



Shipston Forum

Merry Christmas

shipstontowncouncil.org

December 2022

Remembrance Sunday in Shipston

At 11.00 a.m. on Sunday, there was not a sound to be heard apart from the odd leaf fluttering to the ground, as the people of Shipston remembered the fallen from the two great wars and conflicts since. Their names were read out by the prefects from Shipston High School before Last Post and Reveille was sounded by Bob Pitts the solo cornet of Shipston Town Band, who as usual had led the parade from the High Street to St Edmunds Church. The British Legion and the representatives of local government and voluntary organisations laid their wreaths at the memorial before the service concluded in St Edmund's Church. The parade reformed after the Service to process back to the High Street where the Town Band performed a period march Erimus in standing formation after the parade had been dismissed.



Bob Pitts with the Royal British Legion Standard Bearer



The band on the march

Armistice Day in Shipston

At 11.00 a.m. on Friday 11th November the centre of Shipston fell silent as the people of Shipston and the British Legion gathered to remember the fallen from both World Wars and conflicts since. The Last Post and Reveille was sounded by cornet player Bob Pitts of Shipston Town Band.



El Alamein

"With Remembrance just passed, not long prior, on 23rd October was the 80th Anniversary of the start of the Battle of El Alamein in 1942. A turning point in WW2 when the British Eighth Army defeated the German Afrika Corps. The Warwickshire Yeomanry participated, an armoured regiment in the 9th Armoured Brigade, 2nd New Zealand Division.

There were commemoration ceremonies in Egypt to mark the occasion and the British Army Band Catterick took part. The Band's Sergeant Major WO 2 Alastair Smith is the son of John Smith well known in Shipston today as a leading member of the Town Band. John's father Bert was in the Warwickshire Yeomanry in the battle in which 19 troopers from the regiment were killed. Quite a few Shipston men served in the Warwickshire Yeomanry during WW2. Those men whose names are known are in addition to Bert, Ben Bland, Harry Parry, Pete Drinkwater, John Vokins and Monty Sumners. The Shipston troopers were not among those killed in action. Sadly, Ben Bland's younger brother Ronald was a casualty of the war killed when the merchant ship he was serving on was torpedoed in 1942. He is named on the Town War memorial.

There is no doubt that the Warwickshire Yeomanry had a strong association with Shipston due to the town's men who served in its ranks. Alastair Smith visited the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's cemetery where the fallen in the El Alamein battle are buried. He found the grave of one of the 19 Warwickshire Yeomanry troopers who fell and as can be seen in the photograph placed upon it his medals and those of his grandfather Bert. A fitting touch."





Mayor's column

Hello Shipston

Hope you are enjoying all the beautiful Autumn colours we have at present.

I had the great privilege on November 4th of being invited, with our Town Crier, to help start the fire and fireworks at the Sports and social club. Scobie's team were brilliant again making a huge bonfire in four hours on the Friday morning. It was awesome. I want to thank all the team at the sports and social club for inviting me and making me feel so welcome. It was lovely to see so many people there enjoying the evening.

It was Remembrance Sunday this week and I was again privileged to lay the wreath on behalf of the Town Council. It was a clear, sunny morning fortunately. For me this Remembrance Sunday was filled with memories of people I know who have served their country but also people who served our community in Shipston and were missing from the parade this year. I thought especially of Micky and Linda Cornock. All the "yarn bombs" you see around town this year were mostly made by Linda. The last time I saw Micky was at the remembrance parade last year where he gave me one of his bear hugs. I'm sure both of them are in lots of your thoughts right now too.

Don't forget about the warm hub on Thursday mornings at the Scout hut. They have cake as well as opportunities to chat and find out useful things.

My next column will be after the Victorian Evening on Friday 2nd of December when I have been asked to turn on the town lights. Hope to see many of you there.

Cllr. Marianne Westwood
My pronouns are she/her

Mayor, Shipston Town Council

News from Shipston Town Council's November meeting

Remembrance

The councillors acknowledged the excellent turnout at Remembrance events in the town, especially among younger people and the terrific efforts of RBL and the town band. The colourful displays of woven poppies created by the yarn bombers were also highlighted.

Christmas Lights

The Shipston Christmas lights will be switched on during the Victorian Evening on 2nd December. Councillors agreed to explore whether they could conserve energy by altering the times that the lights are illuminated each evening.

Voter ID

Several Councillors expressed concern over the incoming Government requirement for photographic ID to be produced when voting. Following a discussion, the Council resolved to send a letter to the relevant ministers requesting that poll cards should be accepted instead of photographic identification for voters who do not have these documents.

District Council Budget - CCTV

District Councillor Trevor Harvey informed the meeting that the District Council is partway through budget discussions and has identified the high costs of CCTV operations as an area which may need to be examined in future years, with localities asked to make further contributions to pay for the system.

Defibrillator

There has been a new public access defibrillator installed at the Fire Station, with open training sessions to come.

Ellen Badger Hospital

The Council resolved that the Integrated Care Board should be invited to meet with the Council in Shipston so that board members can gain a greater understanding of the local situation.

Shipston Area Flood Action Group (SAFAG)

A productive meeting with Stratford District Council has ensured that funding for previously agreed schemes will be released. The remaining funds will be used by Severn Trent Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency to fund additional schemes in the Stour catchment area. The group's work has now concluded for the year. Concerning the recent threat of flooding; soil management and tree planting have been instrumental as preventative measures, however, as the fields reach capacity over winter, the dams constructed by SAFAG will kick in to halt the flow of water.

General Purposes Working Group

The previous meeting was cancelled due to leave and illness, however the next meeting will go ahead as planned. There have been requests to place a memorial plaque on the bench just inside the churchyard entrance to honour Micky & Linda Cornock. To agree with the wording for this plaque, engagement with the family is being sought.

Cornmill Meadows

The proposed vehicular access area will be reinforced with a geotextile membrane following consultation with Linfoot-McLean. Councillors also approved expenditure on posts to repair some fencing – work to be completed for free by the Cotswold Volunteer Wardens.

Sports and Social Club

Councillors formally agreed on expenditure of £500 towards the cost of a stairlift at the Sports and Social Club.

