

Shire

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

No. 618 - July 2023 www.shire.org.uk 5,000 copies monthly

Have you got a job that needs doing? Go to YOUR LOCAL EXPERTS section on pages 21-22 to find a local business who can help.

For
More Photos
of the Royal Visit

- See Page 12

Shirehampton Hub
at the Methodist
Church

- See Page 13

Queen Camilla Opens New Library at Shirehampton Primary School

Shirehampton Primary School had the honour of hosting Her Majesty Queen Camilla, on her first official visit since the coronation of King Charles III.

National Literacy Trust Patron, Queen Camilla arrived by helicopter, landing in the playing fields of The Port of Bristol Sports and Community Hub, before officially opening Shirehampton Primary School's new library - the first of 50 school Coronation Libraries to be opened this year.

The Coronation Libraries will be established in communities where the cost-of-living crisis is biting hardest and children in the Coronation year are least likely to have books at home. Each library or reading space will be refurbished, restocked and a member of staff will be trained to provide a range of reading activities for the whole school.

As well as being a Coronation Library, Shirehampton's new reading space is also the 500th library to be transformed as part of the Primary School Library Alliance campaign. Founded by the National Literacy Trust and Penguin Random House UK, the Alliance works to address the chronic lack of investment in primary school libraries and bring together relevant parties to help solve this urgent issue.

Continues on page 12.



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Upcoming Events July 2023

- QUIZ NIGHT
Thursday 6th July at 7.00pm
- POLISH SUPPER CLUB
Thursday 13th July - From 6.30pm
- JAPANESE SUPPER CLUB
Thursday 27th July - from 6.30pm
- ALL YOU CAN EAT RIBS
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Shire

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Please note the Shirehampton Librarian

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Advertising adverts@shire.org.uk

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

Contributions submitted to: editor@shire.org.uk

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PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR JULY

IRON BRIDGE RESTORATION PLANS APPROVED AT LAST

At June's cabinet the Council discussed a report that sets out their plans to restore the Kingsweston Iron Bridge. This Grade II listed cast iron footbridge was built around 1800 and spans Kingsweston Lane, linking Blaise Castle Estate to Kingsweston Fields. Mayor Marvin Rees writes:

We had to close the Bridge in 2015 after a series of strikes by trucks made the bridge unstable and unsafe. Since then, it has been secured and propped up by scaffolding, while we sought a long-term solution that is sensitive to its historic nature. The good news is that our planning application – to raise Kingsweston Lane Bridge by just over a metre, add steps at either end and fully restore it – has been approved. That means, with cabinet approval, we can work up our £1 million plans to dismantle the bridge and repair it off-site and reinstate it, at a raised height, using money from our Highway Infrastructure Bridge Investments fund.

COUNCIL TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

Improving Bristol Bridge for Pedestrians and Cyclists

Construction work to make travelling across Bristol Bridge easier will get underway from 12 June. Since the bus gate, which restricts general traffic and prioritises buses, was introduced in 2020 the road layout and traffic signals on Bristol Bridge are no longer appropriate with the reduced traffic flow. Because the old traffic signals on Bristol Bridge are coming towards the end of their serviceable life, plans to remove them and make a series of improvements have been brought forward.

Cotham Hill Transport and Pedestrianisation Works to Start in June

Construction work is taking place this summer and autumn on and around Cotham Hill, as part of plans to permanently improve the area for pedestrians, cyclists, and businesses.

The permanent changes will make it easier and safer to walk and cycle in the area; encourage active travel; manage traffic flow; reduce pollution in the area and support local businesses who will benefit from space for outdoor trading.

Construction work is due to start in June 2023 and be completed by the end of the year.

SHIREHAMPTON PUBLIC HALL REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	ROOM
MONDAY	Twyford Art Club (except July & August)	10am - 12noon	Hall
	Extraordinary Links Parents Group (every 3rd Monday)	1pm - 3pm	Springfield Room
	Shire Paper	5:30pm	Library
	Yoga	6pm - 7:15pm	Hall
TUESDAY	Extraordinary Links Parents Group (every 2nd Tuesday)	10am - 12noon	Bradley Room
	Music with Mummy (pre book only - term time only)	10am - 12noon	Hall
	Line Dancing	2pm - 3pm	Hall
	Community Living Room (FOSL)	3pm - 5pm	Library
	SCAF Bereavement and Loss PSG (FOSL) (1st Tues of month)	5:30pm - 7pm	Library
Puppy Training	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Hall	
WEDNESDAY	Bristol Healing Rooms (every 2nd Wednesday)	11am - 1:30pm	Hall
	Pop-Up Play Village Bristol North (every 3rd Wednesday)	9:30am - 1:30pm	Hall
	Over 75s Exercise Class	2pm - 3pm	Hall
	Extraordinary Links	3.30pm - 5:30pm	Hall
	I.T. Literacy Sessions (FOSL)	6pm - 7pm	Library
	Shire Stitchers (every 3rd Wednesday)	7:30pm - 9:30pm	Hall
Women's Fellowship (every 2nd and 4th Wednesday)	7:30pm - 9:30pm	Hall	
THURSDAY	Shirehampton Community Art and Social Group (formerly Sea Mills Art Club) - Warm Spaces Initiative	10am - 12noon	Hall
	Tai Chi	2pm - 3pm	Hall
	Family History Group (FOSL) (2nd Thursday of the month)	6pm - 8pm	Library
	Model Railway Club	7pm - 10pm	Club Room
Grainger Players (not meeting at present)			
FRIDAY	Stay & Play (formerly Playtots - term time only)	9:30 - 11am	Hall
	Shire Stitchers	10am - 12noon	Bradley Room
	Shire News (last Friday of the month)	4pm	Hall
	Create to Elevate Youth Group (2nd and last Fridays)	7pm - 10pm	Hall
SUNDAY	Church of Grace	11am - 4pm	Hall

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



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The Shire Community Pages

SHIRE NEWSPAPER AGM

Shire Newspaper will hold its Annual General Meeting
on Friday 11th August 2023 at 5:30pm.

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

Members of the Public are Welcome

Warhorse Update

Firstly, thanks again to all those residents of Shirehampton, Avonmouth and beyond who worked so hard and with so much enthusiasm to raise the funds to create this wonderful sculpture, commemorating a highly significant period in the area's history.

The people whose job it is to see the project through to completion, are acutely conscious of their responsibility to deliver on the promises made to you and have been working to ensure that we do not let you down. Having held several meetings over the last two weeks to work on a solution to planning and other consent issues, we have agreed on a date of **16th September 2023 for the unveiling ceremony in the Daisy Field**. More details will follow in due course. Thank you for your support and for your patience.

Friends of Lamplighters Marsh



Diane, Jerry & Richard "grooming" our Warhorse.

