

Shimpling News

Winter 2025

Issue 144



SHIMPLING *Christmas*

MARKET

10-1

6TH DECEMBER

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

***Wreaths - Crafts - Produce
Refreshments***

ALPHETON AND SHIMPLING CHURCHES

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: Shimplingpc@gmail.com Telephone: 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;

Monday 12th January 2026

Monday 9th March 2026

Monday 11th May 2026 (Annual Meeting of the Parish,
Annual General Meeting followed by normal May PC
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, David Dunkley:

The Chair reported in the September meeting;

We have now completed all of the paperwork for the
introduction of EV Car Chargers at the Village Hall. However,
we are still awaiting a date for the installation work to be

started. Hopefully this will be forthcoming soon.

The new bus service now commenced, albeit with some initial issues around driver training as to the exact routes to be used. This should settle down quite quickly and become a very useful and much improved service from that previously provided. It needs to be reminded that the use of this service will be monitored over the coming year and should reasonable levels of use not be met, we could lose it. An improved bus service was just one of the Community Actions identified in the village survey, undertaken last year, as part of the production of a Neighbourhood Plan, the first draft of which was reviewed last week. Alongside this the Design Codes and Guidance and the Landscape assessment are now in final form and will be uploaded to the website this week. It feels with the reorganisation of local government; the completion of the Neighbourhood Plan is even more important as a way of showing local wishes.

I am sure everyone has noticed the telephone box library is resplendent in a new coat of bright red paint. I would like to thank David and Linda Campan for their hard work on this project. Also, all of our noticeboards have been refurbished courtesy of Councillor Rooke. We now just need to sort out the problems with the village hall.

I don't have any real update on the where devolution and local government reorganisation, but I suspect by the next meeting there may be greater clarity.

Recycling

Please remember that the Parish Council receives money

from the paper (although not cardboard) glass, clothing and shoes deposited in the recycling bins near the Bush Inn. Clothing and shoes should be bagged before depositing in the clothing/shoe bank. This income helps to run the council and therefore is a direct benefit to the village. **Please keep recycling.**

What the Parish Council have been up to ...

Over the last couple of months, we have:

- Fixed the floor of the Village Hall

- Worked on fixing minor issues with the playground

- Prepared a draft budget for 2026/27

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

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group are working hard! 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/>

Speeding

There have been issues raised regarding speeding in the Village, this has been raised both to the PC and it was commented on frequently in the Neighbourhood Plan Surveys. The PC are looking at possibly setting up a community speed watch. However, we will need volunteers! To set up a scheme

- You must have a minimum of 6 volunteers

- All the volunteers must be over 18 years old

- Each scheme must have a co-ordinator (who will be the point of contact for the team) and where possible a deputy

- The Parish (or local) Council support the scheme

- You will have to sign a CSW agreement and be vetted

- Equipment will be provided by the Constabulary

- Training will be provided on using the equipment and on Health and Safety issues

- Volunteers will be covered by the Constabulary's insurance

- Locations chosen will be assessed by the Constabulary

If you would like to volunteer, please do get in touch and let us know. We can only move this forward with enough volunteers.

District Councillors

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



Stephen Plumb 01787 280890
stephen.plumb@babergh.gov.uk

Michael Holt
01787 281712/07801 766813
michael.holt@babergh.gov.uk



Planning

There have been a number of planning applications since our last newsletter. Others are updated below:

| | | |
|---|--------------------|---------|
| DC/25/03908 - Oak View The Street Shimpling Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP29 4HS - Application for Works to Trees subject to Tree Preservation Order BT353 - Raise crown of 1 No. Horse Chestnut (T1) by 3.5m. | Did not comment | Granted |
|---|--------------------|---------|

Buses

Here is a link to the full timetable

<https://passenger-line-assets.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/hedinghamandchambers/HED0/45-timetable-20250831-5f294bdd.pdf>

Shimpling Parish Neighbourhood Plan

The most important piece of news since the Autumn Newsletter is that we are pleased to report that the Parish Council have agreed to fund the final part of getting the Neighbourhood Plan approved – thank you to the PC for their continued support.