Staffing Working Group

The council unanimously approved the recommendation for updated terms of reference. Attracting new councillors to fill vacancies and supporting new councillors was also discussed.

Councillor Code of Conduct

Councillors were reminded of the code of conduct, and setting an example within the community was discussed.

Sports and Social Club Working Group

The council discussed making this group a sub working group of the finance working group.

Regular Events

Monday

Seated Exercise Class:

10am Rainbow Fields and 11am Townsend Hall

IT Help!:

10am-12pm Shipston Library (appointment only)

Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:

6:50pm for a 7pm start.

The Church Room, Darlingscote Road, Contact
Matthew Hunter: 01608 684499

Tuesday

Rhyme Time:

10.30am, Shipston Library

Dementia Café:

Shipston Lodge, 10.30am-12pm

Lego Club:

Shipston Library, 3.30pm

Wednesday

Dementia Friendly Café:

10.30am-12.30pm, Shipston Lodge

New Age Kurling:

2pm, Townsend Hall

Seated Tai Chi:

9.30am-10.30am, Townsend Hall. Free Admission

Thursday

Story stomp:

10am, Shipston Library

Stour Singers:

Rehearsals, 7.30pm at Shipston Primary School.

Sept 2022 through May 2023.

Contact Gayle Burch, 01926 642204

Shipston Winter Warm Hub:

9am-1pm, The Scout Hut, New Street.

Every Thurs till end of March (except 29 Dec)

Friday

Pilates for Complete Beginners:

9.30am Townsend Hall

Walks with a friendly group:

10am Mill car park. Call Marleen 01608 663616

Shipston Stitchers:

Every fortnight at The Church Room,
Darlingscote Road.

Contact Anita Spencer on 01993 832665

Board Games Social Afternoon:

Fortnightly 2pm Rainbow Fields

Saturday

Lego Club:

Shipston Library. From 10am.

What's On Calendar - Dec 2022

December

- 2 **Victorian Evening:** 6pm-8pm – see ad on page 9
Shipston Tennis Club Christmas Bingo: Cash only, Great prizes. Accompanied children welcome. Eyes down 7.30pm, Townsend Hall, Sheep Street. See ad on page 9
- 3 **Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clarke House, West Street at 10am. Equipment provided.
Christmas Coffee Morning & Craft Sale: 10.30am-noon Tysoe Village Hall. Supporting local dementia cafes and Tysoe WI supporting Shipston Home Nursing. Contact Tysoe 688376 - see ad on page 12
- 4 **Shipston Town Band:** Christmas Concert. 3pm, Townsend Hall. Admission Free
- 5 **Holiday at Home:** 10am-3pm, Townsend Hall. £10 incl Christmas dinner and activities. Contact Rosemary 01608 662584
- 6 **Shipston Library Reading Group:** 2pm-3pm first Tuesday of each month.
- 7 **Shipston Widows:** Local lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230
Shipston on Stour WI: Annual Meeting Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road at 7pm. Contact Jane Hanks, Secretary on 01608 664519
- 10 **Norgren Bowls Club:** Christmas Prize Bingo. See ad on page 9
Stour Singers: See ad on page 14
- 13 **Shipston Flower Club** presents For One Night Only Christmas Special - a demonstration by Fiona Franklin. Doors open at 6.45 pm for a 7.30 start at Shipston on Stour Primary School, Station Road, CV36 4BT. Visitor entry £6.00 to include light refreshments. There will also be a raffle of demonstrated arrangements and a Tombola. Meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month.
- 14 **Shipston and District Gardening Club:** Hardy Geraniums by Julie Ritchie. 7.30pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact Tony Mitchell 01608 666933 or email a.mitchell434@btinternet.com
- 16 **Royal British Legion Social Evening - Shipston Branch:** Third Friday of each month We meet in the White Bear Inn from 7.30 pm onwards. Come and join us and share your stories with like-minded people. Contact Alex Black 07789 968733 or alblack32@hotmail.com
- 21 **Shipston Widows:** Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am - 12pm, The White Bear. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230
Singing Down Memory Lane: 2pm-3.30pm, Rainbow Fields, The Driftway, Shipston. Refreshments provided. We may be able to help with transport. Contact Barbara Smith 01608 662433.

Shipston-On-Stour Women's Institute

The Shipston Branch of the WI met on 2nd November for the AGM to elect a new President, Officers and Committee. But before getting down to business the meeting heard Wendy Nursall (a Shipston WI member) talk about her experiences as a Life Coach.

Wendy trained as a nurse and was working as a practice nurse but wanted a more flexible working pattern. Wendy had found that patients often said the chat they had with her was more valuable than the treatment! So a job talking to people about their lives and helping them surmount their problems seemed the right course. Wendy stressed that a Life Coach is a conduit through whom people can come to their own conclusions and make their own decisions. The Coach encourages the person to identify their goal and break this down into smaller achievable goals. It's a process of small steps to achieve the greater goal. Each small achievement increases the client's feeling of self-worth and positively affects all aspects of their life. The Coach's role is one of encouragement and letting the client make their own decisions: the Coach can only ask the right questions; they cannot tell the client what to do.

The AGM continued after tea and cake. The Centenary Lunch had been a great success. Shipston WI is presenting a bench to the Town to commemorate their Centenary: this will be installed on 15th November on the Campden Road. The WI will be having a stall at the Victorian Evening on 2nd December selling crafts, cakes, biscuits, preserves etc. and donations are welcome.

The AGM reviewed the by-laws which were accepted. The Treasurer and Secretary presented their reports which were both adopted. The outgoing President, Carole Turner, gave her report on the past year which was adopted. The meeting voted Bridget Smith President for the coming year, the Treasurer and Secretary remain the same and there are two new members on the Committee.

The next meeting will be the Christmas Party on 7th December.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Is Winter on its way?

If our garden is anything to go by, the seasons don't seem to know quite what they're doing nowadays.

Following a scorching period in the Summer, the Autumn seemed reluctant to come in. Suddenly cold, it then arrived with its beautiful colours. Now, following the clock change, we appear to be in an unsettled spell of grey/wet weather. But the temperatures are still (in mid-November) higher than is usual for this time of year.

Summer bedding plants like ageratum and nemesia are putting on new growth again and are still flowering happily alongside the cyclamen. Winter jasmine has already been blooming prettily next to the last of our foxgloves and gladioli. Even the aubretia think it's Spring already!

This all has an impact on the wider eco-system and our fragile wildlife. Hedgehogs are still very active and may not



bother to hibernate much at all if their food source also remains lively at night.

There have been sightings of pallid swifts (the Mediterranean cousins of our own common swift) arriving in the UK in the past month or so, instead of migrating to Africa, and swallows are being seen year round.

This disruption to the pattern of the seasons is very alarming because it's happening too quickly for the natural world to be able, safely, to adapt. The importance of positive

outcomes from the COP27 Climate Conference cannot be overestimated and we will have to wait and see what the next season brings.

We humans might well be glad of a mild Winter, but our precious wildlife may not be so grateful!

Jacey Jackson

"Beds for the Badger" March

I would personally like to thank all the members of Shipston and surrounding villages who attended the "Beds for the Badger" march and demonstration on Saturday 19th November. Special Mention to the Organisers Rebecca, Sarah, David, Hannah and many other people who helped to marshal the 400 plus supporters through the town to the now demolished hospital.

It certainly showed the feeling of both young and older groups who gathered - many who wished to join could not because of health issues, which could have been dealt with if we still had our hospital.

Fay Kernohan

Joint Concert of Shipston Town Band and Jaguar Landrover Band

After a break since 2019 caused by all the problems with Covid it was great to have Shipston Town Band and their friends from Coventry reunited in concert at Townsend Hall in Shipston on Saturday evening. This was to be the last concert by Jaguar Landrover under its current title and the first under their new identity as Brass Band of Central England. The quality remained undiminished. As usual both bands played separately before combining as a massed band to play as one.



Shipston conducted by Howard Gibbs opened proceedings with a programme largely inspired by film music. The Parade Of The Charioteers from Ben Hur provided a thrilling opener with John Barry's atmospheric Out Of Africa and the thrilling opener to Oklahoma leading on to a solo feature by the horn section of the Carpenters hit We've Only Just Begun. A selection of music from the film score of the Lion King drew the section to a close.

Brass Band Of Central England were conducted by their newly appointed conductor Iain McKnight. They opened with Richard Strauss's Vienna Philharmonic Fanfare followed by a cornet solo by their newly appointed Principal Cornet Christopher Oddy who gave an excellent performance of Bellstedt's Napoli from memory. The 150th anniversary of Ralph Vaughan Williams birth was marked with a performance of My Bonnie Boy from his English Folk Song Suite. Seaside Rendezvous by Queen had the audience entranced with its various special effects before William Walton's Crown Imperial brought their contribution to a stately conclusion.

The concert concluded with the bands united as a massed band beginning in splendid style with William Rimmers classic march The Avenger followed by an arrangement of Cole Porter's Anything Goes as used in the film Indiana Jones and the Temple Of Doom. An arrangement of the hymn tune Crimond was followed by the spirited theme music from He Man and the Masters Of The Universe by Shipston's own Eb Bass player Ken Smith.

The concert drew to a close with the first performance of God Save The King.



Shipston Music Society

The October meeting of the Shipston-on-Stour Music Society began with the business of the AGM and was completed in twenty minutes with only one major concern – that of a serious drop in membership, mainly as a result of the Covid pandemic. Several ideas and suggestions were noted in an effort to remedy the situation.

Refreshments followed before we sat back with keen anticipation for a Talk entitled "Discovering English Song" by member Barry Lingard.

"The Art Song" is a song of serious artistic purpose, written by a professional composer, as opposed to a traditional or folk song. The title is usually applied to solo songs, especially those of the 19th century. As his title suggests Mr Lingard had chosen to restrict his talk to English composers – and there are plenty from which to select his examples including Frank Bridge, George Butterworth, Edward Elgar, Gerald Finzi, Ivor Gurney, Gustav Holst, Hubert Parry, Roger Quilter, Charles Stanford and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Not only were we treated to recordings of so many examples by these composers but Mr Lingard had recorded them all himself. His beautiful voice with clear diction filled the Methodist church delighting the audience and making the event a truly personal occasion. To finish he chose "The Floral Dance", not an art song but a popular ballad which encouraged some enthusiastic foot-tapping and was familiar to most of those present. As he explained, years ago there was a piano standing in most "front rooms" and trying to pick out the tune of a ballad heard on the radio would have been a normal pastime for members of the family. A simpler life!

We meet again on Friday, 18th November at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, New Street for a concert by Charles Matthews and Lynn Arnold entitled "Four Hands on One Piano". This is always a popular occasion, and we look forward to welcoming all members and their friends.

Cantamus sings again!

The long-planned concert at St Edmunds on Saturday afternoon (22nd Oct) delighted both audience and participants. To hear the Shipston a capella choir sing again after such a long absence was spine-tingling. Under the skilful direction of Richard Emms, the programme featured music from Thomas Tallis through to The Beatles, the latter items skilfully arranged by Richard himself. Anne Hume gave a memorable performance, providing a varied selection of delightful and often amusing readings and anecdotes to compliment the musical items. The variety of the musical items and the readings were woven together skilfully to remind the audience of the talents of the performers who are all local to the Shipston area. Both music and narration were superb! The Church resonated to the sound of the voices blending in music old and new, everyone grateful that 'normal service' has been resumed. An all-round polished performance resulted in rapturous applause.

In the concert interval refreshing tea and delicious cakes were served to the audience, spoilt for choice with all the cakes on offer.

Cantamus hope this first concert following the Pandemic will be the first of many more to raise the roof at venues in South Warwickshire and beyond.



