

Shire

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

No. 588 - January 2021 www.shire.org.uk 5,000 copies monthly

Have you got a job that needs doing? Go to YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS section on pages 16-18 to find a local business who can help.

A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR
TO ALL OUR
READERS

Shirehampton in the Time of Covid

HERE'S TO 2021

— by FIONA GRINHAM —

Christmas has now been and gone

Almost without a trace,

No stirring carols on The Green

No pubs to show a human face

To celebrate the festive season.

What, you ask, could be the reason?

Covid is the one to blame

When nothing seems to be the same.

But nature doesn't mind or care,

Its bounty is for all to share,

The birds, the fruit, rich vegetation

All shout out with great elation

'Come and join us on the road

Towards our mutual destination.'

Courage, hope, determination,

We'll get through this situation,

And with quiet jubilation

Wish each other

'A HAPPY NEW YEAR'!



Pembroke Road Garage

A friendly, family-run business offering:

- MOTs & free retests
- Servicing
- Repairs & Diagnostics
- Tyres
- Aircon Servicing

All makes of cars, motorcycles and light commercial vehicles
Free estimates • Courtesy vehicles

Pembroke Road,
Shirehampton BS11 9SB

Tel: 0117 982 7396

Mob: 07798898721

DEVEREUX & Co
SOLICITORS

FREE INITIAL INTERVIEW

0117 938 0222

Your LOCAL solicitors



- Conveyancing
- Wills & Probate
- Divorce

www.devlaw.co.uk

28 High Street, Shirehampton, Bristol BS11 0DL

52A High Street, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9 3DZ

Shire

Official address:

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

Please note the Shirehampton Librarian

Telephone number is: 0117 903 8570

'SHIRE' telephone numbers for info and advice

adverts@shire.org.uk 07776 170053

treasurer@shire.org.uk 0117 938 1709

Requests for SHIRE by Post 0117 904 3037

distribution@shire.org.uk 0117 982 0478

Internet address www.shire.org.uk

Submit articles editor@shire.org.uk

Advertising adverts@shire.org.uk

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Mrs R. Slater, Chairman

Mrs J. Helme, Secretary

Mrs B. Dowsett, Treasurer

Ed Amphlett, Advertising Manager

Mrs. Marilyn Gorry, Social Events

Mrs. Bobbie Perkins, Distribution

Editors: Mrs Fiona Grinham, Mr Bill Constable,

Mrs Jill Williamson, Mrs. Sarah Matthews,

Mr. Robin Matthews, Mrs. Jackie Hares

Artwork: Iain Chaffey of Crimson Goose Design

Photographers: Kathryn Courtney, Bob Pitchford

Website Manager: Mr Robin Matthews

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. 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.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

For our current privacy policy visit our website at www.shire.org.uk/privacy_policy

ADVERTISERS!

Contact: adverts@shire.org.uk

Telephone: 07776 170053



SHIREHAMPTON PUBLIC HALL

Station Road, near shops

**HALL, LARGE AND SMALL
MEETING ROOMS FOR HIRE**

For availability and bookings contact

The Hall Manager 0117 982 9963

www.shirepubhall.org.uk

SHIRE PUBLIC INFO FOR JANUARY

From Bristol City Council

Like many of you, we very much welcome the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. We are now working closely with health partners to ensure our high priority groups (care home staff and residents, health and social care workers and over-80s) will be prepared to receive the vaccine in the coming days and weeks. You will have seen the fantastic news that vaccinations have started at Southmead Hospital. It is one of 50 hospital hubs operational across the country. 98-year-old Jack Vokes was the first person to receive the vaccination in Bristol.

The vaccine offers some light at the end of the tunnel after a tough year, but rollout will be a marathon not a sprint, so it's important that we don't let our guard down now.

Plans are also underway for the launch of rapid COVID-19 testing in Bristol. We are taking a targeted approach to identify and break the chains of transmission. Our plan will identify who to test and how regularly, focusing on city areas and settings with high infection rates.

Two New COVID-19 Test Sites

Two new drive-through mobile testing units opened at Hengrove Leisure Park and in the Computershare car park on Bridgwater Road. Testing sites operational in the city now include:

- Rear of Victoria Rooms
- Netham Park
- Hengrove Leisure Park
- Brislington Park and Ride
- Computershare car park on Bridgwater Road.

Please book a test or order a home test kit online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test if you have symptoms.

Keep Your Home Ventilated this Winter

Did you know that letting fresh air into indoor spaces can reduce the risk of infection from coronavirus by over 70%? Coronavirus lingers in spaces with no fresh air, increasing the risk of people breathing in infected particles. This risk can be reduced significantly

by regularly ventilating enclosed areas. In addition to keeping your distance from others and washing your hands, allowing fresh air into enclosed areas will help reduce the spread of the virus.



Changes to Services

Some libraries have now reopened: Central, Bishopston, Fishponds, Henbury, Henleaze, Marksburys Road and Stockwood. Visit our website: www.bristol.gov.uk/libraries-archives/coronavirus-library-information to find out which services are available.

All museums in Bristol are now closed in line with government guidance and we will review our reopening plans in February.

Leisure centres have reopened but not all activities can take place.

THE CENSUS IS FOR EVERYONE

The census is a unique survey that takes place every 10 years in England and Wales

By taking part you'll help inform decisions about services that shape your community, like healthcare, schools and colleges and public transport. Find out more at www.census.gov.uk



Above: Spaniel enjoying the water within the grounds of Kings Weston House.

Left: Christmas inside Kings Weston House.



2021
ocean

Well done to all our amazing staff and customers for getting through a tough year.

Here's to a brighter 2021.

Ocean Shirehampton

Sales, lettings, mortgages & conveyancing.

★ Trustpilot 
[oceanhome.co.uk](https://www.oceanhome.co.uk)

The *Shire* Community Page

Update from Shirehampton Public Hall

Having survived the first lock down with all the ramifications of groups not being able to meet, physical activities and social events not happening has had a profound effect on those who have used the Hall for many years.

Coming out of the first lock down it was hoped that things would start to get back to how they were. But, with the second lock down so soon it has not been possible to regain momentum and recoup usage or income. As with all other charities and community groups the Hall has had to meet its ongoing financial commitments and support staff who are so important to the Hall.

Although the Hall may be closed, there is still work going on behind the scenes, with the small group of Trustees regularly meeting and working to keep things going in the moment whilst planning for the future. The trustees would like to say a big *thank you* to those who were able to make a donation via the **Just Giving Page**, especially during this recent period when donations were matched funded by Just Giving. The Just Giving Page still continues so any donations are greatly appreciated.

To the future, the Trustees have been developing plans to make improvements to the Hall (*see attached draft plans*) as the original plans were rejected by the planners. To this end outline planning permission has been given. Your comments would be welcome.

The aim is to future proof the Hall by making it a great community resource and an excellent performance venue. To do this we wish to, install extra toilets downstairs, outside of the main hall, so events in the hall won't be interrupted by other users. Bringing the office downstairs will mean the staff are more accessible. Negotiation is underway with the Library service for the return of library staff room to improve accessible space for those with mobility problems.

The railway club, one of the longest standing users of the Hall, have been very helpful and positive about resiting their club room to facilitate the changes.

The upgrade to the Hall to make it a good performance area is being actively pursued. **Edyta Lang**, one of the Trustees, has accessed grant funding to upgrade the sound system and improve internet coverage in the building.

The ability to directly serve refreshments from the proposed bar/kitchen area, we feel will be welcomed by potential users.

We are also hoping to reverse some of the less attractive features, returning the Hall to its appearance in line

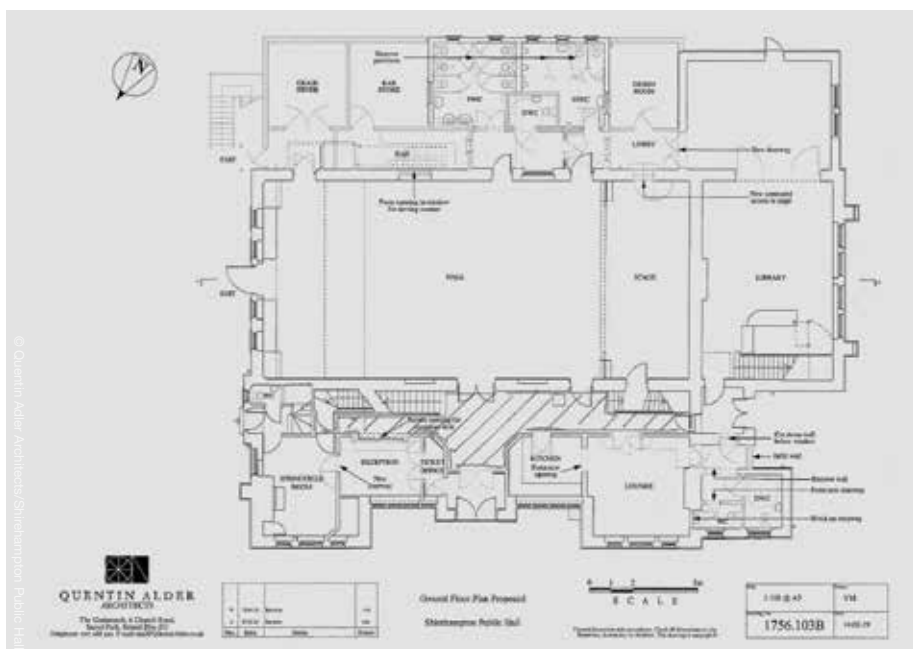
with the period it was built. A major step is being undertaken by **Bristol City Council** in replacing the hall roof in early 2021, which will help make the building water tight.

