



Shipston Forum



August 2025

Music all the way

These pictures reflect just some of the incredible range and variety of performances in this year's Shipston Proms.

More pictures and a full report in the centre pages.



Ibiza-on-Stour



Folk night



Longborough Youth Chorus

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We do like to be beside the sea



One sunny Monday morning in June a coachful of Shipston support groups set off to Weston-super-Mare, where fish and chips and ice creams were the order of the day as usual. This is now the 11th year that Shipston Rotary has been able to sponsor this much-loved annual trip – all made possible through fundraising events.

Reach for the sun

Are you nurturing an amazing sunflower this year? Keep looking after it – there is still time to enter Shipston Rotary's annual tallest sunflower competition. Sunflowers will be measured in your garden on Saturday 16th August! There are two classes, under 11 and over 11 years old. The winners in each class will receive a certificate and a £10 Amazon voucher. The annual competition is run by the Shipston Rotary. To enter, contact Fay Ivens on 01608 662133 or fivens13@gmail.com



VJ Day 80

The Shipston Branch of the Royal British Legion will hold a commemorative ceremony at 11:45am on Friday, 15th August at the Gyratory Gardens, to mark the 80th anniversary of Victory over Japan Day (VJ Day). This solemn occasion will honour the courage, sacrifice, and service of all those who contributed to the end of the Second World War in the Pacific. The nationwide two minute silence will be observed at 12 noon, paying tribute to those who gave so much for peace. All are welcome to attend and stand in remembrance.

Shipston Museum will be open 12-4pm on the same day, featuring the courageous local story of Sgt Major Cyril Mace (RA) who was a Japanese PoW.

Business focus on MadMolly - page 9

Local doctor's WWI role - page 10

Mayor’s column

Dear Shipstonians,

Well, June was a busy and hugely enjoyable month for many of us, wasn’t it? Filled with great community activities, lots of fetes and many more amazing proms events. My wife and I were very impressed by the Proms talent we saw, and we loved every event we attended. A huge thank you and congratulations to the committee who provided us with so much entertainment this year. The highlight for me was seeing our community so united at the main event and having a fantastic night watching the acts and dancing and singing along to the RPJ band. The Proms has become an annual event that has come to underpin the character of our town.

Aside from the many fetes and proms events that we attended, my wife and I also had the opportunity to attend a mayoral event in Evesham where we met with a number of mayors and consorts from the Cheltenham and Gloucester region. It was a pleasure to spend some time with them and represent our town and share our knowledge and experiences.

So, what’s the theme for my sermon this month? Well, it seems that people across the town are getting anxious and rightly concerned about the volume and content of leaflets being distributed by a variety of housebuilders asking for your participation in their consultations for proposed building plans around our town.

We know that the South Warwickshire Local Planning team (SWLP) have issued proposals for house building sites across South Warwickshire. Shipston has been earmarked for circa 3,000 homes on sites that are yet to be approved. There was a fairly dire public ‘consultation’ (a small table with some very stressed SWLP reps!) at the leisure centre earlier this year to discuss our opinions and talk about the approval stages and next steps. Many attendees raised concerns about infrastructure, road access, practicality and particularly about those areas prone to serious flooding (only fine if you’re a fish!). The outcome of this ‘consultation’ will be a shortlist of prospective site locations that won’t be known until the end of the year. At that point I am sure the Town Council will review the shortlist and determine what further action is required.

Meanwhile, all the prospective builders for these yet-to-be approved sites have been swamping our town with leaflets, inviting us to participate in their unofficial online and Townsend Hall consultations in case they find themselves on the shortlist. The cheek of it! They need to await the outcome of the official SWLP consultation. In the meantime, if you prefer, please use the consultations to object to these planning applications on the basis that they are premature and likely to cause intolerable strain on our existing town infrastructure.

All of my County, District and Town Council colleagues have been opposed to building further homes in Shipston while our infrastructure continues to creak and while the river floods. We have already taken on more than our quota of new-builds in the last few years. However, we are also realistic. We know that Shipston will need to continue to grow and develop as it becomes a more attractive location for people to move into. But that growth must be through a measured and considerate approach that does not come at the cost of our infrastructure, community and the environment and that also protects the integrity and character of our town.

I know you will be very excited to hear that I now have the Mayor of Shipston on Stour Facebook page up and running. Wow! Have you Tony? I hear you scream. Yes I have! It’s called Mayor of Shipston on Stour. On this site I try to keep the town informed of matters such as this as well as town engagements and mayoral events. Please check it out and join me. My mission is to keep you informed as much as I possibly can about the stuff we care about. Plus there are lots of nice pictures of me dressed up as a Mayor on there, so that’s a bonus.

In my second outing to meet with the special independent traders in our town I had a very engaging visit to Mad Mollys, a lovely shop stocked with beautiful gifts and things. Do you know it? This is a serious question. I would urge all of our community to visit this shop and all of the independent businesses in our town that we are so lucky to have. We are not a prime tourist destination so without your support they do struggle. They need you, and your money! Next month we will be paying a visit to The Richard Harvey Collection.

As we move into August, I’m sure many of you are counting the days to your family holidays to faraway places in the sun. Have an amazing time where ever you are and what ever you are doing, and I look forward to talking with you again next month. TTFN,

Your Mayor,

Tony Booth



News from Shipston Town Council’s July meeting

Banking

Cllr Williams has written to the owners of the Lloyds bank building to ask about their intentions for the site. He is continuing to highlight how the assessment of the banking need in Shipston is not correct.

CCTV

Councillors visited the control centre to talk to the teams operating the town’s CCTV cameras. The system is used to track crime and antisocial behaviour and in searches for missing persons – the material is kept for 30 days. Hedge trimming will be requested to restore sightlines to the river from Mill Street. PC Sid Hammond confirmed that he uses the CCTV frequently and that it helped identify the perpetrator of a serious assault at Christmas.

Stratford District Council

Cllr Passingham has secured a grant for a feasibility study into a cycle route from Darlingscote Road to the High School. Cllr Hatch reported that the District Council had voted in favour of Warwickshire being split into two unitary authorities, north and south.

Blue Light report

Theft of cars, particularly targeted at Jaguar Land Rover models, in the area, has dropped off considerably since 12 members of an organised crime gang had received custodial sentences. The police visit every victim of car crime. Antisocial behaviour, with the start of the school holidays and the onset of hot weather, has been on the rise. Several vehicles have been seized for having antisocial behaviour and no insurance. Members of the public are urged to report this online. Police are sharing information on locations vulnerable to traveller incursions. The police are running special sessions with school students, youth club and parents on awareness of county lines, and intelligence is being shared and sought on cannabis use. This can be reported at Crime Stoppers (anonymously) and via the Warwickshire Police website. www.warwickshireconnected.com has information on police activity.

