

Shire

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

No. 586 - November 2020 www.shire.org.uk 5,000 copies monthly

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

Poppies on the Green
See Pages 2 & 12

BOPF Community Fund Bids
See Page 6

TRASH TO TREASURE: Bristol Waste's First Ever Reuse Shop Opens

In June 2020, Avonmouth Reuse and Recycling Centre opened a shop for items which would otherwise be going to waste. These items include low cost goods, such as CDs, vinyl records, books and toys, but also TVs, furniture and a large selection of tiles and paint. Any income generated is used to fund further reuse work by the Company and a percentage donated to local charities.

This spacious new building is situated alongside the Recycling Centre with its own entrance. There is no need to queue on the road with those wanting to use the Recycling Centre only, nor to adhere to the ODD or EVEN rule; simply inform a staff member at the gate that you want to visit the shop only and he/she will direct you straight there and show you where to park. The shop hours are from 10am to 3pm on Monday to Friday and the telephone number is 0117 304 9590.

The shop is well set up to cater for its visitors, with delightful staff, Manager Joanna Dainton, Assistant Callum Stilwell and Volunteer Juliet Le Fevre on hand.

Continued on Page 7.



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Shire

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Please note the Shirehampton Librarian

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General enquiries 07580 776199

distribution@shire.org.uk 0117 982 0478

Internet address www.shire.org.uk

Submit articles editor@shire.org.uk

Advertising adverts@shire.org.uk

Telephone enquiries: **Weekdays 9am – 7pm**

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N.B. To meet the deadline with our typesetters, all written copy should be submitted by email or to the Library by the **10th of the month** before it appears in print, or it may not be included in the next edition.

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

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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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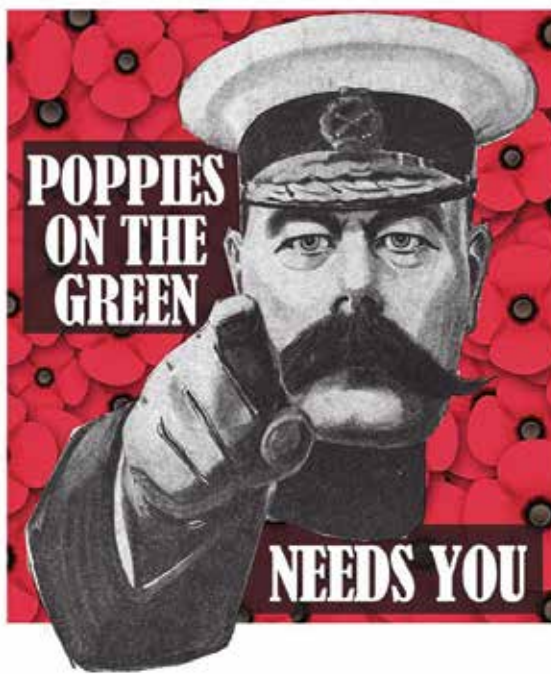
www.shirepubhall.org.uk

SHIRE PUBLIC INFO FOR NOVEMBER

Coronavirus Info and Advice

The Covid situation is continually changing, but while cases have been rising, Bristol remains in the medium tier, Tier One. We are asked to continue to **wash our hands regularly, social distance** where we can, **wear face coverings when required** in public spaces and self-isolate if we have symptoms or come into contact with the virus.

Regions in the medium category have to **abide by existing rules including the Rule of Six, 10pm curfew, and social distancing**. Hospitality businesses, non-essential shops, leisure and tourism venues, schools and workplaces all remain open.



We need you to make poppies at home out of plastic bottles. Paint them red or maybe even purple to represent the animals that were in both World Wars. You can also knit or crochet poppies.. You can find videos on how to make the plastic poppies and knitting/crochet patterns on our Facebook page (see below).

All poppy contributions can be dropped off at **The Public Hall, Station Road, Shirehampton, Bristol, BS11 9TX** by **Thursday 5th November at the latest**. There will be box inside the door to drop your poppies in.

We plan to put up the various displays on **Friday 6th November**. We can keep you updated via our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/poppiesonthegreen and you can also send us a message with any questions you may have to our **new** email address: poppiesonthegreen@gmail.com

Brought to you by Poppies On The Green & SCAF
(Shirehampton Community Action Forum)



Kacey-O'Neill (c) 2018

Library Opening

From **Monday 12th October Shirehampton Library will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1pm – 4pm on a 'Call and Collect' basis**. Readers must let the Library know in advance by email (or telephone during opening hours), the books they require. We will notify readers when the books are ready to be collected.

Covid guidelines including the wearing of masks will apply. Readers can also return their books during opening hours. Other facilities such as printing, photocopying and use of computers remain suspended for the time being.

Our Air, Our City

The Council plans to improve air quality in Bristol by maintaining the new ways of travel that emerged during lockdown and without charging or banning some vehicles. Bristol City Council has accelerated improvements to through traffic, cycle lanes and buses to help. If air pollution rises again, the Council will put in place a vehicle charging zone to reduce it.

We can cut toxic fumes by:

- Thinking twice before using open fires or wood-burning stoves
- Walking, cycling or scooting for short journeys
- Turning off car engines when stationary

For more suggestions go to the Clean Air for Bristol website: www.cleanairforbristol.org

Have your say before **22 November on the BCC Consultation webpage**. For a paper copy or information in an alternative format, email transport.engagement@bristol.gov.uk or call **07775 115 909** and leave a message on the answerphone.

