

Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

October 2015

Food Festival Weekend proves to be another winning event for Shipston

The third annual Shipston Food Festival weekend which took place in September, proved extremely popular with residents and tourists. Despite the growing competition from other local festivals, stall holders and visitors alike turned up in droves, securing another successful event for the town.

Events kicked-off, literally, with the Beer Festival at the Rugby Club, complete with live showing of the opening game of the Rugby World Cup. Over twenty different beers, ciders and wines were showcased at the event.

Saturday saw entries coming in for the Taste of the Country Junior Bake-Off competition. A tempting display of delicious and imaginative cakes, baked and iced by 11-16 year olds, was put before volunteer judge, Richard Harvey, who spent a serious hour tasting and evaluating the cakes. The winner, Kara Cooke, walked away with a voucher for a half day icing master class with Taste of the Country's icing experts.

Sunday was Food Festival day in the town centre. Stalls were selling everything from pizza ovens to pulled pork, cured meat to cakes, while visitors enjoyed tasting the many different foods



From a cake-take on a toasted sandwich and ketchup to a classic Victoria sponge, Shipston's young bakers showed off their talent in the bake-off canapes.

on offer. Cookery demonstrations were given by Francis Green, otherwise known as the Cotswold Traiteur, while Jim Cherry and Mandy Lane from Taste of the Country, gave tips on cheese and wine pairing and quick and easy canapes.



Cookery demonstrations, talks and live music kept visitors entertained

Music was provided by popular local duo, The Peas, while the Cotswold Distillery gave a mixology demonstration, offering plenty of ideas for gin cocktails.

Thanks to support from local businesses, the event was rounded off with a fantastic raffle, proceeds of which will go towards funding next year's festival.

Food Festival Chairman and Town Councillor, Dan Scobie, said: "I am thrilled to have seen so many people enjoying another great festival weekend. This is a community event, made possible by the generous contributions of our volunteers, sponsors, local businesses and stall holders. Most importantly, the visitors who come to enjoy the food and support the traders really make this event a success. We'd like to thank everyone for their support - we look forward to seeing you next year."

Councillors raise concerns about infrastructure overload in response to the Draft Core Strategy

Shipston Town Council has submitted a detailed response to the consultation on the Draft Core Strategy. In it, councillors have raised concerns about the significant impact of housing growth on the town's infrastructure.

Although the number of houses identified for Shipston in the Core Strategy is 487, approval has already been granted for 582 homes. The actual number of houses built in Shipston during the Core Strategy period could be higher than 700 if existing applications were to be approved. Councillors believe inadequate provision has been made to enable the town's infrastructure to cope adequately with this increase in residents. Health services, education and transport are among the issues of most concern, although the lack of local jobs has also been raised.

The consultation has now closed. The Town Council will be monitoring developments and further updates will be published in the Forum.

Fiver Fest comes to Shipston

Fiver Fest is one of two Totally Locally initiatives being run this month, giving shoppers the chance to bag some bargains from 17th October for two weeks.

An arts and crafts market is also planned for the 10th October. For details see page six.



Mayor's column

May I start this month by wishing good luck



to all who have started nursery, primary school, high school, college or university and those who are returning to school – have a great year.

On Sunday 13th September, I had the honour of representing Shipston at the Battle of Britain 75th Anniversary Parade in a Civic Procession and Military Parade, leading to a church service in Banbury. This was truly an amazing tribute which ended with us outside the church where we had a fly past from a Spitfire. We saluted the tenacity and courage of the few. Lest we forget.

I would also like to inform you that the dementia friendly group are exhibiting in Shipston Post Office from 5th to 23rd October. Please come along. They are there to inform and provide information as we all work together to make Shipston more dementia friendly. I hope to see you there.

Finally, as the nights draw in and it starts to get dark earlier, take care when out and about. Please 'be safe and be seen'.

For more information about what the Town Council is doing to prepare for Autumn and Winter, please see the New Clark House Update on page 3.

Jackie Warner

Shipston residents enjoy a day beside the seaside

By popular demand Shipston Rotary sponsored a second coach trip to Weston super Mare on Thursday 10th September. Fay Ivens was again the chief organiser and about 48 people joined the trip including members of the Visually Impaired Group, Stroke Group, Dementia Group and Widows Group, among others.

The sun shone, new friendships were made, fish and chips, ice creams, rides on the big wheel and a paddle in the sea all made it a really grand day out for everyone. Fellow Rotarian, Nigel Willis,



said: "All thanks are due to Fay Ivens without whom the trips would not have happened."

Get Your electric blanket tested before Winter arrives

Warwickshire Trading Standards Service is providing free Electric Blanket Testing for over 50s in Warwickshire at the following venues:

- Monday 5th October 2015 Rugby Library
- Tuesday 6th October 2015 Kenilworth Library
- · Wednesday 7th October 2015 Leamington Spa Library
- Thursday 8th October 2015 Asda Community Room Nuneaton
- Friday 9th October 2015 Stratford Briar Croft Residential Home

A home collection can be arranged in certain circumstances.

Book today by calling the Trading Standards Service on 01926 414016 9am - 5pm or email: ebtesting@warwickshire.gov.uk

Have your say on library services

Warwickshire County Council's Library & Information Service wants your views on its service.

Public Library User Surveys, known as PLUS, are to be carried out for a week at a time in each of the county's libraries, giving library users aged 16 and over a chance to have their say on stock, staff and services provided in their area.

