

Shire

Your local community newspaper
with news and views from the
Shirehampton area

No. 603 - April 2022 www.shire.org.uk 5,000 copies monthly

Have you got a job that needs doing? Go to YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS section on pages 20-21 to find a local business who can help.



4 Villages Window Wanderland 2022



This wonderful event took place over the last weekend of February and over 50 houses in Shirehampton had their windows decorated brightly with many wonderful and varied displays. We had two workshops, led by Annelies Egli of Tandem Arts, and displays ranged from Disney's Encanto to Dinosaurs, coupled with lots of environmentally themed windows.

Window Wanderland has mushroomed to many areas of Bristol now, and all around the UK, and abroad. Considering it started with one family in Easton seven years ago, that's a fantastic achievement. Let's hope it can expand even more in Shire in future years.



More photos on page 10.

Pembroke Road Garage

A friendly, family-run business offering:

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All Sunday Roasts come with Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding, Carrots, Broccoli, Sautéed Cabbage, Stuffing, Cauliflower Cheese, all served to share on the table. Accompanying sauces are available

Starters and Dessert options change and will be on the menu on the day.

Sunday Roast Deal

From Midday to 3pm

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL TO CLAIM THE DEAL

Roast Only - 14.50

Two Courses (Starter or Dessert) - 17.50

Three Courses - 19.50

RUBY JEANS
THE PARADE

Options available are*:

- Red Meat
- White Meat
- Veggie/Vegan

Kids Roast (As above options available) - 9

*Options subject to availability

T&C - Bookings are essential to claim this deal. Bookings need to be made 48 hours in advance. Purchase of a drink with every claim of the offer. Walk-ins are welcome at the normal menu price of £17 for the Roast, Two Courses £20 and Three Courses £23. Offer available every Sunday in April.

Shire

Official address: **The Library, Public Hall, Station Road, Shirehampton, Bristol BS11 9TU.**

Please note the Shirehampton Librarian

Telephone number is: 0117 903 8570

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distribution@shire.org.uk 0117 982 0478

Internet address www.shire.org.uk

Submit articles editor@shire.org.uk

Advertising adverts@shire.org.uk

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Mrs Jill Williamson, Mrs. Sarah Matthews,

Mr. Robin Matthews, Mrs. Jackie Hares

Artwork: Iain Chaffey of Crimson Goose Design

Photographers: Kathryn Courtney, Bob Pitchford

N.B. To meet the deadline with our typesetters, all written copy should be submitted by email or to the Library by the **10th of the month** before it appears in print, or it may not be included in the next edition. While advertisements in this paper are accepted in good faith, readers are advised to make their own enquiries and assessment. We request that all adverts are supplied in the correct format and size or there may be a charge should you require artwork to be created. Price on application. Unless otherwise stated, all material appearing in SHIRE is the copyright of SHIRE Publications. Please ensure photographs submitted with articles are cleared for use and permission sought especially when featuring individuals including children. The Shire cannot accept responsibility if photos are published in error where permission for use has been not sought. The views and opinions expressed in these articles are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Shire. All information correct at time of going to press to the best of Shire's knowledge.

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We welcome contributions for publication in 'SHIRE' but reserve the right to edit any copy received.

Any material published is at the editor's discretion and may also be included on our website www.shire.org.uk unless the copy is clearly marked 'not to be included on the world wide web'.

Contributions submitted to: editor@shire.org.uk

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www.shirepubhall.org.uk

PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR APRIL

BRISTOL COVID-19 STATEMENT

From Bristol COVID-19 Local Engagement Board, Health Protection Advisory Committee, Health and Wellbeing Board and One City Partners

On **Monday 21 February** the **Prime Minister** announced the national strategy for living with COVID-19. This signals a significant change to the way the government will monitor and manage the coronavirus pandemic in England. We are moving away from having legally mandated restrictions in place, to a situation that relies on individuals taking personal responsibility to protect themselves and others.

The removal of the restrictions that we have been used to over the past two years will inevitably result in some increase in levels of infection. However, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme, the introduction of a range of new treatments and the actions of individuals, the government is confident we are in a position to begin to live with COVID-19. We need to continue to do what we can to reduce the spread of the virus and remain prepared for outbreaks and the emergence of new variants.

Keeping Bristol safe and open for business remains a priority. Today we published our Bristol **'Living Safely with COVID-19'** Framework, which sets out our plans to prevent, protect, treat and respond to the virus over the coming year.

Without testing, it becomes even more important that people do not mix with others if they are unwell. This will be challenging for some individuals

and families without the **Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme**, and so we ask employers to consider how they can support their staff to avoid spreading infection in the workplace.

Some settings, such as health and care, will continue with extra infection control measures for COVID-19 and other infections. Education and childcare settings will continue to focus on providing education safely, working with children, students, families, and staff to protect those most at risk.

We recognise that, for many people, these changes are very welcome. However, some people will feel anxious and more at risk. As we move together into this next phase, there are many simple actions we can all take, to help protect each other. These include:

- getting our vaccinations
- good hand hygiene
- wearing a face covering in busy and enclosed areas, such as inside shops and on public transport
- keeping indoor spaces well ventilated
- if unwell, avoiding contact with others

Small actions can make a big difference, so thank you for everything you continue to do to protect Bristol. Not because you have to, but because you care. **#WeAreBristol**

VEHICLE PARKING CHARGES TO LAUNCH IN THREE BRISTOL PARKS

Parking charges aimed at raising investment for Bristol parks are set to begin at **Blaise Castle Estate, Snuff Mills and Oldbury Court Estate** next month. All revenue from vehicle parking will be used for improving and maintaining the parks which have seen a large increase in visitors since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The new charges **launched on 3 March** and will operate between **9am and 6pm every day**. Car users will be charged **£1 per hour or £3 for five hours**, with alternative charges for minibuses or coaches. Overflow parking may be implemented at busy times, and these will also be subject to the same charges as the main car parks.

COMMUNITY WANTS TO KEEP COTHAM HILL PEDESTRIAN ZONE

Results from a survey on the newly pedestrianised zone on **Cotham Hill** show overwhelming support for keeping the zone in place. Residents were offered three options on the future of Cotham Hill. Option A and B proposed continuing with the road closure with slight variants, while option C would see Cotham Hill reopen but only for one-way traffic.

The clear winner was Option A, with 63 per cent of people choosing it. Option B came in second with 27 per cent, meaning 90 per cent of people are in favour of keeping the road closure in place along with a series of other measures.

FRIENDS OF SHIREHAMPTON LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

These projects are delivered in partnership with Bristol Libraries and are funded by the Library Innovation Fund.



Library Living Room	Tuesday (Weekly)	3:00 – 5:00 pm	Library
IT Literacy Course	Wednesday (Weekly)	6:00 – 7:00 pm	Library
Family History Group	Thursday (2nd Thursday of the Month)	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Library



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The *Shire* Community Pages

Shirehampton Public Hall Garden

The first volunteer session of the year in the garden was held on Saturday 5th March. It was lovely to see the garden waking up from Winter with the donated plants coming to life and the spring bulbs are a delight. A big thank you to all who donated time or plants to effect the transformation.

We will be meeting the first Saturday in the month (weather permitting) from 10am - midday and new volunteers are welcome to undertake light gardening and weeding.

We still have some gaps so if you are splitting plants in your garden and can spare some for the Hall

(especially if they can manage partial shade) they would be welcomed on the first Saturday of the month.

For further information please contact Gail Amphlett 0117 9821879 email gail.amphlett@hotmail.com or the Hall Manager 0117 9829963.

