The Shipston Wool Fair is free to attend and runs from 10am to 4pm, so don't miss your chance for a fabulous family day out on your doorstep.



Photo courtesy of Philip Vial

## Happy birthday – Shipston Town Band celebrates its centenary

On Saturday 19th May, Shipston Town Band celebrates its 100th birthday, with a march through the town, followed by a short concert in the High Street at 7pm.

Shipston Band was formed when Charles Holman, a former military bandmaster, moved into the town and accepted a bet with local auctioneer, Frank Parsons, that in the space of six weeks he could train a band from scratch fit to march through the streets of Shipston. On Thursday May 16th 1912, Shipston Band gave its first public performance. The 19-strong band marched up West Street along Darlingscote Road and down Sheep Street returning to the High Street - the route that today's Shipston Band will re-enact. Charles Holman was judged to have won his bet and the band has been in existence ever since.

Turn to page six for news of further centenary celebrations.



## Don't forget to vote!

See page 15 for details



## Mayor's column

I want to use my final Mayor's column to pay tribute to my fellow councillors, particularly the two who are leaving us next month, Dot Courtney and Simon Welch.



During my mayoral year, a number of high profile issues have arisen which have attracted the attention of the local media, but these are merely the tip of the iceberg. 90% of what councillors do goes unnoticed by the press and probably unnoticed by many in the town.

Dot has chaired our Planning Group for a number of years. Most of the group's work involves ploughing through hundreds of small applications, visiting the sites and recommending a position to the Council. It is time consuming but nonetheless necessary.

Simon is our departing chairman of the General Purposes Group, which has the highest workload of all the council's working parties. Its remit includes street light surveys, overseeing grass cutting and general maintenance and working with voluntary organisations which contribute to the appearance of the town, among many other actions.

The Council should be the 'watchdog' of the town – pushing and prodding the bigger local authorities to do what's best for Shipston. Dot and Simon are excellent examples of how to do this job and I would like to sincerely thank them for the contribution they have made to Shipston in recent years.

We have four new councillors joining us from May. I welcome them and look forward to their making a contribution to the public life of the town.

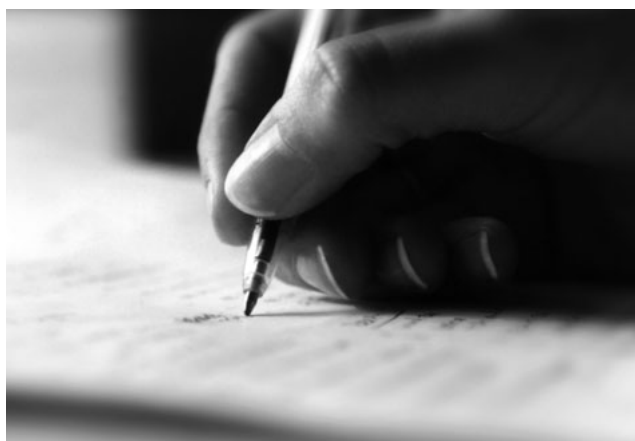
I'm bowing out as Mayor but will continue to play an active role on the Council. I wish my successor an enjoyable and perhaps a somewhat quieter year than the one I have had!

**Paul Rathkey**  
Town Mayor

## Interested in a Shipston post service? Read on...

Last month, prices for 1st Class stamps for standard letters rose from 46p to 60p while standard 2nd class stamps rose to 50p. These rises could impact residents, particularly those on low incomes, local businesses and those without access to email.

In light of these concerns, local resident, Richard Adams, wants to hear from any residents and businesses who would value a weekly local (Shipston town only) postal service which he is prepared to organise, either as a small commercial venture and/or involving local charities/groups.



Richard recognises it could be complicated to set up but believes it is worth considering: "The logistics and costs are bound to be complicated but are easily surmountable, especially if there is a decent volume of letters to deal with. The core services provided by the Post Office are highly valued and that won't change, but in tough economic times, an additional local delivery service might help," he said.

The service is likely to need at least 300 regular users, with post being collected from a central point once a week, costing approximately 20p per item. To express interest, please contact Richard at 46 Hawthorn Way, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4FD. T: 662328/07961452182 or email: richardadams5@hotmail.com

## Shipston Library announces new opening hours

Shipston Library is now operating new opening hours as follows:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
9:30-12:30	9:30-12:30 13:30-17:30	Closed	9:30-12:30 13:30-17:30	Closed	9:30-12:30	Closed

As a Warwickshire Direct library, in addition to borrowing Books, DVDs and using public access computers, residents can access a range of WCC Council Services including Concessionary Parking Badges & Concessionary Bus Tickets, plus Warwickshire Police Services including crime and incident reporting, lost and found and access to the Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team.

There's plenty on offer for children too such as Rhyme Time for the Under 2s on alternate Tuesday mornings and Story Stomp for 2-5s on the 1st Thursday morning each month, both of which are free. For details call 01608 661255

## Protect your property against sneak-in burglaries

Warwickshire Police is advising residents not to make it easy for burglars to sneak in through insecure doors and patio windows during good weather.

George Stepney, Community Protection Manager for Warwickshire Police, said, "As soon as the warm weather arrives we notice an increase in the number of sneak in burglaries where householders have forgotten to lock their doors or conservatory windows.

"People must get in to the habit of checking that all their doors and windows are locked when they go to bed or go out. They should also keep house keys and car keys in a secure place which is out of view from anyone looking through the window into the house," he advised.



## April's hot topics

**Rickety bridge:** Fay Ivens raised concerns about a wooden bridge on the public footpath near Fell Mill, which Warwickshire County Council (WCC) will look into.

**Parish Poll:** The results of the Parish Poll concluded that there should be a meeting to discuss the town council's purchase of the police station. Less than 2% of the population turned out to vote. The matter will be raised at the Annual Town Meeting and an open day to enable residents to view the new building and ask questions will take place in due course.

**Sheldon Bosley Hub bins:** The recycling bins at the Hub are still being used by individuals to dump household waste. If the problem continues, CCTV footage from the site will be viewed in an attempt to identify the culprit(s).

**Police phone:** Shipston Town Council (STC) will investigate whether Warwickshire Police would be happy to reinstall the police phone at the former police station.

**Distant polling station:** STC will write to the Returning Officer at Stratford District Council to request that the polling station be moved to a more central site within the town.

