



## The Twinning of Shipston with France

By Diane Neath and Peter Cowley

On 18th April 1985, Shipston-on-Stour was twinned with Torigni-sur-Vire, a town in the Departement de La Manche in Normandy, France. The signing of the Twinning Charter took place at Shipston High School and it was signed by Pierre Dupont (Mayor of Torigni), Christine Hedouin (President of the Torigni Twinning Association) and Brenda Broughton (Mayor of Shipston). Keith McCarthy (then Chairman of the Shipston Twinning Association) and Brenda Broughton were presented with a large framed picture of the Chateau of Torigni which they accepted on behalf of the Shipston Twinning Association. It was to be hung in the council chamber when the offices at Clark House were completed.



The following day, the Mayor and Committee of Torigni attended the official opening ceremony of Clark House the new premises of Shipston Town Council along with members of the public, architect John Bradley, builder Dennis Nason and all the craftsmen employed in the conversion of the building. Town, district and county councillors were also present. This was an important occasion as it was the inauguration of the first building owned by the Town Council, who had previously been tenants of the District Council. The building's name commemorated the previous owners of the property, Clark Provision Merchants, who traded from the 1800's to the 1980's.

### About Torigni

- Formerly crossed by two Roman roads and much like Shipston, it thrived as a settlement because of this position.
- One of the strongholds of the descendants of William the Conqueror,

who was born in nearby Falaise.

- The birthplace of Robert of Torigni, an influential 12th Century abbot and chronicler. Robert was godfather to Eleanor of Castile, the daughter of King Henry II of England and Eleanor of Aquitaine.
- The main historical building in Torigni is the Chateau of the Matignon family, who were related to the Royal Family of Monaco, the Grimaldis. The Chateau now houses the town hall and art gallery.
- Torigni and the surrounding area suffered severe war damage during the Battle of Normandy which followed the D-Day Landings in 1944. Torigni was taken from German occupation by American troops on 31st July 1944 but 350 houses were destroyed in the fighting and there were many civilian casualties.

On 1st January 2016, Torigni-sur-Vire was merged with the communes of Brectouville, Gieville and Guilberville to create the new municipality of Torigny-les-Villes. This new municipality has inherited the twinning relationship and had a population of 4,352 in 2017, which is very similar to that of Shipston-on-Stour (4,500).

### About the Twinning Associations

The Shipston-on-Stour Twinning Association and the Torigny-les-Villes Twinning Association arrange alternate visits to England and France each year. Due to Covid 19, the visit to Torigny planned for this year has been postponed until May 2021. The journey is usually made by coach and ferry and a full and varied programme is arranged for each visit.

The Twinning Association in Shipston are a friendly group and welcome new members of any age. You will be guaranteed an enjoyable weekend and with a lot of English speaking hosts in France, please don't be put off if you can't speak the French language. It is an ideal opportunity to experience the food, customs and culture of France. Lasting friendships have been made over the

years. Our next visit is planned to take place from 28th to 31st May 2021.

If you are interested in visiting, please email Diane at: [secretary@shipstontwin.co.uk](mailto:secretary@shipstontwin.co.uk) or for more general information, take a look at our website [www.shipston-torigni-twinning-association.co.uk](http://www.shipston-torigni-twinning-association.co.uk). Also, please look out for any fundraising events in the future where you can meet members to ask any questions you may have.



### Little Shipstonians Art Competition – Design the front cover of the Forum

Have you been enjoying our new Little Shipstonians section for younger readers?



We want you to get involved in an exciting art competition to design the front cover of the New Year edition of the Shipston Forum!

Submit your art with the title "A New Year in Shipston" - you can be as creative and imaginative as you like and use any materials, from paints and crayons to coloured pencils and pastels. Anything goes!

Deadline for entries is the 10th December and is open to under 12's with parental permission. Please email a good quality photo of your artwork to [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org). Entries will be judged by Nikki Turner who creates the beautiful illustrations you see in Little Shipstonians each month.

So what are you waiting for ..... get those pencils sharpened!

Don't forget to check out this month's Little Shipstonians on Page 7.



## Mayor's column

I am delighted to welcome our new Town Councillor Sarah Timms. After an extended period with a vacancy on the council, we were very pleased to have co-opted Sarah as our thirteenth member. With her warm, bright, bubbly personality and wealth of commercial skills, she is certain to be an asset to our community.

As we open our arms to Sarah we are simultaneously waving farewell to Christine Skeath who has decided to take retirement after an astonishing thirty-six years housekeeping at the council offices! Not only has Christine kept things spick and span at our current home New Clark House, but she looked after the previous office in Old Clark House - Shipston's new museum in the West Street car park- and she would have flicked the last duster over the original council offices on the corner of West Street and New Street. How many miles must she have pushed the Hoover and how many cans of polish and buckets of bleach did she get through? I'm sure you join me in thanking Christine for all her efforts over the years and in wishing her a happy and peaceful retirement.

We shall regretfully have to forgo our regular winter events in Shipston this year. No Remembrance parade, no bustling stalls at the Victorian market, no carol services or Christmas Fayres. As the nights draw in it is getting harder to keep going with the COVID restrictions we are all living under. But let's keep going. The last thing we want is to fall into a higher tier of restrictions which might jeopardise our family Christmases even further.

**Sheelagh Saunders**

## Residents speak to council about school traffic and the Ellen Badger

Two parishioners addressed the Town Council during the Open Forum section of the Town Council meeting on 12th October. Lisa Hadland and Hannah French raised concerns about traffic near Shipston Primary School and the redevelopment of the Ellen Badger Hospital respectively.

Lisa explained that measures in response to Covid 19 have compounded existing issues caused by people parking in dangerous locations. She sought support from Councillors for a lollipop person, zebra crossing or other means of providing a safe way for children to cross the road. Several potential solutions were discussed, including sharing the cost of a lollipop person across several schools and encouraging parents to follow an unofficial one-way system when accessing the school. Cllr Ian Cooper and Cllr Fay Ivens both noted that the "footprints" leading to a safe crossing place had been removed when Shipston Lodge was built and Warwickshire County Council no longer installs these measures. The Town Council will discuss the issue at a future meeting after further investigations have been carried out.

Representing the Ellen Badger Hospital League of Friends, Hannah French expressed concern about the revised plans for the hospital. South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust has announced that work will now be done in two phases with the second phase dependent on the outcome of a county-wide bed review. The League of Friends has been fundraising and purchased a plot of land based on a single-phase plan that would guarantee the future of hospital services in Shipston. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Town Council may be considered in future to discuss the Ellen Badger redevelopment plans, dependent on the evolving situation.

## Green Home Grants

Warwickshire County Council is encouraging all residents to explore the opportunity of environmentally sustainable home-improvements through the UK Government's Green Home Grant Scheme.

Homeowners and landlords in England can apply for a voucher worth up to £5,000 towards covering up to two-thirds of the cost of installing energy-efficient and low-carbon heating improvements to homes.

Recipients of qualifying means-tested benefits may be able to receive a higher level of subsidy covering 100% of the cost of the improvements. The maximum value of this voucher is £10,000.

Green Home Grants must be used towards the cost of insulation or a low carbon heating system, however, the remainder of a voucher can be used toward other measures, including windows, doors and heating controls.

To find out more about Green Home Grants and to apply for one, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme> Residents must redeem their voucher and ensure improvements are completed by 31 March 2021.

## UBUS Service

Several improvements have been made to the Stratford District Council UBUS service and all towns and parishes now have a UBUS operating every day Monday – Friday. The service runs from 9.30am until 7pm, except between 2.30pm and 4.30pm when schools are open. All vehicles have 16 seats and, as previously, can accommodate a wheelchair passenger. However, Covid 19 means buses are currently limited to five passengers and drivers can only assist wheelchair users.

How to book a journey:

Phone - 01789 264491.

Email - [ubus@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:ubus@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

Text - 01536 609122.

Users must be registered before booking journeys. To register with the service people should call 01789 264491.

Concessionary

bus passes are accepted for travel, otherwise there is a flat fee of £4.00 single and £6.00 return.

The map shows there are now five UBUS zones. Passengers may travel anywhere within their zone or to/from Stratford-upon-Avon, except in the green zone where they can travel anywhere in their zone or to/from Leamington Spa.



## News from Shipston Town Council's October meeting

**Band hall ventilation:** Remedial work to the car park adjacent to the band hall to reinstate ventilation under the building was completed free of charge by the original contractor who also repaired a dangerous manhole cover.

**Devolution white paper:** The white paper on local government reorganisation has been delayed until 2021, however, there has been increased joint working between Stratford District Council and Warwick District Council to save costs. This includes the joint appointment of some staff, an agreement in principle to create a South Warwickshire Core Strategy to guide planning decisions and a proposal for a joint waste contract that would respect the different collection regimes in each area.

**Victorian Society:** Councillors unanimously backed a motion for the Council to become a member of the society as it was felt it could offer useful advice relating to the cemetery chapels.

**Town Council Website:** This has been refreshed to comply with the latest accessibility guidelines. The communications committee is now reviewing all content and updating where required.

**2021/2022 Precept:** The Finance Working Group has agreed on a timetable for finalising the precept for the next financial year.

**Shipston Area Flood Action Group:** A request has been received to incorporate the organisation as a Working Group of the Town Council. Councillors agreed to this in principle and a formal agreement will now be prepared for consideration.



### Amended opening arrangements from 1<sup>st</sup> November

Shipston Food Bank is open to anyone  
and you don't need a referral or a voucher.

Just come along on  
Saturday mornings between 10.00 and 12.00  
to St Edmund's Church, Church Street, Shipston.

*Donations of food and basic items can be left  
in the church porch on Saturday mornings ONLY,  
between 10.00 and 12.00.*

*There's also a collection point in both the Co-ops.*

For information about our current needs  
please check on our Facebook page or our website:



[www.facebook.com/ShipstonFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/ShipstonFoodBank)



[www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk)



# Shipston-on-Stour Primary School

# Open Evenings

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 4pm  
(by appointment only)

[www.shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk)

Part of the Stour Federation Partnership with  
Acorns Primary School and Brailes C of E Primary School



## Starting School in September 2021?



- Tours of the school will take place after the children have gone home to maintain the integrity of class bubbles.
- One adult per appointment. Please wear a mask and hand sanitise on entry and exit.
- Get advice on the Admissions procedure.
- Learn about our curriculum, facilities and wraparound care from 8am - 6pm.

**Email:** [primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk](mailto:primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk)

**Tel:** 01608 661266

**Twitter:** <http://twitter.com/shipstonhead>





## Shipston High School By Gavin Saunders, Headteacher



Shipston High School students have been adapting to revised procedures around the school site as we continue to follow government guidance on mitigating the risk of coronavirus. The whole school community continues committed to working together so that the important work of lessons can proceed. The atmosphere in classrooms is excellent, with all students commendably focused.

Sporting fixtures between schools are not possible at the moment, but I am delighted that the competitive spirit is alive and well within Shipston High School. The school has four houses; Badger, Hart, Mayo and Sheldon, and each student belongs to one house during their time in the school. Inter-house sporting events have resumed, and it has been great to see students participating in and enjoying these extracurricular events. The mix of exercise and friendly competition is really healthy for our young people, and the students keenly appreciate the events organised by staff.

Student leadership is another important part of wider life in the school, and it is pleasing to welcome our new generation of Year 11 prefects to their duties. Prefect roles enable students to take responsibility for supporting younger students and assisting with aspects of the school day. All prefects are entitled to a unique school tie, and they conduct their duties with real pride.

Each year the school appoints four senior prefects via application and interview, and these have recently been appointed for 2020–21. Selectors were impressed by the genuine commitment to service and helping others evident in applications; a truly positive trait. Congratulations to all involved.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, in line with other local schools, we were not able to hold our usual Autumn

Open Evening this year, as the number of potential visitors on site would have made it impossible for us to adhere to the Government's guidelines on keeping everyone safe.



Instead, we posted information on the school website, including a short film capturing the ethos and activity of the school (visit [www.shipstonhigh.co.uk/september-2020-entry/](http://www.shipstonhigh.co.uk/september-2020-entry/)). Shipston High School is extremely grateful to Jamie Wright at JD Digital for making the process smooth and for a fantastic final film. Thank you to everyone who has accessed this information. We have been impressed with the level of interest and are already aware of a high number of applications for Year 7 places in September 2021.

Shipston High School is grateful to everyone in the community for their continued support and respect for our coronavirus measures, including only attending the school site by prior arrangement. On behalf of Shipston High School, I wish everyone well at this challenging time.

**Mr G. Saunders, Headteacher**

## Shipston Medical Centre

**Medical Centre – t: 01608 661845**

### Dr Sue Pritchard

Early in October, we shared via our website and social media the sad news that Dr Sue Pritchard has been diagnosed with cancer and was in hospital awaiting treatment. Sue wrote the following message from her hospital bed:

"I am sorry to have left the surgery at such short notice, without the chance of saying a proper goodbye. It has been a privilege to serve the community of Shipston for the past 20 years. I have worked alongside amazing, competent, compassionate colleagues in a supportive team who have kept me smiling and sane!

I already miss you and especially my patients who I have got to know so well over the years. I wish you all the best and hopefully I will be back as soon as able. Love Sue xx"

The outpouring of messages of support, love and appreciation for Sue from the community has been phenomenal, thank you. Sue has been very appreciative of the positivity and kind words she has received.

