



## Local Charity Appeals For Support After A Difficult Year

Local charity, Shipston Home Nursing, is appealing for support in anticipation of another difficult financial year. The impact of fewer fundraising events during the pandemic, and a limited calendar of events planned for this year, is taking its toll on the charity's income.

The Shipston based hospice at home charity, which cares for adults with incurable illnesses who wish to spend the last few weeks in the comfort of their own homes, provides free of charge nursing care for patients in Shipston, Wellesbourne, Kineton and the surrounding villages.

As the need for its hospice at home services continue to grow, there is concern that fewer community events and the associated goodwill generated by the members of the public attending the events, may reduce and put a strain on the charity's finances. In a normal year nearly 90% of the cost of the care provided is funded by donations and events. However, most of the planned events in 2020 were cancelled due to the pandemic and in 2021 there will only be a limited number of socially distanced events, which means the charity's forecasted income is significantly reduced.

Andrew Revell, Executive Director of Shipston Home Nursing, said: "Like so many other charities, 2020 was challenging, we have been both delighted and humbled by the generosity of our friends and local supporters, but we don't take this generosity for granted. We continue to nurse more patients, year on year, and have seen an increase in those wishing to die at home.



We are acutely aware that there are many other incredibly good causes. However, in this uncertain environment, with an increased demand for our services and reduced income, the charity needs to be able to plan with confidence to ensure that we can continue to care for everyone who needs us."

"We are therefore asking for our community's help by setting up a regular monthly donation to ensure that Shipston Home Nursing is sustainable for the foreseeable future. If you cannot manage a regular gift, even a small one-off donation will be very much appreciated."

If you would like to help, please visit:

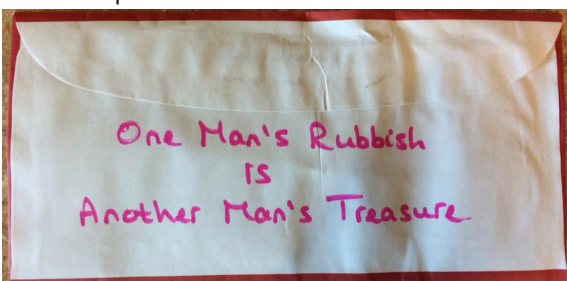
<https://shipstohomenursing.enthuse.com/profile> where you can sign up for a monthly donation to Shipston Home Nursing.

## War on Waste celebrates two years of action

It has been two years since the incredibly popular War on Waste Shipston Area group was launched on Facebook, which has now grown to a community of more than 2,500. Members of the group are committed to reducing waste sent to landfill and to encouraging greater re-use and redistribution rather than just recycling. People offer previously loved items for free collection daily and #WantedWednesday post provides an opportunity for people to make requests.

"It has been fantastic watching our sharing community grow," said Alison Packer, founder of the group. "In addition to freely giving away items that may have otherwise been destined for the bin, members do a fantastic job of sharing useful advice and handy tips to help each other reduce their impact on the environment."

The Facebook group is open to anyone living in Shipston or the surrounding villages: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WarOnWasteShipston>



## Shipston Pride

Lots of people have been celebrating Pride 2021 in Shipston this June. Flags have been appearing, celebrating love in all diversity, all over the town.

It's also been lovely to see so many businesses in Shipston displaying Pride flags.

This Pride there has been a special appeal to be kind to transgender and non-binary people. This might be a simple smile. It will also be finding out the person's name and using it and the correct pronouns. This is a common courtesy and is beneficial to the mental health of the transgender and non-binary members of our community.



These little courtesies will show support and help all the members of the LGBTQIA+ community to feel safe and welcome in our town.

**Marianne Westwood**

## Mayor's column

Now that the sunshine has returned, temporarily at least, I must say Shipston and our surrounding countryside is looking exquisite. It's a great reminder as to how fortunate we are to be living here.



