

Shire

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

No. 595 - August 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 19-21 to find a local business who can help.

COP
26 Morning
September 4th at the
Public Hall - See page 16
**Enjoy the Sun and
Keep Yourself
and Others
Safe!**

Mrs Jean Archer (1922 – 2021)

It is with great sadness that the “Shire” has learnt of the passing of Jean Archer. Jean was married to one of our local GPs, Peter who worked in Shirehampton from 1960 to 1986. She was born in Saltford near Bath and married Peter, whom she met at Bristol University in 1953. She had been associated with the Shire Newspaper practically from its inception in 1972 when it was started by Rev. John Smith and a few others, as a means of communication within the village. Early copies show that Jean was on the committee in June.

After spending time as Vice Chairman in 1975 she became Chairman by 1982. In her time Jean had been involved with getting new advertisers, finding printers and editing on a regular basis, not to mention compiling “What’s On in Shire” every month for many years. Without Jean’s enthusiasm, energy, personality and driving force maybe “Shire” wouldn’t have the success that it enjoys. In the words of Jean “The strength of ‘Shire’ is due to the many unsung volunteers, the counters and deliverers, as well as the contributors and advertisers. Without them ‘Shire’ would be nowhere”.

In 2006 the first ever Awards for Excellence for Bristol Community Newspapers were presented and Jean received an award for length of consistent service to the Shire paper. The award was presented to Jean by local broadcaster Richard Wyatt, who was a very popular, well-known figure at the time.

When Jean moved from Shirehampton to Portishead she could easily have severed her ties with the paper but it is a measure of her dedication and commitment that she continued to serve and this meant regular

trips to Shirehampton for editorial meetings, collecting copy from the library, sorting out the What’s On section and meeting with fellow editors – often several trips a month.

Jean leaves behind 3 sons, Simon, Paul who took over from Peter as one of the local GPs and Mark. She was also a devoted grandma to 6 grandchildren.

She passed peacefully on 1st June 2021 after a long spell in a nursing home.

Jill Williamson (with thanks to Jean’s family, Renee Slater and Judy Helme for details of Jean’s life and involvement with the Shire)



Jean, along with Joyce Daniels and Marion Robothan with their 30th “Shire” celebration plaques.

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Shire

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Please note the Shirehampton Librarian

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distribution@shire.org.uk 0117 982 0478

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

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

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The Hall Manager 0117 982 9963

www.shirepubhall.org.uk

PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR AUGUST

COVID-19 Restrictions Lift July 19th

From 19 July the majority of legal COVID-19 restrictions end. This does not mean that the threat of the virus has gone away. We are currently seeing very high case numbers in Bristol and many people are unwell.

Responsibility for protecting Bristol now lies more with the individual choices we make.

We recommend you:

- wear a face covering in indoor spaces, such as on the bus or in a shop, to show your respect for others, including frontline workers
- wash your hands, give people space, open windows when you can, and choose to leave crowded places if you feel uncomfortable
- use regular rapid tests and get your vaccinations
- continue to isolate if asked

We especially ask you to show kindness and consideration to others as we all take this next step together.

From Monday 19 July:

- Majority of legal COVID-19 restrictions will be removed
- All businesses can reopen, including nightclubs
- There will be no limits on visitors to care homes, sporting events or theatres
- Double vaccinated adults and all under 18s will not be required to quarantine if returning to England from countries on the amber list
- Employers can start planning a safe return to the workplace

From Monday 16 August:

- Fully vaccinated people and those under the age of 18, will not need to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19
- Schools will no longer be required to implement "bubble" systems or enforce wearing face coverings

Although restrictions are lifting, this does not mean the virus has gone away. Vaccination, testing and self-isolation are the three most important tools we need to protect ourselves and others.

Quarantine Free Travel from 19 July

From Monday 19 July, people who have been fully vaccinated with an NHS administered vaccine in the UK (plus 14 days), and are returning to England from amber list countries will no longer need to quarantine. Children under the age of 18 will also be exempt from quarantine. Proof of vaccination will need to be provided to the airline in advance of travel.

Anyone returning from amber countries will still need to complete a pre-departure test before arrival into England, alongside a PCR test on or before day two after arrival. They will not have to take a day eight test or self-isolate.

The current recommendation for people to not travel to amber countries will also be removed from 19 July. **For more information, visit the GOV.UK website.**

Changes to the International Travel List

From 4am on Monday 19 July some countries are being moved onto the red, amber and green travel lists.

Red list changes:

- Cuba, Indonesia, Myanmar and Sierra Leone are being added to the red list

If you return from any of these countries after 19 July, you must quarantine in a government facility.

Amber list changes:

- Balearic Islands and British Virgin Islands will move to the amber list

Fully vaccinated people returning to England after Monday 19 July do not need to quarantine. If you are

NOT fully vaccinated, you must isolate in your home for 10 days even if you feel well. This means you should not leave your home for any reason, except to get a test for COVID-19.

Green list changes:

- Bulgaria and Hong Kong are being added to the green list, while Croatia and Taiwan move to the green watchlist

Green watchlist countries are at risk of moving back to the amber list at short notice, so travellers who have not had both doses of the vaccine may have to isolate upon their return, subject to changes.

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Guidance

From Monday 19 July, as national restrictions lift in England, we will be advising clinically extremely vulnerable people, as a minimum, to follow the same guidance as everyone else.

However, if you are clinically extremely vulnerable you may wish to take extra precaution to reduce your exposure to COVID-19, including:

- limiting the close contact you have with those you do not usually meet with
- receiving your COVID-19 vaccination, and considering whether you and those you are meeting have been vaccinated – you might want to wait until 14 days after your second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine before being in close contact with others
- washing your hands regularly and avoid touching your face
- taking regular rapid tests and asking friends and family to take a rapid test before visiting you
- wearing a face covering, especially when there is close contact between people in enclosed and crowded spaces
- meeting outside if possible or making sure the space is well ventilated if you meet inside

For more information, visit the guidance on the GOV.UK website.

If you, or someone you know needs help getting food, medicine, or other necessities, **please call our free We Are Bristol support helpline: 0800 694 0184.**

Isolating and Contact Tracing Update

From 16 August, fully vaccinated people in England won't have to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Until 16 August, if you test positive for COVID-19 or have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive, you may be contacted by NHS Test and Trace or Public Health.

You will be asked to provide some vital information to help NHS Track and Trace and Public Health understand and slow the spread of COVID-19. This is called contact tracing and is a very effective way to protect people and slow the spread of infectious diseases.

You will be contacted via text message, email or phone, asked to sign into one of two portals and provide details about where you've been and who you've seen:

- **Public Health contact tracing website:** <https://contact-tracing.phe.gov.uk/>
- **NHS Test and Trace contact tracing website:** <https://contact-tracing.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/s/contact>

We encourage everyone to please cooperate with contact tracing teams, and make use of these websites above to fill out your own information and update it when necessary.



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The *Shire* Community Pages

Urgent Appeal for Deliverers

Due to unforeseen circumstances, one of our amazing deliverers has sadly had to retire from the paper delivery. We thank her and her family for all the miles they have walked to pop the Shire through three village roads!

So, good people of Shirehampton, we need volunteers for the following locations:

West Town Rd, (98 papers), Springfield Ave (44 papers), and the 24 dwellings on the site of the swimming baths on Park Road.

Please contact me if you can help. Page 2 of Shire under Distribution.

Bobbie Perkins

SHIRE NEWSPAPER AGM

Shire Newspaper will hold its Annual General Meeting on Monday 9th August 2021 at 5:00 pm.

We will be meeting in the Cotswold Community Centre, Dursley Road, BS11 9XH.

Members of the Public are Welcome

SHIREHAMPTON PUBLIC HALL NEWS

In July the Public Hall was proud to host a talk about its history, given by local historian Judy Helme. This will be repeated after our AGM in September. All welcome on 1st September from 7pm. The talk is a marvellous insight into the what makes the Public Hall so special to Shirehampton, and one of the remaining original buildings in the area. Thank you for your tremendous presentation, Judy!

ALSO... Did You Know We Have

Rooms For Hire

The Main Hall dimensions are 51' by 30', excluding the stage. The stage is the width of the Hall, and is 12' deep. The Hall includes a tiered balcony, which seats 70. The maximum capacity of the Hall is 200 people. It is licensed for public dancing, singing, music, indoor sports, and theatrical performances. The Hall contains a piano.

The Penpole Room measures 20' by 19'. This upstairs room was formerly the children's section of Shirehampton Public Library. It is particularly suitable for meetings, presentations and art/craft classes.

The Springfield Room is on the ground floor, and measures 12' by 15'. A small room which would be a great office space or small meeting room.

There is a small kitchen which is suitable for preparing hot drinks and light refreshments.

Current Hourly Hire Charges

	Black Figures – Commercial Rate		Red Figures – Community Rate	
	Mon-Fri Before 6pm	Mon-Fri After 6pm	Sat/Sun Before 6pm	Sat/Sun After 6pm
Main Hall	£14.50 £7.50	£21.00 £10.50	£20.00 £10.00	£31.00 £15.50
Penpole	£11.00 £5.50	£16.00 £8.00	£15.00 £7.50	£16.00 £8.00
Springfield	£8.00 £4.00	£9.00 £4.50	£8.00 £4.00	£9.00 £4.50

■ Minimum 1hr booking

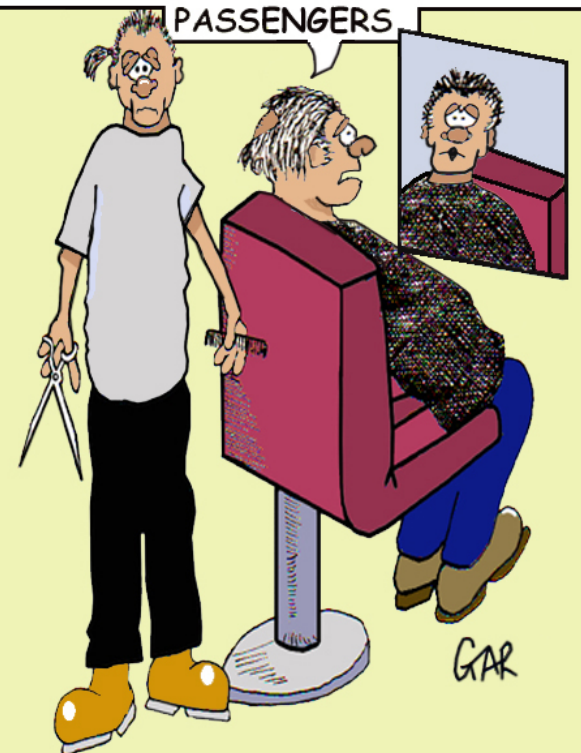
■ Parties and other small functions (up to 3 hours) £85 (+£60 damage deposit)

■ Large events/all day events – please enquire at the office.

Contact the Hall Manager on 0117 9829963 or email bookings@shirepubhall.org.uk

CHICO THE DEMON BARBER

WHEN I DIE, I WANT TO DIE PEACEFULLY IN MY SLEEP LIKE MY FATHER, AND NOT SCREAMING AND TERRIFIED LIKE HIS PASSENGERS



CHICO'S BARBER SHOP, 22, HIGH STREET SHIREHAMPTON

Avonmouth Ladies Club

Now that Covid restrictions have eased Avonmouth Community Centre is able to open in September for groups to resume meeting.

So our plan is to meet on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at 7.15pm.

We can enjoy a 'catch up' over tea and biscuits, and discuss our future plans.

A huge welcome awaits

CELLULOID MEMORIES... SAFE

Dear Editor,

With reference to Nic T's letter titled Celluloid Memories I am able to answer his query. The black and white film of the old church burning down and the building of the present one was taken in 1928/29 by Mr. George Dawe, the local Dentist, who lived in a house called The Hermitage, a Georgian House, which before it was demolished stood opposite the Co-op. The fire was discovered by a local Policeman - PC Bertie Sparks (whom I knew when he was retired and I was a child). He was on his night patrol checking the security of properties and was at Shirehampton Golf Club. He looked down the hill towards the Village and saw flames coming out of the Church roof. He cycled quickly down the hill to Shirehampton Police Station and called the Fire Brigade. The cause of the fire was later found to be an electrical fault. Despite the name Sparks I am assured he had absolutely nothing to do with it!!!

