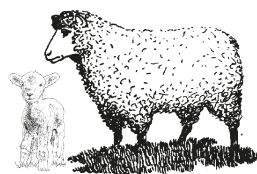




Shipston Forum

The Wool Fair Issue



May 2018

Shipston gets set to celebrate the town's 10th Wool Fair

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the Shipston Wool Fair – an annual celebration linking with the town's history and its importance in medieval times as a livestock town, specifically sheep. In recent years, the Wool Fair has grown from a one day celebration to a full Woolly Weekend and this year will be no different, with events taking place from 26th to 28th May.

Kicking off the Wool Fair weekend will be the Totally Locally Arts and Crafts market on Saturday 26th May. Sheep Street and The Bury will become a treasure trove of handmade and unusual goods, including soaps, ceramics, paintings, wood craft, textiles and up-cycled furniture.

On Sunday, Shipston Rotary is holding a Community Songs of Praise at St Edmunds Church at 3pm followed by tea and homemade cakes.

Bank Holiday Monday (28th) will see the town transformed, as the Wool Fair itself takes place. The jam-packed anniversary programme will see rare breeds paraded in the town, live sheep-shearing, and the opportunity to learn about the traditional crafts of spinning, weaving and knitting.

Retailers, clubs and charities will be lining the streets, offering games, competitions, raffles and retail therapy, much of which will be supporting local good causes. Refreshments will be available, both from stall holders and local cafes and restaurants, while music and dance will be keeping visitors entertained throughout, so why not come for the day and make the most of this annual event.

Chair of the Wool Fair, Ronnie Murphy, said: "2018 marks a huge milestone for everyone who has worked so



hard to bring the Wool Fair back to Shipston, which is now one of the town's most popular events. We are extremely excited about this year's celebrations and look forward to seeing record numbers of residents and visitors taking part in the fun."

The Shipston Wool Fair was resurrected in 2009 after a lapse of around 150 years. Each year the Wool Fair organisers have introduced new features, including the Shipston Tapestry for the Queen's Jubilee year, and a woollen hat knitted on the day of the Fair from that day's sheep shearing.

It was last year's Wool Fair that introduced the town to 'yarn bombing'. The locally knitted 'yarn bombs' saw everything from lampposts and benches to shrubs and bollards adorned with colourful knitted creations. The positive response from local residents and visitors was overwhelming and yarn bombing will again be an exciting feature in the town.

Town Mayor, Dan Scobie, said: "On behalf of the town, I would like to wish the Wool Fair Committee every success for this year's events and look forward to joining in the celebrations."

The Wool Fair is made possible thanks to committed volunteers and the generous support of sponsors. Find out more at www.shipstonwoolfair.co.uk.

Calling all knitters – join the knitathon!

In keeping with the Wool Fair's tradition of a new feature every year, 2018 will see the town host its first 'knitathon'.

The ten-hour knitathon starts at 5.45am on 29th May and finishes at 3.45pm. Squares will be knitted throughout the 10 hours which, after the Wool Fair, will be made up into blankets and sent to support Hamlin Fistula UK. Anyone willing to pick up a pair of knitting needles can take part – to find out more, please contact Ronnie Murphy on 664518.

Don't miss this year's extra celebration on 5th May

As part of the 10th anniversary celebrations, a Wool Fair Farm Day will be held on the 5th of May at Lower Clopton Farm. Attractions at the Wool Fair 'Day on the Farm' will include working sheep dogs, an exhibition of vintage tractors, birds of prey on display, a farm trail, and traditional crafts. See page 9.

Mayor's column



This is my final column as Mayor, so I feel it's appropriate to look back at some of the highlights of the year.

It has truly been an honour and a privilege to serve the town as Mayor. It's been a great year and has certainly led me to meet some wonderful people and attend many memorable occasions.

One of my favourites of the year was the chance to visit and congratulate Roy Claridge on the occasion of his 100th birthday. It was great to meet him and hear some of his stories of his times in Shipston. He has the bearing of a far younger man and is a true inspiration.

I've spoken many times of the events in Shipston, and I want to reiterate my heartfelt thanks to those who work so hard to put these on. Our events are a defining characteristic of Shipston, and we'd be much the poorer without them.

Other highlights have included the opening of Low Furlong, attending the 75th anniversary dinner for Kineton Barracks, and the Christmas Community Lunch which was a lot of fun.

Another more solemn event was the Remembrance Parade and Service at St Edmund's. It was humbling to be able to lay the wreath on behalf of the Town Council, and the service was very moving. I firmly believe that this act of remembrance is one of the most important things we can do.

Finally, I'd like to thank my fellow councillors for their support during the year, and wish every success to the next Mayor who will be elected at the Town Council meeting on the 13th May.

Dan Scobie

New qualification for Shipston Town Council's Administrative Assistant

Jayne Potter, Shipston Town Council's Administrative Assistant, has successfully achieved the CiLCA Level 3 qualification.

CiLCA is a Certificate in Local Council Administration. It covers key aspects of a clerk's work, including the law, procedures, finance, planning and community involvement.

Mayor, Dan Scobie, presented Jayne with her certificate at the April Town Council meeting. "On behalf of the town council, I would like to congratulate Jayne on her new qualification which will prove extremely useful in her role working with the Town Clerk".



From trauma to triumph in 24 hours as community responds to arson attack

Shipston Rugby Club fell victim to a suspected arson attack overnight on 13/14th April. The contents of a shipping container housing all the training equipment for the mini and junior teams was reduced to ashes, leaving the club in desperate need of help.

While police began inquiries, the local community swung straight into action. A 'Go fund me' page was set up by Rugby Club Chairman, Dan Scobie, with the initial aim of raising £3,000 towards replacement kit. Within 24 hours, over £5,000 had been donated by club users, concerned residents and businesses, as well as neighbouring rugby clubs. At the time of going to press, the fund had risen further to over £6,200.

Club Chairman and Town Mayor Dan Scobie, said: "As a club we've been overwhelmed by the support and generosity that's been shown. It really demonstrates that whilst there may be a small number of people who commit crimes like this, the vast majority are good decent supportive people. These donations will go directly towards supporting the young people of Shipston and the surrounding area in their rugby training."

Shipston has seen an increase in vandalism recently, including an attack on an abandoned vehicle at the Sports and Social Club and the destruction of ornaments in the Sensory Garden. If you have any information that could help the police with their inquiries, please call 01789 444670 or 101.



New micro pub launches in Shipston

Last month saw the launch of new micro pub, Thirst Edition, on Church Street. The new venue sells real ales from the cask, as well as a selection of wines, gins and ciders and has already received some very positive reviews.

For more information and opening times, visit www.facebook.com/ThirstEdition/

The Townsend Hall needs your support



The Townsend Hall 150 Club has a few spaces left in its monthly draw. To be in with a chance of winning a cash prize every month, contact Mike Ashley on 661403.