High School

Work on the new sports hall is now due to start in October and finish in November 2026. The school is keen to engage with the community to continue to drive up pupil admission numbers.

Planting and watering

An issue was raised at the open forum about the new plants and trees at the Ellen Badger which have been neglected and are suffering. Cllr H Kelly will speak to the site manager.

Assets

The general purposes working group will look at making assets

more sustainable, for example putting solar panels on the town council building, switching to LED lights, and installing water butts. There is ongoing discussion about potential uses for the twin chapels in order to be able to apply for grants for their upkeep.

Planning

A division of Bellway Homes has put in an application for up to 102 dwellings for land north of Darlingscote Road. Among 15 potential points of objection are that the development is outside the existing built-up area boundary and there are concerns, including from the fire service, about the proposed single point of entry. The Council will put in a holding objection and prepare for ratification at the next planning committee meeting, supported at District level by Cllr Passingham.

Sainsburys is to hold an informal meeting to answer queries about its planning application at 10am on 31st July.

Nature action plan

The Tree Council is offering free trees – Cllr Kelly to check this out, bearing in mind the Council’s policy of replacing each felled tree with two new ones.

Flower power

A small but dedicated group of volunteers called Shipston in Bloom (SiB) spent many years tendering to the flower pots and foliage in our town, providing colour and beauty for people to see as they drive through our town. The Shipston community can all be proud and grateful for the selfless voluntary contribution of this group who did such a fantastic job keeping up the appearances of Shipston.



Brownies planting seeds during National Volunteer week

Since the team retired a year ago, it has been extraordinarily difficult to find other volunteers to replace them. It is a struggle to continue to maintain the flower pots and beds to the high standards SiB achieved. The Town Council is putting out a plea for any green fingered people or aspiring gardeners in our community who might like to volunteer some time to carry on the good work and proudly keep our town bright and colourful. If this is you, then please contact Emily or Debs at Shipston Council office on 01608 662180 or email clerk@shipstontowncouncil.org.

And if you are a gardener, keen or otherwise – do you have some plants that have survived this very dry spring and summer? Watering has been a problem this year, and with climate change, is likely to be ongoing, so we would like to invite anyone who can to take some cuttings of drought-hardy plants such as lavenders, salvias, verbenas, grasses, sedums, hardy geraniums etc to donate for the tubs and beds. Please look after plants or cuttings until October, when we will collect them at New Clark House Council Office ready for planting in the tubs. Thank you, Hilary Kelly hilary.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org



THE STOUR TOY LIBRARY

Where is it?

Book your toys online and collect from either:

Shipston Baby and Toddler group
Scout Hut Monday 10am - 11am

Ellen Badger Community Hub
Thursday 11am - 12pm.

How much does it cost?

There is an annual membership fee of £5.

To borrow the toys, there is no additional cost. You can borrow 2 at a time.

We are so grateful to the many funders and supporters of The Stour Toy Library, who have been able to make this possible.

How does it work?

All toys are available to view and be reserved on the booking site.

Alternatively, you can come along to the sessions to see the toys in person.

Once you are happy, sign up as a member and start enjoying the benefits of the Toy Library while making friends with other young families in the area.

Access and book all of the incredible toys here:

<http://borrow.shwp.org.uk>

Or scan the QR code below

If you would like to be involved or have any suggestions on how we can improve the Toy Library, please email:

thestourtoylibrary@gmail.com



IT HELP



Want to improve your digital skills?

Our volunteer can support with your queries and boost your confidence with technology

For example, they can help you set up and use email, use a tablet or smart phone, access online forms etc.

You can book one off or weekly one to one 30 minute sessions.

Use a library computer or bring your own device

Shipston Library

Mondays 10am - 12pm

Free!

Speak to a member of staff to book your free 30 minute one to one session



Stour Health & Wellbeing Partnership



As many of you will know, the community Warm Hub, run by Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership, has found a new home at the Ellen Badger Hospital and we are enjoying our new ‘cool’ venue. We were lucky enough to host Helen Porter for the Shipston Proms and it was a fantastic event attended by around 50 people.

We are fortunate to be joined by the Digital Champions on 7th August, from 10-12 noon. This is a team coming to help with any IT Queries, but especially with the NHS App roll out. We have all seen in the press how the NHS 10-year plan involves having a doctor in your pocket, and these guys can make that easier for all. Come along with your device and any queries you may have, and a friendly expert will be able to help.

We are also lucky enough to be able to host baby massage, run by Barnardo’s at the Ellen Badger. They are running a six-week course at present, but if you would like to be put on the waiting list for the next course, please contact them to find out more and secure your space. Email Stratford District Children and Family Centres at stratforddistrictcfcadmins@barnardos.org.uk or phone 01789 266624.

The Toy Library will continue to run over the summer holidays on a Thursday from the Ellen Badger, from 11am-12 noon. There will be a small stay and play and the chance to pick up your click and collect toys. There is an online booking system in place to pre-order your toys in advance. <http://borrow.shwp.org.uk>. There is an initial administration cost for becoming a member of £5 but borrowing is then free of charge for the year.

Beds for Badger campaign



On Monday 14th July, at their full council meeting, Stratford District Council passed a motion to ask for the Call In to the Secretary of State and we expect the request to be submitted imminently. On the same date Shipston Town council agreed to ask for the 1992 Princess Diana building to be registered as an asset of community value. This will give the community the right to bid for the asset in the event that the owner decides to sell.

We note that although medical services are being provided in the new building, the activity level is still quite low. It is early days, but we can help by providing demand. If you are expecting to receive medical treatment of any sort, please do ask if it can be provided in the EBH in Shipston. This may not always be possible but if not, do ask why? We may be able to push for an increased range of services to suit local people’s needs.

We are seeing an increase in patients being looked after in their own homes with care workers and specialist nurses and therapists attending. Please do ask where they come from. Many

are coming from Coventry which is a lengthy travel distance, and we would hope that care workers could be recruited locally. The service appears to be restricted to six weeks and the handover to the GPs in the Primary Care Network and the district nurses is not always as smoothly integrated as might be expected. Please do ask about how this is to be arranged.

We are also aware that despite these services the extra load on family members can be considerable. Please do not underestimate the emotional and physical toll that can be placed on a volunteer family carer. Please do come along to the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Warm Hub on a Thursday morning to talk about the issues and share experiences with others. We look forward to the provision of these opportunities for social interaction being extended to more days of the week and more hours of the day as the new organisation takes shape.

Beds for Badger Organising Committee

Penultimate night of the Shipston Proms!



