



# Shipston Forum



October 2025

## A community celebration of food

The town centre was alive with colour, flavour and music, as 40 fine food stalls filled the High Street and Market Place for the Shipston Food Festival in September. Visitors were spoilt for choice with everything from fresh fruit and vegetables, meats, artisan breads and deli delights, to irresistible sweet and savoury treats. Street food from local traders added to the feast, all set to the lively sounds of the talented Rikki Hansel.

Even when the weather turned, Shipston's spirit didn't waver as residents came out in force to enjoy the festival and support local stallholders, many of whom are already eager to return next year.



Organisers Stour Valley Lions ensure every penny of profit goes directly to funding free events for senior residents, youth sports equipment, and grants for local organisations through their Lions' Den initiative. With rising costs and increasing red tape, the Lions say that community support is more vital than ever, and so they extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and made the event such a success.



## Booked up!

The town's second annual Bookfest, a celebration of books and reading, got off to an upbeat start with the Bookshop Band playing their literary-themed music in the Townsend Hall. The first weekend saw poetry performances from students at Shipston's Primary and High schools, local authors sharing their stories, a gripping true crime talk, and an inspiring writing workshop. Look out next month for a full report on the Bookfest, which ran 20th-28th September.



## Prize veg

After a hot, dry summer, when keeping gardens going became a struggle, Shipston's New Street allotment-holders were delighted to be awarded third prize for best kept allotment at the Moreton Show. They are yet to decide how they will spend the £50 prize money. Last year, after scooping second prize, the money was used to purchase a wooden shelf at the entrance to the site, where excess produce can be left for other holders to have free of charge.



## Speed Watch grinds to a halt

Shipston's Community Speed Watch is being discontinued. The group has been monitoring the speed of traffic in the town since 2017, with the aim of improving road safety. You can read more on page 9.



## Bank withdrawal

Shipston will not be getting a banking hub after Lloyds Bank closes next month. Despite significant efforts by Town Councillor John Williams which ended with a detailed complaint made to the LINK banking organisation, the town has been turned down. See page 5 for full story.

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Mayor’s column



As I write this, I imagine many weary parents are gleefully marching their little cherubs, kicking and screaming, back to school. Congratulations on surviving the summer holidays! You’ve earned your coffee, and a small nervous breakdown. To those who received exam results recently: I hope you got what you worked hard for. But if not, remember: exam results are like satnavs. Sometimes they take you the long way round, but you’ll still get where you’re meant to be. Greatness doesn’t always come with an A\*!

August was a busy month in the mayoral diary. It kicked off with the Changemaker Volunteering Awards, hosted by the Warwickshire High Sheriff at St Mary’s Church, Warwick. A truly inspiring event, celebrating the unsung heroes of South Warwickshire, including our very own Shipston Community First Responders, Julian Johnson and Ray Coyte who, along with the rest of the team, have done so much for our community.

My wife and I also had the honour of representing Shipston at several VJ Day commemorations. From the beautiful service at St Margaret’s Church in Whitnash to the well-attended gathering on the Gyratory in Shipston, and finally the poignant evening service in Stratford’s Memorial Gardens. A special moment was Dr Jessica Chiba’s bilingual poem reading.

On to council matters, and despite Shipston Town Council's best efforts, Sainsbury’s has won its appeal and will be setting up shop at the top of Tilemans Lane. While some will welcome the convenience of yet another food store, others worry about the impact on our charming town centre. And if that wasn’t enough, we are also set to lose Lloyds Bank in November and say farewell to our local fire station crew. A barrage of housing development is looming on the horizon and the EBH still has no beds. It’s starting to feel like Shipston’s being picked off like contestants on a reality show. ‘Next week on Shipston’s Got Challenges…’

So, what is the council doing about it, I see the online community asking? Well, Shipston Town Council continues to fight for the community at every turn. But we are a small parish council made up of passionate volunteers, and often our recommendations are simply overruled by the big leagues at District and County level. In fact, at this point I will single out and praise Councillor Paul Tesh for his tenacity and all the hard work he undertakes with the planning committee when pulling together the defensive plans against housebuilding proposals and other planning matters.

It was great to see so many supporting the Shipston Food Fest this year. Thank you to the Shipston Lions for staging it, and also to all the businesses that came and supported it. Bookfest is now underway and will no doubt prove to be another success story in Shipston’s event calendar this year.

There is still plenty to look forward to! Bonfire Night, Halloween, and yes — we are now officially on the slippery slope to Christmas and the annual awakening of Mariah Carey. Too soon to mention? Never. And for those glued to the telly, Strictly and Bake Off are back, marking the countdown to the end of the year — and the beginning of our seasonal national obsession with sequins and soggy bottoms.

TTFN

Tony Booth

Mayor of Shipston

News from Shipston Town Council’s September meeting

Open forum

Jacey Jackson explained to the Council that the community speed watch, started in 2017, has now been disbanded (see article in centre pages). She requested speed limit roundels or further measures on Stratford Road, one of the worst roads for speeding. Council will take this up with Warwickshire Highways. Council thanked Jacey and the group for their efforts in monitoring speeds in town.

Reports from councillors

Red crosses painted on white road markings have been reported to Highways. Cllr H Kelly reported problems with construction vans parking in Callaways Road. She has completed playground training and has checked the playground on London Road.

Cllr Benjamin-Smith attended a meeting of residents of new-build houses, who have concerns over issues that have arisen since the developers left. Cllr Passingham has agreed to represent any of their concerns at District level. It was noted that developers have an obligation for road maintenance for a year after the development has finished, before this responsibility passes to Highways.

Youth Club

The proposed new Youth Club building has met with many questions despite permission having been granted for a building on the same site. It will go ahead, with groundworks needed. The Youth Club will be meeting in the hospital building in the meantime.

Police

Council has carried out a rent review with the police for their use of New Clark House.

Budget

A meeting has been set for October to agree the budget for next year. Each working group to set out their needs so that they are covered in a structured way.

John Dinnie

Cllr Dinnie steps down this month and the council will be thanking him for his hard work and service, including as the immediately preceding Mayor.

Mayor’s event

This will be on 7th November with a 1940s theme.

District Council

Cllr Hatch reported that councillors had had an update on the decision to grant planning permission to the Bordon Hill development outside Stratford, which went to the planning inspector. It is feared this will open the floodgates on more

planning applications and they want to meet planning and policy officers about cumulative development.

There is now funding for a feasibility study into cycling routes in town.

Environment and Flood Action Group

The group has been revising the emergency flood action booklet and there is a question over the location of the designated emergency rest centre. With a number of options in town, the suggestion was to call the Council, which will be able to decide on the best location according to the situation at the time. All SAFAG expenditure was approved.

Blue light

The Shipston First Responders responded to 44 calls in August. The old Subaru will be donated to Alcester.

Ellen Badger

The call-in to the Secretary of State was accepted.

Nature

Bird walks at Cornmill Meadows identified 19 different species of bird, while a bat walk at the Twin Chapels identified three different kinds of bat. The Local Nature Action Plan is proceeding with a plan from another area being able to be adapted. The hedge surveying is continuing.

Planning

The Sainsbury’s application for Tilemans Lane has been approved, with a list of conditions. Council disappointed that its comments, for example the working hours for the service yard, had not been taken into consideration. The planning application will remain live for three years, with the building work expected to take about a year.

The permission for the Bordon Hill housing scheme in Stratford is of concern as it is outside the built-up area boundary. It had been rejected by the planners but the planning inspector found in the developer’s favour. The main argument in favour of the development was housing supply, with the inspector saying that building work in other areas was not proceeding at the expected rate. This could be due to a lack of demand as well as a shortage of labour.

Council assets

The repair of the churchyard wall awaits the decision of the diocese. A suggestion has been made for the use of the twin chapels – more suggestions welcome. A bench has been ordered for Worcester Place.

Banking

Cllr Williams reported that the independent assessor is reading his 20-page submission on the case for a banking hub and was expected to report shortly. (See story on page 5.)



Support for those with long term conditions

A group offering coffee, cake and chat for patients with long term conditions, will run on Tuesdays 10:30- 12:30 and Wednesdays 10:30-12:30, starting Tuesday 7th - 22nd October at ‘Comfort Corner’ Community Wellbeing Hub, Ellen Badger Hospital. All those with long term conditions as well as carers welcome. Health professionals will be available for advice and signposting.

Medical Centre news

It’s that time of year again! Stay strong this flu season and protect yourself and your community with a quick flu vaccination.



The flu clinics this Autumn 2025 have been running from 18th of September for children and start on 1st of October for adults. The clinics are all at Shipston Medical Centre for your convenience, on a range of times and days to include usual surgery hours, some Thursday evenings and a few Saturday mornings. Those patients who are eligible will be contacted by email, text or by letter depending on what contact details we have for you on your records.

Flu and Covid vaccines will be offered within the same appointment to those who are eligible.

· In order to help us run the clinics as smoothly as possible, we would appreciate it if you wore a short-sleeved top and remove any jumpers or coats whilst you are waiting to go in

· There will be a member of staff at reception to warmly welcome you in and check your name off the list

· Please arrive no more than 10 minutes before your allocated appointment time to help manage the number of patients in the practice at any one time. This also means that it is quicker for you getting in and out and enabling you to get on with your day

Thank you for your help in keeping our amazing community protected.

Beds for Badger campaign

On Wednesday 27th August SWFT were asked to attend the SDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting. At this meeting Adam Carson interim CEO of SWFT was questioned on a number of matters to do with the services at the Ellen Badger Hospital, whether it could justify the name Hospital and what use would be made



of the retained estate (Princess Diana 1992 Building). Mr Carson responded with the list of nurse-led clinics we have seen before and an indication of future consultant-led clinics but with no real certainty on time scale. He did however reveal that in addition to the GPs moving into their 11 rooms (10 consulting and one treatment) in the Spring of 2026, there would be a ‘pilot’ of a Medical Case Day Unit, and the League of Friends have managed to further clarify that the pilot will be in the retained 1992 building and an undertaking to review the possibility of using space in the new building as the pilot progresses. We welcome this engagement with Mr Carson and to hear that SWFT are discussing these developments with the Shipston Medical Centre and Dr George Naylor in his role as clinical director of the local Primary Care Network (Wellesbourne, Quinton and Shipston GPs working together).

Thank you all for your continued support. We continue to campaign for extended and improved medical services in the Ellen Badger Hospital and to look for opportunities to bring inpatient services closer to our community. We continue to press for greater diagnostic capability, especially as it will be required for this Medical Case Day Unit. We would also like to see the Ellen Badger return to its key role of reducing the number of admissions to acute hospitals from our community.

Keep following on the Facebook Page. Thanks for all the likes and shares.

Beds for Badger Organising Committee

SHWP supporting the local community

The Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership is delighted to share news of some exciting services available to the community at Ellen Badger Hospital.

Digital drop-in sessions

Residents are invited to attend a free digital advice drop-in session at The Warm Hub, Ellen Badger Hospital to learn more about the NHS App and how to make the most of its features. Sessions will run on Thursday 2nd October, 10am–12 noon, and Thursday 6th November, 10am–12 noon.

Free parking and refreshments will be available, and everyone is welcome to come along for friendly advice and guidance.

The Stour Toy Library – growing every week

The Stour Toy Library continues to go from strength to strength, offering local families a fantastic resource and a welcoming community space.

In partnership with Barnardo’s, baby massage sessions are now running every Thursday from 10–10:45am at Ellen Badger

Hospital. Please book on via Barnardo’s website for Coventry and Warwickshire. <https://coventryandwarwickshire.barnardos.org.uk/children-and-family-centres/stratford-activities/>

Following this, the Toy Library is open from 11am–12 noon every Thursday, giving families the chance to borrow toys, connect, and find support. For more details visit <https://borrow.shwp.org.uk/>

From November, HomeStart PEEP sessions will also be available on Thursdays at The Ellen Badger hospital. Details can be found on the HomeStart website, <https://www.homestartsouthwarwickshire.org.uk/peep>

All these new opportunities have grown out of the success of the Toy Library, bringing additional support for young families in the area. If you haven’t discovered it yet, why not drop in on a Thursday between 11am and 12 noon at The Ellen Badger Hospital (ground floor) to see it in action and learn more?

Bank latest

Here’s more background on why a banking hub will not be coming to Shipston, even after a long series of communications with LINK, the UK banking network. A banking hub is a place where personal and business banking transactions can be carried out face-to-face with a community banker. It is a shared space where multiple banks collaborate to provide in-person services. Staff from different banks rotate throughout the week. In other words, a place you can do your regular banking, no matter what bank you are with. It is held up as an alternative for communities whose banks have closed, as is increasingly the case. One in three bank branches have closed in the past five years.



Cllr John Williams has lobbied for months to retain banking services for the town’s businesses and bank account holders, by pointing out that LINK had made errors in its assessment of the banking alternatives available to people in Shipston, as well as the way it did the town’s rural categorisation, and the number of retailers within a three-mile radius. After rejecting these arguments, LINK’s independent assessor, Joanna Wallace, wrote:

‘Shipston does not qualify for any additional facilities as whilst it does have an older and less digitally connected

population, the town has a free to use ATM with capacity to pick up Lloyds’ ATM transactions and a Post Office with capacity to pick up the counter transactions.’

She acknowledged that the Post Office is not fully accessible and recommended that LINK engage with the Post Office to ensure that it is.

‘This is very disappointing,’ says John Williams. ‘Shipston’s businesses, retailers and charities are left with the option of using an ATM and the Post Office. We were told that is OK as it is possible to get to Moreton, our nearest branch of Lloyds, by bus in under 30 minutes, although we know a round trip can take up to three hours due to bus times. We are just being left high and dry.’



Vacancy in the Office of Town Councillor for the Shipston North Ward of Shipston-on-Stour

NOTICE is hereby given, in accordance with Section 87(2) of the Local Government Act 1972, that a vacancy exists in the office of Town Councillor for the Town of Shipston-on-Stour by reason of the resignation of Councillor John Dinnie on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025.

Any ten local government electors for the Town may require an election to be held to fill the said vacancy. To do this, they must send a written request to the Returning Officer, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, which must reach them not later than 8th day of October 2025  
No set form of words is necessary.

If such a request is received by the Returning Officer, an election will be held. If no request is received, the vacancy will be filled in due course by co-option by the remaining members of the Town Council.

Dated this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025

By order of the Town Council

(Signed) *D. Hardiman*

Deputy Town Clerk  
(Designation) \_\_\_\_\_





### Regular Events

#### Monday

**Seated Exercise Class:** 10:30am or 11:30am, 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

**Community Warm Welcome:** 2pm-4pm, Shipston Methodist Church, New Street (Sep-Mar)  
free refreshments, a chat, games and jigsaws

**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, Scout Hut

**Standing Tai Chi:** 10.30am, Scout Hut

**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, Ellen Badger Health & Wellbeing Hub

**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 Health and 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: October 2025

**1st. Shipston on Stour WI:** Kate Tanner – A Tudor Maid. Meetings held every first Wednesday of the month in The Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscott Road Shipston on Stour CV36 4DR at 7.00 pm. For more information contact: Gill Smith – Telephone 07759 232899

**1st & 15th. Stour Valley Stitchers:** 10am-1pm, The Hall, Stourton, CV36 5HG. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

**2nd & 6th. Do more with the NHS App:** drop in session. 10am-12 noon. Ellen Badger Warm Hub. See article on page 4.

**4th-5th. Harvest Exhibition:** Shipston Methodist Church. See ad on page 7

**4th. Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Children's equipment available

**5th. Lego Church:** 10.30am, first Sunday of the month during morning service at St Edmund’s. For school age children. Please bring an adult. Contact rector@shipstonchurch.org.

**7th. Shipston Library Reading Group:** 2pm-3pm first Tuesday of each month.

**7th & 21st. ‘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

**10th & 24th. 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

**10th. Stour Valley Lions Cinema:** Mr Burton. See ad on page 16

**13th. Town Council Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House

**14th. Stour Valley Lions Meeting:** 6:30pm – 9:30pm; The George Townhouse. 2nd Tuesday of every month

**16th. Drop In Clinic:** For the over 65s. 10am-12pm, Ellen Badger Health & Wellbeing Hub. Every third Thursday

**17th. 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 6:30pm to 7:30pm, 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

**17th. Shipston Music Society:** Shipston Training Band Concert. See ad on page 7

**17th. Townsend Hall Jazz:** Tom “Spats” Langham. See ad on page 16

**23rd-25th. Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society:** Hi-De-Hi. See ad on page 16

**24th. Charity Quiz Night:** Ekica pre and primary school, Tanzania. See ad on page 10

**28th. 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.

**29th. Shipston Literary Society:** Supernatural Shakespeare - the witches, ghosts, and fairies in his plays. 7.30pm, Community Hall Tredington (next to the Lion Inn) with refreshments available. Members free. Visitor tickets £8 (pay on the door). Contact: Alison 07772 202915

**30th. Local Quaker Meeting for Worship:** St Edmund’s Church, last Thursday in the month at 2.30pm, followed by tea/coffee, biscuits & chat

**31st. GLOSS Halloween bingo.** 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.30pm. Townsend Hall

### HARVEST EXHIBITION


**Shipston Methodist Church, New Street**  
**4<sup>th</sup> October 10am – 4pm**  
**5<sup>th</sup> October 10.30am service All Welcome**  
**Church open 12 - 3pm**  
**FREE ENTRY**




Art, Knitting, Pottery,  
Honey & Beeswax, Preserves, Needlework.  
**Refreshments Available.**  
Some items will be available for purchase.

### Guided Walk | Shipston Remembers

**Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> November**



Please gather from 2:00pm  
**Shipston Museum**  
**CV36 4EL**  
**Walk starts 2:30pm**  
**Adults £3**





**Shipston Town Council**

**Community Grant Awards**

Shipston Town Council is inviting grant applications for the 2026/2027 financial year. Grants are made to support a wide range of community initiatives across the town, delivered by voluntary groups and charities.

The scheme is open to any voluntary group or charity based in Shipston, or those who actively work in the town.

Applications must be made for specific projects, for example, the purchase of equipment or to support a planned event. Grants typically range from £250 - £2,000. Larger sums may be awarded for certain causes.

**The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025**

Application packs are available from:  
New Clark House, West Street, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire, CV36 4HD  
[enquiries@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:enquiries@shipstontowncouncil.org)  
01608 662160

### Shipston Training Band in concert

followed by the Shipston Music Society AGM

Friday 17th October, 7.30pm  
Methodist Church, 52 New Street,  
Shipston-on-Stour

Tickets £10 on the door  
or in advance from E.H. Spencer  
Free entry to Shipston Music Society members  
New members always welcome  
Information: ph 01608 662996



  
Registered Charity No: 1146459 (England)  
[www.shipstonmusic.org.uk](http://www.shipstonmusic.org.uk)



Cornmill Meadows : FAQs

**What is Cornmill Meadows?** Cornmill Meadows is a designated wildlife site normally open to the public every day of the year.



**Who runs Cornmill Meadows?** It is owned and run by Shipston Town Council. Much of the work is undertaken by a small but active group of volunteers. Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Severn Rivers Trust and other environmental bodies also provide advice and assistance.

**Where is it?** Just opposite the cemetery on the London Road A3400, post code CV36 4HZ; /// dislodge.wonderfully.pounces

**Is there a car park?** No, it is within about 15 minutes walk from the centre of Shipston.

**Is it accessible for wheelchairs?** The main entrance is wheelchair accessible, radar key needed. However, Meadows Way, leading to the meadows, is a grassy slope and likely to be waterlogged in winter. We are seeking funding to improve the access.

**Are dogs allowed?** Yes, but on leads only please. This is because wildlife and dogs are not compatible and non-dog owners may be nervous of free-ranging canines.

**Where is the wildlife?** (asked by a member of the public with a dog!). There are many animals living in the hedges, trees and grasses such as birds, butterflies, hedgehogs, field mice, voles, bats, rabbits, grass snakes, slow worms, foxes etc., but they will normally avoid human and canine contact!

**What is special about Cornmill Meadows?** Apart from providing us with lovely walks and views, it is home to over 20 species of bird (including Great Spotted woodpeckers and owls), 11 species of bumblebee, 39 types of butterflies and an unknown number of insects. Both Hill Meadow and River Meadow have quite rare grasses and wildflowers reflecting its cultivation as traditional hay and meadowland from medieval times.

**What else is there?** A community orchard planted in 2023; picnic tables and benches, riverside walk and peace. We are hoping to build a willow tunnel.

**Can we cut down a bit of hedge that obscures our view or pick flowers?** No! please do not remove or interfere with any plants. It is a designated Wildlife Site and hedges, trees and grasses are managed according to an ongoing plan over many years for the benefit of wildlife as well as public pleasure.

**Do you want any more volunteers?** Yes, come and join our happy band! Wildlife knowledge not essential. If interested, please contact Shipston Town Council on email: clerk@shipstontowncouncil.org or phone 01608 662180 for more information.

Shipston Museum: walks and talks

Guided walk - Shipston Remembers

Shipston Museum’s display Shipston Remembers proved popular this summer. Now there is the opportunity to learn more about local connections in this guided walk by Stephen Hartley. You’ll discover more about connections in Church Street from the Great War V.A.D. Hospital that treated 2,000 convalescing soldiers to creation of The Gyratory Garden.

Saturday 1st November: from 2pm, please gather at Shipston Museum which will open for the occasion. We depart at 2:30pm. Adults, £3 on the day (no need to pre-book). The Guided Walk should finish by 4pm.



Talk – Witchcraft in the Cotswolds

From sick pigs and milkless cows to women shape-shifting into hares, our Cotswolds region has a long history of magical folklore and legends of witchcraft.

With a deep knowledge of witchcraft and witches in Victorian Britain, Dr Julia Phillips will introduce us to Witchcraft in The Cotswolds in our first talk for the Shipston Museum winter talks programme. Julia, who has written and spoken about witchcraft, says she has been interested in the subject since the 1970s: ‘It’s an area rich in legend,’ she says. In her illustrated presentation, she will share some of the fascinating stories from the 12th to the 20th centuries.

Her talk is in November, which is particularly significant as this month is associated with the supernatural due to the Allhallowtide tradition, which begins with All Hallows’ Eve and includes All Saints’ Day (1st November ) and All Souls’ Day (2nd November), honouring the dead.

Join us on Saturday 8th November at 2.30pm in the Townsend Hall. £5 tickets available in advance from Richard Harveys, Church Street, Shipston-on-Stour from 1st October. Tickets are also available from Eventbrite and on the door which opens at 2:15pm to start at 2:30pm.



Focus on Shipston Business...The Flower House

Nestled on the High Street, The Flower House is celebrating its fifth anniversary this October — a remarkable milestone for a business that began during one of the most challenging times in recent history: the Covid-19 pandemic.

Founded by the talented and qualified mother-and-son duo Katie and James Corby, and supported by their wonderful team members, The Flower House has blossomed into a thriving floral destination, drawing loyal customers from Shipston and surrounding villages — and even attracting notable A-list clientele.



The Flower House has become a go-to for all things flowers, from grab and go bouquets to bespoke floral arrangements for weddings, funerals, private dinners, and other special occasions. They are also one of the nominated florists for R. Locke & Son Funeral Directors, and their artistry has been recognised on a national stage with a Gold Award at the Chelsea Flower Show. Their work regularly features at charity galas and influencer events, further cementing their reputation for excellence and creativity. They also supply local eateries such as The Bower House, The Horseshoe, The Fuzzy Duck and the rooms at The Howard Arms.

The Flower House Team are sustainably conscious on decisions such as opting for zero plastic wrapping on all bouquets and branded packaging. They also have a fantastic selection of small independent and UK based suppliers. The Flower House also offers a variety of workshops located at their studio at Ditchford Farm.

Beyond flowers, the charming High Street shop offers a curated selection of gifts and cards, fragrances and home accessories, and fashion and jewellery, making it a true lifestyle destination. Their online platform provides easy access to their full range of services, including both bespoke and ready-to-order event solutions.

As they mark five years of growth, creativity, and community spirit, The Flower House continues to flourish — a testament to resilience, passion, and the power of local enterprise. They also thank their friends and clients for all their support.



Farewell to Community Speed Watch

Shipston’s Community Speed Watch is being discontinued after a decision by leader Jacey Jackson and the members who have been monitoring the speed of traffic on the main roads of Shipston since 2017, with the aim of improving road safety. Many volunteers braved all four seasons to record vehicle registration numbers where drivers have exceeded the speed limit. These details were passed to the police who took further action as necessary.



Between 2017 and 2024 when Jacey’s husband died, they amassed 190 hours of monitoring, amounting to 570 volunteer hours. In that time, 1,352 vehicles recorded as over the speed limit (most over 40mph) within the 30mph zone. A number of those recorded were repeat offenders.

Jacey thanked the team members for their reliable commitment and explained that the reasons for folding the group now were mainly to do with the change to her personal circumstances.

‘I would like to feel we had achieved some calming of the traffic passing through Shipston over those years while we were standing in a group wearing our hi-viz jackets, but sadly, I believe there is still much to do to convince some drivers of the benefits to the local community of driving more slowly – less intimidation, less noise and vibration, less environmental pollution, greater ease and safety for cyclists and pedestrians using our urban road network and overall a more civil public realm. A little more involvement by the County Council Highways Department in this out of the way corner of Warwickshire could also achieve some notable improvements, at relatively little expense.’

She concluded: ‘Although Speed Watch will no longer function under my watch, if anyone is interested in taking up the reins, then please do get in touch, before I return the kit to the police.’ Jacey can be contacted on 01608 661288.

Do you want to help plan the future of Shipston?

As many of you are aware, planning is going through a multitude of changes ranging from the preparation of the next South Warwickshire Local Plan (which will replace the current Stratford District Core Strategy) to Government pronouncements on housing.

As part of the hierarchy of planning controls there are the Neighbourhood Plans. These are specific planning documents for individual towns and villages and have to be renewed every few years to reflect changes in legislation and the needs of those communities. Shipston has had a Neighbourhood Plan since 2018 but it is only valid until 2031. Prospective developers have to take this document into account when submitting their applications to Stratford District Council for housing development in Shipston.

The Town Council is presently planning for the replacement of the current Neighbourhood Plan and is looking for volunteers to help in the creation of the new Plan. So, if you are interested in helping shape the future of Shipston please let me know.

Councillor Paul Tesh

Chair of the Shipston Town Council Planning Committee  
paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org







Registered charity No.1183980

# CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

Cash Bar      Free Nibbles

## Friday October 24th

**Doors open 6:30pm for a 7.00pm start**

**Catholic Church Parish Centre, Darlingscote Road, Shipston CV36 4DR**

All proceeds raised from the event will be used for the benefit of Ekica pre and primary School in Tanzania.

**Raffle**

**£100 prize for winning team**

Teams of up to 6 people

**£7.50 per person to enter** cash preferred

To pre-book your place contact:

Sue or Tadge on 01608 662065 or email: ekicatrust@gmail.com

or pay on entry

limited number available

## Witchcraft in The Cotswolds

by Julia Phillips



**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> November**

**2:30pm**

**The Townsend Hall**

**CV36 4AE    Adults £5**

**Tickets**





**NO SPARKLERS**

SHIPSTON SPORTS CLUB

# Fireworks Night!

**FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER**

GATES OPEN 5.30, BONFIRE 7PM, FIREWORKS 7.30PM

ONLINE SALES - OVER 165 £5, AGES 5-15 £3 UNDER 55 GO FREE  
(ONLINE SALES AVAILABLE UNTIL WED 5TH NOV)

DOOR PRICE - OVER 165 £8, AGES 5-15 £5 UNDER 55 GO FREE

FOOD STALLS AND 3 BARS!

SHIPSTON SPORTS CLUB, 21 LONDON ROAD, CV36 4EP

Schools news

## Shipston Primary School

### Welcome back to a new year!

We have enjoyed a really positive start to our new school year, welcoming in our new Reception children and families. There have been lots of smiles with the children excited to explore our school and begin making new friends. I have been very proud of how well our older children have looked after them and helped them to find their way around school, beautifully demonstrating our 3 Bs: Be Kind, Be Responsible and Be Ready.

### Cycling

On Friday 5th September Key Stage 2 had a great time joining our town on Church Street to cheer on the cyclists from the Men's Tour of Britain as they whizzed through Shipston. It was lovely to be able to join in as part of our community to celebrate such a happy event. Children enjoyed sharing high fives with the police motorcyclists just as much as they did seeing the riders!

Our Year 5 children will begin their Bikeability training in October; maybe we will be watching one of them fly past as part of the event in future years!

### Summer reading challenge and Bookfest

Congratulations to all of our children who completed the summer reading challenge at the library over the break. Each of them has earned 100 house points to start the year off and should be proud of their efforts. Reading is the foundation of doing well in many areas of life. Not only is reading a key part of communication, it can enhance our life opportunities, helps with mental health and well-being, helps children to access our curriculum and is fun!

Reading together is a great bonding exercise which is why we were so excited to be part of Shipston Bookfest again. Mr Mogg, our school reading Leader, helped to organise for our children to meet a range of authors during the week, including Paula Bowles and Mark McKinley. We also loved inviting our parents and carers into school at the end of each day to enjoy sharing listening to stories being read by our staff. At Shipston Primary, we love to read!

### New caretaker

We welcomed Mr Andy Aubrey to our staff at the start of term as our new caretaker. He has already been busy installing new tyre swings which our children have loved playing on at breaktimes. Many thanks to our neighbours at Fosseyway Tool Hire for their kindness in helping us to build our new swings.

### Play spaces

Our next project to develop our play spaces is to create a quiet seating area. If you are considering getting rid of any old (but still good quality) outdoor furniture, we'd love to hear from you. We would also like any old rolls of wallpaper and good quality crayons, pencils and felt tips. The children love to dress up and play creatively, so any dressing up clothes and dolls, toy cars or dinosaurs would be gratefully received.



## High School

Shipston High School has been enjoying the first weeks of the new school year with a real buzz in lessons. Indeed, students have been getting involved with all aspects of school life; new year seven students are actively joining clubs and sports fixtures are well underway. This time of year often sees pleasant weather, and it is great to see so many students playing on our sports fields.

I mentioned year seven, and staff have been very impressed with the manners and commitment of our latest recruits. Moving into year seven is a big change for young people, and all staff have been pleased with the energy and readiness to learn on display. Students have started secondary school with demonstrable enthusiasm; well done.

Students in year 11 have already experienced their first off site learning of the year, with GCSE geography students enjoying a field trip to the Carding Mill Valley and Long Mynd. Students in all year groups are enjoying learning with both established teachers and new colleagues who have joined us this year, notably in Science and English and in our pastoral team.



In September's column, I was able to share initial news on Shipston High School's GCSE results for 2025. I am pleased that students have left the school to move into a range of fulfilling post 16 opportunities, many at local sixth forms, colleges and apprenticeships.

Shipston High maintains its consistently strong record in core subjects. In English and Maths, 76% of students secured grades between 4 and 9, well ahead of national averages.



Top grades have been secured across all subjects, including students with multiple grades at 7, 8 and 9. Students have achieved grade 9 across the subject range, showing a consistent high performance in a diverse array of subjects.

As important as individual grades achieved is the impressive progress from students, with many exceeding their expected outcomes. The 2025 results demonstrate the strong academic focus of Shipston High School. This is also a time to remember the community spirit that supports our young people; students are encouraged and supported by their friends and family along with the school staff. All students should be congratulated. Well done to everyone.

During September the school opens its doors to prospective parents and students for future entry into the school. Our annual Open Evening is always a very popular event, with large numbers of visitors enjoying an insight into the work of the school. I am delighted to see that so many families have already made their applications for entry in September 2026. Existing students always participate in the Open Evening, and they are the best ambassadors for the school. This year is no exception, and I thank everyone for their involvement and interest.



As a change to its usual venues in and around Shipston, the accomplished a cappella choir Cantamus will be performing at The Hall in Stourton on Sunday 2nd November. This recently built venue in a beautiful rural setting offers excellent performance space and facilities for the concert, with comfy seating and eco heating.

Cantamus will present Shades of Autumn, a programme of seasonal songs and readings. By turns reflective and amusing, the concert conveys all the wistfulness and joy of the changing moods of summer and autumn.

The programme will be a well-considered mix of pieces to suit the occasion, with some beautiful sacred music by Lauridsen, Bairstow, and Daley interspersed with pieces by Elgar, Brahms and Rheinberger. Richard Emms's arrangements of songs by the likes of Cole Porter, Jerome Kern, Sting and Lennon & McCartney will also feature. There will even be some barbershop quartet singing, along with readings by Anne Hume in her inimitable style, some very poignant, some humorous.

The big draw of course will be homemade cakes in the interval. Many of the choir members are excellent cooks when they aren't singing.

The concert takes place on Sunday 2nd November at 3 pm at The Hall, Stourton CV36 5HG.

Tickets are available via the website or at the door and cost £15 to include tea and cake. [Www.cantamus.org.uk](http://www.cantamus.org.uk)

Literary Society

After five dedicated years which saw great progress for the Shipston Literary Society, William Trevethick Trev is handing over the chair to Alison Hook. Alison said: 'This is going to be a very daunting task. Following Trev is a huge undertaking. Trev has introduced such variety and diversity into the Society and has led our discussions with such an astute level of enquiry. My intention is to continue the promotion of all literature and to encourage debate and discussion. The world is currently facing many challenges, and the wisdom and power of the pen has rarely been so important.'



Incoming chair Alison Hook presents gift to Trev Trevethick thanking him for five great leadership years

The new programme for the year was launched at the AGM on 27th August. It provides a variety of interests from crime to classics and the supernatural to sagas. The first September talk was about one of our favourite authors Jane Austen and her local travels in the Midlands.

29 October: Supernatural Shakespeare – the witches, ghosts, and fairies in his plays

26 November: In a Foreign Field – in remembrance month some soldiers' stories

28 January: The Psychology of Crime Writing – plot twists, surprises, and red herrings

25 February: Beowulf Poem and Hero – our oldest epic resonating across the ages

25 March: The Dictionary People – unsung heroes who created the Oxford English Dictionary

29 April: The Path to Publication – experience of the writer's journey

There's sometimes the misconception that the Society is a book club. It's not. We're a friendly group who enjoy listening to interesting talks about books and visitors are very welcome at one or all of our events. We really want to encourage people from all thoughts on literature to come and join us and promote much needed discussion.

Meetings are at 7.30pm on Wednesdays monthly at the Community Hall Tredington (next to the Lion Inn) with refreshments available. Members free. Visitor tickets £8 (pay on the door).

There are additional pluses to membership as we arrange social events like Christmas lunch and outings. To know more about membership please contact: Alison 07772 202915.

Stour Valley Lions at work

Helen Keller's legacy

Helen Keller, born in Tuscumbia, Alabama, in 1880, lost both her sight and hearing at just 18 months old. With the guidance of her remarkable teacher, she mastered sign language, braille, and even learned to speak. As an adult, she became a passionate advocate for people with disabilities.

In 1925, Helen Keller attended the Lions Clubs International Convention and challenged Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." Lions worldwide rose to that challenge, and since then, sight-related projects have been at the heart of our work.

Spectacle recycling – a million pairs this year

Across the British Isles, Lions Clubs collect unwanted spectacles to help those in need of better vision. This year alone, an incredible one million pairs have been recycled. Locally, you can donate spectacles at the following collection points:

Shipston Post Office • Shipston Medical Centre • Greys Opticians • Woolford and Round Opticians • Rainbow Fields • Shipston Lodge • Long Compton Village Shop • Brailes Village Hall

Please note: we can only accept glasses, no cases.

Donations are gathered every six weeks and sent to the Lions National Headquarters in Birmingham. There, volunteers sort and prepare them for onward distribution by Medico France in Le Havre. From there, they reach eye camps across Africa,



India, and Eastern Europe, giving thousands of people the gift of clearer sight.



Recycle for Sight

The Stour Valley Lions would like to extend thanks to all who have donated used spectacles to our Recycle for Sight project.

This summer alone, we have collected the spectacles shown and they are now ready for sorting and shipping.

May we point out that we cannot use broken glasses or glasses cases . Thank you



New school vision screening project

Closer to home, Stour Valley Lions have recently committed to providing vision cameras for school screenings—a vital step in early detection of eyesight problems. These cameras quickly and non-invasively check the mechanics of each eye, allowing children to access treatment before problems worsen. Our first focus will be on children aged 3–5 years in our community.

How you can help

Would you like to support our work, either as a fundraiser, volunteer, or member? We'd love to hear from you. Call us on 0345 833 2835, email us at [president@stourvalleylions.club](mailto:president@stourvalleylions.club) or message us on Facebook.

Shipston WI

Shipston Women's Institute September meeting after the summer break set a high standard for the coming year. Colin Millett came to talk about his passion for Worcester porcelain. He was accompanied by his wife Frances and a one-time pupil from his days as a teacher, none other than Shipston's Mayor, Tony Booth, and his wife Jane the Mayoress. Colin kindly donated his speaking fee to Tony's drive to provide a permanent clubhouse for Shipston Youth Club.

Frances introduced Colin with an amusing cautionary tale illustrating the passion of collecting - despite vows and promises that he had enough Worcester pieces, Colin couldn't resist buying just one more piece without her knowing, or so he



thought. Francis described the piece as hideous and indeed it was, but Colin loves it. No-one in the audience liked it either.

Colin developed a love of porcelain and became a valuer at a famous auction house in Stourbridge where he honed his knowledge of Worcester-ware. Worcester Porcelain was established in 1751 as an amalgam of several porcelain works. It remained one of the greatest porcelain producers for 250 years. Colin showed one of his earliest pieces - a small plate of 1753 which was transfer printed. The print was faint at this time - a 'smoky primitive' - but this was a breakthrough because patterned china could become available to ordinary people. Until this time, patterned china had to be hand painted which was time-consuming and expensive. The technique of transfer printing was refined over the years and is still used today.

However, rich colours, elaborate scenes of cattle and sheep, bowls of fruit etc, became Worcester Porcelain's hallmark. An extremely skilled body of artists excelled in this work which often became a family skill - father to son, and many women too.

Worcester Porcelain was given a publicity boost in 1802 when Admiral Nelson ordered a very elaborate breakfast and dinner service. George III and Queen Charlotte had visited in 1789 and awarded Worcester Porcelain a royal warrant hence Royal Worcester Porcelain and they have been the recipients of many Royal Warrants since that time.

A successful company relies on the quality of its workers and Worcester recognised this. They trained and endeavoured to retain their best workers. Experts can recognise the work of individuals. Women played an important role in the decoration of pieces which were elaborate and often finished with gold. The Great Depression of the 1930s threatened the prosperity of the factory and they turned to modelling. Here again it was women who excelled. In 1948 the then Queen Elizabeth visited and commissioned a model of her daughter. One hundred editions of the then Princess Elizabeth on horseback were produced. The Queen Mother took two, the remaining 98 were sold. In 1972 Queen Elizabeth II commissioned a model of her daughter, Anne, jumping on Doublet.

Colin did not mention the very sad closure of the Royal Worcester Porcelain factory but many of his audience remember it with affection. However, the Museum is still open and worth visiting.

During the summer Shipston WI had participated in the Brailes Show. A cancelled visit (due to excessive heat) to Waterperry Gardens will be re-arranged. It is intended to have an Open Morning in the Old Bank in Shipston High Street on 26th October. The WI will be participating with refreshments at the Cotswolds Arts Weekend in the Townsend Hall in December.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st October, when Kate Tanner will be talking about the role of a Tudor Maid. The meeting in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road at 7pm and visitors are always welcome.



County Council

Hold onto your hats – Dave and I are both writing about local planning this month – and we agreed it! Many of you have been deluged with glossy blurbs from developers. Some of them regard this as consultation. Gladman – for the Shoulderway Lane site – have said they consulted me – well they sent me an email...I am not sure I feel consulted. Anyway, quite a few of you know that this is the site which crosses a red line with me and is where I am threatening to lie in front of bulldozers.

Well, that was last week.

NOW we have an attempt to develop the Fell Mill Lane site – which could add 1,800 homes to Barcheston, Willington, Honington and Shipston! That would swamp three villages, destroy fragile flood meadow, disrupt raptors, hares and I'll whisper it – water voles (when I lived at Greystones, there was evidence of these rare beasts – even rarer than Conservative County Councillors).

So, the SOS team has swung into action. It's a big joint effort: Malcolm Littlewood, Olivia Hatch, Dave Passingham and me as the councillors and so many volunteers. The application is not in yet, but some more cheeky 'consultation' has been going on by Lichfield, representing the developers. I am never anything less than grumpy (and often incandescent) when told anything which does not quite add up. I am told that the masterplan which has been produced – a copy of which I am still awaiting – was asked for by SDC. I suspect that it was offered as a push for development. Please be aware of how much money is at stake for the locals who may sell their land – so the motivation is high, and this becomes a very high stakes game.

I give a bit of colour to set the scene before the application goes in. We think it won't be long – the reviewed list of sites in the SWLP (South Warwickshire Local Plan) comes out this month and developers are working to pre-empt this.

So, what can WE do?

SOS will help people to object using planning reasons and again (like for the SWLP) every comment counts.

I will be in close contact with Highways and Severn Trent and the CNL Board on which I serve. We will use the Shipston Noticeboard and other social media to stay in touch. Posters and notes will be available for those who don't use social media (phone/text me if you would like these once they are produced).

Shipston (and the villages) have done their bit to provide housing – we have had 200 more homes built than were assessed for Shipston. Another Shipston-sized settlement on the other side of the river is too much!

In other news, I am writing from a damp Cornwall, on holiday! I hope you have all enjoyed the Food Festival and Bookfest – I need to book my holidays with a little more forethought!

Yours ever, Jo

Jo Barker

County Councillor, Shipston Division

077489 68712 | jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Council

A year ago, in an attempt to kick-start the economy and deal with the housing crisis, the Government doubled the target number of houses to be built in Stratford District. Developers have been quick off the mark to try and cash in, and that is why councils all over the country are receiving an unprecedented number of planning applications for housing developments. In Shipston this means three applications have been submitted and there are more that we know of waiting in the sidelines.

Unfortunately, developers won a planning appeal for a housing estate on the edge of Stratford last month. The implication of this is that even if the District Council reject the planning applications around Shipston, the Government Inspector could override that decision.

If all the land put forward by landowners were granted this could amount to an additional 3,000 houses and double the size of Shipston. This would put an intolerable strain on Shipston's infrastructure.

Unfortunately, stopping the developments was made more difficult because Council planning officers put forward Shipston as a potential Strategic Growth Area as part of the South Warwickshire Local Plan, and asked landowners to come forward with land available for housing. Olivia and I, along with many residents, opposed Shipston even being considered a Strategic Growth Area at the consultation at the beginning of this year. We should find out if we were successful by the end of the year. If it is rejected as a growth area, we will have a stronger argument against new developments.

As a member of the District Council Overview & Scrutiny Committee I attended the August meeting at which South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust (SWIFT) were called to answer questions about the Ellen Badger. When questioning Adam Carson the Chief Executive I said how disappointed many people in Shipston were to not have the hospital restored with beds as originally planned. He stuck to the SWIFT line that 'care in the community is better'. When asked for evidence of that he could not give any, but said he would forward some. None has been received to date. However, he did say they are intending to provide additional services in a trial Medical Day Case Unit. This is a welcome extra provision but unfortunately it will not include Minor Injuries. The service is due to start on 6th October in the retained building next to the new Ellen Badger building. They could not say how the unit would be staffed but it promises to be a useful addition to what we have.

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



Gerry Kelly

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Paul Tesh

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Jo Barker

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Steve Crockett

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Vanessa Benjamin-Smith

e: vanessa.benjamin-smith@shipstontownconcil.org



Vacancy

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
<b>Local police (non emergency)</b>	<b>101</b>

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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e: clerk@shipstontowncouncil.org

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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.



Licensed by Concordia Theatricals  
Shipston  
Amateur Dramatic  
Society presents



# HI-DE-HI!

Townsend Hall  
Sheep Street,  
Shipston on Stour  
7.30 pm

The popular TV series written  
by Jimmy Perry and David Croft  
comes to Shipston.  
Enjoy all the fun  
at Maplin's holiday camp.  
"Ho de Ho"

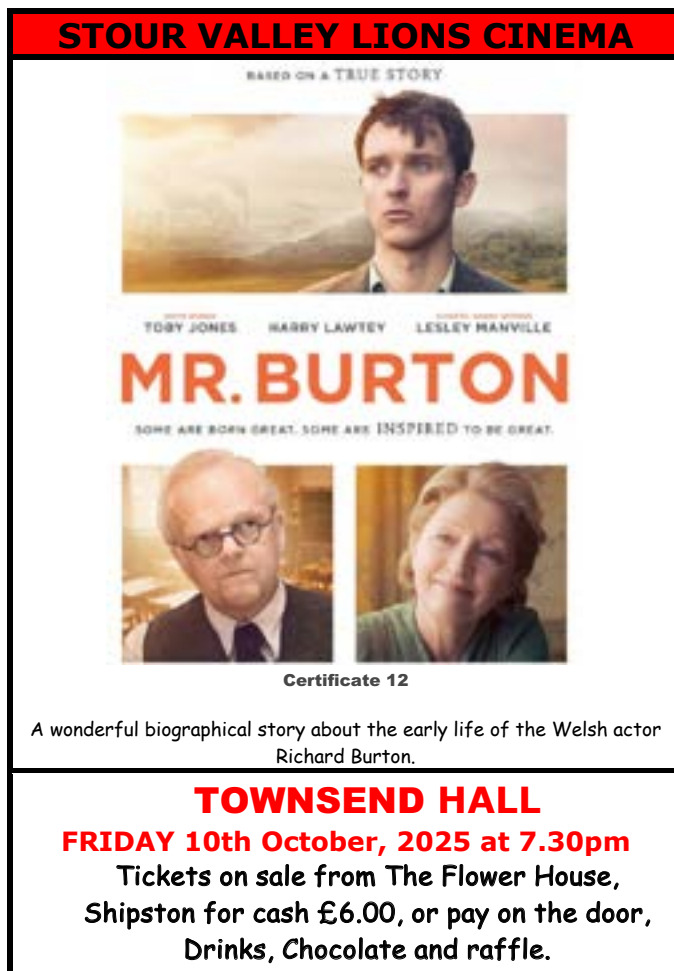
Thursday 23rd  
Friday 24th  
Saturday 25th  
October 2025

Tickets £10

Tickets available from:  
John Lyne Home Hardware,  
or online at:  
[ticketsource.co.uk/shipston-drama-group](https://ticketsource.co.uk/shipston-drama-group)

**STOUR VALLEY LIONS CINEMA**

BASED ON A TRUE STORY



TOBY JONES HARRY LAWTEY LESLEY MANVILLE

## MR. BURTON

SOME ARE BORN GREAT. SOME ARE INSPIRED TO BE GREAT.

Certificate 12

A wonderful biographical story about the early life of the Welsh actor  
Richard Burton.

**TOWNSEND HALL**  
**FRIDAY 10th October, 2025 at 7.30pm**  
Tickets on sale from The Flower House,  
Shipston for cash £6.00, or pay on the door,  
Drinks, Chocolate and raffle.



52 Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire. CV36 4AE  
Charity No. 522997

Townsend Hall, Shipston, presents...  
**On Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025**  
**Tom "Spats" Langham**  
Playing the Blues with Emily Campbell



A fun, upbeat look of the blues from the 20s and 30s highlighting the influence early blues had on modern music

Doors / Bar Open 19:00 for 20:00  
Tickets £15 in advance; £17 on the Door  
From the Flower House, 3 Market Place, Shipston  
Online via [ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall](https://ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall), or  
[townsendhall.co.uk](https://townsendhall.co.uk)

Tickets are for general admission. For a table reservation of 4 or more people, phone  
Peter on 07711-562317



A Cappella Choir

# Cantamus

A CONCERT OF  
MOVING AND  
UPLIFTING MUSIC,  
COMPLEMENTED  
BY READINGS TO  
MATCH THE  
MOOD

## SHADES OF AUTUMN

SUNDAY  
2ND NOVEMBER 2025, AT 3 PM  
THE HALL, STOURTON  
CV36 5HG  
TICKETS £15.00  
INCLUDES TEA & CAKE

For more Information &  
Tickets Scan QR Code



[cantamus.org.uk](https://cantamus.org.uk)