Shipston Probus Club



There is a long-established tradition in Shipston Probus of inviting our own membership to provide entertaining and informative talks. Graham Nottingham lived up to every expectation with a fascinating piece of local history of a small area of South Warwickshire. Graham, a retired geography teacher, some years ago was looking for teaching material in a resource centre in Banbury. In his own words he "opened a cupboard and found a pile of old film reels" One of these turned out to be a remarkable film made by a research team from Oxford University, which examined the detailed nature of rural post war life in South Warwickshire and North Oxfordshire. The film concentrated on an area of just 24 square miles, including Bloxham, Tysoe and Hook Norton with sixteen smaller hamlets; interviews with local residents, interspersed with scenes of farming and domestic life, brought to life a rural lifestyle long gone, but refreshed some childhood memories by some of our members!

Immediately after WW2, rural life in the area remained very basic by modern standards. Houses were primitive, largely built of local stone with thatched roofs, in many cases lacking piped water, sewage disposal and electricity.

The population was declining and mainly worked in agriculture. Farming was based on traditional mixed crop rotation with animals, but they were small in size, inefficient and in need of modernisation. Little remained of earlier quarrying and mining industries. The traditional village economy – saddlers, wheelwrights etc were dying out, but brewing at Hook Norton was important and thrives today. Some residents travelled for work to larger market towns, but rural transport was limited – buses infrequent (has this changed?), however, Bloxham still had a railway station with at least 4 trains a day!

Social life revolved around the pub, dances, whist drives, women institutes, produce associations etc. The Parish and Rural District Councils provided the basis for rural administration. There were eleven elementary schools, all church schools. but secondary schools necessitated travel out of the area.

Probus members remarked, not only on the extraordinary, detailed insight into a long-gone lifestyle, but the familiar voice of the film's commentator - one John Arlott, who was to become a much-loved cricket commentator so familiar to many of us in Test Match Special! A big 'Thank You' to Graham for sharing with us a vivid bit of the history of our local area.

Guests and new members to Shipston Probus are most welcome. Please contact Tony Joint on 01608663407 or email tonyjoint73@hotmail.com for further details.



Shipston Rotary – World Polio Day

October 2022 saw World Polio Day when countries from across the world joined Rotary and the World Health Organisation to discuss how to finally eradicate this dreadful disease.

Polio is a highly infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of 5. It is spread from person to person, typically through contaminated water. It can attack the nervous system, and in some instances, lead to muscular paralysis leaving victims permanently disabled or worse, dead. Although there is no cure, there is a safe and effective vaccine – one which Rotary and our partners use to immunize over 2.5 billion children worldwide.

Rotary has been driving the campaign since 1988 and cases have been reduced by 99.9%. Indeed, today polio is endemic in only two countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Shipston Rotary Club has supported the campaign since its inception and you may have seen street collections taking place recently. The purple crocus has come to symbolise the campaign as the purple colour matches the dye painted on children's fingers after they have been immunised. Over the years millions of corms have been planted across the globe.

When the campaign is successfully completed, Polio will be only the second human disease to be eradicated (Smallpox being the first).

Please help us stamp out Polio.

Donate to: Rotary Club of Shipston-on-Stour

Code 30 – 98 – 26

Account: 53350268

Reference: Name/Polio

Shipston Rotary Draw

First Prize	£ 57.50 winner No.37
Second Prize	£ 34.50 winner No.100
Third Prize	£ 23.00 winner No.12

There are numbers available, so if you would like to sign up, at £5.00 per month contract:

Anthony Joint: tonyjoint73@hotmail.com

Congratulations to the winners.

Shipston Rotary - Crocus Bulbs

Shipston Rotary have planted 3,000 purple crocus corms along the verge of the Fosseyway in Halford and the London Road entrance to Shipston.

This is part of Rotary's end polio campaign, which began in 1988.

The colour purple was chosen because that is the colour of the dye put on the finger signifying a child has been vaccinated.



Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership

The Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership (SHWP) are delighted to advise that they have launched two new FREE activities.

Shipston Winter Warm Hub is at The Scout Hut, New Street on Thursdays between 9am and 1pm, it will run until the end of March (with the exception of 29 December).

Seated Tai Chi is on Wednesdays at the Townsend Hall, Sheep Street between 9:30am and 10:30 am.

Details can be found on the news page of our website <https://www.shwp.org.uk/news/> or Facebook: Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership – SHWP



What Has Happened to 20mph?

It's a year now since the 20mph Campaign Team were collecting signatures on a petition to Warwickshire County Council to reduce the speed of traffic in Shipston to 20mph, so any fears of it being "rushed through" were groundless!

But just because a scheme hasn't yet materialised on the ground, it doesn't mean that nothing has been happening behind the scenes.

Having presented 1080+ signatures to the County Council, a meeting was held in the Spring with Highways officers and proposals were put on the table. Discussions have since ensued and a further meeting held with the Principal Transport Planner, Transport and Highways. But at the end of the day, it all comes down to money and who is prepared to fund the proposed measures, especially in these times of hardship.

You may have read recently in the Stratford Herald that Henley have managed to gain funding for their 20mph limit with a combination of private and commercial donations match-funded by Warwickshire County Council. They also gained the support of the Stratford MP.

As we wrestle with the complexities of obtaining funding for a scheme for Shipston, it's worth reminding ourselves of the benefits of reduced traffic speeds and I quote from an article of 7th November 22 by the **Public Sector Executive**, recently sent to all Town Councillors :

"In September 2023, the Welsh Government are set to introduce a default speed limit of 20 miles per hour on restricted roads. The research that has been published shows that a reduction in deaths and injuries thanks to the new lower speed limit can save around £100 million in the first year alone.

Lee Water, Deputy Minister for Climate Change, said: *"The evidence from around the world is very clear – reducing speed limits reduces collisions and saves lives. Slow speeds also create a safer and more welcoming environment, giving people the confidence to walk and cycle more, which will help to improve our health and wellbeing and help to improve the environment.*

"As with any change we know it will take time for people to adapt. But I'm pleased to see the early indications show a majority of people are in favour of 20mph ..."

If anyone happens to have funds enough to invest in Shipston's future prosperity, please get in touch!