### Covid 19

Thank you to everyone for following the national guidelines regarding Covid 19. We feel that this is really helping to keep the rate of infection down in this area, although there are cases in the community so please remain vigilant.

We continue to operate a triage first system for appointments, in line with national guidance. This means a clinician will review your submitted e-consult (see our website at <https://shipstonmc.warwickshire.nhs.uk/>) or speak with you about your need and decide with you

how best to help you. This may be providing you with a face to face appointment, or it may be that we can help you over the telephone or by some other method.

We would very much prefer to see the majority of patients face to face, but this is not possible as we need to keep both patients and staff safe. When we do see patients face to face we need to don PPE and clean the room after the patient to ensure we are minimising the risk of infection as much as possible. This means that it takes much longer to see people face to face that it did before the pandemic. Please do ask the clinician if you want a face to face appointment but be aware we need to make the best use of our limited resources for the benefit of the whole community.



Shipston Medical Centre

# Shipston Primary School



## Permission to feel

This year our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum is a key focus. Before lockdown, the PSHE Team survey outcome was that children needed support to articulate their emotions and feelings in more detail. This focus led us to the work of Marc Brackett at Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence in the USA, and his book 'Permission to Feel: Unlock the power of emotions to help yourself and your children thrive.' The author's message for everyone is that if we can learn to identify, express, and harness our feelings, even the most challenging ones, we can use those emotions to help us create positive, satisfying lives.

Enraged	Panicked	Stressed	Jittery	Shocked		Curious	Surprised	Upbeat	Exhilarated	Courageous
Livid	Furious	Frustrated	Tense	Stunned	M	Amused	Cheerful	Motivated	Inspired	Elated
Fuming	Frightened	Angry	Nervous	Restless	O	Energetic	Lively	Enthusiastic	Optimistic	Excited
Anxious	Apprehensive	Worried	Irritated	Annoyed	D	Pleased	Happy	Focused	Proud	Thrilled
Repulsed	Troubled	Concerned	Uneasy	Peeved	O	Pleasant	Joyful	Hopeful	Delighted	Ecstatic
	M	O	O	D	M	E	T	E	R	
Disgusted	Glum	Disappointed	Down	Apathetic	E	At ease	Easygoing	Content	Loving	Fulfilled
Pessimistic	Morose	Discouraged	Sad	Bored	T	Calm	Chilled	Satisfied	Grateful	Pleased
Alienated	Miserable	Lonely	Disheartened	Tired	E	Relaxed	Restful	Blessed	Balanced	Secure
Despondent	Depressed	Sullen	Exhausted	Fatigued	R	Mellow	Thoughtful	Peaceful	Comfortable	Carefree
Despair	Hopeless	Desolate	Spent	Drained		Sleepy	Complacent	Tranquil	Cosy	Serene

In addition to using carefully selected picture books for our social and emotional learning strand on relationships this half term (see curriculum newsletters for more information), we will be developing the use of Marc Brackett's RULER evidence-based approach to social and emotional learning, building the skills of emotional intelligence, and creating and maintaining a positive school climate.

**Recognising emotions in yourself and others.**

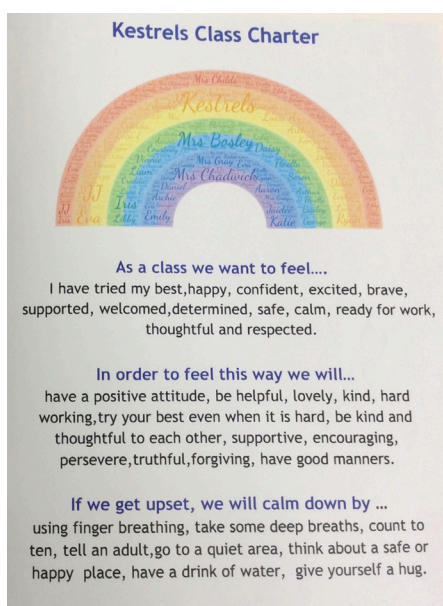
**Understanding the causes and consequences of emotions.**

**Labelling emotions accurately: if you can name it you can tame it.**

**Expressing emotions appropriately.**

**Regulating emotions effectively.**

The children are taught these skills through a series of tools, known as anchor tools. One tool is the Mood Meter (pictured). The horizontal axis represents the degree of pleasantness, from very unpleasant to very pleasant. The vertical axis represents the degree of energy, from very low to very high. It's so important to give children a wide emotional vocabulary, the time and space to listen and reflect on how they feel and help them move to a more positive set of feelings when sadness, frustration, anger, loneliness, grief are experienced. This



work links to each class's charter, agreement about how pupils want to feel as part of their classroom life, encouraging personal and social responsibility and working together towards creating the kind of emotional climate that everyone wants.

## Pupil leadership

In The Stour Federation Partnership, we believe the best schools have a pupil-led culture where children take on key leadership roles and get their voice heard. Over the years we have wholeheartedly valued the work of our pupil leaders, using it to shape the teaching and learning that happens at our schools. We are moulding leaders of the future, ready for work, ready for the world.

Our aim is for our children to have the opportunity to make their voices heard and have an input into policies, lessons and school culture to be recognised and utilised. By having a platform to be leaders around the school, we hope it will give our children the drive and confidence to apply these skills in school and other group settings, at secondary school and in employment, ensuring that they become successful members of the local and global

community in the 21st century.

Congratulations to our School Council Year 6 Executive Committee and class reps, and well done to all the children who put themselves forward for the role. School Council will be

a little different this year with virtual meetings facilitated by Mrs Chadwick. We will be using Google Meet for video calling between classes so that our pupil leaders can gather opinions safely from other bubbles, give feedback on actions and provide information for upcoming events.

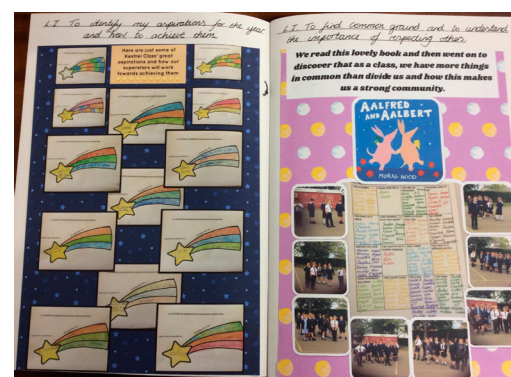
## From open mornings to open evenings

Usually, at this time of year, we welcome lots of families to Shipston Primary School to show them around our wonderful school, whether it is for new starters in Reception the following September or mid-year moves.

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 restrictions, we are unable to show groups of families around while the children are in school, but are delighted to offer tours of the school every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 4pm.

Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning 01608 661266 or email [primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk](mailto:primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk). Our prospectus is available on the school's website - <https://www.shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk/welcome/>. The closing date for Reception 2021 applications is 15th January 2021.

**Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher**







Welcome to your November edition of the Little Shipstonians! The weather is now getting colder and you're probably wrapping up warm in cosy hats and scarfs! As you know, Shipston On Stour is famed for its history in sheep farming. And where you have sheep, you have wool! Can you see Betty Birdwhistle in the picture to the right? She's knitting her little dog a coat to match her jumper but she's got her balls of wool all muddled up. Can you help Mrs Birdwhistle untangle them by selecting A, B or C? There is also a picture for you to colour in with 3 very handsome looking sheep. Can you spot Shipston in the background?



## Shipston Home Nursing

We are a Shipston based hospice at home charity, which cares for adults with incurable illnesses who wish to spend the last few weeks in the comfort of their own homes, providing free nursing care for around 150 patients this year. This is an increase of 25% compared with 2019.

A large proportion of the cost of this care is funded by the generosity of the charity's supporters and, in normal times, a full calendar of fundraising events. However, as most of these events have been cancelled due to the pandemic, the charity's income has suffered.

Andrew Revell, Executive Director of Shipston Home Nursing, said: "Like so many other charities 2020 has been extremely challenging. We have nursed more patients and have seen an increase in those wishing to die at home, as they worry about Covid restrictions preventing them from seeing families and friends at the end of their lives."

"In this uncertain environment, with an increased demand for our services and reduced income, the charity needs to be able plan with confidence to ensure that we can continue to care for everyone who needs us, and this is why we are asking for our community's help by setting up a regular monthly donation to ensure that Shipston Home Nursing is sustainable for the foreseeable future."

If you would like to help, please visit: <https://www.shipstohomenursing.co.uk/donate/> where you can sign up for a monthly donation to Shipston Home Nursing.



## Shipston Rotary

Shipston Rotary has been able to contact Father Christmas. He is as busy as he always is at this time of year.



Father Christmas is as concerned as everyone else at the current situation but he says he must see as many Shipston children (and grown-ups) as possible in the lead up to Christmas.

He hopes to travel around the town, in his sleigh, slowly, but he won't be stopping. Christmas music will be playing and Father Christmas will be waving at children and grown-ups alike from his sleigh. He asks that you do the same from your window.

