

St Giles and Shipbourne
NEWSLETTER



September 2017

OFFICERS OF ST GILES AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

ST GILES

Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol:	811081
Rev Dr Peter Hayler	
The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol	
TN15 0QG	
Email: RectorSwP@gmail.com	
Churchwardens:	
Viv Packer	810035
Paul Britton	365794

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Secretary:	Mary Perry	810797
Children's Rep:	Glynis Coates	811432
Treasurer:	Martyn Williams	833751
Choirmaster:	John Young	810289
Flowers:	Felicity Ward	810525
Bellringing:	Paul Britton	365794

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk:	Sarah Huseyin	886402
	shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com	
Chair:	Libby Cohen	07949 591716
Vice Chair:	Nick Tyler	811079
Councillors:	D Pettengell,	V Redman
	J Sheldrick,	K Wallington

VILLAGE WEBSITE www.shipbourne.com

SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Chairman:	Curtis Galbraith	763637
Bookings:	Helen Leach	07762 241720

SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET

Organiser:	Bob Taylor	833976
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SHIPBOURNE WI

President	Margaret Thompson	810789
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SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Secretary:	Mark Fenton	811067
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PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB

Membership:	Cilla Langdon-Down	810338
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ST GILES' AND SHIPBOURNE NEWSLETTER

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USEFUL POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

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(12/16)

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(tbc)

Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol
 Rev Dr Peter Hayler
 The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG
 Tel: 01732-811081
 E-mail: RectorSwP@gmail.com

PARISH DIARY – SEPTEMBER 2017

Except where indicated below, the main morning service at ST GILES SHIPBOURNE is at 9.30am.

Every weekday at 8.00am Morning Prayer will be said at Plaxtol and every weekday evening (except Friday and Saturday) at 4.30pm Evening Prayer will be said at St Giles Shipbourne.

Plaxtol Church will reopen at the beginning of September on completion of the recent building works.

Friday	1 st	8.00pm	First Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church following its refurbishment
SUNDAY	3rd	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	Parish Communion at St Giles Shipbourne
		11.00am	Family Service followed by short Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Exodus 3 vv 1-15 Romans 12 vv 9-end Matthew 16 vv 21-end
Thursday	7th	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles Shipbourne
Saturday	9th	9.30am	Playchurch at St Giles Shipbourne
SUNDAY	10th	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Giles Shipbourne
		9.30am	Matins at St Giles Shipbourne
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		2-5pm	Tea and cake at The Procters – see details on p6
		Readings:	Exodus 12 vv 1-14 Romans 13 vv 8-end Matthew 18 vv 15-20
Monday	11th	7.30pm	Shipbourne Parish Council meeting, Village Hall
Thursday	14th	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles Shipbourne
SUNDAY	17th	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	Parish Communion at St Giles Shipbourne
		12.00pm	Short Communion service at Plaxtol Church
		4.00pm	Community@4 at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Exodus 14 vv 19-end Romans 14 vv 1-12 Matthew 18 vv 21-35
Monday	18th	8.00pm	Shipbourne Parochial Church Council meeting, Village Hall
Thursday	21st	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles Shipbourne
SUNDAY	24th	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Giles Shipbourne
		9.30am	Harvest Festival Family Service at St Giles Shipbourne
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church

		Readings:	Exodus 16 vv 2-15 Philippians 1 vv 21-end Matthew 2- vv 1-16
Thursday	28th	9-11am	Farmers' Market at St Giles Shipbourne
Saturday	30 th	3-4pm	"First Flush" Celebrating the refurbishment of Plaxtol Church: teas, children's activities etc. at the church

PASTORAL LETTER

ALL THINGS NEW

September, and the season changes again. Summer begins to tip over in autumn; holidays come to an end, and the new school year begins. For some, a new school, for teachers, a new class. New shoes, new pencils, new books... new friends, new opportunities, the list is endless! In the life of the United Benefice of Shipbourne with Plaxtol, we will be using the next couple of months, and the whole sense of getting back into rhythm after the holidays, to consider and renew our commitments: to prayer and attendance, to inclusiveness and volunteering, and to our monetary giving.