The Committee has also received the draft Neighbourhood Plan from the Consultant and fed back amendments required. The report was then circulated to the Parish Council who confirmed they were happy with the draft so far.

The next step is for the Report to be put out for the Village to review. This will take place at the Village Hall on Saturday 17th January; timings to be confirmed but it will be a similar format to the previous events where you can drop in as and when to see the information and the Committee members will be on hand to answer any questions – and thank you with a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits for turning out!

Following this event the Report will then be submitted for Independent Examination before the final Parish Referendum.

We are making good progress and are on the home straight. We hope to see as many of you as possible on the 17th January - reminders of the event will be sent out nearer the time but do put it in your diary now!

Committee members: Mark Beaver, Claire Douglas-Hughes (Chair), David Dunkley, Mike Fahie-Wilson, Jane Wall.

THE HALLIFAX TRUST

A locally based charity providing grants to students under the age of 25 receiving further education at colleges or universities or undergoing formal training for a profession or vocation.

These are non-means tested. To qualify students must simply have parents living in Shimpling or alternatively have in the past attended Lawshall School whilst their parents were living in Shimpling.

Funding is additionally available for other school and village projects. Applications from students for funding for the forthcoming academic year must be received by 30th September.

HELP US TO HELP OUR CHILDREN

We have recently received a small number of donations to the Charity 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. For grants or donations contact:

hallifaxtrust@gmail.com

Claire Wilson 01284 830574 or Jenny Pine 01284 827073
Hallifax Educational Trust is a Registered Charity No.310396

NEW MON - SAT No 45 BUS SERVICE SUDBURY TO BURY ST EDMUNDS

From 31st August there will be a no 45 bus service from Sudbury to Bury St Edmunds and return travelling through and via Tesco, Sudbury, Melford, Bridge St., Shimpling, Lawshall, Hawstead and Low Green. An additional stop to the previous route is scheduled at West Suffolk Hospital.

So please take advantage of this 'new' contact with the outside world as it is provided on the basis of 'if we don't use it we will loose it'

PRESS RELEASES FROM TRINITY HEALTHCARE

It is now nearing 18 months since Unity Healthcare were asked to take on the running of Long Melford and Lavenham surgeries, and I hope you'd now agree that despite some initial challenges we have now settled into more of a rhythm that is offering you a responsive and accessible service.

With the majority (approximately 85%) of you contacting us via eConsult (via the practice website, or via the NHS App), this then frees up the telephone line for those of you that cannot do so. This means that we have some of the shortest telephone wait times out of any GP practice.

Our triage process that then takes place in the Haverhill Triage and Operations Hub allows us to identify quickly what you need, how urgently, and with which clinician, so that we can do our best to deliver this efficiently for you as possible.

Our expanding clinical team manage approximately 1800 incoming contacts per week, and the vast majority have their needs addressed within 5 working days (with urgent contacts managed same day).

There has been much in the national news about the challenges GP practices are facing, about contract changes, opening times and staffing pressures, but you can be assured that we have this well under control and are in an excellent position.

Our focus going forward is to improve the "customer service" experience, so that the care you receive from us is not only responsive but is also of a consistently high standard. Part of this includes learning from YOU, so it would help if you can share your recent experiences of care from us so that we can learn both from when it has gone well, and from when it has gone less well. You can send us feedback via this weblink

<https://forms.office.com/e/3QUfpYxAWD>

For regular updates, do sign up to our Facebook Page "Unity Healthcare – Haverhill, Long Melford and Lavenham", and for those interested in getting more involved, why not consider joining the Patient Participation group? Ask at reception (or phone 01440 841300) for more information.
Dr David Brandon, Clinical Director

Unity Healthcare – which serves Haverhill, Long Melford, Lavenham and surrounding villages – will merge with Glemsford Surgery next month. The merger is taking place to increase patients' access to a wider range of healthcare professionals and help reduce waiting times. Unity Healthcare currently has around 26,500 patients and last year merged with the nearby Long Melford Practice.

