

Shire

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

No. 568 - May 2019

www.shire.org.uk

5,000 copies monthly

Next
Shirehampton
Planning Group
meeting:
8th May at 7pm,
Shire Methodist
Church

Have you got a job that needs doing? Go to LOCAL EXPERT SECTION from page 12 to find a local expert who can help

A Street Market for Shirehampton?

When the Shirehampton Community Plan asked residents...

“Would you use a regular open air/covered market?”

...an amazing 345 people out of the 476 who answered this question said YES, while a further 92 might be persuaded.

All over the country local communities are trying to re-invent their High Streets to make them more interesting and attractive. One way has been to bring in market traders to complement what is already on offer in our established shops.

So last month the Community Plan Steering Group hosted a meeting with our local Shirehampton traders to see what they thought about bringing a regular market to Shirehampton. We recognize that we will need partners among our local traders and businesses to make this happen. Members of the Steering Group have also been talking with traders at other local markets in Bristol to learn something about how markets work and whether local traders would be interested in coming to Shirehampton.



©Bob Pitchford

In our discussion we noted that the market needed to be in the High Street because we want to encourage people to come to Shire and use our local shops. We proposed the space outside the old Alldays shop for the location. We don't want to compete with other larger markets on Saturdays, but a weekday – Wednesday, Thursday or Friday late morning and lunchtime seemed possible days. We'd start with a monthly market and hopefully it would become more frequent.

The Community Plan Steering Committee will look into the Council's legal and licensing requirements. Our local councillors will support us in this. We hope to hold the first market in June.

We will keep you updated following the meeting held on Wednesday 24 April.

You can follow developments at www.facebook.com/shirehamptonmarkets

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WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

@ THE PUBLIC HALL

MONDAY

- Twyford Art Club. 10am–12noon
- Yoga. 6.15–7.30pm

TUESDAY

- Line Dancing. 2–3pm
- Tile Making. 12th & 19th 2–4pm
- Hula Hooping. 4:30–5:30pm £3.50
- Puppy Training. 6.30–8.30pm
- Coffee Morning. 1st Tuesday

WEDNESDAY

- Twyford Art Club. 9.30–11.30am
- Model Railway Club. 7.30pm onwards
- Shire Stitchers (every 3rd Wednesday). 7.15–9.15pm
- Womens' Fellowship (2nd and 4th Wednesday). 7.30–9.30pm

THURSDAY

- Sea Mills Art Club. 10am–12noon
- Tai Chi. 2pm–3.30pm
- Zumba. 6–7pm
- Grainger Players. 7.30–9.30pm

FRIDAY

- Playtots. 10–11.30am
- Evergreens. 2–4pm
- Shire News (Last Fri of month). 4pm
- Bingo. 6.30–8.30pm
- Pillow Lace Club. 7–9pm

SUNDAY

- Church of Grace. 9.30am–2pm. Hall & Springfield
- Learn to Meditate 8.15pm Portway Room from 7 January

@THE TITHE BARN

MONDAY

- S.T.O.M.P Dance Club (Term Time) 4–4:30pm age 4–6, 4:30–5:30pm age 7–11, 6–7pm age 11–16
- Totstop. 1:15–2:45pm under 5's

TUESDAY

- Chair Aerobics. 10–11 am £4
- Youth @ The Barn 7–8:30pm (Term time) age 10–16. 50p & bring change for tuck

WEDNESDAY

- Mother's Union 2nd Wednesday 2:30pm

FRIDAY

- Chair Aerobics. 10–11am £4

@SHIREHAMPTON HEALTH CENTRE

TUESDAY

- Shire Advice Service. 10am–12 By appointment: 951 5751

WEDNESDAY

- NHS Baby Clinic -12:30–2pm

@COTSWOLD COMMUNITY CENTRE, Dursley Road

MONDAY

- Pilates. 9.30–10.30am
- Personal Fitness Training 7–8pm

WEDNESDAY

- Keep Fit. 10:30–11:30am
- Pilates 6:30 to 7:30pm

THURSDAY

- Bingo. 2:30–4pm
- Personal Fitness Training 7–8pm

FRIDAY

- Keep Fit. 10:30–11:30am

MONTHLY

- 1st Sunday of month - Breakfast Club - 9:30 to 11am (Bingo the evening before at 7:30pm).
- 2nd Sunday of the month - Baptist and Methodist Church Service 4:45pm
- 2nd Saturday of the month - Coffee Morning 10:30am–12 noon
- 1st & 3rd Tues - Film Night 7:30pm
- Saturday (6 weekly from 11th Jan) Quiz Night 7:30pm

@AVONMOUTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

MONDAY

- Zumba Gold 12:15pm £4
- Yoga 6:15pm £6
- Keep Fit 50+. 7:30–8:30pm £4.50

TUESDAY

- Genealogy. 4th Tuesday 7pm

WEDNESDAY

- Happy Reading Cafe 2nd Wednesday 1:30pm

THURSDAY

- Circle Dancing. 3pm £3

FRIDAY

- Weightwatchers. 9:30am www.avonmouthcca.org.uk Tel 0117 907 1524

@St ANDREWS CHURCH HALL, Avonmouth

- St Andrew's Ladies Club. 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 7:30–9:15 pm
- Dancercise every Wednesday 10am. Free to unemployed and those on low income. FB @dancercise.bristol or Anna on 07852988895

