Shipston Forum

September 2022

Stour Valley Lions Friendship Meeting for Ukrainian refugees and their host families

Since the Ukraine war began back in February, generous families all over the UK have been taking refugee families into their homes. This was a selfless, reflex act, often entered into with little or no knowledge of the system, or of how this would work.

Stour Valley Lions salute those families or individuals in our area who offered assistance to house a refugee family. As hostings were entered into privately, we do not believe that there is a network to support the refugees, to build connections and cultural contact with each other.

We would like to see if we can contact the host families, to understand if there is an opportunity to host a networking event in this area. In addition, could there be ways in which the Lions can help the hosts

or their guests? If you are a host family - or if you know of one - please please contact Stour Valley Lions and we will ascertain the interest in moving forward with an inaugural networking/cultural event.

Contact: 07725 105677 or email paul@paulmacpherson.co.uk



Meeting of Worship for Ukraine

The Quaker Meeting for Worship on September 29 at St Edmund's Church, will focus on the mission for peace in Ukraine. All are welcome to join in to hold Ukraine as the spiritual focus. The International Day for Peace is in September, so it is timely to dedicate it to Ukraine.

The half-hour meeting starts at 2.30pm.

For further information about the Quakers, please visit https://www.banburyeveshamquakers.org.uk/

Yarn bombers celebrate the Commonwealth

Ahead of the Commonwealth Games, the town was decorated with beautiful knitted artworks celebrating sport and friendship between Commonwealth nations, thanks to the fantastic effort of the yarn bombing group.







Alec Banner at The National Children's Brass Band Of Great Britain

Alec Banner from Shipston Band, joined the National Children's Brass Band of Great Britain at Taunton School in July for a course featuring celebratory pieces from around the musical world.

Participants got to grips with Lucy Pankhurst's 'En Route' — a new commission that takes inspiration from a journey to Symphony Hall in Birmingham, as well as a testing list of repertoire — from Rimsky Korsakov and Piazzolla to Percy Grainger and Jan Magna Forde.

The end of course concert took place at Wells Cathedral.

Mayor's column

Hello Shipston.

It's certainly been hot over the last few weeks. I'm relieved that it's broken now and we've had some rain. Our SAFAG team of volunteers were on high alert because of risk of



flooding after such a long time of no rain but all the interventions they have done over the years worked again and we didn't have scenes like I heard of in Banbury and Chipping Norton. We really are lucky to have their expertise and I think this is a good time to thank them for all their hard work. They work so hard to keep Shipston safe.

I was very sad when I heard that the new medical centre project had to be put on hold. Rachel Vial and her team at the medical centre had put in so much time, energy and money into this and I know it's hit them all very hard. I was relieved to hear that SWUFT are leaving options open for the medical centre to be able to be built in the future if the costs of building materials stabilises but as everything is going up in price at the moment that is not looking likely in the near future. The meeting on the 27th September at the Primary School will be an opportunity to find out what future plans the medical centre has now. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

I attended a meeting of the SHWP this month and was delighted to see all the projects that they have initiated going so well. I'm especially intrigued about the curling that happens weekly at Townsend Hall. I'd really like to see how that works. I gather we have a keen and dedicated team of curlers now. I think that's a very positive addition to Shipston. All the activities that the partnership run are free and as well as curling there are Pilates classes, seated exercise, board games afternoons, socials and bingo that has just started in Cherrington. There are plans to get a Tai Chi group and other projects in the pipeline so that when we have our health and wellbeing hub we have lots of projects already up and running. I think Dr. Sue Prichard would be delighted to see all the things happening in her memory as well. I am supporting this work in my charity work as mayor this year. In collaboration with the partnership and various other groups we are planning a Shipston's Got Talent event in March to raise some more funds. Look out for further details of this event in the near future.

Stay well and safe.

Cllr. Marianne Westwood My pronouns are she/her

Mayor, Shipston Town Council

On-call firefighters needed in Shipston

Could you help protect your community by becoming an on-call firefighter?

Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service (WFRS) is asking all residents in and around Shipston to consider whether they could become an on-call firefighter.



On-call firefighters dedicate an agreed number of flexible hours each week where they are available to attend incidents. They are paid a set wage for being available and an additional wage for any hours worked attending call-outs or training. They play a fundamental role in ensuring WFRS can provide fire cover in the area, respond to emergencies quickly and keep our communities safe.

To become an on-call firefighter, potential recruits must either live or work within five minutes of an on-call fire station. There is also the opportunity for those who are self-employed or working remotely to do their jobs from Shipston Fire Station, in which instance they would be eligible despite living further away.

While the role can be challenging, it also offers many benefits: on-call firefighters are given the same training as wholetime firefighters and learn many new, transferable skills; they meet lots of new people and become part of a welcoming, close-knit team; and, most importantly, get to give back to their community in one of most meaningful ways possible.

Martin Swinden, Station Manager within Response Support at Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service, said:

"On-call firefighters are an essential part of our service and we'd be in real trouble without them. Recruitment for on-call firefighters can be tricky, particularly in rural areas, so we're asking our communities to support us by sharing information about this position and having a good think about whether it's something they could get involved with. It's a big thing to take on and not without its challenges, but it's also one of the most rewarding things you can do."

Councillor Andy Crump, Portfolio Holder for WFRS at Warwickshire County Council, said:

"In the past couple of years, we've seen a shift to much higher levels of remote and hybrid working. This can go hand-in-hand with becoming an on-call firefighter, allowing applicants to combine an office job with the chance to get directly involved in their local community and help others. We hope people will take some time to learn more about this opportunity and find out if it could be right for them."

Learn more and start your application here: https://bit.ly/on-call-ad

Did you know the District Council's app can remind you about bin collections?