In Shipston Library, surveys will be given out week commencing 12th October to customers borrowing items.

A similar survey was last carried out in 2012; nearly 6,500 responses were received across the County. As a result of the 2012 survey, changes were made to services at a local level in libraries.

Remember a loved one through the Rotary Tree of Life

Autumn may only just be beginning to make its presence felt but Shipston Rotarians are already turning their attention to Christmas. As well as making plans for the Victorian Evening on the 4th December, contributions are now being sought for the annual Tree of Life which will light up the town square.

As in previous years, lights can be 'sponsored' in memory of a loved one, all of whom will be recorded in a Book of Remembrance held at St Edmund's Church. All money raised will be donated to local Baby Hospice, Zoe's Place.

To sponsor a light, please send the name of who the light is in memory of with your donation by cheque (min $\mathfrak{L}5$) to Avril Thompson, Willow Bank, Pillerton Priors, Warwickshire CV35 0PS.



Town Council News Page 3

September's hot topics

Beautiful baskets: Fay Ivens congratulated Shipston in Bloom and those involved in maintaining the hanging baskets in the town centre which are looking fabulous.

Noticeboard nuisance: Problems continue regarding inconsiderate use of the community noticeboard. Jacke Warner has already removed out of date and remote events. The Town Clerk will add a note to the noticeboards to ask people to use A5 notices only and to be considerate to other clubs when positioning their notices.

Untidy riverside: Sheelagh Saunders sought support from district councillors to help tidy up the recreation area by the riverside near The Old Mill.

Seaside trip: Councillors congratulated Fay Ivens and Shipston Rotary on a successful trip to Weston super Mare (see page 2 for details).

Bin bother: A number of complaints have been raised about bin emptying recently. District councillor, Jo Barker, will look into the matter.

Sign success: Fay Ivens thanked Chris Saint for his support in securing the vehicle activated signs on Stratford Road and London Road.

Campaigning for Shipston

Planning issues: Concerns were raised about the lack of detail in the Shoulderway Lane proposed development about access. In addition, councillors felt proposed housing at that site and Springhill (off Stratford Road) could lead to flooding problems. In both cases the town council will express concerns as part of their objection and will seek meetings with the developers to discuss ways to mitigate the risks.

The changes to the Pettiphers Site have been approved after no objection was received from Warwickshire County Highways Department. It is expected that there will be a Tesco store on the site with flats above.

Portobello Crossroads: Marianne Westwood confirmed that a report has been received from WCC engineer Mark O'Connell, detailing proposed works to the crossroads. Campaigners are concerned that the works proposed will not improve safety at the junction. The issue will be added to the October town council agenda.

Flood Awareness: SAFAG (Shipston Area Flood Action Group) has appointed a research graduate to do a postgraduate study over three months to provide technical knowledge about water flow and collection. Local landowners have been helpful and supportive of this work which began on 1st September.

Young firefighters: Jackie Warner expressed concern about the delay in the opening of the new Young Firefighters group which is unlikely to start meeting before Christmas.

Town Council business

Audit: The annual audit of the town council accounts and governance has been certified by the external auditor under the audit Commission Act 1998.

CCTV contribution: An invoice for CCTV contribution has been received. PC Craig Purcell's report into the impact of CCTV will be circulated to all councillors and the subject will be added to next month's agenda.

Damage deposit: Shipston Town Council will now request a damage deposit on a discretionary basis to cover potential damage made by those holding events in the town (such as the Mop Fair).

Memorial tree: The Munden family will be planting a memorial tree for former councillor and football referee, Roy Munden, at the Sports and Social Club. The tree itself was originally grown from seed by Roy. Councillors suggested funding a memorial plaque to go with the tree which was agreed.

Longest reign: A letter was sent from Shipston Town Council, on behalf of the town, to HM The Queen, congratulating her on reaching the milestone of the longest reign.

New Clark House Update



Signage success

We were delighted to see the vehicle activated speed signs installed on Stratford Road and London Road last month. These have been much in demand and we sincerely hope they will encourage drivers to slow down when driving through our town.

Keep an eye out for new town entry signs which are due to be installed soon to replace some of the ageing signs currently in place. London Road and Campden Road will benefit from new Shipston signs to help improve the first impression of the town when people drive in.

Winter preparation

While some of us are still braving the summer wardrobe despite lowering temperatures, here at New Clark House we've been busy making preparations for winter. We are thinking ahead to the wet weather which may soon be on its way, ensuring we have a good supply of sandbags to minimise the impact of flooding and ensuring our emergency procedures are up to date.

With darker evenings on the horizon, don't forget to report any streetlights that aren't working direct to county highways on 01926 412515 or http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/streetlightingfault

And a special plea to dog owners. Although most dog owners are responsible and do pick up after their pet, traditionally we see an increase in dog fouling on pavements when the nights draw in. Please do 'scoop your dog's poop' and help us keep Shipston tidy.

Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk 01608 662180 clerk@shipstononline.org

Freshly made food now being served at Shipston Primary

A new era began at Shipston-on-Stour Primary School on Monday 7th September, when freshly cooked food was served from their very own kitchen.

On 1st August the new kitchen pod was craned into position on the school site from Tilemans Lane and the remainder of the school holidays was spent fitting all the appliances, ready for service.

The teachers were the guinea pigs on the staff training day. Cook Debbie Cooper and her team made a super selection of main courses, salads and pudding for the teachers in the Stour Federation as practice for when the children came back to school. The children have been very pleased with the quality and quantity of food. A salad bar is also being provided for the first time and the school is hoping to extend its menu further in the near future with baguettes and jacket potatoes.



