



Shadoxhurst Parish Council

Protecting the Woodland Gateway to the Countryside

WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SHADOXHURST

Shadoxhurst Newsletter February 2020

PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH

Welcome to the first edition of the 2020's. A new year and a new decade in Shadoxhurst's long history. Over the last few months a number of new families have moved into our village, so a very warm welcome to you all. We hope that you enjoy life in our village. Our Newsletter comes out every two months and we hope you will support and participate in the various events through the year. Please do stay in touch.

The closing date for information and inclusions for the April edition is **the 25th March**. If you would like something included, please email it to David at amberherne@btinternet.com

Defibrillator Instructions

We have been asked to remind residents about the defibrillator situated at the village hall and advise on how to use it. Essential as when we come to use it in earnest, there is already a problem to be solved and time is vital.

The important thing is that there is a code to open the door. The instructions on the outside (see photo) refer to ringing 999 for medical assistance and at the same time obtaining the door code as the interim measure.

On training events we have been reminded that continuous CPR is the only way to try to resuscitate someone, and the defibrillator is there to help this process until the medical professionals arrive, as CPR is extremely hard work.

Once the machine is out, simply follow the instructions which are voice led and you can't go wrong. It won't work if the machine detects a pulse, so cannot be misused if someone's heart has restarted. We have provided it as an essential back up and we hope you won't have to use it,

but if there was a problem, it is easy to use, simply following the instructions.



Annual Spring Clean

On Saturday 21st March we will again have our Spring Clean event as part of the **Great British Spring Clean**. It will hopefully include some vegetation trimming and tidying, not just litter picking.

We are blessed that Michael generally looks after the village roads when he can. Where else is support needed to tidy/remove debris? We are looking for suggestions for locations and volunteers. The Scouts, cubs and Beavers have been active on the day in previous years – and are looking for a “safe” area and activity where they can help.

We have been given some tree saplings and we could plant some trees on that day too. Save the date and meet at the Pavilion at 9.45am on the 21st March.

If you travel Church Lane and through Orlestone Forest, you will have noticed how much litter and rubbish was being dumped and thrown out of vehicles. We are grateful that recently a team from Biffa have done a fantastic job at clearing it all. Some 20 bags of rubbish were collected.

Sewing and Craft Club

Quilt Unveiling

There will be a very special occasion in the village on **Saturday 4th April at 2.00pm** when the Mayor of Ashford Cllr Jenny Webb will make an official visit. She will then unveil the completed quilt of the village in the village hall. It has been a very long time since we have had such a prestigious visit from Ashford's First Citizen.

The Quilt is a tremendous piece of work created and completed from scratch jointly by the club members over two years. At 7 foot by 6 foot, it is large and will be framed and will be on permanent display in the hall, showing the central part of village circa 2016.

The event on the 4th April will be a celebration of the club's achievement of this mammoth project and all are welcome to come along. When you come, it is free and you will get a complimentary glass of wine. Following the unveiling, there will be a High Tea with the Mayor, Club Members and guests. Tickets for the High Tea are £8.00 and can be obtained through Sheila, the Club's Leader.

The framing is being undertaken by **Simon Beaugie Picture Frames Ltd.**, who are based in the village. We are all indebted to Simon and his team for their work and generous support for this very special project.

New members are very welcome to join the very friendly group of sewers and crafters who are more than willing to help you with your sewing project or to show you how to start making things. Please contact Sheila on 01233 733540 or email her on sheilaellis2009@gmail.com

Volunteer Network

A key objective of the Shadoxhurst Forum is "to re-ignite community spirit and engender friendship". The many events and projects that are run in our village throughout the year by ordinary local people contribute to this in many ways.

In December we circulated a short survey to help us to better understand what kind of events and projects would be most welcomed in our village. The response to the survey was disappointingly low so we can't identify that one 'big idea' as suggested by lots of people. However, there were some interesting little gems that might have potential. For example, a musician's group, a baby and toddler's group and bite sized IT skills courses were mentioned.

We often say, "why doesn't someone do ..." maybe **you** are that someone. Remember if you have a good idea that you would like to get going, the Forum is here to help you do so.

In the survey two people indicated that they were interested in supporting our community events and projects. Any help is very welcome. The future of even our most successful events is at risk as we simply don't have enough people volunteering to help run them.