The black and white film, together with the coloured films, disappeared for about 20 years, despite me making enquiries and making an appeal in "Shire" for information. Ralph Hack and I had a mutual interest in local history and the archive films were the property of St Mary's Church. I approached

Ralph and asked him if he had any idea of their location but he said he had no knowledge of their whereabouts. Sadly, towards the end of his life Ralph began to suffer from Dementia. However, I was convinced he knew but couldn't remember.

When Ralph died, his nephew knew of my interest in locating these films and allowed me access to his house to look around for them. Success! In the top drawer of his Desk in his Study were the missing films.

The three coloured films were taken by Mrs Dixon the wife of the Rev. Clement Dixon, who was Vicar at St Mary's from 1920 until he retired in 1948.

I was concerned the films because of their antiquity, would deteriorate and be lost for ever. I searched around to locate a reliable Company capable of transferring them onto DVD and found one in Portland Square, St Paul's. All four films are now on DVD with four copies of each made. The films, accompanied by the DVD copies are now in the possession of the City Archivist. The second set are now stored in the Church. The third set I gave to Ralph Hack's nephew, who gave me access to his house and the final set belong to me.

So, rest assured Nic T - they are safe and sound!

Christopher M. Eynon.



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.*

DESCENDANTS OF HEROES

Dear Editor,

My late father married his first wife in 1918 and they lived in Meadow Grove. Sadly she died young, in 1935 and he then met my mother and they married in 1937.

There was a son of the first marriage, Kenny. On a school holiday day in early June 1933 Kenny, aged 12, cycled to a spot near Rockenham bridge - on the road to Severn Beach - for a swim in the Severn. Tragically, Kenny drowned. (His death increased local pressure for a public swimming pool to be built in Shirehampton - and Shirehampton Baths, now also, sadly, gone was opened in 1935.)

My daughter has unearthed reports of the tragedy in the Western Daily Press of the time. At the inquest the coroner praised the efforts of two of Kenny's mates, also of Meadow Grove, to try and save him. Their names were Thomas Davis (aged 16) and Leslie Uzell (aged 12). They were described as "two young heroes of the tragedy."

I am wondering whether any descendants of Thomas and Leslie still live in the locality.

I would love to make contact with them. My email address is bill.patten@live.co.uk

Best wishes,

Bill Patten

THANK YOU FROM GAWLER, DOWN UNDER

Dear Editor,

Good Morning from Gawler, South Australia

I refer to my letter, under the above heading in the April issue of 'Shire', enquiring about the Air Training Corps. Via your excellent Newspaper I would like to pass on firstly, my sincerest condolences on the passing of William Beckett, and to thank his son, Alan for the info I was seeking.

After all these year's I have never forgotten the advice and encouragement shown to me by Flt. Lt. Beckett. I was fortunate enough to join the RAF in 1956 for National Service, later signing on for an extra year.

Thank you again Alan for taking the time to write.

Kind regards

Keith FitzGerald



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:

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 - Improve muscle tone and bone density
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Linda x x

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

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



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

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Family Announcements

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

To book contact adverts@shire.org.uk

Small text box = £10.

Larger picture box = £15.

Coffee Mornings at Cotswold Community Centre

We've resumed our monthly Coffee Mornings at the Cotswold, and the last two have also played host to Kathryn Courtney's Plant Sale, to raise funds to improve the garden for her mother, for whom she is a full-time carer. Both events were a great success with lots and lots of people attending, buying plants, and enjoying the delicious homemade cakes and scones, provided by the committee. It's a wonderful feeling to see the hall and garden buzzing again, and everyone is so delighted to see each other again.



All our classes have been taking place again, and are as popular as ever. **Bingo on Thursday afternoons** has never been as popular. As a committee, we've decided to proceed with caution, following the latest relaxation of restrictions, so we're carrying on as we have been, for now. Hopefully, we'll be able to update with more positive news next time.

Just an update on the **Clothes Bank**, provided by the **Great Western Air Ambulance** charity - please ensure any clothes you put in are bagged up, and please **NO BOOKS**, or anything else!!

Cheers

John



A Further Update on Events/Activities Happening in Shire

Firstly, for anyone who missed out on Kathryn Courtney's Plant Sales at our Coffee Mornings recently, she's having another at her house at 1, Barrow Hill Road (junction with the Portway) from 10am till 2pm today and tomorrow (see poster on opposite page).

There is also some fantastic stuff going on at the PBA Club on Tuesday and Friday afternoons during the summer for 8-13 year olds (also see opposite page).

Shirehampton Library has fully reopened this week so you can go in and browse for the first time in 16 months!! Use it or lose it! Opening Hours as follows: Monday 1pm to 5pm, Tuesday Closed, Wednesday 1pm to 5pm, Thursday 10am to 2pm, Friday 1pm to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 2pm and Sunday Closed.

Finally, the Adult parkrun is restarting tomorrow, again for the first time in 16 months. The nearest one is at Ashton Court and starts at 9am. Junior parkrun takes place at Kings Weston House every Sunday at 10am and will be now open to 11-14 year olds from Sunday too.

Best wishes,

John

Cotswold Community Association • Tel: 07943 401575 • Website: cotswoldcommunity.org



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

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

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

Children's Creativity Morning

At Cotswold Community Centre on
Friday 13th August from 10am.

This FREE activity morning will be facilitated by
Annelies Egli of Tandem Arts.

Materials will be provided. Children under
12 should be accompanied by an adult.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Avon University Settlement Community Association

The AGM for AUSCA which runs the Shire Advice Service, will be held on Wednesday 8th September commencing promptly at 7.15pm until 8pm at the Tithe Barn, High Street, Shirehampton. We welcome anyone who would like to come along and learn more about this long-standing local charity.