Please support Rotary's work by donating in the collection boxes which will be in shops and businesses all around the town,

Alternatively, please donate via the donation sites on the Rotary Victorian Evening poster on the back page .

The Tree of Life, generously sponsored by the Royal British Legion, will stand proudly in the town centre as usual and will be lit up at the same time as the town Christmas lights.

Please sponsor a bulb using the provided form. This year the Tree of Life sponsorship will be in aid of Acorns Hospice.

Last year, Shipston Rotary supported 52 charities and good causes, most of them local. This year Rotary's focus is entirely on local charities and good causes who need your support more than ever.'

## Rotary Tree of Life



Each December the Tree of Life stands proudly in the centre of Shipston, its white lights glowing symbols of love and hope in memory of loved ones who are no longer with us.

If you wish a friend or relative to be remembered in this way you are invited to sponsor a light by returning the form and making a donation knowing that every name will be entered into the Book of Remembrance. All contributions will be donated to Acorns Children's Hospice who provide specialist palliative care for life limited and life threatened babies, children and young people and support for their families.

The illumination of **The Rotary Tree of Life** will take place on **Friday 4th December**.

Rotary Club of Shipston-on-Stour Tree of Life

Please find enclosed donation £..... (minimum £5) cheques payable to Rotary Club of Shipston on Stour

In Memory of: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

From: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Forms are also available in local shops, banks, library, post office and other locations or contact Avryl

**Please return to:** Rotarian Avryl Thompson, Willow Bank, Pillerton Priors, Warwickshire CV35 0PS. Tel 01789 740 047

## SHIPSTON WOOL FAIR

### Annual General Meeting

will be held on

Thursday 12th November at 6.30 p.m.

This will be a virtual meeting

If you would like to attend please send your email details to

[cath.armstrong@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cath.armstrong@yahoo.co.uk)

and you will be contacted with details to access the Zoom meeting



## Royal British Legion



Sadly, Remembrance is going to be very different this year and there will not be a parade. However, working closely with St Edmunds and the Town Council, we are now able to confirm that there will still be a Remembrance Service.

Social distancing rules mean that only circa 35 people can be in the Church at the same time and no singing is allowed. For this reason, the Service will be by invitation only and will focus on having maximum attendance from the families of the Shipston Fallen. Only two wreaths will be laid in the Church as part of the Service, one on behalf of the whole community and one on behalf of the serving Military Community. The groups from the Community who normally lay wreaths as part of the Parade will be invited to still lay them at the War Memorial, but at pre-agreed timeslots throughout Remembrance Sunday, so that they can comply with the 'Rule of six' and social distancing rules.

In the previous edition of the Forum, Mayor Sheelagh Saunders suggested people might like to stand at their own doors at 11am on Remembrance Sunday and we would heartily endorse that suggestion as a way everyone can take part.

On Wednesday 11th November – Armistice Day – Two Minutes Silence will be observed in the High Street in front of The George Hotel. If you're there, please remember to socially distance and to not stand in groups of more than six.

For any information on either of the above, please contact Mike Wells, the new Branch Chairman, on 07775 812674 or wellsms4@aol.com

## Stour Valley Lions



Christmas cards for sale! £4 per pack of 10 with profits going to the Lions National project in partnership with Brain Tumour Research. Lions Clubs International, British Isles have pledged to raise £1million over the next 4yrs for equipment and research in one of Brain Tumour Research's laboratories of excellence. If you would like to buy some cards and support both the Lions and Brain Tumour Research then please email Lion Fran from Stour Valley Lions at franstary@lionsclubs.co.uk

A number of community members have been asking about Stour Valley Lions' Film Night – we can confirm that we will not be holding any this year, but plan to review again in December to see if we will be able to hold any in the new year. We will aim to update you all in the January Forum. We thank everyone for their support and understanding and hope to see some of you when it is safe to do so.

## Shipston Proms



Shipston Proms Committee experienced a first last month. It was the first, and hopefully only, time the AGM was held by Zooming. We were all set to actually meet in person when the government dictated their six-person bubble rule so it was back to Zooming on the third Wednesday of the month which now seems to be the normal way to hold a meeting.

So, all settled behind our screens, Chair Charlotte Haines announced the plans for the Proms 2021 which were just the same as for 2020 but put on hold because of the pandemic. Acts include Dr Funk and the Boogie Wonderland on Launch Night and The Rick Parfitt Junior Band as headliners on the Final Night.

