

Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

October 2013

Judith Jackson is announced winner of the 2013 Anne Sankey Award

There were smiles all round as Judith Jackson, better known to many as 'Brown Owl', graciously accepted the Anne Sankey Medal from Town Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, amidst a sea of supportive Brownies.

Judith Jackson received several nominations for the Anne Sankey Award in recognition of her work for the young people of Shipston, and particularly her role in running Shipston Brownies. Judith originally got involved with the girlguiding movement in 1989 when Shipston Brownies was under threat of being disbanded due to a lack of leaders. Since then, she has arranged countless exciting Brownie meetings and events, and is now District Commissioner as well as the leader of the Shipston group.

Judith's contribution to the community does not end there, however. In her role as a member of the Lions, Judith pioneered and still runs the monthly film club, raising funds for charity and providing an important local social event. She secured funding to improve the equipment used for the film nights, which has also been made available to the students of the High School.

Judith has been a High School governor for ten years, bursar to the Youth Club for 18 years and works with High School students to produce the Talking Shipston Forum for visually impaired residents.

Town Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said, "it is my great pleasure to award the Anne Sankey Medal to Judith in recognition of the work she has done for this community, particularly with



Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, presents Judith Jackson with her award

Shipston Brownies. I would also like to thank all those who put forward nominations. It is never an easy decision to make as all nominees do great work for the town, but Judith is a very worthy winner and we look forward to seeing her wearing her medal with pride."

The Anne Sankey Medal is awarded to local residents in recognition of their contribution to the town. All residents are invited to put forward nominations, which town councillors consider before deciding on a winner.

On receiving the award, Judith Jackson said, "I am delighted to receive this award. I had no idea that all this was going on but I'm very grateful to all those who nominated me."

Shipston fights back against planned HSBC closure

News that the Shipston branch of the HSBC is set to close in November has been met with anger by Shipston councillors, residents and businesses. The closure will lead to the loss of two cashpoints in the town, with only one bank still providing a counter service.

The news comes at a time when Shipston's High Street is showing signs of growth and new homes in the town are on the increase.

Individual district, county and town councillors, as well as Stour



United Businesses, have written to the decision-makers at HSBC demanding a rethink. In addition, Shipston Town Council has formally written to the bank and has raised the matter with the local MP.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said, "we are all appalled at HSBC's decision to close Shipston's busy and muchneeded branch. There has been no consultation with customers or councillors and the implications will be significant both for Shipston and surrounding villages. Businesses are particularly reliant on branch banking but are now expected to travel to Stratford or Moreton to manage their accounts."

Former Mayor and bank customer, Brenda Broughton, is calling on all residents to write to HSBC (see Readers' Letters, page 13), a plea echoed by Shipston Town Council. "We have already received a number of complaints about this closure and I sincerely hope, with the support of local residents and businesses, that we can persuade HSBC to rethink its plans," Councillor Murphy added.

STOP PRESS:

Shipston Gyratory will be undergoing resurfacing work during October.

The work will be done in three phases to keep disruption to a minimum.

Please see the back page for full details of the resurfacing work.

Produced by Shipston Town Council - www.shipstononline.org

Mayor's column

S e p t e m b e r already and time for the Anne Sankey medal which I was delighted



to award to Judith Jackson, another member of our community who manages to be involved with a variety of organisations, giving freely of both time and care.

I was particularly pleased to see the Brownies who came along to watch the presentations knowing how they must all be enjoying the new Scout Hut. Congratulations to Judith and our thanks to the other entries.

It is sad to report the closure of HSBC and I urge everyone to write and attempt to bring attention to the importance of rural areas having their High Street office available, especially the cash machines.

Work continues to renew our market status and it has been interesting to read some of the early documents.

I was so pleased to support our local footballers who played in the Cup final held at Stratford Town's ground and was even more delighted with their win. They represented the town in a fine sporting manner – congratulations to all involved.

The Mayor's Ladies Charity Tea Party takes place this month and I look forward to seeing as may of you there as possible. For details please contact me via New Clark House.

In the meantime, enjoy the Food Festival and the start of the autumn.

Veronica Murphy

Shipston to formally become a Market Authority

Shipston Town Council (STC) is to proceed with plans to become a Market Authority. The process will formalise powers granted to the town in a Royal Charter in 1268 by Henry III, which originally gave the town its market status.

This represents the first step in an emerging plan to bring a regular market to Shipston and would also give STC control over other markets in the town.



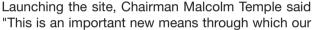
Photo by Philip Vial

The town council's Finance Working Group will now begin looking at the options for a regular market, including who might provide it, what type of market it should be, when and where it should take place and how residents and businesses should be consulted.

In the meantime, the town council will join the National Association of British Market Authorities, which will provide access to advice and support as the project progresses.

Shipston Link goes online

Shipston Link, the not for profit community bus service providing links between surrounding villages and Shipston on Stour, is pleased to announce that it now has a bespoke web site giving details of its services including time tables and latest news. It can be found at www.shipstonlink.co.uk





present and potential customers can find out about our services which are so important to those without cars and those seeking environmentally friendly transport to Shipston, the Shipston Medical Centre and, on key days, to Moreton in Marsh, Banbury and Chipping Norton."

The Link is planning extensions to its services including private hire, and is actively seeking more volunteer drivers. Details can be found on the web site. A major awareness campaign is also beginning. For more information, contact the Secretary Peter Banton on 01386 593446.

Remember your loved ones by sponsoring the Rotary Tree of Life

This Christmas, the Rotary Tree of Life will once again light up Shipston Town Centre. The bulbs will be lit in memory and celebration of loved ones who are no longer with us.

Local residents are invited to sponsor a light in exchange for a donation (minimum £5) and have the name of their loved one entered into a Book of Remembrance, which will be on display at St Edmund's Church. Donations will be given to the Children's Air Ambulance Service and other approved Rotary charities. Please fill in the form on page 10 to sponsor a bulb.

The tree lights will be switched on at the annual Victorian Evening on the 6th December 2013.



Find out more about Rosedale, the new Mencap facility

Have you noticed something missing on Stratford Road? The two bungalows owned by Mencap have been demolished to make way for a new building containing eight one-bed and two two-bed apartments. The new development, known as "Rosedale" will provide a local supported living environment for people with learning disabilities.

Heart of England Mencap is holding two public sessions at the Stour Enterprise Centre to give Shipston residents the chance to talk to experts about Rosedale. The sessions will be held on Monday 30th September 4 - 7pm and Saturday 26th October 10 am - 12 noon. To find out more, please call 01789 298709 or email rosedale@heartofenglandmencap.org.uk.

Town Council News Page 3

September's hot topics

Financial loss: Fay Ivens reported that the National Association of the Widowed has gone into liquidation, with the possible loss of £800 of local residents' money. Representatives from the Shipston group will attend a national meeting in September. Further details will be shared when known.

BT Box: A new BT Box has been installed on Mill Street. These no longer require planning permission due to a change in planning regulations.

Fond farewell: Paul Rathkey led the tributes to Geoff Calcott whose memorial service was held recently. Mr Calcott gave a great deal to the town and to local cricket.

Broken manhole: Arthur Ivens raised concerns about broken and rusty manhole covers outside Ellen Badger Hospital. The Town Clerk will report the problem to Highways.

Cycling for Macmillan: Mark Wildish was congratulated on raising £90 for Macmillan Cancer Research by completing a sponsored 55-mile bike ride in less than three hours.

Campaigning for Shipston

HSBC Closure: Individual councillors have written to HSBC to complain about the impending branch closure. The Town Council will also be writing formally to HSBC (see article on page 1).

New homes consultations: Philip Vial is in the process of arranging a further session for councillors with Cala Homes following the public consultation events held recently. Councillors are also due to meet Banner Homes later in September to discuss the outcome or its recent consultation.

Parking problems: Philip Vial led a discussion concerning the planned changes to the parking permit scheme for houses on Telegraph Street. Following complaints, Stratford District Council (SDC) is now due to begin a consultation involving residents and the Town Council.

Community waste collection service: Following weeks of discussions between Warwickshire County Council, SDC and STC, plus an impassioned speech by Mr Baggy Saunders at the town council meeting, STC has supported SDC's efforts to enable local resident, Walter Emms, to continue to provide a community residential waste collection service for Shipston residents.

This is designed to tackle the recent exclusion of Mr Emms and other pedestrians from the Household Waste Site, preventing Mr Emms from continuing to provide his informal bulky waste collection service, which he has been operating for approximately 20 years.

Allotment consultation: All allotment holders are invited to a meeting to discuss allotment fee changes which will take place at 6:30pm, 1st Oct at New Clark House.

Town Council business

Stour Enterprise Centre: Ian Cooper raised concerns about the lack of clear handover of financial records from the Stour Valley Community Interest Company regarding the Stour Enterprise Centre. Both STC and SDC made financial contributions to the centre and it is important that full records are received.

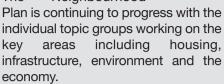
Sports club requests: A request for a new gate to be installed at the entrance to the Sports Club has been turned down by STC on the basis that it may cause more problems than it solves. Councillors also agreed that if the Sports Club needs additional litterbins, it should provide its own.

Playground inspections: Inspection of the town's playgrounds is to become more rigorous. Monthly detailed inspections will be undertaken by the Deputy Town Clerk, while Arthur Ivens will do a lighter monthly inspection so that every playground will be assessed fortnightly. Lawns2Mow will be responsible for daily visual monitoring. An external expert will still undertake a full annual inspection.

New Clark House Update

Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood



The Steering Group is looking into the possibility of securing funding for a project manager to help guide and manage the plan-making process.

To get involved, please email np@shipstononline.org or keep an eye on www.shipstonnp.org for further updates.



Shipston Forum and Shipstononline Website

Shipston Town Council is inviting bids for the following work:

- 1. Writing, editing & production of the Shipston Forum
- 2. Distribution of the Shipston Forum
- 3. Management of the STC website

The new arrangements will begin on 1st April 2014.
Companies or individuals located in the town wishing to apply should submit their proposals no later than 31st October 2013 to New Clark House West Street, Shipston

For full details, please contact the office on 01608 662180

CV36 4HD

Georgina Beaumont:

Town Clerk 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

Shipston students notch up major speaking success

Twenty-one students at Shipston High School have just notched up another major 'speaking in public' success for the school. The students all took the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) examination in 'Speaking in Public' in the summer. At the time three of the students were in Year 8; five in Year 9 and thirteen in Year 10 and they all passed with flying colours.

The students took either the Bronze or Silver Medal examination, achieving either merit or distinction. Both of these prestigious awards are Level 3 examinations equivalent to an 'A/S' level, normally taken in the sixth-form, and their success gives all the students UCAS points towards admission to university.

During the examination the students had to make three different speeches to a visiting examiner from LAMDA and then answer some questions about the theory of speaking in



public. One of the speeches they had to give was an impromptu speech, for which they only had fifteen minutes to prepare.

Headteacher, Jonathan Baker, said, "These students have done amazingly well in an examination intended for much older students and they have shown, yet again, the depth of talent in the school. Public speaking is really important in helping students build up their confidence and character and it teaches them a skill much in demand by higher education and employers."

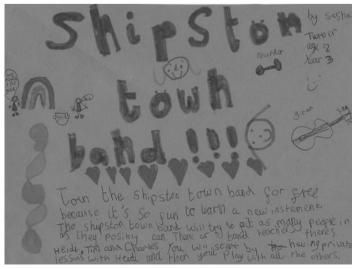
Shipston Junior Band needs you!

Hot on the heels of its Centenary celebrations last year, Shipston Town Band is now turning its attention to the musicians of the future who will eventually take the band through to its 200th birthday!

Shipston Junior Band is calling on all young residents to come along to its beginners training sessions to try their hand at playing a brass instrument. So, whether you're tempted by the trombone or curious about the cornet, this is the perfect opportunity to have a go.

One band member, Sasha Turner, is such a fan that she has designed her own poster to encourage more people to take part. In it, she promises, "it's so fun to learn a new instrument. The Shipston Town Band will try to fit in as many people as they possibly can."

The sessions are on Monday nights from 6-6:30pm at the band hut (next to the Scout Hut) and are suitable for beginners of any age wanting to learn a brass instrument. The band provides instruments and tuition free of charge and would particularly like to hear from anyone wanting to learn one of the larger instruments such as basses and trombones. Please contact Heidi Ellis on 01608 665013 for details.



Shipston Brownies take on fundraising challenge



Shipston Brownies have risen to a challenge set by Girlguiding UK to raise awareness of some of the Indian slum conditions in Bhavnagar, India and have raised a substantial sum of money in the process.

The town's Brownies compared themselves to a seven year old girl called Aapti Sangar who lived next to the rubbish tip with her two older sisters, brother and parents. A typical day for Aapti was to fetch the water from the communal water pipe at 5.30am, make breakfast for the family, clean the house and then go to school. Aapti, her sisters and Mum would have to wait to eat breakfast, following the custom that the men in the family eat first. Aapti's brother was not expected to cook or carry out chores.

Aapti attended the Balsena Club, which is a Youth Club (Gujarati for children's collective) a group of children learning, playing and taking action together. It's the first group like this in Gujarat. This group aims to bring children from all different backgrounds together, take up issues they face, make friends, learn to care about others and support each other.

Shipston Brownies raised over £120 to send to Childreach International by completing chores for the family around the house. A superb effort was made by Shipston Brownie, Katie Betteley, who held a cake sale at Quinton Primary School and raised over £60 for the charity.

The brownies received their "Girls In Action badge – In Her Shoes" for taking part in the fundraising challenge.

Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School

Race at Your Place

Pupils from Shipston Primary School have united in the fight against cancer and raised over £1,500 for Cancer Research UK.

At the end of last term the school held a Race at Your Place event in the school grounds where all pupils, from all year groups, tried to complete as many laps as possible to raise money for charity.

Shipston Primary raised an impressive £1,500 for the School Council's chosen charity, Cancer Research UK. The



money will be used to help the charity's scientists and doctors to continue life-saving research into the prevention and treatment of cancer.

Head of Federation Christian Hilton said: "The event was a fabulous achievement with children from reception to year six doing their best to complete as many laps as possible. Particular recognition also goes to Isobel (now in Year 3) who raised £300 towards the total."

Jennie Scholes from Shipston-on-Stour Friends of Cancer Research UK commended the school for their efforts and said: "Absolutely fantastic - I wasn't expecting anything like that. I was extremely impressed by all the pupils - very polite, well behaved and a credit to you and all your staff."

School Improvements

Over the summer holiday, the school has benefited from further improvements, including a new hall floor and artificial grass on one area of the playground in preparation for our next phase of playground development. In addition, we have enhanced our sports provision with weekly specialist sports coaching for five year groups in the school and specialist music provision in three year groups. Our e-book library for pupils to download books to their personal electronic readers will be launched during the autumn term.

Shipston High School

GCSE success

Shipston High School students have again harvested another excellent crop of GCSE examination passes with 78% achieving five or more passes at grades A* to C. Building on the increasing success of recent years, several students achieved some outstanding results:

Nadeem Akhlaq achieved 6 passes at A* and 5 passes at A Daisy Dingley and Jess Langdon both achieved 5 passes at A* and 3 at A

Jarrod Salmons achieved 2 passes at A* and 8 at A Charlie Gallagher achieved 2 passes at A* and 7 passes at A.

Two other students, **Francess Haine** and **Millie Pyne** both achieved 1 pass at A* and 7 at A. Together these represent over 10% of the year group.

Particularly pleasing are the results of the school's 'Aim Higher' group, which consists of the school's most academically gifted students. Students in this group achieved a 100% pass rate in all their GCSEs including English and Mathematics with 81% of their grades being at A* and A, showing once again that academically able students at Shipston High School can achieve as well as students in the top schools anywhere in the country.

Headteacher, Jonathan Baker, congratulated all the students for being a superb, hardworking year group and said that it was particularly pleasing seeing all the students at the results' day achieving what they needed to go on to the next step in their careers.

New students make their mark!

Over 90 new students joined Year 7 in September. The High School is delighted with its new intake, which looks set to be a very

academically able year group. Following two very successful induction days last June, all the new students got off to a flying start and have quickly adapted to life in a busy high school. Not only have they been going to lessons and grappling with the demands of homework in up to ten different subjects, but they have been the first to sample the delights of the new menus in the refurbished school canteen and have been enthusiastically throwing themselves into the numerous after school activities on offer.

As one beaming young man said, "I was really looking forward to coming to Shipston but it's even better than I expected. It's brill."





Event News Page 6

Shipston is in for a big brass treat at the Town Band's Autumn Concert

Following on from last year's outstanding Centenary concert, Shipston Town Band's 2013 Autumn Concert on 20th October promises to be a spectacular event. Featuring not only the town's much-loved band, the October concert will be a joint event with the Jaguar Land Rover Band, winners of the Midland Area Championships held at Bedworth in March.

The Jaguar Land Rover Band will be fresh from their experience representing the area against the best bands in the country at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 12th October. Shipston Band also qualified for the National Finals in Section 3 and will be competing for their trophy at Cheltenham on Sunday 22nd September.

With both bands qualifying for the National Finals in their respective sections and with a number of links between the bands, Jaguar Land Rover got in touch to suggest the joint

concert, and the offer was gratefully accepted. The concert will feature separate performances by both bands plus a performance by Shipston Junior



Photo by Philip Vial

Band. The concert will conclude with a massed band session.

The concert is taking place at the Townsend Hall from 7:30pm on the 20th. Entry will, as usual, be free with a retiring collection. With all this talent on offer, make sure you arrive early to be sure of a seat!

Save the date – it's time to put Shipston's Victorian Evening in your diary

The nights are drawing in, the weather is turning colder and mince pies are now on sale. This can only mean one thing – it will soon be time for Shipston's Annual Victorian Evening!

Shipston Rotarians are busy preparing for what has become one of the most popular highlights in the town's calendar. This year's Victorian Evening will take place on Friday 6th December from 6pm. There will be lots of family attractions, including a visit from Father Christmas, entertainment from a clown and the opportunity to buy some special Christmas gifts.

Don't forget to put the date in your diary and help Shipston Rotary get the festive season off to a flying start.

Working with wine

Wine is a serious business to be enjoyed, Stour Valley business leaders learned, at a recent members' meeting of Stour United Businesses (SUBs) hosted by Sheldon's.

Proving that passion is paramount when considering the humble grape, Nicky Jarrett of Sheldon's Wines, went through the different soils, the climates, the grape varieties, the production processes, the glasses to drink from and even the labels on the bottles to show why wine is more than just a drink.

Nicky took the members on a wine-tasting journey from a remarkable Cremant d'Alsace through a summer rosé, a 'witty' but exceptional Australian Riesling and a stunning French Loire Valley pinot noir to a powerful Syrah from a region of Spain noted more for sherry.

SUBs is open to all businesses, from sole traders to large organisations covering the Stour Valley. The group gives local businesses a strong voice in the community and nationally while providing training and relaxed networking opportunities. Check out www.subs.org.uk for more information.



Tom Walton of Dandelime 'nose' a thing or two about Syrah. Photo courtesy of Alex Lilley Photography

Comedy performances come to Shipston

The Townsend Hall is set to host two comedy productions designed to entertain and amuse over the next two months.

Rehearsals are well under way for Shipston's Amateur Dramatic Society's production, 'Curtain Up!', a fast-paced and hilarious comedy, written by Peter Quilter and directed by Cheryl de Lacy.

The performance tells the story of five women who inherit equal shares in a dilapidated theatre but how are they going to bring it back to its former glory? Ideas are flowing but sparks fly – can they really work together to make things happen? They try various fund-raising schemes but their most ambitious is to hold a concert featuring local talent and a world-famous star who agrees to appear for no fee!

So, why does their plan go awry just when everything was all going so well? How are they going to keep their audience from guessing the truth of the matter? Find out by going along to the Townsend Hall on the 10th, 11th or 12th October – curtain up at 7.30pm. Tickets cost $\mathfrak{L}5$ on the 10th, $\mathfrak{L}7$ on the 11th and 12th, available from John Lyne Home Hardware.

The Hall will then host a production of Steptoe and Son, performed by local theatre company, Caramba. The group, featuring some Shipston residents, will tread the boards at the Townsend Hall on 9th



November at 7:30pm. Tickets cost £8 for adults and £6 for children/concessions and can be bought via www.caramba-theatre.co.uk or by calling 07952820456.

What's On Page 7

Regular events:

- **Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- **Mon** Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club: 7pm for 7.15pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Rd, Shipston-on-Stour. Call Penny Law 663871
- **Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays (8, 22). 10am-12pm Room No 2, Ellen Badger Hospital.
- **Tues** Rhyme time for under 2s: Now every Tuesday. 10:45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 0300 555 8171
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club at Stour Court. Contact: Stella, 686224
- **Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- **Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- **Weds U3A Chicago Bridge:** 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Val Young on 01608 238754
- **Weds St John's Ambulance:** Adults division. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- **Thur Shipston Stitchers:** 10am to 3pm, alternate Thursdays (3, 17, 31).
- **Thur Age Concern Lunch Club** at Rainbow Fields Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- **Thur Safer Neighbourhood Team:** Fortnightly (3, 17, 31). Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House, West Street.
- **Thur Tumbletots & Gymbabes:** Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact Robyn on 07813 940172
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group. Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Bridge 10.15am 12.15pm Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Val Young on 01608 238754 or 07516 091786
- Fri Shipston Probus: alternate Fridays (4,18)
- 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, Little Kickers, Zumba, modern jazz dancing, t'ai chi and circuit training. For details, visit www.townsendhall.com or call Lisa Bryan on 07800771368.

October Diary

- **1-5** Senior Citizens Action Network Older Peoples Week 2013: See ad on page 8
- **Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
 - **Allotment Holders meeting:** 6.30pm, New Clark House. All allotment holders welcome. Contact the Town Clerk for details.
- 2 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 10am-4pm. The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library). Books include fiction, children's, cookery, gardening, art etc. To donate books contact Lion David Squires on pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk
 - **National Organisation of the Widowed:** Lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
 - **Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** 'Survival of the Fittest' by Jan Warner. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519
 - **Shipston Neighbourhood Watch:** 7.30pm, New Clark House, West Street. Everyone welcome. Contact: George Houghton 662603
- Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9am-4pm, details as above Shipston Dementia Resource and Support Cafe: 2pm-3.30pm, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433.

- Stour Valley Lions Rural Cinema: See ad on page 8
- 5 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9am-2pm, details as above Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick: All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com
 - Lions presents Ynysowen Male Choir: See ad on page 9
- **7-10 Shipston Home Nursing:** Armscote Manor Lectures. For details visit www.armscotemanor.co.uk or call Deborah Williams: 682 375
- Shipston Flower Club: 'Size Matters' by Wendy Pitkin. 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School, Station Road. Contact: 238255
 Stour Valley Lions Monthly Meeting: 7.30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. All welcome
- Shipston and District Gardening Club: 'Hellebores' by Glenys Dyer. 7.30pm, Catholic Church. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- **10-12 Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society:** Curtain Up! For details see article on page 6
- **Shipston Home Nursing:** An Evening Serenade at Armscote Manor with The Orchestra of the Swan. Tickets £35. Contact: Deborah Williams on 682375
- Mayor's Surgery: 10am, High StreetCoffee Morning in aid of Cancer Research: See ad on page 8
- 13 French Market: See ad on page 9
 The Mayor's Ladies' Charity Tea Party: 3pm 5pm, Sheldon
 Bosley Hub. Food, music and raffle. Tickets £5.00. Dress code:
 Sunday Best with hats! Contact: The Town Clerk 662180
- Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group: AGM and Birthday. 2pm,
 Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
 Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting: 7pm, New Clark
 House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- Shipston Arts and Crafts Society: Stained Glass in Oxford.7.30pm, Catholic Church Centre. Contact: Penny Law 663871
- 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
- **Royal British Legion Shipston Branch:** Annual General Meeting. 7.30pm, Band Hall. Contact: Mike Dobbin 664636
- 18 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9am-4pm, details as above

 Dementia Carers Drop-In Support Group: 10.30am-12pm, The

 New Scout Hut, New Street. Friendly welcome for all visitors.

 Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- Shipston Music Society concert: See ad on page 10

 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9am-2pm, details as above
 Wyatts Tree/Plant Auction and BBQ for SHN: From 11.30am,
 Wyatts Garden Centre 0X7 5SH. Call: Rebecca 674929
 - Charity Quiz Night: See ad on page 10
- 20 Shipston Town Band Autumn Concert: See ad on page 9
- **22 U3A Meeting:** 2pm at the Townsend Hall, all welcome
- 24 Holiday at Home Get together: See ad on page 10
- **26 Shipston Home Nursing Vintage 2nd Hand Clothes Sale:** See ad on page 8
 - Race Night & Supper in aid of Cancer Research: See ad on pg 9
- **27 'Remembering Our Children' Service:** See ad on page 10
- **Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** 'Further Anecdotes' with Ann Hepworth. 2pm, Stour Court. Call Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 30 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 10am-4pm, details as above Shipston and District Literary Society: Speaker: David Constantine. 7.30pm, The George Hotel. Contact: Mary Edwards 01789 450737 or Malcolm Pollard 663482

What's On Page 8

scan

SENIOR CITIZENS ACTION NETWORK

will be celebrating Older Peoples Week 2013
with a display of information about local services available to
older people to improve health, wealth and happiness!
A member of the SCAN committee will be in attendance at
each session so why not pop in and find out how you can
make the most of your maturity?

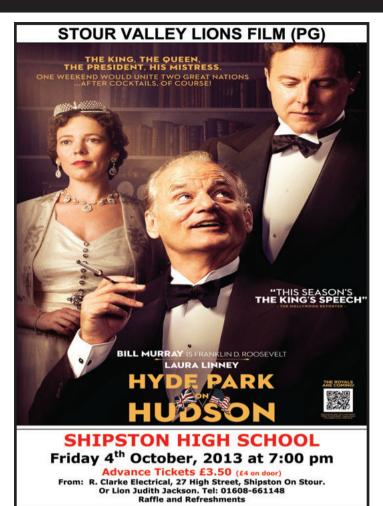
Shipston Library, Church Street

Week commencing 30th September 2013 Monday: 9.30 – 12.30 Tuesday & Thursday: 9.30 – 12.30 & 1.30 – 5.30

Saturday: 9.30 - 12.30





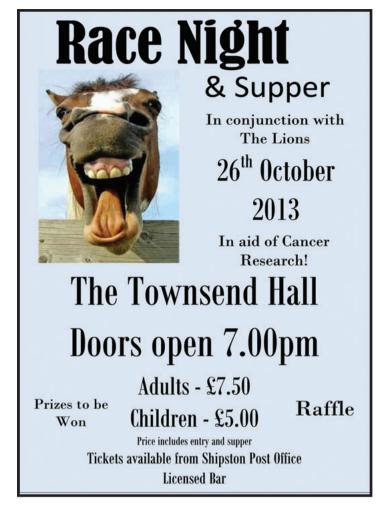




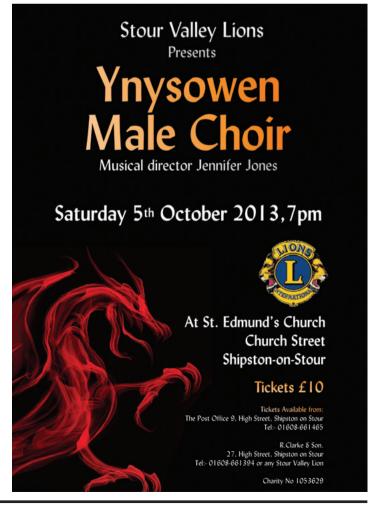


What's On Page 9









Remembering our children Sunday 27 October 4.00pm in St Edmund's Church

The death of a child is a devastating experience; the pain of bereavement may change as the years go by, but the loss remains real.

'Remembering our Children' will be a short and simple service, with an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved child. Bereaved parents, whatever the age of the child they lost, and those who have come to offer their presence out of compassion are all most welcome.

Afterwards we shall serve tea and cake to those who would like to stay.

If you have any questions about this service, please contact Rev Andrew Coleby on 661210 or Helen Winnifrith 661244.

Rotary Tree of Life

Each December the **Tree of Life** stands proudly in the centre of Shipston, its white lights glowing symbols of love and hope in memory of loved ones who are no longer with



If you wish a friend or relative to be remembered in this way you are invited to sponsor a light by returning the form and making a donation knowing that every name will be entered into the Book of Remembrance

All contributions will be donated to the Children's Air Ambulance and other Rotary Charities.

The illumination of the **Rotary Tree of Life** will take place at the opening of the Rotary Victorian Evening on **Friday 6th December at 6pm**

Rotary Club of Shipston-on-Stour Tree of Life

Please find enclosed donation \mathfrak{L} (minimum $\mathfrak{L}5$) cheques payable to Rotary Club of Shipston on Stour

In Memory of: (Name)	
From: (Name)	
Value addraga	

Forms are also available in local shops, banks, library, post office and other locations or contact Avryl

Please return to: Rotarian Avryl Thompson, Willow Bank, Pillerton Priors, Warwickshire CV35 0PS. Tel 01789 740 047



SHIPSTON MUSIC SOCIETY



Presents

Lynn Carter Piano

Followed by Society's AGM

Friday 18th October 7.30pm <u>Shipston Methodist Church</u> Guests Welcome £5.00

For further details ring 01608 663207



Saturday 19th October Starts 7.30pm at the Norgren Social Club

Tickets £7 per person and can either be purchased at the door on the night or from the NFU Mutual office at Sheep Street in Shipston

Light Refreshments included

Will be **bigger** and **better** than the last time!

The event will be held in memory of Jacob Caple and all the money raised will go to SSNAP (Support for the Sick Newborn and their Parents), which is a charity that supports the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford.



If you have any queries please email Gemma caple at gemmacaple9@gmail.com



Why not join us for a Holiday at Home Get Together?



Townsend Hall
Thursday October 24th
10.00am to 12.00 for

Tea, coffee and biscuits

Come and see the photographs, find out what went on, or just come for a chat!

Stour Valley Lions

Membership

Lions' ability to hold fundraising events and carry out physical projects in the community is restricted by the number of members they have. Membership



numbers ebb and flow and during October the group is calling on any residents prepared to help the Lions with specific events or tasks to contact any Lion member (see Lion's notice board in The Bury). The joy you get out of helping may even tempt you to consider joining Lions.

Helping Warwickshire Girlguiding

Seven Lions from Shipston, Stratford and Warwick joined forces to paint the outside of one of three large wooden shelters located on the Warwickshire Girlguiding County Camp site at Hardiman Fields in Shipston. The shelters are painted every 5 years to preserve their weather protection. It is a mammoth task reliant on volunteers. One down, two to go.

Lions Film

The Lions' popular Film night returns after a summer break with the showing of Hyde Park on Hudson. The film stars Bill Murray, Olivia Coleman, Samuel West, Laura Linney, Elizabeth Wilson.

Academy Award nominees Bill Murray and Laura Linney star in this historical tale. In June 1939, President Franklin Roosevelt (Mr. Murray) prepares to host the King and Queen of England (Samuel West and Olivia Colman) for a weekend at the Roosevelt home at Hyde Park on Hudson, in upstate New York – marking the first-ever visit of a reigning British monarch to America. As Britain faces imminent war with Germany, the King & Queen are desperately looking to Roosevelt for US support.

Ynysowen Male Choir

Enjoy this Welsh Choir from Aberfan on 5th October at St. Edmunds Church, Shipston On Stour from 7 pm. Tickets £10 from R.Clarke Electrical and The Post Office.

Shipston on Stour WI

After a very warm welcome back after our summer break, members were introduced to the speaker for the evening. Ann Pungaros, Ann is a very ke



evening, Ann Runacres. Ann is a very keen quilter and as some WI members indulge in that hobby her talk about the Amish Quilters was one to savour.

Ann had visited Lancaster County in the USA on a couple of occasions and so brought back photos of the Amish lifestyle and also some Amish quilts. Her photos gave members an insight into the Amish community. Although their material possessions are not of the 21st century, they live amicably alongside 21st century Pennsylvanians. They trade in town, selling their crafts to visitors who come from far and wide.

The men are skilled carpenters and wood workers and the women are skilled in a variety of crafts, but it is the Amish quilt that is world-renowned. Ann had a selection of

beautifully worked tops and small quilts, which were a delight to see. Most of the work is hand sewn, although she did say that some have treadle machines they can use. As there is no electricity in the Amish community, one power source might be bottled gas! The stitching, patterns and colours were amazing and the time spent making the quilts is long, so needless to say the finished products are very expensive. However if you're lucky enough to own one, just to be able to enjoy the workmanship is a joy and a privilege. An inspiration to quilters and patchworkers out there.

To that end Shipston WI will be holding a coffee and craft sale on 30th November at the Catholic Church in Shipston. Not promising Amish style quilts but they do have several talented ladies in their group, so why not come along? Time to be announced but probably a morning session. So watch out for that.

Shipston Flower Club

Shipston Flower Club members are busy preparing for their pre-Christmas event, taking place in November.

Called "Christmas Unwrapped", the event will include a flower demonstration by David Martin, raffle and a sales table.

Everyone is welcome to attend so please make a note in your diary. The event takes place on Tuesday 12th November at the Sheldon Bosley Hub, at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets are just $\mathfrak{L}8$, including a glass of mulled wine and nibbles.

For more information and to book tickets, please call Elaine on 01608 238255

Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team

Police are warning members of the public not to give personal details over the phone to callers claiming to be from their bank. The warning follows a number of reports in which members of the public have been contacted by people who claim to be from their bank, advising them of unusual transactions on their bankcards.

Nine incidents have been reported to Warwickshire Police in the past two months where money has been stolen from bank accounts. In each instance the victim has found their bankcard, and in some cases their driving licence, has been stolen from their wallet.

The caller, claiming to be from the bank, says there are unusual sales on their card and asks for the purchases to be verified. The victim then checks their wallet to find that their bankcard and driving licence has been stolen. In each case the bankcards appear to have been stolen from the victim's hotel room while the owner has been away from their room. Security at the hotels affected has since been reviewed.

The caller gains the victim's confidence, saying they will cancel the card, but in order to do so they need the PIN number for the card. The victim, believing they are speaking to someone from their bank, gives the caller their PIN number, giving the thief access to their account. Ian King, from the Warwickshire Police Community Safety Unit said,

"if you are ever asked for your PIN number whilst on the telephone, you should end the call immediately. You should then contact your bank, using the number they give you in written correspondence, and ideally using another phone, such as your mobile phone, to report the call to your bank. If your cards have been stolen report this to the police as well."

Probus

On 9th August, John Mason gave his second talk on the development of the London Underground.

The first talk covered mainly the early over ground system with normal steam driven trains. The first underground was the Piccadilly Line and followed by others all developed by different companies. In 1933 they all combined, becoming London Transport. Although there has been considerable technical development during the years, the internal arrangement of the carriages has hardly changed.

On 23rd August, one of our own members, Paul Hickley, gave a truly professional account of his career in The Royal Air Force. He was a crewmember in a Vulcan squadron for many years and illustrated the technical aspects of the plane itself, including its bombs!!

The preparedness of the Vulcan squadrons for any event made one realise that a lot goes on 'behind the scenes'.

Neighbourhood Watch

The next meeting of the Shipston Neighbourhood Watch will be on Wednesday 2nd October in The Council Chamber, New Clark House, West Street starting at 7.30 pm. Although this



room is on the first floor, a stair lift is available should one be required.

As our last meeting had an increased attendance, it has been agreed to continue with the change of dates to accommodate anyone who is unable to attend a meeting during school holidays.

As usual, everyone is invited to attend. For more details, contact George Houghton, Chairman, on 01608 662603.

Townsend Hall

Once again the Townsend Hall came into its own on Friday 30 August with an evening of Fleetwood Mac music by the fantastic Fleetwood Bac tribute band.

The excellent evening of music and dancing, with full audience participation, was enjoyed by all, with many requests for a return visit.

The Townsend Hall is hosting a wide variety of performances over the coming weeks, from comedies to concers. For details, take a look at www.townsendhall.com.

Shipston and District Twinning Association

The Shipston and District Twinning Association is planning its next visit to Torigni sur Vire. The dates of the visit are April 18th to April 22nd 2014.

The group would like to welcome you to join in this weekend. Have a spring break in Normandy. Live life in France "en famille".

The year of 2014 is an important date in the history of the Normandy region of France, and of this country. It is the 70th anniversary of D-Day 06/06/1944.

If there are any people who have memories and memorabilia of these days in our history, of life as it was here, for us, or friends and relatives who participated in the invasion, the Twinning Association would love to hear about it.

Please contact Keith McCarthy 01608 662652 if you have any questions, memories or wish to participate in this exchange. For more information about the twinning association, visit www.shipston-torigni-twinning-association.co.uk

Royal British Legion, Shipston Branch



All members who pay by cash are reminded that membership subscriptions are due on 1st October. Please see Mike Ashley as soon as possible after this date.

The Shipston Branch will be holding its Annual General Meeting at 8pm on Thursday 17th October in the Band room. All members are urged to attend this important event in the Branch's calendar.

The Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service will be on Sunday 10th November. The parade will march off from the High Street at 10:30am prior to the Service at St Edmund's. All serving and ex-service personnel are welcome to parade, not just Legion members. Further details will be posted on the Branch noticeboard.

A Two Minute's Silence will be observed in the High Street on Monday 11th November at 11am to mark Armistice Day. This has been well attended in recent years and a good turn out will be welcomed again.

The Annual Poppy Appeal commences on Saturday 26th October and will run until Sunday 10th November. More volunteer collectors are badly needed. If you can spare an hour or two during the Poppy Appeal to help ensure the group raises the money needed to continue the Legion's vital welfare work, and for all other queries, please contact Richard Adams, Branch Chairman, on 01608 662328.

Stour Enterprise Centre

If you're a homeworker or sole trader interested in casual coworking and eating cake, head to the SEC for Shipston Jelly every other Friday. Simply bring your laptop, log into the Wifi, and enjoy working in a friendly atmosphere for just £5. Visit www.shipstonjelly.eventbrite.co.uk to book.

Readers' Letters Page 13

Readers' Letters

Letter from Brenda Broughton, HSBC Customer, Bank Pensioner, Shareholder and former Shipston Town Mayor

Dear Fellow Residents,

Were you appalled as I was by HSBC's proposal to close their Shipston branch?

They suggest that we use their branches in Stratford or Moreton in Marsh to do our banking. Do they realise that over 60% of our residents are retired and many have mobility problems? We are not able to climb on and off buses! Indeed the Stratford branch is too far from the bus for us.

Shipston is a service centre for all the surrounding villages, hence the existence of the Shipston Link Bus to bring them in to do their banking, shopping, and visit the dentist, doctor or solicitors. Our car parks are full most of the time, filled by drivers doing the same. If there are no banking facilities they will go elsewhere! This will adversely affect all the town traders.

Shipston is a town with 10 doctors and a hospital serving the whole area. Many planning permissions have been granted and the number of new applications is growing. Shipston's HSBC cannot be a non-profit making branch. They had to install a second cashpoint as one was not sufficient! So how can we manage with none?

As a shareholder I do not think this is a sound commercial decision. It adds to rural deprivation, it should be urban branches they close, where customers can easily get to another branch.

If you are as distressed as I am please write to:

Mr Mike Tate, Retail branch Manager, Stratford upon Avon Branch, 134 Chapel Street, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 6ET

or email him at his Stratford office.

Thank you.

Letter from Anne Hume

Re the planned closure of HSBC

Several practical questions: How much money is withdrawn from the two HSBC ATMs each week? Where are bank customers now going to obtain cash? There is always a queue outside the ONE Lloyds ATM. How many times will it need to be filled each week to accommodate the HSBC customers? What happens when it runs dry, as it will, over the weekend?

The bigger Co-op is expanding, drawing more shoppers into town. Shipston is expanding with more and more houses being built. Where are they to get cash? We can't all use Lloyds ATM. We can't all afford to get on a bus to Stratford, simply to use HSBC ATM, pay in business accounts, charity accounts, make money transfers etc. Indeed, with an ageing population – some can't even get on a bus.

Why is Shipston branch closing, whilst Moreton, a smaller town, surely a smaller branch of HSBC, remains open?

Letter from Bill Hannis, Chairman, Stour Valley Visually Impaired Club

On Saturday 17th August Warwickshire Association for the Blind (WAB) held a Street Collection in Shipston Town Centre. Once again I wish to thank the people of Shipston and the Stour Valley for their great generosity, we collected $\mathfrak{L}302$.

Due to a change of policy by WAB, the great majority of this money now comes to The Stour Valley VIP club (for the blind and visually impaired). All the proceeds will be used for the benefit of local people by providing transport, outings and entertainment for our members.

