

Shire

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

No. 610 - November 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 21-22 to find a local business who can help.

Shire's NEW
Website - Page 12
www.shire.org.uk

Shire Santa Dash 2022
Sun 4 Dec • 11am - Page 9

Warhorse Concert
Sat 19th Nov • 7pm
St Mary's Church
- Page 13

The Roof is Finished and the Chimes are Back!!!

The long anticipated completion of the roof works at the Hall has now been achieved! Thank you to everyone in the local area for your patience and support, in particular with regard to vandals, who persistently climbed the scaffolding and threw tiles and other objects into our own and neighbouring gardens. You will agree, however, that all the pain was worth it! We are now the proud owners of a well-insulated, newly felted and battened roof! Hooray!

Thanks also to Bristol City Council for their investment in this project. We could not have achieved it without their support.

Thanks are also extended to Nathan and Janet Coffin of Coffins Clocks in Keynsham for the refurbishment of the clock and for reinstating the chime. Hopefully this will work well for many years to come.



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- 3 KIWI SUPPER CLUB
Thursday 3rd November from 6.30pm
- 10 QUIZ NIGHT
Thursday 10th November at 7.00pm
- 17 SUPPER CLUB - CURRY
Thursday 17th November from 6.30pm
- 24 QUIZ NIGHT
Thursday 24th November at 7.00pm

Shire

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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'.

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PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER

WELCOMING SPACES

www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/people-and-communities/cost-of-living-support?tab=welcomingspaces

The first of Bristol's Welcoming Spaces are now open. These are spaces people can go during the winter months for support and warmth. Each venue will be responding to community priorities which means what happens in each space will vary, but is likely to include Wi-Fi, access to electrical charging points, activities and community meals. There will also be support and practical advice provided by city-wide organisations.

More information about Welcoming Spaces and where to find your nearest one is available on the **Bristol City Council** website. More spaces will be added over the coming weeks.

If you'd like to make a difference in your community during the cost of living crisis and you have some time to spare there are also a range of **volunteering opportunities** available through **Can Do Bristol** (www.candobristol.co.uk). Opportunities range from befriending and peer support, to cooking, driving and helping at Welcoming Spaces.

For advice and guidance on cost of living, visit our new cost of living support hub on the **Bristol City Council** website (above).

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

All these activities have been well-attended over the last six months and the Friends very much want to continue offering them. BUT we need more volunteers to help keep these sessions staffed. A couple of hours every month would go a long way to keeping these activities running. If you can help contact Friends of Shirehampton Library (FoSL) at friendsofshire@gmail.com.

SHIREHAMPTON PUBLIC HALL REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY	Twyford Art Club (except July & August) Extraordinary Links Parents Group (every 3rd Monday) Yoga	10:00am - 12noon 1:00pm - 3:00pm 6:00pm - 7:15pm	Hall Hall Hall
TUESDAY	Messy Play Toddlers Extraordinary Links Parents Group Line Dancing Puppy Training	9:00am - 11:00am 10:00am - 12noon 2:00pm - 3:00pm 6:30pm - 8:30pm	Hall Penpole Hall Hall
WEDNESDAY	Shire Stitchers (1st Wednesday of the month) Bristol Healing Rooms (every 2nd Wednesday) Pop-Up Play Village Bristol North (every 3rd Wednesday) Over 75s Exercise Class Extraordinary Links Shire Stitchers (every 3rd Wednesday) Women's Fellowship (every 2nd and 4th Wednesday)	10:00am - 12noon 11:00am - 1:30pm 9:30am - 1:30pm 2:00pm - 3:00pm 3:30pm - 5:30pm 7:30pm - 9:30pm 7:30pm - 9:30pm	Hall Hall Hall Hall Hall Hall Hall
THURSDAY	Shirehampton Community Art and Social Group (formerly Sea Mills Art Club) Tai Chi Model Railway Club Grainger Players	10:00am - 12noon 2:00pm - 3:30pm 7:00pm - 10:00pm 7:30am - 9:30pm	Hall Hall Club Room Hall
FRIDAY	Stay & Play (formerly Playtots - Term Time Only) Shire News (last Friday of the month) Tree of Life Church (1st Friday of the month) Create to Elevate Youth Group (2nd & last Fridays)	9:30am - 11:00am 4:00pm 6:00pm - 10:00pm 7:00pm - 10:00pm	Hall Hall Hall Hall
SUNDAY	Church of Grace	11:00am - 4:00pm	Hall

The Public Hall is also home to Shirehampton Community Action Forum (SCAF) and Tandem Arts (Portway Room).



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The *Shire* Community Pages

The Friends of Shirehampton Library

Things are in full swing again now and our weekly activities are progressing well. The Shire Living Room takes place on Tuesday afternoons from 3pm till 5pm and all folk are welcome. We have tea/coffee/squash and biscuits, all free, for anyone who wants to pop in for a chat, keep warm, maybe play a board game with others, even browse through the great wealth of books and magazines available there. Families are welcome after school, we now have Storytime for any children who'd like to be read to.

Our Wednesday IT Literacy Class from 6pm till 7pm has gone so well we now have folks who are confident enough to progress on their own. This means we have some availability if anyone would like to come along, so do pop along if you fancy, or, if you have a friend or relative who you think it might benefit, bring them along. We have a team of experts at hand to take you through all the basics of a computer/tablet/smartphone and get you going.

Our Family History Group meets once a month on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6pm till 8pm. Again, we have a team of Genealogists who can guide you through the basics. All you need is a Family name, a date and place of birth, and you

can get started. The library has two new computers now with access to the **Ancestry.com** website and this is a huge boon.

We have a couple of ideas we're looking into:

- **A Library of Things.** This is holding a store of household items, eg a Drill, Lawnmower, BBQ perhaps, even an Apple Press, ie items which you may not use often enough to merit buying. We would loan these out to local folks for a short time.
- **A Record Listening Group.** The Bristol Library Service have the equipment to play Vinyl records and would be happy to provide them at the library on occasion. Perhaps we could get a few folks to sit and chat about a classic album from the past.