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Final Plant Sale.



Friday 23rd July 2021 ~ 10am – 2pm
Saturday 24th July 2021 ~ 10am – 2pm

**1 Barrow Hill Road, Shirehampton,
 Bristol, BS11 9QT.**

Selection of vegetable and flower plants ready to be planted into your garden, patio area, allotment, window boxes, hanging baskets & garden pots.

All plants £1.50 each

Don't forget to bring along bags or boxes so you can take your plants home with you.

For plant updates & information:

www.facebook.com/GardenPlantsFund Tel: 07773 710755

Last chance to buy garden ready plants including:

Runner Beans, Dwarf Beans, Peppers, Sweetcorn, various Pea Plants, Pumpkins, Butternut Squash, Cucumbers.

Tomatoes including: Roma, Gardeners Delight, Money Maker, Shirley, Alicante, Red Cherry, Giant Tree, Jantar, Marmande Superprecoce, Black Russian, Costoluto Fiorentino, Cillegia Cerise, Currant Gold, Delicious, San Marzano, Sweet Baby, Tiny Tim, Yellow Pear/Cherry Bell.

Flower plants including: Busy Lizzie, Fuchsia, Salvia, Geranium, Marigold, Petunia, Sunflower & Sweet Peas.

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North Bristol Advice Centre provides free and independent Debt Advice to people in North Bristol and South Gloucestershire. Our specialist advisers can:

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- Contact creditors and help manage enforcement action – eviction, bailiffs, court action etc.
- Check that people are getting the right income or benefits.
- Complete a financial statement.
- Provide Money Management support.
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LPW FRI 23 JULY - TUES 31 AUG

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 W: WWW.LPW.ORG.UK E: INFO@LPW.ORG.UK T: 01179823700

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Shirehampton Public Hall

WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7PM

Followed by "The History of the Hall" with local historian, Judy Helme

All Welcome!

High Street Market Returns on 2nd September

Shirehampton Markets is making its return to our High Street this September. It's been almost 18 months since many of you last visited the Tithe Barn but we continued to run our markets online.

The High Street Market opens its doors once again on **Thursday 2nd September 2021**. Ironically it will mark our **second anniversary** so come along & enjoy some great food & mark this special celebration.

Our market traders will be back with their wonderful wares and will continue to offer products that are not available on our local High Street.

"We can't wait to be back in Shirehampton once again. We are excited to be returning to the High Street market and really looking forward to seeing our customers again" said **Remus from Simply Honey**.

"I love being part of this lovely, eclectic, artisan, community minded High Street Market. I am thoroughly looking forward to my return to this warm, friendly, inviting market and catching up with my fellow traders and customers." Said **Charlotte from The Textile Treasury**.

"It's great to returning and I'll be outside selling good quality fish, not forgetting the local favourite cockles. Most of all I am looking forward to seeing everyone again." Said **Stephen from Fishman With A Difference**.

"With covid-19 restrictions and guidelines being relaxed by the Government we will be asking everyone to respect our volunteers, market traders and customers personal space. Although not mandatory, the wearing of a face mask or shield is personal choice and should be respected. Hand sanitiser will be made available at the venue. We will have tables and chairs outside in the food area where lunch, coffee/tea & cakes can be consumed whilst catching up with family, friends and neighbours. We are so pleased to be back at the **Tithe Barn** and re-opening the High Street Market. We have missed seeing many of you, our traders and the community atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you all again from the four villages and beyond." Said the **Shirehampton Markets Management Team**.



© Kathryn Courtney



© Kathryn Courtney



© Kathryn Courtney

Traders from past High Street Markets

The High Street Market re-opens on Thursday 2nd September 2021 from 10am - 3pm at The Tithe Barn, High Street, Shirehampton, Bristol, BS11 0DE.

For regular updates and information go to www.facebook.com/shirehamptonmarkets You can also send an email to shirehamptonmarkets@outlook.com or call 0117 9829963. The High Street Market is held the first Thursday of each month.

Kathryn Courtney

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SHIREHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Over the year Shirehampton Primary School's Under 3's and Nursery have joined in with the Schools University Challenge's which is followed from Under 3's to Year 6. Each term the children enjoy a University Challenge, these have included in Under 3's and Nursery:

Kicking leaves, Splash in puddles, Treasure Hunt, Bake a Cake, Build a Den and Go for a picnic.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed these activities and at the end of the year we all attended a Graduation Ceremony, where they received their certificate to say they had completed the challenges throughout the year. The children wore Graduation outfits and we celebrated with a picnic at the school's green space.

Here's to the children's University Challenge's in Reception Class next year.



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Teresa Cox



Adam Lenik



Jess Duncan

Channel Swim 14.6.21

By Dean Curtis

I was asked to do a solo English Channel swim 30 years ago but I declined as at the time I was having success in Master's swimming events. I never thought that at the age of 60 I would have a chance to be part of a 5-person Channel swim relay team. I needed to pass a medical and prove I could swim for 2 hours in open water to qualify for the team. Now fully recovered, I have had time to reflect on the story. Here are some memories that stand out for me:

1. The intensity and obsession of my training; swimming 147km in 2 months, either at Clevedon pier / Marine Lake or Henbury pool, often swimming twice a day, sometimes finishing at 10pm.
2. Starting at Samphire Hoe beach at 1.17am and most of the team swimming with light sticks attached to their wetsuits for safety reasons.
3. My first hour long swim at 4.17am in semi darkness and slowly seeing the sunrise and the sky getting brighter as I took breaths.
4. Two of the team suffering from the cold for at least an hour after their first swims. Despite this they were still totally prepared to go back in to the water. Some teams do not complete the swim mainly due to the effect of the cold water.
5. Doing well and on course to complete within 15 hours, we had another option. However, it would mean swimming much faster, for a shorter period. We accepted this and the team put the afterburners on in our next swims to get us close to the French shore.
6. Suddenly being hit by a huge wave right at the end of my afterburner swim; a speed boat had passed very close to us and I had been swamped by the wash.
7. The great feeling as 2 members of the team land on the French soil. I am in shock when told we have swum 34 miles in total and it's taken us 13hrs 27mins. Not bad for a team with an average age of 54!
8. The celebrations beginning as we return by boat to Dover. Pictures are taken and eventually we all start to recuperate in the sun and contemplate what we have achieved
9. A big 'thank you' to Tyrone for organising everything. It was a great privilege to have completed the swim with 4 amazing people (Sarah Draper, Alister Chambers, Tyrone Storer and Jon Goodland); we have raised £3,200 for Velindre Cancer Centre.