STEM Skills Development – Looking for a provider

Shirehampton Public Hall Community Association has been awarded Coronavirus Community Support Funding for a community project. The project objective is to increase confidence and STEM skills like IT in young unemployed or young unqualified/unskilled people (age range is 16-24).

The Association is now looking for a provider who could deliver training/courses to help us to meet this objective. Contact & further enquiries: shirehamptonpublichall@gmail.com



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The *Shire* Community Page

Update from Darren Jones, MP

I'd normally be writing to invite you to a coffee morning, pub politics or a street stall in Shire to hear directly from you about your hopes and concerns for the village, our city and the country. Given the ongoing covid restrictions, we're now having to do that online. I'm therefore hosting a series of online 'town hall' events across the whole constituency.

If you're free it'd be great if you could join me for the Shirehampton virtual town hall on the 3rd December at 19:30. You can reserve a ticket online at www.darrenjonesmp.eventbrite.co.uk. The town hall will be held on Zoom – which I'm sure many of you have now had to use – but you can also dial in via the telephone if you'd prefer.

These online town halls give me a chance to listen to you about your priorities as well as giving you an opportunity to ask me any questions you might have. We unfortunately still have the pandemic to deal with, but I want to keep pushing on with local issues from securing investment in transport and our high streets to tackling problems like air pollution and crime.

In other news, it was also fantastic to see some of you at my recent Climate Assembly meeting on how we reach net zero as well as my briefing session on the changes to local planning rules, which I know is causing residents' concerns (especially in respect of our high street). We're expecting Government legislation on changes to the planning processes next year, so there will be more opportunities to discuss these issues soon.

Finally, I'm excited to announce the return of my Christmas Card competition. This year, we'll be taking entries from primary schools across our constituency, and I'll be publishing the winning designs in December. Local schools will let you know how your child can take part, but if you want further information please get in touch with me.



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

CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Shirehampton is in the Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Ward

Your Councillors are:

Donald Alexander – Labour: cllr.donald.alexander@bristol.gov.uk
 Matthew Melias – Conservative: cllr.matthew.melias@bristol.gov.uk
 Jo Sergeant – Labour: cllr.jo.sergeant@bristol.gov.uk
 Conservative Members' Services Office: 0117 922 2746
 Labour Members' Services Office: 0117 922 3827

CONTACTING YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Shirehampton is in the Bristol North West Constituency

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

Avonmouth Ladies Club

Due to the current Coronavirus concerns, it was decided by the committee to cancel all meetings for 2020.

It was also proposed that in future our annual break will be in January/February instead of July/August, therefore our first meeting back in 2021 will be on 2nd March which will be a welcome-back bring & share supper and quiz night. This decision was taken in light of the fact that many members do not feel safe going out evenings during the cold & dark winter nights. We have exciting plans for the summer evenings for next year, so it just falls to me to wish everyone a very peaceful Christmas and a hopeful and joyous 2021 when we hope to see you all in March.

From the Chairwoman & Committee.

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Letters to the Editor

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



CRICKET PHOTO - MEMORIES OF MR CROOK

Dear Editor,

To my generation of Junior schoolchildren in Shirehampton in the mid 1940's he was simply known as "Daddy" Crook though from one experience of mine I think he should also have been known as "Daddy Longlegs!"

I was not at school one day - I cannot now remember why - and walking along Pembroke Road beside St. Mary's church. I saw him coming up behind me and I started running. With a few long-legged swift strides he caught up with me and brought me to a halt by grabbing the back of my braces!

Later, in the early 1960's, I was back at St. Bernard's school as a teacher - and Mr. Crook was still in the same job. He came in for names of unauthorized absentees. He knew I played cricket for Twyford House Cricket Club every Saturday and usually did a fair bit of the bowling, so his first question to me was always as to whether I had taken any wickets: he would say, "well, was it 5 for 20 or 0 for plenty?!"

Bill Patten

Dear Editor,

I was interested to read the information from Mollie Thorborn and Judy Helme regarding the cricket photograph in the previous issue. I was glad to have a name for Mr Crook. I recognized the face but could not remember the name.

However, I did not recognize Dave Thorburn in the picture, even though we are of the same age and were at Shirehampton Junior School together. I recognized Ken Perry standing next to him, he taught me at Portway School.

The last time I saw Dave Thorburn was around 1999. I had a part time retirement job with NOP (National Opinion Poll) and was interviewing for the government, I knocked on the door and a very affable man invited me in. After the survey, I took down his details and, when I heard his name was Thorburn told him I went to School with David Thorburn and was he related "Yes"! He said with some surprise "he is my dad and he is sitting right over there. He introduced me, but neither he nor I recognized the other, but it was quite a co-incidence!"

Gill Osman

THE SS GREAT BRITAIN RETURNS TO BRISTOL

Dear Editor,

It was nice to see the photo of the SS Great Britain in the Shire and to read Mr Elkington's letter. I remember it 50 years ago, just as his parents had told him.

I got up early that day with my husband Don-who sadly passed away a couple of years ago. We lived on the Portway at Shirehampton for 57 years, so only had to come across the road and rail line to the riverbank. Our daughter Julie decided to look out of the bedroom window and said she had a good view; there were prefabs there then - no Park and Ride.

Perhaps someone may remember us, my husband provided photos for The Shire over the years, and I am pleased to receive the paper with news each month.

Daphne Grace,

Aged 95 (Olive Tree Care Home)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRIN

Dear Editor,

When reading the August edition of Shire I saw the two photos of Brin Chilcott celebrating his 90th Birthday, I would like to wish him late Birthday wishes (to Ginger as he was known back as kids).

Happy Birthday, stay healthy for the next one.

Kind Regards,

Johnny Rogers, USA

A CASHLESS SOCIETY

Dear Editor,

Hello. I was very interested to read your article about a cashless society.

It has been a hindrance to me at many places not being able to use my cash. I am very wary about using my credit card particularly the contactless variety (which I never use). I have witnessed when often it doesn't work first time and who knows if it hasn't taken the money off twice. Do people check their bank statements that carefully? With cash you KNOW how much you are spending as your purse empties.

I think we should NOT be forced into a cashless society.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Steel

FIRST WORLD WAR REMOUNT CENTRE COMMEMORATION

Dear Editor,

It was interesting to hear on Radio Bristol that you are planning to mark the First World War remount in Shirehampton. You may be interested that we have some connection with this. My Grandfather, Thomas Farr died in 1928 and some years later the family moved across the River to Pill, where we still live. I've attached photo of Thomas outside the farm, possibly about 1900.

Best wishes, Bob Buck



©Bob Buck



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

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

- Improve health and fitness level
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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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Community Fund Bids

Bristol Older People's Forum (BOPF) Voice and Influence Partnership (VIP) Community Fund

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

Bristol Older People's Forum (BOPF) is pleased to announce it is inviting bids from community groups that support older people in the city. We will be allocating small grants to a number of groups of up to £400 from the total of £3,000 available.

The grants are part of our Voice and Influence Partnership work, which is aimed at empowering older people, as well as challenging ageism and ageist stereotypes. We are particularly keen to promote projects that are intergenerational, enable older people to be part of decision-making, address loneliness and isolation, and are innovative.

The small grants available can either kick-start a new idea or sustain an existing service, and will cover the period December 2020 - April 2021.

Applications open on Wednesday 14 October 2020 and you need to have submitted your application by the closing date: **MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2020, 9:00 AM.**

We will offer project development support to successful projects, as well as advice and feedback to projects that were not selected for funding. We will also encourage project participants to become members of BOPF.

If you represent a community group that supports older people in Bristol, and can meet any of these criteria, you are very welcome to bid for the funding available.

Below are some examples of why you might want to apply to the fund, your application doesn't need to directly relate to any of them - as long as you feel you have a good reason to apply you can put in an application.

Examples of why you might apply:

- Your older people or intergenerational group has lost funding or has a shortfall and a grant will help you continue to provide a service to your community.
- Due to COVID-19 you needed to change the way you work, for example moving activities or services online.
- You have identified a need for older people in your community and wish to start a new service/activity and the grant will help you meet this. This could include intergenerational activities.
- You have an idea you feel will benefit older people in your community and the grant will help you develop this idea.

Before you apply please read the criteria below.

- Your project or group must serve one or more older people community groups and be based in Bristol.
- Your organisation/group needs to have a constitution.



Bristol Older People's FORUM



Voice & Influence Partnership

Bristol Older People's Forum CIO
Canningford House,
38 Victoria Street, Bristol BS1 6BY
0117 927 9222
bopfadmin@ageukbristol.org.uk
www.bopf.org.uk
BOPF Registered Charity Number: 1162616 1

To apply please read the FULL Information and Guidance document online before completing the online application form. Alternatively, you can complete an electronic Word version (also online) which you can post or email back to us. You can also access the documentation on our website here: www.bopf.org.uk/our-work/voice-influence-partnership-vip.

Ian Bickerton, Chair, BOPF

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Continued from Page 1.

The friendly staff are available to help and give out information such as direction to follow, mask rule, pricing of everything on display and a 'strong man' to carry any goods to your car such as logs and heavy furniture! All the shop staff members are so helpful and informative that you are sure to enjoy finding gifts or 'just what you're looking for' in a very pleasant atmosphere.

If you want to donate goods to the shop, there is a procedure to be followed, which the shop staff will tell you about. They are always looking for volunteers with testing of electrical items, upcycling furniture or simply helping on the shop floor. If you would like to volunteer, you can contact them by email on: general@bristolwastecompany.co.uk



Bristol Waste began reuse work in April 2018 when they started collecting bikes and mobility aids at Recycling Centres and donating these to project partners. Since then the award-winning team have salvaged over 76 tonnes of material from the waste stream, including:

- Diverting 22 tonnes of paint from the waste stream
- Saving 25 tonnes of books, sending them to be reused
- Donating over 1,400 bikes and 1,600 mobility aids to local charities
- Raising more than £5k for charity.

Fiona Grinham & Emma Williams

The shop is based at Avonmouth Reuse and Recycling Centre, Kings Weston Lane, BS11 0YS

For more information visit: www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/reuse

Friends With Pens

Friends with Pens provides people aged 55 years and over and university students the chance to write to a pen pal. The project aims to encourage new friendships by connecting people from various walks of life.

It offers people the chance to share their stories and experiences with others and is suitable for anyone who enjoys letter writing.

If you are interested in hearing more or getting involved contact Sophie from Bristol Hub on 07464209982 or sophie.payne@bristolhub.org

Friends With Pens

Build friendships; Connect with others; Share your stories

What? An intergenerational penpal scheme between people in the Bristol community aged over 55 and University of Bristol students

Who? If you are older than 55, live in Bristol and enjoy letter writing this is suitable for you

When? We will send you more information and once you have signed up and been matched, you can expect to hear from your penpal in November

How? Contact Sophie Payne from Bristol Hub on 07464209982 or sophie.payne@bristolhub.org





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LAWRENCE WESTON FARM EVENTS

The farm is following current Government guidelines on Covid-19. We ask that everyone wash their hands on arrival and observe social distancing with other visitors, staff and volunteers. Please check in using the NHS Track and Trace App. Please do not come to the farm if you feel unwell or are experiencing other symptoms of Covid-19.