Finally, we're pleased to announce another event, this time a repeat of the **Richard Coates** talk, author of the superb **Shirehampton Sketches** book. The last talk Richard gave was so popular, we've decided to hold another for those who were unable to get in, or who'd like to attend anyway. This time the event will be at the **Cotswold Community Association, Dursley Road, BS11 9XH, on Tuesday 29th November at 7pm.** Admission will be on a First Come, First Served basis. There will be refreshments and donations will be welcome.

If anyone is interested in joining us as a volunteer, and helping at future events, please contact us by either emailing friendsofshire@gmail.com or ringing 07943 401575.

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191st Bristol
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BEAVERS Age 6 to 8 years
on a Wednesday 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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

REPLY TO: NOISE POLLUTION (OCTOBER 2022)

Dear Editor,

I am replying to issue 609, October 2022, page 5. As a local neighbour to the Shirehampton Workman's Club, on the Bank Holiday their was live entertainment in the seating area of the car park which although was loud was also not intended to endure on local residents, the entertainment finished at 7pm and all music ceased by 9pm under the music licensing act.

Since covid all have been affected by isolation, loneliness, bereavements, etc and I feel the Shirehampton Workman's Club put some humanity back into our hearts, so apologies to anyone who was affected and I know this matter has been addressed and will be actioned by the Club for future events.

So please come along and be welcomed by friendly staff, members and non members.

Name and address supplied.

IN THE "PUBLIC HOUSE" OF THE RISING SUN

Dear Editor,

Not sure if this is of any interest to Shire readers but I was going through some old photos of my Mum & Dad and came across these pictures of the Rising Sun, Shirehampton. They date from the 60's and no later than 1970.

My Mum and Dad, **Pam and Stan Grant**, lived in Shirehampton but moved in 1970 (my dad was the local Policeman). They are in two of the pictures with the Landlady of the pub **Alice West** (she's the one with grey hair and glasses) who appears in some of the others. Perhaps your readers may recognise some of the other people in the pictures?

I just thought they were an interesting glimpse into a pub and a time that has unfortunately long gone.

Kind Regards,

Simon Grant (Artwork Studio)



THANK YOU

Dear Editor,

Good Afternoon from Penhill Residential Home. I just wanted to send my thanks on behalf of us all here at Penhill for publishing such a lovely article. It was very much appreciated by everyone.

Kind Regards,

Nate Corfield, Manager



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- **Bootcamps: Monday and Wednesday 6.15-7.00am. Please message for details.**



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An Update from Darren Jones MP, Bristol North West

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

The days are getting shorter, and winter is on the way. I know that many of you will be worried about making ends meet, with a cost-of-living crisis and an energy crisis to think about. We won the argument in Westminster to help cap the price of energy this winter, but the average amount we'll pay is still double what it was a year ago.

People should not be faced with an impossible choice between heating and eating. When we are being charged the Earth for energy the only action we can take as individuals is to use less energy. That was the idea behind my recent 'Charge the Earth Summit'.

With a live demo on laying loft insulation, quickfire talks on everything from energy debt advice to how to adjust your boiler settings to make it run more efficiently, there was a strong emphasis on practical support. I hope the event will have helped many people to reduce their energy bills.

Using less energy is also what we need to do to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to achieve

climate targets, and the implications for the climate crisis were also discussed throughout the day.

We filmed some of these talks and I will be sharing them once they have been edited, so please keep an eye on my website (www.darren-jones.co.uk) and Facebook page ([fb.com/darrenjonesmp](https://www.facebook.com/darrenjonesmp)) for details.

In other local news, it was my privilege to open the memorial garden in Avonmouth, remembering the lives that were lost in the industrial explosion nearly two years ago. The ongoing investigation at the site, which is now drawing to an end, is the reason a temporary site has been processing waste material and this has caused an unwelcome smell for families

living near to Avonmouth. Wessex Water has assured me that this temporary site will be moved in the coming months and that this will bring an end to the problem.

I'm also aware that we have a number of property planning issues in the village, which seems to have become a hotspot at the moment given the higher values local houses are now being sold and rented for. I have raised these issues with **Bristol City Council** and will be asking for an enforcement officer to visit Shire in person soon.

Being your MP is a brilliant job like no other. With the help of my brilliant (but small!) team, we help local people with their problems, answer questions about local, national and international issues, and I represent your views in Parliament, too. I would love to hear your feedback on the service that my team and I offer you. Please take a few minutes to complete my annual survey: www.darren-jones.co.uk/annual-survey

CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Shirehampton is in the Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Ward

Your Councillors are:

Donald Alexander – Labour: cll.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
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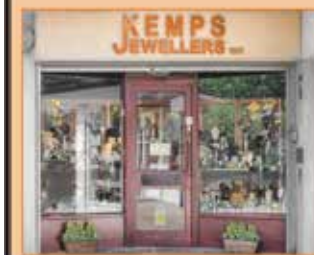
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SHIREHAMPTON PUBLIC HALL NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2022

SPOTLIGHT ON GROUPS AT THE PUBLIC HALL:

YOGA FRIENDLY

At the User Group meeting on Friday 27th May a suggestion was made that a small article be written about regular groups that meet at the Hall. It was hoped that by introducing Shire Paper readers to what we have to offer they would feel part of the Hall community, and maybe even take part in a few activities (if they don't already!).

This month we are showcasing the **Yoga Group**. Run by the amazing **Suzi Griffin**, the group meets on a **Monday evening from 6pm** and is very friendly and welcoming.

Suzi said: "Although yoga can have a reputation of tying bodies in complicated knots, this is far from the truth in a yoga class that has been happening at Shirehampton Public Hall for years.

Yoga is not all about physical movement because it also touches us beneficially on many other levels. Much of the time the simplest yoga movements,

when practiced with focus, have the most beneficial effects to body, breath and mind.

