



Shipston venues humming with Proms Music Trail

The Shipston Proms music trail weekend was heralded by a welcome burst of September sunshine and a shimmering set from professional singer Louise James at the Hub. Out of the venue's picture window, Brailes Hill basked in the evening sunshine, while inside, the managers Kayleigh and Alex had created a casino atmosphere complementing Louise's opening spinetingly James Bond soundtrack.



Jon Brindley, The Gate Inn, Brailes

It was a vibrant start to the music weekend, with back-to-back music in the town pubs and cafes throughout Saturday. It was great that The Lazy Pug, relative newcomers to Shipston, were keen to get involved, plus the Horseshoe, especially as the new tenants had only been in a couple of weeks, who hosted popular local musicians Barney Porter and Jerv for a lively set in the early evening.

Other familiar faces amongst the musicians were former Shipston High School student Ben Bryan, now living in Manchester, who played two acoustic

sets at El Café, the Leamington based Hanksters who busked for us last year in the town square were at the Three Ewes and Proms regulars, the double bass toting duo, the Peas, performed at The George. It was great to welcome them all back. **Continued on page 2**



Jack Read & The Shaders,
The Lazy Pug, Shipston

End of an era for The Wool Fair

After 11 years of staging the fabulous Shipston Wool Fair it is with sadness that the Wool Fair committee has taken a unanimous decision to discontinue the event.

As many of you are aware, the logistics of putting on such events is no mean feat, both in the huge volume of work that is involved and the sheer numbers of people - some with specialist skills in the agricultural sector - required to pull it off.

Forging links to its past as an old - "Scepwaestune"- Sheepwashtown - the Wool Fair has been an enormous success. It has raised awareness of Shipston's history and links with the Wool Industry and local farming community; provided local craftspeople with the opportunity to show and sell their wares; enabled local musicians to entertain and created a community event catering for all ages.

The committee would like to sincerely thank all the many people who have been involved in helping make the Wool Fair possible each year. The event simply couldn't have happened without all the dedication and hard work contributed by a wide array of volunteers from our local community.





Mayor's column

Summer is now drawing to a close and we can reflect on a challenging year and hope that things are brighter through this winter. Challenges remain both nationally and here within our community, but we approach these from a strong foundation and a determined Town Council here in Shipston.

We have had a positive response from our call for new Councillors and I am pleased that Tim has joined us, his experience and enthusiasm for the town will be of great value and I thank him for his commitment.

Recently, I attended the Battle of Britain Remembrance Service in Banbury, and we were reminded about how so much was owed by so many to so few. We can feel the same way about some of the volunteers and organisations that support our community, and I would encourage more people to get involved, there is a tremendous amount of good work that goes on, but always plenty of room for more.

On a positive note, I'm led to believe that we have again seen good results in the GCSE results from the High School, this is a great achievement from our young people, but we as a community need to do more to help them both by providing support and facilities during their development and opportunities for their future. I remain committed to bringing forward a youth agenda for the Town and will be reporting on various initiatives as we move forward.

I hope you all enjoy what remains of the summer and urge you to think carefully about what you can help within the community over the coming months.

Ian Cooper, Mayor of Shipston

Shipston Music Trail - continued from page 1

New acts for us were the dance-oriented FAZFunk (think a fusion of Red Hot Chilli Peppers and Daft Punk), who had people bopping at the White Bear, and Jack Reach and the Shaders who played a very popular cover set at the Lazy Pug, including songs by Van Morrison and Oasis. Not new to The George, but new to the Proms were The Artichokes, a charismatic twosome who sound like four, playing their version of rock classics. The Dropouts from Moreton in Marsh were a band we hadn't seen before, and they delivered a very confident and loud set of classic rock songs at The Coach and Horses. I hope we see them all again.



The Patsy Gamble Jazz Trio, The George, Brailes

The Shipston Proms Open Mic Night on Saturday evening at The George Inn in Lower Brailes was packed out with both performers and an eager audience. There was a great deal of talent on show and a particular highlight included a set from 16-year-old Josh Rowley, playing guitar and using a loop pedal to create his backings, followed by music on his newly learnt 5 string banjo. Definitely someone to watch out for in the future!

On Sunday afternoon, the sun persisted and under the brightly coloured marquee of The Gate Inn in Upper Brailes, highly respected musician and composer Jon Brindley entertained the very appreciative crowd with his fiddle, guitar and accordion. He played his unique interpretations of songs that have moved him, including the tear wrenching Woody Guthrie's Mexican Lament 'The Deportee'. The George Inn in Brailes hosted the Patsy Gamble Jazz Trio on Sunday afternoon - Patsy from Stroud, is one of the finest saxophone players in the UK and delivered an inspirational programme of jazz standards with James Agg on double bass, and Tristan Watson on guitar. Back in Shipston, the Peas played again in the packed garden of the Black Horse, while singer and songwriter Greg Brice held court from a truck outside the Thirst Edition to a very appreciative crowd.

All venues, acts and audiences contributed to a very lively and community-spirited weekend. I met our former babysitter Kelly in the Lazy Pug, the first time I had seen her in 27 years!

We thank everyone who got involved to make the weekend such a success and look forward to welcoming you all when we return to a full Proms next year.

Susan Perry, Shipston Proms

Shipston on Ice

An ice skating rink in Shipston? Really? Yes, a new initiative from Shipston Rotary Club is set to provide a fantastic new opportunity for some family fun in the run-up to Christmas.

