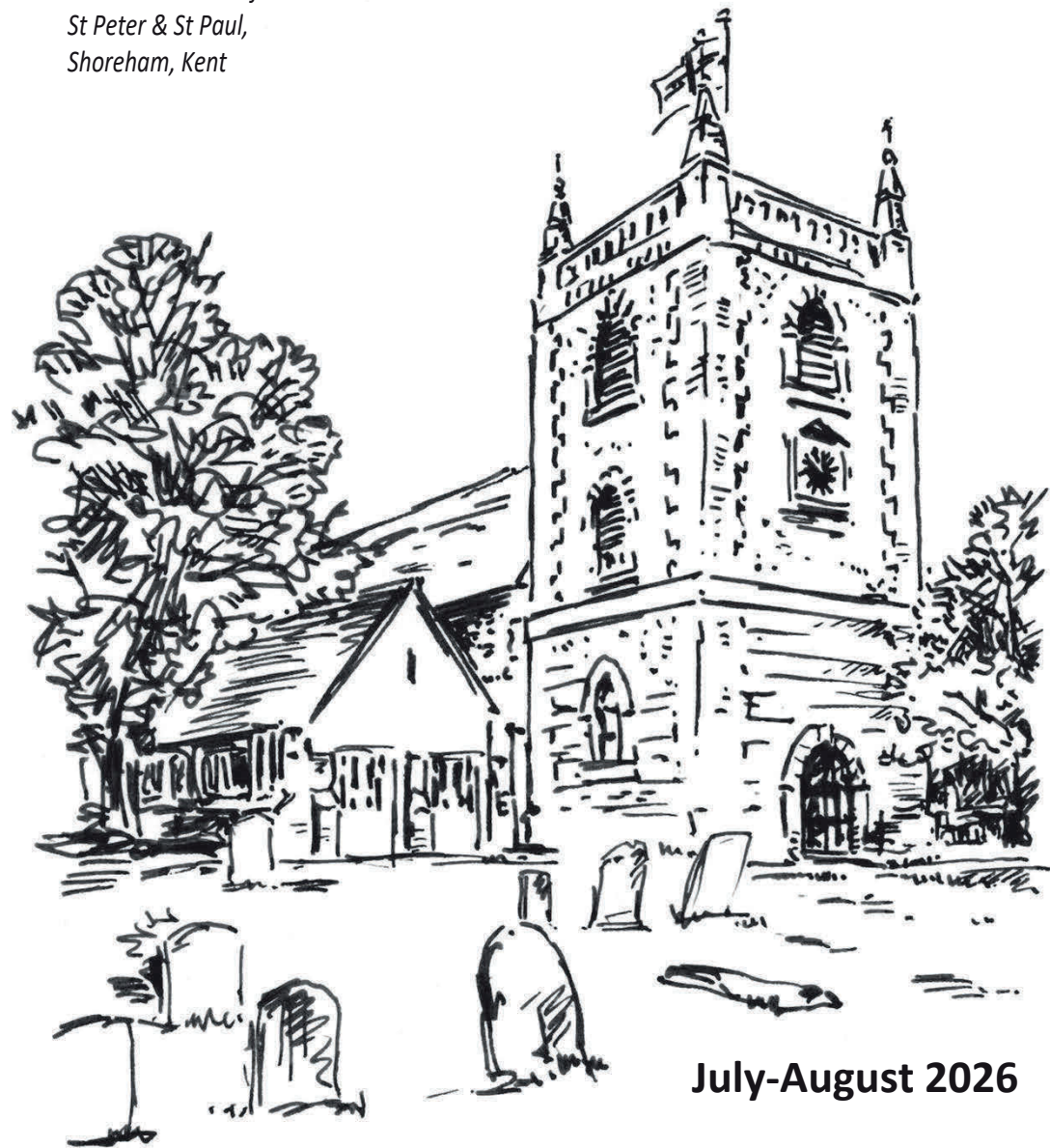


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If you'd like to be on the list either permanently or temporarily, or you know someone who would, then please contact Amanda Barlow, the Parish Clerk on 0791 2611048 or via email at clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk. If you are giving the details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



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High Days and Holidays

As the summer holiday season approaches, many of us look forward to a change of routine. Whether it is a week by the sea, a visit to family, an overseas adventure, or simply a few quieter days at home, holidays offer something precious: the opportunity to step away from the demands of everyday life.