I am, however, disturbed to hear reports of recent criticism of our Town Councillors on social media. Whilst we appreciate, in fact rely upon positive and constructive feedback to help us as a council focus on the issues and priorities for the town, such abuse is unfounded. Let me set the record straight, our Town Councillors work tirelessly to support this town. These are voluntary roles that take a huge commitment in time and one which they do not get paid for. Their efforts greatly contribute towards making this community what it is, and this town such a pleasant place to live, as highlighted once again in the Daily Telegraph's "Best Places to Live" this month.

I urge you to stand back and appreciate what they actually do for the town, supported by a very small and extremely busy office team, they ensure our planning and development is focused on reflecting the needs of the town, that our streets are clean, our play areas and cemeteries are maintained, and that our statutory bodies are aware of Shipston's views.

I'm extremely proud of our Town, our Town Councillors and the many other voluntary organisations that keep this community as strong and unified as it is.

For those of you that might have the time and inclination, I can inform you that we currently have two vacancies for Town Councillors, so if you want to make a contribution towards the town please let us know.

It is not just about our Town Councillors. We live in a diverse and growing community and we should all be aware and respectful of the views and choices of others that live here. We are all going through challenging times, but as a community we are better placed than most.

Please be respectful of your town council, appreciate them for what they do, help where you can, provide positive feedback and keep us informed of issues and concerns, it is only through this that we can fight our corner. Most of all, in these times of Covid, give them a big virtual hug.

Thank you.

**Ian Cooper**

## How timebanking can make a difference

Warwickshire County Council has released a video to show individuals and community groups how they can make a difference by joining the increasing number of volunteers taking part in the county's timebanks. Timebanking is a simple social way to connect with other people to swap or share skills and services. It brings together volunteers to support, and receive support from, their neighbours in their communities. You can watch the video on the Warwickshire County Council YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fii0yvJ4fMc>.

Timebanking works by mutual exchange of time in the form of credits – one hour for one credit. It is a way for people to help others in their community and be rewarded for it, in time. For every hour you give helping someone, you receive one hour back, called a time credit. To join, you need to be over 14 years old and have two people who can vouch for you. Every person has the same value. Everyone's time is valued equally, so one hour of sharing skills or helping others is recognised by giving that person one hour as a time credit – a community loyalty point. Credits can be spent to purchase other members' skills or services, or banked for future use. Alternatively, you can donate them to the community pot to help others.

Examples of the type of activities and support that can be offered and received through timebanking, as demonstrated in the animation, include everything from help with household tasks like putting pictures on a wall, to support with completing business paperwork, to learning Spanish!

All volunteers will be given guidance to ensure they have the support and skills they need by their local Time4Warwickshire timebank. Timebanking can be accessed through a computer, mobile app, or a telephone call. Visit <https://tol2.timebanking.org/time4warwickshire> for more information.

## Local Government Boundary Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England are reviewing the ward boundaries of Stratford on Avon District Council (<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/west-midlands/warwickshire/stratford-on-avon>) to equalise the electorates in each ward. District Councillors instructed Officers to independently prepare a proposal to be sent to the commission to avoid any accusation of gerrymandering. Under this set of proposals Shipston North ward would remain as currently constituted, meanwhile Stretton-on-Fosse would no longer be part of Shipston South ward. The proposals from the District Council and other interested parties will be reviewed by the independent commission ahead of a further public consultation later this year.



## News from Shipston Town Council's June meeting

**Tesco Store:** The Council has submitted an objection to Tesco's planning application for signage, echoing concerns expressed by nearby residents. The Council's objection stated that 24/7 illumination is intrusive and the style is not in keeping with the store's location in a conservation area.

**South Warwickshire Local Plan:** Approval was given to submit a consultation response prepared by the Planning Committee. It expresses concern about the scale of ongoing development and the lack of sufficient growth in infrastructure. The response also requested ongoing involvement in the formation of the plan and a plea for a more joined-up approach to development.

**Sports Club Play Area:** Councillors approved a proposal to replace a broken picnic table with a wheelchair accessible model, subject to a maximum cost of £500.