From 3 December, Glemsford Surgery, previously managed by the West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust, will be overseen by the Suffolk GP Federation.

It will remain open to patients, with face-to-face appointments where appropriate. Dr David Brandon, Clinical Lead at Unity Healthcare, said: "By bringing our teams together we can offer patients access to a broader set of health professionals and make it easier to get the care they need. Services for Unity patients will continue as usual."

Dr Melissa St Ledger, Clinical Lead at Glemsford Surgery, said: "We know change can raise questions. Glemsford will stay open and patients will still be able to be seen at the surgery. Working with Suffolk GP Federation will help us strengthen local GP services."

Ed Garratt OBE, Chief Executive of the Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, said: "The GP Federation has done a

magnificent job in Haverhill and patient access, quality, safety, and clinical care are vastly improved since it took over Unity. I am confident that they will now drive improvements too for patients and staff at the Glemsford Surgery.”

Further patient information will follow via usual channels, including details of a Glemsford engagement event and how to submit questions or feedback. Patients are encouraged to use these routes to keep phone lines available for clinical enquiries.

SHIMPLING DEFIBRILLATOR

As most people will know , we raised money for the defibrillator in the village and funds raised have lasted until now. However, the insurance is a hefty £300 per annum and this year we were able to renew it with the help of a generous donation.

We approached the Parish Council to see if they would be willing to add it to their Asset Register, disappointingly, they have declined, as they did at the outset, which means that we will need to keep raising funds for the next three years of the current unit. The PC has other plans for after that.

I will be meeting with others from the SAVE committee to discuss what we do next.

Thank you everyone who has always supported our efforts to have a unit in the village.

I will keep everyone informed via the village Round Robin for further developments.

Marian Peck



Who is Santa Claus?

When we see Santa Claus in shop windows or on Christmas cards, with his red suit, sleigh, and sack of toys, it's easy to think he's a purely modern invention. But the truth is that Santa's story reaches deep into Christian history — all the way back to a kind bishop who lived more than 1,600 years ago. Saint Nicholas was born around 270 A.D. in what is now southern Turkey. He became Bishop of Myra, and was known for his compassion, fairness, and generosity. The most famous story tells of how he secretly gave three bags of gold to a poor father so his daughters could marry and avoid poverty. Legend says he dropped the gold down the chimney — where it landed in their stockings by the fire - leading to today's traditions of stocking and 'secret Santa'.

As his legend spread through Europe, Nicholas became "Sinterklaas" in Dutch. When Dutch settlers moved to America, his name softened into "Santa Claus." In the 1800s, Santa got a makeover: he was dressed in fur, given a sleigh and reindeer, and made to live at the North Pole. Later, illustrators like Thomas Nast and advertisers such as Coca-Cola helped fix his modern image — round, rosy-cheeked, and dressed in red. Saint Nicholas reminds us that Christmas giving isn't about spending money — it's about sharing love quietly and freely, and expecting nothing in return. Indeed, generosity is at the heart of Christmas, when Christians believe that God gave his Son to a troubled world. I do hope that, whatever November and December brings, you can give and receive something of that love this Christmas. You would be most welcome to any of our services including beer and carols at The Bush on Friday 12th Dec at 8.00pm, and our carol service at St Georges Shimpling on Christmas Eve at 6.00pm.