THE PUBLIC HALL URGENT APPEAL FOR TRUSTEES! (3 Year Voluntary Role)

(Current Trustees must hand over their tasks in 2025)

The Public Hall is very keen to hear from anyone with drive, determination, and a flair for listed buildings to join their team of Trustees. Even if you are simply good at finance (Treasurer role) or like to organise (Chair role), or you simply enjoy volunteering for an excellent community asset, please do make an enquiry.

For details on how to support the Hall as a volunteer or Trustee, or to book meeting or party/celebration space, or any other questions, please contact the Hall Manager on 0117 9829963 or email bookings@shirepubhall.org.uk

Our Condolences to the Family of Carol England from Shire Newspaper

The Shire Paper counters, deliverers and drivers, together with the committee, wish to extend their sincere condolences to the family of Carol England, who so sadly passed away recently.

I would see her at times in the village and occasionally contact her if an issue arose regarding deliveries. We would always have a friendly chat, even if brief, at those times.

Carol had been delivering Shire for many many years, and when I spoke to Karen, who has brought the papers to her door for the last few years, she said what a very pleasant, friendly lady she was, and always ready for a quick catch up. She will be sorely missed.

Bobbie Perkins

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We especially enjoy spreading community news 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.

AVONMOUTH LADIES CLUB

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

We listen to a variety of speakers, as well as having occasional outings.

Diary of Events: July - Sept 2023

Tue 4th July	– The History of Shirehampton Public Hall (Judy Helme)
Tue 18th July	– Quiz
Tue 1st Aug	– Summer Outing (TBA)
Tue 15th Aug	– Down Memory Lane - (Julia)
Tue 5th Sept	– 'To Continue' (Jan Flook)

A warm welcome awaits.

For any information – contact Julia on 0117 982 9390

Events in our library



Every Tuesday afternoon 3pm – 5pm

Shire's Living Room –

free tea/coffee/biscuits/games and a friendly chat.

Every Wednesday evening 6pm – 7pm

IT Literacy Class –

If you have a Smartphone, iPad, Tablet, or Laptop, but aren't sure how to use it, come along, we're here to help you!!

1st Wednesday of the month 7:30pm – 9pm

Record Appreciation Club –

Using analogue equipment, we play a classic vinyl album every month and have a discussion afterwards.

2nd Thursday of the month 6pm – 8pm

Family History Group –

We have a team of experts at hand to help you navigate the Ancestry.com website and other online tools and find out more about your family's history.

If you'd like to attend any of the above sessions, either email friendsofshire@gmail.com or phone/text 07943-401575

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Family Announcements

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Jean Doul

Jean Doul, who lived in Shirehampton for many years, sadly passed away on 30 April 2023, aged 95.

Her family would like to express their heartfelt thanks for all the cards and messages of condolence that they have received.

Jean will be sadly missed.

Carol England

Carol England - unexpectedly passed away on 29th May 2023, aged 79.

She was much loved by all that knew her and will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. She was a truly devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

Her family warmly invite those that knew Carol to attend her funeral to celebrate her life at **Canford Crematorium** on 29th June at 12 noon.



Wishing a Very Happy 80th Birthday to BILL CONSTABLE

Grandfather, dad, husband and friend - and an editor of 'SHIRE' for more than 10 years! We hope you have a great time celebrating.

*Lots of love from
Lottie, Flossie,
Donna, Tim and
Lynn XXX*



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

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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.

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The PBA: the Club that's NOT a Club!

As a new resident of Shire, I've been trying to get to know the village and I have discovered a fantastic community hub right on my doorstep, in Nibley Road. Much to my surprise, when I was there recently, Dan Clifton the Chair of the "Club" was saying he was amazed at the number of folks in the village and surrounding areas who still think that the PBA is a private members club. People, IT'S NOT! It's a volunteer run charity, a COMMUNITY HUB, open to all, with some fantastic things going on. If you missed the Bouncing Bank Holiday event on May 28th, make sure you don't miss out again.

Here's some comments made by people who attended the **Bouncing Bank Holiday** event, taken from the club's Facebook page. (I haven't included names, as I haven't had time to seek permission to do so.)

"Well done POB (Port of Bristol) you all worked so hard and we had a fantastic day."

"Class day all well done."

"Brilliant day"

"Well done"

"Thank you was such a good day."

"Brilliant day thank you Port of Bristol."

"Was a brilliant day, kids had so much fun, thank you x x"

"Was a great day, besides forgetting the sun cream." (Not a problem they keep it behind the bar!)

As well as putting on events like this, the PBA do fantastic work for the community in many other ways. In addition to the time honoured and traditional

activities like **Bowling, Skittles and Football**, here are some of the other things the PBA have been doing recently:

- **Free children's activities**, led by Learning Partnership West.
- **Free children's lunches**, 12-2 pm during school holidays.
- **Proper breakfast** for £3 on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. (On Wednesdays during the Summer it will be free once a month.)
- **Meals for the homeless**, delivered by volunteers.

There are **adult social activities** too, such as the recent **Reggae Music and Jerk Chicken night**.

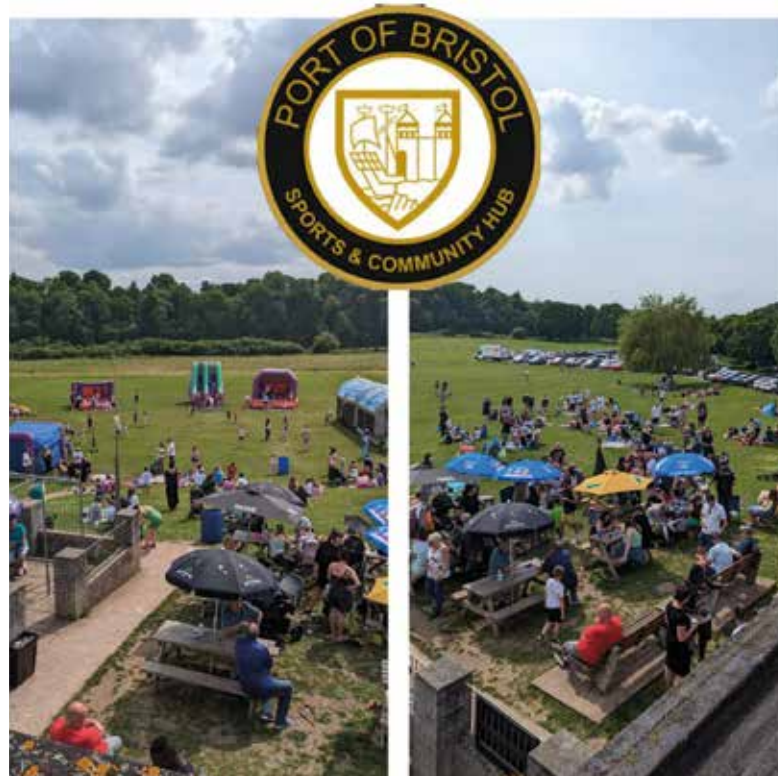
Speaking for myself, I couldn't be prouder to have recently moved to a community with such fantastic things going on, put on by the people of Shire, for the people of Shire and the wider Bristol Community. A

heartfelt thanks to **Dan Clifton** and his team of **staff and volunteers** who demonstrate to the world the meaning of the word "Community"

To help follow what's going on at the PBA here's a link to the club Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PBAhub>

If you don't do social media, pop on down to see Dan and his staff to find out what's going on. You won't regret it!

