



## David Birch receives Shipston Award

David Birch, Secretary of Shipston Town Band was presented with the Shipston Award at the Annual Town Meeting on 12th April. Councillors unanimously supported David's nomination in recognition of his many years of involvement with the town band and his role in conducting the junior band.

In addition to organising the Town Band's Christmas charity concert, David is also instrumental in delivering various other events including performances at care homes and the hospital on Christmas Day.

Cllr Ronnie Murphy, who is also the President of the Shipston Town Band, presented the award to David.



## Beacon to mark The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Shipston will be joining communities up and down the country in with the lighting of a beacon at 9.45pm on 2nd June 2022 as part of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

As part of a nationally coordinated programme, thousands of town criers, along with Pearly Kings and Queens, traditional and Northumberland pipers, buglers and choirs from communities across the four corners of the nation and the Commonwealth will be lifting up their voices to play and sing specially commissioned music prior to the lighting of over 1,500 Platinum Jubilee Beacons. This continues a long tradition of lighting beacons to mark significant royal celebrations.



These activities will be taking place across the UK and wider Commonwealth:

**2pm** Town Criers and Pearly Kings and Queens will read a Proclamation heralding the lighting of the beacons.

**9.35pm** Traditional and Northumbrian pipers and pipe bands will play *Diu Regnare*, a unique tune specially written for the occasion by Pipe Major, Stuart Liddell, the world's leading piper.

**9.40pm** A special bugle call called *Majesty* will be sounded.

**9.45pm** The beacons are lit and community choirs will sing *Song for the Commonwealth*, which has been written and composed by Lucy Keily, from Australia and Vincent Atueyi Chinemelu from Nigeria.

Details of the music which will feature on the night, and a list of all those taking part can found on [www.queensjubileebeacons.com](http://www.queensjubileebeacons.com) within the Guide for Taking Part.

*In memory of Sid Peachey 'The Gaffer', Ron 'Scobie' Edmunds and his team have been working very hard faggoting over the past few weeks, preparing for the build and lighting of the Beacon on 2nd June 2022*

## Soup lunch raises £518 for Ukraine

The soup lunch at St Edmund's Church on 11th April was well attended and resulted in £518 being raised for the Disaster's Emergency Committee (DEC) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

DEC affiliated charities are working in Ukraine and neighbouring countries to support those impacted by the conflict. Several million people have become refugees or are displaced within Ukraine due to the intense fighting, shelling and airstrikes which have destroyed homes and important civilian infrastructure, including schools and hospitals.

## Shipston residents receive High Sheriff Awards

In one of her final engagements during her shrieval year, The Lady Willoughby de Broke, High Sheriff of Warwickshire presented the High Sheriff Awards on 7th April. In his capacity as Town Mayor, Cllr Ian Cooper nominated several Shipston residents for the award.

Geoff Smith was acknowledged for his work with the Shipston Area Flood Action Group. In his submission, Ian said: "As for Geoff as a nominee for unsung hero, I couldn't think of a better way of recognising him. That he lives on a hill with absolutely zero risk of flooding says a lot about his community support ethos."

Jackie Cornock and Jenny Warner were nominated in honour of their brother, Micky Cornock, who consistently supported the community in his role as caretaker at the primary school and as someone who volunteered to help whenever an extra pair of hands was needed.

## Mayor's column



It was great to see so many of you at the Annual Town Meeting. It signifies that our Town Council year is over and that our Mayoral year is coming to a close. We reflected on the past year, and especially some of the achievements your Town Council have managed, and I must say reflecting on this I was extremely proud of our staff and councillors for what they have done.

Last year, as we all know, was severely disrupted and tremendously difficult for the Town and the Town Council and I would just like to say how proud we all are at the outstanding job Sheelagh Saunders carried out in holding everything together. Unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, Sheelagh had to stand down from the Council, but I was very pleased when Marianne Westwood stepped forward to take over as deputy and Mayor-elect for this next year, I know she will serve the town well.

We've faced a lot of new challenges over the past year, from a statutory requirement to hold physical meetings again to the restrictions required of a new way of working and living post-Covid. As a Town, we also needed to rebuild our relationships with the outside world and ensure that Shipston remained recognised as an important rural town, both in terms of our wellbeing and our infrastructure.

Our community along with many of our local organisations and charities had rallied to make Shipston as safe and secure as possible during lockdown, and their work has continued enabling the transition back towards a semblance of more normal times. The strength of community and resilience shown over the past year bodes well for a successful future for the Town.

We have also seen the introduction of a new Town Clerk, Helen and her team have had to work hard to get up to speed with the ways and the regulations directing local councils and I would like to extend my huge thanks to her and Diane for all the effort they have put in over a difficult transitional period.

It is quite a different Town Council to the one I led three years ago, and even during this past year there have been personal circumstances that have necessitated councillors to stand down, but the effort and resilience of our existing councillors and the energy and enthusiasm of our new councillors puts us in an exemplary position to move forward. I would especially like to thank Peter Cox for all his work leading the General Purposes working group, John Dinnie for driving many new projects forward, Paul Tesh for his knowledgeable representations on planning matters and of course Ronnie Murphy for being our rock and sage.

We should all, as a community, be grateful for the effort and commitment that individual councillors make towards our common objective for the betterment of our Town.

I'd like also to thank the Mayoress for her contribution over this past year, it's been a challenging year balancing work through the pandemic with the multitude of civic commitments and events we have attended and hosted and she has been a real ambassador for the town – thank you Tina.

**Ian Cooper, Mayor of Shipston**

## What's it like to be a Warwickshire On-Call Fire Fighter? Could you join the crew at Shipston Fire Station?

Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service is recruiting for on-call firefighters across the county, including in Shipston.

On-call fire-fighters across Warwickshire respond to a range of emergencies and engage with their local communities. They do all this while having a day job in other industries.

Most people performing this role in the county live within five minutes of a fire station and respond as needed.

