
Shipleley Parish News

June / July 2026



Local artist's impression of our lovely church

Parish church directory

Vicar, The Reverend Chris Allen

The Vicarage, Shipley, RH13 8PH

T: 01403 432813 E: Vicar@Shipley.Church

Church Wardens

Gavin Kenny Meadowcroft, Polecat Lane, Copsale, RH13 6QR

T: 07720 288807 E: Warden@Shipley.Church

Richard Killner 2, Smokehouse Farm, Countryman Lane, Shipley
RH13 8PR

T: 07970 781874 E: Churchwarden@Shipley.Church

Acting Honorary Treasurer

Colin West E: Treasurer@Shipley.Church

Honorary Secretary

Fenella Warren E: Secretary@Shipley.Church

Organist and Choirmaster

Peter Sanderson E: Choir@Shipley.Church

Assistant Organist

Anne Haimes E: Organist@Shipley.Church

Sunday School

Liz Cockerill E: SundaySchool@Shipley.Church

Safeguarding officer

Liz Cockerill E: Safeguarding@Shipley.Church

Bell Captain

Simon Meyer E: Bells@Shipley.Church

Bell Secretary

Sue Meyer E: BellSec@Shipley.church

Andrew Hall

Amanda Jupp, Annette Lepper E: AndrewHall@Shipley.Church

Magazine advertising

John Davies E: shangani7@hotmail.com

Magazine subscriptions

Lucy West The Old Vicarage, School Lane, Shipley, RH13 8PL
T: 01403 741912

Magazine editor

Teresa Gwilt E: magazine@shipley.church

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Parish church email database

We continue to set up a database of email addresses for the Parish, to keep you informed about what is going on at Shipley Church, share news and let you know about fundraising and events. If you would like to sign up, please email Chris at Vicar@Shipley.Church.

Please note: In sharing your details, you will be giving us permission to use your personal data solely for the purposes of communicating about church life and events, in accordance with data protection laws.

St Mary the Virgin Church, Shipley

Welcome to our latest issue of the Shipley Parish News. St Mary the Virgin, Shipley is a friendly and active church community with lots going on throughout the year. We hold a **10am Holy Communion Service each Sunday**, followed by coffee, and all are welcome. There is also a **midweek service at 10.30am on Wednesdays**.

The church is open every day during daylight hours, so if you wish to enter for quiet reflection, please feel free to do so.

If you feel the need to talk to someone, Revd Chris would be happy to speak with you, please call him on 01403 432813.



For more information about what's on, please go to www.shipley.church

Polite parking request

A number of the regular members of the congregation have mobility problems and it would be appreciated if the spaces on the road, adjacent to the commemorative bench, nearest to the Church could be left free for them on Sundays.

Parking is available for the able-bodied, both in the School Lane car park, before the Windmill and also the car park adjoining the flats at the end of Church Close.

Thank you for your co operation.

Church bank account details

For payments into the church bank account, donations or magazine subscriptions, the church bank account details are as follows:

Account name: PCC of Shipley
(full name: Parochial Church Council of Shipley)

Sort Code: 30-94-41 Account number:
00282667

Please put an appropriate reference.

Thank you very much.

Church calendar

Date	Celebration	Service	Time	Reader	Reading	Intercessions	Sidesperson
Sunday 31 st May	Trinity Sunday	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Claire Ebdon	2 Corinthians 13: 11-13	Robert Ebdon	Claire Ebdon
Sunday 7 th June	Trinity 1	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Hariot Anriss	1 Hosea 5: 15-6: 6		
Sunday 14 th June	Trinity 2	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Nigel Jupp	Exodus 19: 2-8	Amanda Jupp	Nigel Jupp
		Evensong	6pm				
Sunday 21 st June	Trinity 3	Family Service	10:00 - 10:35am				
		Spoken Eucharist	11:00 - 11:30am	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Sunday 28 th June	Saints Peter & Paul	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Janet Ruff	Timothy 4: 6-8 & 17-18	Eve Kenny	
Sunday 5 th July	Trinity 5	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Erica Smale	Zechariah 9: 9-12		
Sunday 12 th July	Trinity 6	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am		Isaiah 55: 10-13		
Sunday 19 th July	Trinity 7	Family Service	10:00 - 10:35am				
		Spoken Eucharist	11:00 - 11:30am	N/A	N/A	N/A	
		Evensong	6pm				
Sunday 26 th July	Trinity 8	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Janet Ruff	Kings 3: 5-12	Eve Kenny	
Sunday 2 nd Aug	Trinity 9	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Erica Smale	Isaiah 55: 1-5		
Sunday 9 th Aug	Trinity 10	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Claire Ebdon	1 Kings 19: 1-18		
Sunday 16 th Aug	Feast of St Mary	Sung Eucharist	10:00 - 11:00am	Richard Killner	1 Corinthians 15: 20-27a	Gavin Kenny	Gavin Kenny

We are always looking for anyone to get involved with readings, leading Intercessions or acting as a Sidesperson. It's fun to be part of things. Please let us know, we're always here. By Richard Killner | churchwarden@shIPLEY.church | 07970 781874

The Vicar's letter

Dear Friends,

This edition of the magazine comes out as Pentecost Sunday brings Easter to its climax and fulfilment. The people of the Risen Lord are filled with the Holy Spirit and are sent out on their mission to the world. That mission is ongoing over the centuries and many millions of people are taking part in it every day. The mission is directed by the Holy Spirit who energises and strengthens the Church. Though we may remember the contribution of saints and martyrs, mystics and visionaries, bishops and priests, reformers and writers, all are part of the same mission and all give God the glory in all they do.

So, although I am retiring, the mission of the Church and of this church in particular, will go on. I was privileged to join the mission to Shipley as carried out by Shipley Church, and shall be sorry to no longer be part of God's work here. But God's work does not depend upon one individual but upon the Holy Spirit bringing all into the unity of a common purpose to which all can, and should, contribute. This becomes all the more urgent and necessary during those times when a parish is without a parish priest.

So the life of the parish goes on. The Fête is on Bank Holiday Monday and we are hoping for good weather and a good turnout. This is our once per year special day drawing in the whole community of Shipley and beyond. Many thanks to all those who have worked so hard for this event once again - a good example of the teamwork necessary in a parish at all times.

Three candidates from Shipley are going to be presented to the Bishop of Horsham for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 21st June, having been taking part in some preparation meetings over the last few months. Now we pray that they will be filled with the Holy Spirit to confirm their baptism and take on the full privileges and responsibilities of church membership.

One of the joys of being a parish priest is to be welcomed in the schools of the parish and to try to make a contribution to the life of the school as well as leading worship and talking about aspects of the Christian faith. Working with both William Penn and Shipley Primary Schools and their leaders has been both a privilege and a pleasure during my time here, and this year the end of term will have a more meaningful feel for me. Those leaving Shipley School at the end of Year 6 come each July to Church for a leavers' service, which will be on Monday 20th July this year. The children receive a gift each of a copy of the Bible from the Church and they express what Shipley School has meant for them. We then say farewell and let them go into the next phase of their lives with God's blessing.

Sunday 21st June is Fathers' Day and the Family Service on that day will help us consider the role of fathers and to give thanks for our fathers and also for the experience of being a father for those who have been so blessed.

My final Sunday in Shipley will be 26th July. Until then, there are weddings to celebrate and the usual celebration of the

The Vicar's letter cont...

Lord's resurrection each Sunday, as well as one more PCC meeting, and, God willing, one more letter for the Parish News. There will also be meetings to prepare for the vacancy to ensure as smooth as possible a transition to a different way of being a parish. And then farewells.

Until then I remain

Your friend and parish priest

Chris



Hello from your editor

Welcome to our June & July edition!

Hiya, hope you're enjoying the sunny weather but staying cool. A very short note from me this time, lots to fit in.

As always, if you'd like to send me something for our magazine, or know of any organisations, services or groups looking to promote themselves, please let me know. All I need is your words, and any pictures, and I'll do the rest. Please email me at: magazine@shipleyparish.org.

And as always, thank you so much to everybody who contributes, in every way. And please remember... Stay safe, stay healthy, stay connected and look after one another. Teresa

Publication Submission deadline

Aug / Sept	14 th July 2026
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Oct / Nov	14 th September 2026
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Dec / Jan	14 th November 2026
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Last call for Parish News subscriptions!

We are half way through the year, so this is a last call for magazine subscriptions. It's £6, payable in cash to the person who delivers your magazine, or can be dropped off at the Old Vicarage, or put in the church money box with a note. Otherwise please pay directly into the church bank account with MAG as a reference. Payment details are on page 4. Postal subscriptions are £12 and if you wish to pay by cheque (payable to PCC

of Shipley), please send it to Lucy West, The Old Vicarage, School Lane, Shipley RH13 8PL.

If you would like to have the Parish News delivered or to let us know that you no longer want it, please email me - lucywest1@btinternet.com or call on 01403 741912.

Thank you.

By Lucy West

Church cleaning rota

Saturday 6 th June	Lucy and Ros
Saturday 20 th June	Ginny, Annabel and Amanda
Saturday 4 th July	Claire and Sarah
Saturday 18 th July	Liz and Claire E
Saturday 1 st August	Lucy and Ros
Saturday 15 th August	Ginny, Annabel and Amanda

Thank you everyone for your help in keeping the church clean and tidy. If you're unable to clean on a particular date, please let me know and I can arrange a swap.

By Lucy West T: 01403 741912

Flower rota

	Altar Vases	Memorials
Saturday 6 th and 13 th June	Keith	Angela and Carol
Saturday 20 th June	WEDDING – Hariot and team to arrange flowers	
Saturday 27 th June	WEDDING – Arrangements tbc	
Saturday 4 th and 11 th July	Kathy	Angie S
Saturday 18 th and 25 th July	Mandy	Lucy
Saturday 1 st and 8 th August	Jane	Diana

If you need help or wish to change the above dates, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Hariot Annis T: 01403 741227 | M: 07402 916801 | E: hariotannis@hotmail.co.uk
Jane Grinling T: 01403 741768

By Hariot Annis and Jane Grinling

Bell Tower News

Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday

Like many other towers in the country, Shipley Ringers marked this very special birthday with rings of 100 changes.



Shipley ringers who rang for Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday.

