



Shipston High School celebrates new phase of expansion



Mayor, Ian Cooper (left), with Headteacher, Gavin Saunders, outside the new block

Shipston High School is now able to welcome a record number of students thanks to completion of a new block of classrooms in July 2018.

The smart new building houses nine new classrooms for languages, religious education and English lessons, as well as a new reception area. Students moved into the new accommodation on the 2nd July, just under a year after construction began.

This is the second new block to be built on the site, following earlier expansion in 2016. Both new buildings have been funded by Warwickshire County Council (WCC) to enable Shipston High School to provide additional high quality school places for the local community.

Headteacher, Gavin Saunders, said: "We are very grateful to WCC for its faith and investment in the school. The building is a response to the need for more school places, but also a

recognition that all students deserve a high quality learning environment. The school is increasingly popular and our Year 7 intake in September will have 120 students, our largest year group to date."

Further expansion is planned, with the school actively exploring a new sports hall which could potentially be hired for community use outside of school hours. Internal work is also underway to refresh the older block, including a newly equipped drama and performing arts space and expanded classrooms for some subjects.



One of the new classrooms

"This expansion comes at a time when all schools are increasingly under pressure for adequate funding, and the new examinations are also a challenge, but we are committed to providing the best opportunities for our young people. In general, the school is vibrant and confident for the future, and we would like to thank the local community for the support they continue to give Shipston High School" Mr Saunders added.

Mayor, Ian Cooper, said: "It is encouraging to see such positive progress at the High School, both in terms of the investment in new buildings and in the academic performance of its students. We wish the High School every success as it embarks on the new academic year."

Demand for Shipston First Responders is on the rise

Shipston Community First Responders (SCFR) has attended 314 emergency 999 calls on behalf of the West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) since January 2018. Over the past year, SCFR has seen an increase in emergency calls and now attend, on average, over 50 calls each month!



Shipston's team of eight Community First Responders (CFRs) provides immediate basic life support interventions with an average response time of five minutes (dependant on location). As the name suggests, the First Responders are often first on the scene, providing vital support as well as reassurance, and are always backed up by the nearest Ambulance resource from WMAS.

Shipston's CFR's are all voluntary and provide on-call cover

seven days a week. They are reliant on funding from donations and grants.

SCFR Coordinator, Stuart Eastbury, said: "We would like to thank all our supporters, including The League of Friends of the Shipston Hospitals, hosts of fundraising tins and local businesses. Without the continued support of the community we would not be able to provide the service we do."

If you are interested in becoming a Community First Responder in Shipston or the surrounding villages, please contact Stuart on ambulance1991@yahoo.co.uk

Proms Perfection

The 20th anniversary of Shipston Proms was celebrated in style in June. Turn to pages 8 and 9 for our Proms review in pictures.

Mayor's column



What a fabulous sight, a vast crowd of parents enjoying the sunshine at the sports club while their children, some 80 of them took part in the Allstars cricket. This introduces cricket to children from five upwards and has rejuvenated junior cricket at the club. The under 13's, by the way, narrowly lost the semi-final to Alcester in what was billed the real final. It's great to see Shipston's sports clubs working hard to support our youngsters, and there are similarly successful development programs at the Rugby Club, the football section and the High School.

I was heartened by my visit to the High School to meet with the head and see the new extension to the school. There is a real commitment to investment in infrastructure and youth, something that is becoming increasingly necessary as the town grows and something that I am fully supporting during my year as mayor.

We had a fabulous Proms fortnight celebrating the 20th year of the annual music event and culminating in a hugely enjoyable last night. Record crowds enjoyed the hot weather as they partied all night in the High Street to the beats of Badness and other great bands, it really was a special evening in Shipston. Many thanks for all the hard work that has gone in.

I was privileged to attend the SCAN (Senior Citizens Action Network) annual lunch. SCAN provides a useful and informative forum for our more senior residents, as well as interesting recollections of past times in the Town.

Summer is moving on, the World Cup is over, but we have the Shipston Flower and Produce show on the 19th August at the Townsend Hall, so I look forward to seeing you there.

Ian Cooper

Environment Agency representatives roll-up their sleeves to help build Shipston's flood defences

In late June, 11 members of the Environment Agency, including senior directors and managers visited Shipston-on-Stour and toured the extensive River Stour catchment where flood intervention measures have been installed in 2017/18.

They were invited by members of the Shipston Area Flood Action Group (SAFAG) to view some of the 175 flood intervention measures which have been installed on the Knee Brook (the main local watercourse) and its tributaries.

The Environment Agency has been very supportive of SAFAG over the last few years as they view the Group as leaders and national pathfinders in community-led natural flood management (NFM) projects across the UK. The 175 NFM interventions, such as woody dams, ponds and bunds etc, are designed to 'slow the flow' of the watercourses typically on farmland in the upper reaches during spate conditions. It is intended that this holding back and slowing of the flood waters will reduce the risk of flooding to homes and businesses in Shipston and numerous other villages in the local area.

During the visit the EA members were given the opportunity to assist in building two woody dams to better understand the challenges and issues involved. SAFAG members delivered a video presentation of the 2007 floods which emphasised the extent of the flooding problem in the area.

The visit was a great success and assisted in enhancing partnership working with the Environment Agency as SAFAG bid for future funding.

Warwickshire Switch and Save

Warwickshire residents can save money on their gas and electricity bills with Warwickshire County Council's new collective energy switching scheme: Warwickshire Switch and Save.

Following a successful reverse auction between competing gas and electricity providers on the 22nd of May 2018, residents signed up to the scheme are set to save an average of £177 on their utility bills.

In Warwickshire, about 300 households have registered so far with the scheme and the county's Switch and Savers have been combined with 37 other similar initiatives from all around the UK to create a consumer collective of over 25,000 registered households.

If you want to save on your energy bills, sign up today to receive your free, no obligation, offer from Warwickshire Switch and Save - https://bigcommunityswitch.ichoosr.com/Product/index.rails?utm_medium=web&location=warwickshire

For more information, visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/switchandsave



Above: Chairman Phil Wragg explaining a recently built offline pond to EA members. Below: a woody dam during dry conditions



News from Shipston Town Council's July meeting

Hot topics:

Community support: Marianne Westwood shared information about a charity called North Cotswold Community Awareness, which aims to prevent or reduce poverty. Following the closure of the Children's Centre, the charity has recently expanded its catchment to cover Shipston and supports families in a variety of ways from funding to counselling.