The Church is many things: a supernatural family, a community of forgiveness and reconciliation and a human institution. It has boundless potential, but still needs to dust itself down every now and again and 'get real' about the changes and challenges of the world in which it is set. Our Western culture is largely Liberal – with a great emphasis on individual liberty and choice. Perhaps this is why the call to commitment is not so popular these days. But I still want to commend the sense of the prayer for peace from the 1662 service of Morning Prayer: that to serve God, "is perfect freedom."

The call to commitment comes in all parts of our life and community: in marriage – and it's great that there will be two church weddings in September, at Plaxtol on 2nd, and at Shipbourne on 16th; in family life – we will be continuing our family services on the first Sunday of each month in Plaxtol, and the last Sunday of each month in Shipbourne; and in the care of the lonely and vulnerable in our communities too – Coffee, Cake and Company returns to Plaxtol Church on 21st at 2.30pm.

The life of faith also calls us to be committed to Christ. We have baptisms and other welcomes to celebrate in the month ahead, and we are delighted that there is an emerging group of young people who are interested in taking their next steps of commitment through Confirmation. So we will be looking to start some preparation classes

for this before too long. Confirmation is offered to young people and adults alike. So do please be in touch if you would like to consider making this commitment.

Finally, our church buildings also need committed care, and I am grateful to all those who have contributed to the reordering at Plaxtol through fundraising and more involved roles such as project management. September will be the month in which we move back from our sojourn in the Memorial Hall, with celebrations planned for the end of the month. Shipbourne celebrates completion of restoration work in the churchyard too.

Peter Hayler
Rector

FROM ANDREW AND ELIZABETH

As a way of saying thank you to all who so generously contributed to our leaving gifts from the benefice, we would like to invite all who wish to come to tea and cakes at our house on the afternoon of Sunday 10th September, on a drop in basis at any time between 2:00pm and 5:00pm. We have spent the money on creating our new garden and are hoping the weather will be kind enough to allow people to see it. Just to give us an idea of numbers, it might be helpful if people would let us know if they intend to come.

All our love,

Andrew & Elizabeth

6, Grange Rd, St Mary's Platt, Kent TN15 8NF
Tel 01732 882791 Mob 07872 597 953

All Saints Community Project Trust Chatham

Due to an administration problem at Strood, we have been asked to stop asking for donations for the time being.

Thank you to all who have kindly given items in the past and please watch out for a notice in the Newsletter in the hopefully not too distant future when they have ironed out the problem and we can again start collecting for this really worthwhile charity.

The Shipbourne and Plaxtol Benefice
Harvest Supper
Friday 6th October 2017, 7.15 for 8.00pm at
Home Farm Barn

Fairlawne has once more very kindly offered the use of the magnificent Home Farm Barn to celebrate Harvest Festival together with our neighbours in Plaxtol. This year will be the first time that we welcome our new Rector, Dr Peter Hayler and his wife Dawn to join us at this much-loved Benefice celebration.

We would ask people to buy their **tickets at Plaxtol Post Office** where they will be available **from Friday 8th September**. A limited number will also be available at Shipbourne Farmers' Market.

Prices are unchanged at £10.00 for adults and £5.00 for children (12 and under). This includes food and entertainments.

We need volunteers please to make shepherds' pies, vegetarian dishes, salads and apple crumbles (a dish designed to feed 8 people is ideal) and, as usual, we would kindly ask people to bring the food with them directly on the evening and hot items will be placed straight on the hot plates in the barn. If you are able to help please let us know - it is so much easier when people volunteer rather than us having to ask (and always appreciated!). We also welcome any help to set the tables in the barn on Friday lunchtime from 1.30pm and to clear up after the event.

A list for food and volunteering will be put up at the back of St Giles' Church with a corresponding one at Plaxtol Post Office so do please sign up if you are able to help.

We would be happy to coordinate a **block order from the Farmers' Market of ingredients required**. If you would like this, please let us know what you would like when signing up and the ingredients will be available for collection at the Farmers' Market on Thursday 5 October.

There will be a raffle on the evening, with funds going to the Church. If you would like to donate any prizes please contact either Andy Doughty or Julia Sheraton who are organising the supper. They can be contacted on 07801 039807 or 07904 525958 or by email at andrew.doughty135@btinternet.com or julia@sashy.co.uk.

Please remember that it is not possible to heat the Barn so please wrap up warmly and remember we use straw bales as seats so you may wish to bring a cushion. You will also need cash for the pay bar and raffle.