@SHIREHAMPTON CHURCHES

@ST MARY'S

- Kids Klub - Sunday. 8:30am
- Craft Group. Tuesdays 2–3:30pm
- Golden Oldies Sing-Along 1st Wednesday. 10:30–11:30am. Voluntary donation £2

@ SHIREHAMPTON BAPTIST CHURCH

- Services - Sundays. 10:30am 2nd Sunday Cotswold Community Centre 4:40pm
- Mainly Music Carers & Toddlers - Tuesdays (term time). 9–11am
- Gospel Generation Community Choir - Wednesdays in term time 7pm–8:15 pm. Free. All welcome.
- Scrapbooking Workshop - 3rd Saturday 10:30am–16:30pm

@SHIREHAMPTON METHODIST CHURCH

- Service - Sunday 11am
- Chapel Film Club and Chatter Club - Monday 2pm. Tel (0117) 382 3694 for details
- Weight Watchers - Tuesdays 10am AND 5:30pm Church Hall (Contact Roma 01454 613222)
- Bacon Butties, Coffee and Cakes - 1st Sat 10–11:30am

@PBA CLUB, Nibley Road

MONDAY

- Line Dancing 8–10:30pm £4.50

THURSDAY

- Stroke Support 1:30–4pm

TUESDAY

- 3rd Tuesday – Retired Employees Association. 12 noon

@ SCOUTS HUT, St Mary's Road

191stbristolscouts@gmail.com

MONDAY

- Cubs 5:45–7:15pm boys/girls 8–10

TUESDAY

- Beaver Scouts 5–6:15pm boys & girls 6–8

THURSDAYS

- Cub Scouts 6–7:30pm boys & girls 8–10+
- Scouts 7:30–9pm boys/girls 10+ –14

Please send all updates for the What's On section to editor@shire.org.uk by the 10th of the month before publication

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MON, WEDS & FRIDAY

- 7–8:30pm. Head Coach Garry Cave. 07876 233621

@T.S.ENTERPRISE, T.S.Enterprise, Station Road

MONDAY & THURSDAY

- Sea Cadets 12–18 years 6:45–8:45pm

FRIDAY

- Shirehampton Amateur Radio Club. 7:30–10pm

@KYOTO SHOTOKAN KARATE CLUB

THURS @ AVONMOUTH RFC

- 6:30–8:30pm

@OTHER VENUES

@ AVONMOUTH RUGBY CLUB

- Ladies Rugby Under 13s 6:00–7:00pm under 15's and under 18's 7:00 – 8:00 pm
- Claire's Ladies 18+– 6:30 –8:00 pm

PENPOLE LUNCH CLUB - TUES

- 11:30am–2pm (Details: Sandra 0117 938 1236)

@ SHIREHAMPTON LIBRARY - FRIDAY

- Code Club 3:45–4:45pm Age 9–11

@ ST BEDE'S COLLEGE - TUES

- Cricket. 5–6pm Age 11–16
- Community Football Fridays 6–7pm. Ages 11–15 Pitch1; 16–21 Pitch 2
- Girls Football, ages 8–16– Saturdays 11am–12noon
- Archery Club. Saturdays 1:30 –3:30pm £2
- Pay and Play Football. Saturdays 1:30–4:30pm £1

@ Jim O'Neill House

THURSDAY

- Slimming World. 9.30am, 11:30am, 5.15pm and 7:15pm. Information: 01275 844825

SATURDAY

- Slimming World: 9.30am. 01275 844825

@Sea Mills

ST EDYTH'S CHURCH

- Pilates. Mondays 7:15pm and 8:15pm 07905 364256
- Dancercise every Thursday 1.30pm. Free to unemployed and those on low income. FB @dancercise.bristol or Anna on 07852 988 895

SEA MILLS COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Yoga. Thursdays 6:30–7:30pm, Fridays 10–11:30am

(SCAF) SHIREHAMPTON COMMUNITY ACTION FORUM MEETINGS 2019

Shirehampton Public Hall

- Weds 1 May 7–9pm
- Weds 17 July 2–4pm
- Weds 2 October AGM 7–9pm
- Weds 11 December 2–4pm



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e: rebecca.hussey@oasisuk.org

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Counselling service, Financial literacy programme
Holiday Activities
Targeted programmes, Family craft activities
e: aisling.bennett@oasisuk.org
t: 07788 338701

Hub office—Oasis Academy Long Cross
Lawrence Weston Bristol BS11 0LP
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Blaise Museum

There are some changes to Blaise museum this year. They are developing what they're calling a 'lab space' where visitors can come in and tell them the changes they would like to see happen at Blaise in the next couple of years.

There will be objects and images to look at, as well as activities that will help them build a clearer picture of what stories people want told at Blaise, and what other changes are needed. They would like to invite groups up to the museum to give them their views, when the lab space opens in early May. You will be able to have a chat with a member of staff and refreshments will be provided as well.