St Edmund’s Church in Shipston was transformed into the Royal Albert Hall as two brass bands performed on the penultimate night of the Shipston Proms. Union Flags flew and the audience applauded as Shipston Town Band and Stour Concert Brass played a joint concert which conjured up the spirit of the more famous annual Last Night of the Proms, complete with Elgar’s Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1 in D major, commonly known as ‘Land of Hope and Glory’, along with Nimrod, The Dam Busters Theme and Jerusalem, turning the patriotic dial to eleven. Before that the audience enjoyed wartime and children’s classics and a Sinatra number. Soloists included Sue Snoxall on cornet and Joe Cheshire on euphonium.



Band role

Fay Ivens, who served as Shipston’s mayor from 2012-2013, has been appointed president of Shipston Town Band, taking over from another former Shipston mayor, Ronnie Murphy, who has stepped down after many years in the role.

DO YOU LIVE IN SHIPSTON

(IF SO YOU COULD APPLY FOR A GRANT)



SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR EDUCATION CHARITY GRANTS FOR 2025/26
ARE YOU A SHIPSTON RESIDENT UNDER 25 YEARS OLD?

You can now apply for an **Educational Grant** to support you if you are due to undertake an Apprenticeship, Professional or Trade qualification or follow a Further or Higher Education course. If so, you can apply for a **Grant** for the 2025/26 year.

Application forms are now available from the **Shipston Library**.

Or write to **The Clerk to the Trustees, Mr D Squires, Pinnegar House, 49 Telegraph Street, Shipston CV36 4DA** enclosing a stamped addressed envelope or email ds@pinnegards.com for an Application form.

COMPLETED FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SUN 24 AUGUST 2025

Come to Holiday at Home

to find out about some unusual pets



on August 18th
10am—2.30pm



Townsend Hall

Games, crafts, refreshments, lunch followed by entertainment £12

Bookings through Rosemary

01608 662584



An activity run by Christians Together in Shipston

Regular Events

Monday

Seated Exercise Class: 11am Ellen Badger Health and Wellbeing hub

IT Help!: 10am-12pm Shipston Library (appointment only)

Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:
6:50pm for a 7pm start.
The Church Room, Darlingscote Road,
Contact Matthew Hunter: 01608 684499

Shipston Knitting and Crochet Group: 7-9pm, Low Furlong

Pickleball: 1:30pm – 3:30pm, Townsend Hall.

Shipston Toddler and Baby Stay and Play: 10-11am, Scout Hut

Tuesday

Rhyme Time: 10.30am, Shipston Library

Dementia Café: Shipston Lodge, 10.30am-12.30pm

Community Hub: Shipston Methodist Church, 2pm-4pm

Lego Club: Shipston Library, 3.30pm

Strictly Fitsteps Fab: 10am, Townsend Hall

Age Concern Lunch Club: Stour Court 12pm. Contact Jill Case, 01608 662226

Wednesday

Seated Tai Chi: 9.30am, Ellen Badger Health & Wellbeing Hub

Standing Tai Chi: 10.30am, Ellen Badger Health & Wellbeing Hub

GLOSS Coffee Morning: 11am, The White Horse

Indoor Kurling: 2pm, Townsend Hall

U3A weekly scrabble: 2-4pm at the George Townhouse. Free for all U3A members

Stour Valley Stitchers: 10am-1pm, 1st & 3rd Wed, The Hall, Stourton, CV36 5HG

Shipston Training Band: 6pm-7pm at the Band Hall, New Street CV36 4QR

Shipston Town Band: 7.30pm – 9.30pm at the Band Hall, New Street CV36 4Q

Thursday

Shipston Community Warm Hub: Every Thursday 10am-12pm, Ellen Badger Health and Wellbeing hub.

Story stomp: 10am, Shipston Library

Scrabble Club: 2pm-4pm, Shipston Library

Little Fishes: 10-11am Townsend Hall.

Age Concern Lunch Club: Rainbow Fields 12pm. Contact Christine Grant 07939 595600

Community Social Prescriber drop in: 10am-12pm, Scout Hut, New Street

Stour Singers:
We rehearse on Thursdays from 7.30-9.30pm at Shipston Primary School. Contact Gayle Burch on 07791 769102

The Stour Toy Library click and collect 11:00am - 12noon, Ellen Badger Community Wellbeing Hub

Friday

Pilates for Complete Beginners: 9.30am Townsend Hall

Walks with a friendly group: 10am Mill car park. Call Marleen, 01608 663616

Shipston Stitchers:
Every fortnight at The Church Room, Darlingscote Road. 10am -3pm. New members welcome. Contact Anita Spencer on 01993 832665

Age Concern Lunch Club: Fortnightly, Rainbow Fields, 12pm. Contact: Maryann Dobbin 07779 730774

Shipston Knitting and Crochet Group - Friday afternoons in Mrs. Browns from 2-4.30pm

Alcoholics Anonymous: 7.30-9pm, Blackwell Village Hall, CV36 4PE, 01865 242373, 0800 9177 650

Stour Concert Brass: 7.45pm – 9.15pm at the Band Hall, New Street CV36 4QR

Saturday

Lego Club: Shipston Library. From 10am.

Shipston Food Bank:
10:30am-12pm, St Edmund's Church, Shipston.
No referral or voucher needed

What's On Calendar: August 2025

1st, 15th, 29th. Shipston Stitchers: A friendly quiet group who meet at Darlingscote Rd church hall to embroider fortnightly on a Friday. We are mixed ability. Eg some gold workers, some cross stitchers. We welcome new members. Pop in to say 'hello' or ring Anita on 01993 832665

2nd. Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick: All welcome. Meet at New Clarke House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Children's equipment available

3rd. Lego Church: First Sunday of the month during morning service at St Edmund's 10:30am. For school age children. Please bring an adult. Contact rector@shipstonchurch.org.

5th. Shipston Library Reading Group: 2pm-3pm first Tuesday of each month.

5th. & 19th. 'Dance for Joy' Monthly Circle Dance Group in Stretton on Fosse 2.30 – 4pm. First and third Tuesday of each month. Dances from around the world – all taught from scratch. Please contact Geri Hunting geraldinehunting@icloud.com or 07968 338848

6th. Shipston Widows: The first Wednesday of each month at the Horseshoe. Coffee from 11am and stay for lunch. Contact: Barbara Bean 6632304

6th. Judging for Tallest Sunflower Competition: See article on page 1

6th. & 20th. Stour Valley Stitchers: 10am-1pm, The Hall, Stourton, CV36 5HG. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

7th. Plant a Poem with Emilie: See ad on page 7

9th. Stour Valley Lions Specialist Book Sale at Brailes Show: See ad on page 10

11th. Town Council Meeting: 7pm, New Clark House

12th. Stour Valley Lions Meeting: 6:30pm – 9:30pm; The George Townhouse. 2nd Tuesday of every month.

