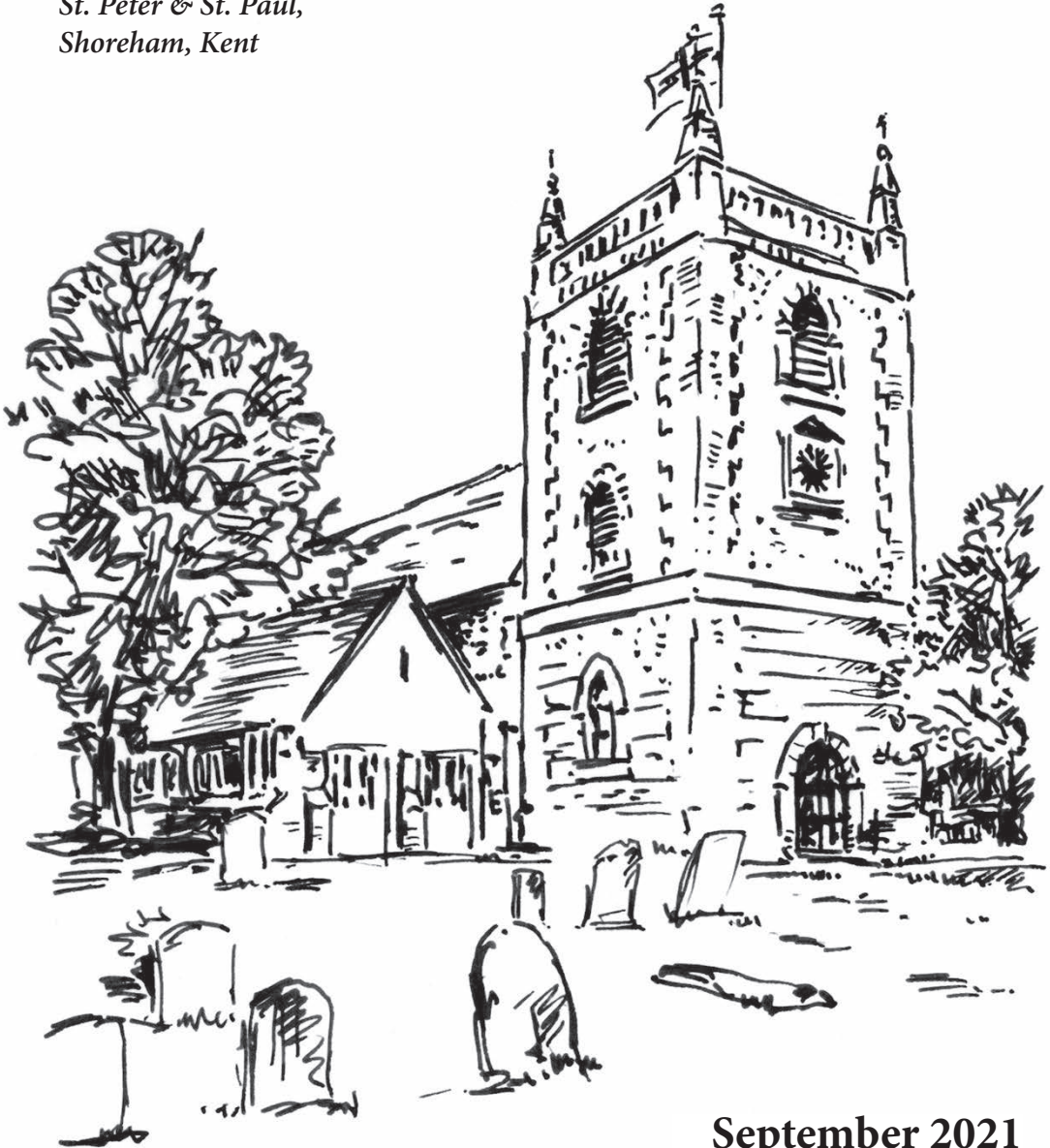


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Sarah Moon, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at [clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk).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

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# **VOLUME 53 SHOREHAM GAZETTE NUMBER 7**

## **SEPTEMBER 2021**

### **SERVICES**

#### **5th September - Trinity 14**

9am Communion in church

10am Sunday worship on Zoom

#### **12th September - Trinity 15**

10am Communion in church

#### **19th September - Trinity 16**

9am Communion in church (BCP)

10am Sunday worship on Zoom

**26th September - Michaelmas** 25th anniversary of Diane's ordination (the Revd. bit!)

10am Sunday Worship in church ending with communion

#### **3rd October - Harvest**

9am Communion in church

**10am HARVEST FESTIVAL** - all welcome - refreshments after

In October we are going to have a series of services focusing on environmental issues, ahead of COP26, the United Nations Climate Change Conference taking place from 1st to 12<sup>th</sup> November

### **SEPTEMBER: PARISH PLANS AND UPDATES**

“My favourite poem is the one that starts, ‘Thirty days hath September’ because it actually tells you something”, so said Groucho Marx.

There are other interesting things to know about September: It is the only month with the same number of letters in its name as the number of the month (ninth/ nine); September (from the Latin septem, seven) was the seventh month of the old Roman calendar; in 1752, it had only 19 days in the UK because of the change from Julian to Gregorian calendar; September marks the beginning of the ecclesiastical year in the Eastern Orthodox Church. It is also the time when new things begin and a bit more ‘oomph’ is put into things that have kept going through the summer months. It is perhaps then a good time to tell you about some of those things, new and old, that are happening at St Peter and St Paul.

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## **MPWAPWA 60 MILES A MONTH**

As many of you are aware, I am trying to walk at least *60 Miles a Month* until my next birthday (1/3/22), a total of 720 miles, to fundraise for our partners and friends in Mpwapwa, Tanzania. I am now half way through the year. My target is £2160 (£3 a mile). Through the *Sponsor Me* page, that I have set up, £1175 (+ about £250 in Gift Aid) has been raised. <https://www.sponsorme.co.uk/dianerees/mpwapwa-60-miles-a-month.aspx> In addition, there has been about £350 in cash donations. Thank you to all those who have sponsored me so far. Now, over to Bryan, one of our two Readers:

### ‘Follow the Maker’s instructions’

How many times have you heard that – from topping up your car engine oil, to changing the blades on a food mixer. In times past you’d get an instruction booklet, today you’re just directed to a website – but one way or the other, the best way to get it right is to follow the maker’s instructions. I’m sure most of us at some time have ignored that advice.... and lived to regret it! I know I have.

During lockdown some of us at the parish church have been getting together on Zoom for an hour or so, once a week, to explore the Maker’s instructions for life, the universe and everything else... no, not the Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy – but the Bible. We looked at the books of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, putting them into context and discovering what relevance they had to our world today.

We watched videos, we talked, we argued even - and as we did, we realised just how much, those ‘Maker’s instructions’, can help us find answers to our questions, doubts and fears about today and, more important, the future... so it was decided to journey on together in the Autumn – learning together, talking, helping each other to make sense of the crazy, mixed up world of which we are a vital part. But this time (Covid willing) we can actually meet as home-groups.

We also agreed that what we had discovered about ourselves could be valuable to others and so we should invite anyone who’d like to join us to do so. There will be an evening group and a daytime group and our hope is that the groups will set their own agendas and what they want to study and discuss.

If you’d like to know more, with no obligation – and by the way, you don’t have to go to church to take part – please contact our other Reader, [bill\\_lattimer@hotmail.com](mailto:bill_lattimer@hotmail.com)

*Bryan Harries*

## **OTHER PLANS**

We are continuing to actively explore and plan for the practicalities of a number of other things over the coming months ... Toddler Group, Community Cafe, Breakfast Church, lunches, crafts ... And ... of course, we persist in our attempts to get WiFi in the church building ... wouldn’t that be a great Christmas present.

If you have other thoughts and ideas or would like to help in any way, please be in touch.

**Rev. Diane Rees**

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## **FRANK HITCHCOCK**

We are very sad to announce that Frank Hitchcock our much-loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, died on 30<sup>th</sup> June. He was able to live at his home in Shoreham for 90 years, with only a few final weeks in hospital. Frank was born at Oxbourne Farm, he attended Shoreham Primary School before going to Sevenoaks School and then to the Kent Farm Institute to learn the family trade.