The museum is open on Thursday - Sunday and other times during school holidays and Bank Holidays (check the website for details).

MAKE BLAISE MUSEUM BRILLIANT



Blaise Castle House was home to the Harford family until 1919. Mary was the last to live here.

What stories should we share?
Discover stories about the house, its owners and the landscape. Pop in from May to help us give Blaise Museum a new lease of life. We're open Thursday - Sunday, 11am - 4pm (plus Tue and Wed in Bristol school holidays) Groups can pre-book visits by contacting museum.community@bristol.gov.uk

Mad Hatters

The 29th March was "Wear A Hat Day" raising funds for Brain Tumour Research.

Local Co-op staff, Paul Wood Butchers, St. Bernard's School and fund raiser Daphne Llewellyn wore their hats with pride whilst collecting donations for a worthy cause. Daphne also arranged a 'Mad Hatters Tea Party' £831.00 was raised. *Kathryn Courtney*



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Letters to the Editor



Dear Editor,

Good afternoon. Nice to see Mike and Carol celebrated a diamond wedding. I doubt he remembers me, but I was at school with Mike and have often thought of him over the years. I married in 1966, so have 52 years behind me. We have lived in Severn Beach since then - myself from the July, and my wife from the September when we wed. *Kind regards David (Hunt)*

Dear Editor,

Hello I am 83 I am arriving in Shirehampton on Tuesday (2nd April) until Saturday. I spent all my school days there I have great memories and hope to see many things. I lived at 512 Portway from 1939 until I had to leave in 1952 and remember going to the festival of Britain with Portway secondary school. *Peter Walker*

Dear Editor,

Some months ago I took the wonderful ferry from Temple Meads to the old tobacco warehouse that now houses the Bristol Archive. A couple got on along the way, going to visit to the SS Great Britain. We got talking and discovered what seemed to me to be an exciting coincidence: the grandfather of the man (of this couple) had lived in the same street in Shirehampton as mine had!

My grandfather lived at 20 Bradley Crescent and his at 19 Bradley Crescent. Don't you think that's pretty amazing, amazing enough you might think, that I would make a note of this couple's name and contact info and perhaps even follow it up to find out more. But no, pathetically I didn't.

Belatedly, through this excellent Shire paper which I thoroughly enjoy each month online, I am seeking anyone who might just have memories of the little general shop that Will John ran at 20 Bradley Crescent from 1930-1945. It's a bit late, I know, but you never can tell. I include a photo of the shop with Marjorie John and her friend Joyce Pollard outside c.1930.

*Yours faithfully, Hilary Sutcliffe
hilary@felixsutcliffe.com*



Dear Editor,

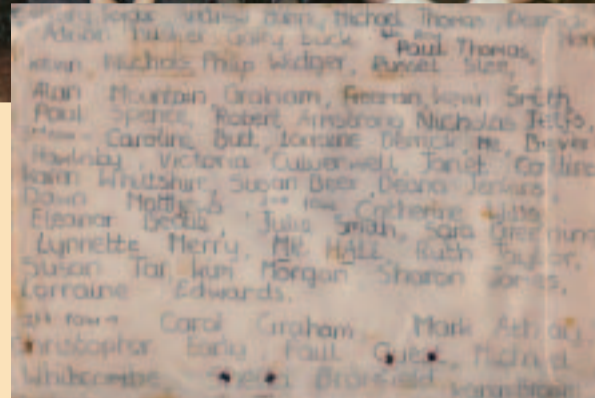
I was just going through my old photos as I was creating a book for my mum's 90th birthday this year. I came across one of my old school photos from way back in the mid or late 1960's from Shire Junior School.

I have all the names of the people in my class on the back of the envelope and wondered if any of these old school friends were still alive and even still living in Shirehampton!

Maybe some of your readers may recognise themselves or a relative.

My sister and I still visit Bristol when we can from Australia to see family. I have fond memories of growing up in Shirehampton.

Kind regards, Barbara Monteath (née Kelle)



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SHIRE Website is 20 years old

20 years ago the internet was just beginning to become used by many members of the public. Shire newspaper decided embrace the internet, whilst continuing to produce the paper as a monthly printed edition, delivered to all houses in Shirehampton. David Thomas floated the initial idea to the Shire committee, who enthusiastically supported it.

Members agreed that the purpose of the website should be to publicise Shirehampton to the world; to provide an up to date reference source of local activities; to enable local groups to set up their own web page; to provide cheap internet advertisements for local firms; and to help former residents keep in touch. They agreed the contents of the site should include a description of Shirehampton, and its history and topography; a directory of businesses (with links to sites and/or ads, paid for); a directory of organisations (with links to sites); leading stories from Shire newspaper; links to personal home pages; and a What's On in Shirehampton section.

They would set up a new sub-committee, sponsored by Shire, and hope to involve new younger people including from schools and students.

Following this meeting, the advert below was published in Shire paper.

