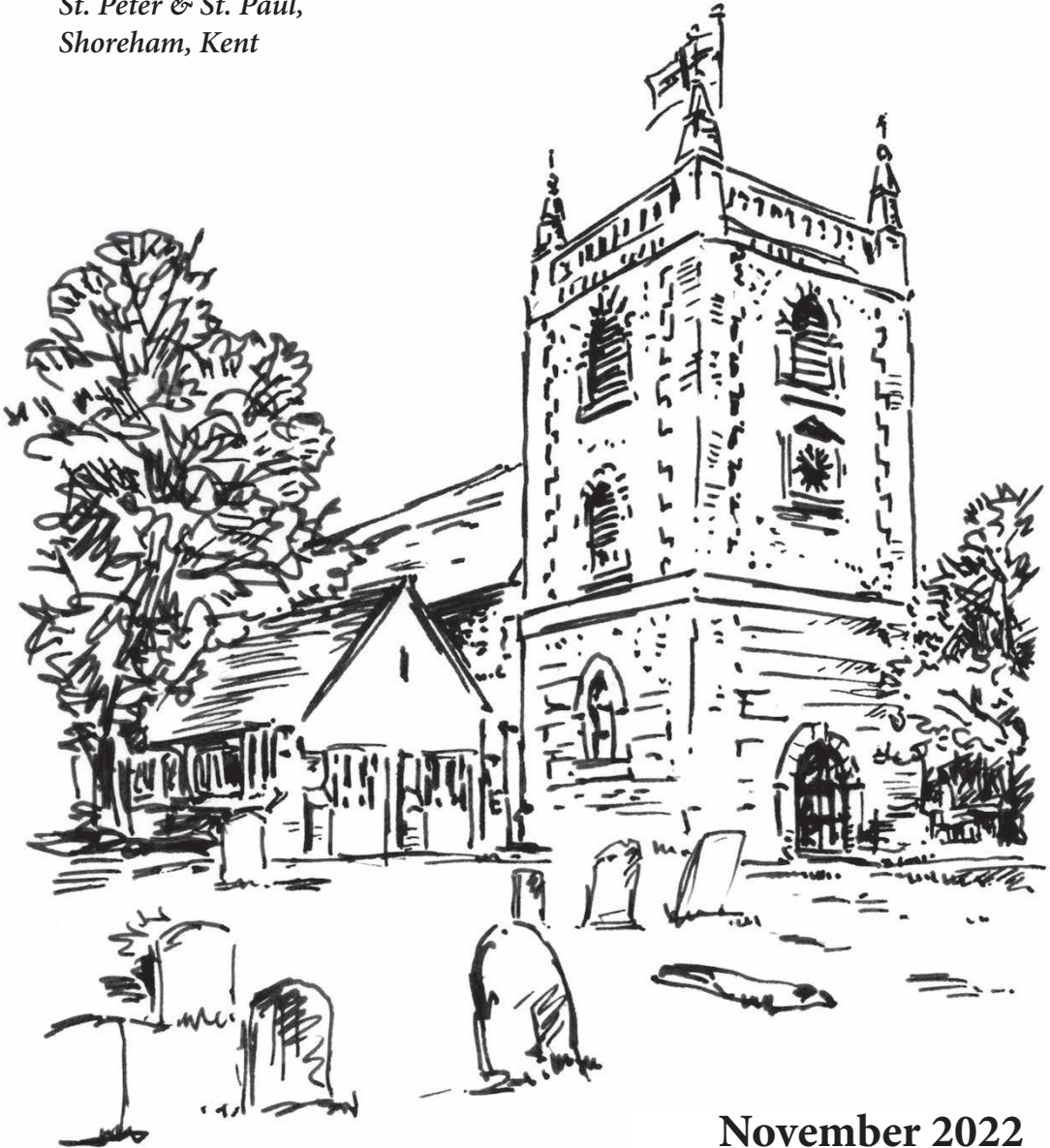


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Amanda Barlow, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk. If you are giving the details of another person please ensure you have their permission and agreement.

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SERVICES

All services this month are in church

6 November - 3 before Advent

9am Breakfast@Church

6pm Holy Communion

13 November - Remembrance Sunday

9am Holy Communion

10.00 Remembrance Sunday service ending at the War Memorial by the river

20 November - Sunday before Advent/ Christ the King

10am Holy Communion with the choir - Celebration of the 40th anniversary of the rededication of the bells in 1982.