Supporting the Rotary Victorian Evening on Friday 3rd December and through the weekend of the 4th and 5th, there will be 20 hours of skating on a synthetic rink (we are assured it feels like the real thing), at the Shipston Enterprise Centre (formerly The Hub).

Skating slots can be booked online by visiting <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/17832> All sizes of skates will be provided for the 40-minute skating period (includes skate fitting)

News from Shipston Town Council's September meeting

Youth Ambassador The council intends to appoint a Youth Ambassador to improve representation for young people. They will also help liaise with relevant local groups and bodies, including schools, the youth group and churches.

Ellen Badger Concern was raised over rumours in the local media ahead of the conclusion of the bed review. Cllr Barker urged those present to be patient and wait for the result of this activity before assuming the worst.

Shipston Area Flood Action Group The group continues to face challenges acquiring materials for planned works. Stratford-on-Avon District Council have confirmed that a grant, funded from Community Infrastructure Levy payments, can be deferred to next year. Councillors approved funding for a new pond scheme and expenditure for the winter repairs programme.

20mph Zone Paul Kelly from Stour Valley Environment and Climate Action Group spoke during the Open Forum session, urging the council to support a 20mph speed limit throughout the town to reduce the environmental impact of vehicles and improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians. See page 5 for information about a related campaign by Shipston Community Speedwatch

Stour Valley Lions Legacy David Squires used the Open Forum session to inform Councillors that the Lions had received a very generous legacy on the condition that the funds be used to support older people in the town. Potential ideas include a new sensory garden near the allotments or a "Men's Shed". Both proposed ideas will be discussed in further detail at a future meeting.

Sports Club Barrier A height barrier to prevent unauthorised vehicular access will be installed shortly.

Playground Maintenance Works are now underway around the town. Councillors resolved that the Queens Avenue climbing frame should be removed as soon as possible for public safety.

Alleyway Signage Property owners are being consulted about the plans to install naming signage for the alleyways throughout the town. The signs are intended to help visitors navigate when given directions.

Lawns2Mow Contract Councillors agreed to request a six-month extension of the existing contract to ensure that the contract retendering process could be conducted properly.

New Clark House Refurbishment plans are being finalised to improve working conditions and create a more welcoming environment for visiting members of the public.

Strategic Plan The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are working on a proposal for a strategic plan for the council which will be presented soon. This will include a review of the existing working groups and committees, and mechanisms to ensure that and Councillors are not at risk of burnout.

Jubilee Celebrations General Purposes Working Group will take responsibility for the organisation of celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year.

Introducing Councillor Tim Shickle

Tim was co-opted as a member of Shipston Town Council at the September meeting.

I moved to the Shipston area some 18 years ago from the big smoke (London).

I currently live in Hanson Avenue with my fiancée Caroline, two sons and a very young daughter. Caroline works at Greenfields Nursery and our son has just started in Reception at Shipston Primary School so we are well and truly embedded in the town which we proudly call our home.

So why join Shipston Town Council? Well, I felt that I would like to use some of my work skills to help make our amazing town more resilient for our future generations plus I get frustrated seeing so many moans and groans that I thought why not try and help.

Some of you may already know me as the "Three bed house man" – so the story goes during lockdown we were urgently looking for a private rental and I literally bombarded local social media pages asking for a house. It worked and we finally found one. So lesson learnt constant pestering can help you get what you want.

I'm a lover of most forms of music, I DJ at local events, I like to refresh myself in our amazing drinking establishments, I like to keep things local to help support our economy, I'm passionate about the climate and how we leave it for our children and our children's children, I want to see safer routes to schools, the right infrastructure for the town given all the growth that has occurred, great accessibility routes for users of pushchairs, mobility scooters & cyclists within Shipston whilst retaining a fair and equitable environment that takes into account the needs of everyone. Oh and I have two rescue donkeys called Fifi and Honkey and I'm mad about a specific brand of 4x4 that have a very large head office near the M40 (sorry Greta).

That's me in a nutshell. I welcome conversations with members of the town to discuss how you feel we can make things better. You can contact me by emailing tim.shickle@shipstontowncouncil.org

If you have really strong feelings about our amazing town why not use that fire in your belly and come and join the Town Council to help make a difference to the place where we live and love. There are still vacancies if you would like to join.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion exists to help members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families, all year round, every day of the week. In our centenary year, we are firmly focused on our future, building on a century of work to ensure that we are a charity fit for the next 100 years.

I am again asking for your help and support for our main fund-raising event, The Poppy Appeal taking place between 28th October until Remembrance Sunday on 14th November.

As we are all painfully aware, the events of the past year meant that many things changed and last year's Poppy Appeal was different to any other! Fingers crossed that this year's appeal will return to the more usual format. You will be able to purchase your Poppy in shops and businesses throughout the Shipston area and we also hope to hold a street collection and resume house-to-house collecting.



One important change this year is, due to COVID-19 restrictions reducing the use of cash, we are introducing a new cashless method of making local donations at some collection points. However, this is a limited trial and so perhaps you may still like to have some cash available to donate when purchasing your Poppy at a static site or for when your house-to-house collector calls.

We also hope to hold a pop up shop again, selling car poppies, badges (including the special RBL 100th anniversary badge), pencils, notepads and other Poppy themed items. The dates and venue will be announced near the time.