Shirehampton Planning Group
Meeting Dates for your Diary:
 8th May
 12th June
 10th July

**7pm @ Shire Methodist Church
 (High Street/Penpole Avenue)**

We want to give Shirehampton Residents a say in what is important for our Village

As a Resident led group, we want to shape & influence Planning decisions in our area

Come & Join us in giving Shirehampton a Voice!

email: shirehamptonplanning@gmail.com
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CALLING ALL COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

SHIRE is considering setting up a Shirehampton Community Web Site. Its purpose is to publicise Shirehampton to the world, and to provide local people and organisations with an up to date reference of local activities. However, we cannot do it without a group of committed people. If you

- Enjoy using the Internet.
- Have access to a computer
- Would like to be part of a community project
- Would enjoy seeing your web pages on the World Wide Web

then we would be delighted to hear from you.

About 9 people responded to this advert, and the first meeting of the Shire on the Web Sub-Committee was held in January 1999. Four of the initial responders remained active for many years. The success of the website was very largely down to the long term commitment of Alex Wright, Chris Napier, Liz Black and David Thomas.

There were far fewer web hosting services in those days, but fortunately at just this time Bristol City Council was becoming aware of the need to promote digital services in Bristol. Their community support service Digital City Bristol hosted the site for some years, before we moved to a commercial company.

Most of the information changed relatively infrequently. However, every month from then until today, we put the editorial copy from Shire newspaper on the site.

After some years Liz and Chris moved on to other things, and for 10 years or so Alex and David were doing all the updating and revisions to the site. Most regular visitors came back regularly to see the monthly editions of Shire, but there was also a steady stream of occasional visitors from around the world seeking information about Shirehampton.

In due course Alex stepped down, and we looked for other volunteers. Les Harrold, the current web master, answered an appeal for help in 2013. Les was already running a number of other local sites. He became the website manager, and David stepped down.

Les is now responsible for all aspects of the site, including the current redesign.

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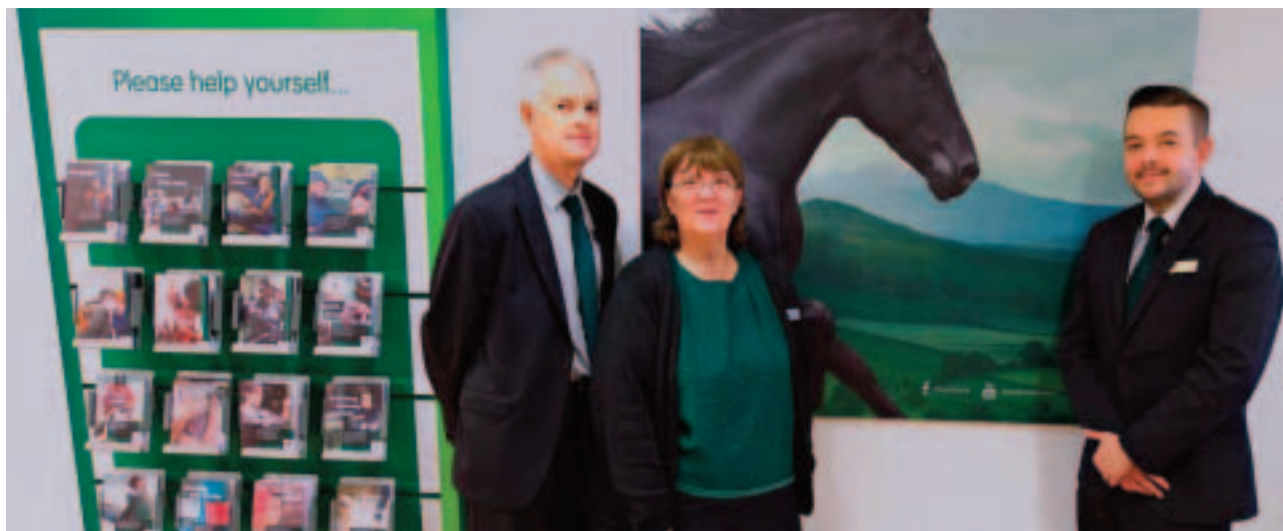


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LLOYDS BANK – a long commitment to Shirehampton

I was intrigued to see in the Shirehampton branch of Lloyds recently a note announcing '125 years in Shirehampton' so the historian in me wished to know more, especially as Lloyds is the last 'High Street Bank' left in the village. With a vast amount of help from the Lloyds archive and fellow historian Ken Edwards, this is what I came up with.

You may remember Lloyds Bank celebrating their 250th anniversary in 2015 when an event was held at the Shirehampton branch which featured in the July edition of 'Shire'. This coincided with the reopening after an attack on the ATM causing much damage. It was in 1765 that John Taylor, Sampson Lloyd and their two sons set up the bank of Taylor and Lloyds. The business ran from one office for 100 years, then the links with the Taylor family ended in 1852. In 1865 the bank took on shareholders and was renamed

Lloyds Banking Company. Over the next 50 years they expanded taking over more than 50 competitors.

Two of the banks taken over by Lloyds were Wilts & Dorset Banking Co in 1914 (established 1835) and Capital & Counties Bank in 1918 (established 1877). These are the two banks that set up branches in Shirehampton. Let's begin with Capital & Counties Bank which opened agencies in Shirehampton and Avonmouth in 1892. The 1900s OS map of the village shows the bank situated near the Methodist Chapel. A photograph of the High Street looking west and taken around 1910 can be seen in Shirehampton Story by Ethel Thomas which shows three banks in the same rank of shops. Kelly's Directories give details of opening times and Managers' names of the Shirehampton branch of Capital & Counties bank. In 1897 it was open Monday, Wednesday and Friday

11am-3pm and Edward Weedon Winterbotham was the manager. The head office was at 39 Threadneedle St, London E C. By 1902 with J E Mills as manager the branch opened 2-3.30pm daily except Saturday. By 1914 under manager Charles Herbert Adams the branch opened 10-11.30am weekdays and 9.-10.30am Saturdays although the Annual Report for 1914 showed C W Carpenter as manager at Shirehampton. The Bank opened a chief establishment in Clare Street and Baldwin Street with various branches around the suburbs and in the 1914 Annual Report it boasted 24 branches in London and 470 country branches and agencies. However by operating like a 19th century branch well into the 20th century it started to lose its competitive edge so when Lloyds Bank offered to take it over in 1918 the bank recognised the benefits a merger would bring and as a result seven directors of Capital and Counties joined the Lloyds board.

The Wilts & Dorset Banking Co was founded in 1835 in Salisbury with 400 shareholders or 'proprietors' including farmers, millers, grocers, merchants, solicitors and surgeons. Again the bank expanded by taking over private banks the last of which was R & R Williams & Co in Dorchester with whom the author Thomas Hardy banked. It is not known exactly when a branch was opened in Shirehampton but as mentioned above it was shown in the photograph in Ethel Thomas's book and the 1911 census shows that the ledger clerk Frederick Barnard was living at the premises. Lloyds Bank took over the Wilts & Dorset in 1914 by which time it had a network of 100 branches from Gloucestershire to Dorset and was Lloyd's largest takeover to date.

We have lost many banks and retail outlets in the village so it is important to keep and support what we have left and I personally would say 'thank you' to Lloyds for 'sticking with us'. *Judy Helme*

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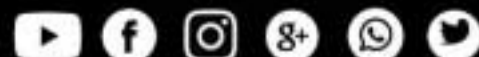
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St. Mary's News

Hi Folks!

British Summertime has arrived and we are able to enjoy the light evenings, but I think the weatherman has got his forecast muddled. I went into the Cotswolds and I experienced bright sunshine, hail and sleet showers! Crazy weather for this time of the year!

Our Spring Fayre did well and we raised just over £1,000. So thank you to all who came and supported this event. The Gospel Community Choir held their annual concert in St Mary's on Saturday, 30th March and the church was absolutely filled to capacity with additional chairs having to be put out. A lot of bright faces of all ages and abilities presented a lively evening of song for the best part of two hours for everyone to enjoy. We look forward to seeing them again next year!

During the last two weeks of March the church was closed and we had to use The Tithe Barn for the service of Tea, Coffee and Biscuits. We have been having some major work done inside the church building, with new toilets installed in the Toilet for the Disabled and the Unisex Toilet, together with new washbasins and hot air hand dryers. No more shall we be pestered with paper towels blocking up the toilets! The walls of the Storeroom and Memorial Chapel have been treated for damp and will take several months to completely dry out. The Painters & Decorators will then return to redecorate the affected areas and the Kitchen. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

Some advance information: the church will be closed all day on Mayday Bank Holiday which is Mon, 6th May.

The next Confirmation Service in this Deanery is at St Peter's, Henleaze at 7.30pm Wednesday, 8th May. If anyone is thinking of Confirmation then please approach Revd Helen, who will be able to advise you and supply you with further information.

On the second Sunday of the month there is a service of Evening Prayer held in the Cotswold Centre, Dursley Road. This month it is at 4.45 pm on Sunday, 12th May. Please come and give it a try if you have not been before.

We have our usual activities at St Mary's this month. Golden Oldies is on Wednesday 1st May from 10.30 am and Messy Church is on Thursday 16th May from 3.30 pm until 5.00 pm. Our Art and Craft groups continue to meet at the church on Tuesdays from 2.00 pm, not forgetting our coffee mornings which are



from 10.00 am to midday each day. Totstop and Youth@TheBarn are back to their usual times at the Tithe Barn, following the break during the Easter holidays.

During May we shall be holding our second Wedding this year. If anyone out there is thinking of being married in church, just consider St Mary's. It is a beautiful light church with a long centre aisle for the Bride to walk up in all her finery for everyone to admire on what is probably the most memorable day of her life. Helen, our Vicar, will be able to help you together with Eleanor, our Church Administrator, who can be found in the Church Office.

Well, that is all for this month, but I must ask you this. Did you hear of the man who lost his wrist watch? He was going to look for it, but couldn't find the time.

Bye for now. C.M.E.

POLICE BEAT SURGERIES

Our local PCSOs Pat Gardner and Andy Hyde are resuming regular Beat surgeries in our ward. Surgeries will take place at:

Shirehampton Public Hall

Springfield Room

Wednesdays 11.00 – 1200

Avonmouth Community Centre

Reception Area

Wednesdays 1300 – 1400

PCSO Pat Gardener & PCSO Andy Hyde look forward to meeting you for advice and assistance on policing and community matters.