Farm Tots

Wednesdays 10.30-11.30am £2.50

Help feed the animals. For under 5s and their carers. Drop in most Wednesdays. Please check Facebook for any changes.

Walking Group

Wednesdays 2-3.30pm

Improve your health and meet new people by joining our free, friendly, weekly walking group. If coming for the first time, please arrive at 1.45 to sign up.

Gardening Group

Fridays 11 -12.30pm

Interested in getting involved in gardening on the farm? Come along Fridays to help with our gardens. Call Ian 0117 9381128 for more details.

Herbs for Health

First Friday of the Month 11-12.30

Help sow and grow a range of herbs and learn about their uses. Have a go at using them for cooking and wellbeing. Meet new people and spend time outside. These sessions are for people living locally to the farm. Free. No experience necessary.

Farm Hands

Saturdays and Sundays FREE

Local 8-11yr olds can come and help look after the farm.

If you are interested in any of these activities or need an application form for Farm Hands then please contact Kerry on 0117 9381128 or kerry@lwfarm.org.uk



LARK ASCENDING

Do you ever wonder why there is a plaque on the Shirehampton Public Hall front door? In 2009 previous trustees of this beautiful grade II building organised a commemorative event during which the plaque was unveiled in tribute to composer Ralph Vaughan Williams (RVW). Not many people realise that on 15th December 1920 the Hall was the scene of the world premiere of Williams' famous work for a solo violin and piano accompaniment – The Lark Ascending.




It was frequently voted the best loved piece of classical music in the UK. This short, single movement work inspired by the 1881 poem of the same name by the English writer George Meredith is also widely recognised and loved in other countries around the world.

But why did this famous piece have its premier at our village hall? In 20th century the Hall played an important role in the cultural history of Bristol. It was a forerunner to other venues such as The Victoria Rooms and Bristol Hippodrome. Philip Napier Miles, previous owner of Kings Weston House, was a gifted composer and musician who made his home and the Hall available to well-known musicians like Ralph Vaughan Williams.

This year 100th anniversary of the premier is taking place. We really hope that the Hall and Bristol Ensemble will manage to celebrate such an important occasion by having a concert on the evening of 15th December. We've been planning a series of other events for the residents but they may have to be postponed until next year due to Covid 19 restrictions. Watch the space! In the meantime, on these long autumn evenings, enjoy listening to it on **You Tube** that was recorded by BBC4 at the Hall a few years ago by searching for "The Lark Ascending (performed as originally heard)"

Edyta Lang

Trustee of Shirehampton Public Hall



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Churches in the Shirehampton Area

St Bernard's Catholic Church News

Hello from St Bernard's church, you're probably wondering where we've been! I know St Bernard's news has been conspicuous by its absence. But for a church started in 1903 and extended in the 1920s, we're definitely still part of the community.



After many weeks of watching a Sunday service online, we have now been able to return to celebrating **Mass** together in the church, at **9am on Sundays and 9am on Thursdays**. All the expected guidelines are in place, so there are limited numbers able to attend, but joyous never the less.

We have even been able to celebrate 15 young people confirming their faith, and **Bishop Declan** was able to concelebrate this Mass. By the end of October we hope that the children, who started their

preparation earlier this year, will be able to make their First Holy Communion. We all contemplate harvest at this time of year, a time to gather in and feed our local and worldwide community. So, by returning to attending church we have been able to collect funds for CAFOD (Catholic Aid for Overseas Development) and also collect much needed donations for the Foodbank. It's lovely to see all the news from the other churches and realise how great it is to have such an active community.

Bye for now,

Leonie X

Hello from Shire Methodist

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

*“Come, ye thankful people, come
Raise the song of harvest home
All is safely gathered in
Ere the winter storms begin
God our Maker doth provide
For our wants to be supplied
Come to God's own temple, come
Raise the song of harvest home.”*

(Henry Alford, 1844)

We joined in singing this song in our heads in October to celebrate our **harvest festival service**. We reflected that autumn is very different this year and sometimes it is difficult to think of what we are thankful for. Despite the disruptions in our lives due to Covid-19, the rhythm of the church year remains the same: Easter, harvest, Christmas. We are thankful for all the help and support that our community has given and received during this challenging year. We are also thankful to God for the comfort that he has given us and for the prayers he has answered. We shared our harvest gifts with the local Food Bank and the Methodist Centre, to help support people in our communities who are still struggling to get their basic needs met: food and shelter.

Many of our church family and friends are continuing to worship from home and we are still keeping in touch with each other by phone, letter,



email and WhatsApp. We are aware of many people who are currently experiencing health challenges and we are holding them in prayer.

Our Morning Worship is held on most **Sundays at 11am** in our church building. We are aiming for at least three services in our church building per month, led in turn by **Revd. Patrick Stonehewer** (for Holy Communion), our church family, and a visiting preacher. **Please contact us to check whether it is going ahead, to avoid disappointment.** We have completed a thorough Covid-19 risk assessment so that we can keep our community as safe as possible. Revd. Patrick Stonehewer also shares weekly reflections that can be accessed via his YouTube channel.