You can now download an app which is designed to allow access to a variety of council services whilst on the go. Keep up to date with the latest council news, quickly report incidents, get reminders of bin collections and find useful information about their property and the surrounding area.

Available to download for free on the App Store and Google Play, just search for 'Stratford District Council'



News from Shipston Town Council's August meeting

Full Fibre Network Update

The councillors received an update from Voneus regarding the recent building works around Shipston. They committed to investigating any complaints forwarded to them and shared that they have been holding drop-in events at Townsend Hall to demonstrate some of the equipment they use to install full fibre and answer questions. BT OpenReach and Gigaclear are also in the process of building fibre networks in the town.

123+ Waste Collections

Despite some initial teething problems – the new 123+ waste collection service has been working well overall.

First Responders

Efforts are underway to promote defibrillators around the town. The organisation currently responds to approximately 40 emergency incidents each month and a new responder is due to start soon.

Market Stall Traders

Cllr Cooper brought attention to potential efforts to revive Shipston's market identity after being approached by market-stall traders.

Sports Club

Meetings are taking place every month to monitor the upkeep of the buildings and to explore potential accessibility improvements, including the addition of a lift.

New Clark House

A lift may be installed in the town council building to allow for full accessibility.

Ellen Badger Hospital

Shipston council have had ongoing meetings with South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust regarding the redevelopment of the Ellen Badger Hospital. The council will be writing to the Integrated Care Board and the local MP Nadhim Zahawi to reinforce the importance of this community asset.

Gate between Oldbutt Road and Crest Nicholson site on Campden Road

Several residents of Oldbutt Road thanked Councillors for attending a meeting where they expressed their opposition to the proposed gate. Following a discussion, Councillors resolved to proceed with the gate as planned. Lawns to Mow will be asked to perform regular hedge maintenance following the completion of works and will be planting tree whips.

Shipston Area Flood Action Group (SAFAG)

The District Council is exploring how to reclaim the Community Infrastructure Levy money sent to the Environment Agency so that it can be reallocated to SAFAG as intended. The group is in the process of developing a new five-year strategic plan of work, including identifying appropriate funding streams.

Active Travel Consultation

Councillors resolved to support Warwickshire County Council's proposals to support the proposed Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

Women's Institute Centenary Bench

Councillors approved plans to replace an ageing bench on Campden Road (between Darlingscote Road and Queens Avenue) with a new bench funded by Shipston WI in celebration of their centenary.

Railway Crescent/Signal Road Play Area

Tree Tech will trim shrubs and lift the crowns of trees to create space more suitable for ball games without the constant risk of damage to the trees.

Allotments

The new rules prohibiting bonfires and self-composting have been rescinded due to the lack of sufficient notice provided to plot holders. A letter providing notice will be issued and will urge people to not light fires in the interim due to the increased risk posed by the current dry conditions.

Cornmill Meadows

Councillors agreed that schools and local groups should be encouraged to use the site for educational purposes and discussions are already underway with the High School about how this might work in practice.

Skate Park

Councillors agreed to sign the proposed lease.

Local Government Association Code of Conduct

The Staffing Working Group will be reviewing the document and will bring proposals to the council.



What's On Page 4

Regular Events

Monday

Seated Exercise Class:

10am Rainbow Fields and 11am Townsend Hall

Shipston Duplicate Bridge Club:

6:50pm for a 7pm start.
The Church Room, Darlingscote
Road, Contact Matthew Hunter:
01608 684499

Tuesday

Dementia Café:

Shipston Lodge, 10.30am-12pm

Lego Club:

Shipston Library, 3.30pm

Wednesday

Dementia Friendly Café: 10.30am-12.30pm, Shipston Lodge

New Age Kurling: 2pm, Townsend Hall

Thursday

Stour Singers:

Rehearsals, 7.30pm at Shipston Primary School. Sept 2022 through May 2023. Contact Yvonne Ridley 01789 269587

Friday

Pilates for Complete Beginners: 9.30am Townsend Hall

Walks with a friendly group:

10am Mill car park. Call Marleen 01608 663616

Shipston Stitchers:

Every fortnight at The Church Room, Darlingscote Road. Contact Anita Spencer on 01993 832665

Saturday

Lego Club:

Shipston Library. 10am and 11am.

What's On Calendar - Sept 2022

Shipston Home Nursing: Pick-your-own sunflowers: **(open now)** Lodge Farm, Kineton, CV35 0JH (next to Compton Verney), 10am-5pm

- 3 Shipston Lodge Summer Fete: see ad on page 13
- **Shipston Library Reading Group:** 2pm-3pm first Tuesday of each month
- 7 Shipston Widows: Local lunch. 12pm. Contact: Barbara Bean 663230

Shipston on Stour WI: Speaker Ken Ingamells, National Parks of Western U.S. Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road at 7pm. Contact Jane Hanks, Secretary on 01608 664519

- 8 Royal British Legion Shipston Branch: Committee Meeting. All members welcome. Contact Alex Black 01608 664743
- 9 Rural Cinema: see ad on page 13
- 10 Bard's Ride: see ad on page 10
- **Shipston Home Nursing:** National Garden Scheme at Burmington Grange: 11 September 2022, Cherington, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire, CV36 5HZ, 2pm 6pm
- 13 Senior Citizens Action Network (SCAN): Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, 10am for free refreshments, 10.30am start. The topic for the meeting is benefits and we hope to have a representative from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP). SCAN is free to attend and all are welcome. contact Marie Darwen 01789 260 108 or marie.darwen@stratford-dc.gov.uk
- 16 Royal British Legion Social Evening Shipston Branch: Third Friday of each month We meet in the White Bear Inn from 7.30 pm onwards. Come and join us and share your stories with like-minded people. Contact Alex Black 07789 968733 or alblack32@ hotmail.com

