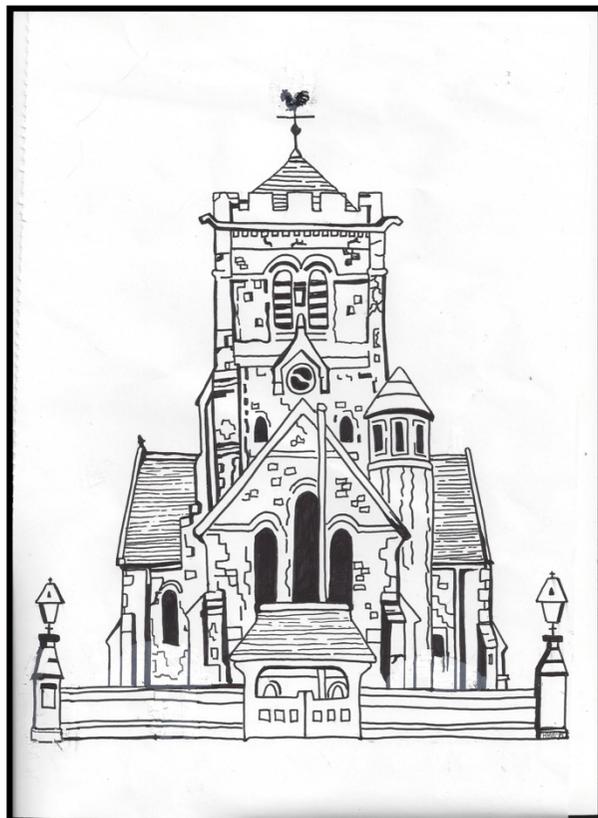


St Giles and Shipbourne NEWSLETTER



May 2022

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 352597

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Secretary:	Mrs C Chambers	382228
Treasurer:	Mr P Sandland	07866 588856
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:	Nick Tyler	811079	
Councillors:	S Oram	V Redman	P Leach
	J Sheldrick,	J Bate	A Dagger

VILLAGE WEBSITE www.shipbourne.com

SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL

Head:	Mrs Terri Daters	TDaters@bournepartnership.org
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SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Chairman:	Curtis Galbraith	763115	shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com
Bookings:	Helen Leach	811144	

SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET

Manager:	Bob Taylor	833976
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SHIPBOURNE WI

President	Barbara Jones	811152	b.jones162@btinternet.com
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SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

Secretary:	Mark Fenton
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PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB

Membership:	Cilla Langdon-Down	810338
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SHIPBOURNE HOUSING TRUST LTD

Chairman:	Alan Bristow		
Hon Secretary	John Playle	810562	johndanjanetp@gmail.com

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
 Tel: 01732-811081 / E-mail: RectorSwP@gmail.com

PARISH DIARY – MAY 2022

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.

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/>

SUNDAY <i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>	1st	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Family Service with Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Zephaniah 3: 14-end; Acts 9: 1-6; John 21: 1-19
Thursday	5th	9-11am	Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne
SUNDAY <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	8th	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
		9.30am	Matins at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Parish Communion with Baptism at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Acts 9: 36-end; John 10: 22-30
Monday	9th	8.00pm	APCM at St Giles, Shipbourne
Thursday	12th	9-11am	Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne

SUNDAY <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	15th	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Community@11 at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Acts 11: 1-18; Revelation 21: 1-6; John 13: 31-35
Thursday	19th	9-11am	Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne

SUNDAY <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	22nd	8.00am	Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
		9.30am	Family Service at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church

		Readings:	Acts 16: 9-15; Revelation 21: 10, 22-25; John 14: 23-29
Thursday <i>Ascension Day</i>	26th	9-11am	Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne
		7.30pm	Deanery Communion at St George's, Ightham
Saturday	28th	9.30-11.30am	Community Bread Basket at Plaxtol Church
SUNDAY <i>Sunday after Ascension</i>	29th	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		9.30am	Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne
		11.00am	Morning Worship with Holy Baptism at Plaxtol Church
		6.00pm	Benefice Choral Evensong at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Acts 16: 16-34; Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-end; John 17: 20-end

Note from the Rector:

We are pleased to be back to a full programme of services in church on Sundays. These gatherings remain subject to Government restrictions and the Church of England's "Recovery Group" guidelines. Any events that we have planned in anticipation of new freedoms remain provisional.

**SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
 COVID-19 HELPLINE**

Telephone: 01732 886402
Mobile: 07733 250185
Email: shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

PASTORAL LETTER

At the time of writing, mid-April, the Rector is down with Covid. We wish Peter well and his letter will return in next month's newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEW BISHOP OF ROCHESTER

It has been announced from Downing Street that HM The Queen has approved the nomination of the Rt Rev Jonathan Gibbs as the next Bishop of Rochester.

Bishop Jonathan is currently the Bishop of Huddersfield in the Diocese of Leeds. He also holds the national portfolio of Lead Bishop for Safeguarding, a role he will bring with him into his post as Bishop of Rochester.

Responding to his appointment Bishop Jonathan says:



"I am delighted to have been announced as the new Bishop of Rochester. My wife Toni and I are so excited about the prospect of moving to this wonderful Diocese. For us, Rochester will be a new place to explore and we're so looking forward to getting to know the people of our churches and our communities, and to working together with you to encourage God's kingdom to grow in this wonderfully varied and rich place. We're very conscious of the diversity of the communities that we serve, from urban and suburban to profoundly rural, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to explore all these different places with you and to share with you in the journey of growing God's Church, of serving the communities, and of proclaiming the good news of Christ to the people whom we seek to love and to serve in Jesus' name."

It is expected that Bishop Jonathan's installation will take place sometime in September and more details will be released in due course. In the meantime, please do pray for Bishop Jonathan and his wife Toni as they prepare to move to Bishops Court and begin their ministry here with us in the Diocese.

More about Bishop Jonathan

Jonathan Gibbs grew up in Cheshire and then studied at Jesus College, Oxford for his MA in Philosophy and Politics, and then at

Jesus College, Cambridge for a PhD on the Theology of Work. He trained for ordained ministry at Ridley Hall, Cambridge. He served his curacy in the Diocese of Chester at Stalybridge, Holy Trinity and Christ Church from 1989-92. He was Chaplain at Basle with Freiburg-im-Breisgau, in the Diocese of Europe from 1992 – 98 and was Rector of Heswall in the Diocese of Chester from 1998 until 2014. Jonathan was consecrated as Bishop of Huddersfield in York Minster on 17 October 2014. He currently holds the national church portfolio of Lead Bishop for Safeguarding and will continue in that role until the end of March 2023, completing his three-year term.

He was formerly a member of the Clergy Discipline Commission and is a member of the General Synod and of the Meissen Commission, linking the Church of England with the Evangelische (Protestant) Church in Germany.

He is married to Toni and together they have three grown-up children. His interests include walking, usually accompanied by their Cocker Spaniel, and rummaging in second-hand bookshops. He is a fluent French speaker with a love of France, and especially its wines. He also speaks German and Swiss-German. He and his wife, who originally met when working in Paris, enjoy entertaining and making new friends. Jonathan is also a member of the Campaign to Protect Rural England and the Campaign for Real Ale, committed to supporting village and community life.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqpwFNYOWm0>

FOODBANK COLLECTIONS FOR ALL SAINTS' COMMUNITY PROJECT, CHATHAM

Due to lockdown restrictions it has been difficult to support our link church All Saints', Chatham with food products. However, we are now able to resume our support and, now more than ever, our help is needed.