Paul McMillan





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 Email: cotswoldca@gmail.com
 Phone: 07943-401575

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAY Pilates 9.30-10.30am
 Kettlebells 5:15-6:15pm
 & 6:30-7:30pm

TUESDAY Film Night 7:30pm
 (1st & 3rd of month)

WEDNESDAY Keep Fit 10:30-11:30am
 Kettlebells 5:15-6:15pm
 Pilates 6:30-7:30pm

THURSDAY Bingo 2pm
 Kettlebells 5:15-6:15pm
 & 6:30-7:30pm
 Table Tennis 8pm

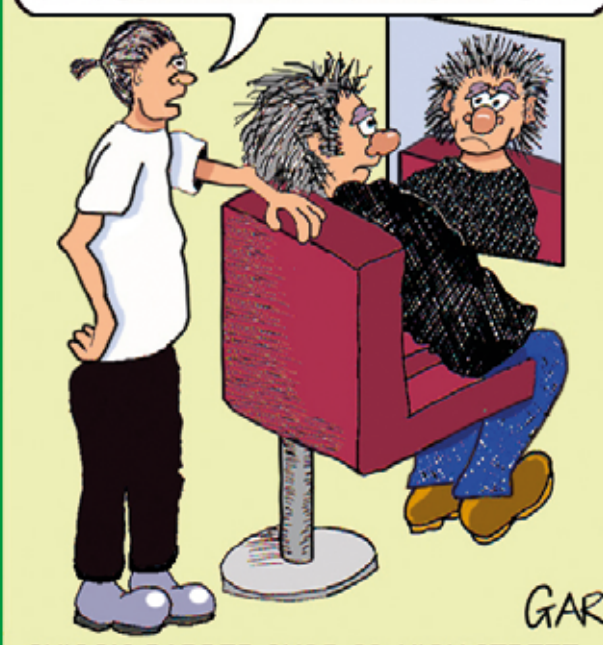
SATURDAY Coffee Morning 10am-11:30am
 (2nd of month)
 Bingo 7:30pm

SUNDAY Soul Space 4pm-6:30pm
 (1st & 3rd of month)
 Cotswold Christian
 Community Service 4:45-6pm
 (2nd of month)

Come along and join in the fun
 For more details and regular updates, join our
 mail list by emailing cotswoldca@gmail.com

CHICO THE BARBER

MY GRANDFATHER TOLD ME THAT HE SAW THE TITANIC AND FROM THE BEGINNING HE WARNED ALL THE PEOPLE AGAIN AND AGAIN THAT THE SHIP WOULD SINK, UNTIL EVENTUALLY THEY KICKED HIM OUT OF THE CINEMA



GAR

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World On Fire

As I sit down to write this hundreds of fires are burning in Canada. The eastern United States from New York to Washington is shrouded in dense suffocating smoke. Here we are warned to expect a heat wave; there are wild fires burning in Aberystwyth too. Floods cover Ukraine's rich agricultural land. But schools are closing in the Southeast because there is no water. Fire and flood and drought are man-made disasters and will have devastating consequences for all of us in the very near future.

It's hard to remain hopeful when you see what is happening. So what is the **Climate Emergency Group** doing to address the situation? The question itself makes me laugh because we are just a small group of ordinary people. We don't have any superpowers. But we do what we can. Our **June meeting** discussed installing air-sourced heat pumps so we can heat our homes without burning fossil fuels. We came away with some clear ideas about how to go about changing to more efficient, less expensive, low-carbon heating. It's a big step for anyone toward reducing their own carbon footprint. You can find out more from the **Bristol Centre for Sustainable Energy or the Energy Saving Trust**. Or consult an independent retrofit advisor like **Home-Futureproof** or **HeatGeek**. **Energy Saving Trust**.

Our local meeting offered practical advice on carbon reducing measures we can take ourselves. But we desperately need the government to step up and honour its commitments to reduce carbon emissions.

The major Climate Event event of June was the launch of **The Oil Fountain at Bristol Cathedral**.

The Oil Fountain is a new work by Bristol based installation artist **Luke Jerram**. It illustrates our dependence on oil and the urgent need for us to **Just Stop** using it.

Dozens of climate activists from **Christian Climate Action, Just Stop Oil, Extinction Rebellion, the Red Rebels, the Bristol Climate Choir** and other groups joined **Canon Missioner Jonnie Parkin** to formally open *The Oil Fountain* to the public. The Red Rebels and the Climate Choir led us in to the cathedral. The Canon Missioner welcomed us all and reminded us in the words of **St Francis** that the natural world provides us with all that is needed to sustain life. Yet our over dependence on fossil fuels is destroying that natural world.

Bristol Cathedral and Extinction Rebellion may seem unlikely allies. But climate activists of all kinds have joined forces to show the government just how urgent it is that we **JUST STOP OIL**.

**“Dear future generations:
Please accept our apologies. We were
rolling drunk on petroleum.”**

Kurt Vonnegut

Future generations may not accept Vonnegut's apology if we allow the oil industry to carry on with 'business as usual'.

R. Slater



© Renée Slater



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© Renée Slater

Nature Notes

I know this is not a scene from the riverbank here in Shirehampton, but when I was shown a series of shots on a friend's phone, taken on his holiday in Scotland, I felt compelled to share it with you all!

The baby highland calf in the picture was very interested in meeting this swan family, much to the dismay of the parent I guess, who immediately reared up to keep said baby at a safe distance! All survived the experience, and the cygnets were ushered quickly back into the water. What a superb event to have witnessed! Thankyou **Rob** for allowing the rest of us to share in it.



Nearer home, as I write, two collared doves have just landed in our back garden! The first I have seen in quite a while. After a brief trip around the edges to pick at whatever they could, off they have flown. This caused the two jackdaws to scarper too!

We have been lucky to have a wren living close by over the last several weeks, and it has been lovely to listen to its pretty song every day. There are several to be heard along the riverbank, but great to have one as a neighbour for a while.

Before I sign off, it would seem that there have been one or two sightings near us of the iconic Red Kite! I am on it readers! Fingers crossed I spot one soon!

Happy nature watching folks,

Bobbie

Tynings Field News

Our group of growers opened to the public on 4th June as a small trickle of visitors came to the field on a bright sunny afternoon. They wandered through the orchard paths amongst daisies which are spreading rapidly each year, and viper's bugloss around plots full of veg, greenhouses, geese and chickens. The team have been working hard to keep the site together and free from fly tipped rubbish. Plots are mostly flourishing enhanced with home brewed comfrey water as fertiliser. Bees fly and swarm in the midday sun. A natural environment and a cultivated one.

The orchard has seen new trees which are already producing fruit. We enter a new era regards climate change and food production becomes more important economically. Since the field became a growing space in 2011, we have grown and moved through many dimensions here. As the climate changes politically and environmentally never has

it been so important to our lives to learn how to provide ourselves with veg.

After the afternoon was done, we closed and went home under a large pink strawberry moon, some things will always be the same.

Caroline Penny



The place where the wild thyme blows, where nodding violet grows, overcanopied by woodbine, dog roses and eglantine.



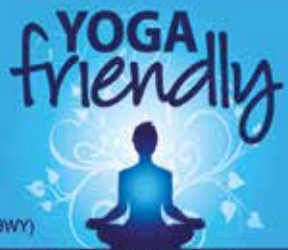
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Contact **Suzi Griffin** (CYS, AYS, BWY)

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SHIRE COMMUNITY LITTER PICKS

Meet 10.30am at Shire Public Hall on the 3rd Thursday of every month & tidy for 1 hour

Next Meeting: Thursday 20th July

Contact: Ash Bearman at SCAF on 0117 982 9963 or email ash@shirecaf.org.uk

Churches in the Shirehampton Area

St. Bernard's News

On 17th June, these children celebrated their First Holy Communion, and the following day received their certificates from Father Francis. Many hours of work are put into the preparation sessions, so a huge congratulations should go to the volunteer catechists who provide their time and energy.

One of the people so greatly involved in St Bernard's children liturgy and FHC preparation, over the past 30 years, was Mary Hayball. She was a joyful figure in many of our lives, and her sad death last week has left us remembering an enormously kind and generous lady.

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

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Baptist Church News

July is often a winding down month, especially for schools. With exams over, school outings, sports days, school concerts and thoughts of several weeks without getting up for school.

Talking of concerts, the drama group which our minister **Paul Rhodes** runs in **Shirehampton Primary School** are preparing a play which will be performed in front of pupils and parents. It is set in the late Nineteenth Century and is about a girl in a divided family who leaves home and comes to appreciate what she has left behind.

The **Rock Steady Club for Primary School children** are preparing a drama in five scenes which includes some music. Some of the children are preparing scenery and props. They meet **every Thursday in our building 3:30 to 4:30pm**.

The next **Songs of Praise Café** will be on **July 9th**. We meet at the **Cotswold Community Hall in Dursley Road from 4:45 to 6pm**. We are a group of Christians from different churches, and we welcome all to come along for some interesting talks and refreshments. **Joan Call** concluded her amazing time as a missionary in **Uganda**, in our last meeting on **June 10th** she invited many of us to share her **93rd Birthday** in her tiny flat.

The next **Life Café** will open on **Thursday July 27th from 10:30 to 11:30am**. This is held in our building in **Station Road**. We hope to see some new faces join us for a chat and **Zhyan's** delicious cakes.

During the last few months, we have enjoyed some visiting speakers. **Sally Anne** a member of the **Green Party** and a **Lay Reader** who spoke on **Climate Change**. One of our own members **Ben Hamar** who operates our tech so effectively on Sundays (a man of many talents) gave a message on **Christian Giving**. We also welcomed **Steve Loader, Chaplin to the Merchant Sea Men in Avonmouth Dock**. He seeks to share God's love to men from different countries working on the boats. Many are away from home for several months and Steve is there to be their friend, listening to their problems, writing letters, and leading **Bible Studies**.

I mentioned **July** being a Winding Down Month, but the Churches keep going. Our main **Sunday Worship is every Sunday at 10:30am and on Zoom at 4:30pm** except on the second Sunday of the month.

The **Bible** tells us that **God** never winds down **Psalm 121** tells us: He never slumbers nor sleeps, Day or night he is there to all who call on Him.

Greetings from all at Shirehampton Baptist Church, Station Road

Contact: 07743 683684 or rhodespaul360@gmail.com

St Mary's News

Hi Folks!

Here we are in July and soon the kids will be home on their 6 week break from school. As I write these notes, we are enjoying a fairly lengthy period of fine weather and it's getting warmer too! Have no fear - St Mary's is still a place where you can enjoy ambient temperatures whilst taking Refreshments in our beautiful church building.

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting took place on Sunday, 21st May, when we welcomed several new members to our Parochial Church Council and thanked those who stood down for all their work and duties over the past number of years.

Our "All Age Pentecost Service" on Sunday, 28th May went off very well which was followed by a lively lunch in the Churchyard. Further details can be found in this paper, so I will not elaborate further here. Many thanks to Bob Pitchford for coming along to take all the photographs that morning, especially at such short notice.

Sunday, 2nd July will see Julie Summers and Sonia Home, Deacons who are part of our ASMA group, ordained as Priests in Bristol Cathedral. This is a most important step on their journey throughout their Christian life through the years. We wish them both well.

May I take this opportunity to remind you that the Bristol West Concert Band will be holding a Concert in St Mary's at 7:30pm on Monday 3rd July. Tickets will be available at the door - price £5.00 - £3.00 concessions. Refreshments will be served during the Interval. This is always a very enjoyable Concert with music to suit most tastes.

Tim Forder has once more organised a Car Treasure Hunt for Friday 14th July, which will commence at 6:00pm from the Health Centre Car Park. The Hunt always ends at a Hostelry not too far away which will supply succulent food to tempt your palates! There is a sign-up sheet and menu at the back of the church so that you can book your place and order your meal in advance.

Goldies Singing Group meet again this month in St Mary's at 10:30am on Wednesday 5th July. This includes your favourite songs from the years gone by, with books provided with the words so you don't have to rely on your memories! Further members will be more than welcome - so come along and join in!

Finally, during the month of June, we welcomed two Ordinands from Trinity Theological College, Stoke Bishop. Their names are Alisdair and Jason and they were here to see what we do as a church - not only on Sundays - but during the week as well. We hope they both enjoyed their time with us - we certainly enjoyed getting to know them. We wish them all the very best in their future studies and ministry.

Now for this month's joke - Question: Which nursery song would Jesus have heard the most? Answer: Mary had a little lamb!

'Bye for now! C.M.E.



St Mary's Pentecost Celebrations

On the last Sunday of May St Mary's church in Shirehampton was awash with colour, music, and dance as we celebrated the birth of the Christian Church. Pentecost, 50 days after Easter Sunday, is the day we celebrate the Holy Spirit entering the lives of God's people. Amy Boucher our youth minister inspired our young people to help put this service together.

They led us with djembe drumming, poi spinning, prayers and worship... not to mention adding an amazing balloon arch full of the traditional colours of flames.

After the service we continued the celebrations with a picnic lunch outside in the sunshine with an incredible chocolate cake. We even had a pass the parcel full of challenges and prizes that had everyone laughing from nine to nineties.

Come along and join us... you may be surprised by the life, love, and laughter you find as we grow in fellowship and get to know God more deeply. A place where all are welcome, so come as you are, we can't wait to get to know you. Check us out online at stmarysshire.org.

Blessings

Revd Alison



Staff & Pupils Meet Queen Camilla at Shirehampton Primary School

Continued from page 1.

The Alliance's ambitious goal is to transform 1,000 primary school libraries by 2025, and provide the books, training and support they need.

During the visit, Queen Camilla, along with several children's authors and illustrators, joined pupils for a "draw your dream library" workshop and a "Coronation Draw-Along". Her Majesty even showcased her artistic talent by drawing an impressive Coronation crown!

Queen Camilla's passion and enthusiasm for reading, literacy, and the importance of primary school libraries were evident throughout the day and the students had a day they will never forget!

Louisa Munton, Headteacher at Shirehampton Primary School, said: "The refurbishment of our school library has exceeded all expectations and transformed it into a welcoming, relaxing and inspiring space dedicated to reading. Understanding the importance reading plays in children's current and future success, we have always ensured there is

a protected, separate space where our children are encouraged to immerse themselves in the wonderful world of books. The support of the National Literacy Trust, and the collaborative partnerships they have, has meant our plans to improve this space have been accelerated and achieved many years before we could have done this alone.

"Our children love reading and are so excited to read underneath the reading tree! The library will harness their enthusiasm for reading even more, help them to continue to see the pleasure books bring, and enable them to secure better outcomes in reading. It will support our ongoing commitment to providing rich reading experiences for all of our children, some of whom have limited access to books outside of the school environment.

"Having Queen Camilla officially open the library was an experience that will never leave the children - or staff - and be a memory they will carry with them for life, inspiring them to continue to be the best they can be. To see, first hand, the passion the Queen has for children and reading, and share with



her the difference our new library will make to the school community was a privilege. The children at Shirehampton have big dreams and working alongside several well-known and renowned authors and illustrators was an amazing opportunity, helping them see how books can lead into future careers. This visit has provided experiences I could have only dreamed of for our children and can't wait to see the positive impact it will have now and for years to come on the school."



Shirehampton Hub at the Methodist Church

Things are going very well at the Shire Hub. We have been undertaking a review and would always appreciate any local feedback. As a result of what we have done so far, we will be changing from the JTE Hub - to simply Shirehampton Hub, the strapline will be - for Wellbeing, Jobs, Training and Enterprise. New courses, continuing courses, afternoon games, time to talk and evening films alternate Tuesdays continue.

- Watch out for the new courses being held over the summer focussing on **Wellbeing, Skills and Employability** on our social media.
- **Hub's Cups** the drop-in Jobs club is on **Mondays**, you are welcome to pop in after **11am**, till **12.30pm**.
- **Darren** is also available for a chat around **Cost-of-living issues on Mondays and Wednesdays**. He can also help with job seeking and job readiness by appointment, call him on **07305 066478**.
- **Hot-desking** at the Hub is an option for small businesses or for those working from home.
- Our **Community Fridge and Pet food bank** is continuing and is now a regular feature Monday to Thursday inc. Thank you to all the local shops that help with this venture! It is intended to reduce waste, so if you have spare in-date fresh, or sealed tinned/packet food or Pet food, please bring it along or call on the number below! If you need food please pop-in **Mondays to Thursdays, Penpole Avenue (white doors)** at Shirehampton Methodist Church, there

are no restrictions, except don't take more than you really need, so it goes further. Darren usually posts a photo of what's available each day.

- Keep an eye out for **School holiday activities** on our social media.
- The **Memory Café** is now up and running on the third **Friday afternoon at 2pm (21st July)** for those living with dementia and their carers.

Please look out for posters, banners on the High St/ Penpole Ave and social media for up-to-date information on all our activities. Twitter and Facebook - @shirejtehub and Instagram - Shire JTE

Email: projectcoordinator@jtehubshire.org to register interest in any of the above, or for a one-one appointment to discuss your needs.

Also Tel. 07305 066478 or check the Website - jtehubshire.org

Revd Pearl Luxon

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Mondays from 5pm
(Under 16's)

Tuesdays from 7pm
(Over 16's)



Shirehampton Hub
The Methodist Church
Penpole Avenue, BS11 0DY

Join Us
Memory Cafe
For people living with dementia and their carers, family and friends

Third Friday of every month
2pm - 4pm

Shirehampton Methodist Church
Bristol BS11 0DY

Bristol Dementia Action Alliance
projectcoordinator@jtehubshire.org
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Our Changing Library Service

There is no doubt that our libraries are changing and change they must in response, not only to ever tightening budgets, but also to the changing needs of the communities they serve. The good news is that the library service has been recruiting recently, taking on 25 part time library assistants as well as full-time posts at the Central Library. If you haven't visited the Central Library on College Green yet, put visiting this beautiful building on your list of things to do this Summer.

Our local libraries also have much to offer, and involvement of the local community is at the heart of the city's **Library Strategy**. This led to the creation of "Friends Groups" whose purpose is "to help create a library service that works for the whole community."

Examples of the work that these groups do are hosting coffee mornings as a social activity and to fundraise, raising money for extra library equipment or activities such as writing workshops, promoting their local library on social media, arranging talks with authors, and generally supporting the Bristol Library Strategy. (Here's the link: bristol.gov.uk/council-and-mayor/policies-plans-and-strategies/bristol-library-strategy)

You may be aware that we have our very own **Friends of Shirehampton Library Group (FoSL)**. John Hastings, one of the FoSL members, has provided the following summary of what is currently on offer

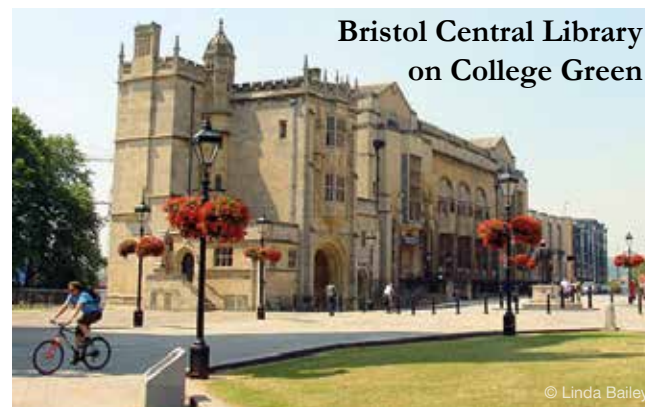
at your local library:

Every **Tuesday afternoon 3pm-5pm**, "Shire's Living Room" Free Tea/Coffee and Biscuits, games, quizzes, and always a friendly chat.

Every **Wednesday 6pm-7pm**, **IT Literacy Group**. If you have a Smartphone, Tablet, or Laptop and aren't sure how to use it, we have experts willing and ready to help you.

1st Wednesday of each month 7:30pm-9pm, **Record Appreciation Club**. We pick a classic vinyl album, play it on audio equipment provided by the Library Services, and have a chat about it.

2nd Thursday of each month 6pm-8pm, **Family History Group**. We have a team of experts who can help you through the minefield of Genealogy, using **Ancestry.com** provided on the Library Computers and other online tools.



