



# Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

February 2012

## Want to influence Shipston's future? Become a town councillor in 2012

With the next local election due to be held in May 2012, Shipston Town Council is urging all residents who would like the opportunity to influence the town's future over the next four years, to consider putting themselves forward.

Town and parish councils play an important role in local government, both in terms of carrying out specific duties and in influencing broader policies led by the county and district councils. Key tasks which fall to Shipston Town Council (STC) include maintaining the appearance of the town and STC-owned land, managing the cemetery, supporting local community groups and charities, promoting Shipston through events, the website and the Forum and campaigning for the town and its services.

Perhaps the most important role, however, is in keeping in close contact with residents and businesses, helping to resolve their issues, either directly, or by raising them with the appropriate authorities.

Mayor, Paul Rathkey, commented: "I became a town councillor in 2008 because, having lived in Shipston for 12 years at that point, I wanted to play a role in ensuring the town continued to thrive and develop without losing its most valuable characteristics. Being a councillor is a commitment and can take up a reasonable amount of time but I have found it enormously rewarding."

An election will only be held if at least fourteen people put themselves forward as there are 13 seats available. An election would enable the community to vote for whomever they feel are the best candidates.

### Shipston is flush with success!

Shipston's public toilets have been saved according to latest news from the district council.

Regular Forum readers will know that the future of our toilets was under threat due to budget cuts at Stratford District Council and there were concerns that the town council would have to bear the financial burden of keeping them open.

However, having considered a number of options, Stratford District Council has decided to make up the shortfall in funding by charging 20p to use some of the public

toilets in Stratford Town Centre, which could generate £180,000 each year.

As a result, it will be 'business as usual' at the Telegraph Street toilets so there's no need to hold on until you get home!



*The cemetery: One of the services for which the town council is responsible*

"We didn't have an election four years ago because there were not enough candidates. We would like Shipston to have an election and for all residents to have a say in who represents them, but we need more people to put themselves forward to make that happen," the Mayor continued.

To find out more about becoming a councillor, visit the toolkits section of the National Association of Local Councils' website at [www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk) or contact Clark House on 01608 662180.

### Victory for Shipston in battle for new Scout Hut

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts in Shipston are celebrating the news that funding for a new Scout Hut is finally on its way following a lengthy legal battle spearheaded by district councillor, Richard Cheney. Turn to page 4 for details.



## Mayor's column

An update and a few points of clarification this month.



The town council has unanimously rejected the Cala Homes' proposal for housing development on the Norgren site. I am pleased to report that this view is shared by all our local representatives – Cllrs Saint, Cheney and Gullis. I hope Stratford councillors will listen to what Shipston is telling them.

A couple of matters of clarification. I was accurately reported in the Herald in stating that the town council was against additional funding for CCTV. Shipston ratepayers already pay for the six cameras we have in the town. CCTV funding was cut by Stratford District Council. It was their decision to reduce live surveillance from 100% to 60%. Stratford Town Council want to go back to 24/7 live surveillance (Stratford have 57 of the 87 cameras in the district) and asked us to help fund it. With pressures on us to support local community groups, we declined. The cameras continue to record 24/7 and any evidence of wrongdoing is available to the police upon which to act.

On another financial matter, I would like to reassure residents that the purchase of the police station will not have a negative impact on town ratepayers this year. The precept for the next financial year has been set at last year's figure (itself a 10% reduction from the previous year). With inflation, this is around a 5% reduction in the council's spending power. The police station is being purchased out of the council's reserves. In effect, we are investing money, which is currently sitting in a private bank, in a public asset. I believe this represents 'value for money' for the town and I'm very happy to discuss any queries or concerns with residents.

**Paul Rathkey**

## Online newsletter offers important safety advice

Shipston's Safer Neighbourhood Team, part of Warwickshire Police, is helping residents and businesses protect themselves and their property by providing a newsletter packed with information and tips.

The online newsletter, which can be found by clicking on the Shipston section of the [www.safer-communities.co.uk](http://www.safer-communities.co.uk) website, features topics such as how to reduce the chance of having your car stolen and to how to protect your house while you're away. The newsletter also contains news on local law enforcement activities including driving speed checks in and around the town.

If you would like more information or want to receive the newsletter by email, please contact PCSO Hayley Ditchburn on 07879 608696.

## Proposals are in good health

Work is well underway to develop the proposals for a new Health and Wellbeing facility in Shipston, designed to provide integrated GP and care services, community hospital facilities, specialist residential care and extra care housing, among other community services.

A Project Board has been created, involving Warwickshire County Council, Shipston Medical Centre, the South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust and the Arden Cluster Board (comprising NHS Warwickshire and NHS Coventry Primary Care Trusts).

The board is working on an Outline Business Case (OBC) for the scheme, with the aim of proposing a viable solution which provides the best benefits to patients and the wider community, as well as good value for money. Warwickshire County Council's Cabinet and the Arden Cluster will use the findings of the OBC to decide whether to proceed to a Full Business Case, which would include identifying the best site for the scheme and public consultation.

Further updates will be made available in the Forum and on [www.shipstonhealthpark.co.uk](http://www.shipstonhealthpark.co.uk) as they become available.

## New opening hours for waste site

Opening times have now changed at Shipston Household Waste Recycling Centre.

The site will now be open seven days a week, but the overall number of hours has been reduced. The new opening hours are:

**Winter:** Monday to Friday – 9.30 to 15.15. Saturday and Sunday – 8.30 to 12.15

**Summer:** Monday to Friday – 9.30 to 15.15. Saturday and Sunday – 8.30 to 12.15

Opening hours may vary during holiday periods. Please visit [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc), or call 01608 663560, for more information.

## Rotary Cotswold Walk is on the way

Those looking for an excuse to indulge their New Year passion for exercise can now book their place at the annual Rotary Cotswold Walk, which will take place on Sunday 6th May 2012.

This will be the 22nd annual walk and all residents, friends and family are invited to take part in the 7 mile circular walk along footpaths and bridleways, through very attractive North Cotswolds countryside.

It costs just £5 per adult walker and £2 for school children to take part, which will be used to support Rotary charities. You can even use the walk to raise funds for your own organisation or favourite charity.

For further information, please visit [www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk)



## January's hot topics

**Sheep St access:** Warwickshire County Council is considering options to improve access to the full length of Sheep Street for large vehicles, such as fire engines, which sometimes cannot get through due to parked cars. One option may be to remove some parking bays. Shipston Town Council has agreed to support the changes, subject to public consultation.