Despite incredibly difficult circumstances, the businesses and people of Shipston on Stour and surrounding areas showed their usual sterling support for last year's appeal. I am sure that this year will be the same. Without you, the Royal British Legion could not carry on with its vital work and they, and I, are very grateful.

Sharon Harcourt
Poppy Appeal Organiser
0779 030 8548

Charlie Cuthbert

The Shipston on Stour Branch of the Royal British Legion is sad to announce that its senior member, Charlie Cuthbert, passed away peacefully on Sunday 29th August.

Charlie joined the Brailes branch of the Royal British Legion in 1946, at the age of 26 on realising the number of veterans

that would need support following the end of WW2. He had joined the Warwickshire Yeomanry in 1936 and, when war broke out, served as a tank driver with 10th Royal Hussars in the 8th Armoured Division in North Africa – the famous Desert Rats – and fought at the Battle of El Alamein in 1942. In 1945, he went on to join the 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers, and was posted to Allied-occupied Austria at the end of the war.

Last November saw Charlie celebrate his 100th birthday, receiving a card from Her Majesty The Queen, and being made a real fuss of by family and the staff at Low Furlong.

The thoughts of the Branch and its members are with Charlie's family and friends at this sad time.



Remembrance Sunday

Remembrance Sunday is 14th November. We are in the process of working with the Town Council and St Edmund's to arrange the usual parade before and service at St Edmund's. The number of people able to attend the service is currently unknown.

The parade will assemble in the High Street, before marching off to St Edmund's at 10.30 am sharp.

The parade will include the Shipston Branch of the Royal British Legion, Town Band, youth groups, Town Council and High School contingent. All serving or ex-service personnel are invited to join the parade, uniform/medals where applicable.

Wreaths will be laid at the War Memorial before the parade falls out and enters the church for the Service of Remembrance. After the service, the parade will form up to march back to the High Street. Following fall out, all are welcome to join the RBL in The George.

Armistice Day will be observed on Thursday 11th November with 2 minutes silence in the High Street outside The George at 11.00 am

RBL Members should note that the Shipston Branch AGM will be on Thursday 21st October. Location to be confirmed. Further details will follow in the November edition of the Forum. Also please see the RBL notice board in the Bury.

For more details about Remembrance fortnight or to find out about joining the RBL as a member, contact Mike Wells on 01608 664026 or wellsms4@aol.com.

Social Events

The Shipston on Stour Branch of the Royal British Legion meets 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 Community Speedwatch launch 20mph campaign



Residents who live in or near Shipston find the speed, weight and volume of traffic on the A3400 and the other main roads unacceptable. It has become detrimental to the health and wellbeing of residents.

People who live alongside these roads are suffering from:

- Perpetual noise
- Vibration to their property
- Air pollution
- Dust contamination
- Intimidation to pedestrians and cyclists

What can we do?

There is increasing evidence that reducing traffic speed to 20mph

- reduces road casualties
- improves physical and mental health and well-being
- improves quality of life in residential communities

Other towns in the region such as Alcester, Stratford, Moreton-in-Marsh and Chipping Norton have gained 20mph zones.

Please contact Jacey from Shipston Speedwatch Group on 01608 661288 or by email 20mph@2jays.co.uk or John Dinnie on 01608 664590 or by email dinniejohn@gmail.com if you wish to sign the petition requesting the County Council to take action.

Shipston Gardening Club

INTERESTED IN GARDENING? WHY NOT JOIN SHIPSTON GARDENING CLUB?

The club meets once a month on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 pm, with guest speakers and Summer garden visits. After the disruption of the pandemic, we desperately need an injection of new members for the club to survive financially. If you are interested please contact either Simon Welch 01608663596 Simon.welch@talktalk.net or Mal Lawrence 01608662122 maralynlawrence@gmail.com

We look forward to having you join us.

Shipston-On-Stour Women's Institute



Shipston Women's Institute met on 1st September for the first time since lockdown began eighteen months ago. It was one more step on the road to normality.

The President, Carole Turner, welcomed members back and also introduced several new members who, because of lock-down, hadn't been able to get to know their colleagues. The Committee were each presented with a bouquet of flowers in recognition of their work in keeping the Branch together during the lockdown. Members were regularly given little bags of goodies which were much appreciated and kept spirits up during a very dreary time. In August, the Committee held a Garden Party for members and guests, the sun shone, and it was a lovely afternoon in a beautiful garden.

The speaker was Jane Neary accompanied by her chihuahua Harry. Jane is a nurse who is involved with Therapy Dogs Nationwide. This is a registered charity managed by volunteers. Therapy dogs have been found to have all-round benefits for people in establishments such as hospitals, hospices, residential homes, schools, care centres and prisons. Jane gave an example of a retired farmer who had a devastating stroke and lost all will to live: he didn't eat or drink and wouldn't respond. Harry lay down beside him and gradually the man stroked him, smiled and eventually opened his eyes. His recovery was long and hard, but Harry made it possible. Harry contentedly regarded the assembled women during Jane's talk and was delightful.

2022 will be the centenary of the Shipston Branch and plans are afoot to commemorate this significant event.

The next meeting of the Shipston Branch will be on Wednesday 6th October at 7 pm in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road. The talk will be about chocolate. Visitors are always welcome.

100 Club



Shipston Rotary has published the results of the 100 club draws for August and September 2021. August was drawn by John Round in Shipston. Two of the winners have kindly allowed their names to be published.

