



Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

February 2015

Shipston demands action to improve the Portobello Crossroads

Shipston residents and councillors have joined forces to demand action following another fatality at the Portobello Crossroads on the Fosse Way.

The Portobello Crossroads has been the site of a number of serious and fatal accidents in recent years. The latest, resulting in the death of a 25 year old man, prompted local residents, and district councillor Jeff Kenner, to set up a campaign and petition, demanding a roundabout be installed at the junction to minimise further accidents.

The online petition attracted 1,000 signatures within the first 36 hours, and now has the support of nearly 2,000 people, including paper-based signatures. As a result, the County Council will have to consider the petition at its next meeting on the 5th February.

A number of residents attended the town council meeting in January to express their concerns about the junction. Mr Kitley started a campaign to improve safety on Facebook having had to use the junction for many years. Ms Westwood expressed fears about young, inexperienced drivers having to navigate the junction, particularly those travelling to and from school.

All town councillors expressed strong concerns about the safety of the Portobello Crossroads, and also highlighted the Darlingscote Rd/Fosse Way junction as another dangerous crossing.

Mayor, Philip Vial, said: "The accident on Christmas Eve is the latest in a series of serious incidents. Warwickshire County Council must prioritise this stretch of the road for safety improvements before another death is added to the statistics."



Concerned residents pictured at the site of the crossroads

In addition to supporting the petition, Shipston Town Council will write to the County Council to demand short and long term safety improvements at both junctions, particularly in light of new housing developments which are likely to add to the weight of traffic using the routes.

Councillors also voted to request Section 106 money from any future developments on the Campden Road to help fund safety measures on the Fosse Way.

Residents wanting to sign the petition can do so by visiting www.democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/Petitions.aspx or calling in to New Clark House before 5th February.

Shipston sees largest crime reduction in Warwickshire

Shipston's Safer Neighbourhood Team has seen the largest reduction in crime across the whole of Warwickshire. From April 2014 to the first week of the New Year, crime reduced by 17%, while reports of anti-social behaviour also reduced by 17% in the area.

The Shipston SNT patch covers 54 villages as well as the town of Shipston. Thanks to the determination of the town's

local police officer, Craig Purcell, the team was one of the first SNTs to be given access to more effective and reliable mobile technology, giving access



to essential police data when on patrol.

Since adopting a proactive approach to patrols, Shipston's SNT has seized over 50 vehicles, with 55 people reported or charged to court.

Mayor, Philip Vial, said "On behalf of all councillors, I would like to congratulate PC Craig Purcell and his team on these results which shows their hard work and proactive attitude is paying off."

Leading the way in dementia awareness

Shipston has taken a big step forward in its ambition to become a dementia-friendly town, following an awareness-raising workshop held in January.

For full details, turn to page six.

Mayor's column

This year is a major election year in Shipston with Town, District and General Elections coming up in May. If you're 18 years old, live in Shipston and are interested in giving back to your community by being on the Town Council, please contact the Town Clerk or a current town councillor, for information.

In a month that has seen more flooding in Shipston, albeit relatively minor, I am delighted that Phil Wragg and the Shipston Area Flood Action Group are working with the Environment Agency and others to reduce flood risk in the town. Our thanks go out to them.

I am appalled that Stratford District Council have threatened to remove all CCTV coverage from the Town. Shipston Town Council is taking action over this and we hope to have more news next month.

The Council is delighted that it has been awarded the first level of the Quality Award for local councils. We are working towards the Gold Award and will be improving the openness of Council procedures. For example financial information will now be appearing on our website – www.shipstononline.org

I am delighted that the local police continue to use the Council's Facebook page to put out information to local residents – you can follow news from them and the Town Council at www.facebook.com/shipston.council

Philip Vial



Shipston's Minor Injuries Unit: Use it or risk losing it

Following the unexpected announcement that the Ellen Badger Minor Injuries Unit was no longer providing a 24 hour service, councillors are urging the public to make use of the daytime service.

The Ellen Badger Hospital provides a drop-in minor injuries service for residents. The nurse-led unit can deal with injuries such as sprains and strains, wound infections, minor burns and scalds, minor head injuries and insect and animal bites.

Anecdotal feedback suggests that many Shipston residents are not aware of the service and are more likely to go to their GP or A&E, when a trip to the Ellen Badger could result in quicker and more convenient treatment.

The decision to reduce the service from 24 hour to 12 hour (8am to 8pm) was taken in December without consultation, partly due to a lack of use. A petition has been set up to campaign for the 24 hour service to be reinstated and the town council will be writing to South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust to request the full service be reinstated.

Deputy Mayor, Jackie Warner, said "The Town Council supports the Minor Injuries Unit and the trust was wrong to shut it down without consultation. We would like to see the unit re-opened for a year during which time the town council will promote availability of the service."

Residents wanting to support the petition should visit <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/73039> or contact the town council for more details.



Town Council determined to protect CCTV service

Shipston Town Council has reacted strongly to suggestions that the district council could reduce CCTV provision in the town.

CCTV cameras record activity 24 hours a day, seven days a week and footage is regularly used by the police. The town council previously opted not to pay for additional live monitoring of CCTV due to a lack of evidence showing that live surveillance prevented crimes occurring. However, the town council fully supports the use of CCTV which plays a vital role in catching criminals.

A recent letter from the district council suggests this service could be removed from Shipston if the additional funding for live surveillance is not forthcoming. The Town Council will be writing a letter of complaint to the district council, and will look into the legality of threatening to remove a service which local residents pay for through their council tax.



Government figures reveal extent of adult literacy difficulties

Government figures have revealed that 3,200 adults in the Cotswolds have a reading age of 7 or below. The figures have shocked those working to improve levels of adult literacy in the area.

It was widely believed that the problem here in one of the UK's wealthiest areas would be far less serious than in other parts of the country. But latest research shows 6.5% of Cotswolds adults struggle to read, a figure only slightly better than the national average of 7.1%.

Read Easy North Cotswolds covers a number of local towns, including Shipston, and offers classes to help adults learn to read. As well as improving their skills, all student readers who receive their Read Easy certificate during the year will go into a prize draw to win a Kindle Fire.

Sue Brereton of Read Easy North Cotswolds commented, "Our biggest challenge is finding the adults who'd like to learn. We obviously can't reach them via posters or newspapers. And they often feel ashamed and hide their inability from others"

If you know someone who struggles to read, help them get in touch today with Sue Brereton of Read Easy on 0844 493 0686, or suebrereton@readeasy.org.uk



January's hot topics

Stratford Rd Section 106 money: Martin Ferrier and the Town Clerk will work together to ensure the money originally allocated to pay for a play area in the Stratford Road development is transferred to the Town Council as previously agreed. The money will be used to support the Queen's Avenue park and other play areas around the town.

