



Shipston Forum

shipstontowncouncil.org



August 2022

Return of the Proms!

One of the best things about the Proms is getting everyone together again to enjoy live music. This year, on the back of the pandemic, it was a leap of faith and Shipston and the villages jumped with us. They attended events, bought raffle tickets in abundance, waited patiently while we got to grips with Sum-up and Zettle and even turned up to gigs modelling our new black T-shirts.



Weekend Warriors

Over the fortnight we put on 40 events which included national groups, local bands, DJ's, three children's events, two choirs, solo artists, bell ringers and a Taiko drummer! The Swan in Kington was a new venue for us this year. Unfortunately, here, there is not enough space to mention everyone, but thank you to all performers and venues (you know who you are) who contributed to a great Proms fortnight.

One memorable moment was when Uncle Funk invited the audience to sit down in a line and hit the floor for the Oops Upside

your Head song during Launch Night at Townsend Hall. The Glastonbury band gave us a real disco trip down memory lane!

On the wettest night of the Proms, when the heavens opened, international blues guitarist Oliver Darling turned out to play a brilliant set to the crowd in the back room of the White Bear, as part of the Pub trail. I hope his suede shoes recovered!

On the hottest day of the year [This was written before we hit 40c in July! - Editor], The Hub was an ideal spot to hold

a Kids Dance Party. DJ Tim Samsara entertained the children while they had a run and kick around outside as adults relaxed with a drink and ice-creams to keep cool. The adults having a chance to chill was one of the aims of the afternoon and it worked. In the evening the Hub hosted the Adult Dance Party and was a sell-out. Partygoers made the most of Ibiza rave beats played by DJs Tim, Symthy, and March Boyce until the early hours.



A new venture this year was 'Shipston Introducing' in the courtyard of El Café, replacing the Fame Contest, and this turned out to be a highlight of the festival. There were eight acts altogether and all the contestants were outstanding. Shipston's Helen Stanford performed on the keyboard and sang three beautiful songs she wrote herself, and 21-year-old James Pullen, a former Shipston High School pupil had a great reception to the self-authored songs he played on guitar. Perhaps apt for Father's Day when the contest was held; 'The Weekend Warriors', a father and son combo delivered an upbeat act that impressed the judges. The three youngsters, all from near Chipping Norton and under fourteen played keyboard, bass and drums accompanied by two of the dads.



Teresa Brooks and Taiko Drumming

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Mayor's column

Hello Shipston.

Another busy month with lots of interesting things going on in our community.

Firstly, our Shipston Proms. I was invited to attend a few concerts during the fortnight. I was able to attend the concert of a classical guitar duo Julian Vickers and Daniel Bovey hosted by the Music Society of Shipston in St Edmund's Church. I had never been to a concert of classical guitar music before, but I found it beautiful. The stories that the duo painted with the music were magical and it's opened up a whole genre of music for me to appreciate.

I also attended the last night in the High Street. Theresa Brookes, with the Taiko Japanese drums, was so powerful. I could see a lot of people were very impressed with her energy.

The Rick Parfitt Junior band were perfect for the end of the Proms. I knew every song they played and chair danced and sang along to all of them. It is so good to have live music back and I want to thank Charlotte Haines and the Proms committee for all their hard work.

Earlier in the month, I was invited to take part in a service of remembrance for the 40th anniversary of the Falklands war. It was a really moving service held at the Gyratory Gardens which culminated in the placement of a wreath in the garden. This wreath is going to be taken over to the Falkland Islands and placed in Port Stanley later this year. I have very keen memories of this war as a young adult and I was honoured to be able to take part in this service. I would like to thank Mike Wells and the Shipston Royal British Legion for inviting me to take part.

As I write this we are in the middle of a heatwave. I hope everyone is enjoying the hot weather, staying safe and drinking plenty of water.

Cllr. Marianne Westwood

My pronouns are she/her

Mayor, Shipston Town Council

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The other act that grabbed the judge's attention was Shipston-based Teresa Brooks with her strong confident Taiko drumming. Her interest in drumming originated from her love of sport and music and Japanese drumming combined the two. She played a modern piece that she had written herself, then performed a traditional Miyake Island drumming style with audience participation. For her final piece, Teresa moved to the 'Odaiko' a large Japanese barrel-shaped drum to give a very energetic loud last number. Wow!

The youngest entrant was 10-year-old Sam Connisbee, a protegee of local singer-songwriter Greg Brice (who has an album out this year), who played a note-perfect rendition of Link Wray's Rumble. It was great to see him again later in the week at the Open Mic Night at the Black Horse and it emphasised what a competent player he is.

On that night, there was an array of local talent on stage, expertly organised by Barney Porter. 19-year-old Toby King impressed the audience with his rendition of a Kaleo song and his sister Lizzie gave listeners in the pub garden a fine finale with her gutsy cover of 'Let's do it' by Victoria Wood. A visibly nervous Mike Powell left the audience staggering with his amazing Spanish guitar playing, an art which he picked up during lockdown

It was good to have the support of Townsend Hall, who organise their own varied programme of music throughout the year. During the Proms, they put on a very well-attended evening of lively jazz music with 'Baby' Jools and the Jazzaholics.

On stage for the Last Night of the Proms, the Shipston Introducing Acts produced two confident performances with Teresa Brookes and Taiko drumming on first and the Weekend Warriors performing some Stevie Wonder – they really helped to get the party started in the High Street. Dusk Til Dawn stomped their way through some heavy rock numbers while the Shapes delivered some alternative indie songs they had written themselves. Rick Parfitt Junior came on to tumultuous applause and he and his band bowled the audience over with their sheer professionalism as they delivered hit after hit. Rick commented that the Last Night for him had been 'joyous' after what had been a brutal tour. Obviously responding to the 'Shipston spirit' in the crowd he expressed his admiration that the town had come together to provide such a great show.

