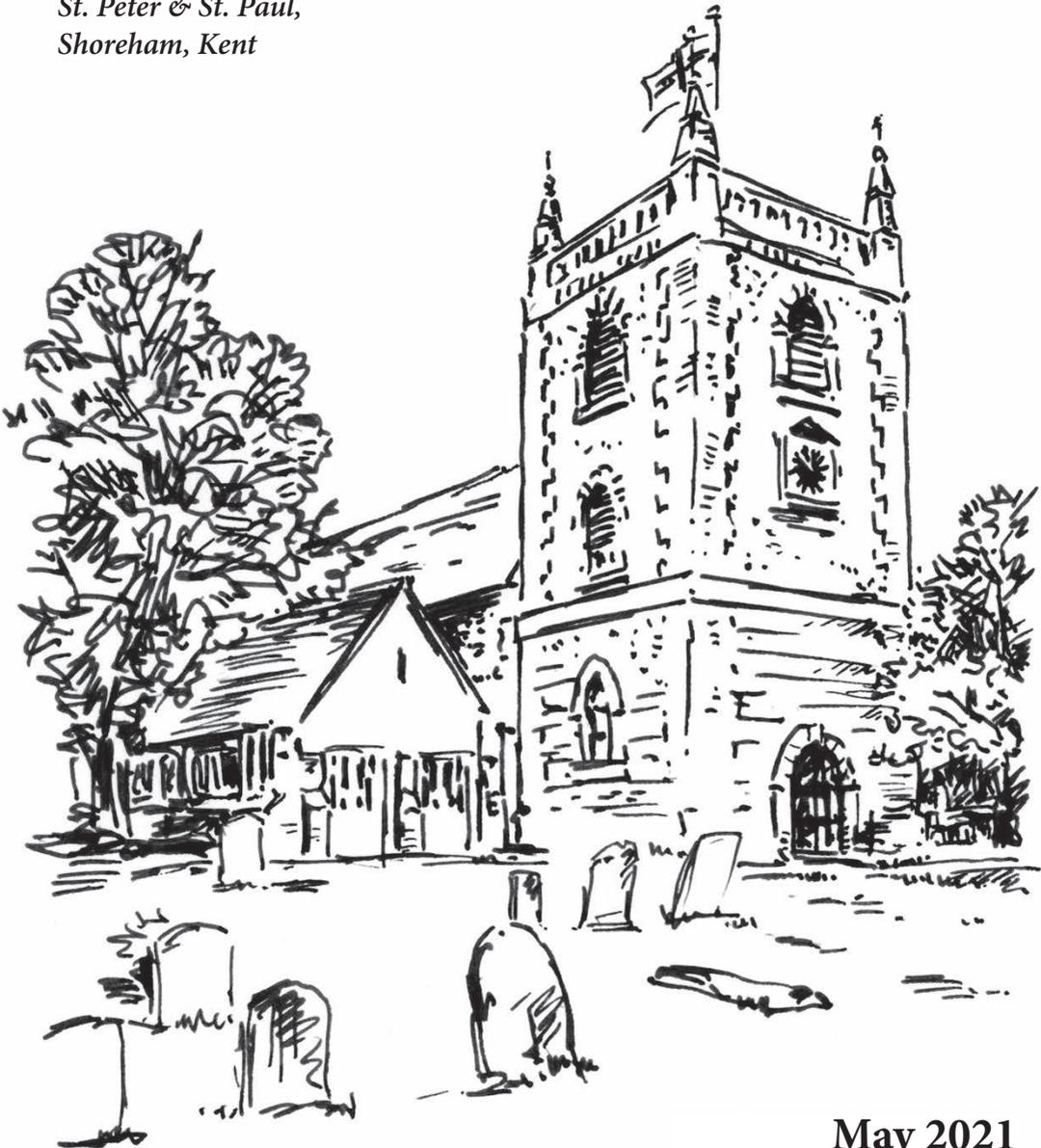


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Sarah Moon, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk . If you are giving the details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

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VOLUME 53 SHOREHAM GAZETTE

NUMBER 3 – MAY 2021

SERVICES

2nd May – Easter 5

9am Communion in church **10am** Sunday worship on Zoom

9th May – Easter 6

9am Communion in church **10am** Sunday worship on Zoom

16th May – Sunday after Ascension Day

9am Communion in church **10am** Sunday worship on Zoom

23rd May – Whit Sunday

10am Service of Celebration for Pentecost ... outside in the churchyard (weather permitting) ... suitable for all ages ... everyone WELCOME ... followed at

11am Short service of Holy Communion for those who want to stay (finishing by 11.15am)

30th May – Trinity Sunday

9am Communion in church **10am** Sunday worship on Zoom

Thursday 13th May Ascension Day - Saturday 22nd May Pentecost Eve

8pm Short service of Night Prayer (lasting no more than 30 minutes) each evening during this period

(Except Monday 17th May)

If you want to come to a service in the church (including Pentecost)...

