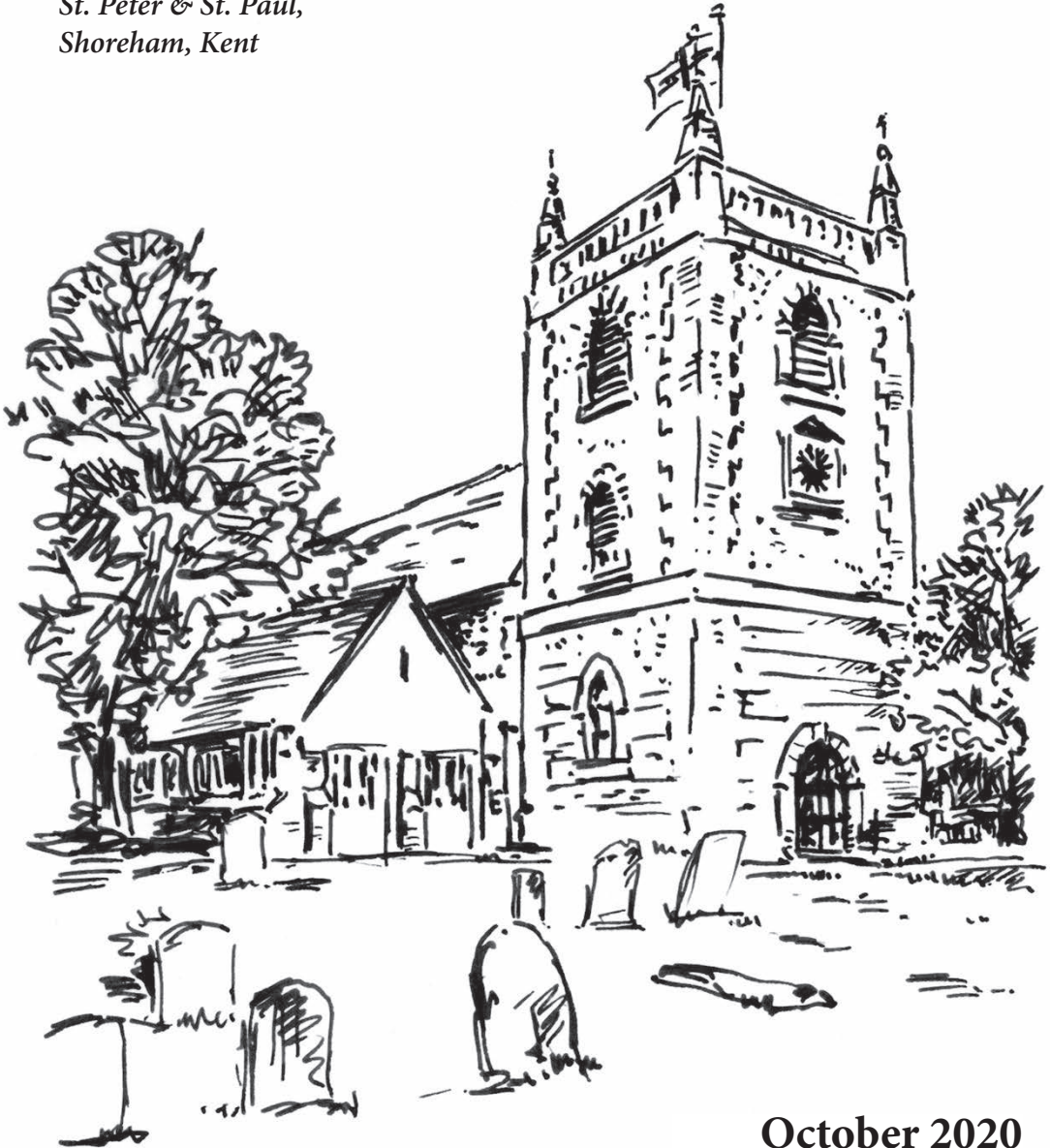


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All major emergencies are dealt with by the emergency services. However, there may be times such as power cuts, snow and ice, flooding or storms where the emergency services are not required. These conditions can make life challenging for more vulnerable 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 8 – OCTOBER 2020

WHAT IS HAPPENING at St Peter and St Paul from OCTOBER

The church will continue to be open each week on:

Wednesday 10am to 12 noon

Saturday 10am to 2pm

Please feel free to come in and pray, sit, have some quiet, think, cry, look, give thanks, light a candle ...

SERVICES

~ Zoom services will continue at 10am each Sunday and for Prayers on Friday morning

If you want to be sent details of the Zoom services or other activities organised by the church, please contact Diane on revdrdi@outlook.com or 01959 522363.

~ There will also be a short Eucharist each Sunday at 8.45am. The timing of the service is to allow time for everyone to get home and make a drink to bring to the Zoom service at 10am (including the Vicar!)

~ We want to include as many people as we can at these services but you will need to register your attendance.

~ If you want to attend a service in church, please contact Bryan on 077 3322 8408 or the_harrises@btinternet.com.

~ There may also be occasional services or events in the church on a Sunday afternoon or evening.

DATES

Sunday 4th October - HARVEST

~ This year we are collecting food items to donate to the Trinity School Foodbank.

If you have any (non perishable items) to donate, please leave them in the Vicarage Porch. We will collect them together and take them to Trinity.

~ For the Harvest Zoom Service we would like people to send a picture or some words about something you have grown or made, something you like doing, or are learning. Please send these to Alain alaincozens1@gmail.com by Friday 2nd October, so that we can include them in the service.

Sunday 11th October - Church Annual Meeting (APCM)

This will follow on from (a very short) 10am Zoom service and will finish by 11.15am. Everyone is welcome to join the service and meeting but only those on the Electoral Roll are able to vote.

Sunday 1st November - ALL SAINTS/ ALL SOULS

If there is someone who has died (recently or a long time ago) and you would like them to be remembered by name at this time, please write the person's name (clearly) on either the sheet inside church (on a Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday), or the one pinned to the notice board in the church porch.

Sunday 8th November - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

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Betwixt and Between

All around us there are clues that we are heading rapidly into autumn. However, we have also recently had some warm days, which remind us that summer isn't quite over yet. We are betwixt seasons.

I am sure that I am not the only person who was hoping that the summer would be a kind of turning point and that in the autumn we would begin to move towards normality. My hope was overly optimistic. It seems that we are also between seasons in relation to Covid. We are caught between our initial responses, like finding new ways of communicating and being community; now we are adjusting to some elements of the 'new normal'. But we are also holding our breath ... will the R rate go up, will schools need to close, will we go back into lockdown, will hospitals be able to cope, will we go back to our offices, will the economy recover...? This experience of being caught in between times, is known as liminal space. Limin is a Latin word, which refers to a stone placed on the threshold of a door that must be crossed to get from one space into another. This human experience has been well described by poets and authors throughout the centuries, used to describe everything from a sunset, to the human life cycle.

Even when the transition into the liminal season is something chosen, for example, getting married, betwixt and between times can be unsettling and disorientating. We try to move forward but it is hard to plan; it feels like, 'trudging through mud, moving away from something comfortable and known, toward something that can't yet be known' (Susan Beaumont). We are coming to realise that the coronavirus pandemic, is not a temporary reality. Our lives are shifting and, in many cases, will never fully return to normal. The future almost certainly won't look like the past.

The Judea-Christian story, is full of liminal experiences - from Adam and Eve, Noah, Ruth, Joseph, Abraham, Sarah, Jacob and Job - each character has a liminal story to tell - an ending, a disorientating season of transition, and then a move to something new, very different from what has been left behind. The apostle Paul also, enters his experience of betwixt and between, when he is struck by a blinding light on his way to Damascus, changing from someone who threatens and kills Christian believers, to become a person who encourages people to become followers of Jesus.

There is good news though. Liminal seasons are challenging but can also unleash creativity, innovation, passion and potential. Such seasons are transformative. When we are betwixt and between, what is familiar and what is unknown ... 'That's a good space where genuine newness can begin', (Richard Rohr) ... 'the key is to be able to linger there without panicking'. (Ed Catmull, Pixar).

Revd Diane



The Revd Dr Diane Rees
The Vicarage, Station Road, Shoreham TN14 7SA
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From the Church Registers

Wedding

26th September

Rhianna Watts and James Perry

Interment of Ashes

25th September Katherine Votta

FROM THE EDITOR

Once again we have managed to fill the Gazette with items of interest for you. The total cost of circulating this to every household in the Parish is born by our advertisers so please do turn to these pages if you need any help and let them know you have their details out of the Gazette.

October is the start of a new year for advertisements and there may be some spaces. Please contact Julie Carder if you are interested. julieshoreham@gmail.com

Ann Ball

SHOREHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS – RAY CORNWELL

Another sad loss to the Players, and to the village as a whole. Ray, who died last month, was for many years an invaluable member of the backstage crew. For a time he and the much-regretted Arthur Gilham were a formidable double act as stage carpenters and technicians, greeting producers' requests with much shaking of heads and sucking of teeth before, of course, supplying exactly what you'd asked for – and more. Ray then took on the stage manager's role as well, in which he excelled. No-one ever missed their entrance when Ray was in charge, and even the cheekiest of children minded their Ps and Qs backstage.

He was joined by Joan as props mistress for many years, so that between them all backstage aspects of a production were meticulously organised. (Joan's props sometimes included little 'surprises' for the actors – but that's another story.)

Ray and Joan were also active in the community in many unheralded ways; if ever there was a crisis, or someone was in need, they would be there with offers of help, or of food, or of anything else that was needed. Theirs was a wonderful partnership. Our deepest sympathies go to Joan, Susan and Elizabeth

Kate Britten

ROGUES - Royal Oak Golf Society

When we played Wildernesse on September 18th, the sun shone, the air was fresh, a gentle breeze cooled the brow – in other words, perfect golfing weather.

The Club is to be congratulated on keeping the course in good condition, despite the issues that all clubs have faced with weather conditions and new regulations regarding the chemical treatments that are permitted. The greens in particular were in immaculate condition, but far faster than anything that we have played on this season, and difficult

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to read. I don't have the statistics, but I imagine that the challenge presented by putting on these greens accounts for the relatively low scoring.

Bob Bevan showed that class will out, winning the competition and the Presidents Cup, with a score of 32. Stuart McFarlane was second, with 31, and Dave Crittenden third, with 30.

Our final autumn fixture is at the Woldingham Golf Club on Friday October 16th.

A reminder that the Rogues is a very inclusive, friendly group, open to all: men and women, young and old. If you would like to join us please get in touch. The joining fee is only £20 and thereafter you play the courses that we select at a discounted rate.

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

DON'T STOP THE FLOW –

There are a lot of properties in Shoreham parish that border the Darent or the Mill Leat. Each one has riparian rights and obligations towards the watercourse and are assumed to own the land up to the centre of the river unless deeds show otherwise.

Obligations include:

The passage of flow must be allowed without obstruction or pollution.

The river bed and bank, including trees and shrubs growing on the bank, must be maintained. Any debris, natural or otherwise, including litter, even if it did not originate from your land, must be cleared.

Ensure that the watercourse or bank is not used for the disposal of garden or any other waste.

Keep the bank clear of any debris or loose material that could cause an obstruction, either at that point or further downstream.

Environment Agency

SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council continues to hold its monthly Parish Council meetings via Zoom. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th October following a planning meeting at 7.30 pm. Details of how to join the meeting will be included on the agenda, which will be published nearer the time.

Amongst other things, we hope to give an update on the proposed broadband upgrade as well as the plan to use CCTV in an effort to help reduce fly tipping. Hopefully there will also be some news to share regarding the footpath from the station in to the village.

In addition to this, we are pleased to announce that our proposal to reduce the speed limit on the A225 was met positively at the recent meeting of the Joint Transportation Board and the next steps will involve meeting with both KCC and SDC to discuss the details of how and when this could be implemented.



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I would like to thank everyone who has purchased an annual tennis membership. The new system appears to be working well and it is great to see the court being booked and used so frequently. If you have not yet purchased a card and would like details of how to do so, then please contact me using the details below. The court will remain open throughout the year so you don't just have to play in the summer!

As we move into autumn, we are hoping that we will not see another lock down in our area but we do not know what the next few months may bring. I would therefore like to remind all residents that in the event of further restrictions coming into force, the volunteer service, which was so well used back in the spring, will continue to operate so if you find yourself in need of any assistance with shopping/prescription collections etc., then please do call one of the volunteers on the list you received earlier in the year. If you have mislaid this leaflet and would like the contact details of your local volunteer, then please let me know.

Finally, on a more sombre note, evidence has once again been found of illegal hunting and poaching on the fields around the Cross. This is private farmland and the landowner has not given permission for this kind of activity to take place. Therefore, if you witness such activity or notice evidence of these activities having taken place, then please contact Police Sergeant 10753 Darren Walshaw of the Rural Task Force on 07870252185 or 01795 433021 or email him at 10753@Kent.police.uk Stay safe *Sarah Moon,*
Parish Clerk 07912 611048, clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

FLU VACCINATIONS –

This year our Flu clinics are running very differently. We will be inviting eligible patients to allocated slots by letter. These are being done in order of need. For example high risk and those asked to "shield" first, followed by other patients with risk factors, and then other eligible patients. We will be issuing these letters when we have the 'flu vaccination in stock due to concerns about availability and delivery. Provisional dates for the clinics are Saturday 3rd October and Saturday 17th October. These will be held at Otford Village Hall to aid with social distancing.

We will be inviting more patients to more clinics at later dates, subject to vaccine delivery and availability. Because we are trying to do the vaccinations in order of priority, meaning those most at risk are vaccinated as early in the season as we can, we ask that you make every effort to attend your allocated session. You will be able to rearrange but only after all the allocated vaccination slots have been completed which could mean a significant delay to your vaccination.

Due to potential supply problems we cannot guarantee vaccine availability later on in the year. Please do not ask our receptionists to book appointments as they are not able to. This takes up their time and the phone lines for other people trying to call. As always, local pharmacies are booking 'flu vaccinations for free for those who are eligible.

Alaistair Boobyer PPG



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BADGERS!

The West Kent Badger Group is a voluntary organisation which provides support to local badgers. We are so pleased that many Shoreham residents are members. If you would like to know more or would like join the group, just send me an email to westkentbadgergroup@yahoo.co.uk

One of the current projects is a sett survey where we are attempting to include known active badger setts on a data base. This helps us when there are concerns regarding possible wildlife crimes and where someone is applying to develop an area.

If you are on a walk and you come across a badger sett, we would be very grateful if you would contact our project coordinator, Kathie Foster. If you email Kathie on kathie.thefosters@gmail.com, she can send you the online form where you can add the details for her to log.

I would like to thank the band of volunteers, led by Jo Winsor, who have been topping up the water bowls (and boat!) on the terrace and in the valley over the summer. These have been a lifeline for badgers and other wild animals during the sustained periods of dry weather.

Sheila Birkin Chairman West Kent Badger Group

DIARY OF A FARMER AGED 89 ¾

THE COWSHED

Cowsheds have virtually disappeared today with cows in much bigger numbers housed in littered yards. Oxbourne cowshed was built in 1943 because Hitler didn't like the look of the old one and knocked it down with most of the other buildings with a 500kg bomb.

The centre walk in the shed was wide enough to take a small tractor and trailer between two rows of cows to feed silage or mangolds or cabbage. The cows were let out for an hour a day for exercise during the winter. In the summer they came in twice a day to be milked. The cows knew their places in the shed and the cowman would tie them up as they ate their concentrates in the manger in front of them. In front of each cow was a blackboard with her name and any information that needed to be recorded such as milk yield and her rations. The cows were British Friesians giving 1000 gallons per 305 days.

The milk was cooled and put in ten gallon churns which were collected each day and a fresh supply of churns were left for the following day. We had a herd of twenty to thirty cows up to the end of the 1940's but by the end of the 50s the milk round was sold and we changed to buying beef calves which we reared in the now redundant cow shed.

Frank Hitchcock

(Many of you will know that I live in this cow shed - Ann Ball - Editor)

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THE SHOREHAM SOCIETY

‘Unsettled’ seems to be a good word for these strange times! The dreaded virus seems to haunt us and determine many aspects of what should be our everyday life. The weather changes from a threatening autumnal chill to an almost tropical, hot and humid. But some things do continue as before. The Shoreham Society continues its efforts to preserve and enhance what is best in the area for both the current and future inhabitants.

On the 30th September you might see/have seen volunteers working with the NW Kent Countryside Partnership and the Darent River Preservation Society (DRiPS) to clear trees and vegetation from a tributary of the River Darent, near Home Farm.

Less practical, but no less important is the work done on planning issues. There has been a notable success just recently, whereby an illegal housing development on green belt land has been issued with an enforcement notice by SDC. It takes quite a time for the council to get to this stage, and the battle isn’t over yet, as an appeal is likely.

Looking to the future, the Government’s White Paper on planning proposes to make fundamental changes to planning policy. It will make it much easier for developers to build on land without the current protections in terms of local consultation and appeals. The government has also announced that the existing massive targets for housebuilding in Sevenoaks District are to be increased still further – although 93% of SDC’s area is Green Belt.

Whilst Shoreham itself may be secure because it is mostly covered by a Conservation Area and is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), unfettered development of the surrounding area will not be good news for the Village and the Darent Valley. So, we will be contributing to consultations where we can and will keep people informed of what is happening. We’d urge everyone to respond to the government consultation to express your concerns – just google “Planning for the Future”.

We’ve finally scheduled our AGM – it will take place on Zoom on Friday 27th November. William Alexander of Castle Farm, our Vice-President, will talk about the past farming year, which has been tough, thanks to the weather, and about the wider agricultural industry and its current issues.

As always, we wish to represent our whole community, so if you have any ideas of things to do for the community, do get in touch. If you aren’t a member already, please email Jenny Walkling, whose email is jenny.walkling@btinternet.com. It costs only £5 per household per year, or £3 for one person. *Chris Euman Co-chair, Shoreham Society*

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New Wine & Gift Shop at the Mount Vineyard

The Mount Vineyard is incredibly pleased to announce the opening of our new shop on site called Ten Acres. During the period of lockdown, work was carried out converting an old tractor shed into a new retail unit selling our own range of wines to take away, as well as tasty nibbles & local spirits. We've also sourced fabulous locally produced gifts including pottery from Whitstable, Chevening estate honey & beeswax candles, soaps & hand creams from Ightham, aromatherapy candles from Brasted & dolls from Dartford.

The name of the shop derives from the amount of acreage originally planted with vines on the estate. Although we are therefore a boutique vineyard in terms of grape growing, we have a fantastic seven varieties here which means we are able to produce a great range of six different still & sparkling wines, all in good stock ready for drinking on site or to take away.

The bar and restaurant continues to be open all year round with stone baked pizzas, cheese boards, coffees and of course wine available Wednesday to Sunday from 11am. The shop mirrors these days of business, with slightly earlier closing times: from 11 until 6pm Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday – with an extra bonus hour until 7pm on Fridays & Saturdays. Managed by Lizzie Buxton, whom many will know from the village, Lizzie and her team will very much look forward to welcoming you in for a browse. Do pop up and see them if you're looking for a gift or treat for yourself (or even just a posh box of chocolates last minute!) – Christmas will certainly be sorted with our range of fabulous items for all ages as we continue to expand our product lines from local distillers, producers & artisans.

We even have an option to buy from your armchair, dining table or bed ahead of visiting so your gifts, wine or nibbles are packaged up and ready for collection – to take advantage of this service visit the following website <https://goodeats.io/TenAcres>

Lizzie Buxton

SUPPORT DURING COVID19

The vast majority of people who needed support at the start of the pandemic in Shoreham were able to rely on their lovely neighbours, or knew who to go to as a result of the flyers that had been put through their letterbox.

I have been part of Sevenoaks Care for Our Community group, which has been working with SDC and local volunteer networks since April. SDC had set up a call centre and online referral service for those who did not know how to get help in their own neighbourhoods. SDC fed those requests through to each parish, and volunteer leads then took responsibility for meeting those requests through the group of kind people who had offered to help.

Thanks to Louise Norris and Sarah Moon for helping to coordinate those requests, and to all of those who have done so much more to help others during this difficult time. Shoreham really came together to meet the challenge.

The SDC scheme is coming to a close at the end of September. With infection rates spiking again and job losses on the rise, support will still be needed. Our local volunteers will still be around to help.

SDC are still there to help too. Their HERO (housing, energy and retraining options) service offers information and guidance on a range of issues including:

- Housing problems
- Saving money on fuel bills
- Debt or mortgage advice
- Welfare benefits
- Retraining and further education options
- Getting back to work
- Starting your own business

Contact them on 01732 227000 or email: hero@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Ann Palmer

NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

We have had a lovely start to the school year with the children really pleased to be back at school after such a long absence. We have enjoyed welcoming the newest members of our school community to Barton Class and getting into the swing of daily life at school once again.

As you can probably imagine, a great deal of thought has been put into preparing to open fully again and our main focus has been on pupil and staff wellbeing. To that end, we decided to launch a whole school project on Shoreham, with all classes learning about the village in which they live and go to school. As you are aware, Shoreham is such a rich example of history, geography, art and music and we thought it was a fitting way to bring our school community back together again after months apart. Each class is learning about famous people from the village as well as studying features and characteristics of the locality. Our classes are all named after significant people – Cameron, Moore, Palmer and Barton and Mildmay. Ann Ball, grandmother of one of our pupils, has delivered a Zoom assembly to the school based on the life of Verney Lovett Cameron and touching on the contributions the others made to our community. We plan to hold a (probably virtual) whole school art exhibition in October so that parents can view the works created throughout our Shoreham project. In normal

circumstances we would have invited members of the community into the school to share their experiences and memories of the village however if you feel you would like to deliver a zoom assembly or email us your memories of the village to office@shoreham.kent.sch.uk we would love to hear from you.

The school has a society called Friends of Shoreham School (FOSS), which serves to create opportunities for members of the school community and their friends to enjoy social events and to raise much needed funds for our small school. Anyone can become a 'Friend' and we invite everyone in Shoreham to consider joining The Giving Machine (a UK cashback charity) which raises money for our school when you shop online. Please register free at www.thegivingmachine.co.uk as a 'giver' and select our school as your chosen charity. You can then access over 2000 top retailers via the Giving Machine website and for every pound you spend online, you will be making money for the school.

We hope to launch other fundraising events as the year progresses and would be delighted with any donations that can be made via bank transfer or cheque to FOSS. This year we are trying to raise funds to improve the Barton Class play area and to resurface our playground – both quite substantial projects. Please contact the school office on 01959 522228 or office@shoreham.kent.sch.uk if you would like to donate. We hope to see you around the village as we all explore it with glee!

Gillian Lovatt-Young Headteacher

SHOREHAM VILLAGE STORES

Our much wider selection of fruit and vegetables is proving extremely popular, as we continue to add new ranges and streamline the layout of the Stores. New fresh meat offerings, a lovely selection of wines from the Mount Vineyard, and our new big bags of sweets for a pound are also doing well. Don't forget that the dozens of useful household items you'd hunt high and low for in Sevenoaks are on your doorstep.

Thank you for all the positive responses we've been getting for our posts on Facebook. We continue to offer free delivery for those who find it harder to come into the shop, and please try our laundry service, which is friendly, reliable and at a reasonable cost. The Post Office is open from 9am to 3.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Raj, Desh, Lorna and Prasanth

HELPING HERA

We would like thank everyone in the village for their help and support during the week that Hera, our new rescue dog (her real name, as it turned out, was on the run. People went out of their way to help and we were very touched by the lovely messages that we received. Thank you very much

Suna, John and George Keates

VILLAGE DIARY

7th October at 7.30pm

Shoreham Parish Council Meeting by Zoom

27th November

Shoreham Society AGM by Zoom -

Speaker William Alexander

SHOREHAM GAZETTE INFORMATION

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TALES FROM THE HILL

Operation Market Garden, a tranquil name for a terrible battle. The aim was to capture the Bridge at Arnhem.

There were many heroes most of them didn't make it. The late Michael Green, of Shoreham Place, gave rare modest accounts of his part in the operation and I very much regret not pushing him further on his memories, however, I do recall him telling me about a rather brave but eccentric officer, I am not sure about his name but I am guessing that it was Captain Piers St Aubyn.

Piers, a modest aristocrat who had a languid deprecating manner of speech, was one of thirty officers commanding five hundred men.

Piers and thirty men were charged with reinforcing the party trying to capture the bridge, which was sixty miles behind enemy lines. Piers and his men had not slept or eaten for two days. In this exhausted state they came across German troops firing down straight into brigade headquarters.

Piers was low on ammunition and very exasperated, so waving his arms furiously and shouting some good old Anglo- Saxon swear words he gathered up his men and made wild dash through the astonished German lines back to a badly damaged house acting as HQ. It was there he came across (as in an episode of Black Adder) his cousin Lord Buckhurst. They engaged in conversation until ordered to take cover. Piers despatched a food foraging party then settled down to read Barchester Towers, reasoning that if he seemed relaxed it would have the same effect on his men. When a private started to run from window to window shouting "I'll get you, you *****" at a German sniper, Piers told him to be quiet, and returned to the reassuring story of Victorian clerical squabbles.

The bombardment of HQ continued but it suddenly stopped to be replaced by a loudspeaker van playing "Teddy Bears Picnic" followed by a female voice telling them to surrender if they wanted to see their wives and sweethearts again.

On the eighth day they were ordered to withdraw. They wrapped their boots in curtains and bits of carpet to deaden the noise to avoid capture.

They reached the river and a Canadian engineer called from a boat 'room for one more' Piers held back to offer another man the place, but a machine gun burst decided the issue and Piers was pulled aboard.

John Bovington and Telegraph obit column.

SHOREHAM AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Shoreham Historical Society have been gifted a painting of the Crown Inn and The Crown Inn visitors book from 1940 to 1949 by Philip Crome; nephew of the land lady Jessie Jefferies. The painting is by her husband Tony Jefferies.

I met Philip at his home at Aylsham Norfolk and he regaled me with information on his life at the Crown as a small five year old child living with his aunt, who was his guardian, during these war years. We look forward to reading that visitors book

Ann Ball

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