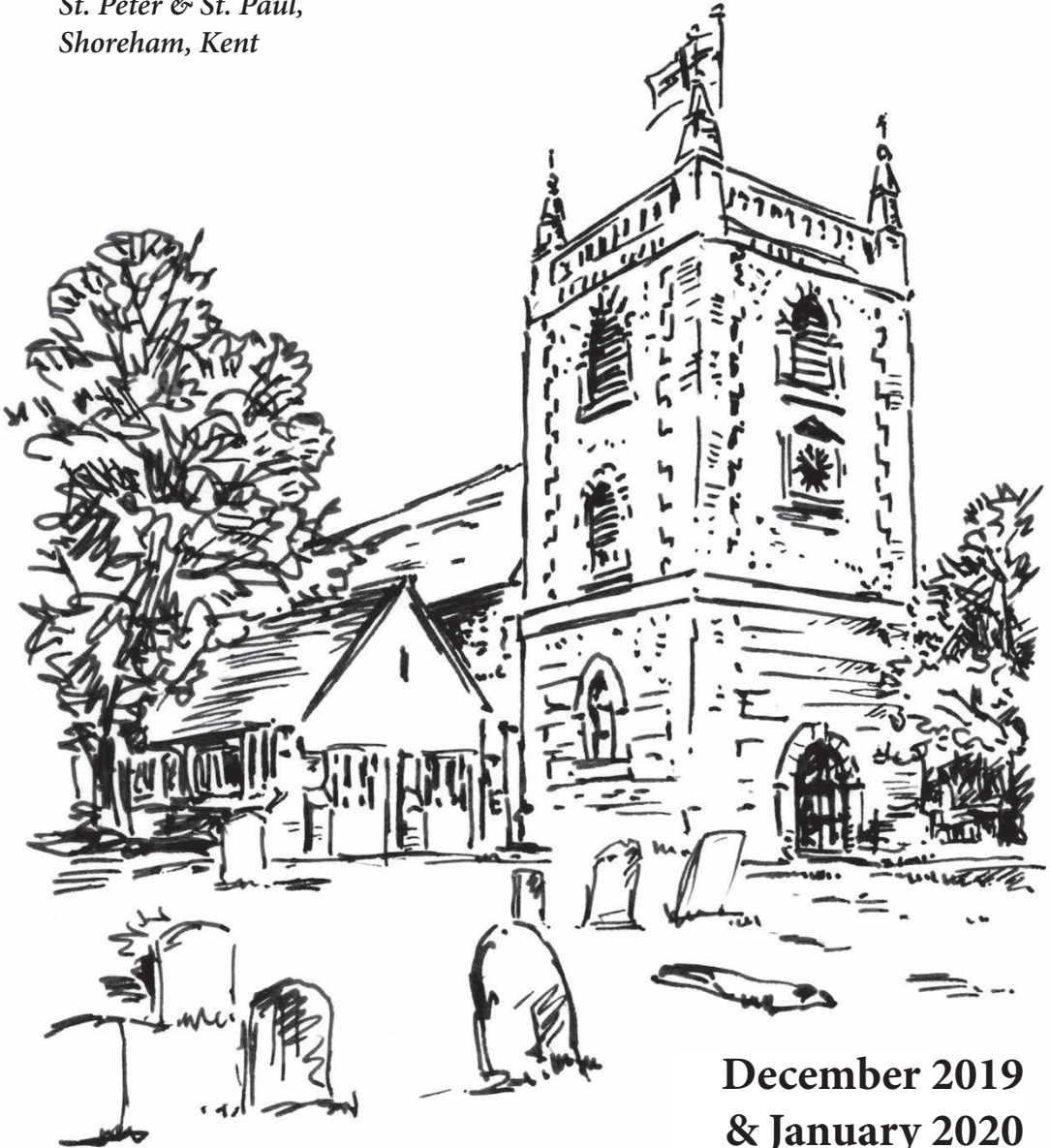


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Sarah Moon, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk. If you are giving the details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

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Volume 51 SHOREHAM GAZETTE Number 10
Services at St. Peter and St. Paul December 2019 - January 2020