L-R: Simon Meyer, Alice Johnston, Brian Wright, Gina French-Larcombe, Sue Meyer, Claire Searle, Jocelyn Foster

Sussex County Association

Shipley, West Sussex, St Mary the Virgin
Friday, 8 May 2026 in 3m (9-1-4 in A),
100 Doubles (2m), 90 St Martins 10 Plain

- 1 Simon S Meyer (C)
- 2 Claire A Searle
- 3 Susan P Meyer
- 4 Jocelyn Foster
- 5 Alice L R Johnston
- 6 Brian Wright

Sussex County Association

Shipley, West Sussex, St Mary the Virgin
Friday, 8 May 2026 in 3m (9-1-4 in A),
100 Doubles (2m), 90 St Martins
10 Plain Bob

- 1 Susan P Meyer
- 2 Gina Larcombe
- 3 Alice L R Johnston
- 4 Jocelyn Foster
- 5 Simon S Meyer (C)
- 6 Brian Wright

By Gina French Larcombe

21	26	8	2	18	8	26		22	9	11	22	4	23	10
9		26		9		18		18		20		12		20
24	20	18	20	18	20	23	4	20		10	26	20	13	7
23		8		9		14		9		23		4		1
2	24	26	25		8	23	10	21	23	1	3	23	8	26
9		3		26		13		23		9				10
7	5	26	13	8	26		7	3	20	13	21	9	7	3
		26		26		15		7		23		10		
3	26	10	21	13	23	18	7		20	7	7	23	6	26
26				25		25		24		3		10		20
19	9	23	10	3	9	22	18	26	3		20	17	20	13
9				12		20		7		15		9		3
23	13	20	19	23		22	20	3	13	23	20	13	1	12
18				10		26		2		8		26		18
20	8	26	10	16	26	13		5	26	26	4	21	20	25

Codeword | Answers in the next edition

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
							v		n			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
								i				

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Bell Ringing is fun



Bell Ringing is fun and ...

Could it be **your** perfect activity?

- ◆ for **young people** (10 yrs +) and **adults** of all ages - individuals, couples, families or groups it's for all faiths & none (and you don't need to be musical, mathematical or strong)
- ◆ **enjoyable & satisfying** - experience new achievements
- ◆ a gentle **workout** - physical exercise with mental stimulation - burns calories, tones muscles and relieves stress
- ◆ an easy way to **make friends** - enjoy social activities and be part of a team and community
- ◆ a great activity **at university** - or anywhere (mostly UK)
- ◆ **inexpensive** - and be paid ringing for weddings!
- ◆ boosts soft **skills**: teamwork, leadership, co-ordination, concentration, listening and analytical
- ◆ an **all-weather**, year-round activity which fits in with your other commitments
- ◆ full of **variety** - a centuries-old skill using new technology - with endless choices & places to visit
- ◆ makes your **community's soundscape**: Sunday services, weddings & special events
- ◆ produces a **fabulous emotion-stirring sound** for people to enjoy
- ◆ *it's the ultimate Heavy Metal*: Church bells are the **loudest*** (unamplified) and **heaviest** musical instruments in the world . . . and they're metal!

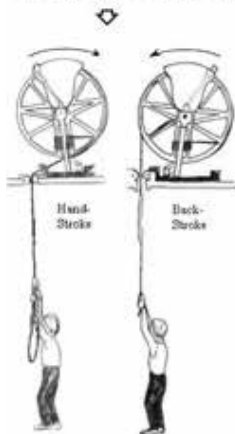


* ringing chambers are usually sound-proofed for **safe noise levels**

Bell Ringing is fun cont...

How Bells are Rung

Bells are rung **full-circle** from the 'UP' position (upside-down) with a rope round a wheel ◊ This allows ringers to vary ringing speed to change the order in which the bells ring



Learn at your own pace in stages:

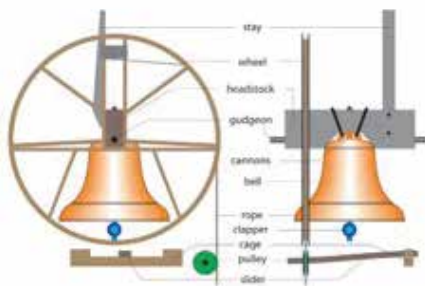
1. Bell handling

◊ (pulling the rope)

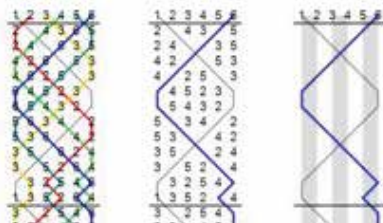
2. Rounds (ringing in time with others)

3. Change ringing (methods) ◊

There are about 40,000 ringers in over 6,000 towers!



A BELL IN THE "DOWN" POSITION



Come along and discover more

ShIPLEY Church has an active band and excellent teaching facilities, including a specially installed dumb bell.

As well as ringing at ShIPLEY Church, we also provide the opportunity to ring at other towers around the country – which recently included Canterbury Cathedral.

Practice night is on a Wednesday from 7.30 – 9.00pm. Additional sessions can be organised for initial bell-handling tuition.

Contact:

Ringing Master Simon Meyer
07494 511533
simon.meyer.bow@gmail.com



John Ireland (1879 – 1962)

Born near Manchester, studied and taught at the Royal College of Music, lived in Chelsea, London for over 50 years, and died in a converted windmill in West Sussex.

John Ireland, whose grave lies in Shipley churchyard, is considered one of the leading British composers of the twentieth century. A simple monument to him is carved in slate and positioned on the south wall of the church nave. He was a frequent visitor to Shipley Church, and in his later years reportedly found pleasure in sitting just outside the south door with his pet cat, overlooking his favourite view across the water meadows of the upper Adur River. In his lifetime, Ireland gained an impressive reputation for raising the standard of English chamber music.

His father's family came from Fifeshire and his mother's from Cumberland; both were writers. John was born in Cheshire on 13th August 1879, but both his parents died when he was just fourteen. He was initially

educated at Leeds Grammar School, but after losing his mother and father, and without anyone else's knowledge, he presented himself for audition at the Royal College of Music in London, intending to become a concert pianist. He studied there, and also had organ lessons with Sir Walter Parratt, who was at that time the organist of St George's Chapel, Windsor. By the age of sixteen he was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists (FRCO) – the youngest student ever to do so. In 1904, aged 25, he was appointed organist and choirmaster at St Luke's Church, Chelsea, where he stayed for over twenty years (1926).

In his music, Ireland sought to evoke the mysteries and rituals of ancient British civilisations. He was influenced by his contemporaries with whom he studied, such as Vaughan Williams, Stanford, Gustav Holst, Frank Bridge and Arnold Bax. In his early days he made his reputation with a number of original and striking piano pieces and songs, most notably a setting of John Masefield's "*Sea Fever*", and two sets of Thomas Hardy songs. But his fascination for timeless landscapes took him on regular visits to the Channel Islands, Dorset, and to the South Downs of Sussex.

With his long connection with the Church of England and its liturgy, Ireland also wrote music for choir and organ, together with a considerable output of piano pieces. He is known especially for his hymn tune "*My song is love unknown*", which reportedly he wrote on a scrap of paper in a quarter of an hour over lunch!



John Ireland cont...

Another of his distinctive and perhaps most popular compositions was *“The Holy Boy”*, originally a piano piece, inspired apparently by his friendship with one of his choristers, and written on Christmas Day 1913 as a carol of the Nativity. It has, since, been described as music of *“winning innocence and simplicity”*. His larger works included two violin sonatas, a symphonic rhapsody, two orchestral suites, and a piano concerto.

John Ireland was fascinated and inspired by sites of prehistoric and pre-Christian ritual. His music – and in particular his piano writing – makes sensitive use of tonal contrasts, described in his *Piano Sonata* as being inspired by a rough autumnal day on Chanctonbury Ring and – along with his piano suite *Amberley Wild Brooks (1921)* - evoking the beauty of the Sussex countryside. He often stayed on Guernsey but had to leave the island at short notice in 1939 after the surrender of France to Germany during the second World War. Ireland was one of 1,500 people crammed onto the last steamer to make it back to the British mainland, narrowly escaping the German occupation. He spent his final years in West Sussex in a converted windmill at Rock, Washington, from where he could see Chanctonbury Ring,



one of the most important places in his life. He died there aged 82 in 1962.

Among Ireland’s most notable choral works was the anthem *Greater love hath no man*. This poignant composition captures the emotions and spiritual resonances with which he was able to express himself so eloquently in his music. All who knew him remember him with affection.

Footnote: When I was a schoolboy of seventeen at Lancing College, I was taken one day by my piano teacher Michael Headington, along the country lanes through the village of Steyning, to actually meet John Ireland at his home in Rock Mill. I think it was in the year 1956, and he offered me tea and gave me a signed copy of one of his piano pieces. I remember the occasion very well.

By Peter Sanderson



View from Chanctonbury Ring

Shibley Village Fête | Melting!



For those of you who remember, the Fête of 2024 was really wet and last year it was windy. The Fête of 2026 shall be remembered as being on the hottest May day Bank Holiday since records began.

In spite of all that, this year's Shibley Fête was a fantastic success and I would like to thank everyone who volunteered, and everyone who came to support us and hopefully enjoy the day. Shibley Fête is a very special day, when the whole community comes together and it is amazing how much there is to see and do.

Our Fête, was described by one visitor as being the quintessential village fête, high praise indeed and personally I love how everyone comes together to make it such a great occasion. As ever it was a lovely mix of old and new, with traditional stalls such as the coconut shy, plant stall, bbq, books, bar, grand draw, tea and cakes, and new stalls such as fish sales, garden design, jewellery, bee keeping and a very

popular entry the "Tree of Fortune"!

As ever we try to keep those elements which work and think of new things. It was so fantastic to be given access to the field this year, our thanks to Mike and Julie Yarnold, which allowed us to spread out and have even more stalls than last year. We also extended the free music recital in Church, which is getting very popular and kept the Teddy Bear Zip Line, which is great fun.

The Fête does not magically appear and takes a lot of thought and preparation. This year's Fête was supported by the ever lovely bunch of volunteers - The Committee - who have spent the last 6 months hanging out in the Countryman, thanks to Alan, discussing and planning what we could do to make the Fête even better than before. It has been a lot of work but brilliant fun and I would like to thank everyone for all their ideas and their hard work in bringing those ideas into being.



Shipleigh Village Fête cont...