15th. VJ Day: The Shipston Branch of the Royal British Legion will hold a commemorative ceremony at 11:45am at the Gytratory Gardens and observe the National Two Minute Silence at 12:00am noon. The Museum is open 12pm-4pm

Royal British Legion Social Evening: The Shipston on Stour Branch gathers for a social event on the third Friday of each month at The Horseshoe, starting at 7:30pm. Additionally, every other month, the Branch Committee meets on the third Friday at St Edmund's Church from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM, before joining the social gathering. If you are interested in Branch events or enquiring to join the Branch, please contact the Branch Secretary, Ali at ShipstonOnStour. Secretary@rbl.community

16th. Stour Valley Lions Prize Bingo: See ad on page 10

Three Men in a Boat: The Hall, Cherington, Stourton & Sutton. 6pm. See ad on page 16

18th. An Audience with Carolyn Kirby: See ad on page 7

18th. Holiday at Home: See ad on page 4

21st. Drop In Clinic: For the over 65s. 10am-12pm, Ellen Badger Hospital. Every third Thursday

26th.GLOSS (Great Ladies of Shipston and Surroundings). A social group for women to have fun and make friends. 7.30pm- 9.30pm at the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. The 4th Tuesday of every month (except December). All ladies welcome. Entry £2. See ad on page 7

28th. Local Quaker Meeting for Worship: St Edmund's Church, last Thursday in the month at 2.30pm, followed by tea/coffee, biscuits & chat

31st. Messy Church: Crafts, stories, songs. For 0-11 year olds accompanied by an adult. No need to book. Refreshments available. Run by Shipston Joint Churches. 3pm-4.30pm. St Edmund's Church

AN AUDIENCE WITH

CAROLYN KIRBY

Monday 18th August

2 - 3pm

Shipston Library

Free!

Book on Eventbrite or ask a member of staff

Plant a Poem with Emilie

Shipston Library
11am Thursday 7th August

SCAN HERE!

Plant a Poem... and watch it bloom! Join Emilie for a creative workshop suitable for children.

SEATED EXERCISE

Mondays at 11am
ELLEN BADGER, SHIPSTON ON STOUR

A gentle seated exercise session, designed to help build strength for everyday activities.

For more information or to book a place contact Rowenna Webb on 07967 479375 or email admin@shwp.org.uk

This is one of the range of activities in the Dr Sue Pritchard Memorial Challenge delivered by the Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership

G.L.O.S.S

Great Ladies Of Shipston and Surroundings

Feel supported and Encouraged
While Making Friends & Having Fun

We Host a Coffee Morning at
The White Horse
Every Wednesday From 11am

We Meet Every 4th Tuesday of the Month
The Catholic Church, Darlingscote Road
Shipston on Stour, CV36 4DR

ALL LADIES WELCOME!

Contact Us At:
GLOSS2025.SHIPSTON@GMAIL.COM
Or find us On
Facebook

Shipston Proms, the debrief!

With music from dance party to opera, 90s indie pop to Gilbert and Sullivan, country, jazz, all on top of the core favourite, no wonder the town was buzzing under the Shipston Proms banner in Church Street, the sign which Tim Porter and colleagues put up each June, come rain or shine. The success of this year’s Proms is a fitting tribute to departing chair Charlotte Haines whose initiatives have propelled the Proms forward over the last seven years.



On launch night, country music, cowboy hats and checked cloths came to the Townsend Hall with leading tribute Country band Country Bound performing songs by Shania Twain, Dolly Parton and Taylor Swift. Hokum and Hooch were a perfect support band with their own original material, and appeared the following week at Thirst Edition.

On day two it was the turn of an assembled choir to impress their audience at the Come and Sing event with the Stour Singers at the Methodist Church, rising to the occasion with four Handel Coronation Anthems under conductor Alex Silverman, accompanied by Harry Turnball on piano.

For what is turning out to be a Proms staple, our Ibiza on Stour dance party drew hundreds of people up to the Hub to listen to the sounds of legendary BBC radio show presenter DJ Judge Jules, strongly supported by, in order of appearance, our own fantastic DJs Rich Harvey, Harry Synge and Tim Samsara. A laser show and screens radiated colourful images behind the DJs, as a pulsating sea of glowsticks were waved by the crowd.

In a change of key and pace, the renowned Longborough Youth Chorus came to the Scout Hut to rehearse for their up-and-coming Dido and Aneas event at the end of July. Nothing put them off their stride, not even when a cockerel from the allotment provided unexpected backing vocals!

Music Teacher Helen Porter has nurtured the talents of many young people over the years. One former piano student was 24-year-old Hector Banks who played songs by John Legend, Ed Sheeran and Justin Bieber.

Another opportunity to see the skills of young musicians is at our longest running and one of our most popular events, the Young Musicians Concert, inspired by former teacher Phyllida Gardner and run by Helen Porter in St. Martin’s Church in Barcheston. Seven-year-old Nikil Lotey, a current pupil of Helen, played skilfully on keyboard and then duetted with his six year old sister Amelia, which shows you are never too young to learn.

And the music kept coming, including sea shanties at the Black Horse, jazz at Cherington with the immensely talented U3a band The Pavilionaires, blues, swing and ragtime at The George Inn, Lower Brailes, and Astwood Operatic Society performing Gilbert and Sullivan songs for the first time outside Droitwich in the Townsend Hall.

Final night was busy as ever. First up were the Shipston Introducing winners, duo Mimi Roberts from Oddington and Chipping Norton based Jamie Webb and afterwards soloist Jay Mac from Banbury. Then we had the amazing one-man band Thom Kirkpatrick, followed by the hugely popular The Reggulites from Birmingham. Finally onstage, the return of showstoppers Rick Parfitt Junior and his band. They produced a spectacular and effortless show and Rick had the audience in

the palm of his hand singing and dancing to all the hits.

A huge thank you to all our sponsors and supporting businesses, especially our 2025 headline sponsor Ryse 3D. So many people helped to make this a wonderful community event. Laken from the Coach and Horses, who stepped in with the bar at the last moment, deserves a special mention!

Thank you too, to everyone who stayed to sweep up after the Final Night, that was such a great surprise and so much appreciated at the end of a long day.

The Proms Music Festival 2026 will run 19th June to 4th July 2026 depending on whether we have enough committee members. There are now a few vacancies including the position of Chair. Please get in touch if you’d like to help, or with feedback, on our Facebook page, website www.shipstonproms.org or better still in person! We look forward to hearing from you!



Rick Parfitt Junior



Street party!