In addition to the kitchen project over the summer holidays, the primary school has also installed a brand new heating system in all classrooms and learning spaces from Year 2 to Year 6 so they are all set for the winter months.

New archery club for Shipston

Thanks to funding being successfully secured through CSW Sport and Sport England, a new archery club is being set up in Shipston. The club will be based at the High School and will aim to provide a sports facility, primarily targeted at young people aged 12 to 25. It is hoped, however, that the club will serve all age groups, and anyone will be welcome, irrespective of ability or experience.

Run by David Beeton, who already organises a school archery club, this new group is intended for the wider community.

David is currently in the process of organising a launch meeting so that those interested can get a chance to see what modern archery is all about and to find out more about how to participate. Archery is a sport that can be taken up by all members of the community, including the disabled, and all are welcome to come along and try it out.

For more information, please contact David at dbeeton@shipstonhigh.co.uk



Young anglers join fishing frenzy at Fish 'n' Frolics event

Shipston Angling Club's annual Fish 'n' Frolics event, held in July, was a great success despite some challenging weather. Starting with the charity duck race, the club raised £504 which is being shared equally between Shipston Home Nursing and the club's annual festival fund.

The three day Fish 'n' Frolics event was attended by anglers from as far as Newbury and Lichfield, with the overall winner for the second year running Andy Wheildon winning on weight as there was a three way tie for the top spot.

The club had a constant flow of youngsters wanting to learn about coarse fishing and fly fishing which was great to see. Many competed in the fishing competition with Elliot Highway (pictured) being crowned Junior Champion 2015.

Saturday was thankfully the driest day and crowds came out to dance into the night and a good time was had by all. The festival organisers would like to thank the many sponsors and helpers without whom the event could not take place. Thanks also go to all the anglers, participants and people who attended. Later in the year the club will be putting on a special spectacular Festive Fish 'n' Frolics at the Sheldon Bosley Hub in Shipston. Tickets will be available soon.

In other club news, Stratford and Shipston Angling Clubs organised a sell out 58 peg match on the river Avon at Manor Farm Luddington and raised over $\mathfrak{L}1,100$ for the air ambulance. Details and photos of these events can

be found on the newly-launched www.fishnfrolics. com and on Facebook.

If anyone wants to be a part of any of next year's events or can help in any way please contact the club on 07543 613350.



Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



Well Done To Our Outgoing Year 6

Well done to our Year 6 pupils for their super speeches at the Leavers Assembly. The staff all agreed that the speeches were exceptionally well written and the quality of the public speaking was very good indeed. It was lovely to see so many parents, carers and siblings sharing the celebrations.



Stour Federation Partnership

In this new academic year we welcome Brailes Church of England Primary School to the Stour Federation Partnership alongside Shipston Primary and Acorns Primary. Our intention is simple: make the education and opportunities available to children in this area of south Warwickshire consistently outstanding through excitement, innovation and high expectations, making learning irresistible.

Pupil Leadership

We have a big focus on pupil leadership this year. House captains and vice captains have been elected by their peers and school council elections will be taking place as usual. We will then organise a Pupil Parliament between the three schools

in the Stour Federation Partnership so there is a prominent pupil voice.

Many of our older children already hold positions of responsibility in school, such as office prefects, ICT agents and rabbit monitors, but throughout the year we will be looking at developing a variety of pupil leadership opportunities through curriculum projects, sporting opportunities and the world of work.

Our happy and friendly school is rapidly reaching capacity but we do have limited spaces available in some year groups. If you would like to visit the school and meet with Mr Roberts (Associate Headteacher) or myself please make an appointment with the office (Tel: 01608 661266 or email primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk). We look forward to meeting you.



Shipston High School

The school year is once again underway at Shipston High School, and pupils and staff are back into the routine of lessons and activities. I have been enormously impressed by the mature and focussed way in which the pupils have returned. This is my first term at the school, and it has been a pleasure to meet the pupils and witness their good manners, mature behaviour and commitment to learning.

Those qualities were clearly held by the pupils who have recently left the school for new challenges, as the summer exam results were excellent. 67% of pupils achieved at least five GCSE grades of C or above, with 61% securing five or more grades at C or above including English and Maths. Individual performances were often exceptional: nearly 40% of pupils gained at least one A or A*grade, and other notable results include one pupil securing seven A* grades and 4 A grades and many pupils who swept the board with all grades at B, A and A*.

The method by which school results are analysed is increasingly concerned with the amount of progress pupils have made since starting the school, not just their final grade. Pupils at Shipston High made excellent progress in their 2015 exams and in every subject exceeded predictions based on their performance at junior school, demonstrating the strong commitment of staff and pupils. All the pupils who took exams this year deserve our warmest congratulations, and all of us at the school wish them the very best for their future endeavours.

During the first weeks of term, I have been visiting lessons and meeting pupils around the site at break and lunchtime. They have been telling me about the school and what it means to them; they are incredibly proud to be at Shipston High. It has also been a chance for me to learn about them and



their hobbies and interests; it's great to discover that many are involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. They really are an impressive group of young people.

Another delight of the new term has been seeing the new classrooms come alive. We are thrilled to have a new building block of rooms for the maths and modern languages departments, and the pupils have brought the necessary life and energy to the block. It is now a busy and active part of the school, and the contemporary feel of the building has been welcomed by the pupils.

I look forward to meeting you here at Shipston High School.

G Saunders Headteacher



Headteacher Gavin Saunders with Senior Prefects Lauren Powdrell, Amber Hourigan, Bertie Wells and Harvey Simpson

Event News Page 6

Totally Locally treats in store with two fabulous events this October

Totally Locally Shipston is a voluntary campaign run by a motivated group of people, who are working together to encourage people to support local businesses in and around Shipston. The Totally Locally Team has been hard at work planning two fantastic events to tempt shoppers to make the most of what the town has to offer.

On Saturday 10th October from 10am until 4pm, the first ever



Sharon Peacock from The Bakery shows off the Shipston Totally Locally tea towel that there will be lots

Totally Locally Market will roll in to town. The Street Market will focus on local arts and crafts and will run down the lower half of Sheep Street and through The Bury. If successful, further markets will be organised, with initial ideas including local produce, and a market for teenagers, all with the aim of bringing something extra to Shipston's town centre.

Totally Locally campaigner, Louise Harvey, said "We hope that there will be lots

of support at our first market where there will be over 20 stalls packed with handmade products from ceramics and paintings to wood craft, jewellery and up-cycled furniture. Calypso kids will also be providing entertainment for the children and there will be some fabulous buskers adding some music in to the mix."

A week later, shoppers will have an opportunity to pick up a bargain during Shipston's first ever Fiver Fest Fortnight starting on Saturday 17th October 2015. More than 30 independent businesses in Shipston and the surrounding area will be running deals over the fortnight including shops, cafes, service providers and many more.

Many businesses have created a special offer for £5 or great alternative '5' offers. Sharon Peacock from The Bakery said: "There are some fantastic offers for shoppers to take advantage of, and in the process, discover businesses in Shipston that they may not have used before."

Details of all the offers will be available in the 2nd edition of the Totally Locally 'Shipston' Times newspaper which will be hand delivered to as many homes as possible and can be found in shops, pubs, cafes and facilities in town. Alternatively, download a copy at totallylocally.org/shipstononstour.

Totally Locally tea towels, bags and postcards can now be purchased from a number of shops around town.

Concert and readings shed light on Parish life

A year in the life of a parish is the theme for a concert with readings at St Edmund's Church in Shipston-on-Stour at 7.30pm on Saturday evening 24th October. Richard Emms' chamber choir, Cantamus, and professional actors, Three's Company, will be presenting an entertaining evening of words and music to support the costs of the church's recently acquired grand piano. The piano needs on-going repairs and maintenance!

The programme traces events in the parish throughout the year, including love and loss, outings and gossip, children's corner, and a visit from the Bishop. The music varies from Purcell to Cole Porter, from Brahms to George Shearing, and there is an unforgettable version of the Annunciation in a reading from Gervase Finn.

Tickets cost £8, and are available from Roger Clarke's Electrical Shop in Shipston, from one of the Ministry Team (tel 01608 661249), and on the door.

Shipston Town Band gears up for joint concert with The Jaguar Land Rover Band

Shipston Town Band's Autumn concert takes place at 7.30pm on Saturday 17th October at the Townsend Hall.

Last October the band held a very successful Autumn concert when they were joined by the Jaguar Land Rover Band from Coventry (pictured below), one of the most impressive bands in the Midlands region. The concert proved such a success with both bands and audience alike that when Jaguar Land Rover asked whether the town band would like to repeat the event this year, the invitation was swiftly accepted.

This year has been a particularly successful one for the Jaguar Land Rover Band. Conducted by Dave Lea they were placed first in the prestigious Senior Cup with their performance of Festival Music by Eric Ball out of a field of 18 bands. Held in May at Blackpool this victory will bring them closer to a return to the British Open Championship held in September at Symphony Hall in Birmingham.

The concert will once again give both bands a chance to perform separate mini concerts before they join together for a massed bands finale.

Entry will as usual be free with a retiring collection. With all this talent on offer, an early arrival would be advised to secure a seat.



Regular events:

- **Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- **Mon** St John's Ambulance: Badgers, 6-7pm. Cadets 7-8:30pm. Meet at Shipston Fire Station. 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 Yoga for all abilities:** 9:30-11am Catholic Church Hall. Contact Lee Figures 665995
- Tues Stroke Club: Fortnightly 10am-12pm Scout Hut
- **Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** 10.45am Shipston Library. Free.
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club at Stour Court. Contact: Stella 686224
- **Tues Silver Surfer Computer Lessons**, Shipston Library 2pm. Booking essential. Contact: 0300 5558171 (also on Thurs)
- **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.
- **Tues Cantamus**: 7.30- 9.30pm, Catholic Parish Hall (Townsend Hall on 3rd Tuesday). Contact Richard Emms 01608 662163.
- 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.
- **Weds Stour Valley Probus:** alternate Wednesdays at 10am, The George in Brailes. Contact: Roger Smith on 01608 238400.
- Thur Shipston Stitchers: 10am to 3pm, alternate Thursdays.
- Thur Story Stomp: Shipston Library, 11.30am-12pm.
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club at Rainbow Fields: Contact Cheryl on 430382
- **Thur Safer Neighbourhood Team:** Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House, West Street.
- **Thur Stour Singers Richard Emms' Choral Society**: 7.30 9.30pm Primary School Hall. Contact Yvonne Ridley 01789 269587.
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group. Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Shipston Probus: alternate Fridays
- Fri Age Concern Lunch Club at Stour Court. Contact June on 684218
 There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. Visit
 www.townsendhall.com or call Lisa Bryan on 07800 771368.