Students at the Shirehampton class say that taking the time to do the weekly yoga in the historic hall is part of their week they really look forward to. Fancy looking forward to Mondays! Regular yoga practitioners report that their physical and mental health improves when they take time out to strengthen and stretch their muscles, concentrate on their breath and give busy minds a chance to rest and recuperate. After class they report that their energy has improved, their mental health is more resilient, and they feel all together better about living life.

Why not find out if this is true for you?"

Contact Suzi at www.yogafriendly.co.uk or suzi@yogafriendly.co.uk (see the advert on page 23 for more details).

The **Gardening Volunteers Group** which meets in the **Hall garden** from **10am on the first Saturday of the month**. Everyone is welcome, and bring tools if you can! Contact the Hall for more information if necessary.

Did you know the Public Hall also has a photocopier in the office which is available for public/user group use? Community rates are 1p per black and white copy, 4p per colour copy – bargain, eh?!

The Public Hall is very keen to hear from anyone with drive, determination and a flair for listed buildings to join their team of Trustees. For details on how to support the Hall as a volunteer or Trustee, or to book meeting or party/celebration space, or any other questions, please contact the Hall Manager on 0117 9829963 or email bookings@shirepubhall.org.uk.



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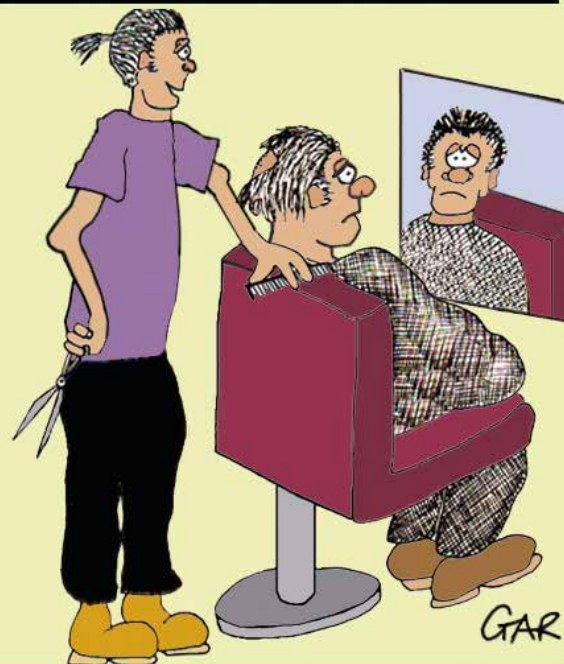
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We really appreciate you putting our Santa Dash poster in the Shire November edition again. The bigger the better please, we are relying on the Santa Dash to cover the Xmas light fees and additional installation for this year.

Our contractors have already added a 'new run' from the **Charity Shop** next to the **Bookmakers** all the way to **Ruby Jeans** and will be back to install the final stretch, taking in the precinct as far as the **Post Office**. Furthermore, additional trees have been wrapped ready for **switch on towards the end of November**. We are really excited by the additional lights, and will soon be giving Blackpool a run for its money (joking)!

We are thrilled that our **Christmas Craft Fair** is already fully booked, with 21 stalls confirmed.

It will be held in the **ballroom** on the same day as the Santa Dash; everything from homemade crafts, soaps, Xmas gifts and clothes will be on offer.

Finally we have a Xmas seller and Florist joining us, with their items ready to pre order, take home or same day delivery.

We can't wait to see you on Sunday 4th.

Many thanks and Best Wishes,

Shire Lights Committee

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CLIMATE CHANGE: Of Walking On Thin Ice

This time last year we were looking forward to COP 26. We hosted a talk and discussion about the importance of the conference in the Public Hall. A group of Climate Pilgrims, some from Shirehampton, walked the 'Camino to Cop' from London and Bristol to Glasgow. How different this year as the annual Cop conference draws near. This one will be held in Egypt and Alok Sharma will hand over the presidency. Our present government seems to intend to row back on the climate commitments made last year.

Nevertheless, in these dark times the Pilgrims walked again from London to Bristol bringing the film they made of the Camino with them. Camino to Cop: Of Walking on Thin Ice came to the

Encounters Film Festival in Bristol for its première in September. Several of us from Shirehampton met the walkers bringing the film and joined them as they carried the film to the Harbourside for its



© Sarah Macdonald

first free open air 'walking screening'. They intend to distribute the film by foot across the country. You can find out more about the film and the walk at <https://caminotocop.com>.

Just a few days after watching this film SCEG attended Darren Jones's Charge the Earth Summit. The event opened with a panel discussion on the question "Will the government use the energy crisis to cop out on COP 26?" Three expert witnesses from Bristol University, Dr. Claire Gronow, Environmental Scientist, Dr. Ed Atkins, Senior Lecturer in Human Geography, and Professor Daniela Schmidt, School of Earth Sciences, reminded us that we MUST urgently REDUCE our carbon emissions if we are to survive as a species. Professor Schmidt said the planet would survive the extreme changes that are coming, but said starkly "Human beings cannot live in temperatures of 50C"; temperatures we have already seen across the globe.

The positive news is that we have renewable energy and we CAN reduce our carbon emissions, AND our energy. There was plenty of positive information on reducing energy bills by reducing energy use. Bristol Energy Network and the Centre for Sustainable Energy offered a great deal of helpful information about simple things we each can do to reduce our costs as well as our emissions. You can contact them: www.bristolenergynetwork.org.uk and www.cse.org.uk/advice-leaflets.

Energy efficiency is the way to a just transition as we de-carbonize the power sector.

Renée Slater



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Tynings Field

Be the change you want to see!

As Tynings field grew, we became that restructure and the volunteers who came and worked just a few days or many days, all became part of a wider plan, the results of which are apparent. We are once again blessed with some new people who are able to assist the area now.

From your living room you are **NEVER** going to make a difference to the planet, so live it, do it, feel it, believe it!

From 2011 till 2022 (and beyond) an orchard is a living, breathing, working area apart from the vegetable plots and livestock. 2 new flower beds have been dug here and we welcome donations of bulbs or seeds.

Caroline Penny



© 2011 Kacey-O'Neill



© Caroline Penny

In Case You Missed It?