I would also like to thank all those in our special community who have donated so much, be that bric-a-brac, wine for the tombola, chocolates or Grand Draw prizes, with a special thank you to Hamish and Cheryl who got the ball rolling by again very generously putting up their wonderful holiday home in Devon as the star prize.

As ever there are so many people to thank for working very hard to make things look effortless, everyone on “The Committee”, all those who donated prizes, all those who tirelessly raised funds and got prizes, and the hard working car parking team, and a special mention must go to my wife Mel, who has not only put up with me talking about the fête for the last 6 months, but also took minutes at the meetings, organised the dog show, found prizes, sold Grand Draw tickets, baked cakes and did it all without murdering me.

As I write this we are still counting the stall takings and paying a few bills but I think that, in spite of the weather, we have raised a significant sum! Which will go towards keeping our historic church going for future generations.

Finally I must also say a massive thank you to everyone who lives in the village itself, who have to put up with so many strangers invading the space and making it so hard to live a normal life.

So as we put the signs away for another year, and reflect on some lessons learned for next year, I would just like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the day such a great success. I hope you enjoyed it and I look forward to working with you all next year, and for everyone who attended we try to make the Fête better every year, so if you have some ideas, do let me know.

By Gavin Kenny



Shingley History Society

In March we welcomed the return of speaker Jeremy Hodgkinson who visited us 15 years ago. His talk on The Wealden Iron Industry and its importance to the development of early modern Britain was in depth and fascinating. In our quiet and rural part of Sussex, it is impossible to imagine how industrial, busy and noisy it would have been. In 1574, according to the government survey of that year, there were 50 furnaces and 50 forges! It all started in a small way of course but as there was such a rich source of iron ore in the weald plus the woodland to keep the furnaces burning, industry soon grew. In Elizabethan times the production of canons was the mainstay of the industry and then with great foresight Elizabeth I compelled the forges to put the iron slag on the roads. This allowed for easier transportation which otherwise would have been hampered by mud. Today, there is still evidence of slag on some old tracks and roads. Another relic of the industry is of course the hammer pond on the Knepp Estate and which still exists today.

Thursday 19th June 6pm: Our annual summer social is this year being held at **Green Gates**, Broomers Corner, the home of **Derek and Gina Larcombe**. SHS member **Ian Miles** is currently working on the lives of **Bob and Jose Phillips**, our much loved and missed Shingley locals. Ian will give insights into the many ways that Bob and Jose contributed to, and became synonymous with service to their community. As always, we'll be serving delicious finger food and drinks in what we anticipate will be a glorious midsummer evening. Lots of parking available in paddock accessible through the drive.

Thursday 10th September at 5pm: Knepp Safari to look at ancient trees and visit the walled garden.

And our new programme to look forward to, so put the dates in diaries:

Programme for 2026

Thursday 15th October | Alan Barwick - the Horsham to Steyning branch line

Thursday 26th November AGM | Kevin Newman - Spooky Sussex followed by our traditional Christmas refreshments.

Secretary Jean Wright Email: shingley.history.secretary@gmail.com

Our new website is <https://shingleyhistory.wordpress.com/>

By Gina French Larcombe

Shipley Safari Supper

SATURDAY 13 JUNE 2026



SHIPLEY SAFARI SUPPER

Join us for a delightful summer evening of
food, friendship and village adventure.

We begin at 6:00pm with drinks and canapés at Brick Kiln Farm, Shipley Road, Southwater, RH13 9BQ, before setting off across Shipley to enjoy starter, main course and pudding in different homes around the village.

A big thank you to Peter and Jane Sanderson, who organised this much-loved event for 24 years, and who have now passed the reins to Philip and Annabel Jordan.

How it works

Host a starter, main course or pudding in your home. Or join as a guest and enjoy the full Safari experience.

Cost per person

£15 – Main course hosts
£20 – Starter or pudding hosts
£30 – Non-hosting guests

Booking

If you would like to take part, please put the date in your diary. Advance booking is essential to enable us to plan your evening. So please contact without delay:

Annabel Jordan

Tel: 07817 136016

Email: jordangang@hotmail.com

All proceeds will be donated to Shipley Church.

Shipley Arts Festival 2026

Shipley Arts Festival Summer Season 2026

Music, community and celebration across Sussex and Surrey this June and July

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Opening Concert at St Mary's Church, Shipley. It was a very special evening, and many commented that it was among the largest audiences we have welcomed for an opening event. The warmth and support shown by our local community continue to mean a great deal to us all.

Our summer season continues throughout June and July with concerts across Sussex and Surrey, bringing together internationally renowned artists, young musicians and longstanding friends of the Festival in a programme celebrating music, community and the beautiful places in which we live.

June begins with an evening of Baroque music at Lackenhurst, generously hosted by Lady Louise Burrell, followed by performances from the Stradivarius Piano Trio at Eartham House as part of the Festival of Chichester. This year also welcomes a new Festival venue, Leith Hill Place, famously known as the childhood home of composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. We also look forward to

welcoming audiences to more informal summer evenings of jazz-inspired music at the George & Dragon, Shipley and St Andrew's Church, Nuthurst.

One of this summer's highlights will be our annual Wilding Concert at Knepp Castle on 12 July, featuring a programme inspired by nature and the landscape of the Knepp Estate, with music by Richard Strauss, Helen Ottaway and others.

Later in July, Shipley Arts Festival continues to develop its international musical connections through this year's Summer Camp in Hong Kong, bringing together young string players from the UK and Asia for performances, workshops and cultural exchange.

As always, we remain deeply grateful to our audiences, Festival Friends, and sponsors whose generosity and encouragement make the Festival possible.

For full programme details and tickets, please visit www.bmglive.com

Andrew Bernardi
Artistic Director, Shipley Arts Festival –
May 2026



ShIPLEY Arts Festival 2026 cont...

BERNARDI MUSIC GROUP

SHIPLEY ARTS FESTIVAL

2026

May 3rd, Shipley Parish Church LONDON CHRISTIAN CHOIR & THE BERNARDI STRINGS	Jul 12th, Knepp Castle Estate THE WILDING CONCERT
May 30th, Warnham Park House STRADIVARIUS PIANO TRIO CONCERTO	Jul 17th, St. Andrew's Church JAZZ CHAMBER MUSIC & SPECIAL GUESTS
Jun 5th, Lackenhurst Estate WE WILL BAROQUE YOU!	Aug 29th, Drew's Barn, Warnham BMG STRADOPHONICS PRESENTS SWING WITH STRINGS!
Jun 14th, Great Ballard School FESTIVAL OF CHICHESTER CONCERT	Sep 6th, Durrance Manor, Shipley MEMORIAL CONCERT FOR DR GORDON LINDSAY
Jun 19th, The George & Dragon DINNER JAZZ IN SHIPLEY!	Sep 13th, St Mary's Church, Billingshurst WORLD PREMIERE FROM COMPOSER MARK COPPING
Jun 21st, Leith Hill Place, Surrey A WORLD PREMIERE WITH DR SUSANNAH SELF	Oct 4th, Castle Goring STRADIVARIUS PIANO TRIO & ART PREVIEW
Jun 26th, Champs Hill, Pulborough A CONCERT OF WELLBEING FOR THE MARY HOW TRUST	Oct 18th, Drew's Barn, Warnham 2026 FESTIVAL REVIEW BY INVITATION

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www.bernardimusicgroup.com

Defibrillators - Where's your nearest?

We have seven defibrillators around the parish and it's good to know where they are sited. As Shipley is widely dispersed, the nearest may be found at the following locations:

- Andrew Hall, Shipley (located outside so available 24/7) **Please note: This defibrillator is now back in action**
- Foxfield Cottages phone box on the Shipley Road
- Shipley Football Club
- Coolham Village Hall
- Dial Post Village Hall
- Shipley Primary School (during school hours only)
- William Penn School (during school hours only)



On 8th June 2026 Shipley Church bells rang out to mark Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday. I was invited into the bell tower to watch the Shipley Bell Ringers perform a delightful and uplifting tribute to Sir David Attenborough who was celebrating his 100th birthday. In my lifetime, Sir David has been an ever-present influence and an advocate for nature. He has been influencing and captivating millions of people across the world. In my opinion he is the finest English broadcaster. His voice is so distinctive and will be synonymous with the natural world forever. His passion as a natural historian, conservationist, writer, producer and narrator comes through in every aspect of his work. A measure of the man is often manifested in the small acts of kindness. A nine-year-old boy, Tom Richardson, wrote to Sir David and you can only imagine how special young Tom felt when he received a hand written note in reply. The beautiful body of work that Sir David has shared with us all has inspired me and you never really get to say thank you but I hope through all of the celebrations and tributes to celebrate this landmark birthday, he feels the love that we as a nation share and feel for this unique gentleman.

There is more detail about the Shipley Bellingringing tribute to Sir David in an article by Gina Larcombe, Shipley History Society. 9th June 2026 is National Windmill Weekend and maybe by coincidence the Shipley History Society had a special tour of Kings Mill, Shipley. We were greeted by Edward Eustace, the great,



Kings Mill, Shipley Windmill
9th June 2026

great grandson of Hillaire Belloc. It was such a pleasure to meet Edward and Brandon (a volunteer with a shared passion for windmills) and see inside the mill and to get a better understanding of the rich history and the workings of this magnificent mill. Edward told us that private visits can now be arranged and there is accommodation available for rent through Airbnb. Kings Mill is full of wonderful historical reminders that are well worth seeing for yourself. Some interesting facts, Shipley Windmill was built in 1876 the same year that the Cutty Sark was built. In an 1823 map there was a Windmill at Honeypoles Farm (which today is known as Honeypools). Materials from Honeypoles were used to build Kings Mill. In a few weeks the Shipley Windmill will be painted which will make this iconic building stand out even more.

Hérons are superb hunters and will eat anything that fits in their powerful bill – insects, fish, amphibians, small mammals and even other small birds, such as ducklings. The most distinctive sight of a

Countryman cont...

heron is in the shallows with a statue like pose as it waits patiently to strike. Herons are found all over the world except in Antarctica. For those who keep fish in ornamental ponds, sadly they get a very bad press. A pond with fish is like a bird table with food on. Often avid collectors of fish need to protect their ponds with netting to deter these voracious hunters.