The word “holiday” itself comes from “holy day”. Long before holidays became associated with travel and leisure, high days and holy days were special times set apart for worship, celebration, thanksgiving and rest. They were opportunities to pause, remember God’s goodness, and reconnect with what truly matters.

In our modern world, holidays can sometimes become just as busy as ordinary life. We rush to airports, plan activities, and fill every moment with things to do. Yet beneath our desire for a holiday lies a deeper need: the need to rest, to be refreshed, and to regain perspective. This is something God understands.

From the very beginning of Scripture, rest is presented as a gift. After the work of creation, God rested on the seventh day and blessed it. The commandment to keep the Sabbath was never intended as a restrictive burden but as a reminder that we human beings are not machines. We need time to stop, reflect and be renewed.

With luck, a holiday can therefore become something more than simply a break from work. It can become a holy day in the truest sense - a time when we become more aware of our spiritual side and of God’s presence in our lives. We may encounter Him in the beauty of a coastal sunset, in the grandeur of mountains, in a quiet church visited during our travels, or in the simple pleasure of sharing time with loved ones.

Taking time to be still, say a quiet prayer, attend a local church while away, or simply give thanks for the blessings around us can transform a holiday into an opportunity for spiritual renewal. Such moments remind us that God is not confined to our usual routines. He travels with us wherever we go.

As many in our community prepare for summer journeys, perhaps we might reflect on the connection between holidays and holy days. Both invite us to step aside from the ordinary, to rest, and to rediscover what is most important. Our Patronal Festival on Sunday 28 June and the Parish Picnic in the churchyard afterwards is one such example of a “high day” where we have the opportunity to become closer to each other and closer to God.

May this summer bring not only relaxation and enjoyment, but also moments of grace, gratitude and renewed faith.

Wishing everyone a safe, restful and blessed holiday season.

Johnny Aisher, Churchwarden

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SUMMER SERVICES AT ST PETER AND ST PAUL

Sunday 5th July - Trinity 5

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Sunday 12th July - Trinity 6

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday 19th July - Trinity 7

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00am Service of the Word

Monday 20th July

10.30am-12 noon Messy Church

Sunday 26th July - Trinity 8

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00am Holy Communion with Choir

Sunday 2nd August - Trinity 9

9:00am Breakfast Church 6:00pm Holy Communion

Sunday 9th August - Trinity 10

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00am Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday 16th August - Trinity 11

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00am Service of the Word

Sunday 23rd August - Trinity 12

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00am Holy Communion with Choir

Sunday 30th August - Trinity 13

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10:00am Service of the Word

SHOREHAM WI

Our next WI meeting will be on Tuesday 7 July in the Village Hall, when we will be celebrating Shoreham WI's 108th Birthday!! We are looking forward to welcoming Lindsey Barrell again who will tell us about her experiences with appearing on TV game shows and meeting Ant & Dec! Lindsey is always funny and entertaining. Members are invited to arrive from 7.00pm for drinks before we officially start the evening at 7.30pm. We will also have some light snacks for those who want them. New members and visitors will be warmly welcomed – please send enquiries to Shoreham@wkfwi.org.uk

Our August meeting will be held during the afternoon of Tuesday 4 August in the beautiful garden of one of our members when we will have a delicious cream tea and some fun. Further details will be provided to members nearer the time.

COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNINGS

We will be taking our usual summer break from coffee mornings during July and August, while lots of people are on holiday, so please put the date of the next one in your diaries – Thursday 10 September – and we look forward to seeing you then. Apart from the next two months, these coffee mornings are held on the second Thursday of every month in the Village Hall, from 10.00am until 12.00pm. Everyone is very welcome.