Shipston Music Society: see ad on page 10

- 18 Cantamus: see ad on page 12
- 21 Shipston Widows: Join us for a friendly and informal get-together. 10.30am 12pm, The White Bear. For further information, contact Barbara Bean on 663230 Singing Down Memory Lane: 2pm-3.30pm, Rainbow Fields, The Driftway, Shipston. Refreshments provided. We may be able to help with transport. Contact Barbara Smith 01608 662433
- **24 Shipston Rotary:** Music and Memories see ad on page 10
- 27 Shipston U3A: see ad on page 16
 Patient Meeting: Meet the Practice Team. 7.15pm
 Shipston Primary School. Questions can be submitted in advance via Carole Nossiter shipstonppg@gmail. com [facemasks encouraged]
- 28 Shipston and District Literary Society: Mark Wood My Life in a Freezer. Meetings are held at the White Hart Inn, Newbold on Stour at 7.30pm. Visitors welcome £5. Contact Helen Marshall 01789 740773
- 29 Local Quaker Meeting for Worship: St Edmund's Church, last Thursday in the month at 2.30pm, followed by tea/coffee, biscuits & chat
- **Townsend Hall:** Sarah Spencer and her Transatlantic Band see ad on page 10

Green Week Calendar

Saturday September 24th

Information Stall (Outside Shipston Co-op) 10am – 1pm

Saturday September 24th

 Cornmill Meadows Visit (opposite the cemetery on London Road) 3-5pm

Please register interest with John Dinnie and for details email john.dinnie@shipstontowncouncil.org

Light walking involved. Bring clothing appropriate for weather on the day.

Sunday September 25th Open Wildlife Garden (5 Horseshoe Close, CV36 4QT)

2:30-3:30pm

Wednesday September 28th

'Recycling and Waste in Stratford District' talk by Caroline Faulkner (White Bear Backroom) 7:30 – 9pm

Wednesday September 28th Guided Bike Ride (Meet at the Bridge Car Park) 10am

Bring your own bike and cycling gear.

Group size will be limited and lead by an experienced cyclist.

To register interest & more info e: cycling@2jays.co.uk

Thursday September 29th

'Swifts are making a comeback' talk by Jacey Jackson (White Bear Backroom) 7:30-9pm

Friday September 30th

Visit to St Edmunds Churchyard (Meet at St Edmunds) 6:30-7:30pm

Saturday October 1st

Community litter pick (Meet at New Clark House, CV36 4HD) 10am

All welcome. High visibility jackets and grabbers provided.

Saturday October 1st

Cornmill Meadows Visit (opposite the cemetery on London Road) 3-5pm

Saturday October 1st

Drink and a chat (White Bear) 6pm

All welcome!

Townsend Hall

September and we're back in the groove



After the summer holiday season, we're back in the groove with our jazz events kicking back off. On Friday September 30th, we're really looking forward to seeing "Sarah Spencer and her Transatlantic Band" at the hall. The "transatlantic" comes from Sarah living and playing on both sides of the Atlantic. She's a top-rated tenor saxophonist, who apparently loves playing "Hot and Dirty"! Come along for a night of exciting jazz and wear your dance shoes! Tickets are just a tenner and available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/ townsend-hall, where you can bag your own table and seat, or for general admission from Clarke's in town.

As noted last time, anything we make from the jazz events is targeted at a project to provide a stage lift, to make the stage accessible to all. Please come along – enjoy yourself and feel good that you're also contributing to a great cause.

So much going on, not just live music – plenty of other events, e.g. sports and clubs. Visit us at www.townsendhall.co.uk to find out more.

150 club draw

June: first: No 51 - £15, second No 18 - £10, third No 108 - £5 July: first No 108 - £15, second No 38 - £10, third No 85 - £5

'The 1950s: The Optimistic Decade' a talk by Philip Bowen 22/07/22

In the year of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, what better than to celebrate by looking back to the 1950s when Prime Minister MacMillan claimed, "Most of our people have never had it so good."? Philip Bowen did just that with a superbly illustrated talk on a time familiar to most Probus members with treasured memories of youth!

In 1951, Britain still bore the devastating scars of the Second World War which had ended only six years earlier. After more than a decade of rationing, austerity and making-do, Britain needed a lift. The government's antidote was 'The Festival of Britain', a hugely successful exhibition promoting a feeling of recovery and demonstrating Britain's contribution to the arts, science and technology and industrial design.

Not everything was positive. In 1952 a rail accident at Harrow killed 112 people and there were 28 serious rail accidents during the decade. The big smog of 1952 ruined many people's health and stimulated the clean air act of 1956.

Politically, rationing was a key issue and Labour won the 1950 general election but with a majority of just five. Following a snap election, Anthony Eden became PM, but the Suez crisis signalled his retirement and a long decline in Britain's Empire. Harold Macmillan, 'Supermac,' ushered in a period of growth and prosperity: - wages doubled, 300 000 houses were built, home ownership increased and there was a 20% growth in consumer goods; polio was conquered, the double helix DNA was discovered, the first nuclear power station built, the pill, Velcro, bubble wrap, car seatbelts, the first section of the M1 (1959)– the list goes on!

Culturally it was a golden age with Bond, Lord of the Rings and Narnia, and great Hollywood films. Popular entertainment benefitted from TV (and the first advert - for Gibbs SR toothpaste!). Radio gave us the Goons, Hancock's Half Hour and the Archers. Manchester United dominated football but tragically suffered the Munich air disaster in 1958.

Best of all? The young lady who came to the throne in 1952 and has been a rock of national stability linking us with that bygone age.

