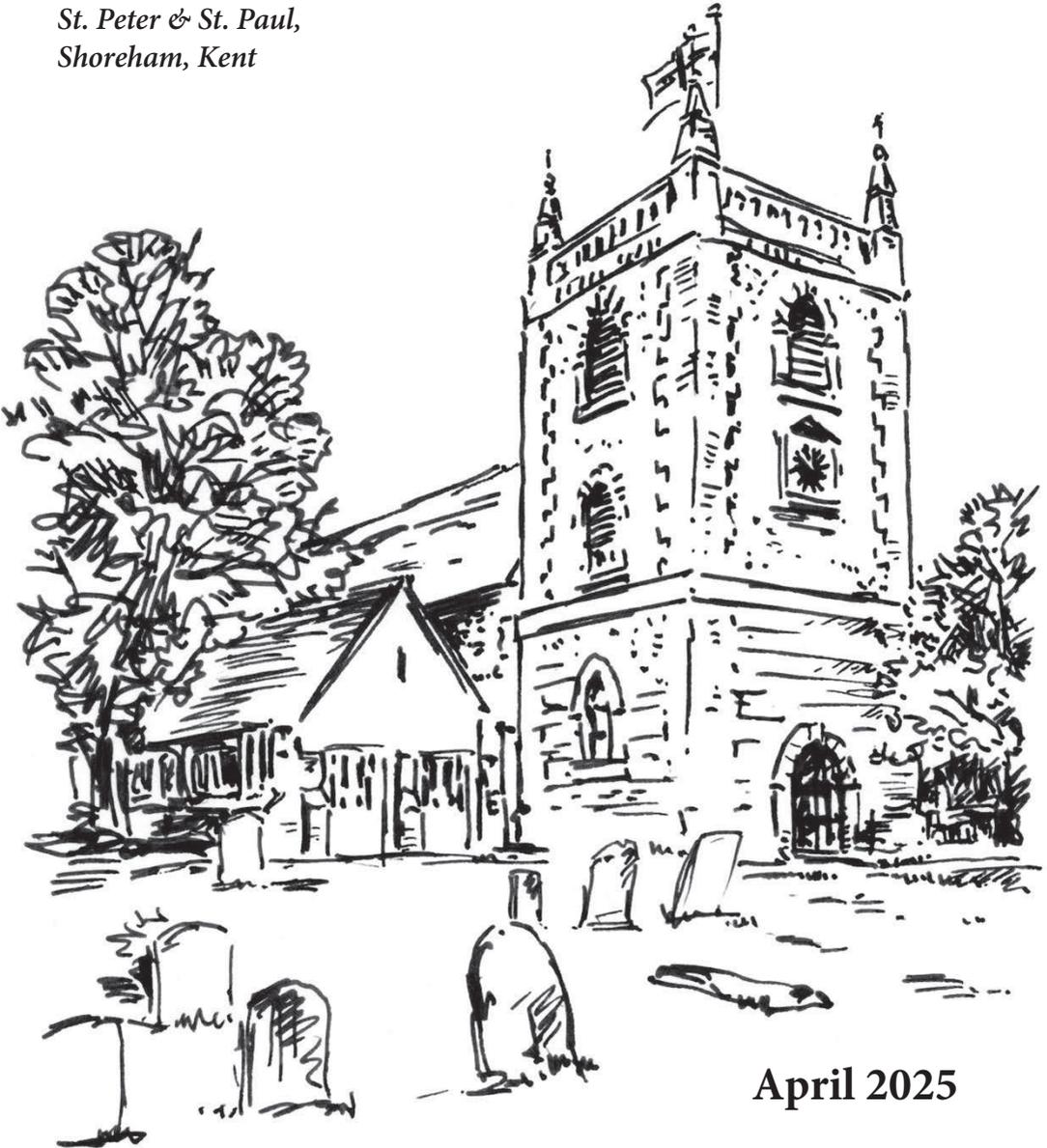


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Amanda Barlow, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk. If you are giving the details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



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VOLUME 57 SHOREHAM GAZETTE NUMBER 3

APRIL 2025

I was watching a three year old boy potting up a spring bulb in compost at the Church-run parent toddler group ‘Stay and Play’. And it got me thinking. Isn’t it appropriate that Easter comes at a time when we in the Northern Hemisphere are seeing signs of spring all around us?

