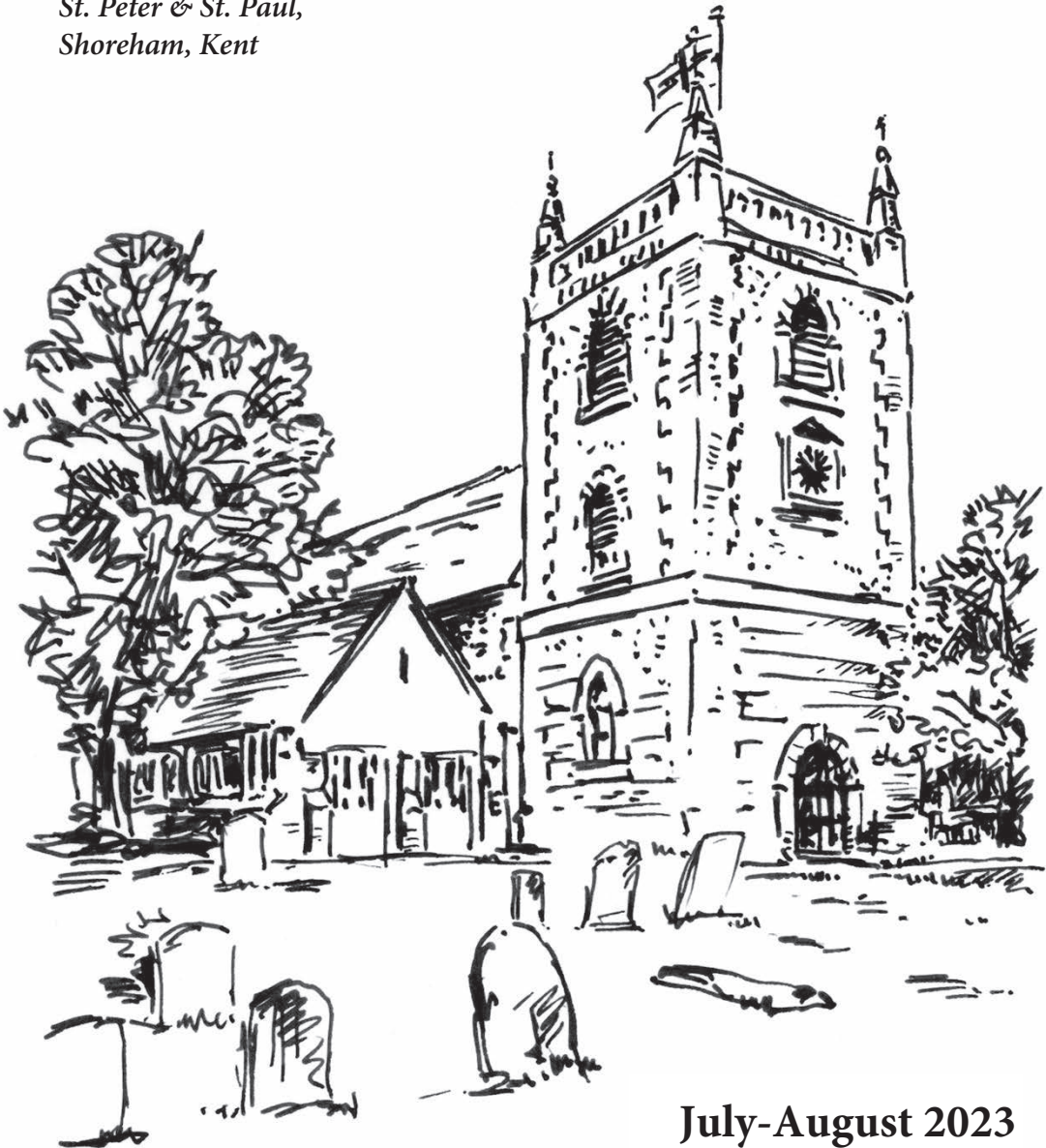


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Amanda Barlow, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at [clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk).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



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**SMALL THINGS**

After a 5-year gap, Alain and I recently returned from France, where we completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of our 1000-mile pilgrimage from Le Puy-en-Velay to Santiago de Compostela in Spain.

In a world bustling with noise and busyness, there is something about the physical act of pausing, of walking in nature, which slows us down, enables us to leave behind the distractions of daily life (or at least, some of them) and is a gentle reminder that small things often possess extraordinary importance.