Revd Lawson



Church Services

December 2025

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-----------------|--|
| Sat 6 th | 10-1pm | Shimpling | Christmas Market |
| | 2-6pm | Lawshall | Christmas Tree Festival (carols at 6pm) |
| Sun 7 th | 9.00am | Alpheton | Communion |
| | 10.30am | Melford | Family Communion * |
| | 6.30pm | Melford | Advent Carol Service * |
| Fri 12 th | 8.00pm | Shimpling | Beer & Carols at The Bush |
| Sat 13 th | 6.00pm | Alpheton V.Hall | Lights of Remembrance |
| Sun 14 th | 10.30am | Melford | Communion * |
| | 6.30pm | Melford | Lights of Remembranc |
| Sun 21 st | 10.30am | Melford | Communion * |
| | 4.00pm | Alpheton | Carol Service |
| | 6.30pm | Melford | Carol Service |
| Tues 23 rd | 6.30pm | Lawshall | Carol Service |
| Wed 24 th | 3.00pm | Melford | Crib Service |
| | 6.00pm | Shimpling | Carol Service |
| | 10.45pm | Melford | Midnight Mass |
| Thurs 25 th | 10.30am | Melford | Christmas Communion * |
| Sun 28 th | 10.30am | Melford | Benefice Communion * |

January and February 2026 services include:

January

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Sun 4 th | 9.00am | Alpheton | Communion |
| Sun 19 th | 9.00am | Shimpling | Communion |
| Sun 25 th | 6.30pm | Lawshall | Communion |



February

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-----------|----------------|
| Sun 1 st | 9.00am | Alpheton | Communion |
| Sun 1 st | 4.00pm | Lawshall | Family Service |
| Sun 15 th | 9.00am | Shimpling | Communion |
| Sun 22 nd | 6.30pm | Lawshall | Communion |

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 for any updates. For further information on our toddler and youth groups, please contact Pam on [07890 880976](tel:07890880976) 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



THE PARISH OF ALPHETON AND SHIMPLINGTHORNE



Beer and Carols

at

The Bush

12th December

from 8pm

Shimpling & Alpheton WI Crafts stall at the
Quay Theatre Jetty, Sudbury, November
8th, 2025



Having heard about this fundraising craft fair with less than a months' notice, it was amazing that we decided that we could make a go of it and come up with hand crafted things to sell to raise funds towards the cost of speakers and running our WI branch! We had so little time to bring it all together and we are only a small group which was why we needed the funds.

Generous members - and their friends - rose magnificently to the challenge and we had a bumper stall, brimming with our home made merchandise. The skills and accomplishments of our members astonished us and we are really grateful to all of the craftswomen who contributed their time and energies. We had hats, gloves, mittens, booties, tea cosies, head warmers, scarves, baby blankets and clothes, wonderful patchwork and quilted pot holders and table mats, toys, decorations, greeting cards and so much more! Xmas cards which we produced for our own branch designed by Gill Leggetter, one of our committee members, were some of the items on sale as well as a big basket of crafting items and even what turned out to be a very popular box of old ordnance survey maps for decoupage, scrapbooking or possibly even quirky, bijou wallpaper! Who would have thought that there would be so much interest in these?

Makers and our team on the day had a lot of fun pulling this all together and it was a really worth while achievement! Well done Shimpling and Alpheton members - you are just full of creative energy and flair!



The photo shows from left to right our secretary, Tania Thompson, committee member, Brenda Hull, and President, Marion Argent:

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

Mon.8th Dec. PADDINGTON in PERU, (Hugh Bonneville, Ben Whishaw)

Mon.12th Jan. BRIDGET JONES: Mad About The Boy. (Renee Zellweger, Hugh Grant.)

Mon.9th Feb. CONCLAVE. (Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci)

Mon. 9th March. THE COLOUR ROOM. (Phoebe Dynevor, Matthew Goode)

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



Copy for the March 2026 edition is required by 22nd February 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 !!

HARTEST AND DISTRICT GARDENING



It seems bizarre writing about the end of the year when we are enjoying balmy weather with bright sunshine in November! However, with just a matter of weeks until we welcome in 2026, we can look back on 2025 as a year of extraordinary weather which has proved to be one of the more difficult years for British gardeners, with significant and unpredictable weather shifts.