6pm Evening Prayer

27 November 2022 - Advent Sunday - Year A begins

9am Communion in church (BCP)

10am Sunday worship for all in church for Advent

Sunday 18 December - Carol Service at 6pm



Rev Dr Diane Rees

The Vicarage, Station Road, Shoreham TN14 7SA

revdrdi@outlook.com 01959 522363

(Usual parish days Friday to Monday)

From the Church Baptism Register

25 September

Archie Wilson and Isla Wilson

16 October

Aaron Hinks

Toby Wright

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A CELEBRATION OF THE CHURCH BELLS WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY 20TH NOVEMBER AT 10AM DO COME AND JOIN US,

HISTORY OF THE BELLS

“Look to! Treble’s going...she’s gone.” Thus for centuries have the Shoreham bellringers pealed off. But in 1982 she really was gone, along with her seven sisters, and she never came back - at least not until after a melt-down with Number 2. Now forty years on we have a chance to remember and celebrate the generosity of all those who contributed to that restoration of the bells and give thanks for the dozens of ringers who have kept alive one of our ancient traditions.

There had been an overhaul after WWII, forty years after the two lightest bells (cast 1889) had been fully fitted in 1907. But, with the exception of the relatively young “tenor” - the largest one, the other bells are much older (1635-1693) and there was some concern that they were being damaged by the carillon, which had been restored in 1889 and automatically rang out tunes every three hours, day and night! By the late 1970s enthusiasm seemed to be on the wane, perhaps not helped by one vicar’s view that those who summoned people to worship should also attend it but the bellringers claimed their scruffy ringing clothes weren’t suitable for church and doubtless the refreshment they needed was more liquid than spiritual.

Eventually it was a letter from Peter Meade that galvanised the Parochial Church Council into action and The Bell Fund was started. At the same time Michael and Frances McDonnell had rejuvenated the ringers so that by 1982 there was a team of sixteen of all ages. This renewed enthusiasm and some concerted fundraising produced the necessary £22,000, nearly £70,000 in today’s money after inflation. (Correct at time of going to press!)

The bellringers did the heavy work (over two tons) of lowering the bells onto Malcolm MacLening’s lorry for their journey to the Whitechapel Bell Foundry where they completely recast the two lightest bells and turned and tuned the others before they were rehung on a new frame with refurbished wheels, roller bearings and various other “bells and whistles”.

They were rededicated by the Bishop of Rochester in September 1982 and are still going strong. As are the bellringers! Frank Rogers has been coming from Eynsford for over fifty years and now the band of six from Shoreham are supported by our friends from Dartford. But we need a few more and it’s not difficult, so do get in touch. Do you remember that wonderful feeling of first joining a team and the excitement of learning something new? Now that rings a bell!

With many thanks to Alain Cozens for material from his fascinating, but still unpublished book on the Vicars of Shoreham.

Johnny Aisher Churchwarden and bellringer



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SHOREHAM CHURCH IN THE MEDIA

www.shorehamchurchkent.org

Here you can find copies of the Sunday service sheets and video recordings. Contact details, Make a donation, Information regarding the opening of the Church and the most recent issue of the Gazette.

Wedding information shorehamkentchurchweddings@gmail.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ShorehamChurch>

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SHOREHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS – CABARET

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You can expect music, laughter and magic and no two evenings will be quite the same.

Keep an eye on the Shoreham Village Facebook page or posters round the village for information on how to book your tickets.

Sheila Webb

SHOREHAM SOCIETY

Shoreham Does Indeed Shine!

THANK YOU to all those who took the time to make Shoreham Shine on Sunday 16 October. The car park, river path, play areas and streets, including Shacklands Road and Filston Lane, were freed of litter, the grounds in front of the Village Hall were tidied, a number of sites were weeded and vegetation was cut back, out of date posters and signs were removed.

Also, a BIG THANK YOU to the many of you who litter pick throughout the year.

Please keep the pavement outside your house clean and tidy: cut back vegetation spilling onto the pavement; pick up any litter on the pavement; sweep the pavement; clear any litter in the gutter. Families, people with pushchairs and those with mobility difficulties all need the full width of the pavement to be accessible, safe and free of debris.

If we all do our bit the impact will be amazing and the pavements will be accessible for all. And, another BIG THANK YOU to those who already do this.