We also elected the officers and these are:

Chair – Charlotte Haines  
Asst. Chair- Hayden Ward  
Treasurer – Peter White  
Friends Secretary/Secretary – Jeanne Robinson  
Minutes Secretary – Hayden Ward  
Publicity & PR – Susan Perry  
Social Media – Charlotte Wright

Sadly, our very efficient Nicola Porter is stepping down as secretary. Nicola has played a large part in the safe and seamless running of the Proms, especially on the Final Night and her input over several years will be missed. This means that we are now looking for a new secretary. (Please see advertisement below). Nicola will be happy to share her knowledge with the successful applicant and other committee members will be there to help if need be as we really do work as a team.

Before I go, I would just like to say a big thank you to Leamington based The Hanksters who raised funds for the Proms during the Bank Holiday when they busked in the Town Square. Their heart is in charity fundraising and once you meet them you never forget them. Do look them up on Facebook. We hope they will make a return to Shipston soon.

As always please do get in touch if you would like to get involved in the Proms in any way, either as a volunteer on the committee or as a musician. Visit us on [www.shipstonproms.org](http://www.shipstonproms.org) or go to our Facebook page.

## **WANTED - SECRETARY FOR SHIPSTON PROMS**

### **This voluntary role includes the following duties:**

- attending monthly meetings
- being available for various events for the Proms fortnight (not all, we share out who wants to go to which!)
- book trailer for the Final Night through Wixkeys
- book toilets
- organise road closure and parking through the council
- book security and ambulance
- organise letters for local residents (around market place) week before final night
- complete risk assessment for fire and H&S for final night and for fortnight in general (using previous year's for reference)
- support Chair inform local police about the date of the final night / fortnight
- monitor emails
- Be part of a lovely committee!

If you are interested please get in touch with Charlotte Haines on 07875 650172 for more details.

## District Council Update

Trevor Harvey and I are not only colleagues, but we have a healthy sort of relationship where we can disagree! I hope you all enjoy the different approaches and attitudes we have - disagreeing agreeably helps both of us sharpen our ideas, helping us to do a better job for you.



Our recent Full Council meeting was a feisty affair! Our "allowances" are set by an independent panel and had been raised. BUT, in the current climate we could not accept them - so we voted against - across the parties. Zoom and Teams means we don't need our fixed travel allowance this year. So that has gone too, saving about 9k. Sadly that's a drop in the financial ocean. There are financial storms ahead, but we pledge that the District will survive and thrive!

WE have Stratford and Shakespeare (the tourists will be back!) and we still have our international brand, great local businesses and with some realism in the mix - a desire to bounce back. We have had as many as 20k people on furlough - which will translate into some people losing their jobs. We are also looking at a 14% increase in population by 2028 - suffice to say there will be some lying down in front of bulldozers if too many more houses come to Shipston!

I'm really optimistic that people in this sort of crisis get creative. As I write I am in a meeting with Nadhim Zahawi MP and Cabinet colleagues where we are talking about our plans to attract technology companies and great jobs into the area. The Prime Minister will be announcing new energy projects shortly, we have green grants for homes available and we are on track for net zero carbon by 2050. So maybe the massive shock we've had from Covid 19 - whether personally or nationally - may lead to huge changes - working remotely? Innovation in industry? More united communities? Sadly, we may have to increase council tax to fund our services - and by starting the conversation now, I want to hear what you do and don't think are vital services for you. Then, we can at least be sure we all know we are heading. Stormy waters - but we will get through together.

**Jo Barker, District Councillor, Shipston South**

07748968712 | jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk

## County Council update

As we face the inevitable further restrictions on our lives because of Covid 19 come in - how are we going to handle it? I am moved by the resilience of those who have shielded for so long. Older people seem to fall into two camps - "Sod it" or "Be Careful" - we want to see our grandchildren grow up so we will do all we can to look after ourselves to make it happen!

I am lucky to have a week's holiday to recharge my batteries, kick back, reflect and sleep!. I know that a lot of us are running on empty, worried about the future and uncertain of what next. These are all things which affect our wellbeing. A measure of happiness in our lives - something to look forward to rather than worry about can help.

So, Christmas this year may be different - but perhaps time off with less to rush about for could be welcome? One Shipstonian has already remarked that they will be staying in bed eating chocolate (for the bioflavonoids obviously!). If I have learnt one thing recently, it is that even small moments of calm are vital. Time to think and reflect and then to get on with it again.

But, for me, even when I am tired, doing things for others gives me a boost. Doing Foodbank every week since lockdown started has given me a cheeky reason to see people, legitimately and certainly confirmed for me why I love being a local councillor - because of you.

The wrangling that has started over whether or not Warwickshire should be a single Unitary authority has not helped my wellbeing. Lots of different views - please do share yours. I describe myself as a Unitary Councillor - as I wear Town, District and County hats. So I am totally happy with the concept. My concern would be over the size of the representative unit. Is more than 600,000 too many people for one council. I think so. I represent about 8,000 people across my division - do you think that is the right sort of number for one councillor? Do you want to see councillors become effectively full time - like MP's? What do you think are the most important things I do? I was asked this recently and talked about our community. I was then prompted to talk about what I would do in tricky discussions at council! I know that whatever happens with our councils I'll never stop putting our community first.

**Jo Barker, County Councillor**

07748 968712 | jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

**South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust** South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust continues to work closely with Shipston Medical Centre to identify the best option for progressing the Ellen Badger site that seeks to maximise the benefits of bringing all parts of the health service together.

There are many changes in the health service right now and Covid 19 has impacted on it in ways we do not fully yet understand. What it has confirmed is that care close to home is key to helping people stay well within their local communities and this development is aligned to those principles. This has always been the overall vision for the Ellen Badger site and to achieve this, the development is planned in two phases. We are working with architects to design a site that is sympathetic to building in stages. The design criteria will ensure that the first phase works independently but also compliments subsequent phases

### Phase 1:

- Construction of a G.P surgery

- Construction of the Health and Wellbeing Hub
- Integrating shared spaces for community nursing teams and Shipston Home Nursing
- Construction of new car park and landscaping including access for the local community to the river

### Phase 2:

- The development of the inpatient ward, day hospital, outpatients.

These plans are still subject to approval, however, as we progress the development we would like to get your feedback at every stage. Due to Covid 19 we aren't able to meet as large groups face to face however if you have any further comments or questions, we would encourage you to send them to [EBHdevelopment@swft.nhs.uk](mailto:EBHdevelopment@swft.nhs.uk).

For more information on the development plans and what the health and well-being centre will offer, visit the Trust's website where there is a selection of video updates: [www.swft.nhs.uk/our-hospitals/ellen-badger-hospital](http://www.swft.nhs.uk/our-hospitals/ellen-badger-hospital)



## Your Town Councillors



### Sheelagh Saunders, Mayor

*Staffing Committee Chair*

t: 07800 889947

e: sheelagh.saunders@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Ian Cooper, Deputy Mayor

*Finance Group Chair*

t: 01608 663785

e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Ronnie Murphy

t: 01608 664518

e: c/o clerk@shipstononline.org



### Paul Tesh

*Planning Committee Chair*

t: 07711 433566

e: paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org



### John Dinnie

t: 01608 664590

e: john.dinnie@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Jo Barker

t: 07748 968712

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



### Fay Ivens

t: 01608 662133

e: c/o clerk@shipstononline.org



### Peter Cox

*General Purposes Group Chair*

t: 07973 442552

e: peter.cox@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Marianne Westwood

t: 01608 662223

e: marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Peter White

*Communications Group Chair*

t: 07792 507168

e: peter.white@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Gerry Kelly

*Planning Committee Vice Chair*

t: 07471 687720

e: gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org



### Peter Cowley

*Heritage & Leisure Projects Group Chair*

t: 01608 664241

e: peter.cowley@shipstontowncouncil.org

Photo  
coming  
soon

### Sarah Timms

## 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	01608 495955
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
Team:	shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk
<b>Churches of Shipston:</b>	
Stour Valley Baptist	01608 664876
Our Lady & St Michael	01608 685259
St Edmund's	01608 661210
Methodist Church	01295 257193

### Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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



### Alison Packer, Town Clerk

t: 01608 662180 e: clerk@shipstononline.org

### County Council Contact:

#### Councillor Jo Barker

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

### District Council Contacts:

#### Councillor Jo Barker (Shipston South)

t: 07748 968712

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

#### Councillor Trevor Harvey (Shipston North)

t: 07969 167720

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



## Something exciting to share?

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

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

### Forum copy deadline:

#### First Wednesday of the month

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

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council. 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.



# Shipston Rotary Club Victorian Evening

*Live-on line-Turning on the  
Christmas Lights & Tree of Life  
Live on Facebook*

**December 4th**

**Starts at 5.50pm**

**Lights on at 6pm**



**Please support the work we do  
within the community**

***[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/  
rotaryclubof-shipstononstour-2](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/rotaryclubof-shipstononstour-2)***

***[paypal.me/anthonyjoint1](https://www.paypal.me/anthonyjoint1)  
(Rotary club of Shipston on Stour)***