Please contact Bryan to register 077 3322 8408 the harrises@btinternet.com

If you want to be added to the email list to receive information about Zoom services and other events online ...

Please contact Revd Diane revdrdi@outlook.com

St Peter and St Paul: Services and Activities during May

During this season of Easter, there are still various things you can do in the Church Porch: add an Easter stone, make a chick card, write a prayer on a pretzel, read a short reflection for the week, pick up a copy of the Gazette, find a leaflet about the churchyard then go and explore it, sit quietly or have a socially distanced chat.

The Church building remains open for visits and private prayer on

Wednesday 10am - 12noon and on Saturday 10am - 2pm (NB the church building will close early at 12 noon on Saturday 22nd May, so we can make the necessary preparations for a wedding in the afternoon)

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held over Zoom on Sunday 18th April.

If you are on the Electoral Roll but didn't have access to the reports online and would like copies, please contact James Saynor.

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MPWAPWA - 60 MILES A MONTH

This time a year ago, I, Alain, Joe and four others should have been packing for our trip to Mpwapwa, Tanzania, to revisit our friends in our partner primary and secondary schools and St Joseph's parish in Chunya, who we keep in regular touch with via a WhatsApp group. Our active Mpwapwa Working Party Group in Shoreham, which has adults and children on it, had been planning and gathering things for us to take. But it was not to be.

Things have been tough for us all over the last year but the situation regarding Tanzania's handling of the Covid crisis - refusing to accept vaccines, not publishing Covid figures since May 2020 - has been concerning. Our Tanzanian friends have been guarded in their comments about conditions in the country, their health and the health of others, although many have died (particularly in the cities), from 'respiratory' disease, including a couple of people Gillian and I met on our visit in 2018. Bishop Jacob (Mpwapwa) has also been ill but is recovering.

John Magufuli, the President of Tanzania since 2015, died in March. Whilst some of his policies were controversial, he introduced compulsory primary education for all, along with free secondary education, and improved much of the country's infrastructure. The son of a peasant farmer and a Catholic, he took a tough anti-corruption stance. Vice-President Samia Suluhu was sworn in as the new President, at the beginning of April, becoming Africa's only current female national leader.

Over the last year, I have spent a lot of my time in front of a computer screen ... and as I wrote about in an earlier issue, I decided to walk 60 miles in February, before my 60th birthday, '60 before 60', to get a bit fitter. But then I decided I wanted to keep on walking ...

During our aforementioned visit to Mpwapwa, we saw how a relatively small amount of money could go a long way and was such an encouragement. For example, a donation enabled them to buy more cement, to make more bricks, so they could continue to build a new church; another donation meant an additional long drop toilet at one of the schools. But it is this this example, I find the most mind-blowing ... a water filter costs £25. It cleans enough water for 100 people a day and lasts 10 years ... filtering about 800,000 gallons of clean water, enabling children to go to school and adults to work and support their families. A good investment, if ever there was one.

So ... I had decided to keep on walking, at least 60 Miles a Month, for 12 months, until my next birthday (720 miles in total) and to raise some funds for our friends in Tanzania, in the process. My target is to raise £3 for every mile I walk that is £2160 (£340 so far). I am in the process of setting up an online fundraising page and will publish the link on the church website and Facebook page when I have it. In the meantime, if you want to put cash or a cheque (Shoreham (Kent) PCC) through my door (indicating that it's for Mpwapwa), it will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Revd Diane



The Revd Dr Diane E. Rees
The Vicarage, Station Road, Shoreham TN14 7SA
revdrdi@outlook.com 01959 522363

The late Jean Lothian

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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.

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

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

3 April Interment of Ashes Simon Reid of Darenth Dene

FLOWERS AT THE LYCH GATE

Once again The Friends of Shoreham Church have sponsored the flowers in the planters at the church gate. We thank Sarah Noah at Church Cottages for taking on the care of these over the summer .

