

Shimpling News

Autumn 2026

Issue 147

Alpheton and Shimpling Churches

HARVEST Supper

19TH SEPTEMBER

7 for 7:30

ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL

TICKETS FROM CHARLOTTE BLYTH

07939 194233

charlottefblyth@btinternet.com

Adults £15

Children £7.50

The Parish Council:

Mrs Liz Brunwin	01284 828122
Mr Gerry Shrimpton	01284 827219
Mr David Dunkley	07809 148630
Mr Mark Milhench	07770 668660
Ms Jen O'Reilly-Turner	07769 894806
Mr Laurence Rooke	07818 797081
Vacancy	

Contact details for the Clerk are:

4 Park Farm Cottages, Brettenham, Suffolk, IP7 7QP

(Correspondence and Appointment only)

Email: clerk@shimpling-pc.gov.uk Tel: 07940 223200

The Parish Council meet bi-monthly in January, March, May (AGM), July, September and November every year. Extra meetings may also be held throughout the year when required. Annual Parish Assembly – Reports presented by the Council and local groups / charities / committees from within the parish. Members of the public can speak freely at this meeting in May, raise issues and ask questions relating to the reports. Annual Meeting of the Council (AGM) – Each May, Election of officers of the council. Declarations of acceptance of office. Parish Council Meetings – Council considers matters relating to finance, planning and the Parish. Additional extraordinary meetings are held when required.

Dates of meetings: Parish council meetings will be held at 7pm on the following dates;

- 14th September 2026

- 9th November 2026
- 11th January 2027
- 8th March 2027
- 10th May 2027 – Annual Parish Assembly, Parish Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Meeting

Please note that these meetings will be held at the Village Hall.

Parish Council Website and Social Media and Notice Boards
You can find council information on the notice board by the bus stop in The Street. This is also circulated via our Village Round Robin System and posted on the Shimpling Community Facebook page. Alternatively, the village web site is regularly updated as well as our Facebook page. Please like our Facebook page:

Facebook: Shimpling Parish Council

Website: <https://shimpling-pc.gov.uk/>

Could you volunteer to help your Village?

We need a new Parish Councillor to join our team. Parish Councillors do a worthwhile job ensuring that your voice is heard and overseeing work so that your village is kept looking good. If you would like to know more about becoming a Councillor then please get in touch with the Clerk or any of our wonderful Councillors.

Report from Chair, Jen O'Reilly Turner:

The Chair reported in the July meeting;

As this is my first Chair's report since taking office in May, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide a brief update on

some of the matters that have arisen over the past couple of months.

Overall, it has been a relatively quiet period for the Parish Council, which is perhaps no bad thing after a particularly busy start to the year. Behind the scenes, work has continued on a number of ongoing projects, including the Neighbourhood Plan, the ongoing saga of the proposed electric vehicle charging point, accessibility improvements at the Village Hall and the routine governance and financial responsibilities of the Council. We look forward to receiving further updates on these projects during this evening's meeting.

I would like to begin by recording the Council's sincere thanks to David Campan, who recently carried out remedial repairs to the playground fence. The playground is one of our most valued community assets, used regularly by local families, and David's willingness to give his own time and practical skills has helped ensure that it remains safe, well maintained and welcoming for everyone.

Acts of quiet community service such as this often go unnoticed, yet they make an enormous difference to the appearance and upkeep of our village while saving the Parish Council valuable resources. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to David for his hard work and generosity. We are incredibly fortunate to have residents who are prepared to volunteer their time, expertise and effort for the benefit of the wider community, and his contribution is a wonderful example of the community spirit that makes Shimpling such a special place to live.

We also continue to await further clarity regarding the future of local government in Suffolk. Members will be aware that Reform UK is seeking permission to bring a judicial review in relation to the Government's proposals for local government reorganisation. Should permission be granted, this may lead to further delays before the future structure of local government is confirmed. Whatever the outcome, the Parish Council will continue to monitor developments closely, as any changes will have implications for parish councils across Suffolk.

One area that the Council has also been giving careful consideration to is our ongoing responsibility to ensure that we meet the highest standards of governance, data protection and information security.

As a public authority, we hold information on behalf of our residents and have a duty to ensure that it is managed securely, responsibly and in compliance with all relevant legislation. Following recommendations arising from our annual governance review and internal audit, we have been reviewing our IT systems, document storage and communication platforms to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

As part of that work, we are exploring whether it remains appropriate to continue using cloud-based services that may store or process Parish Council data outside the United Kingdom. Whilst such services can be entirely lawful where appropriate safeguards are in place, we are considering whether UK-based alternatives would provide greater assurance in terms of data governance, privacy, security and

long-term resilience. Although much of this work takes place behind the scenes, protecting residents' information is a fundamental responsibility of the Council and one that we take extremely seriously.