GET READY FOR BRISTOL'S CLEAN AIR ZONE

Bristol City Council will be introducing a Clean Air Zone on Monday 28 November 2022 to reduce harmful pollution from vehicles. Poor air quality has a major impact on the health of everyone in the city and the Clean Air Zone will help us tackle this issue and meet government targets for cleaner air in 2023. The zone is in the central area where air quality is poorest. No vehicles will be banned from driving in the zone, but older and more polluting vehicles will have to pay a daily charge to drive in the zone.



If you want to find out more about the Clean Air Zone visit our website (www.bristol.gov.uk) or email CAZSupport@bristol.gov.uk

71 per cent of vehicles already meet the zone's emission standards. The council is offering financial support and advice to help people upgrade their vehicles or switch to a cleaner way of travelling.

How to Prepare for the Clean Air Zone

Get ready for Bristol's Clean Air Zone by following our three easy steps:

- go to the government's clean air zone pages to check if your vehicle will be charged
- check our interactive map to see how the zone affects you
- find out if you are eligible for financial support or an exemption on our website

Reducing air pollution is everyone's responsibility so please consider how you travel. Most people can travel into and around the city centre without using a car at all. Visit the active travel pages on Travelwest to see how we can support you to take more journeys by public transport, cycling and walking.

Nature Notes

A friend and neighbour kindly shared this lovely shot of a resting dragonfly recently.

I think it's always a bonus to sometimes be in the right place at just the right time, in order to record what could be a one off experience.

I have often spotted a likely 'scoop' of a shot in the garden, so hot footed indoors for the phone, only to a) have no charge left in said phone, or b) gone tiptoeing back outside to discover the incredible subject of my excitement is long gone!!! Hats off to the amazing endurance of our wildlife camera operators on the TV!!



© Bobbie Perkins

The continuing mention of avian flu is very troubling right now isn't it? And I do feel that, although Autumn has meant a lot of our summer visitors are now thousands of miles away, the skies and gardens do seem too too quiet. I hope it's just me being too pessimistic. I am happy that my gold finches are thriving though. So small yet so robust!

I think they were able to have more than one brood because, when I watch them from the kitchen window, I can see adults, younger adults with just some of their adult feathers, and youngsters not displaying any of the famous red, black or gold. Despite all the berries and fruits still in plentiful supply in this amazing Indian Summer weather, my little charmers still prefer the Niger seed.

Happy nature watching folks,

Bobbie.

Shire Launches New Website!

Behind the scenes here at Shire HQ we have been working on a brand-new website and are now very excited to be able to share it with you, our readers!

© All images on this page SHIRE Publications

Work on the new website has been underway since the early part of 2022 and has involved creating a **whole new site**. A good deal of content has been transferred from the **old Shire on the Web site**, but also more has been added to try and create a more vibrant, user-friendly experience.

The website has **PDF files of all the Shire Newspapers since mid-2019** (bound, paper copies of all editions from the past 50 years, are available to view at Shirehampton Library). Whilst putting together the site, it has been fascinating to view the past editions and remember all the fantastic community events that have been held here in Shire over the years. There are also some interesting articles, which explore the history of Shirehampton and the local area, as well as archive photographs of community events in the local area. You will also find information about the history of **Shire Newspaper** and some of the **team that work to put the paper together**.

All contact details and information about how to send us articles, announcements and letters are included. If you would like to advertise in Shire, visit the website and you can find out how.

We have also included a **donations page**; this can be used if you would like to **make a contribution to Shire**, whether you are including an article or wish to **help support this community newspaper**.

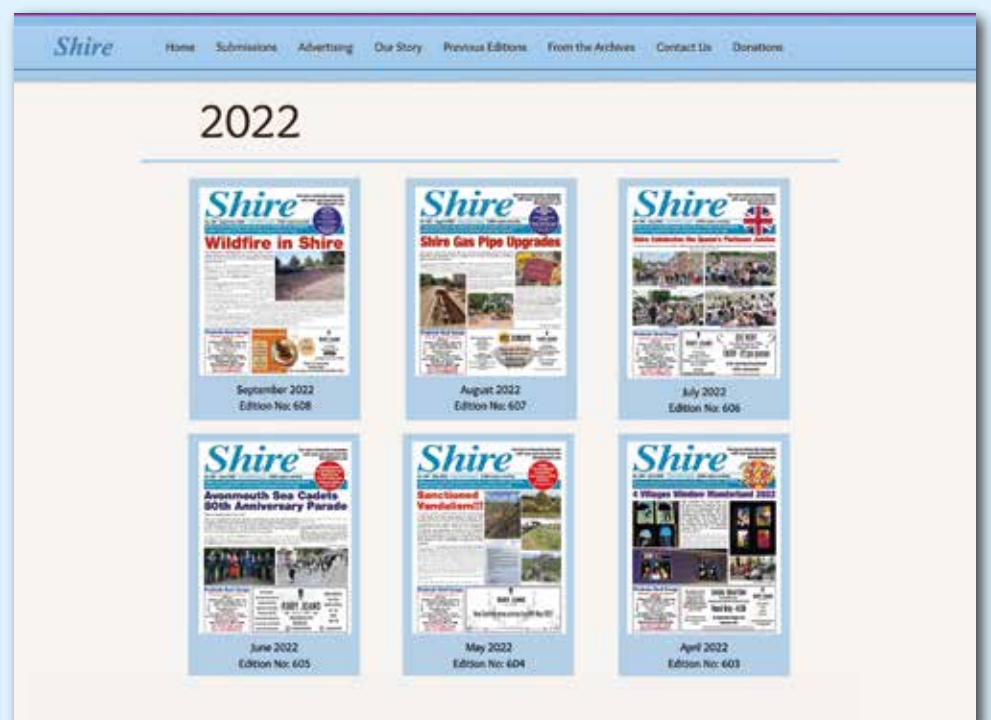


It has been an enjoyable process to put the website together, and I hope you enjoy exploring it. This is an evolving project, and we expect to keep adding to the site in the future. Any suggestions are always welcome, so please feel free to get in touch (contact details on the website)! Hopefully, like me, you will

enjoy looking at all the fantastic photographs of our community which can now be viewed online.

