



## Shipston remembers fallen on Remembrance Sunday

Shipston's Remembrance Sunday service was able to reach far more people than ever before thanks to a big screen showing it live in the town centre. An online livestream of the service was also made available for people to watch, including residents within Shipston Residential Care Homes, the Ellen Badger Hospital, Royal Hospital Chelsea.

The big screen was hired by the Town Council to broadcast the service from inside St Edmund's, which can only fit a few hundred people inside. It meant those wishing to pay their respects but who could not enter the church due to its limited capacity could watch the parade make its way through the centre of town and



watch the service safely.

The use of the big screen coincided with the 100th anniversary of the Royal British Legion.

The funding for the big screen was provided through the

Welcome Back Fund, from the European Regional Development Fund money through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

The programme is managed by Shakespeare's England on behalf of Stratford District Council.

Grants are given to projects that help to attract local residents and visitors alike into high streets or town centres post-Covid.

Mayor of Shipston, Cllr Ian Cooper thought the big screen was a great addition to the service and meant turnout was a lot higher than in previous years. "We were so happy with what the screen brought to our Remembrance Sunday service this year," said Ian. "Turnout in Shipston is usually very good for Remembrance Sunday, but in the past we often had people waiting around outside St Edmund's as they were not able to get inside. They had no way of knowing what was happening or when the service would finish. The big screen changed all that. It allowed residents to gather safely in High Street, watch the service and pay their respects in a much more inclusive way than what was possible before. We would definitely consider using the screen again in subsequent years – it worked really well."



Mike Wells, chairman of the Shipston branch of the Royal British Legion, added: "Anyone wishing to quietly reflect during Remembrance Sunday should be able to do so, and the big screen allowed more people than ever in Shipston to watch the service. St Edmund's is a lovely church, but its size means we cannot fit everyone in. But this year, having the big screen allowed more people than ever before to view the service. I think it was a great addition to the day."

## Armistice remembered

The High Street fell silent at 11am on 11th November in memory of those who fell during the First World War. Bob Pitts from the Town Band played the Last Post preceding the silence and sounded Reveille following its conclusion.



## Firework display goes off with a bang

The bonfire and fireworks display at Shipston Sports Club on Friday 5th November was so very well attended that sadly over 300 people had to be turned away due to event capacity being reached. It was a marvellous occasion, bringing the community together for a fantastic event that also featured food, music and family activities.



## Mayor's column



Shipston should be very proud of the way we remembered those that have sacrificed for us. The organisation of the remembrance parade and service was superb, a real tribute to all those who put in time and effort and a special thanks to Linda Cornock and the Shipston Knitters who again brightened up the Town so well with their yarn bombings. I thank all those of you who came out to take part and those who for the first time were able to participate remotely.

Bonfire night at the Sports Club was a spectacular evening for the thousands of you that managed to get to see it. Huge thanks to everyone involved with the organising of the evening, the event was so well attended that the Sports Club could not get everyone in and some of you had to watch the fireworks from the London Road entrance.

Shipston has managed well throughout the pandemic, but we should be vigilant through this busy period for the Town as we build-up to Christmas. The Town Council is asking the community to be aware of and have respect for all our residents and where possible to please wear a mask in confined areas such as when shopping and to try and maintain distances.

December brings the return of another of our annual events, the Victorian evening and the turning on of the Christmas lights on Friday the 3rd. This event, organised by the Rotary Club, to whom I am very grateful for all the effort that their members put into what will mark the start of the festive season.

At our November meeting, we welcomed two new Town Councillors. I'm very pleased that Shirley Madams and Tony Booth have agreed to join the council and I look forward to their contributions and ideas for the town.

This month we visited Leamington Spa again for a civic reception and to see a rehearsal of the world-class dance-circus company Motionhouse. They were fabulous performers, but it reminds us of the talent that we have here in Shipston, and the events that local organisations put on for the town, from the Stour Singers Christmas concert at St Edmond's to the Town Band Christmas concert in the Townsend Hall, I would urge you all to support these events where you can, you will not be disappointed.

**Ian Cooper, Mayor of Shipston**

## 20 is plenty campaign gaining speed

Jacey Jackson, Shipston Community Speedwatch Coordinator, addressed the Town Council meeting on 8th November, urging members to support the campaign for a 20mph speed limit on residential roads in the town. Over 500 local people have already signed a petition calling on Warwickshire County Council to implement a scheme to improve public safety and reduce vehicle emissions.



# 20's Plenty where people are

20's Plenty for Us campaigns for 20mph as the default speed limit for urban and village streets where people live, work, shop, play and learn.  
[www.20splenty.org](http://www.20splenty.org)

## Live bookings made available for recycling centre

Recycling larger amounts of garden waste, wood, metal and cardboard will become much easier, thanks to the introduction of live bookings at refuse centres, including Shipston. Numbers on site are still being managed carefully to allow for safe practices and avoid queuing, so booking on the day will of course depend on availability. This increased flexibility to book should mean it is much easier to visit at a time that suits.

Visits can be booked online via [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/hwrc) and there is also an Eventbrite App that can be downloaded onto a smartphone or tablet.

Recycling centre winter opening hours are in operation. Shipston recycling centre is open 8.30am to noon at weekends and 9.30am to 3.15pm on weekdays. Slots are released a week in advance of the day in question.

**The AgeUK reuse shop is also open.** Please visit <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/coventryandwarwickshire/shops/reuse-shops/> for the latest opening hours.

## West Midlands Virtual Forest

With the 2021/22 tree planting season underway, Warwickshire County Council has committed to planting a tree for every resident in the county as part of the West Midlands Virtual Forest initiative. Planting has been strategically planned to restore parts of forests and wooded areas that have been long lost to time, such as the ancient Forest of Arden, which once covered most of the county and beyond into Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

Trees are valuable for many reasons: they capture carbon from the atmosphere and harmful particulates from the air we breathe. They create shade when it's very hot, and they help reduce the risk of flooding. They also create habitats for wildlife from the moment they are planted, until long after they have died. Studies have also shown that planting them, and getting out amongst them, is also great for physical and mental wellbeing.

To keep track of trees being planted across the county, each of them will be plotted on the West Midlands Combined Authority's Virtual Forest Platform. This is an online mapping tool that is designed to allow anyone who has planted a tree to register it with the virtual forest and it is hoped that all new tree plantings across the county, and wider region, will be registered there.

The West Midlands Virtual Forest is not just for local authorities, it is also an opportunity for Warwickshire residents to get involved in making the region a greener, happier and healthier place to live, work and play. The platform is open to everyone, whether they are a resident, a community group, a business, a landowner or a school. More information about the WMCA Virtual Forest can be found here: <https://virtualforest-tfwm.hub.arcgis.com/pages/tree-planting-groups>



## News from Shipston Town Council's November meeting

**Co-option of Councillors** Tony Booth and Shirley Madams were unanimously co-opted as members of the Town Council.

**Dementia Friendly Town** Fay Ivens provided an update to Councillors on efforts to re-establish the Dementia Friendly Town committee which had lapsed due to the impact of the pandemic and the passing of Dr Sue Pritchard, who spearheaded the creation of the initiative eight years ago. A group will be meeting soon to discuss how to take things forward and Mrs Browns Tea Rooms has already been approached and agreed to function as a "Dementia-friendly space".

**Shipston High School** Tim Wilson, Chair of Governors, was invited by the Mayor to provide an update about the school. He highlighted the recent excellent exam results and the very high demand for places. The school currently has an agreed intake size of 120 (130 were admitted this year through an agreement with the county council) and there are plans to expand facilities to enable this to be increased to 150 in the future. Mention was also made of ongoing efforts to monitor the mental wellbeing of staff and students.

**Sports Ground** An update was provided on the installation of height barriers to prevent unauthorised access.

**Hanson Track Bridleway** A new bridge has been installed, however, this will be submerged in the event of heavy rainfall. Councillors will investigate whether the adjoining pathways can be reinforced.

**Warwickshire Wildlife Trust** Councillors were keen to accept the offer of a briefing from the Trust, explaining how the council could help support local wildlife.

**South Warwickshire Council Consultation** There had been over 1,100 responses to the consultation, which was deemed to be suspiciously high. Checks are being carried out to remove duplicate submissions prior to the results being published.

**Shipston Area Flood Action Group** The group has been featured in an Environment Agency publication as an example of excellent natural flood management schemes. Plans for 2022 are still being prepared for approval. Councillors approved changes to the 2021 budgets.

**Housing Needs Survey** An executive summary of the housing needs survey will be published on the Town Council website.

**2022 Precept** A draft precept proposal will be presented to the December meeting of the Town Council ready for approval and submission to Stratford District Council.

**Street Cleaning Contract** Councillors approved a resolution to continue the existing street cleaning contract with Stratford District Council.

**Remembrance Knitting** Councillors expressed their thanks to Linda Cornock for coordinating the beautiful knitted displays around the town.

# Boost your wellbeing

Free services in Warwickshire to support you

VISIT  
WARWICKSHIRE  
LIBRARIES

For **Reading Well Books on Prescription** (BOP) recommended self-help books, audio CDs and e-books  
visit: [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/booksonprescription](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/booksonprescription)



GO ONLINE

**togetherall.com** completely anonymous online community, free to people living in Warwickshire, available 24/7



TELEPHONE  
24/7 HELPLINE

Ring a team of trained and experienced support workers 24/7 via the **Mental Health Matters Helpline** on **0800 61 61 71** (0300 330 5487 for mobiles) or try Time Online, the online Chat Service via the website: [www.mhm.org.uk/coventry-warwickshire-helpline](http://www.mhm.org.uk/coventry-warwickshire-helpline)



SPEAK TO  
SOMEONE

In person at **Warwickshire Wellbeing Hubs** - free one to one support, walk-in sessions and bookable sessions - visit: [www.cwmind.org.uk/wbw](http://www.cwmind.org.uk/wbw) call: **02477 712288** or email: [wbw@cwmind.org](mailto:wbw@cwmind.org)



ACCESS THERAPIES  
(IAPT)

A service for people who are feeling stressed, anxious, low in mood or depressed, providing advice, information and therapy - call **02476 671090** or visit: [www.healthymindservice.com](http://www.healthymindservice.com) to self-refer



FOR CHILDREN AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE

**Rise** - Warwickshire's emotional wellbeing and mental health services and support for children, young people and their parents. Call **0300 200 2021** or visit [www.cwrise.com](http://www.cwrise.com)



FREE LOCAL  
LEARNING

Visit the **Recovery and Wellbeing Academy** to do a course or workshop specifically designed to empower your mental health and wellbeing. <https://recoveryandwellbeing.covwarkpt.nhs.uk> or call **0300 303 2626**



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WELLBEING

Build wellbeing into your daily life by adopting the **5 Ways to Wellbeing** to feel good and function well. [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/5ways](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/5ways)



Visit: [www.wellbeing4life.co.uk](http://www.wellbeing4life.co.uk)



[warwickshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth](http://warwickshire.gov.uk/mentalhealth)

@WCCPublicHealth

facebook.com/PublicHealthWarwickshire

## Introducing Town Councillor Tony Booth

As a young man, I lived in Stratford but my career took me away for 20 years until I had the opportunity to relocate to Shipston 16 years ago with my wife, Jane, and our 4 children who have since progressed through the Shipston Schools and moved on into their own careers.

I am already known to many people in the town having previously served as both a scout leader and as a youth leader for several years. For the last 10 years, I have had the pleasure of serving the town as a Community First Responder, something that I remain passionate about.

Career-wise I have been a store manager in a variety of well-known brands like Woolworths, B&Q and Wickes. I am currently a procurement professional working for Bromford Housing Group, a charitable public organisation providing affordable housing solutions. In my spare time, I enjoy travelling and eating out and also having simple nights in.

Throughout my life, I have been committed to helping and supporting people in the community. The opportunity to represent Shipston as a councillor is both an honour and a challenge that I hope will allow me to help make a positive difference for the town and the fantastic community that lives here - particularly in these hard times that we seem to continually find ourselves in.



## Introducing Town Councillor Shirley Madams

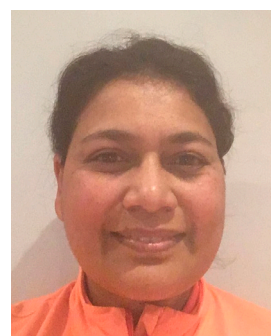
Shipston was recommended to us by my late mum in law who used to frequent the WI's embroidery group that met at the Catholic Church rooms. She described Shipston as a compact little town that had all that we as a family would need. She was particularly fond of the playing fields of the primary school, that she looked out onto from the windows of the church rooms.

We took her up on her word and have not been disappointed. We have been resident in 'Sheep Wash Town' for the last 18 years bringing up two well-balanced children. Both are now at university at Undergraduate and Masters levels.

My husband Rob is an environmental manager and I work for the NHS at Warwick Hospital in the Aseptics pharmacy department where we make medicines for Cancer treatment. My career has been mainly in the Education, Health and the Care sectors.

Regarding interests, I enjoy sports, reading and cooking. Rob and I also spend time walking, enjoying the brilliant countryside that we are blessed with around us. Due to my son's influence, we are also novice level but avid surfers.

Shipston has been and continues to be a wonderful home town for me and for us as a family. It has a special place in my heart (one tends to put down roots in the place where you grow your family). Having been a recipient in this town I believe that I am at a stage in my life where I want to take my serving of the people and the town to the next level, hence applying to become a councillor. I trust that I will do the role justice and I am very much looking forward to getting stuck in.

An NHS poster titled 'ESSENTIAL WINTER PROTECTION'. It features two cartoon vaccine bottles with faces: a blue one labeled 'FLU VACCINE' and a smaller blue one labeled 'COVID-19 VACCINE'. Above them are two virus particles, one green and one red. A speech bubble from the vaccines says: 'There are two essential vaccines that you may need this winter – flu and COVID-19 booster. Vaccines are the best way to protect yourself, friends and family from these dangerous viruses.' At the bottom, a blue banner says: 'Find out if you're eligible now at [nhs.uk/wintervaccinations](https://nhs.uk/wintervaccinations)'. The NHS logo is in the top right corner.

**ESSENTIAL WINTER PROTECTION**

**NHS**

There are two essential vaccines that you may need this winter – flu and COVID-19 booster. Vaccines are the best way to protect yourself, friends and family from these dangerous viruses.

Find out if you're eligible now at [nhs.uk/wintervaccinations](https://nhs.uk/wintervaccinations)



**SHIPSTON ON STOUR BRIDGE CLUB**

A social evening for all levels including complete beginners



COME AND TRY DUPLICATE BRIDGE

**7pm Monday 6 December 2021**

The Roman Catholic Church Hall  
Darlingscote Road  
Shipston

Parking, refreshments, and transport available

Contact Matthew Hunter  
[matthew@matthewhunter.co.uk](mailto:matthew@matthewhunter.co.uk)  
07976 631627



## STOUR SINGERS

conducted by Richard Emms  
present

### A Concert for Christmas

featuring

## Vivaldi's Gloria and Kyrie RV587

with

### Seasonal Anthems and Carols

Saturday, 11 December 2021 at 7.30pm  
St. Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour

Tickets cost £12.50 and due to current restrictions on numbers must be purchased in advance.

Available from choir members or  
A. Clarke, 27 High St. Shipston-on-Stour



[www.stoursingers.org.uk](http://www.stoursingers.org.uk)





Shipston Tennis Club



# Christmas Bingo

## Saturday 11th December

**Eyes Down 7.30**  
at the  
Townsend Hall Shipston




**Great Prizes**

**Accompanied Children Welcome**

Profits for Shipston Sports Club Ltd—Tennis Section

# ~~NO GREEN BOWLS~~ CLUB

## CHRISTMAS PRIZE BINGO



### Saturday 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021



## Townsend Hall

Sheep Street Shipston on Stour

*Raffle – many fantastic prizes*  
*Bar, Tea, Coffee, Cakes available*  
*Doors open 6pm – eyes down 7.30pm*

## Townsend Hall

Events at the hall keep on coming! This will go out after the James Bond themed evening; Lions Cinema evening; and the Small Business Gift Fair; but should still be in time for you

to get involved with a fabulous weekend of live music, starting with Jools and the Jazzaholics on the 3rd December; followed by the Birmingham Blues Brothers on 4th December; and the Town Band on 5th December.

On the maintenance and facilities improvement front, we've taken delivery of replacement doors for the smaller of our two halls, which will significantly improve soundproofing and better support co-existing events. We've also invested in ramps to improve access/exit for the main hall fire exit doors to the driveway.

As noted last month, we're a charity and rely on booking fees, donations, and support for our funding initiatives to keep the hall well maintained and to provide improvements to the facilities we offer to the community. There are still numbers available in our "150 club", so please check that out (website below for details) and hopefully you're considering us when, at no cost to you, you shop through Amazon Smile or "easyfundraising" (link on website).

The **150 Club winners in the November draw** are: £15 no. 112; £10 no. 103; £5 no. 40.

Visit us at [www.townsendhall.co.uk](http://www.townsendhall.co.uk) to find out more

## Shipston Area U3A October Open Meeting

The Townsend Hall was crowded on 26th October to hear a very topical lecture entitled "Global Warming – Fact or Scaremongering?"



presented by Mr Kenneth Ingermells, a retired long-range Met Office Forecaster. Our Speaker had spent about two years on Antarctica during his long career and spoke in support of the efforts of Greta Thunberg to bring the risks of global warming to the world's attention. He then set about the task of convincing his rapt audience, who needed little persuasion, that the world is warming up due to continual gaseous attacks on the protective ozone layer. Your humble scribe did his best to understand the science as summarised below:-

The ozone layer is about 40,000 miles above the earth and absorbs much of the short wave radiation from the sun, while allowing sufficient to get through to warm the earth. Many years ago a scientist in Antarctica found the ozone layer was being damaged by a wide variety of man-made gases and raised an alarm to the fact that the whole earth was becoming warmer as a consequence.

Subsequently, there was a worldwide ban on the use of CSC gas and more attention aimed to reduce the amounts of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. We were reminded that all of these facts had led to a worldwide harmful gases reduction effort to be considered at the COP-26 conference.

Mr Ingermells expressed some personal opinions – solar panels only last for 15 years and are eyesores, wind farms are fine except in a calm period, nuclear fusion would be his preference as the process by-product is water. On that note, he ended his lecture leaving his audience in a contemplative mood and full of questions.





## Shipston on Stour WI

Shipston WI held its Annual General Meeting on 3rd November when Carole Turner kindly agreed to remain as President for the next twelve months. The Committee was elected with Angie Weaver remaining as Treasurer for the next year and Jane Hanks will continue as Secretary. Shipston has a membership of 39 members including several new members so the future looks rosy!

But before the business was enacted, Emma Turner, the Local Community Police Officer, gave wise advice on counteracting fraud, especially online fraud. It is a sad fact that we must all be suspicious of callers be they online, telephone, or at the door. Police advice is to say 'No'. If in doubt, put down the phone. A genuine caller will never ask for bank details, PIN numbers or card numbers. If a caller asks for any personal details – put down the phone, slam the door – do not be afraid of giving offence – these people are trying to do you harm – your welfare is the last thing on their minds. Always remember if it seems too good to be true, in 99.9% of cases, it is.

Scammers target those living alone and the vulnerable. They are clever and capable of eliciting personal circumstances very quickly. If you receive a suspicious call, put down the phone, call 1471 to locate the number (and what might seem like a local call often comes from the other side of the world), and then get that number blocked. The Police also operate Action Fraud - 03300 1232040 - to report suspicious activity. Emma stressed that the Police are anxious the public report everything so that they can take the necessary action. Luckily, Shipston is a law-abiding and safe town: there are very few cases of fraud, but theft from sheds is increasing as is the theft of catalytic converters!

Shipston WI will take part in the Remembrance Sunday Parade on 14th November, they will have a stall at the Victorian Evening on 3rd December selling cakes, preserves and crafts, and a Christmas Lunch is planned. 2022 will mark 100 Years of Shipston WI and there are plans to replace the decrepit bench in the High Street to mark the centenary.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 1st December which will be the Christmas Party. Bring along a plate of something delicious at 7.00pm to the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road.



## Shipston Proms

Now for something completely different..... an article on Portuguese music inspired by a recent trip to Madeira. In October in Funchal, the city celebrates their flower festival. In the marquee amongst the floral displays and the pots of honey and honey cake where you might expect to hear some mellifluous Portuguese folk music we unexpectedly heard the twang of some rootsy rhythm and blues artists. They were called Black Dog so probably not Madeiran, but blues is blues in any language. The previous night in the tent, a sultry chanteuse sang her way through well-known ballads in English giving them a more exotic southern European flavour and wistful appeal.



On a trip out from Funchal, along the towering cliff coastline, we came across the local Pomegranate festival in Riberio de Brava. A crowd who was enjoying the delights of eating the traditional flatbread bolo de caco and drinking the signature drink of pomegranate were being entertained by a Madeiran Barney Porter look-a-like playing the guitar and singing some Portuguese pop songs. At that point, we did not feel too far away from Shipston!

To hear some truly traditional Portuguese music, we went back to a club in the old part of Funchal to listen to some fado with its roots going back to early 19th century Portugal. It is voice and guitar music, often mournful and melancholic with songs describing poverty, loss and longing and life at sea. An evening of fado feels like an intimate affair and stays with you all the way home.

Back in Shipston, it did make me think about the language in which our songs are sung during the Proms Festival. We did have an Italian couple Veronica Sbergia and Max de Bernardi sing at Cherington Arms in 2019, but a song sung in Portuguese is still yet to be heard!

*The Proms 2022 runs from 10th to 25th June.*

## Shipston Bridge Club

The Bridge Club has existed for many years and until the start of the pandemic regularly attracted up to 24 players in an evening. The club draws its members from Shipston and the surrounding villages. We went back to playing face to face a few weeks ago and now need to actively promote the fun and enjoyment of playing Bridge.

It does not matter whether you are simply interested to find out a little more about a game that is played by over 200 million people around the World, or you would like to take it up again! Everyone is welcome to join us on Monday evenings at the Roman Catholic Church Hall.

We start at 6.45 pm and usually finish no later than 10 pm. Refreshments are provided, and transport can be organised for those who may not be able to come out on their own, or don't have their own transport.

On Monday 6th December we are holding a social evening for anyone who would like to learn to play or to play. There is an advert about the evening in this edition of the Shipston Forum.

Do join us and enjoy the game. It is great for exercising the mind and meeting friendly people.

For more details about the Club or the social evening please contact the Club Chair:

Matthew Hunter  
Tel: 01608 684499

## Shipston High School

Shipston High School's core work is designed to ensure that students are fully prepared for life and successful careers after they leave us at the end of Year 11. We are currently providing opportunities for students to hear about the huge array of options they have for post 16 study. Assemblies, careers activities and individual discussions enable students to consider the options that most suit their ambitions. Local Sixth Form providers often run Open events at this time of year, so the focus is very much on the future.



*The students in the picture are Year 11s relaxing at break during their studies.*

Another forward-looking event is our annual Mock Interview day. Year 11 students attend a business interview conducted by a professional volunteer. We are extremely grateful to all those who give their time to assist with the interviews. We have representatives from a range of businesses and services who give the students a really valuable experience. In turn, the students attend dressed for a professional interview and always take the event very seriously.

Year 11 students are involved in mock exams during December.

This is an important time for them as they experience a busy period of revision and examination. These mocks are a crucial indicator of progress through the year, and aid students in understanding the challenges of final examinations in the summer. Year 11 students have been advised on how to plan their revision, and I know that families will be supporting students at home. Students always take these exams seriously, as the results will inform their final full term of study after the Christmas break. I wish all of Year 11 well for these exams.

Current circumstances require that some contact is virtual, but this is also an increasing reality in the workplace, and being able to conduct a professional interview by video link is a useful and necessary skill. There is no doubt that these activities all contribute to the exceptional maturity of Shipston High students.

Shipston High School is currently enjoying real popularity for student places, with a further year of significant demand for places in Year 7 for 2022 as well as students seeking places in all years as families relocate to Shipston on Stour. This is excellent news for the school, and we are delighted to provide school places for the community.

As student numbers grow, we are seeking to recruit lunchtime supervisors to assist with supervising the children at lunchtime. This is an enjoyable role where staff build good relationships with young people. The role is for a few hours in the middle of the day, which can be ideal for applicants with young families or other similar commitments. If you would like to learn more, please contact the school and ask for the School Business Manager.

It is hard to believe that we are rapidly approaching the Christmas season. I very much hope that your Christmas time is pleasant and restful. Please accept the good wishes of all of us at the school for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

**Gavin Saunders, Headteacher**

**NURSES' HOME-MADE CAKE STALL**  
**at the Shipston Rotary Victorian Evening**  
**Friday 3rd December 6pm-8pm**

For more information please visit  
[www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk/events](http://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk/events)



## Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



### BLOOD HEART

The second half of the Autumn term brought the second topic of the year for each year group in the school. For Year 6, it was the return of one of the most popular topics over time: Blood Heart.

Crimson, scarlet, burgundy, cherry. Blood flows through our bodies in all its vibrant shades of red. In this science-focused topic, children learn about our circulation system. Part of the Engage cornerstone of our curriculum for this topic is a heart dissection.

Pelicans commented that they had an exciting chance to dissect a real sheep's heart! Children worked in pairs to explore the different chambers of the heart and learn all about how it works and how it pumps blood around the body. Even though some children were a little unsure at first, the teachers and teaching assistants were all so impressed that everyone gave it a go and learned so much about the heart!



Isla and Tyler in Flamingos class reported that on Tuesday 2nd November 2021, Flamingos and Pelicans performed a task that many medical professionals complete today. Nobody was injured but a few felt nauseous. Their morning was filled with screams of delight and horror as they dissected a lamb's heart. They thoroughly relished the event.

### HELPING HANDS - WELCOMING VOLUNTEERS BACK TO SCHOOL

Before COVID-19, our school was very fortunate to have a large number of committed parents, carers, grandparents and members of the community who regularly volunteered in school.

At Shipston-on-Stour Primary School we want children to be happy and confident and to develop an enduring love of learning. Working together we are stronger. Through partnership and collaboration, our mission is to instil ambition and desire in learners, open their minds, widen their horizons and equip them to succeed in a challenging world. Volunteers have a valuable role in helping us to fulfil these aims.

We are looking forward to welcoming back parents and other family members who are willing to commit to regularly helping in school, e.g. at least once a week to read with children, assist with tasks, keep the school library running.

All volunteers will require a new enhanced DBS check and a mini safeguarding induction. If you would like to start volunteering in school please get in touch with Mr Roberts or Mrs Faulkner via the school office. Our Helping Hands Guide for volunteers is on the website.

### PLANETARIUM

Year 1's topic this half term is Moon Zoom. In Year 5, children are studying Stargazers. Therefore, it was a timely opportunity to welcome the planetarium into school to enrich the learning of four classes.

On Monday 8th November, Year 5 had a breathtaking planetarium

visit. Year 5 climbed into it, lay down and were transfixed into watching the screen above them showing videos all about the Solar System. Fascinating videos showed the rings of Saturn, the big red spot on Jupiter and even stunning stars hundreds, millions and even billions times bigger than the sun! They were taught about the first astronauts to walk on the moon and their names. They were called Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin. Michael Collins, who was flying the shuttle, didn't actually step on the moon but will be remembered today. Year 5 were thrilled and the facts were mindblowing.



Some interesting facts were: a 90 year old went to space a couple of weeks ago and set a world record for the oldest person to go to space, it rains diamonds on Neptune and a storm on Jupiter has been raging for 400 years. All in all, Year 5 enjoyed the visit immensely.

*By Tom and Livia*

This week Year 1 and 5 we were visited by a Planetarium (a large inflatable dome). As we entered the dome we lay down and saw realistic 3D projections that taught us all about stars, planets, dwarf planets and our Solar System. It was very interesting and when it ended, we didn't want to leave! We also really enjoyed listening to Curtis, the presenter, who had an astonishing knowledge of space and beyond. He was very kind and gave us interesting facts - did you know that ammonia, something found in animal excrement, has been found on Mars! Maybe there is life out there after all. Thank you, Curtis.

*By Sebastian*

### WHEELS DAY

It was great to welcome back Wheels Day to our calendar of regular events at the end of October. With our playground and track perfect for cycling and scooting, classes had great fun.



### PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Usually at this time of year we welcome lots of families to Shipston Primary School to show them round our wonderful school, whether it is for new starters in Reception the following September or mid-year moves.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions we are still unable to show groups of families around while the children are in school, but are delighted to offer tours of the school one family at a time every Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4pm.

Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The closing date for Reception 2021 applications is 15th January 2022.

01608 661266

primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk

**Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher**

## Hooray for our Hedgehogs!

The clock change of a few weeks ago means our hedgehogs are now coming for their 'breakfast' earlier than before.

As we prepare our garden for the Winter, I watch the evidence from our night cam of who has come into our garden the night before. We've seen various cats and mice, but it's the hedgehogs I watch most avidly. I love observing their antics as they snuffle around, eat, drink, have a good scratch and run surprisingly quickly. When two at the same time try to get into the feeding shelter, they can sometimes have a prickly head-to-head! But mostly they are solitary and harmless little creatures.



I'm anxious at the moment because we have three young ones visiting regularly, and if they can't build up enough weight before Winter, they won't be able to survive hibernation. An endangered species, now on the **Red List** in Britain, what a privilege it is to have them in our garden. They need all the help we can give them and here are a few ideas of things we can all do to help build up Shipston's hedgehog population :

- Avoid using slug pellets in the garden.
- Create access points through your fences – hedgehogs can travel up to 2km per night in search of food and need safe hedgehog highways through our urban gardens.
- Pile up the leaves and twigs of your Autumn raking in quiet corners of your garden – hedgehogs need safe spaces where they can hibernate undisturbed.
- Provide them regularly with appropriate food and water (in a shelter if possible). I buy hedgehog food and mix dried nibbles with semi-moist pellets. They love raw meat scraps too.
- Drive gently on our residential roads in the dark (and that includes the main roads) – hedgehogs are so vulnerable when crossing roads at night.

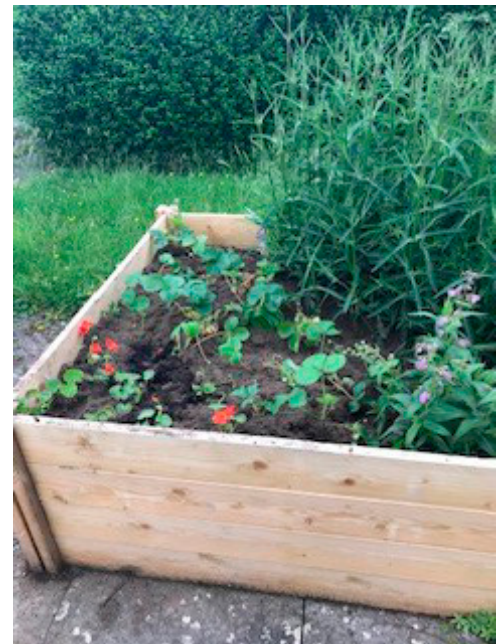
If you have or suspect you have, hedgehogs in your garden, please get in touch and let me know. It will help us in the Stour Valley Wildlife Action Group to build up a picture of the population of hedgehogs in Shipston. Get in touch too if you would like more information.

**Jacey Jackson 01608 661288**

## Stour Valley Lions & Stour Court

From being posted as Independent Living Scheme Officer at Stour Court in March 2021 I soon realised that there was lot of gardening work in need of some TLC so I appealed on social media to see if there were any willing volunteers to help us get our grounds looking tidy & pretty for the residents here.

I was soon put in touch with The Stour Valley Lions who very quickly responded, visited and have become very active & involved in donating plants & compost, weeding & planting out the donated plants, painting/weatherproofing our pergola & seating area. They also replaced a garden table & bench for us.



A trip was arranged by them to Botanical Gardens in Birmingham with them paying for transport, admittance, and lunch.

Their latest visit was to donate & plant a tree in line with the Queen's Green canopy initiative to mark her platinum jubilee.

I would like to personally thank the team on behalf of myself & the residents here for getting so actively involved.

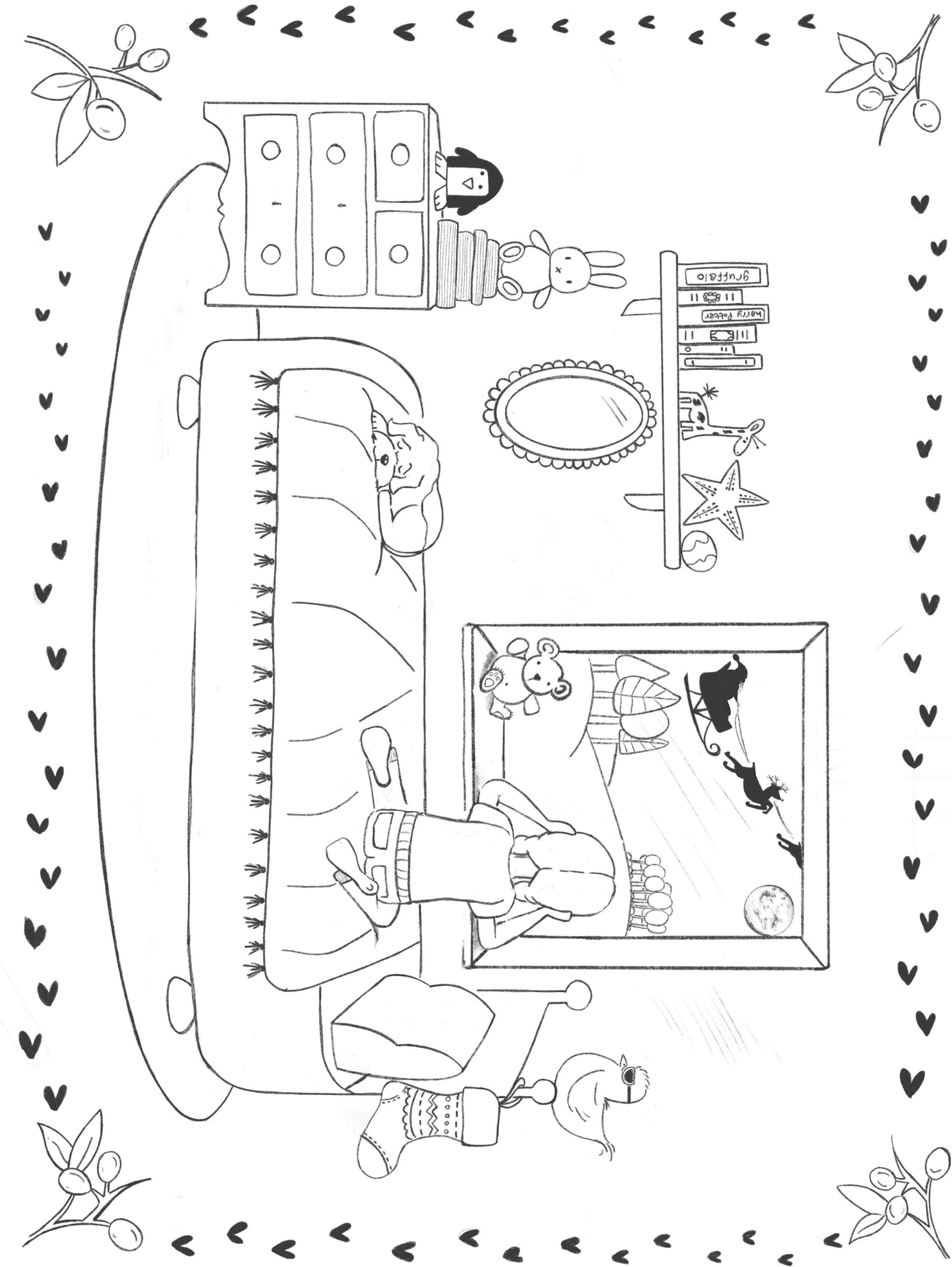
**Kathy Young**  
Independent Living Scheme officer





Hello Little Shipstonians! How are you all doing? We have had a little break here at the Little Shipstonian HQ but we are back to bring you some more fun activities. In the first activity this month you will see a little girl in a blue beret with her dog, called Archie. The little girl is holding a string of balloons with a different question in each one, which are all designed to help you to think about what makes you unique and amazing. You can either jot down some answers in the space on each balloon or write them on a separate piece of paper. You could also get someone to help you if you find it difficult to do on your own. And don't forget, you are never too old to think about what makes you amazing, so grown-ups, why not give it a go too! On the other Little Shipstonians page is a Christmas colouring page for you to complete. Have fun, and look out for more Little Shipstonian activities in the future! Bye for now. X







Dear Sir,  
May I take this opportunity to update your readers on the fate of Shipston's Youth Club?

Shipston Youth Club has been asked to remove all its equipment from its long-standing home on the Shipston High School Site. The Club has been informed that the school requires the building for storage and changing room facilities for its growing number of students.

It was back in 2012, after 48 years of funding youth work on the school site, that the County Council cut its youth service budget. Most existing club buildings, such as ours in Shipston, had all their funding withdrawn. Local interested parties were invited to submit expressions of interest in continuing to run the clubs and buildings. I am so proud that Shipston rose to the challenge of not just forming a new charity to run the club but that we collaborated with the High School to submit a unique joint bid which secured the building for the school and our free use of it for club activities. At the time it was heralded as a shining example of the Shipston Spirit and the latest big political idea of 'The Big Society'. Our MP, Nadhim Zahawi, the current Secretary of State for Education, opened the newly refurbished building.

The club then enjoyed great success in engaging with the young people of the town. Some club evenings were attended by over 50 young people. Many young people took the opportunity to share important issues with our staff team and volunteers. It was a safe place to go, with something to do and someone to talk to.

Sadly, it has been clear that changes at the High School have had repercussions for our relationship with it. Obviously, all of us with a concern for young people wish to cheer on the High School in its academic success. But it has become apparent that the High School no longer puts such a value on serving and engaging with the community. It was over two years ago that we learnt that the building was apparently not safe for use till various repairs had been done. We have fought hard to retain the building and even secured funding to have the repairs done. We fought to keep the building because no like for like facilities exist in Shipston. We accepted the building would not last forever and the school would, in time, need the land for its own redevelopment. But the building had potentially a few more years to offer. Furthermore, the space and scope to create a new one is very limited and far more costly than retaining the existing building. We believe Shipston has been a big loser here – and especially Shipston's young people.

The Club has lobbied both Town, District and County Councillors who have all been very supportive. Indeed, several have been part of our Management Committee. But the school would seem to have the authority to make this decision regardless of what locally elected councillors think. Whilst we feel forced to accept it, given the spirit of collaboration and partnership back in 2012, we are very disappointed by the school's decision. It would seem, that at the end of the day, the Big Society was neither very big nor long lasting.

We are currently exploring options for the club to happen on a much smaller scale elsewhere in the town. It has been difficult to secure a venue that meets our safeguarding requirements and is covid safe. Indeed, the impact of covid on our young people's mental health has made us even more determined to find a safe space for the club to meet again. It is ironic that, at a time of unprecedented mental health issues amongst young people, a school should seemingly prioritise changing rooms and storage over a youth club with a 57 year track record of helping young people.

On behalf of the Club I would like to thank all who have sought to support us over recent months. I am so sorry for our town's young people. We tried very hard to save the Club building but at the end of the day they have lost out and the town is the poorer for it. As soon as we have news of a new venue I will write again.

**Daniel Pulham**

**On behalf of Shipston Youth Club Management Committee**

***We received the following statement from Shipston High School in response to the letter from Daniel Pulham***

Shipston High School is a popular and growing academy with an estate of land, buildings and facilities which belong to the school for the primary purpose of the education of our local community. Shipston Youth Club previously hired a space from the school. This hire has now concluded, with the conclusion of the hire handled formally and over a reasonable time frame; the youth club organisation was first made aware of the need for change nearly two years prior to the final conclusion so that they could arrange an alternative location in good time.

Shipston High School is growing, with more students than ever before. Year groups have grown significantly in recent years, with demand for local school places continuing to rise, and we need to maximise our utilisation of functional

space in order to maintain educational activities for existing and future students. The school does not have spare space, and is seeking further development to benefit our students, development that may provide improved opportunities for community hire in the future. The school has communicated with the club over a sustained period of time, outlining the reasons and process in a professional and respectfully private correspondence.

Shipston High School wish the youth club well, and have offered to store some of their equipment whilst they explore future locations. Whilst change can be difficult to accept, it is the responsibility of Shipston High School to prioritise the use of the school's facilities and buildings for the 600 students with whom we work every day, utilising the school estate for the education of the children of the community.

## A Concert For Christmas

Stour Singers are looking forward greatly to presenting a concert for Christmas at St. Edmund's Church in Shipston on Saturday evening 11th. December at 7.30.p.m.. The church too looks forward to being filled with music once more, and what a treat the programme will be. Vivaldi's "Gloria" is a gem of Baroque music, much-loved by audiences and performers alike, and full of exuberance and joy. This is paired with Vivaldi's achingly beautiful "Kyrie", featuring a double choir. These works are complemented by seasonal music and readings, with an opportunity for the audience to join in with singing the carols.

Current restrictions on numbers mean that entry to the concert will be by advance ticket only, obtainable from choir members, and A. Clarke, 27 High Street, in Shipston, for £12.50. per person. As always, tickets are free for children.

The experience of singing together once more has been such a pleasure for Richard Emms, the choir's director and founder of 45 years, and all of the singers. Making music is truly a bonus to life and health, and the choir always welcomes new singers. Should you wish to know more, and to join us, do please get in touch with Yvonne Ridley, Choir Coordinator, on 01789 269587. The next concert planned is in early May 2022, with music by Dvorak and Mozart. Tempted? We would love to hear from you.



## Shipston Town Band This Christmas

We begin with our usual visit to the Victorian Evening on Friday 3rd December. Sunday 5th December is our Christmas Concert where the usual mixture of Christmas music and readings provides a festive start to Christmas. The band hopes (depending on the weather) to serenade the town with Christmas music while carol playing around the streets. Sunday 19th December is the Service of Lessons and Carols at St Edmunds. On Christmas Eve all sections of the band will be playing carols in the square hoping for fine weather. The band will be available on Christmas morning to make their normal visits to Low Furlong. Shipston Hospital and the Community Lunch depending on whatever restrictions are in place.



## Stour Valley Baptist Church

Stour Valley Baptist Church is now meeting at Shipston Primary School every Sunday at 10.30am. The church has met at the High School since it started 20 years ago but covid precautions there have made that impossible for now. In the meantime, the Church is very grateful for the home the Primary School has offered to us. We now offer both a group for children and high school-aged children at our services. We have had the opportunity to welcome back many friends as well as new faces who found our details online.



If you have moved into the area and would like to check out a friendly, family Church why not come along?

Although we normally meet every Sunday, over Christmas we will just be meeting on Sunday 19th December at 10.30am and for a Family Service on Christmas Eve at 4pm followed by Mulled wine. We will be back to normal at 10.30am at Shipston Primary School on Sunday 9th January.

For those interested in exploring faith and who Jesus is, we will once again be running an Alpha Course in the new year. This year has seen some of our largest courses yet with great feedback from people who logged in every week! Why not give it a try? This will likely be once again online. If you want to know more do get in touch!

For more information email [info@svbcoffice.com](mailto:info@svbcoffice.com)  
Or visit our website [www.stourvalleybaptistchurch.com](http://www.stourvalleybaptistchurch.com)  
Or contact the Church office on 01608 664876

**Shipston's Churches wish you a very Happy Christmas and look forward to welcoming you to their services over the festive period**

**St. Edmund's, Shipston**  
**Town Carols 19th Dec at 6pm**  
**Crib service 24th Dec at 4pm**  
**Christmas Day 10am Eucharist**  
**Morning Worship & Communion**  
**26th Dec. 10am**

**Tidmington**  
**Carol Service 15th Dec. 7pm**  
**Christmas Eve Eucharist 24th**  
**Dec. 9pm**

**Shipston Methodist Church have an informal all age celebration on Christmas morning at 10.30am**



## Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

### Keeping well over Christmas

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 month's 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

the bank holidays (27th/28th December 2021 and 3rd January 2022). 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 the NHS website at <https://www.nhs.uk/> or you can contact 111 for health advice who will also help you access the Out of Hours GP service if you need to. Alternatively, evening and weekend appointments with the extended access service can be booked via the practice.

Minor Injuries Units are open daily at North Cotswold Hospital in Moreton in Marsh between 8am and 8pm. Please

call their triage line prior to attending on 0300 421 7777  
Minor injuries can see



Shipston Medical Centre

sprains, simple fractures, minor burns, emergency contraceptives, minor head injuries with no loss of consciousness and minor illness, such as earache, chest infections, skin conditions and eye conditions such as foreign bodies and conjunctivitis.

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.

The team at Shipston Medical Centre wish our patients and community a very happy and healthy Christmas.



**Saturday mornings  
10.30-12.00**

**St Edmund's Church, Church Street, Shipston**

**We are open to anyone.**

**No referral or voucher needed.**

*Since March 2020 to date we have regularly helped over 200 families in Shipston and many of our local villages. This has only been made possible through your generous donations and would like to thank you and ask for your continued support during these uncertain times.*

Donations of basic items can be left in the church porch **between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Saturday.**

There's also a collection point in both the Co-ops.

For information about our current needs please check on our Facebook page or our website:

[www.facebook.com/ShipstonFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/ShipstonFoodBank)



[www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk)

### AGE CONCERN SHIPSTON ON STOUR & DISTRICT



#### GRANT AVAILABILITY

Age Concern Shipston on Stour & District can offer grants of up to £200 to fund identified needs of residents in the Shipston area. Grants will be made for needs identified in order to make life easier and more enjoyable or to alleviate specific problems.

Certain criteria must be met in order for a grant to be made:

#### To be eligible for a grant, residents must:

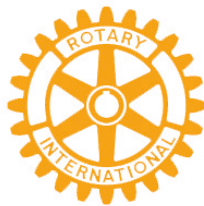
1. Live permanently within 10 miles of St Edmund's church (Shipston parish church).
2. Live either in their own home, in a care home or sheltered accommodation.
3. Be over the age of 70 on the day that a grant request is made.
4. Be in receipt of a state benefit other than basic state pension (evidence may be requested).
5. Have readily available funds of less than £5,000.

To apply for an application form contact :

David Roache, Fallowfield, Lower Tysoe, WARWICK CV35 0BY

Tel 01295 680309

email [djroache@buzzinternet.co.uk](mailto:djroache@buzzinternet.co.uk)



## Rotary 100 Club Draw October 2021

First Prize: £66.25 winner No 31

Second Prize: £39.75 winner no 14

Third Prize: £26.50 winner no 24

Would you like to join? All in a good cause.

Contact Tony Joint tonyjoint73@hotmail.com

# SKATE SHIPSTON

DECEMBER THE 3RD, 4TH & 5TH  
AT THE SHIPSTON ENTERPRISE CENTRE  
(THE HUB) CV36 4DQ  
TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT  
[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.CO.UK/17832](https://www.trybooking.co.uk/17832)

TICKETS ARE SELLING SO BOOK NOW  
TO GET YOUR PREFERRED SKATING  
SESSION

DISCOUNTS FOR PARTIES OF MORE  
THAN 30, A GREAT CHRISTMAS OUTING  
FOR WORK AND SPORTS COLLEAGUES

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



"WITH OUR THANKS TO  
GRENELL JAMES ASSOCIATES  
&

ALBERT E. SHARP,  
AND THE  
SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE AGENCY FOR NFU MUTUAL  
BASED IN SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR



## Rotary Tree of Life



Each December the *Tree of Life* stands proudly in the centre of Shipston, its white lights glowing symbols of love and hope in memory of loved ones who will not be with us to celebrate this special time of the year.

If you wish a friend or relative to be remembered in this way you are invited to sponsor a light by returning the form and making a donation knowing that every name will be entered into the Book of Remembrance

Every contribution will be donated to Rotary charities and good causes.

The illumination of the *Rotary Tree of Life* will take place at the opening of the Rotary Victorian Evening  
on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Rotary Club of Shipston-on-Stour Tree of Life

Please find enclosed donation £..... (minimum £5) cheques payable to Rotary Club of Shipston on Stour

In Memory of: (Name).....

From: (Name).....

Your address.....

**Please return to:**  
Rotarian Avryl Thompson  
Willow Bank  
Pillerton Priors  
Warwickshire CV35 0PS  
Tel 01789 740 047

Forms are also available in local shops, banks, library, post office and other locations or contact Avryl





**Shipston Town Band** 

**Christmas Concert**  

**Townsend Hall**  
**Sunday December 5th**  
**7.30 p.m.**  
**Admission Free**  



Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour,  
 Warwickshire. CV36 4PE

*Jazz is back at the Hall....*



*"Baby" Jools and the Jazzaholics!!*

The Jazzaholics get the audience's attention from the word go! With a lively repertoire of music from the jazz giants, the Jazzaholics are full of vitality and musicality to ensure a fantastic traditional jazz experience.

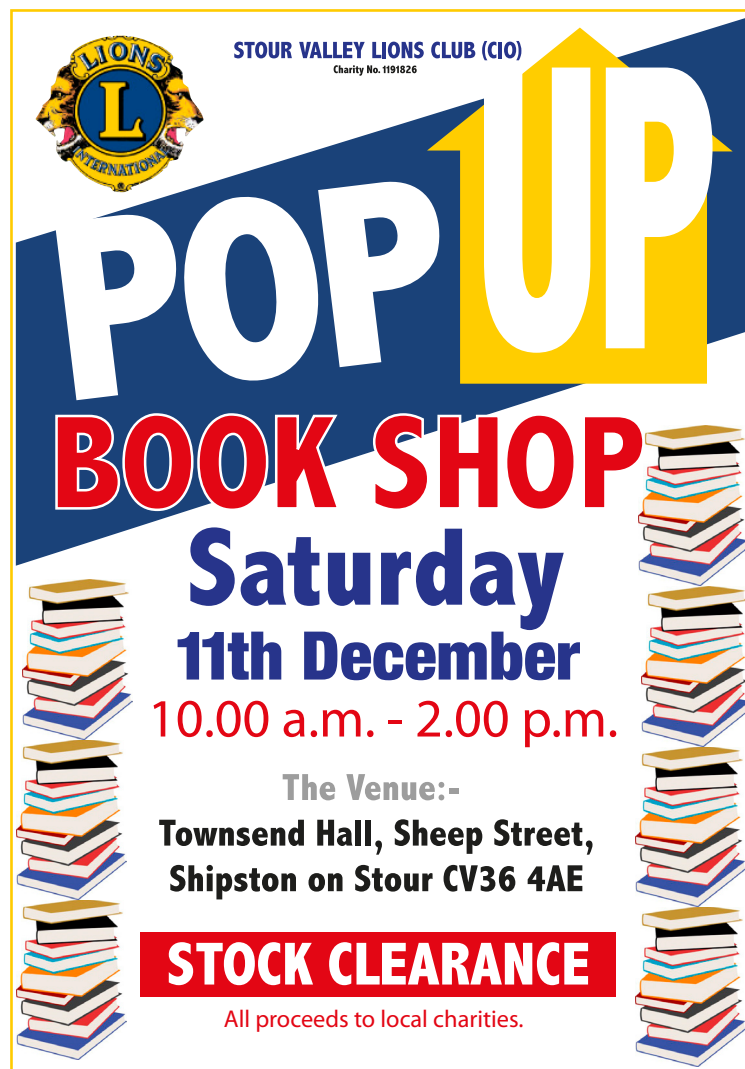
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021


Doors Open 19:30 for 20:00

Full Licensed Bar

Tickets £10 from R. Clarke Electrical Services, 01608-661394, or visit [ticketsource.co.uk](https://ticketsource.co.uk) or [townsendhall.co.uk](https://townsendhall.co.uk) for online booking

All proceeds will go towards a portable wheelchair platform lift to provide access for all to raised areas such as the hall stage



 **STOUR VALLEY LIONS CLUB (CIO)**  
 Charity No. 1191826

**POP UP**

**BOOK SHOP**

**Saturday**  
**11th December**  
**10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.**

The Venue:-  
**Townsend Hall, Sheep Street,**  
**Shipston on Stour CV36 4AE**

**STOCK CLEARANCE**

All proceeds to local charities.

**Come and start your**  
**Christmas party~time**

at

**Holiday at**  
**Home**

on

**December 6th**

in the

**Townsend Hall**

**10am-3pm**

Activities, games, quizzes and  
 entertainment for the over 65s.

**Booking essential**

£8 to include lunch and all crafts  
 To reserve your place contact  
 Rosemary 01608 662584

An event organised by  
 Christians Together in Shipston



## District Council update

As the end of the year approaches, it's a time for reflection. On the broader national front, 2021 has been the year of the Covid-19 vaccine. It is the roll-out of the vaccine across the generations that has limited the number of patients who have needed to be admitted to hospitals. It has reduced the number of deaths due to the pandemic. It is the availability of the vaccine that enabled the lockdown and its restrictions to be ended and for life to return to something that, prior to March 2020, was then normal. We all have a lot for which we need to thank the staff of the NHS and the volunteers who supported the vaccination programme.



For the District Council the underlying issue of the year, apart from the work of its staff in supporting the District to deal with and recover from the pandemic, has been the move towards joining forces with Warwick District Council. At one level, the operational level, much progress has been made. For example, the responsibilities of portfolio holders in both Councils' Cabinets have been aligned. There is a single management structure in place and staff teams are beginning to be integrated. A joint contract for the future waste collection service has been tendered, negotiated and awarded to Biffa to start in 2022. Operationally, the delivery of services to residents by a single organization is beginning to take shape.

At the political level, whether the whole of South Warwickshire should be administered by a new, single district council has been the subject of consultation in various ways. Everyone has had the opportunity to participate through an online questionnaire. Other elements of the process have been a telephone survey of a sample of residents from both districts, focus groups of residents, again drawn from both districts, together with contact with businesses, town and parish councils, plus voluntary and community groups. The results of this process are being analysed as I write by Opinion Research Services, an independent social research company. Their objective report will be presented to all Stratford and Warwick District Councillors in late November before each Council will then individually decide at their respective meetings on 13 December whether to seek the agreement of the relevant Secretary of State to the creation of a new council for the whole of South Warwickshire. This will be the most important decision to be taken by both District Councils since their formation in 1974.

One way and another, therefore, 2021 has been a year when local government has been at the forefront in delivering services and support as residents of the District have coped with and adjusted to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. As we look towards 2022, local government in South Warwickshire will inevitably change. The challenge will be to ensure that it changes and develops in ways that best serve the interests of the District in general and Shipston in particular. I hope all the residents of Shipston have an enjoyable Christmas and that you can look forward with optimism to the opportunities of the New Year.

As ever, if you have any issues with which you think I might be able to help, 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](mailto:trevor.harvey@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

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

## County Council update

As I write I am conscious that we are extremely close to Christmas – I only realised how close when Darren at Cotswold Butchers reminded me to get my Christmas food ordered!



**Warwickshire  
County Council**

Loads going on as ever for me!

I am just sitting in a meeting talking about the Outdoor Education Strategy. Probably the most meaningful thing I have ever done was the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and I want to encourage anyone who wants to – have a go via school or Scouts.

Speaking of Scouts – we really need more people to step up as leaders for our young people. I do a few skills with them – sewing, foraging and produce making. It's fun – and if more of us do it – the more we pass on to the next generations. Youth Club is now getting back up and running too. Maybe we can do just that bit more for our young people to make up for the last 20 months?

My other extra work recently has been on the improvement of our bus services. £1.473m has been budgeted to improve and expand the subsidised bus network to include new (or extended routes) to include small rural settlements, £3.710m to extend 'Demand Responsive Transport services' across Warwickshire including feeder services providing residents in small rural settlements with access to more frequent conventional bus services, and £0.150m to deliver enhanced 'Integration' across the Warwickshire bus network.

So, I am feeling as though we have achieved quite a lot pre-Christmas.

If you want to get in touch – please ring/email or arrange to see me. As many of you know I help out at the community foodbank in Shipston – so you can come and see me there if you want!

PS You will see dropped kerbs popping up shortly!

**Jo Barker, County Councillor, Shipston**  
07748 968712 | [jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk)



## Your Town Councillors


**Ian Cooper, Mayor**
*Finance Working Group Chair*

t: 01608 663785

 e: [ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Marianne Westwood, Deputy Mayor**

t: 01608 662223

 e: [marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Ronnie Murphy**

t: 01608 664518

 e: [c/o clerk@shipstononline.org](mailto:c/o clerk@shipstononline.org)

**Paul Tesh**
*Planning Committee Chair*

t: 07711 433566

 e: [paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**John Dinnie**

t: 01608 664590

 e: [john.dinnie@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:john.dinnie@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Jo Barker**

t: 07748 968712

 e: [jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:peter.cox@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Peter White**
*Communications Working Group Chair*

t: 07792 507168

 e: [peter.white@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:peter.white@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Gerry Kelly**
*Planning Committee Vice Chair*

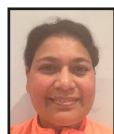
t: 07471 687720

 e: [gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Tim Shickle**

 e: [tim.shickle@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:tim.shickle@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Tony Booth**

 e: [tony.booth@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:tony.booth@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Shirley Madams**

 e: [shirley.madams@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:shirley.madams@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**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
<b>Local police (non emergency)</b>	<b>101</b>
Shipston Police Safer Neighbourhood Team:	01789 444670
<a href="mailto:shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk">shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk</a>	
<b>Churches of Shipston:</b>	
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**

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**County Council Contact:**
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 t: 07748 968712 e: [jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk)
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**Councillor Trevor Harvey (Shipston North)**

t: 07969 167720

 e: [trevor.harvey@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto: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 01295 788655 or email: [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org)

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

**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.

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# Shipston Rotary

## 2021

Victorian Evening  
December 3rd from 6pm to 8pm



Music, Stalls, Food, Father Christmas &  
Tree of Life

