



# Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

May 2014

## Sheep shearing showdown expected at this year's Wool Fair

Speedy sheep shearing is just one of many attractions scheduled for this year's Wool Fair which takes place on Bank Holiday Monday, 26th May.

One of the town's leading annual events, the Shipston Wool Fair is set to be packed, once again, with a variety of entertainment to suit all tastes. With more emphasis on rare breeds, over 20 breeds of sheep will be on display in the High Street. As well as the traditional sheep shearing, individual sheep will be paraded in traditional fashion around a small show ring, allowing visitors to learn more about each breed.

Another big highlight of the event will be the final reveal of the Shipston Tapestry, which weavers and volunteers are busily completing as the Forum went to press. The tapestry project was launched two years ago and is designed to depict some of Shipston's most famous landmarks. A true community project, local people and community groups have been involved in weaving the cloth.

For the first time, the Wool Fair will also offer the chance to take a close look at a Shepherd's Hut. Traditionally designed as a comfortable vantage point for shepherds watching their flocks, shepherds' huts have seen a revival in recent years – and a visit to the one at the Wool Fair will demonstrate why!

Throughout the day, there will be plenty of stalls offering a mixture of retail therapy, games and competitions. Refreshments will be provided both by stallholders and

## The Wool Fair Issue



Organisers are hoping for an even bigger turnout than last year's Wool Fair.  
Photo by Philip Vial

local traders, while entertainment will include local singing and dance groups as well as former entrants to the Shipston Fame Contest.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said "I am really excited about this year's Wool Fair. We've made changes to the layout and attractions which really make the most of our town's heritage as a 'Sheep Wash' town and I'm sure the day will prove even more popular than last year's record turnout."

## Support and care services given a boost ahead of Dementia Awareness Week

New services, support and awareness raising will all form part of Shipston's efforts to mark Dementia Awareness Week, which takes place from 18-25 May.

The theme of this year's Dementia Awareness Week is 'Don't Bottle it Up'. At the SCAN meeting on Tues 13th May, Dr Sue Pritchard will launch the 'Make Shipston a Dementia Friendly Town' campaign which will showcase all the services that are available locally for those affected by dementia, including support groups such as the Stour Valley Carers Group and the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Cafe. The campaign is designed to improve the quality of life of those affected by dementia. For full details, see the Shipston Medical Centre column on page 14.

A 'Singing for the Brain' taster event is taking place on Friday 16th May, to which all those affected by dementia are invited (see pg 10). These sociable sessions have been shown to have a positive impact on people with dementia and they may become a more regular feature in Shipston.

Funding for the sessions is now in place thanks to donations from the League of Friends of Shipston Hospitals and Stour Valley Lions, and community groups are now working with

the Alzheimer's Society to explore options.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said "I'm delighted to see so many positive plans in place to support the growing number of people affected by dementia. I am proud to support the new campaign and look forward to getting more involved."

## Blooming marvellous!

Shipston has been awash with colour thanks to extensive daffodil planting by Shipston in Bloom. Sadly, however, some areas had their blooms cut short. See letters, page 13.



## Mayor's column



This will be my last letter to forum readers as your town mayor. I have enjoyed my year in office, representing the town at various venues and events.

The number of volunteers in the area, working in a variety of roles never fails to amaze me. The enthusiasm, time and effort that everyone gives to the community is an inspiration.

I was pleased to attend another count at the polling station, when Dan Scobie was elected to the vacant town councillor position - we welcome him to the team.

The new telephone/cash machine in the High Street has proved a success and talking point. Many residents have commented it has helped alleviate the problems created by the loss of the old HSBC cashpoints.

There are still a number of issues with potential developments in the town, which were on the agenda when I took office last May and will no doubt continue to present challenges, alongside other issues such as the parking in Telegraph Street.

Many thanks to all those who have supported my charity fundraising efforts. The total amount will be announced and cheques handed over at a future town council meeting.

I hope you will all give the same support to the incoming mayor.

With best wishes

**Veronica Murphy**

## Free computer tuition launched at Shipston Library

Free computer tuition for older people is now being provided by patient, understanding volunteers.

Taking place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in Shipston Library, the free training for small groups is specifically designed to help older residents develop and enjoy the benefits that computers can offer. Lessons are flexible and tailored to individual needs but would typically include learning how to:

- Send & receive emails
- Explore your family history
- Search the internet
- Shop on-line for home delivery
- Communicate with friends & family across the world

If you'd like to get more out of your computer, why not give one of the sessions a try? Booking is essential and can be made either in person at the library or by calling 0300 558171.

## Replacement trees arrive in Hawthorn Way

Following the removal of trees, one of which was dead and unstable and others that were causing problems with neighbouring properties, new trees have been planted at Hawthorn Way.

A Field Maple has been planted to complete a line of four Field Maples on Ashgrove, while a Fern-Leaved Beech and a Dawn Redwood have also been put in at Hawthorn Way. The species of these three replacement trees were chosen as being most fitting for their positions. The Field Maple on Ashgrove will provide wildlife habitat and good autumn colour whilst not growing too large nor causing the issues the previous conifer tree did with the neighbouring properties. The specimen trees planted at Hawthorn Way will provide a real sense of place as they mature.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said: "Removing mature trees is not something we do lightly and only do so when absolutely necessary. We were keen to plant replacement trees as quickly as possible and we look forward to seeing these new trees flourish."



## Monthly shopping trips provided by Shipston Link

For nearly five years Shipston Link has run a monthly shopping trip to Morrisons in Stratford. Surprisingly this service has never run at full its full capacity of 16 passengers so if you're interested in using the service, now is the time to get in touch.

Costing just £3 return, the service runs on the first Monday of each month, not including Bank Holidays (bus passes not accepted as it's a private service).

Shipston Link leaves Stour Court at 1.30pm, collecting passengers in West Street, Darlingscote Road and in Telegraph Street near Rainbow Fields. It leaves Morrisons at 3.30pm arriving back in Shipston around 4pm. The driver will willingly help passengers with their shopping bags.

For further information or to reserve a seat please contact the passenger organiser Mrs Margaret Woods on 01608 662265. To find out more, visit [www.shipstonlink.co.uk](http://www.shipstonlink.co.uk)



## Apply now for grants to support further education

Shipston on Stour Educational Charity is calling on under 25s to apply for small grants to support those needing financial help to undertake apprenticeships, further academic courses or professional/trade qualifications.