Allotment competition: The Town allotment competition was independently judged by an expert who commented that the standard was much higher than last year. Full details will be published next month.

Lorry danger: Marianne Westwood also passed on concerns from residents of Angela's Meadow who are concerned about fast lorry movements heading into the new housing site. Shipston Town Council will write to Orbit to alert the company to the concerns and will copy the police officer.

Praise for the Proms: All councillors congratulated the Proms committee on another successful fortnight of music which many are calling the best yet. The council will write to the organisers to express thanks and congratulations.

Road collapse: Brian Healy reported two areas where road surfaces appear to be collapsing – near the Cala site and on the Darlingscote Road. The Clerk will raise with Highways.

Missing bus: Ronnie Murphy passed on news that some residents found themselves stranded in Banbury after a return bus failed to turn up.

New nursery: Planning permission has been granted for a new nursery at the Sheldon Bosley Hub. The permission comes with a condition that a fence must be put in place around the site to protect the children, following concerns raised by the town council.

Limiting exposure: Shipston Town Council voted to reject current and future offers to take on responsibility for maintaining any Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDs) that may be installed in new developments. This is because of the potential complexity and cost of managing such a scheme.

Bench debate: After some discussion, councillors opted to reject the application from Thirst Edition for benches outside its premises due to potential impact on residents.



Campaigning for Shipston:

Screening services: Following news that the breast screening unit in Stratford had broken down, Ian Cooper reminded councillors of the need to understand why the screening service couldn't have been accommodated elsewhere in the town, even if the Ellen Badger was unable to house the service. The council will look into this further to try and ensure the service is provided locally in future.

Tourist information: The Heritage, Amenities and Leisure Projects working group has made progress on an initial pre-application to the Heritage Lottery Fund which should identify the likelihood of receiving a grant. Following promotion in the Forum and elsewhere, there are now five volunteers signed up to help run the tourist information centre, but more are needed.

Access to new development site: There was much debate at the council meeting regarding proposals to grant a Deed of Easement across council-owned green space on Oldbutt Road to allow developers, Crest Nicholson, to lay a sewage pipe to service the new homes being built. A number of local residents addressed the meeting requesting that the town council doesn't pursue plans to build a footpath across the land. Councillors voted to install a self-closing gate in the hedge where a gap will be created, with no formal path across the grass.

Town Council business:

Town cleansing contracts: The contracts for town cleansing, grass cutting and related services are out for tender. An advert calling for proposals is on page 10.

GDPR policy: The Town Council has adopted a new policy in line with the General Data Protection Regulation which explains how the council stores and processes data.

Neighbourhood Plan Referendum confirmed for 6th September

Residents are being encouraged to look out for polling cards which will be dropping through letterboxes very soon. The polling cards will give people an opportunity to vote on whether Shipston should adopt its Neighbourhood Plan, which is designed to guide future planning decisions. The Referendum will take place on Thursday 6th September and Shipston Town Council is urging residents to have their say.

Mayor, Ian Cooper, said: "The Neighbourhood Plan gives residents an opportunity to have their say on the future of the town, including issues such as open spaces, housing development and economic development. It's important to have your say so that Shipston's voice is heard."

There will be a more detailed feature about the key policies contained in the Neighbourhood Plan in next month's Forum. See page 14 for polling station details.



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

Shipston Minis receive new kit following fire

The Minis and Juniors at Shipston Rugby Club were amazed by the generosity of the local and rugby communities following the recent container fire which resulted in the loss of kit and equipment. The coaches for all age groups have been busy identifying the best kit available to replace the damaged gear. They have also been finding new equipment that will enable them to deliver coaching sessions that are even more fun than in the past!

A special thank you needs to be given to Taylor Wimpey - Midlands, for providing and installing a replacement equipment container, as well as removing the fire-damaged one. This was very generous and very much appreciated by all at the Club.

The Minis and Juniors – including all age groups from U7s to Colts and the girls teams (U13s, U15s and U18s) start training on 2nd September. New members for all ages are very welcome. For further details email: minisandjuniors@shipstonrugbyclub.co.uk.



Good news in and around the High Street

Shipston's Taste of the Country won Best Independent Retailer at the Cotswold Life Food and Drink awards in July. The deli was up against some stiff competition from across the Cotswolds region and was delighted to win the award. Congratulations to the team.

In other business news, the Bower House has welcomed a new Front of House Manager and Chef. The duo are bringing new ideas to the restaurant and a new menu - including a Sunday roast - designed to offer high quality food in a relaxed and informal environment.

The Horseshoe Inn is also in the midst of a makeover under the watchful eye of its new landlords.

Just a few yards away, Sheldon's wine cellars has installed new Enomatic tasting machines – these machines keep wine at the perfect temperature and protected from oxygen, meaning a range of wines can be bought and sampled by the glass.

The Church Street end of Granville Court will also soon be welcoming a new business, with construction of a new cafe underway. The Three Ewes Tea Room is due to open in September.

Mayor, Ian Cooper, said: "The town's shops, restaurants and other businesses are an important part of our local community and it's great to hear about positive recognition and new developments which will benefit our residents and attract visitors to the town."



Townsend Hall 150 Club Draw

The following are the winners of the July draw:-

Member 72 - £15
Member 122 - £10
Member 40 - £5

Congratulations!



High temperatures for the Tour d'Illmington

With temperatures soaring into the low 30's on Sunday 1st July, the 4th Annual Tour d'Illmington once again proved a great success for Shipston Rotary. Over 225 riders took part this year, a significant increase on 2017, across a 10 mile Family ride, a 30 mile Hilly challenge for the more experienced cyclist and new for this year a 100 km "Eroica" ride aimed at owners of classic steel racing cycles. The hilly course, over and around the village of Illmington, proved testing but everyone survived with plenty of water, and enjoyed the experience.