PARENT, BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

A small group is spending time thinking about whether there is an appetite for launching a Parent, Baby and Toddler group based in the church and church room

We know that there has been a really popular group in the village hall but we also know that toddlers grow up and go to school so we'd love to hear from anyone who thinks if this was set up they would want to come. Likewise if anyone else is currently planning to resurrect the existing group we would love to combine energies rather than compete.

Please let us know if you'd like to come to such a group or are on the trail of setting one up yourself. jill.aisher@gmail.com

Jill Aisher

SHOREHAM SOCIETY: NEW THREAT TO THE DARENT VALLEY

The Shoreham Society has started a new and serious protest campaign. The large field between Sepham Farm and Twitton – on the public footpath to the Rising Sun at Twitton and adjoining Filston Lane - has suddenly filled with white posts, which are being connected by wire, which blocked the footpath at one point.

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Last year, the field was bought by a landowner who has previously been involved in “land banking”. This involves dividing up land into small plots for sale – at seemingly attractive prices – to investors. If this is the intention here, buyers may think that they can build on the land (although they would not get permission). Even if no housing is built, the parcels of land could potentially be used for other purposes, such as illegal caravans, freight containers and general mess. This has happened frequently elsewhere, destroying the rural and agricultural character of the countryside.

Shoreham is in the Green Belt and an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. There are nature reserves on both sides of the valley at this point. We want to stop this land being sold in small parcels. We’re working closely with our friends in the Otford Society and have formed a campaign committee. Please get in touch if you’d like to get involved.
christineeuman@yahoo.co.uk saynor9@gmail.com

Other news:

At short notice, we organised a clean-up of the pink plastic tree guards that you see littering the woods above Shoreham, which were left over from replanting after the Great Storm of 1987. Eighteen people, young and old, filled over seventy bin bags with plastic and the day was most enjoyable. But you’ll see that there’s a lot more work to do, and so we’ll arrange another task in the autumn. We’re planning more social activities over the summer, Covid permitting.

The Book Exchange has now finished and the remaining books went to the Oxfam shop, £61 being raised for the Sevenoaks Larder. It’s been suggested that the telephone box opposite the shop could be turned into a permanent book exchange. If there are any volunteers willing to help out with this, we’d love to hear from you.

Chris Euman and John Saynor
christineeuman@yahoo.co.uk saynor9@gmail.com

WW1 SOLDIERS.

Research never really ends and a few weeks ago....some new information came to light regarding Shoreham’s WW1 lads who died. Another five have been named, none of these are on our War Memorial....I have no idea why and never will know, but at least we can remember them alongside those who are on the War Memorial. They are:-

1. Private William John Larkin. Royal Sussex Regiment. Son of William and Agnes Larkin. He was born in Shoreham and died on 10 Oct 1916 and is buried in France.
2. Lance Corporal Richard Hazelwood, Grenadier Guards. Married to Agnes and lived at Flint Cottage, Darenth Way. He died on 25 July 1917 and has no known grave and is commemorated on The Menin Gate, Ypres.



- ~ People
- ~ Pets
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Ofsted, April 2019

For more information, visit: www.shorehamvillageschool.net

3. Private Charles Heath, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Son of Richard and Emily Heath of Darenthdale Lodge. He died on 17 May 1916 and is buried in Belgium.

4. Fireman Henry Smithers. Born in Shoreham. Died 13 December 1916. His name is on The Tower Memorial.

5. Private Albert Warner. London Regiment. Son of John and Salina Warner. Husband of Annie Smith (formally Warner) they lived at 4 Crown Road. He died on 22 August 1917. He has no known grave and is commemorated on The Menin Gate Ypres.

This gives a total of four Shoreham lads names on The Menin Gate.

These new names will be read out on Remembrance Day along with the other fifteen who are not on The War Memorial

The total number of Shoreham lads that we know of who lost their lives during WW1 is fifty three - . A lot for such a small village.

At The Going Down of The Sun and in the Morning WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Lorna Robinson.

FARMER FRANK'S MEMORIES

I don't think phones were used much when my father came to Oxbourne Farm in 1928 as a tenant farmer on the Mildmay Estate. Oxbourne Farm had a phone already installed and my father's first reaction was to get rid of it, but in the end, he decided to keep it.

In those days the main part of the phone was a box about 9"x12" fixed to the wall with a microphone fixed to it. On the side was a switch on which hung the ear piece and this was about 4ft 6" from the floor, making it a comfortable height to stand and talk. It was still like that until sometime after the war.