Many residents will also have experienced the introduction of the new recycling arrangements across Suffolk, including the separate weekly food waste collections. Whilst these changes represent an important step towards improving recycling rates, the initial rollout has inevitably presented some challenges. Some households experienced delays in receiving the correct bins and caddies, while others have encountered occasional collection issues as the new system has become established. During the recent spell of exceptionally hot weather, timely food waste collections have been particularly important, and we appreciate that any missed collections have understandably caused frustration. We hope these initial teething problems will continue to reduce as the new arrangements become fully embedded. On the subject of recycling, I would encourage everyone to continue making use of the clothing, paper and bottle recycling banks at The Bush. These facilities generate valuable income for the Parish Council, with the proceeds helping to fund local services and projects that benefit our community. As recycling arrangements continue to evolve across Suffolk, these income streams may not exist indefinitely, and in time the Council may need to identify alternative sources of income. In the meantime, every bag of clothing, bundle of paper and bottle deposited at the

recycling banks makes a genuine contribution to supporting our village.

I would also like to recognise the excellent work of Greening Shimpling. Through a wide range of practical environmental projects and community initiatives, the group continues to bring together residents of all ages who share a commitment to protecting, enhancing and nurturing our local environment. Their enthusiasm and commitment make a valuable contribution to village life, and I know the Parish Council looks forward to working even more closely with Greening Shimpling over the coming months as we identify opportunities to support projects that benefit both our community and our natural surroundings.

Finally, I would like to mention the recent periods of exceptionally hot weather. Whilst many of us enjoy the sunshine, prolonged heat can present real challenges, particularly for older residents, those with underlying health conditions and anyone living alone. I would encourage everyone to continue checking in on neighbours, friends and relatives during periods of extreme weather. A simple phone call, a knock on the door or offering practical assistance can make a real difference.

One of Shimpling's greatest strengths has always been its community spirit. Our village WhatsApp community group has demonstrated on several occasions just how valuable it can be, enabling residents to respond quickly when someone has required urgent medical assistance or other kinds of practical support. It is a wonderful example of neighbours looking after one another, and I would like to thank everyone

who contributes to making it such a positive, caring and supportive community resource.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors, our Clerk Natasha, our volunteers, community groups and all those residents who quietly give their time throughout the year to help make Shimpling such a wonderful place to live. Although much of this work often goes unseen, it is these collective efforts that keep our village thriving.

As your new Chair, I am very much looking forward to working collaboratively with fellow councillors, local organisations and residents as we continue to protect what makes Shimpling special whilst embracing opportunities to improve our village for future generations.

Thank you.

What the Parish Council have been up to ...

Over the last couple of months, we have:

- Discussed and put together a specification for possible improvements to the Village Hall

Do you have new neighbours?

For some time now, the Village Hall Committee have been sending welcome letters with local information to new residents. If you have new neighbours, can you please let the Village Hall Committee shimplingvh@gmail.com know so that they can organise a welcome letter.

Shimpling WhatsApp Support Group

This was set up at the start of COVID to support those in need but has developed into a good way of communicating with others in the village. Recently we were asked to relay an urgent

message to a villager and were able to locate the person quickly using the WhatsApp Group. If you would like to join the group, please contact Katie Haselhurst kh.shimpling@gmail.com.

Neighbourhood Plan

We are now towards the end of the Review and Submission stage in the Neighbourhood Plan process. Overall, it has been an extremely successful process with a lot of good work done by the team and held together so well by Claire Douglas-Hughes. For more information on the process or what has been produced so far look on the website: <https://shimpling-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan-2/>

Playground

It has come to our attention that a small minority of children are climbing over the fence to enter the playground instead of using the gate.

Unfortunately, this is causing the fence to deteriorate much more quickly, resulting in repair costs for the Parish Council. These repairs are funded from the Parish Council's budget, which ultimately comes from the parish precept paid by the residents of Shimpling.

We would be grateful for your support in helping us look after this valued community facility by:

- Encouraging children and young people to use the playground gate rather than climbing over the fence.
 - Reporting any damage or vandalism you notice at the playground directly to the Parish Council as soon as possible.
- By working together, we can help keep the playground safe, well-maintained, and enjoyable for everyone, while ensuring

that parish funds are used for improving our community rather than unnecessary repairs.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Fly-Tipping

Please Help Keep Our Village Tidy

The Parish Council has recently been made aware that a small amount of building rubble has been dumped on the highway verge outside the Coal House.

We do not know who was responsible, and there is no suggestion that it was a Shimpling resident. However, we would like to remind everyone that fly-tipping of any type of waste is an offence and can result in severe financial penalties.

If you have building or other household waste to dispose of, please use the appropriate disposal facilities. The Bury St Edmunds Recycling Centre (BSE) accepts small amounts of building waste free of charge, subject to its usual rules and restrictions.

Please help us to keep Shimpling clean and tidy and report any suspected fly-tipping to the appropriate authority.

Buses

Here is a link to the full timetable

<https://www.suffolkonboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026-08-30-Konectbuses-45-45A.pdf>

Distirct Councillors

Our District Councillors usually attend each Parish Council meeting and can also be contacted as follows:

Michael Holt -

07801 766813

michael.holt@babergh.gov.uk



Stephen Plumb

01787 280890

stephen.plumb@babergh.gov.uk

Planning

There have been no planning applications, other than Discharge of Conditions and Applications for Lawful development certificates, since our last newsletter

On the buses – have you been yet?

Have you been on the number 45 bus to Bury St Edmunds (Monday to Saturday), or on Thursday on the 715 to Sudbury, or Saturday on the 45 via Melford to Sudbury.

We have a number of people who are regular travellers and we need some more who can swap different stories and experiences. In fact, the more the merrier.

One day we all might need the bus, not just for the social camaraderie, but also to get about. Give it a go before it's too late.

Looking forward to seeing you all very soon!

Timetables are available on the bus, in the village or

www.konectbuses.co.uk

www.suffolkonboard.com

www.felixcoaches.co.uk

Ted Pine RIP 09 11 1953 – 14 08 2026

Sadly, Ted passed away peacefully with his family at his bedside in the West Suffolk hospital on Friday 14th August following a two-week battle with a lung infection. Since his cancer diagnosis and operation back in 2013 Ted had a full and active retirement and family life. He was also one of the go-to members of the local community who got stuff done! We enjoyed many happy holidays and travels in our camper van, managing trips to the Normandy and Suffolk coasts shortly before he died. Ted's life and achievements will be recalled and celebrated in a service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance in Shimpling Church on Friday 25th September at 3pm followed by refreshments in the church afterwards, all welcome. Please support the My Wish Surgical robot appeal in memory of Ted. <https://edwardpine.muchloved.com/>



THE HALLIFAX TRUST

A locally based charity providing educational grants to Lawshall School, and students under the age of 25 receiving further education at colleges or universities. Funding for other types of formal training for a profession or vocation will also be considered. To qualify students must either have parents living in Shimpling or have in the past attended Lawshall School whilst their parents were living in Shimpling or Alpheton. Funding may also be available for other Shimpling based projects.

BENEFICIARIES

The Hallifax Trust has recently supported Shakespeare workshops and Bikability for Lawshall schoolchildren. We are also pleased to hear from students that have benefited from the Trust. We have helped them to purchase books and equipment, and cover travel costs. Grants are not means tested and we are pleased to hear from anyone meeting with the above criterion.

All applications are considered at our autumn meeting for the forthcoming academic year and must be received by 30th September.

<https://shimpling-pc.gov.uk/assets/Uploads/BURSARY-APPLICATION-FORM-26-27.pdf>

HELP US TO HELP OUR CHILDREN

The Trust receives a small number of regular donations from local people, for which we are extremely grateful. Please consider whether you could help with a donation or a legacy. These are tough times for students and the more funds we have the more we can help.

CONTACT DETAILS

hallifaxtrust@gmail.com



Wet and Dry

When driving back from the amazing Alpheton & Shimpling barn dance in mid-August (thankyou all involved), some unfamiliar wet particles hit my windscreen ... if only for a few brief seconds! Since then there have been a few light showers ... however the ground remains parched and dry. It is concerning that there is talk of another hot period. One member of our congregation wryly commented this morning that instead of 'dead heading' their flowers ... they are just dead! The weather is understandably likely to be a theme at the Harvest Supper at Alpheton Village Hall on the 19th Sept, and at the Harvest Festival in Shimpling on the 20th at 9.00am. (*Note - please take care not to bring any reflective objects into our graveyards. Thankyou*)

Over the course of the summer, the many references in the Bible about drought and rain have come into sharper focus for me. Not only can our land be dry, but our spirits can be dry too. So, we pray for our farmers, for rain, and for our souls! Here is Psalm 1 verses 1-4 as an example.

- ¹ Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season

and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.

⁴ Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away ...

Reverend Matthew Lawson

Church Services Include:

Sept

Sun 6 th	9.00am	Alpheton	Communion
	10.30am	Melford	Family Service
	4.00pm	Lawshall	Pub Social at The Swan, Lawshall #
	6.30pm	Melford	Choral Evensong
Sun 13 th	4.00pm	loc'n tbc	Wild Church #
Sun 20 th	9.00am	Shimpling	Harvest Festival
	4.00pm	Melford	Shine Informal Worship #
Sun 27 th	6.30pm	Lawshall	Communion
	2.00pm	Melford	Walk to Lavenham with welcome tea #

Oct

Sun 4 th	9.00am	Alpheton	Communion
	10.30am	Melford	Family Service
	4.00pm	Lawshall	'Sing Lawshall' Informal Service
	6.30pm	Melford	Choral Evensong
Sun 11 th	4.00pm	Melford School	Messy Church #
Sun 18 th	9.00am	Shimpling	Communion
	4.00pm	Lavenham Lodge	Apple Day
Sun 25 th	4.00pm	Melford	Shine Informal

6.30pm Lawshall Communion

Nov

Sun 1 st	9.00am	Alpheton	Communion
	10.30am	Melford	Family Service
	4.00pm	Lawshall	'Sing Lawshall' Informal Service
Sun 8 th	6.30pm	Melford	All Souls Service
	9.00am	Alpheton	Remembrance Service
	10.30am	Lawshall	Remembrance Service
	10.50am	Melford	Remembrance Service
Sun 15 th	9.00am	Shimpling	Communion
	4.00pm	Melford	Shine Informal Worship #
Sun 29 th	6.30pm	Lawshall	Communion

Carol Services

Sun 20 th	4.00pm	Alpheton
Sun 23 rd	6.30pm	Lawshall
Sun 24 th	6.00pm	Shimpling

for our 4 o'clock community with family friendly services
socials and events almost every Sunday at 4.00pm, contact
Nicky on [07938 681319](tel:07938681319) or chadbrooklightwave@gmail.com
... and Communion at Holy Trinity Long Melford every Sunday
at 10.30am (Google 'Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook' for
livestream).

