

Shire

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

No. 581 - June 2020 www.shire.org.uk

Have you got a job that needs doing? Go to LOCAL EXPERT SECTION from page 16 to find a local expert who can help



Local Band Raises Money For NHS

Bristol's favourite ska band and Shirehampton residents, The Emperials, have been running Lockdown DJ sets to keep people entertained during lockdown.

Faced with the prospect of no live gigs for a while, they thought it would be a fun to virtually 'hang out' on the first Saturday night of lockdown. Lead signer Steve Horton turned DJ for the night, playing ska & reggae hits live from his music room in Shirehampton. The guys presumed it would be just be a one-off bit of fun with a few friends, but hundreds tuned in, had a great time and demanded it happen every week.

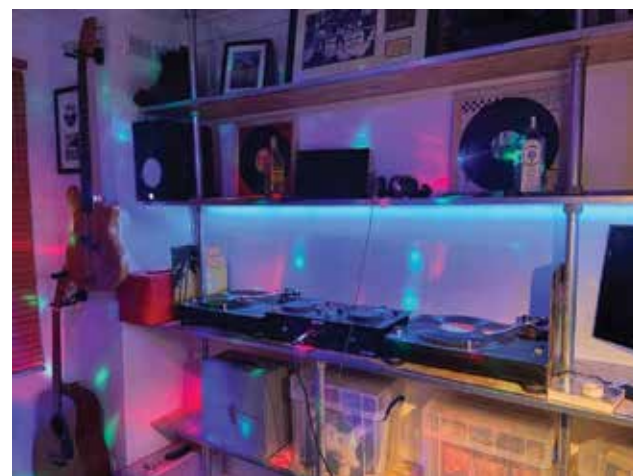
The second week the band advertised a fundraising link where viewers could donate towards frontline NHS workers. Donations came flooding in, the band matched these out of their kitty, and £1,000 was raised in 2 hours. This money was immediately sent to **Bristol Food Union to support Bristol's frontline NHS workers.** Week five has just passed which was fancy dress night, with many viewers donning their best (and worst!) outfits and sending photographs.

The live streams continue every week of lockdown, with hundreds tuning in live every Saturday night to enjoy the music, chat comments and dancing in their living rooms. Staying true to the bands style, the nights always begin with ska and reggae but often genre hop as the night goes on... Disco

inferno has been popular. The unexpected bonus is a real sense of community every Saturday night from locally and far beyond. Viewers are sending comments, requests, chatting amongst themselves, sharing a drink, checking in on each other and being together while they are kept apart. A group of neighbours are even getting together, from a social distance, for "fence parties" while streaming the sets into their gardens!

See photos of the fancy dress of Shire residents and beyond on the bands Facebook page www.facebook.com/theemperials and tune in every Saturday at 8.30!

Richard Williamson (Band Member)



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Shire

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While advertisements in this paper are accepted in good faith, readers are advised to make their own enquiries and assessment. We request that all adverts are supplied in the correct format and size or there may be a charge should you require artwork to be created. Price on application.

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We welcome contributions for publication in 'SHIRE' but reserve the right to edit any copy received.

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

Contributions submitted to: editor@shire.org.uk

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ALL ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

SHIRE PUBLIC INFO FOR JUNE

Since all events are cancelled and there are no ongoing group activities to inform you about, we've decided to make the What's On page a General Public Service Announcement page.

BRISTOL LIBRARIES

All libraries will remain closed until further notice.

PUBLIC HALL

Dear Members, Friends and Regular Hall Users. Shirehampton Public Hall is closed to the public until further notice. Emails will be accessed twice per day and answered in order of priority.

Please forward invoices to: treasurer@shirepubhall.org.uk.

All other urgent business please send to one of the following Trustees:

chair@shirepubhall.org.uk • edyta.lang@gmail.com • gail.pubhall@yahoo.com

Emergency telephone numbers: 0117 9821879 or 07733 101520.

Thank you for your patience during this time. Stay safe and well.

Amanda Parsons (Hall Manager)



RECYCLING

Bristol City Council reopened Reuse and Recycling centres Monday 18 May

Recycling centres are open from 8am to 6:45pm.

You must live in the Bristol City Council area and will be asked to show ID.

Strict social distancing measures will be in place, including:

- only allowing 6 vehicles in at once
- only allowing 1 person out of a vehicle at a time, unless more than one person is needed to move the waste
- 2 metre floor markings with only 1 person allowed within the markings at a time.

PARKS

Time spent outdoors in green space is crucial to mental and physical health. The latest Government advice now recommends that parks and green spaces are used as often as an individual likes.