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SAVE THE DATE! The next Shoreham Shine will be on **March 4 9am-4pm**. Make a difference with this community event. Everyone, young and young at heart, can be involved, and there will be chocolate treats too! Do your bit to look after all of us!

AGM with a difference! November 4 7.30pm

We have two fascinating talks about different aspects of Shoreham life, accompanied by wine and nibbles with just 10 minutes of Annual General Meeting. I am sure you have heard of The Quadrangle, but what goes on there? Jessie Teggin and Deborah Wolton will explain all. Following the AGM William Alexander will take us through his farming year – and what a year it must have been!

Christmas Eve 24 December 5pm

Father Christmas will be visiting us at The Samuel Palmer pub before he travels the world to distribute his other presents. It makes Shoreham children very special! Everyone is welcome. If you are not certain about what to do, ring one of his elves on 01959523374. 2023 may seem a long way away but the Shoreham Society has many plans for the New Year.

Shoreham Shine, Castle Farm walk (Late May?), Duck Race (TBA), Grassland Walk with Mark Gallant (Saturday 10th June)

As always, if you would like the opportunity to be more involved in Shoreham life, you can join the Shoreham Society by emailing: shorehamsociety@gmail.com

Chris Euman Co-Chair Shoreham Society

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Our Annual General Meeting is on Friday 11 November in The Village Hall at 7.30pm. After the AGM there will be a talk by Simon Waterfield entitled “The Kilted Tommy....One man's story of WW1 and after!” This will be followed by Cheese and Wine. All are welcome to join us.

Lorna Robinson

SHOREHAM & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

<https://shorehamkenthistory.weebly.com/>

Following the September meeting when the subject was The Biggin Hill Memorial Museum, fourteen members visited the Museum at Biggin Hill for a very interesting tour followed by lunch.

At our October meeting, Mark Lewis gave a fascinating and well-attended talk on Smuggling in Kent. Mark detailed the vast sums of money involved in smuggling in the 18th and 19th centuries, described the elaborate schemes and ruses to get the contraband into circulation, and said there was little romantic about it all. Instead, it was “a bloody and violent activity that often involved a huge loss of life”.

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The next meeting of the Society is on 18 November when Nick Rushby will speak about restoring an Archbishop's Palace. If you have missed some of our interesting talks there are longer reports of the meetings on our website, also many interesting articles & old photos of houses, people, and events past in Shoreham. *Lynda Alleeson*

NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

The celebration of the life of Her Majesty the Queen has been a feature of many of our conversations in school over the past few weeks as well as the accession of King Charles III. We have also been talking about democracy since the appointment of the new Prime Minister, which links to our own recent elections. Our Year 6 pupils can choose if they wish to apply for a number of elected posts which include House Captain, Sports Captain and Chair of the Pupil Leadership Team. They prepare and deliver speeches to their Houses and all pupils vote for the leader that they support. The speeches this year were of an extremely high calibre, persuasive and impassioned and our pupils really demonstrated their understanding of how to win hearts and minds with carefully chosen words.

Our newly elected Sports Captains have already attended a Sports Leaders training course at Sevenoaks School, to empower them to lead the 'intra' sports competition in school and be inspiring and motivating Sports Captains. Our House Captains will be tasked to prepare assemblies on topics such as our school values, online safety and bullying whilst our Pupil Leadership Team will be gathering the views of pupils in the school and creating an action plan to establish how they will achieve the goals they set themselves.

Our Year 6 pupils were a credit to the school as they welcomed guests from the village 'Over 60s' Club to join us for a Harvest Morning Coffee. The Year 6 children greeted our visitors, took their drink orders, made sure they were supplied with cakes and then chatted with them. Comments from our guests included, "Your pupils are polite, attentive and interesting to talk to," and, "the children were so kind and had such good manners," and, "one of your pupils realised I was deaf and she took great care of me, talking to me clearly and also using her face to show me expression when the whole class sang 'La Bamba' to us." I could not be more proud of Year 6 for demonstrating our school values in such a practical way.

School trips are underway once more with a truly thrilling day spent at Thorpe Park with Cameron Class. The focus of the day was to participate in a number of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) activities which included spending time on some RAF trucks, meeting TITAN the robot and watching a military marching band. Once stamps were earned, some at school before we went and also on the day, pupils were able to enjoy the rides in the park, thinking about how they work, how they were made and why they are so exciting!