Retired or semi-retired? New members to Shipston Probus are most welcome (even if you don't remember the 1950s!). Please contact Tony Joint on 01608 663407 or email tonyjoint73@hotmail.com for more information.

1st Shipston On Stour Brownies trip to the Heritage Motor Centre

On Friday 22nd July 1st the Shipston Brownies were very privileged to attend a private event at the Heritage Motor Centre in Gaydon, where they had been invited to participate in the celebrations ahead of the Commonwealth Games. The girls got to watch the baton relay arrive and then see it come through the museum, where it stopped to see them and have a photo taken. 4th Southam Brownie group was also present.



A 'STEM activity' was provided for us by MOD Kineton, this was a remarkable experience in which the girls were able to control robots. My Brownies thoroughly enjoyed this activity and worked out that if they gave their robot a different colour to each other then they could play tag!



The girls relished their time at the centre and were given a guided tour of the museum with Jim and had a radio-controlled car workshop with Claire. We thank the team for inviting us to take part in a very special event and providing us with memorable activities.

Shipston Rotary 14th 100 club draw July 2022

The draw was made at the George Hotel and drawn by Chiara.

First Prize £ 62.50 (winner no. 44)

Second Prize £ 37.50 (winner no. 57)

£ 25.00 (winner no. 56)

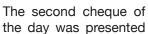
Congratulations to the winners.

Third Prize

Beer Festival

On 3 August, Stour Valley Lions had the pleasure of distributing some of their share of the profits from the very successful Shipston Beer Festival held on 11 June, an event which was run in conjunction with Shipston Rugby Club.

The first presentation was to Shipston First Responders, who do such a fantastic frontline job supporting emergencies in our community. A cheque for £500 was presented to Tony Booth by Lion President Duncan Cashmore. Tonv thanked the Lions for their generous support and expressed gratitude of the First Responders to all who supported the Beer Festival.





Stour Valley Lions President Duncan Cashmore and Tony Booth from Shipston First Responders

to Warwickshire and Solihull Blood Bikes, a group of volunteers who do a fantastic job supporting NHS critical emergencies in Warwickshire, transporting vital blood and lifesaving drugs quickly to where they are needed. A cheque for £1500 was presented by Lion President Duncan Cashmore to their Chairman Phil Mason, who in return presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Lions for their generous donation. This sum is in addition to a donation of £500 that Stour Valley Lions presented to WSBB earlier this year, when Phil gave them a talk about the fantastic unfunded service that Blood Bikes

teams provide support the NHS. Phil spoke once again about ongoing the need for funds for WSBB, putting it into by context that saying latest this generous donation would cover the cost of fuel for the Blood Bikes for а month!



Lion President Duncan was allowed to sit on one of the powerful Blood Bikes, just before it went off to duty at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

"And the seasons, they go round and round ..."

By the time you read this, holidays will probably be a past memory and preparations made for the Autumn term. Out in the countryside the fields have been harvested and blackberries are ready for picking.

In our garden the wildflowers this year have helped the insects to thrive, and I managed to get this photo of buzzing bumblebees having a bundle on a pathway!

I like taking a break from feeding the garden birds during August. They hide away to moult and recover from the exhausting breeding season, finding easy pickings in the woodlands and harvested fields around. But don't forget to leave fresh water available for them. Young

hedgehogs are out and about after dark, and they still need food and water.

You may have been lucky enough to see swallows lining up on telegraph wires ready for the 'off' to Africa, but the departure of our swifts largely happens unnoticed. They're with us for such a short time and suddenly you realise their



screaming party aerobatics have ceased and the Summer evening skies are empty and silent. The youngsters -1 to 3yr olds - who make most noise, leave in mid-July. Fledglings usually depart by early August, though parents may still be feeding chicks later into the Summer - they just do it more discreetly!

I was excited to see both of 'our' breeding pairs return successfully to the nest boxes they occupied last year and the third box on our house has now been claimed ready for next year. We will put up more boxes in time for the 2023 breeding season to help the colony grow over the coming years.

The 'Swift Walks' which I conducted during Swift Awareness Week were a great success and, as a result, we are forming a swift supporters' group, aiming to restore Shipston's swift population to the numbers we enjoyed in the 1990s and before. Look out for the Swift Walks again next July if you missed out this time round. To find out more do get in touch with me directly or come along to the talk about swifts which I will be giving on September 29th during The Great Big Green Week.

Jacey Jackson 01608 661288

Rubbish People

Are you new to Shipston, or a born and bred Shipstonian or just been here a while? Do you have a care about your town? Can you spare one hour a month? Maybe you are a young person doing DofE awards and looking for something to do for your volunteering? Do you have concerns about our environment? If you - young or old - answered yes, to any of these questions please consider joining the litter-pickers on the first Saturday of each month, from 10-11am. We meet outside New Clark House on the Campden Road and high viz jackets and grabbers are supplied. September's pick-up will be on September 3rd. We hope to see you there!

Please contact Hilary Kelly for any information: hilary.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org

Shipston Music Society at the Shipston Proms

(NOTE: Apologies, this submission was mistakenly omitted from the August edition of the Shipston Forum)

It was a real pleasure once again for the Music Society to be taking part in the Shipston Proms this year. The last two years has passed us by but here were again in St Edmunds Church on Thursday 23rd June gathering to listen to an evening of classical guitar music.

Julian Vickers and Daniel Bovey had come to Shipston some years ago to play for the Society - in fact they reminded us it was 9 years ago. At the time they were completing their studies at the Birmingham Conservatoire, after which they graduated with Distinction in a joint Masters from the Royal Academy of Music in London. Since then, they have won many awards and have appeared both nationally and internationally - so we were delighted when they accepted our invitation to return to Shipston.