The Parish Council is also looking for people with skills to help, for example with project planning, website / media and funding source research and making bid applications. If you want to know more about volunteering in Shadoxhurst contact Ian at ianprocter1@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you to those of you who returned the survey.

Countryside Trust

Thank you to those who came along to the Christmas Fayre. It raised a total of £600 for the Shadoxhurst Countryside Trust. The Trust is now waiting for the Charity Commission to agree the application, but there is still time to pledge some money towards establishing the Trust. Contact

sheila.shadoxhursttrust2019@gmail.com

Sheila can email or post pledge forms to you, they are also in the pavilion and hall. You can also phone her on 01233 733540 to find out more.

There will be a fund raising Boot Fair on Saturday 4th July at the recreation ground.

If you would like to save the date, cars will be £10 and vans £15.

As the Charity becomes established and grows, you might wish to consider creating a legacy leaving some money in your will.

Please stay in touch...

There are now over 300 residents on the Shadoxhurst 'Next Door', group which is part of a much wider community group involving all the other villages. https://nextdoor.co.uk/neighborhood_fed/

The "Shadoxhurst, a Kent Village" Facebook Page now has 980 members. There is also a more recent "Shadoxhurst Community" Facebook Page with currently over 260 members and growing. Join us if you can.

Please look out for the active local "Rural Means Rural" Campaign which is also on Facebook.

Parish News

We are continuing to make improvements to the village hall to make it more attractive for hiring and use. This includes some new cushioned chairs, crockery and cutlery. These were put to good use with the recent Murder Mystery event which was fully booked and raised over £480.

Hornash House

The planning application for Hornash House, Hornash Lane was recently refused by ABC. There is a lot of concern about the deterioration of the house itself following the two fires in 2019. The tarpaulin protecting the holes in the roof keeps being dislodged in the wind allowing rain in. We continue to remind the ABC Conservation Officers to be vigilant about ensuring the long term protection and stability of one of the oldest houses in the village.

GreenVolt and Tally Ho Road

We recently held a drop-in for residents to talk about the likelihood of a new planning application on Tally Ho Road. The company sent a new proposed layout, and it was a good opportunity to talk face to face about people's concerns. We did an information sheet explaining the current position and residents took away a comments sheet.

Some completed them at the event. But at publication date, we still await the return of the comments sheets from others.

If you would like to read the information sheet and receive the comments sheet to make your own comments, then please email david.shadoxhurstpc@gmail.com. The sheets have been circulated to Village Forum Members. See page 3 to see how to join the Forum mailing list to receive up to date information about village things including planning news.

Booking the Hall and Pavilion

If you would like to book the Hall or Pavilion, then we ask you to either go through the web site at

www.shadoxhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/

alternatively, please email Caroline on shadoxhurstvhp@gmail.com

Hall Cleaner

Expressions of interest

The Parish Council is looking to re-tender the cleaning of the village hall and pavilion very shortly and are looking for any person or business that may wish to tender for this for the coming year. Please contact Caroline Laming.

Contacting the Parish Council

Our Parish Clerk **Caroline Laming** only works a few hours on Tuesdays to Thursdays so is not always available. The best way to communicate with Caroline is to phone and leave a message if no answer, ring 07729 734149 or email:

shadoxhurst@parishcouncil.onmicrosoft.com

1st Shadoxhurst Scout Group

Beavers (aged 6-8) Mondays
Cubs (8-10½) Tuesdays
Scouts (10½ -14) Wednesdays

Please contact Simon via email: raven@1stshadoxhurstscoutgroup.uk.

Flower Club

The first club meeting in the new year is on the **6th February** in the Hall. They meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This year on the 6th May, the Club will celebrate their Emerald Anniversary with a special 55 years' demonstration. Please contact the Club's Secretary, Gaye on 732212 for further information about the club and activities.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Update

Regular updates are posted on the two village Facebooks sites ("Shadoxhurst Community" and "Shadoxhurst, a Kent village") and the Nextdoor website.