Please visit: www.shire.org.uk

Lacy Bradley



Warhorse Concert

I attach a poster for the Celebration Concert for the Warhorse Statue Project on Saturday 19th November at 7pm in St Mary's Church.

The Warhorse Statue Project is progressing well; we have raised enough money now and paid for the Statue, thanks to substantial donations from the Wind Turbine Fund, Port of Bristol and the Nisbet's Trust, and brilliant support from the local community, thanks particularly to Diane Gait and Richard Smith. We are formalising

planning permission for the plinth and will update as soon as we have arrangements for the Statue to be erected. A Formal Opening Ceremony will take place with local and, hopefully, national press attending.

John Hastings



Cotswold Community Association
Dursley Road, Shirehampton,
Bristol, BS11 9XH
Registered charity no. 1101427
Website: cotswoldcommunity.org
Email: cotswoldca@gmail.com
Phone: 07943-401575

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 month)
Shire Climate Emergency Group
7:30pm (2nd and 4th of 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
- SATURDAY** Coffee Morning 10:00-11:30am
(2nd of month)
Bingo 7:30pm
- SUNDAY** Soul Space 12:30-3pm
(1st & 3rd of month)
Cotswold Christian
Community Service 4:45-6pm
(2nd of 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
mail list by emailing cotswoldca@gmail.com

Celebration Concert

for the
War Horse Statue Project

Performed
by the wonderful

**Cameo
orchestra:**

at St. Mary's Church, Shirehampton
on Saturday 19th November 2022

Doors open at 6.30 for 7.00pm start

Tickets: Adult £5, under 16s £2.50 - Cash Only
available at: the **Saver Shop**, 54 High Street, Shirehampton,
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Churches in the Shirehampton Area

St Mary's News

Hi Folks!

First of all, since my last newsletter, our beloved Queen Elizabeth II has passed away. There was great sadness throughout the country that our faithful and loyal Sovereign for the last 70 years was sadly no longer with us. Upon receipt of the news, we immediately saw that all the seasonal hangings in the church were changed to purple and the Altar displayed a black Altar Frontal. We were fortunate that we already had a Book of Condolence for such an event, and many people came to sign it and light a candle. The Book will be kept permanently in the church, currently displayed in a glass display cabinet in the Chancel.

The Rev. Alison's first service was on Sunday morning 18th September and we were all amazed that she preached her sermon without notes. Her words come straight from her heart and her sermons have proved to be very interesting. She has a very infectious laugh with a slight Scots accent she was born in Glasgow, Scotland. As you may already have already discovered, she has been making an effort to introduce herself in the community. After the service we had a Welcoming Bring & Share Lunch for her and her husband Derek which was enjoyed by everyone.

With the temperatures falling, we are keeping the church warm for our Coffee Mornings and welcome you all to keep warm, meet friends and catch up. The church is open daily for Tea and Coffee between 10.00am and 12.00noon and every £1.50 spent will help to pay the cost of gas and electricity used to heat the building. The Church only closes for coffees on a Thursday when we hold our 11.00am Communion Service, and on any other day for a Funeral Service.

You are already familiar with our Memorial Service, held annually in memory of lost loved ones. This has usually taken place in November, but this year being replaced by an Evening Service on Wednesday 21st December. This service is called "The Longest Night" with prayers and lighting of Candles - further details next month. We expect the usual Memorial Cards to be hung on the Advent Tree of Light at the 6.00pm Advent Sunday Service on 27th November.

It is sad to report the recent death of Tony Sawyer, whose wife Gill was a former Lay Minister at St Mary's. Tony was for many years our Church Treasurer and Churchwarden and assisted the Vergers in preparing the Memorial Gardens for the interment of Ashes. Sadly, his health deteriorated quite severely and Gill looked after him faithfully until the very end. We all extend our deepest sympathy to Gill. Tony's funeral service took place at St Mary's on Monday, 17th October and was conducted by The Venerable Christine Froude (former Vicar of Shirehampton).

Remembrance Sunday Service this year on 13th November will commence at 10.00am. During the first part of the service The Roll of Honour will be read and thereafter will proceed in procession through the High Street to The War Memorial on Shirehampton Park for the 2 minutes' silence and Act of Remembrance. Maureen Geddes informed me that Shirehampton Cricket Club will be open after the ceremony for light refreshments. We are most grateful to the Cricket Club for the use of their Pavilion.

Messy Church this month is on Tuesday, 15th November at 3.30pm in the church building. Please let someone at the Church know if you require refreshments by the previous Friday.

The Cameo Orchestra is to perform a Celebration Concert in St Mary's Church at 7.00 pm on Saturday, 19th November for the War Horse Statue Project. It will be conducted by



John Johnson, a man noted for his considerable musical talent. Tickets are £5 (Adult) and £2.50 (under 16s) - cash only - available on the door and at the Saver Shop, 54 High Street, Shirehampton. The War Horse Statue will be sited in the Daisy Field, the former site of a World I Horse Training Depot. This should be a superb concert so please come and support this worthy cause!

Our Christmas Fayre this year is on Saturday, 3rd December from 10.0 am until 1.00pm both inside and outside the Church. The usual Christmas Gifts, Crafts and Toys etc., will be available together with Hot Soup & Hot Chocolate in the Churchyard. Please come and give us your much needed support.

The Shirehampton Area Christmas Choir Concert this year is in the church at 2.30pm on Sunday 11th December, and all proceeds donated to the work of "SHIRE" Newspaper. Further details will appear next month, along with details of our other Advent Services.

Finally, one of our Church Members, Chris Hearn, has recently created two flower beds on the High Street side of the West Porch. These include a number of rose bushes and other flowers - they will look terrific next Spring. Thank you, Chris for your skill, time and effort.

During the last month or so, political parties have been holding their Annual Conferences, but did you know that The Chief Executive Officer of IKEA has been elected Prime Minister of Sweden. His Cabinet will be ready in a day or two!

'Bye for now!

C.M.E.