The recital began with Mauro Giuliani's Grande Variazione Concertanti an early 19th century Italian piece where the guitars alternately appeared to talk to each other and then come together. We then went to France for Rameau's suite Pieces de Clavecin. These expressive pieces included La Poule, Le Rappel des Oiseaux, with their restless tone, the peacefulness of Musette en Rondeau, and ending with 'busy' Les Cyclopes.

These were followed by Spanish/Cuban composer Nin-Culmell's Tonadas originally written for the piano and which reflected a true Spanish style. The first half concluded with the fabulous early 20th century piece Alborada les Gracioso by Ravel which was at once both mysterious and exciting. The second part of the programme consisted of Janacek's haunting In the Mists, again originally written for the piano, and the Tango Suite by Astor Piazzola, which truly encapsulates the joy of the tango and brought to an end a recital that had been absolutely gripping. The playing of Julian Vickers and Daniel Bovey was truly outstanding throughout and reflected their total harmony and mastery of their instrument.

It was a fine end to our 2021-2022 season of concerts, and we look forward to the new season of concerts starting in September. These will be advertised in the Forum, but the information will also be available on our website, www.shipstonmusic.org.uk, where you can also get other information about the Society.

Shipston Proms

With our AGM on 28th September fast approaching, we could do with a few more members to join the Proms team to help us plan our schedule for next year's festival.



As it's a small committee your input does make a difference. It would be great to see some of the people who were at the Dance Evening at the Hub so that you can tell us what music you would like us to put on. We meet in the back rooms of the White Bear at 7.30pm so we look forward to seeing you there!

We are very sorry to be losing Alan and Sally Marshall who have been of such great support to us over the last few years. They will be very much missed, but hopefully, we will still see them for a chilled glass of Chardonnay at the White Bear from time to time!

If you have not done so already, please do give us your feedback on Proms 22 via our Facebook Page, Twitter feed or email to shipstonproms@gmail.com.

If you would like to join the Committee or help out as a volunteer, please contact us either through Facebook or by email.

Shipston and District Literary Society

A mystery worthy of the greatest crime writers is facing the Shipston and District Literary Society as it starts its new season of talks, social events and outings this month.

"We are a friendly and social group of people who love to welcome new members," said chairman William 'Trev' Trevethick, "so we were delighted when our secretary, Helen Marshall, got an answerphone enquiry about joining. Unfortunately, the man did not leave his name and the number given proved to be unobtainable.

"Despite putting our best amateur sleuths on the case we have been unable to find him. We would love to welcome him to the Society and really, really do not want him to think that we were so rude as not to get back to him. If it was you, or you know who it was, please contact Helen again on 01789 740773."

The Literary Society is not a book club but organises a series of talks on a literary theme, also social events and outings. For full details, contact Helen Marshall.

Themes this season include author and explorer Mark Wood, speaking on his life exploring the frozen wastes, a talk on the comedy writers Frank Muir and Dennis Norden and looking at the life and work of Warwickshire's 'other' major female author, Marie Corelli. Following the talks, some members adjourn to the bar to continue an informal discussion with the speaker. What better way to spend an evening, than with a book of verse, a jug of wine and thou?

Shipston and District Literary Society meet the last Wednesday of the month at the Halford Bridge Inn at 7pm. Contact Helen Marshall 01789 740773.

Older People, Active Lives

The Shipston Senior Citizens Action Network (SCAN) aims to ACTION NETWORK keep older people informed on



local issues and to raise awareness of services available to older people and how to access them.

Meetings take place every 2 months and provide an opportunity to have a chat and a cuppa with other members.

Through inviting private, public and voluntary sector organisations to the meetings, SCAN groups give older people a chance to have their say and influence services.

At the July meeting members heard from Healthwatch Warwickshire and how they engage with people who use health and social care services. The Independent Living Officer from Stratford District Council talked to members about what help is available to make everyday living easier.

Future Meeting Dates can be found in the 'What's on?' Calendar

Meetings take place at the Townsend Hall. Refreshments are served from 10.00am and the meeting starts at 10.30am.

SCAN is free to attend, and all are welcome. For more information contact Marie Darwen on 01789 260 108 or marie.darwen@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Little Shipstonians Page 8

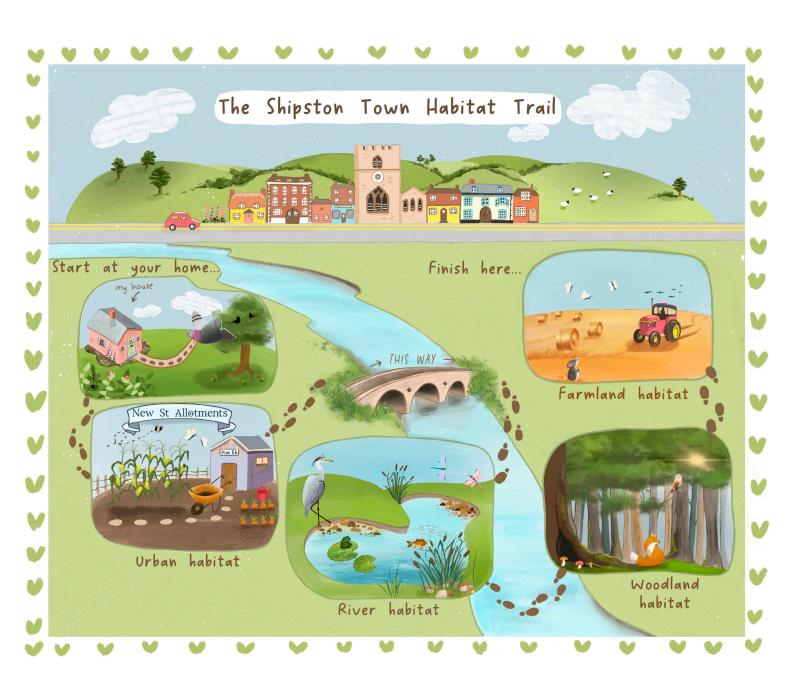


Written and illustrated by Nikki Turner

Welcome to another edition of the Little Shipstonians! This month we discover more about some of the habitats we are lucky to have on our very own doorstep. A habitat is the type of environment, or place, that an animal or plant normally lives. An example of this would be a trout fish living in a freshwater river. A habitat can be small, like a garden pond, or large, like a woodland forest. Shipston on Stour has lots of different habitats and you can use the map below to become a nature detective and learn more about the town you live in.