## Campaigning for Shipston

**Sports Club football field:** The club has been asked to vacate the land which it has been using for over a decade to train young footballers. County, district and town councillors have all offered to support the Sports Club in its endeavours to retain use of the land. STC will write to the current landowner to encourage them to open negotiations with the Sports Club.

**Housing needs survey:** STC agreed to go ahead with a Housing Needs Survey, which will be conducted among existing local residents by Warwickshire Rural Community Council.

**Neighbourhood plan go ahead:** STC has agreed to spend up to £2,000 on a scoping study in preparation for producing a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood plans are designed to enable local communities to influence planning decisions within their area. The plan is not about opposing development but guiding it so that future developments are community-led rather than developer-led. The public will be involved and further details will be shared when known.

**Protecting retail space:** STC has objected to the proposed change of use for the old toyshop building in the High Street to be converted from retail space to an estate agency in order to protect retail space in the town.

## Town Council business

**Road drain survey:** STC has identified 102 drains needing attention. WCC has been notified and STC will track their progress in dealing with the blocked drains.

**New home:** The Mayor led thank to Georgina Beaumont, Liz Jaworska, Fay Ivens, Arthur Ivens, Simon Welch, Richard Jaworska, Stefan Wisniewski and Ronnie Murphy for working so hard to make it possible for the council to hold its first meeting in its new home (yet to be named).

**A sad farewell:** The Mayor led heartfelt thanks to Simon Welch and Dot Courtney for all their hard work and support while members of the town council. They will be sorely missed.

**Planning policy guidance:** STC agreed to consult the National Association of Local Councils for best practice guidance on working with developers after members of the public raised concerns that some meetings with developers have been held privately, with no formal records available to the public.

**2011/12 budget on track:** STC's budget is expected to be in line with expectations except for savings made in the staff budget as someone who left was not replaced.

For full details of the items discussed  
at the Town Council's meeting in April,  
download the minutes at [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

## Clark House news

### Design Statement consultation



Shipston Town Council has been creating a Design Statement to guide future development in the town. The draft statement has been informed by the public workshops which took place last year.

The Design Statement is not about supporting or objecting to future development, but about giving suggestions on what design features we, as local residents, might like to see when such developments happen. Stratford District Council will give some weight to the Design Statement when deciding on planning applications.

Public consultation on the draft statement will begin on Tuesday 8th May and last for two weeks. The exhibition will be based at Shipston Library and there will be a questionnaire to fill in. The questionnaire will also be available from the Town Council. If you represent an organisation and would like to distribute copies amongst your members, please contact the office on 662180.

For further information about the Design Statement, please contact Councillor Philip Vial on 07595 362637.

### Thank you!

A big 'thank you' to all those allotment-holders who have paid their annual fees. We had a great response to the reminder in last month's Forum and appreciate the prompt payments. There are still a few who have not yet paid and we'd be grateful if you could pop in to settle your fees as soon as possible.

**Georgina Beaumont**  
Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180

e: [clerk@shipstononline.org](mailto:clerk@shipstononline.org)

## Students raise funds for missing people

A group of students at Shipston High School has presented a cheque for the significant sum of £1,151 to national charity, 'Missing People', having raised the money completely on their own initiative.

The Year 11 students have been led by Head Prefect, Kate Higginson, along with fellow Head Prefect, Alex Chance, and Deputy Head Prefects, Lizzie Simcock and Samantha Warner. They chose 'Missing People', having been inspired by its chief executive, Martin Houghton-Brown (ex-head boy at Shipston High). The charity aims to help people who go missing and to support them as well as their families.

The students set themselves the target of raising £1,000 and organised a range of fundraising events including a sponsored 'Walk a Mile' and designing and selling 'Missing People' wristbands. They also enlisted the support of Shipston Primary School, which raised £136 for the cause.

Kate Higginson said, "We're really pleased to have reached our £1,000 target, especially this early in the year! We're also very grateful for the support we have had."

Reflecting on their achievement, Shipston High Headteacher, Jonathan Baker, said, "The students have done brilliantly. Impressive too has been the way the rest of the school has got involved. Our senior students are an amazing group of young people and they have my total admiration."



## Sip, smile, snap – a coffee morning with a difference!

If you have always wanted a professional family photo or your children caught on camera in 'angelic' mode, now is your chance. Professional photographer, Richard Sampson, of Lens Media, is inviting Shipston residents to head down to the next Diamond Jubilee Crew Coffee Morning to have their portrait caught on film – or disc in this case.

To help raise money for the Jubilee celebrations taking place in June, Richard will be setting up a mini studio and taking single and/or family photos in exchange for a donation. The results will be provided on a disc that can be printed off at home, at a photo shop (such as Boots) or via an online photo printing service.

If you want to make the most of this opportunity, head to the Townsend Hall on 12th May between 10am and 1pm. There is no fixed price for the photos but the suggested minimum donation is £10.00. All money raised will go to the Jubilee fund.

## Table top totals £400 for Cubs and Beavers

Shipston Cubs and Beavers would like to thank all the parents and supporters who got involved in their table-top sale on Saturday 14th April.

Cubs and Beavers "did their best", joining in and manning stalls including the Tombola, Toy sales, books and knitwear. Over £400 was raised to help fund the group's planned mini-camp in the grounds of Warwick Castle in September.

Martin Castle, Cub Scout Leader, extended his thanks to all the local businesses which supported the sale: "We would like to thank all our generous supporters including the Co-op, Taste of the Country, the Party Shop, Rightons, By Chance, the Post Office, Sheldons Wines, the Lavender Basket and John Lyne."

## Rugby Minis enjoy success on tour

Shipston Rugby Club's U10s Team (pictured) A has emerged victorious following a very successful International Minis Rugby Tour in Oswestry, in which all the club's teams played exceptionally well. One hundred players and a further 150 supporters travelled to the festival with players from the U7s to U12s taking part.

The different age groups played several matches throughout the weekend and still found energy to enjoy the evening entertainment.

All the players played wonderful rugby for the whole weekend and should be very proud. Shipston's U7's 'A' came 2nd with the 'B' team coming 4th. U8's 'A' and 'B' came joint 5th. U9's came 3rd. U10's team 'A' came 1st with the 'B' team coming 5th. U11's came 2nd and finally the U12's came 3rd.