The Tour began in memory of Rotarian David Lockwood – a keen cyclist – who sadly passed away from Parkinson's Disease. Since the start, the Tour d'Illmington has raised over £ 2,500 for Parkinson's UK and for Rotary local causes. It has also enabled the setting up of a Parkinson's UK support group in Shipston.



Clare Foregrave (née Lockwood), Graham Thomas Club President, and twins Georgie and Fimm Foregrave who were all riding in remembrance of their grandfather David Lockwood

Summer fun for local residents

If you are looking for ideas to amuse your children during the school holidays, there are a variety of activities in and around Shipston to help keep them entertained.

The Sheldon Bosley Hub will be hosting two weeks of Summer Sports Camps from 24th July – 17th August on Tuesdays to Fridays. Contact Sam of Energise on 07515 717819 or email sam@energiseonline.com

Calypso Kids will be held as usual at The Townsend Hall on 1st and 8th August providing 45 minutes of musical and craft fun for all the family. Visit the Calypso Kids Ltd Facebook page for more details or contact Emma-Jane Roberts on 07890399162, email emmajane@calypsokids.co.uk.

Shipston Library will continue to offer Rhymetime on Tuesday mornings at 10:45am and Story Stomp on Thursdays at 11:30am, both of which are half an hour and free of charge.

From 30th July to 3rd August Shipston Primary School will host the Hi-5 Holiday Activity Camps offering a wide variety of activities supervised by Trained Activity Leaders. Space is limited and booking is required. Call 01789 260643 or visit <https://apps.stratford.gov.uk/hifive/default.aspx>.

Free Sports Fridays will be coming to Long Compton Recreation Ground on 24th August, 11am-3pm. Sessions are free so just turn up and enjoy.



Children enjoying the fun with Calypso Music

Not forgetting the adults...

Whilst many of Shipston's clubs and societies take a break during August, the Townsend Hall will be hosting a number of events including Adults Yoga every Wednesday at 6.30pm, a concert by the Cotswold Choir, the Flower and Produce Show and a Charity Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning.

For details of these and other events taking place during the month, take a look at the What's On Calendar on page 6.

Silver Line

The Silver Line is a helpline for older people that offers information, friendship and advice 24 hours day, 365 days a year. Originally founded by Dame Esther Rantzen, it is the only national, free and confidential helpline for older people in the UK. The Silver Line also offers telephone and letter befriending by matching up a Silver Liner to a volunteer for regular conversation. So if anyone is lying awake at night - or feeling lonely at any time - or worried about a problem that they have - and think that a chat with someone friendly who cares might help, please call The Silver Line on 0800 4 70 80 90. Our website is www.thesilverline.org.uk.

Is that a DB11 on the driveway?

Shipston High School Student, Kieron, was taken to his High School Prom in an Aston Martin DB11. This was organised by Lion President Fran Stary as a thank you for the hard work Kieron has put into supporting and volunteering at Lions events.

Stour Valley Lions wish Kieron and all other students graduating from Shipston High School every success for their future ventures.



Community Groups collaborate to repair Gyratory Flag

A big thank you to Shipston Stitchers, the fantastic embroidery group, for their help assessing wear and tear to the Union Flag that flies over the Memorial Garden on the gyratory.

Not only were they kind enough to assess the damage, but once the Royal British Legion branch had sourced replacement material, the Stitchers were kind enough to undertake the very complex repair. The Shipston Stitchers and the Royal British Legion both have regular meetings which will give a warm welcome to new faces.

Details of their meetings can be found in the Forum diary. Well done everyone and a big thank you.



MONDAY

Citizens Advice Bureau: Mornings, New Clark House. To book call 01789 200136

Shipston Duplicate

Bridge Club: 6.45pm for 7pm, Catholic Church Hall. Penny Law 663871

Shipston Baby & Toddler Group: Term time only. 9.30-11am, Scout Hut. Contact shipstontoddlers@gmail.com

Knitting & Crochet Club: 7-9pm at Low Furlong. Contact Julie Pardoe 07956 180989 or Facebook 'Shipston knitting and crochet group'.

TUESDAY

Yoga for all abilities: 9.30am-11am Catholic Church Hall. Contact Leigh Figures 665995

Stroke Club: Fortnightly 10am-12pm The House of Bread Retreat at The Mill, Burmington

Rhyme time for under 2s: 10.45am Shipston Library. Free.

Age Concern Lunch Club

at Stour Court. Stella 686224
Silver Surfer Computer Lessons, Shipston Library 2pm. Booking essential. 0300 5558171

Bingo: Alternate Tuesdays. Doors open 6.30pm. Sheldon Bosley Hub. 661886

Shipston on Stour Rotarians: The White Bear, Shipston 7.30pm. Adrian Ramskill 07976 566525
Cantamus: 7.30-9.30pm, Catholic Parish Hall. Richard Emms 01608 662163.

WEDNESDAY

Coffee at St Edmunds Church: 10.30am – 12pm.

U3A Chicago Bridge: Social Bridge 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Roger Smith on 01608 238400.

Stour Valley Probud: alternate Wednesdays at 10am, The George in Brailles. Roger Smith on 01608 238400.

THURSDAY

Little Fishes: 9.45-11.15 am, Townsend Hall. Baby and toddler group run by Stour Valley Baptist Church. £2 per child. 50p siblings. (Term time)

Shipston Stitchers: alternate Thursdays 10am 3pm. Catholic Church, Darlingscote Rd. Contact Kath Cheshire on 01608 663486.

Active Memory Group: 3rd Thursday, 10am - 12noon. Contact Alyson Spence 01608 661703 or 07725 892087

Story Stomp: Shipston Library, 10.45-11.15 am. FREE For children aged 2-4.

Age Concern Lunch Club: Alternate Thursdays. Gill Roach on 01295 680309 or Pauline Carr on 01386 700703

Safer Neighbourhood Team: Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House.

The Thursday Club: 2pm-

4pm, Shipston Library. Free weekly drop-in session for adults. Board games, puzzles, colouring, crafts. Tea/biscuits.

Exercise for the elderly: £5. Alternate Thursdays, 2.30-4.30, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Ann Smith on 238400

Stour Singers - Choral Society: 7.30 - 9.30pm Primary School Hall. Yvonne Ridley 01789 269587.