Dog fouling: Jackie Warner reported complaints from a resident about dog mess in the cemetery despite no dogs being allowed on the site. The Town Clerk will investigate further.

Springhill vehicle access: Martin Ferrier raised concerns about the "lunacy" of the proposed vehicle access for the Springhill development on Stratford Road. Councillors voted to oppose the planning application.

Portobello Crossroads: Councillors and members of the public raised concerns about the ongoing safety issues (see article on page 1).

Highway issues: Arthur Ivens raised concerns about blocked drains on Stratford Road and a broken light on Donnington Way. The Town Clerk will chase both up with the county Highways Department.

Concerns over car wash: Councillors expressed strong views about initial proposals to establish a car wash on the Gyratory car park currently owned by the Tandoori Cottage Restaurant. Councillors felt it was an inappropriate location which would be an eyesore and could have a negative impact on the flow of traffic at a crucial junction.

Campaigning for Shipston

Ellen Badger Minor Injuries Unit: Councillors agreed to write to South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust to request that the 24-hour minor injuries service be reinstated, initially for 12 months to allow time to improve publicity and therefore usage of the service. (See news article on page 2).

Dementia awareness: A number of councillors commented on how useful the dementia awareness workshop was (see page six for details). The council is working with the medical centre and Alzheimer's Society to plan further events.

Core strategy: Concerns were raised about the potential for further delays to the Core Strategy. The inspector is currently assessing the plan. The district council hopes to adopt the Core Strategy in the summer.

Riverside walk: Sheelagh Saunders will lead a new working group involving councillor Alison Henderson and members of the public to continue to progress the riverside walk project. Anyone interested in getting involved should contact the Town Clerk or Sheelagh directly (see page 15 for contact details).

Town Council business

New award: Shipston Town Council has been awarded the Foundation level of the new, three tiered Local Council Award Scheme. The Town Clerk is now looking at the requirements for the higher tiers.

Planning group: Councillors elected Martin Ferrier as the new chair of the Planning Working Group.

Social media: The Communications Working Group is working on a social media strategy to ensure the council makes best use of networks such as Facebook and Twitter. Consideration will also be given to how to reach other members of the community who don't use social media.

New councillor: Brian Cooper was co-opted on to the council (see New Clark House update for details).

New Clark House Update



Keeping on top of agendas

Not everyone is able to attend every council meeting, but we often find people are keen to hear about planning applications which could affect them as well as other issues.

To find out what is going to be discussed at a council meeting, please check the agenda which can be found online at www.shipstononline.org/agenda. Hard copies are also available from New Clark House and the Library, and the latest agenda is always on display outside New Clark House.

Agendas are usually confirmed the Wednesday before the next Monday meeting and contain a list of planning applications to be discussed. Occasionally, items are added at the last minute but only when papers arrive late from the district and need a swift response.

The Town Council's Monthly meetings take place on the second Monday of every month at 7pm, with additional meetings held when necessary, often on the fourth Monday of the month.

Meeting dates and minutes are published on www.shipstononline.org and hard copies can be requested from New Clark House.

Introducing Brian Cooper

Brian Cooper has been successfully co-opted onto the council following an interview at the public meeting in January.

Brian has lived in Shipston since 1986. He worked for Nationwide Building Society for many years in various roles, including branch manager and dealing with member complaints.

Brian was involved in Stour Valley Lions for over 20 years and was also a school governor in Stratford. He now works part time at the Midcounties Co-operative and in his spare time, is a volunteer driver.

Brian is keen to see the council take a practical view on new developments, including how they could benefit the town through the provision of new services.

Georgina Beaumont
Town Clerk
01608 662180
clerk@shipstononline.org

Local people take action on flooding

A group of residents from Shipston and neighbouring villages have formed the Shipston Area Flooding Action Group (SAFAG) to consider ways of reducing the incidents and impact of flooding.

Chaired by Phil Wragg, SAFAG meets monthly and holds quarterly meetings with outside agencies including The Environment Agency, Stratford District Council, Severn Trent Water, Warwickshire County Council and Shipston Town Council.

Recently the team has been identifying what resilience measures affected householders have taken and is providing advice to those yet to take action.

The team is also working on a Community Flood Action Plan to reduce the risk of flooding to the approximately 100 businesses and residents affected in Shipston. Actions being considered include natural flood defences upstream which could hold back water and reduce local flooding.

Match funding is available to fund flood prevention work and any work already undertaken by residents will contribute to the total amount for any match funding. If you have taken any flood prevention measures, please contact the team via

the Town Clerk on 01608 662180.

In the meantime, the Environment Agency is funding some channelling work around the bridge to deepen and narrow the channel to enhance the flow

rate through the town. Boulders will be installed to reduce the amount of silt washing down. This work is due to be completed by March.

Philip Vial, Town Mayor said, "On behalf of all town councillors, I would like to thank Phil Wragg and the Flood Action team for all their hard work in developing a strategy to reduce the impact of flooding in the town."

The National Flood Forum trailer will be coming to Stratford to raise awareness of the work of the group on Thursday the 12th of March. Full details will be in next month's Forum.



Education and Young People

Support Sport offers half term sports activities

Support Sport, the not-for-profit organisation supporting children and young people through sport, is once again offering half term activities in Shipston.

From the 16th to 20th February, children aged between 5 and 11 can take part in multi sports and/or football skills training every day from 10am until 3pm. The activity costs £6 per day and is led by young people trained to be sports leaders by Support Sport (see ad on page 16).

Support Sport offers a Sports Leaders training programme for High School-age students, giving them the necessary skills to run holiday camp activities for younger children, under supervision.

Part of a scheme to create positive young role models in communities, the scheme has already trained over 20 young people and run a number of successful sports courses at the High School, which are overseen by two fully qualified sports coaches.

To find out more about the scheme, visit <http://www.supportsportprojects.blogspot.co.uk>

Shipston Primary sings with the world's largest school choir

Twenty-nine excited pupils from Shipston Primary School had a taste of fame when they performed at the LG Arena in Birmingham on the 14th January.

The students were taking part in a Young Voices concert, which brings together school choirs from around the country to perform in major venues alongside experienced musicians and performers.

The Shipston Young Voices choir was joined by over 5,900 children to perform an eclectic mix of songs, from classic musical favourites to the latest hits, all with accompanying dance moves.