The death and resurrection of Jesus is perfectly mirrored in the way that plants and shrubs die in the autumn and – seemingly miraculously – come back to life in the spring.

Did those who set the dates for Easter plan it that way? Well, possibly, but in a very roundabout way. The date of Easter is determined by the date of Passover. Passover is a widely celebrated Jewish holiday that remembers the Hebrews’ exodus from Egypt. It lasts for eight days, beginning on the 15th day of the first month of the Jewish year, the month of Nisan. Jews calculate their calendar according to the phases of the moon. Thus of course the date of the festival moves around with the moon’s cycle.

So what’s the link with Easter? Well we know from the Gospels that the Passover festival was due to begin when Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday: that’s why there were so many people around. The Last Supper, which we remember on Maundy Thursday, was a ‘Seder meal’: a traditional meal the night before the start of Passover. And we read in John’s Gospel that the Jewish leaders asked Pilate to speed up the death of Jesus and the others being crucified so that they could be buried before the Passover proper began.

So the date of Easter is effectively set by the very ancient Jewish calendar, and specifically by the date of the first month of their year, Nisan. It seems reasonable to think that the originators of that calendar would have put the first month in the spring. So yes, there probably is a link between Easter and springtime.

Either way, please join us this Easter as we remember – with countless other churches around the world – the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and the amazing events of the resurrection. There will be our usual procession on Palm Sunday. On Good Friday we will have a quiet reflective service with readings and hymns from 2-3pm, remembering Jesus’ last hour at the cross. On Sunday morning we will be at the cross on the hill at dawn, meeting at the Landway at 5.30am. And at 10am there will be the main event in Church to celebrate the resurrection.

Bill Lattimer, Lay Minister shorehamparish@gmail.com

COFFEE AND CHAT –FRIDAY 4th APRIL

Do treat yourself to a healthy walk to the Church Room for a convivial cup of coffee (or tea) and a chance to pass the time of day with village friends. The first Friday of each month, 10.30am - 12.00 noon, everyone welcome - no previous experience or religious knowledge required!

Thank you to **Wendy Mellor** for her donation to the Gazette.

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APRIL SERVICES AT ST PETER AND ST PAUL

Friday 4th April

9.30am Friday Prayers

Sunday 6th April - Lent 5

9am Breakfast@Church

10.15am Annual Parochial Church Meeting

6pm Holy Communion and Lent Discussion

Friday 11th April

9.30am Friday Prayers

Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

9.45am Procession from the School to the Church

10am Holy Communion

6pm Lent Discussion

Monday 14th April

11am Messy Church

Friday 18th April - Good Friday

9.30am Friday Prayers

2pm Service of Reflection and Hymns

Sunday 20th April - Easter Day

5.45am Sunrise Service at the Chalk Cross

10am Holy Communion

Friday 25th April

9.30am Friday Prayers

Sunday 27th April - Easter 2

10am Holy Communion with Choir

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTER

Funeral

Ruth Bellairs

Monday 24 March

OVER 60s - all 2pm in the village hall with tea and cakes

Wednesday 9th April - Craft with Agneta

Wednesday 23rd April - Our first memories and a flower quiz.

Many thanks to Suna and Kath who arrange our programme throughout the year and a HUGE thank you to Sharon and Kevin for helping with the tables and chairs.

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DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES!

We are really excited to be running an Easter Messy Church, on Monday 14th April, from 11-12.30pm in the church.

There will be lots of exciting and engaging activities to get involved in, and to explore the Easter story in fun and interactive ways, for those families with children aged 3-10 years.

There will also be a puppeteer there to bring together our session

towards the end, and a chance to sit together for light lunch/refreshments.

There is no set cost to come along to this event, but donations would be welcome.

We would also be pleased for any additional help on the day, to make this event a really successful community event for Shoreham. Please email lizclitheroe@hotmail.co.uk if you feel you can offer to do something to help.

Watch out for more info/flyer to come.