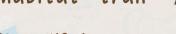
Getting out and about and exploring your environment not only helps you to understand more about nature and the place you live, but is also really good for your emotional health and well-being. So you can also use this activity to enjoy being out in the fresh air, getting exercise and helping you to relax too!

Just a little note of caution; be sure to take a grown up and stay on the signposted public footpaths. Also be respectful of the creatures and plant life that you discover on your journey. Why not take a notebook and pencil so you can jot down any notes or draw sketches. If you want to send in any pictures or notes of what you find then you can send them to forum@shipstononline.org



Little Shipstonians Page 9

The Shipston Town habitat trail





GARDEN HABITAT

Start your journey at your home and begin to explore the outside space around your house, in the garden, if you have one.

DID YOU KNOW that there are over 600 species of bird native to Britain! How many different birds can you see? Take a closer look and see what other creatures there are. Name the biggest and the smallest you can find!



URBAN HABITAT.

From your home, make your way to the allotments on New Street. Here you'll see lots of allotment plots where fruit, vegetables and flowers are grown by local people.

DID YOU KNOW that bees play an important role in helping to pollinate lots of allotment plants, especially fruit crops. Can you spot any bees? Are you able to name any other pollinators and can you see any on the site? Why not draw a picture of one of them?



RIVER HABITAT

When you leave the allotments, head over the bridge by The Old Mill and walk down the steps that are on your left. You can now walk to the edge of the river. This river is called the River Stour.

DID YOU KNOW that there are tall grass like plants, often called reeds, that grow along the edges of freshwater rivers and provide an important place for wildlife to feed and nest. Can you see any tall grasses along the River Stour? What else can you see?



WOODLAND HABITAT

From the river's edge, turn around and head up the little hill. Once you reach the trees, look out for a post with a yellow arrow on it. This shows the direction the public footpath goes. Head into the woodland. DID YOU KNOW there are 2 main groups of trees: coniferous trees and deciduous trees. Coniferous trees produce their seeds in cones, and deciduous trees lose their leaves in winter. Have a look at the trees around you. Can you describe what you see?



FARMLAND HABITAT

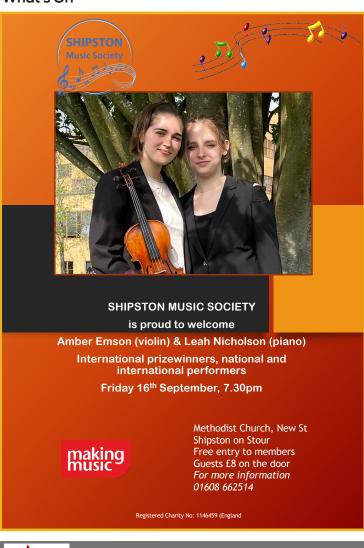
When you have finished exploring the woodlands, walk in the direction the yellow arrow had pointed and you'll arrive in open farmland.

DID YOU KNOW that the hedgerows surrounding the edges of farmland provide a source of food and shelter to lots of wildlife, such as birds, moths, mice and rabbits. The crops have now been harvested from this field, but can you name crops that you might have seen? Why not have a look in the hedgerows whilst you're there and see what little creatures you can find.

And there you have it, you've come to the end of your trail and are now a NATURE EXPLORER!!!

WELL DONE!

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Clarke Electrical Services, 01608-661394, or For online booking, visit ticketsource.co.uk or townsendhall.co.uk, or Email / Phone David: <u>ds@pinnegards.com</u>; 07511-694733

Fully Licensed Bar

Jim Swinnerton: String Bass

Graham Smith: Drums

Tickets £10 from:



through the Queens reign

Come along and enjoy an afternoon of memorable songs accompanied by Nick Nickerson on guitar, along with shared memories from the community Followed by tea and homemade cake

at St Edmund's Church Saturday 24th September at 3pm

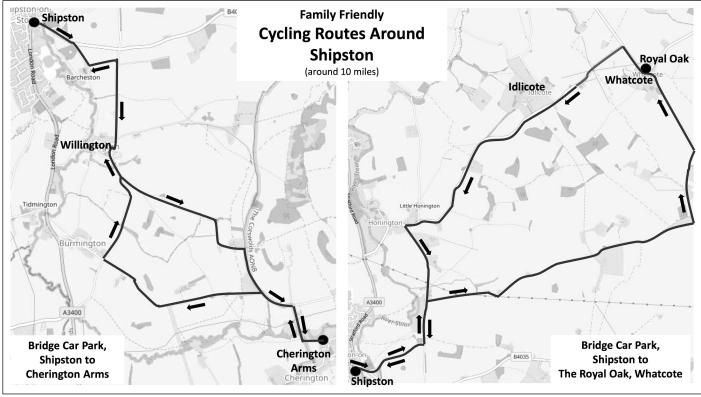
Donations will be divided between Shipston Rotary Charities and St Edmund's Church

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Family 'Wheels' Fun Rides

An opportunity for the family to have healthy exercise in a safe rural setting, along guiet roads.