Watching was hardly a passive experience with parents, grandparents and siblings all encouraged to take part in some energetic dancing and an impressive all-arena Mexican wave.

Teacher, Heidi Cartledge, said "We're extremely proud of our pupils who worked hard to learn the songs and dance moves ready for their big performance. Young Voices is a wonderful experience and it was great to see the children taking part so enthusiastically." Most children have said the concert was the "best day of their lives".



Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



Cross Country Champions

A team of athletes from Shipston Primary School recently won the Paul Billing Trophy. Shipston High School was the venue for the annual cross country event, which is held in memory of former High School Headteacher Paul Billing.

A great turnout of children from Year 2 up to Year 6, enabled the school to enter a team (top 4 runners) in each category. In the Year 4 and below girls and boys races, Shipston came second overall. In the Year 5/6 girls competition Shipston came third and the boys came sixth.

The combined results confirmed that Shipston Primary was the overall winner! Well done to everyone who took part. Thanks to the PE Department and the Sports Leaders at Shipston High School for organising the event.



Primary School visits The Imperial War Museum

The First and Second World Wars were brought to life for pupils visiting the Imperial War Museum in London recently.

A group of Year 6 pupils went on the school trip as part of their topic "A Child's War."

"We went to the Horrible History Spies exhibit where we uncovered some very interesting facts about World War I espionage, such as how to make invisible ink and learnt that spies used to power radios using kinetic energy (energy made by movement)," enthused students Fraser Grant-Rae and Max O'Mullan in the excellent account of their visit.

The students toured the First World War gallery and said, "We saw a projection of soldiers (not real!) attacking on the front lines. Gas masks were on display and there was an interactive feature where players must man the production lines to stock up supplies in the trenches."

The trip also included the WW2 'Family in War' exhibit which shows how ordinary people adapted to life on the home front. Children discovered that cake icing was banned due to the amount of sugar it used up and also got to climb inside a smaller than expected Anderson shelter, which "somehow managed to fit nearly all of us in."



Shipston High School

Latest school member is 190 million years old!

In January, construction work on the new teaching block at the High School suddenly ground to a halt when one of the contractor's excavating machines digging the foundations unearthed a surprising object. The object was round, made of stone and about the size of an ordinary car wheel. It was clear that this was something very unusual! First impressions were that the object might be a piece of Roman masonry owing to the school's proximity to the Fosse Way, but on closer examination it proved to be an ancient fossil. Digging in the area immediately ceased and, after being informed by the contractors, the school at once made contact with Warwickshire County Council and the museum at Warwick.

From photographs, Jon Radley, the Curator of Natural Sciences, identified the fossil as a giant ammonite with the scientific name, *Arietites*. Ammonites are extinct marine creatures very distantly related to squid and octopus.



Photo: Reece Ballinger and Grace Sandiford with our own piece of history!

early part of the Jurassic Period when the whole of Shipston would have been under a huge sea. The local hard clay in which the fossil was found would originally have been the Jurassic seafloor mud which has since hardened into the familiar clay that underlies much of the Stour valley.

The school now feels very honoured to have a new addition to its contingent of staff and students. After the ammonite has been cleaned and preserved by an enthusiastic group of student and staff amateur palaeontologists, the plan is to display it in school for all to see. Following a further careful search of the site, building work was able to re-start.

While there may seem little to show for the constructors' efforts so far, the foundations for the new teaching block are now complete together with provision for all the essential services. In early February the steel work for the frame of the building will arrive on site which, when assembled, will start to give onlookers a good idea of the size and shape of the new building.

In the meantime, who knows what other surprises may be in store? Members of the school are keeping their fingers crossed for a large hoard of Roman gold which would help to pay for the much needed new sports hall! The school promises to keep Forum readers posted.



Shipston leads the county in dementia awareness

Shipston has taken a big step forward in its ambition to become a dementia-friendly town, following an awareness-raising workshop held in January. For full details, turn to page six.

The workshop was aimed at traders and service providers in the town. Those attending included representatives from local shops, the bank, the medical centre, therapy centre, town council and the Alzheimer's Society. Members of the group were able to exchange their own experiences of assisting residents who were displaying early symptoms of dementia, right up to those who were extremely distressed and confused. It became clear that the whole community had a role to play in ensuring that Shipston becomes a Dementia Friendly Town, an initiative started by Dr. Sue Pritchard from the Medical Centre.

Apart from the obvious immediate assistance that the group could offer in their business premises, other more far-reaching options were discussed, including local fundraising for the provision of an Admiral Nurse - a specialist dementia nurse - in the town.

Every member of the group signed up as a "Dementia Friend". This involved making a pledge, a promised action to help raise awareness, tolerance or assistance to those with dementia. All Dementia Friends receive a forget-me-knot badge to help identify to those in need where they can find help. To find out more about becoming a Dementia Friend, visit www.dementiafriends.org.uk.

Town councillor, Ronnie Murphy, said "We were thrilled to see so many people attending what proved to be a very useful workshop. We learned a great deal about the role we all have to play in supporting people with dementia, including alerting the relevant support services if we feel someone needs help."



If you are concerned that someone you know may be showing signs of dementia, call 01926 410410 and ask for the Adult Safeguarding Team, who will arrange for an assessment of needs for the individual referred.

If funding allows, the council hopes to host a further workshop in April. If you are a business owner or service provider in the town, please contact the Town Council for more information on 01608 662180.

Shipston Rotary plans Fashion Show



Shipston Rotary is busy planning a Fashion Show for March in association with local ladies clothing store, Niche.

The event will be taking place on the 26th March at the Townsend Hall. Look out for more details in next month's Forum and on notice boards around the town.

A musical post-Valentine treat

Cantamus, Richard Emms' unaccompanied choir, is looking

Cantamus

forward to welcoming residents and visitors to their "After Valentine" concert with cakes at the Townsend Hall in Shipston-on-Stour on Sunday 15th February at 2.30 pm.

The choir promises a warm welcome, plentiful homemade cakes, hot drinks, and a programme of music and readings from Three's Company, to appeal to all ages and stages.

For lovers of the "classic American song-book", there are numbers from George Gershwin, and Jerome Kern; if your musical tastes lie in the 1960s or so - the Beatles, and Flanders and Swann will fit the bill, and if your love is for early music, come to enjoy madrigals and more.

All of this will be complemented by readings to amuse, entertain, and reach the emotions!

The concert is designed for all the family, and tickets (£10 for adults, £5 for children) can be obtained from R. Clarke Electricals in Shipston, or on the door. For more information, contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.