1st December – Advent Sunday

10.00am – Eucharist

4.30pm – Advent Discussion

8th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00am – BCP Communion

10.00am – Short Eucharist with Taize music

4.30pm – Advent Discussion

Saturday 14th December

Church Carol Concert by Henry Desmond

15th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

10.00am – Eucharist

4.30pm – Advent Discussion

22nd December – 4th Sunday of Advent

No 8am

10.00am – BCP Communion

6.00pm – Church Carol Service – Readings and Carols

Tuesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

6.00pm – Christingle

11.30pm – Midnight Mass

Wednesday 25th December – Christmas Day

10.00am – All-Age Christmas service

29th December – 1st Sunday of Christmas

10.00am - Eucharist

No evening service

2020 HAPPY NEW YEAR

5th January 2020 – Epiphany

10.00am – Eucharist

4.30pm – Epiphany Readings and Prayers

12th January 2020 – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am – BCP Communion

10.00am – Short Eucharist with Taize music

4.30pm – Songs & Poems

19th January 2020 – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

10.00am – Eucharist

4.30pm – Evening Prayer

26th January 2020 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

8.00am – BCP Communion

10.00am – All-Age Service

4.30pm – Compline



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

Please and Thank You

First, THANK YOU. When I moved to Shoreham four and a half years ago, plans were well underway for an extension to the church. Various planning permissions still needed to be sought and then there was the small matter of having to raise nearly £700,000, which seemed a long way to go from the £40,000 or so already in the bank. But we've done it! The 'we' includes people like Frank Hinks and John Lyons, for whom the word 'persistence' seems inadequate. Both of them have seen this project through 'many dangers, toils and snares' (from the hymn Amazing Grace), in the twenty years it has taken to complete ... but the 'we' also includes YOU. Many, many, people in the village (and beyond) have given, raised or pledged sums of money, large and small, which have enabled all this to happen. Your generosity is amazing.

Next, PLEASE. For over 900 years St Peter and St Paul's Church has served the people of Shoreham. Imagine how many weddings have been celebrated here, how many children have been baptised and how many people have made their final journey from this special place.

Some years ago, the RSPCA ran a campaign, which said: 'A dog is for life, not just for Christmas'. Perhaps that is a helpful reminder about the church too ... a church is for life, not just for Christmas ... or just ... for weddings, funerals, Remembrance Sunday, Harvest, Easter ... The reality is, that although the church extension project is a once in a life time thing, the church (buildings and people) need to keep running every day, year after year ... and that costs money.

In a nutshell, we need to raise about £65,000 a year to keep the church going, out of which, this year, £40,000 went to the diocese, towards a common fund to provide people and resources for ministry across the whole diocese.

We are often asking God to give us things: give us this day our daily bread; give us thy blessing; give peace in our time O Lord ... and so on. But we probably don't often ask God for cash, which is just as well as that's something God doesn't have, but we do! And yet the church needs cash: to stay open, to help spread the good news of God's love, and in turn to give to those less fortunate. Dare we try to be more like God and give to others and the church as generously as God gives to us?

May we wish you all a Joy-filled Christmas and Peace-filled New Year

Revd Diane

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Memorial Service

8th November Peter Warr

16th November Ian Harper

Interment of Ashes

9th November Ivo Peploe

22nd November Peter Warr

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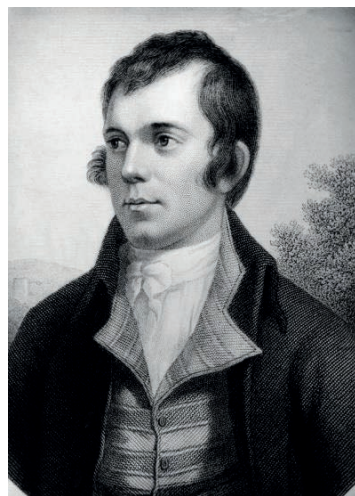
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Peter Warr

I would like to thank you all, dear friends, for the care and support you have given me in recent weeks. We raised £220 for Cancer Research at Pete's service. May this help in the battle to identify and treat cancer.

Gwen Warr

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WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Five years ago I came up with a mad idea to create a small orchestra to accompany the annual carol service. Who would have thought that it would have grown to the annual event that the whole village loves. Well this year I decided to go one step bigger and give you all the chance to come and celebrate the orchestra for its 5th birthday concert at this Christmas time. Bring all your family and friends and enjoy a mince pie and some refreshments at the bar.

