



# Shipston Forur

shipstontowncouncil.org

December 2018

#### Shipston turns out in record numbers to remember

St Edmund's Church was packed to the rafters for the Remembrance Day Service which also marked the 100 year anniversary of Armistice Day and the end of World War 1.

Veterans, servicemen and women, civic dignitaries, emergency services, youth groups and charities filled the town centre to take part in the Royal British Legion Parade, led by Shipston Town Band. Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mark Davies, joined members of the Shipston Branch of the Royal British Legion, the Mayor and local councillors in a proud march to the memorial where wreaths were laid on behalf of the town's many community organisations.

It was standing room only for the service, which was led jointly by Reverend Sarah Edmonds from St Edmund's, and Reverend Daniel Pulham from Shipston Baptist Church. St Edmund's

decorated with poppies designed by young people in the town, each commemorating one of the men from Shipston who fell in the First World War. Outside, the church was adorned with a spectacular display of knitted poppies prepared hν volunteer knitters the Centenary.



commemorate From left to right: Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mark Davies, Mayor, Ian Cooper, RBL Branch Chairman, Richard Adams, RBL Branch Secretary, Mike Ashley

The names of Shipston's Fallen were read out by prefects from Shipston High Royal British Legion Branch President, David Kernohan, then told the story of Samuel Begley, who died in 1918 and who is remembered on the town's

> memorial. His story is particularly poignant as the Legion's Standard Bearer on the day was Connor Begley -Samuel's Great, Great, Great Grandson.

RBL Branch Chairman, Richard Adams, said: "We were delighted to see such a strong turnout in this particularly important year of Remembrance. Thank you to everyone who took part in the Parade, as well as those behind the scenes who helped make it happen."

Mayor, Ian Cooper, said: "On behalf of the Town Council. I would like to congratulate the Royal British Legion on such a successful event and thank the Town Band for leading the Parade in such spectacular fashion - we all felt proud to be a part of it."

Reflecting on the involvement of the different groups in the Parade, Councillor Ali Henderson said: "From the youngest Brownie to the eldest veteran, it was quite something to see such a widespread commitment to public service from the residents of our town."



#### Youth Ambassador appointed for Shipston

High School Head Girl, Abigail Slatter, has been appointed the first Youth Ambassador for Shipston. The appointment is part of the Mayor's desire to improve connections with young people in the town and ensure their voice is heard.

Abigail will chair a Youth Working Group which will bring together young people from the schools as well as from other clubs and societies. The Youth Working Group will meet to discuss ideas and suggestions to support young

people in the town. The group will also act as a sounding board for the Town Council when looking to provide activities and facilities for younger people.

The Town Council is keen to ensure a wide range of groups are represented on the Youth Working Group - please contact the Town Clerk on clerk@shipstononline.org to find out more.

Pictured right: Youth Ambassador, Abigail Slatter with Mayor, Ian Cooper



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## Mayor's column

I am delighted that Abigail Slatter has agreed to be the town's youth ambassador. Abigail will be working with me to promote the youth of Shipston and give a voice to our younger generation. I am also delighted with the overwhelming endorsement from the Town Council for the forming of a Youth Working Group. I wish Abigail every success with this role, which she will hold for the duration of my mayoral term.

I would like to thank the sports club and all the other volunteers involved in putting on a spectacular bonfire night firework display. I would also like to thank the fire service who attended to make sure everything went smoothly. I was reminded that it was 11 years ago that we lost some of our firefighters in that tragic fire in Atherstone.

A big thanks to the Alcester fire fighters for putting up the stunning poppy display, and of course the knitters who spent months knitting poppies. What a fabulous feature they provided a stunning tribute to the memory of all those who made immeasurable sacrifice and the appreciation that this community has for them. The remembrance parade was the biggest and best attended that I can recall. Our thanks to the Royal British Legion for organising the event and for all those who helped.

We have the Victorian evening coming up. I won't be here to turn the lights on as I'm away getting married, but will leave the switch-on in the capable hands of Deputy Mayor, Dan Scobie, and Abigail. Thanks to Rotary for their efforts in putting this on and all the support they provide to the Town.

As this will be the last Forum before Christmas, I wish you all a very merry festive season.

#### Ian Cooper

#### "We're watching you" council tells dog owners

CCTV cameras in the town are now being used to catch dog owners who don't pick up mess left by their pets. In addition to general crime detection, Shipston Town Council has asked the CCTV monitoring team to provide evidence to enable action to be taken against those who don't clear up after their dogs.

Mayor, Ian Cooper, explained the decision: "We have reluctantly taken this step following repeated complaints about dog mess. The town council's contractors are now having to clear dog mess from the town centre on a regular basis, at a cost to our residents. While the majority of dog owners in the town



Image courtesy of Keep Britain Tidy "We're watching you' campaign

are responsible, we need to gather evidence to take action against those who refuse to scoop the poop, despite our efforts to raise awareness of both the unpleasantness and risk to health of dog mess being left on pavements."

Failing to pick up after your pooch can mean a fixed penalty notice of £75 and could result in prosecution.

#### Council supports planning application for new church

Shipston Town Council has voted to support an outline planning application put forward by Stour Valley Baptist Church (SVBC) for land on the corner of Tilemans Lane and Beecham Road.

The plans include provision for a new church and associated meeting rooms. The building would be single storey, with additional space provided by digging out a basement level. The intention is to make the building available for community use as well as for church services and includes

parking for 70 cars.

The church has had a provisional conversation with the primary school to explore interest in using the new facilities should the project go ahead.



Negotiations to purchase the site can only begin if outline planning approval is granted.

#### Riverside project starts taking shape

The town council's Heritage and Leisure Projects Working Group is making good progress with plans to improve the area around Shipston Bridge.

The council is in the process of agreeing to lease the green space from the district council. Once approved, new picnic benches will be installed, and there are plans to add in interactive heritage information points.

Subject to securing support and funding, the group is hoping to install viewing platforms in the future to make the most of the visual impact of the river.

Cooper, Town Mayor, said: "These are really exciting proposals but we must stress they are at an early stage. Our initial priority is to take responsibility for the land and install picnic benches residents and visitors can start to enjoy the river more. More details about future plans will be dependent on grant funding."



Town Council News Page 3

#### **News from Shipston Town Council's November meeting**

#### Hot topics:

Remarkable Remembrance: Councillors congratulated the Royal British Legion, Shipston Town Band and St Edmund's Church and the church bell ringers on an impressive Remembrance Parade and Service. Dan Scobie mentioned he would like to see the Parade go on for longer in future and will discuss the possibility of extending the route with the RBL branch chairman.

**Poppy perfection:** Councillors also congratulated those involved in the cascade of knitted poppies on the side of the church which has attracted lots of positive interest, alongside the poppy display on the gyratory.

**Green space:** A constructive meeting was held with residents from Oldbutt Rd to discuss the green space bordering the Crest Nicholson site. No major issues were raised and some useful suggestions were put forward to the developer regarding plans for the other side of the boundary hedge.

**Campden Road dip:** Brian Healey highlighted complaints that have been received about a dip in the road outside the Cala Homes site on Campden Road. Warwickshire Highways is taking this up with the developer. Concerns have also been raised about the dip at the bottom of Darlingscote Road which collects water.

**Improving access:** Fay Ivens asked the county council to look into providing a tactile surface at the exit of Ram Alley which runs from Sheep Street to Telegraph Street. The alley is frequently used by a blind lady who would find the marker very helpful.

**Knitting for charity:** Ronnie Murphy announced that she has arranged for the collection of more blankets, knitted locally to support Hamlin Fistula UK which provides blankets for women at the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in Ethiopia. Keep up the good work!

**Fabulous fireworks:** Ian Cooper thanked the sports club for putting on a spectacular fireworks night. The Mayor was delighted to light the bonfire – a new experience for him!

**Flood action report:** Phil Wragg from SAFAG gave an end of year report to council and thanked the town council for its continued support. Details of the work achieved to date will be highlighted in the January issue of the Forum.

#### Campaigning for Shipston:

**Portabello crossroads:** County Councillor Jo Barker explained that the lighting design for the proposed traffic lights has only just arrived and the council can't make any progress on finding a contractor for the work until spring 2019. Highways are going to consider netting the hedges to prevent issues with birds. Shipston Town Councillors expressed frustration at the continued delays and will seek a meeting with Highways to understand and resolve the issues. If possible, this will be held as a public meeting.

**Changing use:** Councillors will not be objecting to the proposed change of use for 46 Church street given efforts to source another retail tenant have not proved successful.

**Extending hours:** Councillors voted to support an application from Thirst Edition for extended opening hours. Councillors felt the business has worked hard to communicate and work with local residents and were encouraged to see another successful business in the town.



Councillors also voted to support the outline planning application for a new Baptist Church (see article on page 2).

**Funding for heritage:** Councillors agreed initial funding to enable a lease to be drawn up re the land beside the river. The council will aim to secure a 100 year lease and will be responsible for maintaining the site. Additional funds have been allocated for an initial landscaping design as part of the Riverside Amenity project (see page 2 for more details).

**Strengthening planning:** Shipston Town Council agreed to proceed with planning training and consultancy support from Avon Planning. This approach works well for other towns in the district and the consultant has already provided useful input ahead of the South Lynn House appeal in December.

#### Town Council business:

**Dog bin replacement:** Stratford District Council has kindly provided five new dog bins to replace those in need of repair.

# HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BEING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

- . Don't know what it entails?
- Feel like you might not be qualified?
- Not sure if you can spare the time?

#### **Come along and find out**

If you are eligible to stand as a Councillor • Learn about the code of conduct and the training available • Find out what your Council can do for your communities and how you can influence that • Find out about a councillors role in looking after public money and spending it wisely • Identify the council's responsibilities as the employer of a clerk • Get first hand knowledge of why people become councillors and what fulfilment they get.

WALC.ORG.UK/BE-A-COUNCILLOR

#### FREE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

WHEN Monday 11 February 2019 6.30 pm—8.30 pm

WHERE Stratford District Council Chambers Elizabeth House, Church St, CV37 6HX

#### **SPEAKERS**

- The County Officer of the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils (WALC)
- Experienced local clerks Local Parish Councillors
- The Chair of WALC



#### Stour Valley Lions present a big cheque event!

The culmination of a year of fundraising and community support was celebrated on Monday 12th November at the Stour Valley Lions Presentation Evening at the Townsend Hall.

The evening was to offer thanks to those who tirelessly support the Lions as well as to present the cheques to the local good causes the Lions have committed to supporting this year.

A total sum of £2,615.25 was presented during the evening.

Special recognition of support to the Lions went to Jane Spencer, Diane McCarthy, Keith McCarthy, Tessa Hince and Hayley Ash.



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Stour Valley Lion's President, Fran Stary, giving a cheque of £200 to Dave Hollingworth from Down Memory Lane.

#### **VASA** needs more drivers like Graham

VASA provides transport to help those locally who need help to get to medical appointments or attend groups to help alleviate loneliness and isolation.

The charity desperately needs more volunteer drivers to keep up with demand. The letter below shows how much the service is appreciated.

"Ref my trip to and from The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. This note is to thank you for your very good service. Graham phoned prior to the outward journey and assured me he would be on time and he was. We arrived comfortably and with time to spare. Graham's driving standards are high indeed, he is rock steady and shows consideration to all others on and off the roads. The return journey was conducted to the same high standards.

I am pleased to say that I would not hesitate to recommend Graham's services for a senior post such as for Chauffeur to Diplomats, or Royalty."

If you're willing to give up an hour or two to provide transport, please contact VASA on 01789 262889.



#### **Creating an impact for Armistice Day**

Shipston Scouts were delighted to help out with the creation of the cascade of knitted poppies. The scouts worked with Julie Pardoe's team of knitters to attach the poppies to the net which was expertly installed by firefighters from Alcester.

#### A fitting memorial for Walter

A new bench has been installed at the top of Telegraph Street in memory of Walter Emms.

The bench sits behind the trough, sheltered by a tree - one of the locations where Walter used to stop and rest.

The bench was funded by a generous donation from a local resident and Walter's family. The bench was installed by Lawns2Mow and is now there for everyone to enjoy.



Photo caption: Walter's siblings, Jackie and Richard, at the memorial bench on Telegraph Street.





#### Final preparations under way for the Victorian Evening

On Friday 7th December, the town centre will be transformed into a festive market for the annual Rotary Victorian Evening.

The event will begin at 5:30 with carols from Shipston Primary schoolchildren and music from Shipston Town Band. At approximately 6pm, the event will officially open, marked by the switching on of the town's Christmas lights and Tree of Life.



Photo by Charlotte Wright

The bulbs on the Rotary Tree of Life are sponsored in memory of lost loved ones. Funds raised go to support a children's charity each year, reflecting new beginnings. This year, Shipston Rotary is supporting The Time Out Group South Warwickshire. This charity supports young people with complex disabilities, challenging behaviour and communication needs. They organise age-appropriate activities for four to eighteen year olds fortnightly. Many of the children who join stay with the charity for years, growing a strong social bond with their peers and staff alike. There is still time to sponsor a bulb – you can even do so at the Victorian Evening. Just visit the Rotary stand to fill in a form. The names of those remembered on the Tree of Life will be included in the Book of Remembrance.

As well as the usual Victorian Evening entertainment, a children's carousel will delight the town's youngest residents, while the mulled wine, mince pies and hog roast will no doubt appeal to the adults. Father Christmas is due to pop in so don't miss your chance to let him know what's on your Christmas wish list.

# Calling all community groups — publicity space is available

Space is available for community groups to publicise their activities and events in Shipston Post Office.

The Post Office is keen to see the space put to good use and while they can't offer the use of facilities in the building, space is available for banners, literature and other displays. Recent beneficiaries of the space include Shipston Home Nursing and the Poppy Appeal.

The plan is to rotate the space among different groups and the Post Office will keep a diary of who is coming when. Pop into the shop to find out more.





### NATIVITY

A play for all the family about the first Christmas

#### Friday December 14th 2018

Our Lady & St Michael Church Darlingscot Rd, Shipston 6.30pm

#### FREE ADMISSION

Places are limited (1stcome 1stserve basis) or Contact 07952820456 to reserve



#### What's On

#### **MONDAY**

Citizens Advice:

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'.

**Shipston Badminton Club:** 

Townsend Hall, 7:30pm

#### **TUESDAY**

Yoga for all abilities:

9.30am-11am Catholic Church Hall. Contact Lee Figures 665995 / 07526 575969

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. Free. Booking essential. 0300 5558171

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

**Shipston on Stour** 

Rotarians: The White Bear, 7.30pm. Adrian Ramskill 07976 566525

Cantamus: 7.30-9.30pm, Catholic Parish Hall. Richard Emms 662163.

#### **WEDNESDAY**

Coffee at St Edmunds Church: 10:30am - 12pm.

**U3A Chicago Bridge:** 

Social Bridge 2pm-4.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Roger Smith on 238400.

**Stour Valley Probus:** 

alternate Wednesdays at 10am, The George in Brailes. Roger Smith on 01608 238400. Hall. (five tables) See

#### **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, Contact Kath Cheshire on 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.

U3A Table Tennis. Thursdays 2pm - 3pm at the Townsend

Shipston U3A website or contact Dave 07973 256198

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

Yoga for all abilities:

5.45-7pm. Catholic Church Hall. Contact Lee Figures 665995 / 07526 575969

#### **FRIDAY**

Walks with a friendly group. Old Mill car park at 10am. Contact: Marlene, 663616 Shipston Probus: alternate

Fridays. Shipston Sports Club,

15

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 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 664646

#### **December Diary**

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1-2 Armscote Christmas Tree Festival: St David's Church, Armscote. 10.30am-5pm (Sat) 10.30am-4pm (Sun). Tea/coffee, soup, mince pies, produce stall. Free admission. Concludes with Candlelit Christingle Service 4pm.

**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

Ekica (formerly New Hope) Fundraising A professional reading of Dickens' A Christmas Carol by local thespian Peter Le Breuilly. 7pm Parish Centre, Catholic Church on Darlingscote Road. £7.50 including glass of wine and mince pie. For tickets call Sue or Tadge on 01608 662065. All welcome.