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.



24 Shirehampton High Street, Bristol, BS11 0DL



0117 9823210 paul@woodfamilybutchers.com 0779 2998829

Baptist Church News

There is quite a lot to report over the last few weeks.

In September we held our Harvest Celebration. The Church was beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables plus tins and dried food, which we donated to the local Food Bank.

Our Rock Steady Club for children of Primary School age restarted on September 15th at 3:30pm to 4:30pm, meeting at our Church building, Station Road where they enjoy Drama, Games and crafts. Parents are welcome to stay. To find out more see contact below.

Our next Life Café will be on November 24th where we provide home made cakes, drinks and Turkish tea, thanks to Zhyan, Do join us at our Church building from 10:30am -11:30am.

The next Songs of Praise Café will be on November 13th from 4:45pm-6pm. This is run by a group of people from several churches in and around Shire, We have travelled with Paul and Barnabus on their first Missionary Journey, heard about several different Charities from some of our members and enjoy songs chosen by different people each week.

An advanced notice: Christmas will soon be here and so will the Cotswold Christingle Carol Service on December 11th at 5pm. Several Churches join us and take part but we welcome everyone, whether you belong to a church or not. This service

is enjoyed by young and old and it is so good that different churches can celebrate the Birth of Christ together. It will be held in the Cotswold Community Centre, Dursley Road.

Our Church at Station Road meets every Sunday at 10am and 4:30pm on Zoom. Zoom is still available for those not well enough to attend our morning service but we are always glad when they are able to join us at the church again. There will be more news about Christmas Celebrations next time.

We send our love and prayers for our village and trust November will be one where you know God's presence in your hearts and lives.

Contact 07743683684
rhodespaul.360@gmail.com

ST. BERNARD'S NEWS

We were delighted to present some gifts to Angela & Mike O'Callaghan, when they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September. A wonderful couple who give so much of their time and energy to St Bernard's. We wish them many more happy years together.

October finds us preparing for next years events, such as First Holy Communion sessions. These help children understand, prepare and be ready for this sacrament. The application forms for this can be obtained from the parish office, (12 Kings Weston Lane) and need to be submitted by 1st November.

We are all invited to the Quiz Night on Friday 28th October at 7:45pm at Lawrence Weston Social Club. Everyone is welcome.

In the meantime I hope everyone is enjoying the stunning colours of autumn.

All news and Mass times can be found on the website: <https://olorsb.org.uk/>



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St. Peter's Hospice Shop, Shirehampton



We are looking for people to join their team at the Shirehampton shop. All their roles are flexible to work around your lifestyle and offer a Christmas on your doorstep!

Plans are underway at the **St Peter's Hospice** shop on **Shirehampton High Street** for a big, bumper Christmas display this year. The charity shop has been proudly serving the Shire community for 32 years, raising money for Hospice care in Bristol since it opened in 1990.

Assistant Manager Linda Hayward has worked at the shop for 17 years and says: "I think Shire's a lovely community to work in. Our shop has been a constant in a turbulent and changing High Street. We have good links with the butchers, post office and the card shop next door – the shops are a tight knit community here and very supportive of one another when we each need help.

"We have our regular customers and see the mums come in to browse and chat and arrange to meet for coffee in the many cafés in Shire. Some of our customers we've known from when they were pregnant, and they now have 15 year olds. The local rugby club come in to find fancy dress outfits for

their tours and we get them to dress up in the shop so we can all have a laugh! We have younger clients too who are shopping for sustainability, something which we've been doing here since day one."

Hayley Williams joined the team as Shop Manager earlier this year.

She and the team will be decorating the store ready for Christmas shopping, just as it's been done every year since they opened. Their seasonal windows will be revealed on **November 9**, and it's worth having a good rummage in store as they have a container's worth of Christmas jumpers suitable for all ages – from new born to 80 year olds – plus partywear for men and women and winter coats galore. New goods will be on offer in store such as gift sets from Baylis & Harding, perfumes, jewellery sets, sealed toys and children's gift hampers, Black Shark headphones and Beetles gel nail kits.

The shop was run by volunteers when it first opened and continues to need volunteer help to keep it

running smoothly. St Peter's Hospice is a chance to form friendships, build confidence and, most importantly, support the local hospice and give back to your community. If you have a love of fashion or antiques, there will be plenty of opportunities to develop these passions working behind the scenes in the back office.

If this sounds like your cup of tea, then visit the volunteering page on their website www.stpetershospice.org (you can register interest in other local stores too) or drop into the store at 52 High St, Shirehampton. Hayley and her team are ready to welcome you and organise a trial shift to give volunteering in a charity shop a go.

*Sue Thomas,
Media and Communications Officer, St. Peter's Hospice*





HOUSING: KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

with CHAS Bristol

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Scan here to sign up!



Third Thursday
of the month
SHIREHAMPTON METHODIST
CHURCH, BS11 0DY
1 - 2:30pm

For more info on support groups, visit our website:
southmead.org/wellbeing/social-prescribing or telephone: 0117 950 3335




SHIRE COLTS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



Local children have been playing for Shire Colts since 1978. We have teams from under 7 all the way to under 16.

Our coaches are all DBS checked and have FA qualifications. We are an inclusive club and keen to ensure the children have fun whilst learning to play as a team.

Our junior teams are very successful and compete in the top leagues in the area. We train and play in Sea Mills. Please get in touch if your son or daughter is interested in playing football on the weekends.

We're particularly looking for players in our younger age groups covering 6 years to 9 years of age, but we will look to also accommodate new players in any of our age groups up to under 16's.

For more info please contact
ross.burnham@talk21.com
with your contact details
www.pitchero.com/clubs/shire










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Shire Needs You!

Over the years Shirehampton has lost many of its shops, businesses and amenities so don't let us lose our free local newspaper!

We are looking for new blood to join our dedicated team to ensure we continue to have this valuable asset to the village. All you need is a computer/laptop and the ability to put together an interesting "read" from the many articles/e-mails we receive every month from residents of Shirehampton and the surrounding area.

