



# Shipston Forum

The community newsletter for Shipston-on-Stour

May 2011

## Be proud of Shipston, new campaign urges

Shipston Town Council has launched a new campaign to celebrate all that is good about Shipston and encourage everyone to take pride in our town. As well as applauding Shipston's highlights, the "Proud of My Town" campaign is designed to encourage more people to get involved in the community.

Residents can take part in a number of ways: by joining the new monthly litter picks, becoming a snow warden, volunteering to be on the emergency response group or just being a good citizen.

Councillor Fay Ivens, chair of the campaign, said: "Shipston has so many strengths that we want to celebrate. We want people to take part in this campaign, let us know what they love about Shipston and what they would like to see improved. One area we definitely need to address is the increasing amount of litter on our streets. That's why, from May, we will be holding monthly litter picks and I hope to see many people joining us to clean up the town."

The monthly litter picks will take place on the first Saturday of every month for about an hour. Litter picking sticks, rubbish sacks and "high vis" vests will be provided.

Fay continued: "We know everyone is busy and weekends are precious so we want this to be fun. Just turn up when you can – and bring the children." Kids taking part will each



Councillor Fay Ivens (left) recruits volunteers

receive an "I'm a litter picker" badge. Refreshments for all volunteers will be provided at Clark House from 11am.

To find out more about the campaign and how you can take part, visit [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

## Shipston Forum gets a makeover

Welcome to the new-look Shipston Forum, which combines some of the best bits of previous editions with new sections and a fresh layout.

Councillor Ronnie Murphy revealed the thinking behind the new look. "The Forum is a much-loved newsletter and provides important support to our community. But having listened to feedback from readers, the Town Council has decided to produce a leaner newsletter which can be quickly and easily read, with the main focus on reporting and supporting events and activities held in the town."

In addition to general news, you can find out what's on in and around Shipston by checking out the What's on section, pages 6-9. Readers are also being invited to share positive local experiences and success stories to help celebrate Shipston's strong community spirit, in line with the 'Proud of my Town' campaign.

## Polling station moves to Pittway Avenue

District council elections take place on the 5th May as does the national referendum on the voting system for future parliamentary elections. Shipston's polling station has moved to the Sheldon Bosley Hub (formerly the Norgren Social Club) on Pittway Avenue. Don't miss your chance to have your say – cast your vote between 7am and 10pm.

## Excitement mounts as Wool Fair approaches

Final preparations are being made for the Shipston Wool Fair on the 30th May, which will include new attractions as well as some old favourites.

Find out what's in store on page 6.



## Mayor's welcome

How the last 12 months have flown by!! On May 9th my year in office as Town Mayor will have come to an end, and the residents of



Shipston will have a new Mayor – Councillor Paul Rathkey.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the last year, and it has been both a pleasure and a privilege to work with such a highly supportive team of fellow Town Councillors.

Above all, however, I know that I could not have even partially fulfilled my duties had it not been for the expert advice, guidance and encouragement of our Town Clerk – Georgina, and Clerk's Assistant – Liz. Thank you both.

Way back in May 2010 I set myself a number of goals for the year ahead. Whilst some have been achieved either fully or partially, many are still at the embryonic stage, and I now realise that my aspirations were overly ambitious.

Progress and change within a Town Council moves very slowly, often due to financial constraints, but more usually due to the strict rules by which we are legally bound. So whilst a sensible suggestion from a resident concerning for example a grit bin, a speed restriction, a safety sign near a school, appears to have an obvious solution, to achieve it requires a minefield to be negotiated – consultation with the public, District Council, County Council, Health and Safety, Police – the list seems endless.

Finally, I would like to wish my successor Paul an enjoyable, rewarding and interesting year.

**It's official – shopping in Shipston can save you money.**

**See page 11 for details.**

## Shipston Rotary launches Walking Aid Den

Shipston Rotary Club has launched a new service to help people stay mobile after an injury by providing walking aids. Rotarian, Patricia Graham (pictured), came up with the idea after she fell and hurt herself and needed a walking aid.



The 'Rotary Walking Den' will keep a stock of walking frames, zimmer frames and crutches and will clean and check each item for wear and tear before use. The scheme will be free to use, although people will be invited to make a voluntary donation towards equipment repair etc.

"Rotary's idea of providing walking aids as and when needed is brilliant. Schemes like this which support and promote independence make a huge difference to people's future health outcomes." said Rachel Vial, Manager of the Shipston Medical Centre, which is supporting the scheme.

If you are prepared to donate crutches, walking frames or zimmer frames you no longer need, or would like to use the new service, please contact Patricia on 01608 665018.

## Shipston to Moreton commuter bus – register your interest

The Shipston Link local volunteer-run community bus service is considering providing a daily commuter service to Moreton-in-Marsh station if there is sufficient demand.

For the service to go ahead, at least 16 users would need to commit using it five days a week. If the bus is full, the cost will be £5 a day per passenger, with charges increasing if fewer people use the service.

To register your interest, please contact Shipston Link Chairman, Richard Adams, on 01608 662328 or richardadams5@hotmail.com

## Shipston Neighbourhood Watch needs you!

After ten happy years as both Chair and Secretary of Shipston's Neighbourhood Watch, Mike Robbins is stepping down and is keen to hear from anyone prepared to take on either or both of these fulfilling roles. If you're looking for a new challenge and want to support your community, please contact Mike as soon as possible on 01608 664439 or mcmdrob@globalnet.co.uk and he will explain all.

## Sow poppies for the Legion's 90th Anniversary

The Royal British Legion is calling on Forum readers to sow poppies in celebration of its 90th anniversary.

This hardy little flower was the only plant able to flourish in the shell ravaged battlefields of World War 1, hence it becoming the symbol of remembrance. Branch chairman, Richard Adams, said: "Seeds are already being sown in public places and it would be great to see red poppies flowering everywhere possible in Shipston during the summer."



For more information and advice on which seeds to use, please call Richard Adams on 662328 or visit [www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/shipston](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/shipston)

### April's hot topics

**Speeding:** In response to complaints about speeding on the Stratford Road coming into and going out of Shipston, the council will be formally requesting a speeding review to be undertaken by the county council. The review will look at both Stratford Road and London Road.

**Grass cutting:** There have been several complaints about grass cutting. Although a district council responsibility, the Town Council provides the service in Shipston and already cuts more grass than it is required or funded to do by the district. However, there were some operational issues at the start of this year's cutting season. These have now been resolved and work is getting back on track.

**Gulley cleaning:** This continues to be a problem with some drains in Mill Street and Church Street completely blocked. Shipston Town Council (STC) will again chase Warwickshire County Council's (WCC) highways department for action.

**Supporting recycling:** In response to concern from a resident, STC will request a 'common sense' approach to allowing non-commercial pick-up trucks into the WCC recycling site.