Jacey Jackson - Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator

Verity Richardson – Stourvale Action For the Environment

Fifteen Year Old Attempts to Purchase Vapes in Council 'Mystery Shopper' Operation

Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards has carried out undercover 'mystery shopper' visits to shops that sell vapes. Trading Standards Officers asked a 15 year old Warwickshire Police cadet volunteer to attempt to purchase nicotine vapes from thirteen premises located across all five districts and boroughs. Twelve stores asked for age identification and the sale was refused to the 15-year-old. At the thirteenth a sale was nearly made and this premise remains under investigation.

Warwickshire County Councillor Andy Crump, Portfolio Holder for Community Safety said:

"Warwickshire Trading Standards has received increasing numbers of complaints about the sale of nicotine inhaling devices such as e-cigarettes and vapes to under 18's and to school children in particular."

"This is why we are both educating our sellers and carrying out undercover test purchase exercises with child volunteers. I would encourage all our retailers to 'Challenge 25' whenever they sell these products and ask for age identification."

"I'm pleased that on this occasion the vast majority of vape sellers asked for age identification and refused the sale. We will be carrying out similar enforcement exercises in the future."

If found guilty of selling nicotine-inhaling products to a young person under 18 years, an individual may be fined up to £2,500 in the Magistrates' Court. Retailers are encouraged to operate a Challenge 25 policy and ask for age identification of anyone who appears under 25 years of age. For more advice, visit <https://www.businesscompanion.info>

St Edmunds Repairs

"Shipston residents will be pleased to see, if they have already not done so, that the church clock is now functioning again. It has not been showing the time for many months while awaiting expensive repair. A kind and generous person offered to pay for the repair following the spring appeal inviting townsfolk to become Friends of St Edmund's to assist the church's finances. A truly marvellous gesture by the benefactor which was accepted with gratitude.

The appeal for more Friends of St Edmund's is ongoing seeking contributions of amounts at any level the donor chooses. Please contact Richard Adams on richardadams5@hotmail.com or on 07961452182".

The Christmas Cracker!

We're really looking forward to welcoming the Carl Sinclair Quartet to the hall on Saturday December 17th for our Christmas Cracker! Don't miss this one! Carl is a professional pianist, vocalist and entertainer with songs for everyone that'll get you dancing and singing along. Tickets are £12.50, available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall, where you can bag your own table and seating, or from Clarke Electrical Services in town. To whet your appetite, check out his website: www.carlsinclair.com.



In other news, we're on the lookout to fill a couple of self-employed roles at the hall that have become available: one is for a cleaner and the other for a hall bookings administrator. Hours are flexible and a negotiated remuneration package is available. Applications, or to find out more, please contact David Squires, Chair/Trustee, Townsend Hall Management Committee, 52 Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4AE, ds@pinnegards.com.

Take a look at www.townsendhall.co.uk for more. From here you can see everything else going on at the hall including clubs and sports.

Alex Rides Across Britain for Macmillan

A south Warwickshire cyclist has raised more than three thousand pounds for charity by riding from Land's End to John O'Groats.

Alex Macrae completed the feat in just nine days as part of the biannual Ride Across Britain (RAB) event. Alex was challenged by steep hills in Cornwall, pot hole-strewn roads, the climbs of the Lake District, rush hour traffic, cruel headwinds of more than 30 mph, Britain's highest and second-highest mountain passes, midges and numb fingers – but says he enjoyed the challenge and is considering doing it again.

Alex, who is Ride Captain with Shipston Cycling Club, spent almost 63 hours in the saddle, riding a total of 982 miles. In that time, he climbed 53 thousand feet – that's nearly twice the height of Mount Everest!

Alex completed the feat in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, smashing through his three thousand pound target in the process. Alex said "I have lost close family and colleagues to this horrible disease, so I wanted to complete the challenge and raise money for a fantastic cause".

Accompanied en route by family, friends and strangers also taking part in RAB, Alex added "this event is not for the faint hearted, but with the correct preparation anyone can do it".

You can still sponsor Alex in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support - <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Alex-Macrae1>



An Award Winning Charity

We are delighted to announce that Shipston Home Nursing was chosen as Charity of the Year at the Stratford Herald Business and Tourism Awards 2022.

The awards were presented at a ceremony at the Crowne Plaza in Stratford upon Avon on 27th October.



The Stratford Herald Business and Tourism Awards 2022 recognise the achievements of a wide range of businesses - from family-run independents and restaurants, to large-scale employers. There were also categories for charities, tourist attractions and green-thinking firms.

The Charity of the Year Award was sponsored by Stratford Town Trust. Presenting the award, Stratford Town Trust CEO Sara Aspley said: "Winner Shipston Home Nursing completely impressed us by their local focus. They know their community and get incredible warmth back from the people they help."

Andrew Revell, Executive Director of Shipston Home Nursing, says: "I couldn't be more proud of our team. Every one of them goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure patients and families receive the best care possible. We are also grateful to our community of supporters and volunteers who contribute greatly to the success of the charity."

The Stratford Herald Business and Tourism Awards was a celebration of businesses in the Stratford district.

Swimming Triumph

On the last weekend in October, Arthur Lowe (husband of Marion Lowe, our Town Crier) competed in the National Masters Swimming Competition held over three days in Sheffield. Arthur swims for Birmingham Masters and was part of a relay team. Masters is swum in age bands and his relay team had the required combined age of 320 to compete in that band. They swam in seven relays in total and won three British Records, three European Records and one World Record which was for the mixed 4 x 200m freestyle.

Outstanding achievement for everyone in the team! You are never too old!



Arthur, standing between John Tennant and Pauline Cook with Judy Wilson extreme left. Winning Birmingham Masters team

NORFOLK BOWLS CLUB

CHRISTMAS PRIZE BINGO

Saturday 10TH DECEMBER

2022

Townsend Hall

Sheep Street Shipston on Stour

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

SHIPSTON WINTER WARM HUB

Every Thursday, 9am-1pm, starting 20th Oct
 The Scout Hut, New Street, Shipston CV36 4EW



- Come along, keep warm & cosy & have a good chat
- Relax with free refreshments, board games, books & wifi
- Plus energy saving tips & advice



Everyone's welcome!