No appointment necessary

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NOVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Governor Vacancy

At Nova Primary School, situated in Barracks Lane, we are very fortunate to have a full complement of Parent Governors, however we do have two vacancies to fill from within our local community. Are you someone who has time to give, to join a team of dedicated Governors with an interest in educating our young inspiring pupils? No experience is required as full training is available.

Do please contact clerk.nova.p@bristol-schools.uk for further information or Tel: 0117 9030446 and leave your name and telephone number with the school office and we will get back to you.

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SMSA (School Meals Supervisory Assistant) Vacancy

At Nova Primary School, situated in Barracks Lane, we have a vacancy for an SMSA (School Meals Supervisory Assistant). The post will be to work with one of our classes providing play activities and care during the lunch hour. The rate of pay is BG2 £16,303. This equates to £8.45 an hour. The post is for 5 hours a week.

Do please contact nova.p@bristol-schools.uk for further information or Tel: 0117 9030446. If you are interested you would need to complete an application form that we can email you or you can pick up from the school office.

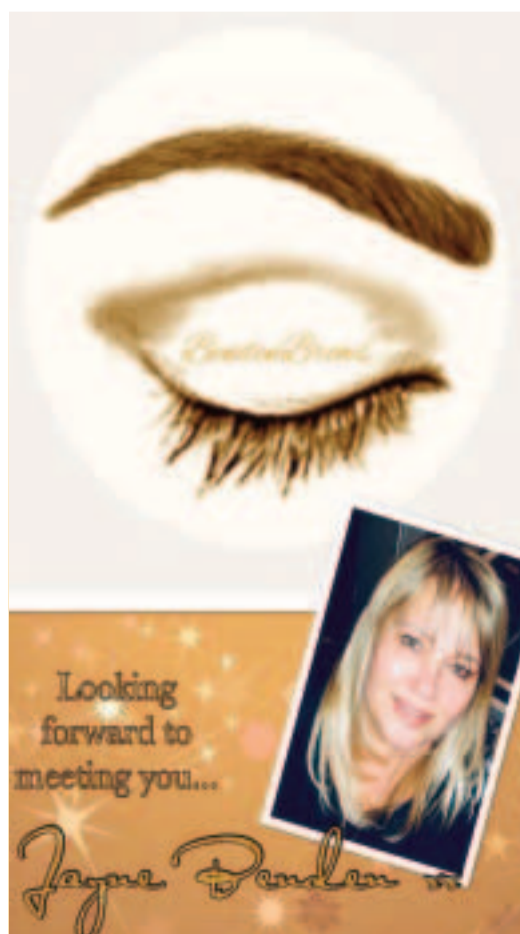
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	Personal Fitness	7-8pm
Tuesday		
3 rd of each month	Film Night	7.30pm
Wednesday	Keep Fit	10.30-11.30am
	Pilates	6.30-7.30pm
Thursday	Bingo	2.30pm
	Table Tennis	8pm
Friday	Keep Fit	10.30-11.30am
Saturday		
2 nd of each month	Coffee Morning	10am
6 weekly	Quiz	7.30pm
4 weekly (before Breakfast Club)	Bingo	7.30pm
Sunday		
1 st of each month	Breakfast	9.30-11am
2 nd of each month	Rantist Service	4.40pm

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Remembering a Forgotten Landscape

I'm sure you are aware of A Forgotten Landscape and the fact it is about to come to a close. We want to ensure that our legacy continues and that the local community can still benefit from some of our investments, so would like to ask you to host a link to our website on the Shirehampton community site. It will be live for another five years.

One of the projects that we think will retain the most interest is the fifteen new walking routes created in the area. www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk/things-to-do/

There is also Tales of the Vale: Stories from A Forgotten Landscape. A mixture of historical research and fascinating oral history interviews, undertaken by

groups of volunteers over two years.

www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk/projects/tales-of-the-vale-stories-from-the-lower-severn-vale-levels/

As well as being able to view the walking routes and TOTV publication online, individuals and organisations can still request free copies of both by emailing afl@southglos.gov.uk until the end of 2019 (or we run out of copies, whichever comes sooner!).

There are many other interesting aspects to the site which remain relevant, including ideas for places to visit, beautiful soundscapes and learning resources for primary schoolchildren.

NATURE NOTES



©Bob Pitchford

I thought you might like to see the egg I so eloquently talked about last month, as unfortunately another of Bob's photos was accidentally put up! We had the hatching before the brooding dear reader, but never mind! I'm sure the sight of proud parent and Twins was enjoyed by everyone. There was also a nest with triplets!! So I think it's safe to say the breeding programme at our own heronry has been very successful!

Other, rather noisier activity has been apparent in Ham Green woods and along our stretch of the Avon. Any guesses? I was talking to a neighbour just the other day, who mentioned the racket echoing along the tide, of woodpeckers plying their trade! It's been a very obvious increase of their hammering away, and it was great to get someone else's comment about it.

More great news! Our nest box out on the green at the front of our home, now has tenants! Mr. and Mrs. Sparrow are currently in the process of raising the next generation. We're just so excited. I was in the right place at the right time (for a change!), and saw the male collecting dry grass from our front garden and taking it straight up to the box. Just minutes ago I spotted him popping his head out and just having a good look around. He seemed satisfied, and disappeared inside again.