If you are interested please come along to one of our informal meetings which we hold the first Monday of the month.

Email for more details, contact one of the following with your name and contact number:

chairperson@shire.org.uk or editor@shire.org.uk

The Strange

An original story by Gil Osman

(Previously: The Parents of The Strange. How the herbalist and the farmer differed from the other villagers. Their banishment to the outskirts of the village with their grotesque babies)

Chapter 7

When the twins had 'escaped' from the house, The Strange waited to see if the village children would accept them, as they looked normal. They were pleased to see them playing happily splashing in puddles with the other toddlers. But, as they watched through peep-holes in the door, the mood suddenly changed and the village children turned spiteful, pushing and kicking the twins and then throwing stones at them.

This was when their mother rushed out as she realised the village children had discovered the twins could neither speak nor hear - they were completely deaf and dumb. The news soon spread around the village and some said that they always wondered why the children of The Strange looked so normal when the parents looked so hideous. So this was how the gods had punished The Strange for dabbling in the black arts!

The twins had no names and, even if they had, they could not tell anyone, so the villagers called them Girl and Boy. Their parents could not converse with them normally and used a crude sign-language, eventually 'conversing' quite rapidly with their hands, fingers and facial expressions. Sometimes one could

tell what the other was thinking intuitively, without any sign language.

Girl and Boy spent most of their time in the woods. Their parents had found a small glade near the house (but well away from the hunters' well-beaten tracks) where the sunlight came through the tree-tops and encouraged grass to grow. It was a delightful place and The Strange took them there every day. They taught Boy and Girl all they knew about herbalism, as had been so taught by their parents. As they grew older, Girl and Boy were allowed to go to the glade by themselves. The Strange were not afraid that they might be taken by the evil spirits - they didn't believe in them; neither had their parents when they were alive. They feared nothing but the villagers.

The Strange were actually a very timid couple and were extremely upset at villagers' reactions of repugnance and disgust when they saw them so they sought to avoid any contact with all but their children (and their parents, when they were alive). Far from being the monsters they were portrayed as, they were quiet, introvert and would not harm anyone.

The parents of The Strange saw past the hideous exterior to the inoffensive and gentle beings that their offspring really were. The children of The Strange noticed their difference but knew them as caring parents, who were loved by Boy and Girl. Girl and Boy made several attempts, as they grew, to befriend the village children, but were always met with animosity, name-calling (even though they could not hear it) and sticks and stones. Eventually they gave up trying and turned their attention to the animals of the woodland. These became their friends instead.

(to be continued)

Cost of Living Crisis: Impact on Mental Health

The pressures of the cost of living crisis are likely to affect people's mental health, making us feel stressed, anxious and low. Please talk to family and friends about how you're feeling but also check in on people who you think may be struggling.

There is lots of help available from local organisations:

- Community Access Support Service: www.cassbristol.org
- Bristol Mind: www.bristolmind.org.uk
- Second Step: www.second-step.co.uk

If you start to feel that daily life is getting too much to cope with, you can contact the Samaritans. They offer support 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 0330 094 5717.

Every Mind Matters also has a range of top tips on their website to help you improve your mental wellbeing, including:

- get a good night's sleep
- connect with others
- get active and enjoy the outdoors

Visit the Every Mind Matters website for the full list of tips to improve your mental wellbeing: <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/mental-wellbeing-tips/top-tips-to-improve-your-mental-wellbeing/>

If you need any other advice around the cost of living crisis visit our support page or call the We Are Bristol helpline on 0800 694 0184, Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm.

If you need help, please reach out. There is advice, support and information available across Bristol. Our city will do all it can to support you

Avonmouth Ladies Club

We meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm at Avonmouth Community Centre, (but not in Jan and Feb).

We listen to a variety of speakers, as well as having occasional outings. A warm welcome awaits.

Diary of Events: September - December 2022

8th Nov - Origami

15th Nov - A.G.M.

2nd Dec - Christmas Meal at Shirehampton Golf Club

6th Dec - 'In House' Christmas Party

Contact Julia Jarman on 0117 9829390

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 projectcoordinator@jtehubshire.org 07305 066478

www.jtehubshire.org



Shire JTE Hub

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Evenings between 5 and 8pm

Can you spare a few hours helping run some activities such as game clubs? We need someone to assist with tea/coffee and just general help.

Email projectcoordinator@jtehubshire.org
 or pop in for a chat



Walking the dogs in the beautiful Kingsweston Woods.



WHATS ON

SHIREHAMPTON JTE HUB

Hub's Cups Cafe - Every Monday 11-12.30
 Drop in advice on jobs, training and wellbeing.

Time to Talk Support Group - Monday's 7.30-8.30pm
 Pop in for a chat and any advice.

Dungeons & Dragons Group
 Mondays from 5pm - new players welcome

Board Games Group
 Tuesdays from 5pm - new players welcome

Shirehampton Movie Nights
 Every other Tuesday from 6.30pm
 Free for anyone - ask for movie title

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
 Conversation Club
 Every Thursday at 12.00

projectcoordinator@jtehubshire.org
www.jtehubshire.org 07305 066478

Global Warming Widening Reach of Tickborne Diseases Across Europe

Climate change is causing the geographical expansion of disease-carrying ticks and tiger mosquitoes, leading to outbreaks of rarely seen diseases in some European countries including the UK, according to a report written by the University of the West of England (UWE Bristol). The report, which looks at the global spread of zoonotic diseases and the link to climate change, was recently published by the Department of the Environment in the EU.

Written by the **Science for Environment Policy team** at the **University's Science Communication unit (SCU)**, the research highlighted how over the last two decades, tick-transmitted diseases such as Lyme disease, tickborne relapsing fever, tick-borne encephalitis and Crimean Congo haemorrhagic fever viruses have continued to increase in frequency and range across Europe.

This is in part due to climate change creating longer mild seasons when the ticks are active and the broadening of their geographic range northwards into previously colder regions, and up to higher altitudes.

For example, *Borrelia miyamotoi*, the organism that can cause some tickborne diseases, has now been observed in numerous European countries including the UK, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland. A bite from the infected tick can lead to diseases including tickborne relapsing fever.

Nicola Shale, who is a science writer in the SCU and is co-author of the report, said: "Borrelia miyamotoi can occur with lyme disease and other tick-borne infections – such as the blood parasite babesia – resulting in unusual symptoms, meaning it is under reported.

"Clinicians in the UK and other European countries might not have heard of *Borrelia miyamotoi*, or the blood parasite Babesia, yet these human pathogens are present in some ticks in the

UK. Healthcare systems therefore need to be primed for patients presenting with new zoonotic diseases, as climate change causes novel pathogens to become more prevalent in northern European countries."

Global warming is also contributing to the increasing occurrence of tiger mosquitos across Europe, leading to malaria re-emerging in Greece, West Nile virus emerging across parts of Eastern Europe, as well as dengue fever in Croatia and chikungunya in France. Shale said: "The spread of the invasive tiger mosquito across Europe is particularly concerning, as they are more competent vectors for more dangerous pathogens than the native European species of mosquito."

The report found that the increasing frequency of epidemics and pandemics (including Covid-19) since 2000 has been linked to the same global environmental changes driving biodiversity loss and climate change. The majority of emerging diseases (e.g. Ebola, Zika) and almost all known pandemics are caused by microbes of animal origin (and are therefore called 'zoonoses'). And it warned that the more we have contact with wildlife and livestock, the more likely these microbes may 'spill over' to humans.

However, land use change, agricultural intensification and expansion, wildlife trade and consumption are all increasing wildlife/human contact. The global demand for meat in poorer nations by developed nations, for instance, is leading to unsustainable farming practices and land clearance – ultimately contributing to increased pandemic risk.



Photo Accreditation: Pixabay

Shale said: "The research highlights the interconnectedness of human and environmental health and raises awareness around health threats posed by practices such as buying exotic pets. For example, Monkey Pox first emerged in the west, in the US in 2003, and was traced back to a shipment of Gambian pouched rats sold as pets. It also helps provide more in-depth knowledge of the environmental drivers of disease, to nudge people towards better environmental stewardship."

The report also referred to the **One Health High Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP)**, convened in 2021 by the **World Health Organization (WHO)** to provide policy-relevant science on health with regard to human/animal interaction. In particular, the panel is looking to create guidance on a long-term strategic approach to reducing the risk of zoonotic pandemics, with an associated monitoring and early-warning framework.

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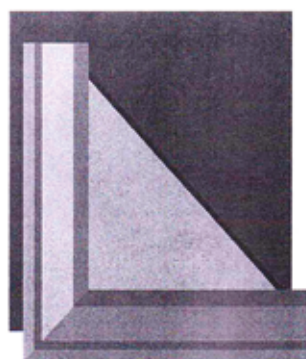
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SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON



City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

The 2022 outdoor bowling season has now ended and the green keeper will soon start his Autumn and Winter programme. Equipment has all been put away until next April. There was some disappointment at the end of the season when the final two visiting clubs cancelled. But quick thinking led to one of the two gaps being filled by a game between club members.

On September 28th, Wednesday Captain Ray Cook found enough bowlers to bowl on two rinks and, despite some rain at the beginning, an enjoyable afternoon was had by all with refreshments and a raffle at the interval. This was Ray's final game as Wednesday Captain and she thanked everybody who had supported her by playing bowls during the season.

Chairman David Hinksman responded on behalf of the club by thanking Ray for all her efforts over this and previous seasons; being captain isn't always easy and Ray has done an excellent job of it.

This year's Finals Weekend became Finals Day on Saturday 17th September as sadly, due to injury, just one game was played on the day. David Hinksman played Carol Green for the President's



© David Hinksman

A return visit by the Bristol After Stroke Club on September 15th.

Cup in the afternoon; a very close and well contested game! This is a one game competition played between the previous year's Men's and Ladies Four Wood Singles Competition Winners, effectively deciding who is Club Champion, the winner being first to twenty one shots. Ken Davies was marker for what turned out to be a very good and close game of bowls. With thirteen ends bowled, the scores were level at twelve each, the lead having changed hands several times. But it was David who kicked on and scored the required nine shots in the next four ends to win the game 21-12 to take the title and trophy.

Thursday 15th September saw a return visit to the green by the Bristol After Stroke Club. So enjoyable was their last visit that they came back for more and, once again, it was a very successful and enjoyable event. Club Members and volunteers tried their hand at bowling and some of them did very well. But the aim was enjoyment which was achieved in no small measure. They will be back next year!

The bowling club has a programme of Sunday Evening Social Events through the close season and, once again, this includes a Presentation Evening, with a quiz, American Supper and raffle on Sunday 27th November starting at 7.30pm in the Ballroom when Gordon Dimond will present one of his excellent quizzes. There will be skittles nights and a further quiz later in the series.



© David Hinksman

David Hinksman and Carol Green either side of Ken Davies — ahead of their Presidents Cup game on September 17th.



© David Hinksman

Bowling at the seaside! A glorious afternoon playing Clevedon Prom Bowls Club on September 21st.

For further information about the club and its activities please call David Hinksman on 07932 387217

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Shirehampton Primary School

ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE was the theme of this year's Careers Week at Shirehampton Primary School. We wanted to encourage the children to be aspirational with their future plans; to think about the wide range of opportunities open to them through further education and, by working hard, find interesting, enjoyable careers.

We thought about lots of different jobs we could do in the future and how we would go about achieving our goals, including university. We looked at different places where people work and the range of roles within those places. **Foundation stage** talked about people who help us.

Many classes had volunteers come and talk about their careers. We had a visit from a garden designer, a nurse, hairdressers, a **Rolls Royce** engineer and engineers from **BT** mobile phones. The children really enjoyed these visits and asked pertinent questions.

Finally, on **Thursday** of that week, we all dressed up as what we would like to be when we grow up. What a wide range of career choices there were; from the emergency services to doctors, vets and even a few astronauts!! We can't wait to see what the children of Shirehampton Primary School achieve in the future!



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