First Prize No. 1 - Bill Brown of Shipston

Second Prize No. 72 - Anon - Stour Valley

Third Prize No. 26 - Brenda Lockwood of Alderminster

September's draw was made by Chris Wright at the George Hotel.

First Prize No. 1

Second Prize No. 86

Third Prize No. 18

The Rotary 100 club is proving very popular, if you would like to join, please contact Tony, Joint Treasurer: Tonyjoint73@hotmail.com.

There are 3 prize winners each month and the bigger the kitty the bigger the prizes!

Shipston Primary School

Shipston On Stour Primary School



BACK TO SCHOOL

We spent the first staff training day focusing on curriculum development and priorities across our three schools for the year. The second training day focused on Thrive, a dynamic, developmental and trauma-sensitive approach to meeting the emotional and social needs of children.

We've been excited and delighted to welcome children back to school for the 2021-22 academic year. We are all desperately hoping for an uninterrupted year but coronavirus is still with us so we have contingency plans in place in our response to single cases, clusters and outbreaks of COVID-19. We are continuing to utilise our outdoor spaces, keep school well ventilated and we will continue with our cautious approach to the start of term by only having essential visitors to school and not proceeding with full school assemblies.

Children are no longer in class bubbles and can currently mix with friends from other classes at playtimes and lunchtimes. Another aspect of returning to normal is a full school meals menu and eating in the hall and not classrooms (thank goodness!).



We have the same brilliant cook and team as in previous years but welcome Miquill as our new catering service provider. The new menus have been incredibly popular with both children and staff so far; food is more attractively presented, portions are more appropriately sized and there are lots more clean plates!

School Council will be meeting with the head cook regularly to give constructive feedback for consideration in the design of future menus.

SOW, GROW AND FARM

Swans and Herons classes in Year 5 visited the allotments on Tuesday 7th September as part of their memorable moment in the Year 5 topic Sow, Grow and Farm. Staff and children were greeted by the allotment reps Maurice Trapp and Anne Wagenhauser. As you can see from the photos, the Shipston allotments were in full bloom and had recently placed 2nd



at the Moreton Show. Thank you to all the allotment holders who shared information on how they looked after their plots and what types of fruit and vegetables were in season. In addition to this, Year 5 were lucky enough to even try a few samples!



WRAPAROUND CARE

SPLASH (Shipston Primary Learning After School Hours) wraparound care continues after school until 6 pm every school day. There has been a fantastic uptake from children from all age ranges. Our Breakfast Club also continues from 8 am.

ORACY

Building on our work on vocabulary and relationships, a key focus this year is oracy. With verbal communication being such an essential human need, articulacy is a crucial skill for human development. The ability to speak eloquently, articulate ideas and thoughts, influence through talking, collaborate with peers, and have the confidence to express your views are vital skills that support success in learning and life in general. Our focus is on embedding oracy (learning to talk and learning through talk) by in all aspects of the school's culture and weaving it throughout the curriculum to support progress and achievement.

GLOBAL COMPETENCIES FOR DEEP LEARNING

Global Competencies are the skills and attitudes that students need to be successful in the 21st century. With rapid changes in the opportunities in the world today, it is essential to prepare our children for the future by making them more confident and self-directed learners. The intent behind focussing on the 6Cs Global Competencies is to move educational experiences towards creating and using new knowledge in the world, aligning with the latter two stages of our Engage, Develop, Innovate, Express curriculum pedagogy: children can use and apply the knowledge they have learnt in the Develop stage in their innovate challenge and how they showcase their learning.

PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, we are still unable to show groups of families around while the children are in school, but are delighted to offer tours of the school one family at a time every Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4 pm.

Please book your appointment for a tour of the school by telephoning or emailing. The closing date for Reception 2021 applications is 15th January 2022. 01608 661266 primary@shipston.warwickshire.sch.uk

Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher

Shipston High School



Shipston High School has seen two exciting phases of new building in recent years, reminding us that as the school grows in popularity the site needs to develop to enable a contemporary and secure learning environment for the children of Shipston on Stour and surrounding communities. Our first duty is to the many students who attend the school, ensuring that they are safe, content and receiving a good quality education. Providing daily pastoral care and an effective academic programme for young people is the core of our work for the community.

We are delighted to be planning further site improvement, focussed on community safety. The school has secured funding from the Department for Education (DFE) for two improvement projects. DFE funding of this sort requires schools to submit bids for projects, and there is a limited level of funding nationally, so we are pleased that the DFE have recognised the importance of this work.



One project will enhance fire protection in the original school building, now over sixty years old. New internal fire doors and a new alarm system will ensure that our already secure fire protection remains up to date.

A second project will improve boundary security for the school, providing perimeter fencing and access gates. The school is

daily host to over 600 children and staff, and the improved boundary will provide reassuring security during the day and after hours. Gates will allow legitimate visitors easy access whilst reducing the risk of unauthorised access to the site. It can only be reassuring that children are more secure during their school day, and the school buildings and fields are secured against potential intrusion. Children deserve to conduct their learning in as safe an environment as possible, and we are grateful to the DFE for facilitating this essential safeguarding work.

Shipston High School is increasingly oversubscribed. As the local area thrives and expands with new housing, the pressure on good schools increases. We are in the early stages of working with the local authority to enable more students to attend and further improve the built environment. As with previous expansion, we will retain the ethos and quality of education that makes the school so special whilst providing the much-needed places for future students.

All of this investment is a real vote of confidence in the school and the wider community of Shipston on Stour. We are proud of the core work we do with children of the area, academically and pastorally, and look forward to sharing more information on future development soon.

Gavin Saunders, Headteacher

Update on the community hospital inpatient review

healthwatch
Warwickshire

South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust (SWFT) are currently undertaking a review of the inpatient beds at the community hospitals: Ellen Badger and the Nicol Unit at Stratford Hospital.

SWFT told us:

"The focus of this review is to ensure we are providing the services that meet the health and care needs of the people of south Warwickshire, both now and in years to come. The first stage of the review has been exploring previous, current, and future use of the community hospital beds. We have been working with Healthwatch Warwickshire to gather the views of previous and potential patients regarding the inpatient services. We are very grateful to Healthwatch and everyone who took their time to share their views and experiences."

We were asked to gather and analyse the views of past and potential patients about their experience, or hypothetical needs in relation to community bed provision in South Warwickshire.

We heard from over 500 people, and the feedback received was largely positive. It is clear that the community beds provision is a highly valued service. Some people told us that they felt it was an appropriate way to transition between an acute stay in hospital and returning home. Others told us how they valued being close to home, and family and friends so that they could visit; and the benefits of the smaller nature of community hospitals as opposed to larger hospitals which can be hard to navigate your way around.

Full reports of the surveys conducted by Healthwatch can be found here: <https://www.healthwatchwarwickshire.co.uk/report/2021-09-20/south-warwickshire-community-beds-review>



Tallest Sunflower Competition

Thank you to all of you who entered your Sunflowers in the Competition this year. It has been an absolute delight to come round to measure your Sunflowers and spend time talking to you all. The Sunflowers were very varied this year...with the very tall winners and many not growing quite so well as in previous years.

Many Congratulations to the winner of the under 11 years Class, Lily Taylor whose Sunflower measured an amazing 8ft 8ins.

Runners Ups:

Daniel Capper 7ft 9ins

Isobelle Napier 7ft 7ins

Well done!

Spare a thought for Harvey Yorke, whose amazing Sunflower blew down the day before the Competition!

Fay Ivens



Shipston U3A open for business!



An orderly queue formed outside Townsend Hall on the morning of 31st August when Shipston u3a held a coffee morning for a re-launch following pandemic lockdowns.

Therese Watkins, Chair, said "We were unsure, of course, how many people would be likely to come along to our coffee morning, but the turnout has been fantastic. It's been good to see current members again after so long, and really heartening to see the number of potential new members who have come along too! We look forward to a bright future."

In the end, around 150 people came along to meet old friends, or to join and make new ones. Whilst some interest groups have managed to keep going during the lock down thanks to Zoom, many have paused until the situation improved. We know already that a lot more of our groups will be starting up again, and anyone interested in joining us can get more information from our website, <https://u3asites.org.uk/shipston-on-stour/home>. You can try a taster before joining if you're not sure or come along to our next monthly open meeting – see page 10 for details.



Local fundraiser conquers three peaks in 24 hours!

On 18th September, Jonny Watkinson from Shipston took on the National Three Peaks Challenge, to raise money for Shipston Home Nursing. He walked the highest mountains in Scotland (Ben Nevis), England (Scafell Pike) and Wales (Snowdon), one after another within 24 hours (including travel).

The challenge took 23 hours, 24 minutes and Jonny took 50K steps, covering 23 miles, and a total ascent of 10K metres.

Describing the adventure, Jonny said: "We walked Scafell Pike in pitch black, in the worst conditions the hiking company have seen so far this year! It was the toughest physical challenge I've ever faced, but certainly one of the most satisfying! I'm really pleased to have completed it for Shipston Home Nursing and the team."

Rebecca Mawle, Head of Fundraising for Shipston Home Nursing, said: "Individual fundraisers like Jonny help us to continue to provide our nursing services to families who need us. A huge thank you to Jonny from all of us – he is a fundraising hero!"

Jonny has a Justgiving fundraising page and so far has raised £756 towards his £1,000 target. It is not too late to sponsor him, donations will help Shipston Home Nursing care for people with illnesses that do not respond to curative treatment. Their nursing service operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and their care is free of charge to patients and families.

To donate to Jonny's page, please go to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jw3peakschallenge>



At the finish line. From left to right: George Bird, Jonny Watkinson, Charles Reynolds, Josh Bird.

IT'S BACK



FREE ENTRY

POP UP SHOP

ONE DAY ONLY

FRIDAY 15th OCTOBER

9.30am-6.30pm

Townsend Hall, Sheep Street,

Shipston on Stour CV36 4AE

Donations please of excellent quality

clothes & Bric-a-Brac to the Townsend Hall

3.30-5.30pm Thursday October 14th

COFFEE, TEA & BISCUITS SERVED ALL DAY

DONATE NOW



Contact Rebecca for more information

T 01608 674929 E rebecca.mawle@shipstonhomenursing.co.uk

www.shipstonhomenursing.co.uk

Registered Charity: 1162566



GOLF DAY AT FELDON VALLEY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 8th 2021

Feldon Valley Golf Club, Brailes, OX15 5BB

A date for your golfing calendars

Please join us for our annual Golf Day at Feldon Valley.

We are hoping all our regular supporters – and some new ones as well – will join us to help make the 2021 event one to remember.

• Coffee & Bacon roles on arrival

• 18 holes "shotgun start" - 9am

• On-course refreshments

• On-course & Off-course prizes

• Beat the Pro plus many more

• 2 course lunch & Presentations

Donate now



Please contact Rebecca on 01608 674929 or email

rebecca.mawle@shipstonhomenursing.co.uk to register your team.