Shoreham WI

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SHOREHAM VILLAGE STORES

We've brightened things up in the shop on gloomy days with some upgraded lighting, and when it's sunny and hot people are appreciating the air-conditioning effect of all the chiller cabinets. Some of the new items in those cabinets: U-Fit Protein Shakes, Brussels Pâté alongside the cheeses, and new Magnums in the ice-cream freezer. Modelo Especial is the latest beer in our drinks area – a brew from Mexico that could go well with the later stages of the World Cup.

If you're on the move this summer, remember that there are all kinds of leads and dongles and converters for your electronic devices by the door next to the Post Office counter. And a reminder of the Post Office hours: 9 to 2.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays (or 9.15 to 2.15 to be on the safe side).

Raj and Venkat

SHOREHAM OVER 60's CLUB

The Over 60's Events in July and August are both visits to the gardens and grounds of local residencies situated on, or just off, the Shoreham Road going towards Otford.

The dates of those visits will be: **22nd July and 26th August. Meet in the Shoreham Car Park at 2.00pm**

Transport to the properties is by shared private cars leaving from Shoreham Car Park.

Help required for Drafting the 2027 Monthly Programme of speakers and events

We are still looking for someone, or even a couple, who would like to join us, as Honorary Members, to help with the Administration task of planning and arranging speakers and events for the 2027 Programme of monthly Meetings.

The task would initially involve meeting with our Committee and planning events, or speakers, for about 8 of the monthly Meetings for 2027. The remaining 4 months are covered by our own membership. We already have some ideas for the forthcoming program. We would like help in preparing the Programme and then in telephoning those individuals, or venues, to collate contact details, timing etc. We hope to have the Programme available by November. If anyone can help us please contact me on 0777 6182789, or by my email.

Terry Clark terryshoreham@gmail.com

CITIZENS ADVICE

We now have a team specifically to deal with issues relating to the cost of living. They can give information about charitable and government grants including one for less well-off households needing heating oil. Look up Citizens Advice in North and West Kent/Get advice/Advice Enquiry form to get in touch, or ring 0208 278 1810 for advice on these or any other issues.

Kate Britten

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Americana. Saturday 4 July, 7.30, St Mary's, Kippington Road, Sevenoaks TN13 2LL

This programme, performed on the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, gathers music from across the American continent. Starting with music composed for the lively liturgy of the Catholic Church in 17th century Mexico, *Missa Ego flos campi* by Juan Gutiérrez de Padilla will be interspersed with improvisations by Teena Lyle, a renowned jazz percussionist who has toured extensively with Van Morrison. After the interval we visit California to hear Morten Lauridsen's *Nocturnes* - a trilogy of songs celebrating love on summer nights. We end our concert wowed with *Leonardo da Vinci dreams of his flying machine*, Eric Whitacre's thrilling ride for choir and percussion. Join us for this adventurous delve into American choral music on this special anniversary.

Tickets £15, (£7 students) from www.ticketsource.co.uk, by phone on 01959 523765, or visit Sevenoaks Bookshop (cash or cheque only).

Kate Britten



39TH SHOREHAM DUCK RACE REPORT

Shoreham's annual fowl race took place on Sunday 10th May. A fine-looking armada of ducks flew in to settle on the water, whilst their owners, trainers and spectators flocked along the river bank. A cheering throng of supporters ready to witness the

occasion lined Shoreham's arched bridge, made famous by Samuel Palmer.

As is traditional, medals and certificates were first awarded to 'Best Dressed Ducks', crafted by children (with a little help from elders, who were once children!). A fine selection of home-bred ducks paraded to cheers provided duckerved recognition. A further round of applause thanked the many who had not been selected, but who had lovingly hand-reared their ducks. This effort and enthusiasm is so important as it makes Shoreham's duck race quite unique. Congratulations to all winners.

