



# Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

February 2014

## Shipston weathers the storms with help from the town council

Shipston proved to be well prepared and resilient in the face of flooding in recent weeks.

During December and January, storms and flooding were very much headline news across the UK and Shipston was no exception. Thankfully spared some of the worst of the weather, the town did not escape seemingly endless rain which eventually caused the river to burst its banks, flooding the Mill Street car park and surrounding areas. Many roads around the town were also affected, with a number of blocked drains adding to the problem.

Despite these challenges, the town coped well as the town council's Emergency Response plan swung into action.

With heavy rain forecast, councillors Fay and Arthur Ivens distributed leaflets containing emergency contact numbers, while the town council's contractors, Lawns2Mow, delivered sandbags to properties at risk of flooding. Lawns2Mow were out in all weathers and all hours to help direct traffic and minimise the impact of the floods. Councillors Philip Vial and Melanie Trapp kept residents up to date on the latest river levels and flood warnings via Facebook and Twitter.

As part of the Emergency Plan, urgent-response volunteers were on hand to help move residents' furniture in the event of their homes flooding and the Sheldon Bosley Hub was set up to provide temporary shelter if necessary. Thankfully this wasn't needed this time but the arrangements are in place should they be needed in future.



*Flooding on Mill Street. Photo courtesy of Philip Vial*

Emergency Plan chair, Fay Ivens, said "We were relieved that no homes were flooded on this occasion – even The Old Mill escaped thanks to the flood defences they have put in place. However, residents in flood risk areas were very appreciative of the help provided by Lawns2Mow and I'm confident that we have the right plans in place to help people should we see more flooding in the coming weeks."

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, added "We are all extremely grateful for the hard work both councillors and Lawns2Mow have put in to minimise the impact of the recent flooding."

## Warwickshire Air Ambulance appeals for volunteers

The Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance is calling on Shipston residents to become volunteers to help the organisation.

The Air Ambulance is a registered charity and is heavily reliant on volunteers and donations to keep it going. Help is needed in a number of roles including charity shop assistants, community engagement volunteers and bucket

collectors.

The WNAA is a vital service, particularly for rural communities like Shipston which are some way from the nearest hospital. The speed of the helicopter means patients can be flown to the best equipped hospital to treat their injuries rather than automatically going to the nearest facility which may not have specialist treatment available.

Regularly seen flying over Warwickshire, the service has been running for ten years and recently completed its 14,500th mission. Each rescue mission costs an average of £1,700 which is why volunteers and fundraisers are so important to help keep the service going.

To find out more and register interest, call 08454 130999 or visit [www.theairambulanceservice.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.theairambulanceservice.org.uk/volunteer)



**Public consultation on Stratford District Council's Draft Core Strategy, which deals with development across the district until 2031, begins on the 30th Jan. For more information see page 2**

## Mayor's column

At the January Council meeting, Councillor Alan Noyce tendered his resignation, and this was accepted with regret.



Alan and Angela worked together to bring changes in the efficiency of the council by introducing working groups, they tirelessly promoted the town, raising its profile throughout the area and re-introduced the Wool Fair, another success story.

Alan feels he is unable to be as deeply involved to maintain the standard that he expects of himself and other councillors.

Thank you Alan for all your work over the past ten years and especially for your support of the purchase of New Clark House.

In contrast, it was a pleasure to welcome new councillors, Sheelagh Saunders and Martin Ferrier. I hope they both enjoy their new roles.

The challenges that came with both the flood warnings and the high level of water over the holiday period were met and lessons learnt. It was reassuring to have Dave Faulkner (Lawns2Mow) working to help residents in the town.

Thanks go to him and his team, also to councillors Fay and Arthur Ivens, who kept an overall watch. There were others ready to give assistance if needed, comprehensive plans were in place but thankfully not needed, this time. The local Police added their thanks to Lawns2Mow as they were able to concentrate their efforts in other areas.

On a separate note, I have received two more shawls/blankets for the Fistula appeal. A huge thank you to all our knitting friends for their tremendous efforts for this worthwhile cause.

**Veronica Murphy**

## Shipston Food Bank finds a permanent home

After a difficult few weeks finding an alternative distribution centre for the Shipston Food Bank, this important service now has a permanent home at the Badger Valley Children's Centre in Tileman's Lane (at the top of the Primary School playing field).

To access the Food Bank you will need to get a referral voucher, either from the Medical Centre (01608 661845), the Citizens Advice Bureau (01789 200136) or if you are a parent of a child attending Badger Valley, they can issue one themselves.

Badger Valley keeps limited supplies of food so please contact the centre on 01608 664771 before attending with your voucher. The service is completely confidential and no referrer will provide your information to anyone else without your express permission.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said "Shipston Town Council has supported the Food Bank since its inception by St. Edmund's Church a couple of years ago. Although we are saddened by the increasing need for the service, we are delighted that Andrew Coleby, the Rector of St. Edmund's, his volunteers and the Badger Valley Centre have been able to find a permanent home for the service so that those in need can access it easily."

If you wish to donate to the Food Bank (dried/tinned goods only) please contact Andrew Coleby directly on 01608 661210.



## Councillors to assess infrastructure needs ahead of the Draft Core Strategy consultation

The long-awaited Draft Core Strategy, prepared by Stratford District Council, is about to go out for further public consultation. The revised draft document includes recommendations that an increase is made to the overall housing numbers for the district (to 10,800) and that the plan period changes from 2008-2028 to 2011-2031.

Councillor Martin Ferrier presented a paper raising concerns about implications in the Draft Strategy that development in Shipston is sustainable, despite the fact that the local schools and medical centre are already at capacity. Shipston Town Council voted to set up a short-term working group with the urgent action of clarifying the infrastructure needs in the town, which will inform the council's consultation response. Work already being done by the Neighbourhood Plan team will feed into this process.

Members of the public are also invited to have their say on the proposals and councillors are urging as many people as possible to comment on the Draft Core Strategy by the 13th March. Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said "whatever your views on the district council's plans, please take time to respond to the consultation to ensure Shipston makes its voice heard." Visit [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk) for more information.



## Shipston pedestrians forced to navigate a foul mess

Dog fouling on pavements is on the increase again and Shipston Town Council is calling on all dog owners to pick up after their pet.

Failing to clear up after your dog is an offence and if caught, you will be prosecuted. Dog mess is not only unsightly. It can cause serious health problems, particularly among small children.

Mayor, Ronnie Murphy, said "There are plenty of dog bins around the town for people to use and if you can't find one, you can use other bins around the town provided the mess is in a sealed bag. Please make the effort so we can all enjoy Shipston at its best."