We know that people wish to undertake simple actions in parks to help with their day to day maintenance and we fully support this.

Carrying out volunteer activities, for example litter picking, weeding, clearing, either on your own, with members of your own household or one other person who remains at least 2m away at all times is of great value to both people and parks.

However, at present, all our group volunteering sessions must remain postponed.

Finally, we've had some concerning reports of a number of "mass gatherings" being organised in Bristol Parks on Saturday. We are liaising with Avon and Somerset Police on this and would strongly discourage people from attending these events. Fines have increased to £100 for the small minority who break the law.

Pedestrianising Our Streets

Bristol City Council says:

Our plan to pedestrianise the Old City and close Bristol Bridge and Baldwin Street to through car traffic is a real step forward to cleaner air and improved public realm, so we have accelerated those plans while the travel patterns have changed. These changes will be made by the end of the summer as an experimental traffic order, and we will use that as a bridge to consult fully on more permanent changes. This will provide opportunities for significant walking and cycling enhancements.

Continues on Page 7.



TO OUR REGULAR ADVERTISERS

Shire Newspaper is offering all its regular advertisers a three month advertising rates holiday. Your ads will appear free of charge in our monthly on-line editions for May, June and July. We hope to be able to print and distribute a paper again in July.

SHIRE NEWSPAPER AGM

Shire Newspaper will hold its Annual General Meeting on Monday 3rd August 2020 at 5:00 pm.

Due to Covid-19 safe distancing requirements the meeting will NOT be open to the public this year.

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The *Shire* Community Page

BMH Sanctuary (Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust)

We are a mental health support service currently offering telephone support to people living in Bristol and South Gloucestershire. We are wanting to reach out to people living in the BS11 postcode area as we have not yet had anyone contact us for phone support from this area and we believe there may be people who are struggling that don't yet know about us.

We are usually a face to face mental health service but are currently operating a telephone support service only, 7 days a week from 4-10pm. This is for people living in the Bristol and South Gloucestershire area who are in emotional distress or struggling with the day to day impact of COVID-19. We are able to work with those aged 16+.

When people call us we will do an initial assessment (informal) with them and offer a call back at an arranged time. To call and arrange support our number is **01179542952/07709295661**. See our flyer to the left for your reference.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Many Thanks,

The Bristol Sanctuary Team

COTSWOLD COMMUNITY CENTRE Cotswold Community Association

Last year, the committee agreed that we needed to improve the car park and access to the hall, as the existing ramp was obsolete and not fit for purpose anymore.

We applied for a Community Infrastructure Levy grant from Bristol City Council, and, after a rather drawn out process, were awarded the monies, with great help from **Councillor Don Alexander and Ash Bearman of SCAF**. We had to match the amount awarded which we thankfully did, after a great year of activity and fundraising at the Cotswold. We now have two Disabled Bays, an easy incline to the entrance, and spaces for 4 other

cars (if necessary). Many thanks to **BR Day of Congresbury** for a superbly professional job.

We have also improved the garden with a new gate to ensure security, and also a complete refresh of the decking and fencing, thanks to **Richard Chilcott**.

The Cotswold is now ready to welcome everybody again, as soon as the lockdown is over.



REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAY

Pilates 9.30-10.30am
Personal Fitness 6:30-7:30pm

TUESDAY

Film Night (1st & 3rd of each month) 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY

Keep Fit 10.30-11.30am
Personal Fitness 5pm
Pilates 7-8pm

FRIDAY

Keep Fit 10.30-11.30am
Table Tennis 8pm

FRIDAY

Keep Fit 10.30-11.30am

SATURDAY

Coffee Morning (2nd of each month) 10am
Quiz (6 weekly) 7.30pm
Bingo (4 weekly, before Breakfast Club) 7.30pm

SUNDAY

Breakfast (1st of each month) 9.30-11am
Baptist/Methodist Service (2nd of each month) 4.40pm

ALL ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Letters to the Editor



NICE TO READ YOU FROM THE LAND DOWN UNDER

Dear Shire,

Just wanted to say, having the PDF for the actual Shire paper was fanbloodytastic!

It's been a long time since I've seen a printed copy, and appreciate the online version, but getting the PDF complete with advertisements really made my day. It offers a much closer feel for the village and its news. Could I ask that this becomes the norm, even after the viral issue is over please. I personally would be very happy to just get the PDF!

Keep up the good work. Stay calm and think of Shire.

Cheers

Ray Bounsall, Melbourne

SOCIAL CLUB DONATION FROM SHIRE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

Dear Editor,

On behalf of Shirehampton Men's Social Club, may I thank you for your very kind donation of £200 which will be used to make much-needed repairs to the fabric of our Clubhouse at Lower High Street. The fact that your donation has been received whilst the Club has been required to temporarily cease operating during the present COVID 19 emergency has made it especially welcome.

The Club was formed in the early 1950s and initially occupied the Kingsweston Estate Offices situated at the corner of High Street and Waverley Road. Unfortunately, this fine building together with a picturesque row of cottages and shops on the opposite side of the High Street which included the premises of Mr. Dawes the Dentists were later demolished to enable road widening and required the Club to move to our present premises at the Lawns. We are fortunate to be in possession of a number of old photographs of Shirehampton village showing many of the old buildings that have since, regrettably, been demolished.

In normal times the Club provides a friendly and safe environment for residents of the district to meet socially and hosts Skittles and Darts teams and the Bristol Poker League play here every Wednesday night. A full-size Snooker Table and Pool tables are available for the use of members and a BT Sports Package is provided. Live musical entertainment is provided at a modest

cost each Saturday evening together with Bingo on Wednesday evenings in the large Lounge Bar, which is also available to non-members for Private Parties, Christenings, and Funerals, etc. on other days of the week. To try an increase membership this year, subscriptions have been reduced to £5 per annum and new or prospective members will always be welcome to drop in to view the amenities. Opening hours including the week end are from 10.00am till midnight

At present the Club is in Coronavirus lockdown so it is unable to trade and our staff are furloughed. However, we continue to incur necessary expenses for such items as insurance and fire/intruder alarm systems, etc. We have received the £10,000 grant from the government to assist us in the lockdown. Molson Coors, our brewery, have kindly agreed to replace all, out of date barrels, free of charge when we know our reopening date

Nevertheless, we are determined and look forward to re-opening following the lifting of the COVID restrictions and again providing a focal point for the social life of local residents. In the meanwhile, we wish everyone to stay safe and well until we can all meet again.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Bees, (Hon. Sec. SMSC) Sent by Mike Bailey, President Shire Club

MEMORIES FROM AUSTRALIA

Dear Editor,

We must thank you for keeping us up to date with the changes that have been made to Shire village. We used to live in Lower High Street and lived there for 39 years, we now live in Brisbane Australia and have been here for over 20 years. We find your letters sent by other readers very interesting, one in particular was the one about the university building. During the war, and a while after, they organised dances to cheer up the people because of the dreadful time they were all living through. My mother in law and her friend used to go there. It was situated in Grove Leaze. I read an article about Heather Champion and mentioned it to Brian. He said he knew a Brian Champion from school days and he wondered, could he be a member of her family? We have enclosed a photo of Brian and his mentor Bruno teaching Brian how to use the computer during our lockdown.

Best Wishes. Maureen & Brian (Swain) Australia.





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

I am a local Shire resident and a Personal Trainer who can help you to achieve your goals without the need to attend a gym. Whatever your age or ability I can help:

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- Improve muscle tone and bone density
- Improve mobility and coordination

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Linda x x

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

- Monday 6.30-7.00pm, Wednesday 5.15-6.15pm and Thursday 7.00-8.00pm. Cotswold Community Centre. Message for 1:1 technique session.
- Bootcamps: Monday and Wednesday 6.15-7.00am. Please message for details.

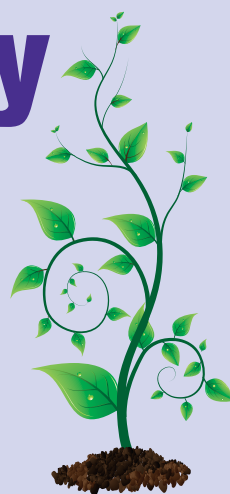


For free initial consultation in your own home - or mine. Telephone: **07875 054 292.**
Email: t.linda1206@gmail.com

Coles Plant Nursery

The Nursery in Station Road is now open between 10am and 3pm, every Thursday and Friday, and is selling its range of bedding plants at very affordable prices.

Box Bedding, Sweet Pea, Cosmos, New Guinea, Large Geranium, Sunflower, Calendula, Fuchsia, and others. Begonias and some vegetable plants will be ready in a couple of weeks' time. There is a table at the entrance to the Nursery, please observe social distancing.



Kingsweston House Social Events

- We Are Here To Help



My name is Roseanna, I'm a dancer and organiser of the *Kingsweston House Social Events*. I live with 15 housemates on the upper floors of Kings Weston House, and quite a few of us have time on our hands and feel motivated to help out people in our local area who might be struggling due to the lockdown.

We're getting in touch to ask if we can be helpful in anyway... whether that's collecting and delivering shopping, picking up prescriptions, a chat on the phone or any other errands that might be useful. If you might have been booking for a friend/s please also pass on this invitation.

You can get in touch by email: kwhsocials@gmail.com or my phone number: 07531241097.

Also, **AGE UK** have a fantastic telephone befriending service which you can access by ringing this number: 01179297537.

Please keep in touch and I'm hopeful the socials can start again later this year!

With very best wishes,
Roseanna

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for older people

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www.ageukbristol.org.uk

Practical help

- Support to apply for benefits, pension credit, attendance allowance
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- Guidance for prescription and pension collection
- Shopping, emergency food parcels, prepared meals
- Help with home maintenance and to ready your home on discharge from hospital

Social & Emotional support

- Weekly social phone calls
- Free counselling and bereavement support

Activities

- Activities that you can do from the safety of your own home to help keep you physically and mentally active



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Taught online using Zoom app which you will need to download onto your phone, tablet, computer or laptop, *we can help you with this.*

To enrol please follow this link <https://communitylearningwest.net/enrol>

Or call 01172 510230 to book your place or get help getting online

More information on our website www.communitylearningwest.net



Pedestrianising Our Streets

Continued from Page 2.

And we are going further, with new cycle lanes in central areas, including Marlborough Street, Park Row, Victoria Street, Lewins Mead and the Clifton Triangle. We know that to make walking and cycling an inclusive and accessible option for as many Bristolians as possible, we have to go beyond the centre and shift focus to other areas of the city. So we are also announcing measures in many other areas such as pavement widening in Bedminster Parade, Stapleton Road and Henbury to make these safe to use and provide local shopping options for people, supporting our local high streets.

These changes will take just a matter of weeks to implement.

Many of the schemes announced today are already mapped out through the £400m infrastructure programme in the West of England Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. Because of this, these interventions are evidence-based, building on the work we have already done. We have taken time to explore potential unintended consequences on people shielding, their deliveries, or requirements for disabled access and the safety of junctions. We have to be mindful of the effects on emergency vehicles and displacement of traffic that these interventions have, so we will be watching the impacts (especially on air quality) closely.

To cope with the need for more social distancing, and also proactively approach the challenge our network will face as more people start to move around the city, we are bringing forward additional measures.

The road to recovery is difficult to predict, but it is clear that our public transport will be heavily impacted. Operators are experiencing a steep drop in demand, but also a significant change in their capacity as social distancing means buses take reduced number of passengers. We are committed to supporting our bus operators as part of the combined authority, and through the City Office by helping co-ordinate plans for returning to work.

Surveys by **Transport Focus** have shown that while many people will consider walking and cycling as options to get to work in future, even more will look to use private cars. It found that while 51% of people would be 'more' or 'very likely' to cycle or walk more often, 60% are also 'likely' to take more car journeys. In a city like Bristol, with congestion, clean air issues and a historically neglected transport network, that is a huge challenge.

We've always known that people need to have realistic and reliable alternatives to private car travel – we cannot simply force them out. This is why we've led on work with our bus deal, and will still



work towards the mass transit system Bristol so clearly needs. Our bus network is vital for people, and we need it to succeed in the long term if we are to reach our air quality and carbon neutrality targets.

Finally I want to thank everyone involved in keeping Bristol moving, especially when recent **government figures** show that it is our taxi, bus and coach drivers who are disproportionately affected by the virus. We are committed to working together with operators and the public to make sure everyone in Bristol feels safe on their way to, from and at work.

Shire Christmas Illuminations Committee

Shire Christmas Illuminations Committee wanted to show support for NHS and Key workers through our Blue Heart Lamppost fundraiser. The community had the opportunity to donate, deliver a personal message and bring some positivity and cheer to Shire. Take a walk during the lockdown and read the wonderful messages of support. All monies donated will benefit NHS charity and Bristol North West Foodbank.

Shire Christmas Illuminations Committee



Churches in the Shirehampton Area

Hello From Shire Methodist

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

Our members and friends have continued to meet virtually to offer each other support and encouragement, via WhatsApp messaging, Zoom, phone calls, email, YouTube and information through the post. Two of our members have recently reached the wonderful milestone of eighty years of age and enjoyed some socially distanced celebrations. Other members have experienced some difficult times of bereavement and health issues. It reminds us of words in the Bible: "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep." Sharing life's ups and downs with one another, even though we are socially distanced, has brought many of us a greater feeling of togetherness.

Our church has continued to support the local Foodbank and members have successfully organised neighbourhood collections of food and toiletries, which have been delivered to the Social Justice Hub in Avonmouth. Many of us have felt frustrated that we can't do our usual work to help others and so it's been wonderful to develop new ways of helping, even if the only thing we can do is to pray.

Our building work has progressed over the last few months. We are very grateful to everyone who has worked on the project to create a Jobs,

Training and Enterprise Hub with money from the Port Resilience Community Fund. We hope this resource will be able to help people in our local community in the near future.

We would like to say a big "Thank You" to The Shire Newspaper for sending us a monetary donation recently. We are pleased to offer them a space to meet in our church building under normal circumstances. We really appreciate all the work that the volunteers do to publish and distribute the newspaper each month. The Shire Newspaper is a vital information source to many of us.



All the churches in Shirehampton are continuing to hold our community in prayer, and will do our best to respond to any concerns and needs. Please don't hesitate to contact us on the numbers below:

St Mary's Church 0117 9077026

Shire Methodist 0117 924 8407

Shire Baptist 0117 982 8238

St Bernard's Roman Catholic 0117 982 3380

Please take a look at our website, Facebook page or noticeboard outside the church to find out if we have started meeting for our regular activities again in June.

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

Everyone at Shire Methodist

Shirehampton Baptist Church News

We'll meet again, don't know where don't know when, has become relevant, not only for the VE 75th anniversary but also to our Lockdown situation. We long to be free to resume our work, to be near our relatives and friends and to pursue many of the pleasures we took for granted. Yet we do so in order to, Save Lives and Help the NHS.

We in Shire Baptist look forward to meeting in our building but for the last few weeks we have been on Zoom which has kept many in touch and our minister sends us daily words of encouragement by email or phone.

We have been reminded that Coronavirus is a global pandemic and urged to pray and give help to our Baptist Missionaries working in countries where the hospitals have very little medical resources and low levels of health education.

Our church has been saddened by the death of a well-loved member, a victim of the dreaded virus. Pete was a member of our church for over sixty years, He was a self-employed builder and could turn his hand to most jobs. He held many offices over the years but he will always be remembered

for his vision to transform our aging building into a beautiful multi-purpose one. The vision became a reality when Pete and his team of men from the church worked solidly and joyfully until it was finished in 2014. We had a grand celebration inviting members past and present to thank God that we now have a place where we can worship and share Gods love to the community, such as Mainly Music.

However our hearts go out to his wife Eilaine who was unable to visit him in the nursing home a month before he died and due to the lockdown, deprived of the physical comfort of family and friends. The funeral was on May 6th but because of the number restrictions we will be holding a celebration of Pete's life as soon as we are able.

By this June we trust things will have improved. It has been good to see the community spirit in the village.

Like all the churches in Shire we are here to help and pray for you. See our web sites for details and we look forward to opening our doors to greet you in person.

Love from all at Shire Baptist, Station Road

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FREE DELIVERY

St Mary's News

Hi Folks,

Well, what a strange few weeks it has been since I last wrote. I had hoped that we would be back in church by now, but, as I write, the church building remains closed. However, the church body, its people, continue to thrive, and we are getting used to worship online. You are welcome to access our online church via our website <https://www.stmarysshire.org/> Please click on 'online church' on the home page, this will then take you to the online church page where you will be able to see a variety of different worship options to watch or listen to. Alternatively you can access our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysshirehampton/> to see the latest news from St Mary's.

The Church of England has also issued a hymn and prayer 'phone-line for folk to ring into on 0800 804 8044 - the caller can choose from a variety of options such as listening to hymns or morning or night prayer.

We have taken advantage of the church being closed to have some repairs attended to, including

re-plastering and painting of walls that have long been in need of some TLC - all in a socially-distant and safe way, of course. Hopefully by the time we reopen you will notice a difference.

We know that lockdown has been difficult for many folk, and if you would like an opportunity to pray in a practical way then please do visit our 'Tree of



Hope' in the churchyard. You can place a pebble at the foot of the tree to represent laying down worries and burdens, and then, if you like, you are welcome to tie a ribbon to the tree to represent prayers of hope for the future. The ribbons blowing in the breeze remind us of God hearing the prayers of everyone at this time.

We do hope to see one another soon, but in the meantime I pray that you know God's peace and protection over you and your family,

With every blessing, Revd Helen.

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THE GREEN PAGES

CLIMATE EMERGENCY NEWS

As we begin to come through the Corona Crisis people everywhere are asking: What next? What do we want our 'new normal' to look like? MPs, business leaders and concerned citizens have been writing to government urging it to prioritise green economic recovery measures. They think the recovery programme should invest in sustainable and resilient green industries and not subsidise or bail out polluters.



With so many people suffering and dying from the virus, it's been hard to imagine what we ought to be doing to keep people aware of just how serious the climate crisis is. We see that governments often ignore repeated warnings and fail to implement recommendations from scientists about how to respond to dangers in the natural world. And it begins to feel as if trying to inform people about the reality of climate change and the magnitude of its effects is a hopeless task. But at the same time, we hear commentators of all kinds saying that now we have a unique opportunity to bring about real social and environmental change.

So what to do? I think it's time, now while we have time, to think seriously about what kind of world we really want, about how we would really like to live. I think we should tell our representatives what kind of world we want to become the 'new normal.'

I think we should support the calls for the recovery programme to be guided by the urgent needs of the environment.

The clean air and clear skies brought about by the lockdown remind us every day of how the world can be if we change our ways. The Corona Crisis has forced us to change our behaviour and shown us that we can change in ways that benefit us all.

Renee Slater

Shirehampton Climate Emergency Group



NATURE NOTES

No cuddly wildlife this month, but I am so pleased with this rambling rose this year. I planted it several years ago, and have always been reluctant to prune it too hard. But last autumn I did cut it back a fair old bit, and hey presto, this is the result! More buds than you could shake an axe at!!! The mild wet winter has certainly helped the established plants in the garden this Spring.



Anyway, back to Spring. There have been quite a few exciting sightings along the riverside over the last few weeks, including swifts, swallows, Canada geese, and most recently, a pipistrelle bat was busy hunting above my head as I watched the latest Super moon from the front garden. Then just a few nights ago, as my other half was getting ready for bed, he heard a tawny owl calling out from quite nearby. On opening the window, he realised it was just yards away in the tree outside the front garden. Sadly, I slept on oblivious!! It would seem social distancing by us humans have given our animal neighbours cause to feel less threatened!

A really super treat for me over the last few weeks has been observing the white throats nesting along the riverbank. The males have been so vocal each morning as I walk the dogs, and at first, I could only hear them. However, one particular little fellow, and I mean little, was happy to sit in full view in a fairly small and bare tree, and sing his heart out as I paused to listen. They are really delightful little birds, and to see the size of them, you could easily fit three on your hand, and to know that they arrive here in April from Africa, well! I am just full of awe for them!

I will try to get a video before they leave these shores again. Fingers crossed!

That's all for now, so, happy nature watching everyone, and keep safe!

Bobbie Perkins

JOIN US

SHIREHAMPTON CLIMATE EMERGENCY GROUP

We are local Shirehampton residents who came together a year ago because of our deep concerns about Climate Change. We wanted to know what we could do to raise awareness about Climate Change and its effects on our lives. We organized a series of free Public Talks over the winter at different venues in Shirehampton to spread information and offer opportunities for discussion. The last talk, on Flood Risk, was held at the Public Hall on March 7th just before the Corona lockdown was declared. We were meeting twice a month to talk and plan. Now Corona has knocked Climate Change off the agenda and reduced us to safe distancing and Zoom.



And yet... Because we recognize that Corona Virus is a deadly threat we have taken extraordinary measures to keep ourselves safe. We have stopped travelling, stopped unnecessary shopping, worked from home – all things that are necessary if we are to mitigate Climate Change. There must be **No Going Back** from these measures; there will be **No Going Back** from changes to our climate.

And so...we invite you to join us. If you'd like to be in touch with others in Shirehampton who are concerned about Climate Change and have a place to share ideas about how to combat this threat, then contact us: ShireClimate@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you.



*Renee Slater,
Shirehampton Climate Emergency Group*



Rest now, e Papatūānuku

A poem for Papatūānuku – Mother Earth by Ngāti Hine/Ngāpuhi writer Nadine Anne Hura, and recently shared by Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Rest now, e Papatūānuku
Breathe easy and settle
Right here where you are
We'll not move upon you
For awhile

We'll stop, we'll cease
We'll slow down and stay home

Draw each other close and be kind
Kinder than we've ever been.
I wish we could say we were doing it for you
as much as ourselves

But hei aha

We're doing it anyway

It's right. It's time.
Time to return
Time to remember
Time to listen and forgive
Time to withhold judgment
Time to cry
Time to think

About others

Remove our shoes
Press hands to soil
Sift grains between fingers

Gentle palms

Time to plant
Time to wait
Time to notice
To whom we belong

For now it's just you
And the wind

And the forests and the oceans and the sky full of rain

Finally, it's raining!

Ka turuturu te wai kamo o Rangi ki runga i a koe

Embrace it

This sacrifice of solitude we have carved out for you

He iti noaiho – a small offering
People always said it wasn't possible
To ground flights and stay home and stop our
habits of consumption

But it was
It always was.

We were just afraid of how much it was going to hurt
– and it IS hurting and it will hurt and continue to hurt
But not as much as you have been hurt.

So be still now

Wrap your hills around our absence
Loosen the concrete belt cinched tight at your waist

Rest.
Breathe.
Recover.
Heal –

And we will do the same.



Tynings Field News

The group are very busy.

Gianna has re-seeded the poultry run and people have bought every single plot into growing use. Everyone has planted on one communal plot with spare seeds.

The pear trees donated by a member of the local community have grown to intertwine and so have the other fruit trees you all kindly donated at the beginning of the field

Many of our group are healthcare workers working long shifts - 12 hour per day - many days a week -in the thick of the Covid 19 pandemic leaving them with very limited time for allotments and horticultural things but exercise air is vital to our health and an hour or two gardening on days off is steady exercise.

So during the "clap for care workers" it's great to stand in the field hearing everything and banging the bin on the field for our colleagues keyworkers.

The field is a haven of peace. The blossom looks healthy on the trees this year. Hens are laying and nature is ruling.

The sky is unscathed by aeroplanes. Buzzards have been seen. Tawny owls call at night.

Wild meadow for the orchard with strimmed paths in between lets the wild flowers reset as there is less air pollution from which our community has benefited. However, the number of cars on the Portway seem to have increased which is worrying.

The bees are able to recognise faces. They are not happy around midday as hot days trigger their aggression but two hives were removed so they are now calm. If you see a swarm don't worry if they are busy they will leave you alone. Please contact us so we can get beekeepers Carl or Csaba to come and get it.

Somewhere in nature we may find the cure for SARS_CoV-2 it's not the only zoonotic virus, there are others. In the field and in farming in general a few years ago we had to take measures against a bird flu epidemic. We also had to follow procedures on foot and mouth. Zoonotic viruses can be spread across land carried by small animals or in water so virus is not new to us at Tynings Field and we follow our routines. We receive texts from Defra about this along with information on vegetable diseases like locations for clouds of potato blight.



So in science vaccines for Covid 19 are being tested by brave volunteers. Our immunity can also be built by exposure to clean air, small doses of germs, and vitamin rich food.

Many of us have lost residents from care homes or relatives, friends or co-workers. But we must not forget in that collective grief that as a group we are dealing with issues not of our personal choosing but the result of man's destructive environmental practices.

The nation is short of farm vegetable pickers. Supply may not meet demand. Large farms now need to train the British workers to pick vegetables and this seems to be impossible.

Our choice is to take control of our food and grow as much of our own locally as possible on our little acre.

Caroline Penny

Full time nursing assistant

Part time digger



ARTWORK PRINTS COMMISSIONS

Catherine Sozi-Ham / oi_there@protonmail.com / www.oitheresketch.com / 07878500469

LOCKDOWN AND LOCKUP

Where, oh where did that red van go
Along with three men down Nibley Road?
They'd circled the area, looking for swag
And fled from the garden clutching one large,
blue bag.

Lockdown means lockup, Shirehampton beware!

They'll try every gateway if it's open, they'll dare

To nick what they fancy, be it copper or zinc
And even make off with an old kitchen sink!

It was the end of April when the theft was observed

By the neighbours who couldn't believe what they'd heard,

The sound of the thieves being chased by the owner

To a van parked on Hung Road, just round the corner.

They all sped off with the back still open
Down Nibley Road towards the train station,

There was CCTV and an iPhone at hand
But no one could make out the van's registration.

But, thieves, do beware, Shirehampton's aware!

We are ready and waiting to act if you dare
To divest us of goods we're unwilling to share,

Lockdown means lockup so best try elsewhere!

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Dursley Road VE Day Celebrations

Last year we held a Street Party in Dursley Road, and had planned to hold one in June this year. Clearly, this was a non-starter, due to recent events. However, a few residents felt we should celebrate VE Day and, very quickly, the idea took hold.

We have a close-knit community now in the street, and old and young all pulled out the stops to make it a very special day. All the houses had bunting displays, and tea, cakes, and scones were in abundance. Roll on the next Street Party, who knows, maybe on VJ Day!!!

John Hastings



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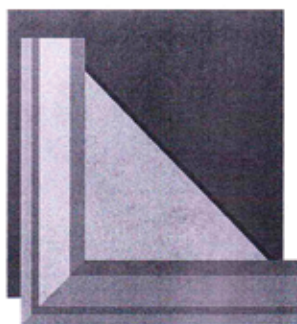
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The Arts in Shirehampton

Shire Craft Exhibition

Hi there fellow crafters, hope you are all keeping well and staying safe and alert (although I'm not sure what a lert is!!)

Anyway, Gail and I have so far missed the virus and hope it is coming to an end, though we are still in lock down, we have been thinking about how the year will pan out and hoping we will be able to have the craft exhibition up and running at the **end of October**.

The dates are **Sunday 25th and Monday 26th for setting up and booking in exhibits. Main exhibition opens on Tuesday 27th running until Saturday 31st.**

So hopefully you have all been using your time productively making crafts ready for the exhibition. Don't forget to let friends and colleagues know about the exhibition it could be a bumper year for us this year with everyone contributing.

As you know we have the shop and hall hunt during the week in an effort to get more children and families involved. This year the theme will be Robots which we hope will be good fun and get kids enjoying being part of the hunt. So if you have an idea for a **Robot** and would like to enter one then we would be happy to receive it – don't forget, nothing too precious as it will be in the shops and difficult to keep an eye on.

So get your creative juices going. It could be recycling packaging off cuts of wood, or metal bits and pieces, a crochet or knitted creation or a sewn soft toy (or a combination of all different materials). Think about all the robots you have known and loved (K9, Robby, R2D2, etc., or look on Pinterest for further inspiration.

If you are up for it email us a photo and we will share it other on our Facebook page.

We will put more details in the up and coming Shire Paper as well as sending you an application form. Good news this year we have been able to put the application form on line and you will be able to fill it in on line – this happens on the Shire Newspaper site.

As we said at the beginning stay safe and healthy we will put out more information nearer the time. In the meantime if you want more information then please contact us at gail.amphlett@hotmail.com

Regards

Ed & Gail Amphlett

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SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON

PBA BOWLS CLUB

City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

In a season when, for unprecedented reasons, the chances of bowling look unlikely it is good to look back and reflect on better times and to the origins of the club.

To many, the club started in 1974 when the bowling green at the **PBA Sports and Social Club** was opened. Built by **En-Tout-Cas** and started in 1973 at a cost of about £7500 it provided a home for the club founded years earlier by a few men who were keen to try this bowling lark.

Paul Bywater is the club's longest standing member and he was one of the men who wanted to give it a try and did so initially in **Canford Park** during lunch breaks from the port.

Paul remembers how in about 1969 a group of people from the PBA Avonmouth Office (including himself) ate their lunch early so as to be at Canford Park by 1pm. Once a week became twice. The original bowlers were **Paul Bywater, Dave Winstone, Pete Tarrant, Keith Thompson, Bruce Tilley, Malcolm Leach and Pete Stevens**. The idea caught on and soon lads from the workshop - **Ian Wilson, Howard English and Nobby Whitehead** joined in.

From that point serious consideration was given to forming a team that would apply for friendly fixtures and hopefully be accepted in the more serious bowls league. All of the aforementioned individuals were allocated a job. Paul became Match Secretary. Everybody did their bit to get things rolling but it was Ian Wilson who took a leading roll and incredibly arranged a green share with Avonmouth Bowls Club. This was at the original **Avonmouth Green** on the site of the

Avonmouth Football Club. PBA were made very welcome at Avonmouth and flourished with the arrival of more members. **Ernie Lee and Ken Culverwell** from the PBA Police. **Arthur Horley** and his brother **Ernie** plus **Joe Kidd, Eric Lishman and Ray Cooper** were non-PBA people. **Bert Sweet, Neil Wilson and Ken McCulloch** came from PBA Workshops. **Ivor Simmonds** came from the PBA Locomotive Shed and **Roy Simmons** was from the PBA Offices.

With a full fixture list Paul remembers a highlight being the game against **Cope Chat in Stroud**.

The club was soon playing league bowls and surprising some of the opponents. The first league victory was on **Brandon Hill against Cabot** who were a very good and well-respected team. It was a very warm evening and a couple of the PBA Team, although resplendent in grey trousers sported fashionable coloured vests. This met with looks of disdain and much whispering from the opposition and this grew as the scores pointed to a victory for the visitors. After this, correct dress was very much order of the day.

The story continues in the next edition – don't miss it!!

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

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Sea Cadets Shine a Light for Nurses

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



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

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

Kind regards and stay well

Christopher Batt



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

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

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