To implement the plans set out by the Trustees will require a large fundraising effort. We are a small group of Trustees, (just 4) and, whilst we will do all in our power to raise the funds, we would welcome assistance on fundraising, particularly from those with expertise in bid writing or those with transferable skills. Ideas and information on possible sources of funding would be welcomed. **Does your employer give grants based on recommendations from their employees like you? Are you a member of an organization that would consider adopting us as the charity they support for a year?**

We would also welcome people who shop at the **Co-op supporting us by having the Shirehampton Public Hall as the recipient of the charity element of the membership scheme.** To do this, go to the **Co-op Membership website at: www.coop.co.uk**; scroll down on the home page to "Membership that makes a difference" and you will see all the local projects you can support this year - we obviously hope you chose us! **Alternatively you can call the Co-op membership telephone line 0800 023 4708.**

Those of you who shop with **Amazon** can again support us by **ordering goods using the "smile" system and naming the Shirehampton Public Hall Community Association charity no 1112459** as your chosen charity. This can be done on line at Amazon.

This, we hope, will be a time-limited project with a tangible outcome which will benefit the village for many years.



APPEAL FOR A DELIVERER

Is there a willing resident on the Cotswold Estate who has half an hour to spare once a month?

One of our dedicated friends has needed to retire from a round she has covered for many years, for which Shire is very grateful. Approximately 50 papers need to go to homes in:

Churchdown Walk, Charbury Walk, Stroud Road, and numbers 133 to 139 on Nibley Road.

If you can help, please call me on the number on page 2 – Distribution of the Shire.

Thanks, Bobbie

Healing the World

AN INSPIRATIONAL POEM BY IRENE VELLA,
TRANSLATED BY KITTY O'MEARA

And the people stayed home and read books, and listened,
and rested, and exercised, and made art,
and played games,
and learned new ways of being, and were still.
And listened more deeply.
Some meditated, some prayed,
some danced,
some met their shadows.
And the people began to think differently.
And the people healed.
And in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.
And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again,
they grieved their losses, and made new choices,
and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and
heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

SHIREHAMPTON VILLAGE FLAT TO LET

PLEASANT ONE DOUBLE BEDROOM FLAT
DOUBLE GLAZING GAS CENTRAL HEATING
KITCHEN/DINING AREA
UTILITY ROOM SHOWER ROOM W.C.
SORRY NO PETS
AVAILABLE EARLY DECEMBER
£595 p.c.m.
PLEASE CONTACT MARTIN 07850 727 759

Letters to the Editor

We enjoy spreading community news especially in these strange times. We love to hear from all our readers of both the online and printed versions. Send in your stories to editor@shire.org.uk. Although, if requested, we will not print the name of a letter written to the Editor, we cannot accept an anonymous letter. *Many thanks.*



191ST BRISTOL SCOUT GROUP

Dear Editor,

I enclose a photograph of Reg Clarke with some of the senior scouts taken in 1955. I thought you might like to use it with my article on the 191st Bristol Scout Group (*see the November 2020 edition - Ed*). You can see what a happy crowd we were!

Yours sincerely,

Gil Osman



Back Row: Gil Osman, Billy Hills, Dave West

Middle Row: Nic Price, Mervin Brooks, Ron Stapleton, Laurie Dando, Evan Thomas

Front Row: Dave Hackett, REG CLARKE, Roy Irwin

(Note: all Shire boys, except Nic Price from Brenchley and Roy Irwin from Southmead. Roy came with another lad from Southmead. I think their parents wanted to keep them out of the teenage gangs which were prevalent in Southmead at that time.)

LOST - PLAIN SILVER CHAIN BRACELET

On the evening of Monday 14th December on West Town Road, Portway, Akeman Way or Avonmouth Road.

If you found, please contact the distribution contact number within Shire. Thank you.

MYSTERIOUS STONES EXPLAINED

Dear Editor,

In KWAG's September newsletter there was a reference to the 'mysterious' masonry which came from the old Bristol Bridge when it was demolished. KWAG's newsletter states: "A frequent query we receive ask what are the big stones littered along the Lime Avenue and the Circle?"

I asked my father this as a boy in the 1940s and he replied that they were there to guide the American army vehicles during wartime blackouts. This was borne out by the fact that the stones were not littered along the approach road to Kings Weston House (as now) but carefully aligned along the left-hand side with scaffolding poles joining them together by being inserted into the holes made in the sides. Both stones and poles were still painted white to reflect the dimmed lights of the vehicles at night in wartime and prevent them crashing into trees or undergrowth. Of course, the army traffic could not enter the woods via the Penpole Lane (Wood) Lodge, because the carriage-way was only wide enough for pony-and-trap or small carriages – not much wider than the five-bar gate which still blocked the entrance. The army, therefore, made a new road from the one running through Shirehampton Park directly to the approach avenue leading to the house (i.e. where the current car-park is).

As for the stones' original purpose, that's a matter of guesswork.

Gil Osman

A CASHLESS SOCIETY?

Dear Editor,

I realise this thread, started by Kathryn Courtney, is probably closed now, but thought I would send this anyway as the subject fascinates me and wondered if it might be passed on to her anyway. I write thrillers (government conspiracy with a supernatural edge) on Amazon Kindle and the cashless society is something I have warned our children, grandchildren and shall be impressing on our great-grandchildren not to welcome with open arms - mainly for the reasons I have quoted below. I know it has benefits, but it also has far reaching implications for personal privacy which Kathryn touched on in her very balanced article.

Our friends Barbara and Steve Ann (they own Penhill residential home) very kindly send Shire to us as myself and my wife, Jill, used to live in Shirehampton almost fifty years ago and have delightful memories of it. I grew up in prefabs - Markham Close - now demolished, Dursley Road - prefabs demolished [d'you think someone is trying to tell me something here? lol] and then lived with Jill in Bradley Crescent - thankfully, the house is still there. We have lived in Plymouth since 1972 and have our super family around us. Jill and I were pupils at Portway schools in the early sixties - as they used to be - in the case of the Boys' school complete with barbed wire! Good old days.

Very best wishes,

John White, Plympton, Plymouth

See John's article on the page 13.



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.

Specialist wellness coach for perimenopausal and beyond females.

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.**



SHIRE STRONG



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

Email: l.linda1206@gmail.com

www.shirestrong.co.uk



**KING WILLIAM IV
(AKA THE KING BILLY)**

SEVERN ROAD • HALLEN
BRISTOL • BS10 7RZ

Restaurant Opening Times:

Tuesday to Saturday Noon - 3pm & 6pm - 9pm
Sunday Lunch 1pm - 4pm
Closed Sunday Evening & All Day Monday

Home Cooked Food

Vegetarian & Vegan Options Available

Sports Bar

Open All Week from Midday - 11.30pm
Sunday 11pm Close

Advanced Booking Recommended for Restaurant
0117 229 9914

2020 AT THE COTSWOLD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Well, after such a great year last year, who'd have thought we'd be where we are a year later. It's been such a hard year for everyone, but one thing keeps coming up, and that's the amazing community spirit in Shire, and on the Cotswold Estate in particular. There are a lot of more senior residents who may be shielding but there's never been a shortage of volunteers to run errands, for shopping and prescriptions in particular, since March. (Don't forget, you too can volunteer through Bristol City Council's Can Do website: www.candobristol.co.uk/)



We opened up for our annual **Plant Sale in May** and held it outdoors in our lovely new car park. Lots of folks came along, for some it was their first time out since the lockdown had started two months earlier,

and it felt like a new, socially distanced, beginning! However, it looks like it may be our last Plant Sale as **Alec and Helen Cole** have sold their lovely nursery finally.

As soon as we were able to, we discussed plans for reopening, and did so at the beginning of August, having done a comprehensive risk assessment for all activities. **Fitness Classes** resumed, in smaller classes but more of them. **Film Nights** and **Bingo** too, with everyone in their bubbles or two metres apart. We took everyone's temperature or entry and

ensured hand sanitiser was used. Unfortunately, one of our greatest assets, i.e. having time for tea/coffee breaks and a good chat, had to be abandoned and folks had to get out into the fresh air if they wanted a chinwag.

So, we got to **October**, and, after a successful experiment with a **Breakfast Lite Morning**, it became clear that another lockdown was looming. A couple of our stalwarts had caught the dreaded virus and it seemed to be spreading rapidly. Our committee and fitness instructors acted pre-emptively and shut up shop before lockdown two was enforced.

Still, we're close to finishing the exterior improvements, with the car park and garden wall being restored and new railings too. We also have another **Clothes Bank**, supporting the **Great Western Air Ambulance**, so do bring any surplus clothes along, in bags please.

Now **December**, and what is usually our busiest time of the year. We usually receive grant funding from the wonderful **John James Foundation** and this goes on a slap up Christmas Lunch for our more senior residents. We haven't decided yet what

we'll be doing but we'll try our best to make it as festive as possible.

Hopefully, the vaccine will get us back to as normal as possible next year, so we wish all our friends and supporters a Covid-free 2021, may it be a healthy and normal one.

The Cotswold Community Association Committee



REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAY

Pilates 9:30-10:30am
Personal Fitness 6:30-7:30pm

TUESDAY (1st & 3rd of each month)

Film Night 7:30pm*

WEDNESDAY

Keep Fit 10:30-11:30am
Personal Fitness 5:15-6:15pm
Pilates 6:30-7:30pm

THURSDAY

Bingo 2:30pm
Personal Fitness 7-8pm
Table Tennis 8pm

FRIDAY

Keep Fit 10:30-11:30am

SATURDAY (2nd of each month)

Coffee Morning 10am

*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

Darren Jones MP

I'm starting 2021 with optimism about the year ahead and gratitude for the incredible efforts made by so many during this pandemic. With some of the world's first Covid vaccinations being rolled out at Southmead Hospital, and with plans to more widely distribute the vaccine shortly, 2021 will be the beginning of the end of this awful pandemic. Whilst we will all need to adjust to living with Covid, we should be able to return to more normality soon. I know that many businesses have struggled during the lockdowns and tier three restrictions. I have been lobbying at the highest levels of government for further financial support and will continue to do so.

