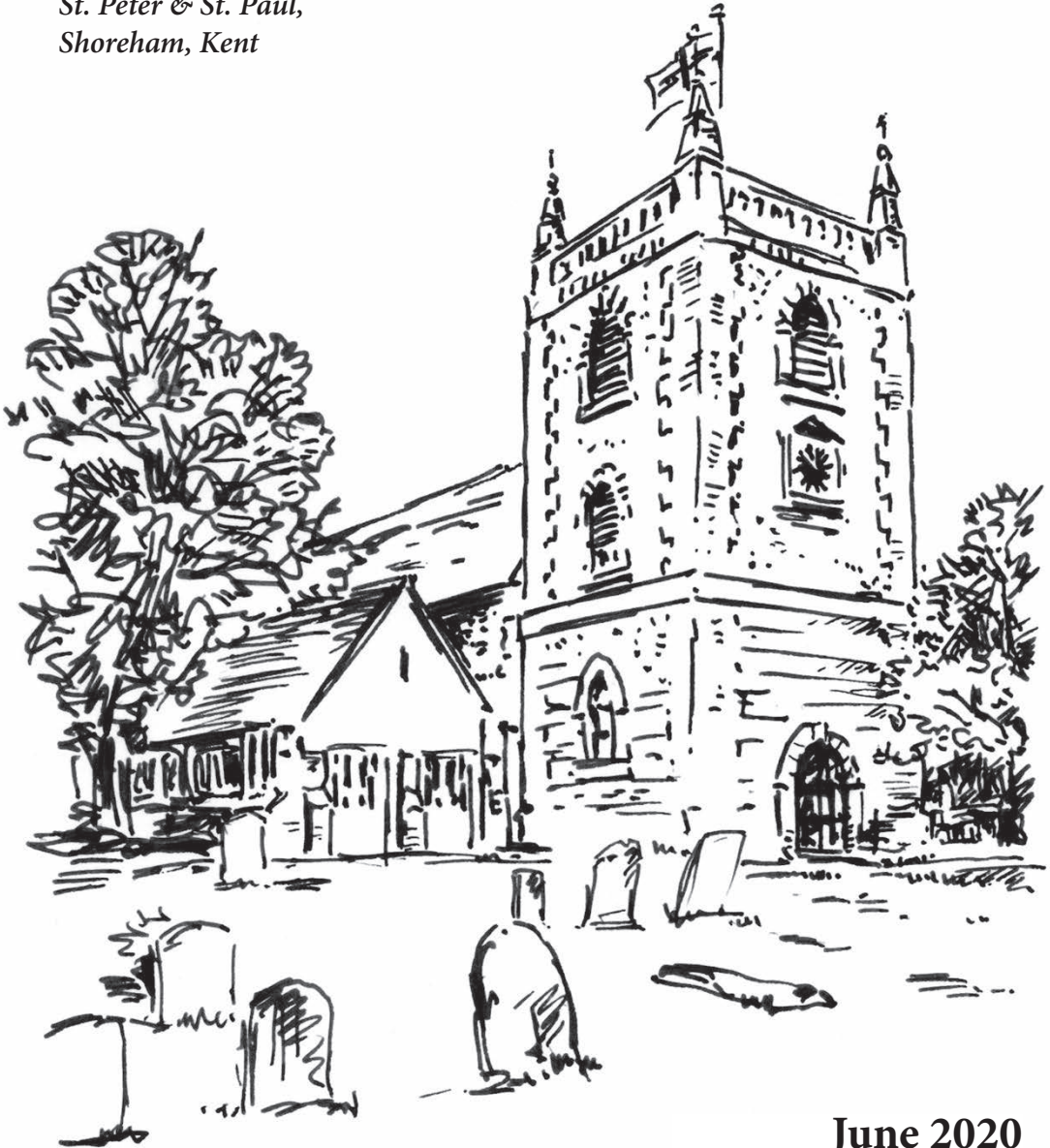


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Shoreham Emergency Plan

All major emergencies are dealt with by the emergency services. However, there may be times such as power cuts, snow and ice, flooding or storms where the emergency services are not required. These conditions can make life challenging for more vulnerable people such as the elderly, infirm, disabled, sick or even someone who maybe heavily pregnant or with young children.