One Night of Bublé at the Townsend Hall: Concert featuring all your favourite Bublé songs. 8pm. Tickets £15 available from www. onenightofbuble.co.uk

- Christmas Handmade Market: 12-3pm Townsend Hall. Everyone Welcome. **Shipston Town Band Christmas Concert:** see ad on page 9
- Holiday at Home: see ad on page 7
- 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

Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute Home 14 Grown entertainment and Festive Food. 7pm,

Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519

Chronic Pain Support Group 7:30 pm, Rainbow Fields. Contact Marianne Westwood 01608 662223

- Shipston Cancer Support Group Shipston Cancer Support Group Drop-In Centre: 15:00 to 18:00, Rainbow Fields. Drop in any time during the afternoon/evening
- Victorian Evening: 6pm-8pm. See ad on back page
- Tennis Club Christmas Bingo: see ad on page 7
- 10 Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group: Christmas Lunch. Contact: Shirley Pilkington

**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

- **Shipston and District Gardening Club:** 12 Christmas Party, Members only. Further details from the secretary Tony Mitchell, tel. 01608
- **Shipston and District Literary Society:** Christmas Lunch: Contact Helen Marshall, 01789 740773
- 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

Nativity: A play for all the family about the first Christmas. 6.30pm, Our Lady & St Michael Church, Darlingscote Road. See ad on page 5 Norgren Bowls Club Bingo: see ad on page

Stour Singers: Haydn's Creation: see ad on

- 19 Shipston Widows: Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am - 12pm, Coach & Horses. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230
- 21 **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 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

**Shipston Home Nursing Christmas Concert:** see ad on page 5.

Community Christmas Lunch: Book by 9 25 December. See ad on page 9

664743

For Christmas church services, see page 13





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#### STOUR SINGERS

conducted by Richard Emms present

# Haydn's Creation

with

Raphaela Papadakis\* soprano
Richard Dowling tenor
Alan Fairs\*\* bass-baritone
and the

Queen's Park Sinfonia

Saturday, 15th December 2018 at 7.30pm St. Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour

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

\*kindly supported by Making Music's Philip & Dorothy Green Award for Young Concert Artists scheme

Concert Artists scheme
\*\*by arrangement with Davies Music



www.stoursingers.org.uk



#### Shipston Town Band - a real asset to the town

Shipston Town Band has been a feature of the town since May 1912 - and one which the town is rightly proud of. The band leads the Remembrance Parade every year, and accompanies the hymns during the service, adding to the ceremony of the occasion.

Music for the 2018 Remembrance included a performance of Elgar's Nimrod, played during the collection and the 1914 March comprising a medley of songs from the Great War. After the parade marshal had dismissed the parade the band played an arrangement of The Army, The Navy and The Air Force by Charlie Cox in tribute to the three services. Principal Cornet Grace Coates played the Last Post and Reveille during the service.





This year marks the last Remembrance Service to be arranged conducted by and Charlie Cox (pictured left). Charlie been а conductor and player with the band since 1983. On sharing the news of Charlie's retirement, the congregation burst spontaneous applause his contribution will be greatly missed.

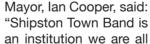
The Parade was the second part of a busy weekend for the Town Band. Conducted by Howard Gibbs, the band gave a concert at the Townsend Hall in aid of the Royal

British Legion and the Poppy Appeal. The hall was packed for a concert of music designed to reflect the Centenary of the signing of the Armistice and was hailed as "first rate" by Shipston Town Council. Opening with the march The Vanished Army dedicated to the British Expeditionary force contemporary music from the period was interspersed with readings by Anne Hume. Other performances included Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines and solos from Solo Euphonium Jamie Raffel and Principal Cornet Luke Barker. A succession of Prom Melodies saw the concert close with the Royal British Legion March.

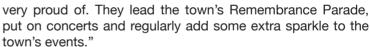
This time of year is particularly busy for Shipston Town Band. The band's annual Christmas concert will be held on 2nd December at the Townsend Hall. The band will also be playing at the Victorian Evening on the 7th, the Town Carol Service

at St Edmund's Church on the 16th and in the High Street on 24th as well as at other events in surrounding villages.

There's not much time for rest on Christmas Day - band members will be picking up their instruments once again to play at Low Furlong, Rainbow Fields, Ellen Badger Hospital and the Community Christmas Lunch at the Townsend Hall



continues to thrive.



The town band's concert and other performances are free but donations would be most welcome to help ensure the band





What's On Page 9

## **Luke Barker 'graduates' from Shipston Town Band**

As well as delighting residents and visitors with their performances, Shipston Town Band provides free tuition and lends musical instruments to those wishing to join the band.

Shipston Town Band (STB) has supported many youngsters as they have learned to play instruments, including Luke Barker. After many successful years with the town band, Luke is now moving on to join the Jaguar Landrover Band.

Luke joined the town band's beginners group at the age of seven, starting what was to become a nine year association with the band. He made rapid progress and moved into the Junior Band, before joining Stour Concert Brass, STB's Community Band, at just nine years old. By that point, he was already a regular competitor, winning prizes in both solo and duet sections.

At the age of ten, Luke was appointed Principal Cornet of Stour Concert Brass - a position he still holds. Luke moved into the Town Band on solo cornet and soon became the band's Principal Cornet a position he held until his final performance at the British Legion Concert on November 10th.

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Luke has auditioned and won places in the National Children's Band of Great Britain and the National Youth Brass Band Of Great Britain.

The invitation to join the respected Jaguar Landrover Band is testament to Luke's achievements a musician and to Shipston Town Band's nurturing approach to encouraging young people who join the band. He will be sorely missed - although we can expect to see him return to play in Shipston at the annual concert with the Jaguar Landrover Band!