Young musicians

All photos: Chris Roberts/Widerview-visual.media

Bookfest programme now live



After the success of last year’s festival, we’re excited to announce our events for 2025. Featuring genres such as history, true crime, nature, and mindfulness, plus a creative writing workshop, we hope you’ll find something to enjoy. Here are some snippets of the full programme:

- Pop-up poetry performances by Shipston’s young poets
- Earth to Earth — John Cornwell
- The Bookshop Band, with local author exhibition
- Starting to Write Fiction — A Workshop with Helen Yendall
- Literary Lunch with Sandeep Mahal at The Bower House
- A ‘Frequently Happy’ talk and workshop — David Larbi
- How to Build a Spitfire — David Price
- Female Spies: Fact and Fiction — Mandy Robotham and Claire Hubbard-Hall in conversation
- Plus so much more!

The festival runs 20-28th September in venues across the town. Find out more about all our events at www.shipstonbookfest.org or you can scan the QR code. The Bookfest programme will be distributed in September and available across the town, but we recommend booking early to avoid disappointment as some of our events and workshops have limited capacity.



Earth to Earth

The Shipston Bookfest committee are excited to introduce you to one of our newly announced events for this year’s festival — author John Cornwell and his true crime book ‘Earth to Earth’.



On 23 September 1975, the bodies of the three unmarried Luxton siblings are found on their remote North Devon farm. Was this the unfortunate end to a long-established farming family or the scene of a violent, premeditated crime?

The book takes you through John’s original investigation at the time of murders: starting with the Luxton’s lives before their deaths and their insistence on farming the land using outdated methods, before moving onto interviews with the Luxton’s neighbours who had their own theories about doomed betrothals, family feuds, and even an ancestral curse.

John also covers the police investigation and subsequent inquest. Yet despite the original verdict that there had been a suicide pact, Cornwell revisits the evidence 50 years later in this revised book — finding anomalies in the evidence that suggest even darker elements...

Fifty years on from the crime, ‘Earth to Earth’ has been recently revised and re-released, including a dramatic revelation that the poet Ted Hughes (who was a neighbour of the Luxton’s) went to great lengths to prevent the book being published.

John will be speaking at Shipston Bookfest on Saturday 20th September in The Townsend Hall.

Focus on Shipston business...MadMolly




MadMolly, run by owner Katherine, is a beautiful gift shop slightly tucked away in Market Square (between Taste of The Country & Creature Comforts). The business started in 2007, and it is named after Katherine & Steve’s then young daughters, Molly and Madeleine. Katherine started selling wooden toys at mothers’ coffee mornings and progressed to stalls at fetes before moving online to (MadMolly.co.uk), eBay and Amazon. MadMolly’s shop opened in Shipston-on-Stour on 5th November 2021 and is the culmination of all that hard work and perseverance to bring a touch of magic to Shipston-on-Stour.

Entering the shop, you are dazzled by the breadth of gift ideas. The photo doesn’t do it justice! Do you want some very collectible, yet practical, Polish pottery? Or maybe an Indian block print bag, handpicked by Katherine for her own brand, from Jaipur. Gift cards, candles...the list is endless and enticing. The displays and overall visual effect of the shop are the dreamchild of Ali, who gained her expertise curating and designing shop windows for a shop called Harrods...you may have heard of it! And there is also Sharon to support the online and instore trading of the business. Together these ladies run a family business in Shipston-on-Stour that our town should be proud and protective of. So why doesn’t everyone know about this shop? And why are people so amazed when they go in? This shop has every gift idea you need for everyone from 0-99 years old. Try it, you won’t be disappointed.


Shipston-on Stour is not a prime tourist destination. The more I get to know our independent traders, the more I realise just how important it is for our community to get behind them and buy local before considering that trip to Stratford or Banbury. Shops like MadMolly only exist through the loyalty and business provided by the Shipston community. Without these businesses our town would be poorer and a shadow of what it is.

If you haven’t been in there yet, you must! It’s simply stunning so next time you visit our town centre please drop in and say hi to Katherine, Ali or Sharon. Even if you don’t buy anything, you will get some great gift ideas for the future, and they will appreciate seeing you.

Tony Booth



Stour Valley Lions
presents a




**Bumper Sale of
Transport Books**

**Come and browse a selection of
new and secondhand
books with a Transport theme**

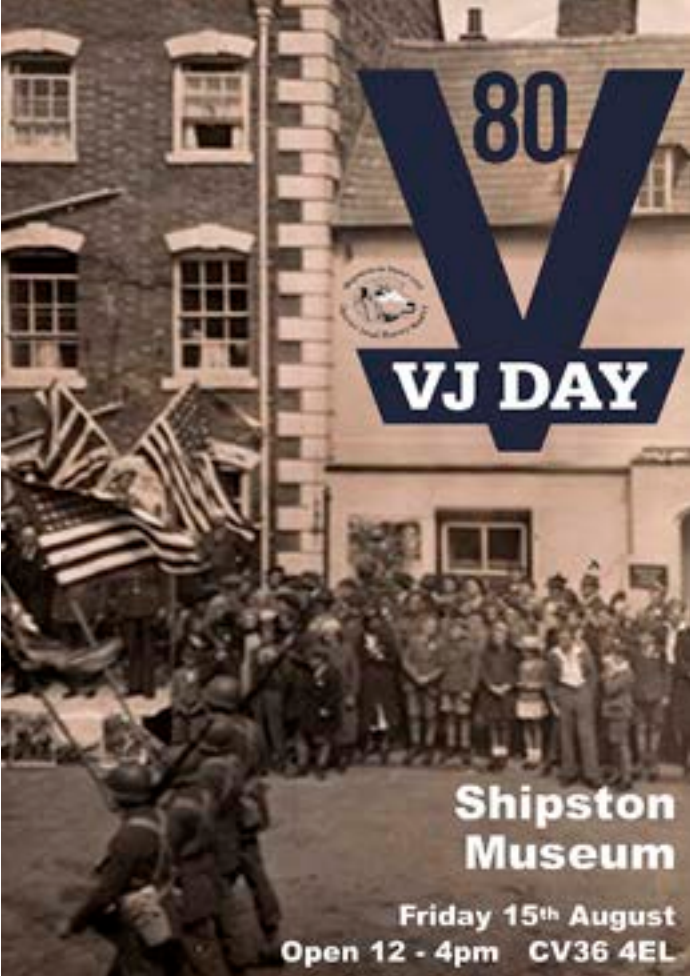
All profits go to Charity

**At Brailes Show
Saturday 9th August 2025**



We are sorry, but we cannot accept
book donations on the day.
Please phone 07511 694733 if you have any
quality books you wish to donate

Registered Charity No. 1191826



80

V

VJ DAY

**Shipston
Museum**

Friday 15th August
Open 12 - 4pm CV36 4EL



**The Stour Valley Lions bring you
an evening of**



Prize Bingo!