We look forward to seeing you all!



The United Benefice of Shipbourne with Plaxtol

HARVEST SUPPER 2017

Friday 6th October

7.30pm

Home Farm Barn

Entertainment

Cash bar

Prize raffle

Adults £10.00

Children £ 5.00 (Under 12 years)

**Tickets available at Plaxtol Village Stores
& Shipbourne Farmers Market**

PLAYCHURCH

Playchurch is for pre-schoolers, primary school children and parents and takes place on the second Saturday of every month from 9.30–10.30am at St Giles Shipbourne.

Come along to hear fuzzy-felt bible stories, singing and craft activities.

Next meeting: Saturday 9th September 2017

For further information please contact:

Mary Perry Tel: 01732 810797

We hope that you will join us at our next joint benefice service

‘Community @ 4’

**On Sunday 17th September from 4-5pm
at Plaxtol Church**

- suitable for all ages
- worship songs with a band
- discussions for different age groups
- craft and play time for children

Please bring food and drink for our

“Bring &Share” refreshments after the service

LATEST ROUND OF ENERGY DEAL IS HERE TO HELP RESIDENTS SAVE MONEY ON ENERGY BILLS

Tonbridge and Malling residents can register for the latest round of Energy Deal to find out whether they can save money on their energy bills. Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council continues to support Energy Deal, a collective switching scheme which aims to help householders to access cheaper energy tariffs.

Residents have until 9 October 2017 to register to take part in the latest round. Energy suppliers will then be invited to compete with their best offer at an energy auction. Residents registered with Energy Deal will be sent a personalised offer showing the winning tariff. They can then decide whether they wish to accept the tariff or not. It's free to register and residents are not obliged to switch energy supplier.

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council is working in partnership with Dartford, Gravesham, Dover and Tunbridge Wells councils to operate the Energy Deal scheme. The more households that register, the better the deal that suppliers are able to offer.

Sophie Shrubsole, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Housing, says: "Registration is quick and easy, and many of our residents have already made savings on their energy bills. We hope that more residents in the borough will register for the latest round of Energy Deal by 9 October and find out if they can save money on their energy costs."

To register, please go to www.energydealswitch.com. Residents without internet access can call Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council on 01732 876395 to register with the scheme.

THE WEATHER IN JULY

The rainfall recorded in July was 88.9 mm. (3.5 in.) compared with an average of 49.0 mm. (1.9 in.) over the last thirty two years. The average maximum temperature was 21.8⁰ C, and the average minimum temperature was 11.4⁰C

Donald Forbes

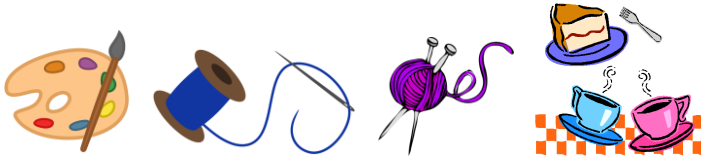
SAVE THE DATE

SHIPBOURNE CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 11 November 2017

Shipbourne Village Hall

Further details in the October issue



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References and photo gallery available at

<http://www.checkatrade.com/InscopeManagement Services/>

10/16

PLAXTOL LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

8pm

Tuesday 12th September

Plaxtol Memorial Hall

The 13th Mollie Lewis Memorial Lecture

The Cazalets of Fairlawne

a presentation by Sir Edward Cazalet

Visitors welcome, £2



Shipbourne Village Hall
Registered Charity No 1074519

The Hall can be hired for £12.50 per hour with a minimum of 4 hours (£50.00). It has an attractive secure garden with a good gate that can be closed. Inside there is wheelchair access through the rear door, a well-appointed kitchen, the main hall and an adjoining side room plus all usual facilities.

For Village Hall **enquiries and bookings** please call 07762 241720 or email shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com

Further details can be found on the Shipbourne website
www.shipbourne.com

SCOTTISH DANCING

After a short break for August, we will be resuming Scottish Dancing in Shipbourne Village Hall in September.

The start date is Tuesday 26 September from 7.15 to 9pm. All are welcome - just turn up or give me a call if you prefer. It's always fun and very good exercise too.

Helen Leach
01732 811144

SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL NEWS

As it is summer holidays, news from Shipbourne School will return in the October issue.