Nick Bance, an On-Call Firefighter based at Southam Fire Station, is different as he lives 9-minutes away in Bishops Itchington. Nick runs an independent fire protection consultancy for businesses and has worked as an on-call firefighter for nine years. How does he make this work? He works his day job from a desk at Southam Fire Station and is, therefore, able to respond to incidents when on-call as necessary.

He said: "When I initially enquired about joining on-call, I spoke with the Watch Manager and he said that I lived too far away, but it might be possible to join if I worked from the fire station. I went along to the next taster session and thought 'yeah, I would like to give this a go'. I successfully completed the physical and written tests to advance to the initial training course for new recruits. Two weeks later, we participated in a passing out parade in front of our families and the Deputy Chief Fire Officer."

Working as an on-call firefighter in Warwickshire is something that Nick finds very rewarding. On-call firefighters receive exactly the same training as fulltime firefighters, and it can take around three years to become qualified as a competent firefighter.

Nick said: "I joined up because I wanted to help my community and would certainly recommend it to gain life skills. I am emergency response vehicle trained and can drive appliances to incidents. I find that I am constantly refreshing my skills and keeping up to date with new fire policies and procedures. It's enjoyable and rewarding, particularly if you rescue someone from a road traffic collision or save someone's life, then it's all worthwhile."

Find out more about the available on-call roles here: <https://bit.ly/OnCallWarwickshire>.





## News from Shipston Town Council's April meeting

### Councillor Peter White

Peter White announced that he would be standing down from the Council at the end of the month after seven and half years of service. The Mayor expressed his thanks for Peter's service, particularly citing his work chairing the Communications Working Group ensuring effective and compliant communication with residents about the Council's activity.

### Sports Club Changing Rooms

The changing rooms may not comply with some relevant league requirements. Councillors will ask the sports club to provide details to the Council so that support might be provided for any required works.

### Waste Collection Services

It was noted that some residents have expressed concern about the new 3+2+1 collection system introduced by Stratford-on-Avon District Council and there are misconceptions that the Town Council was involved in the decision to adopt this approach.

### Shipston Area Flood Action Group

Geoff Smith briefed Councillors on proposed changes to the work programme with budget implications. The revised budget was subsequently approved.

### 20 MPH Campaign

A list of roads and areas considered to be hazardous has been prepared by Cllr John Dinnie to share with the Warwickshire County Council Road Safety Team for assessment and to receive advice from engineers about potential solutions. Councillors have been asked to provide any additional comments to accompany this document.

### Emerging Local Plan and Updated Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors agreed that a development brief for the Tileman's Lane area should proceed immediately. This will be led by Phil Sykes with the assistance of a specialist consultant subject to the agreement of a final budget. The work will also help inform the Council's response in future consultations about the new South Warwickshire Local Plan.

### Queens Avenue Play Area

Councillors approved a revised quote for the play area, reflecting recent increases in material costs.

### Allotment Rent

Councillors approved increases to allotment rents, effective April 2023; Full Plot (£3), Half Plot (£1.50) and Quarter Plot (£0.50).

### Allotment fires and composting policies

Councillors agreed on amendments to rules for allotment holders following consultation, prohibiting the use of bonfires and incinerators at the site, and removing the existing communal compost area in favour of encouraging holders to compost on their plots.

### Shipston Museum Building

Councillors agreed on plans to remove the stairlift and complete other outstanding works at Clark House. This will allow the lease agreement to proceed and achieve a zero rating for Council Tax.

### Jubilee Bench

Councillors agreed to install a bench outside New Clark House in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

### Annual Meeting and Mayor Making

The Shipston Town Council Annual Meeting and Mayor Making will take place on Monday 9th May 2022 at New Clark House at 7 pm.

### Deputy Clerk Vacancy

The Town Council will shortly begin recruiting for a Deputy Clerk. Details will be published on the Council's website and Facebook page.

## What's On Calendar - May 2022

- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Dementia Friendly Café:** 10.30am-12.30pm, Shipston Lodge, CV36 4QG
- 3 Shipston Library Reading Group:** 2pm-3pm first Tuesday of each month
- 4 Shipston Widows:** Local lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230  
**Shipston on Stour WI:** Speaker, Jo Worthy-Jones, Haven4wildlife. Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road at 7pm. Contact Jane Hanks, Secretary, on 01608 664519
- 6 Mindfulness & Wellbeing Coffee Morning:** Townsend Hall. Every week. See ad on page 7
- 7 Shipston Lions Craft Fair & Book Sale:** See ad on page 7
- 10 Senior Citizen Action Network (SCAN):** See ad on page 5
- 12 Royal British Legion – Shipston Branch:** Committee Meeting. All members welcome. Contact Alex Black 01608 664743
- 13 & 27 Board Games Social Afternoon:** 2pm Stour Court. Contact juliareeves@everyoneactive.com or call 07514 492468
- 13 Grand Coffee Morning with Musical Interludes:** St Edmund's Church. 10.30am. Plants, Cakes, Bring & Buy, Raffle, Jewellery, Cards. All proceeds to church funds
- 14 Shipston on Stour WI Coffee & Crafts Morning:** See ad on page 8
- 18 Shipston Widows:** Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am - 12pm, The White Bear. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230  
**Singing Down Memory Lane:** See ad on page 11
- 19 Dementia Friendly Shipston:** Coffee Morning. See ad on page 5
- 20 Shipston Branch of the RBL social evenings:** The Shipston on Stour Branch of the Royal British Legion meet on the third Friday of each month for a social gathering. We meet in the White Bear Inn from 7.30 pm onwards. Do please come and join us and share your stories with like-minded people. For further information contact Alex Black 07789 968733 or alblack32@hotmail.com.  
**Shipston Music Society:** See ad on page 7
- 24 Shipston U3A:** Living History – The Success Story of Sulgrave Manor. See ad on page 5
- 26 Local Quaker Meeting for Worship:** St Edmund's Church, last Thursday in the month at 2.30pm, followed by tea/coffee, biscuits & chat
- 27 Shipston Stitchers:** Church Room, Darlingscote Road. Contact Anita Spencer on 01993 832665  
**Fret & Fiddle: Sally Minchin's String Quintet.** Townsend Hall. See ad on page 5

## Townsend Hall

### Live Music!!



So much is going on at the hall! "Richard Leach's Street Band" were an absolute treat – photos and video are now available on our Facebook page. When this goes out, we will have welcomed Cotswold Events back for an Elton John experience and you might just about be in time to still grab tickets to enjoy their "The Denotones 60's Party" 7th May.