**A foul mess:** Dog fouling on pavements appears to be on the increase with several councillors reporting the problem. Councillors will consider whether more dog foul bins should be made available. All dog walkers are reminded to pick up after their dog.

**Housing and history:** Ian Cooper raised the possibility of providing some historical information about the area now known as the Church View estate, including information about Shipston House and why roads have been named the way they have. The Town Clerk will raise the matter with Orbit Housing.

**That sinking feeling:** Local resident, Mrs E Ivens, raised concerns that the pavement in Pound Close is sinking in some areas. The town council agreed to investigate.

**Blocked up:** Local resident, Mr P Smith, asked councillors to pursue Warwickshire County Council's highways department to find out why so many drains in Shipston have not been cleared/cleaned and why the new drain on Darlingscott Road still hasn't been connected up to the others. The Town Clerk will investigate further.

**Quad bike concern:** Dot Courtney raised concerns expressed by the public about quad bikes being ridden at speed around the rugby club and Libbylous play area. The town council will notify the Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team.

## Campaigning for Shipston

**Proud of My Town:** Fay Ivens reported there had been a good turnout at the first litter pick of 2012 and thanked all those who attended. A record 10 bags of litter were collected, with more rubbish being found than in previous months. Fay asked all residents to put their litter in the bins provided or take it home with them to help keep our town looking smart. Anyone caught dropping litter will be prosecuted.

**Bid for bus shelter:** Dot Courtney suggested the county council should be asked to consider putting in a bus shelter at the stop at the bottom of Telegraph Street. The stop is well used and there is no protection against the weather while waiting for buses. The Town Clerk will investigate.

**Becoming more energy efficient:** The town council, in partnership with Transition Shipston and Stour United Businesses, will be applying for a grant from the Local Energy Assessment Fund to assess energy usage of all the commercial industrial buildings in Shipston. The study will consider energy-saving improvements and the potential use of renewable sources of energy such as solar and wind power.

**Police station purchase:** The sale of the police station to the town council is almost complete. The council is hoping to move into the property by the end of March.

**CCTV still up for debate:** Stratford District Council is considering a number of options for the CCTV service, including a partial increase in live surveillance as well as merging the service with other areas such as Warwick and Leamington.

## Town Council business

**Grit bin gratitude:** Residents from The Hobbins have expressed thanks to the town council for installing a much-needed grit bin.

**Planning:** Objections to the Cala Homes proposal for the Norgren site have been sent in from the town council as well as from Cllrs Cheney, Gullis and Saint.

Shipston Town Council (STC) has objected to a planning application at 1 Mill Lane. Dot Courtney will be attending the district planning meeting to represent STC's views.

STC will also be objecting to a change of use proposal to turn the Shambles from retail to residential use.

For full details of the items discussed at the Town Council's meeting in January, download the minutes at [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

## Clark House news

### Service Desk

We have now launched our new online 'service desk' at [shipstononline.org](http://shipstononline.org).



This service is designed to enable residents to raise issues at their convenience, day or night, which they would like the council to look into. A unique ticket code is generated for each issue and you will be able to track the progress of your open tickets by logging into Shipston Online.

When a service request is logged, we will receive the information at Clark House and will be able to action it and report back once it has been progressed or resolved.

As the service develops, we will also provide a section on the website containing frequently asked questions (FAQ's), and important information which is likely to affect a number of residents. These articles will build up over time and will be based on the number and types of requests we receive.

To use the service, please login to the community area and submit a ticket. (You will need to create an account first if you haven't already done so, but it's simple to do – and free).

### Shipston App coming soon

The finishing touches are currently being put to the Shipston App, which we plan to launch in the next few weeks.

The app, which will be free to download, will provide helpful information about Shipston, including services available, and a what's on diary. Full details coming soon.

**Georgina Beaumont**  
Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180

e: [clerk@shipstononline.org](mailto:clerk@shipstononline.org)

## Shipston Primary welcomes ICT reforms

Shipston Primary School, which has been at the forefront of using technology in the classroom, has welcomed government plans to reform ICT education.

Education Secretary, Michael Gove, recently announced plans to ditch 'dull' computer lessons and let schools design their own exciting, creative and challenging ICT curriculum. At Shipston, children as young as four use iPads on a daily basis to enhance literacy, maths and creative play, while 11-year-olds learn video editing, podcasting and programming.

Shipston Primary, which is rated as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, has already implemented many of the Government's recommendations and over the last three years has invested significantly in technology and ICT training. In 2010 the school was awarded the ICT Mark in recognition of its success in developing the strategic use of ICT across the curriculum.

Headteacher, Christian Hilton, who has previously spoken at national and regional conferences about the importance of ICT in schools, said: "Our investment in new technology and willingness to make our ICT curriculum challenging,

innovative and exciting has contributed to substantial improvements in learning.

"[For example], through designing animations and the use of video games for digital literacy, we are unlocking children's creativity and problem solving skills. And we are encouraging parents too, by recommending apps every fortnight that we are using in school."



Year 1 pupils Noah (5) and Hannah (5) practice their spellings with iPad apps.

## An exciting step forward for the Scouts

From front page: Shipston is one step closer to a new Scout hut after a court agreed that housing developers should hand over £125,000.



Above: The existing Scout Hut.  
Photo courtesy of Philip Vial

The money was due from a 'Section 106' agreement, to provide land and part funding for a new Scout hut, made following the development of The Village off Tilemans Lane.

The money was not claimed at the time and the company responsible has since gone into administration. After a three-year campaign by district councillor, Richard Cheney, Stratford District Council agreed to pursue a legal case to claim the money back from the developers.

Richard Cheney said: "This will be appreciated by both the Scouts and the local community. As it has taken so long, the original planning permission has run out of time. I am now asking the district council to waive the fees required for a new planning application."

Over the last seven years the Scouts have raised nearly £20,000 towards the new building. Group Scout leader David Wright, said: "We are very pleased that the judgement has been made in favour of the district council. We are hoping it will come through and we can put in place our plans once again."

The hut is also used by a local dance club and toddler group.

## High School students take first step to financial success

Twenty-four students in Year 9, aged between 13 and 14, have achieved distinction or merit in the Institute of Financial Services Level 1 Award in Personal Finance. The Award is the first step on the ladder to attaining a full banking qualification.

Students in Year 9 have been receiving a special course of finance education since September 2010 where they learn about the origins and meaning of money; what debt is and how to deal with it; and also about the various forms of insurance. Students are encouraged to apply their knowledge to their own situations and to learn to make decisions to maximise their income and control their expenditure.

The course is taught by Head of Business Studies and Enterprise, Mr Phil Moyle, who said: 'I am delighted with how well our students have done. It was a tough examination but they have really excelled themselves.'

The school now plans to build on this success by introducing the course to more students and, in doing so, answer the complaints from many in business and government that young people do not have enough understanding of personal finance.



## Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



### Shipston's London Adventure

*Written by Anna, Olivia, Jordan, Emily B and Eleanor in Year 6.*

On 13th December, Year 6 ventured out into the heart of our capital, London. Excitement was building as we trundled along on the coach to Marylebone station, hoping to catch the Tube. Out of the blue came Wembley Stadium, followed by an abundance of clicking cameras, phones and iPod Touch devices.

Arriving at the station, all 60 of us bundled into groups and boarded the Tube. We took the Bakerloo line from Marylebone to Lambeth North. Loads of great photos on the tube and a lot of smiles to start the day. None of us had expected the shudders and shakes of it, some people nearly fell over!

Following our Tube experience, we arrived at the famous guns outside our destination, the Imperial War Museum. But the best was soon to follow...sculptures galore were dotted around, so we were always spoilt for choice. Next came the grand hall of planes and rockets; we saw a V2 and a spitfire! After a good look at the First and Second World Wars exhibits we went to the Lord Ashcroft area; we found it interesting and were set on a mission to find and collect stamps on a sheet of paper. We left after finding out some great World War 2 facts.

Everybody was upset as we were leaving the Museum but we went on a brilliant tour of London: The Houses of Parliament, the London Eye and Big Ben were only a few of the fantastic sights. Everyone cheered as we passed Madame Tussauds and the Amazing Hamleys (which, by the way, is the biggest toy shop in the UK!) Then we went over the London Bridge; underneath

London Bridge is the famous river Thames!

When we got out of London snow gently fell to the floor, we cheered. Then to our disappointment it stopped as soon as we got to Shipston! All in all it was a fantastic day!



## Shipston High School

### Science and Shakespeare and Warwick University

As a result of the school's close links with the University of Warwick, ten students in Year 10 have been invited to attend a one-day conference for schools at the University entitled, 'Science and Shakespeare'.

The conference has been organised by the faculties of Science and English and students will have the opportunity to hear at first-hand from some very distinguished



academics. The day will include lectures and workshops, exploring the relationship between our knowledge of science and Shakespeare's works.

The visit is being organised by Cathy Jones, Joint Head of English, who was thrilled that students had been invited as numbers were very limited. The visit is part of the school's highly successful 'Aim Higher' programme.

### High School to host more distinguished visitors

Word of the High School's continued success is reaching further and further afield. Already this term the school has been invited to host a visit from Dr Anne Mullen, the Admissions Tutor for Saint Anne's College, one of the Colleges that make up the University of Oxford. Dr Mullen will be meeting with students in Year 9 to give a presentation about the life of the University and encouraging them to apply. This visit follows hard on the heels of an event last term when a group of Year 10 students spent a day at Keble College in Oxford.

The High School has also been invited to host a visit from Lord Dear as part of the House of Lords' 'Peers in Schools' scheme. Lord Dear will visit the school to speak to students about the workings of parliament and the House of Lords in particular. He will also be answering questions about current affairs and politics in general.

Headteacher, Jonathan Baker, said: 'We actively encourage visits like these to the school and it is encouraging that we are receiving many more requests for distinguished people to visit the school. Such visits are a superb way of expanding our students' horizons and bringing them in close touch with some nationally important institutions and ideas'.





## Shipston Home Nursing unveils its 2012 events programme

Shipston Home Nursing is intending to get fundraising off to a flying start this year with an exciting selection of events to meet different tastes.

The first is a must for all those that have lived or are living through the trials and tribulations of raising a family. Talented local writer and performer, Ginny Davis, will be performing her much-loved comedy monologue, *Family Matters*, on the 25th February at Preston Village Hall. Ginny was first inspired to write her amusing and observant tales for a school event while a member of the PTA. Since then, she has performed at the Edinburgh Festival and continues to delight audiences wherever she goes.

March will see both a Second-Hand and Vintage Clothes Sale at the Sheldon Bosley Hub and an opportunity to enjoy a private viewing of the forthcoming exhibition of Gainsborough's Landscapes at Compton Verney, a few weeks before it is open to the public.

Dates for favourites such as the Plant Sale, Midsummer Shopping at Whichford House, the Challenge Cycle Ride and the annual Christmas Gift Fair have already been fixed, along with highlights such as the Opera at Whichford House, The Midsummer Night's Ball at Mount Sorrell and a Garden Tea Party at Famington Farm. Details will be published nearer the time in the Forum and can also be found at [www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk](http://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk)

Fundraising co-ordinator, Rebecca Mawle, is hoping to see

new and familiar faces at the forthcoming events: "We are really excited about the events programme for 2012. We are very grateful to the residents of Shipston and the surrounding villages who regularly support our events and help us to raise vital funds to maintain the Shipston Home Nursing Charity, your local "hospice at home" service which is provided free of charge to those who need it."

To book tickets or find out more, contact Rebecca Mawle on 01608 674929.



SHN will be hosting its own version of the Tour de France later in the year!  
Photo courtesy of williamdenis

## Shipston Pre-school's birthday party!

Shipston Pre School will be holding an Open Afternoon and Birthday Party on Friday 10th February at the Pre School from 2.00pm to 4.00pm to celebrate the first year in their new building. There will be refreshments, face painting, cake decorating and party hats to make. All children who have attended Pre School in the past as well as those attending now will be welcome. Also anyone who is considering Pre School for their child can go along and join the fun!



"The children have really enjoyed our new building and garden over the last year" said Manager, Rachel English. "We have been so busy, the year has just flown by! We wanted to mark the occasion of our first birthday and thank all parents, past and present, for their support by having a party."

It is also an opportunity for any parents who may be thinking about starting their child at Pre School to come and have a look and to chat to other parents who already have a child here.

"We hope to see lots of old friends as well as some new faces!" she added.



## Lions Bookshop gets sporty

February is 'sports month' at the Lions Bookshop with books featuring well known and loved sports on sale, as well as titles promoting those sports which attract less media interest.

If you're looking for inspiration for a new hobby, or want to boost your sports knowledge, head down to the Lions Bookshop on Church Street to see what you can find. For details of opening times, see page 7.