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 52 SHOREHAM GAZETTE

NUMBER 5 - JUNE 2020

SERVICES AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

The church building is still currently closed. We will open it for private prayer as soon as we are allowed. The church though is still very much alive and active.

We have a number of regular activities (mostly via Zoom at present).

Sunday morning at 10am we have a 35 - 40 minute service via Zoom. Hard copies of the service are delivered to those who don't have computers, although it is also possible to hear the service on a landline at a local call rate. The service and Zoom invitation is being sent to 105 email addresses. We are starting to record the Sunday morning services and will be posting these on the church website and Facebook page.

Friday morning at 10am we have a shortened form of morning prayer.

Every other week on a **Friday evening we have a Quiz**

Thy Kingdom Come from 21st to 31st May is a global initiative, in which Christians of all denominations throughout the world take time for prayer in the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost. (21st to 31st May)

This year's Thy Kingdom Come takes place in a very different world. The need for prayer in this time has never been greater. Thy Kingdom Come is focusing on both prayer and care; encouraging people to pray for others to come to know Jesus' love in their own lives, and also to demonstrate that love in action. For more information or to light a light and 'pledge to pray' please see www.thykingdomcome.global. There is also a Thy Kingdom Come App that can be downloaded onto a smart phone or computer.

Extra services for TKC Ascension Day to Pentecost

Matins 10am - Ascension Day Thursday 21st May

Evening Prayer 9pm - every evening from 21st to 30th May

Family Prayer Adventure Map for Thy Kingdom Come. These are in the church porch and they can be used by anyone of any age

(www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/prayer-adventure-map).

If you want to be kept in touch about worship, prayers, activities and updates from the church please send an email (or phone) Revd Diane.



Revd Diane

The Revd Dr Diane E. Rees

The Vicarage, Station Road, Shoreham TN14 7SA

revdrdi@outlook.com 01959 522363

ALL SHALL BE WELL

One of my favourite spiritual writers is Julian of Norwich (b. 1343). This year her special day in the church year (8th May) was rather overshadowed by VE day. A number of her sayings have become more popular over recent years. Perhaps one of the most well known one being: **All shall be well, all shall be well, all manner of things shall be well.**

That statement and the other things she wrote, were not a superficial attempt to deal with anxiety or to trivialise suffering but rather emerged from acute mental and physical pain that Julian experienced. On 8th May 1373, aged thirty and so seriously ill that the last rites were administered to her, Julian began to lose her sight and feel physically numb. On her deathbed as Julian began to focus on the cross, she felt, in her body and soul, the pain and suffering of Christ and received a series of [visions](#). Amazingly she recovered from her illness and wrote about her experiences in a book called *Revelations of Divine Love*, which is the earliest surviving book in the English language written by a woman.

This saying does not appear until Chapter 27 and it is God who speaks these words to Julian, rather than the other way round. Then for another 13 chapters Julian continues to argue with God, and asks when faced with all the suffering, pain and evil in the world, how possibly could all things turn out well. God assures her that in the mysterious action of divine love, power and wisdom God will make all things well, even giving her some examples of how suffering has been made well.

Over the years, I have found this a useful saying, which I have used as a prayer or repeated as a meditation, on many occasions when I have been sad, confused or fearful about something.

In our current situation, we perhaps can also think of examples of how suffering has been made well ... carbon emissions have reduced by nearly 20% ... quieter roads means we have been more aware of birdsong, butterflies and bees ... we have had a chance to reflect on what is important in our lives ... to realise we can manage with what we have ... a demoralised NHS is appreciated ... we have helped each other, experienced kindness, generosity, thoughtfulness ... we have got to know neighbours and friends in new ways ... spent more time with our children ... sorted out cupboards ... have found creative ways of solving problems ...