Come and join us on Saturday 14th December 7:30pm at St. Peter & St. Paul Church, Shoreham for a concert to welcome in the Christmas period with all your favourite Christmas music and the chance to join in with some of the village's most loved carols. This year's line up promises to have something for all the family including the childhood favourite 'Twas the night before Christmas' narrated with the orchestra.

Tickets are £10 and are on sale from Shoreham Village Stores.

Henry Desmond

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS, WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

The diocese of Rochester has been in touch on behalf of the Church of England with Diane and me and asked if we could provide evidence of any safeguarding concerns that the church has dealt with in the past. As both of us are relatively new to the village and there are no discernible records, it would be enormously helpful to hear from anybody who has any knowledge of any safeguarding concerns regarding postholders at the church which we can provide for the diocese. Of course we hope and pray that there have never been any incidents at St Peter and St Paul's Church, Shoreham but as history tells us it is not enough to hope and pray. If you have any knowledge of any such difficulties in the past and would like to share this in confidence please email me on jill.aisher@gmail.com or phone or text my mobile and I will get back to you as soon as I can. If reading this sparks concerns not related to the church that you would like to talk to someone about in confidence please ring one of the following telephone numbers or use the following website and help will be at hand.

NSPCC 0800 800 5000

Action on Elder Abuse 0800 808 8141

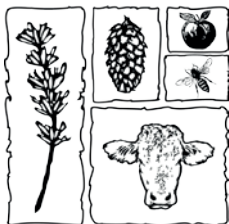
Family Lives 0800 800 2222

The independent inquiry into child sexual abuse is tasked to make sure organisational failure cannot let down children as it has in the past and has various strands to its work. It investigates, researches, collects evidence and listens to survivors of non-recent abuse in order to make sure that help is offered and recurrence prevented

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SHOREHAM SOCIETY

It will soon be Christmas and that means that Father Christmas will be visiting Shoreham! He will be coming to The Olde George Inn at 5.15pm on the afternoon of Christmas Eve so parents and children will need to arrive by 5pm. We are very lucky that he can spare the time on such a busy day. All parents and children are welcome. If you would like any more details of this very important event, please contact Chris on 01959523374 or christineecuman@yahoo.co.uk

A big thank you to all of those who completed the bus survey. About 13 people replied in total (average age 75, oldest 93), most of whom use the bus once or twice a week, and all but one have no car. You reported that it's an essential service for getting to the doctor's, the optician, the chemist, the bank, hospital appointments, for shopping, to go to meetings and to keep in touch with relatives among other things. Most trips are to Otford or Sevenoaks. People living in Twitton also rely on the bus. So, it's clear that there will be hardship now that the bus has ceased coming into the village. We have written to Go-Coach to report our findings and to ask for a limited service to be restored.

Following our AGM at the end of November, we will have a new committee in place and we will be making plans for next year. If you have any ideas for things that would benefit our community, then please get in touch. We really do want your thoughts and ideas for ensuring that Shoreham stays a bright and vibrant place to live.

Finally, a good bit of news! The track that runs beside the churchyard has been upgraded with hardcore, courtesy of the Church extension project. This means that you can walk from the kissing gate at the end of the church path to Station Road without getting your feet muddy – and avoid walking round The George corner. *Chris Euman*

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Our AGM was very well attended and the Officers and Committee stay the same with the exception of The Secretary. Lorna Robinson stepped down after five years, but will remain on The Committee. Our new Secretary is Pete Triggs.

TABLE TOP SALE

Looking ahead, we are holding a Table Top Sale in the Village Hall on Saturday 15th February 12.00pm to 4pm. A chance for you to have a clear out for the New Year! Tables cost £10 to hire. Refreshments will be on sale. If you would like to have a table. Please contact Mike on 01959 525772. All proceeds to The Royal British Legion.

We would like to thank everyone for their support during the year and would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. *Lorna Robinson*

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THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who put money in the box in the shop for my Retirement from the Shoreham Newspaper deliveries and special thanks to Sheila Birkin who put the box there!