So, many thanks to everyone who attended our events and helped make this another memorable Proms. We will look now towards 2023 and if you have any feedback or suggestions for future years, please keep them coming via our Facebook Page, or email to shipstonProms@gmail.com.

Susan Perry

Shipston Time Bank

Shipston Time Bank is a hub within the Stratford District Timebanking network. Timebanking is a great way to meet people, get support and give help to others. Members offer their time doing what they like to do or what they are good at, and any time given can be banked and withdrawn to use the skills and services offered by other members. It's free to join and you can be involved as much or as little as you like: you stay in control.

Shipston Time Bank also aims to help people connect with others and to reduce social isolation. It has a social meeting in Shipston on the second Thursday of each month at the Scout Hut from 1.00 to 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy some coffee and cake and have a chat – and it's a great way to find out if someone needs your help or if someone can help you.

Sarah Coxall



News from Shipston Town Council's July meeting

Shipston Health and Wellbeing Partnership (SHWP)

Representatives from SHWP were invited to make a short presentation to the Council about the organisation, following the group being selected as the Mayor's charity for the year. With a mission to encourage people to pro-actively take care of their bodies to ensure a healthier and longer life, SHWP is delivering a range of free activities throughout 2022. After being alerted to local needs, the group is exploring offering mental health support to people who became parents during the pandemic.

Severn Trent Issues

Councillors Cox, Dinnie and Tesh recently attended a virtual meeting with Severn Trent Water to discuss the ongoing issues with flooding along Campden Road, and other sewerage challenges across the town. Councillor Barker is requesting a map from Warwickshire County Council that shows the full extent of the drainage and sewerage pipe network.

Churchyard Beehives

Councillor H Kelly reported that bees had successfully been introduced to the new hives in the churchyard and that the keepers were confident that they would flourish in this location.

Shipston Area Flood Action Group (SAFAG)

Representatives from SAFAG informed Councillors that due to a breakdown in their relationship with the Environment Agency (EA), the group had withdrawn from the delivery partnership which has helped facilitate their delivery of more than 900 natural flood prevention schemes in the local area. Consequently, no new schemes will be able to progress as the EA was the body dispensing the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds allocated by Stratford District Council (SDC) for flood prevention measures in Shipston. Councillors resolved to apply pressure on SDC to recover the CIL money from the EA so that it could

be reallocated to SAFAG through another mechanism. In the interim, SAFAG will continue to deliver previously approved projects and deliver upgrades and maintenance to schemes as this work is funded through other means.

Ellen Badger Hospital Works

South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust has informed the council that they hope to be able to discuss progress by August. A briefing session will then be organised for Councillors.

Shipston Action For the Environment (SAFE)

Members of the group gave a short presentation during the Open Forum session of the meeting, outlining how the group aims to provide support for projects focused on decarbonisation, active travel, biodiversity, and energy conservation.

Site Allocations Plan Preferred Options

Councillors were informed that Phil Sykes was preparing a draft response to the consultation currently being conducted by Stratford District Council. The revised list of reserve development sites does not include any locations with the parish.

Museum Building

Heads of terms for the museum lease were approved by Councillors and a solicitor will be appointed to act on the Council's behalf. Quotes are being sought for the repairs to the building structure.

Town Signage

Councillors approved a report and proposed designs for the new gateway and brown signs.

Deputy Clerk

Interviews with candidates have been conducted and an appointment is expected soon.



Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service wants to hear your views

Following the publication of Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service's Prevention, Protection and Response Strategy (2022-2027), members of the public are being asked to contribute to a consultation about the plans.

The strategy details how the service intends to make the county safer over the next five years and the consultation is open until 25 September 2022. The consultation document and questionnaire can be found at: <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk>

Applications open for the next generation of firefighters

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service are recruiting full-time firefighters who have a range of duties aimed at preventing incidents alongside responding to emergencies.

No previous experience is required and full on-the-job training will be provided. Applicants must be over 18 and possess a UK driving licence. People from all backgrounds are being asked to consider this role, to support the service's aim of creating a diverse, representative fire service that combines a range of perspectives and strengths.

"There are lots of reasons why I wanted to become a firefighter – it's an active job that keeps you on your toes, and I've never been able to see myself working in an office behind a desk for five days a week," said Morgan Amed, a 23-year-old firefighter who became operational one month ago at Nuneaton Fire Station. "Also, I'm born and raised in Warwickshire, so it feels good to be able to give back to the area where I've spent my whole life."

"My advice to anyone thinking about becoming a firefighter is to go for it and get stuck in! Find out as much information as you can about the job because it'll help you out a lot through the recruitment process. Warwickshire holds a lot of 'have a go' days and has lots of information online about the job, which is definitely worth looking at because it'll help you decide if it's the right job for you."

For further details and to apply, visit: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/wholtimefirefighters>

Regular Events

Monday

Seated Exercise Class:

10am Rainbow Fields and
11am Townsend Hall

Tuesday

Dementia Café:

Shipston Lodge, 10.30am-12pm

Lego Club:

Shipston Library, 3.30pm

Wednesday

Dementia Friendly Café:

10.30am-12.30pm, Shipston Lodge

New Age Kurling:

2pm, Townsend Hall

Thursday

Stour Singers:

Rehearsals, 7.30pm at
Shipston Primary School.
Sept 2022 through May 2023.
Contact Yvonne Ridley 01789 269587

Friday

Walks with a friendly group:

10am Mill car park.
Call Marleen 01608 663616

Pilates for Complete Beginners:

9.30am Townsend Hall

Saturday

Lego Club:

Shipston Library. 10am and 11am.

What's On Calendar - August 2022

- 2 Shipston Library Reading Group**
- 3 Shipston Widows:** Local lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
- 5 & 19 Shipston Stitchers:** The Church Room, Darlingscote Road. Contact Anita Spencer on 01993 832665
- 5 & 19 Shipston Probus Club:** Sports and Social Club at 10.00am
- 17 Shipston Widows:** Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am - 12pm, The White Bear. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230
- Singing Down Memory Lane:** 2pm-3.30pm, Rainbow Fields, The Driftway, Shipston
Refreshments provided. We may be able to help with transport. Contact Barbara Smith 01608 662433
- 19 Royal British Legion Social Evening - Shipston Branch:** Third Friday of each month We meet in the White Bear Inn from 7.30 pm onwards. Come and join us and share your stories with like-minded people. Contact Alex Black 07789 968733 or alblack32@hotmail.com
- 22 Holiday at Home –** see ad on page 16
- 25 Local Quaker Meeting for Worship:** St Edmund's Church, last Thursday in the month at 2.30pm, followed by tea/coffee, biscuits & chat
- 31 Shipston and District Literary Society:** 2021/2022 AGM & Lunch. Contact Helen Marshall 01789 740773

Warwickshire Young Poet Laureate Applications now open!

Find out more at
warwickshire.gov.uk/youngpoetlaureate
Closing date: Thursday 6th October 2022

POETRY ON LOAN 20 YEARS

Warwickshire County Council

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

Could you be Warwickshire Libraries' Young Poet Laureate 2022/23?

Warwickshire Libraries have begun the search for the county's eighth Young Poet Laureate. The competition is open to anyone aged between 13 and 17 who lives and is educated in Warwickshire and who would like to perform their own poetry to an audience. The Young Poet Laureate will take part in events and activities across the county and is offered the mentorship of a professional poet. Past Warwickshire Young Poet Laureates have performed on the radio, on film,

and at festivals and led their own poetry workshops.

Applications are open until 6pm on Thursday 6th October. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to take part in a Selection Day which includes a workshop with a professional poet, a short individual interview with our judges and a performance in front of an audience at a public event. This will take place at a Warwickshire Library on Saturday 5th November.

For further details and to apply please visit: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/youngpoetlaureate>

June in Shipston is a buzz!



Shipston is amazing all year round of course, but June is a buzz! From a hall perspective, we were so happy to welcome the Proms to the hall for a return of some fabulous events after too long – can you believe 2019 was the last time it could be put on?

We dipped our toes into the water with our own event under the Proms banner this year, with a welcome return of “Jools and the Jazzaholics”. It was so good to see this so well attended after too many missed out seeing them last time in December 2021 due to the pandemic – it was a fab evening!

Anything we make from the jazz events is targeted at a project we’ve had underway for a while now, to provide a stage lift, to make the stage accessible to all. This is an expensive bit of kit, but we’re getting there! We’re over halfway there now which, thanks to your support, is amazing!

Our jazz programme will re-commence in September after a summer break – if you’re not one of our many regulars already in the know, these are a musical treat – you get to see top-end musicians at a very reasonable price – typically only a tenner a ticket! Don’t consider yourself a jazz fan? Give it a go! If they don’t get your feet tapping and singing along, we’d be very surprised!

So, our September booking is with “Sarah Spencer and her Transatlantic Band” on Friday 30th September. More details next month, but get the date in your diary and tickets are available from www.ticketsource.com/townsend-hall online (you can bag your own table and seat) or general availability from Clarke’s in town nearer the time.

For those not in the know, the hall is not a council building (although the council is very good to us and we’re very grateful for the grants we receive). It’s a charity, managed by a few volunteer trustees. The hall is held in trust for our community, funded through donations, bookings, and the (hoped for!) profit from the events we put on ourselves.

So much going on, not just live music – plenty of other events, e.g. sports and clubs. Visit us at www.townsendhall.co.uk to find out more.

Could you support women and girls in Ethiopia with your knitting?

Patients at the Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia often experience extreme weather conditions from daytime heat to freezing nights. For several years, volunteers have helped supply knitted shawls to protect patients from these rapid temperature changes.

The shawls are a treasured possession for patients and they each take one home when discharged. With these living conditions in mind, we ask that you knit with quality over quantity in mind.

Ronnie Murphy is once again collecting knitted squares to send to Hamlin Fistula



UK where they will be stitched into finished shawls. For further information about how you can contribute please contact her on 01608 664518

Stour Singers: “Community music-making at its best”



Stratford Herald described the choir as “community music-making at its best”, and this May’s concert of music by Dvorak and Mozart once again proved this to be true. Having had to cancel several concerts over the past two years because of the pandemic, the choir was full of enthusiasm and enjoyment in being able to share a concert performance once more in St. Edmund’s Church, communicating the beauty of the music to an appreciative audience.

Singing is not for the rarefied few; rather it is something that many can enjoy, especially in Richard Emms’ friendly choir – Stour Singers. The choir’s history goes back 46 years to 1976 when Richard first got together an adult education group. Over the years, a full-strength choir has flourished, always under Richard’s inspirational leadership, presenting two major concerts per year. Some singers are experienced musicians, others are new to singing in a choir, and all work together to enjoy learning and sharing wonderful choral works. This autumn, the choir will be rehearsing Telemann’s Magnificat, and Haydn’s Nikolai Mass, to be performed in St. Edmund’s Church on 10th December. Rehearsals take place at Shipston Primary School on Thursday evenings, from 7.30pm to 9.30.p.m., starting on 8th September. Looking forward, the season will culminate in May 2023 with a concert performance of Handel’s Messiah.

One of the joys that members experience is when they sing with professional soloists and an orchestra at the final rehearsal before the concert. It is evident how much the professional musicians enjoy working with the choir, too, as soloists like to return for subsequent concerts.

Shipston provides a broad spectrum of music-making, with its renowned band, music society, choirs, jazz and folk groups, and more. If you are tempted to join Stour Singers, you will be welcomed with great pleasure, and there is plenty of support for those new to singing. If you would like to join, or simply to know more, contact Yvonne Ridley, the choir’s co-ordinator on 01789 269587.