### Campaigning for Shipston

**Library opening hours:** The Town Council is encouraging everyone to take part in the library opening hours consultation. See Councillor Saint's column on page 14 for details.

**Youth services:** The Town Council will attend a meeting being held by Warwickshire County Council looking at the future of youth services and will report back next month.

**Proud of My Town:** The Town Council's Proud of My Town campaign was welcomed at its launch at the Stour Valley Business Fair. In addition to litter picks, the council is encouraging dog owners to scoop their dog's poop. Residents are being asked to report people who allow their dogs to foul the pavements to the Town Council, so that appropriate action can be taken over what is a growing problem.

### Council business highlights

**Action against vandalism:** Readers may remember the vandalism of the town's flagpole, in October last year. The offender was caught and given an £80 fine by the police and was subsequently asked to pay for the replacement pole. Having refused to pay, STC took the offender to court. As a result, the individual now has to pay for the replacement flagpole plus legal costs. Although taking action of this kind is not pleasant, it is important that people realise the council will take action against vandals.

**New arts project:** STC heard about an exciting new community arts project, which will be launching with a Community Arts Fair on the 4th June. STC will look to see whether any financial support can be made available.

**New cigarette bins:** In response to the increasing number of cigarette butts being left on our streets, STC agreed to purchase three new bins for the town centre, designed to enable people to stub out and then bin their cigarettes.

**Cemetery changes:** On advice, STC, like other councils, is to stop the practice of selling off large family blocks in the town's cemeteries.

**New equipment:** An outdoor vacuum is to be purchased for use by the town gardeners to help keep the streets clean.

### Clark House news

Town Clerk, Georgina Beaumont, shares the latest news from the Town Council office.



#### Town Centre update

Warwickshire County Council has now fed back the results of the consultation on a one-way system for the town centre. About 30 forms were filled in. Key concerns raised were that existing waiting restrictions were not being enforced and that traders would prefer longer times for people to park and shop in the town. Almost half of those who completed forms favoured a "One Way" system but with amendments.

The feedback has been discussed with the Mayor. It was agreed that the proposals put forward will be kept by Shipston Town Council as part of our Town Design Statement, to be revisited if funding becomes available. The preliminary estimate of the current proposals were estimated to be in excess of £150k.

Any future proposals would still have to be consulted on, and an agreement reached with traders and residents.

#### Allotments

Thank you to those that have paid their allotment fees. If you haven't paid, please do so as soon as possible as the fees are now overdue.

#### Keeping Shipston tidy

We've received our delivery of high-vis vests and litter picking sticks for the Proud of My Town campaign and already have some enthusiastic volunteers, which is great. In the meantime, the Town Gardeners have been asked to sweep and clean up Tilemans Lane on a weekly basis to reduce litter and dog mess.

#### Blooming lovely

On a lighter note, the spring bulbs have been looking wonderful. Thanks to all those who have kept the beds, borders and tubs looking nice.

Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk  
t: 01608 662180  
e: clerk@shipstononline.org

For full details of the items discussed at the Town Council's meeting in April, download the minutes at [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

**Spectacular new garden opens at Shipston High**

To mark her retirement, School Business Manager, Jenny Banfield, has opened a new garden at Shipston High School.

Jenny was the inspiration behind the new garden area, proposing the dramatic design, sourcing the funding and overseeing the major works involved. As a result the school will shortly be boasting a new garden area for students to enjoy, complete with raised, geometrically shaped flower and vegetable beds the equal of anything at Kew!

Head teacher, Jonathan Baker, said: "The whole school will be desperately sorry to see Jenny leave us. She has been one of the key architects behind the current success of the school."



*Jenny, with Gardening Club members, Matthew Taylor and Lottie Petty*

**Calling all future cricket stars**



Junior cricket coaching sessions for ages 7 to 12 start this month in Shipston. So if you know a budding Freddie Flintoff or Andrew Strauss, bring them down to training on Thursday evenings throughout May and June at the Sports Club on London Road. The course costs £35 for ten 90 minute sessions.

Shipston-on-Stour Cricket Club has among the best facilities in the league, including an excellent playing surface. It's the perfect place to develop your skills and have some fun.

For more information contact Club Secretary Neil Harper on 662502 or visit [www.intheteam.com/shipstoncc](http://www.intheteam.com/shipstoncc)

**Shipston's young footballers make us proud**



Shipston Excelsior's U9s returned triumphant from the plate cup final on 2nd April, with an impressive 5-1 win against Crowle.

All twelve members of the squad were involved, supported by a superb crowd of mums & dads, family members, club officials and the head teacher from Shipston Primary school. Crowle put in a strong effort but couldn't hold back the onslaught from our home team.

Shipston U12s narrowly missed out in their cup final after a close defeat against Alcester Town.

Congratulations to both teams in reaching their respective cup finals – a great result for Shipston.

**It's all new at Shipston Pre-School**

Spring is all about new life. That is certainly something Shipston Pre-School is enjoying a new lease of thanks to its fantastic new building. Having done a sterling job in challenging conditions, staff and children at the nursery are now able to enjoy double the space they've been used to.

Pre-School manager, Rachel Rossiter said: "We've been in our new building a few weeks now, but we're still all walking around with big grins on our faces. It's wonderful to give the children more space to play and the staff the freedom to organise more varied activities. There's still work to do but we're hoping to be able to launch our new outdoor area early in the summer term."

Anyone wanting to see the new facilities is invited to visit the Pre-School, on Tilemans Lane on 13 May from 3:15 – 5pm or 14 May, 10:30 to 12:00. There will be activities for children and staff on hand to give a guided tour.



**Greenfields children spring into action**

Children at Greenfields nursery have been out and about, making the most of spring. Using the nursery's much-loved minibus, the intrepid explorers first headed to Stratford Garden Centre to look at all the new plants and bulbs. Brightly coloured plants were popular – as were the fish in the pond.



A week later, they headed to a farm in Long Compton where the children fell in love with the baby lambs. Penny Holmes said "The children were so excited when they saw the lambs. They've been learning about spring, including making lamb pictures, so it was lovely for them to see the real thing".

## Shipston Primary School



### Booked up

Noddy, the Gruffalo, and Harry Potter were just some of the characters spotted around Shipston recently as they made their way to Shipston Primary School's book character day.

Children and staff relished the opportunity to dress as their literary favourites for the finale of a week-long celebration of books and reading. The school's Book Week saw a range of activities – from Reception children sharing



stories, to Year 4 pupils writing non-fiction books about the Anglo Saxons. All pupils read for at least 15 minutes a day outside their usual studies to encourage reading for pleasure as well as learning.

And shortly before Book Week, Year 6s were inspired by one of the greatest writers of all time when they attended a RSC production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. The pupils were given a tour of the recently transformed Royal Shakespeare Theatre before taking their seats at *The Swan*, where the play transported them to a magical island using puppetry, songs, live music and storytelling.