Seemingly insignificant things can make a huge difference to how we feel, good and bad. There is something about the rhythm of walking, which helps us to notice, to be aware; so that, in some peculiar way, even the challenging things, that we 'hold in our hearts', or the smaller things, like the discomfort of a blister (a good example of how a little thing can become significant!), can become places where we discover hidden blessings and lessons that may otherwise go unnoticed.

Small things often possess beauty that we can easily overlook. The patterns on a butterfly's wing, the petals of a flower, the colours of a dragonfly, or the shape of a leaf - evoke wonder and bring joy, so too small acts of kindness and gestures of love can have a profound impact. A reassuring smile, an encouraging comment, a helping hand to a stranger, a glass of cold water at the end of a long hot walk, even a timely blister plaster or a few minutes of cloud cover ... can bring healing, gratitude and restore hope.

In a tiny seed there is the potential to grow into a tree, providing shade, sustenance, and oxygen. Similarly, a small act of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life, sparking a chain of positivity. Likewise, small acts of faith. A tiny mustard seed, carries the potential for profound growth. In our spiritual journeys, it is often the small acts of prayer, and contemplation that foster deep connections with God. These seemingly insignificant gestures become the foundation upon which we build our spiritual lives, helping us weather storms, find purpose, and experience divine love and guidance.

Small things possess the ability to nurture, inspire, and transform. By appreciating the beauty and significance of the small, we open our hearts to a world filled with possibility and discover the profound impact we too can make, one small act at a time

***Revd Diane***



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### **2nd July - Trinity 4**

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6pm Communion

### **9th July - Trinity 5**

9am Communion (BCP)  
10am Morning Worship

### **16th July - Trinity 6**

10am Morning Worship with Communion

### **23rd July - Trinity 7**

10am Communion with Choir  
6pm Songs of Praise

### **30th July - Trinity 8**

10am Baptism with Communion

### **6th August - Transfiguration**

9am Breakfast@Church  
6pm Communion

### **13th August - Trinity 10**

9am Communion (BCP)  
10am Morning Worship

### **20th August - Trinity 11**

10am Morning Worship with Communion  
4pm Holy Habits

### **27th August - Trinity 12**

10am Communion with Choir

### **3rd September - Trinity 13**

9am Breakfast@Church  
6pm Communion

## **SHOREHAM CHURCH IN THE MEDIA**

[www.shorehamchurchkent.org](http://www.shorehamchurchkent.org)

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## **From the Church Registers**

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Interment of Ashes

Maureen Wood

### **FRIENDS OF SHOREHAM CHURCH**

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Saturday 8th July 2pm - 5pm

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## **HOLY DUSTERS**

This name covers an amazing group of people who meet every 5 weeks in the Church to give it a clean. Our wonderful co-ordinator, Liz Nash, would welcome new members.

The next meeting in the church is on Thursday August 31 at 9am. If you are interested please contact: [diznash14@gmail.com](mailto:diznash14@gmail.com) [I'm told they have a particularly good Christmas lunch!! ] *Ann Ball*

## **OVER 60S**

Wednesday 12th July at 2pm – Garden Strawberry Tea for members

Wednesday 26th July at 2pm - Bees and how to have bee hives.

A talk by Thomas Binstead, a local beekeeper. There will be honey for sale and the usual delicious cakes.

Wednesday 9th August - Strawberry tea. Meet in the car park at 1.45pm

Wednesday 23rd August – Annual Visit to the seaside and this year we are going to Margate.

## **SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council meets on the first Wednesday of the month except in August. The September and January meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month.

The Agenda and supporting papers for the meeting are posted on the website. [www.shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk). *Amanda Barlow* 07912 611048

[clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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## DARENT VALLEY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

The summer so far has been a busy time for DVLPS with many events being run throughout the valley. There is still time to book onto some of the remaining events including a Chalk Grasslands and Views Walk, led by Sarah Newman on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July and Drawing In Pen and Brush Art Workshop led by Victoria Threlfall on the same day. Please go to our website [www.darent-valley.org.uk](http://www.darent-valley.org.uk) for details of how to book.