The crowd countdown signalled the off. Over 560 ducks swam away down river in a kaleidoscope of colour and shape. Whilst 'water-crowfoot' is very desirable for riverine biodiversity, these verdant areas can be treacherous for an unwary duck with the weed instantly stopping their paddling activity. Overhanging branches and brambles can also ducklay those venturing away from the central currents. This year water levels ensured a 'slow' race, with competitors lingering longer, perhaps to appreciate the slight drizzle.

As usual the Mill Lane grandstands were filled with cheering duck racegoers, who were on hand to witness and cheer 'Minecraft Duck' who bobbed across the finish line first.

A DUCKTASTIC RESULT...

Many, many helpers ensured the smooth running of our unique Shoreham event and thanks go to all who contributed. The Shoreham Society will be ducknating over £1000 to Shoreham Village Hall to assist with their essential roof maintenance and repair.

Race Winners 2026

Gold Medal WINNER	'Minecraft'	trained by	Jaxon
Silver Medal Runner-Up	'Bobby'	trained by	Ruby Kelly
Bronze Medal Third Place	'Tom C'	trained by	Nate Collins

Design Winners 2026 - Best Dressed Ducks

'Honeydew'	dressed by	Ellie & Daphne McDonald
'The Purple Pearl'	dressed by	Flo & Rowan McGonigle
'Ben & Holly's Arc'	dressed by	Teddy
'Lovey 67'	dressed by	Lovey
'Alien Duckling'	dressed by	Ellie Hayes
'Butter duck'	dressed by	Shoreham Pre-School
'Sir David Duck'	dressed by	Nala Birkin
'Ana'	dressed by	Imogen

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SHOREHAM & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY DO JOIN US!

Our summer outing this year is now open for members and guests to book. We will be visiting **Restoration House** in Rochester, so-called because Charles II stayed there before travelling on to London to claim the crown in 1660. The house has a superb collection of furniture and paintings as well as beautiful historic gardens (and a great tearoom). It was Dickens's model for the home of Miss Havisham in *Great Expectations*.

The visit will be on **Friday 17 July** in the afternoon. The cost for a self-guided group tour is £11 per person, and includes a 40-page colour guidebook for each person. Travel is not included, so please make your own arrangements. The house is a short walk uphill from car parks and the station (trains twice hourly from Swanley). Other places of interest in Rochester are the Cathedral, the Castle, and the Huguenot Museum.

If you would like to join this group visit, please contact Jill Webster on 01959 524679 or 07464 305924. Payment must be made in advance.

<https://shorehamkenthistory.weebly.com>

Jill Webster

NEWS FROM SHOREHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL – JUNE 2026

The summer term at school is always a busy one, but it is also absolutely packed with fun and exciting opportunities for the children. There are many trips and enrichment activities taking place, including strawberry picking, visits to Castle Farm, trips around the village and the Year 5/6 residential trip.

We also look forward to our Summer Show – this year, **The Wizard of Oz** – as well as leaving assemblies, sports days, teddy bear picnics, Play and Stay events for our new prospective Barton Class children, our whole-school picnic at the cricket ground, and so much more. What a wonderful term of learning and enrichment the children enjoy!

There have already been some fabulous dance performances at The Stag Theatre's **Chance to Dance** event, where groups of our children performed phenomenally and represented the school with great pride.

The children have also taken part in a range of athletic competitions, demonstrating excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship.

Year 5/6 also had the wonderful opportunity to attend a very special in-person **Finish This...** celebration event. You may remember that last year they were delighted to have their *Finish This...* composition project selected as one of the few pieces chosen to be animated by the English National Opera. The animation and composition can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/vrXv8L0K9Y8>

The celebration brought together schools from across the region to recognise the achievements of young composers. There were two very special surprise guests: Omar Shahryar, composer of *Blue, Red, Yellow*, and Elif Karlidag, composer of *Plant This Seed*. During the day, the children enjoyed live performances of *Blue, Red, Yellow* and *Plant This Seed*, performed by professional musicians from the English National Opera. We also heard excerpts from our class composition and received extremely positive feedback directly from Omar and Elif. Once again, the children



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experienced the thrill of live opera, with professional performers presenting semi-staged opera scenes. It was an inspiring and memorable experience for everyone involved and a fantastic opportunity for our young musicians and composers.

As we move through this exciting final term of the academic year, we are incredibly proud of all that the children have achieved. Their enthusiasm, creativity, resilience and willingness to embrace new experiences continue to shine through in everything they do. We look forward to celebrating many more successes and special memories together over the coming weeks.

While we are excited about what lies ahead, sadly for Shoreham, we will be saying goodbye to Ms Corlett, who will be retiring at the end of the school year. Ms Corlett has been a highly valued member of our school community and we are deeply grateful for the care, energy, and dedication she has shown to all the children during her time at Shoreham. She will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils, and we will all be very sad to see her go. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her commitment and kindness and we wish her every happiness in her retirement — I know you will join me in doing so and remember her in your prayers.

As a small village school, we thrive on the generosity and support of our local community. We are currently seeking volunteers to help in school with activities such as reading or supporting class projects. If you have some time to spare and would like to make a difference in the lives of our pupils, we would love to hear from you. All volunteers will be subject to DBS and safeguarding measures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children.

We still have some limited spaces for pupils available in some year groups, so if you know anyone who is looking for a small friendly school with high standards and lots of lovely outdoor space, please ask them to call us to arrange a tour. Phone: 01959 522228 or email: office@shoreham.kent.sch.uk

Nikki Sheraton, Head Teacher



Over the last couple of months the Village Hall Committee has spent £4,000 replacing the mains water supply. There was a serious leak somewhere between the hall's water meter and the internal stopcock that was uneconomic and impractical to repair. Many thanks to Peter Kasch for masterminding the repair programme, to Keith Skinner for his technical skill in getting the complicated plumbing done, to Andy Whitehead (the Digger Man) and to Harriet Dinnis, of Filston Farm, for lending us, free of charge, the lifting equipment to get the digger in place. There's the additional problem of the Water Company being less than sympathetic to our claim for relief from the £2,000 water bill incurred because of the leak. This remains outstanding as we go to press.

Despite this unexpected expenditure the Committee is pressing ahead with its planned maintenance programme to ensure the fabric of the hall remains in a sound condition.

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Over the summer gutters are being replaced, cladding repaired and painted, and brickwork repointed.

Prudent financial management has meant that the Committee has been able to weather this particular financial storm. It's unlikely it could withstand another of a similar magnitude so please support fund raising events and the hall's wide range of activities, if you can.

Our next fundraising event is a film night planned for 26th September, so please do come along and support this if you can as well as enjoying the regular activities in the Village Hall.

If you want to hire the hall for a party or private function or to book a regular slot visit:- bookings@shorehamvillagehall.co.uk

Website: shorehamvillagehall.co.uk

Mary Gee

SHOREHAM AND OTFORD CRICKET CLUB

Hi everyone, we are enjoying the early part of the season, and the ground is looking great. The new pavilion is up and running with a fully stocked bar with regular barbeques ready and waiting to serve you.

We have made another significant milestone this season, putting out a 4th, yes 4th team. Our men's first 11 are well on their way to retaining their title from last year and the 2nd and 3rd teams are also doing very well.

We have regular home fixtures, hosting ProSOCCos training on Wednesdays, juniors training on Fridays, men's games Saturdays and friendly games on Sunday. There is plenty of cricket to keep you entertained.

We have Jack returning from Australia with his team mate Shannon who are both coaching the Prosocco's this season, and it's looking and feeling fantastic. Our skills are improving as is our confidence. We also have 6 new players this season, word is getting out!!! If you'd like to come and join us, or see what we do, we train on Weds 6-8pm.



Faces of Shoreham and Otford cricket club:

This month we've changed it up a notch and are featuring players from every aspect of the club! And, they're all one family. This is what happens when you join a cricket club. Welcome the Pollard family from Otford!! Here's their story:

If you've spent any time around SOCCS – chances are you've crossed paths with Jenny, Chris, Ben or Grace Pollard. Between them, they represent almost every aspect of club life, from playing and coaching to helping keep the clubhouse running smoothly.