Tom Jervis, Chairman of Minis and Junior Rugby, said "I would like to thank everyone involved for a very successful tour and especially to U10's for bringing home the winners' cup and the U7 & 11 for their runners up cups. Our trophy cabinet is looking pretty impressive. Well done!"



## Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



### Last places for September 2012

The last few places are available for children starting school in September 2012. Please contact the school on 01608 66 12 66 to arrange an appointment to view the school and meet the Headteacher.

### Brave adventurers

Kayaking, zip wiring, abseiling and an assault course were just some of the exhilarating activities that Year 5 pupils took part in during their three-day residential course to Manor Adventure in Powys, Wales.

As well as stretching participants physically and mentally, Manor Adventure supports children to develop life skills for the future. These skills include team building, leadership, problem solving, communication, inner confidence and responsibility.



The children from Shipston Primary were superbly behaved and embraced every challenge, finishing the course with a true sense of personal achievement.

"The staff and I were very proud of the pupils as they challenged themselves in every activity, often surprising themselves with their hidden abilities and fearless determination," said Christian Hilton, Head of Federation.

### Model students

Pupils downed their pencils and pens in favour of hammers and chisels when internationally renowned sculptor Jude Tucker visited Shipston Primary School recently.

Jude is best known in Shipston for her sheep sculpture which takes pride of place in the Mill Street gyratory. She is also making waves on an international scale having won the Bernard Noble Prize for sculpture and will soon have her winning design 'Wavespell' on display in Colletta, Italy.

During her workshop with Year 3 pupils, Jude took the children through the creative process of designing, making a maquette, selecting stone and carving.

The children tried their hand at stone carving, using chisels, hammers, rasps and callipers and described the whole experience as "awesome".

Head of Federation, Christian Hilton, said: "We are extremely grateful to Jude Tucker, whose enthusiasm and talent is infectious. Judging by our students' creations and marvellous thank you letters, Jude's visit has made a lasting impression."

## Shipston High School

### Academy Status

Following a series of meetings and having weighed up the pros and cons of the school becoming an academy, the Governing Body has finally resolved that the school should convert to academy status on 1st September 2012. Mr Bob Armstrong, the school's Deputy Chair of Governors with responsibility for leading the governors' working group, summed up the decision: "I believe the unanimous recommendation to convert provides Shipston High School with the opportunity to control its own future. By building on the success which the school is already achieving, as an academy the school will have the capability to further enhance the opportunities for achievement for all its students."

### Admissions

Last year, the school was oversubscribed for places from within its own priority catchment area for the first time. For September 2012, demand has increased again. The school's annual admission number is 77 but for the past two years it has admitted 90 students into Year 7. After careful consideration of the impact a growth in numbers may have, the school has decided to increase its intake to over 100, which still leaves a lengthy waiting list. This means that within the last few years the school will have grown from under 300 students to well over 400.



### Teacher qualifies for top European sporting event against the odds

As the Forum went to press, a teacher at Shipston High School was preparing to represent Great Britain in her age group for the 2012 European Triathlon Championship being held in Eilat, Israel in April.

Yvonne Caswell, who teaches Science at the school underwent a serious operation on her back six months ago, necessitating a specialist operation which left her housebound during a long period of recovery. Yvonne took up the triathlon event just over a year ago and initially achieved her place after finishing second in the major qualifying event prior to her injury. This will be the first time Yvonne has competed abroad, swimming 750m in the Red Sea, cycling 20k and then running 5k.

On her remarkable road to recovery and success, Yvonne said, "I'm partially doing this for all the wonderful medical staff who treated me. I feel very excited and nervous about competing against so many top European athletes in Israel but I also feel immensely proud to be part of the Great Britain Team."





## Plans well underway for the 2012 Shipston Proms

Plans are progressing well for this year's Shipston Proms, which will run from 15th to 30th June. Once again it promises to offer a varied programme to suit all tastes.

The Proms will begin with the annual 'Fame' contest, and the hunt is already on for entrants. Musicians, singers and bands can all take part as long as they are aged over 10. The winner of each category will have the opportunity to play to the crowds in the High Street on 30th June, the evening of the main bands concert!

The headline band this year will be 'The Selector, featuring Pauline Black and Gaps Hendrickson', with supporting bands. In addition, back by public demand after their performance on the main stage last year will be the Texan Peacocks, who will perform on 22nd June at the Townsend Hall.

Shipston Proms is dependent on local support and the organisers are keen to hear from anyone willing to consider sponsorship opportunities. For details, please contact Tim Porter on 01608 685332, or Richard Taylor on 01608 661511.

For more information, visit [www.shipstonproms.org](http://www.shipstonproms.org)



*Texan Peacocks performing at last year's proms*

## Buy one, get four free as Confusions comes to Shipston

Shipston Dramatic Society is to present not one, but five plays in their forthcoming production 'Confusions' by Alan Ayckbourn - a set of five interlinked one-act humorous plays. Each play deals riotously with human eccentricities and the human dilemma of loneliness, but with sharply pointed undertones; five self-immolated characters on park benches, a mother unable to escape from baby talk, an unsuccessful seduction attempt, a fate-fraught dinner encounter, and finally, a disastrous fete.

See the advert on page 8 for performance details or visit [www.shipstondramagroup.org](http://www.shipstondramagroup.org)

## This month was made for walking

It's time to don your boots and get out and about. See the diary for details of the Brailles 3 Hills Walk, Rotary Cotswold Walk and Annual Bluebell Walk.

## Plant sales – ideal opportunity for competitive gardeners!

Don't miss your chance to stock up on some fantastic plants at the Shipston Home Nursing Plant Sale and the Newbold Plant Sale, both of which take place this month - ideal if you're planning to take part in the Shipston in Bloom Annual Gardening Competition.

Check out the What's On calendar for sale details. Gardening competition entry forms can be downloaded from [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org) or by calling Nicci on 665057.



## Happy Birthday, Shipston Town Band (continued from front page)

Among the centenary celebrations, the Band will be performing at this year's Shipston Proms festival alongside the Rhymney Silurian Male Voice Choir, and will be giving its "Centenary Concert" on Saturday 27th October.

Over the past one hundred years, the band has been very privileged to have a number of hard working, dedicated and experienced conductors who have taken the band to numerous competitions, including three National Brass Band Finals.

No band can afford to stand still, however, which is why the flourishing Junior Section is so important. The aim is to train young players to take their place in the senior band and ensure that what began as a result of a bet 100 years ago will still be in existence in 100 years time.