Get ready for the Shipston Food Festival 2015 Bread Nose Day

The team that brought you the Shipston Food Festival are conspiring again, and this time it's all in aid of Comic Relief.

Comic Relief's Red Nose Day will take place on Friday 13th March 2015, and Shipston's Food Festival team are putting their own unique twist on this to create "Bread Nose Day". Plans are still being finalised but the intention is to have a marquee in the main square in Shipston on the 13th. During the evening, the team will be offering bread making lessons for children and adults, accompanied by the televised fun from Red Nose Day on a big screen.

The organisers will then be baking their way through the night and presenting their breads for sale on Saturday from the marquee. All profits raised will be donated to Comic Relief charities.

There are many ways you can get involved, from helping to erect the marquee through to kneading bread, or selling the bread in the morning. No experience required - just a load of energy, and a sense of fun! If you'd like to be involved then please contact Dan Scobie dan@danscobie.net or Philip Vial ppjvial@gmail.com.



Regular events:

- Mon Citizens Advice Bureau:** Mornings, New Clark House. To book a free appointment, call 01789 200136
- Mon St John's Ambulance:** Badgers, 6-7pm. Cadets 7-8:30pm. Meet at Shipston Fire Station. Contact: Josie Bayliss, 684834
- Mon Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:** 7pm for 7.15pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Rd, Shipston-on-Stour. Call Penny Law 663871
- Tues Stroke Club:** Fortnightly (3, 17) 10am-12pm Scout Hut
- Tues Rhyme time for under 2s:** 10.45am Shipston Library. Free.
- Tues Age Concern Lunch Club at Stour Court.** Contact: Stella 686224
- Tues Silver Surfer Computer Lessons,** Shipston Library 2pm. Booking essential. Contact: 0300 5558171 (also on Thurs)
- Tues Bingo:** Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open 6.30pm. Eyes down 7.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886
- Tues Shipston on Stour Rotarians:** Halford Bridge Hotel, 7.30pm. Contact Adrian Ramskill 0797 656 6525.
- Tues Cantamus - Richard Emms' Chamber Choir** - rehearses from 7.30pm - 9.30pm at the Catholic Parish Hall (except for the third Tuesday of the month, when the choir meets at the Townsend Hall). For confident and experienced singers. Enquiries to Richard Emms 01608 662163.
- Weds Coffee at St Edmunds Church.** 10.30am-12pm. All welcome.
- Weds U3A Chicago Bridge:** Social Bridge 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Roger Smith on 01608 238400.
- Weds Stour Valley Probus:** alternate Wednesdays at 10am, The George in Brailles. Contact: Roger Smith on 01608 238400.
- Thur Shipston Stitchers:** 10am to 3pm, alternate Thursdays.
- Thur Story Stomp:** Shipston Library, 11.30am-12pm.
- Thur Age Concern Lunch Club at Rainbow Fields.** Contact: Diana 01789 740627
- Thur Safer Neighbourhood Team:** Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House, West Street.
- Thur Stour Singers - Richard Emms' Choral Society** - rehearses from 7.30 - 9.30pm in the Primary School Hall from September until May. Open to anyone who enjoys singing. Enquiries to Yvonne Ridley 01789 269587.
- Thur Stour Singers,** open to all, 7.40pm at Shipston Primary School. Contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587.
- Fri Walks over fields** with friendly group. Leaves Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616
- Fri Shipston Probus:** alternate Fridays
- There are lots of regular classes on at the Townsend Hall. Visit www.townsendhall.com or call Lisa Bryan on 07800 771368.**

February Diary

- 2 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group: Rural Crime by Lucy Lambert.** 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 4 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
- Shipston Widows:** Local lunch, 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute:** Up in the clouds with fluffy bits by Alan Brewer. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519

- 6 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Dementia Cafe:** 2pm-3.30pm, Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Charmaine Bird 07720 947938
- Rural Cinema:** What We Did On Holiday. See ad on page 16
- 7 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- Chatterbooks:** Reading group for 8-11 year olds. 10am-11am, Shipston Library. Join us for games, activities and refreshments
- Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West St at 10am. Equipment & refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com
- 9 Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
- 10 Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting:** 7.30pm, The George Hotel, Shipston. Visitors welcome. Contact: John Cavana 01295 722287
- 11 Shipston and District Gardening Club:** Vintage Garden Tools with John Mathews. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Tony Mitchell 666933
- 13 Dementia Friendly Singing Group:** Singing Down Memory Lane. An enjoyable experience for those with Memory Problems. 2pm-3.30pm. Community Lounge Stour Court, Old Road. Contact Dave Hollingworth 654444 or Barbara Smith 662433
- 14 Mayor's Surgery:** 10am, High Street
- St Edmund's Church Coffee Morning:** See add on page 11
- 15 Cantamus and Three's Company:** After Valentine. See ad on page 16
- 16-20 Shipston Mini Games:** Shipston High School. See ad on page 16
- 16 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Life in the Congo Jungle by Ian Mathie. 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
- 17 Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** Caravaggio and Velazquez by John Hall. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Penny Law 663871
- Shipston Neighbourhood Plan meeting:** see page 10 for details
- 18 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 10am-4pm. Details as above
- Shipston Widows:** Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am - 12pm, Coach & Horses. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230
- 20 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-4pm. Details as above
- Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting Dementia Carers:** 10.30am-12pm, Ellen Badger Hospital (using the Day Unit entrance). Friendly welcome for all visitors. Contact: Carl Watkins 663808 or Lizzy Feather 686013
- Shipston Music Society:** The View from the Podium. See ad on page 8
- 21 Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9.30am-2pm. Details as above
- Shipston Home Nursing:** Empty Bowls event at Whichford Pottery. 12 - 3pm. £15 includes soup, homemade bread and unique bowl to takeaway. To book contact: Pippa Brook 07778 845318 pippa@brookfamily.net or Suzie Coyte 07989568724 suzycoyte@gmail.com
- 24 Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the George Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161
- 25 Shipston and District Literary Society:** Prof. Kate McCluskey. 7.30pm, The George Hotel. Contact: Helen Marshall 01789 740773
- Shipston on Stour U3A Meeting:** See ad on page 8



The Shipston Award

The Town Council is inviting nominations for the The Shipston Award, which will be awarded annually to recognise voluntary work done by individuals in Shipston-on-Stour. The award replaced the previous Anne Sankey Medal.

The Shipston Award will be presented by the Mayor at the Annual Town Meeting in April 2015.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from shipstononline.org or collected from New Clark House. Nominations can also be made by letter and should include your details, who you are nominating and why.