October Diary

- 2 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9.30am-4pm. The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library).
 - **Shipston Dementia Cafe:** Making the home dementia friendly 2pm-3.30pm, Stour Court, Old Rd. Contact: Charmaine Bird 07720 947938
- 3 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9.30am-2pm. Details as above Chatterbooks: Reading group for 8-11 year olds. 10am-11am, Shipston Library. Join us for games, activities, refreshments and the chance to make new friends.
 - Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick: All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West St at 10am. Equipment & refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com
 - Disco @ the Hub: See ad on page 9
- 5 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group: Re hab. W.V.S. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 7 **Shipston Widows: Local lunch** 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230

- Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute: The Work of the British Legion by Richard Adams. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519
- 9 U3A Open Day: 10am-3pm, Townsend Hall. All welcome. Free refreshments!
 - Rural Cinema: Far From the Madding Crowd. See ad on page 8
- Mayor's Surgery: 10am, High Street
 Totally Locally Street Market: See ad on page 9
 Shipston Home Nursing Clothes Sale. See ad on page 8
 Lions Race Night: See ad on page 8
- 11 French Market: See ad on page 16
- **Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- **Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting:** 7.30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. Visitors welcome. Contact: John Cavana 01295 722287
- **Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above **Shipston and District Gardening Club:** Introduction to Organic Gardening by Pauline Pears. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 15 Royal British Legion Shipston Branch. AGM. 8pm, Band Room. All welcome. Contact: Mike Dobbin 664636
- Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9.30am-4pm. Details as above Stour Valley Carers Group: Supporting Dementia Carers.
 10.30am-12pm, Ellen Badger Hospital. Friendly welcome for all. Contact: Carl Watkins 663808 or Lizzy Feather 686013
 Dementia Friendly Singing Group: Singing Down Memory Lane. Reminiscence Singing for people with memory problems. 2pm. Stour Court Community Room, Old Road. Contact Barbara Smith 662433
 - Music Society: See ad on page 10
- Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9.30am-2pm. Details as above St Edmund's Coffee Morning and Sale: See ad on page 8 Shipston Home Nursing: Wyatts Tree & Plant Auction. See ad on page 10
 - Shipston Town Band: Autumn Concert: See ad on page 9
- **Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** AGM and Birthday tea. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- Shipston Arts and Crafts Society: John Ericson Shakers.7.30pm. Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Judy Keep 663115
- 21 Shipston Widows: Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am 12pm, Coach & Horses. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230
- **22-24** Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society: See ad on page 9
- **Cantamus: "Parish News!"** Concert with readings at St. Edmund's Church in Shipston-on-Stour at 7.30.p.m. Tickets £8 from Roger Clarke's Electrical and on the door.
- Multiple Sclerosis Society: 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
 Shipston U3A Meeting: See ad on page 10
- 28 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 10am-4pm. Details as above Shipston and District Literary Society: 'Ellerker' The Journey from Packwood by Melissa Mailer-Yates. 7.15pm for 7.30pm at The George Hotel, Shipston on Stour. Everyone welcome! For further information contact Helen Marshall 01789-740773.
- 30 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9.30am-4pm. Details as above BBC Radio 4 Any Questions?: Tickets sold out
- 31 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale: 9.30am-2pm. Details as above









Shipston Town Band

Presen

Autumn Concert

With their special guests

Jaguar Landrover Band



Winners Of The Senior Cup 2015

Townsend Hall Sat. October 17th 7.30 p.m.
Admission Free



DISCO @ THE HUB

SATURDAY 3RD
OCTOBER

8 TIL LATE IN THE
UPSTAIRS BAR AREA,
MEMBERS FREE
NON MEMBERS £3.00



Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society

presen



By John Cleese and Connie Booth



By Richard Curtis and Ben Elton

The Townsend Hall Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour 7.30 pm

Thursday 22nd, Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th October

Tickets – Thursday £6, Friday and Saturday £8 Available from John Lyne Home Hardware or on the door

'Celebrating our 60th Anniversary!'



Our next Monthly meeting

Tuesday 27th October 2015 at 2 p.m. in the Townsend Hall



The History of Medicine "The Early Years"

Presented by our own **Dr Guy Harris**

Visitors are welcome

Entry and refreshments £2

Learn, Laugh & Live







Coming soon:

U3A Open Day:

10am - 3pm, 9th October, Townsend Hall

WI Craft Sale:

7th November, Scout Hut

Shipston Victorian Evening:

4th December, Shipston Town Centre



Club feature: Ring out the Bells for Shipston!

The chiming of bells is deeply rooted in the culture of Great Britain, providing the sound track both to great historic events and personal celebrations, or tolling mournfully to mark the passing of a loved one. In wartime, bells have traditionally been silenced, ringing out again to hail a particular victory such as Alamein in WWII, or the end of war itself on VE Day, when rejoicing peals could be heard throughout the land. The enduring nature of church bells is attested by the fact that the oldest manufacturing company in England is the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, casting bells since 1420. They are still casting them in the same way.

English 'change' ringing is almost unique: while there are over 5,000 bell towers equipped for change ringing in England, the rest of the world has fewer than 300. A 'peal' is not just a ding-dong, but has to consist of over 5,000 changes, taking around 3 hours!

Nearly everyone in England lives within hearing of church bells and will have their own emotional response to this timeless sound; but few, perhaps, stop to wonder who makes this possible.

Shipston bell-ringers are a dedicated band. 'Learning the ropes' does not come easily to all, though the payoff from perseverance is enormously satisfying. Over and above volunteering to ring at weddings, funerals and commemorations in the town and surrounding villages, they ring in Sunday services at St Edmund's and practise every Saturday morning under the guidance of Tower Master Len Morley, who also gives up his time to teach newcomers. It's a relatively small group, ranging in age from 13 to 77. The numbers swell from time to time with the arrival of visitors to Shipston who happen to be bell-ringers and stroll along to the church to join in. Likewise, Shipston's bell-ringers lend

their skills when visiting elsewhere; thus this enjoyable hobby also becomes a form of 'social networking'!

Ringers were not always such



a peaceable lot. During the 18th century they were described as 'layabouts and drunks'; were fined for turning up late, and rarely saw actually attending a church service as part of their duties, preferring to hurry off to spend the few coppers earned at a local hostelry. Indeed, on May 1st 1700 Shipston's ringers were marched to Worcester Court by the church warden for ringing without permission and 'for breaking the sixth bell at a very unreasonable time in the night'!

New learner ringers for Shipston are always welcome, and will get plenty of help. Youngsters learn very quickly, and provide new lifeblood. Youngest member Kieron Trumper (13) says, "I started because I thought it was something different from my normal activities and sounded interesting and challenging"; while the other new recruit Richard Henderson says, 'With Len and Allen's patient encouragement, even an old codger like me can learn, and the exercise is doing me a power of good!'

If you'd like to join in this noble tradition, please contact Len Morley on 01608 663948.

Shipston Neighbourhood Plan



Keeping you up to date with the creation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan

We say goodbye to Erry Lilley who has stepped down from her role as project manager.

We take this opportunity to thank Erry for her work guiding us through for the last year and a half.

We have now moved onto creating drafts of the policies which are required as the centre piece of the plan.

We need to get these policies right for the town, and where there are options discuss, them with you. We announced last month an open day for this purpose on the 3rd October. Unfortunately due to the workload of consulting with stakeholders in the town we have decided to defer that open day till later (we will not be at the Scout Hut on the 3rd). We will also be distributing a town wide questionnaire in the Autumn.

We will let you know when these events will be as soon as possible. Keep a look out for future Forum articles.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan, Steering Group.

Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting Dementia Carers

We are a support group for carers looking after someone with dementia. We meet at the Ellen badger every third Friday from 10:30-12:00 every month over coffee or tea with a lovely group of people in the same position. We have a valuable role to play in the dementia friendly Shipston and everything we talk about is confidential.

Shipston on Stour Women's Institute



Autumn got off to an amusing start with a talk by Mr. Steven Bruce on the interesting life of an auctioneer and how reality is very unlike the television image. Mr. Bruce's talk was grounded in years of practical experience of life amongst antiques and the artefacts that are collected over people's lifetimes.

A great part of an auctioneer and valuer's time is spent examining, on behalf of the family, the effects of someone who has died. He has found over the years that the artefacts thought most precious by the owner usually have little commercial value, but something dusty, overlooked in a

corner, could make the owner's fortune! Fashions and tastes fluctuate over the years - the sheer size of some antique pieces can mitigate against them because they are too big to be accommodated in modern houses. The price of gold and silver is constantly changing. And, nobody wants tea sets, no matter how pretty. Interestingly, Mr. Bruce's advice to a question on what to collect is to always buy what you like and what you are happy to live with. He also recommends keeping up-to-date with public tastes, always remembering that what is unwanted now, could be tomorrow's most desired item and vice versa!

The meeting continued after tea with WI business: the President, Christine Watkins, gave details of the September trip to Bletchley Park, and a special afternoon tea at Clifford Chambers to celebrate the WI centenary. The book group will be meeting to discuss their latest read and the knitting group will continue to meet regularly. Mal Lawrence recently took the results of their work to the QE hospital in Birmingham where it is very much appreciated. Shipston WI will hold another Craft Fair on 7th November in the Scout Hut following the very successful Fair last year.

The next meeting will be on 7th October at 7pm in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road, when Richard Adams will talk about the work of the British Legion. Visitors are always welcome.

Don't miss our WI craft sale:

We're having a craft sale on 7th November at the Scout Hut. Stalls include handbags, jewellery, pottery and artwork Tables cost £5.

To book call Jane Hanks on 664519.

Stour Valley Lions

Toy Collection

Firstly, can we say a huge thank you to all those who donated toys. For four hours on Saturday 28th August, the Lions' book shop was filled with all sorts of pre-loved toys, books and games. Once gathered up

of pre-loved toys, books and games. Once gathered up the toys will distributed to Family Contact Centres, who desperately need unwanted toys or games to brighten up contact visits for children in care and their parents.

Whilst we are no longer collecting toys, please remember that any unwanted or no longer needed glasses, hearing aids, mobile phones and printer cartridges are always welcome at the book shop.

Ilmington Show: Bank Holiday Monday saw us return to the Ilmington Show with our bottle tombola. In spite of the weather we raised over £200 on the day so thank you to all of you who visited our stall, even just to shelter from the rain!

Lions' cinema night is on Friday 9th October when we will be showing Far From The Madding Crowd. This film adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel stars Carey Mulligan, Matthias Schoenaerts and Michael Sheen.