I would like to dedicate both my training and swim to my dad, Tony Curtis, who died in May 2019. Finally, thank you to my wife, Sian, for all her support.

(Thank you for your donation Dean)



DEFIBRILLATORS

Do you know where your nearest defibrillator is? It's important that we all know where we can access one – it could save someone's life. At the moment we have one outside the Public Hall but we also have one on the patio at the PBA Club, Nibley Road.

On Thursday 5th August there will be a training session to see how to use a defibrillator. This will be held in the PBA Ballroom at 7:00pm. Everyone welcome – come and learn how to save a life!



Shirehampton Library

The library will be fully open from 1pm Monday 19th July onwards.

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PBA Club

Dear Shirehampton Village,

Many of you know the PBA Club, but some don't as we are hidden away nicely on the banks of the River.

We have 8 beautiful acres of land and buildings, numerous sports clubs and activities (Covid allowing) and were originally set up as a club for Port and Council workers which then became a members club.



Time has moved on, we have become a charity, still have a membership base (with benefits for members) but are now open for the whole community. No need to join if you want to enjoy the space and facilities.

We need to renovate the site and are working with the council on a long term vision which they are really keen on. We do really want your views too, as part of a consultation exercise. We want to keep a beautiful space in Shirehampton, for the community and beyond, for health and active living purposes (which includes entertainment, nice food and life celebration events).

Our new website pbaclub.co.uk has a link which leads to an on line survey, please complete, we are keen for you to have a voice, we are keeping the consultation open for 4 weeks.

If you haven't been before and want to take the view in, get your imagination going before completing your survey, please feel free to pop down. The entrance is between residential houses on Nibley Road.

The survey is confidential and after collecting in results and aggregating we will dispose of all received surveys.

Thank you.

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PBA COMMUNITY & SPORTS HUB

BSS11 9XW – Rear of Nibley Road

Day	Opening Times	Events
Monday	17:00 – 23:00	Line Dancing from 19:00
Tuesday	17:00 – 23:00	Zumba 19:00 – 20:00
Wednesday	17:00 – 23:00	Bingo from 20:00
Thursday	17:00 – 23:00	Football training
Friday	16:00 – 23:00	Food available from 17:00 – 20:00
Saturday	12:00 – 23:00	Football / Evening entertainment
Sunday	12:00 – 22:00	Football



Opening times and events may be subject to change

Other facilities include a two-lane skittle alley, pool table, darts, fruit machines, big screen for sporting events and a Bowls section. We also have a fabulous outside seating area and bar for the sunny, warm summer days/evenings.

We have a fantastic function room available for hire for Weddings/Parties/Wakes/Business meetings and all social events.

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First Flight

by Les Harrold

The other day, when it was blowing about 40 to 50 mph, I was working in my garage. The direction of the wind hadn't prevented me from propping open the door whilst I worked.

I was busy reducing a chunk of aluminium to a pile of filings when there was fluttering to my right and resisting the usual instinct to swat everything that flew through the doorway I looked down and saw a very small blue tit chick had 'crash' landed at my feet and was looking straight up at me. I said "hello" and thought as long as I don't move my feet I won't step on you. Despite its inelegant arrival it didn't appear to have been hurt so I thought I'll let you rest then have another go and continued filing.

I heard a flutter and I couldn't see it when I looked down, "there you go..." and I went back to making silver snow. Then I heard it 'tweet, tweet, tweet' I knew what that was "feed me, I'm here, feed me!" and the parent would undoubtedly be the next to arrive. I had to find my guest and encourage it outside; it was after all 'time for tea' and I didn't want to lock it in.

I switched off the lights to make it more inviting outside (it works for bees and other flying reptiles) why not birds. I eventually glimpse movement on a shelf so I armed myself with a gert big roofing baton and tried to 'encourage' it toward the open door. I seemed to be winning for a while then it flew past the door and onto the bench where it disappeared amongst the boxes and clutter.

I put down the baton and walked slowly toward the bench expecting another attempt at escape. The fledgling was sat on a box looking straight at me. I move my hand toward it and extended my forefinger, the little bird hopped on and I carried it to the open door, around the back of the garage where the wind was less and lowered the bird to a brick whereupon it stepped off my finger and flew away.

Couple of questions or three.


How did an animal, only minutes out in the big wide world know the international 'hop on my finger' gesture?

How did it know that the guy, who only minutes before had been encouraging it to leave with a gert big stick, meant it no harm?

How did it know the 'alight here gesture'?

With my new found bird whispering skills I intend to ask my resident sparrows why they keep messing on my car!!!!

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Travelling by bus from 19th July

Following Government guidance, we recommend you wear a mask on your bus.

Let's get there together.  First Bus

Following The Government's announcement on lockdown restrictions easing from 19th July, we wanted to take the opportunity to remind you of some of the measures we have in place to keep our customers safe when travelling on our buses, so here's a guide for when you get on board.

Wearing Masks

We are following government guidance and recommend all customers wear a face mask whilst on board. Please remember that this is a personal choice and not everyone may wish to wear a mask.

Ventilation & Cleaning

We will continue to ensure that all windows are left open for additional ventilation in addition to our enhanced cleaning regime which will remain in place to keep you and others around you safe.

Social Distancing

All seats will be in use from Monday 19th July and our buses will return to full capacity making sure we can take you to where you need to go.