## Time to prepare a nice treat for Valentine's Day

Looking to mark Valentine's Day this year by spoiling that special person? Then look no further than Shipston town centre.

If you're planning to impress with a home-cooked meal, there are plenty of good quality ingredients – not to mention cookbooks – to be had in Shipston, but if it's a night out you're after, check out the choice of restaurants and pubs in the town to have that special dinner.

There's no shortage of places to buy the perfect card or gift either, so make sure you're organised or you'll need a good excuse prepared!

**Regular events:**

- Mon Badminton Club:** Turn up and play from 7pm. Townsend Hall.
- Mon Zumba:** 7:45pm Shipston High School. £5. Other weekly classes also available. For details, contact Debbie, 07966 746794.
- Tues Dance with Dash:** Melody Bear classes for pre-schoolers. 10am and 10:30am. £3.30. Contact: Sarah, 641253
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays (7 and 21). 10am-12pm Roman Catholic Hall. Contact Adrian Collins, 661576
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Alternate Tuesdays (14, 28). 10:45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- Weds Calypso Kids Music Classes:** Instrumental fun for accompanied children 6 months+. 9.20am or 11am, Townsend Hall, £4.50. Contact Emmajane Roberts 07890399162
- Weds Zumba:** 7:45pm Shipston High School. £5. Other classes also available. For details, contact Debbie, 07966 746794.
- Weds Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, Clark House. To book a free appointment with outreach worker, Patricia Squires, call 01789 200136.
- Weds St John's Ambulance:** Adults division. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Thur Badminton Club:** Turn up and play from 7pm. Townsend Hall.
- Thur Yoga:** Beginners. 7-8:30pm, Townsend Hall. £8. Contact: 07717 221 756 or [www.yoga-in-brailles.co.uk](http://www.yoga-in-brailles.co.uk)
- Fri Calypso Kids:** 10am, Townsend Hall, £4.50. Contact as above
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group.** Leaves Old Mill car park at 10 am. Contact: Marlene, 663616

**February Diary**

- 1 National Organisation of the Widowed:** Lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230  
**Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** 'How to survive an English country vicarage if you're not the vicar' by Jill Fraser. 7pm, Roman Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Mal Lawrence, 662122
- 2 Multiple Sclerosis Society 'Drop in' meeting:** 10-11:30 am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett, 666161  
**Story Stomp:** Storytelling for 2-5 year olds. 10:30am, Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- 3 Shipston Dementia Resource and Support Café:** 'Scams and Problems with Rogue Traders' by Marie Rowland, Trading Standards 2pm-4pm Stour Court. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- 4 Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens, 662133 or [fayivens@aol.com](mailto:fayivens@aol.com)
- 6 Shipston Visually Impaired Club:** 'Sing along with Nic'. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington, 662684
- 7 SWIB (Supporting Women in Business):** Networking event. 6:00-8:30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. To book, contact: Simone Ryder, 07749 298253
- 8 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston. See advert on page 8 for details. To donate books, contact David Squires on [pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk)
- 9 Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team drop-in surgery:** 2:30-3pm, Shipston Library

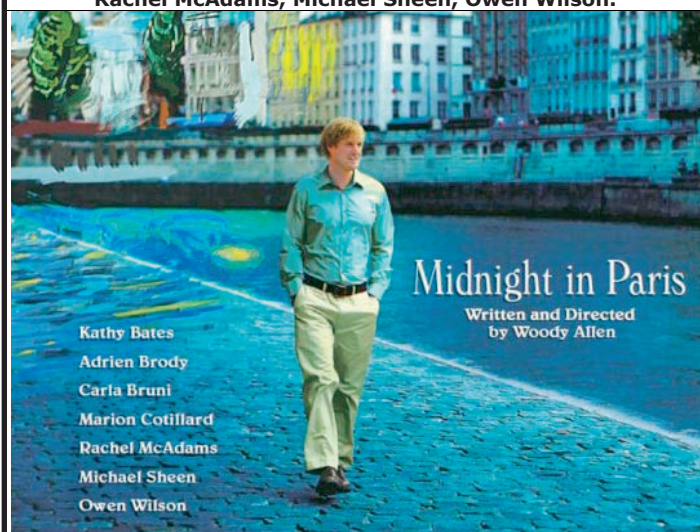
- 10 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above  
**Stour Valley Lions Cinema presents 'Midnight in Paris':** For details, see ad on page 8
- 11 Upton House – Sugar & Spice and all things nice:** Children's cooking during half term. Booking essential. Visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/uptonhouse)  
**Diamond Jubilee Crew Coffee Morning:** With raffle and cakes, etc. 9.00am to 1.00pm. Townsend Hall. Contact: Richard Taylor 661511  
**Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above
- 12 Diamond Jubilee Crew 'Dine with Dolly':** Three course meal for £10. Sheldon Bosley Hub, from 12pm for a 1pm sitting. Contact: Chef for the Day, Dolly Smith 663282  
**Upton House – Sugar & Spice and all things nice:** See above for details.
- 13 Upton House – Sugar & Spice and all things nice:** See above for details.  
**Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont, 662180
- 14 Shipston Flower Club:** 'Be My Valentine' by Rosemary Stammers. Shipston Primary School, Station Road, 7.30pm. Non-members welcome - £3.50.  
**Stour Valley Lions Monthly Meeting:** 8pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. All welcome. Contact: David Squires, 664065
- 15 Calypso Kids Half term fun:** 10am. Contact Emmajane Roberts on 07890399162 for details.  
**National Organisation of the Widowed:** Meeting. 10:30am - 12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean, 663230
- 17 Shipston Music Society:** Piano, Lyn Carter. 7.30pm Methodist Hall, Shipston. Visitors welcome £5.00. Contact: 663207
- 19 The Ralph Allin Quartet:** See ad on page 8 for details.
- 20 Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Monthly social. 12.30pm, Horseshoe Inn, Contact: Mike Dobbin, 664636  
**Shipston Visually Impaired Club:** 'The Baha'i Faith by Paddy Vickers'. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington, 662684
- 21 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** 'Birds in Art'. 7.30pm Catholic Church Hall. Contact Penny Law 663781
- 22 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- 23 Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team drop-in surgery:** 2:30-3pm, Shipston Library
- 24 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above  
**Townsend Hall Quiz:** See ad on page 8 for details  
**Chamber of Commerce Business Advice Surgeries:** Free advice sessions by appointment at Stour Enterprise Centre, Astech Mill, Stratford Road. To book, call 629693
- 25 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above  
**Tysoe Marionette Group presents 'The Gruffalo':** 2.30 & 4pm at The Barn Theatre, Upper Tysoe, CV35 0TX in aid of Tysoe School. To buy tickets contact: Mrs Slatter on Tel: 01295 680244  
**Shipston Home Nursing:** 'Family Matters' Performed by Ginny Davis, 7.30pm Preston-on-Stour Village Hall. Tickets £15 including glass of wine & nibbles. Contact: Rebecca Mawle, 674 929
- 29 Shipston and District Literary Society:** 'The Outsider' by Mary Edwards. The George Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact: Malcolm Pollard 663482