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If you would like to support the school further, we are always happy to hear from people who would be interested in volunteering to work with the pupils to hear readers or run a club. If you would like to find out more, please contact me via the school office; all volunteers are subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service Check with the police and go through an induction and training programme.

We still have some limited spaces for pupils available in some year groups, so if you know anyone who is looking for a small friendly school with high standards and lots of lovely outdoor space, please ask them to call us to arrange a tour. Phone: 01959 522228 or email: office@shoreham.kent.sch.uk Gillian Lovatt-Young Headteacher

THE FRIENDS OF SHOREHAM SCHOOL

Warmly invites you to a Festive wreath workshop

Wednesday 30 November from 6.30pm to 8.30pm

Tickets £35 per person including a glass of mulled wine.

To secure your place. Please make payment to pta-events.co.uk/shorehamfoss

SHOREHAM VILLAGE STORES

We wish Prasanth all the best for his new life in Middlesbrough. There were dozens of tributes on the Shoreham Facebook page to his time behind the counter. Taking his place is Venkat, who comes from Chennai in South India and has already won praise from customers for his friendliness. He and Desh will soon be gearing up for Christmas, and we hope to have news on turkey ordering soon – keep an eye out for notices in the shop.

We thank everyone for their messages of support after we suffered an attempted break-in in the middle of the night on 11 October. We're grateful to the police for their swift response, and we apologise if our clean-up and repairs have inconvenienced customers.

Raj, Desh and Venkat

NEXT STEPS FOR GREEN HEATING SHOREHAM

MEETING ON 9 NOVEMBER (7pm for 7.30pm)

We have now received and fully analysed the consultants' Feasibility Study report into the proposed heat network for the core of the village. After much deliberation, we have taken the decision not to proceed with the network proposals. Instead, as a team, we have been working on ways in which everyone in the parish can reduce their heating bills and carbon emissions.

We will be holding a public meeting in the Village Hall on 9th November and will cover:

- a brief summary of the outcomes of the Feasibility Study and our reasons for not proceeding;

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- case studies of how members of the Shoreham community are improving their energy efficiency;
- advice from contractors about upgrading insulation and installing heat pumps;
- Information about the availability of grants to help with improvements.

You may know that, in parallel with the externally led Feasibility Study, we set up our own Insulation Plus Initiative to help all residents across Shoreham get to grips with upgrading their homes by improving the insulation. You told us that your main concerns lie in identifying reliable installers, rather than responding to cold calls. We have now established relationships with recommended contractors who have the capacity to offer the services you might need. A few households in Shoreham are now piloting the programme before extending it to others who have already shown interest. The 'plus' in the title of the project indicates that design and installation of Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHP) can be included where that is appropriate for your home. A Government grant of £5000 is available via the contractor if certain criteria are met.

Do join us on 9 November in the Village Hall: refreshments at 7pm, meeting starts at 7.30pm. We are pleased to report that contractors will be there to help answer questions. For more information, please contact greenheatingshoreham@gmail.com

Bill Lattimer on behalf of the Green Heating Shoreham team

SHOREHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS – NORMAN GAYLER 1935-2022

Norman's career with the Players started in 1974 with a small part in My Fair Lady; his most recent performances were in 2016 in School for Scandal and Cards on the Table. During those forty-two years Norman made thirty-five appearances in wildly differing parts. Whatever the character, Norman inhabited it completely: Scarecrow in Wizard of Oz, the Duke of Kent in King Lear, Fagin in Oliver!, Alfred Doolittle in My Fair Lady in 1989, Widow Twankey in Aladdin as well as numerous smaller parts, and unforgettable appearances in Old Time Music Halls.

It didn't matter what the part was; as soon as Norman appeared on stage the audience loved him. So did the actors, even if, in later years, his increasingly loose connection to the script and outrageous ad-libbing kept them on their toes. You looked forward to rehearsing with Norman because of his infectious good humour and the likelihood that at some moment he would introduce a note of anarchy. He was a Shoreham Village Player through and through, immensely supportive of fellow Players and of the institution, never missing an AGM or a chance to participate, until these last few years when his health began to decline. He is sadly missed. Our sympathies go to Dane, Naamen, Pippan and their families.

As always, Shakespeare has the perfect quote:

All the world's a stage,

And all the men and women merely players;

They have their exits and their entrances;

And one man in his time plays many parts - - - .