Mike Robinson

SHOREHAM VILLAGE STORES

There's no need to hunt high and low for good Christmas cards this year. For the first time we have charity cards, which are going fast, plus special Shoreham cards from photographer Jane Mucklow, whose 2020 Shoreham Calendar is still on sale. Turkey ordering is now underway, and pick up your Christmas tree by the side entrance.

A great range of Christmas cakes and mince pies are next to the counter. Or you can bake your own with our mincemeat, or make your own mulled wine with our spices. Don't forget tickets for the festive concert in the church on 14th December. We should be here on Christmas morning for essentials – check with us nearer the big day for opening times.

Santhosh, Kannan, Lorna and Prasanth

TALES FROM THE HILL

In 2006 Elsie Roche, maiden name Barnes, came over from Australia to visit family and friends. One of those friends was Brenda Capon. I had the pleasure of having tea with them and listening to Elsie's memories of Shoreham in the thirties. The Barnes family were the last family to live in the cottage near Magpie Bottom known as The Pig & Whistle.

Some of you have seen the ruins and sensed the isolation of the place. Elsie told us how small the cottage was, one room downstairs with a scullery and pantry, one bedroom upstairs with a little attic room where she and her sister Doris slept. Her baby brother George slept with her parents. The floor downstairs was earth and she told us how her father found a piece of lino to put on the floor but after a while flints poked through. The only heating was a small iron range. Water was hauled from an underground tank supplied by rainwater from the roof, but in summer it often went dry and her father had to walk a mile to the farm with a bucket to fetch water. Bed time was early in the winter as they only had candles to light the cottage. Winters were harsh in this exposed location 570ft above sea level, and Elsie tells how bricks were put in the oven wrapped in a cloth and used as hot water bottles. Their diet was mainly rabbits and potatoes. One of Elsie's most horrible memories was lying in bed listening to rats eating the potatoes that were kept upstairs and the sound of an occasional potato rolling down stairs.

But there were happier times, she said her mother sold lemonade to walkers that passed their door, 2d a glass, and she and her sister sold bunches of wild flowers for a penny, Elsie would sometimes charge 2d to show walkers where the 'the fearsome smugglers hid their booty.'

Elsie and her sister Doris walked some three miles to Shoreham School, their route taking them through Dunstall Farm, and down Whitehill. Elsie remembered how she and her



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Shoreham Post

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The Shoreham Parish Council Bulletin No. 80 December 2019

Playground - The new playground was officially opened by the Chairman of Sevenoaks District Council, Cllr John Edwards-Winsor and includes new swings, a basket swing, a new tube slide with fireman's pole, a springing duck, a spinning bowl and a play tractor. Numerous lucky school children from Moore and Cameron class were able to attend the event, which also included a table tennis tournament between the school and the over 60s club.



The table tennis table was funded entirely by the London Marathon Charitable Trust and the majority of the funding for the new play equipment came from Enover Community Trust (£22,000), the National Lottery (£10,000) and Tesco Bags for Life (£2,000). The Parish Council contributed the remaining £6,000. Thank you to everyone who wrote letters of support for a new playground. The amount of community interest certainly helped with the success in obtaining grants and we hope that Shoreham children will be able to enjoy playing on the new equipment for many years to come.

Parish Council 'Surgery' - We understand that it is often difficult for people to attend Parish Council meetings, particularly in the winter when it is cold and dark in the evenings. Others have family commitments and the 7.30 start time often coincides with little ones' bedtimes. I shall therefore be running a surgery on the Thursday morning following the monthly Parish Council meeting. This will be held in the new church extension room and will be open from 10.00 am - 2.00pm. Please do drop if you have any issues you would like to raise with the Parish Council, if you would like to find out what went on in the meeting or if you simply want to pop in for a chat - it would be lovely to see you. The first surgery will be held on Thursday 5th December.

Broadband - Broadband speed (or lack of it) has been an issue in Shoreham for some time now. We have therefore invited George Chandler, Broadband Project Manager for KCC to attend our next meeting on 4th December to discuss the possibility of a fibre upgrade throughout the village. Residential properties, whose broadband speed is below a defined internet speed threshold, are eligible for government subsidies via the Rural Gigabit Connectivity Scheme (RGC). It would appear that the entire village, including properties north of Church Street, which did benefit from some recent upgrade

work, would qualify for this. If enough interest is shown, then this raises the opportunity of considering a community scheme for the whole village. This would put the broadband service into the 100mps region and effectively put us in the top 7% in the country for speeds. At a time when more and more people are electing to work from home, this would be an incredibly valuable asset to the village and to property owners. If you would like to find out more about the scheme then please come along to the meeting on 4th December when George Chandler will be explaining the details and answering any questions. For the avoidance of doubt, this is completely separate to the upgrade work being undertaken by KCC for Well Hill, in which County Councillor Roger Gough is heavily involved.

Report a Blocked Drain – The Resilience Team met recently and have reviewed the infrastructure monitoring processes. Gullies are cleaned on a schedule by SDC and this service has been provided. KCC have a reactive approach to blocked drains in that a fault must be reported. The Resilience Team thought it helpful to urge all residents to check their gutters and also to report any blocked drains to KCC. Anyone can report a fault online through the KCC Highways website (www.kent.gov.uk/roads) then click on 'Report a Fault'. If you are not happy to do this, then

please contact the Clerk who will do it on your behalf.

The team also looked at the Household Emergency Plan designed by the Kent Resilience Forum for circulation to households. You can view a copy of this on our Parish Council website and a paper copy can be made available to you on request.

Village Sign – Hopefully all households will now have received a copy of the poster to help design a village sign. The deadline for the competition is January 10th 2020. If you would like to enter but have not received a poster, then please contact the Clerk who will provide you with details on what you need to do.

Freighter Service - The next freighter service has been scheduled for Saturday 18th January 2020. Please bring any items/household waste to the bottom of Forge Way in Shoreham at 9.15 or to the Kent Hounds car park in Well Hill at 11.15 where you can load them onto the freighter.

Traffic and Parking – Thank you to all those who attended the November Parish Council meeting, where the subject of Traffic and Parking was debated. The Parish Council have formed a working party which has been given the task of producing a survey to be sent to all residents. This will hopefully enable it to prioritise measures such as a reduction in the village speed limit, parking restrictions,

extra parking provision and residents parking. The Parish Council will only consider these measures if there is sufficient appetite so it is vital that as many surveys are completed and returned as possible.

Bus Service – We were extremely disappointed to hear that Go Coach had decided to discontinue the 421 bus service despite numerous pleas from residents, the Shoreham Society and the Parish Council. This has been replaced with the Number 2 service which stops at Shoreham Station and runs between Sevenoaks and Swanley (please contact the Clerk if you would like a copy of the timetable). We understand that this is not ideal for many of our residents, who have relied on a village service for many years. We will therefore continue to lobby KCC to ensure that the planned taxi bus service is a viable and convenient alternative.

Next Meeting – The next Parish Council meeting and last for 2019 will be held at Shoreham Village Hall at 7.30pm on December 4th 2019. As always, if there is anything in particular that you would like the Parish Council to discuss, then please contact the Parish Clerk who will try and include it on the agenda. In the meantime, on behalf of Shoreham Parish Council, I would like to wish all of our parishioners a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Sarah Moon, Parish Clerk

Useful Contact Details

Parish Council

Parish Clerk (Direct all initial communication via the Parish Clerk)

Name	Phone	Email
Sarah Moon	0787 9655459	clerk2012@ShorehamParishCouncil.gov.uk

Shoreham Ward Councillors

Roy Blamey	01959 533452	rb2011@ShorehamParishCouncil.gov.uk
Jonathan Histed	01959 523993	jh2011@ShorehamParishCouncil.gov.uk
Miranda Cockburn		
Martin Sheward		
Alison Collins	01959 525347	alisoncallender3@gmail.com
Andrew Hibbins	07580 659308	andrew.hibbins2@gmail.com
Neil Powell		np2018@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk
Suzanne Hubble		

Romney Street Ward

Brian Jeffery	01959 522955	brian.jeffery13@outlook.com
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Well Hill Ward

Vacant		
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District Councillors

John Edwards-Winser	01959 522503	Cllr.edwards-winser@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Irene Roy		cllr.roy@sevenoaks.gov.uk
Rachel Waterton (Crockenhill & Well Hill)		cllr.waterton@sevenoaks.gov.uk

County Councillor

Roger Gough (KCC)	01959 525109	Roger.gough@kent.gov.uk
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Other Useful Numbers

Police (Not emergencies)	101	Dial 999 for emergencies
Pothole reporting	08458 247800	http://www.kent.gov.uk/KCC.KHSFaultsGIS.Web.Sites.Public/
Sevenoaks District Council	01732 227000	
Environment Agency	0845 9881188	

sister used to hide their skipping ropes in a tree because Mrs Chapman would not allow them in school.

Often Elsie and Doris went without lunch and they would hide in the woods and pretend they had lunch. Sometimes in exchange for a posy of flowers Mrs Summerfield would give them breakfast at The George. Elsie's dad only had Christmas day off from work. Elsie smiled as she told us how much she looked forward to the carols in the church and the presents her mother bought for them at the Christmas jumble sale

Happy Christmas to You All

John Bovington

SHOREHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The meeting in November was unusual as Mike Brown related Christmas on the Home Front & unlike so many recent programmes on radio and TV it was about the ingenuity and creative attitude of the British people for Christmas throughout the war years. He had examples of presents made from scraps of metal from armaments factories to make toys, a blouse from parachute off cuts, knitted toys and jumpers made from recycled wool. Items from manufacturers such as an expensive leather handbag with gasmask section, books on cooking on rations, games to play in the air raid shelter, so much more. It was really a very interesting evening.

2020 17th January at 8pm Dr Mary Bliss will give the Dr Lothian Lecture on the subject "The History of a Mattress". You may remember her excellent talk on her brother William Hamilton, Darwin's Heir.

Lynda Alleeson

NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

On our first day back after half term we had a whole school maths day to celebrate our knowledge and understanding of this subject. Our main focus was 'Pattern' and all children enjoyed taking part in mathematical activities outside, on the computer and in their Houses to think about how pattern is all around us. What a great way to start a new school term.

On Wednesday 30th October a team of 16 children took part in the District Cross Country event at Radnor House. They represented the school amazingly well, with four different races taking place. The Year 3/4 races were approximately half a mile and the Year 5/6 races just over a mile. The course was a proper cross country track with mud, hills and brambles (plus a few rabbit holes!). We are extremely proud of everyone who took part

A group of children from Moore and Cameron Class had the pleasure of playing table tennis with some of the over 60's who live in Shoreham. This was to celebrate the opening of the play equipment on the village recreation ground which includes a splendid new table tennis table. The children really enjoyed the afternoon, playing against familiar faces of elderly friends who joined us more recently at school for our Harvest afternoon tea.



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We were all very proud of Layla who represented Shoreham School at the Remembrance service in the village Church, reading out her own fantastic World War I poem so clearly and with great confidence. She then walked down with the congregation to the village war memorial and laid the school wreath in memory of all of the villagers who have died in service.

Our school Christmas Fair was on Saturday 23rd November which was a lovely festive event, an opportunity to find some beautiful Christmas gifts to buy and a chance to be able to enjoy some delicious treats to eat and drink. Thank you to our parents who help to make this such a wonderful event.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas from Shoreham Village School

Gillian Lovatt-Young, Headteacher

SHOREHAM 100 YEARS AGO - DECEMBER 1919

Our Parish Council plays an important part in the activities of our village today and so it was 100 years ago. Although limited in its actual powers, the Council did make regular representations to the District and County Council about the needs of the people of Shoreham parish. One issue on which the Council was in contact with the District Council was Crown Road. The Parish Council wanted the District Council to make up and take over the road. An attempt had been made to get the owners of Crown Road to share the costs but some had refused. As a result the District Council was being asked by the Parish Council to put their compulsory powers into force.

Flooding is an issue which has been a cause of concern for the villagers of Shoreham from time immemorial and the Parish Council was keen to avoid further serious floods in the winter of 1919/20. They therefore asked the District Council to clear out the river bed and properly repair the banks.

One hundred years ago the Parish Council contacted the South Metropolitan Gas Company with a view to obtaining a supply of gas to the village. However the Company said that they would only do so if enough villagers wanted a supply of gas in order for it to be cost effective for them. As gas has still not penetrated the village we can assume that there was an insufficient take up at that time. As an aside on this company, it is interesting to note that it had been one of the first to introduce co-partnership to the employees of the company and this idea of profit sharing was to be adopted by many other gas companies. It was nationalised in 1949.