Shipston Town Band is always keen to welcome new members for its three bands. Shipston Town Band is STB's contest band, Stour Concert Brass is the non-contesting concert band and Shipston Training Band is for players of all ages just starting out. To find out more about what's involved, contact band secretary, David Birch on birch139@hotmail.com





#### **Shipston Primary School**

Marathon Kids: Shipston Primary School, along with partner schools in Brailes and Long Compton have launched 'Marathon Kids', challenging every child in school to run or walk the equivalent of a marathon over the duration of the school year during playtimes and lunchtimes. Our youngest children in Reception were the first year group to take part and some children managed 8 laps of the school field and playground in 20 minutes - that's over 1.5 miles!

The Year 5 Marathon Kids Ambassadors have been brilliant in supporting all year groups by encouraging, guiding and rewarding them.

A marathon is 26.2 miles. We already have some children who have completed 10km (6.2 miles), so they could complete a double marathon by the end of the school year!

Sports round-up: Our first cluster sports tournament of the academic year was the Year 5/6 mixed football competition, held on our school field. Well done to our team, who finished in third place overall. Thanks to Miss Mann for managing the team.

On a windswept Friday evening at Central Ajax in Warwick, our Year 6

boys team played in a regional competition. After a 0-0 draw in their first game, Shipston Primary went on to beat Warwick Prep, Claverdon and Tanworth-in-Arden to qualify for the knockout stages. They drew 1-1 with Thomas Jolyffe in the semi-final, but unfortunately lost on penalties. Mr. Cox's player of the tournament was Fred King.

Four Year 4 children represented Shipston Primary in the cluster golf tournament at Feldon Valley Golf Club. It was a great experience for all the schools to play at a proper golf club, including access to the driving range and putting greens. Our team finished fourth. A Year 5/6 tournament will be taking place in the summer term, along with an after school golf club.

hipston On Stour Primary School

Want to train to be a teacher? Shipston-on-Stour Primary School is committed to supporting the training of new teachers coming in to the profession. We provide placements and training opportunities for those training to teach through the School Direct teacher training programme and have a long track record of success.

School Direct is a school based teacher training programme that offers you a great opportunity to train, qualify and gain employment as a teacher. You could even earn a salary while you train. We also offer short-term experience placements for those considering a career in teaching. We are recruiting now so to find out more please call in to speak to Mr. Roberts or Mr. Hilton, or visit the Gateway Alliance School Direct Partnership website: www.gatewayalliance.co.uk/school-direct.

Anti-bullying week: On Tuesday, School Council presented an engaging and informative assembly, to highlight Anti-Bullying

Week. They spoke about the important reasons why we should choose respect and kindness at all times, towards evervone and everything, even if you don't like them.



The children were left with a special message of: Before you speak or act Think and be smart It's hard to fix A wrinkled heart

#### Shipston High School By Gavin Saunders, Headteacher

Shipston High School recently hosted its annual Further Education and Careers event, with contributions from a wide range of educators and employers. The event was well attended by students keen to start planning for the future. The school is very grateful to all who participated.

Careers and skills for life have also recently been promoted through some exciting activities in the Art department. The Head of Art at the School is collaborating with artists at Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park, to inspire students and raise the profile of Art in education. The creative industries are the fastest growing economic sector in the UK, responsible for 5.6% of jobs, and worth £76.9bn to the UK economy. Arts based careers are thriving in the UK, and the skills assessed in the subject reward students in the development of ideas, exploration and experimentation, analysis of art forms and skills, and responding to experiences and observations.

The link for students with Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park enables our students to develop these skills through working with artists and creating a live installation, 'The March of the Imagination'. The artists known as 'Musson + Retallik' have worked with the students to create the installation at Compton Verney. The installation will allow the public to become part of the art, shining a torch onto 4000 reflective shapes that lead visitors through the park. Our students have relished the opportunity to explore different ways of expressing themselves through this project.

Shipston High will also be working with Bex Art who will be visiting the School to work with the Year 11 students. Bex focusses on high contrast charcoal animal portraiture, a skill our students will certainly enjoy developing, along with understanding how a young artist can build a viable career.



These opportunities have really engaged and inspired students to think about their future careers by providing insight into the detail of different jobs and the wide range of skills required for a successful and fulfilling career. Year 11 students will soon conduct a practice workplace interview, an invaluable insight into all aspects of preparing for and developing a confident demeanour in formal employment situations. are extremely grateful to local businesses and voluntary groups who give so generously of their time; thank you all for supporting our young people.





#### What's On

#### The Poppy Appeal

Last year's Poppy Appeal total was £14,681 and this year's looks like topping that. The final count is not yet finished but early signs suggest the total will be a magnificent effort and a tribute to the generosity of local residents and the efforts of all the collectors.

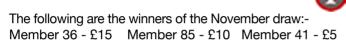


Raising a significant sum for Poppy Appeal this year will be a wonderful tribute to the fallen in this the 100th Anniversary of the end of WW1. The actual total will follow in the January Forum.

#### St Edmund's

In May 2019 St Edmund's will be holding a flower display and wedding exhibition. The latter will involve displaying dresses so mannequins or tailors' dummies are needed. Have you got one you might kindly lend to the church just for the event? Please contact Pam Harrison on 01608 662961.

#### Townsend Hall 150 Club Draw



Congratulations to all the prize winners

#### **Shipston Proms**

The 2019 Shipston Proms will run from 14th - 29th June and we have already drawn up a short-list of bands for the Launch Night, Middle Friday and the Final Night. If readers have any suggestions for future years please let us know as we would like your opinion Shipston can accommodate anything from heavy metal to choir



singing and we do try to cater for all tastes and ages.

We appreciate all the financial help from our sponsors last year, as without it, we wouldn't be able to offer so many events. At our regular Sponsors Evening it was great to meet some of our sponsors in person at Sheldons Wine Cellars in Shipston, a business which has been a great support over the years. We do hope that businesses will continue with their help in 2019 and details of all sponsorship packages are on the website www. shipstonproms.org.

It is not too early for soloists and bands to think about entering the Fame Contest. Last year 14 year old Chloe Lake Jones from North Leamington School won the solo category and The Fortunes, a group of 15 year old boys from Stratford upon Avon School won the band category. As well as winning prize money there is the opportunity to appear on stage at the Last Night of the Proms. If you are interested please email shipstonproms@gmail.com.

If you would like to join the Committee, become a Friend of the Proms or help out as a volunteer, please contact us either through Facebook or by email above.

Check out next month's Forum for more updates on the 2019 Shipston Proms or alternatively go online on our social media pages.



#### Shipston-on-Stour and Area U3A

An enlightening and moving account was given by Paul Clark at our last meeting, THE UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE



of the appalling situation in the Jerusalem and Bethlehem areas, and the peace-keeping role of the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI). Mr Clark gave U3A members an insight into his personal experiences of witnessing challenging situations faced by those living in the area.

#### **Online Extortion Scam - Action Fraud Alert**

Cyber criminals are attempting to blackmail unsuspecting victims by claiming to have used the victims' password to install spying malware on the victims' computer. The criminals claim they've recorded videos of the victim watching adult material by activating their webcam when they visit these websites. The email usually includes a password the victim has used for an online account which may have been obtained from data breaches.

If you receive one of these emails, don't reply or be pressured into paying. The police advise that you do not pay criminals. Try flagging the email as spam/junk. Perform a password reset as soon as possible on any accounts where you've used the password mentioned in the email.

If you receive one of these emails, report it to Action Fraud's phishing reporting tool. If you have received one of these emails and paid the ransom, report it to your local police force.

For more information on current scams/frauds/cybercrime or to report a suspected incident please visit www.actionfraud. police.uk/

#### Stour Singers Present Haydn's "Creation"

On Saturday evening, 15th December, at 7.30pm, St. Edmund's Church in Shipston-on-Stour will resound with the uplifting sounds of Haydn's masterpiece, "The Creation". The music vividly paints a picture of the creation of the world, from chaos to light, from disorder to a "newcreated world" full of beauty. The three soloists tell the story and the chorus bursts with praise, joy, and thanks. In the final uplifting chorus, "Sing The Lord, Ye Voices All", soloists and chorus interweave to glorious effect.

At the first performance, at the end of the 18th century, the audience members were so deeply affected by the musical depiction of the creation of light, that the performance had to be halted, to allow them to recover! The work is thought to be the first bilingual composition (in German and English), since Haydn was very happy in England, and it was here he found the libretto. This performance will be in English.

Stour Singers, directed by their founder Richard Emms, are delighted to welcome Making Music's recent award winner (Young Concert Artist) Raphaela Papadakis, soprano, Richard Dowling, tenor, and Alan Fairs, bassbaritone as soloists, together with Queen's Park Sinfonia, the Birmingham-based chamber orchestra which was set up to offer opportunities to talented young musicians.

Tickets for the concert cost £12.50 (with no cost to accompanied children) are available from A. Clarke in Shipston's High Street.

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#### Rotary

Sir Izaac Newton looked more like a seventies pop star than the greatest scientist that ever lived. Brackley Rotarian Ken Smith's fascinating talk left Shipston Rotary members in no doubt that Newton was a genius in a class of his own.



He advanced the frontiers of science in so many fields, not just gravity. He really did change the world. But his early life, after his father died when he was a baby, was a struggle with ill health and his mother's denial of his genius. His house in Grantham is a museum well worth a visit.

Katie Beswick doesn't just make wonderful soaps which you will have seen and enjoyed if you come to events in Shipston such as the Victorian Evening and the Wool Fair. She is also rapidly becoming an expert on the medicinal properties of plants.

Shipston Rotary recently benefitted from her remarkable knowledge. The roots of the humble dandelion, chickweed, nettles, certain types of mushroom and many other 'weeds' and plants have extraordinary properties. Viruses, backpain/sciatica, stomach upset, even 'men's troubles', among many other ailments can benefit from roots, leaves, or both. The

humble dandelion is prolific in the garden and it is a constant battle to keep them under control, but this deserves plant great respect. Its roots, cut off, cleaned. boiled minced and up with water, makes a that has remarkable properties.



a drink Katie with a basket of some of the plants and fungi apparently that have such amazing properties.

Shipston Rotary plans 'a walk in the woods' with Katie Beswick next year so she can identify the abundance of plants and their various properties. If you would like to join the walk in the woods, or are interested in what Shipston Rotary does, please look at our website, just google Shipston Rotary and come along to a meeting. You don't need to be a member before you come to a meeting.

#### **Shipston WI**

The dark evenings of November brought a dark subject to Shipston Women's Institute when Barrister Ginny Davis gave a talk entitled From Pillory to Prison – a history of criminal punishment.



One surprising fact is that until modern times, prison itself was not regarded as punishment; prisons were holding places for those awaiting trial or sentence. Punishment was largely physical: the ducking stool or scold's bridle for nagging women, the stocks (by law every village had its stocks), the pillory, branding, whipping, and capital punishment. Decapitation for aristocracy, hanging, drawing and quartering for traitors (a particularly dreadful death), female traitors were burnt alive and the majority of offenders were hung. Ginny gave examples of how the law was manipulated in the courts to avoid a death penalty, usually transportation instead.

The crux of Ginny's talk was a call for the rehabilitation of criminals. Prisons are overcrowded, discipline is difficult and there is little in-prison education so prisoners come out into exactly the same circumstances which put them there in the first place. It has been found that guilty persons who are given community service sentences tend not to re-offend but it is all too easy to lock them up and forget them until they are released into an unwelcoming society.

At the AGM afterwards, Jackie Homer having completed three years as President was warmly thanked by Secretary Jane Hanks. Carole Turner has taken on the mantle of President for the next three years. The committee remains the same with the addition of Sylvia Cook.

The next meeting will be the Christmas Party on Wednesday, 3rd December, and members are invited to sing, recite a poem or give a reading, and bring a small plate of something delicious.

#### Stour Valley Lions

#### Book Sale ~ The last chapter

Over £500 was raised in just a few hours over two days in our 'pop up' book shop. Every penny raised will benefit local charities and good causes. We still have



plenty of stock and we are regularly asked if we would accept more book donations. Sadly, without permanent premises, we are not able to accept these generous donations. The usual shop proceedings are sorely missed and without a new opportunity on the horizon, our annual donations will not be as healthy as we would like. If anyone out there has any ideas on how we could resurrect this much missed local enterprise we would be very grateful for your input.

A huge thanks, once again, to the local community (and the not so local!) for showing your unswerving support during the 2nd and 3rd November. It's your generosity which allows us to support so many deserving causes.

#### Specs ~ It's a sight for sore eyes

The volume of old glasses that has been collected of late is quite remarkable. Thank you so much to everyone who has donated old and unwanted specs. They may be redundant and unwanted at home but in the hands of someone who would otherwise not be able to see, they're a God send. Please do have a rummage around at home and dig out any old pairs you no longer need. There are collection bins at the Medical Centre and both Opticians in town.

#### Remembrance Sunday ~ a day of reflection

Sunday the 11th November was a truly humbling day. So many people gathered in the town to pay their respects to the fallen. The sun made a timely appearance and bathed the town in warmth and light. It was an honour for Fran Stary, President of The Stour Valley Lions to lay a wreath of remembrance on behalf of the club.

The poppy waterfall at the side of St Edmunds is a sight to behold and a heartfelt thanks must go out to the many knitters who lovingly put this display together. A thank you must also go out to all the patient motorists who were 'paused' whilst the Remembrance Parade moved from the High Street to St Edmunds.



#### Charities, Church Services and Readers' Letters

#### A Badger's eye view

We in the League of Friends are delighted with the new Secretary of State for Health's commitment to both the importance of



prevention in health care and the new role he sees for local community hospitals in the new 21st Century NHS. The Chairman of the South Warwickshire Foundation Trust (SWFT) uttering similar statements at a recent "Future of the NHS" meeting held in Stratford.

Local community hospitals offering diagnostic services on your doorstep - or close enough - providing a patch up service whether we call it Minor Injuries or First Aid, delivering physiotherapy services (and the speech and occupational therapy care an increasingly elderly population needs) are all to be welcomed especially as we all age.

A base for district nurses, and beds for those who need care but not of the high technology kind offered by the district general hospital, are ideally provided locally. And when each A&E visit averages a cost of £120, "keeping it local" makes the NHS pounds go a lot further.

The Ellen Badger Hospital already offers much we are proud of, but the future role it will play in securing health and wellbeing here in South Warwickshire is what the League of Friends is supporting. That is why we have already donated two thirds of a million pounds to acquire land next to the existing site and why we are looking forward to seeing the specification given to architects for the "new Badger" in the New Year. Join us in that support next year if you possibly can.

With every good wish for a peaceful Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Bryan Stoten Chair, League of Friends of Shipston Hospitals

PS Do look out for the 'Badger' Christmas Cards with David Miller's evocative painting of "Christmas at the Badger" (available from Spencer's)

#### Readers' Letters

Letter to Shipston Town Band from Brenda Fitch Many, many congratulations for the wonderful concert you arranged on November 10th to commemorate the end of World War I. We are so lucky to have such talented musicians to play for us and all those who organise and arrange all the events.

Thank you also to the British Legion who took part and Anne Hume who read letters originating from soldiers in the trenches. A very moving, poignant evening.

#### **Christmas Services at Shipston's Churches**

#### St Edmund's (Church of England)

#### **Sunday 2nd December**

10am - Advent Celebrate! for all ages with a display of cribs

#### **Sunday 9th December**

4pm - Christingle service

#### **Sunday 16th December**

4pm - Carol service at Honington

6pm - Town Carol Service with the Town Band

#### **Tuesday 18th December**

7pm - Candlelit Carol Service at Tidmington

#### Friday 21st December

6pm - Carol service at Idlicote

#### **Christmas Eve**

4pm - Crib service

10pm - Christmas Communion at Idlicote

11.30pm - Midnight Communion

#### **Christmas Day**

10am - Christmas Day celebration at St Edmund's

11am - Christmas Day Communion at Honington

#### **Stour Valley Baptist Church**

#### **Christmas Eve**

4pm - Family Service at Shipston High School

#### **Christmas Day**

10am - Christmas Day Service at Shipston High

For details, contact 01608 664 776 or svbc99@gmail.com

#### **Shipston Methodist Church**

#### Sunday 23rd

11am - Carol Service

#### **Christmas Eve**

7:15pm - Community Carol Singing at the Ellen Badger Hospital

#### **Christmas Day**

Celebration Service

#### The Catholic Parish of Our Lady and the Apostles, Our Lady & St Michael, Shipston; St Peter & St Paul, Brailes

#### **Christmas Eve**

5pm - First Mass of Christmas, Brailes

7pm - Christmas Mass, Shipston

#### **Christmas Day**

9am - Christmas Day Mass, Shipston









#### **News from SDC's press office**

#### Calling all artists!

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is giving artists the opportunity to have their work displayed at one of the gateway entrances to Stratford-upon-Avon.