Children welcome at all 10.30am services there is a
children's area at the back of Holy Trinity Please see [www.
longmelfordchurch.com](http://www.longmelfordchurch.com) for any updates. For further

information on our toddler and youth groups, please contact Pam on [07890](tel:07890) or melfordfamilyworker@gmail.com.

For more details or any questions, please contact Vicky on [07804 558160](tel:07804558160) or chadbrookoffice@gmail.com.

Rector: Rev'd Matthew Lawson 01787 310845

Churchwarden: Vacant

Church Contact : Charlotte Blyth 01284 828544
07939 194233

HARVEST BARN DANCE

Thanks to everyone who made the Harvest Barn Dance at Shimpling Park Farm such a success – we had an absolute ball (ok, barn dance!)

We saw the return of the fabulous folk band ‘Catch the Pigeon’

<https://www.catchthepigeon.uk>

with their wonderful caller, who delighted in the fact that we had such a great crowd - everyone was up for dancing!

With great music, food, weather and lovely company a very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Of course these things don't just happen, so a big thank you is due to Dawn and Jackie from Alpheton who produced delicious picnic food for us all, to Alice and John, who were not only our very generous hosts, but also enjoyed (I hope) being our amazing bar staff – yet more hidden talents!!

We have the privilege and responsibility of having two beautiful medieval churches in Alpheton and Shimpling, so successfully raising much needed funds (£3,198) for the work of the church and to help to keep the buildings in good order was much appreciated.

We are grateful to the Pawsey family for the use of their lovely barns and to Apollo Farms for their generous sponsorship towards the entertainment.

Many local businesses and individuals kindly provided a fabulous range of raffle prizes...

Lucky winners will enjoy:

A generous voucher for a meal at Scutchers in Melford [https://
www.scutchers.com](https://www.scutchers.com)

6 bottles of fine wine www.jeroboams.co.uk

A meal for two at the Bush www.thebushpubshimpling.com

A tour of Newmarket Gallops and the Racing Museum [www.
discovernewmarket.co.uk](http://www.discovernewmarket.co.uk)

A fully prepared muntjac from C & K Wild Suffolk Venison [www.
seriousrub.co.uk/suffolk-venison](http://www.seriousrub.co.uk/suffolk-venison)

A free MOT from Alpheton Garage www.alphetongarage.com

A voucher for Café Hygge in Melford;

A bouquet from Vintage Bloom in Long Melford

We are very grateful to these businesses and to everyone who bought tickets - the proceeds will help us to look after our beautiful local churches.



*Are you a patient of Long Melford, Lavenham and
Glemsford Surgery?*

Join our Patient Participation Group

Would you like to help shape the future of your local healthcare services? Our Patient Participation Group (PPG) gives patients the opportunity to share ideas, provide feedback, and work with the practice to improve services for everyone.

By joining, you can:

- Have your voice heard
- Help influence positive changes
- Represent the view of patients in the community
- Learn more about how the practice works

Whether you can contribute regularly or occasionally, your views and experiences are valuable. Together, we can help make our practice even better for all patients.

We would love to welcome you to the group.

Please contact lizbrunwin@hotmail.co.uk if you would like
to know more

The Alpheton Film night is on the
2nd Monday of each month.



Mon.14th Sept. THE SECRET GARDEN starring
Colin Firth, Julie Walters.

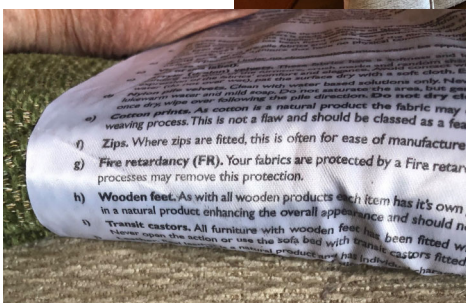
Mon.12th Oct, THE BALLAD of WALLIS ISLAND starring Tim
Key, Carey Mulligan.

Mon.9th Nov. MR. BURTON starring Toby Jones, Harry Lawtey.

Mon.14th Dec. CHRISTOPHER ROBIN starring Ewan McGregor.
(marking Winnie the Pooh's 100th birthday)

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start. Admission price is £5
including tea/coffee & biscuits. The Bar will be open.