The recurring hot topic for villagers are people attempting to "Scam" – pretending to be a legitimate company seeking financial details which will then be used to extract money. Many will have received a call purporting to be from the likes of BT or Amazon saying that action is needed to keep your telephone line or account open. Do not respond to such calls – simply terminate the call. Within Kent there is a known case where the call was supposedly from the Police investigating a member of Bank staff and asking for cash to be withdrawn and handed to a courier. The Police would never ask for this to be done.

If you are unsure about any contact, be it on your doorstep, telephone or email please refer to a family member, friend or neighbour before any money or bank details are handed over. If you've not asked to be contacted be wary and not afraid to say "no" – put down the phone or close the door. Be particularly wary if there is more than one individual as they may try to distract you to gain access to your property. Call the Police via 999 if you feel threatened or the people refuse to leave.

We have had two recent example of doorstep collectors for charities (Kent Air Ambulance & Alzheimer's Research UK) – while both appear to have been legitimate, I would advise against providing anyone who calls at your door with your bank / credit card details. If you would like to donate to such causes then I suggest you do so direct with the group rather than via a third party.

Recent reported thefts have been:-
7th Jan 2020 – Eversleigh Woodland Lodges – Garden Furniture
20th Dec – 30th Dec 2019 – Hornash Lane (Lead from around windows).

Anti-social behaviour - The recreation field is showing signs that a motorbike has been present on and around the field – if you see any activity that is causing damage to the field then please report it to the Police or Parish Council so that action can be taken.

Peter Webb 01233 732901
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator
Peter707R@Hotmail.com

Village Forum News

The Forum met recently and due to personal reasons Anne, our Chairman, is unfortunately having to stand down. We are really sorry about this but understand her reasons. We are therefore looking for a new Chairman. If you are interested to take on the role of Chairman, please contact David on: david.shadoxhurstpc@gmail.com

The next Forum meeting is **Thursday the 19th March 2020 at 7.30pm.**

The Forum Members get various emails about news, issues and events in the village. It is free and is a good way of keeping up to date between newsletters.

To get on the mailing list please email: amberherne@btinternet.com

Please put 'Join Forum' in the subject heading so it can be easily spotted.

On behalf of all Forum Members, we thank Anne for taking the post on and we hope life for Anne calms down soon.

Gardening Club

If you'd like to meet people with an interest in gardening then we are an informal group who aim to help each other with identifying plants/pest/ways of doing something, based upon knowledge and experience.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Monday the 16th March, at 7.30pm**, in Shadoxhurst Pavilion.

We look at planning for the coming year as our gardens start to exit the dormant winter stage – it won't be long before those with greenhouses in particular will start growing for 2020.

Please contact me if you have any questions:- Peter Webb 01233 732901 or email Peter707R@Hotmail.com

Village Fete

For the past three years an Autumn fete has been organised within the village - although last year was severely impacted by adverse weather.

As I hope you appreciate organising and running the event has required the support of volunteers from both within and outside the village. This year

however, following the recent survey included within the December village newsletter, the level of support offered has so far been minimal.

On this basis I do not feel it is a viable option to progress organising an event for this year. Should the situation change and more people come forward and commit to support future events, through Ian Procter's appeal on page 2, then hopefully these can be organised. Peter Webb 732901.

Ashford Courtside Football Club

Ashford Courtside Football Club have had a very disappointing Season so far with the Pitches being unplayable due to the large amount of rain and drainage issues we haven't been able to play any home fixtures since the end of October last year. But our teams have managed to play a few of our away fixtures with a mixed bag of results.



Hopefully once the weather improves, our teams will be back playing evenings and weekends to catch up. One of the U7's teams are currently looking for a Goalkeeper so if you know anyone who would be interested please contact the Club secretary Vanessa Grimmond email: grimmond105@gmail.com

We have a website and Facebook page if you want to find out more <https://www.afccourtside.co.uk/> and <https://www.facebook.com/AshfordCourtsideFC/>

For more information please contact ... Vanessa (Secretary) on 07526431687 or Tim (Chair) on 07970820018.

V.E. Day / Bank Holiday

The 8th May this year has been turned into a Bank Holiday for the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. Save the date for a village family event. Details in April's edition.

Speedwatch

Our Speedwatch Coordinator Roger had a spell in hospital before Christmas, and we wish him well and a speedy recovery. It has therefore set us back a bit. Because we have not had a presence on the roads recently, there are noticeably more drivers speeding through our village. We are looking for a deputy to assist Roger and a few more volunteers able to share the time and allow more speed monitoring.