The Townsend Hall is also desperately seeking a new Treasurer. If you have a flair for finance, please contact Mike on the number above. Thank you.

News from Shipston Town Council's April meeting

Hot topics:

Poor pavement: Brian Healey reported concerns about the state of the pavement outside 25 Berry Avenue. County Councillor Jo Barker will follow this up with Highways.

Blooming beauties: Fay Ivens congratulated Shipston in Bloom on the wonderful daffodil displays around the town. For more information on how Shipston in Bloom transforms the town's flowerbeds, see pages 8-9.

Flooded park: Mayo Road play area is still closed due to flooding. It is hoped that the situation will improve once the drainage work at the Rugby Club has been completed.

Cemetery entrance: The General Purposes Working Group is looking at potential improvements to tackle the deep dips that have appeared in the entrance to the cemetery.

New bus service: A new bus service has been launched by Warwickshire County Council in partnership with the Shipston Link to provide a regular Saturday shopping service to Stratford. The service, called the No. 10, starts on 21st April and includes stops at Waitrose, Bridge Street and Maybird Shopping Park.

Tourist office: Marianne Westwood reported that there are plans to host a new tourist information centre at New Clark House temporarily, with voluntary support from Shipston Timebank.

Speeding: A local resident alerted the council to speeding on Old Road which is of particular concern due to the number of elderly and less mobile residents at Stour Court. Jo Barker offered to raise the matter with Highways to see whether a reduced speed limit or other measures could be considered.

Litter and smoke pollution: Councillors were asked by a resident to look into the impact that new business, Thirst Edition, is having on litter and smoke pollution to see whether anything can be done to reduce the risk of smoke entering neighbouring properties and cigarette butts being discarded on the pavement.

Sensory garden vandalism: Dan Scobie shared concerns about recent vandalism at the Sensory Gardens. Local police have increased local patrols in the area and further plans are in progress to address the issue.

Food Bank: Food Bank packs are now being distributed from New Clark House (Mon-Fri 9am-12pm) and St Edmund's Church (Wednesdays 9:30am -12pm).

Residents invited to attend Shipston's Annual Civic Service

Mayor, Dan Scobie, will be hosting the annual Civic Service at St Edmund's church on Saturday, 13th May at 3pm.

This event is a celebration of the town, and is aimed at members of all faiths and those of none.

Representatives from all the churches in Shipston have been invited as well as representatives from neighbouring towns and villages.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Campaigning for Shipston:



Planning consultations: Shipston Town Council has responded to consultations affecting Shipston's long term planning future. A map of sites put forward by landowners or developers for consideration for future development can be downloaded from the district council's website.

Flooding: Martin Ferrier visited some of the sites impacted by water run off during the heavy rain, accompanied by Warwickshire flood risk officers. Taylor Wimpey have installed hay bales to filter out silt being washed off their site and affecting Oldbutt Road. However, the culvert became blocked before the bales were in place and Shipston Town Council will be requesting help from the developer to clear it.

Portabello delayed again: Jo Barker reported that work to install traffic lights at the Portabello crossroads has been delayed again. A vital part of the design process – the lighting – has not yet been completed. County Council officers are now working on the designs and it is likely that the work will go ahead in the summer. Jo Barker has requested weekly updates (see county council column on page 14).

Ellen Badger update: A public meeting to talk about plans for the Ellen Badger hospital is due to take place on Tuesday, 1st May, from 6.30pm, at the Townsend Hall on Sheep Street. Places must be booked in advance by calling 0800 085 2471 or e-mailing membership@swft.nhs.uk.

Neighbourhood Plan: In order to fit with the meeting cycle at Stratford District Council, Shipston's Neighbourhood Plan Team is aiming for the public referendum to be held on Thurs 6th September.

Heritage Centre: The Heritage and Leisure Projects Team has been working hard on an application for European Funding to help fund a new heritage centre in Shipston. However, the group has been advised that an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund would be more likely to succeed. This also gives the group more time to develop their bid. Further updates will follow.

Town Council business:

Christmas light saving: Following the switch to LED bulbs last year, the electricity bill for the Christmas lights in 2017/18 is approximately 50% lower than previous years.



The Rotary Cotswold Tour d'Ilmington

If you've got a bike then put Sunday July 1st in your diary. It will be another great day of cycling for all the family, as well as cycling enthusiasts.

A 10 mile flat ride for the family, 30 miles hilly ride for the keen cyclist and 100 kilometres Eroica Ride for the enthusiast. And they all pass through Ilmington.

As in previous years the barbecue and cakes at start and finish will be mouth-watering and the refreshments near Ilmington will keep everyone fed and watered en route.

To find out more, please contact bob.armstrong@clara.co.uk



The Cotswold Tour d'Ilmington

David Lockwood Memorial Ride

Sunday JULY 1

A Great Day of cycling for the Family and Enthusiasts

10 Mile Family Ride 10.00 am start
30 Mile Climbing Challenge 10.00 am start
100k Eroica Ride for steel road & racing cycles 9.00 am start

Start and Finish from Newbold Village Hall CV37 8TU

Great refreshments Free Parking
£12 Adults £6 Juniors (12-16 yrs)

Register at www.riderhq.com
Enquiries: bob.armstrong@clara.co.uk

Shipston Library launches new Lego Club

Shipston Library has launched a new Lego club. This is a free event at the Library for children aged 6+ from 3.30pm to 4.30pm on the last Tuesday of each month.

The next session is on 29th May. Please note that children must be accompanied by an adult.

The new club is just one of many regular events available at the Library. There are weekly IT support sessions for 'silver surfers', as well as Rhyme Time and Story Stomp for younger audiences. Book-loving 6-12 year olds can take part in 'Chatterbooks' on Saturday mornings, while adults are welcome to join the 'Thursday Club' – a social group where people meet to play board games and do crafts. For dates and times, see the What's On diary on page 6 or contact Shipston Library on 01608 663438 or shipstonlibrary@warwickshire.gov.uk for details.

Thinking caps on – it's time for the Scouts Quiz

Shipston Scouts is holding a fundraising family quiz to help raise money for the 24th World Scout Jamboree being held in America in 2019.

The quiz takes place on Saturday 12th May at the Scout Hut and costs just £10 for adults, £5 for under 13s. Entry includes a burger, nachos and dips.

To book (maximum 8 per team), email 24thswjamboreefundraising@gmail.com

Fun Family Quiz Raising Funds For Participants of the 24th World Scout Jamboree

Saturday 12th May
18:45

Shipston On Stour Scout Hut

Max 8 per team.



Adults £10
Under 13s £5

Includes a burger, nachos & dips

Unique textile display comes to Shipston

A contemporary textile exhibit, created to mark the 100 year anniversary of the Coventry Diocese, will be on display in Shipston in May. Entitled 'MEND', the exhibit comprises ten textile creations on the theme of reconciliation. To find out more, visit www.quinary12.wordpress.com

At the time of going to press, exact dates were not available so please keep an eye on social media for updates.