In December, we experienced a tragic loss in our community following the deaths at the Wessex Water facility in Avonmouth. I know that all of us have the family and friends of Brian, Luke, Ray and Mike in our thoughts and prayers at this most difficult of times. The investigation into what caused this incident is now underway. As ever, I continue to keep in touch with the various regulators in Avonmouth to ensure that lessons are learnt and that regulation is fit for purpose.

Thank you to everyone that attended my Shirehampton Virtual Townhall on December 3rd. I've been speaking with residents across Bristol North West this winter about the issues important to them. These talks have reinforced my view that we have shared local priorities across Bristol North West including improving access to transport, maintaining community spaces, and dealing with anti-social behaviour. I will continue acting on these issues this year.

As I write this in December, we do not yet know if the Prime Minister has secured a deal with the EU ahead of the end of Transition Period. Politics aside, everyone agrees that our relationship with trading partners in Europe has real consequences for jobs in Bristol and across the country. As chair of the Business Committee, I've been taking evidence from businesses, large and small, about their Brexit preparedness and have used this information to push for measures to protect jobs. I also held an urgent Brexit Consultation online, which was open to all constituents, on December 7th so that I could understand the range of views about the best way forward.

As usual, if you need my help or have a question, I'm running telephone surgeries and regular fortnightly catchups on Wednesdays on Facebook. Please get in touch on darren.jones.mp@parliament.uk or call the office on 0117 959 6545 but please note that due to very high demand for support that we are currently prioritising COVID-related and personally urgent enquires.

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

Matthew Melias – Conservative: cldr.matthew.melias@bristol.gov.uk

Jo Sergeant – Labour: cldr.jo.sergeant@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

Weekly Online Market For Shirehampton Markets

After the success of our Christmas online market we will continue with our weekly online market from 13th January at Shirehampton Markets. Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of each week we will be listing many of our Market Stall Holders as they are also selling their lovely items online. Just click on the links we post on our Facebook page to find out more.

Many are local and, despite lock downs, restrictions and guidelines we have to follow, we still want to bring our **High Street Market** to you where we can. Cheese, chocolate, honey, bread, cakes, clothing, accessories, jewellery, crafts, gift ideas and take-aways are all featured and can be delivered to your door. And don't forget to support and shop local with our High Street shops and our market traders.

We will be back at the **Tithe Barn in the Spring** and, like many of you, our traders and us, we are certainly looking forward to being back in person with our community High Street Markets. We will keep you updated with our online markets, news

and activities via our **Facebook page** www.facebook.com/shirehamptonmarkets Please ask family and friends to share with you if you don't have online access. You can also join us on **twitter** www.twitter.com/ShireMarkets and **Instagram** too <https://www.instagram.com/shirehamptonmarkets/>

Please stay safe everyone and we wish you all a Happy New Year. We hope 2021 will be a better year for us all. Shirehampton Markets will be back in the Spring and we look forward to see you all again.

Ash, Katherine and Kathryn



The Storystop

CAROLYN WEST,
INDEPENDENT USBORNE
CONSULTANT

For all of your children and young
adult books delivered to your door.

Free books and discounts for hosts.

Please visit my website:
org.usbornebooksathome.co.uk/carolynew/
Email: carolynewest1@outlook.com

24 Shirehampton High Street, Bristol, BS11 0DL



0117 9823210 paul@woodfamilybutchers.com 0779 2998829

Nan's Pantry

Freshly prepared, homecooked

Buffets

for Business and Private Functions
Cooked to order with FREE local delivery

Tel: 0117 9829008

email nanspantry@hotmail.co.uk

www.nanspantry.co.uk

MW Funeral Directors

18 High Street
Westbury on Trym

0117 950 4100

Funerals from £1,995
Cremation costs included

www.mwfuneraldirectors.com



 THE GREEN PAGES
CLIMATE IN JANUARY

A New Year and we all hope the world will be better, that the threat of Covid will recede and we'll be able to return to ... what? We all know we have to build a different way of life to mitigate the effects of climate change. A recent research report from Bristol University, *Bristol Public Opinion on Climate Change*, found that Bristolians are concerned about climate change and willing to make changes in their lives, but don't always know what action to take. It also found that we are thinking globally, concerned about climate devastation in far away places, not quite realizing that it's the warming climate that is bringing floods to places like Bristol and changing our seasons, causing food scarcity and higher prices.

We need detailed local action plans to help us make changes. We know the Council is asking us to switch to 'significantly more walking and cycling and to use zero carbon public transport.' Many residents are calling for more integrated and environmentally friendly transport networks in order to reduce car use and air pollution

Local community group **Liveable Neighbourhoods** is working to reduce traffic through residential areas. They would like to see traffic filters in suitable neighbourhoods to stop cars, vans and lorries using the streets as rat-runs. Residents would still be able to drive to their homes, and businesses would still get deliveries; pedestrians and bikes could get through freely. High streets in these areas could become attractive destinations where people want to spend their time and so footfall and trade would increase.

We can also do more to **reduce carbon emissions by choosing low carbon foods**. Many of us make New Year resolutions to lose a few pounds and eating more local, seasonal fruit and veg, and less meat and dairy is a good way to do that, and at the same time help reduce carbon emissions. You can find out more about climate friendly eating on the **Bristol Climate Hub**, www.bristolclimatehub.org.uk. You can also attend the **Oxford Real Farming Conference** which is taking place **online January 7th-13th**. You can go to www.orfc.org.uk to book tickets for talks and discussions. Anyone can attend.

Finally, Bristol Airport is lodging an appeal against the refusal of its proposed expansion. **If you think expanding an airport is not very helpful in a Climate Emergency, you can state your objections by writing to North Somerset County Council.**

Renee Slater

Nature Notes

This photo was taken at the time of writing on 4th December. This amazing fuchsia takes quite a time to grow up from the base every Spring, but it makes up for it once it gets going! Despite the frost the other morning, it is still adding a lot of colour to the back garden.



© Bobbie Perkins


We all know the seasons are becoming rather muddled up and this is just one example I guess!

An even more exciting treat has been the beautiful song of a thrush on the riverbank. This wee charmer has been with us for several mornings, perched in the same leafless tree on the same leafless branch, with the most awesome melodies that you can hear from at least a couple of hundred yards away! This morning I managed to take my binoculars with me, after bumping into a neighbour who had just been listening to the fellow. She tactfully reminded me that I appeared to have come out with the dogs minus the field glasses!! Back I scampered, fingers crossed he would still be in the said tree. And he was! I think he is a mistletoe thrush, but tricky to be absolutely sure.

Here are my best wishes to everyone for a better 2021.

Keep enjoying your nature watching!

Bobbie



Opening hours:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Monday-Friday | 8:15am-4:30pm |
| Saturday | 9am-4pm |
| Sunday | 10am-4pm |

Drinks • Lunch • Sourdough • Farmhouse Sliced • French Sticks • Free Range Eggs • Milk • Flour • Butter • Local Honey • Cheeses • And More!

www.rubyjeans.co.uk [@rubyjeanscoffee](https://www.instagram.com/rubyjeanscoffee) [@rubyjeanscoffeeshop](https://www.facebook.com/rubyjeanscoffeeshop)

55a Pembroke Road, Shirehampton, BS11 9SA 01179 822 929



0117 982 6100
 50 High Street,
 Shirehampton,
 Bristol, BS11 0DJ

Complete Funeral Services
starting from £1,350.00
 includes third party fees

Independent Pre Paid Funeral Plans also available





www.daffodil-funerals.co.uk *Let Our Family Care For Your Family*

Andrew Pinn OPTOMETRIST

- Eye Examinations • Spectacles
- Contact Lenses

Complete Professional Eye-Care

Andrew Pinn Bsc MCOptom
 Optometrist

12 High Street
Shirehampton

0117 9822269

CALL OUR LOCAL TEAM...
...AND BE PART OF THE SUCCESS.

CALL FOR A FREE VALUATION TODAY.

**GOODMAN
& LILLEY**

THE INDEPENDENT SALES, LETTINGS & LAND AGENTS

rightmove Zoopla

9 High Street
Shirehampton
Bristol, BS11 0DT

Sales - 0117 2130333 • Lettings - 0117 2990101
shire@goodmanlilley.co.uk • lettings@goodmanlilley.co.uk



Teresa Cox



Adam Lenik



Jess Duncan

Severn

FOOT CARE PRACTITIONERS

*Friendly and professional
foot care in the comfort &
safety of your own home.*



Most common foot complaints:

- + callus and corns
- + ingrown nails
- + diabetic foot care
- + fungal nail
- + nail cutting
- + verrucae

Contact Holly at Severn Foot Care:

W: www.severnfootcare.com
E: info@severnfootcare.com
T: 0117 2510 226

*Enhanced DBS certificate, medical emergency certificate, Qualified Foot Health Practitioner, Level 4 diploma in Foot Health, trained at The SMAE Institute, fully insured.