If you value the safety of villagers then please help by becoming a Speedwatch member – we need a larger group of people to provide coverage of locations, days and times.

It's not onerous if there are enough people to share the load – whilst it won't stop people speeding immediately, it will get the message across that the village is serious about speeding and those who persist will eventually fall foul of the Police.

Ashford Borough Update

The Council recently issued a consultation on the Gypsy and Traveler Local Plan Options Report in the Borough. Please read and reply to the questionnaire on the important subject. The closing date is 21st February 2020 and the link on the ABC website is

<https://www.ashford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/gypsy-and-traveller-local-plan/>

The contact points for our two Borough Ward Councilors are: George 01233 732791 and David 01233 733540

george.sparks@ashford.gov.uk
david.ledger@ashford.gov.uk

Village Contacts

1st Shadoxhurst Scouts, Cubs and Beavers Simon 07704 789155

Ark Drama 2000 Lis 732901

Courtside Football Club Vanessa 07526 431687

Fete Team Peter 732901

Flower Club Gaye 732212

Future Scholars Sarah 07821 143249

Gardening Club Peter 732901

History Club Carol 732084

Lesley Munn Dance Academy

Lesley 01634 234168

Line Dancing Kate 733015

Neighbourhood Watch Peter 732901

Pilates Alex 861456

Poetry and Expression Ian 732084

Sewing and Craft Club Sheila 733540

Speedwatch Roger 733581

Weekend Walking Jim 07788 245022

WI Mandy Spencer 501774

Wine & Home Brew Club Colin 732784

Refugee Family

We have been advised that in the coming months, Ashford Borough Council will be locating a refugee family to Shadoxhurst. They will have furnished accommodation as a basic minimum and will likely be re-located from war-torn Syria. We will tell you more news about this in the April Newsletter. We hope that we can all help to make them feel welcome and Shadoxhurst is a place where they can find peace in our village.

Chatterbox Coffee Club

The Coffee Club had a break over Christmas and New Year and is back. The Club continues to be popular and well supported. **We meet every Tuesday Afternoon between 2.00 - 4.00 pm in the Pavilion.** Pop in for tea, coffee, cake, chat and a get together. Lifts can be provided on a Tuesday, please ring Colin on 01233 732784.

Murder Mystery Night

"Thank you to everyone who came to the murder night on the 1st February, hosted by the fantastic 'Murder Again' Group. It was great fun. We raised £242 raised to support our charity trip to South Africa, and of course, £242 for the Village Forum; thank you to all who donated and took part.

We are a group of 10 individuals (with 7 young members ranging from 13 -19 years old) from all over Ashford who are going to Balfour in South Africa where we will be building a playground for the children of the local community with the Charity Urban Saints. We need to raise £17,000 to support the team to be able to go on the trip and will be running several fundraising events including:

Almost new jumble sale, Saturday 29th February at Stubbs Cross Mission Hall, 10am-12 noon; Quiz Night, King's Head Shadoxhurst, Sunday 26th April.

We also have a 'just giving' page should you wish to financially support us at https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfund/renew-south-africa-2020?utm_id=2&utm_term=qVE7gBpWG Thank you on behalf of the Team"

Rhiannon Webb (Team Leader)

Dates for your Diary:

Every Tuesday Chatterbox Coffee Club 2 – 4pm in the Pavilion
Every last Sunday of the month at 7.00pm Charity Quiz in the King's Head

February: 6th & 20th Sewing and Craft Club 7.00pm in the Hall
 12th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion

March: 4th Flower Club Demonstration 7.30 in the Hall (Joyce Pannell)
 5th & 19th Sewing and Craft Club 7.00pm in the Hall
 11th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion
 16th Gardening Club 7.30 in the Pavilion
 19th Forum Meeting 7.30 in the Pavilion

April: 1st Flower Club Workshop 7.30 in the Hall (Ann Lockett)
 2nd & 16th Sewing and Craft Club 7.30 in the Hall
 4th **Quilt Unveiling**, 2.00pm in the Hall free (High Tea ticket only)
 8th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion

