



Shipston Forum

October 2024

Shipston Food Festival

The second year of Shipston's Food Festival was a resounding success. Run by the Stour Valley Lions, all profits from the event go towards local good causes. This year the event raised over £5,000, all of which will be donated to support the surrounding area.

Opened by Mayor John Dinnie and our Town Crier, Marion Lowe, trading was brisk from the time of opening with the town centre full of stalls selling quality food and drink for the thousands of visitors who attended across the day. The weather held fair and there was a real buzz about town with a local musician adding to the atmosphere. The goods on sale were so popular that several stalls sold out before the end of the day.

Visitors took part in games run by the Lions who also sold 3,000 tickets in the best raffle yet. The amazing prizes were kindly donated by local residents and businesses including Max Warner, The George Townhouse, Pinnock's Distillery and Tesco. The lucky winners are off to enjoy a glider flight, a supercar experience and a family day at the Cotswold Wildlife Park.

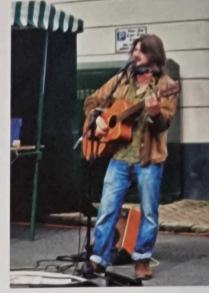
"The Food Festival couldn't have happened without help and the Lions would like to thank Shipston Town Council for their grant which helped us to get started on the planning process back in the depths of winter," said Lions' treasurer Sue Bains. "We want to offer special thanks to those who donated prizes, to all local businesses who opened up on the day and made the event even better and finally to the people of Shipston who flocked to the town centre to support the event!" Photographs of the event are available at (www.shipstonfoodfestival.org/gallery). Next year's Food Festival will be on Sunday 14th September 2025 – a date for your diary!

Lions can help you

A reminder that the Lions can help non-profit making organisations, groups and individuals in the Stour Valley area in need of some financial support. Look out for applications for the next Lions' Den this autumn.

Meadow up for award

Cornmill Meadows has been shortlisted as a 'Best



FOOD! AMAZING, GLORIOUS AND WONDERFUL FOOD AT FESTIVAL

NEWS

Stratford-upon-Avon Herald, September 12, 2024 - 23



■ Jo Barker, trustee of Shipston Foodbank, and her son Natty Barker, provided a breakfast snack at Shipston Food Festival on Sunday.

Photos: Mark Williamson



■ Members of the Stour Valley Lions, including Graham Williamson, Grant Smith, Harriet Smith and Sue Jeffries, were kept busy on the hook-a-duck and bear naming stalls.

MORE than 30 market stalls with a mouthwatering array of food and drink took over Shipston on Sunday.

This year's food festival was judged "amazing" with visitors invited to sample and buy fresh fruit, vegetables and meat sourced from local farms and bread and pies made by artisan bakers.

Other delicious treats on sale included crepes, fudge, ice-cream, candy, cupcakes, honey and jams.

For those with savoury tastes there were samosas, pakoras, oils, olives, cheese, coffee, local beer, fine ales and gin.

Organised by the Stour Valley Lions Club with support from Shipston Town Council, the event attracted 3,000 visitors and raised £5,000 with profits going to support the local area.

It was officially opened by the mayor, Cllr John Dinnie, and town crier Marion Lowe, while county councillor Jo Barker, supporting the foodbank stall, gave cookery demonstrations.

Trading was brisk with several stall holders selling out before the end and 30 have already booked to come again next year.

Harriet Smith, of the Lions, said: "It was amazing, there was the most incredible buzz around town."

"We had a busker playing fabulous music, so there was a real party atmosphere. "We were lucky with the weather, as there was a thunderstorm on Saturday night and a few drops of rain on Sunday morning but the sun came out and it stayed warm and sunny all afternoon."



■ La Toya Fé Blencowe of cake maker Blencowe's tempted visitors at Shipston Food Festival with her hand-crafted treats.



■ Town crier Marion Lowe, who announced the opening of the festival, pictured on the Lark Meadow Farm stall with owners Josh Cook and Sally Weaver, event volunteer Jes Bains and Shipston mayor Cllr John Dinnie.





