## STOUR VALLEY LIONS RURAL CINEMA

**"MIDNIGHT IN PARIS"** (12A)

Kathy Bates, Adrian Brody, Carla Bruni, Marlon Cotillard,  
Rachel McAdams, Michael Sheen, Owen Wilson.



A romantic comedy about a family travelling to the French capital for business. The party includes a young engaged couple forced to confront the illusion that a life different from their own is better.

**SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 at 7:00 pm**

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

From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston  
Or Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608-661148  
Raffle and Refreshments



## STOUR VALLEY LIONS BOOK SHOP



**Now open on Wednesdays,  
10am-4pm**

For full details of opening hours, see the What's On diary.

### February Focus: Celebrating sporting books

Find the right book and become an expert on your favourite sport

**Venue: The Coach House, Church Street,  
Shipston on Stour**

(opposite the Shipston Library, adjacent to the White Bear Car Park)

**Huge selection of fiction, non-fiction and children's books.**

**All proceeds to local charities.**

Books in GOOD condition are always gratefully accepted, contact as below, we regret we can't accept books at the Coach House.

New Members always welcome, contact Lion David Squires,  
e.mail [pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk)

**Sunday 19th February, 2.30pm**  
**Townsend Hall, Shipston on Stour**

## "THE RALPH ALLIN QUARTET"

*From Bach to Brubeck and more!*



Tea interval & raffle

Admission £10 available from R Clark

Proceeds to St Edmund's Church Funds

**quiz**

**24th february  
friday  
7.30 pm  
townsend hall**  
sheep street, shipston on stour

**£20 per table of four  
light supper included  
bar available  
prizes**



**last date for entry 18th feb.  
advance booking essential  
entry form from**

jenny 01608 662197  
richard 01608 661511

**another townsend hall fund raising event**

**charity number 522997**

**Don't forget to add your event to the calendar on [Shipstononline.org](http://Shipstononline.org)**



Compton  
Verney

Thursday  
15th March

Arrive at 1.30pm  
tour starts at 2pm



Compton Verney  
invite you to an  
Exclusive Private Viewing

To raise funds for

**SHIPSTON HOME NURSING**

Please join us for an intimate tour  
followed by afternoon tea served in  
The Adam Hall

You will have exclusive access to the gallery, prior to public opening, and be one of the first to see the Gainsborough's landscapes exhibition: Themes and variations. This is the first exhibition solely devoted to Gainsborough's landscapes.

Tickets are £40 each, and this includes full afternoon tea.  
Call 01608 674929 to book a ticket (limited to 20 per group)

Visit [www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk](http://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk) or  
[www.comptonverney.org.uk](http://www.comptonverney.org.uk) for more  
information.

Compton Verney, Warwickshire, CV35 9HZ



*Celebrate Valentines with  
Dine with Dolly!  
Three Course Sunday Roast*

*The Sheldon Bosley Hub*

*12<sup>th</sup> February 2012*

*Bar opens 12pm, Sitting 1pm*

*£10 per adult, £5 per child*

*To book a table, please call*

*Dolly 07879 881 530 or Mel 07890 077 923*

*For more information, please contact us at: [shipstonjubilee@btinternet.com](mailto:shipstonjubilee@btinternet.com)  
Or visit our website at: [www.shipstonjubileecrew.com](http://www.shipstonjubileecrew.com)*



**SHIPSTON ON STOUR BRANCH  
THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**



*Presents*

**A CONCERT**

*By Shipston Town Band*

*To celebrate*

**THE 90<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2012**

*Commencing 7.30pm in the Townsend Hall*

**Refreshments**

**Bar**

*Admission by ticket*

*Price £7.00*

*All proceeds to the Poppy Appeal*

**Tickets available from:**

**R Clarke Electricals (next to Lloyd's Bank)**

**Richard Adams – 01608 662328**

**Tim Walker – 01608 663759**

**Mike Dobbin – 01608 664636**



**SHIPSTON MUSIC SOCIETY  
Presents**

**Lyn Carter**

**Piano**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm**

*Guests Welcome £5.00*

**Shipston Methodist Church**

*For Further Details Ring **01608 663207***

## Stour Valley Lions

A successful year for Stour Valley Lions finished with a social evening and presentations to local organisations.



Lions recognise the importance of young people and presented cheques to Stephen Gray from the Shipston Educational Charity, which supports students in further education, and to Mike Wells, Chairman of Shipston Angling Club, to help more young people take up the sport.

Donations also went to Shipston Town Band, represented by Charlie Cox and the WNAA Air Ambulance, a regular beneficiary, represented by Jo Payne.

The Lions Book Shop is our main source of income and we have a wonderful selection of books in excellent condition at reasonable prices. Don't forget that every penny we raise goes out to those who most need it.

In December we helped to deliver County Enterprise Foods Christmas Meals on Wheels to local residents and on Christmas Day we visited Ellen Badger Hospital with gifts for patients. We also provided funding for Mencap patients to attend the pantomime Aladdin.

We have welcomed a new member, Mark Ellis, our sixth new member of 2011, he brings with him considerable expertise and a lot of enthusiasm. We need more members, if you are interested please call David on 01608 664065.

## Townsend Hall

The Townsend Hall on Sheep Street now has a new website which can be found at [www.townsendhall.com](http://www.townsendhall.com). The site includes information about forthcoming events, regular activities, the history of the hall and latest news. You can also download the booking form to book your own event at the hall, whether it's a party, concert, meal, sports event or meeting.

### Your hall needs you!

The Hall has a vacancy for a Caretaker, which is a paid position. Accommodation is available with previous experience an advantage but not essential.