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FOR SALE This very
comfortable settee,
170cm, 90cmx 90cm,
bought from
Glasswells' a few
years ago, has been
under Plumbs zipped
covers since it was
purchased. Now
downsizing, it's for
sale, at a bargain
£375.00. To see, try
it, please email Arthur
Homes at Chadbrook,
near Shimpling
church.

j4nd423@gmail.com.

HARTEST & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

This summer has brought extreme heat and record-breaking dry conditions, with July setting historic lows for rainfall. All gardeners face severe water stress and local hosepipe bans, so if you've not done so already, consider a shift towards climate-resilient planting, heavy mulching, and deep, infrequent watering strategies.

- **Drought-Tolerant Species:** Prioritise established survivors like lavender, sedum, verbena bonariensis, achillea, and ornamental grasses.
- **Edible & Compact Crops:** Focus on space-saving and resilient edibles such as dwarf varieties, table-top chillies, and heat-tolerant tomatoes.
- **Mulching:** Apply a thick 5–8cm layer of organic mulch across beds to insulate roots and lock in vital soil moisture.
- **Smart Irrigation:** Water deeply at the base two to three times a week during early mornings or late evenings rather than light daily sprinkles.

Despite the heat, we have had some spectacular summer visits to local gardens and enjoyed seeing the stunning results of other gardeners' creativity and hard work!

Seeing other gardeners' harvests inspires us with inspiration shared knowledge, and a deep appreciation for the hard work put into the soil. We look forward to seeing many of these at our Annual Show on Sunday 6th September, 2.30pm with a rich variety of seasonal crops from local gardens.

We have lots of sections to appeal to a wide audience so if this hot and dry summer has made your veg wilt and your fruit wither, we still have craft and baking sections for you to enter. There's

also a children's section which offers a booktoken for the winner!

Based on feedback from last year's show we have updated the Show Schedule for 2026 It is available via our website: <https://hartestgardeningclub.onesuffolk.net/>.

These traditional village events need your support to thrive, so please do come along to the Show. We hope there will be lots of entries and visitors. Book the dates in your diary now and come and join in the fun!

In September we look forward to the Monday meetings resuming, with Autumn talks on:

Pest Control (7th Sept), Oak Trees (5th Oct) and Woodland and Hedgerows (2nd Nov).

Find out more via our:

Website: <https://hartestgardeningclub.onesuffolk.net/>

Instagram: hartest_gardening_club

Facebook: Hartest & District Gardening Club

Email: hartestgardeningclub@gmail.com

Kit Morrison, on behalf of H&DGC

hartestgardeningclub@gmail.com

**Saturday
5th September**

4.30pm -
6.00pm:
Staging



Sunday 6th September:

9.00am - 11.00am: Staging

2.30pm: Open to public

11.15am: Judging

3.00pm: Awards

SHIMPLING AND ALPHETON WI
Visit to Bury St Edmunds Guildhall
May 2026



It's a Family Thing!

Marion Argent, our President arranged for us to have a guided tour of Bury St Edmunds Guildhall with one of the guides being her cousin who talked to us all about the Royal Observation Corps' Operations Room from World War II which is upstairs. A story often told to visitors from all around the world at the Guildhall is that one of the women volunteers on observation duties during the war at the Guildhall cycled through the dark from Lawshall to her 10 hours shift through the night and then cycled back again - remember there were no lights then due to the blackout - in time to milk the cows on her family farm in the morning.

Less well known is the fact that it was our guide's Mum and Marion's Auntie!

We were also regaled by another guide about the general history of this unique building from medieval times through the English Civil War and Cromwell going there. Like Marion's cousin, he really knew his stuff!

As if all of this was not enough, we were given enormous scones, clotted cream, jam and butter with hot drinks in the very courtroom there where all manner of criminals were tried for driving too fast to streaking through Bury St Edmunds! It is well worth a visit with or without your local WI!

July 2026 - our speaker was the lovely Julian from The East Anglian Air ambulance. Julian spoke about the work of the

Air ambulance and how fundraising is so imperative to keep the service in the air. It is not just about helicopters though, they have cars too. Started in 2000 and was initially as a response following a light aircraft accident at Newmarket Racecourse involving the legendary jockey Frankie Detori. He became a key fundraiser and the success of the air ambulance can be directly linked to his experience that day in the year 2000.

Initially the helicopter started flying just one day a week in March 2001 but by July 2001 it was able to fly 7 days a week. However it was purely a means of transporting patients to hospital. From 2002 doctors were flying with the team and fast forward to current day - the air ambulance has a highly skilled crew of doctors and critical care paramedics who can deliver critical care and treatment at the scene. The air ambulance cares and transports an estimated 1% of all 999 calls only. Even if the ambulance is 'scrambled' it may still be safer to transfer patients to hospitals by road.

By 2024 25,000 patients were treated and supported by the crews of the air ambulance

They provide an after care service for patients and their families, this is as a direct result of feedback from patients and families alike. It gives closure and fills in those missing gaps during an incident which can cause so much ongoing distress to families and patients.

Currently able to fly 24/7 but with some night time restrictions. With the closure of their current base in Cambridge and the development of the new one, it is hoped that the increased cost of providing a new base will enable the air ambulance to be constantly fit for the future operations.

We raised in excess of £190 for the benefit of this amazing charity.

Thank you Julian from us all here at Shimpling and Alpheton WI.



West Stow Hall August 4th

A group of members of our WI together with a few friends and partners had the privilege of a private tour of West Stow Hall this month. Andy Gilbert, the owner who lives there and cares for this wonderful medieval/Tudor house gave us a really interesting history of the building and all its unique features. He has pursued with a passion trying to find the truth about the origins and development of his home which is right on SWFWI's doorstep!

After our tour, we were regaled with the delicious baking of his wife, Eileen with a lovely choice of cakes and scones.



Part of the amazing Tudor wall painting at West Stow Hall

**Copy for the December 2026 edition is required by
22nd November 2026 (A4 WORD or .PDF file please)**

Sarah Smith—slsconsulting21@outlook.com

07774 116128

**When advertising events please ensure there is a
contact name with a landline number.**

Please remember not everyone is on the Internet !!

Join Us for a
Table Tennis
Evening!



at **SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL** ★

All Welcome!

Dates to be released at the beginning of each month - usually run on a Tuesday evening. Please keep a look out on WhatsApp or village notice boards or text Andy 07852 129028

Shimpling Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee meets every 8 weeks, to manage the hall and arrange events that residents can enjoy and generate income to keep the hall running & open.

We welcome interest from any resident who would like to get involved – please email Carol Squire: shimplingvh@gmail.com or phone, WhatsApp or text: 07855 762812

Meeting minutes and information on all activities are available to read on the Village website <http://shimplingpc.onesuffolk.net/village-hall/>

Events and activities timetable on the Your Hall website <https://yourhall.co.uk/hall/shimpling-village-hall/>

Village Hall Activities

Future Arts & Crafts Sessions in the village hall 2026

Autumn Wreath Making Workshop - Following the success of the Spring Wreath Workshop we are planning to hold another in the Autumn - making Wreaths to adorn your table or door, full of the autumn colours.

The workshop will be in the village hall on the **24th of October 2026 at 10am**. The session tutor will be expert florist Anne Brown <http://www.justanneflowers.co.uk/>

All sessions have minimum attendance targets and will not take place if not reached.



Let us know what other arts and crafts workshops you would like us to organise!

Email: shimplingvh@gmail.com

Our ever-popular Christmas Pottery Workshop open to all ages will be taking place on 28th **November 2026** at 10 am

Come and try your hand at making a pottery Gingerbread House or Christmas Tree or Baubles - more information on the poster in this newsletter or on the village notice boards



GAMES AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES

**** Andy Hull organises the regular table tennis evening sessions for anyone interested, mainly on Tuesday evenings - look for the dates & times on the posters. **It's great fun ****** Children and families - We will continue to make the hall available for free to residents and families to use the table tennis set, the children's billiards table and other indoor games. We have on loan a New Age Kurling set - come and try it! Those who took advantage enjoyed the opportunity - *"We had a brilliant time and have all become experts at table tennis!"*



Also - don't forget you can book the hall at other times for any events. at just £8 per hour

The Regular Village Hall Activities

These continue as scheduled so check the village website, notice boards, Facebook and WhatsApp and join in.

- PILATES classes are on a Monday mornings and Wednesday evening with room for a few more so don't be shy – come and join in. It's time to get summer holiday fit.
- ZUMBA GOLD continues term time Fridays – a great way to dance your way to fitness - no prior experience or skill needed - just dance for the fun of it.
- FILM NIGHTS have also continued the 3rd Tuesday evening of the month, showing some great films. Come along and enjoy the films.

Let us know what films you want to see. WhatsApp or Text Carol on 07855 762812 with your ideas

- The RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN comes to the village hall every 4th Thursday of the month offering their coffee (or tea) and excellent range of home-made cakes & savouries. This fantastic charity distributes invaluable up to date information and advice, signpost people where to get the help they need as well as providing a warm welcoming session for all. Come for information & advice, come for refreshments & a chat - everyone welcome



***** Babergh Customer Services will attend the Rural Coffee Caravan mornings, giving residents the opportunity to sort out issues directly with a council representative so, if you have a query - come along and talk to them. *****

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

AUTUMN 2026 FILM NIGHTS

3rd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH - 7.15pm for 7.30 start

**COME AND WATCH NEW AND FAVOURITE FILMS
ON THE BIG SCREEN**

Sept - The Piano - celebrating its 25th anniversary, starring the late great Sam Neill

Ada (Holly Hunter) mute since birth, her nine-year-old daughter & her piano arrive to an arranged marriage to Stewart (Sam Neill) in 19th century New Zealand. Of all her belongings her husband refuses to transport the piano and it is left behind on the beach. Unable to bear its certain destruction, Ada strikes a bargain with a neighbour. She may earn her piano back if she allows him to do certain things while she plays; one black key for every lesson.

Oct - The History Boys an Alan Bennett Comedy. Eight bright, funny history students in the mid 1980s are pursuing places at Oxbridge. Their headmaster enlists Irwin (Stephen Campbell Moore), a shrewd newcomer, to coach the boys into intellectual shape. Seduced though they are by the exam-busting bag of tricks offered by him, the boys are torn by their loyalty to the hugely eccentric, English master Hector (Richard Griffiths) and the regular diet of nourishing facts and figures dispensed by Mrs Lintott (Frances de la Tour), their history mistress. As they prepare for the daunting admissions process, the journey of the History Boys becomes as much about how education works as where education leads.

Nov - Mid Winter Break Longtime Retired Irish couple Stella (Lesley Manville) and Gerry (Ciaran Hinds) realize that their relationship has reached a crossroads while on holiday in Amsterdam. After so much time and so many memories, long-held promises and deeply concealed wounds threaten to come to light and force them to confront their future.

Dec - Agatha Christie's Ordeal by Innocence Christmas 1954. Wealthy philanthropist Rachel Argyll (Anna Chancellor) is murdered at her family estate Sunny Point. Her adopted son Jack Argyll is arrested for her murder. He vehemently protests his innocence. Eighteen months later, Dr Arthur Calgry, a mysterious scientist, claims to have just returned from an expedition to the Arctic and to hold the alibi that can prove Jack's innocence. Jack died in prison before the case could come to trial, and the Argyll family is reluctant to dig up the secrets of the past. However, the implications of Calgry's story are too big to avoid; if he is telling the truth then the wrong person was arrested for Rachel's murder. If Jack is innocent, then it must have been somebody else at Sunny Point. Somebody still out there....

PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY

REFRESHMENTS & FILM £4.50

PER PERSON

ICECREAM, SWEETS &

POPCORN ALSO ON SALE.



Do you have a film you want to see? Just let us know

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

PILATES CLASSES

THE BENEFITS OF PILATES

The focus is on core strength & spinal mobility to ensure optimum alignment of the body.
The breathing and mindful aspect of Pilates supports both physical and mental well-being.

It is intelligent exercise!



3 Sessions are held
Mondays at 9.30 – 10.30 and 11 – 12noon
WEDNESDAYS 6.30 – 7.30pm
term time only

£7 per session - Equipment provided free
NO EXPERIENCE OR BOOKING NEEDED

Want to know more?
Contact Tutor- Louise Fuller 07875 370902

Rural Coffee Caravan

Making a difference to rural communities throughout Suffolk

Come and share a pot of tea, our welcome is warm and our friendship free!

We'll be visiting:

Shimpling

Village Hall IP29 4HS

10am - 12pm

Thursdays: **September 24, October 22nd & November 26th**

Come along for some company and a catch up with your neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and cake. We bring a great source of information along with the free refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you.

All Welcome!



www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk tel: 01379 855 338

Registered No: 1187423





Shimpling Village Hall
Friday's 1-1.45pm - term time only

£5 per session
No booking required, just come along

CONTACT YOUR LICENSED ZUMBA INSTRUCTOR :

Jo Brown

Call/text : 07851962112

Email : joanna-m-brown@hotmail.co.uk

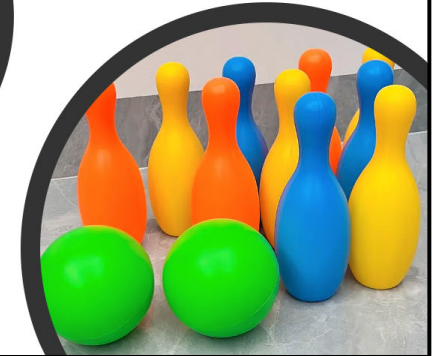
find me on Facebook : Jo Brown

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS

During Half Terms we are pleased to offer
Shimpling Village Hall for hire - **FREE** of charge

Play

- TABLE TENNIS, BILLIARDS, or GAMES SESSIONS
 - BRING YOUR OWN GAMES OR USE OURS!
 - BOOK YOUR SESSION
 - Email shimplingvh@gmail.com
 - or text 07855762812



SHIMPLING MOBILE LIBRARY 2026

Do you like reading?

Each month on a Friday the mobile library comes to Shimpling and has many books on board, including children's options. Library membership is free and once you join it's very easy to order a vast range of books online, which can be collected from the mobile library.

You can borrow up to 20 books and 6 audio books at any one time, and if no-one has reserved them, they can be renewed up to 6 times. So, no excuses if you're a slow reader!

The library bus, route 13, calls at HALLIFAX PLACE between 1230 and 1250 on the following Fridays this year:

September 25th, October 23rd, November 20th

www.suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk

So let's use it, or we may lose it. Happy Reading!



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About me...