Stour Singers Concert promises a mix of exuberance and serenity

Stour Singers is bringing together two glorious and contrasting works in a concert to be held this month in Shipston: John Rutter's exuberant "Magnificat", and Gabriel Faure's serene "Requiem".

On Saturday May 12th at 7.30.p.m. in St. Edmund's Church, returning soloists Ruth Holton (soprano) and Robert Rice (baritone), and the accomplished Queen's Park Sinfonia join the choir to perform these two beautiful choral pieces. Rutter's "Magnificat" is full of rhythmic exuberance and an immediate sense of celebration, with truly memorable tunes.

Tickets cost £12.50 and are available from A. Clarke, 27 High Street, Shipston, from choir members, and at the door. There is no charge to accompanied children.

Contact Yvonne Ridley on 01789 269587 for information.

Long Road to Ghana gets off to a great start

The Long Road to Ghana fundraising challenge has started clocking up donations for the group's two causes - Brain Tumour Research and Willing and Abel - ahead of the official challenge week in June.

Chipping Campden School, which held a non-uniform day on the last day of term, has raised over £1,000!

Pledges have also started to come in via the fundraising page and a number of clubs are already planning how they will clock up miles to support the campaign. For example, Shipston Cubs are already planning a hike and rumour has it that local cycling clubs will be battling to see who can clock up the most miles.

The Long Road to Ghana Challenge Week runs from 3-9 June, when the community is being encouraged to cover the 4,000 miles between Shipston and Ghana under their own steam, be that walking, running, cycling, swimming, sailing or roller skating! The aim is to raise enough funds to provide vital surgery for Ethan Suglo, aged just 5, via specialist charity, Willing & Abel. The challenge is also raising money for Brain Tumour Research.

The week will culminate in some last-minute miles being clocked and donations being sought in the town square, followed by a celebration event at the Rugby Club in the afternoon. Stay up to date by visiting www.facebook.com/ethansuglo25000

Monday meet-ups for babies and toddlers at Shipston Scout Hut

Shipston's new Baby and Toddler Group is a great way to start the week.

Designed for children from birth up to school age and their parents/carers, the group meets every Monday during (Warwickshire) term time, from 9.30am to 11am at The Scout Hut in Shipston.

Children enjoy playtime, crafts, a healthy snack and singing each week, while parents and carers can catch up over tea and coffee – and occasionally cake and biscuits!

The voluntary group is keen to welcome more people. Entrance is £2.00 for one adult bringing one child, 50p extra per additional child

For more information, email: shipstontoddlers@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/groups/shipstontoddlers/



Shipston Baby & Toddler Group

Shipston Proms 20th Anniversary plans are taking shape

Preparations for the 20th anniversary Proms celebrations are being finalised with plenty of music organised for the two week festival. The launch night with Mr. Ben and Too Fat to Kidnap kicks off the festival on Friday 15th June – get your tickets before they are sold out!

Music during the fortnight will include a concert at St. Edmund's by Alexander Ardakov, the Russian virtuoso pianist and a performance at the Townsend Hall from the popular Shipston Town Band, this time on a Saturday night. The Fame Contest will be held on a Sunday afternoon for the first time.

This year, the last night celebrations on Saturday 30th June, will feature Ska tribute band Badness and beatbox trio Duke amongst many other acts.



Proms fans can show their support for the event by buying a membership subscription. Membership remains the same as last year at £25 per person which includes free entry to selected events. Pick up a Proms membership form from the Shipston Proms Stall at the Wool Fair. You can also pick up a Proms leaflet if you haven't got one already and there will be entry forms for the Fame Contest.

For more information about the Proms, tune in to Paul Lewington's evening show on the North Cotswolds Community Radio show on the 21st May, when two Proms members will be talking about the Shipston Proms.

Don't miss your chance to enter the Shipston Proms Fame Contest

The Proms is just over a month away but there is still time to enter the Fame Contest on 17th June! To enter, download an entry form from the website – www.shipstonproms.org or email shipstonproms@gmail.com.

Prizes are £50 for solos/duos and £100 for groups plus of course the chance to appear centre stage at the Last Night of the Proms.



MONDAY

Citizens Advice Bureau: Mornings, New Clark House. To book call 01789 200136

Shipston Duplicate

Bridge Club: 6.45pm for 7pm, Catholic Church Hall. Penny Law 663871

Shipston Badminton Club:

Townsend Hall, 7:30pm

Shipston Baby & Toddler

Group: Term time only. 9.30-11am, Scout Hut. Contact shipstontoddlers@gmail.com

Knitting & Crochet Club:

7-9pm at Low Furlong. Contact Julie Pardoe 07956 180989 or Facebook 'Shipston knitting and crochet group'.

TUESDAY**Yoga for all abilities:**

9.30am-11am Catholic Church Hall. Contact Leigh Figures 665995

Stroke Club: Fortnightly

10am-12pm The House of Bread Retreat at The Mill,

Burmington

Rhyme time for under 2s:

10.45am Shipston Library. Free.

Age Concern Lunch Club

at Stour Court. Stella 686224

Silver Surfer Computer

Lessons, Shipston Library

2pm. Booking essential.

0300 5558171

Bingo: Alternate Tuesdays.

Doors open 6.30pm. Sheldon

Bosley Hub. 661886

Shipston on Stour

Rotarians: The White Bear,

Shipston 7.30pm. Adrian

Ramskill 07976 566525

Cantamus: 7.30-9.30pm,

Catholic Parish Hall. Richard

Emms 01608 662163.

WEDNESDAY**Coffee at St Edmunds**

Church: 10:30am – 12pm.

U3A Chicago Bridge:

Social Bridge 2pm-4.30pm,

Catholic Church Hall, Roger

Smith on 01608 238400.

Stour Valley Probud:

alternate Wednesdays at

10am, The George in Brailles.

Roger Smith on 01608 238400.

THURSDAY

Little Fishes: 9.45-11.15 am,

Townsend Hall. Baby and

toddler group run by Stour

Valley Baptist Church. £2 per

child. 50p siblings. (Term time)

Shipston Stitchers:

alternate Thursdays 10am

3pm. Catholic Church,

Darlingscote Rd. Contact Kath

Cheshire on 01608 663486.

Active Memory Group: 1st

and 3rd Thursdays, 10am

- 12noon at St Edmund's

Church. Alyson Spence 01608

661703 or 07725 892087

Story Stomp: Shipston

Library, 10.45-11.15 am.

FREE For children aged 2-4.

Age Concern Lunch

Club: Alternate Thursdays.

Gill Roach on 01295 680309

or Pauline Carr on 01386

700703

Safer Neighbourhood

Team: Fortnightly. Public surgery, 2.30pm to 3pm. New Clark House.