Thank you Shipston and the Stour Valley.

Letter from Nicola Williamson, Railway Crescent

I am quite horrified at the proposal to commemorate Peter Drinkwater. This idea is diametrically opposed to everything that was Peter Drinkwater and he would be appalled.

Mr Drinkwater was an intensely private man – he went quietly about his business and was sufficient unto himself. I had several conversations with him during the years I have lived in Shipston because he was such a repository of local knowledge, but I would never have dreamed of enquiring into his private life. I have also read some of his books, and his poetry, which is charming.

If the Town wants to commemorate Peter Drinkwater, I suggest a collection is made for an animal sanctuary or a music scholarship. The Town already has a sundial – it is on the Gyratory Garden and was resurrected from obscurity in Mill Street car park by Stour Valley Lions. A meaningless object would be an insult to a gentle kindly man.

Letter from Rachel Vial

In September's forum it was reported that I had attended a meeting when the representatives from the town council regarding the allotments.

This is indeed correct and whilst I was happy to attend having spoken publicly at the previous town council meeting regarding the proposed changes to allotment rents, I do not feel it can be said that I was representing the allotment holders as reported.

I have no mandate for this and had not canvassed opinions from others.

Got something to say?

Send your letter of up to 200 words to forum@shipstononline.org
Letters may be edited to fit space the available.

District Council update

The District Council's housing master plan, the Core Strategy, has been approved by the Council subject to consultation on the two major elements of it, the Stratford on Avon regeneration plan and the proposal for a new settlement near to Lighthorne Heath.



The representations made are being considered by the Council and a final decision will be made in October on whether to include these options in the Council Core Strategy planning policy document.

I do think the concept of a new settlement has a great deal of merit against building large numbers of houses on the edges of towns such as Shipston.

The District Council does seem to be keeping on track to have its new planning policies in place by November 2014.

The announcement by HSBC of its intention to close its branch in Shipston is bad news for Shipston residents and businesses. I have written to HSBC asking them to reconsider their decision.

The good news is that the Co Op managers running the larger Co Op in the High Street have lodged their plans to extend the store by 200 sq. meters. I fully support this scheme as I believe it will greatly enhance the retail offer in Shipston.

Meanwhile the appeal by ASL to be allowed to build a supermarket, 180 houses and a petrol station off the Campden road will be heard by a planning Inspector during October, hopefully with a decision by Christmas.

Richard Cheney

t: 01608 685570

e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

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

County Council update

Recycling

In 2004, 21% of the material taken to household refuse sites in Warwickshire was recycled. By 2013, there are now more



facilities for recycling and the proportion of household waste being recycled has increased to more than 50%. This is in addition to the waste collected from your doorstep in wheeled bins.

The County Council has now set a target of 65% by 2020. We will provide the facilities and trust that all can help meet those challenging, but achievable targets.

Hanson Hill Bridleway

Bridleway SS124 has been a problem this year having become very overgrown. I can only apologise for the time taken to deal with it.

Finally, after a lot of effort, 18th September is the date that has been set where a team of volunteers will do some work on the route. A further day will be allocated on 2nd October, so I hope that it will be better to use by the time you read this article.

Early Years

An extensive consultation on the Early Years provision by the County Council has now been completed after 13 public meetings around the County, one of these in Shipston. A Scrutiny committee met on 14th August to hear from parents and experts.

The proposal is to keep open all the centres around Warwickshire, but make the target £2.3m savings by thinning out the middle management in the service.

Councillor Chris Saint

t: 01608 662290

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

Shipston Medical Centre

Shingles

This year, there is a national vaccination programme to vaccinate those aged 70 against Shingles and also this year there is also a 'catch up' campaign to vaccinate those aged 79 (born between 02/09/33 and 01/09/34).

If you are going to be eligible for this vaccination we will write to you individually to advise you how you can receive the vaccination should you wish to have it.

Health checks

A new NHS service offering health checks to those aged 40-75 will soon be offered.

In Warwickshire it is estimated that these simple health checks, which will assess the risks of cardiovascular disease, could prevent 9,500 heart attacks and strokes each year, saving 2,000 lives.

Only those patients without a pre-existing heart condition,

chronic kidney disease, diabetes or history of strokes are eligible for the health check.



Individuals eligible will be contacted over the next few years, inviting them to take up the health check.

Still time to donate

The end of September will see three of our doctors tackling the Three Peaks Challenge in aid of Shipston Home Nursing. They will be joining their friend, Ben Lindon, who is raising money for Brain Tumour Research. To donate, visit:

www.justgiving.com/climbingforcompassion

or: www.justgiving.com/ben-lindon

Medical Centre - t: 01608 661845

Twitter - @ShipstonMC

Useful Contacts Page 15

Your Town Councillors



Veronica Murphy, Town Mayor

Communications group chair

- t: 01608 664518
- e: veronica.murphy123@btinternet.com



Philip Vial, Deputy Mayor

Planning group chair

- t: 07814 192161
- e: ppjvial@googlemail.com



Ian Cooper

Finance group chair t: 01608 663785

e: ian@piruk.com



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Arthur Ivens

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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

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.



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Paul Rathkey

Staffing group chair

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Fay Ivens

Proud Campaign chair

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Melanie Trapp

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- e: melanie.trapp@sky.com



Jackie Warner

t: 07717 391234



Mark Wildish

- t: 07969 375613
- e: mark.wildish@talktalk.net

Useful Contacts

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

Notice of Road Improvement Work affecting the Shipston Gyratory

Warwickshire County Council's Highways Department is about to embark on resurfacing work to improve the road surface around the Shipston Gyratory, affecting Church Street, Mill Street and West Street.

To keep disruption to a minimum, the work will be carried out in three phases over a period of one and a half weeks, from 9th October to 18th October. Road closures and diversions will be in place where necessary as indictated on the map below.

Please allow extra time for your journeys during this period, and avoid the affected areas wherever possible. For further details, please contact the Highways Department on 01926 738931.