To make a call you picked up the earpiece and a voice said "Number please" and you said the number you wanted and were connected. The numbers were small for the Otford exchange: the butchers were Otford 4, Oxbourne Farm was 16, Filston Farm 15, Castle Farm 19, and the present village shop was 18. The numbers remain the same today but they have another 5 or 6 numbers in front of them. I took the Oxbourne number to Timberden with me.

I think I am right in saying that long distance calls had to be through the exchange. These would have been over distances of more than about 100 miles or so. It was possible to reverse the charges if the person you were calling would accept the call, usually used by children phoning home! Sometimes on local calls, when you asked for a number the operator would say they are out and to try again later. We had more modern phones in the 50s with the circular dial you twisted to the figure you were after. I am sure many people will remember those. What a comparison with the technology of today!

Frank Hitchcock



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APRIL NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

With the Easter holidays now behind us, we look ahead to the Summer Term – usually an event-packed time in the school calendar with trips, sports fixtures, plays and Duck Races. Alas, things are not what they once were, but we have endeavoured to keep as many activities in the diary as we can to ensure our pupils have a broad range of experiences and can also complete the ‘rites of passage’ that makes each year group so special.

Cameron Class, our Year 5/6 group will still be preparing an end of year show and excitement will no doubt start creeping in as they prepare to audition for parts, make props and start rehearsals for the big event. We will still be holding an end of year Sports Day and participating in virtual sporting fixtures against other schools in our area and we are trying our best to find somewhere where we can enable at least the oldest pupils to have some swimming lessons. Year 6 will also be able to complete the Bikeability programme (which replaced Cycling Proficiency) enabling them all to learn the essential life skill of cycling safely on our roads.

Over Easter, work started on a major flooring refit of the entire school – a very exciting project which we hope will refresh the whole building and improve the learning environment. This programme of flooring will continue over the forthcoming months and will be fully complete by September. The office rooms and Cameron Class have been finished first and the oldest children were very pleased to be able to come back to a ‘new look’ room that they can enjoy for their final two terms with us.

We are able to invite volunteers back into school now to hear readers or to offer other ways to support the school, so if you would like to enquire about how you can help us, please contact the school office on 01959 522228. All volunteers must have a police DBS check before starting with us which is organised by the school.

Mrs Gillian Lovatt-Young, Headteacher

SHOREHAM OVER 60’s

We are delighted to announce that the village hall has been booked for tea, cakes and a long overdue catch-up, on Wednesday 23 June at 2pm. There will be a short AGM.

It will be wonderful to see everyone and non- members are very welcome to join us.

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How will we in Shoreham do our bit towards combatting dangerous climate change? Of course we need to insulate our homes to a high standard. But beyond that we need somehow to move away from fossil fuels such as oil or bottled gas. A few homes in Shoreham have installed ‘air source heat pumps’ powered by electricity to heat their homes. These can work well for modern well-insulated homes but are less effective for older dwellings.

A number of villages which – like us – are without mains gas are starting to invest in district heating schemes using ‘ground source heat pumps’. Water is circulated under the ground where the temperature is a constant 10-12°C. Large and efficient heat pumps – powered by our increasingly green electricity network – then raise the temperature of the water to about 60°C. This is pumped round the village. Each home has its own equipment cabinet containing a heat interface unit which is smaller than an oil boiler. Because of the high temperature of the water, this system can operate using existing household pipework and radiators and is suitable for older homes.

A scheme like this needs a large field of bore holes (the field can be re-used to support grazing animals). It needs a large shed for the equipment. Roads have to be dug up for the pipes. And it costs a lot of money. The cost would be paid for by a combination of Government grants and loans. The loans would be repaid by those who connect to the scheme, who would pay for the heat they use at a cost roughly similar to that of fossil fuel.

At this stage we are seeking community input which is why we need to hear your views. If the village is supportive the next stage would be to commission an engineering consultancy to do a Feasibility Study for which we can get a Government grant. Alongside this article we are also consulting the Parish Council and the Village Facebook Group.

Please take a moment to email us to let us know your views. And if you’d be interested in helping, please tell us that too! Our email is greenheatingshoreham@gmail.com.

Bill Lattimer, Peter Kasch, Sarah Newman, Michael Wood

TALES FROM THE HILL

Lady Spring in the fight with Winter Witch cuts her finger and sheds a drop of blood that turns into a snowdrop. Carl Linnaeus in 1753 called this bravest of flowers “Milk Flower of the Snow” Why brave? It does not have a good year or a bad one, it just appears each year with a few more friends. This year they were tested, covered by five inches of cold snow but as soon as the snow melted there they were unblemished and proud.