Frank joined his father and brother to farm Oxbourne, Timberden and Littlehurst Farms for all his working life. He was a member of the Shoreham Village Players, Chairman of the Parish Council, and regularly helped in church as a sidesman. In his retirement he continued to grow fruit and vegetables, maintained his vintage tractors and cared for his beloved Gill before she went into a care home last year.

Some of you may be familiar with his recent contributions to the Gazette and we have a few more pieces, written before he died, that we hope to share.

We would like to extend an invitation to everybody who knew him (Covid guidelines permitting) to come along to Frank's memorial service on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 3.15pm in Shoreham Church and stay for a cup of tea and some cake in the Church afterwards.

We would like to thank everyone who has been in touch for their kind messages of support and condolence as we come to terms with our loss.

*Gill, Sally, James and Jane and all the Hitchcock Family*

## **OUT OF THE DARKNESS AND INTO THE LIGHT.**

We recently had an issue at the church with several light bulbs in the rafters needing replacement. The problem was finding someone to undertake the task. Fortunately Ann Ball came up with a great solution, putting out a call for help on the Shoreham Village Facebook from which came two heroes, Jason Langstaff and Ian Stephenson.

Jason is a long time advertiser in The Gazette, Ian and his family have recently moved to Shoreham having bought Pat Gillingham's house. Both offered their services free of charge and it's good to know that this sort of community spirit is still alive and well. So a huge thank you. Remember if you need an electrician, give Jason a call.

*Kevin Scott (Churchwarden)*

## **THANK YOU**

The PCC wanted to say a rather belated *thank you* to the Topham family, who, in line with Rex's wishes, gave £1000 in his memory, which went towards church repairs. Rex was a longstanding and committed member of the church community. For many years he played an active role on the PCC and cared passionately about the church. On our Patronal Festival, the church was also given a Bible in memory of Rex and his daughter Fiona Topham.

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## **FROM PAT GILLINGHAM**

I am struggling to find the words to say a huge “Thank you” to you all for the great help and support that I have had from you. Not only with my move to Cornwall, but always when I needed it. I can’t write to everyone’s name down (so many of you). You will know who I mean. Thank you for all the lovely cards, messages, phone calls and visits I will treasure them all. I have had many happy years in Shoreham and I will never forget them. I am beginning to settle down here with my dear sister, husband and family who are taking great care of me. With my heartfelt thanks to you all

Love and very best *wishes*

*Pat Gillingham*

## **SHOREHAM OVER 60S**

Our autumn outing is on Monday 27 September by coach to Herne Bay and Whitstable departing at 9.30am. The cost for the coach is £25 and you make your own arrangements at each drop off point. You are most welcome to join us by contacting;-

*Suna Keates on 01959 522824*

## **SHOREHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

With the relaxation of some of the Covid 19 restrictions, the Historical Society propose holding the first post Covid meeting in the Village Hall on Friday 17 September at 8pm when the speaker will be Christoph Bull on the subject “Dickens in Kent”. You may remember the excellent talk he gave to the Society on Kentish Libraries. The Historical Society is planning an extensive new website, full of lots of information about Shoreham past and present - we’ll have more news on that in the weeks ahead.

*Lynda Alleeson*

## **THE WALNUT TREE TRUST:** **REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1182220.**

The Trust was originally set up in 1932 to preserve the picturesque buildings and site at 29 - 33 High Street Shoreham.

As some of you will know from our new Walnut Tree Trust Facebook there have been a lot of changes at The Walnut Tree Trust. We are pleased to announce that Jill Aisher, Jac Corbett, Jonathan Histed and Jen Williams officially joined long-serving Tony Cleford to form a new board in June of this year. The new Trustees are in the process of getting to grips with their role and responsibilities and are working towards agreeing priorities for the immediate as well as the long-term future of the Trust

We’ll be sharing more on this soon, but we would like to confirm the messages that went out earlier this year that the Trustees have decided not to proceed with the plans to lease



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the cottages to a Housing Association, and the tenants have been informed that current tenancies will continue. Work on the planning permission application for the barn has ceased, and you may notice some activity around the site as we start to clear away the weeds from around the outbuildings so we can better assess their physical condition. We'll be sharing our progress on our new Facebook page, so please follow us for more. We are keen to get input from the tenants and the community on how we might develop our future plans.

Due to further changes in the previous board, we have some vacancies and are now seeking to recruit up to three more Trustees - so if you are keen to get involved and have your say, now is your chance! In addition, we are looking to recruit a Clerk to the Board of Trustees. This will be a part-time paid role.

If you are interested in becoming a Trustee or in the Clerk role, private messages via the Walnut Tree Trust Facebook will be most welcome. Or, you can contact Jac Corbett on [Jac\\_WTT@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Jac_WTT@yahoo.co.uk).  
*Jac Corbett*

## **SEVENOAKS LITERARY FESTIVAL**

**25 September to 7 October**

The Literary Festival is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary by welcoming back live audiences for lively evenings of great literary conversations. Events will be held at the new Bat and Ball Centre in Sevenoaks, the Ship Theatre and at the Kippington Centre. We will open on Saturday 25 September with our delicious homemade Literary Tea, when Paula Byrne will be the speaker about the novelist Barbara Pym. She will be interviewed by Jill Webster. Among the other authors will be Dr Rachel Clarke, who has written so movingly about Covid and palliative care, Marina Wheeler talking about her memoir about her family and Partition, and the popular Mel Giedroyc in conversation with Andy Bush. There will also be two online events, a poetry workshop led by Young People's Laureate for London Cecilia Knapp, and a conversation with national newspaper columnist Bryony Gordon on her entertaining guide to mental health.

Booking is open now for all events from [ticketsource.co.uk/sevenoaks-literary-festival-2021](https://ticketsource.co.uk/sevenoaks-literary-festival-2021). Full details of all Festival events are on the website [www.sevlitfest.com](http://www.sevlitfest.com) and on flyers in the Village Stores and Sevenoaks Bookshop.

*Jill Webster and Elie Williams*

## **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.....PAT GILLINGHAM.**

We would like to pay tribute to our dear friend and colleague Pat as she leaves the village for pastures new. She has been a loyal and staunch supporter of The Shoreham Branch for many, many years. She joined, way back, in the 1970s and since then has held most official 'posts' within The Branch.....starting as a member, then joining the Committee where she has been Chairman, Treasurer and Standard Bearer. As our Standard Bearer, she has represented The Branch at so many events....the highlights being The Festival of Remembrance at The Royal Albert Hall and The Royal Tournament at Earls Court. Over the years there have been many Parades at various Branches around the County....probably too many for Pat to remember. But we have many fond memories of the long marches.....sometimes in very hot weather....where she, proudly, represented Shoreham Branch. To name a few.....Cranbrook, Paddock Wood, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Orpington and Margate. She took part in the annual Poppy Walk every year....first at County Head Office at Aylesford...walking round and round a field many many times.....which, in her words...could get a little boring! It was then moved to the grounds of Maurice House at Broadstairs (An RBL home for veterans)....and it became a lot more interesting....their gardens being a lot prettier than a field! Within the village....we held coffee mornings and table top sales in her garden. She helped at numerous Village fetes.....made cakes for our cake stalls. There have been so many events that she has taken part in.....too many to list here! But two deserve a special mention. One being our 'Shoreham does Strictly come dancing' where she was out there on the floor dancing away....rivalling the professionals! The other was a very, very, poignant moment at our Centenary Concert in 2018 where she read 'In Flanders Fields' on stage with young Imogen Maclaren. It was a very emotional moment which, I know, bought a tear to the eye of many people. We can't thank Pat enough for everything she's done....we are so very proud of her. Her support for The Branch has been second to none and we thank her for everything over the years. We wish her good luck and happiness in her new home in Cornwall and we are very pleased to say that she is going to remain a member of The Branch and she will carry on being our Vice President. Good luck, Pat, we will miss you.

*Lorna Robinson on behalf of Shoreham RBL*

## **SHOREHAM VILLAGE STORES**

It's just over a year since Raj took charge of the Stores, and we're grateful for all the hard work he and the team have put in during that time. There have been a number of improvements – more ranges, new chiller cabinets, a big re-shelving, coffee, and lots more fruit and veg – all while keeping safe during the pandemic. The shop is now open from 8am to 8pm seven days a week.

Raj is still trying to sell his other shop in Hoo and looks forward to enjoying more time with the “nice people, and peace and quiet” of Shoreham. Congratulations to him and his wife on the arrival of their third child, a baby girl called Aadhira.

*The Shoreham Shop Partners*

# THE SHOREHAM HORTICULTURAL AND COTTAGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY AUTUMN SHOW

## Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September in the Village Hall

Schedules are available from the Shoreham Village Stores. Show what you can grow (or make, bake or pickle)

Staging from 10am to 12pm

Doors open for viewing with tea and cakes at 2pm and the prize giving is at 3.15pm

Please email [shorehamhortsoc@gmail.com](mailto:shorehamhortsoc@gmail.com) for guidance of how to join in.

If you have grown a plant(s) or vegetable(s) which you are pleased with please share it with us and you will be most welcome.

*Jasper Dale*

## FOSS TOUGH MUDDER CHALLENGE!

We're changing our fundraising up a bit this crazy year by entering the South London Tough Mudder on 19<sup>th</sup> September ... A 5k run combined with 13 challenging obstacles such as The Gauntlet, Hydrophobia and Mudderhorn... the names alone have enough to instill fear in the hearts of us all!

Nevertheless, 17 brave ladies and one devoted son have committed to take part in this daring feat, and now we're asking for your support. Our aim is to raise £2,500 for new IT resources for the benefit all of the children at Shoreham Village School. We hope the money we raise will fund the purchase of additional Kindles, charging stations and additional licenses for all the fab new learning apps the school uses, and more.

Training is well underway (we're all running, practicing our press ups and are often to be seen scaling the nets and swinging from the monkey bars at one of the local parks!), but the support of our local community will give us a much needed boost ... those monkey bars are tough!

As you can imagine this is a daunting challenge for many of us, and we'd really appreciate encouragement from the whole community to make this an event that we can be proud of.

This may be our only large fundraiser this coming year so please, if you can, dig deep and help us to enrich our children's education by supporting our lovely school.

Go to [justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) and search for FOSS Tough Mudder or type:

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/foss-tough-mudder?utm\\_term=me8ne8aVa](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/foss-tough-mudder?utm_term=me8ne8aVa)

Thank you,

*Nicola (FoSS Chair and terrified Tough Mudder) and team!*



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## SHOREHAM WOMENS INSTITUTE

I'm pleased to say that after such a long time apart, members finally got together for a wonderful afternoon cream tea hosted by Sue and Malcolm Macfarlane in their beautiful garden. Despite all the rain we've been having the sun actually came out and it was so lovely to see everyone.

Our first proper meeting will be on Tuesday 7 September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when we will be pleased to welcome Shelley Shishton, who will be talking to us about 'Flowers for Therapy'. Shelley will have lots of flowers with her in order to explain about all the benefits so I'm sure it will be an interesting evening.

If anyone would be interested in joining us, please contact me on [vicks306@hotmail.com](mailto:vicks306@hotmail.com) for further information or you can simply come along and to see what we are about without any obligation. Either way you will receive a warm welcome.

Our long awaited Community Coffee Morning will restart on Thursday 9 September 10.00am-12.00pm in the Village Hall. As it is our first one since March 2020, we thought it would be a lovely idea to host it in aid of Macmillan. We will be holding a raffle and there will be donation boxes available for those of you who wish to donate. Needless to say there will be lots of delicious cakes available to tempt you. Please pass the word!

As previously reported, our Defibrillator is now installed at the Village Hall. Training for the use of the Defibrillator and in CPR has been arranged for Wednesday 13 October in the Village Hall – further details of how to book a place and exact timings are yet to be confirmed, but please make a note of the date.

*Mandy Vickers      President Shoreham WI*

## SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

After a short break for the summer, the next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September** at Shoreham Village Hall following a Planning meeting at 7.30pm. Topics up for discussion include the bus service and defibrillator training. Our guest speaker, Rod Shelton, of Otford Parish Council will be giving an update on the progress of projects currently being undertaken by the Darenth Valley Landscape Partnership Scheme including the new Samuel Palmer walking trail and the planned refurbishment of Shoreham station. Updates regarding the proposed District Heat Network and FTTP broadband will be given.

Please come along if you would like to be involved in these discussions. As always, if there are any issues you would like the Parish Council to discuss, please contact the Clerk and request that your idea be added to the agenda. In accordance with local government law, decisions can only be taken in relation to items which have formally been included on the agenda.

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Decoration  
Driveways  
Paving

### Dates for your diary:

The bulky goods freighter has been booked for the following dates over the coming year and will call at Forge Way, Shoreham (9.15 – 9.45) and Well Hill (10.45 – 11.15):

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2022

The Freighter cannot accept white goods, cast iron boilers or baths, long metal poles, building materials, manure, large parts of engines or vehicles or hazardous waste. Hazardous waste now includes items like fluorescent tubes, televisions and computer monitors, batteries, oil tins and filters, paint and paint tins and chemical containers.

These items cannot be accepted on the Saturday Freighter service and must be taken to your nearest Household Waste Recycling Centre. Compostable garden waste cannot be accepted.

Sarah Moon, [clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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### **SHOREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL IN SHOREHAM CHURCH** **FRIDAY 15 OCTOBER and 26 NOVEMBER**

Our very own Music Festival is back this autumn, bringing two lovely concerts of live classical music. Both concerts will be in Shoreham's beautiful, candlelit Church at 7.30pm.

On **Friday 15 October** the Pasqualati Quartet will perform Beethoven op 18 no 6 in B major, followed by Beethoven op 135 in F major (the last of his 16 quartets). The quartet comprises Florence Cooke (violin), Max Mandel (viola), Sophia Prodanova (violin) and Christoph Richter (cello). Husband and wife Christoph and Florence formed this quartet during lockdown with friends Max and Sophia, specialising in playing all 16 of Beethoven's string quartets. Florence and Max last performed in Shoreham in 2019 and we are delighted to welcome them back.

On **Friday 26 November** the Holywell Quartet will treat us to Verdi's String Quartet, his only composition of solely instrumental music with hints of his great operatic scores, followed by Shostakovich's String Quartet No 7 and some early Mozart. The Holywell Quartet is led by Sophie Lockett (violin), with Verity Evenson (cello), Bryony Moorcroft (viola) and Gemma Sharples (violin). Last performing in Shoreham in 2018 with a wonderfully memorable rendition of Borodin's quartet, they had been due to return in 2020, so we are thrilled that they are still able to make it in 2021.

Tickets priced at £15 for adults and £10 for students will be available at [ticketsource.co.uk/shoreham-music-festival](http://ticketsource.co.uk/shoreham-music-festival) and the Village Stores. As usual, included in the ticket price is live jazz after the main concerts for the audience to enjoy, along with a cash bar.

We feel very lucky to attract such highly accomplished musicians to our little village and hope that many of you will come and enjoy what promise to be two very special evenings. The festival is organised by volunteers and is self-funding, so please spread the word among your friends so we can give a really warm welcome to both quartets.

*Vanessa Welsh, Kate Howie, Linda Lattimer, Jane Scott, Jill Webster*

## **SHOREHAM SOCIETY**

As I write this our exhibition ‘Celebrating Shoreham’ is yet to happen. But as you read this, I hope that you will have enjoyed a visit to the Hall over the Bank Holiday weekend to experience some of the best of Shoreham and, perhaps, a sense of the great community in which we live. And, even better, you might be feeling that life is starting to return to normal.

On Facebook you might have heard of the plight of glow-worms. Their numbers are declining and one of the factors in this is the amount of light pollution which they experience. The Shoreham Society is, therefore, delighted to announce that the speaker for our Annual General Meeting will be Hilary Newport. She is Chair of The Countryside Charity Kent, which was formerly known as the Campaign to Protect Rural England, and she will talk on the importance, value and benefits of dark skies for humans and wildlife alike. So the date for your diaries is Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Not to be missed!

It would be great if we could go back to a traditional scheduled bus service for the Village again. At present there seem to be 3 options! There are the scheduled buses which do not come through the Village, but they do stop at the train station. There is the go2 service whereby you can ring up for a bus but you will need to go to a bus stop to catch it. Even with a bus pass this is not free and, I believe, would cost £2.50 for a trip to Sevenoaks. Thirdly, there is a new taxi style service, go2direct, whereby you can ring up and be picked up from your home. This would cost £10 for a trip to Sevenoaks; undoubtedly cheaper than a standard taxi – but still a lot of money. You can follow this up by ringing 01732 463964, or [office@go2now.co.uk](mailto:office@go2now.co.uk)

If you have ideas on how to improve our community, do contact us on: [shorehamsociety@gmail.com](mailto:shorehamsociety@gmail.com)

***Chris Euman***

## **CITIZENS ADVICE**

We are still available to give free, confidential information and advice on any issues - employment, housing, debt, benefits, consumer problems and many more - though ways of accessing help have changed. We have been exceptionally busy this past year, helping more clients than ever before in spite of the problems caused by Covid. Unfortunately we are still not seeing clients face to face, but we are able to arrange telephone appointments, so instead of dropping in you should contact us on our Adviceline, 0808 278 7810, or email [advice@nwkent.cab.org.uk](mailto:advice@nwkent.cab.org.uk).

*Kate Britten*

## **HISTORY NOTES 100 YEARS OF THE WAR MEMORIAL**

In September 1921 the vicar, David Madge, wrote: “With the erection of the inscription stone as an adjunct to the Cross on the Hill, the Shoreham War Memorial now becomes complete.” Today, the limestone monolith by the river has long been known as “the war memorial” in its own right, although when built it was clearly seen as part and parcel of the Cross – hence its famous inscription linking the two. Madge added that the stone “also serves the purpose of a village sign”.

It was the collapse of plans to build a village hall in the summer of 1920 that spurred the monument’s creation. Only £134 had been banked out of £3,000 needed to build a hall, which its proponents wanted to christen The Village Hall War Memorial. But Rev. Madge had stolen some of the project’s thunder by starting work on the Cross, and the hall supporters were forced to throw in the towel, faced with the hall’s “appalling costs”. Their money was handed over to a committee headed by the vicar, which decided to spend it on an endowment fund for the Cross and the creation of a stone by the river – despite a village meeting voting in favour of a lychgate-style memorial on the Recreation Ground next to where the hall would have been.

There are signs that some of the village’s religious non-conformists, who wielded much influence at the time, were less than happy about the vicar taking charge. Two declined to join Rev. Madge’s planners, one arguing that such committees “should be largely composed of working men”. But thanks to people like the artist Harold Copping and the lawyer Roger Gregory, a total of £213 was raised to design and build the stone on land donated by the owner of Water House. It was constructed by a firm from Lambeth.

Since then, many have carefully tended the monument, while others have been less respectful. In the 1950s, words like “monstrous” and “desecration” were used to describe “misuse by the public” of the memorial. The parish council vowed to do “all in its power to get this nuisance stopped” but resolved that fencing the stone off “would serve no useful purpose”. The problem continued until at least 1997, when planters were placed around it and the nuisance-makers became less of a nuisance to this simple and moving tribute to fifty three of Shoreham’s war dead.

*James Saynor*

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## **SUSAN PLATTS – AUCTION OF PAINTINGS**

The Auction and Exhibition of Susan's paintings will take place on Sunday 5th September from 2pm in the Village Hall.

Susan has generously offered all proceeds of the sale be donated to village causes, and the following have been agreed with her.: The Friends of Shoreham Church, Shoreham Village School Shoreham Village Hall and The Shoreham Society. *Nick Walker*

## **TALES FROM THE HILL**

It's not as if I am St Francis of Assisi-far from it-but to have a pair of red legged partridges (Percy and Percy) normally the most skittish of birds, eating out of your hand is unusual. I am afraid that my equally tame pheasant Haughtacious is now dependant on his daily handful of corn. In return he does allow me to stroke him while he eats and makes satisfying contented grunts to show his appreciation.

I am a little concerned about the other avian characters that have moved into Magpie namely (Curan & Cordelia) two thuggish ravenous ravens that block out the sun when they fly overhead. If they ever leave the kingdom of Magpie Bottom I am not going with them, but I think they are fairly settled as they have produced a pair of very silly youngsters that I have not named-- suggestions on a postcard.

I think it is wise to dwell on wildlife we have enjoyed this year rather than what we haven't seen. After a two year gap the cuckoo sang on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May and again on 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. Are those two notes a song? Benjamin Britten and many other composers thought so. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of June two nightingales serenaded us into the night and returned on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

We have seen Muntjac, Red and Roe Deer, rare visitors to Magpie Bottom. Rooks the fun loving hooligans of the sky prosper thanks I believe to farmyard scavenging. Jays, magpies and woodpeckers constantly raid the bird feeders, I can't blame them but peanuts are expensive.