Registered Charity: 1162566

SHIPSTON ON STOUR AREA

u3a

Registered Charity No 1170969

TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2021
2 pm TOWNSEND HALL



Global Warming - Fact or Scaremongering?

A TALK BY Kenneth Ingamells
 (Chief forecaster the Met Office)

Much is written about Global Warming but a lot is confusing or biased. Ken will describe in simple terms the science behind Global warming, what evidence there is that it is happening and what can be done about it if we need to.

Visitors are welcome
Entry including refreshments £2

SHIPSTON ON STOUR AREA

u3a

Registered Charity No 1170969

TUESDAY 23 November 2021
2 pm TOWNSEND HALL

The Lord Leycester Hospital and its 1000 year old home

A TALK BY John Maughan
 (One of the six resident Brothers of the Lord Leycester Hospital)



Visitors are welcome
Entry including refreshments £2

Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society

Casting For

Treasure Island



a pantomime by Tony Bradford and Tina Webster

Wednesday 20th October 2021
 Townsend Hall
 Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour
 7.30 pm

Production Dates
 Thursday 3rd – Saturday 5th February 2022

All welcome – not just actors – back stage crew too!

'ahoy there mateys!'

The Fosseway Cafe Orchestra

U3A supported group which meet every Tuesday 9.45-12.00
 in Stretton-on-Fosse Village Hall @GL56 9QX



Do you play a musical instrument, would you love to play with others in a friendly, supportive environment?

We are always keen to involve new players and will adapt parts to suit your present confidence

For more information,
 please contact Christine on 07967 423550

AGE CONCERN SHIPSTON ON STOUR & DISTRICT



GRANT AVAILABILITY

Age Concern Shipston on Stour & District can offer grants of up to £200 to fund identified needs of residents in the Shipston area. Grants will be made for needs identified in order to make life easier and more enjoyable or to alleviate specific problems.

Certain criteria must be met in order for a grant to be made:

To be eligible for a grant, residents must:

1. Live permanently within 10 miles of St Edmund's church (Shipston parish church).
2. Live either in their own home, in a care home or sheltered accommodation.
3. Be over the age of 70 on the day that a grant request is made.
4. Be in receipt of a state benefit other than basic state pension (evidence may be requested).
5. Have readily available funds of less than £5,000.

To apply for an application form contact :

David Roache, Fallowfield, Lower Tysoe, WARWICK CV35 0BY

Tel 01295 680309

email djroache@buzzinternet.co.uk

**Enter-Win-Celebrate**

Your chance to win a cash prize each month!



Join our **150 Club** for your chance to win a cash prize every month and help us raise vital funds for the Townsend Hall.

You can enter as many times as you like, each entry costing £15 per year.

In writing to Townsend Hall, 52 Sheep Street, Shipston on Stour CV36 4AE enclosing a cheque payable to :- Townsend Hall and endorsed '150 Club' or bank transfer to Shipston on Stour Townsend Hall: HSBC Bank Sort Code 40-41-26 A/c 40740055 Ref: 150 - together with email confirmation to :- janet@connorsoft.co.uk

Each month the Townsend Hall will draw 3 lucky winner's:-
First Prize **£15** - Second Prize **£10** - Third Prize **£5**

We will also have a CHRISTMAS DRAW
1st Prize **£100** 2nd Prize **£50** 3rd Prize **£25**

The lucky winner will be notified and payments made accordingly. Players must be 16 or over

SHIPSTON & DISTRICT LITERARY SOCIETY**2021 – 2022 PROGRAMME**

<u>2021</u>		<u>Subject</u>
29 th September	Susan Walker	The Mystery of Monica: The uncatalogued letters of Monica Jones, long-term lover of Philip Larkin
27 th October	Beverley Tasker	Sappho & Anaximander - Of Poetry & Philosophy
24 th November	James Sorel-Cameron	Did Bob Dylan deserve to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature?
15 th December		Christmas Luncheon
<u>2022</u>		
26 th January	Richard Blair	The Life of my father, George Orwell
23 rd February	John Burton	George Eliot
30 th March	David Howe	Remembering Frank Muir & Dennis Norden - two writers of comedy
27 th April	Michael Bell	The Periodic Table by Primo Levi
May/June	Date to be advised	Annual Outing
29 th June		Cheese & Wine Party
31 st August		2021/2022 Annual General Meeting & Lunch

Meetings are held at Newbold Village Hall, 7.30pm. Visitors welcome £5 ea.
For further information ring Helen Marshall 01789-740773



**Saturday mornings
10.30-12.00**

St Edmund's Church, Church Street, Shipston

We are open to anyone.

No referral or voucher needed.

From March 2020 to date we have regularly helped over 200 families in Shipston and many of our local villages. Your donations are essential as there is no government support for many of these people.

Donations of basic items can be left in the church porch **between 9.00am and 5.00pm Monday to Saturday.**
There's also a collection point in both the Co-ops.

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

www.facebook.com/ShipstonFoodBank

www.shipstonfoodbank.org.uk

Shipston Medical Centre

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

Why isn't general practice like it used to be?

In the past, to see a GP all you had to do was ask. Now when you ring, a receptionist may ask you about your problem. You may be offered a phone call from a GP or help from a different professional. Many people think, "But I just want to see a GP!"