This event is jointly run in partnership by

WRCC



Community project supported by

Cadent
Your Gas Network

Advent & Christmas at St Edmund's



Come and celebrate Christmas with us at our services in December. Everyone is warmly welcomed, and we'd love to see you. All ages are welcome at every service, and the ones marked * are especially aimed with children in mind.

Sunday 4th December
4pm **Christingle Service***

Sunday 18th December
6pm **Town Carol Service**
with the Town Band and all your favourite carols

Christmas Eve
4pm **Crib Service***
11.30pm **Midnight Communion**

Christmas Day
10am **Christmas Service** (with communion)

New Year's Day
10am **Eucharist for the New Year**



Shipston Rotary 2022

Victorian Evening
December 2nd from 6pm to 8pm

and
The Tree of Life



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

Shipston Probus Alerted to the Dangers of Fire!

Successive recent meetings of Shipston Probus Club have brought home to members the potential seriousness of accidental fire and the key role the fire service plays in protecting all our lives and property. Our very own Probus member, Chris Skeath, retired after 25 years of service as a retained fire fighter, gave us a fascinating insight into the work of a retained firefighter in our own town.

Shipston fire service deals with an average of two calls per week per year, mainly responding to faulty fire alarms, with both fatalities and malicious calls thankfully declining in frequency. The greatest threat from fire lies in buildings with no working alarm and in multi-occupancy buildings. Attendance at buildings on fire is only part of the firefighters work; they also organise community fire safety in schools and homes with vulnerable residents, and electric blanket checks; they can be called on to assist the police, ambulance service and first responders, for hospital transport and road accidents, especially cars on fire. In one case the fire service helped extract a twenty-two stone patient from an upstairs bedroom, first having to remove a window and carry him down on a ladder!

Worryingly the fire service both locally and nationally is very short of volunteers. Shipston Fire engine is frequently not available due to lack of staff. When Chris started he was one of a crew of 13, now it is a struggle to reach a compliment of half that. Anyone interested in joining this vital service can find more information on Shipston Town Council website.

By coincidence, two weeks later Probus had a first-hand account of the famous fire in Windsor Castle. Fraser Gunn, a retired full-time firefighter with 30 years' experience, attended

the fire that broke out at 11am at the castle on 20th November 1992.

This fire was not the first in the castle's long history and emergency plans were already in place to extract the most valuable and irreplaceable objects. Only one painting was completely destroyed, thanks to an army of volunteers removing objects, including the largest single woven carpet in the world which needed 40 soldiers to carry it to safety. The fire destroyed nine principal rooms and an organ and over 100 other rooms were severely damaged.

The fire started when halogen spotlights behind a large curtain were mistakenly turned on and the heat set the upper part of the curtains alight, which spread to the ceiling and roof. An alarm call was made to Reading Fire Centre at 11.36am and three engines were sent, with subsequent reinforcements from surrounding areas to a maximum of 39 engines and appliances and some 225 firefighters working in shifts. Remarkably, only five people were injured. While all this was happening the fire service received over 60 calls to other incidents, including motorway accidents, requiring crews from a wide area to be pulled in to assist.

Restoration cost £36m, paid in part by opening Buckingham Palace to the public and at no cost to the taxpayer. The opportunity was taken to modernise some parts, e.g. the Queen's private chapel, whilst preserving the castle's historic character. Completed six months ahead of schedule and under budget, well deserved awards were given to key workers, including the deputy and chief fire officers.

Guests and new members to Shipston Probus are most welcome. Please contact Tony Joint on 01608 663407 or email tonyjoint73@hotmail.com for further details.



FESTIVE SERVICES



Methodist church

18th December 10.30am Carol service

25th December 10.30am Christmas Day family Service
with Rev Phil Robinson

Baptist Church

4th December 10.30am Advent Service
(Shipston Primary School)

24th December 4pm Christmas Eve Special Service
(Shipston Primary School)

St Edmund's Church

4th December 4pm Christingle Service

18th December 6pm Town Carol Service

24th December 4pm Crib Service / 11.30pm Midnight Mass

25th December 10am Christmas Day Eucharist

1st January 10am New Year Benefice Eucharist

Honington Church

18th December 10am Carol Service

25th December 10am Christmas Day Holy Communion

Idlicote Church

16th December 6.30pm Carol Service

24th December 6.30pm Christmas Eve Communion

Tidmington Church

20th December 7pm Carol Service

24th December 9pm Christmas Soul Space



Shipston Tennis Club



Christmas Bingo

Friday 2nd December

Eyes Down 7.30
at the
Townsend Hall Shipston



Cash Only



Great Prizes

Accompanied Children Welcome

Profits for Shipston Sports Club Ltd—Tennis Section

SEATED TAI CHI

FREE ADMISSION

Every Wednesday 9:30am - 10:30am
TOWNSEND HALL, SHIPSTON ON STOUR



Beginners seated Tai Chi – Qigong Shibashi is for any age and ability. A gentle seated movement class aimed to help strengthen the physical body and its immune system whilst improving mental wellbeing.

For more information or to book a place please contact Julia Reeves on 07808 921899 or e-mail juliareeves211@gmail.com

This is one of the range of FREE activities in the Dr Sue Pritchard Memorial Challenge delivered by the Stour Health and Wellbeing Partnership in conjunction with Sport England and L&Q. For more information on other activities please visit: www.shwp.org.uk



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 2nd 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 Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



WHEELS DAYS

As is now a tradition, our Wheels Days during the last week of Autumn 1 were thoroughly enjoyed by the children. With such a great site and our track around the perimeter of the school field, it's a super space to be cycling, scooting and skateboarding.

Well done to the children for being so sensible with their wheels.



GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Congratulations to Shipston Primary Key Stage 2 girls who won their football tournament against 5 other local schools. The girls played superbly, winning every game to bring the winner's trophy home. The tournament was played in great sporting spirit and was the last of our tournaments for this term. We will be taking part in more sporting events against the other local schools over the course of the year.

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

We are delighted to welcome back Sheldon Bosley Knight as our lead sponsor of our Books of the Month. Each month there is a recommended chapter book and picture book added to each school's library, funded by SBK.

We are looking for additional sponsors in order to provide additional copies of our chosen texts, so if local or national businesses are interested in this initiative, please get in touch via the school office.