On Saturday 10th October, Stour Valley Lions will be holding a race night in order to raise funds for an ECG Machine for the Shipston Medical Centre. Tickets are

£7.50 each for adults and £5 each for children under 10. Ticket price includes a hot supper! The fun begins at 7pm at the Townsend Hall.

And Finally...

Feel like joining us? We are always on the lookout for new members! It is a lot of fun and gives the satisfaction of helping people in your community. Contact Lion John Cavana, Membership Officer on 01295 722287 or email john.cavana@btinternet.com, or any Lion for further details.

We meet every second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in The George Hotel in Shipston, so why not get in touch and come along? Lions don't bite!

Poppy Appeal & Remembrance

The 2015 Poppy Appeal starts on Saturday 24 October. As always the Shipston Branch of The Royal British Legion seeks volunteers wishing to spend an hour or two during the Poppy Appeal fortnight collecting for that well loved and respected cause.



Please contact Richard Adams, Poppy Appeal Organiser and Branch Chairman on 01608 662328 if you would like to help, or e-mail richardadams5@hotmail.com.

The Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade will take place on 8 November. Armistice Day Two Minutes Silence will be on 11 November. Full details in next month's Forum edition. Contact Richard Adams for advance details.

Shipston Probus

Our President, Paul Hickley, is a retired RAF navigator. He spoke about Cold War intelligence gathering in the Berlin Air Corridors which required two meetings in



August to cover the topic fully. His extensive knowledge of the subject results from active involvement during a period of his service.

At the end of the war, Berlin was divided into four sectors – Russian, American, French and British. In 1948 the Russians blocked all access. They were able to do this because Berlin was in the Russian Zone of Germany. The result was the Berlin Airlift, a highly successful operation which brought in all supplies necessary to maintain the population.

Three aerial corridors were created and accurate flying was necessary to keep within the boundaries. They were also used for intelligence gathering missions using quite old planes fitted with cameras which were improved as time went by. They were able to photograph large areas of East Germany recording movements of Russian and Easy German forces. Finally, the Berlin Wall was broken and Germany unified.

Paul's talks were illustrated with excellent slides as well as a number of humourous incidents.

Readers' Letters

Letter from Sue Jeffries, Director/Secretary, Sheldon Bosley Hub

With reference to the article in the August Forum from the Neighbourhood Plan concerning a community hub notably "Sheldon Bosley Hub" it states that the lease is up for renewal and implies that the hub will be closing. Our current lease is not up for renewal until 2018 and the Directors are in the process of discussing the way forward with the landowners and other bodies to try and ensure that this valuable facility is kept as a community facility for the benefit of the town and surrounding areas. The continual speculation and rumour does not help when we are trying to encourage people to use the hub's facilities and enable it to continue. We would welcome any help with the process of trying to secure this facility's future. If anyone or any organisation feels they can help with this please contact the Directors of the Sheldon Bosley Hub.

Sue Jeffries
Director/Secretary
01608 662174 or woodwardaris@gmail.com
Sheldon Bosley Hub, Pittway Ave Shipston On Stour CV36 4DQ

Letter from Shipston Cricket Club

At the beginning of September, three members of Shipston Cricket Club traveled to Chamonix in France in an attempt to to climb Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in Western Europe at 15,781ft. The climb was to raise money for the cricket club, The Brain Tumour Charity and The Air Ambulance Service; charities that have directly helped or had a close association with other members of the club in the last few years.

Despite tough conditions and the climb taking much longer then anticipated the climbers reached the summit at 4 p.m. on 3rd September. A full report can be read on the team's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/sccVSmontblanc

The team has been overwhelmed by the messages of support and donations by those directly involved with the club but also those who may have never even visited the club. A massive thank you to you all.

Donations can still be made at: http://www.gofundme.com/shipstoncc-AAS

Letter from Ms G Szwelicka

Dear Editor

I expect that, like me, many residents are concerned about the fate of the three beautiful chestnut trees situated near the site of the proposed new development at the bottom of Telegraph Street.

These trees have been an attractive feature of Shipston for a good number of years and it is to be hoped that they will be spared the chop. Will the Town Council please give an assurance that this will be so?

Letter from Mrs Shirley Crimp

I had had a strained wrist for nearly 2 weeks, which was getting worse. My husband went to the Boots pharmacy to buy a tubular support bandage where the sensible and helpful sales advisor said she thought after length of time perhaps should be checked. My husband suggested we went to the MI unit at the Ellen Badger Hospital where we were seen almost immediately by most pleasant and practical nurse with young student nurse and after thorough examination said should be seen by a Doctor.

An appointment was immediately made at the medical centre where we saw a charming young lady doctor who prescribed stronger painkillers and complete rest for the hand for next 2 days, back to the Pharmacy and prescription dispensed within 5 minutes and home - how long had all this taken? Barely 2 hours and late-ish on a Friday afternoon!

Our sincere thanks to all those who helped us so well, we are indeed blessed in Shipston with such wonderful local services - and yes, my wrist is much better!

Proud of My Town

Sad farewell to Rosemary Tolson

Former town councillor and Shipston Mayor, Rosemary Tolson, died peacefully after a short illness on 11 September. She was 92 years old.

A charming lady who took a keen interest in Royal British Legion and Branch affairs and could be counted on always for physical and financial support, and parading on Remembrance Sunday.

Rosemary served with great distinction in WW2 as a Wren. Joining in May 1941, she rose to the rank of Third Officer before demobilisation in June 1946. She remained a Reservist until 1951.