Kate Britten

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Kate Britten

TEMENOS CHAMBER CHOIR

Vaughan Williams and Friends Saturday 19 November, St John the Baptist Church, Sevenoaks TN13 3TX

To mark the 150th Anniversary of the birth of Ralph Vaughan Williams, Temenos will be exploring both his fascination with Tudor Church music, and also the influence of his teachers and composer friends: works include Holst Nunc dimittis, Finzi My Spirit sang all day, Ravel Nicolette and Stanford The Blue Bird with its soaring soprano solo. Vaughan Williams's monumental double-choir Mass in G minor is paired with motets by Thomas Tallis, and the concert concludes with his Lord Thou has been our refuge with its uplifting organ climax.

Tickets £15 (£7 students) from Sevenoaks Bookshop (cash or cheques only) or ring

THE CHRISTMAS QUIZ SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER **Shoreham Village Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

Because of the Queen's death, the Quiz on Saturday 17 September to raise money for food banks had to be cancelled. We hope you will now be able to come and test your wits on Saturday 10 December with your friends. There will be tables of six, so it would be great if you could make up a team, or if you want to come on your own or with a friend, we can match you up with a table. Mince pies will be served during the interval and nibbles will be provided, but you are welcome to bring some of your own nibbles. A pay bar will be open all evening selling wine, beer and soft drinks. As well as raising funds for local food banks, there will also be an opportunity to make a donation on the night.

Tickets £10 will be available from 7 November from ticketsource.co.uk/darent-valley-quiz-night, or in person from Shoreham Village Stores. For any enquiries, please contact Sheila Birkin on 01959 523071 or birkins78@gmail.com. The quiz is run by the Darent Valley Branch of Sevenoaks CLP. *Sheila Birkin, Gavin Owen, Jill Webster, Madeleine Marshall, Mary Symons and Anne Deane*

OVER 60s CLUB

Wednesday 9 November

A talk by Trevor Carman on behalf of DRIPS [Darent River Preservation Society].
In the Village Hall at **2pm** with tea and cakes.

Wednesday 23 November

Christmas Bring and Buy Sale and Raffle. Delicious tea and cakes, as always. In the Village Hall at **2pm**. All meetings will now start at 2pm *Suna Keates*

HARVEST 2022 REPORT

‘Harvest’ in most peoples’ minds conjures up scenes of golden fields of wheat being gathered in under blue skies, with the grains being safely stored away for milling into bread flour throughout the year ahead. This summer such an image was rather accurate, being defined by seemingly endless, sunny, warm, rainless days. Farmers enjoyed one of the earliest and easiest harvests in years, without need to dry a single ton of grain arriving from field into store.

Harvest no longer involves a small army of Shoreham men, women and children setting out at dawn carrying sweep scythes, binding twine and sandwiches. Today, a single operator greases and fuels their combine harvester ready to cut and thresh scores of acres until well after dark. But rest assured, sandwiches still feature as an essential harvesting ingredient!

In 2022 yields were above average, due in part to May rainfall providing sufficient soil moisture to keep wheat and barley crops growing just long enough to swell the grains. Although welcomed initially, those dry days then blistered into drought.

- Wild fires became a tangible risk.
- Field transplants – vegetables, lavenders, herbs, all required irrigation to prevent them dying.
- Grass ceased growing, turning pastures brown – just like domestic lawns.
- Insufficient grass meant no “second cut” silage or hay to be made – leaving barns half empty.
- Dwindling grazing for animals enforced feeding hay & silage allocated for cattle & sheep rations over the approaching winter months.
- In contrast to the huge maize crop of 2021 (grown for silage), this year maize plants suffered dry soils, failing to grow “*as high as an elephant’s eye*”.

Vegetable growers endured a challenging season. High temperatures and parched soils often restricted plant growth, disrupted harvesting dates and created temporary shortages or surpluses. Food availability on supermarket shelves has been affected, so expect wonky veg, smaller baking potatoes and shorter chips!

Fruit crops have generally embraced the warmth, with September rain arriving in time to swell apples. Cherries, strawberries and raspberries also had heavy crops and abundant natural sweetness.

Unsurprisingly hot, dry weather is ideal for lavender. Our plantations shone purple a little longer than usual. We subsequently distilled some of the highest oil yields recorded on Castle Farm – a complete reversal to last year, which produced the worst ever result (a reminder of how wet it was in summer 2021).