Bristol Central Library
on College Green

© Linda Bailey

John also pointed out that you can listen to audio books, download e-books, and order books/maps etc. from a wide network of county library services across the **West Country**, and have them delivered to **Shire Library**. You can also use the services to read newspapers and magazines on your phone and laptop/tablet. All these services can be used by having a library card and an online pin number, which you can set up by visiting Shire Library.

You can contact "Friends of Shire" by email at: friendsofshire@gmail.com or follow the group on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ShireLibrary or Twitter: <https://twitter.com/shirelibrary>

To quote the celebrated American author, Sidney Sheldon:

"Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve and contribute to improving our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better".

Paul McMillan



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An afternoon at the "Shire Living Room."

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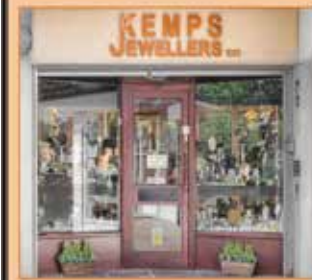
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New Road Safety Group for Shirehampton

Anna and Theresa are two residents who have teamed up to form 'Shirehampton Road Safety Group'. They held a drop-in session at the Public Hall on Tuesday 13th June to find out what issues are facing Shirehampton's community.

Both have young families and live in Shirehampton. "I absolutely love Shirehampton and everything about it. Since having my little boy, I have become increasingly concerned personally about the speeding in the village and dangerous driving. So as a result, I did some research into what could be done. Since then, I have spoken to our local Councillor Don Alexander and the police, and I've been told we need to build up a picture of what the community want in the village and once we've done that we can then start to find out what can be done." said Anna.

"I have some concerns about, traffic, congestion, and speeding in the village. The main concern is that many roads are being used as a rat run through the village rather than using the Portway and I'd like to tackle some of these issues. We'd like to work with the local community, get everyone's opinions and concerns and look at some of the root causes for some of these things." said Theresa.

"We've met some nice local people today, a real mix of age ranges from young mums to the older generation to people who have lived here for many years and have been wanting a change for a long time."

"The main concerns from today's drop-in session and the emails we have had to date is speeding, parking, what parking spaces are available and where people are parking, including where people

are parking illegally and of course lack of parking available. Speeding in various parts of the village is causing real concern. At the moment the one thing people are really concerned about is the electric scooters and electric bikes." said Anna

"We also want to work with the local primary and secondary schools in Shirehampton, one of the main issues that keep coming up is inconsiderate parking by parents at drop off time and at peak times and how it causes our roads to be unsafe. We'd like to see how we can work together, collaborate with schools and parents because I am sure the next generation is looking at transport in an active, healthy and safe way in our community." Theresa added.

Other issues included parking on double yellows, on kerbs, grass verges and pavements as well as speeding especially through the High Street. "We are looking for volunteers for the community speed watch we are setting up because it's part of gathering a picture of what is going on in the village and to prove there is a speeding issue". said Anna.

"The volunteer commitment is not huge. It's about an hour each month but we are looking to represent the various areas in Shirehampton. Please contact us if you wish to become a volunteer, have any burning issues, or concerns you want to raise, challenges faced and things that have been tried before. This is not a blame game. It's about looking at the causes and finding



solutions that we can tackle together as a community. We can't make any promises to fix everything, but we hope to resolve what we can and make Shirehampton a safer place to live." said Theresa.

Check out their Facebook page for regular updates at www.facebook.com/shirehamptonroadsafetygroup You can also email your concerns and feedback to: shirehamptonroadsafetygroup@gmail.com Watch out for posters on the High Street for future meetings

Kathryn Courtney

Is a DIY Will enough?

AMD's Laura Webber discusses the importance of a properly executed Will and the importance of keeping its location known.

While navigating through periods of uncertainty in our lives, we often overlook the significance of engaging Solicitors to assist in the creation of a Will. Instead, it is viewed as an unwanted expense.

Consequently, with the convenience afforded by today's digital era, coupled with the desire to minimise expenses, individuals may consider preparing their own Will using online templates. However, it is crucial to recognize the risks associated with do-it-yourself (DIY) Wills, as the ramifications of errors can far outweigh the expenses incurred by using a firm of Solicitors.

To ensure the validity of your Will and the proper distribution of your estate in accordance with your wishes, it is vital to adhere to the requirements of the Wills Act 1837.

Failure to adhere to these formalities can potentially invalidate a Will. These seemingly minor errors can lead to a distressing journey fraught with complications for your loved ones, even before your affairs are settled. Not only can this delay the process, but it will likely incur additional costs, ultimately reducing the amount available for your close family.

Whilst some mistakes can be rectified, it is not always possible to do so and your final wishes may not be honoured upon your passing. It is even possible for individuals you did not intend to benefit from your Will to be legally entitled to the assets, while those you wanted to ensure were provided for may inherit nothing.

It is essential to keep your original latest Will safe so that loved ones or those who will look after your estate know of its existence. Failing to do so can

mean the Will cannot be located or an older Will could be thought to be the most recent.

If a Will cannot be located upon the testator's death, there is a presumption that the Will was intentionally destroyed and therefore revoked. However, what if the Will has simply been misplaced? The testator who made the Will is no longer alive, and so it is very difficult to rebut this presumption, which could lead to their estate passing under intestacy rules and possibly passing to those the testator did not want to inherit.

Given that a Will is a legal document accompanied by potential legal complexities, it is advisable to involve a legal expert in its creation. By doing so, you can mitigate the risk of the administration of your estate causing unnecessary complications and delays for your family and ensure that your final wishes are followed appropriately.

For advice on drafting your Will please contact the private client team on 0117 923 5562, email info@amdsolicitors.com or call into one of our four Bristol offices.



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An Update from Darren Jones MP, Bristol North West

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

What games did you play when you were a child? This was the topic of conversation at Bristol Dementia Action Alliance's first Memory Cafe in Shire, which I was happy to attend in May to lend my support.

Despite the differences in ages in the room, we all shared fond memories of playing old favourites, such as marbles, Cat's Cradle, and hopscotch. Attendees recalled the freedom they had as children to explore their neighbourhoods on their bikes in the days before mobile phones, when the only signal to head back home was the streetlights turning on.

We took this trip down memory lane because people with dementia often find it easier to recall memories from the distant past than recent events. There was also plenty of time for informal chat, tea and biscuits, and playing games in small groups. The Memory Café is a wonderful way for people with dementia and their carers to build new connections with people going through similar struggles.

If you would like to pop along to a future event, it will run on the third Friday of every month from 2pm-4pm at the JTE Hub in Shirehampton Methodist Church.

I was also pleased to learn more about the organisation's project to make Shire Bristol's first 'Dementia Aware Village'. They'll be talking to

local businesses about simple changes to make their spaces more welcoming to people with dementia.

We have a wonderful sense of community in Shire, so I hope businesses take onboard the advice. I'm happy to support the project in any way that I can.

That sense of community spirit and willingness to act was evident in my recent bus campaign. In April and May, the campaign received more bus journeys logged from Shire than anywhere else in the constituency. Thank you to everyone who supported the campaign!

In January, **Doug Claringbold, the Managing Director of First Bus in the West of England**, assured me that bus reliability would improve from April. Sadly, that isn't what your data is showing me: in March, about one in four journeys logged across the constituency were ghost buses – services that were scheduled, but never materialise – and this increased to about one in three for April/May.

The number 3 has even worse stats, with ghost buses accounting for 42% of journeys logged in April/May. A further 21% for this route were logged as cancelled. This isn't good enough.



While the findings paint a pessimistic picture of the state of our bus services, I now have solid data to hold First Bus to account. (The vast majority of journeys logged were for First Bus services.)

My team is compiling the key findings into a document that should be published on the campaign page (www.darren-jones.co.uk/bus) by the time you read this. I'll also be writing to Doug Claringbold to find out what's gone wrong after he'd been so adamant that reliability would improve.

Data collection has ended, but the campaign continues!

As always, if you need my help or have a question, please get in touch on darren.jones.mp@parliament.uk, call the office on 0117 959 6545 or visit www.darren-jones.co.uk. For the latest updates, follow me on social media: [fb.com/darrenjonesmp](https://www.facebook.com/darrenjonesmp) @ [@darrenpjones](https://twitter.com/darrenpjones)

CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Shirehampton is in the Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Ward

Your Councillors are:

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

CONTACTING YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Shirehampton is in the Bristol North West Constituency

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

Let's Welcome Another Refugee Family to North West Bristol



WESTBURY WELCOME
 Refugee Community Sponsorship

What is Westbury Welcome?

We're a local group that has brought together the people and resources of our community and welcomed two Syrian refugee families to North West Bristol under the UK Government's Community Sponsorship Scheme established in 2016. Amongst other things Community Sponsorship involves raising money, finding and equipping a home, finding schools, assisting with learning English and generally helping a family settle into the community. We're also helping Bristol City Council to support three other refugee families. It has been and continues to be a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

We are now preparing to welcome another family under the Community Sponsorship Scheme and want to offer the opportunity to other areas in North West Bristol to find out more and be part of a community that

welcomes those who have found themselves forced out of their homes and their countries through no fault of their own.

We have set up two opportunities for you to find out what this could mean for your community and how you can make a difference:-

- Tuesday 4 July 2023 – St Peter's Church, Rodingleaze, Lawrence Weston @ 7.30pm

If you are unable to make either of these times but would like to be kept informed, please email westburywelcome@gmail.com

Visit us at www.westburywelcome.org or [facebook.com/westburywelcome](https://www.facebook.com/westburywelcome)

Together we can make a small but very important difference to the global refugee crisis - and positively change the lives of a family in need.

Shirehampton Public Hall Newsletter - July 2023

AGM, WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY AT 7PM. ALL WELCOME.

Our beautiful “Lark Ascending” roses are in full bloom in the hall garden now, heralding the start of what we hope will be a glorious summer! The roses were planted to celebrate the centenary of the composition of Vaughan Williams famous piece “Lark Ascending”, which was first performed in public at the Hall just over 100 years ago. The roses were the inspiration of our former trustee, Edyta Lang, and we are hugely grateful to her for these flowers and for all her hard work over the past five years as a hall trustee. Edyta has stepped down as a trustee now, and we wish her all the best for the future.

Don't forget the Hall has many wonderful groups and activities available to the whole community, including one of our newest activities, **Music with Mummy** which takes place **every Tuesday morning during term time** (see below). Check out our notice board for information, or our website which contains information about what activities are on offer and when.

The **Public Hall** is not just one large hall with a stage, we also have three meeting rooms available for hire, plus the **library space** can be used when the library is not open. Our meeting rooms can be used for several things, including hotdesking. The **Springfield Room** and the **Penpole Room** are particularly good for this, and our newly refurbished Wi-Fi system won't let you down! In the next issue of the Shire paper, we hope to give detailed analysis of the sizes and availability of our meeting rooms, but in the meantime more information is available on our website at www.shirepubhall.org.uk, or contact the **office Manager** for details on **0117 982 9963** or email bookings@shirepubhall.org.uk.

Were you aware that the Hall is a designated **Warm Space**? Especially on a **Thursday morning**, please feel free to pop in for a cuppa and a chat with our **Shirehampton Art and Social Group**. You don't need to be arty, or bring any art if you don't want to – just come along for a friendly social and make new friends!

The **Gardening Volunteers Group** which meets in the **hall garden from 10am on the first Saturday of the month** has started meeting once again now that things are growing once more! Everyone is welcome, and bring tools if you can! Contact the Hall for more information if necessary. Contact **Gail Amphlett** on **0117 982 1879** for further details.

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



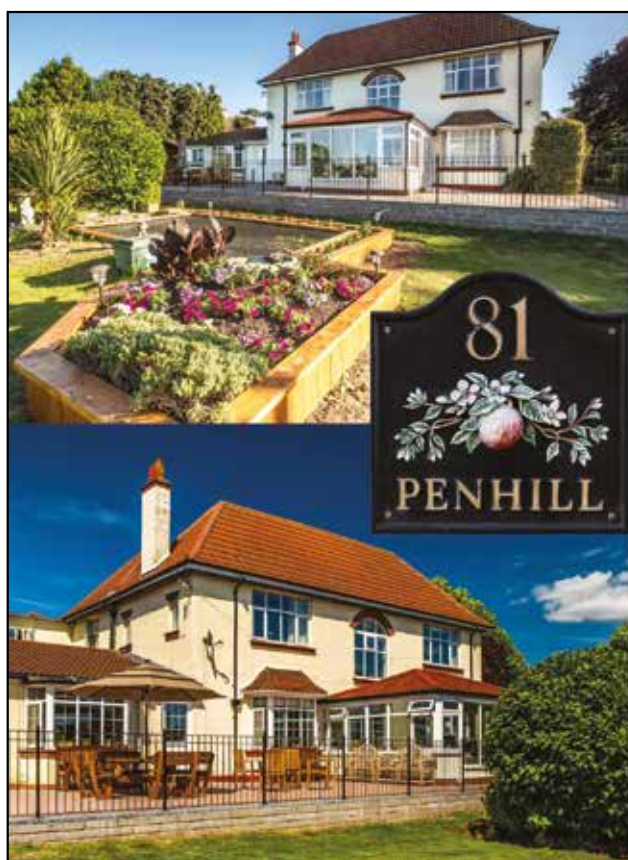
Musical-Fun-in Shirehampton.

Exciting music sessions for children under 4 and their carers.

WHEN: Tuesdays 20th, 27th June and 4th, 11th and 18th July.
WHERE: Shirehampton Public Hall, 32 Station Rd, Shirehampton, BS11 9TX
TIME: 10.10am Toddlers (13 months-4 years)
11.15am (birth-12months)
COST: £30 for all 5 sessions or £7 for one.

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The Arts in Shirehampton

The Strange

An original story by Gil Osman

(Previously: The New Chieftain and his father's revelation about the parents of The Strange in relation to the Chief as a baby where they saved his life. The father's help in solving a village dispute and creating a new law by edict - the first ever law in the settlement)

Chapter 11

Before The Strange were born and before their parents, the herbalists, were banished to the outskirts of the village adjacent to the woods, the settlement was still a brutal and violent place, lacking any kind of law or order. It was then that a boy was born. To begin with he was just a normal happy youngster, but at the age of seven things changed drastically for the worst. He stopped growing upwards. He became different. He was a freak.

For no apparent reason, from then onwards his height remained the same, although all other parts of his body continued to grow normally. He was nicknamed Little Man, which was a derogatory expression in the tribal dialect. He was mercilessly teased by a gang of boys led by a big boy, a bully. This did not just involve name-calling and sneering, but also physical bullying, especially by the gang-leader and it made Little Man's life a misery. Even his own family joined in and disowned him. He tried to avoid his so-called home and spent his time wandering around the village and sleeping in the woods, alone and friendless.

When he was 12 years old, he got a job with the crop-growing collective where the father of The Strange then worked. The father of The Strange informally adopted him as the son he yearned for and protected him from the bullying the youngster still suffered at the hands of some of the other farmers. He invited Little Man, secretly, to his home in the village - the only person who regularly made social visits. All other secret visits by villagers were made at night for herbal medicines, and, if Little Man was there, he would hide from them.

Little Man became a secret part of the family and was present when the twins (The Strange) were born. When other villagers, mainly young hot-headed hunters, threatened to kill The Strange babies, their

parents threatened, in turn, to bring a terrible curse down upon the village. The villagers believed this to be true, as they had always believed that the husband and wife possessed magical powers and were in league with the evil spirits in the woods.

A compromise was reached whereby a new house was quickly built at the edge of the village by the woods and the family banished there. When Little Man was secretly invited to join the herbalists and The Strange there and become a permanent part of the family he was overjoyed. At last, he had a real family where he was respected and truly loved.

So far as his birth family and the bullies were concerned, he had effectively vanished. They eventually thought he may have been killed by wild beasts in the woods or taken by the evil spirits. Nobody missed him. Nobody cared. He was never seen again.

When The Strange babies were growing up their parents taught them to call Little Man Friend, so that when playing with him in the garden and calling out his name, (Friend) villagers would think that they had an 'imaginary friend'. The parents also used the new name, so his presence was never suspected, and the derogatory term Little Man existed no more.

To be continued...

Morning Capture

While walking round the garden,
To savour the early air,
I sighted a busy, brown spider,
Setting up its lair.

Peering even closer,
I saw those delicate threads,
A net of neat-spun pathways,
Which spider carefully treads.

Now, is that creature sleeping,
Or in centre, wide-awake,
When suddenly, it sprang to life,
As network felt the quake.

A little insect had landed,
And struggled to get free,
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Pat Squire
Spring 2023

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SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON

City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

On Thursday May 18th Nick Burand and Phil Cormack were playing Keith Boyland and Richard Ludwell of Bristol St. Andrews at home in the City and County Men's Pairs Competition. It was a good game with the lead changing hands several times and the result in doubt until the last of the 21 ends played. Just past the mid-point of the game news came that a helicopter would be landing in the field adjacent to the green and on board would be - Queen Camilla. The helicopter appeared, flying low and landing on a marked spot on the field. Play was paused to watch the landing and to see the new Queen. The game resumed and with one end left to play Nick and Phil were ahead, but the visiting pair played a good last end and took it by one shot to win the game.



Tony Reed and Nick Burand before their Minors Four Wood singles game on May 12th.

There was the same outcome minus the helicopter, for David Hinksman and Howard Surman when they played their round of the same competition on June 6th. Alan Milburn and Martin Garrett of Ardagh Bowling club were the opponents and once again it was a close game with both sides leading at times. Once again, the 21st end proved decisive with the visitors taking enough shots to edge the game from a losing position by the narrowest of margins.



Nick Burand delivering a wood during the City and County mens pairs match on May 18th.

Nick Burand was also drawn at home in the GBA Minors Singles on May 12th and his opponent was Tony Reed of Eastville Park BC. Nick looked to have the game in the bag when he needed just one more shot for victory, but his opponent had other ideas and fought back to reach the magic 21 shots and win the game.

David Hinksman was drawn away to David Perkins of Olveston in the same competition on June 3rd. Always a great place to play but the home David proved too strong for the visiting one and came out in front 21-7.

Ken Davies made the trip to Bristol St. Andrews to play Glenn Wintle, who he met a few weeks previously in the City and County Pairs, for his Minors Singles game and on this occasion was not able to progress further.

The first Club Competition of the season was played on Sunday June 4th. The Jack Ashton Triples, named after a past President, is played on one day between teams of three each bowling three woods. Organised by Competition Secretary Gill Hinksman eighteen bowlers became six teams and with six skips already appointed two team members were drawn from the pot for each and three sets of five games played. Two points were awarded for a



Play during the Jack Ashton Triples on June 4th.



The helicopter that arrived during Nick and Phil's pairs game on May 18th.

win and one for a draw. At the end of the afternoon it was team three skipped by Ray Cook with Howard Surman and Tony Bennett who came out in front with six points. Nick Burand skipped the runners up and in his team were Adrian Mace and Stephen Ash.



Gill Hinksman conducting the draw ahead of the Jack Ashton Triples on June 4th.



Howard Surman flanked by Alan Milburn and Martin Garrett at the end of the City and County Pairs game on June 6th.

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



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Avonmouth Sea Cadets Sail into Summer!

At last, the weather is improving, and cadets have been able to take advantage of this by getting out on the water and undertaking boating work. This includes rowing, power boating, kayaking, and canoeing.

On Friday 2nd June the Junior Cadets spent a great day out on the water kayaking and canoeing, this enabled them to gain **British Canoe Union** qualifications. Plans are now being made for boating during the summer holidays which the cadets are looking forward to. There are such a range of boating activities for the cadets to participate in along with **Adventure Training, Mountain biking and DofE expeditions.** These activities ensure the cadets spend most of the summer months outdoors having a great time whilst learning lots of new skills.

The repairs to our main building are almost complete and we are looking forward to having full use of the building once more. We have been blown away by the dedication and support we have received from the builders **GMD Contractors Ltd** who have moved mountains to get the work

completed in such a short time so we can get back to delivering the best possible cadet experience that we can offer.

We will be attending several local events over the coming months, so please come and say hello.

We are now able to **recruit** both **Senior Cadets 12yrs-18yrs** and **Junior Cadets 10yrs-12yrs.** If your child is looking for an adventure, please get in touch for more information on the email address below.

We are urgently looking for volunteers to join us. There are several roles that volunteers can get involved in, general helpers, committee members or uniformed volunteers. If you would like to know more, in the first instance please email: avonmouthseacadets@gmail.com



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