

*St Giles' and Shipbourne Village*  
**NEWSLETTER**



***February 2026***

## **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 http://shipbourne.com/st-giles-church/  
TN15 0QG  
Associate Rector Rev Mark Packer 07970-709006 CurateSwP@gmail.com  
Licensed Lay Marius Carboni 07885 753272  
Minister  
Churchwardens: Mrs H Leach 07762 241720  
Mr A Boorman 07795 182966

### **PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

Secretary: Mrs C Chambers 382228  
Treasurer: Mr C Keeling 07825 139046  
Deanery Synod Sir P Britton 365794  
Rep:

### **CHURCH OFFICERS**

Parish  
Safeguarding: Ms C Jackson 07729814798  
Choirmaster: VACANCY  
Electoral Roll: Mrs H Leach 07762 241720  
Flower Guild: Mrs F Ward 810525  
Bell Ringing: Mr G Edwards 07487 729549

### **SHIPBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Parish Clerk: Sarah Huseyin 886402 shipbourneparishcouncil@gmail.com  
Chair: V Redman  
Vice Chair: P Leach  
Councillors I Bond, S Oram,  
A Dagger, S  
Davis,  
L Hollobon

VILLAGE WEBSITE www.shipbourne.com

### **SHIPBOURNE SCHOOL**

Head: Mrs Terri Daters Terri.Daters@shipbourne.kent.sch.uk

### **SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL**

Chairman: Peter Leach shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com  
Bookings: Helen Leach 07889 362462  
07762 241720

### **SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET**

Manager: Bob Taylor 833976

### **SHIPBOURNE WI**

President Sue Streeter 810731

### **SHIPBOURNE CRICKET CLUB**

Secretary: Mark Fenton

### **PLAXTOL & SHIPBOURNE TENNIS CLUB**

Membership: Cilla Langdon- 810338  
Down

### **POLICE**

Emergency: 999 Non-urgent: 01622 690690

### **ST GILES' AND SHIPBOURNE NEWSLETTER**

Lindsay Miles 810439 lindsay\_miles@btinternet.com

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

## PARISH DIARY – FEBRUARY 2026

**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/>

<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>Presentation of Christ Candlemas</i>	<b>1st</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Family Service with Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Malachi 3:1-5, Hebrews 2:14-end, Luke 2:22-40
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent Sexagesima</i>	<b>8th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Matins at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings	Genesis 1:1 – 2:3, Romans 8:18-25, Matthew 6:25-end
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12th</b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>Sunday before Lent Quinquagesima</i>	<b>15th</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion at Plaxtol Church
		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Parish Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Community@11 at Plaxtol Church (Refreshments from 10.30am)
		Readings:	Exodus 24:12-end, 2 Peter 1:16-end, Matthew 17:1-9
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>18th</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion with Ashing at St Giles' Shipbourne (said service)</b>
		<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Benefice Holy Communion with Ashing at Plaxtol Church (sung service)</b>
			Isaiah 58:1-12, 2 Corinthians 5:20 <sup>b</sup> -6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	<b>22nd</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Family Service at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
		11.00am	Parish Communion at Plaxtol Church
		Readings:	Genesis 2:15-17 & Genesis 3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>26th</b>	<b>9-11am</b>	<b>Farmers' Market at St Giles, Shipbourne</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>28th</b>	<b>9.30-11am</b>	<b>Community Bread Basket at Plaxtol Church with bread making competition</b>

## LENT .... ALREADY?

Yes! This February letter, and Ash Wednesday falls on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> this year. Lent is essentially a season of preparation leading up the most important festival in the Christian Year: Passiontide, Holy Week and Easter. Please keep an eye open for our sheet of Lenten 'opportunities' - a bible-reading scheme, a Lent book, group meetings and our lent lunches, when we share a simple soup-and-bread lunch in church with midday prayers each Thursday, beginning on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb at 12.30pm in Plaxtol, and week-about with Shipbourne. All are welcome!



Baptism is traditionally not administered during Lent – but rather at Easter. This year, however, we will be welcoming Rosemary Cannon (Junior!) to the Lord's family on Feb 21<sup>st</sup> in Plaxtol at 11am.



We have also welcomed a new ministry in the last few weeks – or at least a new title for an established and ongoing ministry. On Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the Pilgrim Chapel at Malling Abbey, Joan Owen was commissioned as an Anna Chaplain. This title is taken from the story of 'Candlemas' (Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>) when an elderly women welcomed the baby Jesus in the Temple courts in Jerusalem (Luke 2:36-38). The title signifies a leader of the church's work among older people, and a commitment to meeting with local colleagues in neighbouring parishes to share and reflect upon best practice in this important area of pastoral work. We thank God for Joan, and we thank Joan for her commitment; for her courage in responding to her sense of the Lord's calling in her life, and for her willing and loving service to the community.

***Peter Hayler, Rector***

**Community  
Bread  
Basket**



# **Bread Making Competition!**

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY**

**9:30 to 11:00am in PLAXTOL CHURCH**

Open to all, there are four categories:

- any bread made in a bread maker
- Handmade Loaf e.g. granary, white, soda...
- Special Flavour Loaf e.g. beetroot & bacon, stout & apple, chocolate & cherry...
- Novelty Bread e.g. hedgehog, fish, flower...

10:00am    Deadline for entries

Judging

10:45am    Presentations

For further information, please email Donna Hayler

[donnahayler64@gmail.com](mailto:donnahayler64@gmail.com)

## **COMMUNITY BREAD BASKET**

Community Bread Basket opens its doors again on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February! Alongside our usual café-style breakfast we are running our bi-annual Bread Making Competition! Please see separate advert for more details. For anyone who has not joined us before, we offer breakfast/brunch to our community. It is an opportunity for neighbours and local friends to come together over a choice of breakfast treats and a selection of drinks.

There is also a book-swap table, a box for household items for The Magpie Centre and a food bank collection both for our link Church in Chatham. An activity table is also available for children.

We simply ask for donations rather than costing individual breakfast items and, after expenses, money is put aside for events, activities or projects that support our church and community. This year we have been able to use the money to replace the BBQ's which are used for quite a few community events, fund the band at Shipbourne fete and the Harvest Supper, provide a children's entertainer for the Plaxtol Church fete and provide refreshments for visitors to Plaxtol Church. In addition to this, Marius Carboni has compiled and published a booklet of prayers, thoughts and words of comfort for anyone who has suffered a bereavement. This booklet will be offered to anyone in our community and wider area who has suffered a bereavement. CBB has been pleased to help towards the cost of producing this booklet. If you think of anything we can help support in our community do let us know.

Look forward to seeing you at our next Community Bread Basket – 28<sup>th</sup> February, Plaxtol Church 9.30-11am.

### **MARCH NEWSLETTER**

Please send any articles and adverts for the March Newsletter by

**15th February 2026**

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:

Shipborne 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.

### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS –**

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

### **KENT POLICE**

Our new beat officer is **Thomas Mead PC 46014468**, based at Tonbridge Police Station. For non-urgent matters, please call 101, for emergencies please call 999.

**<https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk/>**

For information on community policing, My Community Voice is a messaging service that helps Kent and Medway residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with their local policing teams. The service sends updates about your local

area directly from the police officers themselves. You can sign up using the link or website address above.



For full details of all our walks, see  
[www.tonbridgeandmallinghamblers.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeandmallinghamblers.org.uk)



Borough Green Road, Ightham, Kent, TN15 9JA 01732 884726

## Get ready for Spring!

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- Compost, pots, fertilisers, bird feed, logs, coal and charcoal
- Seed potatoes and onion sets
- Seeds and early Spring bulbs in pots
- Gardening tools and planting accessories
- Local farm produce, bread, eggs, cheeses, biscuits and ice cream
- Treat yourself to a **Rombouts** coffee available in the farm shop
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# Shipbourne Village Hall News

## New Year's Day Walk

The weather was very kind to us on New Year's Day, twenty or so turned up at the hall for our walk over to Ightham Mote. Fortunately, the ground was firm and the going good across the fields although as the morning progressed the surface did get a bit slippery.

Peter and Donna Hayler very kindly provided tea, coffee and biscuits in the car park at Ightham Mote so avoiding the crowds queuing for the cafeteria. The walk ended back at the Chaser where a pleasant glass or two was enjoyed.

Everyone enjoyed the walk and company, and further walks will be organised.

## NEW EXERCISE CLASSES FOR 2026

How are those New Year Resolutions holding up? If the January blues and the aftereffects of Christmas goodies, cakes, puddings, pies, chocolates and drinks have taken their toll, weighing you down and holding you back...

Don't worry, help to shake off those blues and shed the pounds is on hand!

LIZZY has your well-being at heart with new and more exercise classes taking place at the village hall.

Thursday evenings          6.45 - 7.45 pm Pilates (mixed ability)

Saturday morning          8.15 - 9.15 am Barre (mixed ability)  
followed at                  9.30 - 10.30 am Mat Pilates (mixed ability)

**BARRE** is a low-impact workout that uses small, controlled movements inspired by ballet to strengthen and tone your whole body No dance experience required, just turn up and move at your own pace.

**MAT PILATES** is a low-impact workout involving simple movements to support strength, mobility, injury rehabilitation and general ease of movement.

There's no time to lose, so contact Lizzy on WhatsApp 07718 124171 for more information and to book your classes.

### **Help us to keep in touch**

If you want to be kept informed about this and future events, please email [peter4inscope@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:peter4inscope@yahoo.co.uk) with your contact details.

We are keen to keep everyone informed directly of all village events, not just those at the hall, and would greatly appreciate receiving your contact details, so please do email as soon as possible.

**Ideas for other events and activities are always welcome.**

### **SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL**

Situated on the Green in the heart of Shipbourne, our village hall with its enclosed and safe garden, is the perfect venue for children's parties, family celebrations, pilates, yoga, exhibitions, fundraising events, training courses or seminars. It has a main hall, an adjoining side room ideal for meetings, blackout blinds, wheelchair access, a well-equipped kitchen, baby changing facilities and disabled toilet.

**Wi-Fi with excellent download speed is provided by courtesy of Gigaclear.**

**In addition, 2 N° 8m x 4m marquees, 3 N° 3m x 3m and 2 N° 2.5 x 2.5m gazebos are available for hire.**

For hall rates, enquiries and bookings, please call Helen Leach on 07762 241720 or email [shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com](mailto:shipbourne.villagehall@gmail.com)



**The Kentish Rifleman  
Dunk's Green, TN11 9RU  
01732 810727**

Born in the 1500s, our traditional family run pub is open daily from 11.30am. By the cosy fire or out in the beer garden, we offer home-made food, local beers, a lovely selection of wines and spirits and a friendly atmosphere. Please book your table on 01732 810727 or on our website.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

**[www.thekentishrifleman.co.uk](http://www.thekentishrifleman.co.uk)**

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

Thank you to everyone who has left used postage stamps at the back of the church. So far I have managed to collect 5 kilos which should raise £100 for the R.N.I.B. Please keep collecting them for this very worthwhile charity.

***Jenny Porter***

*NEW CLASS ALERT!*

# *MAT PILATES WITH LIZZY*

*Mixed ability*

*EVERY THURSDAY*

*6:45-7:45pm*

*SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL  
Upper Green Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9PL*

*£15 PER CLASS BUT ENJOY YOUR  
FIRST CLASS FOR £5  
(Discounts for block bookings)*

*'An enjoyable mixture of strength and mobility training as well  
as an element of breath work and relaxation.'*

*Lizzy is a qualified and experienced Mat Pilates instructor with  
great understanding of the physical body; injury prevention &  
rehabilitation as well as mental well being.*



*To book please WhatsApp message Lizzy +44 7718124171*

*MINDFUL MOVEMENT FOR EVERY BODY*

Mixed Ability Class

# MORNING HATHA YOGA CLASS

Start your day with a breath centric morning flow that will start slow, gently waking up your muscles and mind, moving into a more energising sequence that will leave you feeling positive and revitalised finishing with a short relaxation.



MONDAYS  
9.30AM - 10.30AM

SHIPBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

Upper Green Road, Shipbourne, TN11 9PL

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK  
CONTACT SAM:  
SAMBRIDGELAND79@GMAIL.COM/07872493320

*Starting Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026*

## **SHIPBOURNE WI**

Now that the New Year is upon us, we are launching into our programme of activities and events.

The walking group had an exhilarating walk around Tonbridge Park. We had chosen a beautiful, frosty and sunny morning, with Haysden Lake looking its best with the swans and other water birds in view. Our next walk is planned for Knole Park.

Book Club is meeting soon to discuss 'The Memory Library' by Kate Storey, which is about a special library and the impact of family relationships and friendships.

After the success of the Christmas lunch, a lunch has been planned in the coming weeks at The Chaser.

The trip to Canterbury for a group of members is fast approaching with everything booked. We just need clement weather!

The main meeting included a talk by Clive Nuttman, the title of which was "Think Global, Act Local". Clive has spent many years working in parts of Africa, and the theme of his talk was Conservation. It was a very interesting and informative talk with an emphasis on local action and individual behaviour.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 11th February.

***Glynis Coates***

## **THE WEATHER IN DECEMBER**

The average day temp. was 11.8<sup>0</sup>c, the average night temp. was 4.5<sup>0</sup>c, the highest day was Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> with 16<sup>0</sup>c, the lowest day was Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> with 8.0<sup>0</sup>c, the highest night was Monday 8<sup>th</sup> with 12<sup>0</sup>c, the lowest night was Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> with -2.5<sup>0</sup>c, the total rainfall was 105.5m with an average over the past 35 years of 93.61mm, the highest year was December 2013 with 165.0mm and the lowest year was December 1996 with 22mm.

***Lionel Stielow***





Climate Action Shipbourne and Plaxtol CASP

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

### **Making your home energy efficient: a visit to a retrofitted “eco house”.**

Retrofitting adapts an existing home to bring it to the standard of “passive houses”, where almost no energy is required to keep warm.

CASP sees retrofitting our houses as vital to reduce our carbon footprint. We aim to provide our parishes with data regarding the most effective measures. Six archetypal village houses have been assessed for retrofitting by ~~Ecofurh~~, a consultancy run by engineer Russell Smith.

CASP visited Russell’s turn-of-the-century, tile-hung, detached house. A showcase, Russell’s house has external insulation, internal insulation, under-floor insulation, loft insulation, triple-glazed windows and high-performance doors. A ground floor extension has underfloor insulation and a thermal mass (a significant volume of concrete).

External insulation made no change to the house’s appearance. Internal insulation reduced the room dimensions by the thickness of the insulation.

Air source heat pumps draw in heat from the air outside even in winter. The heat pumps provide hot water for central heating radiators and for showers and baths, with a hot water reservoir for busy times.

A rooftop solar array provides free electricity from the sun. Storage batteries can be topped up with cheap, overnight electricity on cloudy days.

Russell showed us that varied methods, some cheaper than others, can produce an almost “passive house” without damage to the property’s aesthetics. Even small changes can reduce running costs.

CASP will be sharing data from its study of six properties at our fair on 25 April in ~~Plaxtol~~ Memorial Hall. Do contact us on: [info@casphub.org](mailto:info@casphub.org).

Climate Action Shipbourne and Plaxtol CASP

*Never too small to make a difference.*



## Wasp Treatment

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## **FROM YOUR LOCAL MP**

At Christmas many of us were lucky to spend time with family, friends and our loved ones. For some of us, distance makes that harder and that's where technology comes in, but that relies on having fast and reliable broadband.

That's a long way from universal. As so many of us know, there are still many areas in our community where the signal is appalling and a very real challenge for those of us living here.

Last year I started a survey to understand the extent of the problem affecting our rural villages. I have had around 1,000 people get in touch with me. Thank you if you have shared your experiences. It has informed my work and allowed me to map best where the issues are.

The frustration of having no data, even when your phone indicates you should have coverage, can be a daily struggle. This affects us whether we are making calls from our phones or using unreliable Wi-Fi.

The technology phone companies use allows for high-speed capacity across our area. Phone companies can make our signal better if they want to invest in our community. In every meeting I have held with operators since launching the survey, I have made this point. It is simply a failure to act from the companies who provide the service. That's why we need to keep the pressure on them. Whilst EE and VodafoneThree are both expecting significant upgrades in the next few years, Virgin Media O2 are working on timelines of 8 years. This is far too long to wait.

I've escalated this in Parliament because, sadly, it isn't just our community affected. Rural areas across the country suffer from slow broadband and poor connectivity. Even in our towns, the issues are seen. Many people can't even get a phone signal to pay for parking or access shopping apps in the middle of Tonbridge. Train journeys are often disrupted by lost signal.

As I continue to build the picture to present a case to the mobile phone companies, I would appreciate your help in telling me your experiences. Please fill out the form on my website and share it with neighbours so we can keep the pressure up, and secure the improvements our community deserves. You can find it at [www.tomtugendhat.org/mobile-phone-survey](http://www.tomtugendhat.org/mobile-phone-survey)

**Tom Tugendhat**

**MP, Member of Parliament for Tonbridge, Edenbridge and North Downs Villages**

E-mail	<a href="mailto:tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk">tom.tugendhat.mp@parliament.uk</a>
Phone	01732 441563
Social Media	@TomTugendhat
Letter	130 Vale Road, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SP

## **HALL HOUSES OF SHIPBOURNE**

Just what are 'hall houses', would be a fair question from anyone other than an architect or historian. Shipbourne is situated in the Western Low Weald of Kent and the local houses of successful farmers in the Middle Ages are known for their specific style as Wealden hall houses.

They were the timber framed homes of successful yeoman farmers, generally between 1200 and 1500. Based on a manorial hall they originally consisted of a large room that was open up to the roof, with an open hearth in the centre and an aperture in the roof to let the smoke out.

Eventually, secondary rooms were incorporated, all in line under the single roof span: a chamber at one end of the hall for the farmer and his wife with a solar - or bedchamber - above for children and servants; at the other end - clearly dividing work from rest - service rooms were built, whilst family and servants ate communally in the central hall.

By the 16th century yeoman farmers – who could now own land, employ labour and sell surplus produce – were the peasant aristocracy. And they could afford to build utilitarian, unpretentious, vernacular hall houses. The sheer number of these large medieval farmhouses in such a small village indicates an unusually well-spread wealth gained from successful farming – sheep farming in Shipbourne resulted in a thriving cloth making trade.

And how can one tell if it is a hall house? First clue: the most easily recognizable feature of a Wealden hall house is the huge, steep and fully hipped and tiled roof, a distinctive feature in the skyline. Second clue: a large central brick chimney stack that better funneled the smoke out of the building.

Other distinctive features have been lost over time. Most hall houses originally had upper chambers that were jettied out towards the front – and sometimes the ends - beyond the simple rectangular ground storey. However, in most cases these jetties have long since been incorporated into the main body of the house with new outer walls built up to meet them. And fire-hazardous thatched roofs were finally replaced with clay peg tiles.

Some local houses are still recognizable as medieval hall houses. Claygate, dating from 1270, and the White House remain much as they were when they were built. Others such as Old Woodcocks were subdivided into separate dwellings due to shared inheritance or hardship, only to be reinstated as single dwellings a hundred or so years later.

A few did not return solely to domestic use such as the Kentish Rifleman which became a public house in the 1700's and Yew Tree and Bay Tree cottages – a sub-division of an original hall house – had a Victorian extension attached as The Institute, a place for village men to meet that did not serve alcohol but which now functions as the village hall.

Yet the origins of other hall houses have been subsumed so successfully that recognition is almost impossible. The Georgian brick facades of houses such as Puttenden Manor and Great Budds are cases in point. And Fairhill defies all signs of its origins.

***Libby Cohen***

### **Newsletter Trial: Where to get your copy**

**Collection Hubs:** Hard copies are available for collection from the following hubs (thank you to all hubs!):

- St Giles' Church
- The Chaser Inn
- Plaxtol Stores
- The Kentish Rifleman

**Digital Copy to your Inbox:** Residents are encouraged to sign up to receive a digital copy directly to their email inbox - please email [lindsay\\_miles@btinternet.com](mailto:lindsay_miles@btinternet.com)

**Online:** The newsletter will continue to be uploaded in a digital format to [www.shipbourne.com](http://www.shipbourne.com) and a monthly link provided on the Shipbourne Facebook page @shipbournevillage

**Limited Access:** Please contact Lindsay Miles at [lindsay\\_miles@btinternet.com](mailto:lindsay_miles@btinternet.com) or 01732 810439 if you are not physically able to collect a hard copy and have no access to a digital copy.

# Handyman

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Any jobs that the trades aren't interested in.  
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If you can't or don't have the time to DIY  
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AND WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT**

**Ciaran Payne  
07368 605762**

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



**FOLLOW SHIPBOURNE ON FACEBOOK FOR VILLAGE NEWS,  
INFORMATION AND EVENTS**

**@shipbournevillage**

## **FEBRUARY AT SHIPBOURNE FARMERS' MARKET**



As we move into February, the wintry days are lengthening and new growth is starting to make an appearance. It's a great time of year to shop at the Farmers' Market, catch-up with friends over a warming cup of coffee and stock-up on the best of the Winter season's produce. Local farmers and food producers need your support at this time of year even more than ever.

There's an abundance of great fish on Will's fish stall. Colder seas attract lemon sole, halibut, skate, turbot and monkfish close to our shore as well as scallops.

For meat eaters, game is an excellent choice for seasonal healthy eating. Modern game is lean and is best enjoyed griddled, quickly stir-fried or in a meaty stew. Venison, guinea fowl, wood pigeon are all good in February. Serve your meat with cabbages and brassicas, you'll find them at their freshest and crunchiest at this time of year. Savoy cabbage, cauliflower, kale, sprouts, sprout tops and purple sprouting broccoli all work perfectly in stir fries and curries, or perhaps serve them simply shredded and steamed tossed with a little seasoning and a dash of cold pressed rapeseed oil. Main crop potatoes, Jerusalem artichokes, parsnips and turnips provide the starch that keeps us going in the cold so mash them together with a little seasoning and butter as a side to your game dishes.

There are still apples to be enjoyed – the storing varieties keep well until April. Early forced rhubarb available from Roughway Farm is wonderful in traditional crumbles, and pies, but it also goes well with rich flavoured meat and fish so serve a rhubarb sauce with grilled mackerel and slow cooked belly pork.

To stay up to date with “what's on” at the Market, request our weekly e-newsletter by visiting [www.shipbournefm.co.uk](http://www.shipbournefm.co.uk) or email [lindsay\\_miles@btinternet.com](mailto:lindsay_miles@btinternet.com)

## COOKERY CORNER

### JAM DOUGHUT PANCAKES

*A pancake twist for Shrove Tuesday or a delicious desert to woo someone on Valentines Day.*

*Serves 6 / Prep: 10 mins / Cook: 30 mins / Easy*

- 2 eggs
- 300ml milk
- 250g self-raising flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 25g caster sugar
- 50g unsalted butter (melted)
- 75g strawberry jam
- Granulated sugar to serve

1. Whisk the eggs and milk together in a bowl until smooth. In a separate large bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and pinch of salt.
2. Pour the egg mixture into the flour mixture and stir until combined. Stir in the caster sugar. Pour in the melted butter and stir until combined. Set aside for 30 minutes to rest.
3. Melt a generous knob of butter in a large non-stick frying pan over a medium heat. When it is frothy, add a ladle of batter. Cook for 30 seconds, then spoon 2 tsp jam onto the middle of the pancake, spreading it slightly (using two spoons will help). Ladle over enough batter to cover the jam.
4. Cook the pancakes on one side for two minutes until bubbles appear on the surface and the edges begin to set. Turn with a fish slice and cook for a further 1-2 minutes until golden. Repeat with the rest of the batter, wiping out the butter between each pancake. Sprinkle over granulated sugar to serve.

#### *Stallholder Shopping List*

Eggs – Edward Nut Farms

Kent Strawberry jam – Winsford House Produc

Taken from [bbcgoodfood.com](http://bbcgoodfood.com)

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References available

Digger and driver available for hire



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in partnership



Tonbridge Counselling Service have partnered with MEND to bring you this **6-week training course** designed to **empower men** to understand themselves, **support** one another, and live with **calm strength** and **grounded purpose**.

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### Course Outline

- When** Sunday evenings, 6-8pm, mid-February (in person, central Tonbridge)
- Cost** £199 for the full 6-week course. A limited number of subsidised places are available
- Topics** Week 1 - First steps of the journey  
Week 2 - What triggers you?  
Week 3 - Taking care of you  
Week 4 - Recognising the organism  
Week 5 - How to belong  
Week 6 - Applying the skills
- 

### Register now

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For any questions, please contact us:



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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.***

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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.

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Model introduced 1987 and probably bought that year. Inherited recently. Seems good order but cannot give any assurances. One careful lady owner! We live in Ivy Hatch. No charge but donation to St Giles' Church Restoration Appeal suggested. Please message 07584 517383. (02/25)

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