Meanwhile, we had "Bateman Brothers Jazz Band", complete with their own "Louis Armstrong" and "Ella Fitzgerald" for a Basin Street Blues experience! We'll report back next time, but we're confident this will have gone down a storm.

Looking ahead, we've got "Fret and Fiddle – Sally Minchin's String Quintet" booked for Friday 27th May. Tickets will be available from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/townsend-hall> or from A. Clarke Electrical Services in town. Take a look at [fretandfiddle.co.uk](http://fretandfiddle.co.uk) to whet your appetite.

Looking a bit further ahead, we're so excited to see that the Proms will be back this June and look forward to welcoming some great events to the hall over the two weeks. As part of the programme, we're pleased to announce that we've got "Baby Jools and the Jazzaholics" back. They were previously with us in December last year when things were still tough with covid – they were so much fun and not enough people got to enjoy their performance in the circumstances.

As always, keep up your support for the hall, maintained through a charity – so much going on, not just live music – plenty of other events, sports and clubs. 150 Club winners in the April draw are: £15 no. 46; £10 no. 18; £5 no. 121. Visit us at [www.townsendhall.co.uk](http://www.townsendhall.co.uk) to find out more.

## Report from the Royal British Legion

### Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 2 – 5 June 2022

This year the UK will celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's 70th anniversary as Monarch.

During this historic year we reflect on Her Majesty's reign and her impact on the UK and the world since 1952. Celebrations include spectacular moments in London and other major cities, complemented by events in communities across the country and the Commonwealth, allowing people to join together in celebration and thanks at a national and local level.

As The Queen is the patron of the Royal British Legion, this celebration has a particular resonance for the Legion and a special commemorative pin badge is now available to mark the occasion. These specially produced enamel badges are obtainable for a minimum donation of £4. They are proving extremely popular and we have a limited number allocated to us, so please act quickly if you would like to purchase one.

If you would like to buy a pin badge then please let myself, Mike Wells on 07775 812674, Alex Black on 07789 968733, Clare Cuthbert 07940 786755 or Gary Downs on 07837 968943 know and we will make sure that one or more are set aside for you.

### Falklands Conflict 40th Anniversary

This year sees the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands Conflict and the Shipston Branch of the RBL will be organising some small events over the coming months. Please watch the noticeboard and look out for displays in the windows of the Post Office and "A Touch of Dust". A short service of Remembrance will be held at 1pm on Tue 14th June at the Gyratory Memorial Garden.

Badges to commemorate this are available as per the Jubilee badges above.

Sharon Harcourt, Poppy Appeal Organiser



## Shipston Rotary



Rotary in GB and Ireland has set up a special Ukraine task force.

Shipston Rotary has added the funds it has raised to the substantial sums raised by the 1,700 Rotary Clubs in GB and Ireland.

Medics in Ukraine have passed their requests to local Rotary Clubs.

They need drugs, tourniquets, X-ray machines, various medical aids and pastoral support for severely traumatised people and children. Rotary is setting up suitable support mechanisms.

All requests are directed through local Rotary clubs and are screened and assessed.

Rotary is also supporting thousands of traumatised refugees in Moldova, Rumania, Hungary, Poland, Czech and Slovakia.

The medics tell us that the situation is 'much worse than what we see on the media and is causing unexplainable human suffering. Rotary is trying to show solidarity with the victims and Rotary colleagues.

## Little Shipstonian Seed Packs

There is still time for young people to collect some FREE seed packs so they can try their hand at growing a selection of tasty vegetables. The seeds, generously donated by John Lynes of Shipston, are available for young people to collect from the Town Council office at New Clark House on West Street. For complementary activities check out page 9 of the April edition of the Forum.





## Dementia Friendly Shipston

**Invite you to  
a coffee morning**  
for Dementia Action Week

Raising awareness of dementia  
and the local support available

**Pop in for a coffee  
and a chat**

Members of local groups,  
businesses and individuals in the  
community are welcome

**Thursday 19 May 2022**  
**10:00am - 12:00noon**  
Back room of The White Bear

For more information contact Fay Ivens on 01608 662133  
or email [fivens13@gmail.com](mailto:fivens13@gmail.com)

# scan

**SENIOR CITIZENS  
ACTION NETWORK**

Shipston SCAN invites you to its next meeting on  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, Shipston on Stour  
10.00am for free refreshments / 10.30am start

**How Warwickshire Vision Support  
assists those with reduced vision**

**Councillor Ian Cooper shares his  
experience of being Mayor**

*Please DO NOT attend if you feel unwell*

*If you require transport to attend the SCAN meeting, VASA may be able to help with  
a door to door volunteer car. Mileage costs payable. Tel: 01789 262889 or  
Email: [transport@vasa.org.uk](mailto:transport@vasa.org.uk)*



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

**Fret & Fiddle**

**Sally Minchin's String Quintet**



Featuring:

- ❖ Sally Minchin: Violin & Vocals
- ❖ Andy Bole: Guitar
- ❖ Rich Hughes: Keys
- ❖ Simon Smith: Bass
- ❖ Steve Street: Drums

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Doors Open 19:00 for 20:00**

**Fully Licensed Bar**

**Tickets £10 from:**

- Clarke Electrical Services, 01608-661394, or
- For online booking, visit [ticketsource.co.uk](http://ticketsource.co.uk) or [townsendhall.co.uk](http://townsendhall.co.uk), or
- Email / Phone David: [ds@pinnegards.com](mailto:ds@pinnegards.com); 07511-694733

**SHIPSTON ON STOUR AREA**

**u3a**

Registered Charity No 1170969

**TUESDAY 24 MAY, 2022**  
**2 PM TOWNSEND HALL**  
**"LIVING HISTORY – THE SUCCESS  
STORY OF SULGRAVE MANOR"**

Martin Sirot-Smith, dressed in 16th century costume as  
Lawrence Washington, Lord of the Manor of Sulgrave in  
1539, will show through a Living History performance,  
how history has successfully been made to come alive  
for the visitors to the Manor.