In the parish magazine the local fire brigade was complimented on its valuable assistance at a fire at Oxbourne and villagers would no doubt have been delighted to hear that additional equipment had been obtained. Girls and young women in the village (aged 13 to 20) had the opportunity to join The Girls Club. This provided them with what is termed in the parish magazine as “instruction and amusement”. It had only been set up in the April of 1919 but already in November they had won third place in a dancing competition in Maidstone. Other than dancing they seem to have been mainly involved in sewing garments as well as making toys and “fancy articles”. *Alain Cozens*

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ROGUES (Royal Oak Golf Society)

Our September outing was to the attractive North Downs Golf Club, and in October we played at Tandridge Golf Club, one of our traditional end-of-season venues, which is chosen in part because of the bounteous full English breakfast and sumptuous three course dinner that bookend the day there.

There was a splendid turn-out on both days, including several guests, at least one of whom decided to join the Society after the experience.

At Tandridge most of us had taken notice of the weather forecast in choosing our golfing ensembles, but - as so often seems to happen - the bad weather passed us by, and wet gear and jumpers were soon being put back in the bag.

So that's it now until our end-of-year fixture at Darenth Valley on Friday 6th December, followed by our Xmas dinner at The Crown in the evening.

Our 2019 captain, Martin Finch steps down in December having presided over a very successful year of golf. Thank you captain. For the record, the winners were:

North Downs	1 st	Paul Hudson
	2 nd	Tim Smith
	3 rd	Steve Murphy
Tandridge	1 st	Matt Stevens
	2 nd	Martin Stevens
	3 rd	Steve Murphy

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Rogues (cost just £20), or if you would like to play as a guest, please email Martin Finch at widgemartin@gmail.com or Wyn Melville-Jones at wyn.mj@btinternet.com

SHOREHAM OVER 60's

We meet in the Village Hall at 2.15pm on the following days:-

January 8 th at 2.15pm	Cash Bingo
January 22 nd at 2.16pm	Picture Quiz

REPORT ON THE 2019 HARVEST

This report was given by William Alexander as part of the Harvest Festival Service

As always, a harvest report needs to be read in context with a few details the previous year's weather, especially noting when it rained.....

- Last winter saw 'average' rainfall amounts, without exceptionally cold or snowy conditions.
- June was interesting. Last year in 2018 I recorded zero rainfall, whilst this year Shoreham had 142mm. You may recall the deluge on 10th & 11th June which delivered 100mm or 4" of water over a few hours. Agriculturally, this dramatic rain event "saved the year" by rescuing many crops from water stress.

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- During July & August - key harvesting months we enjoyed lots of sunny days, although there were a few unwelcome wet periods.

Agricultural crops

- **Cereals - Wheat, Barley & Oats** – autumn sown, so called winter crops, develop deeper roots allowing greater resilience to the dry times. Both plants and farmers were getting desperate until those huge June rains put life back into crops, swelled the grains and ultimately delivered some very good wheat yields. In addition, the grain quality was generally high, making the wheat acceptable for milling into bread flour.
- **Oilseeds, Beans & Peas** – some fairly mixed results here. Crops sown in the spring generally suffered from insufficient soil moisture water, which restricted growth and thus yields.
- **Grass** – as your garden lawn probably told you - grass growth was rather stop/start in character this year. May growth was slow, so early silage yields (silage = pickled grass) were disappointing, but hay (hay = sun dried grass) and ‘second’ silage cuts in June & July were much better after that June monsoon.

Horticultural crops from Kent’s “Garden of England”

- Berries – 2019 was a great year for soft fruits with Kentish grown strawberries, raspberries and blueberries increasing in popularity and production.
- Apples & Pears – a few orchards suffered from localised frost damage on particular varieties, but generally a good top fruit harvest ripened in the county’s orchards.
- Lettuce & salad veg – these crops are usually grown on first grade soils, which also have irrigation to help manage water availability and mitigate droughty periods.
- Cauliflowers & green vegetables – dry conditions across much of Western Europe led to temporary shortages of certain vegetables this summer – a story which hit the national news.
- Potatoes and root vegetables – a promising year but most are still to harvest.
- Hops – good early growth continued throughout the summer and this translated into a floriferous bine of hops ready for brewers and weddings!
- Grapes – after the fantastic vintage year of 2018 for English wine, this year has been another good growing season in Kent with warm September temperatures building sugar levels, but harvest is still underway, so the harvest is not yet home. The area of English vines is increasing at an amazing pace.
- Finally, Lavender – this dry-loving plant coped easily with those hot dry weeks and happily came in above the long-term average oil yield.