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

Everyone at Shire Methodist



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

REGULAR EVENTS

MONDAY

Pilates 9:30-10:30am

Personal Fitness 6:30-7:30pm

TUESDAY (1st & 3rd of each month)

Film Night 7:30pm*

WEDNESDAY

Keep Fit 10:30-11:30am

Personal Fitness 5:15-6:15pm

Pilates 6:30-7:30pm

THURSDAY

Bingo 2:30pm

Personal Fitness 7-8pm

Table Tennis 8pm

FRIDAY

Keep Fit 10:30-11:30am

SATURDAY (2nd of each month)

Coffee Morning 10am

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St Mary's News

Hi Folks!

October has just passed and here we are now preparing to celebrate Guy Fawkes Night, which is likely to look different this year. We do have some planned events we hope to host but, some may or may not take place.

On Sunday, 4th October, we held our Harvest Festival and we were privileged to host Dr. John Manley, High Sheriff of Bristol, and his wife as our guests. Dr Manley looked extremely grand in his official sheriff's robes and brought with him his ceremonial sword. He explained to the congregation his role as Sheriff and the original function of his sword. I am sure many of us did not know the significance of his office and it was a privilege to learn so much.

We did not expect to have a Harvest Loaf this year, following the liquidation of the local bakery that normally made it. Much to our surprise and delight, the day was saved by Joanna Leighton, wife of our new Curate Simon. Joanna used her culinary skills to make a mini Harvest Loaf in the shape of a sheaf of corn together with a harvest mouse. We were able to display it in front of our temporary Nave Altar. Our grateful thanks go to Joanna for her kindness and skill in ensuring our tradition of having a Harvest Loaf continued.

We must thank all those who donated so generously to our Harvest Appeal this year - we managed to fill a large trolley and 2 large boxes with tins, jars,

packets of food, toiletry items and more, which were delivered to the North West Foodbank in Avonmouth. They were absolutely delighted to receive these donations and confirmed it will make a huge difference to their clients' lives. Thank you all.

Please note, it is very unlikely that a Procession will take place from St Mary's to the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. We will have a service in St Mary's on that Sunday that will include an Act of Remembrance, but numbers allowed inside the church will be limited in order to observe social distancing.

Sadly, it does appear that we also may not be able to hold our Annual Memorial Service when we pray and remember loved ones who have passed on from this earthly life. We have not yet had any comment or authorisation from the Bristol Diocese as to whether we can go ahead with this service. It would be a shame not to go ahead as it is always very popular and attracts a large congregation. Despite this, it is likely we shall have our Advent Tree of Light when Memorial Cards bearing the names of lost loved ones will again be hung on its



branches. These cards will hopefully be available when the church is open - i.e. Thursday mornings at 11.00am and Sundays at 10.30am, so you will still have an opportunity to remember loved ones in this very special way. If you need to check when the church is open, please email our administrator at: stmarysshirehampton@outlook.com.

Now for some more positive news - as we cannot hold our usual Christmas Fayre inside the church, we plan to hold a Christmas Market in the Churchyard on Saturday, 14th November between 10am and midday, when we shall be selling Jams, Preserves, Cakes, Books and Crafts. Being outside means it will be easier to encourage social distancing and observe the current regulations.

Given the rapidly changing situation, please keep an eye on St Mary's Facebook page and website to check if events are still taking place or to note any alterations.

Bye for now. C.M.E.

Shirehampton Baptist Church News

All is safely gathered in, Ere the Winter storms begin, a line from a Harvest hymn. Yes Winter is near, with dark mornings and evenings yet in spite of this difficult year we have had months of sunshine enabling us to enjoy our gardens and the lovely countryside

We were able to hold our Harvest Service on September 29th in our building and on Zoom. There was a lovely display of flowers and fruit thanks to a talented member and tins and dried food went to our local food bank. No singing but some flag waving by the younger members present.

During lockdown most churches have been indebted to our technicians who have enabled us to meet on zoom especially. These people use their knowledge to further God's work as do others gifted in so many ways. The Bible refers to the Church as a body with Christ at the head and each one is important. There are those who work behind the scenes yet are equally valued as those who lead from the front.

We now meet in our building every Sunday at 11am and on Zoom. Apart from the second Sunday of the month there is a service on

Zoom at 4:30pm. Our next monthly service at the Cotswold Community Hall, Dursley Road will be on Sunday November 8th at 4:45pm We will be studying the Lord's prayer and all are welcome

Most of you will have received a Good News, free paper. It really does contain good news, rare in these days We trust you will be interested by the true life stories of people who have come to faith in Jesus Christ. Our Church building is open every Thursday for private prayer or if you want someone to pray for you or a loved one. You may have questions concerning Christianity. We are there to help.

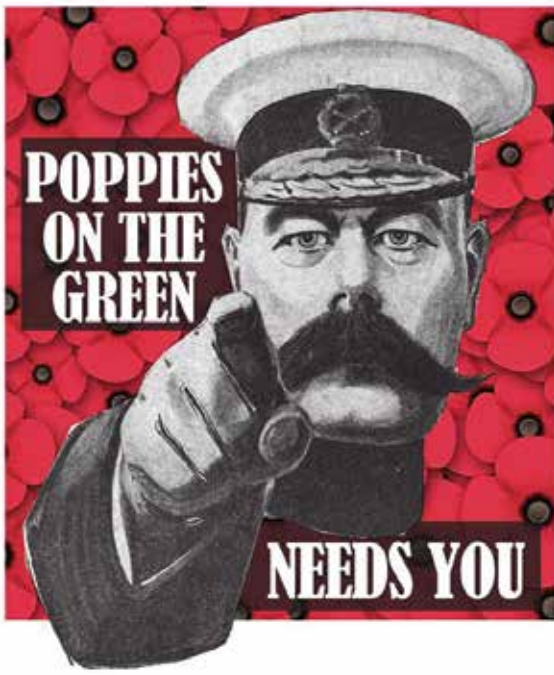
Christmas this year will be without many of its delights but unless there is a complete lockdown the Churches of the village will be open to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the one in whom many will have put their trust and He offers salvation to all.



We wish all readers a virus free and peaceful November.

Greetings from Shirehampton Baptist Church

Mair Blandford



These are strange and uncertain times we live in with Covid-19 affecting our lives in one form or other. However "Poppies on the Green" will be going ahead this year with displays on The Green, Shirehampton, The Daisy Field and Shirehampton Railway Station, both just off The Portway.

This year, 2020, marks 75 years since the end of WWII, 80 years since Operation Dynamo (Dunkirk) and 80 years since the Battle of Britain. Unfortunately we have had to curtail some of our plans and adjust ideas along the way. Sadly there

will be no 'painting poppies' sessions this year and we know how much many of you loved taking part in these social gatherings.

However as a community we need your help. We hope many of you will still take part and make your own poppies at home out of plastic bottles and painting them red or maybe even purple to represent the animals that were in both World Wars. You can also knit or crochet poppies if you wish. You can find videos on how to make the plastic poppies and knitting/crochet patterns on our Facebook page.

Local shops and businesses have been approached to show creative silhouette displays in their windows this year provided by young and old alike, with their artistic skills being brought together for all to see.

All poppy contributions for the displays can be dropped off at The Public Hall, Station Road, Shirehampton, Bristol BS11 9TX by Thursday 5th November at the latest. There will be box inside the door where your creative poppies can be dropped in to.

We plan to put up the various displays on Friday 6th November and Covid-19 won't stop us achieving this. We can only keep you updated via our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/poppiesonthegreen but you can also send a message at our new email address: poppiesonthegreen@gmail.com with any questions you may have. You can also leave a message for "Poppies on the Green" at the Public Hall on: 0117 9829963.

This year there may not be very many Poppy Sellers out and about but the Royal British Legion have



an A4 size red poppy poster and a poppy you can colour in yourself if you wish. You can download both of them from www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate

Don't forget to make a donation if you can.

What would be a wonderful thing to do in the four villages area - Shirehampton, Sea Mills/Coombe Dingle, Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston - is make every poppy count and place the British Royal Legion Poppies in our front windows to show our support and to say they have not been forgotten.

We thank you all for your help and look forward to receiving your contributions this year.

Kathryn Courtney and Ash Bearman



Katey O'Neill (c) 2018

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THE GREEN PAGES

SHIREHAMPTON CONSERVATION CONSULTATION AREA

Bristol City Council has completed a review of Shirehampton's historic character and is launching a public consultation to extend the boundaries of the local Conservation Area.

Shirehampton still has a distinct village character, it is encircled by a ridge of hills and is caught in the bend of the River Avon, but also because of the local conservation area. The Shirehampton local conservation area was established in 1975 and was last reviewed in 1993. A reassessment of the boundaries and special character is now due.

The boundary review has revealed significant portions of historic townscape were previously left out, resulting in a proposed extension of the designated area. The proposed boundary changes include new areas, defined as being important to the visual and historic character of Shirehampton.

The new areas being proposed are **Passage Leaze, Springfield Avenue** and around the **Bristol Garden Suburb, Priory Road, Walton Road, Bradley Crescent, Bradley Avenue**, and an extension to include much of **Station Road** to the south of the Public Hall.

Councillor **Nicola Beech**, Cabinet member for Spatial Planning and City Design, said: "It's great to be able to focus on Shirehampton, and to discover it has such a unique history. We hope that

the new consultation can help us develop a shared understanding of what makes Shirehampton special, and ensure we can protect it for the future, for everyone. We recognise that the area has lost a lot of character and interesting buildings over the years, even with the Conservation Area in place, but we hope that this first reappraisal in almost thirty years can mark a new beginning, and empower people to take a role in championing it."

Conservation Areas are beneficial for the social and cultural identity of the communities who live in them, and empower people to help protect much-cherished historic character and features. They bring social, economic, and environmental benefits to those living within them and nearby. Development taking place within them requires careful management to help protect what makes local conservation areas special places to live and visit.

As well as the review of the existing boundaries the Council's draft **Conservation Area Character Appraisal** provides a fresh insight of the local area and a new understanding of its history and development.



The process has highlighted some fascinating new insights into Shirehampton's past. From the medieval village layout, through its establishment as a picturesque Georgian retreat, to its Edwardian aspirations as a Garden City, the history of 'Shire' is still written into its streets, greenspaces, and buildings.

It is important that features that are valued, or are under threat, are properly considered and that proposed boundaries extend to cover as much area of local value as possible.

Local groups have already contributed to the draft appraisal and now Bristol City Council is asking for wider views from the community.

The public consultation runs until 23 November 2020.

Following feedback the Council hopes to adopt the new appraisal and Conservation Area extension by December 2020.

To find out more and share your views, visit: www.bristol.gov.uk/shirehamptonCA

Flood Mitigation Strategy Launched

Bristol City Council and the Environment Agency have unveiled their plan for reducing the risk of flooding from the River Avon to Bristol and neighbouring communities.

The **Bristol Avon Flood Strategy** is the result of multiple technical studies to find the most feasible and cost-effective way of managing the increasing risk of flooding from the River Avon. The council will be **asking citizens for their views on the proposals in a public consultation from 25 October – 20 December.**

Today, around 1,100 properties near the city centre and a further 200 properties in neighbouring communities are at risk in the unlikely event of a severe river or tidal flood. Without additional defences, the number of homes and businesses at risk would rise to around 4,500 by the end of the century as climate change and rising sea levels increase the risk of more severe flooding.

The proposals – presented in a 'Strategic Outline Case' – set out the council's preferred route to better protect homes and properties. This approach would see new flood defences created or the level of existing defences raised along the lower lying sections of the River Avon. New defences would be designed to be in keeping with the local area, and developed in consultation with

local communities as more detailed proposals for areas along the river come forward.

While improved flood defences are needed to reduce the impact of flooding across the city, the council's plan is to create defences that improve life in the city year-round, not just when the River Avon floods. The necessary works create the opportunity to improve walking and cycling links along the River Avon and into the rest of the city, as well as maintaining and improving access to the river.

The council will also look for opportunities to enhance or preserve public spaces, wildlife areas and heritage sites.

The approach would be adaptive; meaning any construction of defences would be in phases. Defences would only be built as high as needed in the short term, but could be raised if the risk of flooding increases, future-proofing the city against rising sea levels and the effects of climate change.

The council's public consultation on its proposals will run from 26th October to 20th December. While everyone in the city who

wishes to have a say will be able to, the council is prioritizing those most likely to be affected by its proposals and by potential future flooding.

Starting this week (5th October), the council has written to around 1,200 homes and businesses near the River Avon to invite them to have an early conversation with the council to ask questions and voice any concerns they may have.

The consultation documents also set out the flood defence options considered by the council and Environment Agency but not deemed feasible following numerous technical studies. These include a tidal barrier or barrage, both of which would not reduce, and could even worsen, the flood risk from river flows from upstream, as well as being significantly more expensive than the proposed approach.

Consultation on the proposed approach is the first stage in a long-term plan. If the strategy is approved, it is anticipated works could start from 2025, following additional technical assessments, detailed design work, further public engagement and planning consents.

Clem Teagle, Bristol City Council



How to Combat Climate Change? Have a Chat and Dig a Pond!



Shirehampton Climate Emergency Group

Climate activists around the world tell us the most important thing we can do is “keep the climate conversation going.” The recent report from the UK Citizens’ Assembly on Climate Change (www.parliament.uk/business/news/2020/september/climate-assembly-uk-new/) stressed the importance of improved information and education for all on climate change.

This is what the Shirehampton Climate Emergency Group tried to offer through the various events and talks we organized before Covid and lockdown put a stop to public gatherings. At the moment the best we can do is try to keep you informed about local and national initiatives to combat climate change and protect and restore the natural world.

We’ve talked before about the **Government’s Green Homes Grant Scheme** to support home insulation, so here is where you can find details of how to apply for the scheme:

www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme

www.gov.uk/government/news/homeowners-to-see-savings-available-under-new-green-homes-grant-scheme

You might also like to contact our local **Bristol Centre for Sustainable Energy**. They give free advice on how to make your house more energy efficient.

Closer to home **Bristol City Council** has launched its **One City Ecological Emergency Strategy**, a 10-year plan to protect wildlife, ecosystems and habitats in the face of the rapid decline in wildlife locally and globally. The strategy covers four key areas:

1. Space for nature - manage at least a third of land in Bristol for the benefit of wildlife by 2030.
2. Pesticides - reduce pesticide use in Bristol by at least half by 2030.
3. Pollution - 100% of Bristol’s waterways to have water quality that supports healthy wildlife by 2030.
4. Consumption - people and businesses to reduce consumption of products that undermine the health of wildlife and ecosystems around the world.

To read more on the Bristol strategy, go to: www.bristolonecity.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/One-City-Ecological-Emergency-Strategy.pdf

PONDS

We know the decline in wildlife around the world is the result of the same destructive environmental practices that are causing climate change, so anything we do to protect wildlife will help combat climate change. And this is where PONDS come in! We are told the best thing we can do for wildlife is dig a pond! It doesn’t have to be big or expensive to support local wildlife. Here are a couple of examples of garden ponds in Shirehampton. Maybe you’d like to send Shire a photo of your pond and a few words about it to carry on the climate conversation. We are deeply concerned about what is happening to our Climate and to the other creatures who share the planet with us. Let’s show each other what we are all doing to make safe spaces for nature to thrive.

Renee Slater



©Tom and Lucy Bradley & John Hastings



©Tom and Lucy Bradley & John Hastings

Nature Notes

I am sure someone can tell me what this interesting and attractive creature might be?!?! I noticed it having a rest/sunbathe on our conservatory a couple of weeks ago, as I was about to walk the dogs. I think it could be a Green Lacewing, but happy to be corrected!



©Bobbie Perkins

Happy to report a return to the riverside near our home. About three weeks ago I saw Kestrel hunting along the hedgerow overlooking the river. It used to be a common sight, but disappeared a while ago, so it brought a big smile to see one back here. Maybe the threat from Sparrow hawks in the breeding season had caused them to move on.

We scattered some scraps out very late last night, and were rewarded by three very healthy young foxes rushing in to clean up. They had super coats and very bushy tails: the best looking I have seen in a long time. Let’s hope this will last.

Apart from a solitary, very pretty robin, and my ever faithful “goldies”, the garden is not attracting anything else to the feeders at present.

This will hopefully change as winter sneaks in. But there’s plenty of autumn to enjoy for now!

Happy nature watching!

Bobbie Perkins



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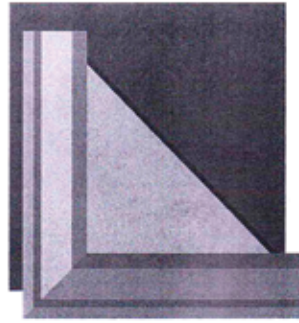
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Co-op Staff Heroes for the Day

On the 19th September Co-op staff in Shirehampton got dressed up as super heroes for a fund raising event in aid of 'Mind'. The total raised was £90 and the Co-op would like to thank their customers for their contributions for such a worthy cause.

'Mind' provides advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. The organisation campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding.

You can find out more information at www.mind.org.uk and on a local level Bristol 'Mind' can be contacted by email: info@bristolmind.org.uk or telephone 0117 98003700.

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SPORT IN SHIREHAMPTON



City and Port of Bristol Bowling Club

The club has been resilient in what has been a difficult season due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Following guidelines issued by the sport's governing body **Bowls England** and approved by the UK Government bowling has taken place and almost twenty bowlers have been to the green to enjoy rolling a wood once again following an early season period of uncertainty. From the point on **June 16th** when **Charlie Maby and Dave Chilcott** became the first bowlers of the season others have followed, some more often than others but importantly there has been bowling.



©David Hinksman

In addition to pre-booked roll up sessions there was a mini-pairs competition, organised by **Chairperson Lis Davies**, it ran from w/c **August 24th** until the end of the season.

Four pairs took part and each pair bowled against the other three pairs twice in fifteen end games with two points for the winners and one point each for a draw.

Some very good, keen and competitive bowling was seen and when the final game had been played it was **Charlie Maby and Dave Chilcott** who came out in front by shot difference from **Ken Davies** and **Bill Hatherall**. Taking part and being on the green was the most important thing and the other two pairs - **Dee and Brian Crawley, Gill and David Hinksman** played a full part in making the competition the success it was.

There is good news about season 2021, the **Gloucestershire Association** is planning a full programme of competitions and the **Bristol Men's and Ladies Leagues** are planning to operate as normal. Decisions are yet to be made regarding competitions at club level and whether there will be a return to playing friendly fixtures. Much will depend on the situation regarding Covid 19 when the new season commences in April 2021.



©David Hinksman



©David Hinksman

At present it is not possible because of government restrictions to hold meetings at the club. The AGM which normally takes place in October has provisionally been put back to the New Year. Hopefully it will be possible to hold that meeting and also the start of season meeting in March.

The green closed at the start of October and the Green-Keeper will now carry out his winter programme of work in readiness for next season. He has worked through the year to produce a much improved green and expects the improvement to continue still further over time.

Thanks go to from the club to everybody who had made a contribution during 2020. Although there were no visiting clubs, it is important to keep things in good order and that has certainly been achieved this year- thank you.

In the next edition we will take a look back at some special days out including two visits to Windsor and those games played on an island in the middle of the Thames.

For further information about the club, its activities and how to join, please contact **David Hinksman** on 0117 9082713.



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Family Announcements



Doreen Williams

Peacefully passed away on 9th September 2020 aged 83.

Mother, Grandmother & Great Grandmother she will be greatly missed by Mark, Paul, Helen, Julie, and their families.

Many thanks to Westbury Nursing Home for looking after her so well.

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More Memories of the 191

from Gil Osman

GANG SHOW

Reg Clarke was a born organiser. He created and ran the 191 Gang Show, which was performed every year at the Public Hall. The whole Group was involved (Cubs, Scouts [Senior Scouts later] and Rover Scouts - plus the Scouters. Naturally all their families came, together with their friends and neighbours - so we always had a packed hall!

Besides organising and running the show, Reg also compered it, and conducted the whole 191 Group on stage for a camp-fire sing-song. He also wrote a "potted pantomime" for every show. This was very short and the lines were easy to learn, for he wrote the whole thing in rhyming couplets. One of the pantos was called "Pantomania", for it included characters from all the well-known pantomimes. I remember playing the roles of Aladdin, Robinson Crusoe and Wishy-Washy among others. This cemented my interest in performing (after Babes in the Wood at Shirehampton Infants School and Smugglers Honour at Harry Grainger's youth club) and I later

acted in several plays at college, one being Happy as Larry by Donagh McDonagh - which was written in RHYMING COUPLETS! Later still I joined an amateur dramatic group in Farnham, Surrey.

I felt very honoured, once, when I was on Christmas leave from the army, helping out and playing the piano at the Gang Show, Reg said that he had writer's block and asked if I could continue writing the panto. I soon got used to writing in couplets and used that format, years later, when writing the Old Mrs Waters and Young Mr Pace poems for the Shire.

SHIREHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Millionaire's In the Making

Year 6 students at Shirehampton Primary School have recently enjoyed a week spent looking at millionaire's and how they came to make their fortune. This culminated in the children making their own products for sale, the class that made the most profit won the day!

They were given the task of researching Anita Roddick and the creation of the body shop empire. After studying Anita, we made a selection of bath bombs to sell to the rest of the school. Although we made a healthy profit selling all our bath bombs, we were unfortunately pipped to the prize by the slime-making Year 4's.

Michele Daniels, Office Manager

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