**Play Area Signage:** The statutory signage for play areas will be replaced with new aluminium signs.

**Security Barriers:** Councillors discussed the need for security barriers at the Mayo Road recreation ground, London Road sports club and little rec to prevent vehicles from trespassing. The General Purposes Working Group will seek detailed costs for barriers for consideration at the next Town Council meeting.

**Forum Delivery:** It was agreed that there will be a trial delivery of the July Shipston Forum through Royal Mail to all residential properties in the CV36 4 postcode.

**Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR):** Following confirmation of an extension to the end of June, Councillors approved the report subject to a review of contributions from Shipston Area Flood Action Group.

**Hedge Clearance:** A £2,000 grant to Shipston Excelsior Football Club for clearing hedges at the hub was approved, subject to audit of expenditure.

### Town Council Vacancies

Following the resignation of Fay Ivens and Sarah Timms from the Town Council, there are two unfilled vacancies. No requests for an election were made before the statutory deadline so they will now be filled by co-option.

Anyone interested in filling this vacancy should contact the town clerk for further details:

[clerk@shipstononline.org](mailto:clerk@shipstononline.org)

### Shipston Area Flood Action Group Programme of Works

On 14th June, the Town Council unanimously approved amendments to the budget for Shipston Area Flood Action Group's (SAFAG) programme of works for the remainder of the year. Two further projects, amounting to £5,000 of work have now been fully scoped and agreement has been reached with the landowners. A total of £78,000 of expenditure is now planned in 2021, funded through £46,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy grants via Stratford on Avon District Council, £30,000 in grants from the Environment Agency and drawing £2,000 from an existing balance of £40,000.



All of the schemes delivered by SAFAG are reviewed by the relevant flood authority to ensure compliance with environmental and health and safety regulations. The adverse weather means that the programme of works is currently running a month behind schedule. Any work unable to be completed before October when conditions become unworkable will be rolled into the 2022 programme.

### Park Closure

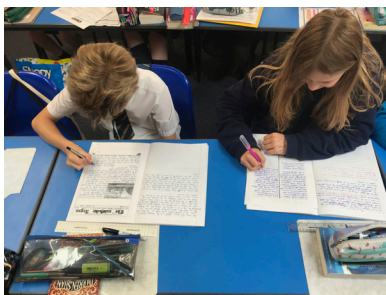
Mayo Road and Queens Avenue play parks have been closed off for safety reasons and the Town Council would ask that this is respected by all whilst the council work to resolve the issue.



## Shipston Primary School

### WONDERFUL WRITING

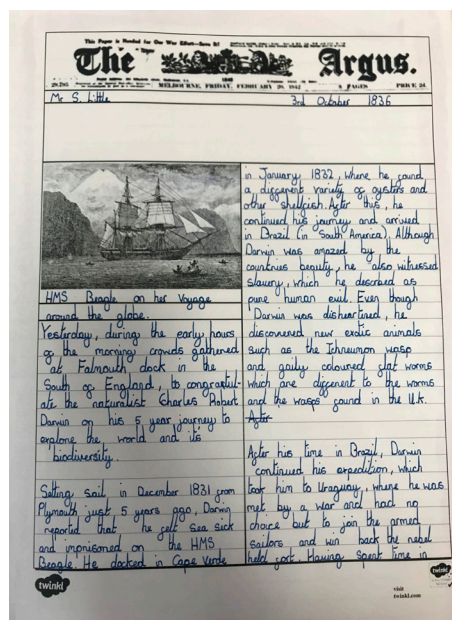
For the past four years we have been taking part in No More Marking, an online system that uses a comparative judgement approach for assessing writing in Years 1 to 6. In each year group's writing window, children complete an independent piece of writing from a picture stimulus which is then uploaded and assessed anonymously by teachers across the country by comparing two pieces of writing on the screen and choosing the better piece of work (if we are asked to compare two items or two tasks, we generally give much more reliable and consistent answers. Research has led many psychologists to conclude that human judgement is comparative, not absolute.) The system generates whole-school and nationally benchmarked data to



see how we compare, including a 'writing age' for each child.

In the recent Year 2 window 11,169 teachers took part from 784 primary schools, judging writing from 33,336 children. The overall reliability of the judging was 0.9, which shows a high level of consistency between teachers. Our Year 2 average writing age was 8 years and 11 months, compared with the national average writing age of 7 years and 7 months!

Similar patterns have been seen in the other completed writing windows completed so far, where our Year 3 and Year 5 cohorts were at least one year above the national comparison writing age. Acorns and Brailes, the other two schools in The Stour



Federation Partnership were also significantly above the national average.

I've been collecting excellent examples of writing since the Easter holidays and have been spoilt for choice across our school and across The Stour Federation Partnership. I'm so proud of the resilience shown by the children to improve their writing stamina after lockdown. I'm proud of the expertise our teachers and teaching assistants demonstrate in the teaching of English.

### PAWS, CLAWS AND WHISKERS

As part of the Year 1 topic Paws, Claws and Whiskers, Robins and Wrens classes have been making animal enclosures, as well as writing stories in the style of Judith Kerr's *The Tiger Who Came To Tea*.

### BRAILES CARETAKER VACANCY

Brailes C of E Primary School, part of The Stour Federation with Shipston-on-Stour Primary School and Acorns Primary School in Long Compton, is looking for an outstanding caretaker for our wonderful school site and buildings, including a brand new Nursery classroom extension. We would be keen to hear about your experience and what you can offer.

Hours of work (with some flexibility): 7.30am - 9.00am and 3.00pm - 6.00pm Monday - Friday during term time plus 22.5 hours per week flexible working during school holidays. 20 days holiday per year (to be taken in school holidays) plus bank holidays.

Salary: Scale D SCP 4 £18933 pro-rata.

Please read the job description and the person specification at before completing the application and equality forms and return to: [admin3014@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3014@welearn365.com). Visits to the school are encouraged with COVID-19 secure measures in place. These can be scheduled by calling the school office on 01608 685253 or by email: [admin3014@welearn365.com](mailto:admin3014@welearn365.com).

<https://www.brailescofprimary.org.uk/vacancies/>

Brailes School will also be looking to recruit a cleaner starting in September 2021. If you are interested, please contact the school office.

**Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher**

## Shipston Proms

It was a good sign that not only were we able to hold our May Proms meeting in person outside but that it did not rain either! Over a well-chilled bottle of Sauvignon under the marquee at the Black Horse (just in case it did rain!) we continued our plans for our pub trail weekend in Shipston and Brailes over the 4th and 5th September.

With all the pubs getting involved plus a couple of the cafes, it is going to be a lively musical weekend. The trail will be starting lunchtime on Saturday and finishing late evening. As usual we will be staggering the start of the music in venues around the town. Plans for the Sunday are still being finalised. Pubs and cafes involved are The White Bear, Coach and Horses, The George, The Horseshoe, White Horse, Thirst Edition, El Café and The Three Ewes. In Brailes we have the George Inn and the Gate signed up.

Bands are currently being approached and we will be able to give you an idea of who is playing in the next edition of the Forum.

Another important matter on the agenda was the colour of our T-shirts, showing that it's not all about the music! That decision sadly had to wait for another day as not all Proms committee members were present.

We have been really excited to be arranging something 'Proms' for this year after the cancellation of the last two Proms events and the weekend will be a great chance to support all our lovely pubs and the live bands we have missed. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Shipston High School

As we approach the end of the school year, the unusual circumstances of the pandemic over the last 15 months or so have enabled us to consider the role of Shipston High School in the community. We are very proud of how everyone in the school, adults and students, have worked together this year to enable us to focus on our core business; education.

Shipston High School is a community of over 600 students and staff. On any average week day, the school is one of the largest organisations in Shipston on Stour. Every day, we work together to create a learning focussed environment to ensure that students in the school receive high quality academic lessons, along with developing positive traits of personal character.