William Alexander

29th September 2019

SHOREHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Our meeting for December is a Christmas lunch and is for members only. This will be held at The Crown at 12.30 pm on Tuesday 3rd December.

January 7th 2020 we revert to our lunch time meeting, to avoid the dark evenings. Our speaker will be Gilly Halcrow and her subject will be 'Shopping through the ages in

WORDS FROM THE VALLEY

Congratulations to Sharon Longworth, Philip Dodd, Karen Morash, Elie Williams and Bobby Stephenson who put together a most successful evening. I was delighted to be invited to read Bobby's "On Shoreham Hills". Ken Fowler suggested we should print one of the writings from that evening, so here is a special Christmas treat for you from the Shoreham Gazette Team.

ON SHOREHAM HILLS

On Shoreham Hills,
I sat a thousand years,
And watched the seasons change
Like fields, from green, to brown, to white.
And on those hills,
I saw the Norse arrive and change the way of
things,
Our lives belonged to others now.

On Shoreham Hills,
I watched as paths were walked a
Hundred million times, which turned to
Roads, and streets and lanes,
The poor, the plagued were taken in
And healed and fed, and given up
To God's own grace.

On Shoreham Hills,
I saw the wooden structures changed to stone
And homes were built to hold those hearts
That felt this secret valley
Theirs to keep.

On Shoreham Hills
I sat beside, as William Blake did spy
Jerusalem
Among the waters of the Darent streams,
Forever caught by Samuel Palmer's paints.

Then one fine day, the smoke appeared of rail
and train
And in our hearts, we knew those hills were
not for only us.
I lifted eyes to watch the Zeppelin raids on
London Town,
Replaced by Messerschmitt and Spitfire trails.

The buildings rose, as did the streets
Our village grew to meet the age.
I sat on Shoreham Hills, a thousand years
To watch it comfort and console,
And as I watched the sun arise,
I hoped to sit a thousand more



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England'. The meeting commences at 2.00 pm, but for those coming to the soup lunch the time is 12.45pm for 1.00 pm.

STOP PRESS: Due to Mr Johnson needing our Village Hall for the election, we are having to cancel our December Community Coffee morning. However, on the 9th January 2020 we will be open for business again, between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at the Village Hall. Please come and join us for the usual coffee/tea and cakes. We look forward to seeing you.

It only leaves it to me on behalf of the Women's Institute to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy, Peaceful and Healthy New Year.

Sylvie Poynter

FLOWER ROTA

20th December between 9am and 4pm

All Church Flower Arrangers are requested to create their Christmas Flower Arrangement.

4th January Flower Arrangers to remove Christmas Flower Arrangements by 4th January 2020.

January

4th Erica Dale
11th Debby Rose
18th Valerie Turner
25th Jane Stanyard

VILLAGE DIARY

DECEMBER 2019

14 th Dec	Annual Carol Service	Church	7.30pm
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JANUARY 2020

7 th Jan	Women's Institute	Village Hall	12.45pm
8 th Jan	Over 60s	Village Hall	2.15pm
9 th Jan	Community Coffee	Village Hall	10am-12
17 th Jan	Historical Society talk	Village Hall	8pm
22 nd Jan	Over 60s	Village Hall	2.15 pm
24 th Jan	Burns Night	Church	7pm

Future events

15 th February	RBL Table Top Sale	Village Hall	12 – 4pm
8 th May	The Henry Desmond Orchestra and The Mount Vineyard collaborate for VE Day 75th Celebrations.		
13 th September	Music Festival in Shoreham Church		

SHOREHAM GAZETTE INFORMATION

Copy for the February issue by 18th January to shorehamgazette@gmail.com

Editor	Ann Ball, Oxbourne View, Mill Lane TN14 7TP	01959 522307
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