As I write this, a starling is enjoying a bath in our water feature. Love to watch this behaviour, and it was sparrows in the car park the other day having a communal dust bath.

Mallards have returned to the river near us, with males pursuing one hapless female more often than not! I'm sure sitting on a nest at the end of all the foreplay must be very relaxing!

It has been so nice to make a difference in the garden now that Spring really has arrived, albeit still on the very chilly side most days. The gardens are looking so full of colour, and lots of different flowers and shrubs filling every available space.

On that note, it's time I got back outside and finished what I hope is the last patch of weeds that I really don't want!

Happy nature watching all! Bobbie Perkins

Tynings Field News

May and June the month of blossom in fruit trees attractive to pollinating insects, the major planting and growing months when soil temperature rises.

The bees are working on Tynings Field fruit orchard's blossom so soon more honey can be harvested. Csaba Lenti at the Happy Bee apiary at Tynings Field will be busy too, alongside Carl. We are grateful to people cutting grass now your input is valued. Anyone who can help tidy and clear every so often is welcomed. If anyone is interested in keeping a goat here or sheep we have space for 2 and a smallholding number.

Everyone has been busy;; volunteer Andy cuts the orchard while Matt strims. As the weather brightens more members are working their plots and now is the planting window so Caroline cleans the chickens. Caroline's digging out new flower beds between plots on wider grass areas. This is a new project concept of planting flowers and herbs on areas between the veg plots, but Tynings Field Orchard has never followed a set traditional allotment set up because it's a smallholding and more imagination makes us different.

We can still provide some areas for growing and welcome new grower Vicky; she's busy on the plot with the sage on.

Everyone here is friendly and we like new people it doesn't matter if you can't do much. So we are

looking for someone generally to do the raised beds and set up small raised beds. If this is you please contact us. Would you like a herb bed in here?

It's good to see a new generation keeping and enjoying the space we fought for 10 years ago. Jim put down his tools and is now sleeping peacefully. His spirit surrounds us. Why not come down, spend a few hours here and see what you can do.

Find us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/tyningsfieldcommunitygroup>

What's On at Lawrence Weston Community Farm: May and June

Farm Tots: Wednesdays 10.30-11.30am £2.50

Check the Facebook page for changes.

Walking Group: Wednesdays 2-3.30pm

Check the Facebook page for changes.

Gardening Group: Fridays 11-12.30pm

Call Ian 0117 9381128 for more details.

Make a Wooden Spoon: Sat 25th May 10am-4pm

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<https://wooden-spoon.eventbrite.co.uk>

Fire by Friction: The Art of the Bow Drill:

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To find out more and book tickets <https://fire-by-friction-bow-drill.eventbrite.co.uk>

Herbal First Aid: Sat 29th June 1pm-4pm £30

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SCHOOL NEWS

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News from Nova School

Year 1 children have had a term exploring 'Traditional Tales'. At the end of term, we celebrated our favourite traditional tales by hosting a traditional tales breakfast with our families and having a dress up day.

Children developed their writing skills to create their own traditional tales; they also designed and created their own giants for the top of our beanstalk; and designed spoon puppets from Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

In Year 3, the children have been working on the fantastic Line of Enquiry 'How Science Educates and Entertains us?' This develops Design and Technology skills, as well as applying knowledge of electricity learnt in science, to create some marvellous games. The final games ranged from wire threading games that buzz or light up, to wooden mazes. The project, researched and planned with real professionalism, was then revealed in a Nova Games Arcade. Parents and carers were treated to the finished products, but also the detailed planning process in their books.



Children also presented films, using green screens, to advertise their products. Deputy Head Helen Thorpe commented, "Our curriculum has real purpose - this inspires and engages the children to achieve their personal best. We love to share this learning with families as audiences add value to the learning process."

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SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON



Bristol Manor Farm under 12's

BMF Under 12 football team this season have won the Avon Youth league under 12 Division Three Title. They scored a record 160 goals and the Goalkeeper Josh Cowley only let in 15 goals.

Front Row reading left to right are :- Sid Scammell, Leon O'flaberty, Regan Trump, Josh Cowley G/ keeper, Harrison Wootten, Lewis Coverdale, Ashton Parker. Back Row: Max McGarry, Jayden Alatise, Lucas Packham, Raheim Henry, Leyton Thompson-Grekavicz, Keiron Thomas.

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City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

The 2019 season is now underway and will soon be in full swing, with mixed friendly games on Wednesdays and at week-ends, Club League on Mondays, Bristol and District Ladies and Gents League games and club competitions.

The ladies will once again play in the Inter Club and Top Club Competitions.

Individual players from the club will be involved in competitions --- Ken Davies will play Chris Blake in the Men's Champion of Champions and Julie Looker has Lindsay Collin as her opponent in the ladies equivalent competition. David Hinksman and Trevor Scanlon will be the clubs representatives in the City and County Men's Pairs.