If further information on these routes is required please contact David Passingham email davepassingham@hotmail.com



Shipston Primary School



FAREWELL MRS. BOSLEY

On Wednesday 20th July, the whole school said goodbye and good luck to Mrs. Bosley, who will be taking up her first post as headteacher in September 2022. In a special assembly, every year group gave a special performance, including songs, a rap, video and artwork for her new headteacher's office at Harbury C of E Primary School.

CLASS OF 22

Last week, Year 6 pupils played to a packed house for dress rehearsals to the school and two evenings to families with their incredible musical performance of Oliver! It was wonderful to see all Year 6 children having a role in the play, which they have worked extremely hard on post-SATs with regard to their acting, singing and dancing. The performances had incredible pace with non-stop action for well over an hour. This was the first end-of-year production since Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat in July 2019. Many thanks to all the teachers and teaching assistants in producing the play, to Rebecca Mackay for the brilliant costumes and props and to Mrs. Campbell for the amazing direction and choreography.

This cohort of children has not had a full uninterrupted school year since 2018-19. Their SATS results for reading, writing, GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling) and mathematics being well above the national average is a testament to the quality of teaching and the determination of our learners.

With a trip to the West Midlands Safari Park, a circus skills day and a swimming morning, the children have spent their final few weeks making memories. In the Year 6 Leavers' Assembly on Thursday morning, the children's speeches told of fun times, proud achievements, strong friendships and a sense of belonging.

They are now ready to move on to secondary school and I wish them the best of luck and every success in the next chapter of their life with the advice: work hard and be kind.

CLEAN AIR SHOW

On Friday, Year 4 and 5 had a visit from Warwickshire Performance in Education. During the Clean Air performance, we learned and deepened our understanding about air pollution and the environment. The play was educational and had a comedy element which entertained the children and also made them aware about the world around them.

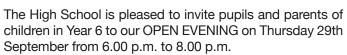
Using the scientific method, it taught us about the individual gases that make up air and the gases that can pollute it. In addition, it showed how important teamwork is; gave important advice and examples of how everyone can play their part in helping our world. These include: walking instead of using cars and turning off lights and electronic devices when nobody is using them.

Many thanks to Abbie Ayre's clean air theatre performance for a fun morning and expanding our knowledge.

by Nicole, Sophie and Beau (Herons)

Christian Hilton, Executive Headteacher

Shipston High School





There is no need to book a place for this event.

We look forward to seeing you. **Gavin Saunders, Headteacher**

Fosseway Chamber Orchestra



Do you play a musical instrument?

Would you love to play and gain from learning with others, as well as improving your mental and physical well being?

We are a U3A group and play mostly well known light classics in a friendly unpressurised environment. Every Tuesday morning, during school term time, in Stretton on Fosse.

> For more information, please contact Christine on:

> > 07967 423550

CantamuS

Shipston's a cappella choir presents their first concert since lockdown

It's Lovely to be Singing Again!

> A concert of witty, wistful, funny, heartfelt and uplifting music and words for a Sunday evening



Sunday 18 September 2022 7pm

St David's Church Stratford Road Newbold-on-Stour

In aid of the St David's Church Toilet, CV37 8TT

Tickets £12.50 from Newbold Stores, choir members or on the door. Wine or soft drinks available at the interval.

Servery & Path Project.

Medical Centre t: 01608 661845

Shipston Medical Centre

Flu Vaccination

This year we will be delivering around 5000 flu vaccinations in total. The first adult vaccinations will be delivered at the end of September, and thus the majority of adult vaccinations will occur in October and early November. As flu usually starts to circulate just before Christmas, this means your immune system will be fully protected in good time, despite the slightly later than usual timescale.

Please do not contact us to book a flu appointment until you receive an invite to do so.

We will be inviting people in groups as follows in line with NHS policy:

- · Those aged 65 and over
- · pregnant women,
- carers,
- household contact of immunosuppressed individuals
- those younger than 65 in the 'at risk' groups (chronic kidney disease, chronic heart disease, chronic respiratory disease, chronic liver disease, diabetes, immunosuppression, chronic neurological disease, learning disability, splenic dysfunction or splenia)

Flu vaccinations will ONLY be offered to the group who are aged 50 and over on 31st March 2023 (unless in an at-risk group as outlined above) AFTER the groups above. We expect to be offering vaccines to this group in late October.

We are only able to provide flu vaccinations for children aged 2 and 3 and children of any age who are at risk of flu complications

(the same 'at risk' groups as the adults, as listed above). Flu vaccinations for all other children will be offered via the school service.



Child flu vaccines are expected from 12th September. The vaccine supply for these children is capped each week, meaning it will take us some weeks to vaccinate all eligible children. Your patience is appreciated – we will invite every eligible child in due course and there will be sufficient vaccine supply.

COVID-19 vaccination - Autumn Campaign

We are awaiting confirmation of plans for Autumn COVID vaccinations which will be delivered separately from flu vaccinations. We will publicise details of these plans when we receive them.

Being Kind

We are unfortunately seeing a rise in rudeness and aggression aimed at practice staff. We appreciate that it can be hard to see us, and the frustration this causes. However, this is not the fault of the individuals who work here, and who are trying to help you. It is very demoralising for Medical Centre colleagues who are regularly subject to rudeness. Kindness will help us retain skilled colleagues.

Sadly, the number of GPs in the UK has reduced significantly, whilst the population has increased and aged, leading to more need. Nationally General Practice is offering more appointments than ever before. Our clinicians are working at absolute maximum capacity. We want to care for you, please also take care of us.





Drinks and raffle.