Mum, Jenny, joined the club's first ever ladies' softball team, the ProSOCCos, when it first started in 2024, and has never looked back. What started as an opportunity to try something new has become a real passion. She says one of the biggest highlights has been the camaraderie and friendships she has found through the team.

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"The welcome I received was fantastic," she says. "I've loved learning the game and being part of such a supportive group of women. The social side is brilliant, and I've made some wonderful friends along the way. It's great fun, and I look forward to every training session and match."

It's safe to say the ProSOCCos have become an important part of her life, and she's proud to be part of a team that continues to grow and thrive.

Son, Ben, now 20, has been part of SOCCS since he was a junior player. Having progressed through the club's youth system, he is now Vice Captain of the 1st XI – a role that reflects both his talent and commitment to the club.

Dad, Chris, is another very familiar face around the ground. As well as playing for the club himself, he heads up the junior cricket coaching programme, helping young players develop their skills and, just as importantly, their love of the game.

His dedication sees him spending countless hours organising training sessions, supporting junior matches and ensuring that the next generation of SOCCS cricketers have every opportunity to enjoy and succeed in the sport.

Meanwhile, daughter Grace also plays an important role working behind the bar. Whether it's serving drinks after a match or helping out during club events, she's another key part of the family presence at SOCCS.

From junior coaching and senior cricket to the ProSOCCos and the clubhouse bar, the family embody everything that makes grassroots cricket special: community spirit, friendship, volunteering and a shared love of the game. For the Pollard family, SOCCS is far more than a cricket club – it's a second home.



. Leanne niceynz@gmail.com; Nick nickstroudley@hotmail.co.uk

SHOREHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting, Annual General Meeting and Council Meetings

The Parish Council held its Annual Parish Meeting on 29 April 2026. Thank you to all residents who attended and contributed to the evening.

Cllr Marc Logen of Kent County Council provided an update on County Council matters and answered questions raised by residents. Cllr Jonathan Histed, Chair of the Parish Council, gave a review of the Council's activities and achievements over the past year,

while Cllr Brian Jeffery, Vice Chair, provided an update on the current position regarding the Highways Improvement Plan.

Copies of the speeches and presentations are included within the minutes of the Council meeting held on 6 May 2026.

The Parish Council's Annual General Meeting also took place on 6 May 2026, at which Cllr Jonathan Histed was re-elected as Chair and Cllr Brian Jeffery was re-elected as Vice Chair. The Council meeting on 3 June 2026 took place at the Well Hill Mission Church and Members would like to thank residents for their warm welcome.

Filston Lane Car Park is owned by Kent County Council and leased to Shoreham Parish Council. The Parish Council currently operates the car park under an agreement with KCC, which could be terminated in the future.

The Parish Council is therefore investigating options for the car park in order to safeguard it as a long-term community amenity for Shoreham residents and visitors.

Tennis Club As we move into the summer months, residents are reminded of the Parish Tennis Membership Scheme. Membership costs just £20 per year.

For further details, please contact the Clerk at clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Parish Councillor Vacancies The Parish Council currently has two vacancies for Parish Councillors. If you are interested in supporting your community and helping to shape the future of Shoreham, please contact either Cllr Jonathan Histed or the Clerk for more information. jonathan.histed@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)

Following the completion of the internal audit, Members of the Parish Council agreed and signed the AGAR for 2025/26.

Meeting Information A full pack of information supporting each meeting is available to download from the Council's website. Prior to each Planning Meeting, the Planning Log is also published, providing details of both current and previous planning applications.

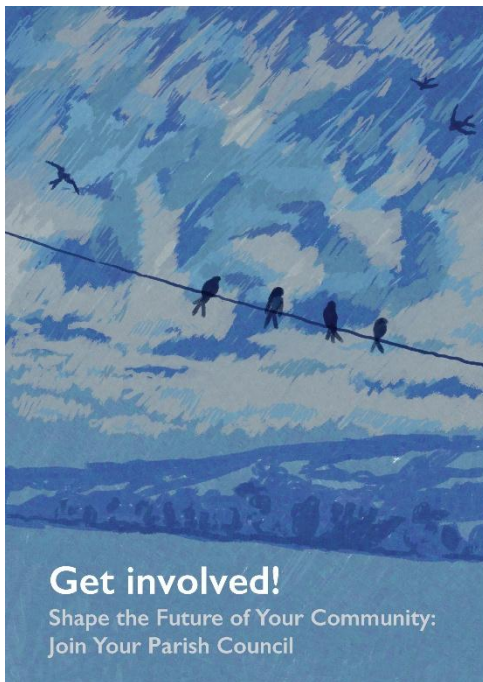
The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 July 2026 at 7.30pm in Shoreham Village Hall.

Amanda Barlow, Clerk to Shoreham

Parish Council, 07912 611048,

clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk,

www.shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk



Your parish needs you

Shoreham Parish Council represents everyone in our community, your voice matters. Join us and help manage, improve and protect our beautiful valley.

Parish councils are the grassroots tier of local government, making real decisions about the places you live, work, and play.

Why Your Voice Matters

Local Decisions:

Influence planning applications and housing.

Green Spaces:

Manage local parks and allotments.

Community Hubs:

Support village halls and play areas.

Funding Impact:

Direct how local tax money is spent.

Future Legacy:

Protect rural heritage for generations.

Who Can Run?

You do not need prior experience in politics to join. You only need to care about your local area and meet a few basic criteria:

You must be 18 or older, hold a British passport and live or work within three miles of the parish.



For more details
please contact the Parish Clerk
clerk@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

SHOREHAM

Parish Council

Shoreham, Well Hill
East Hill, Romney Street



SHOREHAM VILLAGE DIARY FOR SUMMER 2026

Saturday 4 July	Temenos Choir <i>Americana</i>	St Mary's, Kippington Rd	7.30pm
Tuesday 7	WI talk by Lindsey Barrell on her TV appearances	Village Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 15	Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	7.30pm
Friday 17	Historical Society visit to Restoration House, Rochester		
	Contact Jill Webster 01959 524679 or 07464 305924		
Monday 20	Messy Church	Church	10.30am
Wednesday 22	Over 60s visit to local garden	Shoreham Car Park	2.00pm
Tuesday 4 August	WI Garden cream tea	Details to follow	
Wednesday 26	Over 60s visit to local garden	Shoreham Car Park	2.00pm
And looking forward to September:			

SHOREHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL in Shoreham Church

Friday 11th Sept, 7.30pm – **Patrick Craig** (Countertenor) and **Frances Kelly** (Harp) followed by **Café Society jazz**

Saturday 12th Sept, 7.30pm – **Elgar Ensemble** (piano, violin, cello) followed by **jazz piano by Michael Zell**

Tickets: £17 (students £10) per evening **from ticketsource.co.uk/shoreham-music-festival**

Or in person at Shoreham Village Stores.

Full details in the September issue

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

SHOREHAM GAZETTE

Donations are welcome to Ken Fowler in person or by bank transfer to SHOREHAM PCC Sort code 090155 A/C No 00193703. Please reference your name and the Gazette.

Copy for September Gazette by **18th August** to shorehamgazette@gmail.com. Word attachment in **Calibri 10** and single spacing, please; images as **jpgs**. The deadline is always the **18th**, whatever day of the week that falls. This date is a limit not a target, as they say – by all means send your entry in ahead of time as some of you already helpfully do. If you are a regular contributor, please consider putting an alert or monthly note in your calendar.

The Gazette no longer accepts flyers as inserts but, with advance warning to the Editor, you can put a single-page A5 'poster', sent as a jpg, in the body of the Gazette.

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SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY

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Membership Secretary

Vannessa Hills

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