### Our town, our world

30 million people celebrated Fairtrade Fortnight this year and pupils and teachers at Shipston Primary were no exception.

The school, which is working towards Fairtrade status, held a special assembly and encouraged pupils to bring in labels from products around the home displaying the Fairtrade logo. More than 850 labels were collected during the fortnight, helping to raise greater awareness of the communities who produce our food and the importance of giving them a fairer deal.

Children on the school's Fairtrade Steering group still have ambitions for Shipston to become a Fairtrade Town and if your business is interested in supporting the initiative, please call Mrs Piercy on the school number 01608 661266 to help take this forward.

## Shipston High School

### Students entertain at the Ellen Badger Hospital

A group of musicians from the High School recently entertained senior citizens at the Ellen Badger Hospital. Organised by Head Prefect, Connor Clemons, the group of six students sang and played a wide variety of pieces to the very appreciative audience. The pieces included traditional ballads and songs as well as some more contemporary pieces. The audience particularly enjoyed clapping and singing along.



*Caragh Wall and Mackenzie Smith entertain patients*

The concert was another example of the school's commitment to playing a full part in the local community and supporting good causes. As well as raising £500 for Comic Relief, the students are currently supporting the Rotary 'Crocus Appeal' which aims to eradicate polio from the world. Students prepared a whole-school assembly to launch their support for the appeal and are aiming to raise enough money to pay for a polio inoculation for as many children overseas as there are students at the school. The students have also been showing off their entrepreneurial skills by organising and running a 'Spring Fair' raising an impressive sum of just under £800.

### Academy update

The High School has applied formally to the Department for Education to convert from a local authority maintained school to one of the new academies. Only schools like Shipston that have an Ofsted grading of 'Good with Outstanding Features' are eligible to apply. Governors at the school decided to take this important step only after careful consideration. They are committed to retaining the school's 'small is best' ethos as well as its mission to be the first-choice school for every child in the local community.

The school now faces a long journey ahead as it embarks on the process of changing to an academy. This will include formal consultation with all stakeholders including the local community. No final decision will be made until the governors are convinced that the change is in the best interests of current and future students at the school.

## 2011 Wool Fair set to be the best ever

The star attraction of this year's Wool Fair will be the live creation of a Shipston Hat, from sheep to finished product before sundown. Drawing on the famous story of the Throckmorton Coat (which was created in 24 hours thanks to a wager back in 1811), local shearer, Alan Scorer, will get the Wool Fair going at an early hour as the chosen sheep is sheared. The wool will be spun and made into the Shipston Hat during the day 'while we watch'.

Alongside this challenge will be rare breed sheep, lambs and stalls galore offering all things woolly, including slippers, rugs, jumpers and children's clothes. Wonderful ewes' milk ice cream, lots of delicious cakes and other exciting nibbles will be there to tempt you as well as unusual gifts such as Victorian button jewellery and more.

Games for children of all ages will be held in the High Street including the famous electric sheep and pin the tail on Shaun.

Join us from 10am on 30th May and have fun celebrating Shipston's history.



## Inspector Morse author comes to Shipston

Inspector Morse author, Colin Dexter, will be visiting Shipston-on-Stour in May to talk about the much-loved cultured copper at a lunch organised by Shipston and District Literary Society.

Fresh from his appearance at the Stratford Literary Festival, Oxfordshire resident, Colin Dexter, will shed light on what inspired him to create Inspector Morse.

"We're absolutely thrilled that Colin has agreed to speak at the lunch," said Literary Society chairman Maureen Raybould. "We have been talking about ways our society can put Shipston on the map. Inviting people to hear a major author speak at an award-winning restaurant is one way we can do that."

The lunch takes place on 11th May at The Old Mill in Shipston.

Tickets are £20 and are selling fast. To book yours, call 01608 661421 or pop into the Old Mill on Mill Street.

## Shipston hosts bigger, better business



The third annual Stour Valley Business Fair was bigger and better than ever this year.

Over 40 businesses exhibited at the event in Shipston's Townsend Hall, with the focus being on generating opportunities as well as supporting local organisations.

Mark Willis, Director of KMS Litho, who exhibited for the first time, said: "I found the event very useful. I was impressed with the footfall through the door and I got leads out of the

event. I will certainly attend next year."

This year's fair also marked the launch of the Stour Enterprise Centre, which is dedicated to providing enterprise support through managed facilities and business advice and training.

For more information on the Stour United Businesses group or the Enterprise Centre, visit [www.stourunitedbusinesses.co.uk](http://www.stourunitedbusinesses.co.uk) or e-mail [events@stourunitedbusinesses.co.uk](mailto:events@stourunitedbusinesses.co.uk)

## Hi-de-Hi Shipston!

Shipston Dramatic Society's spring production is to be the stage adaptation of the hugely popular TV series 'Hi-de-Hi!'

It's the start of a new season and founder Joe Maplin announces he is setting up a camp in the Bahamas. The annual "Miss Yellowcoat" competition will decide who is to work there. Rivalry between the girls is fierce, so who will win the coveted yellow sash? See the show to find out (details on page 9).

## Shipston Proms Fame Contest – call for entries

Are you hiding a talent? Now is the time to enter the Shipston Proms Fame contest and share your gift.

The annual Shipston Proms event runs from 17th June with the High Street finale on 2nd July. The Fame contest takes place on 18th June.

Don't miss your chance to shine. Entry forms are available from the High School, R Clarke Electrical and the Library or visit: [www.shipstonproms.org](http://www.shipstonproms.org)



**Regular events:**

- Mon** **Badminton Club:** Turn up and play from 7pm. Townsend Hall.
- Tues** **Stroke Club:** Alternate Tuesdays (3, 17, 31). 10am, Roman Catholic Church Hall. Contact Sarah Bridgewater, 07582 130855
- Tues** **Rhyme time for under 2s:** Alternate Tuesdays (3, 17, 31). 10:45am Shipston Library. Free.
- Weds** **Calypso Kids Singing and percussion for pre-schoolers:** Townsend Hall 9:20, 10:15 and 11am
- Weds** **Slimming World:** 7pm, Townsend Hall
- Thurs** **Yoga:** Beginners. 7-8:30pm, Townsend Hall. £8. Contact: 07717 221 756 or [www.yoga-in-brailles.co.uk](http://www.yoga-in-brailles.co.uk)

**May Diary**

- 1** **Shipston Rotary Club:** Cotswold Walk. 7 miles with fabulous views. Details on page 10.
- 1** **Stratford Literary Festival Family Fun Day:** Action-packed day including performances, workshops, music, storytelling and book-making. Compton Verney. Family tickets from £35. Contact 01789 207100 or visit [www.civichall.co.uk](http://www.civichall.co.uk)
- 2** **Brailes Three Hills Walks:** 9-11:30am. BBQ on the hill. Walk starts at Brailes Village Hall. Under 15s £1, adults £3. Contact: Richard Cheney, 685570
- 3** **Multiple Sclerosis Society:** 'Drop-in' meeting, 10-11:30am, The George Hotel. Contact: Pauline Hunt, 666161
- SWIB (Supporting Women in Business):** Networking event. 6:00-8:30pm, The Old Mill, Shipston. Contact: Natasha Roderick-Jones, [natasha.roderick-jones@virgin.net](mailto:natasha.roderick-jones@virgin.net)
- 4** **National Association of Widows:** Lunch. Contact: Barbara Bean, 663230
- 4** **Shipston-on-Stour WI (Evening group):** 'Natural health and natural remedies', 7pm, Roman Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Mal Lawrence, 662122
- 5** **Shipston Stitchers:** 10am, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Kath, 663486
- 5** **Story Stomp:** Storytelling for 2-5 year olds. 10:30am, Shipston Library. Free. Contact: 661255
- 5** **Tea Dance:** Ballroom, Latin American, and Sequence dancing. 2-4:30pm, Townsend Hall. £3.
- 6** **Dementia Café:** NHS Community Psychiatric Nurse, Michael Church on 'Stress and how to deal with it'. Stour Court, 2-3.30pm. Contact: Barbara Smith 662433
- 6** **Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm The Coach House, Church Street, Shipston (opposite the Library). Books include fiction, children's, cookery, gardening, art etc. To donate books contact Lion David Squires on [pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:pinnegards@tiscali.co.uk)
- 7** **Shipston Home Nursing:** Plant Sale, 10am - 12 noon at Sheldon Bosley Hub. Free Entry. Delivery of plants from 12 noon on Friday 6th May. Contact: Debbie Joss, 01295 680803
- 7** **Shipston Town Council monthly litter pick:** All welcome. Meet at Clark House, West Street at 10am. Equipment and refreshments provided. Contact: Fay Ivens, 662133 or [fayivens@aol.com](mailto:fayivens@aol.com)
- 7** **Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above
- 8** **Whatcote Annual Bluebell Walk:** Gentle walk followed by cream tea. See ad on page 8.

- 8** **Table Top sale:** Townsend Hall. See ad on page 9.
- 10** **SCAN (Senior Citizens Action Network):** 10am, Townsend Hall. Details on page 12.
- 10** **Shipston Flower Club:** AGM plus short demonstration by Velvet Glove. New members welcome, £3.50. 7:30pm, Shipston Primary School. Contact: 664467
- 11** **Stour Valley WI:** AGM resolutions, 2pm, Stour Court. Contact: Betty Thomson, 664462
- 11** **Shipston and District Literary Society:** Lunch & talk by author, Colin Dexter. The Old Mill, tickets £20. To book, call 01608 661421 or visit the Old Mill.
- 11** **Shipston and District Gardening Club:** "Friends and foes in the garden" talk by Roger Umpleby. 7:30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Tony Mitchell, 666933
- 13** **Stour Valley Lions presents "The King's Speech":** See ad on page 9.
- 14** **Shipston Pre-School Open morning:** Come & see the new facilities. Activities for children. 10:30am-12pm, Tilemans Lane (next to Children's Centre).
- 14** **Shipston Wool Fair Auction:** From 6pm. See ad on page 8
- 14** **Shipston Singers:** Concert, "Mendelssohn's Elijah". See ad on page 9.
- 15** **Catholic Chapel of SS Peter and Paul, Brailes:** Open afternoon, 2-5pm, including talk on the story of the Cotswolds only "upstairs church" (2pm) & teas.
- 16** **Royal British Legion (Shipston):** Monthly social event. 12:30pm, Horseshoe Inn. Contact: Mike Dobbin, 664636
- 16** **Footpath meeting:** See page 10 for details.
- 17** **Shipston Arts and Crafts Society:** "The creative process/printing", 7:30pm, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Penny Law
- 18** **National Association of Widows:** 10:30am, Coach and Horses. Contact: Barbara Bean, 663230
- 19** **Shipston Stitchers:** 10am, Catholic Church Hall. Contact: Kath, 663486
- 19-21** **Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society presents "Hi-de-Hi", by Paul Carpenter and Ian Gower.** See ad on page 9.
- 20** **Newbold Plant Sale:** 10-12:30, St David's Church, Newbold. Produce stall. Tombola. All welcome - proceeds go to St David's Church. Plant donations gratefully received. Contact: Gilly Marsden, 01789 459168.
- 20** **Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-4pm. Details as above
- 20** **Shipston Music Society:** 'Stringless' - Mike Adams & Peter Gosling, accordion & clarinet. 7:30pm, Methodist Church. Contact: Clare Faulkes, 663207 or visit [www.shipstonmusic.org.uk](http://www.shipstonmusic.org.uk)
- 21-22** **Bowls England International Trials:** Women's senior and junior trials. Spectators welcome. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886 or [www.sheldonbosleyhub.com](http://www.sheldonbosleyhub.com)
- 21** **Stour Valley Lions Book Sale:** 9am-2pm. Details as above
- 25** **Shipston Medical Centre:** Annual Patient Participation meeting. See details on page 14.
- 27-28** **Bowls England International Trials:** Men's senior and junior trials. Spectators welcome. Sheldon Bosley Hub. Contact: 661886 or [www.sheldonbosleyhub.com](http://www.sheldonbosleyhub.com)
- 30** **Shipston Wool Fair:** All day family entertainment. Free to attend. See ad on back page.



# CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

## Saturday 4 June

### Townsend Hall Shipston-on-Stour

An exciting new project to set up an Arts Centre to serve Shipston and the area begins with an inspiring event to celebrate the wealth of creative art in the community

Painting Drawing Sculpture Film  
Conceptual Arts Photography  
Ceramics Furniture Theatre Music  
Dance Poetry Literature Crafts

If you would like to be involved as an exhibiting artist, perform, run a workshop, or just help contact:  
Tim Porter *Chairman* [timporter649@btinternet.com](mailto:timporter649@btinternet.com) Telephone 01608 685332



## Shipston Home Nursing

Invite you to

# GIFFORDS CIRCUS

For those of you who are still wondering about joining us for Gifford's Circus. The evening will consist of champagne, canapés, the show, interval with more drinks and canapés, more entertainment, hog roast, salads, desserts and then the Grand Finale of dancing in the tent to the fabulous band. So put on your party gear for a terrific, fun night with Gifford's Circus.