All nominations must be received by the **28th February 2015** at the following address:

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



Calling all allotment holders

The annual meeting of
Shipston on Stour Allotment Holders
will be held at 6.30pm
on **Wednesday 11 March 2015**
at **New Clark House**

All allotment holders welcome.



Any queries, please contact
Jayne Potter, admin assistant at the
Town Council office on 01608 662180.

*The View
from
The Podium*

An illustrated talk by David Curtis - Artistic Director of the Orchestra of the Swan

**In the Methodist Church
New Street, Shipston-on-Stour
@ 7.30pm Friday 20th February 2015**

Guests £6.00 - Students & Under 16 £2.50
New Members are always welcome

Registered Charity Number: 1146429 (England)



The February meeting of the
Shipston-on-Stour Area U3A
will be held in the
Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour
Tuesday 25th 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

Emerging themes and ideas:

Shipston's Neighbourhood Plan is taking shape



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

Following the reports published in last month's Forum from the housing and environment topic groups, the remaining updates from the infrastructure and economy groups are detailed below. Together, these four reports summarise the current status and primary evidence-gathering completed by the Neighbourhood Plan team.

Over the coming weeks, these emerging themes will be developed into more specific options which will be presented to the community for consultation. Views on the proposed options will help to fine tune the various ideas and ensure those which are most important to the local community are included in the final draft plan.

Please look out for further updates and dates for consultation events in the Shipston Forum and online at www.Shipstonnp.org



Infrastructure: Understanding a complex range of services and needs

It is no secret that Shipston's infrastructure has been put under increasing pressure in recent years. From school places to medical facilities to parking, population growth has contributed to an increase in demand for local services.

Transport and parking

Feedback from the public and local businesses suggests there is a greater need for parking, including free and all day parking. There are currently 299 public parking spaces, with 28 in High St and Market Place.

Some believe changes should be made to the square to improve traffic flow, pedestrian safety and disability access. However, any changes would need careful consideration to avoid adverse impact on the town's vibrant shopping centre.

There is local demand for cycle access and facilities to be improved, along with better disabled access. Concerns also exist about the limited transport links which can impact both residents and businesses.

Schools

Shipston's schools cater not only for children from the town but also accept students from surrounding villages according to their catchment area. Both schools have seen a considerable increase in demand in recent years.

A new block of six classrooms is currently being built at Shipston High School to accommodate the current number of pupils, which has exceeded capacity for some time. However, the school's redevelopment plan does not make provision for the potential increase in numbers that result from the existing planning permissions within its catchment area. In addition, further development phases are not yet guaranteed as they are dependent on obtaining the funds to complete them.

Shipston Primary School is very near capacity, with a little over 400 children on roll and a maximum capacity of 420. If the school were to expand to meet growing demand, it

is likely seven new classrooms and associated space and services would be needed.

Expanding on the current site is one option, finding land in the close vicinity might be another, or even a change of location. There are limitations, issues and opportunities to consider in any scenario.

Sports and Leisure

Sports and leisure facilities are reasonably wide-ranging in Shipston. Although there is a call for all-weather pitches, phase 2 of the High School's plans will include such a pitch if funding is found. The pitch would be made available for community use.

Shipston Youth Club has over 150 members aged 11-18 and is housed in a small building belonging to the High School. Future provision is not currently planned, however.

Shipston Sports and Social Club is currently seeking to modernise facilities and has secured funding to cover some of these plans.

Medical Centre

The Medical centre is currently able to service all the patients it has but its existing buildings and parking facilities are under significant strain. With a higher than average elderly population and growth in housing, pressure on services is increasing.

A new site allowing for expansion will be a priority to meet increasing demand from both within the town and surrounding villages.

Utilities

Current and future development should take account of the need to conserve water supplies and energy and to reduce the risk of flooding in the River Stour.

Existing water supply and disposal are adequate but evidence from Severn Trent Water and the district council indicates water conservation will become an increasing necessity. Future development proposals should be required to reflect detailed Sustainable Drainage Requirements (SUDS) as outlined in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Local



While local utilities appear to be reasonably well placed to cope with some increase in demand, health, education and transport services are already under strain

Development Work 2008. These include pervious surfaces, basins, ponds, green sites etc.

Water Supply: Water for Shipston is supplied by the 'Strategic Water Grid', which gives flexibility dependent on supply and demand. 'The Water Cycle Study' for the district concludes there is sufficient water for growth, but future housing developments must be water efficient.

Waste water: The Shipston Fell Mill wastewater treatment

works cater for flows from Shipston, Newbold and Tredington and there is room for future expansion. All future developments will be subject to 'Sustainable Drainage Requirements and measures the Environmental Agencies are putting in place.

Energy: Gas and Electric are supplied via the national grid network. In line with recommendations in the district's draft Core Strategy, renewable energy should be promoted where possible.

Economy: A prosperous and sustainable future for Shipston

The Economy Topic Group has broken the local economy down into four areas: Private Sector (commercial and industrial); Retail; Tourism; and Public Sector. We have conducted surveys of the business community to help determine current trends and potential future requirements, and applied the knowledge and experience of the local business community in helping to identify some of the issues and options that Shipston faces over the next 15 – 20 years.

Employment and industry

Shipston has lost some of its major employers over the past ten years. Renault Agriculture (Class Engineering) closed its headquarters, IMI Norgren relocated to Slovakia, Pettifers Construction has closed and recently Turbine Blading has been consolidated in GE's global operations.

This makes for a significant change in the make-up of our local economy. The skilled engineering and support jobs that once provided employment for many residents have gone. At the same time, the town's population has expanded, leaving an imbalance between local jobs and local population.

Whether or not this represents a problem is in part dependent on whether we want Shipston to become largely a "dormitory town", accepting that most residents will commute to work outside of the locality. This scenario may well have implications in other areas, such as accessibility and transport infrastructure.

Attracting old and new businesses: According to our recent business survey, a third of businesses have been based in Shipston for more than 20 years with a further 29% setting up within the last five years



Generally, we have found that the "dormitory" option is not the preferred one, and as a community we should look to encourage and support the start-up and growth of smaller businesses. There is an opportunity for Shipston to build on the strength of the regional sectors and develop "supply chain" businesses that build on our historic skill base. The evidence gathered indicates that we need to support small to medium businesses with

the facilities, skilled workforce and access to markets that will enable them to prosper.

Retail

We have a strong independent retail base, which is now amongst the largest employment sector in the town, and provides services not just to Shipston, but to a much larger surrounding population. According to the 2014 business survey, over 80% respondents felt their business activities would increase over the next five years, with over half saying they anticipated a need for more skilled personnel in the next 2-5 years.



In developing the Neighbourhood Plan, the community needs to decide if the current retail base is going to support our local needs, if so, what is needed to support it. If not,

what scale and form of options should we be looking to develop. We are all aware of the supermarket arguments, for and against, both of which need to be considered alongside other options which could enhance town centre vibrancy.

Tourism

Shipston's Tourism Group has identified a number of opportunities for the town to capitalise on the rich array of

tourism attractions in the vicinity. Ideas put forward range from collaborative working with tourism attractions to the provision of an "out of town" low cost hotel on the designated employment land at the former Norgren site.

Public sector

The Public Sector remains both an important source of local employment and a vital support to our local community. We see this sector increasing as we address some of the shortfalls and future needs in our local infrastructure support, including education, health and social services.

Responding to the needs of businesses and identifying opportunities to generate local jobs could be vital in ensuring Shipston's economy is well served in the Neighbourhood Plan period up to 2031.

What next?

Please look out for news on future consultation events or join the next Neighbourhood Planning meeting on Tuesday 17 February 2015, 7:30pm, New Clark House. In the meantime, please send comments to np@shipstononline.org

SAINT EDMUND'S CHURCH

COFFEE ♥

MORNING

14TH FEBRUARY

10.30 am

BRING & BUY

RAFFLE

MUSIC

CAKES

CARDS

Proceeds to Church funds

Shipston WI

With all the preparations and planning of Christmas and New Year over for another twelve months, the WI embarked on 2015 with an inspiring and humbling talk by Captain Barbara Lang of the Salvation Army.

Barbara described her life and work in the Salvation Army. In the UK the Government is the main provider of social care, but the Salvation Army is second. A huge proportion of their work includes befriending the friendless and prison visiting. The work of prison chaplains is important both to inmates and, surprisingly, staff who are under huge pressure every day. The Salvation Army is there to listen, offer advice when asked and, essentially to pray with and for the people with whom they come in contact.

It's a very demanding life for Salvationists and their families. They must be prepared to up sticks and go when and where they are needed: most postings are for two years and then it's hand over to someone else and start, very often from scratch, somewhere else in the UK or abroad. Barbara has worked in some of the most rundown cities in the UK and also spent five years in South Africa. She now lives locally and revels in the safety of the UK after African townships, but visit any local town at 2am on a Saturday morning, says Barbara, and you see a different side. It is sobering to think that the Salvation Army receives no Government or Lottery funding.

The meeting continued with WI business and the payment of annual subs. Shipston Town Council has an emergency



disaster plan and Shipston WI is part of it in providing comfort and shelter if needed. Hopefully the floods of 2007 will not be repeated but if they are, arrangements exist to help ensure stranded people get a bed for the night.

Outings are planned for the coming month and a skittles evening. The Book Group will be meeting to discuss an exciting spy novel and the Knitting Group continues. The next meeting is on Wednesday, 4th February, 7pm in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Visitors are welcome and the speaker will be Alan Brewer talking about his life in flying.

Shipston and District Angling Club

Fishing on The River Stour is at its very best during the winter. This was highlighted at the club's annual Xmas Cup contest when 18 anglers attending caught in excess of 150lb of fish, mainly chub, dace and roach. The overall winner was Ade Ager who travels from Newbury to fish our river, with 23lb 5oz, second was Paul Geden with 16lb 8oz and third was Andy Wheildon with 15lb 10oz. Ade Ager also won the weekly Angling Times Bait Tech award, for his excellent catch.

Shipston has a number of club contest members who have won this weekly award throughout this season. Bait Tech is our main Summer Angling Festival Sponsor which the club will be holding again in July.

If you are interested in Fly fishing and want to have a coaching introduction, Andy Grey will be teaching fly fishing for trout and coarse fish on the 25th April. To join our club or for more details about the fly fishing coaching, please contact Rob Oakey on 01608 661148.

Lion's Cinema

Our next film on the 6th February is "What we did on our holidays". This is a very funny comedy drama. The stars of the film are; David Tennant, Billy Connolly, Ben Miller, Celia Imrie, Rosamund Pike and Amelia Bullmore.



London couple Doug (David Tennant) and Abi (Rosamund Pike) are on the verge of divorce, but co-opting their young offspring — Lottie (Emilia Jones), Mickey (Bobby Smalldridge) and Jess (Harriet Turnbull) — into a happy-families charade for the sake of cancer-stricken grandpa Gordie (Billy Connolly), celebrating his 75th and probably final birthday party in his Scottish Highlands home. Anxious 9-year-old Lottie frets over the deception ("I need a list of lies we're going to tell"), while energetic middle child Mickey and in-her-own-world infant Jess pursue their respective fixations with Vikings and a pair of large boulders she has designated as pets.

We need New Lions

Our ability to hold fund raising events and carry out physical projects across the community is restricted by the number of members we have. Our membership numbers ebb and flow and currently we are at a very low ebb. We are appealing for any residents prepared to help us with specific events or tasks to contact any Lion member (see

Lion's notice board in The Bury). Your reward is the joy and pleasure you feel in helping your community and its residents. You never know, that feeling may even tempt you to move from a helper to joining Lions.

Probos



On 21st November, David Fletcher spoke about a little known part of the coast of Russia. The Kamchatka peninsular has the Bering Sea on its eastern side and is approximately 500 miles long. It has 29 erupting volcanoes, and amazing wildlife, with birds in millions, otters, whales, seals, bears and rivers with salmon. There are abundant flowers and plants, including orchids. The slides clearly illustrated a truly fascinating part of the world.

For the meeting on 5th December, one of the club's members showed an old film of the river Stour from its source above Traitor's Ford to where it joins the Avon at Clifford Chambers. Unfortunately we could not make the sound work but nevertheless, it was still interesting. It will be repeated when the technical issues have been resolved.

Cancer Research UK Shipston Friends



The Shipston on Stour Friends of Cancer Research UK have been working here for over 30 years and have raised many thousands of pounds. We hold regular money raising events, some in Shipston and some in surrounding villages. We have had wonderful support over the years from many local people. Our events range from musical evenings, lunches with interesting speakers, tea parties, coffee mornings, etc. We try to cater for every taste!

As cancer sadly affects every family, we need all the support we can get to raise funds for vital research to fight this disease.

We should be very grateful if anyone would like to hold other functions to support this worthy cause or be involved with our committee. You will have our full support and help.