But of course, much pain and suffering still remains. Our lives have been turned upside down, the unfamiliar is normal, our sense of security has been shaken. Many of our habitual anchors are at risk or have been found inadequate. Relationships have been strained, jobs are at risk, and people are struggling with mental, physical health issues and financial worries. And of course, we are left with some big, uncomfortable questions, such as why are there different categories of being human, why are some people's lives more valuable than others, why hasn't more been done to support social care ...? Then there are those big issues about how the Covid-19 virus has mapped on to and exacerbated existing inequalities, the impact of our dependence on global capitalism, addressing issues of climate change and how we shape a more just world in the future.

Knowing that Julian argued with God is helpful to us who find it hard to believe that all could ever be made well. Taking on the saying "all shall be well", is radical, it is not a simplistic devotion or a mental mind game; it is an invitation to live more trustingly, more sensitively in touch with what is, and so more creatively engaged.

Diane

From the Church Register

Interment of Ashes

11th May

Raymond Barber

Burial

29th May

Rex Topham



SHOREHAM CHURCH

BY SUSAN HORSFIELD

REX TOPHAM

Rex Topham was a life long a supporter of Shoreham Church. We send our sympathies to Kay, Kathryn and Nicola. Rex and Kay presented the Church with this painting and it will be displayed in the new church room as a reminder of this architect of the Vicarage and many buildings around the Shoreham he loved. This black and white picture does not do it justice so do seek out the original once the church re-opens
Ann Ball

VALLEY OF VISION SCULPTURE

Alain Cozens and Susan Haire are very sorry that it has not been possible to present Valley of Vision Sculpture this month and regret that, not surprisingly, it has had to be cancelled.

A huge amount of planning has gone into the exhibition and many of the artists have completed sculptures they had made specially.

Alain and Susan thank the Committee for all their hard work and the Garden Hosts for kindly agreeing to take part and are sad that, at such a late stage, it has come to nothing.

SHOREHAM VILLAGE HALL NEWS

During these unprecedented times, our Village Hall has been closed. Therefore it has had no income whilst still incurring the usual running costs.

We are pleased to say that Sevenoaks District Council has recognised that that puts us in financial difficulty and has kindly helped us. The Village Hall Committee wishes to thank Sevenoaks District Council for their support, in the form of a substantial grant, to help us through the current crisis. It is much appreciated.

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NEW CHURCH FLAG

We have hoisted the Rochester Diocese flag on the church tower printed by Midland Flags. This firm prints the famous NHS Supporters blue flags and has donated over £25,000 to the NHS fund. Well done them!!

We are grateful to Clive Hilton for sponsoring the flag. *Ann Ball Church Warden*

SHOREHAM INTERNET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Fed up with your broadband speed and reliability? Does it drop out at the most crucial times? Can't download the movie you want to watch? Conference call hung at a critical moment?

Reliability and consistency of the internet is a Village-wide problem, even more so now with many more people working (and playing) from home.

We currently have the opportunity to use existing Government and Kent County Council grant schemes to improve the internet service in Shoreham by upgrading to Fibre. Using these grants, we aim for there to be no cost to residents in running the fibre cables through the village and beyond, although it is possible your provider may charge a connection fee of around £100, and each participating household would need to sign up to a new Fibre contract (12 months minimum).

There is NO commitment at this stage. We are just assessing the level of interest to see if we have enough people to apply for grants and cover the costs. However, we do need as many houses as possible to register so that we can take the next steps towards gaining funding. A short questionnaire is available on the Shoreham Village Facebook page, as well as the Shoreham Parish Council website <https://www.shorehampc.kentparishes.gov.uk> **(CLOSING DATE 14 JUNE).**

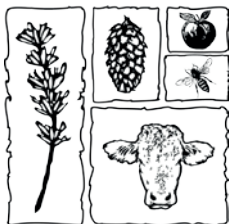
Broadband Working Party, Shoreham Parish Council

SHOREHAM GARDENS WEB SITE

As there are no Flower Shows until September we feel that we should do something and we are certain that the gardens in the village are looking brilliant. What we are asking is that you send pictures of your gardens or vegetable plots as they emerge from spring. Please send your pictures by email to shorehamhortsoc@gmail.com This is not a competition but a celebration.