As a result of our focus on ensuring that local children have a good local secondary school, students consistently achieve strong GCSE grades. These grades enable students to access a range of excellent post 16 provision in the area, and fulfilling careers beyond education.



The events of the pandemic have focussed schools on the work we do to support students pastorally, and Shipston High School has continued to prioritise the wellbeing of our students. The last year has been challenging for us all, including many new expectations on schools, but hard work and cooperation have allowed the school to thrive.

Throughout this year, we have recognised that the best thing we can do for the local community is to do what we do best; focus our expertise on supporting and educating young people, preparing them for adult life. It has been busy, but extremely worthwhile.

At this time of year we normally welcome students from year 6 to visit the school in advance of joining Shipston High School in September. Whilst our normal transition activities may be adapted this year, the school will ensure that all new pupils are welcomed into our community. We very much look forward to welcoming them in September.

In 2021, year 11 students have not taken their examinations as usual. The government has worked with Ofqual, the national body responsible for examinations, and devised a system to award GCSE grades to all pupils based on work completed in school. Shipston High School has worked with exam boards to support the awarding of fair and objective grades to our students. It is the exam boards who will decide the final grade awarded, not the school. The school has no influence over the calculation of the final grades awarded by exam boards, so we look forward with anticipation to the publishing of GCSE grades later in the summer.

Whilst the school community has been affected by the pandemic, it has been powerful to observe that the Shipston High School values live in our students' impressive commitment and attitudes. The school is defined by our shared values of learning, respect, ambition and achievement.

**Gavin Saunders, Headteacher**

## Shipston on Stour Probus Club

On May 21st we had a most interesting talk entitled 'Time Through the Ages' given by John Hope.

A potentially deeply philosophical topic- what is time? ("the indefinite continued progress of existence and events in the past, present, and future regarded as a whole"! ). John, thankfully, concentrated on the measurement of time.

Calendars were first used to measure time, originally lunar systems with 13 months in a year and then the Romans adopted the 12 month solar time. How did we arrive at the concept of an hour? The Egyptians divided time into two – day and night with 12 hours for each and sixty seconds being conveniently divisible by twelve. For three thousand years the sundial, also originating in Egypt in various forms was the chief means of time measurement.

Al-Jazari (1136-1206) a remarkable Muslim inventor, designed a candle clock and an elephant water clock (also the camshaft and flush toilets!)

Mechanical clocks arrived around the 1200 AD. Galileo invented the pendulum in approximately 1602 which enabled Huygens to design a long case pendulum clock. Water clocks were developed in most countries including one by Newton in England.

A major problem of early navigation was how to establish longitude while at sea. An Englishman, John Harrison took 30 years in the late 17th century to invent the maritime chronometer thus enabling vessels to measure their position using longitude.

The development of railway transport presented another time

related problem. In the 19th century, time in Britain varied according to geographical position and the railway companies needed to establish a common time for their timetables. November 1840 was the first recorded occasion when different local mean times were synchronised and a single standard time applied throughout the country.

In modern times the atomic clock (1955) is accurate to one second within 30 million years!

We still have one time-related problem – it takes the earth 365.24 days to revolve around the sun. A leap second is a one-second adjustment that is occasionally needed. Time remains a man-made concept!

### Upcoming Talks

The following future talks have been organised for members over the next 6 weeks or so:

**June 4th, 2021:** 11.00 - 'Alternative Realities -The future of artificial intelligence on Society' – by John Hanby – Zoom ID 872 5127 4837

**June 18th, 2021:** 11.00 - 'Radio and TV hoaxes' – by Mike Aggleton - Zoom ID 840 4850 1339

**July 2nd, 2021:** Social get together (Covid rules permitting) venue to be confirmed.

**July 16th, 2021:** 10.45 for 11.00 'Typewriter to Technology' by Alison Harris – Zoom ID 824 7821 3038

For further information contact the club secretary, Tony Joint, on 01608 663407 – 07711 310272 or tonyjoint73@hotmail.com