Shipston Badminton Club: Townsend Hall, 7:30pm

FRIDAY

Walks over fields with a friendly group. Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616

Shipston Probud: alternate Fridays. Shipston Sports Club, London Road. Contact Nick 01608 662928

Age Concern Lunch Club at Stour Court. Call June on 684218

Knitting & Crochet Club:

2-5pm, Rainbow Fields. Contact Julie Pardoe 07956 180989

Shipston Archers: Shipston High School, indoors, 6pm till 8pm. Beginners welcome. Contact 07795 632718

Bingo Night at Rainbow Fields: Doors open 6.30pm. Contact Ruth Keyte on 01608 661382

SATURDAY

Chatterbooks: 10.30am – 12pm, Shipston Library. Free monthly drop-in session. Suitable for ages 6-11. Typically second Saturday but please enquire.

Shipston Archers: Sheldon Bosley Hub, outside, 1pm till dark, weather permitting. Beginners welcome. Contact 07795 632718 or 01608 664646

August Diary

- 1 **Shipston Widows:** Local lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
Stratford Time Bank's Shipston Social Meeting: 1.30pm-3pm, Community Room at Stour Court. Everyone welcome
Chronic Pain Support Group: 7.30 pm, Rainbow Fields. Contact Marianne Westwood 01608 662223
- 4 **Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133 or fayivens@aol.com
- 13 **Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:** 7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact: Georgina Beaumont 662180
Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting: 7.30pm, The White Bear Function Room, Shipston. Visitors welcome. Contact Membership Officer Lion Paul Garfield on 07828 589564 or email paulgarfield@icloud.com
Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group: Life in the Freezer - Mark Wood. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684
Tallest Sunflower Judging: See ad on page 7
- 15 **Shipston Widows:** Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am - 12pm, Coach & Horses. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230

- 17 **Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting Dementia Carers:** 10.30am-12pm, Ellen Badger Hospital (using the Day Unit entrance). Friendly welcome for all visitors. Contact: Carol Ruthven 662706 or Lizzy Feather 686013
Singing Down Memory Lane: Reminiscence Songs for people with memory problems. 2pm -3.30pm at Stour Court Community Lounge, Old Road. Contact:- Barbara Smith 01608 662433
Royal British Legion – Social: A social gathering of serving and ex-service members of HM Armed Forces at 1930 hrs in the White Bear. If you miss the comradeship and friendly banter of your service days, do come and take part. Open to all members, current and ex-service personnel and anyone interested in joining the RBL. Contact Alex Black 01608 664743
- 18 **Cotswold Choir:** Townsend Hall, 6.30pm
- 19 **Shipston Flower and Produce Show:** See ad on page 16
- 20 **Holiday at Home:** See ad on page 7
- 25 **Charity Table Top Sale and Coffee Morning:** Townsend Hall, 10am. (Tables £5) Contact Sarah Furniss to book a place on 07794 733 517
- 28 **Shipston Library Lego Club:** 3.30-4.30pm. Free for School Aged Children, to be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Shipston Library 663438
Multiple Sclerosis Society: 'Drop in'

meeting. 10.30am at the White Bear Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161

- 1 **Sept Rainbows Family Fun Day:** 12-4pm at The Scout Hut, New St., Shipston (free entry)
Attractions to include 25ft Climbing Wall, kids Obstacle Course, Archery, music, refreshments + lots of stalls & games for all ages

NEW INITIATIVE FROM SHIPSTON CHURCHES

Shipston Churches are launching a new initiative called The Boot Point. A team of three adults will be taking a 'car boot' of drinks and cakes to Mill Street Car Park every Friday night during August and September with the intention of engaging with the young people who regularly gather there. They aim to provide a listening ear, a friendly chat and some home made refreshments.

Future Dates

Neighbourhood Plan Referendum: 6th September

Remembrance Sunday Parade: 11th November

Victorian Evening: 7th December

scan

**SENIOR CITIZENS
ACTION NETWORK**

SHIPSTON ON STOUR

and surrounding communities

Tuesday 11th September 2018

Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, Shipston on Stour

10.00am for free refreshments

10.30am start

WARWICKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE - Fire safety & keeping safe & well at home

Admission Free

We have a PA system in place for those who are hard of hearing

If you would like to attend SCAN meetings but have any difficulties such as personal mobility or lack of transport please telephone Jane Pearce on 01608 663491 to discuss possible ways in which we can help.

Holiday at Home present a



August 20th 10am - 3pm

in the

Townsend Hall

hoopla, build a tower, guess the name of the bear, knock down cans and lots of other activities.

Refreshments, 2 course lunch, crafts and afternoon tea all included for £5

Contact Jude 663779 or Rosemary 662584 to book your place.

Shipston Sports & Social Club

New opening times

Fridays 5:30 to 11pm

Saturdays 12 to 11pm

Sundays 12 to 8pm



Now is the perfect time to join or renew your membership and benefit from reduced drinks and events prices

The club is open to members and non members – the ideal place to watch all the latest sports on Sky

For details, contact Steward, Becky Taylor, on 07988 913485

Who can grow the

Tallest
sunflower?

**Judging August 13th in
your garden**

**Shipston on Stour
Rotary Club**

To enter contact Fay Ivens
01608 662133

Shipston Proms in pictures

Shipston Proms began twenty years ago with fireworks - 20 years later, pyrotechnics accompanied the headliners at the Last Night of the Proms.

The final night started earlier than normal at 2pm, with the tribal sound of African Drumming courtesy of Cassia Tree, followed by Morris Dancing, the High School Band, Betsy Harmony and the Lounge Club.

Up to 1,000 people joined the party in the High Street to listen to Duke, Fame Contest winners, the Buzzin Hornets, the Texan Peacocks and the main act, Badness. The crowd were singing and dancing along to a fantastic range of tunes.

The 20th anniversary Proms proved again what talented musicians we have in South Warwickshire. There were high turnouts at all venues thanks to the calibre of performers. Many of the regular favourites were back including Mrs. Porter's Chamberpot Pourri, Songs from the Shows, Folk Night at the Black Horse, the Coffee Concerts, the Pub Trails in all the local Shipston Pubs plus the open mic night.