**Saturday
16th August**

at the Townsend Hall, Shipston

Great prizes! Tea, Coffee, Cake!

Raffle! Bar!

Just come on down! Doors open at 6.00pm

No booking required! Eyes Down at 7.30pm

Stour Valley Lions. Reg Charity: 1191826

Shipston Primary School

Farewell, Year 6

It is with a great happy-sadness that we wish our Year 6 children ‘adios y buena suerte’ as they head off to enjoy a well-earned rest over the summer before starting at their new schools. Over the past few weeks they have enjoyed visiting the West Midlands Safari Park, swimming, ice-creams, have entertained us brilliantly with their extremely funny performance of ‘Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies’ and reminded us of what a wonderful group they have been over the past 7 years in their Leavers’ Assembly yesterday. They have grown into a close-knit, caring group and I hope that they continue to be people that can make our town proud of them as they grow. In addition to being good people, they have achieved incredible academic results. Their SATS results show that they are above the National Average in all areas, especially in reading and writing, with our SEND children performing extremely well. These results really highlight how brilliant our children are.



Year 4 Camp out

On the penultimate Friday of the year, our Year 4 children were very excited to ‘sleep’ overnight on the school field. They enjoyed playing parachute games, den building, water fights, treasure hunts and midnight feasts before going to sleep in tents kindly lent to us by our local Scouts. The children were a joy to be with, showing kindness and teamwork in their activities, even if there was not much actual sleeping occurring!

Thanks to Mrs Warbrick, Miss Remus, Mrs Miles, Mr Moorby, Mrs Hart and Miss Digweed who all spent the night at school with the children and to Mrs Clarke, Mrs Proud, Miss Sabin and Mrs Levison who all came and helped organise games and Forest School sessions. Thanks, also, to those children who helped to erect the tents on Friday. It was truly a great night filled with wonderful memories.

Thank you, Shipston Rotary

Every year, Shipston Rotary Club make a very kind donation of a dictionary to every child in Year 5 to help them as they move into Year 6. The children were presented with their books on the last day of term and were very grateful and looking forward to putting them to good use next year.



Caretaker Vacancy

We are looking for a caretaker to join our friendly team. You can find details here:

<https://teaching-vacancies.service.gov.uk/jobs/caretaker-shipston-on-stour-primary-school>

High School

As the school community enjoys the summer break, this is an ideal opportunity to celebrate the end of a successful school year, with students and staff involved in a varied range of activities.

The year finished with a flurry of activity. In July we welcomed our new prospective year 7 students for the annual year 6 to 7 transition day. The children really enjoyed their day, experiencing secondary school lessons and life for the first time. There was a positive buzz through the school as the younger students were assisted by our year 9 students in finding their way around the building and getting to know new friends.



Year 5 and 6 students have also visited the school for a maths quiz, an inflatable assault course and further after school taster sessions, including creative arts, food and cookery and sports activities. These were all joyful events, and it was great to see younger students enjoying time in the school ahead of their secondary school careers.



Existing students were also enjoying themselves during our busy and brilliant enrichment week. Every student in the school participated in several events, all designed to broaden horizons, develop skills and be a hugely enjoyable end to the year for our young people. The arrangement of the events across the week has been led by Mrs Hewitt, and staff and governors have thrown themselves into the activities by volunteering to lead a range of diverse and exciting sessions. We are also extremely grateful to community organisations and individuals for making so many of the events possible.

There really were too many events to list here, but the activities included trips to the Butterfly farm, Stratford upon Avon attractions, Aquaparks, and ten pin bowling. Activities in school included bowls, pickleball, a bake-off challenge, crafts and crochet, a drama workshop, gymnastics and many more. There really was something for everyone and students responded superbly to opportunities, including the chance to work with pigs and camels on the school field!



Shipston High School is a people-centred community of shared endeavour, and events like these demonstrate the unique and impressive opportunities the school creates for and with our students.

Shipston Music Society

In June Shipston Music Society gathered at the Methodist Church for a recital of piano duets by Lynn Arnold and Charles Matthews. These two pianists perform together frequently, presenting a vast repertoire of both original compositions and transcriptions for four hands. A shared passion of English music features significantly in their choice of repertoire which includes the complete works for piano duet by York Bowen, Delius and Vaughan Williams. Lynn and Charles are also keen to promote recent British works such as those by Elizabeth Maconchy (1967) and Andrew Glover-Whitley (2019). In 2022 Howard Skempton dedicated his piano duet Inventing the Wheel, marking his 75th birthday, to Lynn and Charles.

The programme began with Sonata by Poulenc with its powerful opening of the Prelude. Immediately one was impressed by the ability of two pianists sounding as one, the synchronisation being so perfect. After Clara Schumann’s March we heard Variations on a Theme of Robert Schumann by Brahms in which the melody is passed from one performer to the other – thus creating a contrast between the upper and lower registers of the keyboard. Then came Warlock’s Capriol Suite, a very popular work, composed as a piano duet in 1926 and based on six different dances of the Renaissance period. The second of these, Pavane, is in a minor key with a gentle, legato melody creating a feeling of yearning, so beautifully played. Three more varied movements brought us to Mattachins (Sword Dance). This very energetic dance was rewarded with very energetic applause!

During the interval there was much to be discussed such as ‘How do they manage to play so accurately and at exactly the precise moment together?!’ Indeed, their synchronisation is absolutely perfect. This became even more apparent in their execution of Balliol Dances by Bramwell Tovey, (1953 – 2022). These contrasting movements from the gentle swaying motion of the 6/8 rhythm to the rollicking finale are a real test of synchronisation for the performers. The evening ended with Rout by Arthur Bliss (1891-1975) which began with an explosion of sounds like fireworks shooting off in all directions. It was a perfect choice to consolidate our admiration and gratitude to Lynn and Charles for a fantastic evening’s performance of such high calibre. We are indeed very fortunate to have such talented performers in this area who enjoy playing for us and are prepared to do so on an instrument that is certainly not a concert grand!

Our 2025/2026 programme begins on 19th September in the Methodist church at 7.30pm with a recital by Madeline Kirby (harp) and Judith Scholes (flute). We do hope to see you all there - and do bring along any of your friends who might be considering joining us.



Probus

Shipston Remembers: A talk by Stephen Hartley from Shipston Museum.

A very welcome return to Probus by Stephen Hartley, an enthusiastic volunteer and trustee of the Town Museum, who gave members a fascinating glimpse into our local past.