We have been really pleased with the feedback received regarding our virtual reality film. This was produced by Shoreham artist Fiona Macdonald and follows the River Darent from source to sea and from dawn to dusk. This new immersive experience has been touring the valley in our silver airstream caravan and has been very much enjoyed by the local community. If you haven't had the chance to try it out yet, do come and find us at Sevenoaks Festival, Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve on 1<sup>st</sup> July, Dartford Big Day Out, Dartford Central Park on 15<sup>th</sup> July and Shoreham Heavy Horse Show on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. For more info:

[Virtual Reality Film Project: Stream of Consciousness - Darent Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme \(darent-valley.org.uk\)](http://www.darent-valley.org.uk)

We have also been busy giving out our rail trail packs at our various events. Each pack contains 17 walks of varying lengths, which start and end at a railway station in the Darent Valley, including several in Shoreham. Although the primary objective of these walks is to encourage visitors to come by train in order to explore the countryside, they can still be very much enjoyed by local people. We still have limited packs available (please contact me at [sarah.moon@kentdowns.org.uk](mailto:sarah.moon@kentdowns.org.uk) if you would like one), but we would encourage you to download the Darent Valley Trails app, which is available free of charge on the app store and which contains the full suite of walks as well as several others.

Finally, we are excited to announce that from January 2024 – May 2024 we will be holding a celebratory exhibition at the Kaleidoscope Gallery in Sevenoaks and the Sir Peter Blake Gallery in Dartford. The exhibition will be inspired by Samuel Palmer and his time spent in Shoreham. We are asking artists living in the Darent Valley to respond the theme of 'Visionary Landscape' with new work inspired by the local landscape and Palmer. We will be running artist-led guided trips to the V&A Print Room this summer for artists to see and respond to work by Samuel Palmer first-hand. A Call-Out with more information, including details of the artwork submission date and these visits will be released end of June 2023. For more information contact DVLPS Arts & Communications Manager, [selina.levinsondrake@kentdowns.org.uk](mailto:selina.levinsondrake@kentdowns.org.uk)



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Sunshine bathed Shoreham on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May as hundreds of ducks flocked together on the waters of the River Darent. All shapes and sizes of bird paddled for position whilst restrained by the weir boards at the start. An impressive range of home-crafted ducks lovingly hatched in garden sheds and feathered on kitchen tables were entered. It is always a challenge to judge the BEST DRESSED DUCKS, but eight were honoured with medals and certificates.

A growing throng of duck watchers were entertained by the Quack Jockey, spinning bad yokes and foul puns until the countdown occurred and the race began. Recent rains ensured strong water currents and a sprint start with much hustle and jostle past the flowering beds of ranunculus buttercup. The front runners pushed on into the unusually fast flowing river, passing lines of children egging on their ducks. Some birds proved unfit for the rigours of the race and crept off into the reeds, awaiting help from the Duckmaster and assistants for rescue.

The leaders did not slacken their pace, resulting in the fastest race time since records began. The Quatcher team were on hand to fish out ducks, conveying exhausted contestants to a tarpaulin, ready to be reunited with their trainers. Uncollected orphans are now safely in hibernation until next year's race.

### Race Winners 2023

Gold Medal WINNER	'Tilbury Sue'	trained by	Dave Morgan
Silver Medal Runner-Up	'Bill'	trained by	Noah Reynolds
Bronze Medal Third Place	'Marshmallow'	trained by	Isla Mitchell

### Best Dressed Ducks 2023

'Emil 2'	dressed by	Emilia Bowen
'(Titanic) Ducky'	dressed by	Lydia Farmer
'Mr Tumble'	dressed by	Teddy
'HMS Esmae Marie'	dressed by	Clare-Marie Marsh
'Daisy Duck'	dressed by	Adelaide Alexander
'Nala of North Macedonia'	dressed by	Nala Birkin
'Queen Duck'	dressed by	Jacob Esterhuyse
'Duckovision Song Contest' (Riverpool 2023)	dressed by	Miles & Imogen McClaren

### **A Ducktastic Result...**

This year's race resulted in over £1,300 being raised. These funds are being ducknated to Shoreham School and appropriately, DRiPS - the Darent River Preservation Society.

Thanks go to everyone, who contributed to the success of this year's Race.

*The Duckmaster*



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## **SHOREHAM SOCIETY**

June was our month for walks and what great experiences they both were! William led our walk around Castle Farm and this was fascinating. We now know the advantages of winter over spring wheat, why flax might replace oilseed rape and where the hops will be on June 21<sup>st</sup>! All this was followed by tea and cake in the filming barn – with many thanks to Caroline, and William, of course!

This was followed by a very hot walk to Magpie Bottom with Mark Gallant. Although we were primarily looking at wildflowers, Mark's enthusiasm and breadth of knowledge taught us far more about the entire landscape. There is another chance to hear Mark speak at the event below.

The Quadrangle Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August

This is a free event for members, but anyone wishing to join the Shoreham Society on the day can sign up or pay £5 as a guest. We meet at midday for a guided tour, followed by a picnic in the lovely grounds. Bring your own picnic! This is followed by a talk by Mark Gallant of the North West Countryside Partnership at 2pm (see above and watch for posters). Those not up to the talk might enjoy exploring the wonderful Forest Garden.

It has been great to have new members joining us for our events and more are always welcome: shorehamsociety@gmail.com      *Chris Euman and John Saynor Co-chairs*

## **SHOREHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

At our May meeting, James Dickinson gave a stirring, illustrated talk on the changing fortunes of the Cinque Ports. After the Norman Conquest, the fortified towns of Sandwich, Dover, Hythe, Romney and Hastings were given tax exemptions in return for their maritime expertise and intelligence-gathering. Later, most of their harbours silted up and they became more associated with violence and smuggling. The honorary role of Warden of the Cinque Ports still exists and is currently waiting to be filled by the Crown.

Following the talk on the Cinque Ports Society members had a very successful coach trip to Sandwich on 15 June. The weather was splendid as we toured the town's medieval sights in the hands of local guides, who reminded us of its glory days as a major port when the sea came right up close to its streets.

The next meeting of the Historical Society will be on 15<sup>th</sup> September when Nick White will talk about The Four Battles of Sevenoaks.      *Lynda Allesson*

## **JOAN PAYNE**

Joan Payne died on January 1st 2023. She was a remarkable human being with many interests and passions. Brought up in Bromley, Joan and her husband, Derek, moved to Myrtle Cottage in Shoreham where they brought up their children, Gideon and Daisy. They were a sociable couple who loved spending time with friends and neighbours. Joan

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joined the Young Wives group and would encourage participation in a range of activities from playing tennis to enjoying a tippie at the local pubs. Derek and Joan became members of Shoreham Players - Derek with lighting and sound and Joan painting or sculpting amazing sets. With Steve Birkin and Sue Archer they ran a maverick youth club at the village hall for many years. The alumni from this legendary youth club include many members of the current Shoreham establishment.

The Paynes moved to White Hill Farm in 1977. Joan was in her element, living in a farmstead with her menagerie, surrounded by wildlife. She worked tirelessly for the local traveller population, pioneering a school for traveller children at Otford and assisting with countless problems... The teachers were as passionate as she was in teaching the three R's to this mobile and deprived section of society. Joan was awarded an MBE for this work. Joan joined the guiding community, running Shoreham guides, a brownie pack and then the Trefoil Guild. She loved the camaraderie, the walking adventures and the opportunities which guiding opened to young women.

Always wanting to help people, Joan assisted with lunches for senior citizens at Woodlands Church Kemsing well into her 70s, she took on the Shoreham Over 60s group, organising exciting programmes which everyone enjoyed. Throughout her life, Joan's deep love for nature, domestic animals and wildlife was a continuing theme. Dogs and cats were constant companions. In addition, she had hens, geese, ducks, peacocks, and a pig called Pearl and the occasional goat on the hill with her. A piece about Joan would not be complete without mentioning her humour and her forthright character. She loved a good bit of local news and would always bemoan the fact that living on the hill she missed out on village gossip.

She became more tolerant in her old age and would laugh that it took all sorts to make up the Shoreham community. Anyone who met Joan could not help but be in awe of her humanity, her wit and compassion. She was so proud of her family and she was such a loyal friend. She is missed.

*Sheila Birkin*



## **THE NIGHT SHIFT**

The UK is home to over 2,500 species of moths. They grace our skies with a diverse palette of shapes, sizes, and colours. Unlike their butterfly relatives, most species of moth are primarily active during the night and have evolved adaptations such as sensitive antennae which guide them through the darkness, detecting subtle chemical signals that lead them to nectar and mates. The flowers of some plants open and become more fragrant in the evening, luring in the moths. These flowers also tend to have pale hues to reflect the moonlight and be easily seen by a range of nocturnal pollinators. To distinguish a moth from a butterfly, focus on the shape of the antennae - most butterflies have club-shaped antennae with a little delicate ball at the end whilst moths' are usually feathery, saw-shaped or taper to a fine point. If you find yourself too far away to admire the intricate details of their antennae, fear not! Look at their wings - most moths rest with their wings flat and outstretched in peaceful repose, whilst most butterflies fold their wings upright with elegance and grace. Often camouflaged to perfection, many moth species blend seamlessly with their environment,

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their patterns mirroring the intricate details of tree bark, leaves, twigs or lichen – keeping them hidden from prying eyes.