*The Washington Family Coat of Arms  
used in Britain from the year 1346.*

**Visitors are welcome**  
**Entry including refreshments £2**

## Shipston Proms

There have been some exciting late developments. El Café have agreed to host 'Shipston Introducing' (replacement for the Fame competition) on Sunday 19th June so any musicians who would like to take part, please get in touch on our Facebook page or at [www.shipstonproms.org](http://www.shipstonproms.org).



The Shipston Proms 22 programme should be through your door shortly but in the meantime here is a taste of some of the performances on offer.

For Launch Night on 10th June in Townsend Hall, we are very excited to welcome for the first time to Shipston, Uncle Funk and his Disco Inferno. They have appeared at Glastonbury over the last few years wowing the crowd with a popular mix of disco classics and modern dance bangers. Tickets will be available via a link from our website. Popular local DJ Toppers Disco will also be adding to the dance atmosphere.

In the second week, The Celtic Folk Group Brimstone from the North Cotswolds will be performing at the Black Horse on the evening of Thursday 23rd June. They are a spirited four-piece, comprising fiddle, guitar, whistle and bodhran.

The Launton Hand Bell Ringers are holding a concert at St. Edmunds Church on 25th June during the last afternoon of the Proms. From the village of Launton near Bicester, the ringers use a unique collection of bells, thought to be one of the finest in the world, built up by the late Frederick Sharpe over 50 years. Their recital will be an opportunity to hear these historic bells in action and to appreciate the legacy of a fine campanologist and bell historian. Later, the main church bells will be rung to herald the beginning of the Final Night acts.

Another first for Shipston is the appearance of The RPJ band otherwise known as The Rick Parfitt Junior Band. His late father together with Franco Rossi were in the legendary Status Quo. On Final Night Rick Parfitt Junior will be headlining the stage for a show which encourages the audience to immerse themselves in the music including handwaving, and singing aloud, in fact, everything that is natural to a Proms crowd!

Please check out our programme to see what else there is on offer and please come and support our performers who have been waiting a couple of years to do their thing!

Lastly, but not least, a huge thank you to the local business sponsors who have stepped up to help us with our costs, to the Council for their grant and to the Friends who have pledged their support. If you would like to join as a Friend with the benefits of free entry to Launch Night and selected ticketed events please take a look at our website.

We look forward to seeing you all next month 10th -25th June

## Our New 2022 Programme and Calling Women Cyclists!

The wheels of Shipston Cycling Club members have continued to roll over the winter months and



we have also been busy behind the scenes developing a new club logo and summer kit alongside new sponsorship deals with Shipston Spokes and The Still House Café at Cotswold Distillery. We are all now looking forward to a Spring/Summer of cycling with longer days and (hopefully) good weather, taking advantage of the wonderful countryside on our doorstep.

The club continues to grow in strength with a wide range of abilities within our membership and with a diverse weekly programme, there is always a ride to tempt you out on your bike. It might be a social ride with a café stop on Sunday or a training ride on a Tuesday to improve your riding technique. If you fancy joining us, head to our website for details [www.shipstoncycling.co.uk](http://www.shipstoncycling.co.uk)

Our regular Sunday rides are always well supported by our existing ladies but we are particularly interested in making cycling more accessible to women and would love to boost our female membership this year. We are going to be running a women-only ride on Monday nights over the summer from 9th May, meeting at The Bridge Car Park at 6.30pm for a short flat loop. Whether you are a seasoned rider looking for new friends to ride with or are new to the sport and simply want to improve your fitness and well-being, come and give it a go – we guarantee a social and enjoyable hour on a Monday evening.

## Shipston Town Band

Congratulations to our young percussionist Alec Banner. After 3 years as a member of the percussion section of the National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain (NCBBGB), Alec has been accepted as a member of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain in their percussion team. He will have the chance to perform at prestigious venues such as The Royal Albert Hall and Symphony Hall. He has already performed with them at a recent Conductors Workshop and his first course will be in August after he has completed his final course with the NCBBGB.







## CRAFT FAIR & BOOK SALE

*INCLUDING LOCAL WORKS OF ART*

**7<sup>th</sup> May 2022**  
**starts 10.00am**

**Catholic Church Hall**  
Darlingstone Road, Shipston on Stour CV36 4DR

- Local Craft Stalls
- Lions Books Sale
- Watercolour Art Sale
- Refreshments available

*A community event organised by Stour Valley Lions Club*

## Supporting Your Wellbeing in Stour Valley

Come along to our **free**,  
weekly coffee morning  
**starting on Friday, 6 May 2022**

### Unwind With Mindfulness & Wellbeing Sessions

provided by Mind South Warwickshire

**Townsend Hall,  
Sheep Street, Shipston on Stour  
CV36 4AE**

**11am - 12.30pm**

☎ 01789 777986  
✉ [warmhubs@wrccrural.org.uk](mailto:warmhubs@wrccrural.org.uk)

Provided by the Stour Health &  
Wellbeing Partnership

in association with  
 



## Divertimento MUSIC FOR VOICES

### Divertimento – Live at Last

An inspiring and joyful collection of pieces chosen for a discerning audience. With music by Sullivan, the Beatles, the King's Singers and a fiendish Finnish Polkka (hold onto your hats). Also an exclusive selection of British and Commonwealth music from the last 70 years to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

Friday 20th May 2022, 7.30pm  
Methodist Church | New Street Shipston on Stour  
Tickets £8.00 | Students £3.00  
SMS members and accompanied children free  
New Members always welcome

Supported By  
 







# Bright Eyed Coffee and Cake sale!

Tea, Coffee and lots of Cakes to choose from!