The White Stork colony at Knepp is very successful and it is one of many white stork colonies established in the UK. There are colonies in Wadhurst, Cotswold Wildlife Park (captive breeding colony), Devon and one starting up in London. Colonies of birds that nest or roost in proximity to a particular location is quite common with some other species. Herons mentioned earlier nest in colonies, seabirds do too, with examples including puffins, penguins, gulls and razorbills. House Martins are sociable birds and breed in colonies; they are one of my favourite birds. They make the gruelling journey from Africa every year and nest in sandy banks in the UK, they are easy to spot at places like Pagham Harbour. Sand Martins are the smallest



The White Stork colony
on the Knepp Estate, June 2026

European hirundines (the collective name for martins, swifts and swallows). CORRECTION: from my last edition, I mentioned a song thrush in my last article, an eagle-eyed reader spotted that the picture I used was in fact a mistle thrush. The fact about the beauty of song thrush song is definitely still correct. Top of the pops this month is now the nightingale. It can be heard all over the parish and it's worth checking their song on the RSPB website if you are not already familiar with it.

I have mentioned the red kite before in relation to its successful reintroduction. There are many red kites in the area and their numbers are growing. There is a lot of excitement about the white-tailed eagle which is massive in comparison. I have seen the white-tailed eagle over Smithers Hill but haven't managed to get a photograph of it yet. It can often be seen at RSPB reserve at Pulborough Brooks so I should get down there to try and get a photo for my future articles. Going back to the red kite, they are beautiful and



A Heron on top of an oak tree,
June 2026

Countryman cont...

expert flyers. The colour and wing shape is very distinctive. Their diet comprises carrion, roadkill and worms but being opportunistic they will occasionally take small mammals.

Enjoy the upcoming events, especially Shipley Fête. Monday 25th May 2026 from 11:00 – 4pm, hopefully the weather will be kind and warm.

Your Countryman



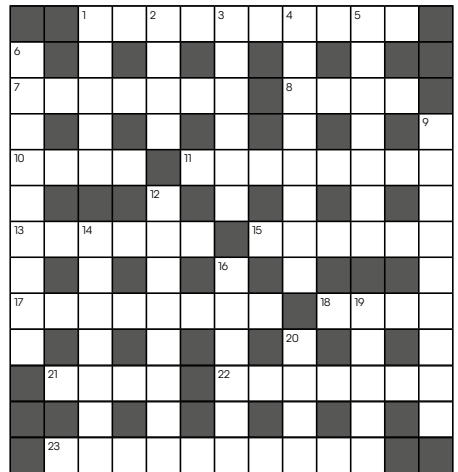
Cryptic crossword | Answers in the next edition

Across

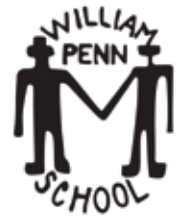
- 1 Birds spin and spread out (10)
- 7 No time in sort of romantic island (7)
- 8 Help! Nothing is tolerable! (2-2)
- 10 Tennis star gaining recognition after false starts (4)
- 11 Musical door has to be bow (4,4)
- 13 Reputed monster is seen at sea (6)
- 15 Air gently moving piece of cake (6)
- 17 A spot of wet weather (8)
- 18 Transport is provided, thanks to team (4)
- 21 Military supplies held back by commender (4)
- 22 Latin I translated with a person from Rome, perhaps (7)
- 23 Actress changing gear with Bogart (5,5)

Down

- 1 Seasonal visitor in pleasant apparel (5)
- 2 Some insane Roman fiddler (4)
- 3 Excellent fruit back in pantry (6)
- 4 Old man's weapon that's need to gain access (8)
- 5 Recipe, initially, is only for fried food (7)



- 6 One girl swallowing a drink that's not real (9)
- 9 The inn, as a resort for Greeks (9)
- 12 Last to be taken by the devil? (8)
- 14 One eating little head of lettuce held by cook in hot water? (7)
- 16 Too fond of hopeless tin god (6)
- 19 Written about in blog, I'm acknowledged as foreign friend (5)
- 20 Former prime minister doesn't start retreat (4)



I'm very excited to introduce myself as the (quite) new Head Teacher at William Penn Primary. I was formerly the Deputy Head Teacher at Jolesfield School in Partridge Green. So much has happened in the past seven months or so it's all been a bit of a blur but I have loved settling in and getting to know.

The end of last term and the start of this term has all been about new life. We were incredibly privileged to have a new born lamb and her mother on our beautiful school grounds for a week. The children were responsible for looking after the animals and making sure they thrived during their stay with us.



After the Easter Break our reception class took delivery of a batch of eggs and an incubator and had the joy of watching many of them hatch and grow into very active little chicks, before leaving us to roam on a free-range farm. As well as this we have tadpoles in our ever-expanding forest school area.

The experiences themselves are invaluable for the children. We have also made sure they are used as stimuli for geography, science and some fantastic writing.

We also have some very exciting news. After some amazing fund raising from our brilliant PTA, plus a successful grant application, we will shortly be starting work on a new building that will serve as a new library and sensory room.



By Colin Brookes
Head Teacher, William Penn School

As we move towards warmer weather and longer days, our attention turns to barbeques and events. There are some important Summer “Get Together” dates for our Members’ diaries in this edition of Chatter (and also the 2026 Christmas Lunch date!).

The schedule of the walks and cycles is also included, in case you (or a friend) would like to join the Summer/Autumn programme. Meanwhile, the Petanque, Men’s Shed, Walking (and “Darting”) football clubs, and the Green Team are ongoing, lively and sociable activities to try if you aren’t already involved. Spread the word!

Record Cycle Rides

We had a record-equalling 14 turnout for last week’s ride (with 6 on traditional bikes and 8 on electric bikes). The beautiful Lords Piece-Amberley-Duncton route: forests, foothills, flood plains, immaculate mansion houses and country cottages to die for, along those romantic backlanes beneath the chalk downs. A delightful secret coffee stop tucked in hills was an obvious winner! We can’t stress how enjoyable these rides are! Interested? Have a chat with Phil initially.

Walking Wonders

So far we have explored Chanctonbury and Cissbury Rings, attacked the Downs from lovely Ditchling, and enjoyed Denbies Vineyard and surrounding Surrey Hills! Somehow perfect weather is almost guaranteed on our walking days! So...dust off your walking boots and

if you haven’t joined us for any walks before, then email us or have a chat with Richard (details at the end of this article)..

Summer Event Dates

The results of our poll have been counted, and it has been decided! We will go for two events this Summer:

- Friday 19 June for our traditional evening BBQ and petanque.
- Sunday 19 July for a Sunday afternoon Summer Party.

19 July may have a World Cup theme as the Final will start that evening! We would love to make these events a big success for ALL our members, so please get the dates in your diary and come to have some fun. More details soon.

‘owling Success In The Shed!

This wonderful community of owls, turned (can you believe) from lengths of plywood stuck together, are a hit! It’s amazing how simply moving their head to a different position completely changes their expression...“I’m shy” , “I don’t believe you”, “I’m wondering...” and so on! Beautifully made they really are turning heads! Pop into the Shed to have a look. £20 each.



News from HSCP cont...

All-Weather Shed Cover

The shedders demonstrated their considerable welding skills to create a brand-new perspex roof structure between the shed and the new container. This, plus some extensive electrical work, has given us scope to allow members to work in a less crowded environment and enjoy the fresh air, whatever the weather!

HSCP Activities Milestones!

As we celebrate HSCP activities' 10th birthdays we thought it would be fun to reflect on some of the important milestones!

- 2015 | Work Started on flattening the top pitch area in 2014. By 2015 Walking Football club was born.
- 2016 | The 4 pistes were finished and Petanque Club started. Men's Shed was erected by early members.
- 2017 | Recycling was introduced, Defib purchased, car park surfaced, rock garden installed. Over 100 trees planted.
- 2018 | HSCP officially registered as charity. Chatter was launched & the first BBQs. Football moved to top pitch.
- 2019 | Green team was set up and Health Walks started, initially exploring Knepp Castle Estate.
- 2022 | Cycle Club took off in earnest and Health Walks tackled the 100 miles South Downs Way.

Christmas Lunch 2026

Date for your Diary - By popular demand we are moving our traditional Christmas Lunch event to slightly nearer Christmas on **TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER**.

Membership Renewals Coming Up

It is just about time for HSCP Members to renew. Don't forget that your membership entitles you to join any of our activities (except walking football which is a little extra). Please spread the word and if you are interested in trying a different activity, the contact for each is below. Please get in touch! Membership Details will be emailed soon - we do hope you will join us for another year.

Get in Touch...

As always, if you have any comments, concerns or questions please do get in touch.

E: HorshamShingleyCommunityProject@gmail.com

W: www.HorshamShingleyCommunityProject.org

HorshamShingleyCommunityProject.org

Russell for Pétanque: 07803 259190

Richard for Football/Walks/Green

Team: 07503 347811

Philip for Men's Shed/Cycling:
07786 070939

All best wishes to you all

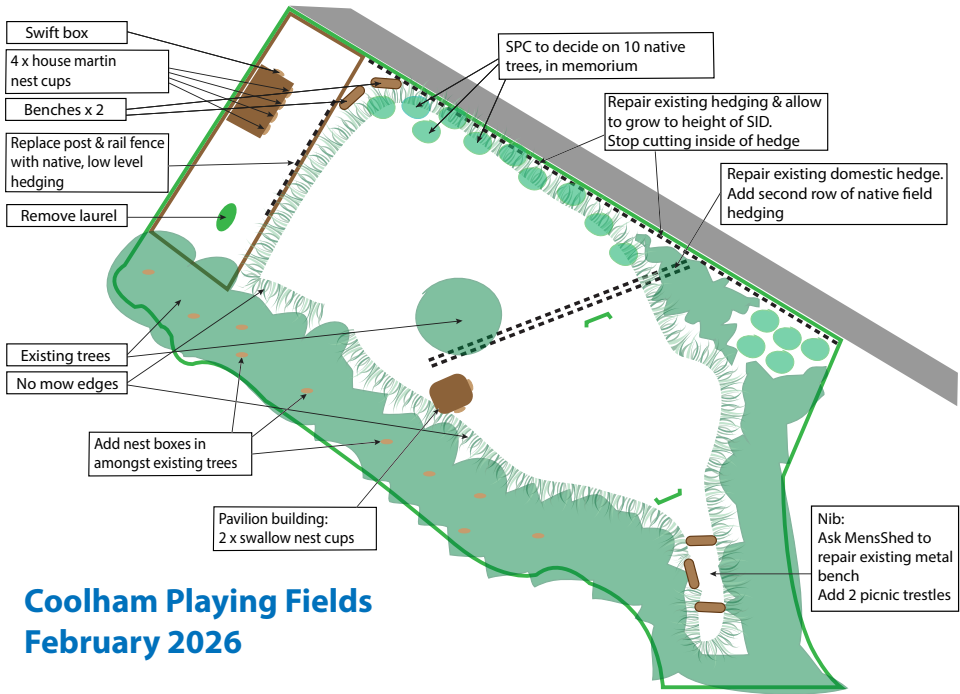
Phil, Richard, Russell, Dawn & Helen,
Trustees



**THE HORSHAM
& SHIPLEY
COMMUNITY
project**

News from Greener Shipley

Updated and approved plan for Coolham Playing Fields



Coolham Playing Fields February 2026

A hedge planting day at Coolham Playing Fields in April

Following a vote by Shipley Parish Council to approve the revised plans for Coolham Playing Fields, work started on the refurbishment of the hedge alongside the playing fields and the A272. A team of volunteers from Coolham got together one sunny Saturday in April to fill the gaps with new hedging.