The District Council is inviting artists to provide expressions of interest and outline proposals for the development and installation of a single artistic piece or series of pieces, to be installed in the pavement along Station Approach, adjacent to the Arden Quarter in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The artwork will need to illustrate the heritage and culture of the town, acknowledge the history of the site (the former Stratford Cattle Market) and contribute to the welcome and information offered to local, national and international visitors to the town arriving by rail.

The deadline for expressions of interest is 5pm on Friday 7 December.

#### Be alert to Council tax scam

Stratford-on-Avon District Council is warning residents not to be taken in by a company claiming to be acting on behalf of the District Council.

Residents have informed the District Council that GSM Marketing has called them and is charging a £150 up-front fee, which is taken from the residents' bank accounts, in return for 'lowering their Council Tax band'.

This is not a phone call from Stratford-on-Avon District Council - do not give anyone your bank account details. Council Tax bands are set by the Valuation Office Agency and can only be changed under certain conditions. Even the District Council can't change your Council Tax band.

If residents think their Council Tax band is wrong, they can contact the Valuation Office Agency to use the free service: https://www.gov.uk/council-tax-appeals.

#### **County Council update**

As I write, we have just had the 100th commemoration of Armistice Day which makes me turn my thoughts to our freedom for which so many men died. I would like to think that my Grandfathers, who served in WW1,



would think that their granddaughter being able to speak truth to power for her community had been worth fighting for. This week, with colleagues, on the Children's and Young People's Overview & Scrutiny Committee, we certainly did! Many of us have concerns about education and wellbeing of young people - one of my main motivators. So we posed questions on the Youth Service and funding for Youth Clubs, the answer being that voluntary organisation, CAVA, was there to help with advice and funding! Some of you may have read in the papers about two issues - the disturbing use of internal segregation in schools, and Assessment Units being used on a long term basis. We are getting briefings as a matter of urgency on these so that we can take action if necessary.

May I recommend the Family Information Service (see www. warwickshire.gov.uk/fis) It gives help and advice for families and young people.

In other news, I am told that the increased lorry volume is due to massive development excavations at Wellesbourne - the spoil is going to Enstone. The Horton Hospital issue rumbles on - I would be interested to hear from anyone who is expecting a baby locally about where you are likely to go for maternity care and to deliver. At the moment this is unclear....

The Portobello Crossroads - I am so sorry - but this has been delayed again. I have spoken to the Leader of WCC - both of us have been very frustrated by this. The money is there, the design is there, the project is going out to tender (a statutory duty) and finally, negotiations about potential light pollution with adjoining landowners have finished. I am asking for netting on the hedges to avoid further delays due to nesting birds.

Til next month - come and have a cuppa in the George on a Thursday morning or ring or email me!

County Councillor, Jo Barker

#### **Shipston Medical Centre**

#### Keeping well over Christmas

#### Ensure you have enough medication to cover the Christmas period

In the period leading up to Christmas please make sure you have enough regular medication to see you through when the surgery is closed. Do order your medications a few days earlier than normal if you need to. We often receive requests for two or three months' worth of medications over the Christmas period. Unless there is a particular reason why you need to have more than one month's medication at a time, and do tell us if there is, we will routinely issue just one months' worth, in line with NHS policy.

It is also worth making sure your first aid box is stocked with things you might need over the period, such as plasters,

paracetamol, indigestion tablets, antiseptic cream and a thermometer.

As usual, the GP practice will be shut on bank holidays. If you find yourself unwell over the Christmas period consider speaking to a local pharmacist who will be able to offer advice on healthy lifestyles and common ailments. Details of the pharmacies open over the Christmas period will be on display in local pharmacies.

Information and advice about managing common ailments can be found on website at http://shipstonmc. warwickshire.nhs.uk/Library or you can contact 111 for health advice. If they feel it is warranted they can book you an appointment with the GP Out of Hours Service who will have a Doctor available

#### Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845

at various times over the period at the Ellen Badger Hospital. This is an appointment only Shipston Medical Centre service. Please say



you would like your appointment to be at 'Shipston base' when phoning.

Minor Injuries Units are open daily at North Cotswold Hospital in Moreton in Marsh and at Stratford Hospital. If you have urgent medical symptoms, such as crushing chest pain or symptoms of stroke then call 999 for an ambulance or attend A&E.

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#### **Your Town Councillors**



lan 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



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Peter White

Communications Group Chair
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**Marianne Westwood** 

#### **Useful Contacts**

O '' 1' 1 T	01700 001101
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 Scher	me 01608 663122
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
<ul><li>Out of hours</li></ul>	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 Neighbourho	od 01789 444670
Team: shipston.snt@wa	arwickshire.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:**

#### Councillor Jo Barker

t: 07748968712 e: jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

#### **District Council Contacts:**

**Councillor Jo Barker (Shipston South)** 



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

Councillor 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

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.



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