A full history of the Shipston Town Band can be found [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org).

**Regular events:**

- Mon Badminton Club:** Turn up and play from 7pm. Townsend Hall.
- Mon Zumba:** 7:45pm Shipston High School. £5. Other weekly classes also available. For details, contact Debbie, 07966 746794.
- Tues Dance with Dash:** Melody Bear classes for pre-schoolers. 10am and 10:30am. £3.30. Contact: Sarah, 641253
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays (1, 15 and 29). 10am-12pm Roman Catholic Hall. Contact: Adrian Collins, 661576
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Alternate Tuesdays (8 and 22). 10:45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Stella, 686224
- Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays (1, 15 and 29). Doors open at 6:30pm. Eyes down at 7:30. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- Weds Calypso Kids Music Classes:** 9.20am or 11am, Townsend Hall, £4.50. Contact: Emmajane Roberts 07890399162
- Weds Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136.
- 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
- 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

**May Diary**

- 1 Multiple Sclerosis Society 'Drop in' meeting:** 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161  
**SWIB (Supporting Women in Business):** Networking event. 6pm-8.30pm, The Stour Enterprise Centre. To book, contact: Simone Ryder 07749 298253
- 2 Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** 'Mummy was a Minx!!' by Janet Jarvis. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Mal Lawrence 662122  
**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 at [pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk)  
**National Organisation of the Widowed:** Lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- 3 Story Stomp:** Storytelling for 2-5 year olds. 10.30am, Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- 4 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above  
**Shipston Dementia Resource and Support Cafe:** Vitalise Holidays for Handicapped People – Sally Rugg. 2-3.30pm, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- 5 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above  
**Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or [fayivens@aol.com](mailto:fayivens@aol.com)  
**Stour Singers:** in concert with the Cherwell Orchestra. 7.30pm St Edmund's Church. Tickets £12.50 from R Clarke Electricals, choir members or on the door. Accompanied children free.
- 6 Rotary Cotswold Walk:** See ad on page 9  
**Bluebell Walk:** See page 13 for details
- 7 Brailes 3 Hills Walk:** 7 miles from village car park. 9-11am. Contact: Richard Cheney 685570.
- 8 Senior Citizens Action Network meeting (SCAN):** 'Keeping Fit – Why Bother?' by Dr. Sue Pritchard. 10-11.30am, Townsend Hall. Contact: Brian Fletcher 661308  
**Shipston & District Age Concern:** AGM. 2pm-3pm at Stour Court. Everyone welcome. Please come along if you would like to volunteer or just find out more. Contact Philip Vial 07595 362637  
**Shipston Flower Club:** Annual General Meeting. 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School, Station Road. Contact: 01295 788099  
**Stour Valley Lions Monthly Meeting:** 8 pm The George Hotel, Shipston. All welcome. Contact John Cavana 01295 722287
- 8-22 Public Consultation and Design Statement Exhibition at Shipston Library:** See Clark House News (pg 3) for details
- 9 Shipston and District Gardening Club:** 'Warwickshire Gardens Trust' by Christine Hodgetts. 7.30pm, Catholic Church, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 10 Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Committee Meeting. 7.30pm, Clark House, West Street. Contact: Mike Dobbin 664636
- 11 Shipston Primary Pamper Evening:** See ad on page 8
- 12 Shipston Home Nursing:** Plant Sale. 10am-12pm, Sheldon Bosley Hub. Free entry. Helpers appreciated. Contact: Debbie Joss 01295 680803 or 07766 072238  
**Monthly surgery:** Discuss local issues with the Town Mayor and district councillors. 10am in the High Street.  
**Strictly Shipston at Shipston High School:** See ad on page 9
- 14 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** 'Working in Romania' by Pete Melkin. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684  
**Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, former police station. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 15 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** 'Stained Glass in Oxford'. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Penny Law 663971
- 16 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above  
**National Organisation of the Widowed:** Meeting. 10.30am - 12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230  
**Shipston and District Literary Society:** Outing to Olney, a town associated with William Cowper. Contact: Mary Edwards 01789 450737
- 17-19 Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society presents 'Confusions' by Alan Ayckbourn:** See ad on page 8
- 18 Shipston Music Society:** See ad on page 10 for details  
**Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above  
**Stour Valley Lions Cinema presents War Horse:** See ad on pg 8
- 19 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above  
**Newbold Plant Sale:** See ad on page 10  
**Shipston Town Band Centenary March:** See page 1 for details
- 21 Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Monthly Social. 12.30pm, Horseshoe Inn. Contact: Mike Dobbin 664636
- 25 Chamber of Commerce Business Advice Surgeries:** Free advice sessions at Stour Enterprise Centre. To book, call 629693
- 26 Jubilee Crew Race Night:** See ad on page 9
- 27 Shipston Wool Fair:** Family fun day. See ad on back page
- 28 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Reminiscence Entertain. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 30 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above  
**Shipston Medical Centre Patient Meeting:** See pg 15 for details

**Don't forget the Wool Fair on the 27th May in Shipston High Street!**



*Come and watch some of the best bowlers in England*



# BOWLS ENGLAND

## INTERNATIONAL TRIALS

at

### NORGREN BOWLS CLUB

Pittway Avenue, Shipston on Stour

*Times 11a.m and 2.30pm each day*

Saturday 19th May	Junior Women
Sunday 20th May	Senior Women
Saturday 26th May	Junior Men
Sunday 27th May	Senior Men

**Admission FREE**      *Refreshments available*

# BOWLS ENGLAND



## STOUR VALLEY LIONS - RURAL CINEMA

DIRECTOR STEVEN SPIELBERG.  
STARRING EMILY WATSON, JEREMY IRVINE, DAVID THEWLIS.

SEPARATED BY WAR.  
TESTED BY BATTLE.  
BOUND BY FRIENDSHIP.

# WAR HORSE



Young Albert enlists to serve in World War I after his beloved horse is sold to the cavalry. Albert's hopeful journey takes him across Europe as the war rages on.

## SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 at 7:00 pm**

**Advance Tickets £3.50** (£4 on door)

From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston  
Or Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608-661148  
Raffle and Refreshments

Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society  
Present

# CONFUSIONS

By Alan Ayckbourn  
Five humorous interlinked one-act plays  
A Talk in the Park; Mother Figure; Drinking Companion;  
Between Mouthfuls; Gosforth's Fete

## Townsend Hall

Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour

**Thurs 17<sup>th</sup>, Fri 18<sup>th</sup>  
& Sat 19<sup>th</sup> May**

**Performances ~ 7.30 pm**

**Tickets ~ Thurs £5  
Fri & Sat £7**

Available from  
John Lyne Home Hardware, High Street,  
Shipston-on-Stour or on the door

# Pamper Evening

hosted by Friends of Shipston Primary

**Friday 11th May  
7pm to 10pm**

**at Shipston on Stour Primary School**  
(Station Road, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4BT)

<b>Shopping</b> jewellery, beauty and health products, handbags, cushions, handmade soaps, candles, gifts and more.	<b>Beauty</b> mini treatments including massages, facials, manicures, pedicures, foot and hand scrubs and more.
<b>Food &amp; Drink</b> alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, cupcakes and fudge.	<b>Raffle</b> fantastic prizes from the traders to win on the night.

**£4 ticket**  
(price includes welcome drink)

Tickets available from Vicki, FOSP, Tel: 07957 295028  
or on the door on the night.

All proceeds to go to Shipston on Stour Primary School



**HAVE FUN & LEARN TO DANCE @**  
**STRICTLY SHIPSTON**

**Come and help us raise money for Shipston High School**

**Saturday 12<sup>TH</sup> May @ 7pm**  
 Shipston High School  
 Alcoholic Bar for over 18's  
 Snack/ Soft drink stand  
 Raffle

**Tickets on sale before**  
 Contact Jan: 07875 059420  
 £3 for Adults  
 £2 for Students  
 Or  
 Purchase on the door  
 £3.50 for Adults  
 £2.50 for Students



**Songs of Praise and Flower Festival  
 at St Edmunds Church to celebrate  
 the Queen's Diamond Jubilee**

**COMMUNITY SONGS OF PRAISE  
 featuring Shipston Town Band  
 on Sunday June 3rd at 3pm**

Everybody is invited to join us to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on this memorable occasion

Many of the Clubs and Societies in Shipston have provided the stunning floral displays evocative of the Jewels in the Crown and are taking an active part in the Service.

After the Service Cream Teas and Homemade Cakes will be provided by Shipston on Stour W.I.

**St EDMUNDS CHURCH  
 FLOWER FESTIVAL**

St Edmunds Church will open for teas on Monday June 4th and Tuesday June 5th to give you the opportunity to admire the wonderful floral displays which will be

Evocative of the Jewels in the Crown.

  
*Shipston Jubilee Crew*  
 Presents  
**A Race Night**  
 & Ploughmans Dinner  
 In conjunction with The Lions  
**26<sup>th</sup> May 2012**  
*The Townsend Hall*  
 Doors open 7.00pm  
 Adults - £7.50  
 Children - £5.00  
 Price includes entry and dinner  
 Tickets available from Shipston Post Office  
 The Seldon Basley Hub  
 Licensed Bar

For more information, please contact us at: [shipstonjubilee@btinternet.com](mailto:shipstonjubilee@btinternet.com)  
 Or visit our website at: [www.shipstonjubileecrew.com](http://www.shipstonjubileecrew.com)



 **Rotary Club of  
 Shipston on Stour**  
[www.shipstonrotary.org.uk](http://www.shipstonrotary.org.uk) 

**Cotswold Walk**  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

**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](http://www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk)

Or contact:- Rtn Colin:  
 tel 01608 661 578  
 email:  
[colin.gatenby@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.gatenby@btinternet.com)

**Sponsors**  
  
**miles morgan  
 travel**  
 tel: 01608 663 456

In aid of St David's Church  
Newbold-on-Stour with Armscote



Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May  
10 am - 12.30 pm

# Newbold Plant Sale

St David's Churchyard

Great Variety! Great value!

Tombola Refreshments Produce Stall



Plant donations greatly appreciated  
Please contact Gilly Marsden 01789 459168  
or deliver to Church on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 3 - 7 p.m.



SHIPSTON MUSIC SOCIETY  
*Presents*

TONIA PRICE  
*Clarinet*

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm  
*Guests Welcome £5.00*

*Shipston Methodist Church*

*For Further Details Ring 01608 663207*

## Readers' letters

*Letter from Nigel Willis*

*[edited – visit Shipstononline for full details]*

I happened to be in Tesco and also, later, in Shipston on 28th March and, as a contribution to the current debate, conducted a highly unscientific shopping price check for basic items.

It seems the Midcounties are doing a great offer on spuds while both Co-ops do very well on albeit different brands of sugar but Tesco does work out cheaper on most of the items. Of course Tesco faces competition in Stratford, prices in Stow Tesco may be higher where there is little equivalent competition. Could that apply to a Shipston Tesco?

Does anyone enjoy shopping at Stratford Tesco? The same question need not be asked for Shipston.

*Letter from John Wheeler*

### Less heat, more common sense

The recent scare over petrol and diesel shortages, demonstrated perfectly the value of Shipston's local shops. Surely a show of common sense by the pro supermarket lobby, perhaps settling for another local supermarket in the town, and a demonstration of progressive thinking by the majority local traders with open minds, could still give us our shopping cake to have and to eat. Shipston has grown, lets cope with that without losing our sense of community.

## Proud of my town

### Bowled over

Congratulations to the Norgren Bowling Club. The team has won the Chipping Campden Indoor Bowl's League for the second year running. The competition is held on Tuesday nights through the autumn/winter and the Norgren team is one of the best in the Midlands.

The players are (left to right) Tom Bridgewater, Dale Gooderham, Andy Pricket, Roger Ashby, and Willy Pratt.



### Beautiful blooms

Shipston Town Council congratulated Shipston in Bloom for the wonderful daffodil displays around the town and thanked residents for their support in keeping the town looking good.



## Stour Valley WI



The March meeting was well attended with visitors and new members all welcomed by the President, Mrs P Hutton. The speaker was Mr T Bryant, Executive Chef at Studley Castle, accompanied by his wife.

Cocktail parties was the theme and a demonstration was given in the making of Canapes. Members were given recipes and shown photos of buffets. Mrs Bryant handed round delectable canapes for all to sample.

On June 13th we are to have a "Jubilee "Garden Party at the home of President. Our 'Warwickshire 2012' competition is moving well.

We meet every 2nd Wed each month at 2pm Rainbow Fields. Visitors and new members welcome.