How do we remember the past? Stephen showed a photo of Church Street taken in 1914, with only one car and one lorry to be seen and drew our attention to Park House, which played an important local role during the 1914-18 war. Park House belonged to the local GP and medical director of Ellen Badger Hospital, Doctor Stein. The family generously made the house available to the British Red Cross as a voluntary-aided hospital, manned by around 25 volunteers. By the end of the war, about 2,000 soldiers had been nursed, thanks to the public spirit of the doctor and his family, and also the people of Shipston. A poster dated 1919 offering for sale equipment from Park House documented its closure as a hospital and a return to a GP’s residence.

WW1 brought a great loss of young men. Nationally about one in ten did not come back, and Shipston was no exception. How many public war memorials are there in the Town? Probus members were surprised at the answer – there are five! One inside the library, one outside and one inside St. Edmunds Church, one in Shipston Museum, originally located in the old Council School, and one at the Gyratory Gardens; this last commemorates 36 from WWI. Named bricks are set into the path, and sadly includes the son of Dr Stein, killed in 1916.

Servicemen and women lost in the two world wars were normally buried in the country where they fell and are commemorated by a Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC) headstone or memorial. Shipston cemetery has five war CWHC headstones for local men who died in the UK whilst serving with the colours.

Most recently it has been Town Council policy to name roads on newly built residential estates after local men who gave their lives in war. To date there are seven areas of the parish located at Herdwick Fold, Shepherd’s Gate, Herdwick Gate, Gardner Court, Shipston Gardens, Chapel View and Haddon Field.

Shipston Museum currently has an exhibition to commemorate VE Day80 and was delighted to be visited by a film crew from BBC Midland’s Today – three hours of filming produced 2.5 minutes of news!

The museum is open weekends and bank holidays 12-4pm from Easter to September. Well worth a visit of more than a few minutes!

If you feel Probus could appeal to you, then why not give us a try? Guests enjoy a free lunch and no initial commitment to join, entirely your choice! Please contact Tony Joint on 07711 310272 or email tonyjoint73@hotmail.com for further details.



Bossa Gringo comes to Townsend Hall



Save the date in your diary: Friday 19th September 2025. This exciting quartet of crack musicians breathe new life into well-known and not so well-known Latin rhythms (Bossa Nova, Samba, Rhumba, etc) – think of those who famously played this style, including Stan Getz, Dizzy Gillespie, and Antonio Jobim. The result is exciting stuff, with some spectacular solo work from all four members. We promise you’ll love it! The band includes the brilliant Toli Vyacheslavov on saxophone, flute and percussion; the ace guitarist Hugh Turner on acoustic nylon and steel string guitar; acoustic bass man Paul Jeffries; and Ralph Mizraki playing congas, bongos, acoustic bass, electric bass, melodica, cello and whatever else is in his recording studio on the way out of the door! Not to be missed! Watch out for tickets, which will be available from August 11th from The Flower House in Shipston, or online via www.ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall, and check out our website www.townsendhall.co.uk for news.

Jenny Glover Townsend Hall Trustee

Shipston Rotary

Sam Baker, proposed by Patricia Gilliam, was inducted as a member of Shipston Rotary Club and given a warm welcome. Bill Lee read the Objects of Rotary and the 4 Way Test, which are very important to all Rotarians. Rotary is grateful to Sharon from Morrisons Daily for allowing them a collecting box, raising £66.13 for local Rotary charities and good causes.



Women’s Institute

The meeting on 2nd July was a convivial social evening with the addition of a talk by a representative from The Barn in Brailes. The Barn is a Wellbeing Centre run by two young women, Rachel and Kate, who wish to bring a little peace and harmony into our daily lives as well as improving our physical wellbeing. They offer massages and facials, yoga, Pilates, day retreats and beauty treatments. A place to go for a little ‘me-time’ and re-set the batteries. Or you can just pop in for a cup of tea and sit in their beautiful garden!



Members played a ‘Getting to Know You’ game which involved trying to find out what fellow members had done in their lives: what jobs they had done, countries they had visited. It was quite extraordinary what achievements and fascinating occupations have led people to retirement in Shipston! But it was also sobering to reflect that although the Women’s Institute meets once a month, and members think they know each other well, these in-depth questions are never asked and conversation is usually confined to mundane day-to-day matters.

The President, Bridget, was congratulated for hosting a very successful garden party. Wonderful weather, delicious cakes and tea, and her garden looked beautiful. Two events are planned for August: participation in the

Brailes show on 9th August and a trip to Waterperry Gardens on 13th August.

The next meeting is on 3rd September at 7pm in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road, when the speaker will be Colin Millett talking about his passion for Worcester porcelain. Visitors are very welcome.

Shipston Bellringers

Thank you to everyone who took the time to chat to the Shipston Bellringers at our recent roadshow on one of the hottest days of the year, 21st June. Many conversations had and four people have shown a keen interest in learning to ring the church bells. Our bellringing team turned out in force from Shipston, Tredington and Long Compton and explained to interested people the benefits of bellringing. These include: a great work-out for the body and mind as well as a chance to meet new friends and to foster a real sense of team spirit with a ready-made, like-minded community from all different walks of life. You don’t have to be strong to ring bells, nor a churchgoer. It takes time to learn how to ring the bells, but you’ll have a great team around you, and you can ring to any level once competent, whether ringing for pleasure, for a wedding or in a formal competition. If you fancy trying bellringing for yourself, then please do not hesitate to contact us and one of our friendly team will be in touch to arrange a practice at the venue that suits you best. Drop us a line at shipstondistrictringers@gmail.com.

A Swift summer

If the droughts and heatwaves of the Spring and early Summer this year have left us enervated and our gardens parched, they have been beneficial to the swifts in their breeding season. The warm southerlies assisted their migration from Africa and the constant warmth increased the supply of insects – essential food for hungry nestlings.



The annual Shipston Evening Swift Walk which took place during Swift Awareness Week at the beginning of July was fully attended and an enjoyable success. Most notable this year was the fact that several previously unknown natural nest sites were identified, and these can now be added to the town’s record of swift nest sites! Towards dusk the sky clouded over somewhat and we therefore couldn’t enjoy as spectacular a ‘grande finale’ as we had hoped for, but on the walk, we observed several smaller screaming parties.

If, between 9-9.30pm on a warm, still evening, you notice swifts entering or leaving a roof space high under the eaves of a building, please contribute to citizen science by letting SAS know the details. It’s important that we keep our records up to date, to prevent colony loss when roofs are refurbished or buildings renovated or demolished. For those unable to join the Swift Walk this year, try again next year. Remember to book early to avoid disappointment!