For more details and an application form, please apply in writing to Mr R. Taylor, 'Poleda', 2 Hanson Avenue, Shipston-on-Stour CV36 4HL

## Shipston & District Twinning Association

We are visiting our twin town Torigni sur Vire in Normandy, for the Easter weekend (6-10 April 2012) and welcome any interested parties to join us and experience France en famille. A varied programme of events is being organised by ourselves and our hosts, so if you are interested, please contact Keith McCarthy on 01608 662652 for further information.

## National Trust gears up for 2012

Shipston residents wanting to visit a National Trust property are spoilt for choice, with Upton House, Charlecote Park and Hidcote Manor all a short drive away.

Upton House takes you back to the 1930's when Lord Bearstead, chairman of Shell, owned the house. You can discover more about the family and immerse yourself in the 1930s, including reading the papers, picking up the phone and listening to family stories, as well as viewing Lord Bearsted's renowned art collection. The property caters for all the family, with children's activities going on all through the year and wonderful gardens hidden below the Ha Ha!

Hidcote offers beautiful gardens, which change with the seasons. There are plenty of paths to explore, a croquet lawn to enjoy as well as the orchard, kitchen garden and wood. Special events are held regularly, from gardening talks to tree climbing events!

Charlecote offers space to run, the chance to see deer and complete the family trail, as well as enjoying the delights of the house.

So if you're stuck for something to do, why not find out what's on and support an important national charity at the same time. For more information, visit [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

## Senior Citizens Action Network



"Stop! Think! Is it a scam? If it sounds too good to be true then it's probably a scam!" Wise words from Marie Rowland of Warwickshire Trading Standards at the SCAN meeting on 10th January. But the invitation which had gone out to SCAN members in December to enjoy a free lunch was no scam. The committee had been approached by Age UK to apply for funding specifically to hold a social event over the festive period and had been successful so, with a substantial and delicious lunch provided by Dolly and her friends, some fun with a quiz, and background music, SCAN members enjoyed a very sociable start to the New Year! (See photo on page 13)

With some 60 people attending the meeting, our second speaker, Lisa Preston, is sure to be seeing some SCAN members again at her shop in Stratford. With over 20 years experience in fitting specialist footwear for problem feet, Lisa, and her husband Karl, can help anyone who is having difficulty finding shoes to fit. They will work with a customer's podiatrist, chiropodist and other health professionals to provide footwear that is not only comfortable, durable and provides the best possible support for your feet, but also that looks as good as it feels.

SCAN is open to all young-at-heart over 50s and meets every other month at 10am. Refreshments are served before our speakers share their insight. For further information, please contact Brian Fletcher on 01608 661308.



### Stour Valley Visually Impaired Club

The club celebrated its Christmas lunch at Newbold Village Hall in December. Thirty members and friends enjoyed an excellent meal provided by Beverley Webb and her team.

We also had an excellent free raffle and we would all like to thank the businesses and shops of Shipston who kindly donated these prizes.

Our next meeting will be an opportunity to 'Sing along with Nic' at Stour Court on the 6th February at 2pm. New members welcome.

### Shipston Flower Club presents 'Fashion, Flowers and Food'

Preparations for Shipston Flower Club's 'Fashion, Flowers and Food' event in aid of the League of Friends of Shipston Hospitals are well underway. The club is encouraging local businesses to get involved in the April event by sponsoring a floral display or taking a sales table to promote their products and services.

For more information and to get involved, please contact Teresa Bull on 01295 788099 or [teresa@ptcproducts.com](mailto:teresa@ptcproducts.com)

### Shipston Rotary



Rotarians were sad to hear Sue and Andy, managers of the Hotel where Shipston Rotary meets, announce their departure on a world tour, from which they 'might not come back'. President Nigel Willis thanked Sue for the marvellous way Rotary has been looked after almost since the refurbished Halford Bridge reopened, and wished her and Andy all the very best.

Shipston Rotary Club was delighted to welcome the Editor of the Shipston Forum, Catherine Martin, to one of their weekly meetings in January.

Catherine agreed to come and share with us the objectives and practicalities of editing and producing the Forum. She explained that the Town Council's objective was to provide a community newsletter for the residents of Shipston, which promoted the town, its events and its charitable organisations, and was free of charge to both readers and contributors.

Shipston Rotarians were then challenged by Catherine to have a go at editing a copy of a mock Forum, to include some last minute important news items and rearrange the layout. The 3 groups participating all had a unique approach to the task, some more ruthless than others, but it was a very inventive way to illustrate to us the challenges of producing the Forum newsletter and remaining even-handed to all participating organisations, when space is limited.

It was a most interesting talk and participation exercise.

### Shipston Home Nursing 2011 Round-up



We are now in our fifteenth year of providing free nursing for the terminally ill at home in the Wellesbourne, Kineton and Shipston-on-Stour area in South Warwickshire.

We managed to cover our costs for the year ended 30 June 2010 largely due to legacies for which we are most grateful. I would urge supporters of Shipston Home Nursing to consider making provision in favour of the charity. If assistance is needed, please get in touch and we will be happy to help.

In the current year, raising funds is particularly difficult. Accordingly, we are maintaining a tight control on expenditure whilst keeping the charity high profile to attract support for our local service.

We ran a deficit in the first quarter of over £10,000 and forecast £20,000 for the half year. Reserves will cover the problem in the short-term. The dedicated, experienced and professional team of Trustees, nurses and fundraisers are working hard to ensure the longer-term success of the service.

We need £160,000 this year to cover our outgoings, so keep up the good work and thanks for all your continuing efforts.

Any ideas for Trust, legacy and other income or comments, please ring Chris Owen, treasurer, on 01608 685 095.

### Warwickshire Trading Standards Beware bogus IT calls

Have you received a phone call from Steve of Microsoft, happy to fix the 'problem' with your computer?

Warwickshire County Council's Trading Standards Service is warning local residents and businesses to be on their guard if they receive a call reportedly from Microsoft, offering to 'fix your computer'.

The unexpected phone calls come from people who falsely claim to represent Microsoft. Recipients are told that there is a serious problem with their computer that needs 'fixing'. These claims are entirely bogus.

Microsoft does not make unsolicited (unexpected) phone calls to consumers. Giving access to your computer to someone you don't know could lead to your PC becoming infected with viruses and other malware, or your personal or financial information being stolen and used fraudulently. You also risk having software downloaded on to your PC or 'work' done unnecessarily for which you may then be asked for payment.

#### Remember:

Never allow anyone you don't know or trust to take control of your PC.

For more information on business and consumer scams, please visit the Trading Standards website: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/scams](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/scams)

## Stour United Businesses

Stour United Businesses has launched the Stour Business Web Portal, designed to provide members and Stour Valley businesses with access to the business support services that are needed in the Stour Area.

The portal, which was largely funded by Warwickshire County Council's community development fund, has been designed and constructed by local design company Passage Design and Print, and comprises many features, including:

- an information source for businesses and employees (e.g. the jobs section and business directory),
- a business update facility through subscribing to the newsletter to provide important business information to a wider business base,
- and a members section allowing members to update and manage vetted information about their businesses.

The new web portal can be viewed at [www.subs.org.uk](http://www.subs.org.uk)

## New members welcome

SUBs is a thriving business group which aims to support local businesses in a number of ways including providing access to advice and support, networking opportunities and sourcing funding for new services and facilities.

Membership costs just £25 per year and is open to businesses of any size. Those joining in early February should be in time to have their company details included in the next Member Handbook, due to be published shortly. Members can also add their details to the directory on [www.subs.org.uk](http://www.subs.org.uk). For further details, please contact Ian Cooper on 01608 663785.

## St John's Ambulance

We have had a very successful year with both our adults and youth divisions. Highlights include the St John's Ambulance Church Service Parade in June, the visit to the St John Museum in London in July and participation in the local Remembrance Parade in November.

Our presentation evening in May provided an opportunity to celebrate the many certificates gained:

**Badgers:** Badges and certificates gained included 8 Wild, 12 Caring, 15 My World, 4 Remembrance Parade. 11 were enrolled and 4 Bronze Paws were given out. Since the presentation evening, a further 6 Bronze Paws, 8 Silver and 1 Gold were gained, along with First Aid Global and Eco badges.

**Cadets:** Badges and certificates gained included 14 First Aid, 12 Entertainment, 14 St John Worldwide, 14 Going Away, 12 Remembrance Parade, 6 Membership Awards, 5 Cadet Leadership and 6 Cadets were enrolled. Since May, certificates have also been gained in Fire



Prevention, Home Skills and Clerical.

**Adults:** Since beginning the adults group with just four members in March, we have gained 7 new members, with some already completing their First Aid and Child Protection exams. We have supported a number of Shipston events and still find time for social get-togethers.

We'd like to say a big thank you to all leaders and adults, parents, Shipston residents and County Staff for their support.

## Probus Club



On 9th December, we were pleased to welcome Alan Winterburn for a third visit. His previous two talks covered "little known Warwickshire" and the third was extended to the Cotswolds, with an amazing assortment of curiosities ranging from the Curfew Bell in Moreton, to a village lockup at Bisley.

Space does not permit reference to all of them but worthy of mention was the King's Arm at Stow where the surrender in the last battle of the civil war took place, an altar cloth made by Catherine of Aragon at Winchcombe, a church clock dated from 1680 at Burford and the Four Shires Stone at Moreton.

After Christmas, on 6th January the speaker was Sherell Cunningham, who now lives in Shipston and told us about her life in South Africa. She described herself as a pilot, businesswoman and adventurer. She became the owner of Africa Charter Airlines based in Johannesburg, using old faithful Dakotas.

There were many incidents transporting both people and freight, including a meeting with the Duke of Edinburgh who casually appeared in the cockpit of her plane. There were many questions, which drifted into the dubious aid given by many of the charities operating in Africa.

## Free financial advice welcomed

Members of the Stourdene Benefice have just launched their second course designed to help people in the area manage their household finances.

Recognising the need to help their local community cope with tough economic times, four church workers attended training given by the UK charity, Christians Against Poverty, to enable them to run CAP Money community courses.

Following the excellent feedback from the first short course, the second has just begun and is already fully booked. Katharine Wright, one of the course leaders, said: "If you know how to save and budget effectively, it can have a hugely positive impact on the whole family"

To find out more about the courses, visit [www.capmoney.org](http://www.capmoney.org) or call 01789 740308.



## Readers' letters

*Letter from Dr Sue Pritchard*

### Christmas spirit, Shipston-style!

It was my turn this year to be "Duty Doctor" at the Ellen Badger over the Christmas period. In these days of consumerism and increasing secularism I was glad to find that the spirit of Christmas was truly alive in Shipston. All the patients woke up to a huge sack of presents at the end of their beds, all given by the hospital's League of Friends. These weren't just tokens but had been thoughtfully chosen to be useful items during a hospital stay, like tissues and toiletries.

Father Christmas with his band of helpers from the Lions came at 10:30 with further gifts and most importantly conversation and company and at 11:00 the town band called and delivered carols. The staff had gone to great measures to ensure that the day room was very festive and looked beautiful for those ladies and gentlemen that could make their way to the day room for their Christmas lunch.

I was really struck by how many people had given up their time and energy on Christmas day out of kindness and consideration of others. As a GP at the Medical Centre I feel very privileged to be serving the town with such a strong strength of community spirit. Long may it continue.

*Letter from David Gunn*

At its recent exhibition, promoting a mixed use development on the Camden Road, Ainscough Strategic Land attempted to dress up their endeavours to make a lot of money out of putting a supermarket there as being 'good for Shipston'.

As a relatively new resident of this delightful small town I moved recently from an area where a similarly delightful small town was ruined by the placing of a vast supermarket on its extremities.

As I told developers Ainscough, their supermarket would rip the heart out of the Shipston town centre. They weakly explained that it would only be the same size as Tesco at Stow on the Wold.

Go and have a look at Tesco at Stow! Imagine the effect of all that shopping being taken out of Shipston town centre. That would be the end of it.

## Proud of my town

### Highest honour for Lions Hero

Stour Valley Lions has awarded David Squires (pictured) the Melvin Jones Fellowship, in recognition of his work for Lions over many years including fundraising, the Lions Bookshop, his tireless pursuit of new opportunities and latterly his role of Membership Director.

The Fellowship Award, named after the founder of Lions International, is the highest form of recognition and embodies humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lionism.

On receiving the award, David Squires said: "I am absolutely delighted to receive this award. The announcement came as a total shock and I feel very honoured to receive such an accolade. I thoroughly enjoy being a member of the Lions and I hope we can encourage more people to join us to find out how much fun you can have while helping people at the same time.

"I would particularly like to thank fellow Lions, associates and volunteers, for their help in making the bookshop such a success" he added.

### Shipston makes its mark on Polio

2011 was a milestone in polio eradication – the first year in which there have been no polio cases at all in India and Shipston Rotary received a special award for its polio fund-raising. The award was presented by the last District Governor, David Butler, to David Gill, who has been a tireless fundraiser for the polio campaign, with some important help from Shipston High School.

The Rotary Polio Challenge surpassed the \$200 million mark in January 2012 with the very generous support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Rotary's ultimate goal is the complete eradication of polio.

### Scout hut victory

The Town Council congratulated Richard Cheney on his efforts to secure funding owed to Shipston to build a new scout hut (see page 4 for more details).

### SCAN members enjoy a festive feast

SCAN members enjoyed a festive dinner courtesy (see photo) of Age UK, ably cooked by Dolly and friends in December.



Want to share a good experience or write a review of a Shipston event?

Email your contributions to [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org) and we'll do our best to print them.

## District Council update

### Two items of good news for Shipston!

I am very pleased that Shipston Scouts will at long last be receiving the money to build a new Scout Hut. This is something I have been chasing up since I was elected 3.5 years ago but eventually a judge obliged the developers to pay the Section 106 money. The story is covered elsewhere in the Forum.



The other good news is that the District Council have decided that Shipston's toilets will remain open. Extra funds will be found by charging for the use of 3 public toilets in Stratford. I am not sure if the reason for this change of mind was the bladder or the ballot box but it is a very sensible decision nonetheless.

By the time you read this column the date should have been set for the Planning Committee to hear the planning application for the Norgren factory site by Cala Homes to build up to 130 houses and some employment units, 11/02380/OUT. If you have any opinions about this application I am very keen to hear them. My view is that this site should be retained for employment use only. The details are on the Council web site or paper copies can be viewed at the Town Council office.

The 3rd Draft Core Strategy will be out for public consultation from 15th February to the end of March. This will form the new planning policy for Stratford District to cover the period 2008 to 2022.

### Richard Cheney

t: 01608 685570

e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

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

## County Council update

### Medical Centre proposals

Last year, we learned from Dr Whiteley and his able team about ambitious plans for our future medical services



**Warwickshire**  
County Council

that have been widely welcomed. The County Council will provide social care services within any new arrangement, as part of a partnership scheme with the NHS.

As reported on page 2, a programme board has now been set up to develop a business case for the new centre and how we all deliver a new project, working together within available funding.

I have been working hard to ensure that our revised local core planning strategy includes the need to accommodate the modern buildings that this will provide.

### Shipston-on-Stour library

I have just received a note from the Head of Library operations to report back after the public consultation about opening hours.

From Monday 2nd April, I am expecting a library service to operate for four days per week. The proposals are to open it from 9.30 to 12.30 on Mondays and Saturdays and 9.30 to 5.30 on Tuesday and Thursdays, with an hour's closure at lunch time.

### Shipston household waste recycling centre

The new opening hours are now in operation, but questions are being asked about the little shop that sold various items that has been taken away. I understand that a charity based operation will provide a replacement before too long.

### Chris Saint

County Councillor – Shipston-on-Stour Division

t: 01608 662290

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

## NHS News – Shipston Medical Centre

### Accessing the right service

Information published by the local commissioning consortium, comparing the performance of all practices in South Warwickshire, shows that Shipston Medical Centre's patients are good at using other NHS services appropriately.

We think that the fact we will always offer a same day appointment to those who have urgent need, and that we offer a wide range of services at the Medical Centre helps patients choose the right service, and this is shown by the low level of inappropriate use of Accident and Emergency at local hospitals by our patients.

For each attendance at the A&E department the local NHS is charged between £70 and £150 (dependant on the problem), whereas coming to see your GP incurs no additional cost. Thank you for not using the A&E service inappropriately!

When you need help and the practice is shut, please use the GP out of Hours service. The Out of Hours service will book you an appointment with a GP at the Ellen Badger Hospital during the weekend mornings or in Stratford or Warwick during any other time the practice is shut.



If warranted, a GP will visit you at home. You can access the Out of Hours Service by calling the surgery or by ringing 0300 1303040.

### Follow us on Twitter!

Shipston Medical Centre has now joined the Twittersphere! To keep up to date with local health news, follow @ShipstonMC

**Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845**



## Your Town Councillors


**Paul Rathkey, Town Mayor**
*Staffing group chair*

t: 01608 664141

e: rathersandco@tiscali.co.uk


**Fay Ivens, Deputy Mayor**
*Proud Campaign chair*

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**Ian Cooper**
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**Jackie Warner**

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**Simon Welch**
*General Purposes group chair*

t: 01608 663596

e: simon.welch@talktalk.net

Photography of councillors by Richard Sampson, lensmedia.com

**Shipston-on-Stour Town Council**

Clark House, West Street,  
Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4EL

**Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk**

t: 01608 662180

e: clerk@shipstononline.org


**Something exciting to share?**

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Catherine Martin, on 01865 600262 or email: [forum@shipstononline.org](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 Clark House.

Large print copies are available to read at the Library, 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.

**Useful Contacts**

Community Links Transport	01789 296344
Shipston Library:	01608 661255
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Shipston Police Station	01789 444670
Shipston Forum	01865 600262
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
– Out of hours	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Town Council	01608 662180
Shipston Recycling Centre	01608 663560
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
<b>Local police (non emergency)</b>	<b>101</b>
PC Richard Grove (Beat Manager)	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 661724
Methodist Church	01608 661843

SHIPSTON HOME NURSING INVITE YOU TO...

# Family Matters

12+

Written & performed  
by Ginny Davis

fringe  
sell-out show  
2008

Ten Days... that  
shook the Kitchen!

fringe  
sell-out show  
2010

Double Booked

"Clever and  
wry ...  
plenty of  
laughs."

Stratford upon  
Avon Herald

## Party Recipe

### Ingredients:

- 2 hormonal teenagers
- 1 set Norwegian triplets
- 2 husbands
- 1 lover
- 1 former crush
- 2 beautiful women
- Other adults & children to taste.

### Method:

Mix all ingredients  
together.  
Add alcohol.  
Serve heated.

The Rich family are planning a homecoming party after a spell abroad. Spend a week at the cutting edge of family life as they prepare for what turns into the barbecue from hell. A hilarious one woman show depicting sixteen characters and several breeds of dog.

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

*"Davis's sheer versatility is dazzling."* A Nichol Smith

**on Saturday 25th February, 7.30pm**

**At Preston on Stour Village Hall**

**Tickets £15 to include a glass of wine and nibbles**

**Available from Rebecca Mawle 01608 674929**