The Thursday Club: 2pm-

4pm, Shipston Library. Free

weekly drop-in session for

adults. Board games, puzzles,

colouring, crafts. Tea/biscuits.

Exercise for the elderly:

£5. Alternate Thursdays,

2.30-4.30, Catholic Church

Hall. Contact: Ann Smith on

238400

Stour Singers - Choral

Society: 7.30 - 9.30pm

Primary School Hall. Yvonne

Ridley 01789

269587.

Shipston Badminton Club:

Townsend Hall, 7:30pm

FRIDAY

Walks over fields with a

friendly group. Old Mill car

park at 10am. Contact:

Marlene, 663616

Shipston Probud: alternate Fridays.

Age Concern Lunch Club

at Stour Court. Call June on

684218

Knitting & Crochet Club:

2-5pm, Rainbow Fields.

Contact Julie Pardoe 07956

180989

Shipston Archers: Shipston

High School, indoors, 6pm

till 8pm. Beginners welcome.

Contact 07795 632718

Bingo Night at Rainbow

Fields: Doors open 6.30pm.

Contact Ruth Keyte on 01608

661382

SATURDAY**Shipston Archers:** Sheldon

Bosley Hub, outside, 1pm

till dark, weather permitting.

Beginners welcome. Contact

07795 632718 or 01608

664646

May Diary

1 **Norgren Bowls Club:** Kineton League vs Ilmington 6.15pm

2 **Shipston Widows:** Local lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230

Stratford Time Bank's Shipston Social Meeting: 1.30pm-3pm, Stour Court.

Norgren Bowls Club: Courier League vs Lillington 2.00pm

Shipston-on-Stour Women's Institute: Our Railway Nature Reserve and its Hidden Gems. 7pm, Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. Contact: Jane Hanks 664519

Chronic Pain Support Group: 7.30 pm, Rainbow Fields. Contact Marianne Westwood 01608 662223

3 **Shipston Cancer Support Group** Drop-In Centre: 1.30pm-3.30pm, Rainbow Fields

5 **Shipston Town Council Monthly Litter Pick:** All welcome. Meet at New Clark House, West Street at 10am. Contact: Fay Ivens 662133

Wool Fair Farm Day: See ad on page 9

Norgren Bowls Club: Friendly vs Little Compton 2.30pm

7 **Brailes 3 Hills Walk:** Start 9am-11am Brailes Village Hall. Adults £5.00, Children £1.00. Dogs welcome but must be on leads at all times.

Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:

Musical Afternoon with Marshall Smith. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684

8 **Senior Citizens Action Network (SCAN) Meeting:** Planning ahead for later life. 10am for 10.30am, Townsend Hall. Contact Jane Pearce

on 663491

9 **Shipston and District Gardening Club:** The Creation of Little Oak Vineyard by Steve Wilson Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road, 7.30pm. Contact Tony Mitchell, 01608 666933

10 **Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Committee Meeting. 7.30pm, New Clark House, West Street. All members welcome. Contact Alex Black 01608 664743

11 **Norgren Bowls Club:** Kineton League vs Avon. 6.00pm

Stour Valley Lions Cinema: See page 10

12 **Shipston Home Nursing:** Plant Sale See pg 7

Shipston Scouts Quiz: See article on page 4

Stour Singers: See ad on page 7

14 **Holiday at Home:** See ad on page 7

Shipston Town Council Monthly Meeting:

7pm, New Clark House. All welcome. Contact:

Georgina Beaumont 662180

Stour Valley Lions Monthly Business Meeting:

7.30pm, The White Bear. Visitors welcome.

Contact Lion Paul Garfield on 07828 589564 or

email paulgarfield@icloud.com

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

Patient meeting: See ad on page 10

17-19 **Shipston Amateur Dramatics presents: 'Collective Dating'** See pg 7

17 **Norgren Bowls Club:** Kineton League vs Snitterfield 6.00pm

18 **Stour Valley Carers Group - Supporting**

Dementia Carers: 10.30am-12pm, Ellen Badger Hospital. Friendly welcome for all. Contact: Carol Ruthven 662706 or Lizzy Feather 686013

Singing Down Memory Lane: Reminiscence Songs for people with memory problems. 2pm -3.30pm at Stour Court, Old Road. Contact: Barbara Smith 01608 662433.

Royal British Legion – Social. A social gathering of serving and ex-service members of HM Armed Forces at 7.30pm in the Horseshoe Inn. Contact Alex Black 664743

21 **Stour Valley Visually Impaired Group:** Outing. Contact: Shirley Pilkington 662684

22 **Shipston U3A** See ad on page 10

24 **Shipston and District Literary Society:** Outing to Stoneleigh Abbey. Contact Helen Marshall 01789740773.

26 **Newbold Plant Sale:** 10am -12.30pm, St David's Churchyard. Tombola, Refreshments, Produce Stall. Donations gratefully received, contact Gilly Marsden 01789 459168

Totally Locally Street Market: See ad page 9

27 **Community Songs of Praise:** Poems, music, and refreshments. 3pm St Edmund's Church

28 **Wool Fair:** See ad on page 16

29 **Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop in' meeting. 10.30am at the White Bear Hotel. Contact: Ann Bartlett 666161

Shipston Library Lego Club: see page 4

30 **Shipston and District Literary Society:** Dr Roger Pringle – Siegfried Sassoon's Great War. 7.30pm, The White Bear, Shipston. Contact Helen Marshall 01789 740773

STOUR SINGERS

conducted by Richard Emms

present

Rutter's *Magnificat* Fauré's *Requiem*

with
Ruth Holton*, *soprano*
Robert Rice*, *baritone*
*by arrangement with Davies Music

and the
Queen's Park Sinfonia

Saturday, 12th May 2018 at 7.30pm
St. Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour

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



Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society

Collective Dating

by V.B Leghorn

A collection of romantic comedies
based on the world of dating

17 – 19 May 2018

7.30pm at the Townsend Hall

Tickets £8 on the door or in advance
from John Lynes



PLANT & HOME PRODUCE SALE

Saturday 12th May

10am - 12 noon **Free Entry**
Sheldon Bosley Hub,
Shipston on Stour
CV36 4DQ

Plants (including vegetable plants), Jams, Chutneys, Cakes,
Biscuits, Marmalades, Pickles, Pies, Garden Produce etc.

PLANTS & PRODUCE WANTED PLEASE

Delivery of plants and produce to Sheldon Bosley Hub from 12 noon
onwards, Friday 11th May or call Nicola on 01926 651453 for prior
collection.

For more information please call Fudge Ramsay 01608 680000
or Caroline Gunn 01608 663508



Registered Charity: 1162586

Holiday at Home

Come and join our street party
(in the Townsend Hall)

on May 14th to celebrate the

Royal Wedding



Activities, games & entertainment
for the over 65s.