The All Saints' Community Project helps individuals and families who have an urgent need for food. They also have ongoing projects, groups and a café through which they support people. For more information on the project please visit their website: www.allsaintscommunityproject.org.uk

Here's how we can help:

- Each month: with Community Bread Basket (CBB), we will have boxes out in both Shipbourne and Plaxtol Churches for the collection of food items.
- The money raised by the sale of books at CBB will go into a fund that provides a free hot breakfast to those who otherwise couldn't afford it.

Thank you for your help

Donna Hayler

Community Bread Basket

9:30 - 11:30 on Saturday 28th May 2022

In Plaxtol Parish Church

Café style Breakfast

All welcome

United Benefice of Shipbourne with Plaxtol

Collections for Chatham Foodbank

Boxes will be placed in both our churches over the fourth weekend of each month for donations of food and toiletries, to coincide with our Community Bread Basket event.

Next Community Bread Basket dates: 25th June 2022

Royal National Institute for the Blind.

See differently.

Used stamps are a great way to raise funds for a charity - they can raise up to £20 per kilogram.

- . Trim off any excess paper leaving a border about 1 cm.
- . Pop the stamps into the box on the pew at the back of St. Giles' Church.
- . When the box is full it will be collected by Jenny Porter who will arrange for these stamps to be forwarded to the RNIB.

THE WEATHER IN MARCH

The average day temp. was 16.3^oc, the average night temp. was 4.1^oc, the highest day was Thursday 24th with 23.5^oc, and the lowest night was Sunday 20th with -2.5^oc, the total rainfall was 31mm with an average over the last 30 years of 54mm, the highest year was March 2001 with 130.5mm and the lowest year was March 1997 with 17mm, there was only 10 days when it rained in March.

Lionel Stielow

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Please send any articles and adverts for the June Newsletter by **15th May 2022.**

A digital version of the Newsletter is also uploaded on www.shipbourne.com.

Please email articles to lindsay_miles@btinternet.com or call 01732 810439.



SHIPBOURNE CELEBRATES THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

Outline of Shipbourne Events

Thursday 2nd June

- 09:00-11:00 - Special Platinum Jubilee Farmers' Market at St Giles
- 16:00 onwards - Shipbourne Platinum Jubilee Party at Shipbourne Cricket Club
 - Fun and games for children and adults
 - Homemade crown competition for children and adults - get creative and bring your homemade crowns to the Cricket Club for judging
 - Bring your own family picnic
 - Cash Bar, Teas and Coffees
 - Cash BBQ from 17:00
 - Beacon Lighting at 21:45
 - Free entry and parking available on the cricket ground
 - Bring cash for BBQ and Drinks

Friday 3rd June

- 10:00-12:00 - Bring your Queen's Posy to display at St Giles (please see Felicity's article on the next page)
- 18:00 - 21:30: Jubilee Family Barn Dance at Plaxtol Memorial Hall with live music from 'Swing the Bridge', cold buffet, bar and raffle. Tickets £15 (adults), £10 (under 17s). Tickets from Marian Hemsted marian.hemsted@talk21.com; 01732 810931 or Kath Barden katherineabarden@gmail.com; 01732 810460

Saturday 4th June

- 12:00 - 16:00: Plaxtol Church Fete and BBQ at The Rectory

Sunday 5th June

- 10:00- Benefice Altogether "Open Air Service" and tree planting ceremony on Shipbourne Green followed by tea, coffee and cake at the Village Hall, kindly hosted by the Fairlawne Estate.
- 13:00 - Street Party outside the Village Hall, bring your own picnic - *to be confirmed*

There will also be a competition for the **best decorated "Platinum Jubilee" house** in the village

More details to follow in next month's newsletter and updates will be posted to Shipbourne's Facebook page [@shipbournevillage](https://www.facebook.com/shipbournevillage). It will be great to see as many of you as possible at these events to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

HELP and muscle power is needed to run these events! Please contact Viv Packer 07768 397936 / viv.packer@outlook.com or Lindsay Miles 07932 746002 lindsay_miles@btinternet.com to become involved.



MAKE A POSY OF FLOWERS FOR THE QUEEN

Wherever the Queen visits, somebody gives her a little posy of flowers to welcome her. The posies are made to complement her outfit, so each is a special gift to her. She is lucky to be able to wear any colour!

We want everyone to have the chance to make a posy for the Queen for her Platinum Jubilee – whether you are at school, a friend of the Church, or a member of the Flower Guild, a stallholder or a visitor at the Farmers' Market, a member of the PCC or the Parish Council, a member of the WI, the Cricket Club or the Tennis Club, or just love Shipbourne.

We shall have photos of the Queen in some of the outfits she has worn over the years of her reign and they will be in the Church. The colours of the outfits will be pink, pale blue, green, yellow, mauve, cream or crimson. You can make your own choice of flowers and greenery to complement one of these colours. The posy should be suitable for her to hold in her hand if she came to the village – so no bigger than 23 cms (9 inches) in diameter – and tied with a ribbon. Attach a label with your name, telephone number and email address. We shall give a prize for the best posy made by an adult and the best made by a child (14 years old or less). Please note on the label if a posy has been made by a child. We shall announce the winners at the Morning Service on Sunday 5 June and in the Parish Newsletter in July.

Please bring your posy to the Church on Friday 3 June between 10am and 12pm and we shall display them all in the Church in celebration of H.M. the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Felicity Ward
07768 814 375

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 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. Please visit our website **www.shipbourne.com** for further details. For information on planning applications, in Shipbourne, you can sign up for an alert with TMBC. You can also access all details pertaining to planning: <https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/planning-applications-appeals/planning-view-comment-planning-applications>

SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

9TH May 2022 at 6.30pm-7.30pm – Shipbourne Village Hall

Shipbourne Parish Council will be hosting their first annual meeting for residents since the start of the pandemic. The Parish Council will be giving an update on recent activities and what we are doing to address climate change. All parishioners and local clubs are invited to come along. There will also be information about the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

BIODIVERSITY AT DUNKS GREEN

The Parish Council has been discussing the grass cutting schedule at Dunks Green and are seeking opinions on whether to have less cuts to help with biodiversity.

Cutting longer grass and collecting it at the same time will help to create the right conditions for wild flowers to flourish. This will create a greater overall diversity of plant species, which in turn will provide a wider range of habitat and food source for bees, butterflies and other insects.

Please email the Parish Clerk at shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com with your opinion on how this area should be managed.

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING RAMBLERS

For full details of each walk see www.tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk

Our friendly group is one of 13 Ramblers groups in Kent and part of the national Ramblers walking organisation. We explore the beautiful countryside of Tonbridge and Malling and surrounding areas.

You don't have to be a Ramblers member to try out a couple of walks with us, to help you decide if you'd like to join. Advance booking is not required; you can just turn up on the day. If you are new to our walks, it's a good idea to contact the walk leader beforehand to check that their walk will suit you. Always check our website for latest details, including any late changes due to weather or other conditions.

We look forward to welcoming you on a walk soon!

Sunday 1 May	Circular walk from Plaxtol Spout (moderate difficulty).	5 miles
Thursday 5 May	A walk girdling the hilltop village of Goudhurst with lovely views. Mostly tracks and fields and some quiet roads. Some stiles and hills and a steep climb at the end of the walk (moderate difficulty).	6.5 miles
Wednesday 11 May	Circular walk from Leeds village through Kingswood and Broomfield. Dogs welcome but must be on leads in the castle grounds (moderate difficulty).	5 miles

Sunday 15 May	Circular walk from Ryarsh to the Pilgrim's Way, including a gentle climb to the Pilgrim's Way (moderate difficulty).	5.5 miles
Tuesday 17 May	Leisurely circular walk from Frittenden via Sissinghurst Castle. Lots of stiles, some sections on quiet lanes.	5.5 miles
Sunday 22 May	Circular walk in the beautiful countryside around Plaxtol (moderate difficulty).	5 miles
Wednesday 25 May	Circular walk from Boxley with a steep climb to the North Downs Way. Then along the Pilgrims Way, returning via vineyards and farmland (moderate difficulty).	6 miles
Sunday 29 May	Circular walk from Yotes Court, down Gover Hill and along the Greensand Way to Plaxtol, returning via Hurst Wood and the Swanton Valley. Some steep hills (moderate difficulty).	7.5 miles
Walks usually start mid-morning. There's a short break half-way through the walk (bring refreshments) and we usually finish near a pub. For start times and walk leader contacts, see www.tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk or email info@tonbridgeandmallingsramblers.org.uk .		

CLIMATE CHANGE

Shipbourne Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 and are working towards net Zero by 2030. The Parish Council are putting together an audit and have found that our carbon footprint is low. Milage for Parish business is minimal as most Councillors walk to the meetings or only travel a short distance. Many external meeting and training sessions are now held virtually which had reduced the milage considerably. We only meet 11 times a year so use a minimal amount of electricity in the village hall. Councillors have been encouraged to view meeting papers online so we have also reduced the amount of paper and printing ink that we use. If you want to work out your carbon footprint, there are many resources online.

If you would like to become a Climate Change Champion and help lead change in the community, please contact the Parish Clerk at shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com

GREEN HOMES GRANT SCHEME

If you are aware of any residents who struggle to heat their home, **Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery funding** could make their home warmer and help them save on their energy bills. Please find details below and signpost residents interested in hearing more about the scheme to the link/telephone number. Thank you.

Can I get these free energy saving improvements?

To get these improvements your home should have:

- an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rated Band E, F or G (D rated can also be considered).
- and**
- You are likely to be an eligible household if you are on a low income and one of the following applies:
 - If your annual household income is under £30,000, or under £20,000 after rent or mortgage costs,
 - Your household is on means-tested benefits.
 - An allowance will also be made for the number of children in your household, or if you have recently lost income.

What energy saving improvements can I get for my home?

These are the energy and cost-saving upgrades that you may be able to receive in your house:

- Insulation & ventilation upgrades (to keep your home comfortable in both the winter and summer and help cut your energy bills)
- An upgrade to a low carbon heating system (to cut your carbon emissions so not gas or oil boilers)
- Heating Controls (that help save you money because you only use the heat when you need it)
- Energy Efficient Hot Water Solution (keeping your water warm for longer and saving you money)
- Solar Thermals panels (to heat your hot water)
- Solar PV panels (to generate free electricity)
- Energy Efficiency lighting (cheaper to run)

The upgrades offered will be based on the results of a free survey

If you have a flat or maisonette not all these improvements can be done but if you would like, we can come and survey your home and talk with you about finding the best solution for your home.

Who pays for the energy saving improvement?

The funding has been allocated to local authorities from central government.

Who is carrying out the work?

All finance applications are made and managed seamlessly on your behalf by Warmworks (managing agent), who also manage all the installation works.

How is the funding being distributed?

Funding is being distributed on a first come first serve basis.

How do I find out more?

Call the Energy Saving Trust free on 0808 196 8255 or visit <http://surveys.est.org.uk/s/GreenHomesGrantSchemeLAD> for more information and to complete the online application form.



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We look forward to seeing you soon.

www.thekentishrifleman.co.uk

FAIRLAWNE ESTATE AND SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL TREE PLANTING EVENT

Sunday 6th February, 2022 marked the seventieth anniversary of The Queen's Accession, making this the first Platinum Jubilee in the long history of British Monarchs. To commemorate this glorious occasion, and as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative, Fairlawne Estate planted an avenue of limes at Home Farm on 11th March, with the assistance of pupils of Plaxtol Primary School. In addition, the Estate planted an avenue of oaks along the Shipbourne Cricket Club drive on 17th March, with the assistance of pupils of Shipbourne Primary School.

The school was joined by the Estate's Head Gardener Mr L Pearce and Assistant Estate Manager Mr J Morris.

Terri Daters, Head of Shipbourne School, said "we were very grateful to have been invited by Fairlawne Estate to plant a tree to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Hampton Class greatly enjoyed the experience and are looking forward to watching the tree grow as they do."



Jonathan Morris MRICS
Assistant Estate Manager, Fairlawne Estate



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MAY IN SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Sunday	1st	11:30-15:30	Private Hire
Wednesday	4th	09:30-10:30	Hatha Yoga
Wednesday	4th	11:00-12:00	Pilates
Wednesday	4th	19:30-20:30	Pilates
Thursday	5th	06:30-22:30	UK Parliamentary Election
Tuesday	10th	11:00-13:00	Scent Training Class
Wednesday	11th	09:30-10:30	Hatha Yoga
Wednesday	11th	11:00-12:00	Pilates
Wednesday	11th	14:00-16:00	WI
Wednesday	11th	19:30-20:30	Pilates
Thursday	12th	19:30-20:30	Pilates
Tuesday	17th	11:00-13:00	Scent Training Class
Wednesday	18th	09:30-10:30	Hatha Yoga
Wednesday	18th	11:00-12:00	Pilates
Wednesday	18th	19:30-20:30	Pilates
Thursday	19th	10:30-12:30	Scent Training Class
Thursday	19th	19:30-20:30	Pilates
Saturday	21st	12:00-18:00	Private Hire
Tuesday	24th	11:00-13:00	Scent Training Class
Wednesday	25th	09:30-10:30	Hatha Yoga
Wednesday	25th	11:00-12:00	Pilates
Wednesday	25th	19:30-20:30	Pilates

Thursday	26th	10:30-12:30	Scent Training Class
Thursday	26th	19:30-20:30	Pilates
Saturday	28th	14:00-18:00	Private Hire
Sunday	29th	10:00-15:00	Private Hire
Tuesday	31st	11:00-13:00	Scent Training Class

If anyone is interested in joining the Pilates or Yoga classes, please contact:

- Pilates: Emma Foyle at emma.foyle@sky.com / 07967 645695
- Yoga: Alison French at fitalison1@googlemail.com / 07966 257027
-

Please see separate advertisement for general hall hire enquiries

Helen Leach
01732 811144



Shipbourne Village Hall **Registered Charity No 1074519**

The Hall can be hired for £15 per hour with a minimum of 4 hours (£60.00).

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 01732 811144 or 07762 241720 or email shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com

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



PLAXTOL PEST AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Ciaran Payne
07368 605762

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



Every Thursday 9-11am

Every Thursday
9am-11am
for
local,
fresh &
quality produce

MAY AT SHIPBOURNE FARMERS MARKET

Finally, we have a full complement of quality producers at the market. Over the past few months we have added a really good Vegetable grower, an amazing pastry chef and a flower and plant grower.

With the longer days and the warmer spring sunshine the first signs of the bounty to come has arrived. **Asparagus**, one of the great treats of the season. It is at its best when picked and cooked within hours, something easily achievable when bought locally at the market. Make the most of the delicate **flavour** by serving simply steamed with melted butter or a hollandaise sauce. As the season progresses use in risottos, tarts, salads and soups.

Mikey's **wild sea trout** is one of the season's great treats. **Lemon sole, cod, halibut** and **sea bass** are all good at this time of year and shellfish fans should keep an eye out for **razor clams** and **cockles**. Annabelle's **beef and pork** will be at their most succulent as the grazing starts to green up. Now is the time to splash out on steaks, chops and fillets and use them simply cooked – grilled, stir fried or griddle cooked for lighter meals.

Alongside asparagus other spring vegetables are also starting to appear after the cold of the winter. Look out for are tender little early **new potatoes**, Leaves such as **spinach, watercress, rocket** and **lettuces** can now be found sitting alongside the last of this year's main vegetable crop of purple sprouting broccoli, spring cabbage, cauliflower, spring greens, spring onions and radishes. **Radishes, spring onions and samphire** mean that lighter eating is now an easy choice for the cook.

Try 'Green' i.e. **outdoor rhubarb** in lighter dishes such as homemade ice creams and fools. Or try making your own rhubarb jams and chutneys – the tart flavour of the fruit makes a lovely preserve to

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www.gardens-of-england.co.uk

spread on scones, fill sponge cakes and enjoy simply on buttered toast, particularly if you add ginger as a flavouring.

By the end of the month the earliest **gooseberries** should be available, ready to pair up with their perfect partner – delicate fragrant elderflowers. Just add a head or two of creamy white flowers (pick away from roads or sprayed fields and shake to remove bugs) to the gooseberries for a few minutes as they cook then lift out and discard. The distinctive flavour will remain for crumbles, cakes, fools or creamy desserts such as crème brûlées and panna cotta.

Did you know we have a Click and Collect system at the market?

Go to Shipbournefm.co.uk and click on Shop Now. This gives you a preview of what is sold at the market

COOKERY CORNER

CHICKEN AND ASPARAGUS

This delicious classic combination is quick to prepare. Serve it with steamed new potatoes and a green salad

Serves 4/Prep 10 minutes/Cook 25 minutes

- 25g butter
 - 4 chicken breast fillets, cut into thick lengths, seasoned with salt and pepper
 - 1 medium onion, finely chopped
 - 2 tbsp plain flour
 - 100ml dry white wine
 - 300ml chicken stock
 - juice and finely grated rind of 1 lemon
 - 450g bunched asparagus, trimmed and cut into 5cm lengths
 - 100ml local double cream
 - 2 – 3 tbsp each chopped fresh mint and parsley
1. Melt the butter in a medium heavy-based pan, add the chicken strips and brown lightly on all sides over a medium high heat. Remove from the pan and set aside.
 2. Add the onion to the pan and cook over a low heat until lightly coloured. Return the chicken and any juices to the pan. Sprinkle over the flour, stir and let it cook for a minute.

3. Increase the heat and add the white wine and keep stirring. Gradually add the stock and lemon juice and bring to the boil. Keep stirring. Lower the heat and simmer gently for about 5 minutes until the chicken is nearly cooked through.
4. Add the asparagus and seasoning. Push the asparagus under the surface of the liquid. Simmer for about 5 minutes until the asparagus is just tender.
5. Stir in the cream, lemon rind and chopped herbs and heat through back to simmering point. Check seasoning before serving
6. Serve with new potatoes and a green salad.

SHIPBOURNE WI

This month's meeting was held just before Easter, and there was a definite springlike feel to the afternoon.

David Carey was the speaker, and he spoke about a subject clearly very dear to his heart, Dene Park. David lives in Hadlow, and having retired from Hadlow College, he is now a Volunteer Tree Warden for the parish, Dene Park being under the auspices of the Forestry Commission. He described the history of the woods through to the present day, and detailed the many varieties of wild flowers, fungi and insects inhabiting the area, with particular emphasis on butterflies. He explained that it is one of the best sites in the region for spotting the Purple Emperor, in early July.

The talk was followed by a delicious tea, which is a Shipbourne WI tradition.

Earlier in the week, the Book Club met to discuss *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. Views on the book varied, but it is certainly a book to consider, particularly if you like mysteries!

The programme for next year from May onwards is now complete, and we look forward to a wide range of speakers and activities.

We are always delighted to welcome new members; just a reminder that should you be interested in the WI, we meet on the second Wednesday of each month, at Shipbourne Village Hall, starting at 2.00pm.

Glynis Coates

FROM YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

The end of the academic year and exams is just around the corner and many of us will be thinking “what next”? For our family, and our friends, this is a moment of decision-making and it’s too easy to follow old ways not thinking about what’s best for today.

When I was making the choice, longer ago than I care to remember, the decision was clear – either university or a job. Now there are so many more choices for everyone. In March, I got together with neighbouring MPs, Tracey Crouch, Helen Grant, and Helen Whately, to help young people in our community to think through those choices. We ran an Apprenticeship Fair to give local and national businesses the chance to show off what opportunities they can offer students.

Apprenticeships have been transformed. They’ve been boosted to become an alternative to university in terms of academic qualifications but with the extra input of experience and, of course, a salary.

At the Apprenticeship Fair we welcomed businesses from across industry. From aviation, to the railways, the armed forces and the police. In total the Fair attracted over one thousand students and more than 50 businesses. In all it was a tremendous success and I hope that those who attended thought so too.

With many young students entering what can be an incredibly stressful period, it is right that we do all we can to not only support them throughout, but also offer them as much choice on the other side. One of the hardest parts of the examination period is the worry about what awaits you if you don’t happen to get the results you wished for, and one way we can ease this burden is to make sure that students have a variety of top-quality options available to them.

Understanding the needs of those who will dominate our job markets for many decades to come is key in being able to develop a thriving and skilful workforce. Something that is incredibly important as we look to become a much more self-sufficient nation.

Next year we will be looking to do another fair, and in the meantime, there are many connections that we made that I would be happy to share. Is there someone in your family who would benefit from thinking about a real alternative? If there is, please, put them in

touch with me now so I can help. If there’s someone who will be ready next year, please let me know so that I can invite them.

And if you’re a local business looking to hire brilliant young people and train them up in the best way you can, let me know and I’ll make sure you have a chance to share your offer next year.

Tom Tugendhat
Member of Parliament for Tonbridge and Malling



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NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS**

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**Updates regarding the Shipbourne celebrations for
the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee will also appear on this
Facebook page.**

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.

LEC MINI WORK TOP FRIDGE: Model R50052W, hardly used, Energy F. £50 Call 01732 832657 (06/22)

LOCKSMITH SERVICES BASED IN SHIPBOURNE: Hello local residents, my name is Paul. I can help if you have locked yourself out of your home or workplace or lost your keys. I can do lock changes, lock upgrades, new lock fittings. I can repair or replace any door or window mechanisms inc handles, hinges and letterboxes. Please call for a free quote or advice on 07795 254834 or email me on foxylockskent@gmail.com (02/23)

YOGA: Shipbourne Village Hall: For Active Seniors or Complete Beginners. (Hatha Slow Flow Yoga) Join Alison 9.30-10.30am Wednesdays. More information available on Alison's Booking Website at bookwhen.com/alisonsyogaandfitness or any questions please contact fitalison1@aol.com / Facebook: Alisons Yoga & Well-being / Instagram: Alisons_Yoga_Wellbeing (02/23)

SHIPBOURNE B&B holiday accommodation in self-contained oast house in the heart of Shipbourne village. Visit www.bearmanoroast.com For further details phone 01732 384318 or e-mail [BearManorOast@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: BearManorOast@hotmail.co.uk) (02/23)

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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 (02/23)

GARDENING SERVICES: Hadlow College and National Trust trained. Regular or one off jobs available. Please call Peter Zoephel on 01892 836866 or 07845 174936 (02/23)

FREE DELIVERY OF PRESCRIPTIONS - Thompson's Chemist on Riding Lane, Hildenborough offer free delivery of prescriptions in Shipbourne and the surrounding area. Once your doctor has sent us the prescription, we take care of the rest. Call 833433 for details.

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KINDLING: Split softwood quality kindling sticks, neatly cut and bagged in large green or orange nets. These barn stored seasoned sticks are ideal for lighting woodburners, log fires or barbeques. £5 each or 3 nets for £12. C.O.D. Free delivery in Shipbourne. Ring Cilla on 810338 (02/23)

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