The lifespan of moths varies greatly between species. Some flutter through existence for mere days while others fly the night skies for months. Regardless of their lifespan, moths play a vital role as pollinators, weaving together the delicate threads of the ecosystem. *Andrea Gilpin [andrea@cfga.org.uk](mailto:andrea@cfga.org.uk) [www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk](http://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk)*

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### **Food and Drink**

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Silent Disco Smudgies Gelato – <https://www.facebook.com/smudgiesgelato>

The Deli Truck – [The Deli Truck | The tastiest, homemade, sustainable streetfood in the UK](#)

Supported by Shoreham Parish Council Sound system by Creative Hertz  
[www.facebook.com/creative.hertz](https://www.facebook.com/creative.hertz)

*Lou Norris*

## **SHOREHAM WI 1918 – 2023**

Our next WI meeting will be on Tuesday 4 July in the Village Hall. We will be celebrating our 105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (!! ) with some bubbly, a light buffet and a wonderful harpist who plays all sorts of music. Members are invited to arrive at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. New members and visitors will be warmly welcomed – please send any enquiries to [Shoreham@wkwfi.org.uk](mailto:Shoreham@wkwfi.org.uk)

The July Community Coffee Morning will be held on Thursday 13 July in the Village Hall from 10am to 12pm. Delicious home-made cake and a cup of coffee (or tea) for only £2 – come along and enjoy this friendly, popular morning... all welcome. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL NOT BE HOLDING A COFFEE MORNING IN AUGUST, so the next one after 13 July will be on Thursday 14 September.

We will be holding our August WI meeting on Tuesday 1 August – details and venue will be provided to WI members nearer the time

*Shoreham WI*

## NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL, JUNE 2023

I had the pleasure of hosting the Pupil Leadership Team meeting and, as ever, this group of dynamic pupils impressed me with their evaluations of activities completed, and ideas for new projects. They have received positive feedback on the new play equipment and decided that a reminder was needed in assembly to ensure everyone knew the rules for playing with it - which they delivered on Wednesday, demonstrating a natural instinct for public speaking! Their next initiative is to raise funds for our partner school in Chunyu to buy crops, by having a PJ Day (something asked for by many pupils) and also to host another morning or afternoon tea event at school for the village 'Over 60s' Club.

Recently, we welcomed three headteachers from local schools, with whom we are working on the Kent Inclusion Leadership Programme. This provides each one of our schools with the opportunity to reflect on our inclusive provision and focus on an area we wish to improve on to support the learning of all pupils and especially those with Special Educational Needs. The visiting heads reported back to us on their findings and we will now provide training for our staff on areas to improve. Our current focus is on the transference of learning from smaller groups or during class input, to successful independent learning. The staff team are excited to be involved in this research and how it will impact all our learners, as well as refining what we do here at Shoreham Village School.

The children have been busy decorating some lovely cards to mark 75 years of service which will be celebrated on 5th July 2023. The NHS will be celebrating this milestone by showcasing the best of the NHS and encouraging as many of you as possible to join them with NHS 75 activities.

Our Year 3/4 Kwik Cricket team participated in a Tournament at The Vine Cricket Ground in Sevenoaks. Our team of 10 players, played three matches and one friendly match. Many of the matches being very closely fought despite some teams having players who play in local cricket clubs outside school and our team being a purely school team. They showed great sportsmanship and excellent teamwork. There was some excellent batting, bowling and fielding and as the matches progressed the team became more confident in getting runs at any opportunity. We were very proud of their fifth place.

If you would like to support the school, we are always happy to hear from people who would be interested in volunteering to work with the pupils, to hear readers or run a club. If you would like to find out more, please contact me via the school office; all volunteers are subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service Check with the police and go through an induction and training programme.

*Gillian Lovatt-Young Headteacher*

## **NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

I have edited 80 Gazettes since I took over in September 2014. In that issue John Lyons, churchwarden, reported that the church path is being widened and relayed. The Friends of Shoreham Church took on this project to help with the cost. Shoreham RBL mounted WW 1 Exhibition and “Lights Out” in the Church. Shoreham Village Players performed “Shoreham does Shakespeare” all around the village. Happy Memories!!