Townsend Hall Shipston 10am-3pm

Costs £5 for the day,
including lunch & refreshments.

To reserve your place contact

Rosemary 01608 66258

Jude 01608 663779

An event organised by Christians Together in Shipston

Shipston in Bloom

Walking around the town centre of Shipston over the last two months you will have seen a display of spring bulbs and flowers in all manner of different locations and planters. Have you ever wondered who put them there?

We caught up with Chairman of Shipston in Bloom, Simon Welch, to find out more.



“Let me dispel a myth – it was neither the elves nor the fairies!” - Simon revealed that over a period of about ten days late last October a small team of local volunteers descended upon Shipston and planted 8,000 daffodil bulbs, 1,000 tulip bulbs and 600 forget-me-not plants. The planting was designed, planned and executed by Shipston in Bloom – a committee of 10 local residents. They were assisted by half a dozen additional helpers as well as the Rotary Club, the Lions, and last but by no means least the town gardening contractors – Lawns 2 Mow.

Shipston in Bloom exists in order to make the town colourful and attractive throughout most of the year for the benefit of both residents and visitors by creating a spring bulb display and later in the summer, a display of summer bedding plants.

Simon explained that Shipston in Bloom's working year begins in early October when the summer bedding displays have finished and the plants are removed and discarded. The containers and beds are dug over and then planted with the



bulbs and plants that will blossom in the spring. The committee then start the exercise of planning for the summer bedding displays choosing a design, colour scheme and appropriate plants. By the end of December the team is ready to order approximately 4,000 plants.



“For summer 2018, we have gone for a simple, but multi-coloured scheme – trailing begonias in the planters and antirrhinums in the flat beds, with a few structural spot plants – cordylines.” Simon revealed.

At the end of April, when the bulbs have finished flowering the hard work really begins. All the bulbs are lifted and the top six inches of spent compost is removed from all the planters and replaced. Slow release fertiliser and water-retaining crystals are added. From the end of May, the bedding plants are planted out and watered in.



“Once we've completed the summer planting, we begin to relax and, along with residents and visitors, enjoy the fruits of our labour. However, keeping the plants sufficiently watered can be a major headache. We rely on rainfall and the tremendous job done by Lawns 2 Mow with their water bowser, but the 88 householder pots have to be watered more regularly.” Simon explained.

“Despite the considerable rainfall Shipston experienced on occasions, many householder pots suffered badly through lack of any water. So if you have householder pots outside your house, shop or business, could you PLEASE look at them every two or three days as you go in and out, and if the plants look sad and the compost feels dry – please give them a good water. Thank you in advance!” he added.

By the end of September, the summer display will be fading. October arrives and Shipston in Bloom's annual cycle starts again for another year.

Did you know?

Shipston in Bloom's planting areas include:

84 householder pots (small concrete planters outside the front doors of many town centre houses, shops, pubs and businesses)

44 half-barrels in various groups throughout the town

30 planters of various shapes and sizes (including the large planters in the centre of the gyratory road system, horse troughs, 5-part circular planters and small wall troughs)

8 flat beds

30 hanging baskets

Funding the blooms

Bulbs, plants, compost, fertiliser are paid for indirectly by residents via the Town Council precept (part of the council tax). In addition, the group holds a Grand Raffle at the Victorian Evening to raise funds. Shipston in Bloom also receives a small number of generous donations from some residents. The money raised (excluding the council grant) is used to fund a replacement programme of planters.

"Next time you see a senior citizen wearing a high-vis tabard labelled Shipston in Bloom, and on their knees grovelling around a flower bed or crouched over a planter, stop for a chat with us, we more than welcome suggestions for improving the town's floral displays." Simon concluded.

Shipston in Bloom would love to welcome more members. If you might be interested in joining please contact Simon Welch by phone or e-mail - 01608 663596, simon.welch@talktalk.net



What's On



SHIPSTON WOOL FAIR
10th ANNIVERSARY

In association with



LOWER CLOPTON FARM SHOP

WOOL FAIR FARM DAY

Saturday 5th May from 10am - 5pm
£2.50 per person (under 3's go free)

'A celebration of food and farming'

Working Sheep Dogs
Vintage Tractors
Birds of Prey

Farm Trail Demonstrations
Stalls selling local foods and crafts

Lower Clopton Farm Shop
Upper Quinton Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 8LQ
www.lowerclopton.co.uk
Tel: 01386 438236





FREE PARKING



SUPPORTING SHIPSTON COMMUNITY

TOTALLY LOCALLY SHIPSTON

• STREET MARKET •



ARTISTS • CRAFTS • UPCYCLED GOODS • VINTAGE AND RETRO
HANDMADE • CERAMICS • TEXTILES • BUSKING • KIDS CORNER

Saturday 26th May
10am-4pm
SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR
Town Centre on Sheep Street & The Bury

As part of Shipston's Woolly Weekend 2018
Wool Fair Bank Holiday Monday 28th May



To support all aspects of our local community and provide local residents with a platform to promote their skills and services, Totally Locally are establishing a series of town markets. If you would like to know more or get involved please visit www.totallylocally.org/shipstononstour.



Shipston Medical Centre

Patient Meeting



We need your views and opinions.

Wednesday
16th May 2018

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Shipston Primary
School
Station Road



Topics to be covered:

- ♦ Shipston Medical Centre update on services and building
- ♦ The development of Services and Estate at the Ellen Badger Hospital

Feedback and open discussion welcomed

Light refreshments provided

STOUR VALLEY LIONS 12A

"THE FEEL-GOOD FILM OF THE YEAR"



IMELDA STAUNTON TIMOTHY SPALL CELIA IMRIE DAVID HAYMAN JOHN SESSIONS JOANNA LUMLEY

FINDING YOUR FEET



SOMETIMES YOU NEED A PUSH IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

**SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL,
FRIDAY 11th May, 2018 at 7.00pm**

Advance Tickets £3.50 or £4 on the door.

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

Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608 661148

Interval for refreshments, drinks and snacks.

Disabled toilet and wheelchair access.



Tuesday 22nd May 2018
at 2 p.m. in the Townsend Hall
Four Seasons and a Festival



Four brilliant English Gardens, one for each season to showcase the best of English gardens in that season, and a festival to finish.

Presented by Adrian James
Professional Photographer & Gardener

Admission, including refreshments, £2.
Visitors are welcome

Shipston-on-Stour Area U3A is a Registered Charity No: 1170969

scan
**SENIOR CITIZENS
ACTION NETWORK**



SHIPSTON ON STOUR
and surrounding communities

Tuesday 8th May 2018

Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, Shipston on Stour

10.00am for free refreshments

10.30am start

- Moore & Tibbits Solicitors – Planning ahead for later life (power of attorney, wills, paying for care)

- Tales & Pictures of Shipston "Yarn Bombing"

Admission Free

We have a PA system in place for those who are hard of hearing

If you would like to attend SCAN meetings but have any difficulties such as personal mobility or lack of transport please telephone Jane Pearce on 01608 663491 to discuss possible ways in which we can help.