Please contact Jennie Scholes on 01608 661487.

Shipston Music Society



The December meeting of the Music Society was a warm welcome back to international pianist Helen Leek accompanied this time by South African born violinist Gina Beukes for an evening of music by Fritz Kreisler. Born in Vienna in 1875 and subsequently living much of his life in the USA, where he died in 1962, his life spanned a period of great change in classical music. Kreisler caused a scandal in musical circles when he revealed that many of the works that he'd performed throughout his musical life, and that he had attributed to a range of Baroque composers, had in fact been written by himself. Critics were offended and embarrassed, feeling that they had been duped and deliberately misled but as Kreisler himself said 'the name changes, the value remains'.

Between musical pieces like Caprice Viennois, Liebesfreud and Syncopation Helen had written a script depicting some of the colourful extracts of Fritz Kreisler's life spoken by the narrator Thomas Stevenson.

Helen was a scholar and prize winner at the Royal Academy of Music and was awarded the JBR trophy at the Royal Over-Seas League competition. She subsequently studied with Alexander Satz in Vienna with the help of an Austrian Government Scholarship. Helen was one of the major prize winners at the International Young Concert Artists Competition and won the 2nd prize in the Brant International Piano Competition. Violinist Gina was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and started studying the violin aged 5 with Alan Solomon, later studying chamber music with Betty Pack and also playing in her string chamber orchestras.

The next meeting of the Music Society will be 20th February 2015 – The View from the Podium, an illustrated talk by David Curtis Artistic Director of the Orchestra of the Swan. Visitors are always welcome – For more information please phone Richard Baldwin 01608-662178 or visit the web site www.shipstonmusic.org.uk.

Shipston Rotary



Shipston on Stour Rotary Club ended 2014 on a high with another successful Victorian Evening. With more stalls than ever, the added entertainment of the Carousel for the children and the finale with the Shout Choir the event was a resounding success. Rotarians would like to thank all those local traders and businesses who sponsored the event or contributed in other ways.

The Rotary Tree of Life lit up the Town Centre, so thanks to those who purchased a bulb in memory of a loved one.

Look out for future Rotary fund raising events which include a Fashion Show in the Townsend Hall in Shipston on Thursday 26 March and the Annual Cotswold Walk on Sunday, 3 May. Please put these dates in your diary, further details will be available in next month's Forum and via information posters around the Town. Alternatively, take a look at the Shipston Rotary website www.shipstonrotary.org.uk and Facebook page.

Shipston Sports Club

Planning a Meeting or a Function?

Did you know that Shipston Sports Club is available for hire from Monday to Friday?

The club can accommodate up to 100 people for private parties/functions and can also provide facilities for smaller meetings and discussion groups. A licensed bar and a wide range of refreshments can also be provided if required. A free car park is also available on site.

For more information, please contact Emma, the club's stewardess, on 07853 441687 in the first instance or visit the web site at: www.shipstonsportsclub.co.uk

Readers' Letters

Letter from Duncan Smith

I read with regret the decision - presumably by Shipston Town Council - to remove the late Anne Sankey's name from the annual community award.

As a former long serving county and town councillor Mrs Sankey was a tireless supporter of Shipston. The award in her name was a fitting memorial to Mrs Sankey and her spirit of service to the community.

No explanation was offered for the decision in the Forum.

I believe the award was introduced in around 2003, and the recent move seems at best shortsighted and at worst highly disrespectful to both Mrs Sankey and the predecessors to the current council who created the memorial to her.

Letter from Hilary Kelly

When we moved into our current home, a neighbour, (since died), told us that the large Wellingtonian tree in the grounds of Springfield House (with the lightning conductor on) was planted to celebrate the battle of Waterloo in 1815. If correct, then this year would mark the 200th year of planting. Does anyone know if this is true? If it is, would some celebration around June 18th be appropriate?

Letter from Shirley Pilkington, Secretary, Visually Impaired Club

I would like to thank the shops and businesses in Shipston on Stour who kindly gave us a raffle prize to the Visual Impaired Club Christmas Lunch. They were greatly appreciated by our members who were each given a prize.

Letter from David Gunn

Just before Christmas I tripped and fell in Shipston High Street after dark, completely rupturing the muscle which operates the right leg.

Without hesitation and unasked, three young men, seeing that I was in a certain amount of distress and unable to stand, came across and carefully supported me for the three hundred yards back to my home.

There are some really good people in this town.

Proud of my town

Trolley Dash

Shipston Co-op manager John Houston, Rotary President Judith Slinger and Beverley Abson, St. Edmunds' Food Bank Coordinator completed the two minute trolley dash for the Rotary Victorian Evening raffle. Supported by the residents of Shipston, the raffle was won by President Judith Slinger who donated it to the Shipston Food Bank. A total of £720 was raised for local charities. The Manager of the new refurbished Co-op commented on his delight in being able to co-operate in such a good local cause.



Shipston Town Council mourns the loss of former member, Bob White

Shipston Town Council has expressed its sorrow to the family of Bob White who passed away on Boxing Day.

Bob worked tirelessly for Shipston during his years as a Shipston Town Councillor and Stratford District Councillor. Bob was not only a great political campaigner, but also served Shipston professionally for many years as a paramedic working the ambulance service.



Town Clerk, Georgina Beaumont, attended Bob's funeral on behalf of the Town Council.

Cat caper

Local resident, Debbie Loughran, has been reunited with her cat, Marley, after 14 months apart.

Having moved to Shipston in 2013, Marley wandered off on his first night out in his new neighbourhood. All efforts to find him failed until 14 months later, Debbie spotted him while out walking her dogs and brought him home. Debbie would like to thank anyone who may have fed Marley during his lengthy outdoor adventure.



Something to say?

If you have news to share or want to let us know about someone who you feel should feature in the Proud of My Town Section, please email your suggestions to Forum@Shipstononline.org. Letters and articles may be edited to fit space.

District Council update

The death of Bob White was sad news. Bob was a good friend, supporter and colleague and a Shipston District Councillor for 8 years (2002 to 2010). Bob also served many years in the ambulance service and on Shipston Town Council. A strong family man who also served his community with dedication. He is missed by all of us.



I support the campaign to improve the dangerous Portobello Crossroads, preferably by installing a roundabout. This dangerous crossroads has needed some major investment for many years now. With the developments approved or proposed along the Campden Road there is more urgency for action. To this end I have signed the petition to the County Council and written to the officers and members asking them to build a roundabout at this dangerous junction.