*Ann Ball BEM*

## **TALES FROM THE HILL**

What a Spring it was for cowslips ‘the upper class primrose.’ The winter was particularly cruel as the thermometer dropped to -11c for just two nights, long enough to do away with so many of our garden plants and shrubs, but maybe the cowslips benefited from that temperature shock.

When we first moved to Rose Cottage in 1964 the land was rented to one Alfred Mersh from the Dunsany Estate. Alf scratched a living from his smallholding in East Hill and a few cows in Magpie Bottom, it was a hard life, he lived on turkey eggs and the occasional donated fruit cake.

What Alf missed in wealth was compensated by numerous relations from South London who regarded Alf as ‘landed gentry.’ They would descend on Alf in numbers especially on high days and holidays, camping out in the fields armed with numerous shotguns and a dozen or so ferrets to help keep the rabbit population under control. In return for a week in the country they would clear scrub and hawthorns not always in the conventional method with saws and axes, but by blowing up larger trees with the aid of a stick of dynamite.

It was on one of those visitations I observed from our kitchen window a gathering of the clan, and in particular a rather dapper gentleman, his grey flannel trousers perfectly pressed, his regimental badge glinting on his blazer breast pocket, his hair perfectly Brylcreemed and parted, he also sported the thinnest pencil line moustache. I also noticed a slight stagger in his gait, he was clutching a very large bunch of cowslips He made his uncertain way to the top the grassy bank gathering more cowslips. After a while he laid down and fell asleep. Sometime passed, he attempted to stand but he fell and started to roll down the steep bank .He arrived at the bottom still clutching his now crushed cowslips and there he spent the rest of the afternoon in quiet repose.

I never got the recipe, but cowslip wine must pack a punch!

*John Bovington*

## **CITIZENS ADVICE**

We are helping an increasing number of clients who are finding it hard to make ends meet. If you are having trouble paying for essentials – Council Tax, rent, gas and electricity – do get in touch. We can check whether you are receiving the financial help

government is targeting on certain groups, or help you to access other emergency funds and ways of reducing energy bills.

You can ring us on the freephone number 0808 278 7810 (10am-3pm, Monday-Friday – be prepared to hang on, as we are getting a hugely increased number of calls) or

Email [advice@nwkent.cab.org.uk](mailto:advice@nwkent.cab.org.uk). There is also extensive up-to-date information on many other issues on the Citizens Advice public website [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk).

## **SHOREHAM VILLAGE DIARY FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2023**

### **JULY**

Tuesday 4	Shoreham Women's Institute	Village Hall	7pm
Wednesday 12	Over 60s Members Garden Party		
Thursday 13	Shoreham Community Coffee	Village Hall	10 to 12 noon
Saturday 15	Stay Wild Festival on Recreation Ground		12 noon till 10.30pm
Wednesday 26	Over 60s meeting in the Hall at 2pm - Honey talk		

### **AUGUST**

Wednesday 9	Over 60s - Members Garden Party		
Wednesday 23	Over 60s - Outing to the seaside		
Thursday 24	Shoreham Society to the Quadrangle		

## **SHOREHAM GAZETTE INFORMATION**

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### **GAZETTE COPY**

Copy for the **SEPTEMBER** should be sent to [shorehamgazette@gmail.com](mailto:shorehamgazette@gmail.com) by **20 AUGUST** as a word attachment in Times New Roman 10 and single spacing.

### **Our Printer is:-**

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01732 358815 [www.lakesideprinting.co.uk](http://www.lakesideprinting.co.uk)

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MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: DEAD RECKONING PT.1

OKLAHOMA! 16<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup> JUL

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ANDRÉ RIEU MAASTRICHT CONCERT 26<sup>TH</sup> & 27<sup>TH</sup> AUG

MATTHEW BOURNE'S SWAN LAKE 13<sup>TH</sup> SEP

## WHAT'S ON STAGE

CHORAL CONCERT - VERDI'S REQUIEM 1<sup>ST</sup> JUL  
OUTSIDETHE BOX COMEDY CLUB -  
CHRIS McCAUSLAND, JEN BRISTER & JACK SKIPPER

13<sup>TH</sup> JUL

STAG YOUTH THEATRE - FILM IN A WEEK

24<sup>TH</sup> & 31<sup>ST</sup> JUL

OUTSIDE THE BOX COMEDY CLUB -

SARA PASCOE 7<sup>TH</sup> SEP

SWINGIN' ON A STAR 8<sup>TH</sup> SEP

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### SHOREHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS

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

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## Shoreham Pavilion Available for Hire

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



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