However, we have been rewarded with spectacular, vibrant colours with early displays of reds and yellows from mid-September late into November. This was partly due to high sugar levels in leaves, which also helped them defend against extreme light, leading to a more intense red pigment in some trees. We await the winter weather with bated breath!

It seems a long time since our fantastic Annual Show in September which was a resounding success as we had lots of exhibits which showcased impressive local horticultural talent despite a challenging growing season.

The variety of entries, particularly in the dahlia and vegetable sections, was a major highlight, illustrating members' dedication and skill. It was really well attended and a great community event - thank you to the judges, volunteers and everyone who submitted an entry or visited the Show. We do hope you enjoyed it! Do have a look at the website for all the entries, winners and photos: <https://hartestgardeningclub.onesuffolk.net/>

We want to continue to make the show bigger and better, so we do hope that we can encourage even more entries next year – especially in the children's section and baking/home

produce.

November saw our annual membership sign-up. We were delighted to welcome so many new people to the club alongside long-standing members. We shared the exciting new programme of events and visits for 2026 (this can be found on our website). If you couldn't make it, then do come along to our December meeting if you are interested in joining – it's just £15 per year or £25 for couples. You don't have to be a member to come to a meeting, but summer garden visits are restricted to members, and we have some super gardens booked that you will want to see!

Looking ahead, we have a fantastic programme lined up for 2026 with some superb speakers, talks and garden visits. The renowned plant sale is definitely a date for your 2026 diary, so get Sunday 17 May booked in for your plant purchases!

We always welcome new members to our very friendly and welcoming club. We hold monthly meetings at 7.30pm, on the first Monday of each month at the Hartest Institute.

Membership is £15 per person or £25 for a couple. In the summer months our members enjoy access to exclusive garden visits. Members also enjoy a healthy 50% discount on seeds from our club supplier, Kings Seeds, who have a fantastic selection of veg, flower and herb seeds.

We are a very friendly group, and new members can be assured of a warm welcome. Find out more via our:

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

Instagram: hartest_gardening_club

Facebook: Hartest & District Gardening Club

Kit Morrison, on behalf of H&DGC:
hartestgardeningclub@gmail.com

Monthly Groups

Digital Support



Advice and support sessions to use technology

- . **Hadleigh** - Hadleigh Library, 29 High St, Hadleigh, Ipswich IP7 5AG
10am-12pm (First Tuesday of the month)
- . **Stowmarket** - Stowmarket Library, Milton Road, Stowmarket,
IP14 1EX 2pm-4pm (First Wednesday of the month)
- . **Ipswich County Library** - Northgate Street, Ipswich IP1 3DE
1pm-3pm (First Friday of the month)
- . **Bury St Edmunds** - The New Bury Community Centre, 1 Charles
Place, Bury Saint Edmunds IP32 6TD 10am-12pm
(First Friday of the month)
- . **Woodbridge** - Woodbridge Community Hall, Station Road,
Woodbridge IP12 4AU 2pm-4pm (First Monday of the month)
- . **Long Melford** - Long Melford Village Hall, Long Melford,
Sudbury CO10 9JQ 2pm-4pm
(Second Wednesday of the month)

**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL, PLEASE CALL CTEA ON
01449 7070310 TO BOOK YOUR PLACE**



Readers may have noticed that the copse at the top of the hill on the footpath leading from Gents Lane was cleared of its non native trees earlier on this year, and we can now reveal the plans for that area! John Pawsey from Shimpling Park Farm asked the Greening Shimpling group whether we would be interested in helping

with the replanting of that area. We jumped at the opportunity and since then have had several meetings to discuss and plan. John explained that this is part of the Landscape Recovery Project – a project with a wonderful vision for creating ‘productive farmland and rich habitats woven together with over 100 miles of wild, green veins’, a ‘landscape buzzing with life – ponds glistening in field corners whilst the call of turtle doves and nightingales can be heard once again. Farms are thriving, locals are enjoying wild green spaces....’