Finally, my beekeeper tells me that the favourable weather of 2022 kept his bees busy gathering in a bumper harvest of lavender, wild flower and woodland honeys.

William Alexander

TALES FROM THE HILL

When is a crisis not a crisis anymore? We might presume it is when the media stop reporting on it, but we all know that this is not the case. Long after the cameras have been packed away, and move on to the next crisis, the NGO's stay on to pick up the pieces.

The constant use of the word crisis is so widely used by the media that it is now purely a short word that fits neatly onto the front page and carries an appropriate degree of gloom. A 19th century gentleman in his London club perusing his copy of The Times would have been familiar with the word when applied to, say, 'a crisis in The Punjab or Indo - China, for that is where crises were supposed to happen, not here in Blighty!

Despite the horrors of both world wars the word crisis was used sparingly, mainly to describe 'a crisis in talks.' This avoidance of the word was a purposeful attempt to keep up the morale of the nation. I remember at the time of the Suez debacle the press were unanimous in their headline. 'SUEZ CRISIS' short snappy and true..It was though, the trigger for the word to be used on almost a daily basis.

Heaven knows we have enough real crises at this time without the media inventing a few more.-- Crisis in loo paper supply, crisis in egg and pasta supply, a crisis in chips, (both sorts) Perhaps the most worrying of all is the shortage of Dukes cricket balls. But as we are constantly being told by our politicians to "keep on rolling the pitch" maybe our last remaining Dukes balls will last a little longer without resorting to that excuse for a cricket ball, the Kookaburra.

When the history books of our era are written I think we will find the greatest crisis of all is a 'Crisis of Confidence' in our world leaders to act in concert for the good of the people they represent--Just kidding, for I think we all know it's always thus. So just for a change instead of crisis let's substitute it with Wilfrid Hyde-White's "OH CALAMITY."

John Bovington

SHOREHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our Table Top Sale on 24 September proved very popular, and was great fun for the large number of people who came. Its success means we will likely hold another of these events next year.

We would like to thank everyone who came to our Community Coffee Morning on 13 October, which was held in aid of Macmillan Cancer Research. It was fantastic to see so many people there, enjoying all the delicious home-made cakes and catching up with friends, while supporting this important charity. Your generous donations and the raffle (which was started at the Table Top Sale on 24 September) raised over £520 for Macmillan – well done everyone!

The next Women's Institute meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1 November when the owner of Blended Therapies, a local Kent business selling handmade, natural, therapeutic aromatherapy products, will give a talk/demonstration on 'Aromatherapy and Making Your Own'. It will also be possible to make a sample of hand cream to take home. Their products are sold in National Trust Properties and there will be some available to purchase, if required, which could start off your Christmas shopping! Visitors and new members are always welcome. Please direct any enquiries to Shoreham@wkwfi.org.uk

Our next Community Coffee morning will take place on Thursday 10 November in the Village Hall from 10am to 12pm. More coffee, tea and cakes than anyone could eat – come and join us for a friendly, relaxed morning with any proceeds going to support the maintenance of the Village Hall defibrillator. All welcome. *Shoreham WI*

VILLAGE DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Tuesday 1	Shoreham Women's Institute	Village Hall	7.30pm
Friday 4	Shoreham Society AGM	Village Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 9	Over 60s [Darent River Preservation Society]		2pm
Wednesday 9	Green Heating	Village Hall	7pm
Thursday 10	Community Coffee Morning	Village Hall	10am - 12 noon
Friday 11	Royal British Legion AGM	Village Hall	7.30pm
Friday 18	Shoreham Historical Society	Village Hall	8pm
Thursday 23	Over 60s Bring and Buy Sale	Village Hall	2pm
Saturday 26	Friends of Shoreham Church Advent Sale		11am to 1pm
Friday 25 and Saturday 26	Shoreham Village Players Cabaret		
Wednesday 30	FOSS wreath making	Village School	6.30pm

DECEMBER

Friday 2 and Saturday 3	Shoreham Village Players Cabaret		
Saturday 10	Christmas Quiz	Village Hall	7pm for 7.30pm
Sunday 18	Church Carol Service		6pm

SHOREHAM GAZETTE INFORMATION

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THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE COVERS DECEMBER AND JANUARY

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