Here is the background to the problem. Patients are living longer, with more medical problems and many more medications. The complexity of General Practice has vastly increased. But the number of GPs has declined. General Practice was overwhelmed for years before the pandemic added further strain.

One solution was to introduce new roles, such as Nurse Practitioners, Pharmacists and Physios. These professionals are highly skilled and knowledgeable in the areas they specialise. The GP's particular role is to manage patients with complex or multiple medical problems and to support the team.

When will GPs start seeing people face to face?

Contrary to common belief, GPs have continued to work face to face

throughout the pandemic. We triage patients to a face-to-face appointment where we judge that the benefits outweigh the risks to the patient, to other vulnerable patients who need to come into the surgery and to medical centre colleagues. Clearly where physical examination is required a face-to-face appointment is needed, but there is much care that can be provided via the telephone and this can also be more convenient for patients. Going forward the amount of face-to-face appointments will continue to reflect the risks of COVID transmission. We are hopeful that both will improve.

All of our staff continue to wear masks at work and to socially distance where possible. We are very mindful that coronavirus could transmit easily through our team and to our patients, leaving us unable to provide a service due to staff absence and or exposing vulnerable people to a virus that could cause them significant ill health or death. This is why measures to control risk are important. Coronavirus has meant that we have experienced more staff absences than usual, i.e. where people have a reason to go for a PCR test they cannot come into work until a negative test result has

been received. This in itself has caused additional strain as appointments and other work sometimes then needs to be reorganised.



Shipston Medical Centre

Most patients and health professionals prefer face to face appointments. At times they are needed medically and to build the relationship between patient and clinician. Many surgeries increased their use of telephones and the internet during the pandemic. At times this can be effective and safe and also save time. If we want to provide quality care in an underfunded General Practice, we are forced to make uncomfortable changes. To help cope with the pressures, we will need to balance the preference for face-to-face working with the efficiency of the alternatives.

Whilst appearing less visible, general practice is actually delivering more appointments than ever.

Achieving what's expected of General Practice, with the workforce we have is incredibly challenging. We continue to care deeply for our patients and want to help ensure that everyone still gets the care that they need.

READER LETTER

Dr. Williams has given me excellent medical care for the 20 years he has been my doctor, so I'm sorry he has been exiled to the Isle of Mull in punishment for retiring. I hope he quickly becomes immune to the midges and soon adapts to the changeable weather up there.

I'm also disappointed that the three new doctors joining the Medical Centre will only be working there for three days per week!!

What are they doing for the rest of the five day week?

Are they busy working for private medical companies, or are they taking advantage of the obscene £6000 (yes £6000) per day the government is paying COVID consultants?

Meanwhile, patients (and they really have to be patient), are waiting for attention to their urgent medical issues that have been delayed by COVID restrictions.

Yours sincerely

Michael Langrish
Shipston on Stour

A response to the letter from Mr Langrish

NHS primary care services are continually evolving to meet the ever-changing health needs of communities and accompanying shifts in working patterns are reflective of society as a whole. Many people, whether they work in healthcare or other sectors, now choose to work part-time so that they can juggle other responsibilities such as childcare or simply out of a wish to have a greater work-life balance, for example, Dr Williams has worked less than full time for a number of years. It is disappointing that Mr Langrish has, without any evidence, expressed a negative opinion toward some of the fantastic new members of our team who will be making an invaluable contribution to the care we provide.

We feel incredibly fortunate to have been able to recruit three high calibre GPs at a time when practices both locally and nationally are struggling to fill vacancies. A recent survey by the British Medical Association (July 2021) identified that over half of GP respondents were suffering from anxiety, stress, burnout, emotional distress or another mental health condition, with 1 in 10 looking to leave the profession. Our new team members will help to significantly increase our clinical capacity to our highest ever level, and by embracing more flexible working arrangements for all of our staff, we strive to be a forward thinking employer to both retain the highest quality staff and also prevent burnout, thereby safeguarding the future of the service.

We understand that the delays to medical procedures caused by the pandemic are extremely frustrating and we, like everyone in the NHS, are working extremely hard to ensure that everyone gets the care they need. The ethos that has been within the fabric of Shipston Medical Centre for decades, will remain unchanged: Community focus, clinical excellence, compassion and dedication.

The Partners of Shipston Medical Centre

(Drs Williams, Daniel, Marshall, Levison & McHale and Rachel Vial)

County Council update



Trevor Harvey, District Councillor, Shipston North
01608 682415 | trevor.harvey@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Jo Barker, District Councillor
07748968712
jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk



Map of the new boundaries for Stratford-on-Avon District Council proposed by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

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 will not be with us to celebrate this special time of the year.

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

Every contribution will be donated to Rotary charities and good causes.

The illumination of the **Rotary Tree of Life** will take place at the opening of the Rotary Victorian Evening on Friday 3rd 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.....

Please return to:

**Rotarian Avryl Thompson
Willow Bank
Pillerton Priors
Warwickshire CV35 0PS
Tel 01789 740 047**

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

Would you like to contribute to the Forum?

It was a very different time early last year when I first began talking with Shipston Town Council about succeeding Catherine Martin as editor of the Shipston Forum. None of us knew that in just a few months coronavirus would turn our whole world upside down and throw production of the Forum into a state of flux. Not only did household delivery cease, but I'm sure you will have noticed that this publication has sadly been somewhat slimmer and photos of fantastic community events have been few and far between.