More information about the Coolham Playing Fields plans are available on the Shipley Parish Council website:

<https://www.shipleyparishcouncil.org.uk/community/shipley-parish-council-20030/greener-shipley/>

By Nancy Brock



GREENER SHIPLEY

Greener Shipley Summer 2026 Programme of Events



21st May:
Regenerative Farming Visit



25th May:
Shipley Parish Fete



1st June:
Ford Recycling Visit



3rd June:
Meadow Visit and Talk



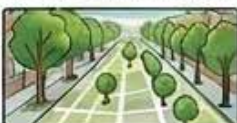
REINTRODUCTION 16th June:
Lost Species
Reintroduction Visit



9th July:
Gardens & Green Spaces
Workshop and Walk



5th September: Tree Mapping Training and Workshop



greenerShipley@gmail.com



News from Sussex Green Living

Get out for the Butterfly Count

The environmental charity, Sussex Green Living, is teaming up with local conservation group, Wild About Warnham, this summer to celebrate Butterfly Conservation's **Big Butterfly Count** with a free guided walk in the Warnham Butterfly Fields on Sunday 19th July.



Warnham Butterfly Fields

The Big Butterfly Count is an annual survey of the UK's butterflies when everyone is encouraged to get outdoors on a sunny day to count the butterflies they spot in a fifteen-minute period. Counts can take place in your garden, in your local park or in the countryside. This year's count will run from 17th July to 9th August.

The Count provides vital information to help Butterfly Conservation assess the fortunes of the UK's butterflies and your findings will help guide future conservation action to help boost butterfly numbers.

Sadly, of the UK's 59 butterfly species, 33 have been in decline in recent years, with favourites like the once common Small Tortoiseshell on the brink of disappearing altogether in parts of southeast England.



Large Skipper © Bill Thornton

But there are lots of ways we can all help our butterflies thrive. You can get involved by volunteering with a local conservation group such as Wild About Warnham, or your local branch of Butterfly Conservation. Or why not take some simple steps to make your garden more butterfly-friendly?

Butterflies will visit any garden, however small if it contains some nectar-rich plants to attract them. But don't forget if you want butterflies to breed in your garden, you should also include plants and shrubs on which their hungry caterpillars can feed. As many butterflies lay their eggs on different grasses, just allowing an area of your lawn to grow long and wild will do the trick!



Small Tortoiseshell with flowers
© David Bridges

News from Sussex Green Living cont...

How about a stroll to discover the butterflies fluttering around in your area? The Big Butterfly Walk will take place in Warnham, West Sussex and will be all about spotting the local species and learning about their needs and habitats. Everyone welcome.

Free Sussex Green Living Big Butterfly Walk – book your ticket:
<https://SGLbigbutterflywalk.eventbrite.co.uk>



More info on **Big Butterfly Count:**
<https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help>



Common Blue © Bill Thornton

Volunteer with **Wild About Warnham**,
 email: wildwarnham@btinternet.com

Contact **Sussex Butterfly Conservation**
 for other local events and conservation
 work parties: <https://sussex-butterflies.org.uk/index.php>

By David Bridges



Sudoku | Answers in the next edition

	5					1	9	
							4	2
9	1			2	7	5	6	8
3	4	5			1	9		6
7			3	4				
8	9		2		6			3
		8	7			2	1	
1	6				8			4
			1			6	8	5

←
Easy

								3	
	6	2			4				8
5						7			
9	1		5						7
	5								
		7		4	2				
		1		7					6
				9		6	8		
7				5					

→
Extreme

News from Shipley Community Hub

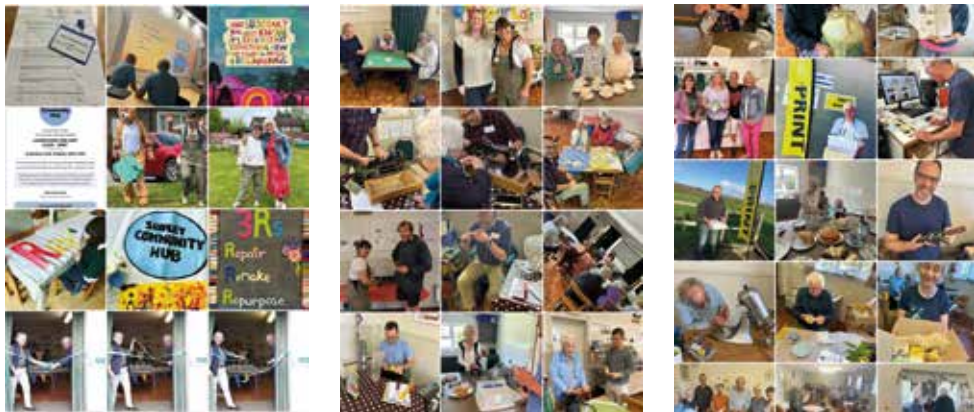
A very happy 3rd Birthday to the Hub!

As always I say - "It's not my hub, it's the 'Communities Hub'" and I'd like to share to those that don't know, how such a wonderful group of people came together! I've always loved being part of a community, and hopefully bringing smiles and happiness to those around me. This particular idea started back in 2023 when I was part of Shipley Parish Council. I was invited to a 'Repair cafe conference' whilst sitting on the parish council - which really struck a chord with me. We have become a disposable throw away nation, and I wanted to do something about it.

One day armed with a clip board, whilst knocking on doors asking people their views on a potential 20/30 mph zone within in the heart of the village - (Yes... that was me!) and on a side note, My apologies for anyone who hates the new road signs, a slight infringement in an otherwise picturesque setting, but at certain times of the day, it was very much like the WRC (World rally

Championships) on that particular stretch of road, what with school pick up and drop off traffic or delivery drivers who raced along through the otherwise beautiful and peaceful roads. Anyway I digress.. So, Back to the clipboard scene, and where I had my lightbulb moment!

I was struck by something one gentleman named Barry, who lives in the village said to me "We need something social in the village, you're good at organising things - how about a bridge club?" Now, I have never played Bridge, (and I still haven't!) but within a week I had put my feelers out and been kindly donated a bridge table, and some playing cards... So, I bounded full of enthusiasm for my next project at the next Parish council meeting announcing my idea of a community group with repair cafe and not forgetting the Bridge! Sadly, I was faced with negativity by a few, and left the meeting feeling frustrated and despondent. However, Amanda Jupp was at that same meeting and contacted me a short while after and suggested we meet for a chat! (Oh my goodness! What had I said/done!!? - Always ominous when you're me!...)



News from Shipley Community Hub



Anyway, Amanda assured me all was well, and we arranged to meet at the yard where I kept my horse in Dragons Green yard for a chat as Amanda had mentioned she used to keep horses and would love to meet mine.

So, as we walked up to the horses, chatting, I passed her the lead rope with my horse attached and said the fateful words *"Please could you hold him, but if anything happens, please just let go"*... Seconds later, and to my horror, Amanda had been knocked off her feet...(and was still holding on!) Thankfully... once she was upright, and dusted off, and thankfully no harm done, we both laughed albeit my heart in my mouth, Amanda continued unperturbed.

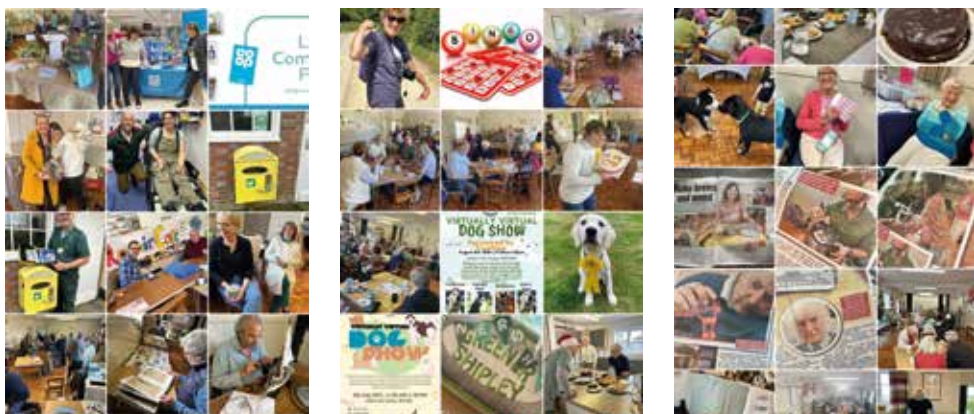
"I am on the committee the Andrew Hall which was gifted to the community many years ago" she said, *"I think your idea of a community group is wonderful, so we would like to gift you the use of the hall, free of charge for a year to do what you do best"*. Go and do it...set up your idea! Wow! How amazing!

I immediately threw my councillor titled 'towel' in and within three weeks the hall

was booked for the first Tuesday of every month under the name 'Shipley Community Hub'.

To my surprise, another wonderful person Jason Emrich, who manages Knepp Castle Estate called me... *"I've heard about your project and I'd like to offer you Matt our maintenance manager for your new project and repair cafe. We at Knepp think what you are planning is fantastic idea and we would love to support you"*. Wow again...

I chatted to Jo Nunn, my wonderful neighbour at the time, about my plans and she immediately said: *"I do the church teas... I'll help you with refreshments"*. This seed was germinating really fast and the news got round and very soon after that the lovely Nia joined the group offering her ever efficient organisation skills and help. (Which I greatly need!) Another message from someone in the village contacted me offering to be part of the repair cafe saying he could fix most things with the right tools - That was Rob Blackburn. (And for the record he really can!)