PUPIL LEADERSHIP

Our House Captains and Vice Captains have been democratically elected. Congratulations to all the Year 6 children who put themselves forward. Our 16 children representing our four Houses (Badger, Deer, Fox, Otter) will lead Achievement Assembly every Friday morning with Mr. Roberts.

Congratulations to our Digital Council for this year. They wrote some excellent application forms and were chosen out of a large

group of applicants as the most enthusiastic and knowledgeable about online safety. This year, they will be looking after the school's computing equipment and spreading information about online safety to all the other students. We are looking forward to getting started.

WRAPAROUND CARE

Children attending SPLASH (Shipston Primary Learning After School Hours) have been busy with arts and crafts activities linked to Halloween and Remembrance.



Breakfast Club is available every morning from 8am and SPLASH (Shipston Primary Learning After School Hours) wraparound care continues after school until 6pm. Numbers are growing every week.

PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

How do they grow up so fast? If your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019, then it's almost time for them to start school! Parents and carers will need to apply online to their home local authority before the national deadline of 15th January. Shipston Primary School accepts children who are out of catchment or from neighbouring counties in line with the school's admissions criteria, which is on the school website.

Please visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/primaryplace> for further information, including videos and webinars.

Our open mornings at Shipston Primary is from 31st October – 4th November, 9.30am. Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The application window opens on 1st November.

01608 661266 | primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk

THE STOUR FEDERATION MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Shipston Primary School is part of The Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust, with Acorns Primary School, Brailes C of E Primary School and Kineton C of E Primary School. Our new Trust website is www.thestourfederation.com

Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher

Christmas Coffee Morning & Craft Sale

**Saturday 3rd December from 10.30am
to 12 noon in Tysoe Village Hall**

Free Entrance - Refreshments available

Supporting our local dementia cafes
(Plus Tysoe WI supporting Shipston Home Nursing)



Heather & Paul Dowler Tysoe 688376

talkdementia.uk

Shipston High School

Shipston High School's 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.

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.

Our Further Education Fair was held in November. This was an ideal opportunity for the older students to find out what is available to them after they leave school and for the younger ones to start thinking about what type of career interests them.

Representatives from the local Colleges and sixth forms, apprenticeship providers and local businesses were present



and answered many and varied questions posed by the students about opportunities within their organisations. There was a flurry of excitement when the Aston Martin team arrived in their very impressive car, especially when we found out that accompanying it was one of our ex-students!

Year 11 pupils 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 pupils in understanding the challenges of final examinations in the summer. Year 11 pupils are advised on how to plan their revision, and I know that families will be supporting pupils 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.

Wider wellbeing is important for us all, and staff and students have embraced exercise this year. Since its first meeting, the after school Running Club has progressed from short runs to running for 28 minutes nonstop 3 times a week. Successful runners will be awarded their first running award – a bronze running badge – if they have completed 8 or more runs. Students have been choosing the style of badges they prefer which are being funded by the PE department.

The running club has enjoyed the support and encouragement of none other than Denise Lewis as their 'running coach' through the 'couch to 5K' app. They have got so used to her voice keeping them going that one of the running club members was able to guess who it was when she appeared on 'The Masked Singer'!

Gavin Saunders, Headteacher

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 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 bank holidays. If you find yourself unwell over the Christmas period consider

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

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 Health A-Z website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/?id=111Website> or you can contact 111 for health advice who will also help you access the Out of Hours GP service if you need to.

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

District Council update

I am writing this column on Remembrance Sunday, the one day of the year when we all mark the personal sacrifice made by members of our armed forces, particularly from 1914 onwards. These were all people who were prepared to step up to the plate when the call came and, if necessary, were prepared to lose their lives in the service of their country. We all do well to remember them, and the cause and freedoms for which they were prepared to risk their lives.

Whilst in reflective mood, I look back on 2022 and try to recall, from a District Council perspective, what were the most striking events of the year. From the view of most residents this might well have been the introduction of the changed refuse collection service in August. The introduction of the weekly collection of food waste and its use as a source of fuel marks a significant change, and a contribution to increasing the supply of energy from a renewable source.

From the Council's point of view, I think the most significant decision was the decision in April not to proceed with the merger with Warwick DC. The proposed merger made strategic sense in that it could have led to economies of scale in the merged Council's finances. That's why all parties represented on the Council voted for the principle of the merger.

What was not known at the outset of our discussions with Warwick, and only became evident over time was, amongst other factors, the very different risks the two Councils were prepared to accept over their finances. Stratford is currently debt free – it has not borrowed to finance projects. Warwick has its own housing stock, has a housing development company and has an appetite for borrowing money. In the year to the end of March 2022 it increased its borrowings by some £100m to a total of some £400m.

Based on the information Warwick was prepared to make available, Stratford District Council decided that, in spite of the potential upsides, it was not in the interests of the residents of Stratford District to expose them to the downside risks of the financial consequences that could arise in a world of changing financial markets, most notably inflation and rising interest rates.

This brings me on to my second striking event of the year – the political upheavals of the Government over the summer and autumn and the consequences for the District Council. For the vast majority of Shipston residents, their expectations of their District Council are in the main that it should provide an efficient refuse collection service, provide adequate off-street parking (preferable free of charge) and it should deal with local planning

applications, both efficiently and in the interests of the community in general. Party politics, particularly national party politics, has little relevance to these local bread and butter responsibilities. But whether the national Government makes a pig's ear of the country's finances and economic prospects or not really does matter to us all locally.

I wrote at some length in the October Issue of the impact of inflation on the District's finances, the uncertainty of this year's Financial Settlement from the Government and the implications for next year's District Budget. A Government that displays at least some degree of both honesty and integrity, coupled with a realistic understanding of the British economy and how it works, or doesn't work, is preferable to one that demonstrably didn't.

My third striking event of the year was the death of HM The Queen and the end of an era. As with those who lost their lives in two World Wars and other conflicts, HM The Queen was the epitome of someone who lived a life of service.

In this vein, it is regrettable that Shipston Town Council currently has four vacancies for residents willing and able to serve. With the election of a new Council in prospect next May, I hope that a number of you with the enthusiasm, community spirit and time available will consider standing for the Town Council. As Lord Kitchener famously advertised 'Your Country Needs You'.

If you are experiencing a problem, please contact me. I am always keen to hear from the people I represent.

Trevor Harvey, District Councillor, Shipston North
01608 682415 | trevor.harvey@stratford-dc.gov.uk

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



County Council update



The Shipston Forum hopes that Councillor Barker makes a quick recovery. We were all sorry to hear of her period of illness, and wish her the very best.

STOUR SINGERS

conducted by

Richard Emms, BMus, ARCM, LRAM,
present

Telemann: Magnificat in C
Haydn: St Nicholas Mass
and carols for all

with

Brittany King soprano
Tom Lilburn countertenor
Julian Stocker tenor
Julian Debreuil bass baritone
James Birchall bass baritone

and

Musicians from the
Royal Birmingham Conservatoire

Vocal soloists appear by arrangement with
Ann Ferrier Artists - Concert Directory International

Saturday, 10 December 2022 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)



www.stoursingers.org.uk



Your Town Councillors


Marianne Westwood, Mayor

t: 01608 662223

e: marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org


Gerry Kelly, Deputy Mayor
Planning Committee Vice Chair

t: 07471 687720

e: gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org


Ian Cooper
Finance Working Group Chair

t: 01608 663785

e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org


Paul Tesh
Planning Committee Chair

t: 07711 433566

e: paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org


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

t: 01608 664590

e: john.dinnie@shipstontowncouncil.org


Jo Barker

t: 07748 968712

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


Peter Cox
General Purposes Working Group Chair

t: 07973 442552

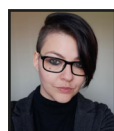
e: peter.cox@shipstontowncouncil.org


Tony Booth

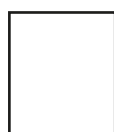
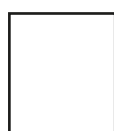
e: tony.booth@shipstontowncouncil.org


Hilary Kelly

e: hilary.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org


Sarah Beckett

e: sarah.beckett@shipstontowncouncil.org


Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

Useful Contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 264491
Shipston Library:	0300 5558171
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Severn Trent Emergency Line:	0800 7834444
Shipston Volunteer Transport Scheme	01608 663122
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
- Out of hours	111
Shipston Forum	01295 788655
Shipston Link (local transport)	01386 593446
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Townsend Hall	07514 704057
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
Local police (non emergency)	101
Shipston Police Safer Neighbourhood Team:	01789 444670
shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk	
Churches of Shipston:	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01295 257193

Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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

Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

County Council Contact:
Councillor Jo Barker

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

District Council Contacts:
Councillor Jo Barker (Shipston South)

t: 07748 968712

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

Councillor Trevor Harvey (Shipston North)

t: 07969 167720

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



Something exciting to share?

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

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

Forum copy deadline:
Second Monday of the month

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

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council.

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

Santa Claus is coming (back) to town!

The familiar jingle of festive bells will be returning to Shipston's streets next month thanks to friendly local Rotarians.

Members of The Rotary Club of Shipston will be joined by volunteers when they take their sleigh out and about as children gear up for some pre-Christmas excitement – all in the name of festive cheer, goodwill and fundraising.

The festive fun will officially get under way on Friday, December 2nd with the renewal of the town's Victorian Evening and Christmas lights switch-on, after a break of 3 years.

The local Santa sleigh routes are as follows...

Wednesday 7th December 5 30-7 30pm: Station Road, The Driftway, Manor Lane, Greenway Road, Darlingscote Road, Brickhill Close, Haymeadow, Worcester Place, Warwick Place, Oxway Close, Glenn Close, Green Lane, Gerrards Road, West Street.

Thursday 8th December 5 30 -7 30pm: Berry Avenue, Queens Avenue, Pittway Avenue, Sadlers Avenue,

Oldbutt Road, Shipston Gardens, Rowlett Drive, Bailey Road, Burnell Close, Herdwick Fold, Webb Road, Clifford Place.

Friday, 9th December 5 30-7 30pm: Foxgloves, Carr Close, Atchaston Close, Symons Way, Herdwick Field, Bradley Drive, Barrett Place, Coe Ave, Nichols Court, Nason Way, Felton Close.

Sunday, 11th December 4 30-7 30pm: Tilemans Lane, Brookfield Lane, Beecham Road, The Sidings, Railway Crescent, Signal Road, Mayo Road, Donnington Road, Badgers Crescent, Hornsby Close, Cauldwell Drive, Riverway, Watery Lane.

Monday, 12th December 5 30-7 30pm: BarchestOn Reach, Chapel View, Brewer Hill, Angela's Meadow, Holly Road, Elm Road, Hawthorn Way, Ashgrove, Furzehill Road, Bosley Close.

Thursday, 15th December 5 30-7 30pm: Callaways Road, Greenfields Close, Parsons Close, Simpson Road, Hanson Avenue, Costard Ave, Marshall Avenue, Clark Close.

There's a good chance Santa will also

be spotted around the town centre on Saturday, December 17th between 9am and 1pm!

The Rotary Club of Shipston hopes to help a host of local causes by contributing towards the projected £100,000 raised across the Heart of England Rotary region by the traditional sleigh run initiative.

And this year – in line with continuing Covid precautions - more ways to donate have been introduced, including contactless payments, mobile phone texts and QR codes, as a form of donation.

Heart of England Rotary spokesperson said: "Our Rotary Clubs have been helping Father Christmas raise funds to support those less fortunate by means of his sleigh runs for over 25 years all across the West Midlands. Now a firm favourite with local residents, the sound of the sleigh arriving excites children and adults alike.

"The proceeds benefit the Rotary Club's chosen local community charities and good causes, including foodbanks, toy boxes, children's



parties, supporting the elderly, winter warmth projects and many more. There are nine Rotary-organised Santa sleighs throughout the Heart of England and everyone's support is much appreciated."

Anyone who is not able to see Father Christmas on the day but who would like to donate, can also do so by visiting: paypal.me/anthonyjoint1