Summer Reading Challenge 2022



Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

Free Children's Activities

Shipston Library

Summer 2022

Unless otherwise stated in **bold**, all activities are for ages 4-11, and there is no need to book

| | | | |
|-------------|---|------------|---|
| Mon 25 July | 10am—12pm Science themed crafts & stories | Mon 15 Aug | 10am—12pm Science themed crafts & stories |
| Thu 28 July | 2pm—4pm Science themed crafts & stories | Thu 18 Aug | 2pm—4pm Science themed crafts & stories |
| Mon 1 Aug | 10am—12pm Let's Make: Robot Racers & Lego Animation, ages (ages 4-14, please book) | Mon 22 Aug | 10am—12pm Science themed crafts & stories |
| Thu 4 Aug | 2pm—4pm Science themed crafts & stories | Thu 25 Aug | 2pm—4pm Science themed crafts & stories |
| Mon 8 Aug | 10am—12pm Let's Make: Robot Racers & Lego Animation, ages (ages 4-14, please book) | Mon 29 Aug | BANK HOLIDAY—LIBRARY CLOSED |
| Thu 11 Aug | 2pm—4pm Science themed crafts & stories | Thu 1 Sep | 2pm—4pm Science themed crafts & stories |

Summer Reading Challenge runs 16 July—3 Sept for children aged 4-11. Read 6 books over the summer, visit the library to get stickers and chat about your reading along the way, and get a medal and certificate at the end!

Plus our usual regular children's activities continue as follows:


Tuesdays: Rhyme Time 10.30am (**age 0-2, please book**),

Tuesdays: Lego Club 2-4pm (**age 4-11, drop in**)


Thursdays :Story Stomp 10am (**age 2-4, please book**)

Saturdays: Lego Club 10am—11.30am (**age 4-11, drop in**)

To book (where necessary), go to www.eventbrite.co.uk and search for Shipston Library, or speak to a member of staff. Let's Make bookings open 18 July.



SHIPSTON MEDICAL CENTRE



SHIPSTON MEDICAL CENTRE
PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

MEET THE PRACTICE TEAM


Patient Meeting 2022


Tuesday 27th Sept at 7.15pm
Shipston Primary School CV36 4BT



Including updates from the practice and an opportunity to ask your questions

Questions can also be submitted in advance via
Carole Nossiter - shipstonppg@gmail.com

Face masks are encouraged 



SENIOR CITIZENS
ACTION NETWORK

Shipston SCAN had not one, not two but three speakers at the July meeting. We heard from **Ian Cooper** about his **experience as Mayor** during 2021/22 and particularly enjoyed his story about being asked if he was King of Shipston by a young resident.

We had an informative talk from **Vina Fatania from Healthwatch Warwickshire** who explained the organisation captures the voice of people who use health & social care services. Healthwatch uses the information from patients and users of care services to influence leaders in the sector and make improvements.

Finally **Ashley Trinder, Independent Living Officer** from Stratford District Council explained how he can advise people with regard to equipment and technology to help people live independently and safely in their own home.

The next Shipston SCAN meeting will be on Tuesday 13th September in Townsend Hall. 10am for refreshments and 10.30am meeting start. The topic for the meeting is benefits and we hope to have a representative from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).

For further information contact Marie Darwen 01789 260 108.



Who can grow the
Tallest
Sunflower?

Judging
on August 13th

Shipston on Stour Rotary Club
To enter contact Fay Ivens
01608 662133



Singing
Down Memory Lane

Come along and join in with the singing for people with memory issues and their carers



CHANGING LIVES
—
CONNECTING
PEOPLE

2.00 - 3.30pm

Rainbow Fields, The Driftway,
Shipston on Stour CV36 4BU

Refreshments provided
(We may be able to help with transport, please ask)

Contact: Barbara Smith 01608 662433
Alternative Contact: Pat Hutton 01608 664648
Every 3rd Wednesday, starting 18 May

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Wednesday, 18 May | Wednesday, 15 June | Wednesday, 20 July |
| Wednesday, 17 August | Wednesday, 21 September | Wednesday, 19 October |
| Wednesday, 16 November | Wednesday, 21 December | Wednesday, 18 January |

SHIPSTON ON STOUR - A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

Shipston Town Band

Shipston Proms

Both the Town Band and our newly formed Junior Section took part in events at Shipston Proms.

The Town Band gave its traditional concert at the Townsend Hall on Saturday 18th June. The band presented an interesting and varied concert with music from films such as Raiders of The Lost Ark and Ben Hur and also included solo items. Principal Cornet John Smith performed 'A Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman, Solo Horn Liz Smith played 'Over the Rainbow' from

The Wizard of Oz and Euphonium Soloist Adrian White played 'Isn't It a Lovely Day' by Irving Berlin in an arrangement by our own Ken Smith. All these solos were accompanied by the band, but young percussionist Alec Banner played two Marimba solos; Pittfield Sonata introduction and Toccata. Alec will soon perform his final concert with the National Children's Band in Wells Cathedral and will then be joining the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain.

Our new young Junior Section conducted by Stephanie Wilson made their debut in the Proms as part of the Junior School Proms Concert and gave an enchanting performance. As well as two solos they performed 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' and 'China', complete with a loud final note on the Tam Tam, which was delivered with a big smile. The youngsters resplendent in their new bright blue bow ties thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Three of our youngsters also performed at the Barcheston Young Musicians Concert. Tallula Matthews played 'Song of The Night Sky', Rufus Gallagher played 'Machushla' and Alec Banner reprised his solos from the Town Band Concert

Midsummer Brass

Shipston Town Band joined many other bands to take part in the popular Pershore Midsummer Brass. They presented a varied programme of music including 'Parade



of The Charioteers' from Ben Hur, 'Anything Goes' from the eponymous musical, and a rarely heard march by William Rimmer titled 'The Avenger'.