We welcome panoramas, flower beds, veg. patches or pictures of specific blooms. We are convinced that as this site grows it will be a source of interest and calm. If

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As it will be open to view by anyone, although only promoted in the village, we will offer various levels of security or anonymity. The site can be found at www.shorehamkentgardens.com – early stages yet but we hope you will populate it with wonderful content! Thank You

Jasper Dale

SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

As the lockdown continues, I would like to once again thank Louise Norris and the team of volunteers who are continuing to work tirelessly to collect prescriptions, go shopping and carry out numerous other tasks for those who are unable to do so. On average around 30 people per week are being helped within the Parish of Shoreham. We have ordered more supplies of gloves and hand gel and would urge volunteers to get in touch either with myself or Louise if you find you are running out and need them to undertake your duties safely.

It is not just people who are self-isolating who are in need of assistance. Those suffering financial hardship as a result of not being able to work should know that help is available. A new initiative, the Lockdown Larder has just been launched. This is aimed specifically at people who would not normally qualify for food banks, but whose income has drastically reduced over the past two months. The Lockdown Larder provides free weekly food shops of up to £25 in value for such people. Contact me for details on this. Citizens Advice Bureau continues to operate and can be contacted by phone (0300 330 9001) or email (advice@nwkent.cab.ork.uk). They will be able to give advice to those suffering financially and mentally as well as to those experiencing domestic abuse, all of which are sadly increasing throughout these difficult times.

In response to the most recent government guidelines, we have now been able to reopen the tennis courts. There is no booking system for the court – simply go up and play when it is free. We do not charge for children but if adults are playing (without children), then we suggest that a donation of £5 per play is made at the village shop. We have spent £400 this year on getting the court professionally cleaned and treated with moss killer and this sort of maintenance should ideally be carried out annually. Donations are therefore required in order to help pay for the upkeep. We are very lucky to have such a great facility in a small village and it is wonderful to see it being so well used at the moment but unfortunately, it doesn't come without a cost. As regards the playground, this is unfortunately still out of action and we await further instruction from central government as to when we can reopen it.

Since the start of the lockdown we have held around 5 meetings via Zoom and these appear to have been quite successful. All our meetings are public and anyone is

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welcome to attend. Our next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd June via Zoom. Details on how to access the meeting will be published on the agenda. If you would like to join but have not used Zoom before, then please contact me and I will talk you through what you need to do.

As always, if you have any queries relating to COVID-19 or any other parish related matters, then please contact me at clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk or call me on 07912 611048.

Sarah Moon, Parish Clerk.

NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

During this incredibly challenging time when our school has been physically closed, we have managed to continue to offer our children virtual opportunities for education, communication, support and fun.

Staff have been working extremely hard to deliver live lessons on Zoom as well as providing high quality learning via the school website. This has meant that our pupils have been able to stay connected with each other and their teachers during a time of isolation. I have held a weekly Zoom assembly on topics ranging from being resilient, to VE Day and the Space-ex Starlink – lots to discuss and debate whilst we see each other's smiling faces! Being able to see our pupils and their families and maintain our connections, albeit virtually, has been a joy and we have had a great deal of positive feedback from parents about the quality of our provision. As a child, I remember with fondness how wonderful it was to receive post, so I wrote to each individual child in the school for a bit of fun and to provide a distraction for at least one day.

Whilst we have asked every pupil to read, write and do some maths every day, we have emphasised the importance of the five ways to well-being and have encouraged the children to be creative, be active, try something new and just enjoy spending time with their families. Parents have taken on the challenge of becoming teachers and have been so resourceful with what they have been doing - although it has not been easy for them as they are trying to juggle their own work and family. Many of us have joined in with Joe Wicks for his daily workout, so we should all be super fit when we return to school!