Stour Valley Lions



## Olympic Scarecrow Festival 2021

Saturday 23 July to Sunday 1 August



### Competition

To create a scarecrow in your garden based on the theme of the Olympics

Age 0 – 15

Judging August 2

Prizes of £30, £20 and £10 tokens

Application details on the Stour Valley Lions Web Site from July 1

[www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/stourvalley](http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/stourvalley)

and The Post Office, High Street, Shipston on Stour

Completed information should be returned to:

Peter Hougham, 2 Bosley Close, Shipston on Stour

Voting by public via Lions email ([stourvalleylions@gmail.com](mailto:stourvalleylions@gmail.com)) from July 23 – August 1

A map showing location of scarecrows and result will be published on July 23 at the Post Office, Lions website and Facebook

([www.en-gb.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Stour-Valley-Lions-Club-1443747429239833](https://www.en-gb.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/Stour-Valley-Lions-Club-1443747429239833))



**Hello Little Shipstonian!** How are you doing this month? We hope you're enjoying the lovely summer weather and getting outside for some exploring or playtime? This month looks a little bit different as we mark Children's Art Week from the 29th June to the 19th July. So to celebrate the benefits that art can bring we have created a simple activity for you to have a go at. Below you will see lots of leaf shapes. Your job is to complete the leaf shape (the first half is done for you) and then add whatever pattern you fancy doing. Then when you've done that, you can add some lovely bright colours. Give it a go and we shall see you again next month!





**Saturday mornings**

**10.00-12.00**

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

**We are open to anyone.**

**No referral or voucher needed.**

***Over the past twelve months we have regularly helped over 115 families in many of our local villages. Your donations are essential as there is no government support for many of these people.***

Donations of basic items can be left in the church porch during our opening hours.

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)

## District Council update

Planning is a tricky customer! It strikes me that we rarely see the planning we want, despite how hard we work - one of the main problems is the length of time it takes for permissions to be implemented. Since I was elected in 2015 to the District Council I have had direct input into only one of the Camden Road developments. Let me explain - I was invited to meet the developer, with an officer present, to discuss what I wanted to see. I asked for water butts, bird bricks and the possibility of solar panels and broadband infrastructure. Quite rightly, the developer told me that they would comply with Building Control - but - that was it! So much for influencing the process. I have been able to put in objections to the final stages of developments - but have had no other influence as the planning was already decided. We were never going to get a supermarket (although there is a glimmer of a sniff of interest from one company), medical centre or petrol station - it wasn't on the cards. Our underground infrastructure is creaky - and I have a bit more influence on drains these days! I am hopeful that we can use the new planning legislation in our favour. If it goes through then we can legitimately claim that Shipston is a protected area rather than a development area. Yes, we need jobs and more businesses based here - and we can - I hope - do some zoning for that.



**Jo Barker, District Councillor, Shipston South**  
07748968712 | jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk

## County Council update

This month I want to focus on our young people. I'm sure that they are even more fed up with the constraints on their lives and the pent up feeling of not knowing what next with covid, than those of us who are older! They are probably wondering - when will I have my first kiss? Will I actually be able to sit a real exam? When I leave home will things be normal and will I be safe? Am I strong enough to cope with life? Big things, big thoughts and big reactions. I keep hearing about low level anti social behaviour, increasing drug taking, rule flouting and complete lack of respect for other people. Frankly, after the last 18 months I am not entirely surprised. In Shipston we normally have lots to offer our young people - compared to many places - but at present this is limited.

Scouting and sports are back. But being spontaneous is difficult - have you booked to go for a swim or go to the gym?

One huge loss at the moment has been Youth Club (I'm a trustee) because the "Outhouse" has been condemned by the school. Over the months young people who relied on Youth Club as an outlet have not had it. We have not been able to support their mental health, talk about life, share jokes or serious problems - we haven't been able to be there. Warwickshire County Council supported the Youth Club in 2012 - when the youth service was rationalised - and Shipston was held out as a beacon for our shared commitment with the school, to our young people. For those of you who've benefited over the past 57 years, those of you who want to go to YC and those who want our youth to have as much opportunity to thrive as many of us have - please support us as we bring back Youth Club. And when kids are a bit rowdy this summer - remember what they have put up with - for us.