Liz Clitheroe

SHOREHAM CHURCH STAY AND PLAY

Every Monday in term time - 9.30-11.30 in the Village Hall. For pre-school aged children accompanied by a parent or carer. ALL WELCOME

SHOREHAM WI

Our next WI meeting will take place on Tuesday 1 April, and we are back to our evening meetings which start at 7.30pm (arrival from 7.15pm) in Village Hall. We will be delighted to welcome Ellie from EAN Jewellery, who hand-makes jewellery and helps people make their own wedding rings etc at her studio in The Quadrangle. Ellie will talk to us about her work, show us some samples and tell us what it's like to work in Shoreham. We love to welcome new potential members and visitors and any enquiries should be sent to Shoreham@wkfwi.org.uk

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

The next WI Community Coffee morning will be held on Thursday 10 April in the Village Hall, as usual from 10am to 12pm. Just walk in and you will be made very welcome at this monthly community event where people from Shoreham and beyond meet up with old friends and make new ones, or simply pop in for refreshments. The cost is only £2 for tea/coffee and delicious home-made cake.

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QUIZ NIGHT AT THE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is hosting a Quiz Night on Saturday 26th April. This is a great opportunity to support a valuable village amenity as all proceeds will go towards updating and refurbishing our wonderful hall.

Full details:

Low licensed bar prices – cash or card accepted.

A raffle with great prizes.

Doors open at 7 for a 7.30pm start.

Bring your own nibbles.

Teams of a maximum of 8 - or just join a table.

Entry by ticket only.

Tickets are £8 per person available from the Village Shop, cash only

Or

email - ralph.abbott@gmx.com

If you wish to reserve a table please email Ralph as above.

APRIL SHOREHAM BOARD GAME EVENING

Tuesday 8 April, any time from 5pm to 9pm, The Samuel Palmer Pub

Come along to the monthly board game evening at the Samuel Palmer Pub to play fun games and share lots of laughs with fellow locals. Everyone is welcome – kids, adults and families, in groups or alone. It's a casual drop-in event, you just show up any time and we'll help you find a game and a table. We'll have a selection of entertaining games, or you can bring your own. Food is available to order until 6.30pm.

The event is hosted by Ceri & Natalie Price who live in the village and are board game lovers and inventors.

SHOREHAM & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our 2025 talks have been very successful thanks to the programme put together by our Talks Secretary, Jill Webster. Our next meeting is on Friday 25 April when we'll welcome Jonathan Fenner to tell us about the sometimes turbulent history of Sevenoaks, entitled "Bishops, Beasts and Bankers". The meeting starts at 8pm in the Village Hall, with refreshments from 7.30. Non-members are always very welcome.

Don't forget our website for stories, pictures and profiles covering the many fascinating buildings of Shoreham and its residents in times past:

<https://shorehamkenthistory.weebly.com>

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NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL, MARCH 2025

As the days grow longer and the temperatures rise, our school community is buzzing with excitement and activity. The arrival of warmer weather has ushered in a season of growth, learning, and joyful experiences for our children.

As ever, we have a lot of additional opportunities for our pupils and we are delighted to welcome back the pupils from Sevenoaks School, who will continue their French lessons with Moore Class. Their dedication and enthusiasm have greatly enriched our language programme. Additionally, they are now introducing Palmer Class to the wonders of forest school, fostering a deeper connection with nature and hands-on learning experiences.

Moore Class pupils have also embarked on an exciting journey into the world of lacrosse. This dynamic sport is enhancing their teamwork, coordination, and physical fitness. We look forward to seeing their skills develop in the coming weeks.

Palmer Class recently captivated us with a remarkable assembly focused on their studies of castles through the ages and British monarchs. Their presentations showcased not only their historical knowledge but also their creativity and increased confidence in public speaking. Well done, Palmer Class!

We had the privilege of hosting author Claire Hatcher-Smith, who led an inspiring workshop based on her book, 'The Mizzy Mysteries'. We were enthralled by her storytelling and gained valuable insights into the writing process, which has sparked our own creative ideas for writing detective stories.