Marie Darwen on 01789 260108 or email marie.darwen@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Shipston Primary School



World Down Syndrome Day

On Wednesday 21st March it was World Down Syndrome Day. To raise awareness for advocating the rights, inclusion and well being of people with Down Syndrome, children and staff were encouraged to wear odd or brightly coloured socks.



Children were inspired by a special Carpool Karaoke video made by fifty families of children with Down Syndrome, a congenital disorder caused by having an extra 21st chromosome. The day really showed the togetherness we have in our school and wider community and it is a great start to our 'No Outsiders in Our School' by teaching the Equality Act in Personal, Social and Health Education lessons.

Manor Adventure 2018

For the fifth consecutive year, Year 5 Shipston pupils and Year 5/6 Acorns children joined together for the residential trip to Manor Adventure in Powys, Wales. Over the three days away from home, the children experienced wonderful activities, beautiful sunshine, hail, a double rainbow and lots of mud!

Over the three days children were always active in nine physically and mentally demanding challenges such as the zip wire, abseiling, climbing, archery and a very muddy blind trail.

The staff were very proud of the pupils as they were a



Shipston High School By Gavin Saunders, Headteacher

The summer term is underway and students are working well. As I mentioned last month, we are delighted that our new Year 7 students have received their offers for the autumn, and we look forward to meeting them at induction events in the summer.

Looking further ahead, families with children in the current Year five are already thinking about selecting a secondary school in the autumn applications. Shipston High will host an Open Evening on 27th September from 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm; all interested parents and students are welcome to attend. Our Open Morning is on 3rd July 2018 between 9.00 am and 10.30 am when we will present an opportunity to see the school in action. As this is a school day with students engaged in study, we do have to manage the day appropriately, so please telephone the school in advance (01608 661833) or e-mail apunt@shipstonhigh.co.uk if you would like to attend.

Around the school extracurricular events have been a real focus recently. We are very proud of our Year 8 boys who became the champions of Warwickshire at the School games level 3 sports

hall athletics recently. Well done too to our U13 girls competing at the Warwickshire girls rugby festival held at Barkers Butts RFC where they won all of their games. The girls also had the chance to watch a women's Six Nations fixture, seeing a top level international match; a rare



pleasure to take away and they challenged themselves in every activity, often surprising themselves with their hidden abilities, collaboration skills and determination to overcome their fears. Acorns and Shipston children made new friendships across the schools and some rekindled friendships from when they performed together in the Shakespeare Schools Festival.

Welcome to Foxgloves

A particularly creative pupil has been awarded first prize in a design competition launched by local housebuilder, CALA Homes. Key stage two pupils were tasked with designing a 'Welcome to your new home' card for purchasers at CALA Homes' Foxgloves development in Shipston. The designs were submitted to an independent judging panel, who selected nine year old Evie Oram as the winner.



In addition to seeing her winning design brought to life, Evie also received a £50 Waterstones gift voucher while the two runners up, ten year-old Ella Kirkman and eight year-old Phoebe Leonard, each received a £25 gift card for their designs.

Easter Service

St. Edmund's Church was packed with over 500 children, staff, parents and relatives in attendance. Rev. Nicholas Morgan led the service alongside Mr. Roberts and the majority of the Pelicans (Year 6) class, who volunteered for readings and prayers. Children attending the Calypso Kids recorder club also performed at the service.

opportunity.

Shipston High has also focused on Science and



Engineering, with representatives from the RAF visiting to lead Year 9 with their 'Fun with Flight' workshop. The session was very interesting and enabled students to make links across subjects.

Congratulations to our Year 9 team of students for taking part in the London Institute of Banking Student Investor Challenge. The students made it through to the semi-final of this competition, finishing in 16th place out of an original 800 teams. This is a great achievement, especially since they were competing against GCSE and A – level students. Well done to them all.

Exam season

Pupils in Year 11 begin their final examinations for GCSE qualifications during May, the culmination of five years' hard work at Shipston High School. Staff and pupils are working closely to ensure that results continue to impress. The crucial thing is that our pupils get the grades they need for their next steps in education, employment or training; I have no doubt that they will all do their very best and we wish them all well.



Shipston Music Society

Members and friends braved the elements to attend a recital by Margeta Nadvornikova (violin) and Charles Matthews (piano).

Marketa began playing the violin at five years old. At fifteen she studied at the Prague Conservatoire before continuing her training at the Conservatoire in Birmingham. She is now in her final year before undertaking professional appearances. Charles Matthews has performed extensively as pianist and organist; in 1999 he won 1st prize in the Franz Liszt Organ Interpretation Competition in Budapest. He is organist of St. Catharine's Church in Chipping Camden and is a tutor of piano and organ at the Birmingham Conservatoire.

The recital began with the 1st movement of Mozart's Violin Concerto in G major which immediately demonstrated Marketa's technical skills, particularly in the demanding coda section where she tackled the double and triple stopping with complete assurance. Other pieces included a short organ fugue in Bb major by Johann Baptist Wanhal which provided an interesting contrast to Janacek's Sonata for Violin and Piano which followed.

This exciting and dazzling performance was suitably rewarded by rapturous applause.



Shipston-on-Stour and Area U3A



The contribution made by women in WW2 was told by Ron Galvin of the Redditch Military History Society at the last meeting, and how this changed the view of what was previously a male-dominated society.

On the outbreak of war many powers were created, in the Defence Act and Ministries of Food, Supply and Labour, and after Dunkirk there were great shortages of manpower and equipment. So women had to step into the breach taking over many jobs previously done exclusively by men, including running the factories making everything from armaments to battledress. Factory work was in very hard conditions, with eleven hour shifts, and often dangerous as factories were bombed. Thousands joined the Armed Forces, driving ambulances, working on anti-aircraft guns and other jobs which were considered non-dangerous. But many women were killed, including others in the Fire Service, Civil Defence and Women's Voluntary Service.

The UK was the first modern nation to mobilize women, all those unmarried and not in reserved occupations. A small group of women pilots, delivering the large bomber planes to operational units, were the first women to achieve equal pay with men for the same job.

Shipston WI

The Shipston-on-Stour WI has planned a visit to the Forge Mill Needle Museum in Redditch later in the year, so Paul Betterton's talk about the History of Needlemaking in Redditch was particularly apt.



Needles have been made in Redditch since the 1790s and continued until very recently when, unfortunately, changes in safety legislation meant the 250+ year old industry was no longer viable. The work is labour intensive and was considered unsafe. Now this skilled and valuable business is carried out in China. It takes fifteen basic processes to produce a seemingly simple sewing needle. Redditch exported their needles throughout the world and the range of needles they made is enormous – the longest being 6'6" to sew the studs into a mattress, and the smallest, a 4.7mm needle for eye surgery. The industry was centred in the water driven mill (later steam powered) with much of the finishing done by outworkers in their homes.