**Jo Barker, District Councillor, Shipston South**  
07748968712 | jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk

## Letter from Ali Dibbens

So, Shipston - it feels as if we have lost once again. The latest of our fast-dwindling amenities to disappear, after 57 wonderful years, is our Youth Club.

Unfortunately, although our town has grown exponentially over that time it is less exciting for teenagers than when I was a youngster here myself. The Youth Club was a life-saver for me back then and has been the same for thousands more kids over the years of its existence. The life-changing benefits of the town's Youth Club for me were to prove many and invaluable:

1. As I did not go to Shipston High the Club enabled me to reconnect with my primary school friends and expand my social connections.
2. It was somewhere to escape to for two evenings a week from our overcrowded home. It was easily accessible and easy to get to and therefore afforded a degree of independence.
3. It was and remains affordable (half-a-crown (12.5p) for the whole week in my day!).
4. It was safe and staffed by caring and interested adults under the leadership of

highly trained youth workers who listened, encouraged and instilled in me a belief that I could challenge myself and be who I wanted to be. I did not feel I had to be the best but just be there and give it a go.

5. It instilled a priceless feeling of belonging to a community and of being able to engage in any particular activity that appealed, no matter what my level of skill or aptitude.

6. It was a place where we were given freedom to dress as we wished and act as our true selves as long as it was with respect and friendship to others.

7. It provided countless opportunities for activities that appealed to every type of child, from quizzes, river-clearing, canoeing, carnivals to every type of sport and foreign travel. My first trip abroad was with the Youth Club to Italy where we helped complete a holiday chalet for deprived local children. We raised the funds ourselves for this venture. What an experience!

8. And last, but not least, the fantastic DoE award scheme which taught service to the community, survival skills and expeditions culminating in two gruelling but unforgettable weeks in the Isle of Arran.

Those of you who know me will hopefully appreciate that these teenage experiences have set a positive pattern in my life when working with young people. The values of socialisation, engagement with others and exercise are the foundation of what I believe creates a more rounded adult and I hope that it has inspired many others to feel the same.

So, all these years later, when we are told that society has progressed on so many levels, it is extremely sad to hear that once again Shipston teenagers are being disenfranchised and will have even less than I had all those years ago. It seems they are being encouraged to stay in front of their electronic devices in their bedrooms and not get out and explore the challenges of the outside world and accrue all of the necessary benefits that this entails. The message could be construed that we don't care so why should they?

If you have fond recollections of Youth Club or are new to town but see the need to keep the Club on the school site, please write to the Shipston Forum or contact Daniel Pulham at svbc99@gmail.com.

**Ali Dibbens**  
Shipston Youth Worker 1976 - 2002

## Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

### What's going on with seeing a GP Face to Face?

There has been a lot in the media recently about face to face consultations with GPs. Throughout the pandemic we have continued to see patients face to face where this was warranted. Like all healthcare settings we need to weigh up risks to patients and staff against benefits, and thus more consultations have taken place remotely than was previously the norm. Remote consultation methods (i.e. telephone conversations or e-consults) suit some healthcare interactions very well and are appreciated by patients. For some patients they are not preferable and certainly where examination is needed we absolutely need to see people face to face. Face to face consultations continue to be possible following a conversation with a GP.

Nationally the level of general practice consultations in March 2021 (latest figures at the time of writing) were 11% higher than the levels seen in 2019. This is certainly replicated in our community and we are experiencing a very high level of demand for our services.

The pandemic has negatively impacted on the mental health of many of us and we are seeing a much greater need in this area than ever before. We also have many questions and queries about

vaccines and patients suffering with long-covid types of consultations that did not exist previously.