Jacey Jackson (Shipston Action for Swifts – SAS Email : swifts@2jays.co.uk)

County Council

I am sitting in a bar, on the top floor of the Wembley Hilton to write this, looking at the Wembley arch. Not so much a holiday – I am at a training conference with the Leadership Institute. They are a non-profit training outfit for (amongst others) those of us in sister parties of the US Republicans. The long preamble is to explain that I am getting mightily ticked off (Americanisms rubbing off) with the state of our wonderful country and the microcosm which is Shipston. My international friends (65 countries represented here) are horrified with what they see. Lawlessness. Lack of respect. Litter and filth (at least they are not seeing Brum - with binbags everywhere). Some of the bonkers decisions being made about our future –the impoverishment of net zero and IHT on farmers – came up at lunch today. Contrast this with two African attendees. One had his colleague, on the way to this conference, imprisoned for his political beliefs. The other has just tracked down a colleague who had been abducted by the state.

Why should this matter to you (or me)? This is why I do what I do! Thus far I have not been arrested – though I may well lie in front of a bulldozer in Shipston. I have been threatened but that just makes me work harder. I will make sure we get our bins collected, that our tip stays open, schools give our kids their best (I would like to hear from anyone who is struggling with that) and that – despite opposition – our EBH provides 21st century care for us. Staying fit and well matters!

Yours ever, Jo

Jo Barker

County Councillor, Shipston Division

07748968712 | jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Council

I have been dealing with a number of instances of homelessness and rough sleeping recently. Luckily the District Council has officers who can help. The Rough Sleeper Initiative Project Officer has been my first phone call when I learn of an issue. In a recent case the Project Officer called in the Street Outreach team to visit the individual and to engage him. They try to find out more about the circumstances and will encourage the person to access the support required to find permanent accommodation.

To get advice or report a rough sleeper you can contact the Housing Advice team at the District Council: phone: 01789 260645 or email: roughsleeper@stratford-dc.gov.uk

The District Council is a partner in the Fred Winter Centre in Stratford. The Centre offers a range of support services for homeless people including money advice, health and well-being support, practical housing advice, training, employment and volunteer opportunities. I have visited the Centre, and I am aware of the fantastic job it does. Since it opened a few years ago the number of people rough sleeping and/or begging in the district has reduced considerably.

On 10th July I organised a visit to the new Sherbourne Material Recycling Centre (MRF) near Coventry for a group of 12 keen residents. The MRF is a joint venture between eight local councils including Stratford District Council. It uses the latest smart robot technology to separate the materials.

The MRF takes all the recycling from our blue-lidded wheelie bin and sorts it into different piles. The separated paper, metals and plastics have a commercial value and can be sold on to recover some of the plant’s operating costs. We were told that everything now gets sold on to be recycled in Britain.

The visit was organised because we were keen to know exactly what we could and couldn’t recycle. The standout things I learnt were:

- Paper or soft plastic pieces smaller than 50mm across cannot be recycled – the tops of plastic bottles tops should be left on the bottle for that reason.
- Plastic bags and soft wrapping material can now be recycled – but pet-food pouches cannot.
- Glass bottles of all colours can be recycled –but other glass cannot because it is made of a different sort of glass.
- The small amount of leftover bits and pieces that cannot be recycled are incinerated at a plant next door and the energy produced is used to generate power.

The Sherbourne MRF has been a very successful venture and is fascinating to visit. If you would like to join me on a free tour I will be organising another visit in the autumn. To get in touch, contact details are below.

Dave Passingham

District Councillor, Shipston South

07752 562114 | dave.passingham@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Your town councillors



Tony Booth, Mayor
General Purposes and Communications Working Group Chair
e: tony.booth@shipstontowncouncil.org



Richard Walters, Deputy Mayor
e: richard.walters@shipstontowncouncil.org



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Finance Working Group Chair
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Jo Barker
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Steve Crockett
e: steve.crockett@shipstontowncouncil.org



Vanessa Benjamin-Smith
e: vanessa.benjamin-smith@shipstontownconcil.org

Useful contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 264491
Shipston Library:	0300 5558171
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Severn Trent Emergency Line:	0800 7834444
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
- Out of hours	111
Shipston Link (local transport)	01386 593446
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Townsend Hall	07514 704057
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
Local police (non emergency)	101
Shipston Police Safer Neighbourhood:	
PC1508 Sid Hammond – 07967303185	
PCSO Katie Brooks – 07870978973	
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund’s	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01295 257193

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

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District Council Contacts:

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e: dave.passingham@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Olivia Hatch (Shipston North)
e: olivia.hatch@stratford-dc.gov.uk
t: 07973 846605

Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that’s relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Laura Parker, by email: forum@shipstononline.org or call 07989 530069 (if you don’t have email access).

To request posts on the council’s Facebook page, contact enquiries@shipstontowncouncil.org

Forum copy deadline:

Second Monday of the 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. While every effort is made to ensure information is accurate, the Town Council and its contractors do 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.



GSP proudly present

Three Men in a Boat

(to say nothing of the dog)
adapted from the hilarious book by Jerome K. Jerome
Starring Giles Shenton
(Old Herbaceous & Much Ado About Falstaff)

"the nearest thing
I've heard to
audio slapstick"

"a masterclass in
stagecraft &
delivery"

"seriously funny"
The Guardian

"95 mins of
pure delight"

"amazing, energetic
& totally engaging"

"timeless appeal"
The Independent

The Hall Cherington, Stourton & Sutton
Pinfold Lane, Stourton, CV36 5HG

Sat 16 Aug 2025 6pm

Seating section (limited number available) £15 adult £8 U16
Picnic section (bring your own seats/blankets) £12 adult £6 U16 £30 Family of 4 (max 2 adults)

Open air theatre!

Tel - 07775 765572
email - info@thehallevents.org.uk or online at
www.buytickets.at/gilesshentonproductions or
www.gilesshentonproductions.co.uk

Indoors if wet!

Shipston on Stour

Food Festival

Supported by
Shipston Town Council

Sunday

14th Sept 2025

Shipston Town Centre 10am to 3pm

Even more choice
than last year!

More details at
www.ShipstonFoodFestival.org/foodfestival

Postcode: CV36 1AA Brought to you by Stour Valley Lions - Charity No. 1191826

SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES
PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND PARENTS TO OUR

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 18th September, 2025

The evening will commence with the Headteacher's presentation at 5.30 p.m.
(which will be repeated at 7 p.m.)
followed by an opportunity to view the school until 7.30 p.m.

OPEN MORNING

Thursday 25th September 9.00-10.30 a.m.

"Pupils are at the centre of school life at Shipston High. They uphold the school's values of learning, respect, ambition and achievement in their actions."
Ofsted July 2023

"Pupils show positive attitudes towards learning. This is clear through their written work and the pride they have in their achievements."
Ofsted July 2023

If you have any queries our contact details are:
Telephone: 01608 661833 e-mail: info@shipstonhigh.co.uk
Address: Darlingscote Road, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4DY Website: www.shipstonhigh.co.uk