THE SMAE INSTITUTE

£5 OFF

New patient
consultation
& treatment,
with this
voucher,
usually **£35**

Expires 31 November 2020



FREE
DELIVERY

Beau's Bouquet's

Tel: 0117 334 3007

Flowers Designed With Your Thoughts in Mind
Valentines Day, Weddings, Anniversaries
Birthdays, Funerals & more!

www.beausbouquets.co.uk

**DEB'S MOBILE
HAIRDRESSER**



For a friendly, professional, reliable
service at competitive rates

Call Deb on 07984013370

**Den's Party
Balloons**

Balloons for all occasions
Birthdays, Christenings,
Weddings, Anniversaries etc

Mobile: 07572 364 333
Answer machine: 0117 904 2876

Email: denys@sky.com
FB: Den's Party Balloons



My Early Memories of Life in Shirehampton

By DAVID ELKINGTON

Recently I wrote to the Shire Newspaper about my parents' account of the return of the Great Britain. We lived on the Portway, immediately opposite Portway School (now pulled down and replaced by houses).

OTHER WAR-TIME MEMORIES:

The boys from Portway School used to look after the allotments immediately behind our house (now Tynings Field, I believe) and if the Air Raid siren went off, they all dropped their gardening tools and dived over the fence into our gardens and into the Anderson air raid shelters which some of us had. As five and three year olds we found it scary to be crammed into the shelter with these very large lads, all taking refuge. Incidentally, that field was one of several which had been used in the First World War to accommodate the large number of horses that were then needed on the front line in France. One incidental result of this was that our gardens on the Portway produced remarkably sized vegetables! Our 'record-breaking' carrots were occasionally photographed for the Evening Post!

I remember too on another occasion when a captured German submarine was towed up the river to be displayed in the docks at Bristol. At Sea Mills School we were taken out to the playground from where we could see the river, the shipping, and on this occasion - the submarine. We had a large air raid shelter at school too and we would practise going out there wearing our gas masks. Over a certain age you had a black adult gas mask, but smaller children had a 'Mickey Mouse' gas mask which was red and a bit more fun.

After air raids we would go out into the roads and collect up any pieces of shrapnel from bombs and shells which had landed round about. One night my Dad who was an ARP warden was struck by a piece of shrapnel - fortunately protected by his helmet.

Up on the Shirehampton Park Golf Course we sometimes saw a huge crater where a bomb had landed and exploded. During the war an American army camp was established at the Bristol end of the Shirehampton Park.

Sometimes there were buildings, houses or shops which were bombed - and so weren't there any more - just a pile of rubble - like the pub, the Greyhound, I think, on the corner of the High Street and Park Road, almost opposite the Swimming Baths - now very sadly no more.

I am often asked "Were you frightened during the bombing?" Actually, no, air raids and bombing were an everyday event. The horror of war was experienced by older people, and luckily as children, most of us were unaware of it. We often heard bombs coming whistling down and then an explosion. During the day on one occasion my Mother, hearing an unexpected whistling grabbed

me and pushed me to the floor, lying on top of me. I remember that occasion because it really hurt!

Did I know anyone who was killed or injured? Sadly, our next door neighbours' son, Billy, was in the RAF. In 1941 or 2 he had been flying on a sortie to Germany, but when the plane got back to this country he was found to have died - the only one of his crew. You can see his name on the war memorial window above the entrance in St Mary's

Church, Shirehampton - Fl. Lt. W. Domaille.

[My late wife, then a child in London, had many more awful memories of the war in London, and was saddened so often when the children she had been playing with at school during the day were not there any more after the night's raids on the Capital]

The sirens in Avonmouth often went off - alerting the whole of north-west Bristol to an imminent raid - and we were woken up, taken out to the shelter, and there had to try to sleep on the most remarkably uncomfortable bunks. It was dank and smelly down there, and the bunks...! We 'slept' on the bare wire of the bunk frames which should have been supporting the non-existent mattresses. The raids usually didn't last for that long, and we were relieved when the sirens sounded the 'All Clear' and we could get back indoors.

Every house had to aim not to let any light out during the night. In our house we had hardboard frames which were fixed against the downstairs windows in the evening, and removed in the morning. If you needed to get to another room you did so in the dark. Interestingly, bicycle handlebars were painted black to prevent any reflected light acting as a signal to enemy planes. I was still using my grandfather's black-handlebar bike until ten years after the war when I saved up enough money to buy a new one. The house windows were also protected with criss-cross patterns of sticky paper tape (Sellotape hadn't been invented). The

aim was to protect everyone in the room from flying glass if a bomb shattered the window. One night a bomb landed on the pavement right outside our house. It was an incendiary bomb and so didn't explode, but my Mother ill-advisedly went out to try to put it out just as it burst into flames. Every fifth house in the street had been given a sandbag, a bucket and a stirrup pump to use against bombs and fire if needed. We were a fifth house and our air raid kit was kept on the landing outside the bathroom. [The stirrup pump was very useful in the garden, and when cleaning the car!]

My sister and I were in the air raid shelter that evening, and actually asleep, so were unaware of what was happening outside. Then, when the All Clear had sounded we were brought back indoors to find my mother all bandaged up and labelled (with a luggage label, attached to the policeman's cloak she had been wrapped in) to go off to hospital. I presume that neighbours looked after us that night, but I can't remember. Next day she returned complete with a white mask over all her face. (When the terrorist bomb happened in London in 2005, a casualty was pictured being taken across the road by a helper. The casualty had also been burned in the face and had exactly the same facial mask - It took me right back. Fortunately Mother recovered with not a lot of lasting damage.)

In February 1942 on a Sunday we had just finished dinner when we heard a plane flying extremely low - unusually low - overhead. Mother had run to the window and shouted "It's a German!!!" - "Don't be ridiculous," replied Dad, carrying on with his writing. But it WAS a German. I can clearly remember seeing the black and white Nazi crosses

on the underside of the wings. The plane was in trouble. It was coming down - missed our house by feet, struck a telegraph pole by the Woodwell Lane railway bridge which swung it round and then it disappeared down towards Avonmouth. There it crashed onto the Avon river bank with the loss of its two crew members.

When an air raid was on, and if it was safe for us to do so, we would go out of the back door and watch the anti-aircraft batteries at Ham Green and Avonmouth pick out the enemy aircraft with their search-lights. It was easy to distinguish the German from the British planes because of their very distinctive pulsating engine noise. I never saw any planes shot down at this time.

On one night in about 1942, Bristol suffered a terrible night of bombing. I remember being taken out to look at the sky over Bristol. The sky was red. An artist painted the scene and I will try to find the picture to show you.

On one occasion we went to visit my Grandparents in Southampton - and whilst there, a daylight raid was made on the port. My grandparents were out, and so we sheltered in their porch and watched planes fighting over the docks - and we could actually see the German planes dropping their bombs.

Whilst at school, all the teachers were women, since the men had all gone off to fight in the war. There was strict rationing, which meant that you were only allowed a small amount of anything - food, clothes, even sweets. Everyone - adults and children - had a ration book and, when you bought anything, a mark was made in the ration book to

...a captured German submarine was towed up the river to be displayed in the docks...

The plane was in trouble. It was coming down - missed our house by feet...

I remember being taken out to look at the sky over Bristol. The sky was red.

show that you had used your allowance. Rationing lasted until well after the war. Fruit was in very short reply and most of us never saw a banana or a peach until 1946 at the earliest. The war ended in May 1945, and yet sweets were still on ration until 1952. All of us, even children, had an identity book. Interestingly, after the war, when the NHS came into being in 1947, they used our wartime ID numbers for our National Health numbers – and the last four digits of my NHS number are still those from my wartime ID card.

We didn't have holidays, just days out. For us in Bristol a big day out was invariably to Weston-super-Mare, but we didn't mind since we had no experience of the larger world. We might get one holiday per year – i.e. one day out per year! – BUT if we were very lucky we might get taken up to the Zoo for the day. That was a real treat.

In 1944 preparations were being made for D-Day when the allied forces of Britain, USA etc. got ready to invade Europe – hopefully by surprise. Although we didn't know it, vast numbers of troops were being assembled near ports across the south of England to cross the Channel to Normandy. All down the Portway from a point near Horse-Shoe Bend (Probably even farther) all the way to Avonmouth Docks, military vehicles – often American - were parked down the road – hundreds of them. The soldiers of many nationalities would give us sweets, and we responded with cups of tea – then they were all gone. It must have been June 6th.

American children also sent us sweets – “candy” – which was very kind, though a box of candy didn't really go very far in a primary school. It was nice of them to think of us.

After the end of the War, returning soldiers, sailors and airmen would frequently be greeted with flags that adorned the fronts of their houses, together with a sign made by their children reading messages like – WELCOME HOME FRED.

When VE Day (May 8th 1945) happened, I remember that night being told that the war was over. “Do you mean that there won't be any more sirens? That we won't have to go down to the shelter again?” In fact we did have the sirens, which were now used by the Fire Brigade to call in the firemen when a blaze had started somewhere

– but we just had the All Clear siren. The Air Raid warning siren which had an up and down wail was not used again, though you sometimes hear it in war films. We celebrated with children's parties. Our Portway VE party was held in the playground of Portway School and was very jolly. Other smaller streets held their parties with tables laid out in the middle of the streets (there weren't many cars in those days). Then a few weeks later we repeated the process following the Victory in Japan – VJ Day. I found it somewhat confusing having two Victory parties so close together. [The process was repeated in 1953 following the Queen's Coronation].