They were pleased to welcome back Luke Barker from the Flowers band as guest Principal Cornet. Luke began his playing career as a 7-year-old with Shipston Junior Band before progressing through the bands to become the band's principal cornet before graduating to the principal Cornet Chair with National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain and his current position with Flowers. Luke delighted the audience with his performance of 'Don't Doubt Him Now' by Len Ballentine. It is always very special when players remember their roots and whilst we as a band are very proud of Luke's success, we are equally pleased that he maintains his links with our band.

Stratford-upon-Avon Bandstand

Stour Concert Brass was not put off by the hot conditions when they played their final bandstand concert of the Summer at the Recreation Ground. The audience was making the most of the shelter of the trees near the



River Avon and enjoyed the varied programme including the music of Glenn Miller, Bill Haley and the musicals of Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Brass Band England Courses

Alec Banner and Tallula Matthews both recently took part in a course at the Warwick Corps Of Drums in Warwick. The course director was the acclaimed trombonist Simon Hogg and the guest artist was our own famous alumni Luke Barker. Tallula and Alec took the opportunity to have their photograph taken with Luke. The music was challenging and included the traditional march 'Slaidburn Kalinka' and the finale from Paul Lovatt Coopers' Dark Side of The Moon.



Shipston Rotary



Tour d'Ilmington

The annual Rotary Tour d'Ilmington is now a fixture in Midlands cyclists' calendars. Ilmington is the focus of the 30-mile ride. Cyclists climb Ilmington Hill four times, each from a different direction.

The event is not a race, it allows cyclists of all abilities and families to enjoy a ride around the Cotswolds escarpment and the Vale of Evesham. The 10-mile route is aimed at families; the 30-mile (hilly) route is for the more competent cyclists, and the 100km Classic Route is for experienced cyclists. Some 150 riders also enjoyed "bummies and cakes" as part of their Club Sunday rides.

The weather, scattered cloud and a light breeze, was ideal. One Classic Route cyclist needed medical attention from the Cotswold First Aiders, but fortunately no serious harm was done.



The photo is of 11-year-old Thomas Gray, from Wellesbourne, with his grandmother Rotarian Patricia Gilliam. Thomas is the youngest cyclist to complete the 100km route in the event's history.

Feedback can be summed up as: 'excellent organisation and refreshments and lovely scenery'. The event raised about £5,500 for Rotary charities.

The Tour and the Shipston Victorian Evening are the two major fund-raising events that Shipston Rotary organise each year. The money raised supports local, national and international charities and good causes, including Shipston Home Nursing and the Rotary Ukraine relief fund.

Shipston Rotary want to thank: Pharmacy To My Door, Lower Quinton Garage, Hunts Engineering, SJ Sports, Cyclists Fighting Cancer, Seccombes Estate Agents, Pink Connect, Grenfell James Associates, Orbit Homes Midlands, Lister Toyota, BPS Shipston, Linfoot Homes

and Albert E. Sharp, without whom the 'Tour' would not be possible.

Dictionaries for Schools

274 Usborne Illustrated English Dictionaries were recently presented to every year 5 pupil at the 10 Primary Schools in the area covered by Shipston Rotary. Every Dictionary, with the pupil's name inside the front cover, was presented by a Rotarian at a school assembly, or similar. Teachers and pupils are always very appreciative.

Shipston Rotary has a new President

John Gimblett has taken over from David Gill as Shipston Rotary President. David had a highly successful year and John will bring a similar level of enthusiasm, experience and sense of fun to the task. Rotary can look forward to another successful year.

The Rotary 100 Club

The Rotary 100 club draw was made on 23rd June at the Birmingham Mercury Hotel by John Brown, Rotary District Finance Chair.

First Prize £ 61.25 winner no 38

Second Prize £ 36.75 winner no 13

Third Prize £ 24.50 winner no 56

Interested in Rotary? Contact Tony; email, tonyjoint73@hotmail.com

READER LETTERS

Letter from Nigel Willis

Recently I did the family 10-mile Tour d'Ilmington ride with a detour to the Lion in Tredington.

Stopped at the junction of Blackwell Road and A3400 and promptly fell over.

A van was coming from Shipston. It pulled over, and the driver got out and helped me up. No harm done.

It was a delivery van, I think, but not one I recognised. I thanked him of course but I just thought: what a 'good Samaritan'. If that was you, thank you.

Nigel

Email from Marion Jones

My husband sent some photos of Shipston to his niece Rebecca Coughlan, who is an artist in Manchester, and asked her to make us a piece of art to represent our town. The result is amazing we love it. Hope your readers might too!

Kind regards,

Marion Jones



Shipston Cycling Club

SHIPSTON
CYCLING



Grace Brown joined by SCC members in Chipping Norton town centre.

The roll-out of the final stage of The Women's Tour from Chipping Norton's picturesque town centre was a proud moment for the Chairman of Shipston Cycling Club (SCC).

Not only were two SCC members selected to lead the stage out onto the open roads of the Cotswolds, but Andy Smith's daughter-in-law, Grace Brown, was wearing the race leader's yellow jersey.

Andy said: "It was always going to be special to see Grace ride on the roads we regularly cover with the club, but to see her doing so in the yellow jersey made it an extra proud day – both for my family and the whole club".

Grace, riding for the French FDJ Nouvelle-Aquitaine Futuroscope team, finished the race second overall, following a nail-biting sprint finish to the sixth and final stage in Oxford. Posting on Instagram after the stage, Grace said "What a crazy and exciting race! A big thank you to everyone that came out to cheer me on the roads. I heard my name shouted so many times!"

Andy Smith added: "It was great to have Jan and Becky leading out the stage. We've seen more and more female members join the club over the past few years, and our women-only rides continue throughout the summer".



SCC members Jan Spalding and Becky Babbage ahead of the stage start in Chipping Norton.

Churchill's Secret Army by Tony Butler



Many Probus members have served in the forces, and some have memories of the second world war and its aftermath; although none of us was willing to admit involvement with the very secretive Special Operations Executive (SOE), we enjoyed some fascinating insights into their work told by Tony Butler.