If you suspect someone is not cleaning up after their pooch, please alert the Town Clerk on 01608 662180 who will ask the local dog warden to take action.

### January's hot topics

**Flood management:** Preparations ahead of the flooding in December proved successful and the emergency response activities worked well. Town councillors thanked Lawns2Mow for their efforts in supporting householders, directing traffic and providing sandbags. A Pathfinder Flood Resilience meeting is taking place on the 4th February – all welcome.

**CCTV plea:** Gill Roach, the Stratford district councillor responsible for CCTV, presented statistics on the efficacy of CCTV in the district and asked STC to consider contributing to the cost of a live 24-hour monitoring system. Town councillors requested additional information about the impact increased monitoring would be expected to have within Shipston.

**Drains and potholes:** Councillors reported potholes on Old Road, Pittway Avenue and Berry Avenue. Some blocked drains have also been reported, including the notoriously problematic one on Station Road which the Highways Department is planning to tackle soon.

**Parking problems continue:** Parking in River Way is a problem again due to the building work on developments nearby. PCSO Andy Steventon has arranged for the builders to park in the Rugby Club car park to alleviate the problem.

**Unightly signage:** Signs directing people to the new development on Stratford Road have been placed on some streetlights, against Warwickshire County Council (WCC) policy. STC will inform the Highways Department.

### Campaigning for Shipston

**Outsourced parking:** Martin Ferrier raised concerns about the long-term implications of outsourcing on-street parking services to a contractor. Councillors expressed concerns that a private sector company could be too heavily focused on profits. STC will write to WCC to express its concerns about the changes.

**No decision for Telegraph Street:** A decision on the future of the Telegraph Street car parking permit scheme could not be taken by Stratford District Council (SDC) after it was identified that the public consultation had only covered the number of permits, not the cost of permits. A further period of consultation will now take place.

**Law enforcement in Shipston:** PC Craig Purcell provided an update on recent police activity including several arrests for possession of cannabis, driving offences, thefts and burglaries. Approximately 60 speeding tickets were issued in and around Shipston in the last three months.

**Pettiphers Garage development:** Objections were raised by members of the public and town councillors regarding the proposed demolition of Pettiphers Garage and building of a retail store and flats. Specific concerns were raised by STC's planning working group regarding highway safety issues and parking. STC voted to object to the proposed development.

**Riverside Walk:** Councillors have begun exploring the potential for a riverside walk in Shipston. Further work is to be done to look at options, costs and funding opportunities before deciding whether to proceed.

### Town Council business

**Neighbourhood Plan update:** STC has received confirmation of a grant awarded to fund a project manager to lead the plan-making process. The NP team is now in the process of approaching planning professionals to help provide that support.

In the meantime, individual topic groups are continuing to meet to discuss priorities for the plan and the results of the housing survey are expected soon.

**Town council vacancy:** Following the resignation of Alan Noyce (see page 10) the Town Council will shortly be advertising a vacancy. Anyone interested in joining the council should contact the Town Clerk for further details.

### New Clark House Update



#### Government Snow Code

If the weather turns colder and we do get snow, Warwickshire County Council has issued some advice about clearing pavements and pathways.

- Start Early – it's much easier to clear fresh, loose snow
- Make a pathway down the middle of the area to be cleared first, so you have a clear surface to walk on
- Don't use hot water – this will melt the snow, but may replace it with black ice, increasing the risk of injury
- Be a good neighbour – some people may be unable to clear snow and ice on paths from their property
- If shovelling snow, be careful where you put it so that it doesn't block people's paths or drainage channels
- Spreading some salt on the area you have cleared will help stop ice forming – table salt or dishwasher salt will work, but avoid spreading on plants or grass as they may be damaged by it
- Pay particular care and attention to steps and steep gradients
- Use the sun to your advantage – removing the top layer of snow will allow the sun to melt any ice beneath. However you will need to cover any ice with salt to stop it refreezing overnight
- Use salt carefully. Only a small amount is required if there's no salt available, sand or ash are good alternatives.

To volunteer as a local Snow Warden please contact the office or call Fay Ivens on 662133

#### Georgina Beaumont:

Town Clerk  
01608 662180  
e: clerk@shipstononline.org



## Shipston Youth Club boosted by grant from Shipston Town Council

Shipston Youth Club has started the year on a positive note with news that Shipston Town Council has awarded the club a further grant of £2,000 towards its continued and valuable work.

The Youth Club is currently run on two evenings. Tuesdays are for Juniors, alternating between years 7 and 8 from 7 till 9pm. Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm – 9.30pm are for Seniors, for those in year 9 until the age of 18.

The club was really well attended last term with up to 50 attending each of the Juniors Evenings and up to 40 attending the Seniors Evening.

Shipston Youth Club employs two great members of staff and has benefitted from a fantastic team of volunteers. However, with the growth in numbers attending and a few changes in our volunteers' availability the club is now seeking more help.

If you are available to volunteer on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening, the club would be delighted to hear from you. Philip Vial, Deputy Town Mayor, said "Even if you can only help once



a month, we'd love to hear from you if you have some time to spare. You would be making a real difference to the club and young people in Shipston – it's certainly a worthwhile cause!"

If you would like a volunteer application form please contact Philip Vial 01608 666275 or ppvial@googlemail.com

## Cubs and community groups dig deep for Queen's Avenue Park Orchard

Shipston's enthusiastic Cubs joined local families and members of Transition Shipston to help plant fruit trees in what is to become a community orchard in Queen's Avenue Park.

With about 10 trees ready for planting, the volunteers had plenty to do. Kitted out in warm winter gear and armed with spades, the group got to work.

A small amount of help was provided by parents, Cub leaders and other adults but the children certainly got their hands dirty – literally!

As a special thank you for their efforts, the names of the volunteers will be included on a plaque in the park. The work will also help the Cubs gain their Community Challenge badges.

The orchard is part of the Queen's Avenue Park Action Group's vision for the new park and is being supported by Transition Shipston. Polly Taylor, chair of QAPAG, said "We were thrilled to see so many volunteers hard at work

planting the trees. The space already looks better with the new trees installed and we are all looking forward to watching them flourish in the coming months."



*Volunteers turn out in force. Photo by Philip Vial*

## Opportunities and challenges ahead for Shipston Excelsior Football Club



Shipston Excelsior Football club, which has been an integral part of the town for over a hundred years, is looking forward to an exciting second half of the season, despite some tricky challenges.