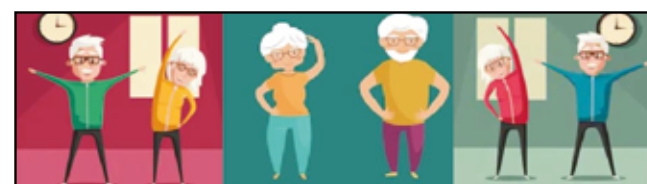
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Churches in the Shirehampton Area

Hello from Shire Methodist

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

We are cautiously responding to the proposed lifting of Covid restrictions. We plan to continue meeting face-to-face in our church building for Morning Worship twice a month, until at least November. Please contact us to confirm dates. Singing will be allowed but we will continue to ensure face coverings are worn (unless exempt for health reasons) and that sanitising and good ventilation are prioritised, until everyone feels more confident and safer.

Money is often a difficult subject to talk about. Many of us are aware of a verse in the bible talking about money: "For the love of money is the root of all evil" (1 Timothy, Chapter 6, Verse 10, King James Version of the Bible). Many Christians have been thinking about these matters recently and also what it means to follow the instructions of Jesus, to "Love your God with all your heart, all your soul and all your mind" and to "Love your neighbour as yourself". Many have realised it is important to look at what our money is funding and earlier this year The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, which oversees more than a billion pounds of investments fully divested from fossil fuel companies. Fossil fuel companies are continuing to put making money

ahead of looking after God's creation and our global neighbours who are suffering the effects of human-driven climate change. The Bristol and South Gloucestershire Methodist Circuit recently declared it does not invest in fossil fuel companies and will not in our future. Our local church will also be making this declaration. You might be interested in thinking about where your money is going and who is being helped or harmed.

Many additional support services appear to be lessening as the restrictions ease. However, all the churches in Shirehampton continue to hold our community in prayer, and will do our best to respond to any concerns and needs. Please don't hesitate to contact us on the numbers below:



St Mary's Church 0117 9077026

Shire Methodist 0117 924 8407

Shire Baptist 07743 683684

St Bernard's Roman Catholic 0117 982 3380

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

Everyone at Shire Methodist

Greetings from Shirehampton Baptist Church

During August we will be thinking about our Autumn Programme. We have been promised no more lockdowns but will still have to be vigilant which means we may have to do things a different way.

We will still meet on Zoom during August at **11am and 4:30pm**. We have already had two meetings at the **Cotswold Community Hall Dursley Road** and our next one is on **August 8th at 4:45 pm**. We will continue studying The Lord's Prayer and the importance of prayer in our lives. We welcome all not only those who live on the Cotswold Estate.

Many of you will have found a **Good News Paper** through your letter boxes. We hope you have read it and would love getting feedback. This can be done by ringing our contact number below or popping into our Church on a Thursday morning which is **open from 10 am to 12 pm**. The building is open for private prayer or for a chat with one of the lovely folks who are there.

In July we said goodbye to two well-loved and valued members, **David and Jess Collard**. Shire Baptist has been their spiritual home since childhood and they were married here two years ago. Both have many talents and have given loyal and reliable service to our church out of a deep love for Jesus Christ. They are now living in Temple Cloud village and although we will miss them greatly. We wish them much happiness and trust that our loss will be another Church's gain. We also say Goodbye to **Helen Johnson**, the **Vicar of Saint Mary's Church**. Helen has done much to maintain the unity which all the Churches of the village enjoy. We wish her well as she starts her role as a tutor at **Trinity College** and to Saint Mary's as they await a new successor.

Shire Baptist assure you of our prayers for our village and are here to help in any way we can.



© Bob Pitchford

Our contact number is 07743683684.

Hello from St Bernard's

Mass times and other news are all on the website: olorsb.org.uk

The children of St Bernard's and Our Lady of the Rosary parish, have been able to celebrate the sacrament of **First Holy Communion**, through June & July. The church looked beautiful, and we thank all those who prepared and created this special day.



© St Bernard's, Shirehampton, Bristol



© St Bernard's, Shirehampton, Bristol

St Mary's Church



©Bob Pitchford

I am delighted to inform you that we will be holding our Summer Fayre in the Churchyard from 10am to 12 noon on Saturday 21st August. If we could be blessed with fine, warm weather like we had for our Outdoor Spring Fayre, that would be absolutely marvellous. As well as being a lovely community event, this raises some funds towards the upkeep of St Mary's, so please put this date in your Diaries!

One further date for this month's diary is 31st August, with the St Mary's Youth Team Family Scavenger Hunt & Photo Challenge (with optional Family Fancy Dress)! The entry cost is £1 per family and this must be booked in advance through confidance@rocketmail.com.

Details - Race against the clock to complete the Family Scavenger Hunt around Shire Village. For a staggered start time, come to the Tithe Barn between 2-4pm to collect the scavenger sheet. You have until 5pm to complete the sheet and return it to the Barn. Start and finish times will be recorded and points will be awarded for fast times and how many questions are answered correctly. Super-hamper prizes for the winning team and runners up. Bonus prize available for the best team fancy dress!! Families in all groups are responsible for the supervision of their children at all times whilst completing the Scavenger Hunt.

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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

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**CONTACTING YOUR MEMBER OF
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Shirehampton is in the Bristol North West
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Darren Jones

Phone: 01179596545

Email: darren.jones.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.darren-jones.co.uk



CLIMATE NEWS FOR AUGUST: Extreme Weather!!!

Here we are at the end of July and as I write we've been hearing of unprecedented heat waves along the west coast of North America, temperatures up to 50 degrees in Oregon and British Columbia. This is the Pacific Northwest, temperate rainforest with a long coast line and cold ocean currents. Now Oregon and British Columbia have joined California and Australia with a wildfire season, a season that starts earlier every year. Chard just down the road in Somerset was seriously flooded by heavy rain, and there were thunder storms and flash flooding all over the country in the first weeks of July. It's no longer news. 'Severe weather' is now a regular event. This is global warming. This is climate change.