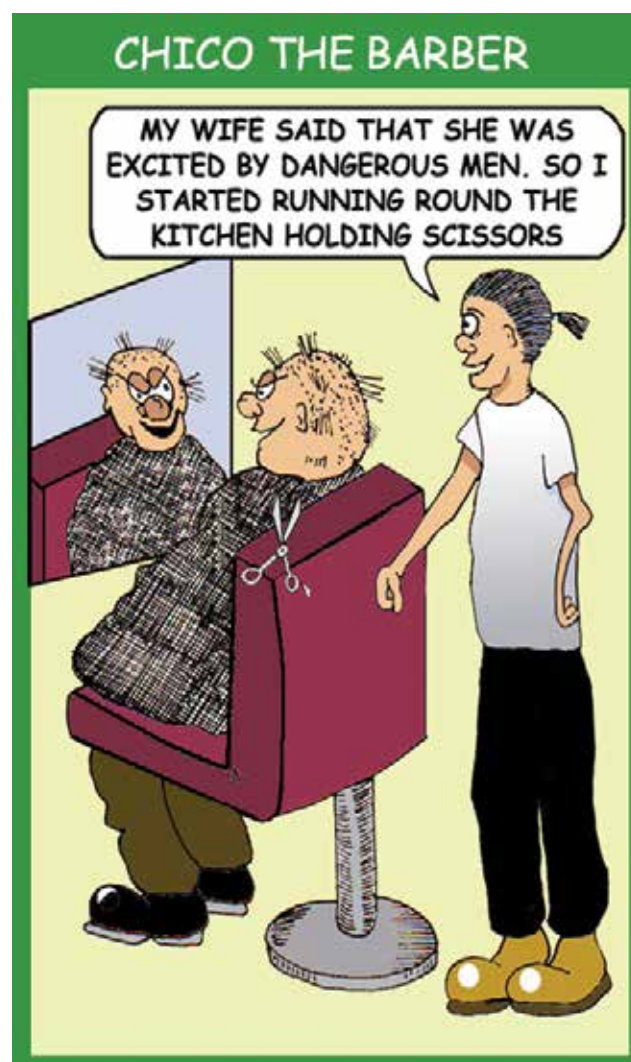
All young men, when they reached the age of 18, were ‘called up’ to serve two years in the services. This was extended to cover the times that the country was still on alert for more possible war. Those who strongly objected to fighting could apply to be ‘conscientious objectors’ and could spend two years working on farms or down the coal mines or other valuable work.

‘National Service’ did not come to an end in 1945 but went on finally until the early 1960's. In 1945 at the end of the war I was eight years old and so it was not until 1955 that I was called up. Young women could also serve in the forces but were not made to do so. Those with disabilities were not able to serve, but many of them helped with other jobs. Theoretically, you could choose whether to serve in the Navy, the Army or the Air Force but most had to join the Army unless you had taken precautions beforehand to be a volunteer reservist serviceman in the Navy or the Air Force. I had luckily become a sea cadet whilst at school and then a volunteer sailor at HMS Flying Fox in Bristol, and so when I appeared before the Selection Board stating that I wished

to serve in the Royal Navy I was immediately taken into that service, and so began an amazing two years for me. Was it OK? Yes, I enjoyed it immensely (mostly) and lots of young men today would really benefit from experiencing two years away from home doing a job that is so different than any they might ever experience again. I must emphasize, however, that I did not experience the horrors of battle, which must have been so terrible and it is those who did – those men and women - who deserve our respect and thanks.

...military vehicles – often American - were parked down the road – hundreds of them...

Our Portway VE party was held in the playground of Portway School and was very jolly...



Shirehampton Osteopathic & Sports Injury Clinic

Providing Safe, Effective, Professional Treatment for All Your Aches, Pains, Sprains & Strains Since 1995

Jonathan Nichols D.O.

Appointments Telephone : 0117 9293289

www.osteopathbristol.com

Body Bliss Beauty

Salon quality at affordable prices

BS11 based Beauty Therapist
Highly experienced with over 16 years spent in the industry

Specialising in Massage, Facials, Waxing, Nail treatments & Lash lifts.

@body_bliss_beauty Body Bliss Beauty 07794508775

that Slimming World feeling back on it!

Contact Kelly, your friendly local Consultant to book your place in a real-life group today...

We're Back Shirehampton Group THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Limited availability per session
To reserve your space contact Kelly on 07751 846308

slimming
WORLD
touching hearts, changing lives

slimmingworld.co.uk Disabled Access

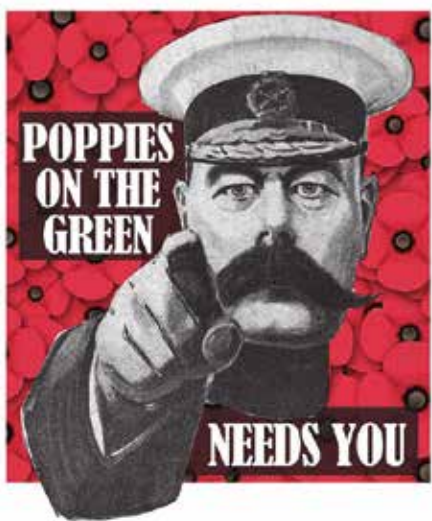
\$ELL 'UR' \$TUFF

The Easy Way On Ebay

- 1 Choose the items you want to sell
- 2 We take care of everything! (collection, photos)
- 3 You Get a Cheque in the Post

For details contact Christine 0117 9829576
email: sell-ur-stuff@hotmail.co.uk

\$U\$ It Out For Extra Cash



Poppies On The Green Fundraiser

Our poppy displays have been safely packed away for another year. The response has been so positive that we will make this an annual display for all our 4 villages. In fact the communities made that decision for us! So many people wanted to be part of this especially the 'painting poppies' sessions, that it just wasn't possible last year. We hope our sessions for painting poppies will be full steam ahead this year.

Our 'Poppies On The Green' display we have always said is a work in progress and each year we will add to it to remember those who gave their lives and those who came home to ensure freedom for future generations. We have some exciting ideas for 2021. Check out our web page for updates: www.facebook.com/poppiesonthegreen

We also plan to set up an annual fundraiser for the Royal British Legion during November each year and details will follow in due course. Our first fundraiser in 2020 was last minute but

with donations made by so many people we raised **£237** that directly went to the Royal British Legion. Thank you to those who kindly gave money to such a worthy cause.

Happy New Year everyone and we look forward to seeing you all at our 'painting poppies' sessions later in the year.

Stay safe,

Ash and Kathryn.



Shirehampton Primary- Reception Children Enjoy Clowning Around!

During this term the two reception classes were lucky enough to win the attendance award. The reward was a Circus workshop for each class that had the highest attendance. The children absolutely loved it! They learnt how to juggle with scarves, walk on stilts, spin plates, and use a diabolo! Let's hope we win another attendance reward!



PENHILL RESIDENTIAL HOME

Home from home...

Set in Shirehampton, our family-run residential home offers unparalleled personal care to elderly ladies and gentlemen.

For more information, please visit www.penhill.com or call us on 0117 982 2685 to arrange a visit.

House of Dobey

Domestic & Commercial Laundry Services

Find us on Facebook



WASH, DRY & IRON

- Shirts £2.50
- Trousers £2.50
- T-Shirts £2.00
- Bedding from £2.50
- Pillow cases £0.80 each
- Curtains from £15.00

IRON ONLY

- Shirts £1.75
- Trousers £1.75
- T-Shirts £1.50
- Bedding from £1.75
- Pillow cases £0.70 each

WASH & DRY

- Overalls & work wear from £2.00
- Hi Vis Coats £6.00
- Sports kits from £12.50
- Throws from £12.50
- Blankets from £8.50
- Duvets from £12.00
- Pillows from £6.00

SERVICE WASHES

- from £12 (wash, dry and fold)

DRYING ONLY

- from £3.20

Collection and delivery service (FREE in the BS11 area)

70-72 Portview Road, Avonmouth, Bristol BS11 9JF

Tel: 0117 982 2555 Email: houseofdobey@btconnect.com



Agents for DRY CLEANING • SERVICE WASHES • IRONING SERVICES • OVERALLS & WORK WEAR • SPORTS KITS

TO BE CASHLESS OR NOT TO BE CASHLESS?

To be cashless or not to be cashless? That is the question – and, I believe, the answer is not-to-be. Imagine the scenario – you're at the supermarket, your trolley laden with food and your card is declined. Is the supermarket going to say: *"Don't worry, take your shopping and pop back in whenever and pay, then"*? I doubt that very much. Currently, you have the alternative of paying with cash – in a cashless society you don't.

Consider that cashless future where every penny (sorry, every element of digital currency) of your income and expenditure leaves a trace – a trace which can be monitored by Government, insurance companies, your doctor, advertisers, your boss, in fact anyone who wants to pay for it or has the power to demand it. Imagine buying a six pack of beer or a couple of cream cakes and then finding your card payment is refused – why? Because you're slightly overweight and your doctor/insurers/the Government/NHS, believe it's bad for your health and has put a stop on you buying products of that ilk – for your own good, of course.

You want to give your children some money, not the odd fiver that you might give to a grandchild for doing well at school, but something substantial. If it's outside of the limit set by HMRC then how d'you do it? Previously you could have given them cash – not any longer. How about that cheap cash-in-hand job you want done – or did for someone else? Not any longer. Cash hidden under the mattress that no one knows about? Not any longer.

There will be no avoidance of tax for the average individual, because the whole of your financial dealings/savings will be known to HMRC and the higher the number of cashless transactions you make, the more points of exposure to identity theft, fraudulent transactions, privacy issues you will you leave yourself open to. And what about those without bank accounts, poor credit histories or those to whom banks are reluctant to grant credit? How do they manage when cash no longer exists? Cash doesn't discriminate on grounds of credit history.

Imagine, too, that in this cashless society there's a failure of technology – an internet breakdown of colossal proportions in the system that holds your money – what then? Will the bank be able to say: *"Don't worry, we know exactly how much you had in your account we've got it written down here ... somewhere"*. I suspect not. Your money will be floating in the ether along with millions of other account holders. And, while the banks are fixing that breakdown, how do you live in this cashless world? How does your visit to the supermarket go?

So, there we are, folks, the choice is yours.

John White

KEMPS JEWELLERS

9 CARLTON COURT, WESTBURY ON TRYM, BS9 3DF

Tel: 0117 950 5090



*Rings and jewellery,
new and second-hand.
With a great range of modern
second-hand jewellery to
complement our exciting
selection of beautiful traditional
second-hand pieces.*

**website address:
www.kempsjewellers.com**

BCM FUNERAL SERVICES

*The home of
fair price funerals*

A complete funeral from

£2360*

Price includes:

- A standard cremation service
- A traditional elm veneer coffin
- All appropriate third-party fees



177 Crow Lane, Henbury, Bristol, BS10 7DR

Telephone: 0117 950 8066

Website: www.bcm-funerals.co.uk

Email: admin@bcm-funerals.co.uk

*Conditions apply

Churches in the Shirehampton Area

St Mary's News

Hi Folks!

May I wish you all a very Happy New Year and hopefully a lessening of the Covid-19 virus now that a vaccine has been approved and the vaccination programme gradually reaches out to more of the population. Also, it is great at last to see the nights gradually opening out - hooray - Spring is on the distant horizon. I do hope you were able to enjoy Christmas, even though it was very different to previous ones.

The second Lockdown which commenced at the beginning of November has hit the church for six once again. Sadly, all our planned events had to be cancelled. During November, we were unable to have our Memorial Service, Remembrance Service, Advent Sunday and the Tree of Light Service. In Tier 3 during December, we saw a mixture of online events, church services and, unfortunately, some cancelled services. We did as much as we could online, with a new **Memorial page** for loved ones on our website, sermons and readings uploaded onto our website and Facebook, an **online Christingle service for our Rise & Shine families** and an **online Christmas Carol Service**. Our technical skills have definitely developed in 2020! Sadly, we made the difficult decision to

cancel our Crib Service and Midnight Mass service on Christmas Eve, which are very popular in the community. We assessed the risk was just too great as we would not have been able to ensure social distancing for everyone and did not want to be in the position of having to turn people away once we were at capacity. Fortunately, our **Christmas Day Holy Communion service** was able to go ahead.

One thing we were able to successfully reorganise was our **Christmas Fayre, which we held in the Church Yard on Saturday, 5th December** and I am pleased to say that in the three hours it was open we were able to raise £466 (and rising as at time of writing) towards our much-needed funds, that have been hit, like so many other organisations and individuals, during the pandemic. I, for one,



can't wait for the day when we can open daily and serve coffee once more and I know I am not the only one.

Now that January is here it would be wonderful if we could return as soon as possible to more services as after the end of the first Lockdown. My advice to you, as before, it is to check our website and **Church Notice Board** for the most current information and we will post updates on our Facebook account too.

Now, can I find a yarn to cheer you all up again? (Pause for brain to engage in yarn mode)! Okay, here we go! Dear God, my prayer for 2021 is a FAT bank account and a THIN body. Please don't mix it up like you did last year!

'Bye for now - stay safe!

C.M.E.

Shirehampton Baptist Church News

We are not out of the woods yet but the arrival of an approved vaccine gives us hope that life will get better in 2021.

We trust that Christmas was an enjoyable one though different and continue to remember the many people who had to face Christmas without someone dear to them.

January can be a dreary month, even in normal times, but some of the local churches have something to offer which could bring light into the dark winter months. They are offering a **Zoom Alpha Course** which is ideal for anyone questioning the Christian faith, It is good for new Christians, newcomers to Church and those who want a refresher course to brush up on the basics **Further details from John on 0117 950 6755 or 0773 110635 or johnthebaptist19@hotmail.co.uk**

Most of Shire readers will have read the **Good News paper** where Christians from all walks of life share their experiences of how their Christian faith has helped them through good and bad times. We would welcome any feedback, so please ring **07743 683684** or pop into our church on a **Thursday morning when we are open from 10am - 12pm**. Some of our members are there every week to talk or pray with you or, if you prefer, you can pray alone in the Church.

It is still difficult to give details of our Church activities but we will be meeting on **Sundays at 11am** hopefully at the Church and on Zoom. There is also a short **Bible study at 4:30pm** on Zoom.

Our minister Paul Rhodes has been taking assemblies at Shirehampton Primary School. Both children and staff enjoy his visits and, having been a teacher himself, he is totally at home there. When the time is right, we hope to run an activity for junior aged children in our building.

One never knows as we start a new year what it will bring but I end with a **poem by Minnie Louise Hoskins**. It became known as **The Gate of the Year**, and **King George the Sixth** read it in his speech to the **Commonwealth in 1939 when Britain was facing World War Two:**

*I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,
'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown',
And he replied,
'Go into the darkness and put your hand into the hand
of God*

*That will be to you better than light and safer than a
known way.'*

The original name given by the author was **God Knows and His hand is there to guide all who believe and trust in Him.**

We in Shire Baptist wish all Shire readers a year filled with hope, joy and peace.

Mair Blandford



© Bob Pitchford

**Put your feet up for
a change and let
me do the footwork**

I am a Member of the British Association of Foot Health Professionals and offer a competitively priced foot care service in your own home.

**Contact Debbie on
07874 227479**

(MCFHP, MAFHP & Dip HE SW)

Shire Methodist News

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

Another year is beginning and the Methodist Church will be joining together to say the covenant prayer, a bit like our New Year's Resolutions. When we said these words in January last year we had no idea what we were signing up to! What a year 2020 was!

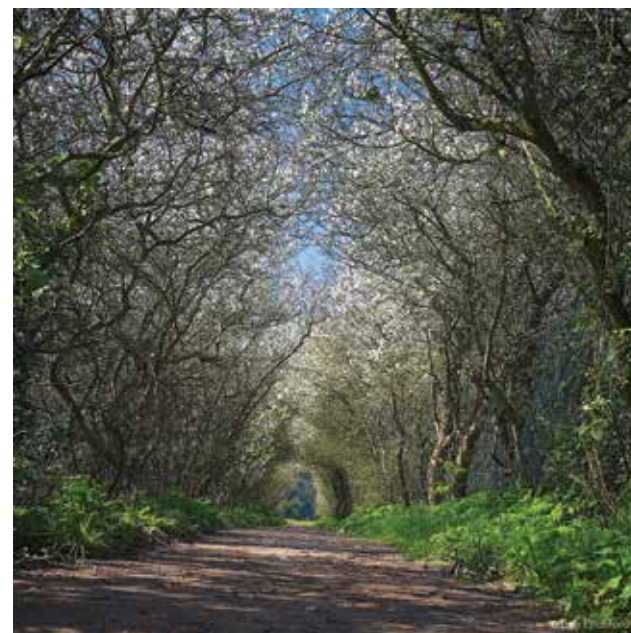
Here is the Methodist Covenant Prayer for those who are interested:

Dear God, "I am no longer my own but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing: I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen."

At the beginning of December we tried using Zoom for the first time as a church family. Over a dozen of us were able to meet together by internet

and landline to join in **Sunday Morning Worship**. This was led by two new Shirehampton residents, **Reverend Pearl and Ken Luxon**. Ken captivated us with his wonderful storytelling of the birth of John the Baptist. We hope to arrange more Morning Worship via Zoom and help more of our church family and friends who don't have internet access to join in via their landlines. We hope to be able to meet in person in the near future. Hello and Happy New Year from Shire Methodist

Please contact us to find out about our plans for each week. We are continuing to support each other by keeping in touch by phone, letter, email, WhatsApp and a few doorstep visits. **Revd Patrick Stonehewer** is also continuing to share weekly reflections that can be accessed via his **YouTube channel or our facebook page**.



We are delighted to support the local churches in our area who are leading an **Alpha Course in the New Year**: a space to think and talk about life, faith and God. It is a course for anyone wanting to explore the meaning of life. Non-Christians and Christians are all welcome. **Please contact John Goodenough at Lawrence Weston Baptist Church for more details: 0117 950 6755, 07773 110635, johnthebaptist19a@hotmail.co.uk**

May God's peace be with you all during 2021.

Everyone at Shire Methodist

Hello from St. Bernard's



It was lovely to return to Mass again in December. Capacity is still limited, but we've tried to accommodate everyone. Christmas Masses will hopefully go ahead. There will be a New Years Eve Mass at 9pm at Our Lady of the Rosary, and then Mass at 10am on 1st January at St Bernard's.

We hope that you all have had a peaceful, loving and joyful Christmas. **Pope Francis** tells us that the heart of the Church's mission is prayer. I'm sure that many of us will use our prayer intentions to look to a brighter and positive year ahead.

Father Cosmas has been working on a website for St Bernard's & Our Lady of the Rosary, and hopes to launch it in the new year.