After a strong start to the season, in which all the junior and senior teams competed well in their respective leagues, the restart to the second half of the season has proved frustrating. The wet weather has taken its toll with only a handful of games being played.

However, the club is looking forward to continuing its strong performances, while tackling the difficult task to improve its training facilities and football pitches. The club currently has only one senior pitch and three junior pitches at London Road. With five senior teams and nine junior teams, the club has been forced to borrow/hire other pitches outside the town. The team is currently looking at grants and options to buy an all weather training pitch and additional land for more pitches.

In the meantime, the club is keen to hear from more youngsters wanting to join the recently FA Chartered Club.

Club Chairman, Les Hardiman, said "We are always looking for new players, coaches or occasional helpers, if you are interested in joining our club we would be delighted to hear from you."

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

## Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



### Primary children pitch app ideas to global experts

A group of pupils from Shipston Primary School, who are learning technology skills not normally introduced until secondary education, have pitched their ideas to app building experts.

The team of ten and eleven year olds have been busy designing and testing out a number of ideas for apps to be used on smartphones and hand-held tablet computers.

As a result of their involvement in the 'Apps for Good' initiative, the children Skyped three global experts including lead attorneys on the Google Glass project, and senior business analyst and product manager Dr.J.Harrison. As well as pitching their own concepts, the children asked questions about what makes a successful app.

Now the ideas have been narrowed down to one, plans are



in place to design and mock up an app using a computer design program called 'Balsamiq'. Pupils will also carry out detailed market research and prepare their entries for a competition

where they will be up against many secondary schools.

Head of Federation Christian Hilton said: "We are pleased to be involved in the Apps for Good project which is helping our pupils to develop innovative ideas of their own. The computing skills they are learning are enhancing their education as well as improving their chances in the workplace in the future."

The idea behind Apps for Good is to transform the way technology is taught in schools, widen opportunities and encourage children to create solutions to problems they care about, using technology.

### Children reach for the stars

Year 5 children from Shipston Primary have been to the National Space Centre in Leicester as part of their project on space. Highlights included the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium, a spaceship simulator and weighing each other in Newtons.

Year 5 pupil Oscar said: "There is no doubt that this is the best place, seeing how much we weighed in Newtons, having a go on the simulator and reading the old messages that spacemen have written."



## Shipston High School

### High School Report

Shipston High School has recently notched up another major success with the news that it is to receive £1.6 million for a new, state-of-the-art building. This is the first capital investment the school has received since it was built in the mid 1950s.

The money has come from the Government's Targeted Basic Needs Funding in recognition of the school's growing popularity and increase in numbers.

The school has an official capacity of 388 students but currently has 442 students on roll. The Local Authority's own figures have identified Shipston High School as the only school in the south of the County with a 'basic need' for growth. Current figures show the school will need to grow to 530 by September 2015. This figure, however, does not take into account the impact of the new housing developments in and around Shipston.

In September 2012 the school accepted an invitation from the Secretary of State for Education to become a new, flagship academy. This meant the school was now able to start making independent plans to develop the school's buildings. In September 2012 the school appointed BDP Architects to help it draw up a vision for the future of the school site. The vision has been broken down into five phases of redevelopment. Phase 1 is the building of a new teaching block to help the school accommodate its growth in numbers. Phase 2 is the construction of a community sports hall.

The Local Authority agreed to fund the costs of developing the plans for Phase 1 (the new teaching block) and in July 2013 the school received full planning permission for the project. The school has also received a wide range of support for its proposed redevelopment including from our local MP. At the end of December 2013 we finally heard that the County Council had made the decision to fund the remaining cost of the project out of its Targeted Basic Needs Funding from Central Government.

We are currently in meetings with the architects and the other professionals involved and now hope that the building of Phase 1 will start in the late Spring and Summer of 2014. Keep an eye on the Shipston Forum for further updates.





## Royal British Legion and Town Band join forces in commemorative concert

As 2014 marks the Centenary of the start of World War 1 in which so many Shipston men fought and died, the Royal British Legion Shipston Branch has joined forces with the Town Band to hold a commemorative concert – the first of a number of events planned to mark this historic anniversary.

The concert is being held on Saturday 1st March (see ad on page 9) featuring music of the time and reflective readings in memory of the men who fell. All proceeds from the concert will go to the Poppy Appeal.

Chairman of the Shipston Branch of The Royal British Legion, Richard Adams, said "I hope the concert by our excellent Town Band will be especially well attended to show that Shipston's fallen are not forgotten 100 years on. Please note that this is an admission by ticket concert unlike many Town Band concerts so please get your tickets early."



*Shipston Town Band also supports the Royal British Legion at the annual Remembrance Parade*

## It's 'Strictly Come Exercise' as Fitsteps arrives in Shipston

Calling all Strictly fans – you can now get a taste of the ballroom on your doorstep and get fit into the bargain thanks to a new type of exercise class launching in Shipston.

Fitsteps is an exciting new fitness class based around elements of six Latin and Ballroom dances including the Quickstep, Jive, Tango and Cha Cha. Developed by Strictly Come Dancing professionals, Natalie Lowe and Ian Waite, and Olympic athlete, Mark Foster, classes in Shipston are being delivered by accredited Fitsteps instructor and qualified Ballroom and Latin American Dance Teacher, Michelle Ashfield.

Classes will be held on Monday mornings at the Sheldon Bosley Hub and Thursday evenings at the Shipston Sports club and the first session is free. Fitsteps is suitable for all ages and levels and you don't need to bring a partner!

For more information, visit [www.fitsteps.co.uk](http://www.fitsteps.co.uk) or contact Michelle on 07764 496947.



## RSC to perform at Shipston High School

Continuing its commitment to creating live theatre for young people, the Royal Shakespeare Company will visit Shipston High School on Wednesday 5 February with its First Encounter production of The Taming of the Shrew.

This edited version of the play has been specially created for 8-13 year olds but can be enjoyed by all ages. There will be a 12.30pm schools performance, and a 7pm performance open to the public.

With male actors playing female roles, and vice versa, this First Encounter production, directed by Michael Fentiman, tells the story of two people's crazy journey towards becoming the perfect match. Using a shortened version of the original text, it will also include an introduction to the performance and a chance to hear from the actors, to create a great first experience of seeing Shakespeare live.

Jacqui O'Hanlon, RSC Director of Education said: "I'm delighted that Shipston High will be one of the first schools to see and host our new First Encounter production of The Taming of the Shrew, designed to give children and young people a vivid and enjoyable first experience of Shakespeare's work."