## Shipston on Stour WI



Lady Marie Stubbs kindly spoke at our April meeting about her experiences trying to turn around failing schools. The particular school she described was St. Georges in Maida Vale where Philip Lawrence was stabbed by a pupil whilst trying to break up a fight between rival gangs at the school gates. Lady Stubbs was called in to impose order on a chaotic situation – pupils who did not speak English, children ignored by their parents, children with no parents, children who left school unable to read or write.

Faced with a failing school, she used tough love, one-to-one methods and constant, unfailing support to teachers and pupils. Lady Stubbs emphasised how teachers are sometimes under terrible stress and need support as much as the pupils. Lady Stubbs wrote a book about turning the school into a place where pupils could flourish, which is now being filmed with Julie Waters playing Lady Stubbs.

After the talk, there was much business to attend to. Several members produced six hand-worked buttonholes in the spirit of a 1922-style competition. The walks programme continues, the book club will be discussing Cranford, the drama group is busy preparing for the Diamond Jubilee and the knitting group has been producing hats for children in Northern India where it is very cold.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 2nd May - 7pm in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road.

## Women's Institute Records – a plea for help

We are missing a block of records covering the 1950s and 1960s, which of course includes the Queen's Coronation. To celebrate its 90th anniversary, Shipston WI is preparing a history dating from its foundation in 1922 and this most important section has somehow been mislaid. If, by any chance, somebody does have these important records and

they have been wondering what on earth to do with them, please telephone: Eileen Mitchell, 666933; Mal Lawrence, 662122 or Nicci Williamson, 665057.

## Correction

Please note that the WI entry included in the April edition of the Shipston Forum should have been attributed to Shipston on Stour WI, not Stour Valley WI. The editor apologises for any confusion caused.

## SCAN



Action on Hearing Loss is the new name for the Royal National Institute for Deaf People. In March, SCAN members listened to the talk given in sign language by Regional Information Officer, Henry Skinner, and interpreted expertly by his assistant, Tracey Arrowsmith.

The statistics are alarming: 6.4 million people over the age of 65 have some degree of hearing loss, from tinnitus to complete deafness, but not everyone acknowledges their difficulties. Any degree of hearing loss impacts on a person's wellbeing as they are likely to become more isolated as they find it increasingly difficult to communicate with family, friends and the outside world. This can lead to depression.

Reassuringly, Action on Hearing Loss have plenty of support to offer to sufferers and their families. For information, visit [www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk](http://www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk) or call their Helpline on 0808 808 0123. Textphone 0808 808 9000. Email: [information@hearingloss.org.uk](mailto:information@hearingloss.org.uk).

The next meeting is 8th May at the Townsend Hall from 10:00 to 11:30. Our speaker will be local GP, Dr Sue Pritchard, who will talk about keeping fit. A PA system is in place for those who are hard of hearing. If you need help with transport, contact Brian Fletcher on 661308.

## Shipston Rotary



Rachel Vial, practice Manager at the Shipston Medical Centre recently gave Shipston Rotarians a fascinating insight into her role and highlighted the variety of tasks she has to undertake in the course of a day. Members were delighted to show their support for the Medical Centre by presenting Rachel with a cheque to purchase three omrons (portable blood pressure machines) for use in the practice.

Shipston High School kept up its distinguished tradition and reached the Regional final of the Intermediate Rotary Youth Speaks Competition.

This year the standard was judged to be exceptionally high and the comments from the judges that there were no losers in the competition bore this out. Unfortunately for Shipston High School it was not to be their year. St, Edward's Junior High School, Staffordshire, won with their presentation topic, 'The return of the Freak Show'.

## Shipston Music Society

### *Shipston Music Hub – Live & Rural Update*

Shipston Music Society has a growing relationship with the Orchestra of the Swan (OOTS) and is working with David Curtis, the Artistic Director and the society's president, to bring the benefits of the OOTS Outreach and Education programmes to the Shipston community. The first phase has resulted in £3,600 funding being granted by Stratford District Council and appropriate trusts and charities to fund activities for local Care Homes, the High School and the Primary School as follows:

#### **Care homes:**

Small groups of players from OOTS have been visiting Rainbow Fields and Low Furlong to play for residents and then chat with them about the music.

#### **Shipston High School:**

The school has been offered a composition based project with professional composer Deborah Pritchard and Simon Desbruslais, trumpet. Simon and Deborah are to make 3 visits to the school to include an outline of basic compositional skills, some support for students current work, performance skills and opportunities to compose a short work for trumpet.

The project also includes a trip to Stratford to see the Deborah's new work for Simon and the Orchestra of the Swan being performed on 15th June. Complimentary tickets have been offered for any students and teachers who would like to attend the concert.

#### **Shipston Primary School:**

The school has been offered 3 visits to the school by 2 OOTS musicians. OOTS Education Consultant Louise Braithwaite would visit the school to agree the content and timetable of the project and any additional support that the school may be able to offer between the OOTS visits. The project could be based around composition and performance and would be relevant to the Key Stage 2 requirements.

## Shipston Music Society March Concert

The "Creatures Great and Small" concert was given by Sopranos' Kipper Chipperfield and Sarah Verney Caird together with Julian Grimshaw, piano accompanist. With a few exceptions, the songs were about animals and were very short, quirky and humorous.

The first section started with We the Spirits of the Air by Purcell and continued with two Russian, one French, one Italian and two English folk songs, all with an animal in the title. These were followed by a section of short poems about sea creatures by Guillaume Apollinaire, set to music. The first half closed with six lullabies which included Cradle Song by Peter Warlock and Quiet, Sleep by Benjamin Britten which could only be described as threatening and most definitely not soothing.

Part Two opened with Silent Worship by Handel followed



by two German compositions by Schumann and Mendelssohn then two pieces about cats, concluding with Matilda (Matilda told such awful lies) set to music. There followed six more very short songs by Glass, Poulenc and Durey and the concert closed with a short selection of lullabies.

Most of the songs were sung as duets, often in the language of the composer and the combination of their voices was very suited to contemporary composers. Julian Grimshaw's accompaniments were exceptional in their diversity.