We are hosting a charity fundraiser for Shipston Home Nursing in honour of Uncle Chris. Along side this bake sale we are also taking on a 5k inflatable run!

There will be large variety of cakes and tasty treats to choose from and there will be a lucky dip raffle, Glitter Tattoos and more for the children to get involved with. We hope to see you there!

Saturday 11th June 2022  
10:00am - 14:00pm  
At the Townsend Hall - Shipston  
On Stour - CV36 4AE  
Cash Only :)





# Shipston-on-Stour WI Coffee & Crafts Morning

Scout Hut, New Street  
Saturday May 14th  
10:00 - 12:00

Coffee      Cakes  
Crafts      Plants  
Jarbola



# FREE MAY ACTIVITIES IN SHIPSTON ON STOUR

**L&Q**

## Dr Sue Pritchard Memorial Challenge

New health & wellbeing opportunities brought to you by the Stour Health & Wellbeing Partnership in partnership with Sport England and L&Q

For further information and to book please email:  
[juliareeves@everyoneactive.com](mailto:juliareeves@everyoneactive.com) or call 07514492468

Activity	Day	Time	Location
Seated Exercise Class	Tuesdays	10:00am	Townsend Hall
Seated Exercise Class	Tuesdays	11:15am	Rainbow Fields
New Age Kurling	Wednesdays	2:00pm	Townsend Hall
Pilates for Complete Beginners	Fridays	9:30am	Townsend Hall
Board Games Social Afternoon	Friday 13th & 27th May	2:00pm	Rainbow Fields



Everyone Active manages these facilities in partnership with Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

[www.everyoneactive.com](http://www.everyoneactive.com) [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/everyoneactive) [instagram](https://www.instagram.com/everyoneactive) [linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/everyoneactive)



Who can grow the

# Tallest

Sunflower?

Judging on August 13th

Shipston on Stour Rotary Club

To enter contact Fay Ivens  
01608 662133



## Shipston Yarn Bombing

Ahead of the Easter weekend, the town was once again transformed thanks to the efforts of the Shipston Yarn Bombing Group, comprised of some dedicated members of the Shipston Knitting and Crocheting Group.



## Shipston Stitches

We are a small group of friendly embroiderers who meet fortnightly on a Friday in The Church Room, Darlingscote Rd.

We are of mixed ability. We cover cross stitch to gold work.

We will be meeting:

29 April

27 May

10 and 24 June

8 and 22 July

5 and 19 August

We are actively seeking a few new members. I hope there are newcomers to Shipston who might like to join us or those who find they now have some free time.

Please contact Anita Spencer on 01993 83266.





## Shipston-On-Stour Women's Institute

Shipston WI met on 6th April when the President, Carole Turner, gave details of upcoming events. The Shipston Branch will be 100 years old this year on 22nd October and a celebratory lunch is planned. It is hoped that a bench will be placed in the Town to commemorate the Centenary. A Group Meeting of local branches is planned for 20th September at Newbold to which members are invited. And Shipston WI will have a day out at Broughton Grange gardens on 3rd August.

But before the business of the meeting was announced Ken Ingamells gave a talk on Scott of the Antarctic. Ken was a weatherman in his working life – “a professional liar” he said! His was a very specialised type of weather forecasting – he had high-security clearance and was on duty 24-hours a day in South Georgia at the time of the Falklands War. His work has taken him all over the world, but he has a particular interest in the Antarctic which he has visited several times, photographing and walking.

Ken's talk on Scott of the Antarctic was lucid and frank. There was a problem with the visuals but Ken's talk was so vivid, that they were not needed. Scott is an acknowledged hero, but a flawed one. His life was moulded by the Navy and its discipline. Ken interestingly compared Scott and Shackleton who was a merchant seaman with a more relaxed attitude. Their backgrounds clashed on failed expeditions to the South Pole and Scott tended to blame Shackleton.

In 1912, however, Scott tried to reach the South Pole and was famously beaten by Amundsen. The reasons he failed to get there first are many and various, but basically, he made poor decisions. He refused to use dogs, but instead used ponies which were quite unsuitable and their fodder had to be hauled with them. The ponies died and he used the men to haul the

sledges. Their diet was poor, they developed scurvy – they were exhausted. Scott's decision to take Titus Oates, a soldier, because he thought the Army should be represented, meant that the more suitable, smaller, more agile man of a lower rank was left behind. Oates was a big man who needed more food. His suicide was noble. Seventeen men had begun the attempt, five men made the final walk to the Pole – Scott, Bowers, Wilson, Oates and Evans. All these five men died.

Scott, Bowers and Wilson died in their tent in a storm only 11 miles from the depot. Their bodies remain where they died.



*The South Pole party from left to right - Oates, Scott, Bowers, Scott, Wilson, Evans. They reached the Pole on the 18th of January 1912.*

The story of Scott of the Antarctic is tragic and a story of “ifs”. If they had had better food depots, if the weather had not been so adverse, if they had taken a shorter route. But Scott left a scientific legacy: the work he did in the Antarctic was (is) important. He was a man of his time.

The next Shipston WI meeting is on 4th May at 7pm with a talk on Bumble Bees in Spring.

*Nicci Williamson*

## Shipston on Stour Probus Club

**Sue Black: “The Development of the Human Voice” April 1st 2022**

Probus members were treated to a talk by Sue Black, a retired professional opera singer, on the development of singing by the human race.

No one knows quite when humans developed the power of speech and the ability to sing. Darwin drew a connection between swim bladders in ancient fish and our ability to suck in air and expel it to form a sound. Researchers generally consider it highly likely that Neanderthal Man could communicate via a basic form of speech possibly 350,000 years ago. Modern human babies are born with a straight spine and flat tongue (as were Neanderthals), but soon develop a flexible tongue and curved spine which enables sophisticated speech.