**£75 per head**

### Cheltenham Racecourse

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June  
6:30 - 11:30 pm

For tickets please contact  
[rebecca@shn-fundraising.co.uk](mailto:rebecca@shn-fundraising.co.uk)  
01608 674929

Coaches available from Shipston and Stratford  
£10 per head



# COME TO OUR FUNDRAISING AUCTION

In aid of the Shipston Wool Fair 2011  
on Saturday 14th May  
at the George Hotel, Shipston on Stour.

**BID NO. 245**

**BIDDING STARTS 7.30PM  
GOING...GOING.....GONE!**

6-8pm Champagne Happy Hours  
Fantastic Food Promotions on the Night  
£2 per Auction Bid Paddle

LOTS KINDLY DONATED BY THE BUSINESSES IN & AROUND SHIPSTON ON STOUR  
& OTHER GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

## Whatcote Bluebell Walk

### Annual Bluebell Walk at Whatcote on Sunday May 8th

'Come for a gentle walk up to Hell Brake to see the bluebells and enjoy a cream tea in St Peter's church yard on your return'

**You can begin your walk any time between 2.00pm to 5.00pm**

Strong boots or shoes are essential  
Dogs welcome if kept on a lead

The cost is £6 for adults, accompanied children free, and this includes the tea and scones!

Plant & Produce stall.  
Proceeds to St Peter's Church Repairs

Free car parking will be sign posted in the village as will the start of the walk.

**Contact Sue Price for more details  
telephone 01295 680007 or e-mail  
[susan.price@ukgateway.net](mailto:susan.price@ukgateway.net)**

**STOUR VALLEY LIONS CINEMA**

**"THE KINGS SPEECH"**

The story of King George VI, his impromptu ascension to the throne and the speech therapist who helped the unsure monarch become worthy of it.



**SHIPSTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**FRIDAY 13th May at 7:00 pm**  
 Advance Tickets **£3.50** (£4 on door)  
 From: R. Clarke Electrical, 27 High Street, Shipston  
 Lion Judith Jackson. Tel: 01608-661148

 Half time break for refreshments and raffle.  
 The premises have disabled parking, access and facilities. 

**Shipston Amateur Dramatic Society**  
 Present

**Hi-de-Hi!**

By Paul Carpenter and Ian Gower  
 (Adapted from the original television series by Jimmy Perry and David Croft)

**Townsend Hall,**  
**Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour**  
 On  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, Friday 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**and Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011**  
**at 7.30pm**

**Tickets: £5 Thurs: £7 Fri & Sat:**  
**Available from 'The Lavender Basket', Sheep Street, Shipston-on-Stour or on the door.**

**"Hello Campers, Hi-de-Hi!"**

table top sale

townsend hall  
www.townsendhall.com

**8th may**  
 9am to 12.30pm

entrance free  
 bacon butties and coffee  
 available  
 tables £5 ring  
 laurie 01608 662998 or david 01608 664065  
 set up from 8.30 am  
 another townsend hall fund raising event  
 charity no. 522997

table top sale

**Stour Singers**

The Cherwell Orchestra  
 Rachel Bird, organ  
 conductor Richard Emms

**Mendelssohn:**  
*Elijah*

with  
 Sarah Power, soprano  
 \*\*Sofie Almroth, mezzo-soprano  
 Richard Dowling, tenor  
 and  
 Jeremy Huw Williams, baritone  
 \*\*Sofie Almroth is supported in this concert by Making Music

**Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at 7.30pm**  
**St. Edmund's Church, Shipston-on-Stour**

Tickets £12.50 from choir members  
 R. Clarke, 27 High St. Shipston and at the door.  
 (accompanied children free)

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

## Lions – Senior Citizens Party



This year's annual afternoon tea event for the senior citizens in our area was again a huge success. The event, hosted by Stour Valley Lions at Shipston High School, was attended by 110 guests, many of whom were collected from local nursing homes.

The main hall was transformed into a tearoom and we had a full programme of entertainment, with Keith Lane acting as Master of Ceremonies. We began with the Town Band giving a fine performance, before Maggie O'Hara entertained us with favourite songs, old and new. Young Connor Clemons, Head Boy at the High School, then delighted us all with songs of today, with Keith providing commentary and comedy throughout. The event was rounded off with Pat Sandford's wonderful film of Old Shipston.

Huge thanks go to all those that generously gave their time – and food – to help make this such a fun event, including the Young Fire Fighters who helped us set up the room and serve guests.

If you would like to be added to the invitation list for next year's party, please contact Lion, Roy Arkell, on 01789 773966 or any member of Stour Valley Lions.

## Stroke Club

The Stroke Club meets on alternate Tuesdays, to offer support and friendship to those who have suffered a stroke or care for a stroke survivor. The next meeting is on 3rd May, at the Our Lady and St Michael's Roman Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road.

One of the carers who came to the first meeting was clearly struggling. Sarah Bridgewater, the Stroke Club co-ordinator, immediately went into action and as Mr C said, 'I had been managing on my own for a long time. It was difficult. Suddenly people were calling in to help who really knew what they were doing!' Stroke survivors and carers of people who have had a stroke, whether with that person or by themselves, please join us – we're sure you will find it helpful.

## Shipston in Bloom



Shipston-in-Bloom had a most successful Saturday morning on 9th April picking up litter around the town. There was a good turn out and the town certainly looks cleaner and tidier for everybody's efforts. Congratulations to all concerned.

We are now preparing for the summer planting of beds and pots around Shipston. Pots and beds will be cleared of Spring blooms and compost replenished, and then there will be an all-out effort to get the planting and watering done. We are hoping for a magnificent display this summer. This will be helped by the purchase of new oak half-barrels, which has been funded by voluntary contributions.

Please look out for the Shipston-in-Bloom stand at the Wool Fair – last year was a wonderful way to make us known. We would like to build on our success last year and have a "blooming" display for all Shipstonians! We are all volunteers, working in conjunction with the town gardeners, and your support is important to us.

## Shipston-on-Stour Footpaths

Are you a walker? Would you benefit from a booklet showing all the footpaths and local walks around the town? A group is getting together to compile such a booklet clearly showing local walks with routes and notes of interesting things to do and look out for.

£1000 of funding will be available to improve footpaths within 3 miles radius of Shipston, paid by the developers of the Shipston House site in Tileman's Lane. If Shipston's walkers can agree which footpaths need better gates/stiles, we will be in a stronger position to get the money spent quickly and sensibly.

Please come along to our first meeting on Monday 16th May, 7:00 at the White Bear to help get this project moving.

## Shipston Rotary



### Don't miss the Cotswold Walk

The 7 mile Rotary Cotswold Walk with spectacular views takes place on Sunday 1st May. Start at the top of Foxcote Hill, above Ilmington anytime between 10am and 2pm. Adults £5, children £2.

Signposted from the A429 and A3400, free parking is available in fields by kind permission of the farmers, with enticing homemade refreshments at Ebrington Village Hall.