## Cantamus

### **From mad hatters to birds and bees**

Cantamus, Shipston's a cappella choir led by Richard Emms, held a wonderful tea party in the Townsend Hall in March, on behalf of the Mad Hatter. With an appreciative audience, yummy cakes and bakes to go with the tea, a proliferation of hats and teddy bears, a musical programme which ranged from the purity of Palestrina to the wit of Tom Lehrer, some belly-laugh inducing readings from Anne Hume, and stately renaissance dance performances – there really was something to appeal to everyone.

In June, Cantamus will be presenting a programme with Three's Company, entitled "The Birds And The Bees", as part of Shipston Proms. The concert will be in St. Edmund's Church at 7.30.p.m. on Monday June 18th, and tickets (at £8.00) will be available later in May from Clarke's Electrical Shop in Shipston, from choir members, and on the door.

Cantamus expects its members to be experienced and confident sight-singers, and offers a really broad repertoire of music across different centuries and styles, and presents regular concerts in South Warwickshire and the North Cotswolds. To find out more, contact Yvonne Ridley, Cantamus' concert manager, on 01789 269587. Currently the choir has a vacancy for tenors, and any interested tenors should contact Richard Emms, the director, on 01608 662163.

## Join Shipston Tennis Club this season!

The new season is just about to begin at Shipston tennis club and new members are always warmly welcomed!

Membership allows you to book a court free of charge all year round and to benefit from free coaching sessions for those wanting to play in a team. There are club nights on Tuesday and Friday evenings all year and plenty of free competition throughout the year starting with a mixed tournament on April 24th. We meet for social nights as well as on the court and membership also includes that chance to be entered for a draw for Wimbledon tickets.

For further details visit [shipstontennis.org.uk](http://shipstontennis.org.uk) or contact Janet Connor on 07884 318220.





## Stour Valley Lions – The bigger picture



Lions is the world's largest international service organisation with over 1.4 million members in 206 countries, the UK is divided into 13 Districts and we belong to the Midlands District. Once a year, members of the various Lions Clubs in our District meet formally at Convention.

Our Lions District contains 56 clubs and we meet to discuss common policy, hear about new service programs, swap stories and elect officials. This year, the convention was held in Corby and was attended (at their own expense) by three of our members. We heard about progress on main international aid programs including prevention of blindness, eradication of measles and disaster relief in places such as Haiti. Our club contributes to all these major initiatives but we ensure that over 90% of the money we raise is donated to our local district projects.

Stour Valley Lions was formed 31 years ago and is very proud to serve this community and grateful for the support you give. The Lions motto is 'We Serve', and Lion members are proud to do this.

## Annual Bluebell Walk at Whatcote on Sunday \*May 6th\*

Please note change of provisional date – Sunday May 6th is the new date.

Starting from Hell Brake Paddock, Whatcote, (Postcode CV36 5EF), come for a gentle walk up to Hell Brake to see the Bluebells and enjoy a cream tea in the churchyard on your return.

Any time between 2pm and 5pm. £6 for adults, accompanied children free – and this includes the tea and scones!

Produce & Plant stalls – Dogs on leads welcome. Proceeds to St Peter's Church Repairs.

Strong shoes or boots are essential. Contact Sue Price for more details – 01295 680007 or [susan.price@ukgateway.net](mailto:susan.price@ukgateway.net)

## Shipston Probis



On 16th March we welcomed Gerald Lesinski, Master of Lord Leicester Hospital and a retired Lt. Colonel in the Grenadier Guards. He spoke about the five Guards Regiments – the Life Guards, and the Blues and Royals, who together form the Household Division. The variations in uniform were illustrated with excellent slides such as the arrangement of buttons on a guardsman's tunic to identify the five regiments. He told many humorous stories of incidents during his 35 years service but perhaps the funniest was having lunch with the Queen when, because of a sudden change of uniform, he was in his overcoat. He had been on guard duty and received an immediate command which

gave him no time to change. Underneath he was wearing a vest emblazoned with "Guinness is good for you"!

Alan Winterburn has several talks on curiosities in Warwickshire and the Cotswolds and on 30th March we enjoyed his second on the Cotswolds. Over 20 were illustrated and ranged from Brother Elmer who was said to fly at Malmesbury Abbey, to Oak Apple Day at Elmev Castle commemorating Charles II. We thought we had heard all Alan's curiosities but were pleased to hear that there were more to come.

## Shipston & District Angling Club – 59th New Season

Shipston Angling Club membership runs from 1st April to 31st March each year and the 2012/13 season membership book is now available. There is no joining fee, no waiting list, and at £25 (£15 for OAP & £10 Junior) offers excellent value for money. If you would like to join our club, or just want to find out more about what we have to offer, please contact our membership secretary Mr Rob Oakey on 01608 662639.

Club membership allows you access to fishing along almost four miles of the local River Stour from Willington then down to Shipston sports club, Shipston Bridge, Fell Mill, Honington, Halford Hill and Halford Bridge.

At Aston Magna we have three lakes set in a wooded hillside of outstanding environmental beauty. The main lake holds rudd, chub, tench to 5 lb, but mostly carp from 8 oz to 6 lb with some doubles providing a surprise or two. The middle lake holds mainly rudd, tench, chub, and small carp.

Shipston AC has increased its membership in recent years as our River Stour and Aston Magna lakes continues to provide improved sport. There is also a competitive match section which visits surrounding lakes and rivers through the season.

## Shipston Arts and Crafts Society

The Society held its 25th AGM in March when reports were read, followed by the election of officers and committee. A new innovation for 2012/2013 was the dividing of the committee into two; the officers running the society's business and a new social committee responsible for visits and social events. The programme and visits for the coming year were announced, detailing the society's usual high quality speakers with a summer visit to Saville Gardens and Frogmore, an autumn visit to the American Museum in Bath and Highclere (Downton Abbey) in July next year!

After members enjoyed a glass of wine, Mr Simon Trapnel of Nature in Art Museum talked about Art and Nature, showing beautiful slides depicting how artists known and unknown painted nature, from flora and fauna to rocks and water. A full, detailed and most interesting end to a very busy evening.

The Society meets every 3rd Tuesday at the Catholic Church Parish Centre at 7.30pm. New members welcome.

**District Council news****Don't forget to vote**

District council elections take place on the 3rd May 2012 with one of the two district seats for Shipston to be contested.