Our annual World Book Day and Eisteddfod competition was a resounding success, highlighting the diverse talents of our pupils. From musical, science and magic performances to poetry recitals and puppet shows, the event celebrated the artistic flair and dedication of our students.

As a small village school, we thrive on the generosity and support of our local community. We are currently seeking volunteers to help in school with activities such as reading or supporting class projects. If you have some time to spare and would like to make a difference in the lives of our pupils, we would love to hear from you. All volunteers will be subject to DBS and safeguarding measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children.

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



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Duck Race Sunday 11th May, Registration 1.30 to 2.20pm

It's time to start making and decorating your ducks for this year. We hope to create a photographic gallery of the best ducks and put them on display before the race.

We need many helpers on the day and no training is required – please contact Chris Euman (christineeuman@yahoo.co.uk).

Orchid and Wildflower Walk – to be scheduled end May / early June

Shoreham Shine – The Results are In - What a Difference a Day Makes!

A massive thank you for a brilliant turnout of **33** volunteers, including five children and four newcomers, who came to the Village Hall on 15th March to sign up for jobs.

Our achievements:

- **Litter Picked** Redmans Lane, the A225 at the top of Station Road, Station Road, the Graveyard, Filston Lane, Recreation Ground, High Street to the triangle, Shacklands Road, Mill Lane and the river path.
- **Cut Back Vegetation** from around the Village Hall, the Recreation Ground and the Centenary Wood
- **Swept** the gutters in front of the Village Hall and the Walnut Tree cottages
- **Cleared Leaves and Debris** in the car park, the MUGA and tennis court
- **Weeded** the paths around the Village Hall
- **Removed Guards** from trees in the woods
- **Removed** staples and drawing pins from telegraph poles and fences
- **Collection of Hauls** with vehicles, trailers and wheelbarrows
- **Socialised** as we worked and later whilst chatting over a cuppa and some tasty treats.

Our more interesting hauls included: four car tyres, two hub caps, a very long piece of guttering, a pair of sparkly pumps, a suitcase and a huge bag of, luckily, unused nappies!

Another big thank you to the volunteers who **hedge cut, tidy and tend flowers throughout the year around the Village Hall.**

A final big thank you also to the **people who regularly litter pick in the village throughout the year.** It is because of you that more outlying lanes can be litter picked during Shoreham Shine.

****Please remember to keep the pavements in front of your house clear of plants to enable ease of access for all pedestrians****

See you at the next Shoreham Shine on Saturday 11th October!

*John Saynor, Chair; Sarah Andrews, Vice Chair; Rachel French, Secretary;
Vannessa Hills, Shoreham Shine organiser
shorehamsociety@gmail.com*

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ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Shoreham Village Hall

Wednesday 30 April

7.30pm

Shoreham Parish Council
would like to invite all
residents to the Annual
Parish Meeting.

There will also be another
opportunity to see the
proposed plans following
the Traffic and Parking
consultation. The deadline
for comments has been
extended to 7 May.

Light refreshments
will be served.



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LOOKING FOR LIZARDS



Common lizard

April is one of the best times of year to search for reptiles such as lizards as they are getting active in the spring but need to bask a lot to warm up and so can be quite easy to spot. Reptiles are **poikilothermic**, meaning that their internal temperature varies, depending on the weather, as opposed to **homeothermic** animals like us, who can maintain a nearly constant internal temperature. These characteristics used to be called cold or warm blooded. In the spring reptiles need to be warmed in order to be active, but later in the year, when the weather is hotter, they do not need to come out into the open where predators might find them and may actually need to shelter to cool down.

Churchyards can be brilliant for all reptiles because they contain a mixture of warm places to bask such as stones and short grass, which are usually close to places where they can shelter such as gaps and cracks within stone walls, long and tussocky grass, uneven ground with holes and also larger gaps within the joints of monuments such as chest tombs. Churchyards are also rich in invertebrate food, in part due to the absence of chemicals such as pesticides.

When searching for lizards look several metres ahead of where you are walking, going slowly and quietly. Reptiles can pick up vibrations from sudden movement and are aware of shadows falling on them. Search on flat stones and south-facing banks of short grass, close to good hiding places. First light is the best time, when they are cold and need the warmth of the sun. Lift flat stones and pieces of wood to search for slowworms (a lizard without legs), who often 'bask' underneath something that will transmit heat. Roofing felt is a favourite and you can put half metre squares of this out if you want to search for slowworms. Give them a few weeks to discover the felt squares then peep under them at the start and end of the day. Please let us know if you spot any of these fascinating reptiles in your churchyard.

Prue Dakin, Caring for God's Acre

SHOREHAM ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

VE/VJ Day 80 Celebrations – Monday 5th May – Kings Arms

Get ready for an unforgettable afternoon with the Shoreham Royal British Legion & the Kings Arms as we celebrate the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day) and look forward to the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day later this year! Join us for a fantastic BBQ, live entertainment by the amazing Miss Vintage (2-4pm), and all the fun of the 1940s with an authentic atmosphere. Dress in your best vintage attire and immerse yourself in the era! It's going to be a day of nostalgia, music, and celebration – don't miss out!

Wreath Laying & Beacon Lighting – Thursday 8th May – War Memorial – 9:30pm

Mark the end of Victory in Europe with communities across the country as we lay a wreath and light a beacon to unify the county in also remembering those who didn't return home after the war had ended.

Henry Desmond

DARENT VALLEY CHOIR MAY CONCERT

Patrons: Sarah Hart Dyke and Rupert Bond

**St Peter and St Paul, Shoreham at 7.30 pm on Saturday
May 10th 2025
'Blue Skies'**



Come and celebrate May's arrival with us at our concert on May 10th in St Peter and St Paul's, Shoreham. The programme includes part of 'Time of the Singing of Birds', Marianne Farningham's poem, set to music by Eynsford composer Rodney Burton. Also included are Haydn's 'Te Deum', some delightful English traditional songs, a poem or two and our usual musical surprises! Look out for our posters around the villages.

Admission is £12 and *under 18s are free*. Bar available (donations). Tickets will be on sale on the door and from our singers. You can also email: darentvc@gmail.com
Do tell your family and friends about the Darent Valley Choir – singers are very welcome to join us.

"Music is the language of the spirit. It opens the secret of life, bringing peace, abolishing strife." Kahlil Gibran

GEORGE ORWELL IN SHOREHAM

One Sunday morning towards the end of World War II a tall, gaunt, moustachioed figure dressed in shabby but well-cut clothes that he liked people to call 'disgraceful' alighted at Shoreham station: the political commentator and then still minor novelist, George Orwell. He had come to spend the day at Lord Dunsany's Dunstall Priory, the weekend

retreat of his London friend, the Tory novelist Anthony Powell, and the wartime home of Powell's wife, Lady Violet, who was Lord Dunsany's niece, and their son, Tristram.

It was an unlikely friendship, to say the least – Orwell once said that Powell was the only Tory he had ever liked – but one most easily explained by the fact that they were both old Etonians. It began one day in 1941, at the Café Royal in Regent Street, when the writer Inez Holden invited Powell and Lady Violet to join her, Orwell and Orwell's wife, Eileen, at their table after lunch. Powell was dressed in full Brigade of Guards blues, and approached Orwell with some trepidation, fearing his disapproval. "Do your trousers strap under the foot?" Orwell asked him. "Yes," replied Powell. "That's the really important thing," said Orwell, who had been an officer in the Burma Police. "Those straps under the foot give you a feeling like nothing else in life."

Presumably, when Orwell alighted at Shoreham, Powell met him off the train, and no doubt Orwell – never one for small talk – immediately launched into a discussion of some weighty matter of the day, as was his wont. After that, all we know is that they went for a long walk, presumably after lunch, during which Orwell, recalled Powell, took great pains to excuse the frivolity of their ramblings by commenting with intense seriousness on everything they saw. "Interesting to note the regional variation in latching the field gates," Orwell remarked at one point. "Different even in the same county."