For details, visit [www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldwalk.org.uk) or call Colin on 07757 089420

### Become a Rotarian

If having fun while serving your community appeals, please come along and meet like-minded people, enjoy a good, affordable meal and learn about the opportunities we offer. If you like what you hear, join us. Rotary is open to men and women of all ages. We meet most Tuesdays at the Halford Bridge Inn, from 7:30pm. Visit [www.shipstonrotary.org.uk](http://www.shipstonrotary.org.uk) for details.

## Shipston on Stour Cricket Club



Shipston-on-Stour Cricket Club would like to encourage new members to join our friendly and progressive club. Players of all ages and abilities are welcome; we run two teams in the Cotswold Hills League on Saturdays, a Sunday team playing friendly matches against local clubs and we have also entered the prestigious National Village Knockout Cup this year.

Our 1st XI won promotion back to the Premier Division of the Cotswold Hills League in 2010 and is looking to consolidate its position in the top flight in 2011, while our 2nd XI finished 4th in Division 3 last season and is keen for promotion this year

For more information on club membership please contact Club Secretary Neil Harper on 01608 662502 or visit [www.intheteam.com/shipstoncc](http://www.intheteam.com/shipstoncc)

### Shipston Sports Club

Shipston Sports Club would like to invite you to come and see us at London Road and find out about our friendly members' club.

We are open all day Saturday and Sunday throughout the year and on selected evenings during the week for societies, section training and social events.

We provide a range of sports for both adults and juniors, including football, cricket, tennis, bowls, hockey, darts and dominoes. We also offer social membership if you'd rather just come up and enjoy a drink in our newly refurbished clubhouse. There is a large children's play area outside and ample parking.

The Sports Club venue is also available for hire for just £12.50 per hour.

For more details on activities, membership rates and how to join, drop in during any weekend, contact club chairman Peter Betteridge on 07917 410895 or email [ginaandpete@talktalk.net](mailto:ginaandpete@talktalk.net)

We are just a couple of hundred yards out of town along the London Road, clearly signposted from the main road.

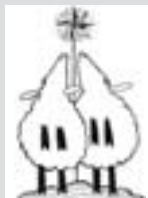
### Transition Shipston

**It's official – shopping in Shipston can save you money**

One of the aims of Transition Towns is to encourage people to shop locally, to support the local economy and use less petrol. Many Shipston shoppers drive 20 miles to buy groceries in a big supermarket, believing they save money overall.

Last month we downloaded two sample shopping baskets, totalling 27 items (bread, meat, frozen food, veg, fruit, dairy, cleaning products, wine, etc.) One person priced all these in Tesco's, another in Shipston's Co-ops and independent shops. We used own brand prices in both cases. Every item was available in Shipston, while one was not available in Tesco's. The total cost in Tesco's was £40.54, and in Shipston, was £40.14. Amazing. Without even taking into account the ever-increasing cost of petrol, added time and hassle of shopping out of town, Shipston came out on top.

Full details of the list are available, and we hope this experiment may convince more people that shopping in Shipston is not only more pleasant but excellent value too.



### MS Society

If you are affected by MS, information, support and friendship is available. Join us for a coffee and meet local members of our society. We meet monthly, on the first Tuesday of every month from 10:30-11:30 at the George Hotel, Market Square, Shipston-on-Stour.



For more information, contact us on the branch helpline 01608 666161, or visit [www.stratfordms.org.uk](http://www.stratfordms.org.uk) and [www.facebook.com/msstratford](http://www.facebook.com/msstratford)

### Shipston Music Society

In March, we were treated to a concert and talk given by harpsichordist Charlotte Turner. Charlotte studied piano at Chethams School then at RNCM where she received awards for her solo and accompanist performance.



Charlotte learnt to play the harpsichord after finding that the relative smallness of her hands would limit her repertoire on piano. Playing harpsichord has enabled her to develop her love of Baroque music and, although still young, she has already accumulated enormous experience with many national performances.

Charlotte played a number of pieces from different composers, including; Francois Couperin, Henry Purcell, Johann Froberger, William Byrd and Girolamo Frescobaldi. Particular highlights included a delightful composition by the Dutch composer Jan P Sweelinck, "Unter der Linden Grune" as well as "Onzieme Ordre", by Couperin, in which the composer comments musically on various members of the local nobility and also on Menestrans, a rather disreputable guild of touring performers.

The packed audience enjoyed an evening of beautiful music and learned quite a lot about the harpsichord itself.

The next meeting is on 20th May at the Methodist Church. To find out more about Shipston Music Society, please ring Clare Faulkes on 01608 663207 or visit [www.shipstonmusic.org.uk](http://www.shipstonmusic.org.uk)

### WI

The President welcomed members to a well-attended meeting. The speaker, Sylvia Brown, who has been a member of the Women's Institute for most of her adult life, gave an account of her life as a milk roundsman(woman). This was, and still is, an unusual job for woman, and in Sylvia's time involved a great deal of heavy lifting as each milkman was expected to load his float and no allowances were made!



Work was seven days a week and on only one or two occasions during a long working life did the milk fail to get to the doorsteps. Milk deliveries were milk, cream and butter in the 1950s, but nowadays milkmen deliver cat and dog food, bin liners, potatoes – customers need never leave their houses!

The Shipston Branch continues its extra-mural activities – there was a lovely walk from Stanton in Gloucestershire, the wine club met to taste and discuss a variety of wines, the book club, the knitting group and the drama group held meetings, and the lunch club met for a friendly meal.

The next meeting of the WI is on 4th May at 7.30pm in the Catholic Church Hall, Darlingscote Road, when Lee Figures will be talking about Natural Health/Natural Remedies.

### Probus

We have recently enjoyed fascinating talks about The Midlands Air Museum in Coventry and The Lord Leycester Hospital in Warwick, both of which rely entirely on funding by their own resources, mainly through paying visitors.



Barry James described the Air Museum, showing slides of an interesting collection of aeroplanes, some restored by a team of volunteer craftsmen. It is difficult and expensive to obtain new exhibits and the MoD is not helpful in making retired planes available. The museum also houses jet engines developed by Sir Frank Whittle who, like many of our brilliant inventors, struggled to succeed and was not well treated.

Gerald Lesinski Master of the Lord Leycester Hospital gave an interesting illustrated history of the Hospital, a group of timber frame buildings dating from the late 14th Century beside the Norman Westgate. Built on top of the Gate is a Chapel. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth it was the home for ex-servicemen and so it remains today. For 150 years it was the home for Warwick's Mediaeval Guilds with a Guildhall built in 1450, a Great Hall, a galleried Courtyard and beautiful gardens.

The ex-servicemen known as "The Brethren" today live in self-contained rent-free flats and on weekdays meet for prayers in St James' Chapel, which is still lit by candles.