Her service was spent almost entirely overseas in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), India and Durban, on Lord Mounbatten's

staff involved in operations in the Far East theatre of war.

Rosemary served on the town council for eight years and was elected Town Mayor in 1990.

The Shipston Branch of the Royal British Legion greatly mourns the loss of a devoted, long standing member, supporter and friend.

Both branch members and the Town Council send their condolences to Rosemary's daughter Jane and all family members.

This obituary has been compiled with help from the Royal British Legion Shipston Branch, based on the tribute posted on their Facebook page.

District Council update

The first four months as Shipston South District Councillor have flown by. I've done most of my training for the year and am into the swing of looking at local planning applications. I am not on the Planning Committees - but as a Councillor I am kept up to date on applications and can have my



say. If there are any of these which you would like to discuss please get in touch.

As I am a Mum and Governor at the Primary School, I meet a lot of people in the school playground - I call it my daily surgery - if you want to grab me there for a chat I am more than happy. I am also around at St Edmunds and on the touchline for the u-8s football team most Saturdays. So if you don't see me keeping the Mayor company at her monthly street surgery then I am around at a lot of other times.

There are a lot of changes going on in local government - as Chris Saint has reported recently - Stratford District Council is having conversations with other councils about increased working together in combined authorities. This is ongoing, and between Chris and I we will keep you informed.

I have been really heartened by the number of people who have talked to me about getting more involved in local politics recently. I would encourage you to come along to Town Council meetings and have your say. There is a real passion for localism bubbling under the surface for many people. We love Shipston and we want to do all we can to help it continue to be a great place to live.

Councillor Jo Barker

Chris Saint & Jo Barker will take it in turns to provide the content for this column.

District councillor contact details:

Jo Barker (Shipston South)

t: 07748968712 e: jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Chris Saint (Shipston North)

t: 01608 664048 e: chris.saint@stratford-dc.gov.uk

County Council update

Devolution

Groups of councils need to work together to participate in the Government devolution programme in England, not to create any form of



super-council, but to be a collaborative unit to make previously national spending decisions locally.

The County Council has voted against joining the West Midlands Combined Authority, the body being set up to administer the government devolution agenda across central England.

The message that I now take to our County leaders is while other options might be available, now is the time to get hard to work to develop them. We need to move quickly or risk losing out on vital infrastructure funding.

Electric Blanket tests

This is the time of year when electric blankets come out of storage and are used to warm up our beds. Many are aware that Warwickshire Trading Standards offer a free testing service for the over 50s. Our local testing centre is at Briar Croft Residential Home in Stratford-upon-Avon. The entrance is located on the railway bridge in Alcester Road.

Testing takes place on Friday 9th October and appointments should be booked in advance by calling 01926 414016 or by email to ebtesting@warwickshire.gov.uk

Councillor's Grant Fund

I may be a little difficult to contact before the closing date for application to the Councillors Grant fund on Friday 9th October. I shall be recovering from hospital surgery to relieve pressure on my windpipe. All designed to help me breathe normally.

The forms need my signature, so they can be delivered to my home, or to Elizabeth House, Stratford-upon-Avon, whereupon they will be signed and submitted. Sadly, there is not enough money to satisfy every grant application so the applications will be evaluated to see which of them can be awarded cash for their organisation.

Councillor Chris Saint

t: 01608 664048 e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

Shipston Medical Centre

NHS Flu vaccinations are already underway in Shipston, with the first clinic taking place last month.

In Warwickshire one in three people are entitled to a free flu vaccination, yet every year thousands of people run the lottery of catching the potentially deadly illness rather than have the 'flu jab'.

Everyone aged 65 or over is entitled for the free flu vaccine and over 65s in Warwickshire are generally good at taking advantage of this service, with about 75 per cent getting their vaccine.

Pregnant women at all stages of pregnancy are entitled to the vaccine because they are particularly at risk of complications from flu and the vaccine can protect their baby in the first few months of life.

This year will also see all children in Warwickshire aged two, three and four offered free flu nasal sprays, plus all children in school years 1 and 2 will get the vaccine through the schools vaccination programme.

Flu can be a serious illness for some people, particularly those with lower immunity so it is important to get your flu jab if you are in one of the 'at risk' groups.



Shipston Medical Centre

The best time to be vaccinated is at the start of the flu season from September to early November. Invitations have already been sent to those eligible for the vaccination for the remaining clinics which take place on:

Thurs 8th Oct 4.45 - 6.45 Fri 23rd Oct 2.15 - 4.45 Sat 10th Oct 9 -11.30

For more information, contact the surgery or visit www. warwickshire.gov.uk/flu

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

Website: www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk

Useful Contacts Page 15

Your Town Councillors



Jackie Warner, Town Mayor

t: 07717 391234

e: j-warner1@hotmail.co.uk



Veronica Murphy, Deputy Mayor

t: 01608 664518

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Brian Cooper t: 01608 663237

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lan Cooper Finance Group Chair t: 01608 663785 e: ian@piruk.com



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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

To request posts on the council's Facebook and Twitter feeds, contact Peter White or Dan Scobie (details above)

Forum copy deadline: First Wednesday of the month

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

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

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

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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Sheelagh Saunders

Riverside Walk Group Chair

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Dan Scobie

t: 07771 772511

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Marianne Westwood

t: 01608 662223

e: marianne.westwood@rocketmail.com



Peter White

Communications Group Chair

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e: pjwhite78@hotmail.com

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 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
Local police (non emergency)	101
PC Craig Purcell	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01608 642256