When Churchill became PM in 1940 Britain was threatened by a German invasion. Desperate times meant desperate measures; Churchill realised there was a need for a secret army operating behind enemy lines and established the SOE. Nicknamed the 'Bureau of Ungentlemanly Conduct', the SOE went against the Geneva Convention; if caught members were to deny any connection.

Training was intense and very professional. Initial training included stalking stags, if they could get within a few yards of a stag and kill it, then the same could be done to Germans!

SOE operations were established throughout Europe, especially in France and the Low Countries. Despite initial opposition to membership by women, they played an important part as spies and activists. Nancy Wake, a nurse and journalist, lived in Austria and witnessed the Nazi treatment of Jews. Married to a French industrialist, Henri Fiocca, she helped allied airmen escape to Spain. Known as the 'White Mouse' she was forced to escape herself and after six attempts reached Britain via Portugal. The SOE recruited her and with six months of training sent her back to the Central Massif area of France where she organised the Resistance in preparation for the Allied Invasion. Local resistance groups were brought together, supplied via parachute drops, and wrought havoc destroying key factories and transport hubs. In response, the Germans surrounded the area with 22 000 troops and closed in. Nancy escaped disguised as an innocent peasant girl and cycled 300km to radio a report back to London. Her husband was executed by the Nazis, but Nancy survived to live an active post-war life with many medals.

Tony Brooks was one of the youngest to serve in the SOE. As a teenager, he helped British servicemen escape from France until forced to escape himself via a route established by Nancy Wake. In Britain he was trained by the SOE and parachuted back into France to liaise with resistance groups; famously he succeeded in blowing up railway lines, slowing the movement of a German Panzer Division on its way to confront the Allies in Normandy. Brooks was captured by the Germans with a large amount of money, but they accepted his story that he was to buy a bike and released him! At the end of the war, Brooks was awarded the DSO medal, Military Cross and Croix de Guerre for his service.

A total of 506 SOE agents were dropped into war zones and 133 failed to return. In 1944 the Germans shot 48 SOE agents. By D Day 4,700 well-armed resistant fighters operated behind German lines.

In 1940 the SOE had 120 people, today MI5/6, Government Communication Head Quarters (GCHQ) and the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) employ around 16,000.

Guests and new members to Shipston Probus are most welcome (including members of SOE whose secrets will of course be respected!). Please contact Tony Joint on 01608 663407 or email tonyjoint73@hotmail.com

L&Q

Dr Sue Pritchard Memorial Challenge Walking Quiz

Start at the Shipston Town council offices.

Please take care when crossing roads.

HINT: If there is an * look for a sheep plaque.



1. How long can you stay?
(check car park notice board)
2. I'm not new I am...
3. What is the pub called?
4. What did number 19 used to be?*

CARRY ON ALONG THE ROAD

5. Who used to come to this school?*
6. I'm not old I am...
7. How many gargoyles are on the Methodist church?
8. Which fruit used to be grown here?
9. How many horses are at the pub?
10. When was Edward here?
11. Who founded the cottage hospital?*
12. What colour is the bear?
13. Who used to live at the Bower house?*
14. What colour is the horse?

WALK ALONG THE ROAD BETWEEN THE BANK AND THE SHOPS TOWARDS SHEEP STREET. TURN LEFT

15. Number 1 Sheep Street, who used to live here?*
16. Number 5 Sheep Street used to be what?*

CROSS OVER TURN RIGHT AND HEAD DOWN SHEEP STREET

17. What's in my hand?
18. How many arches are there?

CROSS THE ZEBRA

19. What was the library in 1685?*
20. Where can we remember outside of the church?

Please take your answers to Shipston Leisure Centre to receive a free family swim session.

21. Through the Arch, what can you see?
Look above, when was I built?*
22. How many trees on Telegraph Street triangle?
23. How far to London?*
24. Thomas the tank engine might have visited this road

CONTINUE UP THE LAST ANSWERS ROAD

25. How much is the close?
26. Where is the Rainbow?
27. When was the Black Horse Inn built?*

CROSS AND CONTINUE UP TILEMANS LANE

28. Which 2 animals are on the school sign?
29. Which animal is at the children's Centre?

TURN LEFT ALONG THE PATH JUST AFTER THE CHILDREN'S CENTRE

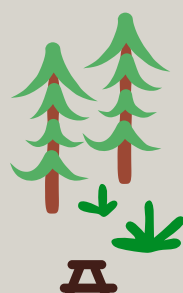
30. Which games can you not play?
31. How many large arch windows do I have?

FOLLOW THE PATH AND TURN LEFT AFTER THE GATE

32. Who can you call for bus info?
33. I'm tired, if I take a seat which city can I see?

CONTINUE ALONG THE ROAD

34. What was kept in the Shipston pound?
35. How many fingers on the signpost?
36. How far is it to Banbury?
37. The opposite of East
38. Which number can you visit the vet at?



Shipston Leisure Centre
Darlingscote Road,
Shipston On Stour CV36 4DY
01608 662354



Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



YEAR 6 ON SAFARI

On Thursday 16th June, we (Year 6) went on a trip to West Midlands Safari Park. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day out and had lots of smiles along the way.



When we arrived, we travelled around the safari area, which presented us with elephants, giraffes, lions, tigers and so much more. After eating our lunches, my group, led by Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Wyatt, journeyed to the "Rhino Rollercoaster", where we had an amazing time.

Next, we travelled over to "Monkey Mayhem" and spun, twisted and turned around the track. Afterwards, everyone whirled around in the dodgems, where the cars were shaped like leopards, tigers and snow tigers. Soon after, we flew through the air on the "Jungle Swings".

A few minutes later, we whizzed down the log flume, exhilarated. After, we boarded a raft on the "Wild River Rapids", which was my favourite ride. Following this, we went on a fun ride that spun you around while you sprayed water at targets. Bravely, we rode "Venom", the drop tower. Next, we entered the haunted house, where scary objects came at us from every angle. Soon, we galloped around on the carousel, which instead of having horses had zebras! Then, we rode "Kong", a ride that spun you around while rocking side to side. Afterwards, we rode the "Big Apple Coaster", sitting in a caterpillar shaped carriage.

To finish our day on the rides, we rode the "Black Fly", a spinning circle of seats attached to an arm that swung.

Finally, we entered the shops, buying food, drink, toys and souvenirs. In conclusion, we had a fabulous day out, that gave us memories that would last a lifetime.

By Isla (Flamingos)

SPORTS ARE BACK

It's great to have sports fixtures back on the school calendar as we emerge from the pandemic, having missed competitive



sport between schools for over two years.

June has been the month of four tournaments against six other local primary schools. Our Year 3/4 team won the six-a-side football tournament and the rounders team came joint second with Acorns.

Our Year 5/6 team came second in the six-a-side football tournament, having been unbeaten in the group stages. The Year 5/6 rounders team won their tournament.

It was great to welcome Kineton C of E Primary School to our inter-school tournaments. Kineton officially converted to an academy and joined The Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust on 1st July.

SUMMER FETE

Congratulations to Friends of Shipston Primary School chair Samantha Aubrey, the FOSP committee members, stallholders, staff and performers for a fantastic summer fete. Despite the dreadful weather, the event had a wonderful community spirit and it was a great feeling to be able to come together. £2000 was raised, the proceeds of which will provide new reading books. A big thank you to Toppers Disco for sponsoring the event.



SAFE AND ACTIVE TRAVEL AWARD

The Road Safety Education Team at Warwickshire County Council have met and examined all the fantastic work that schools have completed and shared over the academic year.

We are delighted to have achieved the Bronze Award.

Well done to Mrs Chadwick and our School Council for their work around safe travelling to school and their car idling campaign to improve the air quality around our school at the start and end of the day.



Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher

Shipston High School

I am pleased and excited to share some extremely positive news regarding Shipston High School. During meetings in July 2022, Warwickshire County Council agreed to fund a multi-million-pound investment into the development of the school site. The funding is exclusively for the development of the school-built environment, and we understand it will be in the region of £10 million.

This represents a huge vote of confidence in the school and the education we provide, and I am delighted that this will enable us to offer more school places in the future. You will be aware that Shipston High School is very popular and consistently over-subscribed, and this funding will allow more students to enter the school in future year 7 cohorts. Details and timescales are still to be confirmed, but please note that this will not affect the already agreed student numbers for the September 2022 intake.

We anticipate an imaginative building project that will see additional capacity in Sport, Science and Technology, with

further details pending. Importantly, as well as providing future school places, this work will improve the facilities and environment for our existing students. Following previous development in 2015 and 2018, we look forward to this next phase of our success story with the expansion and improvement of the environment at Shipston High School for the benefit of all students.

This type of investment is very unusual in schools, and we are fortunate to have secured this funding. We are extremely grateful to Warwickshire County Council, and their foresight and readiness to invest in Shipston High is due to the excellent reputation of the school and its students.

Shipston on Stour is an attractive community for residents, and the High School is both a beneficiary of and contributor to the popularity of the area. An expanded and improved High School will provide a modern and relevant facility for both our students and the wider community. These are exciting times for

Shipston High School, and we look forward to sharing more updates in the future as the project develops.

As students enjoy their summer break, it is rewarding to look back on a year that has seen an increasing return to collaborative and extracurricular activities. Students have once again been enjoying trips, including Year 7 at The Cotswold Wildlife Park and Year 10 on a geography residential to Borrowdale. These are valuable events in the school calendar, and the students benefit enormously. We look forward to more such activities alongside our thriving curriculum when we return in the autumn term.

Gavin Saunders,
Headteacher



Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

Statement from Shipston Medical Centre regarding development of new premises

The development of a new medical centre was identified as part of the wider development of an integrated care facility at Ellen Badger Hospital in 2018. The new Medical Centre cost was originally estimated at £4.5m. A steep increase in the cost of construction, materials and associated expenses of the build, caused by factors outside of the control of the practice, has resulted in these costs increasing by almost 50%, and they are continuing to rise.

This increase in costs means that the new medical centre project is no longer financially viable in its current design. This is extremely disappointing to the Partners of the Practice* who

have invested significant amounts of money in the pre-building stage. Our priority remains ensuring the patients of the practice and the people of Shipston and the surrounding areas have access to high quality primary care services and we are working with the Integrated Care Board and South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust to review all available options.

** Partners at Shipston Medical Centre are Drs. Paul Daniel, Tim Marshall, Richard Levison, Emily McHale and Rachel Vial, Business Manager*



Shipston Medical Centre

District Council update



Most residents evidently have a limited interest in local government politics. This is demonstrated in the relatively low level of turnout of voters at local elections. At the last election in May 2019 the turnout in Shipston North was 33.9% and in Shipston South it was 38.7%.

This contrasts with the turnout at the last General Election in December 2019 when 74.4% of the electorate in the Stratford upon Avon constituency went to the polling stations. Choosing your MP is seemingly more important to the majority of the electorate than choosing your District Councillor.

There is one service for which the District Council is responsible, however, that touches the entire electorate. It's a service provided to every household of the 60,000 or so households in the District. It is, of course, the collection and disposal of your refuse. The District Council has the responsibility for providing the refuse collection system; the County Council has the responsibility for its disposal. If the refuse collection system doesn't work for you, there is an issue.

The current system of your bins being collected on a two-week cycle has been in place for years. From 1 August the system is being changed. Why? In short, this is because circumstances have changed. After the normal competitive procurement process, a new contract for eight years has been awarded to Biffa. In recent years two significant changes have happened. First, the cost of providing waste collection and disposal services has increased significantly. There was a need to find the best value for money system. Collecting waste every three weeks will save collection vehicles travelling 102,796 miles per year – the equivalent of 4½ times around the earth! That's also a saving of c2,650 tonnes of CO2 per year. This is all reflected in the cost of providing the service.

Second, the District Council, in common with many other councils, has declared a climate emergency. UK households, for example, waste 6.5 million tonnes of food each year, 4.5 million of which is edible. That's enough to fill 38 million wheeled bins! As a District Council and as residents, we need to find ways to reduce the environmental impact of dealing with our domestic waste.

The new system will introduce a three-week collection cycle. Residents are asked to separate their food waste into their new food caddies rather than collecting it in their green bins. Food caddies will be collected every week and the food waste will go to an anaerobic digester, a renewable processor to produce biogas. Green and blue bins will be collected every second week so that their contents can either be composted or recycled. Grey bins containing those items that cannot be recycled will be collected every third week. They will go to landfill.

The new system has significant advantages for both Council Tax payers and the District Council, financial and environmental. The cost of the collection contract is lower than it would have been without making this change. Food waste will in future generate energy. The trucks collecting the food waste will generate less pollution.

Further details of the new system are set out on pages 10 and 11 of the Summer Issue of Stratford View, a copy of which has been distributed to every house in the District. With an exercise on this scale, there are bound to be some teething problems. If you do experience a problem, please contact me. I am always keen to hear from the people I represent.

Trevor Harvey, District Councillor, Shipston North

01608 682415 | trevor.harvey@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Jo Barker and Trevor Harvey take it in turns to write this column

County Council update



Summer is definitely here! It has caused me to reminisce about 1976 – we didn't have weather warnings – we just enjoyed it! Remember the ladybirds?

Not so much fun if you had standpipes – and the warning email I had from Severn Trent is worth taking seriously – slightly shorter showers, use a watering can not hose and maybe keep your car less sparkly. And then when the balmy weather breaks with thunderstorms we need to see if the work done by Severn Trent makes any difference to our sewage and flooding trouble. Severn Trent is putting cameras down every pipe they can find – looking for problems – but maybe just checking where the pipes actually are!

It's time to think about dropped kerbs again – I will be asking for Campden Road to have them so that coming in and out of town gets at least a bit easier! And shortly, the bad patch of Campden Road is going to be sorted too. (Why is it always holiday time?) If you have a suggested dropped kerb – then let me know and we can see if there's budget!

I want to make a plea to any of you who volunteered during the worst of the pandemic. Do you miss helping others out? Could you find some regular time again? Youth Club, Scouts, Guides, Brownies.... they all need helpers. I reminisced about 1976 – I was a Brownie then – but only because of volunteers – maybe if you reminisce, you'll remember those who helped mould you when you were younger?

Towards the end of the summer, there will be a new Prime Minister chosen by members of the Conservative Party. As I am a member, I get a vote. Please do let me know your opinions before then so I can ask your questions of the candidates as they spend the summer debating.

Jo Barker, she/her

County Councillor, Shipston

07748 968712 | jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

Could you serve on Shipston Town Council?

For any residents of Shipston interested in contributing to their community, there are currently three vacancies for Town Councillors. Two of the vacancies are open for the Council to appoint via co-option procedures and the third will also become subject to this process if insufficient electors request a by-election is held.

The Town Council is eager to find expressive and confident individuals who have an interest in the inner workings of Shipston's community governance and a desire to improve the local environment and services. The council consists of an elected body of Councillors, including a Mayor and Deputy who are assisted by a town clerk and assistant. Meetings are held on each second Monday of the month. Additionally, Councillors are encouraged to join working groups depending on preference and expertise!

Please contact any of the current Councillors (current list available on contacts page) if you wish to discuss the finer points of what it means to be a town Councillor and what the responsibilities entail.

Your Town Councillors


Marianne Westwood, Mayor

t: 01608 662223

e: marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org


Gerry Kelly, Deputy Mayor
Planning Committee Vice Chair

t: 07471 687720

e: gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org


Ian Cooper
Finance Working Group Chair

t: 01608 663785

e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org


Paul Tesh
Planning Committee Chair

t: 07711 433566

e: paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org


John Dinnie *Heritage, Amenities and Leisure Projects Working Group Chair*

t: 01608 664590

e: john.dinnie@shipstontowncouncil.org


Jo Barker

t: 07748 968712

e: jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk (for town and district matters)


Peter Cox
General Purposes Working Group Chair

t: 07973 442552

e: peter.cox@shipstontowncouncil.org


Tony Booth

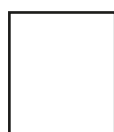
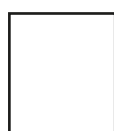
e: tony.booth@shipstontowncouncil.org


Shirley Madams
Youth Working Group Chair

e: shirley.madams@shipstontowncouncil.org


Hilary Kelly

e: hilary.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org


Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

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 Forum | 01295 788655 |
| Shipston Link (local transport) | 01386 593446 |
| 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 | 01295 257193 |

Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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

Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

County Council Contact:
Councillor Jo Barker

t: 07748 968712 e: jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

District Council Contacts:
Councillor Jo Barker (Shipston South)

t: 07748 968712

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

Councillor Trevor Harvey (Shipston North)

t: 07969 167720

e: trevor.harvey@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Chris Rowland on 07983 342567 or email: forum@shipstononline.org

To request posts on the council's Facebook and Twitter feeds, contact Peter Cox.

Forum copy deadline:
Second Monday of the month

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

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council.

While every effort is made to ensure information is accurate, the Town Council and its contractors do 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.

**Come and join us at
Holiday at Home as we go down to**



on

August 22nd

10am—3pm

Townsend Hall



**£8 to include lunch, refreshments,
crafts and entertainment**

Booking essential

**To reserve your place please
contact Rosemary 01608 662584**

