



Easter Bonnet Competition Winners

Sheelagh Saunders, Mayor of Shipston, has extended her thanks to everyone for submitting so many wonderful entries to the Shipston on Stour Easter Bonnet competition. We hope you enjoy the accompanying pictures of the well deserving winners who are sporting their beautiful creations. Congratulations to everyone and chocolate prizes are on their way!



Local Housing Needs Survey

Keep an eye out for your copy of the Local Housing Needs Survey which will be dropping through your door very soon. Commissioned by Shipston Town Council, the results will provide detailed information about the future housing needs of all Shipston residents.

The results will stand alongside the Neighbourhood Plan to support building that is wanted and needed by residents and help resist unwanted developments.

It is essential that as many people as possible complete the survey, regardless of whether they have a pressing housing need so that everyone is represented. To incentivise participation, every survey returned on time will be entered into a PRIZE DRAW with a chance to win one of 3 cash prizes of £100. Winners will be contacted after the survey deadline and, subject to their agreement, will be announced in a future edition of the Forum.

Yarn Bombing

The town was resplendent in colour over the Easter Weekend thanks to some beautiful yarn bombing.



Mayor's column



Well, my year as Mayor of Shipston is drawing to an end and I am about to pass on the baton to the incoming Mayor. What a remarkable year this year of COVID has been! A steep learning curve for the council and staff as we had to master the technology and etiquette of Zoom calls for all our meetings. As Mayor, I have attended zero Civic Services. I have travelled to no other towns in the County on civic business and have had no opportunity to compare civic chains! The Town Crier has been banned from crying for the entire year. The Clerk and Assistant had to up sticks and set themselves up in corners of their homes to run the business of the town remotely. Without immediate access to records and files, this has added considerably to their workload. Playgrounds had to be closed, then reopened. An incursion onto the Rugby club dealt with. In the heavy frosts after Christmas, a burst pipe caused severe damage to the Sports Club building. All this on top of managing the day-to-day business of the Council.

I am so proud of our Shipston community; the way so many have rallied around offering their time and resources to help those in need. Charlotte Haines and the team running SOS. Linda Cornock stitching facemasks to raise funds for local charities. Alex Clarke lifting spirits with his regular music sessions. Clearsound staging their stunning lighting displays and my consort Baggy Saunders raising money for the Mayor's charity CRUSE by donations to his online 'pub quiz'. I know there are many, many more unsung heroes. Thank you one and all. I do hope and believe that we are starting to emerge from the pall of this disease and lockdown. The success of the vaccination project and the sacrifices we have all made are paying dividends. Hospitality and non-essential businesses are reopening and there is the promise of some of the events that make Shipston on Stour such a special place actually happening in months to come.

Sheelagh Saunders

Concerns over future of Youth Club buildings

When the County Council disposed of the Youth Club building in 2008, it was to a landmark joint-venture between the Youth Club and High School. After £35,000 of County Council funded repairs, the project was viewed as a great example of the community coming together to make maximum use of assets, with the school having access during the day and the youth club for their club nights.

The Youth Club has continued to go from strength to strength with high attendance (over 50 young people on some evenings) and activities delivered by a fantastic team of staff and volunteers. Sadly, in Autumn 2019, issues with drains and the boiler meant it was deemed no longer safe and the Youth Club has been informed that approximately £9,000 of repairs are required.

Now the Youth Club has been asked to vacate the premises within six weeks, meaning they risk losing their permanent home.

Rev Daniel Pulham, who Chairs the Youth Club Management Committee, addressed the Town Council during their meeting of 26th April, lamenting how the original vision had "reflected the Shipston spirit" and that he has received "no invitation for further conversation or consideration".

It is hoped that the council can mediate a discussion between the school and Youth Club to reach an amicable solution.

£1.86m invested in Fire Service's new control room technology

A £1.86m investment is to be made by Warwickshire County Council to obtain new Control Rooms Systems (CRS) technology to support the county's fire and rescue service.

The investment will update the system used to manage and deploy resources including the mobilisation of fire engines and other vehicles to emergency incidents. The new cloud-based software system will allow Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service to connect to the central government's Emergency Services Network (ESN) critical communications system.

It allows for the fast, safe, and secure transmission of voice, video, and data across the 4G network and give first responders immediate access to life-saving data, images, and information in live situations and emergencies on the frontline across the county. This investment is being funded through Warwickshire County Council's Change Fund and Fire Transformation Fund.



Mayor Sheelagh Saunders did the draw for Shipston Lions' Easter competition.

His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

Everyone at Shipston Town Council was very saddened to learn of the death of HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh and we remember with gratitude his extraordinary lifetime of service. Whilst guidelines discouraged any formal ceremony, the Union Flag was lowered to half-mast and Mayor Sheelagh Saunders made a donation on behalf of the Council and people of Shipston to the Living Legacy Fund of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

News from Shipston Town Council's April meeting



- Approved a quote to install nine cherry trees in Railway Crescent with a two-year maintenance plan. They will be installed in the Autumn during the tree planting season.
- Permission has been granted to Shipston Lions to host fundraising sales on the Little Rec in May and June. This is subject to suitable insurance and risk assessments being put in place.
- As part of the Riverside Project, it was agreed in principle that timber-faced barriers should be installed on the Mill Street Car Park, subject to agreement of costs.
- Councillors granted permission for the grant to Townsend Hall to provide wheelchair access to the stage to be carried over to 2021/2022 financial year.
- The Councillors agreed on several actions relating to the end of year accounts and internal and external audit processes.
- The Council agreed the appointment of contractors to commence remedial work at the Sports Club with costs being reimbursed by the Council's insurer.
- The annual Town Council meeting, during which the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are to be elected, has been brought forward from 10th May to 4th May. This decision was taken as the temporary legislation put in place in 2020 to allow council meetings to be conducted remotely, applies only up to 6th May 2021. It is intended to return to face to face meetings in the near future.



Shipston Forum Delivery

The Town Council is formally tendering for the following work:

1. Delivery of the Shipston Forum publication to all households in Shipston on Stour.

The Shipston Forum is a 16-page A4 size monthly publication produced by Shipston Town Council. Delivery will be to all residents in Shipston on Stour, approximately 2700 households.

Companies or individuals should submit their tenders no later than Friday 28th May 2021.

For further details please contact The Town Clerk.

Telephone: 01608 662 180

Email: clerk@shipstononline.org



Shipston Town Council Vacancy

Following Sarah Timm's decision to step down from the Town Council, a notice of vacancy was published.

No requests for an election were made before the statutory deadline on 27th April meaning the vacancy may now be filled by co-option.

Anyone interested in filling the vacancy should contact the Town Clerk.

Email: clerk@shipstononline.org

Shipston Cycling Club Gets Back On The Road

Shipston Cycling Club (SCC) marked the Easter weekend with a return to its popular Sunday group rides.



Under British Cycling guidelines, riding was only allowed in pairs from the start of 2021, but the sport's governing body permitted group rides to return as part of its roadmap "The Way Forward".

Easter Sunday saw Shipston members enjoying a 30-mile ride in the bright spring sunshine, including a stop-off for coffee and cake at a family-run café.

Andy Smith, Chairman, SCC said "It's great to be back riding together again. Our club is all about sociable, chatty group rides and the lockdown made that impossible. Some things were obviously different – for example we had to enjoy our coffee and cake on the lawn outside - but that's a small price to pay for the joy of being together again as a club".

The club is now looking ahead to the spring and summer with renewed vigour. Andy adds "Now that we know what is and isn't permitted by British Cycling, we can start planning ahead again. We gained lots of new members last summer with our very first women-only rides, and we're already thinking of new ways to welcome more new faces to our club".

Anyone wanting to try out a ride with the club is encouraged to get in touch via the website – www.shipstoncycling.co.uk



Shipston Probus

Shipston Probus members enjoyed a stimulating talk by Dennis Harvey on 'Power to Save the Planet'. Dennis started with a live online chart of national consumption of electricity; we could see that 50% of the 32GB demand was being met by renewable sources of power - wind, solar, hydro and biomass, with nil from coal. Over half of the supply was carbon neutral. In contrast, November 27th last year had low temperatures, fog and no wind, resulting in renewables down to 14% of supply and coal being used as a backup.



Dennis traced the major technical steps taken to supply us with electric power since Michael Faraday invented the first generator in 1831. Early water-driven power stations at Holborn and Blockley in Gloucestershire were solely for lighting purposes. Even by the early twentieth century 97% of industry was still steam-powered, but the invention of three-phase alternating current enabled transmission over long distances via the National Grid (1927); hence the rapid growth of electrically powered trams, railways, underground railways as well as domestic and industrial use.

Demand was doubling every ten years; oil and large coal-fired power stations were followed by nuclear reactors in the 1960s. Gas-cooled reactors and natural gas-driven turbines heralded the demise of oil and coal. Most recently the huge expansion of wind, solar and biomass generation has supplemented gas and nuclear energy.

It may come as a surprise that demand in the UK is falling, and with it, CO2 production. However, worldwide demand for energy and carbon pollution remains on the increase. And the future? 'Clean energy' from hydrogen already powers some cars

and trains and hydrogen-powered aircraft are possible. Neom, a planned new city the size of Wales in Saudi Arabia, is projected to produce huge amounts of 'green' hydrogen using solar power. One day we could be importing hydrogen power rather than oil from the Middle East?!

Next Zoom Meetings at 11 am:

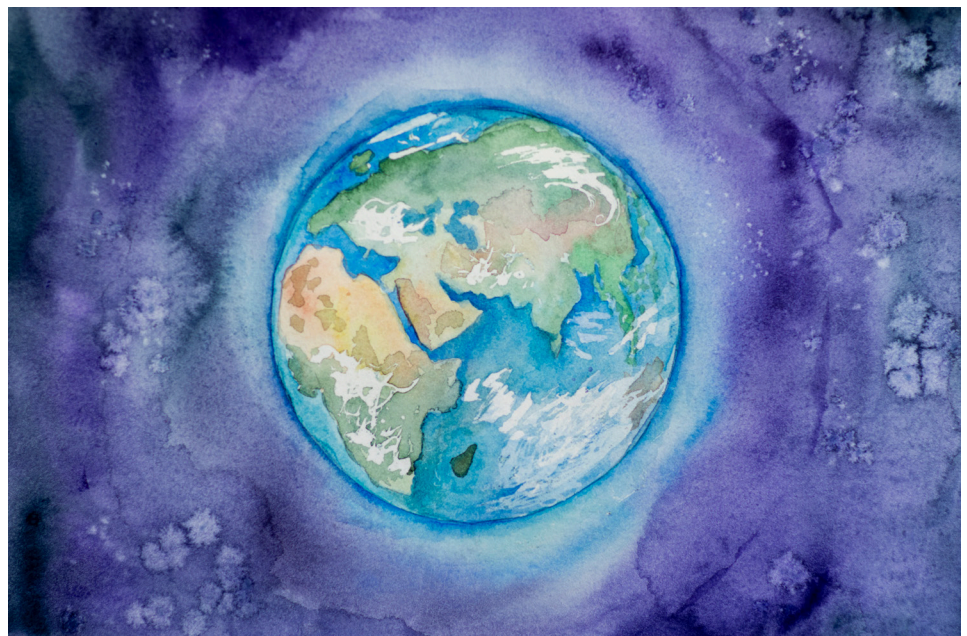
9th April: John Butterworth 'Hitting the Headlines as a Newspaper Editor' ID 843 1248 0143

7th May: Jonathan Holloway 'An Officer in Britannia' ID 810 0909 8055

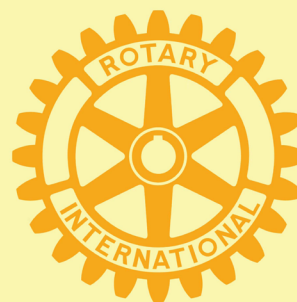
21st May: John Hope 'Time through the ages' ID 812 7586 5935

4th June: John Handby 'Alternative realities-The future of artificial intelligence on society'. ID 872 5127 4837

Guests welcome: contact Tony Joint on 01608 663407; email tonyjjoint73@hotmail.com.



Shipston Rotary presents



COTSWOLD TOUR d'ILMINGTON

A GREAT DAY OF CYCLING FOR THE FAMILY AND ENTHUSIASTS

SUNDAY 4TH JULY 2021

START & FINISH AT

NEWBOLD ON STOUR VILLAGE HALL CV37 8TU

STEVE EDWARDS MEMORIAL

10 MILE FAMILY RIDE STARTS 10AM

DAVID LOCKWOOD MEMORIAL

30 MILE HILLY RIDE STARTS 10AM

100KM CLASSIC RIDE STARTS 8.30AM

REGISTRATION Card payments only on the day

On-Line www.shipstonrotary.co.uk/tour

£15.00 Juniors (12-16years) £6

On the day £18.00 Juniors (12 - 16 years) £8.00

Enquiries: tour@shipstonrotary.co.uk

Supporting Good Causes

Refreshments

Free Parking



Working with
Shipston Home Nursing
& Pharmacy To My Door

Pharmacy
To My Door





Saturday mornings

10.00-12.00

St Edmund's Church, Church Street, Shipston

We are open to anyone.

No referral or voucher needed.

***In the past year we have helped
over 100 households from Shipston
and the surrounding villages.***

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

 www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk

A busy year for Shipston Food Bank

During the year to 31st March the Shipston Food Bank, based at St Edmund's Church, helped 114 different households from the town and surrounding villages with emergency parcels of food, cleaning and laundry products, basic toiletries and baby items.



In total, we handed out 750 food parcels during the twelve months and assisted at least 174 adults and at least 89 children (we don't always know the exact number of people in each household). We are still receiving new customers each week as the economic impact of the Covid pandemic continues to affect people's lives and livelihoods.

The generosity of local residents, businesses and charitable organisations over the past year has been overwhelming, with gifts of both food and money. However, although we still receive regular donations of basic items from the surrounding villages, food donations from Shipston residents have dropped substantially since Christmas, resulting in us having to buy almost £450 worth of food in March just to be able to continue to fill our food parcels.

Each week we post in the large Co-op and on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ShipstonFoodBank/) and our website (www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk/) a list of the things we need most. Please help us if you can – if more people could give just one or two items regularly it would make a big difference to the needy families we support.

Donations can be left in the porch of St Edmund's Church, though while we're operating under Covid restrictions it's only open between 10:00am and 12:00 noon on Saturday mornings. Please don't leave food outside the porch. There are also collection points in both the Co-ops.

If you're giving us something from your kitchen cupboard, don't forget to check the sell-by date - we can't give out food which is past its 'Best Before End' date. And please, no fresh or perishable food, only long-life items.

The Food Bank is open in the church for customers between 10:00am and 12:00 noon on Saturday mornings. You don't need a voucher or a referral – just come along if you need help.

We are so grateful to our band of volunteers who give up their time to enable the Food Bank to operate week by week; and thank you, Shipston residents, on behalf of all our customers, for your financial and material support for this vital community project.

Rev Sarah Edmonds

Chair of Food Bank Management Committee

Royal British Legion

Formed in the aftermath of the First World War, the Royal British Legion (RBL) campaigned for fair treatment of those who had given so much for their country, fighting injustices and providing welfare support and comradeship to millions. It continues to respond to the changing needs of the Armed Forces community, providing small interventions to life-changing, and sometimes lifesaving, support.



The poppy, chosen as a symbol of Remembrance in 1921, proved an immediate success, but the story behind it is less well known.

Anna Guérin was a teacher in France who moved to Britain in 1911. At the outbreak of WW1, she moved to the US where she began fundraising for those made destitute by war.

Moina Michael, inspired the poem 'In Flanders Fields', is often cited as the originator of the poppy as a symbol of Remembrance, but Anna Guérin was simultaneously promoting this idea and by the end of 1920 had been responsible for Poppy Days in several US states and was turning her attention further afield.



Returning to the UK in 1921 she persuaded the fledgeling British Legion to accept her idea and helped organise the appeal nationwide.

Her experience of fundraising with women's groups, particularly war widows, had convinced her of the value of using women as volunteers to create a network of distribution and collection.

Her poppies were simple, bright-red pieces of fabric with a green stalk and a little banner that read on one side 'British Legion Remembrance Day' and on the other 'Made by the Women and Children. The devastated areas of France.'

The Legion decided to have additional poppies manufactured in Britain and which had five petals, black stitching in the middle with little beads and a leaf. When they sold out people used other flowers as a substitute. The British Legion opened the Poppy Factory the following year.

The work of Anna Guérin left a deep-rooted legacy for generations to come and although the design of the poppy has changed over the years, it remains to this day a symbol of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.

To mark the 100th anniversary a special, limited edition, commemorative Poppy pin is being released. Whilst these are available, along with other Poppy themed items, on the RBL web site, the Shipston on Stour Branch of the RBL, formed on the 16th Nov 1937, have been allocated 100 of these Poppy Pins to sell locally at a suggested donation of £4.

We appreciate that times are difficult, money is tight and that there are many calls on your purse. However, should you like to purchase one of these lovely commemorative pins, please contact Chairman Mike Wells on wellsms4@aol.com or ring the Secretary, Alex, on 07789 968733.

Mike, myself or Clare Cuthbert would be delighted to deliver it to you in a Covid safe manner and to collect your donation

We will be collecting using a Poppy Collecting box and will have Official Poppy ID available for you to inspect should you wish to do so.

Thank you so much for reading this and again, thank you for your continued support for the work of the RBL.

Sharon Harcourt

Poppy Appeal Organiser

Ring in the change!

Monday 19th April 2021 marks a red-letter day for Honington village church as its six bells are due to be dismantled, refurbished by a specialist team at Britain's only remaining bell foundry in Loughborough and then rehung, hopefully in June which coincides beautifully with the easing of restrictions.

The bells have been a much-loved part of village life for over 400 years. Research tells us that there were 4 bells in 1687 – for context, that was just 21 years after the Great Fire of London and James II was king! A fifth bell was added in 1786 and a sixth in 1810. The last major overhaul was in 1908 (when Honington was still part of Worcestershire) so we look forward to hearing our newly refurbished bells ring out again after this latest maintenance, more than a hundred years after the previous servicing.



Already an integral and historical part of our community life, ringing out joyfully every week and marking passages of life or moments of national significance, the bells are moving into present and future phases. However, we need some new bellringers to continue this tradition and service to our village. Are you over 11 or perhaps recently retired and looking to start a new hobby or to meet new friends? Could you spare an hour or two a week to practise and to ring the bells when there is a Sunday service? It's a good way to explore other local churches and villages and it will help you to keep fit as well – an hour's ringing is a great workout both physically and mentally!

The Shipston team members have been practising in a virtual bell tower throughout lockdown and are eager to return to practising in the Tower, so they have the experience needed to support new ringers and training is at hand. If this is you, then contact Len Morley on 01608 663948 We look forward to getting you on board!

Rev Sarah Edmonds

Rector of Shipston, Tidmington, Honington & Idlicote
Area Dean of Shipston

3 men in a boat

David Williams, Jonathan Davies and William Drysdale will be setting out from Donnington Bridge in Oxford on Monday 24th May, aiming to row the approximately 85 miles to London, arriving at Walton-on-Thames on Saturday 29th May. During their voyage to raise funds for Shipston Home Nursing, they will be sleeping in the boat or a tent and preparing all of their own food.

They have secured a commitment from a private benefactor to double whatever they raise before June 1st, up to a maximum of £10,000 and they have already raised over £3,450. Visit the Shipston Home Nursing website to learn more and help them reach their target of £20,000 including matched funds:

<https://www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk/event/3-men-in-a-boat/>

Shipston Proms

As venues around the UK are starting to open up we are delighted to announce that we will be putting on a pubs/café music trail over the weekend of September 4th and 5th. Already the Black Horse in Shipston and the Gate in Brailles have signed up for the Sunday and we are approaching Shipston pubs and cafes to see who else would like to be involved. It has been so good to plan this event after having to cancel both the 2020 and 2021 fortnights and we look forward to welcoming musicians back to playing live in Shipston and Brailles again.

Susan Perry





Hello Little Shipstonians! How are you all doing? Did you manage to start using your gratitude jar that was in the last edition? If you did, then keep up the good work! So this month you will see an activity with a watering can. We will be calling this your “well-being watering can”. We all experience difficult emotions in our lives. It’s totally normal. But it’s important to develop an understanding of what circumstances might provoke difficult feelings, and in turn what we can do to make these feelings a bit more manageable. This is where your well-being watering can comes in! You will see three categories. “**What things fill your watering can?**” are the day to day activities that you do to enable you to feel good and healthy. So make a start by listing some of these things in the space provided. The second category is “**what puts holes in your watering can?**”. Here you will describe or list things in your life

that can make you feel sad, worried or angry, or any other emotion that you find difficult. The final category, “**what things help to repair the holes in your watering can?**”, should prompt you to think about the activities or items you can use to help you to make your emotions feel more manageable, and hopefully less powerful. Give it a go! It might even be easier to do it with a friend or an adult and they could do it too! On the next page is our usual “colour in” feature with lots of flowers that have blossomed because they have been given lots of care from someone’s watering can! Why not add some nice, bright colours? And can you spot any little insects? We hope you enjoy this month’s activities, and we will see you next month!

Little Shipstonians is designed by Nikki Turner

My well-being watering can

What things fill your
watering can?



What puts holes in
your watering can?

What things help to repair the holes
in your watering can?







STAFF VACANCY AT SHIPSTON TOWN COUNCIL

DETAILS

Job title: Town Clerk + Responsible Finance Officer (Proper Officer)

Organisation: Shipston on Stour Town Council

Salary: In line with NALC pay scales LC2 (24-32) depending on experience, plus Local Government Pension Scheme

Application deadline: 10th May2021

Email address: clerk@shipstononline.org

Phone number: 01608 662180

SUMMARY

Shipston on Stour is a historic market town situated between the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Shakespeare's Stratford upon Avon. The town has a population of just under 10000, currently with a precept of £260,000 pa. It has a vibrant cultural life and strong voluntary community support networks, together with excellent schools. The council is responsible for managing a wide range of amenities and recreational areas, as well as charity trusteeships.

Applications are invited for the position of Town Clerk / Responsible Finance Officer to be responsible for the effective management of the council's resources and ensuring that the council complies with its statutory and audit responsibilities, managing the administration, personnel and finances of Shipston Town Council. The post is full time and includes regular evening and occasional weekend work. Applicants will need to evidence that they have significant leadership, organisational and financial management skills. The successful candidate:

- ☐ will be a confident communicator, who is able to multitask with close attention to detail in all their work.
- ☐ have proven experience in administration, a good understanding of local government and strong communication IT and Financial skills;
- ☐ be familiar with accounting practices in either a detailed or supervisory role and have a record of proven, effective management of staff;
- ☐ be able to demonstrate experience in project management, with a track record of balancing multiple projects an advantage;
- ☐ be forward thinking and proactive.

A CiLCA qualification is preferred or a commitment to work towards the qualification.

A job description and application form can be downloaded from the Town Council's [website](http://www.shipstononline.org) or from clerk@shipstononline.org

Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



EASTER WISHES

In a mission to help the elderly feel more connected and loved this Easter, Home Instead Solihull joined forces with Solihull Karate, Highters Heath Community School and Shipston Primary School to make Easter cards for the at-home care company's clients.

To spread a little happiness and positivity in the community, local children were asked to design an Easter card and write a note inside for Home Instead clients who may be living alone and feel particularly isolated at this time.



Miss Law from Shipston Primary School said: "The children loved spending time designing and making their cards. Lots of them were very keen to write positive messages to cheer up the clients after a tough year."

THE NEXT NORMAL

We are now in British Summer Time (with snow over the Easter holidays!) and more than a year into the pandemic. With remote learning, lockdowns and the full return to school, the distinction between term-time and holiday-time had become blurred but hopefully, as we cautiously move along the roadmap to recovery and normality we can get back on track to a full programme of school life as the summer term progresses. The guidance for schools, support bubbles and childcare bubbles remain the same but I am expecting further guidance changes as restrictions are gradually eased. Parents' Evenings in May will remain virtual in the summer term - after our November virtual parents' evenings over 60% of parents surveyed said they preferred it to face-to-face evenings. We also have rearranged our Art and book week, based on 'The Boy, The Fox, The Mole and The Horse' by Charlie Mackesy, for the first week back after Whitsun. This will include an artist in virtual residence, whereby children are taught by the artist remotely from her home while they are in the classroom. Hopefully, other activities such as sports fixtures, sports days and awards assemblies will be able to go ahead by the end of the academic year.

ACADEMY CONVERSION

Following the West Midlands Head Teacher Board towards the end of April, the application for Brailes C of E Primary School was approved to become an Academy and join The Stour Federation, formally linking up with Acorns Primary School in Long Compton and Shipston Primary. The Regional Schools Commissioner has signed the order, with a hopeful 1st August conversion date. Although the three schools have been working in close partnership for nearly six years, it's exciting news that The Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust is growing.

SUMMER TERM TOPICS

Children in all year groups started their first summer term topic after Easter. Our curriculum pedagogy is based on the four cornerstones of teaching and learning: ENGAGE, DEVELOP,

INNOVATE, EXPRESS. This curriculum helps us across The Stour Federation to create a vibrant and creative knowledge and skills curriculum that puts children at its heart, excites their imaginations, inspires them to learn, extends their horizons, deepens their understanding and meets their intellectual and personal needs.

- **ENGAGE** is the stage of learning that provides children with an inspiring and thought-provoking starting point that stirs curiosity and initiates interest. Children engage in purposeful and contextualised learning experiences; in and outside the classroom, making the best use of partners, experts and the community to provide the stimulus to learn.



- **DEVELOP** is the stage of learning that provides children with an opportunity to develop and master key skills, subject knowledge, research techniques and independence. Children become industrious learners making sense of information and experiences, leading to sound understanding and progress.



- **INNOVATE** is the stage of learning that challenges children's ability to work creatively, exploring possibilities and finding solutions. Using and applying previously learned skills, knowledge and understanding children work collaboratively to innovate, managing their own learning to achieve given success criteria.

- **EXPRESS** is the stage of learning that empowers children to share, celebrate and reflect with a range of partners and audiences. Children cement their learning through shared reflection with peers and other adults and can suggest the next steps of learning.

Year 3 started their topic Urban Pioneers by virtually meeting local street artist Tim from Leamington's Brink Contemporary Arts. He has designed many murals in the Midlands area and has organised a Street Art trail in Leamington. The children really enjoyed asking Tim questions: What is Street Art? Is graffiti illegal? How many litres of paint do you use? Have you heard of Banksy? The children then had a go at some graffiti-style art.

As part of our Engage Day for the topic 'Off With Their Head', Year 5 made Tudor knots. They adapted a recipe from Tudor times and formed them into Tudor style biscuit/bread.

Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher

Shipston High School

COVID 19 update

Since schools returned to full opening in March, all students have been offered the opportunity to take three Lateral Flow Device tests supervised on the school site. These tests were optional, yet the take up was very high. Government guidance now allows students to receive test kits for home use, and Shipston High School has been distributing these to families wishing to use them. We have been very impressed by the way our students have been conducting themselves during these difficult times, both since their return to school and throughout the whole testing process. Credit is also due to the members of staff, teaching and non-teaching, who ran the whole testing operation so smoothly, taking on the extra work involved in addition to their normal duties.

GCSE

Government guidance on the calculation of GCSE grades requires schools to share final recommended grades with examination boards by the middle of June. Schools are required to moderate and administer the grades before final submission although the responsibility for the published grades lies with the awarding examination boards and not the school. GCSE results will be published on Thursday 12th August. We will issue information on how results will be shared nearer the time, in line with government guidelines.

PE

The PE Department's "Around the World" challenge has recently concluded. Students (and staff!) had been encouraged during lockdown to either run, walk or cycle, keeping track of the number of steps taken and distance travelled to add towards a total score for their House. The Pole to Pole distance is 40,008 km and over the 47 days of the challenge, the total score for all four houses was 18,000 km. Sheldon House emerged the victors, having covered 5,314 km. There were some outstanding personal performances with Jonty (Mayo) and Harry (Hart) both achieving 700 km and Mr Bamford clocking up over 700 km for Sheldon House.



After school sport has proved to be very popular since our full return to school with single year group Sports Evenings taking place most evenings, giving students the opportunity to choose between either Football, Hockey or Netball. It is especially encouraging to



see almost 60 Year 7 students taking part in their first-ever sports evening, working very hard and showing a good deal of promise for the future. Watching the passion, determination and enjoyment displayed by all year groups makes us realise just how much the students have missed being outside and playing sport.

The Summer term in what has been a challenging and demanding school year will shortly be upon us and we look forward with hope and expectation that our school community life will return to some kind of normality during the summer. We would again like to thank all our parents and friends for the community support we have received on this journey.

Gavin Saunders, Headteacher



Shipston in Bloom were thanked by Councillor Ivens during the April Town Council meeting for the wonderful display of daffodils outside New Clark House and other locations around the town.

District Council update

The big message from across the NHS and Public Health is that we are now living with Covid. Deaths from Covid this week (wc 19 April) were third on the list behind heart problems and dementia related deaths. This is really good news. Keep encouraging people to get jabbed & do so yourself!

The other key message is that finally the operation of the NHS is being looked at in terms of the place and the need! This is revolutionary.

I am told the NHS is now planning for 3rd wave of Covid and a hard winter with possible increased flu cases - very low rate last year.

We know that South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust is looking at how to use the community estate better. Ellen Badger is part of this and really exciting plans are underway as we have seen in the planning application that has been submitted. The development has been split into two as a result of Covid and changes in funding. This is not unusual in the NHS - in fact, this year settlements are being done on a 6 monthly basis.

My understanding is that phase 1 includes the medical centre (the building funded by the GP partners to provide a much better resource for the growth in this area) and a wellbeing centre for physio, psych, other therapies, combating loneliness and giving the sort of help that plays into the wider determinants of health - housing, benefits, learning to cook etc. So the point is prevention, education and early intervention. Phase 2 will be the all-important hospital - remaining as it is but remodelled post-Covid- beds are an issue - there may be more - there may be less. The point is- ambulatory care - quick diagnosis and treatment without the need for inpatient care - it will be an extremely valuable part of this. I have had personal experience of this as I am sure many of you do.



County Council update

Election Update

Thursday 6th May is local election day where registered voters in Shipston will have the opportunity to vote for Shipston's representative on Warwickshire County Council and a Police and Crime Commissioner for the county.

Anyone who tests positive for Covid-19 and is required to self-isolate will still be able to participate even if they have not already registered for a postal or proxy vote. They can appoint an emergency proxy (someone to vote on their behalf) up until 5pm on polling day through a modified emergency proxy voting procedure.

Shipston Health & Wellbeing Centre Survey - Report

Healthwatch Warwickshire would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete the Shipston Health and Wellbeing Centre Survey. We received over 550 responses (including paper copies). We would also like to thank all those who helped with the distribution of the paper copies to the villages. It was challenging, with the COVID restrictions, but we made it with your help.

The report shows that respondents were broadly in favour of the development of a Health and Wellbeing Centre and outlines where people have prioritised what services and support, they would like to see.

Here are some of the findings:

- The majority of respondents were in the 18-64 age range.
- 94% lived in Shipston and the surrounding villages and 94% reported that they would be able to access Shipston by car.
- 76% of respondents were already aware of the development with 83% saying they welcome the plans.
- 82% thought the Centre would be used by the local community and 173

asked to be kept informed about the development.

The key themes were:

- Mental health support for all ages: this came up in all aspects of responses relating to services and support needed.
- Support in managing long-term conditions: using advice and information, peer support and ways to self-manage.
- General support for health and wellbeing initiatives: outdoor spaces, group activities and support for all ages.
- Physiotherapy: consistently requested as a way of supporting people in the community.
- Support for parents, families, and children: would like to see services such as health visitors, support services and group activities that children could attend.

Healthwatch Warwickshire set out to gather views solely on the development of the Health and Wellbeing Centre in Shipston-On-Stour and not on the wider development of the Ellen Badger site,



however during the survey comments alluded to the wider development and this is reflected in the writing of this report.

The full report is available on our website under 'News and Reports' at <https://www.healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk/>

Healthwatch Warwickshire is an independent service for everyone who uses health and social care services. We work with people to help understand the needs, experiences, and concerns of those who use services and use feedback to build a picture of how local services are doing.

Please feel free to contact us:

01926 422823 (between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday)

FREEPOST Healthwatch Warwickshire

info@healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @HealthwatchWarw

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Vacancy

Useful Contacts

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

Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

New Clark House, West Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4HD (Currently closed to the public)



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Councillor Trevor Harvey (Shipston North)

t: 07969 167720

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



Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Chris Rowland on 01295 788655 or email: 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. It is currently not being delivered to households due to the suspension of the Midweek newspaper. Copies are available for collection from both Co-Ops, the Post Office, Taste of the Country, and Turners.

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.

Who can grow the

Tallest
sunflower?

**Judging August 13th in
your garden**

**Shipston on Stour
Rotary Club**

**To enter contact Fay Ivens
01608 662133**