The Kentish Rifleman

Dunk's Green, TN11 9RU

A Free House and by far the best pub in Dunk's Green

16th Century Inn serving a good selection of real ales, wines and home cooked food. For more information (also regarding Bed and Breakfast) visit www.thekentishrifleman.co.uk

Bookings always advisable on 01732 810727

(12/16)



The Kentish Rifleman Voucher for Shipbourne Residents

Between 28 August and Christmas 2017, The Kentish Rifleman will donate 10% of all food bills from Shipbourne diners to St Giles Shipbourne

Please bring this voucher with you to show your link to Shipbourne.

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

The contact details for the Parish Council are:

Shipbourne Parish Council
Clerk – Mrs Sarah Huseyin
Gable Cottage
Ismays Road
Ightham TN15 9BE
e-mail: shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com
Telephone: 01732 886402

Please visit the website for Shipbourne Parish Council Meeting Agenda's, Minutes and News. (<http://www.shipbourne.com/>) If you have any ideas or would like something added, such as a news item, please email web@shipbourne.com.

Vacancies

The Parish Council are now looking for a new Parish Councillor. A Parish Councillor is a volunteer holding a civic office on the first tier of local government. If you would like to make a real difference to the community that you live in please contact the Parish Clerk – shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com or telephone 01732 886402.

Litter

We have noticed a recent increase in the amount of litter in our village Please look out for litter and litter pick when you are out walking. Tonbridge and Malling have just advertised a 'litter app'. Littergram is a free app solution that allows users to take a picture of litter, flytipping or overflowing litter bins that need emptying. GPS then pinpoints the location of the problem and the photo is sent automatically to the relevant local council authority.

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council worked with littergram to develop the app, which will help the Council to respond even more quickly when rubbish is spotted and reported by app users. As well as pinpointing the exact location of the rubbish and sending a photo, the app also gives the Council the opportunity to reply to the sender to let them know what action is being taken. For more information visit www.littergram.co.uk



Highways Matters

If you notice any potholes, broken or missing signs or blocked gullies, please report them to the Parish Clerk so that she can notify Kent Highways.

Defibrillator Training

Proposed end October /early November

Please check our website or email
shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

A new defibrillator has recently been installed on the back wall of the Chaser and we are looking for more Volunteers who would be willing to be part of a Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS). It is a Community Scheme to summon assistance in the case of an emergency and ONLY after 999 has been called. VETS does not replace 999. Volunteers can collect and bring the defibrillator to the patient and assist in CPR whilst the ambulance is on its way. If you are interested in participating please email the Parish Clerk shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com. The defibrillator is registered with the Ambulance Service, if anyone requires the defibrillator the code for the cabinet will be given over the phone on calling 999. The Chaser has the code for the cabinet. Please notify the Parish Clerk if you notice any problems with the defibrillator or cabinet.

Please note that there is also a defibrillator inside the Kentish Rifleman available for the residents and visitors of Dunks Green.

Kent Police

To report a non-urgent crime, call 101. Kent Police will be launching a new online reporting service later this year. Look out for details in forthcoming newsletters or on the Shipbourne Parish website.

Planning

You can view and comment on planning applications and decisions at www.tmbc.gov.uk or email the Parish Clerk at shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com for further details.

TM/17/00703/FL 1 Martins Cottages and Crockwell. Change of use of land from agricultural to residential curtilage, construction of a detached double garage and two storey side extensions, single storey rear extensions and rear dormers.

TM/17/01741/FL School Lane Cottage, School Lane, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9RT.

Conversion of existing garage and ancillary accommodation to main house to 2 bedroom dwelling, with single storey rear extension.

TM/17/01871/FL Puttenden House, Puttenden Road, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9RH. Two bay Oak framed garage with storage space.

TM/17/01887/LB - Claygate House, Claygate Lane, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9RL.

Listed Building Application: Internal alterations, new french door to rear in existing window position, two conservation rooflights to rear elevation and minor excavation to rear and underpinning.

TM/17/02081/LB - The Wood House, Upper Green Road, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9PQ.

Listed Building Application: Demolition of existing external staircase and replacement with new staircase.

Planning Decisions – Approvals

TM/17/01390/FL Section 73 application for variation of condition 9 of planning permission TM/16/03581/FL (added under planning reference 17/01302/NMA to provide list of approved plans): To substitute approved plans with new plans to show proposed new basement to approved dwelling Church House, Stumble Hill, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9PE

TM/17/01376/LB Listed Building Application: Retrospective listed building consent for permission approved under planning consent TM/00/02308/FL. Demolition of existing garage and store and to replace with oak framed garage and store, replacement link, change in accesses and an additional window Claygate House, Claygate Lane, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9RL

TM/17/01288/RD Details of conditions 2 (materials), 3 (joinery, soffits and eaves), 4 (levels) and 6 (landscaping) submitted pursuant to planning permission TM/16/03581/FL (Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new two storey dwelling and detached double garage (Resubmission of TM/16/02494/FL)) Church House, Stumble Hill, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9PE

TM/17/01432/FL Construction of a passing bay to serve Bassam Lodge Bassam Lodge. Lane End, Stumble Hill, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9PF.

TM/17/01860/RD - The Barn, Tinley Lodge Farm, Hildenborough Road, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9QB. Details of Part A and B of condition 1 (site investigation) pursuant to planning permission TM/14/01783/PD3MB (Notification of application for prior approval of Class MB(a) and (b) development consisting of a change of use of an agricultural building to a dwellinghouse and associated building operations).

TM/17/01554/FL- Dynes Cottage, Long Mill Lane, Dunks Green, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 9SD. Demolition of conservatory, detached garage, porch & single storey rear extension. New two storey rear extension and open porch along with associated window/door opening revisions and new detached single garage.

Council calls on knitters to create Remembrance Day poppy display

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council is working with the Royal British Legion to create a carpet of knitted or crocheted poppies and is inviting people to get out their knitting needles to support the project. Several other councils in Kent are also supporting the campaign by launching similar projects in their own districts. In Tonbridge and Malling, thousands of knitted poppies will be needed to create a spectacular display, which will be unveiled at Tonbridge Castle on 27 October to mark the start of this year's official RBL poppy appeal. If your group/organisation would like to be involved either by knitting poppies or, if knitting is not your thing, then by helping to attach the poppies on to a special backing material to create the final carpet:

http://support.britishlegion.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/1346/~/~knit-or-crochet-a-poppy

Knitters are asked to hand in their poppies by **Monday 23 October** at any of the following locations:

- Tonbridge Gateway – Castle Street, Tonbridge, TN9 1BG
- Tonbridge Library – 1 Avebury Avenue, Tonbridge TN9 1TG
- Borough Green Library – High Street, Borough Green, TN15 8BJ
- Larkfield Library – Martin Square, Larkfield, ME20 6QW
- Snodland Library – 15-17 High Street, Snodland, ME6 5DA
- Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council offices – Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, ME19 4LZ

BBC2's *The Repair Shop*

BBC2's *The Repair Shop* are seeking damaged family and community heirlooms for their second series and objects that have special significance during Christmas time for their upcoming Christmas special. The series follows a team of passionate and skilled crafts people who restore damaged objects of sentimental value. The experts work side by side in beautiful barn nestled deep in the British countryside as they fix, repair and breathe new life into objects brought in by members of the public. The experts are

drawn from different disciplines such as furniture repairers, metal workers, mechanics, ceramicists, clock makers, picture conservationists, and up-cyclers, restorers and fabricators of every ilk.

The team is especially eager to restore a sleigh that could decorate a town at Christmas time. If you have a precious object you'd like repaired please email repair@ricochet.co.uk or call 01273 224829

Our next Parish Council meeting is at 7.30pm on 9 October 2017. All members of public are welcome to attend.

Mrs Sarah Huseyin

Parish Clerk

e-mail: shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

Telephone: 01732 886402

SHIPBOURNE WI

As there was no meeting in August, Shipbourne WI news will return in the October issue. The next committee meeting is 6th September, followed by the main meeting and talk on Autumn Flower Arrangement on 13th September.

BULK REFUSE SERVICE (4th Saturday of month)

Upper Green Road (opposite Village Hall) 8am - 9am on

Saturday 26 August 2017

Saturday 23 September 2017

Saturday 28 October 2017



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(04/16)

SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET

Although the number of visitors has improved this year to-date, we are very much aware that for many potential customers a Thursday mornings shop is out of the question or maybe you cannot spare the time to go round from stall to stall paying in cash to complete your shopping within a limited time period.

A Farmer's Market offers you local produce at its best and freshest served by the grower, baker, maker but our competitors (the supermarkets) can offer 'convenience shopping'. Consequently we are investigating new approaches to shopping at the market so we can not only offer 'convenience' but help our stallholder increase sales. One idea is 'Click and Collect' i.e. on-line shopping combined with picking up your produce at a few convenient locations on a Thursday evening. Technically this is now a possibility thanks to the cost of on line shopping packages coming down in price. However, the systems and the system maintenance as well as the logistics of 'picking' and delivering orders have to be paid for. We are therefore looking at ways to fund this approach i.e. via grants and/or 'local crowd funding' (i.e. buy shares in your local Farmers Market!)

If you have ideas or experiences which could help us fund such approaches or implement systems or help us run the operation we would love to hear from you (please email bob@lodgeoast.co.uk)

Lazy summer days and, hopefully, some holiday sunshine bring out the best of British at the Farmers' Market this month. So what should you be putting in that shopping basket this September? Lots of wonderful vegetables are still in season. Home grown tomatoes are in abundance, as are shallots, onions, French and runner beans, courgettes, aubergine, peppers, cucumber and an amazing number of salad leaves. Marrows and squashes will also be available, along with main crop potatoes. Make your own chutneys and pickles now and they will be at their best just in time for Christmas so perfect for presents.

The soft fruit season is also at its peak early in the month:- with raspberries, black, white and red currents, plums, blackberries and melons. Now is the time to buy soft fruit and convert it into jams, ice cream, smoothies and cakes or store in the freezer to bring a taste of the summer to the winter months. Many different variety of apples are ready now both eaters and cookers.

Summer fish is plentiful this month and very reasonably priced. Salmon, sea bass and plaice are also excellent now. For seafood lovers look out for crab for a real treat. Serve simply with real mayonnaise and little potatoes steamed in their skins.

Don't forget the new game season. Look out for venison, wild duck, wood pigeon and rabbit as well as grouse. Venison burgers and wild boar sausages all make an excellent choice for the late summer barbecue; serve them with the first of the corn on the cob for a perfect partnership.

COOKERY CORNER

HONEY AND MUSTARD ROAST PORK WITH ROSEMARY AND CIDER SQUASH

This roast is perfect for an early autumn family Sunday lunch and if you buy a large joint you will have plenty left to serve cold with baked potatoes and salad during the week. You can prepare the joint the night before and leave it to sit in its mustardy marinade. The crackling cooks separately so either serve with the pork or as an appetizer with drinks!

Serves 8

Prepare 15 minutes plus 3 hours

Cook 2 hours 15 minutes

- 1.5kg (3lb) pork leg joint
 - 2 tbsp wholegrain mustard with honey
 - 2 tbsp local cold pressed rapeseed oil
 - 1 large butternut squash, peeled and cubed
 - 2 sprigs fresh rosemary
 - 500ml (3/4 pint) local dry cider
 - salt and freshly ground black pepper
1. With a small sharp knife remove the skin from the pork joint. Place the pork on a sheet of foil large enough to wrap the joint. Mix the honey mustard with the oil and seasoning and smear over the meat. Cover and chill for at least 3 hours or overnight if you have time.

2. Preheat the oven to 200C (fan oven 180C) Gas Mark 6. Wrap the joint loosely in the foil, place in a large roasting tin and roast for 30 minutes then turn down the heat to 180C (fan oven 170C), gas mark 4 and cook for a further hour. While the joint is roasting cut the skin into long strips with scissors. Place in a small roasting tin and sprinkle with salt. Place in the oven on the shelf above the pork for 30 minutes.
3. Unwrap the pork and remove the foil. Add the prepared squash to the roasting tin around the pork. Sprinkle with the rosemary and seasoning and pour over the cider. Return to the oven for 30 minutes, basting regularly until the squash is nearly tender and the pork cooked through. Transfer the pork to a warm serving plate and leave to rest. Return the squash to the oven for 10 – 15 minutes till tender. To serve slice the pork thinly and serve with the squash, the crackling strips and pan juices.

(with thanks to Mary Gwynn, local Food Writer)



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(10/16)

THE GARDEN SHED

This month sees the year turn into autumn; the evenings become darker and the air becomes sharper but the days are still warm and the garden has lots of colour from all the late flowering plants.

Towards the end of the month the harvesting of fruit and vegetables can take place, and throughout the period the planting of spring cabbage for next year's crop can be done. If brassica plants, such as Brussels sprouts, winter kale and spring sprouting broccoli are becoming quite large plant;,tying them each to a stake will support them through the rougher winter months.

There are so many delightful bulbs on offer; this is the time to buy them and get them into the ground, especially the smaller ones like crocus, scillas and grape hyacinths (tulip planting is best left until late October or early November).

Here are some descriptions of other members of the Campanula or Bell Flower plants, that I promised last month. They are a wide ranging group which includes our native harebell. *Campanula glomerata* blooms in early summer with a cluster of flowers on the top of stems which reach a height of 45-60cms (18-24ins). The colours range from deep blue through softer blues to white. *Campanula* g. 'acaulis' has mid blue flowers, C.g. 'Crown of Snow' is white and C.g.'superba' is deep blue.

Campanula carpatica forms a low hummock of flowers 15-30cms (6-12ins) high. The varieties to look for are C.c. 'White Clips' and C.c. 'Blue Clips' which has pale blue flowers. This campanula is often sold as a pot plant as its masses of flowers make a colourful display.

Campanula persicifolia blooms in mid summer with a loose spire 45'60cms.(18-24ins) high, the individual cup-shaped flowers 5cms (2ins.) wide. The most popular varieties are C.p. 'Telham Beauty' with mid blue flowers, C.p. 'Pride of Exmouth' whose blooms are powder blue and C.p. 'Boule de Neige' that produces large double white flowers. If the stems of flowers are removed once they are over then fresh blooms will continue the display.

Most campanulas enjoy a rich soil in full sun, although some will tolerate partial shade.

Campanula rapunculoides is best avoided as it is a very invasive and tends to flower very sparingly.

There are yet smaller varieties of campanula which are suitable as edging plants, for the rockery or in ornamental tubs.

So until next month – happy gardening.

Tessa Forbes

LOCAL HISTORY

MICHAELMAS GOOSE

In Saxon times, Shipbourne would have been a trading as well as an agricultural community. In 1285 Edward I granted the Lord of the Manors of Shipbourne permission for a weekly market and a three day annual fair on the feast of St Giles, the 31st August. At such an annual fair people would come from many miles around. And it is most likely that there would have been locally made wooden and iron agricultural tools and cloths made from flax and wool for sale; Shipbourne cheese, butter and cider would have been available; foals may have been traded and geese sold.

There are four English agricultural festivals – Plough Sunday and Monday, Rogationtide, Lammas and the Harvest. Lammas, anciently the 1st of August, was an Anglo-Saxon festival of first fruits – the start of harvest - when loaves made from the first ripe corn were consecrated and it is the most purely sacred of these festivals. On the poor soil in the small fields of Shipbourne, spring grains of barley and oats would have been grown but winter wheat – or even spelt and rye - would have been a rare and precious crop.

The Harvest itself was a pagan celebration that dated from Roman times and continued through the centuries long before we had such events as Harvest Festival services in church. Throughout the centuries in England when the harvest was all safely in the whole company – servants, strangers, widows, orphans, farm hands and farmers, landowners and ladies - sat down to supper on equal terms in the decorated barn. Cromwell put paid to many joyous country celebrations – since medieval times they had consistently become more rowdy – but harvest feasts were quickly reinstated after the Reformation.

There had always been feasts to celebrate the end of harvest: in England the old pagan feast of the Autumn Equinox became Michaelmas, known in the Christian church as the festival of St

Michael and All Angels. This was the feast of St Michael as celebrated by King Ethelred in 1014: a crisp skinned roast goose stuffed with apples, a flagon of cider and a plum cake, now there's a feast fit for a king when summer is over.

The feast of St Michael has been all but eclipsed by the harvest supper and very often the only time we conjure up the term 'Michaelmas' now is when we think of the Michaelmas daisy. The simple white flower with a yellow centre we see growing on the Common and in our fields and verges was first mentioned in literature by Chaucer. The sight of Michaelmas daisies in flower - and their cultivated cousins the asters - reminds us that autumn is approaching. Rosy apples and plums fall from the trees, cobnuts and hazel nuts are picked, blackberries fruit in the hedgerows and leaves begin to turn colour.

The end of the harvest was traditionally Michaelmas Day, the 29th September. This was a Quarter Day, when rents were due and had to be paid. The following day servants and agricultural labourers would be hired for the coming year, farms changed hands and magistrates were appointed. And many tenant farmers presented their landlord with a goose as a gift or sometimes in lieu of rent. A goose was a gift to prize: dried, salted or pickled it would last through winter and roasted goose was a meal to celebrate with.

But a goose produced more than just food. Goose down and feathers made the best pillows and quilts, light but very warm. In days gone by their wing feathers were used for arrows and quills and their fat was used to keep bodies warm and waterproof a variety of things. Nowadays, gourmets will tell you that their fat is the best in which to roast potatoes.

Geese are monogamous – although a gander may have three or five geese as a harem – and will live for up to 20 years, often pining if their mate dies. For hundreds of years flocks or geese were herded for miles to be sold at the Goose Fairs in time for Michaelmas: nearly all these old goose markets have gone now, the name living on in large annual markets and fun fairs. Geese – or the eating of them at Michaelmas - have traditionally been considered good luck and they feature in many myths and fables.

In 1813 Jane Austen wrote to her sister Cassandra, "I dined upon goose yesterday which I hope will secure a good sale for my second edition". We all remember the nursery rhyme Goosey, Goosey,

Gander and Old Mother Goose was a favourite character: much earlier, it was Aesop's goose that laid the golden egg. And, according to Livy, Rome was saved by the sacred geese when they cackled and alerted them to the invading Gauls. Geese can still be seen in flocks around the whisky distilleries of the Scottish highlands where they provide a similar service, warning off unwanted visitors.

And we have our own home grown version: there are no more gaggles of geese at Puttenden but walk along the footpaths by Pope's Farm or Fairlawne Home Farm and you can step back in time, admire their snowy white beauty and be greeted by their raucous honking.

Libby Cohen

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Please send any articles and adverts for the October newsletter by **17 September 2017**. Please note any articles received after this date will be held over to the next issue as the Newsletter has a tight deadline for printing. Please email articles to lindsay_miles@btinternet.com or call 01732 810439.

SHIPBOURNE CLASSIFIEDS

Shipbourne Classifieds –Contact Details:

Tish Gourmelon

Tel: 07966 035492 / Email: tishgo@hotmail.com

Simple Domestic and Personal Advertisements, up to four lines, are free to Newsletter readers. This free category includes items for sale or wanted, baby-sitting, dog walking, domestic needs etc.

To ensure Shipbourne Classifieds is kept up to date, each advertisement will be published in the Newsletter for three months and then removed unless requested otherwise.

Business Advertisements are charged at £1 per monthly issue or £10 for a whole year of 12 issues. Also available are quarter-page display advertisements, charged at £10 per monthly issue, or £100 for a full year of 12 issues. Business advertisements must be booked and paid for in advance – please see contact details for Tish Gourmelon at the top of this page.

All revenue raised from Shipbourne Classifieds goes towards the printing costs of the Newsletter.

Disclaimer: Please note that the St Giles and Shipbourne Newsletter cannot be held responsible for the quality of the goods or services advertised in the Newsletter.

UPDATED: LOCAL BABYSITTER: My name is Alice Tyler, I am 17 years old and live on the Shipbourne green. I am an experienced babysitter and am free most weekends and also some weekdays. I am fun and responsible and am very happy to cook, play games and read stories. I am also able to drive. Please contact on: 07521832752 or 01732811079

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EXPERIENCED LOCAL BABYSITTER with own transport. 20 years old, has been babysitting for several years and is confident and good with children of all ages. References available. Available during the University holidays from 5th December. Please phone Amy Wadsworth on 07514819430

BABYSITTER. I am eighteen years old and live in Shipbourne. Available for babysitting most weekends. Contact Philippa Wadsworth 01732 810488 or 07752304272.

DOG GROOMING KENT - Sue Angliss your local pet groomer based in Plaxtol both Salon Details Certified and City & Guilds qualified. Find me on FB or www.doggroomingkent.co.uk. Please call 01732 811023 (01/17)

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