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The Victorians thought the snowdrop was unlucky perhaps because they were so good at colonizing graveyards and were not welcome indoors, a superstition that still persists today. It might be one of the reasons they are so successful.

There is a special place in the gardener's heart for this first of all flowers, there are over seventy five species and the bulbs of rare varieties can fetch over a thousand pounds. I am not fussy, the sort that pop up from under a hedge will do me. You may come across a patch of snowdrops far away from civilization, such discoveries excite me for they often indicate some previous habitation long since crumbled away and the snowdrops are the only testimony of the people who once lived there and tended their garden.

Nor will I then thy modest grace forget,
Chaste snowdrop venturous harbinger
Of spring, and pensive monitor of fleeing years.
William Wordsworth

John Bovington



SHOREHAM OPEN GARDENS SAFARI 2021

3 and 4 July
Cancelled

It is with regret that we have decided to cancel this year's open gardens event in Shoreham, though with the positive result of the creation of a village-wide daffodil planting event for this autumn. Your donations of cash to pay for the bulb and of labour for this new effort will be welcome. Details will be published in coming months.

There are only twelve gardens committing to participate, and even amongst those enthusiasm has been tempered. Most of the withdrawals were for various personal reasons (weddings, baby due dates, etc.), yet there is no doubt but that the village has expressed its general sense, as I was advised some months ago, that it is too early to restart our normal community life. Personally, it seems a strong probability that by early July we shall be able to have such events. We certainly do not regret having offered the possibility to restart with the Garden Safari; without trying, nothing happens. Yet others were right, the village has spoken and we accept the decision.

Let's all see how the future develops. We can reconsider whether to revive the Garden Safari, as originally created by others and well supported in the past across the village, in '22 or '23. In the meantime this autumn, let's plant daffodil bulbs to mark in 2022 "the passing of the dark days of winter to spring" with a yellow bulb road,

Many thanks to everyone for their considered advice, thoughts and support, and of course in particular to those who were willing to have a go. Contact: kaschpeter@gmail.com, or ring 01959524998
Peter Kasch, Jenna Leight & Jeremy Tooley

SHOREHAM ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

We are planning to hold our Annual Plant Sale on the Allotments on Saturday 22 May starting at 10am. Plant donations will be welcome.

Jeremy Tooley

WHITE HILL WOODS

The beauty of Shoreham and local attractions such as The Mount Vineyard and Castle Farm attract thousands of visitors to the area each year, and yet accommodation in the area is hard to find. That is about to change with the opening of White Hill Woods! Our family have lived at White Hill Cottage for over twenty years. The combination of the secluded beauty and the accessibility of our property has often prompted friends and family to comment how they would love to come and stay here – hence the idea of White Hill Woods was born

Nestled up the public bridleway opposite Shoreham Station, White Hill Woods comprises White Hill Hut – a handcrafted shepherd’s hut perfect for couples, and White Hill Lodge – a lovingly converted log cabin sleeping up to five.

White Hill Hut and White Hill Lodge, which can be booked together for larger groups, benefit from daily use of an outdoor heated swimming pool and share the facilities in the meadow: a large fire pit for barbecues, a swing, a trampoline and a children’s playhouse. The Hut and the Lodge both have their own outdoor seating areas with views across the beautiful countryside views of the Darenth Valley.

White Hill Lodge has the cosy feel of a log cabin, with double bed and two single beds. There is an eco-friendly electric woodburner to keep you warm on cooler evenings, a fully fitted kitchen with oven, dishwasher and microwave, and a bathroom with walk-in shower.

White Hill Hut is small but perfectly formed with a double bed, hob, microwave and fridge, plus a bathroom with flushable toilet and shower. With both an indoor and outdoor seating area, White Hill Hut is the perfect place to enjoy a romantic weekend getting away from it all.

So if you have friends and family who would like to come and visit our lovely area but need their own space, or if you yourself would like to escape from it all without going too far, please contact us on enquiries@whitehillwoods.co.uk or phone us on

07465 880516 for more details.

Emma Legg

OTFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE NEWSLETTER - COVID UPDATE- April 19

Since Easter, the second vaccination programme is progressing. The Primary Care Network GP practices continue to invite patients for second vaccinations on schedule. Given the latest news about the AZ vaccine, there has been some resistance to second dose covid vaccinations at GP surgeries, but these local clinics continue with a good supply of vaccine.