Bristol Healing Rooms

"Bristol Healing Rooms" are delighted to be able to inform you that, we will be holding Healing Room sessions, starting on **Wednesday 13th January 2021, at 11am - 1:30pm, and every 2nd Wednesday of the month throughout the year, at the Shirehampton Public Hall.**

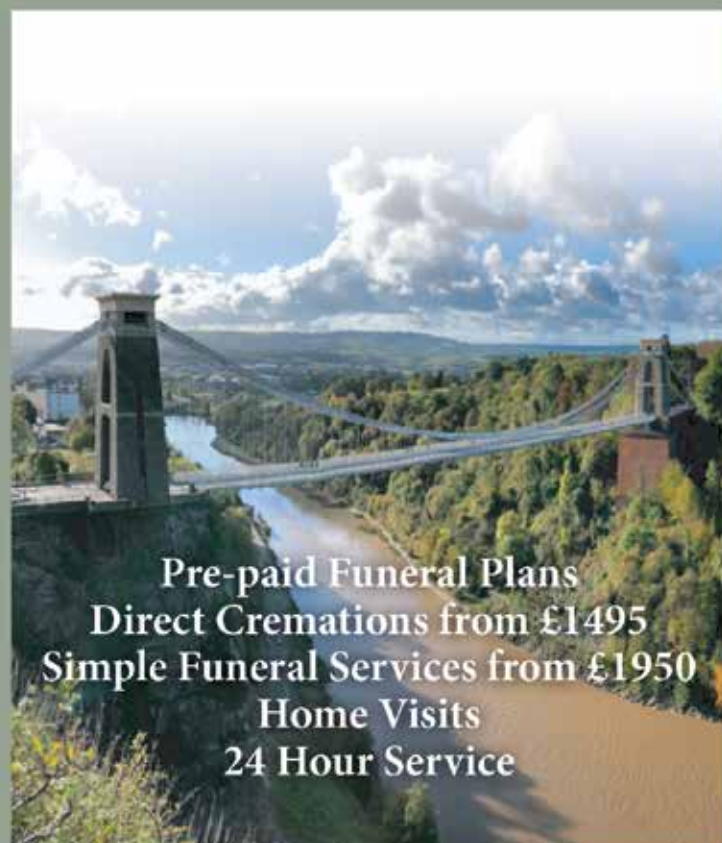
We would like to introduce ourselves and extend a very warm welcome to all residents of Shirehampton, and surrounding areas.



"Bristol Healing Rooms" are part of the **Healing Rooms England and Wales**, and are members of the **International Association of Healing Rooms**. We know that physical, spiritual, and emotional health are closely connected. Bristol Healing Rooms are staffed by volunteers who come from across the churches in Bristol and usually belong to their own local church's pastoral ministry team.

So don't just take our word for it, come along and join in, on **Wednesday 13th Jan at the Shirehampton Public Hall**; we would love to see you.

With every blessing from all our volunteers.



Pre-paid Funeral Plans
Direct Cremations from £1495
Simple Funeral Services from £1950
Home Visits
24 Hour Service



Brunel Independent Funeral Directors
3 Concorde Drive
Westbury on Trym
Bristol
BS10 6PZ

0117 374 2002

admin@brunelfd.co.uk



Louise Constable
Partner



Chris Wilshire
Partner

YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS adverts@shire.org.uk

BLINDS

SIMPLY BLINDS

For Verticals, Venetians, Roller Blinds at easily affordable prices

Grab a Bargain in Vertical Blinds

Large selection of imported fabrics
www.simplyblinds.org.uk

0117 3706142

BUILDERS



www.eyesbuilding.co.uk eyesbuilding@gmail.com
07825 184130 or **0117 336 0794**

• Extensions / Newbuilds • Plastering / Rendering
• Refurbishments • Drylining / Damp Proofing
• Brick Work / Block Work • Maintenance
• Patios / Garden Walls

CARPENTERS

RICHARD CHILCOTT CARPENTER

• Laminate Floors • Doors
• Skirting Boards • Dado Rails etc ...

Telephone: **0117 985 8347**

Mobile: **07952 763 630**

FOR FREE QUOTE

ELECTRICIANS



Your Local NICEIC Approved Contractor's
Commercial & Domestic
FOR A PROFESSIONAL, RELIABLE, LOCAL SERVICE
"Where you the Customer comes First"

- Full / Part Rewires
- Consumer Unit Upgrades
- Earthing Upgrades
- Garden Lighting
- Showers
- Landlord Safety Checks / PAT
- Electrical Condition Reports (EICR)
- Fault Finding / Repairs
- Security Alarms
- Emergency Lighting
- Fire / Smoke Alarms
- Networking
- CCTV
- Appliance Repairs

PART P REGISTERED
Certificated & Guaranteed Work
Fully Insured



For a Free
Quotation
Contact Paul



07799 050947
0117 9821979

FENCING

A M FENCING

All types of fencing supplied
and erected

• Discounts for OAPs •

For a free quotation ring Mark on

0117 968 4359 or

07977 429899

www.amfencing.net

GAS SERVICES

FRANKLIN'S GAS SERVICES



BOILER INSTALLERS AND HEATING ENGINEERS
YOUR LOCAL GAS SERVICE ENGINEER
NO CALL OUT CHARGES
COMPETITIVE RATES
FULLY QUALIFIED ENGINEER
• BOILER INSTALLATIONS •
• HEATING BREAKDOWNS •
BOILER SERVICES AND REPAIRS
- LANDLORD SAFETY TESTING
AND GAS AND PAT
- GAS LEAKS COMMERCIAL AND
DOMESTIC
07841870939

GARDEN BUILDINGS

D&R Garden Buildings

For all your garden building needs

Sheds, summerhouses, greenhouses, car ports,
mobility scooter sheds, shelters, decking, hot tub
shelters, play equipment, animal shelters

Prices include delivery and assembly in Bristol.

For more information visit:

www.dandrgardenbuildings.co.uk

GATES

DOMESTIC GATES + INDUSTRIAL GATES
RAILINGS + BALASTRAS + SECURITY GRILLS

GATES PLUS

**01454
632905**



**07887
986894**

www.gatesplus.co.uk

"Victoria", Ableton Lane, Severn Beach, BS35 4PR

GARDEN MAINTENANCE



Get ready for summer with

GardenWorks

all your garden needs

Do you need a helping hand in your garden? I am a local, experienced and trusted gardener

- regular garden maintenance
- grass cutting
- garden clearance
- leaf clearance and tidy
- pruning & hedge cutting
- planting
- redesigning garden areas

For competitive rates and a reliable, friendly, high quality service contact Conrad

Tel **0117 9828023** or **0788 2288968**

LOCKSMITHS



D&D Locksmiths & Key Cutting

Over 15 years experience

- * Professional * Reliable * Honest * Friendly
- Commercial and Domestic Properties • 24 hour Emergency Service
- Non Destructive Entry • UPVC/Aluminium Door Specialists
- Garage Door Lock Upgrades • Safe Opening and Servicing
- Manual and Electronic Digital Locks • Security Boarding Up
- Very Competitive Prices • Insurance Compliance Upgrades

8 Coaley Road,

Shirehampton, Bristol BS11 9XD

Office: Tel **0117 3827568**

Mobile **07557 022466**

email: danddlocksmiths@hotmail.co.uk

BARLOWS

Lawn Cutting from only £7.00
Hedge Cutting from only £10.00

Artificial Grass Installer
Landscaping
No Job Too Small!
Free Quote - No Obligation!

Call:

07534 703 092

MOTORING



All makes and models catered for - Specialists in




Diagnostics
MOT repairs
Servicing
Tyres
Cambelts
Clutch's
Brakes
Exhausts



Call today **0117 9829043** or visit www.LNmotors.co.uk
Unit 4 St Brendans Trading Estate, Avonmouth Way West, Bristol, BS11 9EH

PRICE Bros.Ltd

Auto Engineering




Bristol's Leading Engine Reconditioners...

- GENERAL REPAIRS
- EXHAUSTS & BRAKES
- AIR CONDITIONING SPECIALISTS
- DE GAS RE-GAS & REPAIRS

We are very large stockists of engine components for cars & Commercial engines



Fax: 0117 982 3700 - Portview Road, Avonmouth, Bristol BS11 9LD
www.pricebrosengineering.co.uk

CALL 0117 982 1064

PAINTING & DECORATING

FINISHING TOUCH DECORATING SERVICES

Quality workmanship with over 30 years experience
Please contact Shaun Crowley on
Telephone: 0117 907 1902
Mobile: 07917692802
For a FREE estimate

MADE YOU LOOK!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

FROM JUST

£6.80 PER MONTH!

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

ROB'S PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

For all those jobs that still need doing... I'm here to help!

Building & Property Maintenance
Plastering • Rendering • Handyman
Decorating • Tiling • Plumbing
Fascia/Guttering • Bathrooms
Gardening/Fencing • Sash windows

ROB: 07891 450 047
robpropertymaintenance@yahoo.com

PLASTERING



RICH WEAVER PLASTERING

Qualified Plasterer - Competitive Rates

From a small patch up to a full property, you'll get a quality, friendly and reliable service not to mention a clean work area when I've finished!
For info, availability or to arrange a quote please call: 07855 244862
email: rockrichweaver@yahoo.co.uk

PLUMBING AND HEATING



PANACHE

BATHROOM, SHOWER & PLUMBING SPECIALIST

- Complete bathroom refurbishment
- Ceramic tiling
- Heating & general plumbing services
- Clean & tidy workmanship
- Competitive rates



"Always on tap"

Call Darren on **07901 910361**
Find Panache Plumbing on Facebook & FreeIndex
www.panacheplumbing.co.uk



Property Maintenance

Your one stop shop for all your House & Garden Requirements

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Grass Cutting | Landscaping | Plastering |
| Hedge Trimming | Fencing | Flatpack Assembly |
| Tree Felling/Trimming | Pathways | Gutter Fit/Clean |
| Patios; Decking | Pressure Cleaning | Metal Handrail |
| Driveways | Painting & Decorating | Fabrication |

FULLY INSURED WITH OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Too many to list - call to discuss your personal needs
Tel: 0117 9043839
mob: 07973 691518
info@kandepropertmaintenance.co.uk

Plaster Master

Tel: 0117 914 7090 Mob: 07791 049 995

- General Builders
- Home Improvements
- Qualified Tradesmen
- Extensions
- Waterproofing
- Rendering
- Plastering
- Brick Laying