The town was also pleased to welcome visitors including virtuoso pianist Alexander Ardakov, the Stratford Chamber Choir, Gary Mullen and The Works, the Sam Powells Blues Band and the Midnight Blues Machine.

Though small in number, the Shipston Proms Committee achieved an incredible amount and worked hard to make the whole fortnight a success.

Photos: (Clockwise from top) Crowds at the last night; Chloe Lake Jones (Fame Contest), Primary schools concert, The Fortune (Fame contest), Gary Mullen and The Works performing One Night of Queen; Badness, Too Fat to Kidnap.

All photos courtesy of Charlotte Wright Photography (except the primary schools concert photo)



Celebrating young talent



Since its inception, one of the priorities for the Proms Festival has been to give young people the opportunity to play for an audience.

Primary schools from around the local area come together every year to put on a joint Proms concert, with as many children as possible given the chance to take part. These concerts have included singing, ukulele, flute, piano, keyboard, guitar and recorder performances among others, and often give youngsters their first opportunity to play for a large audience.

Shipston High School also holds an annual Proms concert which showcases the vast array of musical talent at the school.

Shipston Proms arranges workshops and special performances for the schools. This year the Proms funded the African drumming group, Cassia Tree, to go into both the Primary and High schools.

There are also several events where young people can join in. This year, it was virtually standing room at the magnificent Young Musicians at Barcheston Church which featured the cream of local musicians. The programme included the Shipston High School Wind Band, performances by three sets of very talented twins and a standout performance from 11 year old Rose from Deddington Primary School, who played an extraordinarily nimble version of the Hornpipe by Michael Praetorius.

Several young people joined in at the Open Mic, and The Songs From The Shows encourages singers to take to the stage to perform West End and Broadway hits.

The Proms talent show gives youngsters the opportunity to shine on their own and in groups, outside of the relative comfort of school surroundings. The winners play for huge crowds at the Last Night of the Proms - a genuine opportunity to shine a spotlight on their talent and hone their performance skills.

This year's fame contest winners were Chloe Lake Jones from North Leamington School and The Fortune from Stratford upon Avon School.

Many previous fame contest winners, including Laurence Jones, Joe Jury, Longfellow, Brixton Alley, and Jack Blackman have since gone on to perform professionally.



Mayor, Ian Cooper, said: "On behalf of the town I would like to thank everyone involved in the Proms, from the musicians and audiences to the sponsor and supporters.

But the biggest thanks must go to the Proms Committee for the enormous time and effort put in to yet another fantastic event for our town and surrounding villages. It's an event the town is extremely proud of."

If you would like to be involved in next year's Proms, contact the organising committee now - it won't be long before they start planning Shipston Proms 2019!

www.shipstonproms.org



Volunteers needed for the Shipston Tourist Information Centre

A new Tourist Information Centre is set to open in Shipston at New Clark House.

Volunteers to man the centre and talk to visitors about Shipston and the surrounding area are desperately needed. Training will be provided and timings are flexible.

If you can spare some time to showcase our town, please contact Sarah Coxall from Stratford & District Time Bank

Tel: 07419 373680

E: welcome@stratfordtimebank.org.uk



SHIPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

Notification of Tenders

Contract 1

Grounds Maintenance of the cemetery

Contract 2

Ground maintenance of the town

Contract 3

Cleansing for the town

Tenders must be submitted by 31st August

Contracts commence 1st November 2018

For tender documents please contact: The Town Clerk at New Clark House, West Street, Shipston on Stour CV36 4HD

Tel: 01608 662180 Email: clerk@shipstononline.org



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

USE YOUR VOTE
and help to shape the future of Shipston

Referendum

Thursday 6th September 2018

Polling Stations Open From 7am - 10pm

Shipston North Ward
The Scout Hut, New Street

Shipston South Ward
Sheldon Bosley Hub, Pittway Avenue

Copies of the Plan can be viewed on:

Shipston Town Council website: www.shipstontowncouncil.org
Neighbourhood Plan website: www.shipstonnp.org

Printed copies of the Plan are available to view at:

Shipston Town Council, New Clark House,
West Street and Shipston Library

Polling cards will be sent by Stratford District Council.
As with elections, you don't need to produce one if you wish to vote,
but you must be on the Electoral Roll.



STOUR SINGERS

delighted to present

DARREN JEFFERY

Internationally renowned bass baritone,
with Anthony Seddon, piano

A journey through
Opera, Song and Musical

Sunday, 30th September 2018 at 3pm
Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour

Tea, coffee and home-made cakes in the interval

Tickets £12.50 from choir members,
R. Clarke, 27 High St. Shipston-on-Stour or at the door
(accompanied children free)
www.stoursingers.org.uk



Shipston Primary School

Shipston Proms Concert

In June, Shipston Primary pupils were joined by children from Acorns Primary and Brailes C of E Primary for the 2018 Shipston Proms schools concert.



There was a huge variety of musicians who took to the stage to show off their talent. Children played recorder, flute, piano, violin, xylophone, guitar, keyboards and drums, plus there were individual and group singing performances.

Congratulations to all the children who took part and thanks to the peripatetic music teachers for co-ordinating performances. Thanks to Mrs. Roberts for co-ordinating the event.

Making memories

Reception classes went on their first school trip to All Things Wild in June. They enjoyed seeing lots of different types of animals - including some dinosaurs! Their behaviour was excellent.



Many thanks to the nine members of school staff who gave up their Friday evening and Saturday morning to give our Year 4 children a truly memorable experience of camping out on the school field, as part of the 'Misty Mountain Sierra' topic. Onside Coaching organised the activities, including team building games, fire lighting, whittling and toasting marshmallows.

Shipston High School By Gavin Saunders, Headteacher

Shipston High School has had a really active year, with students and staff involved in a host of activities.

In September 2017 we celebrated our first ever examination results for English and Maths under the new GCSE system. Students achieved fantastically in both subjects, securing grades and progress well above the national average.

November is an important time of reflection, and the whole school joined with the British Legion to commemorate Remembrance Day in the school and the community. Remembrance was also a focus for Year 9 students on our History department's trip to the battlefields of World War I, where students laid a wreath at the Menin Gate.

We are also very proud to receive the donation of a bench from the Shipston on Stour



branch of the Royal British Legion in memory of Mike Dobbin. Mr. Dobbin was a staunch member of the Legion and former governor of the school. I am grateful to the Legion for providing a way for all members of the school to remember him.