The PCN is not expecting, nor is it scheduled, to use the Moderna vaccine. GP's will return to concentrate on normal services at the end of the 2nd vaccination programme for Groups 1-9. This should be by the end of May. The mass vaccination centres continue to run on reduced capacity due to availability of vaccine. The Angel Centre remains closed until the 26th of April.

This week 19 April the government announced that the next phase of the vaccination programme is beginning, with people aged 45-49 now eligible for the vaccine. GPs are starting to issue invitations.

From 19 April the national booking service will reopen for frontline health and social care staff to book appointments.

COVID CASES STATISTICS AS AT 16 April 2021

	<u>7 DAYS</u> <u>TO 10 APR</u>	<u>PER</u> <u>1000</u>	<u>SINCE</u> <u>MAR 2020</u>	<u>PER</u> <u>1000</u>
SEVENOAKS	16	0.134	6,853	56.40
KENT	212	0.134	114,140	72.16
ENGLAND	15,709	0.280	3,828,666	68.02

Latest data shows that in Kent more than 87% of the top nine priority groups have been vaccinated with at least one dose.

- Groups 1-4 (over 70 years, health and care staff, care home residents): 93%
- Group 5 (65-69 years): 90%
- Group 6 (clinically vulnerable aged 16-64): 82%
- Group 7 (60-64 years): 86%
- Group 8 (55-59 years): 85%
- Cohort 9 (50-54 years): 81%

As the vaccination programme continues to proceed on schedule PPG Covid update Newsletters will only be issued if significant change occurs.

KEEP IN TOUCH For further information about PPG activities, please contact us at: - otfordpatients@gmail.com The Patient Participation Group now has a Facebook Page to keep patients up to date with Current events, or to be kept informed of NHS changes. Follow us on: - Facebook @ Otford Patient Participation Group.



COWSLIPS – THE KEYS TO HEAVEN

The name cowslip is believed to be a mispronunciation of cow slop, so named because the flowers are traditionally found near cow pats in pastures! A widespread plant of grassland, not to be confused with primrose which is more of a woodland plant. Cowslip can grow in many soils but really thrives in limestone and chalk grassland. It is an important nectar source for insects including bees, beetles and butterflies as it flowers early and can carpet an area where conditions are suitable. Look out for the yellow brimstone butterfly, which is on the wing early in the year, this may be feeding on cowslip flowers.

Like many wildflowers, cowslip has been part of the herbalists' collection for centuries. It has a sedative quality so is used to treat sleep problems whilst the citrusy flavoured flowers can help with coughs. Cowslip flowers were also used to flavour wine and can be found in traditional Spanish recipes.

Also known as St Peter's Keys or Keys of Heaven, cowslips were believed to have grown where St Peter dropped the Key to Earth. A lovely thing to visualise as we pass by these beautiful flowers! *The cowslips in Shoreham churchyard have been glorious this spring.*

Andrea Gilpin andrea@cfga.org.uk www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

SUSAN PLATTS – AUCTION OF PAINTINGS

I am pleased to advise any of those interested in buying any of the fifty nine paintings that Susan has offered to 'the village', be you a newcomer or an oldcomer:-

These paintings can now be previewed by sending me an email to nick@walker4bm.co.uk and I will send you a Dropbox link, and the 'virtual gallery' will (hopefully!) appear miraculously in your inbox.

The date for the sale has not yet been fixed but is likely to be in July, once we get a feel for likely interest in this exercise. With many thanks,

Nick Walker

Editor

There are two lovely paintings of Shoreham Church in this sale; numbers 45 and 46

DONATIONS

We thank Christine Wall for her donation to the Gazette, these are always welcome and can be sent to The Editor or direct into the Church Account with the your surname and the word "Gazette".

Account Shoreham PCC Account Number 00193703

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VILLAGE DIARY

22nd May Allotment Plant Sale from 2pm
23rd June Over 60s Tea meeting
3rd July British Legion day in Eastbourne

SHOREHAM GAZETTE INFORMATION

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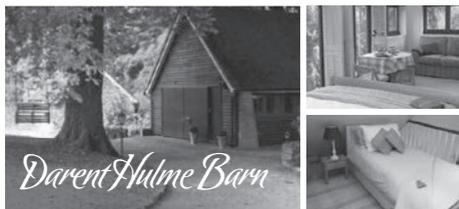
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