The following candidates are standing for Shipston: Richard Cheney (Lib Dem), Jacqui Jones (Green), Jeffrey Kenner (Lab), Abdul Shahid (Cons)

The Polling Station will be at the Sheldon Bosley Hub and will be open from 7am to 10pm. For further details, please visit [www.stratford.gov.uk/elections](http://www.stratford.gov.uk/elections)

The election of town councillors will not be contested as only 12 nominations were received for the 13 seats. See page 15 for details of newly elected and existing town councillors.

**Have a right Royal Jubilee celebration**

Stratford District Council is doing its bit to help local people organise their own right royal celebration by waiving all fees on street closures for street parties held between 2nd and 5th June 2012. Although the official deadline for road closures has now passed, any new applications received will still be considered and processed where possible. For more information, advice and to download an application form please go to [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk)

In the meantime, planning for Shipston's Diamond Jubilee celebrations on the 4th June is continuing in earnest and the finishing touches are also being put to plans for the community Songs of Praise and Flower Festival, taking place on 3rd June, in which many of the town's clubs and societies are set to take part.

Jubilee events will be advertised on posters in the local area in the coming weeks.

**County Council update****Library & Warwickshire Direct**

New library opening hours are now operating at Church Street, Shipston-on-Stour (see page 2 for details).



**Warwickshire**  
County Council

**Broadband**

Armed with a government grant from their agency BDUK, steps are being taken to improve the broadband speeds across rural Warwickshire into homes and business premises. It is important to complete the free on-line questionnaire at [www.cswbroadband.org.uk](http://www.cswbroadband.org.uk) to ensure that this money is spent wisely.

This dedicated website is being used to assess demand for improving the system. The questionnaire allows the public to identify current network weaknesses.

**Waste Core Strategy**

While greater attention has been given to housing numbers, the county council has published its own planning strategy for waste. Why is this significant?

Planning applications for Waste disposal, recycling and treatment plants are submitted to the County Council for determination. WCC sets the related policy criteria. The latest document will be the last opportunity for the public to have a say before it goes before a planning inspector who will assess the soundness of the plan.

The document is available at Shire Hall, Warwick, or Elizabeth House, Stratford-upon-Avon. It is also online and in Shipston library. Any representations should be made by 4.00 pm on Friday 25th May 2012.

*Please note, these columns have not been personalised due to proximity to local elections*

**NHS News – Shipston Medical Centre****Patient Participation Meeting**

You are invited to our annual patient meeting on Wednesday 30th May at Shipston Primary School, starting at 7pm. We very much welcome feedback and input from our patients so please come and tell us what you think. We will also be discussing:

- The Health and Wellbeing Park proposal – update
- The recent Health Bill – what does this mean for us?

**Health Screening**

**Something for the ladies** – The breast-screening unit will be coming to the Ellen Badger in June for routine mammography screening for breast cancer. Eligible women between 47 and 73 will receive an invitation to attend by post as part of the National Breast Screening Programme. Women over the age of 73 will not be called

for but can self-refer by calling 024 7696 7200. Further information is available at [www.bscren.org.uk/coventry](http://www.bscren.org.uk/coventry)



**Something for the gentlemen** – A new screening programme for abdominal aortic aneurism will be coming to the Medical Centre over the summer months. Research has demonstrated that this screening could reduce the rate of premature death from ruptured aortic aneurisms by up to 50%. Men turning 65 this year will receive a letter inviting them to attend. Further information is available at <http://aaa.screening.nhs.uk/>

**Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845**  
**[www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk](http://www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk)**  
**Twitter: @ShipstonMC**



## Your Town Councillors

Until 3rd May 2012, your town councillors will continue to be:

**Paul Rathkey, Town Mayor**

*Staffing group chair*

t: 01608 664141

e: rathersandco@tiscali.co.uk

**Fay Ivens, Deputy Mayor**

*Proud Campaign chair*

t: 01608 662133

e: fayivens@aol.com

**Ian Cooper**

*Finance group chair*

t: 01608 663785

e: ian@piruk.com

**Dot Courtney**

*Planning group chair*

t: 01608 664822

e: courtney234@btinternet.com

**Arthur Ivens**

t: 01608 662133

e: fayivens@aol.com

**Veronica Murphy**

*Communications group chair*

t: 01608 664518

e: veronica.murphy123@btinternet.com

**Alan Noyce**

t: 01608 661754

e: alanhubertnoyce@hotmail.com

**Philip Vial**

t: 01608 666275

e: ppjvial@googlemail.com

**Jackie Warner**

t: 07717 391234

**Simon Welch**

*General Purposes group chair*

t: 01608 663596

e: simon.welch@talktalk.net

Councillors Dot Courtney and Simon Welch have decided to step down from the council due to other commitments. Both Dot and Simon have made a huge contribution to the council and the town as a whole in recent years and, at the April Town Council meeting, on behalf of his colleagues, the Mayor thanked them both for their hard work and support for the town.

From 3rd May, Shipston Town Council will welcome four new town councillors. Their contact details are as follows:

**Mark Wildish**

t: 01608 238256

e: mark.wildish@talktalk.net

**Melanie Trapp**

t: 01608 666939

**Rob O'Malley**

t: 07740 096598

e: robiomalley@gmail.com

**Roy Munden**

t: 01608 661102

e: christinemunden@googlemail.com

Mayor, Paul Rathkey, said "Although we had hoped to have enough nominations to prompt an election, I am nevertheless pleased to welcome four new faces onto the town council who will no doubt bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm from which we can all benefit."

As the Forum went to press, Shipston Town Council was part way through its move to new offices in the former police station building. New address details will be announced in the June Forum.

**Shipston-on-Stour Town Council**

Clark House, West Street,  
Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4EL

**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](mailto: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 Clark House.

Large print copies are available to read at the Library, 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.

**Useful Contacts**

Community Links Transport	01789 296344
Shipston Library:	01608 661255
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Shipston Police Station	01789 444670
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	01608 661724
Methodist Church	01608 661843



A vibrant poster for the Whit Sunday Shipston Wool Fair. The background is a light green with a dark green rounded rectangle at the top left. The text 'WHIT SUNDAY' is in yellow on the dark green background. 'SHIPSTON WOOL FAIR' is in large red letters with white outlines. A stylized black and white sheep head is on the right. A white tag with '27TH' is pinned to the bottom right. A red banner at the bottom right says 'MAY from 10am - 4pm' in yellow.

**WHIT SUNDAY**

**SHIPSTON WOOL FAIR**

**27TH**

**MAY** *from 10am - 4pm*