District Council update

I am pleased to say that the roll-out of the caddies and bins for food waste is progressing! I know we have had teething problems but with 42 different iterations of the collection timetable, it was inevitable! As several residents have written to me – they are pleased that we



can do our bit to improve how we treat our waste and reduce our carbon emissions. Practically speaking, I find if you use the handle on the bin or caddy to secure the lid, then the flies don't get in to produce their maggots – it's making me wrinkle my nose just typing maggots! Please contact me or Trevor if you are still missing your new green utensils and we will organise delivery. Trevor has already delivered to some of you – very few were missed in Shipston South so my selfie opportunity with bins has not happened – YET!

It is so hot as I write that I am sitting in the garden – it's almost too much for the pigeon's shenanigans. But, I am concerned about us when things get colder in the winter. I know many of us will turn our thermostats down and put on another layer – but if you are getting older, infirm, or use extra electricity for medical needs then how are we going to pay bills which look as though they will double? It's OK to pay VAT and the green levy when fuel is affordable, but what of times like this, when it simply isn't? I am lobbying for common sense to break out, but in the meantime, I am suggesting that we have some warm hub spaces – like the library or other public buildings – where we can go to meet others and save some of our fuel money. I also like the suggestion – which I do already as I like being cosy - of a heated blanket. Far cheaper than heating a room.

Of course, you can always come along to the George on Thursday mornings from 10am and sit by the fire and have a coffee with me at my surgery. Starting back on 8 September. Come and bend my ear – you know you want to!

Jo Barker, District Councillor, Shipston South 07748 968712 | jo.barker@stratford-dc.gov.uk

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



Shipston Town Council Community Grant Awards



Shipston Town Council is inviting grant applications for the 2023/24 financial year.

Grants are made to support a wide range of community initiatives across the town, delivered by voluntary groups and charities.

The scheme is open to any voluntary group or charity based in Shipston, or those who actively work in the town.

Applications must be made for specific projects, for example, the purchase of equipment or to support a planned event. Grants typically range from £250 - £2,000.

Larger sums may be awarded for certain causes.

The closing date for applications is 31st October 2022.

Application packs are available from: The Town Clerk

New Clark House, West Street, Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire, CV36 4EN

clerk@shipstononline.org

01608 662180

County Council update

As it has been four months since the latest Household Support Fund grant was launched, I thought it would be helpful to give you all a summer update!



What is the Household Support Fund?

£421 million has been made available to County Councils and Unitary Authorities in England to support those most in need to help with significantly rising living costs. The objective of the Household Support Fund is to provide support to vulnerable households in most need of support to help with significantly rising living costs, specifically food, energy and water bills. This grant runs from 01 April to 30 September 2022 and Warwickshire has been allocated £3.47million, which is being distributed through the existing Local Welfare Scheme.

What is happening in Warwickshire?

Between April and July:

- Over 37,000 Huggg supermarket vouchers have been automatically sent to families/carers with children eligible for benefits related free school meals towards food in the May and Summer school holidays. Over the summer holidays, we have to date supported 19,433 eligible children and siblings.
- 11,566 vouchers have been distributed automatically and by application as part of the June/July fuel promotion, and
- £80k in welfare grants have been awarded to local initiatives, community groups and charities.

During August and September:

- Over 9,000 pensioners in receipt of pension credit will automatically receive food and fuel vouchers by post.
- An additional grant to Act on Energy's existing Warwickshire Warm and Well programme will be finalised. This programme supports eligible residents with boiler repairs, servicing, and fuel debt management and has proven very successful in the past.
- The Local Welfare Team will continue to support vulnerable households in most need with an increased welfare offer. Since April, they have received over 9000 calls, which is an increase of 34% compared to last year.

For many of those residents in receipt of pension credit, we will be contacting them for the first time, and we are conscious that some of them may be cautious about vouchers of this kind being received in the post. If these residents have problems redeeming vouchers, they can call the council on 0800 4081448 to speak to a customer service advisor who will assist them.

- https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ household-support-fund-guidance-for-local-councils
- https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme
- https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship

Jo Barker, she/her County Councillor, Shipston

07748 968712 | jobarker@warwickshire.gov.uk

Useful Contacts Page 15

Your Town Councillors



Marianne Westwood, Mayor

t: 01608 662223

e: marianne.westwood@shipstontowncouncil.org



Gerry Kelly, Deputy Mayor

Planning Committee Vice Chair

t: 07471 687720

e: gerry.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org



Ian Cooper

Finance Working Group Chair

t: 01608 663785

e: ian.cooper@shipstontowncouncil.org



Paul Tesh

Planning Committee Chair

t: 07711 433566

e: paul.tesh@shipstontowncouncil.org



John Dinnie Heritage, Amenities and Leisure Projects Working Group Chair

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



Tony Booth

e: tony.booth@shipstontowncouncil.org



Shirley Madams

Youth Working Group Chair

e: shirley.madams@shipstontowncouncil.org



Hilary Kelly

e: hilary.kelly@shipstontowncouncil.org



Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

Useful Contacts

Community Links	Iransport	01789 264491
Shipston Library:		0300 5558171
- 24/7 renewal line	e	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		01789 444670
Team: shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.u		kshire.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 07983 342567 or email: forum@shipstononline.org

To request posts on the council's Facebook and Twitter feeds, contact Peter Cox.

Forum copy deadline:

Second Monday of the month

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

The Shipston Forum is produced monthly by the Town Council.

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.



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SHIPSTON ON STOUR AREA



TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2022 2 pm TOWNSEND HALL



SHACKLETON A TALK BY KEN INGAMELLS

Shackleton was one of the most famous polar explorers of all time. After two previous trips to Antarctica, his ship *ENDURANCE* was crushed by ice in the Weddell Sea. Shackleton saved his crew by taking an 800 mile journey in a small boat to a remote South Georgia Island and crossing unexplored mountains and glaciers for help.

Visitors are welcome Entry including refreshments £2