Tickets for the 7pm performance at Shipston High School on Wednesday 5 February are £5 (£3 for students/concessions). To check availability contact the School Finance Office on 01608 661833.

## Your Enterprise Centre Needs You!

Local independent business group, Stour United Businesses, has recently taken over the Stour Enterprise Centre on Stratford Road and is looking for volunteers to assist with manning Reception in the short term until a full time manager is in place.

The Enterprise Centre provides business support facilities for local businesses including meeting rooms, conference facilities, a business lounge, work stations and internet access. It is proving a valuable resource to local businesses in the area. If you can spare a few hours a week to help run this facility in exchange for free membership please call 629693.



**Regular events:**

- Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- Mon Fitsteps:** 9:30-10:30am, Sheldon Bosley Hub. Other classes available. Contact Michelle on 07764496947.
- Mon Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:** 7pm for 7.15pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Rd, Shipston-on-Stour. Call Penny Law 663871
- Mon Shipston Taekwondo:** 6-7pm juniors, 7-8pm adults. Shipston High School.
- Tues Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays. 10am-12pm Room No 2, Ellen Badger Hospital.
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** Now every Tuesday. 10:45am Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 0300 555 8171
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club** at Stour Court. Contact: Stella, 686224
- Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- Weds Tai Chi** 12.30pm at the Townsend hall on Sheep Street. Contact: Debbie Wild 07773 318830 or visit [www.swantaichi.co.uk](http://www.swantaichi.co.uk)
- Weds U3A Chicago Bridge:** 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Val Young on 01608 238754
- Weds St John's Ambulance:** Adults division. Meet at Shipston Fire Station, 7pm. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Thur Shipston Stitches:** 10am to 3pm, alternate Thursdays.
- Thur Story Stomp:** Shipston Library, 2.30-3pm. Stories and rhymes for children aged 2 – 4. Free.
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club** at Rainbow Fields Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- Thur Safer Neighbourhood Team:** Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House, West Street.
- Thur Tumbletots & Gymbabes:** Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact Robyn on 07813 940172
- Thur Stour Singers,** open to all, 7.40pm at Shipston Primary School. Contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.
- Fri Walks over fields with friendly group.** Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Bridge** 10.15am – 12.15pm Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Val Young on 01608 238754 or 07516 091786
- Fri Age Concern Lunch Club** Stour Court Contact: Linda 01789 722433
- Fri Shipston Probus:** alternate Fridays
- There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. They include: line dancing, badminton, short tennis, yoga, ballet, Calypso kids music, Little Kickers, Zumba, modern jazz dancing, t'ai chi and circuit training. For details, visit [www.townsendhall.com](http://www.townsendhall.com) or call Lisa Bryan on 07800771368.**

**February Diary**

- 1 Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment & refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or [fayivens@aol.com](mailto:fayivens@aol.com)
- Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society Pantomime:** Camelot – see ad on page 16
- 3 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** 'The various issues of my job' by Rev Andrew Coleby 2pm, Stour Court. Contact Shirley

Pilkington

- 4 National Flood Forum meeting:** See ad on page 16
- 5 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library). Books include fiction, children's, cookery, gardening, art etc. To donate books contact Lion David Squires on [pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk)
- Shipston Widows:** Lunch 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** Silver Sentiments by Louise Grey. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519
- RSC Perform The Taming of the Shrew:** High School, 7pm. Tickets £5 (£3 for students/concessions). See ad on page 16.
- 7 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Dementia Cafe:** 2pm-3.30pm, Community Lounge, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- Rural Cinema - Sunshine on Leith:** see ad on page 8
- Stand Up Comedy Night at the Hub** - see ad on page 8
- 8 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- Mayor's Surgery:** 10am, High Street
- DASH - Cake and a Cuppa:** see ad on page 10
- 10 Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 11 Shipston Flower Club:** 'Time for Tea' with Louisa Rigden. 7.30pm, Shipston Primary School, Station Road. Visitors £3.50. Contact: Elaine 238255
- Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting:** 7.30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. Visitors welcome. Contact: John Cavana 01295 722287
- 12 Shipston and District Gardening Club:** 'A virtual tour of Ragley gardens' with Ross Barbour. 7.30pm, Catholic Church, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 15 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** 'My work as an international observer' by Christine Cockell. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact Shirley Pilkington
- Military Wives Choir:** See ad on page 9
- Graffiti Classics Concert - Townsend Hall:** see ad on page 9
- 18 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** 'Artists on the Cote d'Azur' - Juliet Heslewood. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Centre. Visitors most welcome. Contact: Penny Law 663871
- 19 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Widows:** Meeting. 10.30am-12pm, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- 21 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting Dementia Carers:** 10.30am-12.30pm, Scout Hut, New Street. Friendly welcome for all visitors. Contact: Carl Watkins 663808 or Lizzy Feather 686013
- Shipston Music Society:** Piano and Cello - see ad on page 8
- 22 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- 25 Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
- Shipston on Stour U3A Meeting:** see ad on page 9
- 26 Shipston and District Literary Society:** 'Jane Austen' - Margaret-Louise O'Keeffe. 7.30pm, The George Hotel. Contact: Mary Edwards 01789 450737 or Malcolm Pollard 663482



**STOUR VALLEY LIONS FILM**

**"SIMPLY GLORIOUS...  
THE FEEL - FABULOUS  
FILM OF THE YEAR"**

"EXUBERANTLY  
FUNNY AND  
ACHINGLY TENDER.  
I LOVED IT."  
HARLAND JEWETT, SALT EXPRESS

"BIG FUN,  
INFECTIOUSLY  
FEEL-GOOD"  
CHARLES BART, M&M

"THIS YEAR'S  
MAMMA MIA"  
SPINNEY BURNELL, STYLIST

"THE FEEL-GOOD  
FILM OF THE YEAR"  
SARAH MITCHELL, WOMAN & HOME

"IT LEAVES  
YOU ELATED"  
JAMES MURPHY, STYLIST

WHEN IT HAPPENS... THERE'S NOTHING LIKE IT!

**SUNSHINE ON LEITH**

**SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 7:00 pm

Advance Tickets £3.50 (£4 on door)

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

Interval for Raffle, Refreshments and snacks

**COFFEE MORNING**


**Saint Edmund's Church**

**15th FEBRUARY**  
Saturday 10.30 am



**Music  
Cakes  
Raffle  
Bring  
and  
Buy**

**Proceeds for general Church funds**



**Shipston Music Society**  
[www.shipstonmusic.org.uk](http://www.shipstonmusic.org.uk)

**Charles Mathews**  
Piano

**&**

**Katherine Price**  
Cello

**In the Methodist Church**  
**New Street, Shipston-on-Stour**  
**@ 7.30pm Friday 21st February 2014**

Guests £5.00 - Students & Under 16 £2.00

New Members are always welcome

Registered Charity Number: 1146459 (England)

**Rise Of The Phoenix Comedy Events**  
Presents a

**Stand Up Comedy Night**  
@ Sheldon Bosley Hub  
**Shipston On Stour**  
**on 7th February 2014**

Featuring...



Kevin Precious...

...Rich Wall



and others!

The show will start at  
7.30pm and end at  
9.30pm

\*please be seated ready for the show to  
commence - comedians love stragglers!

"Testing...testing...1...2.... Hmm.. Hmm "cough"

"Why not come along and sample the comedy at the Hub?  
-what, with a full bar available \*lets get our priorities in order!  
- and free parking for all \*always a bonus  
you will be short on excuses not to come and enjoy this most excellent of comedy events!

To book by phone call -  
0845 680 1926 - receive tickets via post or email

To book online -  
Visit our Facebook page. (rise of the phoenix events in the search engine)

To book in person -  
Visit the Sheldon Bosley Hub Bar and buy over the counter

**Directions**



RISE OF THE PHOENIX EVENTS. TEL 01608664335.  
EMAIL: SYKESKAS@YAHOO.COM





THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

The February meeting of the  
**Shipston-on-Stour Area U3A**  
will be held in the  
Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 2 p.m.

**"Egyptian Spirit Belly Dancing"**

Demonstrated and presented by  
**Ann Blagden**

**Visitors are welcome**

Entry and refreshments £2

The Third Age: a time of creativity and fulfilment

\*\*\*\*\*

**GRAFFITI CLASSICS**

**TH**  
**Townsend Hall PROMOTION**

**FEBRUARY 15TH**  
**7.30PM**

★★★★★  
"A cabaret that will leave you wanting more" - Daily Mail  
"A simply wonderful show!" - The Times

TOWNSEND HALL, SHEEP STREET, SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR, CV36 4AE  
TICKETS £3 IN ADVANCE, OR £10 ON THE DOOR FROM IVY HEART, MARKET PLACE, SHIPSTON OR 01608 661511  
TOWNSEND HALL CHARITY NUMBER: 522997



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



*Presents*

**A CONCERT**

*By Shipston Town Band*

*To commemorate*

**THE COMMENCEMENT OF  
WORLD WAR 1**

**SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2014**

*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**  
**Mike Wells – 01608 664026**  
**Mike Ashley – 01608 661403**  
**Mike Dobbin – 01608 664636**

**militarywives  
Choirs**  
**Brize Norton**  
Featuring Young Soloists:  
Jennianne King and Lily Locke

In concert at the Townsend Hall  
**MARCH 16TH 2.30PM**  
Doors open 1.00pm

**TH**  
**Townsend Hall PROMOTION**

TOWNSEND HALL, SHEEP STREET, SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR, CV36 4AE  
TICKETS £3 CHILDREN £4 (UNDER 14) IN ADVANCE FROM IVY HEART, MARKET PLACE, SHIPSTON, CV36 4AG  
TEL: 01608 662779 or 01608 664065. TICKETS ON THE DOOR £10 Adults, £5 CHILDREN.  
WINE AND LIGHT REFRESHMENT AVAILABLE | TOWNSEND HALL CHARITY NUMBER: 522997 | VISIT: townsendhall.com

## Cake and a Cuppa

### 8th February 2014

## 2-4pm

Free  
Entry!



Cake and a Cuppa  
Townsend Hall  
Sheep Street, Shipston on Stour  
In aid of Drugs Action Shipston



&amp;



Invite you to attend a

## Sportsman Dinner

7.30pm start

14th March at the Townsend Hall

Featuring special guest speaker

**Peter Shilton**

England's most capped footballer

Tickets cost £50

Black Tie Event

Four Course Beef Joint Dinner

For details and to book, please contact

**Les Hardiman 07830 223846**

or any Football / Rugby Club Coaching staff

## Proud of my Town

### Alan Noyce bids farewell to Shipston Town Council

Councillor and former Mayor of Shipston, Alan Noyce, has reluctantly stepped down from the town council.

Alan, and his late wife, Angela, both made an enormous contribution to the town in their roles on the council and as mayors of the town for five years between them.

In that time, the council has changed significantly and now operates more effectively. This is partly due to the introduction of working groups to spread workload and decision-making – a change which Alan himself was instrumental in driving forward.

Town councillors were very sorry to hear of Alan's resignation after a decade of involvement, and recorded a vote of thanks for all the support, advice and action Alan has provided over the years.



## Readers' letters

*Name and address withheld*

On December 16th 2013 we returned home at about 10.30pm. As we opened our front door we were confronted with things on the floor. We knew immediately we had been burgled and on inspection of all the bedrooms, lounge and dining room, the drawers and cupboards had been emptied on the floors. It was sickening, frightening and upsetting.

We rang the police and would like to express our thanks for their prompt response and their kindness to us, both from Shipston and Leamington Spa.

Our thanks also to Holdsworth Windows Limited who arrived within 5 minutes of our call to measure and make safe the back door and to Cotswold Jewellers for their advice and kindness to us. Last but not least, many many thanks to our friends who have been kind and supportive.

To the burglar we would say, how would you feel if your gran, auntie, mum, dad or even your girlfriend had a piece of jewellery taken, not perhaps valuable but priceless in memories of a christening, wedding or birthday. A pocket watch belonging to my Grandfather, a christening bracelet, cross and chain probably of little melt down value but all with special memories, were among things taken.

To everyone reading this, write a list of your special things and take photographs for reference. May it never happen to you.



## Shipston Safer Neighbourhood Team

At the Community Forum meeting in December, three policing priorities were voted on. As a result, the Safer Neighbourhood Team is focusing on the following:

- Vehicle Obstruction/Use/Speed on the Shipston Patch
- Burglary/Theft Patrols on the Shipston Patch
- Drug Use/Supply on the Shipston Patch

Our PCSOs have been out and about in Shipston meeting members of the community and hearing your priorities. Don't forget we hold a regular surgery on alternate Thursdays at New Clark House.

For full details about SNT activities, visit our website: <http://www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk>

## Breeze Bike Rides

Nine ladies responded to the advertising and turned up on Saturday 14th December for Shipston's first ever Breeze Bike Ride to Little Butts.

Weather conditions were perfect for a December ride – dry but coldish, with a gentle wind – just right for blowing away the cobwebs before real winter sets in, and a welcome escape from the pre-Christmas rush and busyness.

Camaraderie was quickly built, and with no-one being left behind on the uphill, there was a happy spirit of fun and adventure. The country lanes with little motor traffic were a joy to ride and we enjoyed views of the early winter rural landscape, bathed in a mellow sunlight and the picturesque villages of Sutton and Stourton.

For all of us, the half-way stop at The Cherington Arms made a welcome break to warm up our fingers and toes and recharge our batteries with freshly made coffee and scones ready and waiting for us.

Everyone agreed that it was a most successful ride and for just the price of a cup of coffee, it was a very enjoyable morning which must be repeated in the future.

If you would like to join a 'women only' bike ride, keep an eye on the Breeze website where new routes and rides will be posted.

For more information, visit [www.breezebikerides.com](http://www.breezebikerides.com) or contact Jacey Jackson on 01608 661288.

## Shipston Music Society

### Retorica

In a change to the published programme, members of the Shipston Music Society were entertained to a rare and expressive formation of a violin duo performed by Retorica's Harriet Mackenzie and Phillippa Mo who had travelled all the way from their homes in London to entertain the audience.

Ranging from Baroque to Contemporary music, the duo played a largely unexplored wealth and quality of repertoire for two violins during the evening's concert. Not

often heard in the concert hall, Harriet and Phillippa have made it something of a mission to bring this little-known repertoire to a wider audience. Even the name of their duo – the Italian feminine form of the word rhetoric – is a reflection of this: just as rhetoric could be said to be artful persuasion in speech, they seek to do the same through their playing.

Starting with a Sonata for two violins by George Teleman, Harriet and Phillippa played this marvellously inventive work, filled with flowing melodies and energetic rhythms, followed with a beautifully performed Etude Caprice in G minor by the relatively unknown Polish violinist and composer Henryk Wieniawski. Concluding the first half they played the three movements of Mozart's Sonata in G major.

Harriet and Phillippa commenced the second half by playing three of the fifteen pieces from J S Bach's Inventions cycle written originally as teaching pieces for his son Wilhelm Friedemann. Selecting numbers two, six and eight was the perfect choice for the two violins contrapuntal techniques going to the very heart of Bach's compositions. This was followed by Prokofiev's Sonata for Two Violins encompassing the lyrical, playful, fantastic and violent themes of the man and his music. The evening finished with Handel's Passacaglia originally for the harpsichord arranged for violin and viola by the Norwegian violinist Johan Halvorsen. Throughout the evening, Harriet and Phillippa played the violins with their natural flair and passion for the instrument.

The next meeting of the Music Society will be 21st February 2014 – Charles Matthews and Katherine Price. Visitors are always welcome. For more information please phone Richard Baldwin 01608 662178

## DASH

### Who are we? And what do we do?

DASH was formed over a decade ago following a public meeting initiated by the local police and supported by Warwickshire and Stratford Councils, Shipston Town Council, The Medical Centre and local schools. The initial committee included Doug Harris (Chairman), David Squires (Treasurer) together with Dr S Pritchard (Medical Centre) Ali Dibbins (Shipston High School) and six other committee members.

The remit from the public meeting was to try, with the support of qualified Outreach Workers, to tackle the significant drug problem that was apparent in Shipston on Stour at the time. We could say that DASH has been successful in achieving its aims as there is no longer the drugs problem there once was and hundreds of our young people have received education, counselling, and support as a result of the work DASH undertakes. However, the need to provide information and advice about drug and alcohol misuse, as well as to support and educate young people as a preventative measure is as relevant now as it was then. DASH is also very mindful of how situations can change and keeps in close contact with the Medical Centre, Schools, other youth



organisations and the local Police to monitor the situation.

Doug Harris was rewarded this year for his work as Chairman with his appointment as the first President of the group and Rachel Vial has taken over the Chairmanship of DASH. Doug Harris remains on the committee along with Dave Squires, Gerlinde Gray, Ali Dibbens, Brian Punt, Judith Holder and Cllr. Richard Cheney. We want to continue to make sure young people in and around Shipston are supported and educated to help them avoid the miseries of drug and alcohol misuse.

This year we will continue our relationship with other education and health organisations in and around Shipston to continue to provide counselling sessions, education, information and support. Funds to support this work are raised through community events and grant funding.

Come along and support us by having a cuppa and some cake at the Townsend Hall on Saturday 8th February between 2 and 4pm (see page 10 for more details).

### Single File welcomes Shipston residents

Single File is a social group based in Chipping Norton for unattached people between 50 and 70, including widowed, separated and divorced.

The group boasts a varied programme, meeting fortnightly at a local pub where new people can join in a friendly environment. Previous events have included a trip to the New Ashmolean Museum in Broadway, a supper and games evening at a member's house, a choral concert of Haydn's Creation in which two members sang, and a pleasant meal at Wild Thyme in Chipping Norton.

Single File is not a dating agency and welcomes people from a variety of backgrounds and with different interests. Most activities are held within a 15 mile radius of Chipping Norton and Shipston residents are very welcome.

Why not give us a try? Either phone on 077655 98518 or e-mail enquiries@singlefilecn.org.uk. We can also be found on www.singlefileorg.uk

### Shipston Rotary Club in December

December is always a very busy month for Shipston Rotary Club. It started with the erection of the Christmas Tree (Tree of Life) in High Street in readiness for the lights being switched on at the Victorian Evening.

On Friday 6th December nearly every member of the club plus wives, husbands, children and one grandson helped to prepare for and organise the Victorian Evening. On a mild dry evening it was a tremendous success with approximately 2000 visitors all enjoying the Victorian atmosphere, as reported in last month's Forum. Our



thanks to all who helped with sponsorship, to those who donated time or equipment and especially to all those who came along to enjoy the event.

At one club evening early in the month we had a speaker who advised on the detection of Prostate Cancer. Later in the month we held our very enjoyable Christmas dinner, where we were joined by wives, husbands and friends.

The month ended on a festive note when we escorted Father Christmas around the streets of Shipston whilst collecting donations for local charities and worthwhile good causes. It was wonderful to watch the excited faces of all the children who came out to speak to Father Christmas. This was followed by the traditional playing of Christmas music in the High Street on the Saturday before Christmas. Once again our thanks to all residents for their tremendous support.

If you would like to find out more about Shipston Rotary please visit our website [www.shipstonrotary.org.uk](http://www.shipstonrotary.org.uk) or email President John Round [jasround@gmail.com](mailto:jasround@gmail.com)

### Dementia Café



December is often the time when we look back on the year's events, but we were too busy enjoying the present at our December Café gathering (as previously reported)!

So, on 10th January we 'chilled out' and enjoyed the warmth of each other's company, reminiscing about forms of transport and travel in times gone by when life was at a much slower pace. With a bicycle pump, cycle repair kits and trouser clips, photos of charabancs, steam trains and narrow boats, together with old-style driving licences and fuel rationing books, chrome and yellow AA badges, old maps and concessionary travel passes, all provided by WRAP, we were soon absorbed in conversation. It's amazing what you can remember about times long gone when you can't even remember what you had for lunch!

Come along to the next Dementia Cafe on Friday, 7th February 2014, 2pm to 3.30pm, at Stour Court Community Lounge, Old Road. It is free and open to anyone in Shipston and surrounding communities. For more information please contact Charmaine Bird on 024 7665 2602 or 07720 947938 or local volunteer Barbara Smith on 01608 662433.

### U3A



A packed Townsend Hall welcomed Dr Jane Gilder for her talk "Shipston as seen from your Medical Centre. The Present and the Future"

Dr Gilder opened her talk by explaining the difficulties that could be experienced in registering with a Dr. caused by the 'Postcode Lottery'.

She explained that with continued reorganisation, more would be made of the Ellen Badger Hospital including making it the base for the Paramedics.



Dr Gilder confirmed that the Medical Centre operates an 'out of hours service', with weekend cover at the Ellen Badger Hospital. A 'Dementia Provision' service is high on the list of priorities for the centre.

Dr Gilder then posed a question of the meeting. 'What can the community do to help the Medical Centre' she suggested the following main points.

- 1 Work even more in partnership with the Medical Centre
- 2 Help where ever possible with Health Promotions
- 3 Be prepared to defend current services

A question followed concerning the additional housing being built and the extra patient base it would create. Dr Gilder assured us that the Medical Centre will make sure that medical treatment is available to all who register with them.

With regard to the Health and Wellbeing Park proposals, – the current plan, which had been well publicised, is on hold for the moment due to financial constraints.

General questions were asked concerning the District Plan, whether provision had been made for the proposed 'Health and Wellbeing Park' and what pressure was being brought to bear on the developers of the various new sites to help with the programme.

## Stour Valley Lions

### Donation to Local Organisations

In December Stour Valley Lions held a social evening at Shipston High School for its members and invited representatives of a number of local organisations to receive donations totaling £2,610 as follows:

Rezilient: Supporting local student on Duke of Edinburgh Award £210

Warwickshire Girlguiding:

Hardiman Fields camp site maintenance £200

Shipston Angling Club: supporting junior anglers £200

Warwickshire & Northampton Air Ambulance £500

Shipston High School Student Prizes £100

British Legion Remembrance Day wreath £50

Shipston Educational Charity £500

Shipston Home Nursing £500

Cancer Research Fund £100

First Responders. £150

Children In Need £100



### Ellen Badger Hospital

On Christmas day morning, five Lion members and Santa visited every resident at the Ellen Badger to deliver a gift and wish them a Happy Christmas. Lions are proud to have this as an established annual support visit.

### Lions Cinema

Our next film to be held at Shipston High School on Friday 7th February will be 'Sunshine on Leith' PG.

This is an uplifting comedy, drama and musical based on the sensational stage show hit by Scottish playwright

Stephen Greenhorn, featuring music by pop-folk band The Proclaimers. The film follows the stories of Davy and Ally, who have to re-learn how to live life in Edinburgh after coming home from serving in Afghanistan. Both struggle to learn to live a life outside the army and to deal with the everyday struggles of family, jobs and relationships.

We look forward to seeing all our regular audience members at this film.

## Probus

There were no meetings in December. However on the 12th we had our Christmas Lunch at Charingworth Manor. It is always enjoyable and this year we invited Nigel Rees to join us.



Annual Lunches are the few occasions when we are joined by our wives. This year, however, by popular demand, they will be invited to two of our normal meetings.

During last year we have welcomed several new members and, with an energetic Social Secretary, some interesting outings have already been arranged for this year.

## Stour United Businesses

### A voice for local businesses

Stour United Businesses, is a local, independent business group, run on a voluntary basis by businesses in Shipston and the Stour Valley area.



It serves to promote and support local business interests and aims to provide a forum for local businesses to work together, support local business start-up and development, provide a collective voice for local businesses and create a sustainable local business environment to support Shipston and the Stour Valley.

### Affordable, sociable and rewarding

We now have over 100 local business members, ranging from start-ups to corporates, many of which attend our regular "members meetings", not only to engage with other local businesses, but to promote local business and to help identify and convey local business issues.

We hold meetings throughout the year at different locations, which helps us to promote local venues and provides our members with an opportunity to host a meeting and showcase their own business.

Recent meetings have included a visit to the new Whale Ale Brewery, the Feldon Valley Golf Club and the Celia Lendis Gallery. Our next event will be held on Thursday 13th February at 6.30pm and further information is available at [www.subs.org.uk](http://www.subs.org.uk).

Membership is open to all local businesses or business people, although we also welcome members who may operate their businesses outside of our local area. Membership is affordable, sociable and can be very rewarding.

**District Council update****Have your say on the Core Strategy**

The District Council's housing master plan, the Core Strategy is now due to be completed by April 2015. Unfortunately this means that developers may be able to successfully propose developments without any regard to local need or approval.



Meanwhile the District Council is consulting on new proposals regarding where to build the increased number of houses required, 10,800, to be built by 2031. The 6 week consultation period is planned to run from 30 January to 13 March. Details will be found on the SDC web site or contact me for further information.

An important part of this plan is a new settlement. I believe the concept of a new settlement has a great deal of merit rather than building large numbers of houses on the edges of towns such as Shipston. The two major sites that are being proposed are 3,000 houses at Gaydon/Lighthorne Heath or 3,500 houses at Long Marston airfield. Two sites near to Southam are also on the consultation list.

I am having discussions with the Medical Centre to see if there is any way of resolving the problems of the lack of space at the present site. Meanwhile, I am very pleased that the High School have been granted £1.6 million to build their much needed extension. I understand that the Junior School has been granted £90,000 from Section 106 money (contributions housing developers make to infrastructure) to improve their canteen facilities.

**Richard Cheney**

t: 01608 685570 e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

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

**County Council update****Small businesses**

You will be aware of the support given by your Councils to small businesses.

They are the starting point for entrepreneurship, provide jobs and we would be lost without them. One other statistic that has been revealed is if we spend £1.00 with one of our small businesses, it is worth £1.76 to the local economy, as it is used again. By contrast, if we spend £1.00 with a national or international company, that generates just 20p to our local economy as much of it is used elsewhere.



**Warwickshire**  
County Council

Modern life relies on the big companies, but don't overlook the value of trading with our small business counterparts and local shops.

**Recycling again**

I'm never sure how aware people are of the value of reducing the waste going to landfill. When we live in an era of cash shortages, your County Council would like to pay far less in landfill charges on your weekly bin collection. SDC collect the rubbish, but WCC pay the landfill tax.

A recent assessment has estimated that 54,000 Tonnes of Warwickshire residents rubbish is going to landfill. In Shipston, that means cutting back on what you put in your grey bin and putting it into the recycling bins. To make a start, we are asking you to put a kilo more of your rubbish into the blue lidded bin, but only what is recyclable!

I suspect that many will not be able to guess how much is in a kilo. The smart answer used to be a bag of sugar, but the maxim should be just think before you bin it.

**Budget**

We have published a draft budget for 2014/15 but this is almost certainly not the final version. I'll give you the facts next month.

**Councillor Chris Saint**

t: 01608 664048

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

**Shipston Medical Centre****Health Screening**

The NHS offers screening for many different types of conditions, such as cervical cancer, aortic aneurysm, bowel cancer and breast cancer. With all of these conditions early detection always significantly increases the likelihood that less invasive treatment is required, and this is also likely to be more successful. Screening saves lives!

**Why Bother?**

If you are invited for screening do consider coming. Screening targets those types of people most at risk of the disease area being screened for, and can really make a difference to the small minority who do develop these conditions. Our patients are usually good at attending screening sessions for cervical and breast cancer, but there is a much lower take-up rate for bowel cancer screening.

**Bowel Cancer Screening**

This is aimed at people aged 60-69 who will be sent a letter and then a week later a screening kit through the post every two years. Those over the age of 70 can request kits by

calling 0800 707 6060. Sadly bowel cancer affects one in 20 people and is the third most common cancer. Whilst taking a stool sample and sending it back may not be a very pleasant thing to do, it really can make a difference – screening reduces the risk of dying from bowel cancer by 16%.

**Aortic Aneurysm Screening**

This is offered to gentlemen in their 65th year, although older gentlemen can refer themselves for screening by calling 01788 663428. There are around 6,000 deaths each year in England and Wales from ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm, with about 4% of the male population aged 65-74 having an aneurysm. Last year the screening of our patients identified 4.26% of these screened as having an aneurysm, one of whom was immediately referred for successful life-saving surgery. The rest are under routine surveillance.

**Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845**



## Your Town Councillors



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



**Philip Vial, Deputy Mayor**  
*Planning group chair*  
 t: 07814 192161  
 e: ppjvial@googlemail.com



**Ian Cooper**  
*Finance group chair*  
 t: 01608 663785  
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**Martin Ferrier**  
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**Brian Healey**  
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**Arthur Ivens**  
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**Fay Ivens**  
*Proud Campaign chair*  
 t: 01608 662133  
 e: fayivens@aol.com

### 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

#### Copy deadline: First Wednesday of every month

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

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

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

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

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



**Roy Munden**  
 t: 01608 661102  
 e: christinemunden@googlemail.com



**Paul Rathkey**  
*Staffing group chair*  
 t: 01608 664141  
 e: rathersandco@tiscali.co.uk



**Sheelagh Saunders**  
 t: 01608 662190/07800 889947  
 e: sheelaghsaunders@gmail.com



**Melanie Trapp**  
 t: 01608 666939  
 e: melanie.trapp@sky.com



**Jackie Warner**  
 t: 07717 391234

### Useful Contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 264491
Shipston Library:	0300 5558171
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Severn Trent Emergency Line:	0800 7834444
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
– Out of hours	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Forum	01608 495955
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
<b>Local police (non emergency)</b>	<b>101</b>
PC Craig Purcell	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
<b>Churches of Shipston:</b>	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01608 661843

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



## Are you interested in delivering the Shipston Forum?

The Shipston Forum is currently delivered with the Midweek newspaper once a month. Although this works reasonably well, we do have a few non deliveries reported most months so we're looking into whether an alternative service could be found.

The Forum is delivered to approximately 2,400 households during the last week of the month. Are you up to the challenge of making sure Shipston residents get a copy?

If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact the Town Clerk on 01608 662180 or email [clerk@shipstononline.org](mailto:clerk@shipstononline.org)

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ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

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THE PERFECT INTRODUCTION TO SHAKESPEARE FOR ANYONE AGED 8 AND OVER

**THE TAMING OF THE SHREW**  
BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE  
EDITED AND DIRECTED BY MICHAEL FENTIMAN

*'IT WAS BRILLIANT. I'D GIVE IT 10 OUT OF 10. THERE'S TOO MANY WORDS TO DESCRIBE IT. I WANT TO WATCH MORE.'*  
Joshua, 10, watching First Encounter: The Comedy of Errors

Part of **YOUNG SHAKESPEARE NATION**  
In collaboration with The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts

Shipston High School  
Wednesday 5 February, 7pm  
Adults £5, students and other concessions £3  
Tickets on sale from the school Finance Office  
please ring 01608 661833 to check availability

Supported using public funding by **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

## FLOOD RISK ISSUES IN SHIPSTON

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO:

- HELP INFLUENCE DECISIONS IN SHIPSTON?
- WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LEADING FLOOD RISK AGENCIES?
- GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY?

COME ALONG TO A MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM ON:

**TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 at 6pm**

AT:

**NEW CLARK HOUSE, WEST STREET (CV36 4HD)**

**ALL WELCOME**

For more information please contact:

Naomi Gibson – National Flood Forum

[naomi.gibson@floodforum.org.uk](mailto:naomi.gibson@floodforum.org.uk)

07926 326 713

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DY12 2EL  
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Supporting and representing flood risk communities

## Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society present



**the Panto**

Written by Ben Crocker

**Townsend Hall, Sheep St, Shipston-on-Stour**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> & Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January  
at 7.30pm  
and Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
at 2.30pm & 7.30pm**

**Tickets – Adults £7, Children £5 (Thurs – all £5)**

Available from John Lyne Home Hardware,  
High Street, Shipston-on-Stour or on the door

"This production by arrangement with Ben Crocker Pantomimes"