The Warwickshire WI Federation is 100 years old and there are various events arranged to celebrate. All WIs in Warwickshire have been given an oak whip to plant in their town/village. The Shipston Branch is trying to think of somewhere suitable to put theirs (suggestions gratefully received).

The next meeting will be 2nd May with Jean Cholerton talking about Our Railway Nature Reserve and its Hidden Gems. As usual, the meeting will be at the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road, at 7pm. Visitors most welcome.

Royal British Legion

Why I joined the Legion

My name is David Kernohan. I was born in Shipston and lived here until I joined the Army after school. In 1991, I was serving in the Gulf War, pre-mobile phones and internet, so our only means of communication was by post. It was a wonderful morale boost to receive letters and parcels from home.

My troop was operating on the Iraqi border and mail delivery was pretty sporadic. One day I received a parcel addressed to me personally and it was from the Shipston Branch of the British Legion – I have no idea how they knew where I was but it was very welcome and a real treat to be reminded that the people of Shipston were thinking about me. The parcel contained useful items – obviously packed by ex-servicemen.

Later that year, I was home from Germany for the Remembrance

Parade. I thanked the Legion for their support and was invited to join the members in The George. The banter soon started as it always does with service veterans and I felt very much at home. From then on, I always took the opportunity to march at Remembrance when I was home and then, when my family moved back to Shipston in 2006, I was able to join them more frequently. Later, in 2015, I was honoured to be invited to become President of the Branch.

The Shipston Branch is always looking for new members so if there's anyone out there with military connections or interest please come and join us – you'll be very welcome. Contact Richard Adams 07961452192, richardadams5@hotmail.com.



Second Lieutenant REGINALD CHARLES CHAPPLE

Born on 17th February 1888 Reginald was the son of Charley and Bessie Douglas Chapple of Rydal House, Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour. Records show Charley as a Draper. In the September of 1901 Reginald attended the King Edward VI Grammar School in Stratford-upon-Avon, leaving in July 1904.

Prior to the war Reginald served for three years as a Trooper with the Warwickshire Yeomanry, which would have stood him in good stead when he signed up early on in the war. He resigned from the Yeomanry on the 13th April 1913 when he moved from Shipston to Barnstaple in Devon.

Whilst he attested on the 11th December 1915, he was not called up until the 29th February 1916 by which time he had moved to Bournemouth. Initially he returned to Devon serving as a Private in the 3rd/6th (Reserve) Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment based at Barnstaple. In June 1916 he was promoted to Lance Corporal and was promoted again in August 1916 to Corporal. Reginald applied for a Territorial Commission in February 1917, which he received in June.

Reginald's commission was gazetted on the 11th July 1917 and he was assigned to the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and was posted to Belgium with the 1st/5th DCLI at Ypres. They were involved in actions at Polygon Wood and Passchendaele before the Battalion moved to the Somme in March.

On the 21st March 1918 the Germans launched their Spring Offensive, a massive attack on the Somme designed to break through the British lines and then sweep north to the sea to cut the British Army off.

The 1st/5th DCLI were immediately involved in desperate

fighting at St Quentin and Reginald had an eventful day. He was in charge of organising the Transport and it fell to him to get rations up to the Companies fighting at the front. The heavy bombardment had made it impossible to move wagons and so he instead used pack ponies. Setting off at about 4pm he made an attempt to find 'B' Company, but thickening fog made it impossible. On his way back he tried to keep off the tracks, instead moving over open country. While doing this a shell exploded near to him and a huge splinter hit his helmet. Somewhat dazed he is described as carrying on in a "plucky manner". On his return at about 8:30pm he refused to see the Medical Officer but when he eventually did, over a week later, he refused the advised break in Hospital.

On the 26th and 27th March they were again involved in heavy fighting at Rosieres, Reginald was again wounded and again refused to leave. Days later the 1st/5th DCLI had moved north to Merville not far from the Belgian border with France.

At 7.30am on the 12th April 1918 the Germans launched another attack, the British line was penetrated in several places and the Battalion came under heavy machine gun fire from their flanks. Eventually the Battalion had to retire over the Lys Canal. The regimental history reports that they put up 'a splendid fight' but with losses of 17 Officers and 467 other ranks either killed, wounded or missing the cost was very high.

Reginald's body was never recovered and he is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, near Messines. He is remembered on the Town Memorial, his parents' gravestone and on a Bronze tablet in the King Edward VI Grammar School War Memorial Library in Stratford-upon-Avon.

268147 Serjeant HUBERT JOHN FISHER M.M.

Born on the 9th March 1897 Hubert, or Tom as he liked to be known, was the son of Gertrude Fisher. On the 18th January 1904 'John Hubert Fisher' joined the Infants School and on the 1st July 1904 moved up from the Infants to the Boys School. These records show their residence as the Union Workhouse in Shipston. Tom left school on 25th February 1910 just two weeks before his fourteenth birthday.

Tom Fisher arrived in France in November 1916 to join the 2nd/7th Battalion Royal Warwickshires. On Monday the 19th November 1917 the war diary reports a trench raid made on the eve of the Battle of Cambrai:

2am A Raid was made on enemy Trenches opposite our Left Front by Captain Bateman MC and two officers and 44 other ranks, and a prisoner was brought back.

The war Diary details the raid in great depth and under the section "Mentions of Gallantry or Good Service of Officers or Other Ranks" notes; "268147 Sgt Fisher. For conspicuous devotion to duty, leading forward his party, pursuing and killing the enemy". The London Gazette of the 23rd February 1918 listed Tom's award of the Military Medal for his part in the raid.

From 11th to 14th April 1918 the war diary describes how the Germans made a pressing attack (the same one Reginald Chapple was killed in, the two men's units fighting not far apart). On the 11th May 1918 the Evesham Journal reported:

Sergt. H J Fisher MM of the Royal Warwick Regiment was killed in action in France on April 14. Sergt Fisher, who was

known to his friends as Tom, was brought up in Shipston House and went to the Navy League, Liscard, Cheshire. When war broke out he was in China and at once joined the Navy and took part in the operations at the Tsing-Tan forts. Afterwards he was put on board HMS Triumph, but owing to some rising in Hong Kong, he was one of a party who were landed to quell the disturbances. In the meantime the Triumph had sailed without him and his mates and was sunk in the Dardanelles. After serving in the Navy for 12 months, he applied for, and obtained permission to join the army, and in September 1915 he joined the Royal Warwick Regt, and quickly obtained promotion, being made Sergeant before he left for France in November 1916. In November 1917 he was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery in killing a German machine gun crew, although he himself was badly hit in the thigh by the butt end of a German rifle. Sergt Fisher was 21 years old last March and was much loved by his sorrowing friends.



From the description in the war diary, it is believed that Tom Fisher was killed on the 13th April, although officially recorded as the 14th. His body was not found and he is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, near Messines, Belgium and is remembered on the Council School and Town Memorials.

District Council update

Can I start by assuring you that any idea that this Shipston Councillor will not stand up for the town (or indeed lie down in front of a digger) over future planning issues is nonsense. I think the town will do brilliantly at assimilating new Shipstonians but we need a break. I was shown a map recently of all the possible development sites around Shipston. Well, we have got fields around us which could be built on - BUT - just because they could does not mean they should be! My thinking is a bit more radical than this.



We all know that the problem with developing piecemeal is the complexity of the process and making sure enough infrastructure is provided. We also know that the infrastructure around us is creaking even before the new housing is completed. I think the only sensible thing to do is to think of settlements where the infrastructure will be put in to match need - from the beginning.

Anyway, I'm off that hobby horse now - and on to others...

The buses have been running to time - but just when I thought we were winning - one of you pointed out that they always do in the holidays. Back to the phones for me!

I am also really worried still about the Orbit problems - please let me know - every day I add another leak/loo/blockage/boiler failure to my list. I am in touch with the Head of Housing at Orbit - I have to say he has been helpful - but the more ammunition I have the more likely we are to get some better and quicker resolutions to these problems. We all know how to bucket a loo through - but are we doing our best for tenants who have to do it for a month before it's fixed? Enough said.

Come and see me in the George for a coffee on Thursdays from 10am.

Jo Barker, District Councillor – Shipston South Ward

Chris Saint & Jo Barker will take it in turns to provide the content for this column.

County Council update

I have begged the indulgence of the Forum Editor for a deadline extension so that I could pass on the latest intelligence about the Portabello Traffic lights scheme. I began to feel I was peddling fake news with my updates as the dates keep changing. Enough is enough! Cllr Izzi Seccombe - Leader of WCC - convened a meeting on 12 April (as I write 3 hours ago...) and solutions have been found.



Firstly, the Coroners Report on the fatal accident in 2014 stated that the junction should be lit. In the previous scheme (which should have started on April 1st....) there was no lighting. A new engineer looked at this, compared with the Coroners report and did a research project to establish the need for lighting at such a junction. Lighting will have to be provided.

Secondly, the good news is that the lighting design will be finished by the end of next week.

Thirdly, all the councillors who put their delegated budgets into this project are still willing to do so. I desperately want to prevent any future tragedies at the junction so want things started as quickly as possible. This is the engineer's 9th most urgent traffic light project in the County - we can all think of even worse junctions I suspect - we have had to push very hard for this project to be done. And it will be. The adjoining landowners have been really helpful and with the exception of some tree work and the final bit of design - it's ready to go.

But - fourthly, although the project is teetering on the brink of ready - I have found that moving fast will still require a "stress test" of the project and then being put out to tender. Late summer is the best start date at the moment. All I would ask is that those of us who use the Portabello Junction should do so with huge care and should encourage others to do the same.

County Councillor, Jo Barker

Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845

We are pleased to welcome Prabhjot Mahal to the Shipston Medical Centre Team. Prabhjot is a Clinical Pharmacist who starts work with us on 8th May 2018.

Clinical pharmacists are relatively new roles in general practice and we have been fortunate to become part of NHS England's project to introduce clinical pharmacists into general practice. Clinical pharmacists have been working in hospital settings for many years and the benefits they bring for general practice have recently been identified. Clinical Pharmacists have undertaken many years of training to become specialists in medications, and this role is complementary to our existing team as it provides a level of specialist knowledge we have not had previously.

Our staff may advise you to speak with Prabhjot if you need to talk about your medications or need a medication review. The purpose of such a review is to make sure that all the medications being taken are still appropriate and safe whilst minimising any medication side effects you may experience.

Prabhjot can also undertake health checks, like taking your blood pressure, or making appointments for you to have other tests, such as blood tests.

Whilst working at the surgery Prabhjot will also be studying to become an independent prescriber, which will allow her to prescribe medicines in the future.

With the demand on our services growing and set to increase as new people move to the area it is really important that we ensure we utilise our team of skilled health professionals appropriately. If you are signposted to see Prabhjot please do take advantage of the offer, as not only will you receive a high quality medication review we will also be freeing up GPs so they can spend time with patients whose needs require a doctor.



Shipston Medical Centre

Your Town Councillors


Dan Scobie, Mayor

t: 07771 772511

e: dan.scobie@shipstontowncouncil.org


Ian Cooper, Deputy Mayor
Finance Group Chair

t: 01608 663785

e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org


Ronnie Murphy
Planning Group Chair

t: 01608 664518

e: ronnie.murphy@shipstontowncouncil.org


Alison Henderson

t: 01608 661911

e: ali.henderson@shipstontowncouncil.org


Brian Cooper

t: 01608 663237

e: brian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org


Martin Ferrier

t: 07814 092134

e: martin.ferrier@shipstontowncouncil.org


Brian Healey

t: 07773 337134

e: brian.healey@shipstontowncouncil.org


Fay Ivens
General Purposes Group Chair

t: 01608 662133

e: fay.iven@shipstontowncouncil.org


Paul Rathkey

t: 01608 664141

e: paul.rathkey@shipstontowncouncil.org


Sheelagh Saunders
Heritage & Leisure Projects Group Chair

t: 01608 662190/07800 889947

e: sheelagh.saunders@shipstontowncouncil.org


Jackie Warner

t: 07717 391234

e: jackie.warner@shipstontowncouncil.org


Marianne Westwood

t: 01608 662223

e: marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org


Peter White
Communications Group Chair

t: 07792 507168

e: peter.white@shipstontowncouncil.org

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 Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Forum	01608 495955
Shipston Recycling Centre	01926 412593
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Townsend Hall	07514 704057
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410
UCHW Hospital	024 7696 4000
Warwick Hospital	01926 495321
Local police (non emergency)	101
Shipston Police Safer 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	01608 642256

Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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

Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

County Council Contact:
Jo Barker

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

District Council Contact:
Jo Barker (Shipston South)

t: 07748968712 e: jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Chris Saint (Shipston North)

t: 01608 664048 e: chris.saint@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Catherine Martin, on 01608 495955 or email: forum@shipstononline.org

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

Forum copy deadline:
First Wednesday of the month

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

Copies are available to read at the Library, New Clark House and the Medical Centre.

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council to support the community and is distributed to all households. If you don't receive a copy, please contact the Town Clerk. The Forum can also be downloaded from www.shipstononline.org

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

**BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY**

SHIPSTON
10th
WOOL
FAIR

ANNIVERSARY

WOOL

28TH

MAY *from 10am - 4pm*

IN THE TOWN SQUARE