St Nicholas Night Market Pitches Up After Two Years

Market traders are set to light up Bristol's Old City again as the city welcomes the return of St Nicholas night market on Friday 8 April. Located next to St Nicholas Market (St Nick's), the event will be spread across St Nicholas Street, Corn Street, Exchange Avenue and All Saints Lane, bringing the Old City to life.

From 5pm to 10pm visitors will be able to enjoy a wide selection of stalls selling food and drinks from local producers and suppliers. The market promotes sustainability and intends to build on Bristol's Gold Sustainable Food City status.

There will also be a host of family-friendly entertainment throughout the evening, including a fantastic musical line-up featuring local musicians and DJs, dance classes, circus performers, light installations, a garden party, lantern workshops and more.

PRESS RELEASES FROM BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

Ambitious Vision for Western Harbour Published

Draft vision for Western Harbour proposes 50 per cent of affordable homes in all new developments and conversion of a bonded warehouse to a mixed-use cultural hub for the whole city. It has been inspired by community feedback, the vision builds on the area's heritage and identity and will guide detailed masterplanning later in 2022. Riverside Garden Centre and pump track would be accommodated within the area.

Until 22 April, Bristolians who visit, work in and travel through Western Harbour – and those who don't yet – can share their views on the commitments identified within the draft vision.

The consultation on the draft Western Harbour vision is open until 22 April 2022 at: <https://bristol.citizenspace.com/growth-regeneration/harbour-hopes-western-harbour>

A summary and full engagement report are available at HarbourHopes.co.uk

Motorists Can Now Check Online if they Will Need to Pay to Drive in Bristol's Forthcoming Clean Air Zone

Bristol Clean Air Zone will start operating in Summer 2022. The Zone has been added to the national clean air zone vehicle checker. The vehicle checker has been developed by the government to help drivers plan and check whether they will need to pay the charge in each zone. Bristol's zone is a central area where pollution is highest. **No vehicles are banned. Only older and more polluting vehicles will be charged to travel inside the zone.**

Charges will not apply to:

- Euro 4, 5 and 6 petrol vehicles, roughly 2006 upwards
- Euro 6 diesel vehicles, roughly end of 2015 onwards

www.bristol.gov.uk/streets-travel/bristol-caz/charges-and-checker



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We enjoy spreading community news especially at this time and we love to hear from all our readers of both the online and printed versions. Please, send in your letters and stories to editor@shire.org.uk.

If requested, we will not print the name of a letter written to the Editor, but we cannot accept an anonymous letter.

Many thanks.

A BIG THANK YOU

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank my family, friends and neighbours for the lovely gifts, cards, flowers and plants that were given to me for my **90th birthday**. Also, a big thank you to **Wayne Harvey** for putting my birthday on Facebook, it was such a surprise. Thank you to everyone who put on such kind messages.

Best wishes,

Barbara Collins

(Apologies for the delay in printing and thank you for your donation. Ed)

MIKE & JILL SPERRING

Dear Editor,

We were so saddened to hear of the passing of our great friends Mike and Jill Sperring. Being such good friends for so long we have many happy memories with them.

Playing alongside with such a great footballer as Mike at Avonmouth, he then become our manager and then our coach. Family holidays shared together as our children were growing up and of course him being an excellent manager of "Adam" in the High St. His tasteful window displays admired by all and he was always ready for a chat with the locals too.

We have many more special memories with such special friends we will remember and always hold dear. We'll miss them very much.

God Bless.

Alan, Barb, Sarah & Jason.

(Thankyou for your donation. Ed)



Family Announcements

Do you want to announce a family celebration, marriage or death?

To book contact adverts@shire.org.uk

Small text box = £10.

Larger picture box = £15.

Alex Cormac

I would like to thank all those who sent messages of condolence to myself on the passing of Alex.

And a special thanks to the carers who looked after Alex with such respect and dignity.

Thanks,

Jean Jones

Penny Valentine Lenik

Adam, Hannah and big sister Polly welcome to the world our little girl - Penny Valentine Lenik, born on the **1st of March 2022** weighing 8lb 10oz.

Thank you,

Adam, Hannah and Polly



Cotswold Community Association
Dursley Road, Shirehampton,
Bristol, BS11 9XH
Registered charity no. 1101427

REGULAR EVENTS

- MONDAY** Pilates 9.30-10.30am
Kettlebells 5:15-6:15pm
& 6:30-7:30pm
- TUESDAY** Film Night 7:30pm*
(1st & 3rd of each month)
Shire Climate Emergency Group
7:30pm (2nd and 4th of each month)
- WEDNESDAY** Keep Fit 10:30-11:30am
Kettlebells 5:15-6:15pm
Pilates 6:30-7:30pm
- THURSDAY** Bingo 2pm
Kettlebells 5:15-6:15pm
& 6:30-7:30pm
Table Tennis 8pm
- FRIDAY** Trainmaster North Somerset
10-11am (1st of each month)
Contact Sophie on
somersetnorth@trainmaster.co.uk
Create to Elevate Workshop
7-9:30pm (2nd & 4th of each month)
Contact Tom on 07455 956826
for more details.
- SATURDAY** Coffee Morning 10am
(2nd of each month)
- SUNDAY** Cotswold Christian
Community Service 4:45-6pm
(2nd of each month)

*Booking must be made, either by email:

cotswoldca@gmail.com

or leave a message on 07943 401575

For more details and regular updates, join our
maillist by emailing cotswoldca@gmail.com



Hello there! **Would you like to improve your well-being?**

I am a local Shire resident and a Personal Trainer who can help you to achieve your goals without the need to attend a gym. Whatever your age or ability I can help:

- Improve health and fitness level
 - Improve muscle tone and bone density
 - Improve mobility and coordination
- Strongfirst Kettlebell Instructor.**
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Individual programme to suit you, your goals and your level of fitness. Hope to see you soon!

Linda x x

Weekly classes - just come along - no need to book:

- Kettlebells are Monday 5.15 - 6.15pm and 6.30 - 7.30pm, Wednesday from 5.15 - 6.15pm and Thursday from 6.30 - 7.30pm at the Cotswold Community Centre. Message for 1:1 technique session.
- Bootcamps: Monday and Wednesday 6.15-7.00am. Please message for details.



For a free initial consultation in your own home or mine. Telephone: 07875 054 292

Email: t.linda1206@gmail.com

www.shirestrong.co.uk



Shelter – Not Here!

The Cotswold Community Association has started a campaign to get a shelter built at the bus stop outside the hall in Dursley Road. The lack of a shelter has been highlighted by several residents after the recent wet and windy weather.

Dave Parsons, Chair of the Association said, "Many of the people who regularly use this bus service are elderly and some have mobility issues. The community believes that a shelter is needed and will be a great improvement."

The Association has written to "Passenger transport at Bristol" to ascertain the current position and to establish if the erection of a shelter is planned.

Dave continued, "We all believed a shelter was to be built but this has not transpired. We hope that by highlighting this local people will not have to stand in the wet, wind and cold for much longer."

The Cotswold Community Association Committee will keep residents informed when we receive a response.



£1.8 Million Funding Boost to "Your Holiday Hub Activities"

Bristol City Council's Cabinet has approved £1.8 million to fund "Your Holiday Hub" (YHH) activities and food programmes for school-aged children entitled to free school meals.

The funding, provided to the council by the Department for Education, will enable Bristol's successful YHH programme to continue for children and young people across the city. It will support activities being run during the spring, summer and winter holidays only, for the

2022/2023 financial year. The YHH programme provides a healthy and nutritious meal for children at every activity, alongside food education.

The funding will also be used to increase access to holiday clubs for vulnerable children who don't currently qualify for free school meals and children with Education Health and Care Plans.

Find out more about the YHH programme.
<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/people-communities/find-a-holiday-activity>.

Dog Poo Alley

There have been regular complaints about the amount of dog poo that is deposited on Pembroke Road/St Mary's Road on the same side as the Pembroke garage.

This occurs pretty much every day along the route where children and parents with prams are walking to and from Shirehampton Primary school. The pavements aren't exactly wide and with it being a bus route and school run, this is a constant danger to those who try to avoid the mess when vehicles are passing. It is very annoying, and quite disgusting, when you accidentally step in it, or pram wheels go through it, and then it gets into your household. With young children unaware of the hygiene hazards the dog poo could end up spread anywhere and cause serious medical problems. If you know the culprits please show them this article.

It is an offence not to clean up dog mess and a person who doesn't clean up after their dog may face an on-the-spot fine of up to £80.

Blaise Nursery Shop Opens Again

Blaise Plant Nursery are glad to announce that their shop reopened to the public on Monday 7th March, with the usual opening hours of 10am to 4pm every day. Blaise Plant Nursery is a Bristol City Council run plant nursery which supplies flowers and plants to local authorities all over the country. The nursery prides itself on using sustainable energy and water sources as well as peat-free soil to grow plants.

The recently opened shop offers high-quality, locally grown flowers and plants, at value for money prices. All profits from the shop are put straight back into maintaining parks across the city. Currently, the shop is stocking summer bulbs, gardening supplies, compost, bedding plants, shrubs, trees, alpines, conifers, spring garden decor and gifts. More stock will be introduced as the planting season develops.

This year will also see some exciting developments in the nursery shop, including a new cafe kiosk and roof improvements.

Find out more on the Blaise Plant Nursery website: www.bristol.gov.uk/web/blaise-plant-nursery/home

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Duvets from £13.20
Pillows from £6.60

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T-Shirts £1.65
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Following on from the huge success of our Sunday carveries amongst our membership base, we would like to extend the invite to the local community!

Using locally sourced meat from Wood's Family butchers in Shirehampton and fresh seasonal vegetables; accompanied with stunning views of the Avon Gorge and Gordano Valley, this is the perfect location for you to spend your Sunday with family & friends.

The Carveries are usually held on alternate Sundays, with sittings at 1pm & 3pm.

To Book, please email housemanager@spgc.uk or call 0117 982 2083. Further Information regarding the dates/booking of the Carveries can be found at www.spgc.uk.

Please note we operate a smart casual dress code, which can be viewed at www.spgc.uk



0117 982 2083

WWW.SPGC.UK

PARK HILL, SHIREHAMPTON, BS11 0UL



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Self-Injury Awareness

Self-injury is also sometimes known as self-harm. It can include any unhelpful coping strategy for dealing with life's difficulties - from physical damage to the body to overworking or overeating.

Please visit the Mind website for a range of resources and information: www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/self-harm/about-self-harm/

In the UK at least one in every 15 young people has experience of self-injury. For local support for children and young people aged 11 to 25, please visit the Off The Record website: www.otrbristol.org.uk/

Dazzling New Light Installation to Illuminate M Shed

Sensors in the Bristol Channel will send data to M Shed where it converts into coloured light. Low tide translates into red light. As the water rises, the light transitions through shades of orange, yellow, green, and blue, all the way to purple at the very highest tides. Tidelight runs alongside the Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibition at M Shed. The light illumination runs until April 10th.



Shirehampton Markets & SCAF Present *High Street Markets & Community Fayres*



Family & Disability Friendly Events for the 4 Villages & Beyond

High Street Market at The Tithe Barn, High Street, Shirehampton, BS11 0DE

Thursday's 7th April - 5th May
2nd June - 7th July - 4th August
1st September - 6th - October
3rd November
Christmas Market - 1st December

Community Fayres at The Public Hall, Station Road, Shirehampton, BS11 9TX

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration
Saturday 21st May

+
Summer Fayre - Saturday 16th July
Autumn Fayre - Saturday 15th October

www.facebook.com/shirehamptonmarkets

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sarahexerciseclass@hotmail.com

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Scouts

191st Bristol
St Mary's Shirehampton

Sections we currently run at the Scout Hut, St Mary's Road, Shirehampton during term time are as follows:

BEAVERS Age 6 to 8 years
on a Tuesday 17:30 to 18:30

cubs Age 8 to 10.5 year
on a Monday 18:15 to 19:45

SCOUTS Age 10.5 to 14 years
on a Tuesday 19:00 to 20:30

You may not be aware but Scouting runs entirely on volunteers. These volunteers help by sitting on the Executive committee and running a section. We are keen to keep the workload we ask of our volunteers manageable and the only way we can do this is by having a strong community of volunteers backing the 191st.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of our Leadership team, Executive committee, or any other assistance you can give or if your child would like to join one of our sections please contact us at the email address below.

GSL191stbristolscouts@gmail.com

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THE PBA Community And Sports Hub

NEW OPENING TIMES

Mon 9am-11pm
Tues 9am-11pm
Wed 9am-11pm
Thurs 9am-11pm
Fri 9am-Late
Sat. 9am-Late
Sun 9am-11pm

CONTACT

☎ 0117 982 3927

✉ info@pbaclub.co.uk

🏠 Nibley Road, Shirehampton, Bristol,
 BS11 9XW

The PBA Community and Sports hub is an inclusive, local community Charity, with its facilities on the banks of the River Avon, in Shirehampton village, Bristol. You don't need to be a member anymore, however a loyalty card has its many perks. Come on down and join us. With 8 acres of land and buildings the PBA is home to a range of sports teams, clubs, has a bar, ballroom, function rooms, a kitchen and is available to hire out for weddings, parties, business events, wakes, Christenings etc. For more information on bookings, prices and availability, please contact us.

Don't be a stranger, we are here to help! Come pick up a free packed lunch - no questions asked!

Fitness Classes

Tuesday

Zumba 7pm-8pm

Legs, Bums & Tums 8pm-8:45pm

Thursday

Children age 5+ Dance Classes with
 Fusion Dance Academy 5

Every Wednesday It's BINGO TIME!
7.30pm start.

WHATS NEW?

Our new chairman Daniel Clifton and the new committee took over on 13th January 2022.

SINCE THEN WE HAVE SEEN MANY CHANGES TO THE CLUB:

- Free hot meals for children during half term
- Free packed lunches for children during term time
- New loyalty card scheme

NEW FOOD HOURS & MENU:

- Monday - Wednesday we are open from 9am for tea coffee and toasties. Serving alcohol from 11am, evening menu served from 4pm - 8pm.
- Thursday - Friday we are open 9am - 2pm for tea, coffee, cooked breakfasts, breakfasts rolls & toasties. Serving alcohol from 11am, evening menu served from 4pm-8pm.
- Saturdays 9am - 12pm cooked breakfast, breakfast rolls & toasties. Bar open from 11am, evening menu served from 12pm-8pm
- Sunday lunch menu served from 12pm-6pm. Roast on certain Sundays of the month.

WE NOW OFFER FOOD 7 DAYS A WEEK

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS

We have regular live entertainment on a weekend at the club. Please pop in and take a look at our regularly updated events board or check out our facebook page.

Continued from page 1.



© John Hastings



© John Hastings



© John Hastings



© John Hastings

Tandem Arts Update

January and February were entirely set aside for winter woolly crafts this year: free form crochet, weaving, spinning and felting. All very enjoyable and relaxing and all still available to anyone who would like to have a go. A few people were interested in setting up an informal crochet group where we can learn from one another and also support total beginners. Drop us a line if you are interested in this.

We are now looking to **Easter and Spring** with some new ideas. Learn how to **decorate eggs the Continental way**, using natural dyes and plants from your doorstep! We will be using local produce for this from free roaming hens. **Willow weaving** will also resume as the days get warmer, look out for dates on **Nextdoor** or **join our mailing list** to be the first to hear about our spring programme **email: tandemarts2@gmail.com**

A **free family craft session** is planned for **Thursday April 14th at the Shirehampton Public Hall**. We will be weaving our own colourful Easter baskets, just in time for the Easter weekend.

March 1st went off with a bang for Tandem Arts as it is now an **Incorporated Community Interest Company**. **Annelies Egli and Juliet LeFeuvre** are the newly hatched directors of **Tandem Arts Community Interest Company (TANDEM ARTS CIC)**. They complement one another in a number of ways and combine many skills gained over decades of experience in different fields of work and play. A Community Interest Company is set up to benefit the community by the services it provides. If there is a profit from its activities it will go back into the company and serve its aims. The new status will also allow us to apply for funding.

So, in a nutshell, any support you can give to Tandem Arts by whatever means, is supporting what can be offered to the local community: low cost opportunities for learning and wellbeing as well as regular free opportunities for groups and families.

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Photos and Fancy Dress Competition for Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

There is a special Platinum Jubilee Celebration taking place at the Public Hall in Shirehampton on Saturday 21st May from 10am - 3pm. Celebrating Queen Elizabeth II special 70th Anniversary since ascending the throne, it is something that cannot be ignored. There will be plenty going on that day with stalls, bar-be-que, music, dancing, arts and crafts, tea and cake and competitions too. There will be a fancy dress competition for young children and teenagers up to the age of 16 years old, so get your thinking caps on and get your creative skills under way.

Your photos of the Queen's Coronation, various Jubilee celebrations and any 'royal' street parties are needed for a special photo display being held at this event. **All photos will be scanned and**

handed back to you and you need to **send them to Shirehampton Markets/SCAF** who are organising this event.

Having done a bit of research, there are some street party photos celebrating **Queen Elizabeth II Coronation in 1953**. There should be jubilee photos of street parties held in **Mancroft Avenue, Grove Leaze, Walton Road, Church Leaze, Dursley Road, Barrow Hill Road** for example. I am sure there are plenty more. There are also photos celebrating the 1977 jubilee that include **Shirehampton Carnival**, a variety concert held by **St. Mary's Women's Fellowship**, there was a **Silver Jubilee ball** and Jubilee parties held at **Shirehampton Infant School** and **Shirehampton Junior School, (now Shirehampton Primary School)** This information was gleaned from our very own community newspaper 'Shire' which **John Hastings, Ash Bearman** and myself looked through one rainy afternoon. Sadly, many not featuring photos.



© Kathryn Courtney



© Kathryn Courtney

It would be lovely to show case photos from 1953 to the **Diamond Jubilee** from your own personal photo archives to local community organisations, schools, Scouts/Cubs, Brownies/Guides, carnivals, youth clubs from the **4 villages area** - Shirehampton, Avonmouth, Sea Mills/Coombe Dingle and Lawrence Weston - as this is an event for all our local communities to be part of and to enjoy.

Please send in/hand in photos with your contact details to: Shirehampton Markets/SCAF, The Public Hall, Station Road, Shirehampton, Bristol, BS11 9TX by Friday 6th May. All photos will be scanned and returned to the original contributors. Or you can email high resolution scans of your photos to: shirehamptonmarkets@outlook.com

Regular updates of the Jubilee Party and Markets can be seen at: www.facebook.com/shirehamptonmarkets

Kathryn Courtney



GAR

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TASTER WEEKEND

9-10
APRIL
2022

11 AM-3 PM

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BOWLING CLUB
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Churches in the Shirehampton Area

Hello and Happy Easter from Shire Methodist

www.shiremethodist.org/ • www.facebook.com/shiremethodist/

We plan to continue holding Morning Worship each Sunday in our church building from 11am. A visiting preacher will lead the first Sunday, the second will be All-Age Worship, the third will be our Easter Celebration with Holy Communion led by our minister Reverend Patrick Stonehewer, and the fourth will be a more informal event with conversation and coffee.

During Lent, we've been using daily prayers written by members of the 40+ Methodist Churches in our circuit of Bristol and South Glos. They've focused on themes including the pandemic, justice, our environment, churches around the world, children, and global issues. We've encouraged each other to pray regularly for Ukraine. We continue to support each other through the many challenges that face us at the moment. Please contact us if you would like prayer and support, we'd be pleased to hear from you.

At the end of March, one of our members celebrated her 100th birthday! Congratulations to Ess. Some of us were able to join her enjoying some fun activities too. They took part in the recent Window Wanderland by creating a version of our church beautiful stained glass window. They also creating a meerkat that will be displayed as part of the Ark Bus Magnificent Meerkat Easterbout the

trail and the Ark Bus work at www.facebook.com/TheArkBus

We want to say a big thank you to SCAF and people from our local community for helping us tidy up our little courtyard garden to make it more accessible for everyone who uses our church building. Little community gardens are so important for our mental health and wellbeing and offer an opportunity for us to contribute to looking after the environment and nature: our little Garden of Eden! Many people say they're most able to feel God's presence when they're outside in nature.

We'll continue to have a cautious Covid-19 risk management plan in place in our church building. Face coverings, social distancing, use of a one-way system, and sanitising are still encouraged; we also recommend using lateral flow tests. The pandemic continues to make some of our plans a bit uncertain



so please check before coming along to avoid disappointment.

Many additional support services are lessening. However, all the churches in Shirehampton continue to hold our community in prayer, and will do our best to respond to any concerns and needs. You can contact us on these numbers:

Shire Baptist 07743 683684
St Mary's Church 0117 9077026
Shire Methodist 0117 9248407
St Bernard's Roman Catholic 0117 982 3380

May God's peace be with you all during April and Easter-time.

Everyone at Shire Methodist

BRISTOL HEALING ROOMS are in Shirehampton every second Wednesday of the month.

Don't miss this opportunity to drop in between 11am and 1pm at the Shirehampton Public Hall, Station Road, to be prayed for in the name of Jesus. AS IT WAS IN THE GOSPELS! We have many stories of hearing on a daily basis.

Jesus heals today as He did during His time on earth.



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March 21st - Healing Art
March 28th - Meet your Guardian Angel
April 4th - An Introduction to Reiki Healing
April 11th - Mandala Drawing

£7 each; £20 for all 4 if paid in advance
Please book: Dr Keith Beasley PhD Reiki Master-Teacher
keith@keithbeasley.co.uk 0117 239 5047



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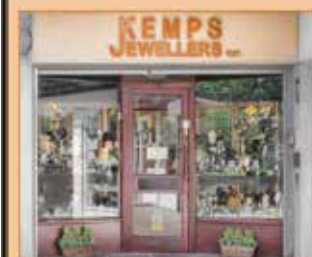


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St Mary's News - April 2022

If you were present in St Mary's on the Saturday before Shrove Tuesday, you would have enjoyed the delicious pancakes! The church was filled with folk enjoying themselves. Contestants were trying to see how many pancakes they could toss in 1 minute and competition was keen. Thanks to all who attended and to the ladies who organised the event and produced the pancakes.

On the first Wednesday of each month the **Goldies Singing Session** seems to be going from strength to strength. **April session is on Wednesday 6th at 10.30am.**

On **Wednesday 2nd March** the **Ash Wednesday service** was held at **St Peter's, Lawrence Weston** and was well attended by people from the surrounding **Avonside Mission Area churches**. Our friends from St Peter's very kindly provided refreshments after the service.

The last session of the **Lent Course** is on **Wednesday 6th April at St Mary's, Stoke Bishop at 7.30pm.**

Sunday 10th April is Palm Sunday, which celebrates Jesus arrival in Jerusalem. **Palm Crosses** will be distributed amongst the congregation at our **10.30am Holy Communion Service**. This day is also the beginning of **Holy Week**.

During Holy Week is **Maundy Thursday**. Please note that on this day **THERE WILL BE NO 11.00AM HOLY COMMUNION IN**

ST. MARY'S. This is because members of our congregation have been invited to a **service at 10.30 am at Bristol Cathedral**. Priests from throughout the Diocese renew their vows to continue to spread the gospel across their parishes.

The next day is **Good Friday** and from **2.00pm to 3.00pm** the **Shirehampton Area Choir** will sing in St Mary's - **Stainers Crucifixio** - a sung devotion which lasts just under an hour and commemorates Jesus crucifixion on a Cross. This Cross was to become the symbol of Christianity.

Sunday 17th is Easter Day and services begin with a service at **8.30am called Rise and Shine** and is basically for young children and their families. It commences with breakfast for the first half hour and then craft work, songs and religious teaching. This is followed by our **Easter Day Communion Service at 10.30am**. Please note the **church is closed for Coffee etc. on Easter Monday** as it is a Bank Holiday.

Messy Church this month is on **Tuesday 19th**



April from 3.30pm until 5.00pm. Please let someone know if you require refreshments prior to this date.

Sunday 24th April is the planned date of our **Annual Parochial Meeting** and will be held immediately after our 10.30am service. This is the time when we review the activities of the church over the past year, and its income and expenditure. It is also the time when we elect a new **Parochial Church Council** who will govern the business of the church for the next 12 months. To vote for a new PCC member you are required to be on our **Church Electoral Roll**. To join our Electoral Roll please see **Tim Forder** who is our **Electoral Roll Officer**.

And now for the stupidity of the month - How does an Easter Bunny keep fit? He practices - Hare-obics.

Shire Jobs Training & Enterprise Hub - Methodist Church

This month Stephany, our first Project Coordinator, is moving on due to health issues. She's done a great job of establishing the Hub and making loads of contacts. We have managed to appoint someone new and local, to start before the end of the March, and for the next 6 months, but as I write this we are not yet able to announce who it is. The contact email address and phone number below will remain the same.

The **Stakeholder Lunch** event this month was a success - where we invited interested parties such as **BCC Employment Support and Enterprise managers, training providers, local employers, SevernNet** and funding providers such as **Quartet, the Port Company** etc. Food and soft drinks were provided courtesy of the **John James Foundation**.

Dates and events:

- **The one day, certificated, First Aid course** was a great success and we will be running a similar course in future over two mornings, to provide for people with children at school, as soon as this can be arranged. All will be welcome to enrol for this, free to un-waged and local volunteers.

- **The Dementia Information session** that was postponed due to Covid is for anyone and will be re-run in a couple of months.
- **The Digital Skills course**, run by **BCC Community Learning** was also successful.
- A **Customer service course** is also to be planned, to start after Easter.
- The **Tai Chi sessions** are taking a bit longer to arrange, more news after Easter I hope!
- The **English Conversation club** for ESOL learners is progressing well each Thursday.
- **Hub's cups Job Club** will continue, on **Tuesday 12th and 26th April**, then we hope it will be weekly.



© Shire Jobs Training & Enterprise Hub

Keep an eye on our Social Media for firm dates - Twitter & Facebook - @shirejtehub and Instagram - Shire JTE

Email: projectcoordinator@jtehubshire.org to register interest in any of the above, or for a one-one appointment to discuss your needs. Also Tel. 07305066478 or check the Website - <https://jtehubshire.org/>



© Shire Jobs Training & Enterprise Hub

Shire Baptist Church News

During the past weeks we have been shocked by the treacherous invasion and saddened for the lives lost and suffering of the Ukrainian people. We join with the millions of prayers for the war to stop and peace to return to Ukraine.

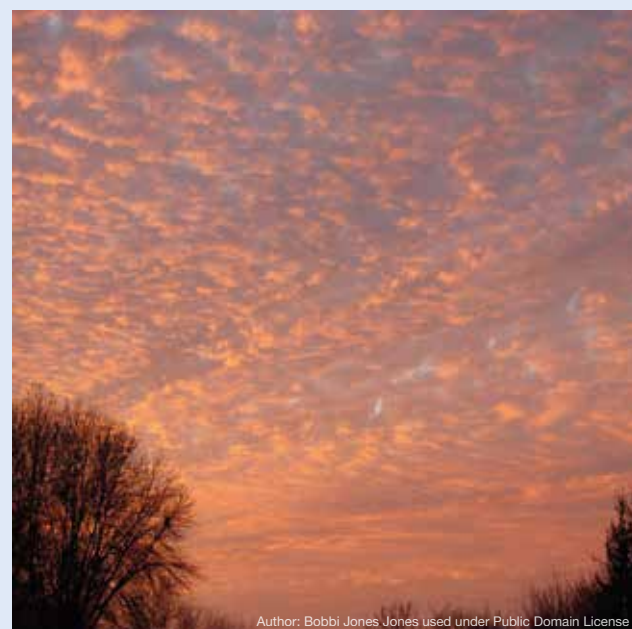
We trust that you will find hope and encouragement when you read the **Good News Paper** that we will be delivering to over a thousand homes in **Shire Village before Easter**. The paper reaches thousands of readers in homes, and is used by prison and hospital chaplains. It contains stories by celebrities and ordinary folk whose lives have been changed through faith in **Jesus Christ**. You can also visit the papers website at www.goodnewspaper.org.uk

On **Sunday February 20th** relations and friends of **Peter Mann** met to celebrate his life. Peter died during the Pandemic when only a few could attend his funeral including his son in America. Over many years Peter fulfilled many roles as an Elder, Youth worker, Boys Brigade Leader and lots behind the scenes. He was a local builder and after

his retirement fulfilled his vision of modernising our church building. With a team of men from our church the building was transformed. Our building is open for private prayer **every third Thursday from 10am to 12pm** but why not also come and see for yourselves our all purpose building thanks to Peter Mann.

Plans are going ahead for our **Holiday Club for children aged four to eleven**. There will be drama and other activities and takes place on **May 30th to June 2nd**. Please bring your children and grandchildren. A great way to spend their holiday week.

We continue to meet every **Sunday at 10.30am** at the building and on **Zoom and for Bible on Zoom at 4.30pm**.



Author: Bobbi Jones Jones used under Public Domain License

Our next **Cotswold Christian Community service at Dursley Road** will be on **Palm Sunday 10th April at 4.45pm** at the Cotswold Community Hall and will be a Songs of Praise.

Easter Sunday is April 17th when, weather permitting, we will hold our service in our Car Park so do come and join us on this joyful day.

Our love and prayers to you all from Shirehampton Baptist Church, Station Road.

Web Site:
www.shirehamptonbaptistchurch.co.uk
Contact 07743 683684

DARREN JONES MP

www.darren-jones.co.uk | fb.com/darrenjonesmp | [@darrenpjones](https://twitter.com/darrenpjones)

This April will be a difficult month for many families living in Bristol as we see energy bills increase in-line with the new energy price cap and take-home pay decrease because of the National Insurance tax hike. It's estimated this will cost the average household nearly a thousand pounds more in tax and energy bills this year. That's a lot of money to find when day-to-day costs are going up too, so if you are worried about how you will make ends meet this month, it's more important than ever that you do not suffer in silence.

The North Bristol Citizen's Advice Centre, Bristol North West Food Bank and the Bristol Energy Network can all offer advice about support with energy bills. You can also get emergency financial help from Bristol City Council, if you need it, and you can contact my office for signposting to the right places if you are unsure of where to get help.

I'm pleased to confirm that funding has been allocated to repairing our historic Kings Weston

Iron Bridge. As I've told the Mayor and Bristol Council for many years, the Iron Bridge is not just an historic landmark but a well-used vital link between Kingsweston and Blaise Castle. New plans have been submitted for approval by the council to raise the bridge so that it is safe from tall vehicles, and you'll be able to comment and review the planning on the Bristol Planning Portal. The repair of this important bridge has been a long time coming so I'm pleased that we're taking this big step forward

and that the Mayor has found the required funding. More information will be coming soon, but thank you to everyone in our community that has helped keep the Iron Bridge on the council's radar for so long. There's still more work to be done – including safer crossing for pedestrians and cyclists and better signage to stop industrial traffic travelling to Avonmouth under the Iron Bridge. I'll keep making this case to the council.

Dates for the diary: I'll be holding an online briefing on the Bristol Clean Air Zone on April 21st and a Shirehampton street stall outside the Co-op on Saturday morning on April 23rd. Please pop by and say hello!

As usual, if you need my help or have a question, I am running telephone surgeries and regular fortnightly catchups on Tuesdays on Facebook. Please get in touch on darren.jones.mp@parliament.uk or call the office on 0117 959 6545.

CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Shirehampton is in the Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Ward

Your Councillors are:

Donald Alexander – Labour: cldr.donald.alexander@bristol.gov.uk
John Stephen Geater - Conservative: Cllr.John.Geater@bristol.gov.uk
James Scott - Conservative: Cllr.James.Scott@bristol.gov.uk
Conservative Members' Services Office: 0117 922 2746
Labour Members' Services Office: 0117 922 3827

CONTACTING YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Shirehampton is in the Bristol North West Constituency

Darren Jones Phone: 01179596545
Email: darren.jones.mp@parliament.uk
Website: www.darren-jones.co.uk

The Noise 2022

The Noise weekend is an annual occasion when churches across the city unite to reach out to the communities around them with a shared vision of **SHOWING GOD'S LOVE IN PRACTICAL WAYS**.

Each year, volunteers from different churches and communities join together to host a weekend of events and practical projects, which make a difference in neighbourhoods across the city.

We are excited to be working towards hosting **The Noise 2022 on the May Day Bank Holiday weekend (Sat 30th April - Mon 2nd May)**.

We are looking for people who can volunteer to help with **practical projects** in different neighbourhoods across the city. This might be gardening, painting, rubbish clearance, etc

We are also looking for volunteers to help with **community events**, including family fun afternoons. If you've already been asked to help with a specific event with your church, please let us know on your registration form.

Lastly, we would love some volunteers to help with **photography** - can you help with that?

You can sign up for one or more days: **Saturday 30th April, Sunday 1st May, Monday 2nd May - 9am-5pm**

Please note: **THE FINAL DEADLINE** to sign up as a volunteer is **Sunday 3rd April 2022**.



Please contact the Bristol Noise Office if you have any questions.

Email - info@thenoise.org.uk,
Facebook – facebook.com/bristolnoise,
Twitter – twitter.com/bristolnoise,
Instagram – instagram.com/bristolthenoise.

Telephone 0117 9791399 (If we are out of office, please leave a message and we will get back to you asap).

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0117 942 4039

49 High Street
KINGSWOOD
0117 944 6051

2 Pembroke Road
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THE GREEN PAGES

CLIMATE NEWS FOR APRIL 2022:

Back at the end of February I read a story by Matt McGrath, BBC News Environment correspondent, about the latest report from the IPCC, the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The report tells us that "many of the impacts of Climate Change are now irreversible". Over 40% of the world's population are "highly vulnerable" to climate. Extreme weather events like floods and heat waves linked to climate change are hitting humans and other species much harder than previously thought. If temperatures rise to between 1.7 and 1.8C above the 1850s level, then half the human population could be exposed to life-threatening climatic conditions arising from heat and humidity. Coastal cities and communities are likely to disappear.

Now here we are, four months on from COP 26, and no further forward toward meeting the pledges this government made to reduce carbon emissions, especially by reducing our dependency on fossil fuels.

As we prepare for Easter, Interfaith Climate Activists are inviting us to join them for Bristol's Interfaith Earth Vigil from 11am to 1pm – College Green every Saturday leading up to Easter.

Earth Vigils are a peaceful and powerful action for anyone who is concerned about the climate and ecological crisis. We come together and sit in silence, witnessing to the suffering of our earth, with compassion and hope for her healing.

As a silent presence, we make no demands. We are simply present with the situation as it is, our grief, fear and love for the earth and all her people,

in solidarity with all those who suffer from the injustices of the climate and ecological emergency, and all those who sacrifice their time, their freedom and too often even their lives for our sacred earth.

Everyone is welcome! Wear warm clothes and if you can bring a stool or camping chair to sit on. We sit in prayer or meditation with one or two people keeping watch, handing out cards explaining what we are doing and talking to anyone who wants to chat. After half an hour we have a break and switch round. You can join for as much or as little as you like.

Please join us!

For more information:

sarahmacdonald43@gmail.com

www.earthvigil.co.uk

Bristol Earth Vigil



5th / 12th / 19th / 26th March
2nd / 9th April
11am - 1pm on College Green

CLIMATE CAFE WILL BE BACK AFTER EASTER

DETAILS IN MAY EDITION

The Climate Emergency Group would love to know what YOU would like to talk about at the Cafe.

Letters and suggestions will reach us through editor@shire.org.uk

April Activities for Lawrence Weston Community Farm



Please do not come to the farm if you feel unwell or are experiencing other symptoms of Covid-19.

NEW! Knit and Natter

Tuesdays 10am-12pm • £3
Starting Tues 8th March

Everyone welcome! Beginners or experienced. Bring a project you're working on, or start to learn how to knit or crochet. Come and enjoy some hands on craft, tea and company.

Farm Tots

Wednesdays 10:30-11:30am • £2.50

Help feed the animals. For under 5s and their carers. Drop in most Wednesdays. Please check Facebook for any changes.

Woodland and Orchard Club

Thursdays 10-11:30am • FREE

Come and spend time outdoors, making friends, learning new skills and having fun. Together we will look after the farm's orchard and woodland. We'll prune, coppice, weed, harvest and nature-watch. No prior knowledge necessary.

For more information call Amy on 0117 9381128 or email amy@lwfarm.org.uk

Walking Group

Wednesdays 2-3:30pm • FREE

Improve your health and meet new people by joining our free, friendly, weekly walking group. If coming for the first time, please arrive at 1.45 to sign up.

Gardening Group

Fridays 11-12:30pm • FREE

Interested in getting involved in gardening on the farm? Come along Fridays to help with our gardens. Call Amy 0117 9381128 or email amy@lwfarm.org.uk for more details.

Farm Hands

Saturdays and Sundays • FREE

Local 8-11yr olds can come & help look after the farm. If you are interested in any of these activities or need an application form for Farm Hands then please contact Helen on 0117 9381128 or helen@lwfarm.org.uk

Volunteering

If you'd like to help look after the animals or maintain the farm please contact Ian on 0117 9381128 or ian@lwfarm.org.uk. Come and meet new people and have fun outdoors.

SHIREHAMPTON CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP

Has resumed meetings in the Cotswold Community Centre, Dursley Road, BS11 9XH. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:30pm.



IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE, DO COME AND JOIN US!

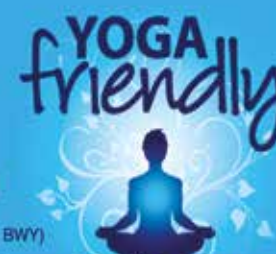
Yoga Classes

Mondays 6.00 to 7.15pm
Shirehampton Public Hall
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Contact Suzi Griffin (CYS, AYS, BWY)

07776 321 989 suzi@yogafriendly.co.uk



Bee Happy Shire's April Update

First of all, A BIG THANK YOU to all the people who supported and participated in, Bee Happy Shire's Bulb Planting Party in the autumn. We planted over 900 bulbs, many of which are now flowering – please check it out next time you are walking along past The Ridge Amenity Area.

Bees Love Weeds

'Bees Love Weeds' is our exciting new project to help you **Spring into Action** for pollinators by planting weeds! The University of Sussex has recently published their research into the best plants for pollinators and many in their Top Ten are on the government's list of 'Injurious Weeds'.

Bee Happy Shire invites you to our **Spring Planting Party on The Ridge Amenity Area, 10am to 12 midday on Saturday 2nd April**, when we shall plant the weeds that bees love, including dandelions, common knapweed, ground ivy and many more.



Dr Nicholas Balfour says "There now exists a substantial body of evidence which shows that weeds are a vitally important resource for pollinators." The recent report, co-authored by Dr Balfour, recorded that three of the 'weeds' studied produce four times more nectar sugar than the DEFRA-recommended plants for pollinators. "Pollinators are crucial to maintaining global biodiversity, ecosystem resilience and agricultural output. However, there are significant concerns about pollinator declines and the long-term decline of flowers in our landscapes is considered a key factor." – Dr Nicholas Balfour

Please join us in our mission to make Shirehampton a pollinator-friendly village by planting the weeds that bees love.

Make it a date, and Spring into Action for Pollinators

10am to 12 midday Saturday 2nd April

All ages welcome, tools provided.



© Sara Cech-Lucas

Nature Notes

I rarely find myself in the right place, at the right time, with my camera phone on, and then quick enough to get an image as good as this (almost) is!! I was in our kitchen when this furry individual suddenly came tiptoeing along the top of the fence several weeks ago. As squirrels often do, it ran a bit, then paused a bit, checking that it was safe to carry on, thus giving me time to record the occasion for posterity! I have seen the squirrels down here running around from time to time, but this was such a lucky moment to be able to get a decent picture.



© Bobbie Perkins

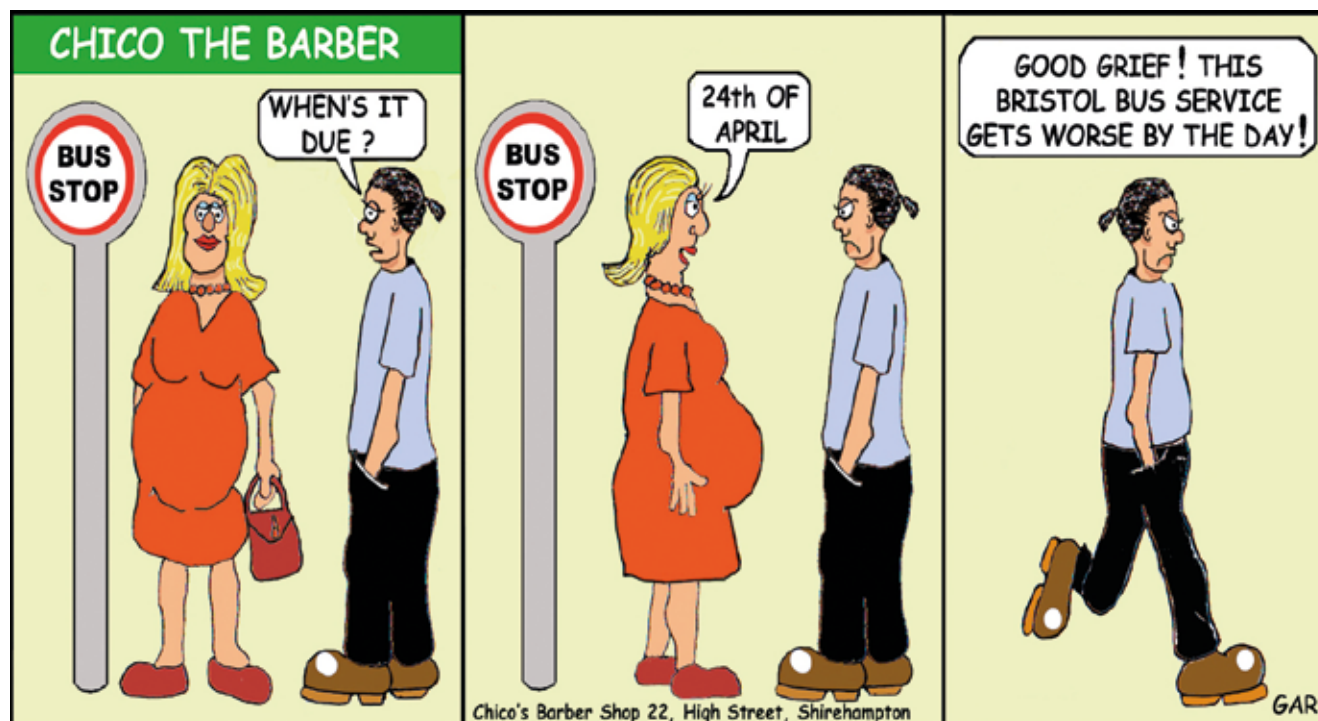
After feeding the birds in the back garden by putting mixed seed on our modest bird table cum birdbath, and a dish on top of the garden wall, I decided it was time to hang feeders up for the tits and finches that prefer to take their food more safely, as they used to do before we had to lose our Cherry tree. How glad I am! We now have sparrows, blue tits, great tits, starlings, and what I think is a chiffchaff, regularly visiting to feed on the pellets and peanuts on offer. The pigeons help with tidying up the path where the leftovers land!

We do put out leftovers now and again for the foxes. Late at night just before going to bed we sneak out and then watch from the window as they trot up and leave no trace. Happy to report they look in very good health, with thick coats and big bushy tails!

As nesting time is now fast approaching, (a beautiful pair of blackbirds are now close by), I have begun to lay out my collie's brushed out coat on our privet hedge. It was a great success last year! You may remember I had huge amounts donated by a friend's husky!!

Happy nature watching all.

Bobbie



World Book Day at Shirehampton Primary School

During World Book day children at Shirehampton Primary School took part in some fabulous dressing up for the annual event. They were encouraged to dress up as their favourite characters from their favourite books and to tell us all about them.



Reading for pleasure is fun and this was a great way to encourage children to read both in school and at home. Can you spot any of your favourite characters? Some of our interesting characters included: the ladybird from *What the ladybird heard*, a zoo keeper

from *Poo in the Zoo* and? We also had some family favourites such as *Harry Potter* characters and a witch from *Winnie the Witch!*

We hope you enjoyed World Book day too.

The Iron Bridge

Darren Jones MP said: "I'm thrilled the mayor has been able to find the money to repair the Iron Bridge and that Don Alexander has got the redesign to planning approval stage. After so many years of discussions with the council, on behalf of my constituents, I know that the local community will be delighted with today's news."



Before the Damage.



After the Damage.

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Avonmouth Ladies Club

We meet at Avonmouth Community Centre - on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm (but not in Jan and Feb) We listen to a variety of speakers as well as having occasional outings.

Diary of events April - June

- April 5th - Easter Bunnies by Ann Gregory
- April 19th - Charity 'Bring and Buy' Auction
- May 3rd - 'Freewheelers' with bike!
by Mark Green
- May 17th - Celebration Party
(Ladies club 50th & Queens Platinum)
- June 7th - My life in C&E in 24 objects
by Mark Bullen
- June 21st - Quiz - by Rose

A warm welcome awaits

For any information contact Julia on 0117 9829390

Current ASEA works in Lamplighter's Marsh

The ASEA flood defence works are underway in Lamplighter's Marsh. The dark line next to the Severn Beach railway shows the route of an earth bank that will be part of the flood defences.



© ASEA

TS Enterprise News

It has been a busy month for TS Enterprise. We attended the Avon District Drill and Ceremonial Competition on Sunday 20th February, the first post Covid competition to be held. Our entry was in the Colour Party section. The cadets had practised hard and their efforts showed with them achieving second place. There are nine units in Avon District so this was a very pleasing result.

As that excitement ended, we were then contacted and asked to host **Captain Neil Downing RN Captain Sea Cadets on Monday 28th February**. This is normally a non parade night but the majority of cadets were able to attend. The Captain attended with the **Area Officer Cdr Gary Mills RN, District Officer LtCdr (SCC) Richard Priest and our Volunteer Business Support Manager Mr Will Elliot**.

Cadets completed a Leadership task, the Captain and the team talked to cadets about their Sea Cadet experiences and what they were looking forward to in the coming year, the unanimous reply being boating. Presentations then followed with cadets receiving promotions and badges. Finally, the Captain presented the Unit with its **2021 Efficiency Pennant**.

We are now looking ahead and preparing for our **80th Anniversary Parade and Thanksgiving Service in Shirehampton**. More on this next month.

There are many opportunities for adult volunteers in the Sea Cadets and if you, or anyone you know, are interested please contact us on the following address avonmouthseacadets@gmail.com.

We also have places for **Junior Cadets 10-12 and Senior Cadets 12-18**. Again please contact on the email address.





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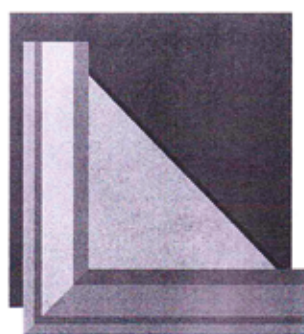
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News from ShireStrong Kettlebell Club

We are a small club of enthusiastic members who get together 3 times a week to work on our endurance and strength using kettlebells. Membership is open to all ages and abilities. Kettlebells are easy to use once you have had some instruction and have enormous benefits.



Member of the Month, Suzie Atkins

During **March** ShireStrong members continued with training. We welcomed a new member to the club - **Hayley Mannion**. Hayley attended a free 1 to 1 technique session and then joined club members. Hayley said 'since I have recently started with Linda she has been very supportive. I have felt very welcome by all the members and really enjoy classes. I feel so good after as well as having fun at the same time. I look forward to continuing my journey with Linda'.

Our **February** member of the month is **Suzie Atkins** who has continued to train whenever possible even though she has had some challenges to deal with over the past few months. Her dedication and determination is incredible. After receiving the award Suzie made the following comments about joining the club. 'In the middle of 2020 having spent most of the first 6 months pretty sedentary I decided it was time to get moving. I did research for local Personal Trainers and Linda's name came up! That's kind of where things started to change for me. I discovered kettlebells and an awesome



New Member Hayley Mannion

group of supportive ladies (and men) and a strength both physically and mentally I didn't know I had. Life has been a bit rocky for me over the past 6 months but one constant has been kettlebell classes. I know that when I get to class I can switch off and enjoy working out in a non-judgemental motivating space with a lot of laughter.' Well done Suzie and thank you for your lovely words.

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City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

Bowling will return to the City and Port of Bristol Club when the green opens on Monday April 11th. The green keeper has been hard at work through the Autumn and Winter to ensure a good surface on which to bowl from the start of the new season.



© David Hinksman

Bowling will soon be back — green opening day is Monday April 11th.

The **2022 season** promises to be something like normal following two seasons of restricted activity due to the pandemic. More than forty mixed friendly games will be played and enjoyed on **Wednesdays and at week-ends between Mid-April and the first week-end of October.** Monday evening **Club League** will start in **May** with four teams competing for the league and cup trophies --- can **Nomads** repeat last year's fête and win both again?

Ladies and Men's Bristol Leagues will return to playing competitively this season with promotion and relegation at the end of the season. Games were played in 2021 without the award of trophies or movement of teams between divisions.

Free try bowling sessions for people of all ages and abilities will be available from early May. These will be primarily on **Tuesday evenings** but other times are available on request.

It is hoped that the **Junior Bowling** sessions that started in 2021 and were very successful will develop further this year. Last year's sessions were on **Tuesday and sometimes Wednesdays.** The club also provided two sessions as part of the **Summer Holiday activity** scheme that ran at the main **social and sports club** through August. It is hoped that the scheme will be repeated this year to enable junior bowling sessions to be provided once more.

This year's summer tour will be based at the splendid **Langham Hotel in Eastbourne early in July.** Last visited in 2016 this is an excellent location for both bowling and also for exploring East Sussex. There is a very good bus service, making a visit to places such as Brighton easy. There will be bowling on four days, visiting some very attractive greens and seeing some very pleasant East Sussex scenery en-route.

The clubs social evenings continued on **February 20th with a Beetle Drive.** More than twenty bowlers, family and friends braved a stormy night to play twelve games of Beetle and try their luck on



© David Hinksman

It's Beetle again — Sunday February 20th.

the Tombola Table. **Bill Hatherall** emerged as **Beetle Champion** at the end of the final game with **Mervyn White** runner up.

Thursday April 7th is Big Band Night in the ballroom at the **PBA Social and Sports Club.** The **David Salt Big Band** lead by **Andrew Champion** will play and entertain from **8.30pm** --- a show not to be missed. The band last performed for the Bowls Club in June 2019 and it was a very memorable evening. **Tickets for the show --£6 each---** can be bought in advance from **David Hinksman 07932 387217** or on the night.

If you would like to know more about the club and its activities please call **David Hinksman** on **07932 387217.**

Why not come and see us when the new season starts --- see what bowling is all about and become a bowler.

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The Choir in the Shire is Back!

In March 2020, everything shut down, which included the Shirehampton Gospel Choir. Members were devastated that the weekly gatherings which were such fun just stopped and our scheduled concerts were cancelled. Life felt very uncertain and we had no idea when things might return to normal.

We did keep our community together via zoom and managed to record some video performances where choir members recorded themselves at home and sent them in to be edited.

Then in September 2021 choirs were given the green light to meet again...in person! The joy in the room that first week back was really obvious and we have been so relieved that we have been able to continue to rehearse since then. This term we are back doing a couple of performances, things are really looking up.

Our gospel choir is always open to new members, we meet every **Wednesday at Shirehampton Baptist Church, 7-8.15pm** (apart from school holidays). If you fancy giving it a go, why not come along one week, we're a very friendly group. You don't need any previous experience, we don't do

auditions and we don't have a weekly fee, instead we just ask for members to make donations to the choir when they can.

Email Emma Smallwood gospelgen@googlemail if you have any questions. Find out more about Shirehampton GGCC either on Facebook /ggccbristol or our website www.ggcc.org.uk



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