Voices vary, not only between male and female but also body size: small bodies tend to have higher notes. Regional accents influence vowel sounds, for example northerners and Italians tend to have rounded vowels.

The art of singing evolved through medieval church music and early theatre. Polyphony met the need for sound to fill larger areas such as churches and royal palaces. The Renaissance brought the development of opera, initially using small and level voices but with ever-increasing size of venues came the need for different singing techniques. As accompaniment evolved to the use of large orchestras so did the challenge to the singer to be heard!

Sue demonstrated with all the aplomb of an experienced opera singer the different ways composers wrote for particular voice types and how voices became associated with stylised operatic roles - baritones rarely get the girl; bases are usually the father or a priest; tenors always get the girl, tend to be short and sing into ‘the cleavage line’(!); sopranos are often the maid, generally submissive and spend a lot of time on their knees (requiring knee operations in later life)!

Members were fascinated by Sue's splendid demonstration of singing techniques and styles and insider knowledge of life as an opera singer, amply shown by the variety of questions which followed.

Guests and new members to Shipston Probus are most welcome. Please contact Tony Joint on 01608 or email [tonyjjoint73@hotmail.com](mailto:tonyjjoint73@hotmail.com)





Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

Keep updated with what is happening at the Medical Centre

Did you know the practice produces a newsletter every 2 months? The newsletter is designed to keep our patients updated about what is happening in the practice, and to share things we feel that it might be helpful to know. The newsletter is developed in partnership with our patient participation group. Current and past newsletters are in the timeline of the 'news' section of our website at <https://shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk/patientnews>

If you have suggestions for things you would like to see in the newsletter or can facilitate distribution of the newsletter in the community (i.e. via a community space or service, please do get in touch with our patient group at [n.shipstonppg@gmail.com](mailto:n.shipstonppg@gmail.com)

Twitter and Facebook: You can also keep updated via our social media at @ShipstonGP (twitter) or Shipston Medical Centre (Facebook)

Appointments

Along with most other organisations, the way we work had to change as a result of the pandemic. Initially, we dramatically increased the number of telephone consultations taking place. Since 2020, for over a year, we are offering a lot more face to face appointments, which make up around 50% of all appointments offered.

Because our building is now far too small for the services we provide, we do not have sufficient consultation rooms. We try to rota clinicians to ensure there are times in the week they can each see patients face to face, however for a significant portion of their working week most clinicians will not have a room which is appropriate for face to face consultations. Many of the rooms used by clinicians are not accessible to patients and not large enough to contain examination couches and other equipment.

Telephone appointments can be more efficient and convenient for the patient when an examination is not required, and consulting in this way does not affect the clinical quality. Doctors are taught that 90% of diagnosis is made by history alone, with examination supporting another 8% and investigations the remaining 2%. When we see you face to face – which we love to do! – the consultation time needs to include the opportunity to get to the consulting room and removal of clothing for examination. These appointments necessarily often take longer than a telephone call might. Clearly, telephone calls are not always appropriate or preferred. However, in any portion of time we can undertake 33% more telephone calls than face to face consultations. This makes it an efficient use of clinician time, as we can consult with more people, and it is also potentially easier for patients to access the service. Getting the balance between telephone appointments and face to face is tricky and we are constantly reviewing this. Our systems are designed to ensure that patients can always be seen face to face where clinical need requires this.

We know that for life in general coronavirus restrictions have eased. However, in healthcare environments, mask-wearing is still required to protect vulnerable patients. Additionally, if healthcare workers test positive they still have to isolate from work for up to 10 days. Recently, we lost 20% of our team as a result of this. High levels of staff sickness do impact our ability to provide a service, so we appreciate you working with us to reduce the risk of this happening.



**talkdementia.uk**

**"Our dementia friendly cafes offer tea & coffee, a chat, friendship & support for people living with dementia, carers, family & friends"**

Shipston Lodge CV36 4QG - Every Tuesday 10.30am - 12.30pm  
Wellesbourne Village Hall CV35 9NH - Every wednesday 2pm - 4pm  
Tysoe Village Hall CV35 0SE - Every Friday 10am - 12 noon  
Compton Verney CV35 9HZ - 1st Tuesday of month 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Heather & Paul Dowler**  
**Dementia Carer Experience Shared**  
Telephone: 01295 688376 - email: [talkdementia@mail.com](mailto:talkdementia@mail.com)

Further information is available on our website: [talkdementia.uk](http://talkdementia.uk)

**Singing Down Memory Lane**

Come along and join in with the singing for people with memory issues and their carers

**2.00 - 3.30pm**

Rainbow fields, The Driftway, Shipston on Stour CV36 4BU

Refreshments provided  
(We may be able to help with transport, please ask)

Contact: Barbara Smith 01608 662433

Every 3rd Wednesday, starting 18 May

Wednesday, 18 May	Wednesday, 8 June	Wednesday, 29 June
Wednesday, 20 July	Wednesday, 10 August	Wednesday, 31 August
Wednesday, 21 September	Wednesday, 12 October	Wednesday, 2 November

Shipston on Stour - a dementia friendly community



## Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



### MANOR ADVENTURE

Huge congratulations to the children in Year 5 and 6 at Acorns Primary School, Brailes C of E Primary School and Shipston Primary School who participated in the recent Manor Adventure trip; pupils showed determination, empathy, compassion and many more values during the three days away from home and school.

The activities and challenges really showcased the children's character as they displayed tenacity, grit, perseverance and resilience. Collaborative working played a meaningful role in many of the tasks which required the children to work together as a pair or team, often with children they had only just met from another school in our Multi Academy Trust. Other activities, such as abseiling and rock climbing, also required high levels of independence and courage.

On multiple occasions, children pushed themselves out of their comfort zones to take part in activities many thought they would never be able to do. Groups of children, who took part in Initiative Exercises, used their critical thinking skills to solve problems, identify patterns and make connections. Communication and citizenship skills were also significant as children reflected on their day at the evening briefing and shared their favourite activities and thoughts ahead of the following day.



It was always going to be a challenge taking two whole year groups rather than the usual Year 5 cohort, but we were determined that our Year 6 children who missed out last year due to COVID should not miss out again. We were so proud of all the children and would like to say a big well done and thank you for being a pleasure to take away. Comments from the rare breeds farm park, residential centre and even the coach drivers couldn't praise our children's behaviour enough! Thank you to all the teachers, teaching assistants and parent governors for accompanying the children.



### PUPIL BOOK STUDY

cross The Stour Federation Multi Academy Trust we use the Pupil Book Study approach, created and written by Alex Bedford, as an evidence-informed guide to help quality assure the curriculum. This approach to monitoring and evaluating children's work really gets to the heart of reflective thinking about what will make a difference to children's learning.

The benefits of Pupil Book Study are realised professionally, academically and socially between staff and pupils. It serves as a manual that prioritises evidence to inform curriculum design, effective teaching methods and tasks that generate learning. It illuminates strengths as well as focusing the user on possible limitations and traps to avoid.



The Humanities had a wonderful morning recently at Shipston Primary evaluating three essential headlines in the context of history: curriculum provision; the effect of teaching; and depth, retention and connection of learning. By studying children's books, watching lessons and then talking with children about their learning we were able to evaluate curriculum content and children's knowledge of science, their understanding of vocabulary and how the teaching sequence, explanation, modelling, questioning and feedback build knowledge and understanding. The Team were very pleased that our planned curriculum is being implemented consistently and effectively, with superb outcomes. A great range of well-designed tasks was evident in books. All history work seen had a strong focus on developing knowledge.

### COASTLINE

Year 2 children have been studying Coastline topic this half term, with a focus on geography. They have also completed a Design & Technology companion project called Beach Hut, which teaches children about making and strengthening structures, including different ways of joining materials.



Kingfishers and Woodpeckers children have engaged brilliantly in a number of focused practical tasks involving experimenting with structures to make them stiffer, stronger and more stable, and working with wood, before designing and constructing their own beach huts.

**Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher**



## Shipston High School

With a later Easter this year, it is easy to overlook how quickly the school year is progressing. Exam season is close, and we are planning for the next academic year. As mentioned last month, we are delighted that our new Year 7 students have received their offers for September, and we look forward to meeting them at our induction events.

Looking further ahead, families with children in the current Year five will already be thinking about selecting a secondary school in the Autumn applications. Shipston High School will host an Open Evening in September with all interested families welcome to attend. We also hope to host open events in July, Covid allowing, and look forward to welcoming you to our school.

### Improving the environment

Following a generous donation from the Shipston Rotary Club, we have been busy planting trees and hedgerows to enhance our surroundings.

Led by science teacher Mr Bamford, dedicated volunteers from his Year 9 Eco Club (including the School Business Manager and Site Manager!) have planted almost 400 small trees and shrubs around the school site.



We were pleased to welcome into school Mr David Gill, President of the Shipston on Stour Rotary Club, and Mrs Judith Slinger to

meet with Mr Saunders, Mr Bamford, Maddie and Lauren, two of the students from the Club, to see the planting at first hand. They were also given an insight into the future aspirations of the Club and their plans to re-wild part of the school grounds.

We are extremely grateful to the Rotary Club for their ongoing support for the school in providing opportunities for our students outside the normal curriculum.

### Community History

We were delighted to have been contacted by Mr Mike Abbotts regarding a book that he and some fellow ex-rugby players have written charting the history of Shipston Rugby Club.

It was really interesting to learn that what is now a thriving rugby club originated as a team of Shipston High School "Old Boys" who formed the first team in 1962.

Mr Abbotts visited the school to meet some of our current rugby students, which he did with Mr Baylis and the current Chairman of Shipston Rugby Club, Mr Powell. The group of students (all current members of Shipston RFC) enjoyed an explanation of the club's foundation, some highlights (including Shipston playing at Twickenham) and other memories. We are very grateful to Mr Abbotts for his donation of a copy of the book for our school Library, a further link for all of our students to local community history.



Gavin Saunders, Headteacher

## Warwickshire Vision Support

For over 100 years, Warwickshire Vision Support has been providing advice, support and friendship for those who are visually impaired. Originally called Warwickshire Association for the Blind our remit has expanded to include advice on information technology, low vision aids, home visits, drop-in centres, social clubs and all manner of general information to help improve the lives of those with sight loss.

The charity holds the registration for the visually impaired in Warwickshire and will contact all those who are on the database to offer specialist advice from our trained rehabilitation team. We also understand the concerns of those who care for someone who is visually impaired and our support staff are always available to offer advice as well as a friendly chat.

Our support reaches out into all areas of Warwickshire in the form of our weekly and monthly drop-in centres. Shipston Vision Support Centre, Stour Court, Old Road, Shipston-on-Stour opens on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 2.30 to 4.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to come and have a chat, a cup of tea and a biscuit – you do not need to be registered to access our services. We aim to include an interesting talk from local organisations, demonstrations of the latest equipment for the visually impaired and by appointment offer one to one consultations in the use of I.T. such as mobile 'phones, laptops and tablets.

We also welcome any help that may be offered and would like to meet those who may want to volunteer with the organisation. Our Shipston centre is currently run by two Vision Support Officers and a volunteer but we would love to hear from anyone who wants to get involved throughout the county.

There may be someone reading this who is concerned about their own situation or knows someone who is having difficulties but does not know who to contact. Our details are included so please do not hesitate to contact us.



## District Council update

Much debate over the 3,2,1 system of waste disposal which is starting soon! So a gentle explanation as I understand it. There are really 2 parts to this – one is money and the other is the environment.