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. Completed forms must be received by Monday 1st September 2014

Separate grants are also being offered by The School for Females Charity – see page 10 for details.



### April's hot topics

**A Dementia Friendly town:** Dr Sue Pritchard updated councillors on plans to make Shipston a dementia friendly town. Recognising the growing number of cases of dementia, particularly in the town, the Medical Centre is working with charities and volunteers to help ensure those with dementia or caring for someone with the disease can access the support they need. For more information, see page 14.

**Eligibility for affordable housing:** In response to questions regarding the eligibility criteria for those applying for affordable homes under the Home Choice scheme, councillors voted to support some restrictions on eligibility which would mean those with a strong local connection and those on lower incomes would be prioritised. For full details, see the town council minutes at [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

**Anne Sankey medals:** Councillors agreed to continue the Anne Sankey award for contribution to the community for a further ten years, subject to agreement from the Sankey family. A further ten medals will be purchased.

**Road issues:** Jackie Warner raised concerns about the need for the white lines to be repainted outside John Lyne, as well as the ongoing issues with potholes on Tilemans Lane and Station Road. Concerns were also highlighted about damaged pavements in a number of locations around the town.

**Flood awareness:** The Shipston Area Flood Awareness Group has now been set up and a multi agency meeting is due to take place on the 6th May.

**Improving access:** Councillors agreed to proceed with the necessary repairs to the chair lift to enable more universal access to town council meetings.

### Campaigning for Shipston

**Boundary changes:** Town councillors expressed concerns about plans to divide the town for both district and town council purposes. The proposals, put forward by the Boundary Commission, would see the town split into North and South wards, with one district councillor representing each ward, four town councillors representing the north and nine in the south. Not only were councillors concerned about the way the town is set to be split, they don't believe town and parish councils should be split at all.

Councillors agreed to write to the National Association of Local Councils to seek support in rejecting the proposals on behalf of all towns and parishes.

**New Homes Bonus payments:** Ian Cooper raised concerns that the application for funding from the New Homes Bonus scheme, to support the Stour Enterprise Centre was refused, while the Townsend Hall application was supported. The Town Clerk will look into what the process was and whether the priorities of the town are sufficiently well understood by Stratford District Council. On a positive note, the grant for the Townsend Hall will enable the venue to significantly overhaul its audio and other services, improving the facility for the town.

**A sustainable future:** Following the recommendations agreed at last month's meeting, the Sustainability Working Group will meet with ASL to discuss potential infrastructure requirements which could result from their planning applications, if successful.

### Town Council business

**Play area repairs:** After careful consideration of various options, councillors voted to go ahead with plans to repair the holes in the wet pore surface at the London Road Sports Club play area, and replace the section under the toddler equipment with new material. The new material will be guaranteed for seven years.

**Forum deliveries:** At the request of the Stratford Herald, which distributes the Shipston Forum on behalf of the town council, councillors agreed to increase the print run of the Forum by 150 a month to enable more houses to receive the publication.

**New auditor:** Councillors agreed to appoint Gillian Poole as the new auditor, based on recommendations from the outgoing auditor and local businesses.

## Dan Scobie elected to Shipston Town Council



Local resident and food enthusiast, Dan Scobie, was successfully elected to the town council on the 3rd April following a local by-election. Two candidates contested the seat, which attracted a turnout of just over 21%, with Dan Scobie polling 478 votes compared to Gwen Kiely's 395. This is the second time Dan has stood for election, having narrowly missed out on a seat by just two votes last time.

Dan is well known to the local community, not least for his role in the highly successful Food Festival which was launched last year. Renowned for his Sourdough loaves, some councillors are rumoured to be looking forward to fresh bread being served at council meetings.

On being elected, Dan said: "I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to support Shipston and help ensure this town continues to thrive. I want to ensure that we retain and enhance some of the key facilities in the town such as the Rugby, Football, and Cricket clubs, and of course the Wool Fair, the Proms and the food and beer festivals."

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said "On behalf of all my colleagues, I am delighted to welcome Dan to the council and look forward to working with him in the coming months."

**For the contact details for all councillors and New Clark House, see page 15**

## Shipston excels in cup finals

All eyes were on Shipston Excelsior's Under 11s and Under 12s last month as they headed to Bretforton to play two cup final matches.

The Under 11s team came up against Sheppey Swifts and dominated the match. In the first half Shipston coached by Matt Williams and Danny Murphy were more comfortable on the ball and piled on the early pressure forcing some good saves from an in form opposition goalkeeper. In the second half Shipston broke the deadlock. After numerous good through balls, Shipston scored with an excellently taken goal put high over the keeper from a tight angle.

Following more Shipston possession and against the run of play Sheppey scored an unstoppable free kick from the edge of the area to equalise midway through the second half. The match went to penalties and Shipston lost out 3-2 but it was an excellent match and future wins are looking likely for the team.

In what was the second match of the day, the Under 12s, coached by Alistair Baxter and Simon Redshaw, gave a master class in passing attacking football.

Shipston came flying out of the blocks and won a free kick which was dispatched in Ronaldo-esc style! Evesham came back in a tight first half but Shipston scored close to half time. After the break Shipston really started firing on all cylinders, taking complete control of the game and winning with a very convincing 5-1.



*Shipston Excelsior's Under 12s*

Congratulations to all involved in the matches and behind the scenes.

For more information about the club, visit <http://www.sefc.eu>

## New kitchen at Shipston Primary

Shipston Primary School has been awarded funding to install a completely new kitchen, which will see the school cooking its own school meals.

An ambition of the head teacher, Christian Hilton, since his arrival at the school five years ago, the funding means the school will no longer be reliant on school meals being provided by the High School and can focus on preparing fresh, high quality meals on site.

"I am absolutely thrilled that we will soon be able to start work on installing a new kitchen. With free school meals being made available to all key stage one pupils from September, having the space and facilities to prepare meals on site will make a real difference," said Christian Hilton.

## Shipston Rotary supports fundraiser to help eliminate polio

Shipston Rotary Club provided purple crocus bulbs to three local primary schools for them to grow at home in order to raise awareness of the need for funds to eliminate Polio from the world.

With help from Rotary, India is now Polio free, but there are still three countries where the disease is still endemic and Rotary clubs throughout the world are raising funds for the immunisation programme. The photo shows pupils from Tysoe C.E. School planting their bulbs.



## Shipston's Cubs triumph in swimming gala

Shipston Cubs emerged triumphant from the annual district swimming gala at Stratford upon Avon.

Competing against cubs from across the district, Shipston's cub scouts won the overall event with five first places, four seconds and six thirds in races from single lengths and widths, relays and even a fun race at the end. Leaders and parents were delighted with the results and congratulated all the cubs that took part.

On the same weekend, cubs and beaver scouts planted hedgerow trees, Rowan, Crab Apple, Dog Roses and Hazel, all donated by the Woodland Trust. The trees were planted in the Queens Avenue play area, alongside the fruit trees planted a few weeks ago.

Cub leader, Martin Castle, said "All this work in planting trees is going towards the cubs earning their community badges and doing our bit for a community week. Lets hope all these trees can mature and be enjoyed by generations to come."



*Triumphant Cub Scouts*



## Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



### All the world's a stage...including Shipston Primary

Pupils from all year groups at Shipston Primary enjoyed a wealth of exciting activities and learning to celebrate Shakespeare Week in school.

Marion Morgan from The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust launched the week in school by explaining the importance of Shakespeare and why the 'week' had been set up nationally. Following on from this the children sharpened their quills and set to work.

In Key Stage 1 younger pupils produced work based on Gnomeo and Juliet, wrote sonnets inspired by Titania and Bottom using Shakespearean language, and Reception children learnt about Elizabethan life and made some brilliant Tudor ruffs and Manchet bread. Years 3 and 5 collaborated on a breathtaking performance of the Tempest, Year 4 created a range of magic spells and potions and Year 6 modernised the story of Romeo and Juliet.



Teacher Mr Wright said: "All of the staff worked thoroughly hard to create this fantastic learning opportunity which saw the children engaged and inspired throughout the five days. Following on from the success of the week, Shipston Primary has been asked to take part in Shakespeare's 450th Birthday celebrations."

### Mindful about learning

Shipston Primary School has been using meditation techniques to boost children's concentration skills and help their learning.

Earlier this year the school introduced Mindfulness. The practice, which helps children to focus and lower stress levels, was recently shown to improve pupils' school performance in a study.



So far Year 6 children have taken part in a nine-week Mindfulness programme led by Mindful Beginnings Ltd.

Children take part in fun, interactive sessions teaching a Mindfulness skill. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

## Shipston High School

### Busking for ice cream

At -196°C it beats the coldest ever recorded temperature on Earth of -89°C in Antarctica, yet there was no end of fun to be had using liquid nitrogen at the "Physics Factor" Awards Evening on 31st March. This event marked the culmination of a competition for Year 7 and 8 students to celebrate National Science and Engineering Week 2014.

Following student practical demonstrations of physics "tricks", there was a demonstration lecture about liquid nitrogen by two representatives from Warwick University's Physics Department. In front of the assembled audience, two of our students eagerly volunteered to assist. Nervously, Emily dipped her bare hand into the flask of bubbling cryogenic liquid and survived whilst Amba chose to dip a bunch of flowers into it instead and showered the floor with shards of icy petals shaken from the frozen stalks. The evening concluded with a tasty serving of ice cream frozen using liquid nitrogen.



### Religious Education

Parents often comment on how much RE has changed. So what do we do in RE lessons?

We study all the major world religions, including Christianity.

RE offers students an opportunity to learn how others think and believe and how it affects their lifestyles and what they think is right and wrong (ethics).

These students are getting a feel for how the Sikh Langa, or free kitchen, works. They experience the service, sharing and living out the concept of equality that is expected of young Sikh people.

We also study famous people and discuss our views on them.

We focus on the three REs! Respect, Reflect and Review. In other words, students are taught to show respect to others' views whilst thinking about their own opinions in the light of what they have learned. This means that people of all faiths and beliefs have a chance to explain their opinions and develop a better understanding of their own faith or opinions.

The skills we learn enable students to understand others better, and learn how to explain and justify their views.

However, the real reason to study Religious Education is that it is so fascinating. Students often leave lessons discussing viewpoints or thinking about a new way of seeing the world.



## Fresh air and exercise awaits – and all in aid of charity

There are no excuses for not getting out and enjoying the fresh air thanks to the many walks planned in and around Shipston over the coming weeks.

On 4th May, the annual Rotary Cotswold Walk will take place, taking in beautiful views across the countryside on the seven mile trip (see page 10). If your blisters are under control, you can don your walking shoes again the next day, 5th May, to set out for the Brailes Three Hills Walk, starting from 9am until 11:30am from Brailes Village Hall. A barbecue awaits those who complete the walk.

Less than a week later, on Sunday 11th May, the annual Bluebell Walk will take place, setting off from Hell Brake Paddock in Whatcote. The walk costs £6 (children are free) and includes tea and scones. For further information, please contact Susan Price on 01295 680007.

For those with a real appetite for walking, on the 28th and 29th June, the Cotswold Way MAD Challenge will be taking



place in aid of Spinal Muscular Atrophy. You can choose from a two-day 50 mile walk or a 10 or 20 mile walk on the Sunday. To enter please call 01608 663415.

Please do take part in these walks if you can. They all support good causes - and there are major brownie points for anyone who completes all the walks!

## Senior citizens celebrate with help from Stour Valley Lions

The annual Senior Citizen party, organised by Stour Valley Lions, took place last month, with approximately 100 local residents joining in the fun.

Guests were treated to celebration drinks on arrival, followed by food, cakes, as well as copious amounts of tea and coffee. The entertainment included Charlie Cox, songs from Maggie O'Hara, vocal comedy entertainer J P James and background music sound and lighting from Stephen Haynes.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, attended the event to chat with residents and enjoy the entertainment, and said "I was very impressed with the amount of thought and effort which had clearly gone in to ensure our senior citizens had a wonderful day".

Stour Valley Lions, plus husbands, wives and buddies worked tirelessly in March to plan, prepare and deliver what proved to be a party to remember. Shipston Young Fire Fighters assisted the Lions moving and positioning 30 tables, fitting tablecloths, chairs and crockery. Transport and additional wheelchairs were also provided. Well done to everyone involved.



## Shipston Flower Club marks national anniversary

Shipston Flower Club is joining a national campaign to encourage more people to get involved in flower arranging, as part of the celebrations for the emerald anniversary of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS).

The campaign will see small bouquets of flowers appearing around the town, tied with an emerald green ribbon with a 'Lonely Heart' tag attached, together with an invitation to the next Flower Club meeting in June. The idea is that people who find the bouquets take them home and enjoy the flowers and consider coming along to the June meeting.

Club member and local florist, Elaine Freeman, said "this campaign is all about sharing the beauty that flowers bring. As a club we're looking forward to sharing our bouquets with residents and hope we will hear some interesting tales about where they have ended up. We're always keen to welcome new members, and we hope these bouquets will encourage a few more people to give Shipston Flower Club a try."

The 11th June meeting will be a demonstration by Sally Gee called "Celebrations" (7pm at Shipston Primary School). For more information, contact Elaine Freeman on 01608 238255.

## Military Wives concert proves a rousing success

The Military Wives Choir from Brize Norton attracted a sell out audience at the Townsend Hall, in what was a thoroughly enjoyable and successful fundraiser.

From traditional Irish songs to Opera, popular music to wartime classics, the choir delighted the audience with a full range of musical talent.

The Military Wives concluded a very musical afternoon with a 'Round of Swing Low Sweet Chariot' and 'Oh When the Saints going Marching In' which the audience enthusiastically joined in.

Chairman of the Townsend Hall Trustees, Geoff Ridgway, thanked everyone for their participation and presented a cheque for £1,000 to The Military Wives Choir which they very gratefully accepted on behalf of SSAFA, a charity providing lifetime support for forces members and their families. SSAFA and the Townsend Hall were the joint beneficiaries of the charity concert.



**Regular events:**

- Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- Mon Fitsteps:** 9.30-10.30am, Sheldon Bosley Hub. Other classes available. Contact Michelle on 07764496947.
- Mon St John's Ambulance:** Badgers, 6-7. Cadets 7-8:30. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Mon Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:** 7pm for 7.15pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Rd, Shipston-on-Stour. Call Penny Law 663871
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays. 10am-12pm Room No 2, Ellen Badger Hospital.
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Now every Tuesday. 10.45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 0300 555 8171
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club at Stour Court.** Contact: Stella 686224
- Tues Silver Surfer Computer Lessons,** Shipston Library 2pm. Booking essential. Contact: 0300 558171
- Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- Weds Coffee at St Edmunds Church.** 10.30am – 12pm. All welcome.
- Weds U3A Chicago Bridge:** Social Bridge 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Roger Smith on 01608 238400.
- Thur Shipston Stitchers:** 10am to 3pm, alternate Thursdays.
- Thur Story Stomp:** Shipston Library, 11.30am-12pm. Stories and rhymes for children aged 2 – 4. Free.
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club at Rainbow Fields.** Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- Thur Silver Surfer Computer Lessons,** Shipston Library 2pm. Booking Essential. Contact: 0300 558171
- Thur Safer Neighbourhood Team:** Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House, West Street.
- Thur Stour Singers,** open to all, 7.40pm at Shipston Primary School. Contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.
- Fri Walks over fields** with friendly group. Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Age Concern Lunch Club Stour Court** Contact: Linda 01789 722433
- Fri Shipston Probus:** alternate Fridays
- There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. They include: line dancing, badminton, short tennis, yoga, ballet, Calypso kids music, Little Kickers, Zumba, modern jazz dancing, t'ai chi and circuit training.**
- For details, visit [www.townsendhall.com](http://www.townsendhall.com) or call Lisa Bryan on 07800 771368.**

**May Diary**

- 2 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library).
- Shipston Dementia Cafe:** 2pm-3.30pm, Community Lounge, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- Sheldon Bosley Hub: Stand Up Comedy Night.** 7.30pm. See ad on page 10
- 3 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment & refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com

- 4 Rotary Cotswold Walk:** See ad on page 10
- 5 Italian Market:** See ad on page 8
- Brailes Three Hills Walk:** Contact Richard Cheney on 685570
- Shipston Rugby Club:** Bingo. Eyes down 2pm. See ad on page 8
- 7 Shipston Widows: Lunch.** 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** Shipston-on-Stour Town Crier, Marion Ladd. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519
- 8 Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Committee Mtg. 7.30pm, New Clark House, West Street. Contact: Mike Dobbin 664636
- 8-10 Shipston Drama Group:** Whose Life is it Anyway? See page 9
- 9 Lions Rural Cinema – Saving Mr Banks.** See ad on page 8
- 10 Mayor's Surgery:** 10am, High Street
- Stour Singers: Brahms' Requiem.** 7.30pm. See ad on page 8
- Shipston Home Nursing Plant Sale:** See page 9
- 11 Bluebell Walk:** Hell Brake Paddock, Whatcote. See article on pg 6
- 12 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Shipston Town Crier, Marian Lowe. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 13 Senior Citizens Action Network meeting (SCAN)** 10am-11.30am, Townsend Hall, Sheep Street. Free admission, all young-at-heart over 50s welcome. Contact: Jane Pearce 663491
- Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting:** 7.30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. Visitors welcome. Contact: John Cavana 01295 722287
- 14 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston and District Gardening Club:** 'Beekeeping' - Peter Hepworth. 7.30pm Catholic Church. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- Shipston Flower Club:** Annual Meeting 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School, Station Rd. Visitors £3.50. Contact: Elaine 01608 238255
- 16 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting Dementia Carers:** 10.30am-12.30pm, Ellen Badger Hospital (using the Day Unit entrance). Friendly welcome for all visitors. Contact: Carl Watkins 663808 or Lizzy Feather 686013
- Dementia Friendly Singing:** 2pm-4pm Stour Court, Old Road. Contact Barbara Smith 662433.
- Shipston Music Society:** See ad on page 9
- 17 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- Shipston Home Nursing Ceilidh:** 7:30-11pm. Townsend Hall. Call 674929 for details and tickets.
- 20 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** 'Shakespeare' Scenery' - James Kerr. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Visitors most welcome. Contact: Penny Law 663871
- 21 Shipston Widows: Meeting.** 10.30am-12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- 24 Newbold Plant Sale:** 10am – 2.30pm
- 26 Shipston Wool Fair:** See pages 1 and 16 for details
- Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- 27 Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
- U3A Meeting:** 2pm, Townsend Hall. See ad on page 9
- 28 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- 30 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- 31 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above



# ITALIA IN PIAZZA

## THE REAL ITALIAN FOOD MARKET



## SHIPSTON HIGH STREET

MONDAY 5TH MAY  
FROM 10AM – 4PM



**MONDAY 5TH MAY 2014  
EYES DOWN 2PM**

**SHIPSTON RUGBY CLUB  
MAYO ROAD**

**GREAT PRIZES**

**FREE ENTRY  
RAFFLE**

**REFRESHMENTS**



## STOUR VALLEY LIONS FILM SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL

TOM HANKS EMMA THOMPSON



## SAVING MR. BANKS

WHERE HER BOOK ENDED. THE REAL STORY BEGAN.

**Friday 9th May, 2014 at 7:00 pm**

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

From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston On Stour.  
Or Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608-661148

Interval for Raffle, Refreshments and snacks  
Disabled parking, access and toilets

## Stour Singers

Conducted by Richard Emms

## Brahms' Requiem

with

**Robyn Allegra Parton, soprano**

**Alan Fairs, bass-baritone**

**Fiona Brown & Sara Harris, piano duo**

**Saturday, 10th May 2014 at 7.30pm**  
**St. Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour**

Tickets, £12.50, from choir members,  
R. Clarke, 27 High St., Shipston-on-Stour  
and at the door.

(accompanied children free)

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



**making  
music**





## Shipston-on-Stour Area U3A

**Our First Annual General Meeting**  
(for members only)  
is to be held in the Townsend Hall  
on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 2 p.m.

After the AGM  
**Anne Hume**  
poses the question  
**"So, What Do You Do in the Daytime?"**

Followed by our AGM Tea Party



The Third Age: a time of creativity and fulfilment



# Charles Matthews

and

# Anne Allen



**In the Methodist Church**  
**New Street, Shipston-on-Stour**  
**@ 7.30pm Friday 16th May 2014**

Guests £5.00 - Students & Under 16 £2.00  
New Members are always welcome

Registered Charity Number: 1146459 (England)

# PLANT SALE & PRODUCE STALL

*Saturday 10th May, 10am - 12noon* **FREE ENTRY**  
Sheldon Bosley Hub, Shipston-on-Stour CV36 4DQ

Plants (including vegetable plants), Jams, Chutneys, Cakes, Biscuits, Marmalades, Pickles, Pies, Garden Produce etc.

Delivery of plants and produce to Sheldon Bosley Hub from 12-noon onwards Friday 9th May or call Nicola on 01926 651453 for prior collection.

**We look forward to your continued support at this popular event**



# Whose Life is it anyway?

Written by Brian Clark

8th, 9th and 10th May

at 7.30PM

Townsend Hall, Shipston on Stour



When Ken Harrison finds himself bedridden following a road accident, the choice of 'life' is under debate. The hospital's job is to save life, but facing the future with no movement from his neck down, Ken has a very different opinion - afterall it's his life—isn't it?

Directed by Stephanie Mace

This is a black comedy

Tickets available from John Lyne Hardware and on the door  
£5 on Thursday and £7 for Friday and Saturday entrance

[www.shipstondramagroup.com](http://www.shipstondramagroup.com)

# Elvis

## is coming to town

**ONE NIGHT OF ELVIS**  
**Friday 27th June**  
**Townsend Hall**



'Direct from The West End...  
 BBC's World's Greatest Elvis Finalist'

**LEE MEMPHIS KING**

Tickets £18 in advance from  
 Clarke Electrical, High Street, Shipston

**SHIPSTON PROMS**  
**2014**  
 19 JUNE - 5 JULY  
 MUSIC FOR ALL

[www.shipstonproms.org](http://www.shipstonproms.org)



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



## Cotswold Walk

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014

*7 mile walk with spectacular views*



*Enjoy Walking the  
 North Cotswolds with  
 magnificent views over  
 four counties.*

*refreshments ~ toilets ~ marshals ~ first aid*  
**£5 adults .....£2 schoolchildren**

Walkers may start at any time between 10am & 2pm  
 Commence at Foxcote Hill, Ilmington, Nr Shipston on Stour, CV36 4LD  
 Signposted from A429 & A3400 ~ Free Car Park

**For further information or charity sponsorship forms:-**  
[www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk)

**Or contact:-** Rtn Avryl: tel 01789 740 047  
 email: [gerald.newell@btinternet.com](mailto:gerald.newell@btinternet.com)

**SECCOMBES**

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 LETTINGS | PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

#### Sponsor

'Covering South Warwickshire and  
 North Cotswolds'.

**Tel Nos: Kineton Office - 01926 640498**  
**Shipston on Stour - 01608 663788**

**Are you aged 16 to 25 and  
 a resident of Shipston on Stour?**

Are you in full or part-time education, or in an apprenticeship scheme?

### We can help you

Grants are available now to support your studies  
 from The School for Females Charity

**Contact: Chris Skeath e: [cmskeath@hotmail.com](mailto:cmskeath@hotmail.com)**  
 45 New Street, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4EW

Grants of typically £50 to £100 are available to support the study of young  
 people who live in Shipston from The School for Females Charity.

**Are you an organisation working  
 with young people in Shipston?**

### We can help you

Grants are available now to support your studies  
 from The School for Females Charity

**Contact: Chris Skeath e: [cmskeath@hotmail.com](mailto:cmskeath@hotmail.com)**  
 45 New Street, Shipston on Stour, CV36 4EW

Grants of typically £100 to £600 are available to organisations working in  
 the town of Shipston from The School for Females Charity

The trustees ask for receipt of applications within six weeks of the appearance of this notification.  
 Applicants will be informed as to the success of their application within the next four weeks.

## Alzheimer's Society

Leading the  
 fight against  
 dementia

### Dementia Awareness Week Singing for the Brain Taster Session

Singing is not only an enjoyable activity, it can also  
 provide a way for people with dementia, along with  
 their carers, to express themselves and socialise  
 with others in a fun and supportive group.

Come along and join in ...

**Singing for the Brain taster session**  
 Stour Court, Old Road,  
 Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4HF

**Friday 16th May at 2.00pm**

**For more information contact Jo Min.**

**T: 01926 888899**

**E: [jo.min@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:jo.min@alzheimers.org.uk)**

Registered Charity no. 296645

**For more information visit – [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)**



## Shipston Rotary Club



On 11th March Shipston Rotary Club celebrated its 34th birthday with a meal and presentation at Shipston Rugby Club. Founder members and previous presidents of the club were invited along with many guests from the Shipston area.

The event was arranged to demonstrate to recent club members and guests, what Shipston Rotary Club had achieved since 1980.

The presentation featured a slideshow of items from the clubs archives, interspersed with anecdotes from members and talks from Shipston High School Head teacher, Jonathan Baker, and Shipston Town Mayor, Veronica Murphy.

At our weekly meetings in Halford we have listened to talks about:

- The extension of the Steam Railway from Toddington to Broadway and the re-building of Broadway Station.
- Local woodwork and metalwork including furniture restoration.
- The work of The Children's Society.

Gentlemen were given an opportunity to take advantage of a Prostate checking facility, organised by a Shipston Rotary member.

Four Rotarians assisted at an Enterprise Day at Shipston High School.

On the last day of March we joined Stratford Rotary Club for an event where we listened to a talk about the proposed High Speed Two railway.

If you would like to find out more about Shipston Rotary, please visit our website [www.shipstonrotary.org.uk](http://www.shipstonrotary.org.uk) or email President John Round, [jasround@gmail.com](mailto:jasround@gmail.com). We would especially like to hear from you if you have previously been a member of a Rotary Club and have moved into the Shipston Area.

## Shipston Excelsior Football Club



Shipston Under 16s are looking for a new team manager. If you fancy taking on the challenge, please email for Jonathan. Edwards@Cevalogistics.com further details.

### End of Season Ball

Tickets are now available for the End of Season Ball at the Green Hill Gallery, Brailes Golf Club on Friday 23rd May - 7:15pm arrival for 8.00pm sit down. Tickets will cost £30.00 and include coaches to and from the venue, two Course Meal and disco. If you would like to attend you can purchase tickets from Les Hardiman, James Peardon or Jonny Edwards. Payment will be required in advance and there are only 130 places so they will be on a first come first served basis. If you can book in groups or as tables it would be helpful, but don't worry if you can't.

### Golf Day

Shipston Excelsior are holding their annual golf day at Feldon Valley Golf Club on Friday the 6th of June 2014 in

support of the Ellen Badger League of Friends and to raise funds for the football club. We are looking for teams and sponsors for this event so please show your support and email [andy.nabbs@bt.com](mailto:andy.nabbs@bt.com) for details.

### Pitch perfect

Shipston Excelsior would like to thank groundsman Steve Edwards who has done sterling work on the pitches considering the awful weather we have experienced recently.

## University of the Third Age



Shipston on Stour Area U3A enjoyed a presentation by Maggie Wood entitled 'Ralph Sheldon and His Wonderful Tapestry Map of Warwickshire' at their recent monthly meeting.

The Sheldon Tapestry Map of Warwickshire was commissioned in the late 1580's by Ralph Sheldon to decorate his newly built house at Weston, near Long Compton in South Warwickshire. It was a set of four tapestry maps showing the counties of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire. These would have hung together to create a panoramic view of England stretching from London to the Bristol Channel.

Many of the details added to the tapestry are pictorial representations of places important to the Sheldon Family. E.g. his house at Weston is shown as being larger than the whole village of Long Compton, as is the Windmill.

Maggie explained that in 1781 the Sheldon's House was sold and the Warwickshire Map purchased by Horace Walpole, in 1832 it passed to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society and went on loan to the Victoria & Albert Museum, again in 1960 it was sold and became part of the Warwickshire Museums Collection.

Before arrival at the British museum for the exhibition 'Shakespeare: Staging the World', the tapestry spent over a year undergoing conservation, this work Maggie explained enabled us to get close to the tapestry and make exciting discoveries.

In April 2011, the tapestry went to Belgium to be wet cleaned which made tiny details easier to see. The Rollright Stones appear in the lower right corner - they are very hard to spot. Maggie said that they had now noticed the bears claws are blue and that there are many tiny cottages hidden in the Forest of Arden.

## Shipston Music Society

### Sergei Rachmaninoff – his life and music

John Malpass is a founder member and trustee of the Rachmaninoff Society and with a lifelong interest in the composer and his music, was well placed to talk to the members of the Music Society about the life and work of the composer.

John traced Rachmaninoff's musical development from his days as a student in the 1890s and the early influences of Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, and other

Russian composers, which quickly gave way to the more personal style notable for its song-like melodicism and expressiveness.

Rather than illustrate his talk with more familiar pieces, John chose to play excerpts from some of the less well-known compositions of liturgical, choral, operatic and chamber music and a selection of his piano and two piano compositions, demonstrating the breadth and depth of Rachmaninoff's ability as composer, conductor and pianist.

Society chairman, Richard Baldwin, concluded the evening with a vote of thanks to John for a superb presentation illustrated not just with music but also unique photographs of the composer and his contemporaries.

The next meeting of the Music Society will be 16th May – Charles Matthews piano and Anne Allen flute. Visitors are always welcome – For more information please phone Richard Baldwin 01608-662178 or visit the web site [www.shipstonmusic.org.uk](http://www.shipstonmusic.org.uk)

## Stour Valley Lions

### Lions Cinema 'Saving Mr Banks'

Our next film held at Shipston High School on Friday 9th May will be 'Saving Mr Banks' (PG13) starring Emma Thompson, Tom Hanks, Colin Farrell and Ruth Wilson. Author P.L. Travers reflects on her childhood after reluctantly meeting with Walt Disney, who seeks to adapt her Mary Poppins book for the big screen. We look forward to seeing all our regular audience and new members at this film.



### Lions Race Night at Newbold

Lions organized our popular horse race night at Newbold to raise funds for the village hall. The children, and a few brave residents, enjoyed riding the six wooden horses in each race whilst Lion members auctioned off the race horses and ran the tote. The supporters organised a raffle and fish and chips for the racegoers. The evening raised over £300.

### Spectacles & Mobile Phones

Every year Lions across the UK collect unwanted spectacles and mobile phones from shops and residents. These are collected and dispatched to third world countries.

### Diabetic Screening

Did you know that Diabetes kills one person (all ages) every 8 seconds. Lions are supporting the Medical Centre who will be carrying out FREE testing on Thursday the 12th June between 2 and 6pm at the Ellen Badger Hospital. Please come along and take the test not the risk.

## Shipston Arts and Crafts Society

In March, Dr Sylvia Pinches speak on the life and career of Charles Frederick Tunnicliffe OBE, RA, a wildlife artist born in 1901 in Cheshire.

Charles Tunnicliffe was a true countryman, spending his life drawing - mainly birds but including all animals of the countryside. His main work was illustrating books such as Henry Williamson's Tarka the Otter, The Shell Book of Birds and several Ladybird books for children.

Mr Tunnicliffe moved to Anglesey in 1947 to spend the rest of his life painting and drawing the animals and birds of country and coast. He became famous for the whimsy and artistry of his work besides being botanically correct. A sheer delight to see and he also left a detailed history of the real country coastal life between WWI and WWII and postwar. He died in 1979.

The evening concluded with a short AGM meeting when a new chairman David Kennett was elected together with the officers and committee.

On 15th April Jane Freear-Wyld will speak on design in contemporary tapestry and our new programme starts on 20th May with James Kerr on Shakespeare's Scenery - garden photography. Our meetings are held at the Catholic Church Centre at 7.30pm. Visitors welcome.

## Dementia Café



"Approachable, open and relaxed" were the words used by Gaye Calleja at her talk to the Dementia Café in March to describe the excellent resource we have here in Shipston – the Ellen Badger Day Unit. It certainly summed up the feeling we all had about her as she explained how the unit provides a rehabilitation and respite service to those referred to it from either the local GPs, District Nurses, Social Services or family referral for anyone suffering from chronic illnesses, including dementia.

Following receipt of a referral, Gaye visits the family to get to know them and their circumstances and then arranges for the person affected to be given one day a week for six weeks at the unit where they will be welcomed warmly by the staff and encouraged to take part in a wealth of mental and physical activities – from quizzes, games and crosswords to exercises, reminiscence, cooking, sewing, and gardening.

Andrew Cockerill returned to the café on 4th April to lead us once again in 'Singing for the Brain', an activity provided by the Alzheimer's Society which is believed to have many benefits for anyone with dementia.

The next Dementia Cafe will be on Friday, 2nd May 2014, 2pm to 3.30pm, at Stour Court Community Lounge, Old Road. It is free and open to anyone in Shipston and surrounding communities. For more information please contact Charmaine Bird on 024 7665 2602 or 07720 947938, or local volunteer Barbara Smith on 01608 662433.

## Shipston on Stour Cricket Club

Sunday April 6th saw Shipston Cricket Club members getting the ground ready for the new season under the NatWest 'club-force' initiative alongside their annual colts registration session.

Numbers are up on last year and the opening game of the season win on April 13th against visitors Bayshill CC by 80 runs bodes well for success in 2014.

For more information, visit [www.shipstoncc.intheteam.com](http://www.shipstoncc.intheteam.com)



## Proud of my town

### Air Ambulance fundraising walk raises over £1,000

Shipston Rotarian Patricia Graham and her poodle Dicken today set off on a 3 mile walk in aid of the Warwickshire Air Ambulance.

Not too unusual, you might think – but Patricia is 80 and her hips and knees are mostly metal and plastic! Despite this she said that she is determined to finish the walk in true British Bulldog spirit.

It's not too late to donate – just head on down to the Air Ambulance shop in Shipston. So far Patricia has raised over £1000.

Pictured are Patricia and Dicken (centre) her family, friends and neighbours as well as staff from Warwickshire Air Ambulance and Cllr. Philip Vial, Shipston's Deputy Mayor, who saw her off.



### Running for the Brain Tumour Charity

Willington resident, Daniel Barney, is taking part in the 2014 Berlin Marathon to raise money for The Brain Tumour Charity after two close friends were diagnosed with brain tumours.

The charity is the UK's largest dedicated brain tumour charity. They fund scientific and clinical research into brain tumours and offer support and information to those affected, whilst raising awareness and influencing policy.

Daniel is looking to raise £10,000, and 100% of monies raised will go directly to The Brain Tumour Charity. To sponsor him, please visit <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/danielbarney>. Good luck Daniel!

### Shipston Tennis Club Ladies A Team

Following on from last summer's success winning the Evesham and District, Division One Summer League, Shipston A Team have come top of Division Two, in the Stratford and District

Winter League. This win has gained the team promotion to Division One for next year's winter season.

The team would like to thank Ruth Thompson who organises the Evesham and District Summer League and Eileen Robinson who organises the Stratford and District Winter League. Both ladies have run the leagues for many years and their hard work is much appreciated.



Back Row: Izzy Taylor, Angela Holmes, Alice Protheroe, Fran Hudson.  
Front Row: Kate Allen and Nicki Kilgour.

## Readers' letters

*Letter from Noel Nickerson, Chairman, Shipston in Bloom*

Shipston in Bloom exists to provide floral displays throughout our town for the benefit of all who live here and all who visit. As volunteers we work extremely hard with the Shipston Town Council (our main sponsors) to ensure our displays are colourful and well maintained, for the pleasure of everyone.

Occasionally we receive compliments, most recently for the daffodil displays, which looked beautiful during early spring. Thank you to those people who have taken the trouble to contact us with compliments, it helps and encourages us, to continue.

Isn't it a pity and sad reflection therefore, when we experience vandalism? Recently someone decided to cut all but 3 daffodil blooms off from our Furze Hill Road junction display. I cannot begin to consider whatever possessed them. Cut daffodils last a couple of days, when a tub like these lasts for a couple of weeks and more, for everyone's enjoyment.

Those who cut these flowers should be ashamed and think how many people they have deprived of such a fresh and lovely display for their own gratification.

## Have your say on Shipston's future! Neighbourhood Plan update

Work is progressing well on Shipston's Neighbourhood Plan, which will guide how the town develops over the coming 20 years.

There are several new volunteers, which is great news, but we would love to hear from more people who would like to get involved. Whether you can volunteer to join one of the topic groups on a regular basis or whether you just want to offer some ideas, your input is important to ensure the Plan reflects the views of the community.

Much of the information and evidence gathering is well underway. Topic groups looking into Housing, Infrastructure, Environment and Economy are pulling together information that is helping to paint a picture of the town and identify where opportunities for improvement could be taken forward.



**Shipston's neighbourhood plan**  
Our town, our plan, our future.

Ideas and options are starting to come together and we will be asking for your feedback during a public consultation over the Summer months.

The next Neighbourhood Plan project meeting is 13th May 2014, 7pm New Clark House. Anyone is welcome to attend to find out more about the Plan, the work being done, or to offer ideas and support.

Contact Erry Lilley on 07775 765572 or [np@shipstononline.org](mailto:np@shipstononline.org) for further information or to get involved.

## District Council update

Shipston Fire Station is a base for the Warwickshire Young Firefighters Association (WYFA), which offers young people the opportunity to work with firefighters, gain experience and build self-confidence. As a trustee of Shipston Youth Club, I believe that this is a vital service worthy of support. It was therefore a great disappointment to learn that the Fire and Rescue Service (WFRS) is proposing to stop funding the WYFA. I have called on the district council to vigorously oppose this proposal and urge anyone who objects to send in comments via the WFRS website or by letter.

The Telegraph Street parking fiasco continues. Residents have no on-street parking and use the district council Car Park instead. Following consultation, the district council has increased annual parking charges from £50 to £210 (an increase of over 200%), and removed visitors' permits. The car park currently makes an annual profit of £6,000. To me the issue is one of basic fairness. These residents should be charged no more than residents who have on-street parking. I am forcing a review of the decision using council procedures.

Finally, a council retail study reveals that Shipston has the largest shortfall in shopping floorspace in the district based on a scenario that it is preferable to maintain retail spending in the local area. Regrettably, in my opinion, the council has opted for an alternative scenario based on people continuing to travel to Stratford to shop. Personally, I regard this as an anti-Shipston policy. Nevertheless, I am sure that the latest retail evidence will assist the planning appeal for the proposed supermarket at the public inquiry in July.

### Councillor Jeff Kenner

t: 07790 725415

e: jeff.kenner@stratford-dc.gov.uk

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



## County Council update

### Fire Services Review

Consultation is underway on changes in the Fire and Rescue Service. Financial pressures have given rise to changes to make changes that I have already discussed with the Andy Hickmott, the new Chief Fire Officer and Cllr Les Caborn, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety. Seeking genuine economies is one thing, but one of my major worries is the proposal to stop funding the Young Firefighters Association (YFA) that does valuable work for young people. I have asked for the figures.

You can have your say, using the consultation document available on our Warwickshire Direct Website or popping into the local library for a copy. The closing date is 20th June.

### Economic Development

Warwickshire County Council has now become a signatory to the Coventry and Warwickshire City Deal as part of a consortium of local councils that have developed a Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) to take advantage of Government proposals to fund growth in the local economy. The documents were also signed by Greg Clark MP, BIS Minister for Cities.

### Broadband

Information about Broadband roll out remains unclear and I get far too many genuine complaints about lack of progress. It is a totally frustrating position but rest assured, I do speak up for us all at every opportunity.

### Councillor Chris Saint

t: 01608 664048

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk



## Shipston Medical Centre

### Helping Shipston become a Dementia Friendly Community

The launch of the Dementia Friendly Community initiative for Shipston on Stour is taking place at the SCAN meeting on 13th May at the Townsend Hall between 10am and 12pm (refreshments available).

We have set up a group of interested people who are passionate about making Shipston a dementia friendly environment.

The aims of the group are

**Enhanced awareness and understanding of dementia** – for example, offering basic awareness training and sharing information about dementia. More information on dementia and support available locally is on the Coventry and Warwickshire Living Well with dementia Portal [www.livingwellwithdementia.org](http://www.livingwellwithdementia.org)

**Providing a dementia friendly environment** – such as ensuring that buildings and physical environments do

not prevent people with dementia from accessing them

**Developing positive attitudes towards the delivery of services to those most vulnerable in our society** – for instance, being aware that some disabilities are not always visible and that if someone is experiencing confusion, agitation or difficulty with undertaking everyday tasks, these may be symptoms of dementia

Please come and hear more about this initiative and lend us your support!

The Dementia Friendly Community initiative for Shipston on Stour is kindly sponsored by the Rotary Club of Shipston on Stour and Stour Valley Lions.

*Dr Sue Pritchard, on behalf of the Steering Group*

**Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845**

**Website: [www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk](http://www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk)**

**Twitter: @ShipstonMC**





## Your Town Councillors



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



**Philip Vial, Deputy Mayor**  
*Planning group chair*  
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 e: ppjvial@googlemail.com



**Ian Cooper**  
*Finance group chair*  
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**Fay Ivens**  
 Proud Campaign chair  
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### Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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

### Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

### Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Catherine Martin, on 01608 495955 or email: [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org)

### Copy deadline: First Wednesday of every month

– but the sooner you can notify the editor of a potential story the better.

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council to support the community and is distributed to all households. If you don't receive a copy, please contact the Town Clerk. The Forum can also be downloaded from [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

Copies of the Talking Shipston Forum can be requested via New Clark House.

Large print copies are available to read at the Library, New Clark House and the Medical Centre.

While every effort is made to ensure information is accurate, the Town Council does not accept responsibility for material submitted by readers or third parties and does not endorse any organisation or event publicised. Contributions may be edited to fit available space.



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 e: melanie.trapp@sky.com



**Jackie Warner**  
 t: 07717 391234

## 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	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Forum	01608 495955
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
<b>Local police (non emergency)</b>	<b>101</b>
PC Craig Purcell	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
<b>Churches of Shipston:</b>	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01608 661843

**Please note the new contact number for the Forum Editor (above)**

**BANK HOLIDAY  
MONDAY**

**SHIPSTON  
WOOL  
FAIR**



**26TH**

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