A. AYLWIN

28 Years Experience

PLUMBING AND HEATING SERVICES

TEL: 07462 915355
Covering Bristol & the South West

107 Bradley Crescent
Shirehampton
Bristol
BS11 9SS



maggsaylwin@gmail.com

Smythe Plumbing & Heating Services

All aspects of plumbing & heating work undertaken
Free quotations & professional advice

Sam Smythe
Tel: 07766 050140
smythe-plumbingservices@hotmail.com



M^cCALL PLASTERING

EST 1976

- OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
- QUALITY WORK
- COMPETITIVE RATES

Call: 07970 596 260
or 07909 937 229
dannymccall2323@hotmail.co.uk

EDMOND PLUMBING

Friendly, Reliable Qualified Plumber

- ◆ Boilers and heating
- ◆ Replacement taps
- ◆ Electric and mixer showers
- ◆ All household plumbing requirements
- ◆ Bathroom, kitchen, shower room tiling
- ◆ All jobs guaranteed

NO CALL OUT CHARGE
Ring Ed on **07791 798544**

Advertise Your Business Here in Your Local Experts Pages for as Little as £6.80 Per Month

Telephone: 07776 170053

or

Email: adverts@shire.org.uk

ROOFING

SPECIALIST ROOFING

Trusted local builder

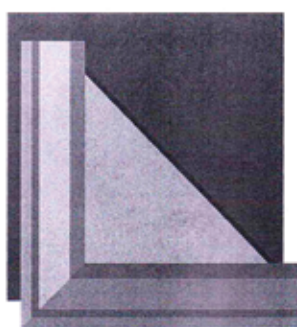
- ◆ Roof specialist
- ◆ House extension
- ◆ House renovation
- ◆ Driveways
- ◆ All jobs guaranteed

For a quick and efficient job look no further

NO CALL OUT CHARGE

Contact us on 07791 798544 or 07449 922001

WINDOWS



Avonmouth Windows

Repairs and replacements.

Your local expert. For a free quote call

07968 804126

www.Avonmouthwindows.co.uk

SCAFFOLDING



CLARIDGE & CO.
SCAFFOLDING

AFFORDABLE | RELIABLE | LOCAL

07494031470 | CLARIDGESCAFFOLDING@GMAIL.COM



Misty Windows
Broken Handles
Damaged Hinges
Broken Locks
Door Repairs



ALL REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN - No Job Too Small
"A friendly and reliable service."

For a Free, no-obligation quote please contact us on:



www.win-doc.com

thewindowdoctorsltd@gmail.com



0117 982 2870

Servicing Bristol & surrounding areas

This article was included in the June online edition of Shire, presented again here for those who may have missed it.

Sea Cadets Shine A Light For Nurses

To mark International Nurses Day today, 12 May, nursing leaders asked the public to 'shine a light' and recognise the extraordinary work that nurses do every day but especially in the fight against coronavirus. The day also marks on the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale, who founded modern nursing and pioneered infection control. She is perhaps, also most famous for her lamp.

Petty Officer Batt said "Nurses play a vital and often underplayed role in the healthcare system. In the 400 Sea Cadet units in the UK there are many who also are working on the front-line including my unit, TS Battleaxe in Thornbury and my daughter's unit, TS Enterprise in Avonmouth."

Kind regards and stay well,

Christopher Batt



© Christopher Batt

Florence Nightingale found fame in the military hospitals during the Crimean War where she was appalled by the poor sanitation and conditions leading to needless death and suffering.

This conflict also led to the founding of the Sea Cadet Corps. The heavy guns used in the bombardments of fortified cities like Sebastopol were naval guns with Royal Navy crews. Sadly, some of those sailors lost their lives. At that time sailors moved between the Royal Navy, Merchant Navy and fishing fleets. A father trained his sons in the skills of a sailor. The Sea Cadets were originally founded to train the sons of those who had paid the ultimate price in the Crimea.

Petty Officer (SCC) Batt of Thornbury Sea Cadets decided to show his support for all nurses but especially his shipmate Lt (SCC) Sidwell RNR who is a practicing nurse. She one of the three Thornbury Sea Cadets' volunteer staff who are key workers.



© Christopher Batt

SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON

City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

After two very special days out in Windsor and a great day by the sea in East Devon, there was a break of three years before in 2016, the first of two visits to Fry's Island, in Caversham to bowl in the middle of the Thames against the Island Bohemian Club. This unique setting can only be reached by small boats, operated by the host club, and not everybody was totally confident that the short journey from the shore to the island was safe!! But they need not have worried - bowlers of the island and their boats have been making the short crossing for many years. Before the boat trip, the journey from Bristol was by Blue Iris Coach driven by Dave, who grew up in Caversham and was himself a bowler.



The Island Bohemian Club celebrated its centenary in 2009 and has a proud tradition of working hard to maintain and constantly improve its site on the island, which has history dating back to the 12th Century. No bowling then but there was once a duel between two noblemen of the time. The original bowls club on the island was known as **The Old Codgers**; having bowled for a number of years with that name, they changed it to Island Bohemian in 1909. There was also a tennis club on the island for many years but that eventually ceased when the courts became unsuitable to play on.

So – it was in **June 2016** that the City and Port Club visited for the first time ever and bowled six rinks on a very warm Berkshire afternoon; there was one winning rink, but more importantly a great afternoon was had by all. At the end of the game there was a cooked meal, drinks and a rendition of the club song which starts 'We are the bowlers of the island'. So enjoyable was it that there was a second visit in 2018 and that was equally enjoyed and memorable.

At the end of all special away games and on tour it is traditional to invite the hosts back to Shirehampton for a six rink game. Island Bohemian only play friendly games a few times a season away from the island so it was an honour when they accepted the invitation and duly arrived in Nibley Road on **September 15th 2019**.

It was once again a great and memorable afternoon in the sun. There were some familiar faces, including **Guy Thorne**, who was the main contact when the first visit to Caversham was arranged, and others who were involved in the two games played on the island, all good bowling friends. Where will the next special day out take us? Watch this space!!

The club was saddened to hear that **Pete Gibson** who, with his **wife Gill**, has been a regular on Summer Tours in recent years, has passed away. Pete didn't bowl but was very much a part of the bowling family and will be missed by all who knew him.



The club wishes all who read about it a very **Happy New Year**. Why not come and join us in 2021.

For further information about the club and its activities, please call **David Hinksman** on 0117 9082713.



Family Announcements

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

Contact adverts@shire.org.uk to book.

Small text box = £10.

Larger picture box = £15.

Nan and Grandads 65th Wedding Anniversary

Alan James brought up in St Mary's Rd, Shirehampton and Joyce Wootton of Sea Mills married at St Edyth's Church, Sea Mills.



Brought up their family in Shirehampton. Five children, twelve grandchildren and five great grandchildren with another on the way. Retired to Minehead 23 years ago and doing well in their mid 80s.

*Keep well Mum and Dad, hope to see you soon.
Best wishes Mike, Sarah, Rebecca and George.*



RE-STARTING 9th SEPTEMBER

OVER 70's EXERCISE CLASS

Led by qualified Physiotherapist with over 30 years of experience

Come and join us for a fun, inclusive class



At: Shirehampton Public Hall, BS11 9TX
On: Wednesdays at 2.00pm until 3.00pm

Cost: £4.00

Targeting:

- Strength
- Mobility
- Balance



Contact:
Sarah Bradley
0117 9070680
or just turn up!

sarahexerciseclass@hotmail.com



Lawyers For Your Business and Family

We can help with:

- Residential Property Sales and Purchases
 - Commercial Property Sales and Purchases
 - Divorce and Family Disputes
- Business and Company Transactions
 - Wills Trusts and Probate
 - Powers of Attorney
 - Commercial Contracts and Trademark Law
- Mediation and Dispute Resolution
- Civil and Commercial Litigation
 - Employment Issues
 - Road Transport
- Caring for Others/the Elderly

Telephone us now on: **0117 923 5562**

AMD Solicitors,
 2 Station Road,
 Shirehampton,
 Bristol, BS11 9TT
www.amdsolicitors.com



NEXT ISSUE... Village Light Trail

These are just samples of the excellent windows for the Village Light Trail to whet the appetite.

The full display will be in next month's Shire.



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS FROM AS LITTLE AS £6.80 PER MONTH!

SHIRE ADVICE SERVICE

Free Advice Sessions
 Shirehampton Health Centre, Pembroke Road,
 Shirehampton
 Tuesdays 10-12 noon
 To make an appointment call 0117 9515751

LEE HILL PARTNERSHIP

The Complete Accountancy Service at the Best Price Available

Friendly professional advice
 Accountancy, taxation, Limited company formation, Self employment registration, advice, accounts, Payroll, VAT, book-keeping

INITIAL DISCUSSION - NO CHARGE

We can visit you if you prefer

0117-949 7700

OFFICE 3, REAR MEWS, 24-26 STATION ROAD, SHIREHAMPTON, BRISTOL BS11 9T

Please visit our website: lhpaccountants.co.uk

CHOICE CARPETS

Free measuring and quotation service and samples to your home
 Carpets from £6.99 sqmt for bleach cleanable manmade £11.99 sqmt for wool mix and cushion vinyl from £8.99 sqmt



Luxury vinyl tiles and planks samples and also laminate flooring samples in our showroom
 We are always happy to help with your budget and rely on feedback and recommendation
 Quality and professional fitting team on hand with most flooring fitted within days from ordering
 Check out our website www.choice-carpets.co.uk for info, opening times and gallery

01179 826988