This replanted copse would be just a small, but vital part of that vision, helping to connect the many hugely important wildlife corridors around our predominantly agricultural landscape.

We have met to decide which trees and shrubs which will work best with our current (and future) climate and the soils in that area, all with a purpose of providing a rich and diverse natural habitat. The area has been carefully mapped, to accommodate the different types of trees (at least 16), and the next step will be to clear the area and plant over 300 whips!

We hope to move any logs, branches etc over to a site near the pond, to provide habitat for small mammals and insects, and then start planting in January and to add bird boxes to existing mature trees in that area.

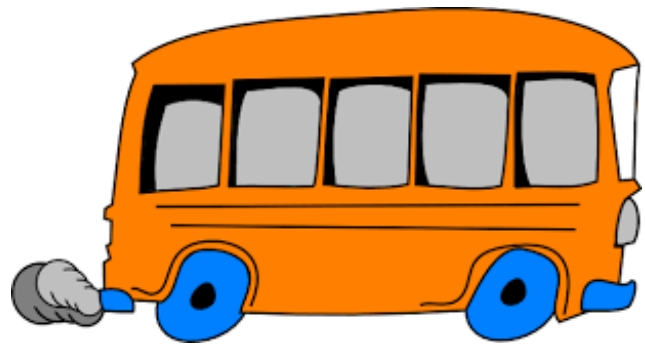
This will be a project which we hope will be one that the whole village can benefit from, particularly those who enjoy walking the footpaths which cross John’s land or just looking across

that beautiful landscape behind Gents Lane.

If you would like further information regarding this project or are interested in getting involved with the Greening Shimpling group please contact Jane 07453 453 906 or email jane.wall@hotmail.co.uk and we will add you to our WhatsApp group.

BUS NEWS

Since the introduction of our new bus service on September 1st passenger numbers have been encouraging with vehicles



on some days being more or less full up , so just as a reminder there is now a **Monday to Friday** service from Sudbury passing through Shimpling , Lawshall, Hawstead , West Suffolk Hospital before terminating at Bury bus station On **SATURDAY** there is a more extensive service offering journeys to and from Sudbury and Bury giving the opportunity to spend time in Bury, Long Melford or Sudbury or shop in Tesco(Sudbury). No need to worry about parking and even entirely free if in possession of a bus pass

The more use these services get, the less risk we have of losing them

Shimpling Village Hall Committee -

The Village Hall Committee meets every 8 weeks, to manage the hall and arrange events. We welcome interest from any resident who would like to get involved – please email the bookings secretary Carol Squire: shimplingvh@gmail.com or phone / text: 07855762812

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

Village Hall Activities

The Silver Jewellery Workshop - this popular arts and crafts event was held in September, and participants made some beautiful rings and earrings under the expert tuition of David Sandkey - a Bury based silversmith <https://www.dssilversmith.com>



In November we also held the **Christmas Decorations Pottery Workshop** led by local potter Cally James <https://hippyhutpottery.co.uk/>

Amazing work by the group led to the creation of some Xmas decorations that will be used for many years to come.

Participants will have their pieces glazed & fired ready for Xmas.



Future Arts & Crafts Sessions in the village hall 2026 (see posters in this newsletter).

Spring Wreath Making Workshop - Ever thought you would like to be able to make your own wreaths - why not start with a beautiful spring flower wreath using spring bulbs that can be re-potted and come again. The workshop will be in the village hall on the **21st of March 2026 at 10am**. The session tutor will be expert florist Anne Brown <http://www.justanneflowers.co.uk/>

Booking for places commences in December - see the poster in this month's newsletter.

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!

Other Events

Schools Oct half term saw the hall made available for free to residents and families to use the table tennis set, the children's billiards table and other indoor games. Those who took advantage enjoyed the opportunity - ***"We had a brilliant time and have all become experts at table tennis!"*** We plan to do the same the next half term in February 2026

Vernon's Quiz was held on Saturday 15th November with a tasty fish and chip supper to complement a great evening. Always a lively event - the winning team - Rosemarie Sadler and Graham Bonson et al were rewarded with vouchers for free drinks at The Bush Pub Shimpling.

Due to the popularity of the live screening of the **Christmas Pantomime** last year we are going to link with the Wolsey Theatre Ipswich again this year on the **Saturday 27th December 2pm** and live stream **Beauty and the Beast**. Look out for the poster and book your seats for an entertaining afternoon.

The Regular Village Hall Activities continue as scheduled so check the **village website**, **notice boards**, **Facebook** and **WhatsApp** and join in the fun.

PILATES classes are on a Monday mornings and Wednesday evening and with occasional attendance from other villages boosting numbers, these have mainly been well attended but there is still room for a few more so **don't be shy – come and join in**.

ZUMBA GOLD continues term time Fridays – a great way to dance your way to fitness - no prior experience needed - just dance for the fun of it.

FILM NIGHTS have also continued the **3rd Tuesday evening** of the month, showing some great films, but attendance could improve to help make a profit on these sessions.

Currently they just break even so come along and enjoy the films and **let us know what films you want to see**. **WhatsApp** or **Text Carol** on **07855762812** with your ideas

The **RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN** come to the village hall every **4th Thursday** of the month offering their excellent range of home-made coffee (or tea) cakes & savouries and supporting the distribution of invaluable up to date help, information and

advice.

Babergh Customer Services reps have been in attendance 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.

Stuck



for

something to do with the family? – don't forget you can book the hall to play a variety of games including **Table Tennis** and **Billiards**.

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 VILLAGE HALL

WINTER FILM NIGHTS

3rd TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
7pm for 7.30 start

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



COMING NEXT

16th December - XMAS Film - **It's a Wonderful Life**
Mince pies and mulled wine served during the interval

16th January - **SUNSHINE ON LEITH** starring Jane Horrocks & Peter Mullan - a British heartfelt musical about 2 soldiers adapting to life after returning from Afghanistan & featuring the euphoric music of the Proclaimers

17th February - **The Ballard of Wallis Island** or **Bridget Jones: Mad about the Boy** - to be decided

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:

22nd Jan / 26th Feb / 26th March

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



SPRING WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

10am SATURDAY 21ST MARCH 2026

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

£35 PER PERSON

Learn how to make a beautiful wreath with spring bulbs that can be replanted in a pot to come again!

Book your place by emailing

shimplingvh@gmail.com or

text Carol on 07855762812

•**STREAMED LIVE** FROM
THE NEW WOLSEY
THEATRE IPSWICH TO
SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

•ON SATURDAY 27TH
DECEMBER 2PM

Get ready for a rockin' Panto storming the stage!

Watch live streamed to Shimpling Village Hall

To book tickets Email: shimplingvh@gmail.com

£5 per person or £7.50 on the door
(under 12's free)

Refreshments, sweets, ice-creams & popcorn
will be on sale



Mrs. Ringer, our fabulous Dame, is busy making wedding plans for her daughter Belle, unaware that she and her feathered friend Pigeon have other ideas...

Drawn to a mysterious, 1000-year-old door hidden in the heart of Ipswich, they uncover a magical secret – a Beast cursed by the wicked Snarlina!

Can the Beast break the spell in time by learning to love again? Can Belle see beyond his fearsome face? And can Pigeon save the day without getting in a flap?

Advertising in the Shimpling News

You could reach 200 households.....!

The fees for advertising in the Shimpling News for 2025 (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

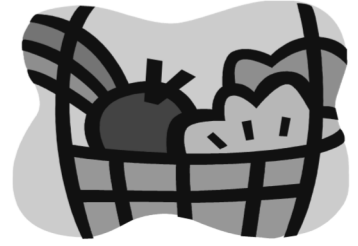
The Bush, The Street, Shimpling IP29 4HU

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



Hartest Farm and Craft Market Saturday 6th December 10-12.30—Hartest Institute



Local produce including handmade chocolates, fresh fruit and veg, cooked food, local meat, wine, cakes
Crafts including Jewellery, Knitwear, Glass, Pottery and Willow Weaving, Walking Sticks, Plants, Artworks and Skincare

Café with Hot Rolls, drinks and cakes !

