

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

FOR SHIPHAM, ROWBERROW & STAR

AUTUMN 2020



## **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

Welcome back!

After a “lost” spring and summer we are hopefully seeing the green shoots of a return to a more social way of life, albeit a new normal. After missing distributing the Newsletter for the first time in over 10 years it is good to be back. We remember those near and dear to members of our community who have sadly passed away without the opportunity to celebrate their lives more fully. Our community came together to support those who needed a helping hand during lock-down. Particular thanks are due to the Hansford’s crew for keeping the village well supplied with essentials and more; to Lenny’s volunteers for providing “meals on wheels”; the Cider Barn for bringing in plants so gardens bloomed; the Penscott for lovely take-aways; the volunteers who have ensured the church has been open; Anne and Nigel Oakley with a cast of performers for their “clap for carers” interludes and the VE day socially distanced concert.

The Parish Council has turned to Zoom so that meetings and essential business, including considering planning applications, continued. Kate Hillis was elected council chair in May; many thanks to Iain Shaw for the many years of service he has committed to the parish as chairman. The major project completed during the summer has been the installation of new railings and gates at the burial ground. Hopefully everyone agrees these are a major improvement. PC meetings will continue on the third Monday of the month, held on Zoom for the foreseeable future; please contact any councillor or the Clerk, Sam Peake, if you have any issues to raise. [shiphamparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shiphamparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk)

Finally, with this edition we welcome Jane Dawes as the new editor of the newsletter. Grateful thanks to Barbara for the sterling work she put in during her stint as editor, keeping the parish connected.

**ST LEONARD'S, SHIPHAM**

**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, ROWBERROW**

St Leonard's is open for private prayer and reflection every day from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Every Sunday there is a Communion service on Zoom at 10.00 am. If you wish to join, then please contact Revd Tim Hawkings tel: 732261.

Some services have resumed in Shipham and Rowberrow. Please see Catch This magazine or Parish Website for details [www.shipham.org.uk/church](http://www.shipham.org.uk/church).

If you are feeling isolated or anxious and would like to talk, then please contact Revd Tim or Pam Williams 843772.

Sadly, Lenny's remains closed for the time being, but meals will continue to be delivered to customers who have requested them.

**SOMERSET ACTIVE LIVING**

**DROP- IN CENTRE at SHIPHAM VILLAGE HALL**

**SEPTEMBER 2020**

Hello everyone, Here we are in September with no plans to resume our Friday get-togethers and lunches until the New Year. We had a committee meeting in Gloria's lovely garden at the beginning of August to discuss our future plans.

Sadly we have now had notice from Roz, our cook, who is not returning to catering due to her own poor health. This obviously puts another obstacle in our return to the 'new normal'. The committee voted that we have a Pre-Xmas Coffee morning on Friday 11th December 2020, date to be confirmed, and hopefully move on in the New Year With something similar fortnightly until we can find a new cook so that we can resume lunches at the earliest possible date. I will be advertising for a cook again but with the situation at the moment with local lockdowns and new cases still it may be a little difficult. "Staying at Home" for the vulnerable amongst us has been relaxed but I know some people are still being very cautious about going out. The pubs are open but that may change as the children going back to school seems to be the priority and now 30 people are allowed at weddings from today. I hope you have all been keeping as active as possible and trying to do a few exercises and gardening when the sun shines, which by the way should be quite a lot as I have heard we are in for YET another heatwave!!!!!!!!!! And..... WE WILL MEET AGAIN !!!!!

### **GARDEN CLUB**

This year has been difficult for gardeners. Members of the Garden Club have tried their best to keep in touch via emails and face time. Photos of growing successes and failures have been passed among members.

We did manage to have a mini plant sale and raised £294 for Weston Hospice. Many villagers supported the sale and enjoyed a short respite from lockdown.

The weather has been a great bonus and the gardens have bloomed magnificently but we regret not being able to share our efforts.

The Club hopes to reconvene in January (Corvid permitting)

Ruth Ardron

### **SHIPHAM PLAYERS**

The members of Shipham Players enjoyed two sessions via Zoom to undertake play readings during lockdown. We looked at the material for our WW11 revue and read through a pantomime. It was lovely for everyone to see each other and fun to be able to read the various scripts, making sure we muted when we weren't reading! However, this sometimes did not happen, as it was much more fun to boo and hiss with the pantomime reading than to stay quiet! Oh no it wasn't! Oh yes it was! Oh no it .....

We have also used the lockdown time to review our website. I am delighted to confirm that our new website is now live at <https://shiphamplayers.org.uk> It is a vibrant new platform for the group with lots of photos and information and I hope you will enjoy taking a look. A huge thank you goes to Peter de Hallé for his hard work with the website. Happy scrolling!

The green light has been given for theatres to hold inside performances to socially distanced audiences. It will be so nice for people to enjoy a live performance again, albeit in a very different way. Unfortunately, with the very complex guidelines and the social distancing requirements, we have taken the decision to postpone our productions until after Christmas. Adult members will meet once a month, however, either face to face or virtually to undertake play readings from October. We look forward to being on stage and welcoming back our audiences as soon as it is possible to do so.

Debbie Andrews - Chair, Shipham Players

### **SHIPHAM SPEEDWATCH AND ROAD SAFETY**

Shipham Community SpeedWatch has started again after more than six months off the road due to the COVID-19 epidemic. Many of you will have noticed the traffic speeding through Shipham, and we hope to reduce this by our visible presence as the Shipham SpeedWatch Team. We have lost some members over recent years and need new volunteers. We like to run two or three sessions (of an hour each) per week, and work as two teams, on duty for alternate fortnights. With more volunteers, it would mean that each person would be required only once or twice a month. We operate mostly on weekdays, during daylight and in good weather conditions, so not in rain, fog or snow!

If you are interested in working with us, please contact our CSW Coordinator David Williams on 843772 for further details.

The SpeedWatch Team also keeps an eye on anything affecting general road safety. We clear vegetation from roadside traffic signs if necessary, but we would be grateful if any of our readers with road signs outside their property could keep them clear. In the interest of the safety of pedestrians, it would also be appreciated if any vegetation overhanging the carriageway or pavements could be cut back. Thank you, and drive and walk safely.

Shipham SpeedWatch Team

### **SHIPHAM HISTORY SOCIETY**

During the summer, when the Village Hall Management advised us of the guide lines from Government regarding re-opening, the History Society committee held a socially distance meeting in Brian Trigg's (our Chairman's) garden. It was decided that we should contact all members, regarding starting the programme of events, that have been cancelled due to Covid19. The consensus of this activity was that most members felt that it would be prudent to wait until the New Year, before resuming our monthly meetings, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, commencing Tuesday 12th January 2021.

It is proposed, with current advice at that time, to hold our AGM, when our subs will be renewed. All members will receive an invitation nearer the time, when we are more aware of regulations. In the meantime, Sara (our new secretary) has been very active in spear heading a Web site for Shipham History, to ultimately hold the vast majority of all our archived materials, so watch this space. As most societies, we are actively looking for more members, and look forward to welcoming everyone to the new normal, in January. In the meantime, please look after yourselves, and stay safe.

**The Deadline for the Winter Newsletter is: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

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