News from Shipley Community Hub cont...

Bridgette, known affectionately as our 'Pink lady' came along to support us. And former Chair of the Parish Council, a woman I aspire and look up to - Nicki Neal-Smith - offered me so much support and wisdom and agreed to be Chair of the newly forming group.

And then there are the others who helped - Jozef, who I knew and worked along side at Horsham market where I run my own business 'Just Brownies'. Jozef agreed to come along with his business 'Plastic free refills'. Sadly more recently Jozef has had to step back due to other commitments, but 'Greener Shipley' are in the process of looking to getting the refills back at the Hub. So fear not! Watch this space...

The ribbon was cut by Amanda Jupp and the wonderful Gordon Lindsey on the 2nd May 2023 and the The Shipley Community Hub was born.

And so there you have it, the rest, as they say is making history...

As the photos show, we've celebrated all sorts things at the Hub... Talks about space from scientist Saeeda Awan who is

part of the Euclid space, Wonderful tales from members of the community about their lives in and around Shipley and beyond, Singing and live music (but as yet no dancing!) Authors, Plant growers. Not forgetting the mini dog shows, Recycling talks, Bike repairs, Community Support officers. We've even had free health checks and a course on first aid kindly offered by Tim and Sophie Burrell from Platinum ambulance to compliment the defibrillator the Hub installed that can be found in its bright yellow box outside the hall - now kindly monitored by Debbie Cannon.

Plus on a side note - A book club and sister project 'Greener Shipley' has also been born from the Hub, thanks to Judy Tuck and her Green team. The list goes on...(and so can I!) So before I sign off or you go to sleep! I'd like to say I owe a special Thank you to the following:

The wonderful Amanda Jupp for believing in me and helping me make this happen.

Jason Emrich and Knepp Castle Estate for their support and for loaning us Matt, and more recently the lovely Maureen



News from Shipley Community Hub cont...

Line - who has started up our new sewing and repairs station.

Bryan from FinePrint printers for his awesome and wonderful sponsorship with our flyers (and to Martin the Postie who delivers some of them to you).

And lastly to ALL who have offered support in the way of talks, cakes, time, donations, your kind words and love. The Hub happens each month, due to the time and effort given for free by so many wonderful people, bringing comfort, joy and Friendship whilst harnessing a stronger community - And so for that, I am truly thankful to everyone.

By Sarah Cuthbertson

Founder of Shipley Community Hub

Our programme for 2026

Tuesday 2nd June | Cheese talk and tasting by Joe from Village Larder, Washington.

Tuesday 7th July | Caroline Instance explains what the Chanctonbury community land trust is about.

Tuesday 4th August | Free Trivia Quiz organised by Lillys cottage

Tuesday 1st September | Benefits talk - WSCC - (Amanda Jupp)

Tuesday 6th October | A Talk by Jane Warren about - the Japanese art of fixing precious items with raised gold leaf.

Tuesday 3rd November | The Peking to Paris Motor Challenge. A talk about a grueling 37-day, 14,500+ km endurance rally for classic and vintage cars.

Tuesday 1st December | Xmas Fayre

Talks and themes generally start around 11.30am and run for approximately 30-45 mins. A monthly themed raffle is also organised. Tickets are drawn at around 12.30pm and funds from raffle and refreshments go towards the future running costs of our community group.

*****Please note the earlier closing time of 1.30pm for 2026**



A free monthly drop-in hub run by the community for the community

ALL WELCOME

First Tuesday of the month

Cakes and refreshments, talks/themes, repair café, eco-refills, great company

11AM - 2PM

Andrew Hall, Shipley RH13 8PH

The repair hub volunteers can look at most mechanical or electrical items, clocks/watches and knife and tool sharpening and more!

Repairs are on a first come first served basis until 1.30pm. No need to book
Knife sharpening of treasured and loved knives a speciality!
If you have old tools needing love and oil, we can de-rust and sharpen them - they take longer and will need to be left until the next Hub or can be picked up locally when ready. Tools need love too! Repair. Refurbish. Not Replace!!

Can you help bake/donate a cake?

Email: shipleycommunityhub@gmail.com
www.shipleycommunityhub.org

News from Knepp Castle Estate

It's mid May and we've had several new people join Knepp in the last few weeks. Julie our longest serving member of staff has handed over property letting responsibility to Louise, who is settling in well and dealing with new legislation for residential tenancies alongside getting to know our community. Julie remains as our HR coordinator for our 100+ strong workforce; a growing role!

We also welcome Jo as our first full-time marketing manager who will help with some of our commercial activities and keep pace with the world of AI to help build new tech platforms. Hopefully a new Knepp App will be coming soon!

In the butchery, we have some stunning new orders for charcuterie and are investing in skills and a new 'cave' to fulfil and grow this venture and are delighted to welcome Greg to Ian's team, who comes with a wealth of experience in charcuterie. This is a fabulous way for us to ensure that every bit our wonderful animals make it into appropriate parts of the food chain, and hopefully an opportunity to make small scale artisan food production from our own produce profitable.

At The Knepp Wilding Kitchen and Shop we have welcomed several new senior team members in time for a busy summer season, do please introduce yourselves to them, and not just to complain at the new parking charges!! More from Nick below.

In the gardens, head gardener Charlie H has been recruiting and we are delighted to welcome Olivia and Brett to his team.

Charlie writes: *"A warm, dry and breezy April didn't faze the climate-resilient plant communities in the Revilded Walled Garden, but the lack of spring showers and late frosts have kept Knepp's garden team on their toes in the newly re-worked and re-planted adjacent Kitchen Garden. The garden team are thinking differently about growing food this year: leaning more towards regenerative growing principles - as practiced at Knepp's organic 3-acre Market Garden - but with more influence from agroforestry and natural farming methods, as opposed to the strict revilding narrative of the old croquet lawn next door.*

'Revild Your Vegetable Garden' events have just kicked off for another season (bookable via Knepp.co.uk), where visitors can learn about how food is grown by working with nature through tours of both garden sites, followed by fantastic lunch at the Wilding Kitchen where the produce is enjoyed. After a winter of work and developing ideas, it promises to be another interesting year in this unique experiment in garden biodiversity!"



Great to hear from Pat this month who has been busy with calving his herds of cattle. Like all in the farming community he is obsessed with the weather!: *"Almost record levels of rain in Feb, and then virtually nothing, but spring still sprung and as well as the plants and trees, our pigs and cattle have also burst forth.*

News from Knepp cont...



We are well on our way with calving, over the three herds of Longhorns and our herd of Sussex we are over two thirds of the way through.

One set of our Longhorn bulls are in the fields opposite the Countryman pub, called Blacksmiths Front (a reference to the smithy originally on the site of the pub), and Tree Field which has the footpath on the right hand side of it. We have let some blocks of willow grow up in these two fields over the years and I have incorporated these into the mob grazing paddocks that we break the fields up into. The bulls love the shade, scratching and browsing opportunities these afford.

We have also grazed the youngstock Sussex cattle around the field behind Shipley school, much to the enjoyment of the children.

As I write this it has just started raining, the dancing has worked after all!"

It's a busy time of year for Matt our lead ecologist and nature communicator, who is busy collecting data in the field, so I am grateful that he has found time to contribute this month: *"Whenever anyone asks me when the best time is to visit Knepp, I generally always say May. As I'm writing this now the Wildland is thronging with the combined songs of dozens of nightingales fresh in from West Africa along with literally hundreds of warblers like whitethroats, garden warblers, blackcaps, chiffchaffs and, of course, the cuckoos. Tiny longhorn calves and Tamworth piglets are frolicking about in the scrubby fields, and the beavers have been busy reinforcing their lodge, preparing for the imminent arrival of this year's kits. It's also shaping up to be a bumper year for painted lady butterflies, with many seen whizzing around Knepp in late April and early May, and experts predicting it could be the biggest influx since 2009.*

As a local resident, what do you feel as you wander through the Wildland at Knepp? We'd love to know and so would researchers from the University of Sussex who are seeking volunteers to take part in 'Rewilding Experience Walks' in June. To find out more and sign up to take part visit <https://www.ruralex.eu/knepp.html>."

Our campsite opened at Easter and rather tragically on 11th April a fire destroyed one of our tree houses. Mercifully no one was hurt, and huge thanks to Rachel and her team for delivering a replacement yurt in 3 weeks to accommodate customers who had booked with us. The experience was shocking and our thanks to the wider Knepp workforce who dropped everything to help. Happily calm resumed and our 13th season benefitted from glorious April sunshine and stunning bluebells.



It's a super-exciting time for safaris and Bev's brilliant team of guides are enjoying a rich early season of sites and sounds, as Matt has described above. Logistics can be challenging at the beginning of the season and congratulations to the team for coping with daily dynamics.

News from Knepp cont...

Nick, always busy but always keen to share what's going on at the Knepp Wilding Kitchen and Shop:

“With longer and (hopefully) warmer days, there are a myriad of summer activities at our Wilding Kitchen & Shop:

- *Our Friday evening BBQs with live music in the courtyard have returned and we are open Saturday evenings for dinner as well.*
- *If you are growing your own vegetables you may be interested in a guided tour of Knepp's organic market garden and speaking to our growers to take tips home to your own veg beds!*
- *We have some wonderful author events with Professor Dave Goulson in June talking about his book ‘Eat the Planet Well’ looking at an issue close to our heart: how modern, intensive farming systems producing pesticide-laced, ultra-processed foods are bad for us and bad for the planet. Caroline Lucas calls his book ‘a clarion call’ and he explores solutions from more sustainable farming systems to what we can all do like changing what we eat, wasting less and growing more ourselves.*
- *On July 16 Springwatch producer and author, Stephen Moss talks about his latest book: ‘10 Birds that Changed the World’ which tells the gripping story of this long and eventful relationship through ten key species from all seven of the world's continents. From Odin's faithful raven companions to Darwin's finches, and from the wild turkey of the Americas to the emperor penguin as potent symbol of the climate crisis, this should be a fascinating and eye-opening evening.*
- *The shop is also stocking a wide range of summer essentials such as our own burgers and sausages as well as a wide range of organic wines, beers and soft drinks.”*

For those in the History Society who joined the archaeological dig at the scheduled ancient monument in April, I gather you never found the buried wall that you were looking for, but it looked like great fun and lots of pottery was uncovered.



Finally we are delighted to be supporting Greener Shipley with several visits to different parts of the estate this year and we very much look forward to seeing you at these. Ranger Steve has joined Greener Shipley and writes:

“At the time of writing, we've just had a couple of weeks of wild weather. Heavy night frosts, thunderstorms and hail the size of peas! All of these can have an effect on the wildlife, not just immediately but also longer term. For example, the magnificent oaks around the parish were just starting to come into leaf and flower when we had a couple of very cold nights. This has resulted in “frost-burn” to the emerging leaves and the destruction of the delicate flowers. Although the

News from Knepp cont...

effect on the leaves can look quite dramatic, with some of our jay-sown oaks looking dead, the oak is very resilient and will put out new leaves, or Lammas growth, around July / August. Obviously, they won't have as long to feed the tree before they are lost in the autumn, but this late growth is also a defence mechanism against insect attack. If the oak is infested by caterpillars in the spring, especially of the green Tortix moth – favourite food item that many birds rely on to feed their chicks, then the Lammas growth emerges after the caterpillar “flush” and is mostly unaffected. The leaves also contain more tannin, another defence mechanism to make them unpalatable. As for the oak flowers, these do not reappear, so the forecast is that there won't be many acorns produced this coming autumn.

After the glut, or “mast” year last year, the trees are probably breathing a sigh of relief. Oaks can't sustain that level of seed production year after year and need a few years to recover and build up an energy level that will support good seed production in the future. The obvious knock-on effect of a poor acorn year can be massive for the jays, the wild-roaming pigs and deer at Knepp, the small mammal population and all their predators – owls, kestrels, stoats etc. We think of late frosts as an inconvenience – having to cover our tender plants, or dig out a pullover again, but for the wildlife associated with just one species of tree, the effect can be quite serious and be felt long after the frost has melted. However, the oak will go on.”

By Jason Emrich

Kriss Kross | Answers in the next edition

4 LETTERS

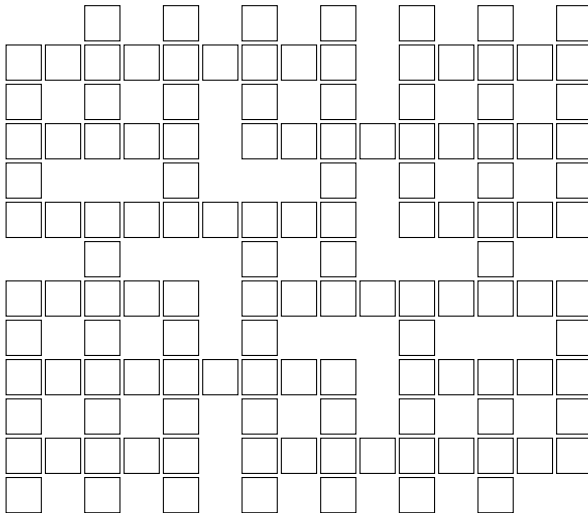
CLIP
COOK
JAKE
SAUL

5 LETTERS

CLUNG
DRILL
FEWER
LANDS
MECCA
SMILE
STARS
UPPER

6 LETTERS

BENGAL
FREELY



OSWALD
PIERRE
REPOSE
TOMATO

8 LETTERS

FERGUSON
FILIPINO
INFLATED
LOWERING

9 LETTERS

CULTIVATE
ENGRAVING
EQUATIONS
EUROPEANS
FUNCTIONS
GALLERIES

The Sussex Kelp Recovery Story

Five years ago, the Sussex Kelp Recovery Project was born. The story starts with seaweed.

Kelp; a large brown seaweed, used to be plentiful off the Sussex coast. Imagine this forest of the deep, creating a habitat for marine wildlife. Black Sea Bream would dig and spawn in gravel nests. Blue Mussels would provide a grounding for the kelp to attach to, and engineer further resources for others, like Starfish and Plaice.

The chalk reef outcrops would writhe with life; scuttling Spider Crabs, swaying ethereal-looking Piddocks and the occasional fin-flap of an Undulate Ray. Seals would benefit from these supreme hunting grounds. From above, Gannets would spear the surface to take their fill of the abundant beneath-the-waves buffet. And so, safely and sustainably, could we.

In the 1980s things changed. Storms, marine heatwaves and poor water quality had a negative effect, and persistent damage has been caused by intensive trawling for commercial fishing. This indiscriminate practice decimated the biodiversity of the seabed. By the end of the century, 96% of Sussex kelp was lost,



Kelp and juvenile fish © Dan Smale

and with it, a whole ecosystem wiped out, in repeated, traumatic acts of destruction. All happening under the waves; beneath our noses, yet out of sight.

But some people did notice. Sussex IFCA formed a case for a Nearshore Trawling Byelaw, and production company Big Wave created Help our Kelp, a film narrated by Sir David Attenborough. Other organisations joined the fight, and a campaign of the same name was launched.

It worked. In March 2021, trawling was prohibited from 304 square kilometres of the Sussex coast. The byelaw is one of the largest in the UK. The collective became the Sussex Kelp Recovery Project; twelve organisations*, co-ordinated by Sussex Wildlife Trust, who have continued to monitor and advocate for the recovery of our seabed.



Black Sea Bream © Paul Naylor



Spiny Starfish on kelp © Paul Naylor

News from SWT cont...

Benefits are underway; Black Sea Bream and Blue Mussels are on the increase. But nature takes time to recover. These five years have been focused on laying the groundwork to enable the steady return of these great forests and their inhabitants. Rewilding our ocean, piece by piece. With patience and collaboration, the story of our Sussex shores gets wilder each year. Although it started it all, really, kelp is just the beginning.

By Kerry Williams,
Communications Officer – Conservation
Sussex Wildlife Trust

*Sussex Wildlife Trust, Blue Marine Foundation, Zoological Society of London, Queen Mary University of London, University of Brighton, Adur & Worthing Councils, Sussex Underwater, Big Wave Productions, Sussex IFCA, University of Exeter, University of Sussex



The Ringed Plover Performance

Big eyes, short legs, and frequently described as ‘rotund’; there’s no denying it. Ringed Plovers are adorable. Our UK residents are joined by over-wintering migrants and can be found all around our coastline and some estuaries, in shingle and wetland habitats.

These charismatic waders possess spectacular acting talents. Little orange feet stamp sandy ground to mimic falling raindrops, tempting out tasty subterranean crustacean snacks. Mates are wooed with marching high-kick dance routines. Shingle nest preparation involves an umbrella of wings and much flinging of shells in a dramatic ceremony. Being masters of disguise, Ringed Plover nests are inconspicuous, with both dappled eggs and fluffball chicks seamlessly blending into their sand and stone surroundings. This is optimum for ground-nesting predator evasion,

and chicks will freeze, Jurassic Park style, should a marauder enter their midst.

Hiding in plain sight, however, leaves the species incredibly vulnerable to disturbance, especially on our over-populated and well-trodden coastlines. Eggs can easily be crushed under the flimsiest of flip-flops, and chicks are hard to spot until very close by. And a bigger problem still; free-roaming dogs.

It doesn’t matter if your beloved pup is the best-behaved boy in town, with great recall and no prey drive. Domestic



News from SWT cont...

dogs replicate natural predators, and even if they aren't likely to take a chick or investigate a nest, they can easily and unintentionally cause disturbance when off the lead.

Ringed Plover parents are fiercely committed to nest protection, even theatrically feigning a broken wing to lure predators away from their precious offspring. But feisty though they be, they weigh only 65 grams; no match for a snuffling hound.

An increase in these acts of disturbance, habitat loss and climate change have contributed to a significant decline in numbers of UK Ringed Plovers since the mid-1980s, and the species is now on the UK Red List.



To help, you can keep your dog on a lead whilst walking around our coastlines, especially during March to August, the breeding season for these, and many other bird species. You can keep your distance; good practice for all wildlife watching, but especially with ground-nesting birds. And you can tell other people, to help raise awareness of the otherwise unknown perils of simply letting your dog off the lead.

In highlighting these issues, we hope the Ringed Plover performance may long continue. They just need less audience interaction.

By Kerry Williams,
Communications Officer – Conservation
Sussex Wildlife Trust

Thank you

Dear Readers

As I finished my term as your County Councillor following the local elections in May, I wanted to thank you for your support over the seventeen years I have represented Billingshurst, Itchingfield and Shipley parishes and to say what a great privilege it was to do so.

I have enjoyed working with many people during this time, and hope that I was able to help in some meaningful way.

I would like to wish my successor, Mark Baynham, every success in his new role.

With very best wishes

Amanda Jupp

News from Meadow Hall Vets

We all love a trip to the beach with our dogs, it makes for a wonderful day out, especially in the sunshine! A fun-filled day by the sea can sometimes however, end with an unexpected visit to the vet if a few simple precautions aren't taken.

Many dogs love chasing balls and digging in the sand, but it's important to discourage them from eating sand while they play and reduce the chance of them ingesting it where possible. Ingesting too much could lead to a dangerous condition called sand impaction, which can require veterinary treatment.

The sea itself can also pose risks, particularly for puppies or less confident swimmers. A well-fitted dog life jacket can provide extra safety and help keep your dog afloat if they become tired or

caught in a strong current.

Be cautious around dead fish and other washed-up marine life. While dogs may be tempted by the smell, these can sometimes contain harmful toxins, so best to keep dogs away.

Always bring plenty of fresh drinking water to prevent your dog from being tempted to drink seawater, which can make them sick. Please also be sure that your dog has access to shade to avoid overheating or heatstroke. A beach tent or umbrella should do the trick!

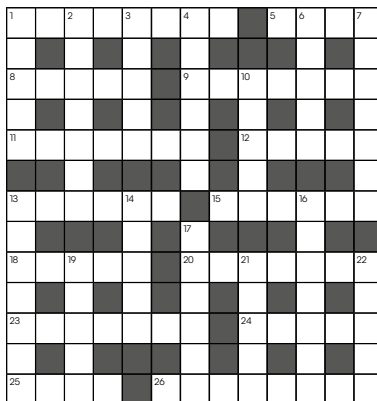
Finally, if you're holidaying away from home, it's always wise to take note of a veterinary practice nearby, just in case you might need it!