### Shipston Arts & Crafts Society

March saw our Annual General Meeting take place in St Michael's R.C. Parish Centre. The Chairman, Mrs P Sandford resigned after many successful years - thankfully remaining as Programme Secretary. Our new Chairman is Mrs J Licence. All other committee seats remained. They were all thanked for providing another successful year.

After wine and nibbles, the Society heard Sarah Stotten telling of the Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs of a Contemporary Art Gallery. Sarah came to Shipston 15 years ago and spoke to the Society then to tell us of her plans and ideas for the development of the gallery, seeking out new painters, craftsmen and women from areas in the south west of Britain. Since then, she has succeeded in building up the gallery into a place of contemporary excellence.

The gallery, once the home of a flush weaving family, is now open on three floors and has a garden for stonework and sculpture. Sarah finished her talk with slides showing work by her many inspiring and successful artists – all modern and unique.

The Society meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm. On May 17th James Rothringhame will speak on the creative process/printing. New members welcome.

### Shipston & District Angling Club - A New Season

Shipston Angling Club membership runs from 1st April to 31st March each year and the 2011/12 season membership book is now available. There is no joining fee, no waiting list, and at £25 (£15 for OAP & £10 Junior) offers excellent value for money.

If you would like to join our club, or just want to find out more about what we have to offer, please contact our club membership secretary – Mr Rob Oakey on 01608-662639.

Club membership allows you access to fishing along almost four miles of the local River Stour. This starts at Willington then down to Shipston sports club, Shipston Bridge, Fell Mill, Honington, Halford Hill and Halford Bridge. At a time when many angling clubs are experiencing reducing membership numbers, Shipston AC has increased its membership as our River Stour and Aston Magna lakes continues to provide improved sport.

At Aston Magna lakes the club's three year development project is now well advanced. We have improve access, parking, fishing platforms and over 1000lb of carp between 6 oz and 6 lb introduced into the main lake providing prolific fishing. Don't forget your EA Licence. Tight Lines

### SCAN



The next meeting of Shipston SCAN will take place on Tuesday, 10th May 2011 at the Townsend Hall, Sheep Street, Shipston from 10:00 to 12:00.

Guest speakers and their talks will be Rachel Vial, Practice Manager at The Medical Centre, Shipston – "Changes in the NHS – a local perspective" and Carl Stanley, Registered Osteopath – "Home-based exercises without breaking into a sweat".

Admission is free and all young-at-heart over 50s are welcome. Free refreshments will be served from 10:00am. We have a PA system in place for those who are hard of hearing and you will have an opportunity to 'Have your Say' on the topics at the end of each talk.

If you would like to attend SCAN meetings but have any difficulties such as personal mobility or lack of transport please contact the Chairman, Brian Fletcher on 01608 661308 to discuss possible ways in which we can help.

## Readers' letters

### Letter from: Richard Willis

I cannot let Bob leave without thanking him for editing the Forum. I look forward to seeing the Forum popping through my letter box each month with the latest news and events to hit our wonderful town. The new editor certainly has a job on their hands to improve it.

My family moved to Shipston 3 years ago and have found it to be the 'gem of the Cotswolds'. It has far more 'life' than anywhere else locally. It is wonderful to see many of our residents working so hard to make the town an even better place to live and work. So thanks to Bob and thanks to all of the local people who help to make Shipston the 'gem of the Cotswolds'.

### Letter from: Jack and Shirley Crimp

We have lived in Shipston for over four years and during that period we have been very impressed with the Community Newspaper, "Shipston Forum". Credit is due in great measure to the Editor of the time Bob Tolley with whom we had very pleasant verbal and written exchanges.

Thanks and best wishes to Bob from Jack and Shirley Crimp.

### Letter from: Verity Richardson

Under an innocent looking headline in the Midweek, "Pupils take pics of town's treasures" we read that Ainscough Strategic Land are renewing their attack on Shipston, this time as a wolf in sheep's clothing at our excellent primary school, pretending to encourage the children to appreciate what is special about our town, while at the same time asking them to think about what is missing!

The first of a series of workshops has been held at the school, with the cynical purpose of using small children to lobby for further development in the town! And what development would that be, we wonder? Surely not 250 houses and a new out of town supermarket?

### Letter from: Dr Thorogood

I should like to thank all my patients for the wonderful cards and letters I have received on my retirement as a Family Doctor in Shipston for the last 31 years.

I count myself extremely fortunate to have been a family doctor in Shipston for more than 30 years. We have an excellent team of Doctors, nurses and staff at the Medical Centre, a wonderful community hospital in the Ellen Badger, and a superb team of District Nurses and Health Visitors providing care to the population of Shipston and surrounding villages.

The people of Shipston have always been extremely supportive of the Medical Centre and have helped develop a number of community based projects to improve the care we are able to give. Notable examples of this include the Shipston Link, Drugs Action Shipston (DASH) and Shipston Home Nursing. The community also helped raise huge amounts of money for the Day Unit at the Ellen Badger through the Friends of Ellen Badger and Low Furlong.

This strong sense of community, which we all appear to share has been one of the most positive aspects of my career and helps the medical team provide you with high quality health care.

Thank you for helping me make my career so positive and for all your good wishes for the future.

**The Town Council would like to thank Dr Thorogood for his considerable contribution to Shipston. We wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement.**

## Got something to say?

Send your letter of no more than 150 words to [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org)  
Edited highlights will be printed every month.

## Proud of my town

### Shipston supports Japanese relief effort

Stour Valley Lions is doing its bit to help the Japanese disaster relief with a donation of £250. Stour Valley Lions' donation is, along with other Lion clubs throughout the world, helping to provide immediate and long-term assistance. Your support of our local fund raising activities enables us to direct help where it is needed.

### Forging ahead on fencing

Congratulations to Cotswold Decorative Ironworkers which has won orders for thousands of metres of its hot dipped galvanised fencing, which is now being installed on estates in Oxfordshire and many other parts of southern England. Based at Marsh Farm, Stourton, near Shipston, the local firm is enjoying the strongest start to a year in its 25 year history.

### It's party time

Shipston's shopping has been boosted with the opening of 'Lets Party', a new shop selling everything needed for party/event occasions – from balloons and banners, to incredible fancy dress. Superman outfit, anyone?

### Litter-clearing legends

Thanks to the Shipston-in-Bloom team (below) for their wonderful litter-picking efforts in April. Well done!



Want to share a good experience or write a review of a Shipston event?

Email your contributions to [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org) and we'll do our best to print them.

## District Council

At the time of writing this report there is no further news on either the future of the public toilets in Shipston or the empty District Council office in Telegraph Street. We have been told though that the cost to ratepayers of this empty building has been £938 since it was boarded up in November 2009, if it remains unused, from April it will cost £2,511 per year in business rates. The District Council is suggesting that this building could be converted to an affordable house.