The club has welcomed new bowlers Christine and Martin Webb, Mike Thomas, Gill Gibson and Mary Lomas and been pleased to see returning bowlers Ray Brocklesby and Steve Tilly. We hope that 'Try Bowling' sessions starting in May will bring further additions to the club numbers.

On Tuesday evenings at 6pm from May 7th there is the opportunity --- free of charge or obligation, to come to the green in Nibley Road and roll woods on the green. There will be experienced bowlers on hand to offer advice. All equipment is provided.

If you think that bowling is for you, a free club shirt and free coaching is all yours once you have joined.

A commonly asked question is ---- how often can I or do I bowl? The answer is --- once you have joined you will have a key to give you access to the green, and this means that you can bowl at any time when there is not a match in progress.

A big event in any season is the Summer Tour and this year's destination is Sidmouth toward the end



of May. Staying at the Royal York and Faulkner Hotel --- the beach is just across the road, great for those who enjoy that early morning dip. There will be bowling each day of the tour. Starting at Sidmouth on arrival, the tour will play at Madeira(Exmouth), Budleigh Salterton, Ottery St.Mary and Seaton. On the way home there will be a game at Culm Valley (Cullompton). All that is required now fine weather.

There has been a lot of work done on and around the green during the Winter and Spring. The pavilion floor underwent major repair and a replacement of the lino covering. The changing rooms --- not in good repair --- had the front replaced and painted, together with new architrave around the door. Jet Washing, lots of painting, trimming of foliage and remedial work on chairs. Ladies cleaning day on April 8th saw lots of soap and water and effort, provided by a good number of ladies who came along to make the place sparkle --- all very important to being ready for the season's first game on April 14th. All work, with the exception of laying the new lino was done by club volunteers.

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

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Ladies – do you fancy a game of cricket?

2019 promises to be an exciting year for cricket lovers. The World Cup is being hosted in England starting in May and in August the Ashes series begins between England and Australia.

Closer to home, Twyford House Cricket Club based at Shirehampton Recreation Ground, Penpole Lane, is gearing up for a very busy summer. Running four adult sides on a Saturday and youth sides for boys and girls from All Stars (5 – 8 years), under 9s, 11s, 13s, 15s, 17s and 19s there is always much cricket to enjoy. New players of all abilities are always warmly welcome.

In 2019 as part of our Club Development Plan we are launching cricket for the ladies. If you would like to take part, have some fun in the summer sun and learn some new skills, we are hosting cricket taster sessions on a Friday evening starting Friday May 17th from 7-8pm. It's free to join and the club will provide all the required equipment. If you are interested in taking part, please come along on a Friday evening or email twyfordhousecricketclub@gmail.com. for more info.



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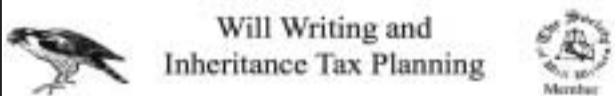
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Shirehampton Group Practice

This month, we're thinking about Exercise

With an increase in both Childhood Obesity and Diabetes as well as improved awareness in the mental health of children, we increasingly recognise the importance of exercise and wellbeing. As a GP practice we feel strongly that prevention of disease and promotion of health self-care awareness are the initial support and guidance we can give patients, both young and old.

King's Weston House offers a FREE, easy to participate in, Children's Sunday morning run. Junior Park Run, www.parkrun.org/junior/events, is now a well-established FREE running event for children of all ages. This includes those being pushed in a buggy as well as older children wanting to stretch their legs. From those who want to walk quickly and chat to those who wish to get a personal best, all are welcome!

This 2 kilometer run is well marshalled and begins at 10am every Sunday morning with a gentle warm up outside the House itself.

Parents and well behaved dogs on leads can accompany children. Volunteers are always welcome.

It is easy to register on line at www.parkrun.org and then is free to participate as often or as little as you wish. Adults can also participate in the adult park run held at Ashton Court on Saturday morning, see www.parkrun.org

Learning to enjoy exercise early in life is a great way to help improve Physical and Mental well being.

Dr Manon Younger



Farewell To Dr Green

Shirehampton Health Centre said farewell to Dr Green on the 5th April. Patients, friends and colleagues had the chance to wish Dr Green all the best for her retirement, and share a cup of tea and cake with her on her final day.

"I've been at Shirehampton Practice for 25 years having qualified as a Doctor 33 years ago." said Dr Green. "I am going to miss my colleagues, sharing laughs to get us through the hard times, that has been very important. Getting to know the community, my patients as individuals, their secrets, their troubles and trying to help them through it. I will miss all that. However, I might wander around the Co-op from time to time hoping to bump into old friends".

One thing brought to my attention was Dr Green's cake baking. Her cakes are legendary. "I think the staff think I should still come in on my birthday to bring them lemon cream sponge which is their favourite." said Dr Green, laughing.

So what does Dr Green plan to do in her retirement? "My husband and I are very lucky, we have a 63 foot narrow boat which is moored on the Gloucester Sharpness canal. We also have a 1 year old dog and have plans to head off to Chester sometime soon. I'll be singing, learning Italian, improving my German. I also want to teach children to read and help them learn how to go to the Doctor without being frightened. I am keen on photography so will be trying to hone my skills there too."

Kathryn Courtney

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