We're beginning to see the effects closer and closer to home. Now it's not just subsistence farmers in sub-Saharan Africa who are being displaced from their homes, it's people we know in affluent North America or neighbouring Somerset. **And yet very little action is being** taken to end our burning of fossil fuels – the main source of atmospheric CO₂, which is the main cause of global warming. **The G7 failed to commit to any significant effort to slow the rate of warming. This why COP26 is so important – a last chance to ACT.**

COP26 in Glasgow

The UN Climate Change Conference will take place in **Glasgow in November**. There are five main areas of response to climate change up for discussion:

- Helping people, especially those already severely affected by climate change, to adapt to their evolving circumstances
- Reducing the impact of climate change by restoring nature
- Transitioning from fossil fuels to clean energy
- Increasing use of clean transport – eg walking, cycling, or electric or hydrogen vehicles
- Channelling global finance

Governments, national and local, must address all these issues. But what can we as individuals do in our daily lives to support the transformation we need?

Looking at those five 'areas of response' we can see that we too will have to adapt to climate change. Here in Shirehampton we can help 'restore nature' by protecting our green spaces and creating more. Even the smallest front garden can become a wildflower meadow supporting pollinators, or contain a sink or barrel pond providing water for small creatures and birds. We have relatively good public transport here in Shirehampton and each of us could commit to using it more. In some ways electric scooters are a

menace – you can't always hear them coming! – but they reduce air pollution and with better regulation and safety training they are a force for good.

It's important that we ALL begin to understand how serious the Climate Emergency is so that we ALL can bring pressure to bear on our leaders, at every level, to take action in response to the crisis. That's why the **Shirehampton Climate Emergency Group** is organizing a...



COP 26 Morning

SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 10:00 am • Shirehampton Public Hall

We'll have a presentation on COP26 which will include a brief history of global climate agreements and the Paris conference of 2015 and explain again why COP26 is SO important. We'll also have someone to speak about the Camino to COP, a pilgrimage from London and Bristol to Glasgow. The pilgrimage is organized by faith groups to draw attention to the conference and create an opportunity to reach out to everyone along the way to remind them of how serious our situation is.

I do hope many of you can come on **September 4th**. There will be time for questions and discussion about

what the Climate Crisis means for you. There will be coffee and cakes. Children are welcome.



Nature Notes

I had been visiting a new friend and neighbour about a month ago, and as I left through her back gate, I caught side of this enormous and fascinating creature resting on the wooden post of the gate. My friend put her hand up alongside it and we saw it was about the length of her index finger!



© Bobbie Perkins

The camouflage was pretty impressive I have to say, and it stayed perfectly still while we excitedly talked about our good luck in spotting it.

I rushed home to get my wildlife of the British Isles off the book shelf, and I think this beauty could be a Red Underwing Moth! It was a special moment.

As I write, things have quietened down somewhat in the garden, but at the end of June and into the first week of July we had numerous feathered families eating us out of house and home! Favourites were the baby Starlings! I could watch them all day long. They arrive like squadrons of miniature aircraft, landing in rotation behind mum or dad and proceeding with gape and flapping of wings for food, and then quickly begin to copy the grown-ups, until we have a massive 'every man for himself' situation around and inside the platform. Hysterically entertaining. The highlight of course being the discovery of the water feature! I will leave that to your imagination.

The Sparrows put in regular, much less rowdy appearances too, which is always welcome. As a child, I remember the streets on the Cotswold estate always being full of Sparrows as we played. They were present in great numbers back then, from dawn until dusk, but how that has changed over the years. But they are still here, and seeing two babies on our garden wall the other day, being fed by mum really was a great feeling.

Although I tend to discourage the larger birds, when necessary, I did like watching a young, very noisy, Crow with its parent recently. They were on our back wall near a bowl of seed, and the youngster was bawling its head off! Said parent stood it for a while then decided enough was enough and off they went! Happy days!

Enjoy your nature watching everyone.

Bobbie Perkins

TYNINGS FIELD

We would like to thank all who kindly donated shredded white/pale paper for our hens. It's something we really need. Our hens are self-funding and we receive no external monies for them so any donations of paper are welcome, also we would welcome donations of nut free seed brown bread.

On the 18th August we are having an "employee volunteering day" (although technically this is employee volunteering, we are opening the day up to the wider community) to make repairs to our goose runs. For this we are looking for wood and chicken wire to rebuild our runs

Tynings Field is a local orchard and allotment project with bees and poultry. If you have any skills you can help us with from hedge cutting, strimming, grass cutting to carpentry we are looking for volunteers with a few hours to spare. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Tynings Field harvest "get growing" trail is on 18-19 September so please come along.

Our beekeeper Carl's hives produce wildflower honey which is now available at Ruby Jeans shop in Shirehampton. Tynings Orchard is a wonderland of wildflowers, grasses and fruit blossom which the bees feed on. There is a limited supply so please pay Ruby Jeans a visit.

You can contact us on 07885699701
or find us on Facebook
<http://www.facebook.com/tyningsfieldcommunitygroup>

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SHIREHAMPTON CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP

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



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

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SINK HOLE

A sink hole appeared in Station Road on Tuesday 28th June. The following photos were taken by Ed Amplett.



STROKE PROGRAMME

(NHS BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET AND SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE CCG)

A public consultation on the proposals for stroke services reconfiguration across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire has begun and will run until September 3rd 2021.

As an organisation that supports those who may be affected by the proposed changes, we are getting in touch to share the consultation information, public events and our contact details. Please see below for some useful links with information about the consultation:

Go to the website:

Stroke services consultation - Healthier Together.

Where all details on the proposals can be found – including easy read and aphasia friendly documents, short animations and summaries of proposals.

<https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/stroke-services/>

Have Your Say About Stroke Services Survey.

Please fill one in and encourage your wider network to do so also.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/haveyoursayaboutstrokeservices



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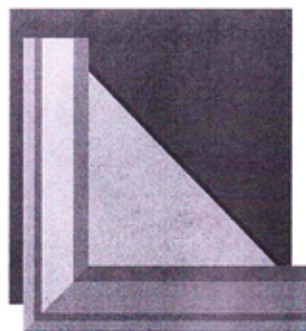
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SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON



City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

Ken Davies took full advantage of his passage into round one of the Bristol Section Champion of Champions competition by beating Allan Milburn of Ardagh and in doing so advancing to round two where he will play Dave Shaw of Canford at home on July 20th.

In a closely contested game played at the City and Port Green on **June 25th** Ken reached the required twenty-one shots with his opponent finishing on eighteen.



© David Hinksman

The club league played on Monday evenings returned on **June 21st**.

Charlie Maby and Dave Chilcott travelled to the **Ingleside Road** home of **GB Britton** to play their first round **City and County Pairs** match on **June 10th**. Their opponents were **Scott Avery** and **Graham Hudd**, a very good pair and with home advantage proved to be too strong on the day, coming out in front by nineteen shots to seven with nineteen of the scheduled twenty-one ends played.

Entry in **County Competitions** is important because as well as showing the club to be involved it supports those organising them. This season City and Port had two entries in the City and County Pairs and two entries in competitions organised by the **Gloucestershire Association**.

The **Men's League Team** continues to pick up points as the league season reaches its half way stage. The **Ladies League Team** didn't play the first three games but have played all scheduled games since then and have competed well against some determined opposition. There is a fairly short season, the final game is at home to **Henleaze B** on **July 30th**.

The Monday evening **Club League** is running this season with four teams. **Nomads**, captained by **Charlie Maby**, **Three of Each**, captained by **Lynn Burand**, **A.N Other**, captained by **Bill Hatherall** and **Hits and Misses**, captained by **Dee Crawley**. The first round of games was played on **June 21st** and games will continue until **August 30th**. There will be a knock out cup competition for which the **final** will be played on **September 6th**.

There will be club competitions starting later than in previous years but still an important part of the club's year. There will be a **finals day** or days and later in the year a **Presentation Evening** at the City and Port of Bristol Social and Sports Club.

Tuesday 29th June saw the first ever bowling session for **juniors** at the green. The club now has sets of special junior woods, much smaller than even the smallest standard adult wood and in a variety of colours. Hopefully they will be well used in weeks to come and in future seasons. It is planned to run sessions regularly for the remainder of the season. Thanks to **Gill and Pat** for their help in setting up and running the first session, enjoyed by juniors and less junior folk alike.

The club has welcomed two new members **Vivien Holcombe** and **Carol Green**. Vivien was a member at **Avonmouth** last season and will be playing



© David Hinksman

A Wednesday afternoon friendly game against **Wotton-under-Edge** at the end of June.



© David Hinksman

Ken Davies who beat Allan Milburn of Ardagh in round one of the Bristol Section Champion of Champions to earn a second round home tie against Dave Shaw of Canford.



© David Hinksman

Ladies League game at home to **Olveston B** on **July 2nd**.

friendly games soon. Carol is a completely new bowler and has already made her first appearance in a friendly game.

The club continues to seek new members so why not come and have a try. Up to three free sessions before deciding if bowling is for you.

For further information about the club and how to join call David Hinksman on 0117 9082713.

Shire Sailors Try Their Hand at Rowing and Barbecuing

The first two opportunities for Shire members and friends who are new to rowing to have a taster seasons in Bristol Docks took place at the end of June and in early July. The first of these sessions came on a beautiful sunny evening. The group got together near the top of the slip at the Bristol Gig Club and after safety briefings on rowing and COVID it was off to the water to check out the boat. A Gig is a clinker-built rowing boat taking six rowers and a cox, and is suitable for use at sea as well as in the Docks. Good fun was had by all. Comments from participants after the event included "What a lovely way to spend an evening." and "What a great experience. We did catch a few crabs (missed strokes), but at times we also managed to all get into the rhythm rowing. Definitely recommended!"

More rowing sessions are being planned with the **Gig Club** in the Docks during July and August.

The value of the safety boat escort was proven on one of the **Downalong** sails to Clevedon and back during June. A little fleet of boats left Shire at 10:30 in good conditions. But, when off Portishead, the tiller of a **Wayfarer** dinghy broke. With the tiller broken there was no way to steer and she was out of

control. Having managed to avoid a capsized the crew signalled that they had a problem and two safety boats attended. One of the safety boats towed the dinghy to the **Portishead Sailing Club** slip. Luckily, one of the Portishead members was in the boathouse and the tiller was repaired and the Wayfarer was back on the water and on her way to Clevedon within half an hour. **Many thanks to the Portishead member who made the repair.** The trip was completed without any further incidents and we came to shore back at Shire at around 20:00.

Members of Portishead sailed round for the annual barbecue at Shire in early July. They sailed five dinghies escorted by a couple of safety boats. As they arrived the heavens opened and those bribing the boats ashore got soaked through. Those in sailing gear were the lucky ones as they did have some proper protection. For a while the weather was touch and go regarding the return by sail. As it turned out the winds, that had increased during our BBQ, abated for their return trip and the return sail took place in much better conditions. A great way to spend a wet afternoon.



Cast off in Bristol Docks oars aloft.

In July we had the **18th Pill Race** – from **Portishead to Pill (Shire)** and back and also the **25th Downalong** sail.

Dates of events in August are to be arranged.

Please contact the club on info@shire.co.uk if you are interested in joining or having a go at rowing, paddling, or sailing with us. If you don't fancy any of those how about gaining the skills to be a safety boat crew?



Portishead dinghies ashore at Shire for the barbecue

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SCOUTS ON THE WATER

After 16 months of not being able to meet up, on Tuesday 15th June Scouts from 191st St Mary's Shirehampton Pack were finally able to get together and enjoy an evening of canoeing in Bristol City harbour. The trip had been re arranged from last year and the warm and sunny evening was perfect for an evening out on the water.

The instructor talked the Scouts through the rules before they were allowed in the canoes and then they set off exploring. They went into Bathurst Basin, down under Prince Street bridge and as far as the Matthew outside M-shed. The Scouts learnt how to steer the canoes and were taught that by one paddling forwards and one paddling backwards it would turn the boat around.

Luckily, no one fell in the water and the Scouts all enjoyed being able to meet up again after so long.

There were 2 more face to face meetings in July and we look forward to starting more regular meetings again from September.



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