We are often asked about the progress of the District Council's planning document, the Draft Core Strategy and the future of development proposals for Shipston. The public responses from last year's consultation are on the District Council website, from the Home Page go to Planning Policy>Core Strategy. The District Council will be holding another consultation exercise later in the year. This will have regard to new Government policy and responses to the previous public consultation. It is anticipated that the final document will be approved by a Government Inspector in 2012.

Finally, may we remind you that we will be holding our street surgery as usual on the 2nd Saturday in the month, in the High Street, near to the telephone kiosk. Please come and have a chat.

### Richard Cheney

t: 01608 685570

e: richard.cheney@btinternet.com

## County Council

### The Outhouse

The Outhouse facility at Shipston High School consistently attracts a good percentage of young people in the local catchment area. There is no other suitable young people-friendly facility nearby and I will work to secure its future in conjunction with other interested parties.



### Bus services

The County Council provides financial support for bus services that would not be operated on a commercial basis by local bus service operators. From 1st April, this funding has been reduced from £2.9 to £1.6 million.

I shall watch the local impact closely. Shipston could lose evening services. Any transition to a new timetable could take several months. Operational negotiations and contractual commitments to service providers will need time.

Community transport funding will be maintained through extra Government funding.

### The Library

Despite the nearest alternative library, being 11 miles away, Shipston library opening hours could be reduced from 30 to 20 hours per week. There are two local opportunities to help you respond to the consultation that closes on 9th June:

A Community Forum at Shipston High School on Fri 20th May at 7pm.

A drop in session in Shipston library on Sat 28th May from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

You can write to the Head of Customer Service & Communications, Shire Hall, Market Square, Warwick CV34 4RR or email [libraries@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@warwickshire.gov.uk)

### Chris Saint

t: 01608 662290

e: christophersaint@warwickshire.gov.uk

## NHS News – Shipston Medical Centre

### Patient Participation Meeting

You are invited to our annual patient meeting on Wednesday 25th May at Shipston Primary School, starting at 7pm. We very much welcome feedback and input from our patients so please come and tell us what you think. We will also be discussing:

- Changes in the NHS, both locally and nationally
- Medication waste
- Information about helping yourself to good health

### Missed Appointments

During the month of March patients missed:

- 110 GP appointments, equivalent to 3.5 days of GP time
- 112 nursing appointments, equivalent of 5 days of nursing time

Please cancel your appointment if you are unable to attend so it can be offered to someone else.

### South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust update

Warwickshire Community Services, incorporating district nursing, health visiting, community therapy and school nursing services, is now being run by South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust. The Trust is now also responsible for services delivered at Shipston's Ellen Badger Hospital.

Over 1,600 members of staff are being transferred from a wide range of services with a budget of approximately £55million. The Trust will then work to transform community and hospital services across Warwickshire in collaboration with local GPs, other acute hospitals, Governors and Foundation Trust Members, staff and patients to offer better, more streamlined care.

The Trust has also launched a new website, [www.swft.nhs.uk](http://www.swft.nhs.uk). Designed by some of the Trust's Members, the site makes it easier for the public to find the information they need.

**Medical Centre** – t: 01608 661845

**Foundation Trust** – t: 01926 495321



## Your Town Councillors

**Simon Welch, Town Mayor**

t: 01608 663596  
e: simon.welch@talktalk.net

**Paul Rathkey, Deputy Mayor**

t: 01608 664141  
e: rathersandco@tiscali.co.uk

**Ian Cooper**

t: 01608 663785  
e: ian@piruk.com

**Dot Courtney**

t: 01608 664822  
e: courtney234@btinternet.com

**Fay Ivens**

t: 01608 662133  
e: fayivens@aol.com

**Martin Isaacs**

t: 01608 661520  
e: izzyisaacs@btinternet.com

**Veronica Murphy**

t: 01608 664518  
e: veronica.murphy123@btinternet.com

**Alan Noyce**

t: 01608 661754  
e: alanhubertnoyce@hotmail.com

**Philip Vial**

t: 01608 666275  
e: ppjvial@googlemail.com

**Jackie Warner**

t: 07717 391234

**Position vacant**

Up to 3 new councillors will be announced shortly

**Position vacant**

Up to 3 new councillors will be announced shortly

**Shipston-on-Stour Town Council**

Clark House, West Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4EL

**Georgina Beaumont, Town Clerk**

t: 01608 662180  
e: clerk@shipstononline.org

## Useful Contacts

Community Links Transport	01789 296344
Shipston Library:	01608 661255
- 24/7 renewal line	01926 499273
Highways customer services	01926 412515
Shipston Police Station	01789 444670
Shipston Forum	01865 600262
Shipston Leisure Centre	01608 662354
Shipston Medical Centre	01608 661845
- Out of hours	03001 303040
Shipston Post Office	01608 661465
Shipston Town Council	01608 662180
Shipston Recycling Centre	01608 663560
Stratford District Council	01789 267575
Warwickshire County Council	01926 410410

## Something exciting to share?

If you have a story that's relevant to Shipston residents, please contact the editor, Catherine Martin, on 01865 600262 or email: [forum@shipstononline.org](mailto:forum@shipstononline.org)

**Copy deadline: First Wednesday of every 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 to support the community and is distributed to all households. If you don't receive a copy, please contact the Town Clerk. The Forum can also be downloaded from [www.shipstononline.org](http://www.shipstononline.org)

Large print copies are available to read at the Library, Clark House and the Medical Centre.

While every effort is made to ensure information is accurate, the Town Council does 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.

Bank Holiday Monday  
30th May 2011

SHIPSTON



FAIR

10:00 am  
to  
4:00 pm

## Celebrating Shipston's Woolly Heritage! A Great Day Out

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 10am to 4pm

Town Centre  
Shipston-on-Stour

Come Along and Enjoy:

- Sheep and lambs, including 'celebrity' and rare breed sheep – sheep will be sheared throughout the day by our expert shearers
- A children's games area with lots of exciting games and prizes
- Beautifully decked out marquees with a wool theme. Come see weavers, spinners, felters, knitters and fascinating exhibits crafted by local people
- Entertainment all day long from a range of talented local performers, music, dancing and lots of fun
- See the "Shipston Hat" made in a day from shearing through to ready to wear!
- Lovely stalls selling a wide range of quality merchandise
- A great raffle with proceeds donated to local good causes
- A display of farm machinery from yesteryear
- .... and lots, lots more!

The best day  
out BAA-A-A  
none!



You'd be  
BAA-A-KING  
to miss it!

[www.shipstonwoolfair.org](http://www.shipstonwoolfair.org)

*A "Feel-good" Festival for a Whole Community!*

Patrons: The Rt Hon Lord Howe of Aberavon

Mrs Roy Williams

Mr John Newbery



What's on in Shipston this month? See page 7