I have always done my best to mow around the orchids that appear on the lawn but this year they have proliferated to the extent that selective mowing is impossible so now we have what you might call a meadowy lawn.

I was hoping to find, in my volume of Gilbert White's Natural History of Selborne a lyrical and romantic observation on nightingales that I could sign off with, but all I could find was a letter he wrote to a friend saying--- "Let me hear from your own observation whether nightingales do not dust. I think they do: and if they do whether they wash also."

I can only think that nightingales were so common in those days that Gilbert found their hygiene arrangements more interesting than their song!

*John Bovington*

## HEAT NETWORK FOR SHOREHAM

The Parish Council has some good news about the Heat Network initiative to replace our oil boilers with a green energy supply: our grant application was submitted on August 13th.

We have a request: Join our mailing list ([greenheatingshoreham@gmail.com](mailto:greenheatingshoreham@gmail.com)) to be kept informed and to contribute directly to the Feasibility Study.

A rigorous selection process identified our preferred consultants to carry out the study: Brighton and Hove Energy Services Co-operative (BHESCo) in partnership with RINA Tech UK Ltd, a large international engineering firm. BHESCo is a not-for-profit social enterprise with considerable experience of working with village communities on sustainable energy projects. Both partners are enthusiastic about working with Shoreham residents to make this project successful. Members of the Parish Council were unanimous in giving the BHESCo/RINA team their full approval.

The Parish Council then had all the information needed to submit the application for £40,000 in government grant funding. Huge thanks go to all of you (more than 100) who have demonstrated your support and interest in the scheme to date. In addition to individuals, we have had commitment from the Primary School, Church, Village Stores and Mount Vineyard. We are now very pleased to have the support of the West Kent Housing Association – they are well placed to contribute to the Feasibility Study as they have helpful experience in upgrading the fabric of their homes in Shoreham.

We are unlikely to hear the outcome of our application for a while yet, possibly in October or November. The study itself will take several months. Input from as many residents as possible will be critical. If it shows potential, a second stage study will be required with another grant (up to £100,000). We're hopeful that the UK hosting the 26<sup>th</sup> UN Climate Change Conference in the autumn will spearhead significant moves towards zero carbon and approval for innovative schemes like ours. The government has already proposed a new grant programme of £300 million to build heat networks.

If you haven't already, please do email us at [greenheatingshoreham@gmail.com](mailto:greenheatingshoreham@gmail.com) so that we can add your name to our contact list and keep you up to date.

*With best wishes from the Heat Network Committee of the Parish Council  
Bill Lattimer, Peter Kasch, Nick Copeman, Sarah Newman, Mike and Heather Sillitoe*

## **SEVENOAKS LIONS HEAVY HORSE AND RURAL CRAFT SHOW**

**SUNDAY 5TH SEPT – SHOREHAM, SEVENOAKS, TN14 7SA**  
**(OPPOSITE THE DARENTH GOLF COURSE)**

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## **SHOREHAM CHURCH IN THE MEDIA**

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

Here you can find copies of the Sunday service sheets and video recordings. Contact details, Make a donation, Information regarding the opening of the Church and the most recent issue of the Gazette.

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

## **DONATIONS**

We were delighted to receive several anonymous donations, together with one from Heather and Mike Sillitoe. We thank you all for your support for the Gazette.

Donations to the Gazette are always welcome and can be sent to The Editor or direct into the Church Account with the your surname and the word "Gazette".

Account Shoreham PCC    Account Number    00193703

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## **VILLAGE DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER**

1	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
5	Heavy Horse and Rural Crafts Show.		
5	Susan Platts picture auction	Village Hall	2pm
7	Women's Institute	Village Hall	7.30pm
8	Over 60s to Ruxley Manor Garden Centre		
9	Macmillan Charity Coffee morning	Village Hall	10am to 12
11	Autumn Horticultural Show	Village Hall	2pm
17	Shoreham Historical Talk	Village Hall	7.30pm
25	Start of Sevenoaks Literary Festival		
27	Over 60s outing to Whitstable and Herne Bay.		

Friday 15 October Shoreham Music Festival in the Church

Friday 26 November Shoreham Music Festival in the Church

## SHOREHAM GAZETTE INFORMATION

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