We are highly aware that when you are poorly you want to access a clinician easily and we want to provide this service to you. However, we do need to ensure we provide a safe service, both in terms of donning PPE and cleaning between patients, and also ensuring our clinicians can make safe decisions - you wouldn't want to be on an aeroplane where the pilot had worked for 14 hours without a break.

Like everyone else, the pandemic has impacted on our team, and to keep the service running we need to look after them as well as look after our patients.

We encourage patients to seek advice about common ailments, such as colds, minor pains, stomach upsets and other short self-limiting illnesses from our community pharmacy colleagues. We need to make sure our GPs and Advanced Care Practitioners (ACPs) time is used to best effect.

We are currently looking at recruiting additional clinical colleagues to help serve the needs of our growing population, but the necessary lead in time for recruitments means we won't see the benefits of this for a few months yet.

To give you an idea of the volume of work

that is currently being undertaken these are some of our statistics from the week of 10th – 14th May.



Shipston Medical Centre

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Total
GP/ACP Phone Calls	136	117	129	129	134	645
GP/ACP Face to Face Appointments	41	39	40	31	41	192
Nurse Phone Appointments	25	14	11	37	25	112
Nurse Face to Face Appointments	76	67	59	74	64	340

Number of eConsults dealt with	200
Number of items dispensed?	2431

In addition to appointments we also do regular reviews of residents at Ellen Badger, Low Furlong, Rosedale and Shipston Lodge.

We have limited space in the building and struggle to accommodate our staff whilst maintaining social distancing. We, like you, also have instances where our staff have been unwell, or have indeed had to isolate and these all add to the stresses of trying to continue to provide the best service we can.

It's been, and continues to be, a challenging time for us all, and we thank you for your support and understanding. We are working hard to try and address issues.



#### Age Concern Lunch Clubs run 3 Lunch Clubs in Shipston for the elderly.

We are currently looking for Volunteers for our Tuesday Club at Stour Court where the current team have just reluctantly hung up their aprons after 20+years- you can tell how much they have enjoyed it. Our customers - usually have between 15 and 20 - come from Shipston and surrounding villages. They all are very appreciative of the meal, which for some of them is the only social contact they have during the week.

Ideally we need a Team of 3

Tuesday lunchtimes between 11 and 1-30 at Stour Court in Shipston

Meals are Appetito cooked from frozen with fresh vegetables.

All equipment provided

We usually have a Raffle, prizes brought by the customers.

A sense of humour and willingness to chat is essential!

Please contact Jill Case on 01608 662226 if you are interested.

### 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)

## Your Town Councillors


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*Finance Working Group Chair*

t: 01608 663785

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

**Sheelagh Saunders, Deputy Mayor**
*Staffing Working Group Chair*

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 e: [sheelagh.saunders@shipstontowncouncil.org](mailto:sheelagh.saunders@shipstontowncouncil.org)

**Ronnie Murphy**

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**Paul Tesh**
*Planning Committee Chair*

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**John Dinnie**

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**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*

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

**Marianne Westwood**

t: 01608 662223

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

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

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

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

**Peter Cowley**
*Heritage & Leisure Projects Working Group Chair*

t: 01608 664241

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

**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
<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  
 (Currently closed to the public)

**Town Clerk**

 t: 01608 662180 e: [clerk@shipstononline.org](mailto:clerk@shipstononline.org)
**County Council Contact:**
**Councillor Jo Barker**

 t: 07748 968712 e: [jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk)
**District Council Contacts:**
**Councillor Jo Barker (Shipston South)**

t: 07748 968712

 e: [jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk)
**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:**
**First Wednesday 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.

# STOUR VALLEY LION'S CINEMA



Certificate 12A

## TOWNSEND HALL

**FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2021 at 7.30pm**

**Advance Tickets £5.00 (socially distanced seats)**

**From: A. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston On Stour.**

**Covid restrictions – please wear a mask/hand sanitise on arrival.**

**Hall will have window ventilation.**

**No interval this month.**

**Any enquiries please email: [stourvalleylions@gmail.com](mailto:stourvalleylions@gmail.com)**