The most visual marker of progress at the school has been the construction of



Reconciliation

A celebration of reconciliation concert recently took place at St. Edmund's Church, involving children from Shipston Primary as part of a massed choir. The performance featured a specially-composed choral work, Cross of Nails by composer Andrew Atkins, as part of the Diocese of Coventry Centenary celebrations. Andrew held workshops to talk with pupils about reconciliation, and he gathered material from these workshops to create his innovative composition. The Revd Sarah Bourne gave an assembly in school to raise awareness of reconciliation within communities, and she talked about the history of Coventry Cathedral and its ministry of reconciliation, with its three-fold emphasis on healing the wounds of history, learning to live with difference and celebrate diversity, and building a culture of peace. The children spent time in school rehearsing the songs and joined in a massed choir rehearsal with children from Brailes School, Ilmington C of E Primary, plus local church and community choirs.



Revd Sarah Bourne said, "It was a truly memorable occasion, and so many people commented afterwards on their joy at seeing all those children who sang with enthusiasm and clearly knew the Coventry Cathedral story as a result of our workshops and assemblies." Andrew Atkins emailed to say "Your children were an absolute credit to you, not only with their singing but in their positive attitudes and fantastic behaviour - please can you pass on my congratulations to them all."

our new building as described on page 1 of the Forum.

Students continue in their unfailing commitment to the extracurricular opportunities in the school. There are too many activities to list, but students should be proud of their participation. We've had prize winning performances from many of our sports teams too.



The Shipston Proms concert at the school was, as always, well attended. It was our pleasure to welcome visitors from the Prom committee and wider community. Students of all ages played a variety of music in what was a thoroughly entertaining evening. The musicians are so young and so talented, that I am sure we will enjoy their music many times more in the future. I am also grateful to our music team for the work they do with other community performances across the year.

Shipston High School welcomed Ofsted in the spring term, who were again very impressed with the school. The inspectors verified the good progress made by our learners and recognised the excellent demeanour and attitude of our students, as well as the level of family and community support for the school.

We closed the year with our Shipston Award ceremony in July. Linked to the national Pixl Edge award, this programme enables students to demonstrate their independence, maturity and resilience across a range of criteria. I am grateful for the continued support of the Rotary club for our awards programme.

I am very proud of the work of the whole school community this year, and of the continued achievement of our young people; well done to everyone involved.

Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute

Members of the Shipston Women's Institute were enthralled when Eugene Schellenberg came to talk about The Ifakara Bakery Project in Tanzania.



Upon retirement from Kenwood where Eugene had been running the industrial baking equipment department, he and his wife Margaret had gone to Ifakara – a small town in Tanzania – to visit their son who was running the local hospital. Whilst there, they were invited for lunch by the Sisters of St. Francis and, as Eugene pointed out, there's no such thing as a free lunch! The Sisters knew about Eugene's previous career and wanted to use his skill and connections to help them open a bakery in the convent. The local population existed for most of the year on maize meal and although high quality flour and sugar were available in the markets to make bread, the nearest bakery was 8 hours away by dirt road.

Cutting a long story short, the project received the backing of the Bishop, funds were raised and eventually the equipment purchased and sent out in a well-sealed shipping container. The bakery has since contributed to the local community in ways that could never have been imagined by the Sisters. Bread is baked daily and sold as cheaply as possible, and provided free to those who cannot afford to buy. Each child receives a big piece of fresh bread at school and bread is provided to the hospitals as they cannot feed their patients. Malnutrition is now rare, the town has attracted new businesses creating more jobs and the school has increased in size to accommodate more pupils. Local charities including the Leprosy Centre and the Centre for Children with Learning Difficulties have also benefited. Even the container that transported all the equipment has been put to good use and transformed into a bread shop painted a very pretty shade of blue!

We all take fresh bread for granted but good bread can change lives. Shipston WI found Eugene's account of a simple request from The Sisters of St. Francis to 'make us a bakery' to the astounding success it is today, and the prosperity it has brought to Ifakara, quite humbling and enthralling.

Music Society

Shipston Music Society - Alexander Ardakov at the Shipston Proms

Alexander Ardakov is a virtuoso performer and we counted ourselves very lucky indeed that he had agreed to come to Shipston from London on a hot day in June to give what turned out to be a consummate piano recital for Shipston's Music Society. The Society was also delighted to welcome the Mayor of Shipston, Cllr Ian Cooper and Mayoress, Tina Cook, and Cllr Jo Barker and her husband Stuart as guests.

A change of venue for the Society for this one performance saw Alexander playing the grand piano in St Edmund's Church and a programme of music to remember. The programme began with four Scarlatti sonatas which he played with a brilliance and lightness that brought them to life followed by pieces from Rameau and Daquin, Tambourine and Le Coucou, each with their own unique melodies and style superbly illustrated on the piano.

The second half featured Mendelssohn's Rondo Capriccioso, followed by Schuman's Carnival opus 9 comprising 22 short pieces or variations based around four notes. The piano sang as the whole was performed with the fluency of a master of the keyboard. An evening full of melody was enjoyed by a good audience who applauded enthusiastically. Two well-known encore pieces – a Chopin waltz and Grieg's wedding day at Trolldhaugen, brought the evening to a brilliant close.

This was the last concert in the Music Society's season, and a new series of concerts and talks will begin in September 2018 - details will appear as usual in the Forum. Thank you to all those who have enjoyed our music this year and we look forward to seeing you again soon.



Norgren Bowls Club

The Bowls Club continues its busy season with the following fixtures for August:

1st August: Courier vs Wellesbourne - 2pm

2nd August: KDL vs Moreton - 6pm

4th August: KDL vs Kineton - 2.30pm

8th August: Courier vs Avenue Leamington - 2pm

15th August: Courier vs RLS - 2pm

21st August: vs Chipping Campden Ladies - 6pm

23rd August: KDL vs Southam - 6pm

Stour Valley Lions

Congratulations to Lion President Fran Stary



Our current Lions Zone D Chair, June Lloyd Adams, is thrilled to share the following announcement. 'Exciting news! Lion Fran Stary from Stour Valley Lions has stepped forward and offered to take on the Zone D Chair role. How wonderful to have a young, enthusiastic Lion to take on this role and see us move forward to a new District. My best wishes to you Fran!' All of the members of Stour Valley Lions would like to echo June's good wishes. Good luck with your new role Fran! Fran will also serve as President of the Stour Valley Lions for a 2nd year. Thank you Fran for all you contribute to the community.

The Gift that keeps on giving ~ Volunteering

We are always on the lookout for new members to join us. On the 11th June we hosted a very successful open evening to talk to potential new members about what we do in The Stour Valley Lions. We are thrilled to have been very well supported and we have a possible nine new members. That is nine extra pairs of hands to support and raise funds for our local good causes. Some folks may have a few spare hours a week which they might like to fill with good deeds, others may only be able to spare a few hours a month. To borrow a well coined phrase 'Every Little Helps' - all of the time given goes towards supporting organisations who richly deserve our help. If you would like to know more about how to become a Stour Valley Lion, then please contact Lion Paul Garfield on 07828 589564. We'd love to hear from you.

U3A AGM & 5th Birthday Party



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE

With the Pavillionaires playing and the tables laden with all kinds of savoury food, Marion Lowe, our Town Crier in splendid uniform, set off our 5th Birthday Party.

Retiring Chairman, Geoff Olssen, kept the business of the AGM brief and introduced John Lucken as our new Chairman for the coming year. With three

new members on the Committee this will produce fresh blood, new ideas and enthusiasm.

There was a happy, friendly atmosphere and an opportunity for everyone to meet and mix with members from other interests and groups, and maybe join a new group. The food was a magnificent feast and Maureen, a fairly new member, is obviously going to be a great asset to our U3A with her experience of efficient and inspired catering. Roger's wine table proved very popular, especially the rosé sparkling cider, and it was all FREE.

Although more than at a monthly meeting, there were fewer than half our members at the party. To those who didn't come, you missed a treat. Much food was left over and the remains of the iced Birthday Cake were taken up to the Ellen Badger Hospital for the patients.

These events for all members are always successful so make sure you don't miss the next one!

Letter from David Kennett

There was a most disturbing report of Shipston Town Council's June meeting in the Forum last month. The district and county councillor, Jo Barker, appears defeatist in her attitude and also seems to take the side of the bus companies rather than the needs of her constituents.

She should be seeking to have the bus services from Shipston-on-Stour enhanced with more buses to Banbury, Chipping Norton for Oxford (and Kingham for trains) and a half-hourly service to Stratford-upon-Avon.

It is not yet a crime not to drive a car.

Yours sincerely,

David H. Kennett

Shipston Fallen 7216 Serjeant SAMUEL BEGLEY

Born on 16th September 1891 Samuel was the eighth child of nine to Samuel and Emma Begley, of Mill Street, Shipston-on-Stour. Records show Samuel senior as a Mason and the family as living in Mill Street. On the 27th July 1894 Samuel was enrolled into the Infants School in Class 3. The School Log Book shows that on the 12th July 1897 he moved up to the Boys School. Four years later in the spring of 1901 the census recorded that the family had moved to Moreton Terrace in Shipston. The Boys School Log Book records Samuel as leaving School on the 1st July 1904 when he was two months from his thirteenth birthday.

Samuel enlisted and joined 2nd/7th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, who arrived in France on the 21st May 1916 and had already achieved the rank of Corporal.

On the 19th July 1916 the Battalion took part in the Battle of Fromelles. It was disastrous, instead of all going 'over the top' across a wide front, the two Divisions involved left their trenches by a relatively small number of exits. They provided an easy target for the German machine gunners. The Australian Division lost over 5,500 men and the South Midland Division, including Samuel's Battalion, fared less badly, but lost over 1,500 men.

On the 20th August 1918 the 2nd/7th Royal Warwickshire Regiment War diary reports:

Le Sart Sector 20th Aug Our patrols returned at 1.15am and reported the town of MERVILLE was not occupied by the enemy. W and Y Coys then crossed the river at 5am and established a line N/S. At 7am X and Z Coys went through the front line. Coys crossed the LYS canal and establish a line E of the canal. Enemy heavily shelled the area with HE and gas and inflicted several casualties. Casualties 13 O.R.s

Serjeant Samuel Begley was one of the 13 killed. There is a



slight confusion over the date as his gravestone shows the 19th, but an eyewitness reports the 20th. A month after he was killed the following piece appeared in the Evesham Journal:

Official intimation has been received from the War Office by Mrs S Begley, New-street, Shipston-on-Stour, that her husband Sergt Sam Begley was killed in France on August 20. Sergt Begley joined the forces in 1914 and went to France in July 1915. After nearly two years service in France he was wounded in the head in May 1917. On his recovery he went to France again on March 31, 1918. He had seen a lot of fighting. He was 26 years of age, and since joining the army he has married, and leaves a widow and one son. In a letter received by Mrs Begley from the officer in command of the platoon, sympathising with her in her bereavement he says – "It is my sad task to tell you of your husband's death. We moved forward at dawn to follow up the enemy, and at 7:30am were moving forward in extended order. At about 8am an enemy machine gun opened fire on us, and unfortunately your husband was hit in the forehead by one of the bullets. He was immediately tended to by my splendid stretcher-bearers, but without avail, as he died 15 minutes later. However, I can assure you that he felt absolutely no pain and probably never knew that he was hit. He died at about 8:15am on Tuesday August 20th and was taken to battalion headquarters. I believe he will be or has been properly buried in a cemetery. I cannot tell you where he fell, but I will keep the map reference, and will probably write to you again when I get to England. He was my constant companion on my night vigils in the line, and his conduct and help at all times left nothing to be desired; in addition he gained the respect and admiration of all officers and men in the whole company. The commanding officer has just been in and endorsed all of my statements. In conclusion, may I extend my heartfelt sympathy, and if I can give you any further information I shall be very pleased to do so. F J Wells 2nd Lieut"

Samuel Begley is buried in the Tannay British Cemetery, Thiennes, Nord, France and is remembered on both of the School Memorials and the Town Memorial.

District Council News

News from Stratford District Council Press Office

Shipston-on-Stour Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

Stratford-on-Avon District's ninth neighbourhood plan referendum will take place on Thursday 6 September 2018, when voters in Shipston-on-Stour parish will go to the polls to respond to the question: "Do you want Stratford-on-Avon District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Shipston-on-Stour to help decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

To vote in this referendum residents of the parish of Shipston-on-Stour must be registered to vote at local government elections and be 18 or over on the day of poll.

The polling stations, which will be open from 7am to 10pm, will be at The Sheldon Bosley Hub Limited, Pittway Avenue, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4DQ and The Scout Hall, New Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4EW.

The counting of the votes will be held immediately after the close of poll at The Sheldon Bosley Hub Limited

To check you are on the Electoral Register and eligible to vote or to register please contact the District Council's Electoral Services on 01789 260208 no later than Monday 20 August.

A number of documents (referred to as 'specified documents' in the Regulations) have been produced in order to help with the voting process. These specified documents can be viewed here <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/shipstonnp> or in hard copy at Shipston Library and Shipston Town Council's offices.

Help for those at risk of homelessness

Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Cabinet has agreed a new policy to support residents who may be at risk of homelessness and enable the Council to deliver its obligations under the new Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 and has allocated £50,000 for 2018/19.

The policy – known as Housing Early Lifeline Payment (HELP) – will provide financial support to help residents either stay in their current home or secure new accommodation.

Funding will be provided to those needing to move to affordable accommodation, adjusting to benefit changes or in rent arrears. The money would be provided for up to six months and recipients would also be supported by charities and other organisations to help them long term.



How can I count the ways in which I love being your County Councillor? No way is easier than by thanking so many people for



coming to my surgery every week, opening up about things and letting me help sort their problems. So much so this week that I got a parking ticket - the lesson in this is park in the right car park - but please note that I have paid the fine as it is a fair cop (and as advice to residents - you may well get a ticket if you park for too long in the Market Place)!

As I drove up the Darlingscote Road I noticed a distinct lack of potholes. I took a moment to think fondly of Highways for doing some patches on the road which should last a long time. There have been lots of repairs but if you have more please report them on the WCC website.

It's all roads this month..... I am asking for 20 dropped kerbs in Shipston so that its easier for those in buggies or pushchairs to get around safely. I am actually being lent a buggy to try for myself - photos to follow - so that I can understand how acute the problem is. Road signs are also progressing - let's just say that those which had been ordered were completely out of scale and I am assured would have caused a deluge of complaints. So back at the drawing board for some proper Shipston signs - giving directions to the wonderful town centre and our own special kind of heritage.

And finally, WCC is the fire authority for Shipston - so I think it is fair to put an advert in here for more people to come forward to serve as firefighters locally. The local station is really stretched and I am sure there are people out there who would love to serve the community in this way.

Please do get in touch - my Thursday surgery during the school holidays will be hit and miss - so please give me a ring on 07748968712.

County Councillor, Jo Barker

Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845

What else can you do online?

Most of us now shop online and use online banking. It is quick and convenient and can be done from the comfort of your own home, or from almost anywhere!

You can now get an online account with your GP. These have traditionally been used to book or cancel appointments online or to order medications, but you can also see other information online if you wish to. For example, a number of our patients have conditions where regular blood tests for monitoring purposes are required. Being able to see the results from the blood tests online makes it easier for these patients to manage their own conditions. Similarly, being on the border of a number of counties we sometimes find that patients seeing consultants in Oxford or Cheltenham Hospitals often

want to have their blood test results to take to the hospitals, who can't see the Warwickshire system, online services are a quick and easy way to facilitate this.

You can also view your full medical record online if you request it.

Of course because we deal with sensitive data, like banks, we need to make sure we are giving online access to the correct person and therefore need to check identity at the point you register for the service. Of course, if we know you very well then this may not be necessary. Please ask at reception for more details or see our website at <https://shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk/How-Do-I/Register-for-EMIS-Online>



Shipston Medical Centre

Your Town Councillors


Ian Cooper, Mayor
Finance Group Chair

t: 01608 663785

 e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org

Dan Scobie, Deputy Mayor

t: 07771 772511

 e: dan.scobie@shipstontowncouncil.org

Ronnie Murphy
Planning Group Chair

t: 01608 664518

 e: c/o clerk@shipstononline.org

Alison Henderson

t: 01608 661911

 e: ali.henderson@shipstontowncouncil.org

Brian Cooper

t: 01608 663237

 e: brian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org

Martin Ferrier

t: 07814 092134

 e: martin.ferrier@shipstontowncouncil.org

Brian Healey

t: 07773 337134

 e: brian.healey@shipstontowncouncil.org

Fay Ivens
General Purposes Group Chair

t: 01608 662133

 e: c/o clerk@shipstononline.org

Paul Rathkey

t: 01608 664141

 e: paul.rathkey@shipstontowncouncil.org

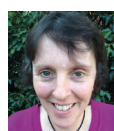
Sheelagh Saunders
Heritage & Leisure Projects Group Chair

t: 01608 662190/07800 889947

 e: sheelagh.saunders@shipstontowncouncil.org

Jackie Warner

t: 07717 391234

 e: jackie.warner@shipstontowncouncil.org

Marianne Westwood

t: 01608 662223

 e: marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org

Peter White
Communications Group Chair

t: 07792 507168

 e: peter.white@shipstontowncouncil.org

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
Townsend Hall	07514 704057
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
Local police (non emergency)	101
Shipston Police Safer Neighbourhood Team:	01789 444670
	shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01608 642256

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
County Council Contact:
Jo Barker

 t: 07748968712 e: jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk
District Council Contacts:
Jo Barker (Shipston South)

t: 07748968712

 e: jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk
Chris Saint (Shipston North)

t: 01608 664048

 e: chris.saint@stratford-dc.gov.uk


Something exciting to share?

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

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

Forum copy deadline:
First Wednesday of the month

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

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

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sponsored by SHIPSTON
FOOD
FESTIVAL

Sunday 19th August

2.30 pm

Townsend Hall

Prize raffle



Cream teas by Shipston Rotary



Show Schedules available from:
New Clark House, Shipston Post Office,
Creature Comforts and John Lyne's