In terms of cost – I am acutely aware that Council Tax has increased and you wonder why we appear to be reducing one of our services? We have had to change the service so as not to increase costs any more and please don't forget that the green bin charge (boo, hiss) was brought in as Stratford District Council could not afford this subsidy any longer. In terms of the environment – we are really good at recycling in this district – but we can get better. With the ability to recycle plastics via many of our shops as well as less packaging generally, the amount we put in our black bins should diminish – so 3 weekly bin collections are viable. The bin lorries will be out on the road less frequently, thus cutting our carbon footprint. The 2 weekly collection of garden waste and recycling continues as before – you can request and pay for extra bins if you need them – the same goes for black bins.

Then comes the weekly 10l food caddy emptying. I haven't got mine yet – but they are on their way. The really stinky, rotting food waste which turns slimy gets taken weekly, in a smaller, more efficient truck.

Finally, the advice I have been given about nappies, medical waste and dog poo – is to wrap it thoroughly before putting in the black bin. Bins aren't nice things but with the lid firmly shut you can keep any smell and flies at bay. The bottom line – apart from cost – is that if we can reduce the amount of waste we produce – we are all doing our bit to reduce CO2 emissions and to look after our precious planet.

After Easter, I am going back to weekly surgeries at the George on a Thursday morning. If that doesn't work for you then I am at Foodbank most Saturdays and you can always give me a bell.

**Jo Barker, District Councillor, Shipston South**  
07748 968712 | [jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

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

## County Council update

The ups and downs of the Youth Club over the last couple of years have been huge. I am a trustee of the club as well as a keen proponent of anything for youth in Shipston! I grew up not far from here, with not a lot going on, so I really get the need! I was so disappointed that the High School decided to end the working relationship with us – using the Outhouse building on the school site. And so began the search for a new club. After a lot of work (more phone calls and misfired emails than I can count) we got an agreement to use Badger Valley! Sadly it didn't really fit the bill for a YC but we were not deterred. Ali started to search out venues and many of you got involved and offered help. So when the High School gave us a deadline to move our equipment – we had an offer of storage and vans to move us! Needless to say these offers are from people who value YC – either for others, or as previous users! THANK YOU! So, on the very tight timetable set by the High School - the move will be happening after Easter! More excitingly we had 12 young people at YC on its first week. And do you know why? Kayleigh and Alex have offered the use of the Enterprise Centre - the right place, where young people can do their own thing and get involved with indoor and outdoor activities. The wait has been worth it – sitting at a table with the Board over the last two years has been both fun and frustrating – but - I am so glad that we can see the next generation of users and helpers getting involved. There is more to life as a young person than school – come and join us and find out!



**Jo Barker, County Councillor, Shipston**  
07748 968712 | [jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Free webinar for older drivers around the Highway Code changes and driver safety

Organised by Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership and hosted by Rob Heard, Older Drivers Forum, a webinar on Thursday 5th May at 1.30 – 3.00pm is being offered for free to up to 500 local drivers aged 65+ and their friends and family.

The webinar will provide drivers with the opportunity to hear from road safety experts, including Graham Mylward, Senior Road Safety Officer at Hampshire County Council, Inspector Jem Mountford, Warwickshire Police and Richard Gladman, IAM RoadSmart. During the 90 minute session, they will discuss the Highway Code, helping participants understand the new rules for safer driving while offering other advice and information to support older driver safety.

Topics will include the need for licence renewal at 70 and eyesight requirements in addition to the recent changes to the Highway Code. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions to the speakers during a Question & Answer session. Although this webinar is aimed at older drivers, it's open to all.

Pre-registration is required at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_VzO\\_duUETPuBagBJDp34Yg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VzO_duUETPuBagBJDp34Yg)



Visit [www.olderdriversforum.com/warwickshire/](http://www.olderdriversforum.com/warwickshire/) to register for the webinar





## Your Town Councillors


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

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**Ronnie Murphy, Jubilee Working Group Chair**

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**Jo Barker**

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

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**Hilary Kelly**

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

**Vacancy**

## Useful Contacts

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

**Shipston-on-Stour Town Council**

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

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## Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Chris Rowland on 01295 788655 or email: [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org)

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

**Forum copy deadline:**
**Second Monday of the month**

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

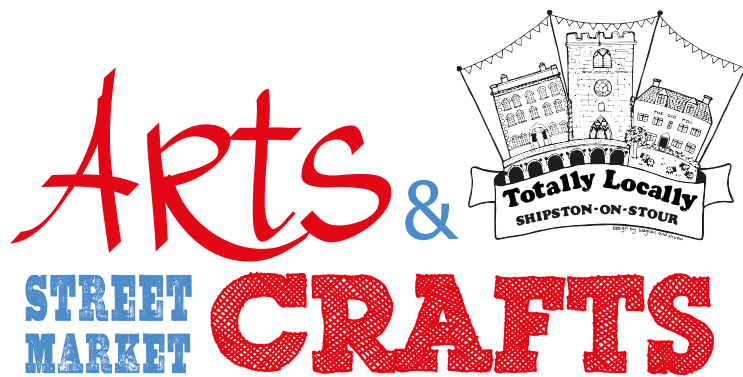
The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council.

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**LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE!**

**TOTALLY LOCALLY SHIPSTON**

• **JUBILEE STREET MARKET** •



ARTISTS • CRAFTS • UPCYCLED GOODS • HANDMADE • CERAMICS  
TEXTILES • STAINED GLASS • LEATHER JOURNALS • BUSKING....

**Saturday 4th June**

**10am - 4pm**

**SHIPSTON ON STOUR**

**Town Centre on Sheep Street & The Bury**

Totally Locally Shipston is run by a small number of folk on a 'totally' voluntary basis to support independent retail in Shipston and the surrounding villages. If you would like to get involved, please e-mail us on [info@totallylocallyshipston.co.uk](mailto:info@totallylocallyshipston.co.uk). Many hands make light work :-)

**LIVE TOTALLY, SHOP LOCALLY**

To find out more about Totally Locally, please visit: [www.totallylocally.org](http://www.totallylocally.org)