We were unable to have our planned VE day commemorations, however that didn't stop us marking the occasion with a VE campout. I asked the children to make a camp or sleep pod somewhere in their house or garden, decorate it, make a headpiece to wear and maybe even to have a midnight feast! The children had a great time and we have put some of the pictures onto the school website.

We are now preparing to return safely to school, which in itself is a challenge, but we are looking forward to reconnecting with our whole school community.

Mrs Gillian Lovatt-Young, Headteacher



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ROGUES - ROYAL OAK GOLF SOCIETY

Having saved money by not playing golf last month, The Rogues looked around for a worthy cause to which to donate some of that money. We found a very worthy cause called “Friends for Families.”

FRIENDS FOR FAMILIES

This is a small, Sevenoaks based group of volunteers who are offering important, direct, immediate support to local children. These are children in families in poverty, but who fall through the cracks in terms of receiving state support. You may imagine that in these times those families are in even more desperate need, as the children are unable to rely on school meals for at least one good meal a day, and what income the family had has probably disappeared in the lockdown.

If you too would be interested in helping this committed group to carry out their very practical, very immediate work in Sevenoaks you can contact them by typing ‘friends for families’ in your browser, which will take you to their website, where you can learn more about their work and find out how to donate. Alternatively, contact me and I will do my best to assist.

Back to the golf:

Our game on Thursday 18th June will be at Chartham Park. This was originally scheduled to avoid a clash with the victorious England team’s fixture at the Euros, but that proves to have been unnecessary. (It might well have been anyway). Let’s hope that by then we are allowed back on the course.

Wyn Melville-Jones - Captain wyn.mj@btinternet.com 01959 524254

SHOREHAM VILLAGE STORES

We’re hugely grateful to everyone for their support during these difficult recent weeks. Some people have even brought us small gifts and flowers, much to our delight. It has been an exhausting time for us – particularly queuing at the wholesalers at six in the morning to stock up with all we need. But the challenges have been rewarding too.

Please remember to follow our social distancing rules. The number for orders and deliveries is 01959 522018, and the Post Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9 and 3.30. Michael Janney’s fish van is here on Wednesdays between 2 and 3; call him in advance with orders on 07427 549475. Thank you all and stay safe.

Santhosh, Kannan, Chitra, Lorna and Prasanth



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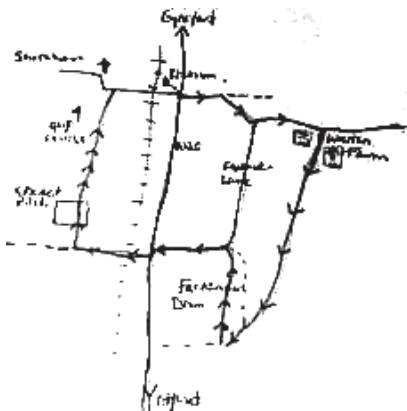
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Another month of lockdown! But we are very lucky to be locked down where we are and many of us have been rediscovering some great walks.

Fackenden Road and Fackenden Down

In total this walk is about three miles. It includes some wonderful views and you will see an amazing array of wildflowers, including orchids, at this time of year.

- Walk to Shoreham Station. Cross A225 (carefully) and take track to the right of house facing you. (Copt Hall). Walk up track about 300 yards until it reaches White Hill where you take the middle path (not the wider path going left) but then fork left after a few yards and follow the path up the hill until you reach a road, Fackenden Lane).
- Turn left along the lane and walk about 200 yards until you see a large house on your right. Take the farm track on the right just before the house and follow this past Warren Farm old barns and buildings on your left. Don't worry about the alarm which may go off as you go through an open gate. (You can avoid this by going to the left of the gate).
- After 200 yards, there is a stile/gate which takes you to a field. Follow the path through the field to another gate and field which provides splendid views of the valley. The path continues through the field, going down the slope towards the end of the field and a gate stile takes you into a wood. The path meanders for about 30 yards until it gets to a bench where there are more excellent views across the valley and you look down on the old Telephone Exchange.
- From the bench, you can either turn right and follow the narrow path above Fackenden Down or you can take the path down the steep slope until it crosses a track where you turn right. Both options take you back to Fackenden Lane.
- Follow the lane down the hill for about 300 yards until you reach the A225. Cross the road and take the Home Farm track opposite. Cross the railway bridge and, after 30 yards, turn right onto the footpath which leads to the cricket pitch and then the golf course. This leads you back to Station Road.

If you have done some great walks send in the details and we can publish them for others to enjoy. There is still time to send in photos of your masterpieces for the Shoreham Gets Creative shorehamsociety@gmail.com. *Chris Euman*

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THE RIVER DARENT AT SHOREHAM?



Coronavirus sent me indoors to an old Book and a Magazine. The book was the Life and Letters of Samuel Palmer by his son; the magazine the old printers monthly journal, the London Mercury for November 1931. Both have a picture of a river and one – or more – trees.

Is Palmer's first etching of a willow on a river bank a picture of the Darent at Shoreham? It was made in 1850 for his entry to the Etchers club. The season is high summer and the tree is in full leaf, the river wide enough to need a bridge, the appearance one of a drawing from life but made long after Palmer had left his workman's cottage in Shoreham. Palmer was at first criticised for using a ruler to outline the sky, but rescued things by scratching out some of his lines. According to his son the etching came from a wall picture in Kensington where Palmer then lived. But in his memory, did a local farmer once take his cattle to water in the Darent, were its waters graced with a swan? The possible tower at the back left does not help. Palmer kept a copy of Milton's minor works in his pocket for twenty years, and included a symbol of a lonely tower from which to gaze at the sky taken from the poem *Il Penseroso* in many of his later great etchings and paintings.



Another artist, Gwen Raverat, the author of the Cambridge classic Period Piece made six woodcuts of rivers for the London General Omnibus Company. One she called the River Darent. Here there is an angler, perhaps just having caught a very small minnow, to replace the cows, but no swan; the willows are not quite up to standard and any rivulets are rudimentary. I like to think that Palmer did have a real recall of the Darent at Shoreham whilst Raverat did not make six bus trips but stayed by the Cam. Whatever the artists drew, the river has watered a rich agricultural valley

from at least Roman times, provided for paper making at Shoreham from the 1600s, and together with the Holy Spirit, used for baptism in the many valley church fonts. Here a thirteenth century archbishop comes in when he ruled that any font water must only be kept for seven days, and many fonts were given locks to prevent witches stealing the water.

David Parkes

QUEENIE LAMBIE

Our mother Queenie Lambie celebrated her 100th birthday on 16th April and for many years resided in Shoreham. Queenie was born at Herne Bay, youngest of four children. Her mother, Emily Higgins was widowed when Queenie was only two

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or three years old and brought her family up single handed, moving around Kent to where ever she could find work and a home for her children. Finally ending up at Shoreham with youngest son Jim and Queenie in the 1930's living at Hill View Cottages on the High Street with their grandmother Sarah (Sally) Wood. Queenie left school aged fourteen and went straight into service. In 1939 she came home and worked for the Hitchcock family at Oxbourne Farm, in the dairy and delivering milk daily throughout the village by horse and cart, she was even shot at from a German plane while making deliveries on the High Street.

Queenie met our father William Lambie who, with his parents, brother Alex and sister Violet had come down from Scotland in 1939 to Preston Farm. They were married at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church in September 1946 and were lucky enough to move into one of the new houses at Bowers Place(now Mildmay Place) shared with our Uncle Alex and his wife Kath. Our neighbours were the Flower family.

In 1952 we moved to Preston Farm and lived there until October 1958 when the farm and prize winning herd of Ayrshire cattle had to be sold to cover death duties of the family of Henry May. Hence we all moved up to Northumberland and sixty two years on we are still here. As a family we had close ties to Shoreham for many years. Queenie's brother Jim Higgins and his wife Amy lived all their married life at Fir Tree Cottage, 63 High Street and her mum Emily lived for many years in the Almshouses. Her sister in law Violet Smith, wife of the late George Smith (a Shoreham boy) still lives in Tonbridge.

Such an age and what changes Queenie has seen throughout her long life and what stories she can still tell. It was so sad to reach 100 and not be able to celebrate with family and friends but Queenie accepted the situation we are all in, so perhaps it will have to be a 101st party next year.

Pat Everitt, Ian Lambie & Isabel Beattie.

TALES FROM THE HILL

I sat down wondering if I should try to write a sad poem, or a hopeful one. Perhaps it should be mystical in the style of Blake or pastoral like Clare, but certainly not Betjeman far too sanguine to fit the mood, Larkin or Dickinson might push me over the edge, I decided on no poem, I will leave it to real poets.

The practice of young couples carving their names and a heart into the bark of a tree has died away. I suppose young men do not carry pen knives anymore! Nowadays messages of affection to one another are conveyed by choosing a suitable emoji. Over time the carved names in the bark become illegible, whereas the hearts grow larger along with the expanding girth of the tree. I cannot help being moved by these expanding hearts. Did their love last, did they marry and have children or are they now gone? Or was it just a Saturday afternoon romance? These expanding hearts take me back to more innocent and happier times.

I was recently chatting ‘music’ with me old chum and neighbour Joan Payne, and we found common ground whereby rather than hunt for a particular disc she would go and “grab a handful” off the shelf and nearly always get a pleasant surprise. I have tried sorting my collection into composers, the feeling of satisfaction, even smugness, soon evaporates when you cannot choose between discs that have more than one composer. Who takes precedence? A handful saves worrying about keeping your discs in good order and allows you to rediscover pieces you have long forgotten.

Oh I think I’m allowed one verse from John Clare’s Little Trotty Wagtail.

Little Trotty wagtail, he went through the rain,

And tittering, tottering sideways he ne’er got straight again,

He stooped to get a worm, and looked up to catch a fly,

And then he flew away ere his feathers they were dry

John Bovington

SHOREHAM OCCUPATIONS 1928 - 1950

In the period from 1928 to the outbreak of World War Two in 1939 my analysis of the occupations recorded in the church baptismal records shows that well over half of people worked in farming related work, mostly as general labourers. The estate village was dominated by a few well off landowning families and remained an agricultural one. There was thus much continuity with the period from 1913 to 1928 covered in my Gazette article last month. Jobs such as chauffeurs, gamekeepers, gardeners, an estate steward and even a butler are also evidence of the impact of the well off landed gentry here. Some new jobs were appearing such as an insurance agent but professional middle class jobs were virtually nonexistent in Shoreham in this era.

What illustrates the very clear division between rich and poor in Shoreham at this time is the fact that the money offered by the Sick and Poor Fund was very much in demand in this period as were calls on the financial resources of various other charities. Contrast this with the recollection of Phillis Ritchie from the late 1930s of Lord Mildmay leaving church to return to Shoreham Place on a Sunday morning in a carriage with two coachmen in livery while the village police constable at the lych gate would give him a salute.

The Second World War really marks somewhat of a watershed between this old world and a post war one. Occupations from 1939 to 1950 show a drastic decline in the proportion of villagers who are recorded as labourers although the village remained predominantly a working class one in this period. There was an increasing number of jobs related to the railways and those engaged in building work. Only a very small number of people in this period would have been commuting to London for their jobs and most occupations were locally based.

A couple of occupations which stand out as unusual include a university tutor living at Friars and two different people who are recorded as assistant cataloguers, one of them working at the British Museum. The Vicar in 1940, Guy Ford, baptised his own son, Roger Gervaise Ford, on September 29th 1940, in the early days of the Blitz. There are a few people whose names appear in the baptism register of this period who were born in Shoreham and are still resident here today, links to a world when Shoreham was a very different place in many ways

Alain Cozens

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