For more information contact

hartestfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Or see our Facebook and Instagram posts.

Longs Farm **Honey**



1lb jars of set and clear local honey available from Vine Cottage, Gents Lane, Shimpling

longsfarmhoney.co.uk

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,
testing and inspection for insurance purposes,
smoke detectors, TV & phone points,
outside lighting, low energy & LED lighting.
NICEIC registered, Part P Certified,
ECA member with Public Liability
and guaranteed by the ECA

For competitive rates, a personal service and
good quality workmanship contact:

Kevin Seggie Electrical Services

Beechwood Cottage, Bury Road, Lawshall, IP29 4PJ
01284 830786 / 07768 108157

R&Z Electrical



All Aspects of Electrical Works Undertaken

Extra Sockets / Lights

Full / Part Rewires

Consumer Unit Upgrades

Fault Finding & Repairs

Testing & Inspection

All Works Carried Out to Current Regulations

All Works Certified and Guaranteed

Fully Insured

Free Estimates

24 Hour Call Outs

rz.electricalservices@gmail.com



Anthony - 07801990584





ClementsChimneySweeps@outlook.com

07810 616837



SERVICES INCLUDE

Chimney Sweeping
Stoves Installed
Chimney Pots
Bird Guards



Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



Useful Online Reporting Tools

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.
Rose Cottage
The Street
Shimpling
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.

Training and support will be given. Enjoying working outside is a must. You will need to have transport and be practical and hard working.

Please email cmcooke@icloud.com with a brief CV

PEST PROBLEMS SOLVED BY LOCAL SPECIALIST

Anglia DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL • AGRICULTURAL
PEST MANAGEMENT



insects✓ birds✓ moles✓ rabbits✓ rats✓

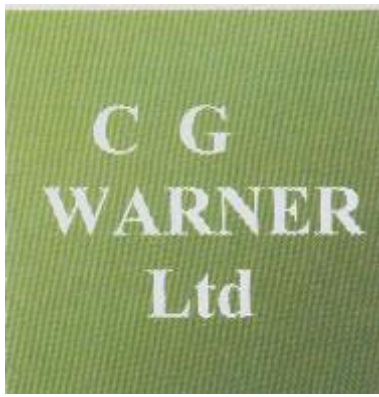
- 24hr call out / 7 days a week
- Contract or individual treatments
- Traditional methods with modern technology
- Discreet service - unmarked vehicles
- RSPH and BCPA trained and qualified
- NPTA member
- £5million public liability

Based in Lawshall
Contact Tim Cox



01284 831 042
07776 205 346

info@angliapestmanagement.co.uk ■ www.angliapestmanagement.co.uk



DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL CONTRACTING

**1 Cordell Cottages,
Little Chadacre, Shimpling,
Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk IP29 4HL**

Tel 01284 828774 Mobile 07971 248320

Email: cgwarner@btinternet.com

- Hard & Soft Landscaping
- Patios & Driveways
- All types of Domestic, Agricultural & Commercial Fencing
- Seasonal Hedge / Garden Maintenance



- Ménage Construction
- Supply & Installation of Grass reinforcement matting
- Lawnmower servicing & repairs
- Grass Cutting
- Paddock Maintenance

- Stump removal
- Firewood
- NPTC qualified Tree Surgeons
- Woodland Management
- Tree / Hedge Planting



Fully Insured

40 years + experience

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTES

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 Shimpling Post Box 14:20-14:35

Chambers Bus Service 375—Wednesdays only depart Hallifax Place to Bury 07:41 & 10:02 return arrival at Hallifax Place 13:37 & 16:54

Felix Bus Service 715—Thursday only depart 09:47 to Sudbury, return arrival 13:30