Pat Newman



Dunstall Priory

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3RD ANNUAL EVENT



SHOREHAM VILLAGE DIARY FOR APRIL 2025

Tuesday 1	WI talk Ellie from EAN Jewellery	Village Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 8	Board Game Evening	Samuel Palmer	5pm
Wednesday 9	Over 60s Craft with Agneta	Village Hall	2pm
Thursday 10	WI Community Coffee Morning	Village Hall	10am
Monday 14	Messy Church	Church	11am
Wednesday 23	Over 60s First memories and quiz	Village Hall	2pm
Friday 25	Historical Society talk Jonathan Fenner 'Bishops, Beasts and Bankers'	Village Hall	8pm
Saturday 26	Quiz Night	Village Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 30	Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm

Copy for May Gazette by 18th April to Anna Fischel, shorehamgazette@gmail.com
 Word attachment in Times New Roman 10 and single spacing, please



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SHOWING FROM 18TH APRIL

PINK FLOYD AT POMPEII - MCMLXXII
24TH & 27TH APRIL

BONNIE & CLYDE THE MUSICAL
4TH MAY

BARGAIN WEDNESDAYS!
UPTO 50% OFF CINEMA TICKETS WHEN BOOKED ON THE DAY

WHAT'S ON STAGE

NEW ENGLISH BALLET THEATRE
3RD APRIL

THE ULTIMATE MOD REVUE
4TH APRIL

EASTER PANTO: PINOCCHIO
5TH APRIL

PUSS IN BOOTS (FAMILY BALLET)
11TH APRIL

FEAST OF FIDDLES
14TH APRIL

TEACH REX LIVE
16TH APRIL

THE ENCHANTED PRINCESS BALL
17TH APRIL

KENT MAGICIANS GUILD FAMILY SHOW
18TH APRIL

SEVENOAKS PLAYERS: THE LITTLE MERMAID
24TH - 26TH APRIL

**SEVENOAKS WELCOMES REFUGEES
FUNDRAISING DAY!**
26TH APRIL

BOX OFFICE: 01732 450175
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THE STAG SEVENOAKS,
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FREE HOT DRINK OR POPCORN

ENJOY A FREE HOT DRINK OR SMALL POPCORN ON PRODUCTION
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VALID UNTIL 01/05/25



Shoreham & Otford CC

offers:

- Saturday and Sunday men's cricket
- We play in divisions 1, 4 and 8 of the Kent County Village League
 - Women's cricket
- Junior coaching for boys & girls age 7-15 from April - July
 - Winter nets at St Michael's School
- The ground and pavilion can be hired, call Laurence for details

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

www.socc.uk

Find us on Instagram: @shorehamotfordcc Or Facebook: shoreham-otford-cricket-club

And you can even search for Shoreham Otford Cricket on YouTube

Contact: Laurence Cooper • 07950 436009

Email - Seniors Men: sandocccavailabilities@gmail.com

Juniors: chrisspollard_1@yahoo.com

Women: niceynz@gmail.com



SHOREHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS

Are you interested in acting, singing, directing, lighting & sound, stage design & construction, costumes... having a lot of fun and making friends for life?

THEN COME AND JOIN US!

Email:

shorehamvillageplayers@gmail.com

Or call Janet Heuston on:

01959 523 979

Shoreham Village Hall



Weddings . Parties .
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To check availability:

<https://shorehamvillagehall.co.uk/halbooking/>

Bookings by email only:

bookings@shorehamvillagehall.co.uk

Shoreham Pavilion Available for Hire

A fully accessible, beautiful, wooden building with central reception space, kitchen and changing rooms set overlooking the school playing fields and Spellers' Wood.

The facility is ideal for evening or weekend events, adult or children's learning or music groups, and as a meeting room for social groups. The Changing Rooms are available to hire separately in conjunction with use of the field.

For all enquiries, please contact the School Office on 01959 522228.



Yoga Classes in Shoreham Village

I offer a variety of options:

- group • private and semi-private
- in-person and online • all abilities

Please contact me:

Email: info@yogabylucy.co.uk | Website: www.yogabylucy.co.uk

Phone: 07970 633053 | f @ : @YogaByLucy



"Yoga doesn't take time, it gives time"



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SHOREHAM ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Grow your own!

Annual rents

- Full plot £25
- Half plot £15
- Quarter plot £10

Membership Secretary

Vannessa Hills

v.hills098@gmail.com



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

THE DARENTH
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