This past month I finally had the privilege of attending a meeting of the Town Council in New Clark House in my capacity as editor. It was wonderful to see the Council back in its rightful home after months of reporting on Zoom gatherings and then the social-distanced meetings in Townsend Hall. Plus it is great that Forum editions are once again being delivered to households around Shipston, with volunteers now distributing copies to some of the surrounding villages that form the hinterland of our town.

Not only has the Council reverted to a more normal state, but the town as a whole is also more full of life than it has been in ages. Earlier in this edition, you will have read about the incredible success of The Proms Music Trail, reports from clubs gathering in-person once again (often for the first time in 18 months) and there are half a dozen adverts promoting activities and events for people of all ages to enjoy. Of course,

it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the sad news that the Wool Fair will not be returning next year, though the organisers should rightly be incredibly proud of the legacy of eleven amazing events.

Going forward I hope to never again find myself scrabbling around to try and compile a 12-page edition of the Forum, but rather struggling to fit everything into 16 or 20 pages. If you'd like to contribute a story about a local event or subject of interest, I'd be delighted to hear from you. I know our readers would love to hear about everything and anything, from snippets of local history to wildlife spotting tips – if you have something to share please don't hesitate to email.

Historically our deadline for submissions has been the first Wednesday of each month, though this isn't always rigorously enforced and we'll always try and squeeze something in if we can. We are considering moving the advertised deadline later in the month to ensure that content can always be as "fresh" as possible, but this would need to be a firm cutoff point for submissions to ensure that we can get to print on time.

Chris Rowland, Editor of the Shipston Forum

If you would like to submit an article for inclusion in a forthcoming edition of the Forum, please email forum@shipstononline.org

Your Town Councillors


Ian Cooper, Mayor
Finance Working Group Chair

t: 01608 663785

 e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org

Marianne Westwood, Deputy Mayor

t: 01608 662223

 e: marianne.westwood@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)

Peter Cox
General Purposes Working Group Chair

t: 07973 442552

 e: peter.cox@shipstontowncouncil.org

Peter White
Communications Working Group Chair

t: 07792 507168

 e: peter.white@shipstontowncouncil.org

Gerry Kelly
Planning Committee Vice Chair

t: 07471 687720

 e: gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org

Tim Shickle

 e: tim.shickle@shipstontowncouncil.org

Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

Useful Contacts

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

Shipston-on-Stour Town Council

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

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

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

Forum copy deadline:
First Wednesday of the month

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

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council.

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



TUESDAYS 10.30-11am
Shipston Library

Limited numbers - socially distanced –
 masks strongly encouraged

This is a free event. We advise booking to guarantee your
 space. Drop-ins welcomed subject to availability.

For more information and to book go to
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrensactivities
 & click on Shipston Library



SATURDAYS 10.30-11.30am
Shipston Library

Limited numbers - socially distanced –
 masks strongly encouraged

This is a free event. We advise booking
 to guarantee your space. Drop-ins
 welcomed subject to availability.

For more information and to book go to
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrensactivities
 & click on Shipston Library

STOUR VALLEY LION'S CINEMA



23 WALKS

SOMETIMES LOVE IS A WALK IN THE PARK



Certificate 12A – A romantic, funny story of love in later life.

TOWNSEND HALL

FRIDAY 8th October, 2021 at 7.30pm

Advance Tickets £5.00

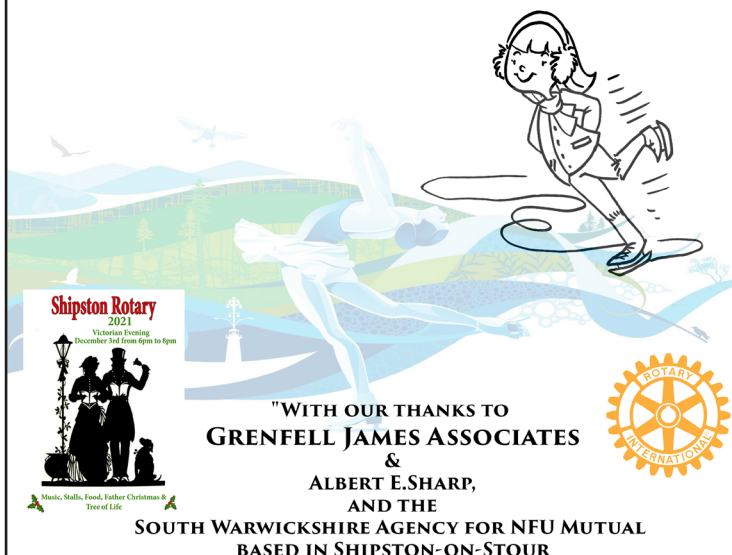
From: A. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston On Stour.
 Raffle and Drinks

Covid restrictions – please wear a mask/hand sanitise on arrival.
 Any enquiries please email: stourvalleylions@gmail.com

SKATE SHIPSTON

DECEMBER THE 3RD, 4TH & 5TH
AT THE SHIPSTON ENTERPRISE CENTRE
(THE HUB)

TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT
[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.CO.UK/17832](https://www.trybooking.co.uk/17832)



Shipston Rotary
 2021

Victorian Evening
 December 3rd from 8pm to 10pm



"WITH OUR THANKS TO
GRENELL JAMES ASSOCIATES
 &
ALBERT E. SHARP,
 AND THE

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE AGENCY FOR NFU MUTUAL
 BASED IN SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR