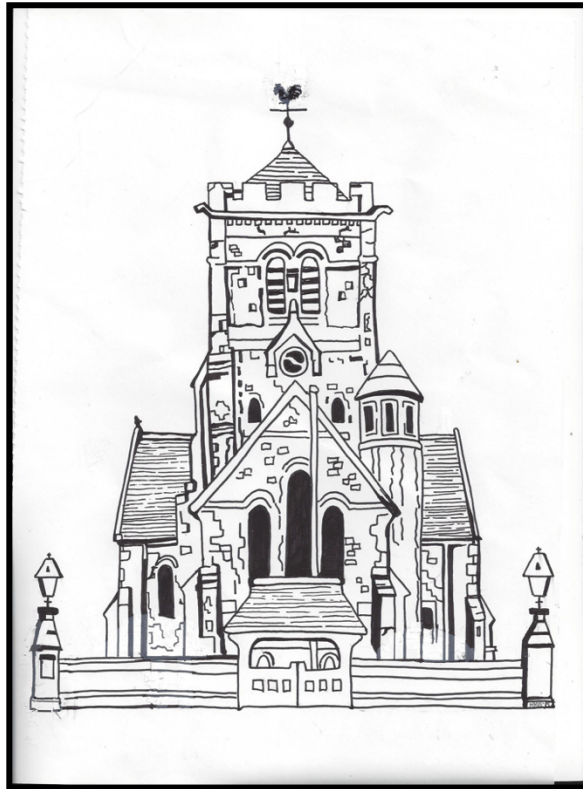


# St Giles' and Shipbourne **NEWSLETTER**



**January 2024**

## OFFICERS OF ST GILES' AND VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

### ST GILES

Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol: 811081  
 Rev Dr Peter Hayler Email: RectorSwP@gmail.com  
 The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/  
 Curate Mr Mark Packer 07970-709006  
 Lay Reader Mr P Brewin 810361  
 Churchwardens: Ms C Jackson 07729814798  
 Mr A Boorman 07795 182966

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Secretary: Mrs C Chambers 382228  
 Treasurer: Mr C Keeling 07825 139046  
 Deanery Synod Rep: Mr N Ward 810525

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Ms C Jackson 07729814798  
 Miss G Coates (children) 811432  
 Choirmaster: Mr J Young 810289  
 Electoral Roll: Mrs H Leach 811144

Flower Guild: Mrs F Ward 810525  
 Bell Ringing: Graham Edwards 07487 729549

### SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Sarah Huseyin 886402 shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com  
 Chair: V Redman  
 Vice Chair: J Sheldrick  
 Councillors: P Leach, S Oram,  
 A Dagger, S Davis  
 VILLAGE WEBSITE www.shipbourne.com

### SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

Head: Mrs Terri Daters TDaters@bournepartnership.org

### SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Chairman: TBC AFTER RESTRUCTURE shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com  
 Bookings: Helen Leach 811144

### SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET

Manager: Bob Taylor 833976

### SHIPBOURNE WI

President Barbara Jones 420285 b.jones162@btinternet.com

### SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Secretary: Mark Fenton

### PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB

Membership: Cilla Langdon-Down 810338

### POLICE

Emergency: 999 Non-urgent: 01622 690690

### ST GILES' AND SHIPBOURNE NEWSLETTER

Editor/Adverts: Lindsay Miles 810439 lindsay\_miles@btinternet.com  
 Copying: Mary Perry 810797

**Rector of Shipbourne with Plaxtol**  
 Rev Dr Peter Hayler  
 The Rectory, The Street, Plaxtol TN15 0QG

**PARISH DIARY – JANUARY 2024**

Except where indicated below, the main morning service at **ST GILES, SHIPBOURNE** is at 9.30am. Every weekday at 8.30am 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.

*St Giles Shipbourne is open for organ practice and private prayer daily except Mondays from 9.00am to 3.00pm <http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/>*

Thursday	4 <sup>th</sup>	9-11am	<b>NO FARMERS' MARKET</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>The Baptism of Christ</i> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Family Service with Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Isaiah 60: 1-6; Ephesians 3: 1-12; Matthew 2: 1-12
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup>	10-11.30am	<b>Plaxtol Playtime (see advert)</b>
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup>	9-11am	<b>NO FARMERS' MARKET</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</i>	14 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		9.30am	<b>Matins at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		10.00am	"Still Small Voice" at Plaxtol Church
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		11.00am	<b>"Still Small Voice" at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		Readings	1 Samuel 3: 1-10; Revelations 5: 1-10; John 1: 43-end
Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup>	9-11am	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</i>	21 <sup>st</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11am	Community@11 at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Genesis 14: 17-20; Revelation 19: 6-10; John 2: 1-11
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup>	9-11am	<b>Christmas Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</i>	28 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		9.30am	<b>Family Service at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>

		11am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20; Revelation 12: 1-5a; Mark 1: 21-28
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>

**STOP PRESS!**

Congratulations to Bob Taylor who has been recognised in the King's New Year Honours list 2024 and has been made a Medallist of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) for services to the community in Shipbourne.

Very well deserved and thank you for all you do Bob, BEM!

## THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY

I wonder if you can recall a moment in your life when you suddenly saw and understood something for the first time, or when something that you thought you understood suddenly took on a new depth of meaning? We sometimes call such a moment an Epiphany. It's a strange word, deriving from the Greek language, and meaning quite literally, 'Showing through'. In the Christian calendar, Epiphany is the season that follows Christmas, and we read and remember the stories from the early life of Jesus, including the visit of the Wise men, through to his appearance as a man: his baptism, and his first miracles, in which he changed water into wine at a wedding in Cana of Galilee. In each of these lovely stories, something more of the nature and identity of Jesus as the Son of God 'shows through'.



The same word, Epiphany, can also be translated as 'manifestation' – and one of our Epiphany hymns uses this word poetically:

*Manifest at Jordan's stream / prophet, priest and king supreme  
And at Cana wedding guest / in thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in power divine / changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to thee addressed / God in man made manifest.*

This season also reminds the church to be alive to the way it can make Jesus manifest in the life of the community in which it is set. The church is always more than the building, and the dynamic life of its people, however few, needs constantly to engage, in order that the life of Jesus is manifest to all. Even half an hour's company, a chat, a cup of tea, and even a leaf-over mince pie lovingly shared can speak of presence rather than absence; light instead of darkness. So do have a think how you can break through this least hospitable of seasons, winter, with the light and hope of the season of Epiphany.

*Peter Hayler, Rector*

## THE ST GILES' CHURCH RESTORATION APPEAL

Work to install a sump pump and new drainage in the crypt has been completed, which should solve the long-running problem of the crypt's flooding. So far in December, despite some very heavy rain, the crypt has remained dry. Phase 1 of our restoration project is therefore done and we hope to start on phase II, a much bigger project, later in the year when the weather is warmer and drier.

If you have not yet made a donation or pledge and are able to do so, please consider donating:

- by bank transfer (sort code 09-01-51, account number 74188307),
- by cheque made out to 'St Giles Church Shipbourne',
- by placing cash or cheques in the yellow envelopes in church,
- by placing cash or cheques in the wall safe in the church porch entrance.

Please include a reference 'Appeal' on bank transfer donations, on the back of cheques and on yellow envelopes so that we can track progress. If you are a UK taxpayer, you can take advantage of Gift Aid and boost your donation by an extra 25%. To do this simply ask for a gift aid form or use one of the yellow envelopes in the church.

If you wish, you can use our CAF Donate page:

URL: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/23053>

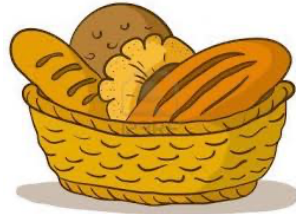
which can be quickly accessed using the QR code below:



Thank you for your support.

**Paul Britton, Chair, Appeal Committee**  
**Tel 01732 365794; email [pauljibritton@live.co.uk](mailto:pauljibritton@live.co.uk)**

# Community Bread Basket



*Wishes you a very Happy New Year!  
There will be no CBB in January, but we  
look forward to welcoming you back on  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February for our usual  
café breakfast AND our...*

***Bread Making Competition**  
Look out for details in February magazine!*

## PLAXTOL PLAYTIME

A group for Babies, Toddlers, Pre-schoolers and  
their parents, grandparents and carers  
Meeting in Plaxtol Church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month  
Join us for a coffee/tea - some play activities and to meet  
other local parents, carers and little ones in the community  
£2.00 per family  
Next meeting - 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
In Plaxtol Church from 10.00 to 11.30

## SHIPBOURNE WI

The Christmas events are under way, with the party still to look forward to at the Village Hall. The lunch at The View in Tonbridge was very enjoyable, with a very clear view across the town, thanks to a sunny day. The antithesis of this was the walk around Tonbridge for our Austen tour. At one stage we actually had snowflakes as we stood on the corner of Bank Street. That didn't spoil our enjoyment of the walk, which was really interesting, and highly recommended. Inevitably we found ourselves outside a coffee shop, the perfect finish to our tour.

Although there is no Book Club meeting until January, we have "The Minuscule Mansion of Myra Malone" by Audrey Burgess to read for when the turkey and Christmas pudding run out.

Wishing you a very happy and peaceful New Year.  
**Glynis Coates**

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

Huge thanks to everyone who donated to the 2023 Poppy Appeal. From the door-to-door collection and the Shipbourne Farmers' Market collection, Shipbourne raised over £275 for the Royal British Legion. To find out more about how your donation helps, please visit [rbl.org.uk/poppypappeal](http://rbl.org.uk/poppypappeal)

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Please send any articles and adverts for the February Newsletter by  
**15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**  
A digital version of the Newsletter is also uploaded on  
[www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com).  
Please email articles to [lindsay\\_miles@btinternet.com](mailto:lindsay_miles@btinternet.com) or  
call 01732 810439.

## 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](mailto: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 the Parish Clerk.

### PARISH MEETINGS

The Parish Council meetings *usually* take place on the second Monday of each month (except August) at 7pm and the agenda will be posted a few days beforehand on the noticeboard in the bus shelter opposite The Chaser and on the Parish website. If you have anything that you would like to raise or would like to join the meeting, please email the Parish Clerk [shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com). Please visit our website [www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com) for further details.

***Our first meeting of 2024 will be on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7pm.***

***We currently have a vacancy, if you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk***

***We are currently looking at setting up a Speedwatch group in Shipbourne, if you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Clerk.***

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS – DECEMBER

<https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/planning-applications-appeals/planning-view-comment-planning-applications>

*TMBC has just launched a new planning portal and planning applications are now sent to us when they are validated rather than via a weekly list. If you would like to receive planning applications for Shipbourne, please sign up to alerts on the TMBC website.*

**23/03051/HH:** Proposed two storey rear and side extension, with new porch to the front. 21, Upper Green Lane, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, TN11 9PW.

### FREE HOME ENERGY UPGRADES AVAILABLE NOW

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council is helping residents save on energy use and make their homes warmer with the Home Upgrade Grant Scheme – open now.

Residents who rely on oil, electricity, liquid petroleum gas (LPG), coal, or wood to heat their homes could dramatically improve their home's energy efficiency for free and save money in the long run. Under the scheme, measures including insulation, air source heat pumps and solar panels are all available to residents that meet certain criteria.

### Home Upgrade checklist:

- Do you own your property or rent from a private sector landlord?
- Does your heating source include oil, electricity, LPG, coal, or wood?
- Is your household income below £31,000 annually? (Earning threshold varies in some postcode areas).
- Is your property's Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating D, E, F, or G? (Help is available to find this out).

Funding for the Home Upgrade Grant scheme has been allocated to local authorities by central government. Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has partnered with E.ON Energy Solutions Limited to deliver the scheme.

Cllr Robin Betts, Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Street Scene and Environment Services, says: 'This really is a great opportunity for those eligible to take control of their energy use and save money on energy bills. I urge people to find out more about the scheme. We will ensure successful applicants receive the most suitable upgrades for their homes and it won't cost them a penny. In turn, we hope the scheme will help to create a more energy-efficient community and reduce the carbon footprint of the borough.'

To find out more about the scheme and apply, visit [www.tmbc.gov.uk/housingupgrade](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/housingupgrade) or call E.ON on 0333 202 4820 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday).

Contact: [corporate.communications@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:corporate.communications@tmbc.gov.uk) 01732 876009

### **WEST KENT RURAL GRANTS SCHEME**

The **West Kent Rural Grant Scheme** is now open again for applications. This capital grant funding scheme is aimed at both rural businesses and communities (Parish Councils that are located within the eligible area can apply) and grants range from £2,000 to £24,999.

You can find further information, including the guidance notes and the application form

via <https://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/westkentruralgrants>

A link to the DEFRA magic map is also available on the link above. This map shows the eligible rural area. Please note some areas of the borough are not eligible for this fund as they have been deemed by DEFRA to be urban in nature.

This is a rolling call for applications, so the scheme will stay open until the funding pot has been exhausted. However, for applicants looking to get their proposals to the first panel decision meeting on 24 January 2024, complete applications will need to be submitted by 10 January 2024. The following panel meeting will be on 06 March 2024, and complete applications will need to be submitted by 21 February 2024 to be considered at this meeting. As things stand, there is also a panel meeting scheduled for 16 April (deadline of 02 April 2024), and further panel dates will be released while funding remains available. The West Kent Rural Grant scheme will close when all funds have been allocated.

### **KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**

#### **FAMILY HUB AND COMMISSIONED YOUTH DECISION**

On 30 November Kent County Council Cabinet have taken decisions to progress with proposals on **how** and **where** we deliver community services across Kent, and a decision on the cessation of commissioned youth service contracts delivering discretionary youth services.

Members agreed with our proposal to further develop and implement a Family Hub service model in Kent.

This means that we will further deliver our Family Hub model through a **refreshed Family Hub Network**, offering a 0-19 age (25 SEND) Family Hub model for children, young people and their families with enhanced and innovative services set out by the DfE

Family Hub Guidance. This will include Infant Feeding, Parenting Support, Home Learning Environment and Perinatal Mental Health. In addition to these, our Family Hub services will also deliver support and advice for parents on child development, activities for children aged 0-5, activity based support and information for older children and young people, information, advice and guidance about support services for children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families, information and support and signposting to mental health services (children and adults), support for parents/carers of adolescents (teenagers) including online safety for children and young people.

The power of the Family Hub network will also allow us to work in partnership with the Voluntary Community Services (VCS) and other partners to provide additional specialist services, such as support for young people with substance misuse (alcohol/drugs), domestic abuse support, debt and welfare advice and signposting to information to support separating and separated parents. This does not include an exhaustive list of services; however, it is reflective of our understanding of the needs within our districts to reduce harm to children.

We do currently deliver these services in partnership across districts, however the access to services varies between each district and we want to ensure there is consistency for services users across Kent.

In addition to this, Members also agreed with our proposal on the **cessation of commissioned youth service contracts delivering discretionary youth services when they end in March 2024**, saving KCC £1.2m. We will continue our KCC run youth provision, through a mix of activity at our Family Hub buildings and outreach locations, based on the needs of our young people within each district.

Cabinet also took the decision today to reduce our community building estate.

This means we will be closing 43 buildings across Kent, keeping two additional buildings that were originally proposed to close in our consultation document. This option took into consideration consultation feedback around the accessibility to services using public transport and the regularity of service and travel times to alternative locations. By implementing this option over the next two years, we will save £1.27m against the property revenue budget and

reduce our maintenance backlog by £5.85m. Whilst there are 43 building closures within this option, our services will continue to be delivered from alternative locations across the District and the County. Please see attached list of buildings set to close.

The decision made today includes the co-location of some of our services together within single buildings – for example placing children’s services within library settings. This idea is not new and many of you will be aware of excellent examples of where we already co-locate our services, alongside other partners, and providers, to deliver services locally to our communities.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with the Family Hub programme team at [Familyhubsfeedback@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Familyhubsfeedback@kent.gov.uk)

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS CONSULTATION**

A consultation has recently opened to help identify public places in Tonbridge and Malling where women and girls feel unsafe.

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has teamed up with neighbouring West Kent authorities and the police for the project which will use public feedback to develop initiatives to strengthen community safety.

Violence against women and girls includes, but is not limited to, harassment, stalking, rape, sexual assault, murder, honour-based abuse and coercive control. While men and boys also suffer from many of these forms of abuse, they disproportionately affect women.

The online survey invites people to share their experiences of feeling unsafe in particular locations, such as outdoor public spaces, while commuting and socialising. It is being run in partnership with Sevenoaks and Tunbridge Wells borough councils and runs until Sunday 7 January 2024.

[Violence against women and girls consultation – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council \(tmbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.tmbc.gov.uk)

**ON AND OFF-STREET PARKING RESTRICTIONS - CHANGES TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING**

The Borough Council is in the process of reviewing its on and off-street parking arrangements, and to this end is consulting on

changes to both its on and off-street parking Traffic Regulation Orders. The consultation opened on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November. This requires a change to the Council’s parking Traffic Regulation Orders, and with this in mind we are now consulting on the changes to those Orders.

Due to the size of the documents, the proposed plans, both Statements of Reasons and the draft Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) can be viewed on the Borough Council’s website [www.tmbc.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk/consultations), however, paper copies of the proposals are available on request.

Additionally, all of the consultation documents are available ‘on deposit’ and may be inspected during normal working hours at the following locations, however, staff at those locations may not be able to answer technical queries.

Tonbridge & Malling BC Offices Gibson Drive Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4LZ	Tonbridge & Malling BC Offices Tonbridge Castle Castle Street Tonbridge Kent TN9 1BG	Kent County Council Sessions House County Hall Maidstone Kent ME14 1XQ
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**TONBRIDGE AND MALLING RAMBLERS  
NEW WALKS FOR THE NEW YEAR**

Thursday 4 January	Leisurely walk from The Carpenter’s Arms at Parker’s Green near Hadlow through fields, woodland and alongside the River Bourne to Golden Green. Return through orchards and along farm tracks, some with metalled surfaces.	5.5 miles
Sunday 7 January	Leisurely circular walk below the North Downs from Wrotham to the St Clere estate.	4 miles
Thursday 11 January	Circular walk from Chiddingstone through woodland and fields with some lane walking and good countryside views. Part of the walk passes through the grounds of Hever Castle, the childhood home of Anne Boleyn. Moderate difficulty.	5.8 miles



Sunday 14 January	Leisurely circular walk from Matfield to Brenchley through orchards and fields, with some solid tracks and a little road walking. Lovely views, quiet and peaceful.	4.5 miles
Wednesday 17 January	Walk from Trosley Country Park along the North Downs Way into Whitehorse Wood and along the Wealdway past Coldrum Long Barrow into Ryarsh Wood. Return across fields before re-entering Trosley Country Park. One short steep descent and one short steep ascent. Moderate difficulty.	5.5 miles
Sunday 21 January	Gentle stroll around Knole Park. Moderate difficulty.	5 miles
Wednesday 24 January	Circular walk from Offham through the woods to Mereworth. Moderate difficulty.	5.5 miles
Sunday 28 January	Plaxtol Round: Undulating walk around Plaxtol. Moderate difficulty.	5.5 miles

## USED STAMPS FOR THE R.N.I.B

I would like to thank everyone who has left used postage stamps at the back of the Church. It has taken over a year to collect sufficient stamps to weigh a total in excess of 1 kilo, but I have now managed to achieve this. 1 kilo of stamps should raise £20 for the RNIB, so I think it is a worthwhile thing to do.

So please keep collecting for me.

**Jenny Porter**

## THE WEATHER IN NOVEMBER

The average day temp. was 13.4<sup>o</sup>c, the average night temp. was 3.8<sup>o</sup>c, the highest day was Monday 13<sup>th</sup> with 18.0<sup>o</sup>c, and the lowest night was Saturday 25<sup>rd</sup> with -3.5<sup>o</sup>c, the total rainfall was 185mm (only 4mm less than last month), the average rainfall for November over the last 30 years was 97.72mm, the highest year was November 2009 with 247mm, the lowest year was November 2022 with 15mm, on the 1<sup>st</sup> November this year we had 40mm (nearly 2") of rain in under 24hr.

**Lionel Stielow**



## Your Local Help



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**Reliable   Affordable   Trustworthy**

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Are you looking for:

- A babysitter
- Dog walker
- House sitter
- Or Cleaner?



Look no further! I live in Dunks Green, with my own transport for further afield. I have a full DBS and over 2 years experience in childcare.

Please Email me at: [boveynatalie@gmail.com](mailto:boveynatalie@gmail.com)



## PLAXTOL PEST AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

**Ciaran Payne**

**07368 605762**

INFO@PLAXTOLPEST.CO.UK  
WWW.PLAXTOLPEST.CO.UK



## **FROM YOUR LOCAL MP**

2024 promises to be an exciting year locally, nationally and internationally. Ensuring stability in the middle east remains a top priority for the country and we also need to make sure that we make progress on the Prime Minister's 5 key pledges made last year.

Locally, my work continues for you and I remain happy to help as best I can. Representing a number of different towns and villages means that I am able to use the experiences gained in one particular area to help residents in another.

It also means that problems you find in one area might be repeated elsewhere. One such instance is the erratic postal service faced by many rural villages. Though their busiest time of year, there were a number of people I heard from before Christmas who were waiting a fortnight for post. It meant cards and gifts didn't arrive on time, bills couldn't be paid and long-awaited medical appointments were missed. Given the rising price of stamps we need reassurance that the postal service will be reliable.

I'd be keen to hear from anyone across Shipbourne if you're having trouble with receiving post. I'm trying to build up a picture of the areas most badly affected, so I can work with Royal Mail to make sure they deliver across every area.

Please do encourage your friends, family and neighbours to be in contact if they are affected or would like me help with any other issue. My e-mail address is [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk) and phone number is 01732 441563. If you wish to take the chance that my own post isn't delayed then you can also write to me at 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP.

***E-mail – [tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk)***

***Phone – 01732 441563***

***Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - @TomTugendhat***

***Address – 130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP***

## **FROM SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL**

What a term we have all enjoyed! We are so very grateful to everyone who has supported our school so far this year. The PTA raised a huge £9000 through our Fireworks and Bonfire Party; thank you so much for staying patient and supportive of this event which I know impacts the village hugely on the day – the funds really do make a difference to the education of our pupils. The last few weeks have seen some super events, with Open Classrooms showcasing all the fantastic learning that the children have completed, exceptionally well attended prospective parent tours, a very well supported and positive Parent Forum and PTA AGM, PTA wreath-making, a very special Christmas Service with Christingles, an exciting bauble making workshop, which we hope resulted in cherished mementos that will bring back memories for many years to come, a trip to the panto (oh, yes we did!) after our class party lunches, and a brilliant finish with yoga workshops and board games on the last day of term.

We are so proud of the dedication and hard work that all our staff and pupils have put into this term. Our curriculum is going from strength to strength, is enriched with so many visitors and trips, and we have received such positive feedback from visitors, parents and pupils. Next term brings more exciting events with our older children heading to London once again, this time to the Greenwich Royal Observatory and Frameless Gallery, and our younger children enjoying a 'Rocks Day' and a visit to Mote Farm to see the lambs. We will finish for Easter with a service at St Giles', a PTA Egg Hunt and Disco and a very special retirement party for Mrs Brenda Leafé. Brenda has been a truly amazing and committed member of Shipbourne staff for the past 24 years and our school will not be the same without her. If you have worked with Brenda in the past, please get in touch as we would love as many of you as possible to join us in sending her into retirement in the best possible way.

This term, we are saying goodbye to Mrs Metin who has worked with us since the summer, supporting a number of pupils with their learning. We thank Mrs Metin for her commitment and wish her well as she expands her work in adult education and in her own studies. We are also saying goodbye and thank you to Miss Cable, a student from CCCU who has been teaching in Tinley Class this term. Miss Cable will shortly qualify as a teacher, and so we wish her the very best in her future teaching career.

We wish you all a happy and healthy New Year and look forward to sharing more with you in the spring.

***Terri Daters***

***Head of School, Shipbourne School***

## JANUARY AT SHIPBOURNE FARMERS MARKET

(Local produce made/grown by Local producers)

**THE MARKET WILL RE-OPEN ON**  
**18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024**



2023 broke records as one of the hottest in the UK though it has gone rather 'pear shaped' since mid October! Good weather means good support for the Market and footfall (number of persons visiting the market) was the second highest recorded since 2017. This year we (and our charities) benefitted from the our 5 year visit from our famous 'old boy' Michel Roux Jr who, with his team, once again created an amazing dinner for us. He also enjoyed himself as he was heard saying "why don't we do this every year?"

After the excesses of Christmas period it's time to wind down and enjoy simpler seasonal dishes. The brassica family neatly fits the bill. **Kale, Savoy cabbage, sprouts and spring greens** are all full of flavour now. Don't boil them to death, quite the opposite, as they work perfectly in hearty soups and curries, or just serve them in a stir fry simply shredded and steamed tossed with a little seasoning and a dash of cold pressed rapeseed oil. Main crop **potatoes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips, celeriac, swede and turnips** provide the starch that keeps us going in the cold so mash them together, season well and serve with slow cooked meat dishes.

Fish fits perfectly into a healthier diet. **Lemon sole, halibut, skate and turbot** are all good now when the seas are cold. – try them simply cooked on a griddle with a little oil to prevent sticking and finish with a squeeze of lemon juice. **Venison** is plentiful and, with its lean flesh and high mineral content, is marvellous for those watching waistlines. The feathered game season now comes to an end so now is a good time to use **wild duck or pheasant** in a casserole or pie.

If one of your resolutions is to reduce your intake of alcohol try Roughway Farm's Apple and Raspberry juice (it reminds you of summer) or Apple and Cinnamon (to remind you of Christmas)

We also produce an email newsletter at least twice a month informing you as to what can be purchased at the market, if you would like a copy go to [www.shipbournefm.co.uk](http://www.shipbournefm.co.uk), click on '**Reminders**' and you can then add your email address.

## SEASONAL COOKERY CORNER

### BAKED SEA BASS WITH POTATOES, PEPPERS AND PRESERVED LEMONS

This is a simple and quick method of cooking any fish as it's incredibly simple and quick. It works with either fillets or whole fish and all you need is a salad or steamed green veg such as broccoli for a healthy meal.

**Serves 2 / Prep 10 minutes / Cook 40 minutes**

- 300g waxy potatoes, scrubbed and thinly sliced
  - 1 red pepper, seeded and sliced
  - 1 preserved lemon, roughly chopped
  - 1 large clove garlic, finely chopped
  - 3 fresh bay leaves, torn in half
  - 2 sea bass fillets (about 150 – 200g each), skin left on (or any equivalent white fish)
  - 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
1. Preheat the oven to 200C gas mark 6.
  2. Put the potatoes, pepper, lemon, garlic and bay leaves in a bowl with half the olive oil and seasoning and toss together to combine. Spread over the base of a roasting pan or baking dish that will fit the fish fillets neatly. Bake in the oven for 25 – 30 minutes until nearly tender and starting to brown at the edges.
  3. Remove from the oven and turn the potatoes carefully to bring any unbrowned bits to the surface. Arrange the fish fillets on the top, skin side up. Drizzle with the remaining oil and return to the oven for 10 -12 minutes until the fish is cooked through. Serve on warmed plates with a green salad and a glass of chilled white wine.

*Menu by Mary Gwynn who is a local author and food writer. She writes regularly for Waitrose Weekend newspaper and has published several cookery books, including The WI Cookbook: The First 100 Years and The Busy Mum's Cookbook.*



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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 01732 811144 or 07762 241720 or email [shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com)  
Further details can be found on the Shipbourne website  
[www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com)



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## SHIPBOURNE CLASSIFIEDS

**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 domestic/personal advertisement will be published in the Newsletter for three months and then removed unless requested otherwise.**

**Business Advertisements** up to four lines are charged at £1 per monthly issue or £10 for a whole year of 12 issues Also available are up to half-page display advertisements, charged at £10 per monthly issue, or £100 for a full year of 12 issues.

All revenue raised from Shipbourne Classifieds goes towards St Giles and 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.

**NEW: DAYS LIGHTWEIGHT FOLDING FOUR WHEEL MOBILITY WALKER** with padded seat, lockable brakes and carry bag. Only used a couple of times. Can view in Shipbourne or can email photo on request. Purchased new for £100, selling for £50. Please call 01732 926371 or email peterandsueinglis@btinternet.com

**NEW: MULTIPLE ITEMS:**

**AIDAPT** height adjustable bed cradle, to keep weight off injured foot or lower leg £15  
**BEKO SMALL LARDER FRIDGE** UL584APS, excellent condition, H84xW54xD59 silver £40

**2 DRAW FILING CABINET** with key, black, fooscap size, some hangers included £30  
**ALLUMINIUM EXTENSION LADDER**, 360cm closed £30

All proceeds for above items to St Giles Restoration Appeal. Please contact John Thompson, Shipbourne 07973 539472

**JOANNE LOUISE BEAUTY** - Offering Gel Nails and ELIM pedicures from my home studio in **Shipbourne**. I am fully insured and accredited, offering evening and Sunday appointments. Keep an eye on my Instagram for updates @joannelouisebeauty\_ For any questions or to book an appointment I can be contacted on 07894054015 or email joanne@joannelouisebeauty.co.uk

**SILVER CROSS PRAM FOR SALE:** Excellent condition with as new folding hood, pram apron over plus bedding. £50 or nearest offer to go to church renovation fund. Tel: 01732 810541 (01/24)

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**MARVELLOUS MEN BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:** We do all types of building work and construction and refurbishment kitchens, bathrooms, extensions, loft conversions, painting and decorating, plumbing, electrics to garden and landscape work and much more. Please don't hesitate to contact us on 07887 511411 or 07478 739947 (02/24)

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