Quick crossword | Answers in the next edition

Across

- 1 Loud and grating (8)
- 5 Half of a quart (4)
- 8 English county (5)
- 9 Race-meeting for boats (7)
- 11 Thin glossy silk-stuff (7)
- 12 Elder brother of Moses (5)
- 13 Cotton fabric (6)
- 15 Dan-building animal (6)
- 18 Elk (5)
- 20 Young children (7)
- 23 At my house (4,3)
- 24 Of the moon (5)
- 25 Mislaid (4)
- 26 Intellectual (8)



Down

- 1 Perspiration (5)
- 2 Tranquil (7)
- 3 Southern state of USA (5)
- 4 Scandinavian country (6)
- 6 Bury (5)
- 7 Sports coach (7)
- 10 Forest clearing (5)
- 13 Funny (7)
- 14 Dairy product (5)
- 16 Wine seller (7)
- 17 Two-piece bathing costume (6)
- 19 Portents (5)
- 21 Pilfer (5)
- 22 Prison officer (slang) (5)

The Dan and Morfa Pope Memorial Fund Shipley's Charity for Young People

A Whole World of Ideas Where You Might Get Real Support

"From whence cometh my help?" asks Psalm 121 that begins famously, "I will lift up mine eyes to the hills."

Could you do with a hand-up instead of reaching vainly for a hand-out? A young person's dignity and belief in themselves is often enhanced if the help they receive can be attributed in part to their own efforts and initiative.

This is why the **Dan and Morfa Pope Memorial Fund** (Shipley's Charity for Young People) is appealing for applicants to come forward who might benefit from a financial donation that could benefit their future. The terms of the charity are set out on the page opposite. You are urged to read them if you think you have the credentials that would entitle you to a grant.



A little help goes a long way, as we all know, and the available support for an activity or occupation of your own choice could help meet the challenges of growing your own future that you might not otherwise be able to fund. You might dream of pursuing an acting career, or aim to become a writer, or an expert in first aid or photography, or seek to be a performing musician, a dancer, an athlete, or sportsperson. There are plenty of forums for training opportunities and for skills development that are exciting but not always affordable. Do please come forward if you have the hope or ambition of achieving something that could lead to your personal advancement or help you accomplish some skill to which you might aspire, and which could guide you to a successful career.

It is sometimes assumed that one's future is something that just happens to us, and that we have little or no power over it. But, the best way of predicting the future is to invent it for ourselves! A *'very present help'* could be the answer. There may be others of you whom we could assist. Do get in touch and please note that the offer is also available for active Shipley Scouts and Explorer Scouts.

**Fund now open to
active Shipley Scouts and Explorer Scouts**

THE DAN AND MORFA POPE MEMORIAL FUND

Shipleys charity for young people

The trustees of the fund would like all members of Shipley Parish to be aware of the above fund which was formed to help young people enhance talents they would otherwise have found difficult to develop due to lack of funds.

The terms of the Charity are as follows:

- The young person must be under 25;
- Must live in the ecclesiastical parish of Shipley (which includes Coolham, Brooks Green and Dragons Green);
- Or if not living in the parish, must have previously attended Shipley C of E Primary School or the William Penn Primary School in Coolham;
- **Be an active Shipley Scout or Explorer Scout.**

GRANTS

If you have a child, or are a young person who fits this description, we encourage you to get in touch and apply for a grant.

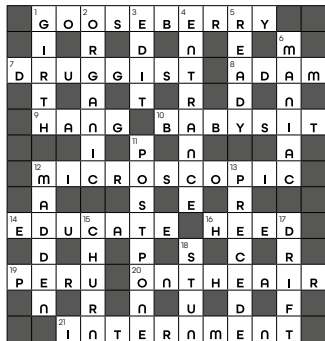
The fund has limited resources and it may not be possible to fund all applications. However, we promise we will consider them all.

Please contact Nicholas de Zoete at nick@nickdezoete.com or 01403 741460 if you are seeking a grant.

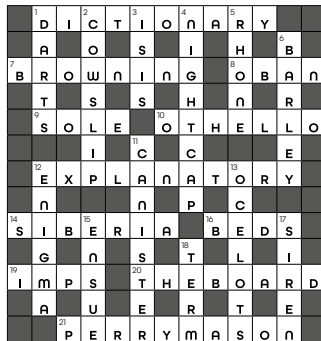
Registered Charity No: 10887795

Puzzle solutions | Answers from the last edition

Quick crossword



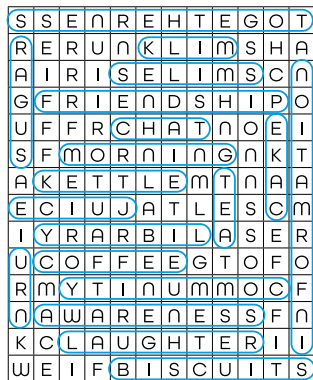
Cryptic crossword



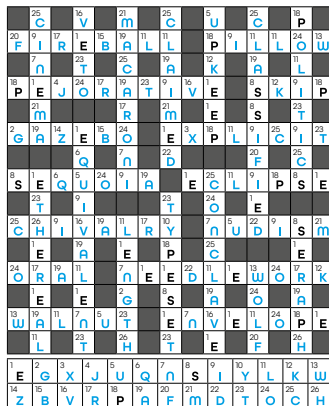
Sudoku

9		5	8		7
	8	3	2	9	5
	5	4			8
	7		6	8	
1				4	
5		2	1	9	6
			9	6	
7	2	6		1	4
		1	4	7	
					5
					6

Wordsearch



Codeword



↑
Easy

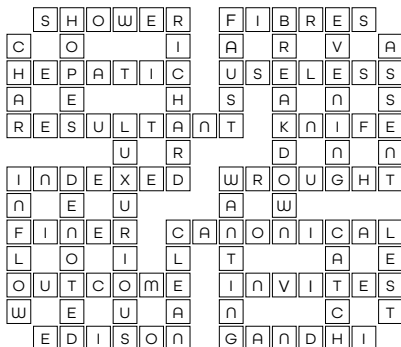
		8		6	4	9
		7	2	5		1
1		5		9	8	7
		1		9		
		2		3	7	
2	4	6				
	8	1		4		
4		3				
	1			4		

↑
Hard

		2			4	1
			2			6
3			6	5		2
	4	9			7	8
		1		9	6	
					3	
					2	4
	9	3				
1			7	5		6

↑
Master

Kriss Kross



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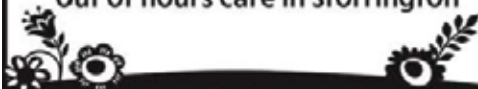
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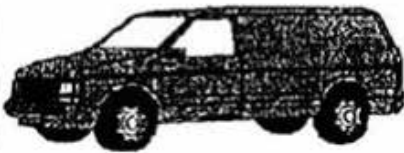
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HAVE YOU GOT THE INSURANCE YOU NEED?

When did you last walk around your house looking in cupboards to check your contents insurance is adequate?

Do you live in a larger, higher-value home, or have a number of expensive items – perhaps jewellery and watches, fine art or collections, or even designer interiors with beautiful curtains and tech. Standard insurance may not be fully protecting you. You may be better protected by an insurance product which enables you to adapt your policy to meet your specific needs – such as agreeing values, increasing cover limits.

WHAT IS UNDERINSURANCE?

To be 'underinsured' means that the amount you're covered for is less than the cost of rebuilding, replacing, or repairing. For example, if you had a fire at your home, and your 'sums insured' is only £30,000, but the actual cost to replace your contents is £100,000 then you're underinsured and the reality is your policy won't pay out beyond £30,000, leaving you with a hefty bill.

DO YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU OWN?

Try to take account of the true value of everything you own – both buildings and contents. If you're unsure of the difference between the two, imagine your house could be lifted off the ground and tipped upside down. Everything that falls out is contents. The rest should be covered by buildings insurance.

Also don't forget about items such as artwork or jewellery that you might have inherited or purchased a long time ago – their value may have changed significantly.

HOW CAN YOU BE CERTAIN EVERYTHING IS COVERED?

Not only does Bespoke insurance from NFU Mutual offer many specialist features as standard, but unlike many other insurers who have moved online, the team at NFU Mutual value a real conversation with you to fully understand your needs, enabling them to tailor cover right down to the finest detail.

Contact NFU Mutual Henfield on **01273 025715** to speak to Nick or Tracey or visit nfumutual.co.uk for more information.

Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

Take time to walk around your house and use the table below as a guide to the amount of contents you need to be insured for. Remember, you should look at how much items are to replace from new as in the event of a claim you can get new for old cover. Exclusions may apply.

Living room		£
Curtains		
Furniture		
Books and ornaments		
Electrical appliances		
Pictures		
Other		
Kitchen/utility room		£
Electrical appliances		
Kitchenware e.g. pans, cutlery		
Other cupboards		
Dining room		£
Furniture		
Rugs		
Pictures and linen		
Diningware - china, glasses, silverware		
Other		

Bedrooms		£
Clothes - including suits		
Shoes and handbags		
Jewellery		
Bed linen and curtains		
Furniture		
Electrical items		
Other		
Bathroom		£
Bath linen		
Furniture		
Toiletries and make-up		
Other		
Other rooms		£
Office		
Garage		
Outbuildings		
Attic		
Other electrical appliances		
Other		

“At NFU Mutual Henfield we pride ourselves on taking the necessary time to make sure we are providing the right level cover for you to protect your home and contents should the worse happen.” – Chets Modi, Agent.



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Shingley Parish Council Directory (as at May 2025)

Cllr Matthew Payne, Chairman

Email: cllr.payne@shingleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Horsham Association of Local Councils Rep, Chairman of the Complaints Committee, West Sussex Association of Local Councils Rep, Shingley 1st Scouts

Cllr Ray Wright, Vice-Chairman

Email: Cllr.wright@shingleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Cllr Nick Barrett

Email: nick.barrett@shingley-pc.gov.uk

Mr Paul Richards, Clerk

Email: clerk@shingley-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Ginny De Zoete

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Rights of Way & Parish Maintenance (Shingley)

Cllr Gill Hood

Email: gill.hood@shingley-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Bridget Huggett

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Horsham District Climate Initiative

Cllr Derek Larcombe

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History Society

Cllr Jo Nunn

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Cllr Rebecca Smale

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Horsham District Councillor

Colette Blackburn Email: Colette.Blackburn@horsham.gov.uk
Alex Jeffery Email: alex.jeffery@horsham.gov.uk

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