I live in Lawshall village, I have 10 years
experience in care,
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(All certificates can be provided)

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Companionship

Prices are charged at an hourly rate:-

£25 weekdays

£30 weekends

£35 Bank Holidays

Charged at a minimum of 1 hour per visit

If you feel I could be of any support for you or your
loved one don't hesitate to contact me:-

07593 276681

carlyfarly11@icloud.com



Hartest Farmers and Craft Market

Saturday 5th September

10am til 12.30pm

Appleacre Farm - Organic Veg, Salad & Fruit

English Spirit Distillery

Sue's Savouries - Home Baked Food

Meadow and Woodland Livestock

Sparling & Faiers - Bread and Pastries

Ivy & Bond - Cupcakes, Scones, Cookies

Edible Creations by Rosey - Handmade Chocolates

Flutterby Cakes

Power Grit - Health Food Mix

Local Eggs

Curry with Love Kits

Fullers Honey

Jam, Chutney & Sauces

Juliette Hudson - Artist - Paintings & Cards

Walking Sticks and Carved Items

Lark View Flowers - Fresh & Dried Flowers, Willow Wreaths

F B Designs - Soaps, Lip Balms, Scrubs, Bath Bombs

Janet Munro - Artist - Paintings & Cards

Debra - Tropic Skincare Range

Crochet & Knitted Accessories, Jewellery, Decoupage items

Rachel Wood - Artist - Paintings and Cards

Handmade by Houchin - Wax Melts and Candles

**Cafe: Hot Sausage and Bacon Rolls, Tea, Coffee
& Homemade Cakes**

Contact: hartestfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Hartest Institute, The Green, Hartest, IP29 4DH



Advertising in the Shimpling News

You could reach 200 households.....!

The fees for advertising in the Shimpling News for 2026 (of which this is for the 4 editions – one for each season) will be;

Full page £100, Half page £50 , Quarter page £25

With any residents of Shimpling able to have a 25% discount so making the cost Full page £75, Half page £37.50 and Quarter page £18.75. Individual adverts (ie for sale items) are £3 up to a £100 and £5 over £100 per issue

If you would like to advertise please email the Clerk
shimplingpc@gmail.com



SAVE

(Shimpling AED Village Enterprise)

As most people are aware the village has an AED located in a locked cabinet outside The Bush. The device is registered with the East of England Ambulance Service, who have the access code details.

In the event of an emergency, the precise location of the AED would need to be given, to enable the Ambulance Service to give the code. The location is

The Bush, The Street, Shimpling IP29 4HU

Please make a note of these details, as it could save time in gaining access.

If you require any further details, please contact me
Marian Peck Chair, SAVE 01284 828187



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SJP Approved 15/09/2025

**St
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Place**

RECYCLING Shimpling has a bottle bank, a Paper and Card Bank and a Clothing Bank. If they are full please call

BOTTLE BANK— 0344 880 7700

CLOTHING BANK—08000 902 321



Electronic Version of The Shimpling News

If you would prefer to receive an email informing you when the latest issue is available online, rather than have a printed copy delivered to your door please let me know

slsconsulting21@outlook.com

Domestic, Commercial & Agricultural Electrical Work Undertaken

Including rewires, new builds, extensions,
All Electric heating, new consumer units,
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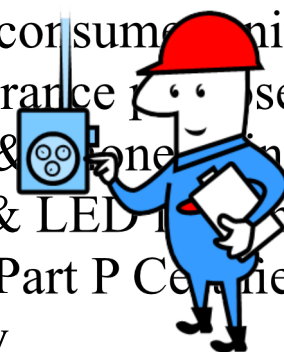
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Many issues can be reported online by residents at

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/report-online> Including potholes, overgrown vegetation, littering and fly-tipping

Flooding can be reported at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/report-a-flood-in-suffolk>

Local road closure information can be found at one.network



Lark Valley Willow Ltd.
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Suffolk
IP29 4HS

We are looking for casual (self employed) part time workers to join our friendly team weaving in-situ willow fences in Suffolk and Essex.

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Please email cmcooke@icloud.com with a brief CV

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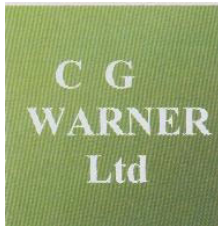
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USEFUL VILLAGE CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

County Cllr—Richard Kemp 01787 378149

Shimpling Village Hall—Carol Squire 07855 762812 or email shimplingvh@gmail.com

St George's Church—Rev'd Matthew Lawson 01787 310845

Shimpling Postal Collections:-

The Street Mon-Fri 4.30pm, Sat 12pm, Little Chadacre Mon-Fri 9am, Sat 7.30am, Aveley Lane Mon-Fri 9am, Sat 7.30am

Medical Services

NHS Helpline :- 111 (Non-emergency)

Glensford Surgery:—01787 280484

Lavenham/Long Melford Surgery:—01787 378226

Samaritans:- 116 123

Domestic Abuse Helpline:- 0808 2000 247

Vet Surgeries:-

Swayne & Partners Long Melford—01787 370773

Bury St Edmunds - 01284 701444

Anglian Water Emergency :- 0800 771881

UK Power Networks Emergency:- 0800 31 63 105

Citizens Advice Bureau:- 01284 753675

Suffolk Libraries Library Van—Every 4 weeks on Friday at Hallifax Place 12:30-12:50

Felix Taxis :- 01787 310574