The District Council's master plan, known as the Core Strategy, has been reviewed by a Planning Inspector. He will announce the results of his deliberations in due course, following which the District Council could have an adopted plan in place by the end of 2015.

I am very pleased that the Shipston Neighbourhood Plan is progressing towards completion. I strongly support the development of a local plan for Shipston. Once adopted following a local referendum, it will mean that Shipston should have a much greater say in the way the town will develop.

I usually attend the Mayor's surgery, near the High Street telephone kiosk, on the second Saturday in the month from 10am to 12 noon. Come and say hello!

Councillor 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

Health and Well being Board

We work collaboratively in Warwickshire and are putting our services to the test. A Peer Challenge is being undertaken during January that will give us good feedback on how we have performed in the two years since Public Health was transferred back to local authorities. The Peer Challenge will appraise our work, but is there to act as a critical friend.



There will be up to six peers including a director of Public Health, a representative from the Clinical Commissioning Group, a local authority Chief Executive, a Councillor and a review manager from the Local Government Association. For details, see www.hwb.warwickshire.gov.uk - I will report back on the outcomes.

Portobello crossroads

Like most of you I too am disappointed to hear of another fatal accident on the Fosse Way. Over the years, consideration has been given to the Portobello cross roads and safety issues several times. Each review has ruled out a roundabout. This time might be different but we shall not assess that until we have the Coroner's report and details from the Police.

I have been dealing with Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council as the accident was on their patch but will keep Shipston in the loop.

Register my appliance

As part of the 'Fire Kills' campaign, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue is highlighting www.registermyappliance.org.uk - a national database of appliances bought over the last 12 years to enable manufacturers to issue safety updates and repair notifications to the right people.

Some of you may be concerned about giving away this information - Warwickshire Trading Standards can advise.

Councillor Chris Saint

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

Shipston Medical Centre

Colds – a common, time-limited illness!

The best way to treat most colds, coughs or sore throats is to drink plenty of fluids and to rest. Colds can last about two weeks and may end with a cough. There is no cure for colds, but there are many over the counter remedies to ease the symptoms – paracetamol, for example. Ask your pharmacist for advice.

If a cold lasts more than three weeks, or you become breathless or have chest pains, or already have a chest complaint, see your doctor.

Antibiotics do not work against infections caused by viruses, such as colds. They are only successful in treating bacterial infections. Your Doctor will only prescribe antibiotics if you have a bacterial infection as this helps prevent antibiotic resistance in the population and means they will be more effective when you really do need them.

Positive report from the CQC

The Care Quality Commission, the body responsible for

monitoring standards of care in the NHS, assessed our services in May 2014, and reported its findings in October. We're delighted to say that the report highlights good levels of service and patient satisfaction.



Areas of inspection included organisational issues such as how the services are delivered, whether the practice is well led and how responsive we are to patient needs, as well as treatment of specific patient groups and conditions.

The inspector found a number of examples of good practice and no concerns were raised in the report.

We are delighted with the findings and would like to thank all those patients who took part and shared their views with the inspector. We won't be resting on our laurels though – we're working hard to maintain our current standards.

Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845

Website: www.shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk

Your Town Councillors



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t: 07814 192161
e: ppjvial@gmail.com



Jackie Warner, Deputy Mayor

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Finance Group Chair

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Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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

Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

Something exciting to share?

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

Copy deadline: First Wednesday of every month

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

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.

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

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



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Useful Contacts

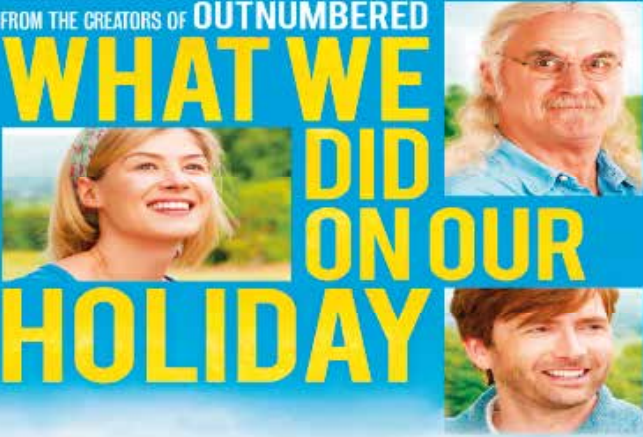
Community Links Transport	01789 264491
Shipston Library:	0300 5558171
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Severn Trent Emergency Line:	0800 7834444
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
– Out of hours	111
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Forum	01608 495955
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
Local police (non emergency)	101
PC Craig Purcell	07977 456585
PCSO Hayley Ditchburn	07879 608696
PCSO Andy Steventon	07966 626908
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01608 642256

STOUR VALLEY LION'S CINEMA 12+

ROSAMUND **PIKE** DAVID **TENNANT** And BILLY **CONNOLLY**

FROM THE CREATORS OF **OUTNUMBERED**

WHAT WE DID ON OUR HOLIDAY



SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL
Friday 6th February, 2015 at 7:00 pm
Advance Tickets £3.50 (£4 on door)

From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston On Stour.
 : Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01688-661148
 Interval for Raffle, Refreshments and snacks.
 Disabled parking, wheelchair access and toilets

CantamuS

conductor Richard Emms



After Valentine

*A Sunday afternoon concert
with our own home-made cakes*

with readings by
Three's Company

February 15th 2015 at 2.30pm
Townsend Hall, Shipston on
Stour

Tickets £10 (£5 for school-aged children)
 from R Clarke Electrical or at the door
www.cantamus.org.uk

CANCER RESEARCH
 IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE LIONS
RACE NIGHT
 At the Townsend Hall

Adult **£7.50**
 Child **£5.00**
 Price includes supper

Tickets Available from:-
 Marilyn: 07855 855252
 Jackie: 07717 391234
 David: 07511 694733

Saturday 7th March at 7pm
www.townsendhall.com



FEBRUARY SPORTS ACTIVITIES



Fun sports activities this
February half-term at
Shipston Mini Games!

WHEN: Monday to Friday
16th February - 20th February, 2015

TIME: 10am till 3pm every day

AGE: 5-11 years old

PRICE: £6 per child, per day

WHERE: Shipston High School, Darlingscote
Road, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4DY

MULTI SPORTS

Fun Games
Coaching
Competitions

FOOTBALL

Skills and Drills
Competitions
Tournaments



TO BOOK: Email booking@supportsport.org or
call 07730080926

MORE INFO: <http://supportsportprojects.blogspot.co.uk/>