



Shadoxhurst Parish Council

Protecting the Woodland Gateway to the Countryside

WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SHADOXHURST

Shadoxhurst Newsletter April 2019

PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH

Springtime

Welcome to the second edition of 2019. There is a lot going on in Spring 2019...a crafting event, elections, 'Murder Mystery' so please settle down and have a read.



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

Defibrillator

We now have a defibrillator which is on the Village Hall wall. To use it, when you ring 999 to call an ambulance, they will give you the keypad code so that you can access the machine. It is simple to use and there are vocal instructions given at each stage by the machine. We hope that it will help save a life. There has been a delay with the emergency services registering it, so initially the code is on a label under the box.

In addition, we have arranged some first aid instruction, including how to use the equipment. All are welcome and it is free and will be held in the Village Hall. **The two dates are Thursday 16th May at 1.30 and Thursday 23rd May at 7.00pm.** Please attend if you can.

Election News

On Thursday May 2nd there will be Borough and Parish Elections.

Two Parish Members are not re-standing. On your behalf, I would like to thank Sheila Ellis and Carol Procter for the considerable time and energy they both put into our Parish both in and outside the monthly meetings. They will be a great loss to the Parish Council, they have contributed greatly to the renaissance of Shadoxhurst these last few years and are sincerely thanked.

In terms of the Borough elections we are in Weald South and it is a Two Member ward, so you get two votes.

Our polling station is at the Village Hall as usual that day, opening at 07.00 and closing at 10.00pm and every vote really does count, so please do come and vote. The votes will not be counted until Friday morning in the Stour Centre, starting at 10.00am.

Village Land Trust

The Parish Council is setting up a Countryside Charitable Trust to safeguard and preserve our valuable green spaces and this mechanism can be used to accept gifted land or to purchase key buffer land. It can also be a mechanism to negotiate land gifted by developers who are seeking to build houses but give some buffer space to the village. This gifting can also be from anyone with a spare piece of land that can be of benefit to the village and be kept forever as green space.

We are looking for a few Trustees that can come on board as it will be a separate organization from the Parish Council. We are also looking for a name for the Trust. We are setting this up now and once established we will be seeking money from residents who will be able to

become members and anyone who wishes to put some money to a long term vision to keep our village a village and preserve the important wildlife areas. This is an exciting project which will play a pivotal role in the conservation of Shadoxhurst as a lone community and not become part of Greater Ashford. Please contact David Ledger on 733540 or email david.shadoxhurstpc@gmail.com

Books, books, books!

If you like a good read, feel free to browse & borrow one of our books – completely free of charge - just return it when you've finished.

Our 'borrowing books' bookcase is located in the Pavilion, open between 2pm – 4pm on Tuesday afternoons for the Coffee Club, so you are welcome to pop in and stop for a cuppa and a chat too if you have the time!

The books have all been kindly donated by villagers. If you have any books in good condition that you would like to donate, please bring them along or phone Carol on 732084.

If we have enough books, we intend to offer some of them for sale at the village fete in September (all proceeds to village projects), then continue as above for the rest of the year.

Shadoxhurst Parish Church

There will be a St George's Day Parade Service at Shadoxhurst Parish Church at 11 am on Sunday 28th April for all uniformed organisations. For any organisation who would like to attend (other than Scouts, which we know about) please contact Verger and Warden Helen West on 620433. All villagers welcome to attend as well.

Our Songs of Praise continue on 4th Sundays of the month at 5 pm and Holy Communion at 8 am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

We have also had a recent inspection of the bellcote in the church which probably has not been looked into since the 1960's! This was as a result of our Quinquennial or five-yearly building inspection last year. I am pleased to report that, apart from the remains of a squirrel's dray, it is sound and dry. At some point over the better weather we hope to form a working party to attend to removing the concrete rendering that was put up in places on the outside; it is crumbling away so not too difficult a job. Volunteers will be gratefully received! Many thanks to Helen West for her attention and upkeep of this lovely old building.

Rev Caroline Mansley
01233 629279

Please visit 'Creative Shadoxhurst'

The 'Creative Shadoxhurst' event will bring together creative talent from our local community. It will be held at Shadoxhurst Village Hall on **Saturday the 13th of April, between 11.00am and 3.00pm.**

The work of our local poets, photographers, water colour artists and a canal-ware artist will be on display. A local woodturner and a pyrographer will be demonstrating their amazing crafts too. Some of the artist and crafts people will offer items for sale at the event. Shadoxhurst Sewing Club will be demonstrating their needlecraft and their on-going group project work, a huge patchwork map of Shadoxhurst.

Entry and parking is free and teas and coffee will be on offer too, you might even be offered a biscuit. So come along to support our local creative community or simply get together with other people over a cuppa. For more information contact Ian at ianprocter1@yahoo.co.uk or on 732084.

Speedwatch

We are at last allowed to be getting organised with this, as the Police would not sanction it when the speed was first reduced. The six months 'bedding in' period is almost finished. There are still vehicles that speed through our village. We aim to check vehicle speeds on different days and times.

If you are able to help us with monitoring and reporting offenders to the Police, please get in touch with the team asap led by Roger Hills ring 01233 733581 or email hillsmorton@sky.com and we can give you more details.

Garden Safari 2019

We still need some volunteers to join us and open their gardens for our village Garden Safari event on **7th July**. The open gardens will be listed in a leaflet and people can walk around the village getting to see the different styles of garden and raise some money in the process. If you would like to help, open your garden and join in, please ring Cheryl 421746 or Sheila and David on 733540. It can be front or back gardens, large or small, pristine or simply for wildlife. It celebrates that every garden is different.

Gardening Club

The inaugural meeting of the village Gardening Club took place on the 18th March and had an informal discussion about what people wanted. The second meeting will be on **Monday 29th April in the Pavilion at 7.00pm**, where seed and plant swapping will take place. Please come along and join us. Contact Sheila on 733540 for more details.

1st Shadoxhurst Scout Group

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

Welcome to our update on our adventures. We have been holding our numbers and currently have places in our Beaver and Scout Sections for any young people wishing to join. We are also looking for adult helpers / assistant leaders for our expanding Cub pack. If you would like to join our adventures, then please contact Simon via email: raven@1stshadoxhurstscoutgroup.uk.

This year sees us building on the success of last year and we have a number of sleepovers and camps, day trips, adventurous activity days and water activity days on Conningbrook Lakes. We are also holding a number of fundraising events with a chocolate bingo event to be announced shortly. 1st June will see us in County Square shopping centre selling cakes and looking for donations so we can purchase a Gas Water boiler to add to our existing equipment for camps.

This year will see us participating in our first St Georges Day Parade in the village, which we are looking to hold a short march through The Street and then into the church yard.



Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Update

Thankfully I've heard less of issues relating to damage being done by youths and catapults since the last report – I'm hoping this will continue.

As a village we continue to be on the outskirts of various thefts of items from both vehicles and properties in the Ashford area. The following are examples of the crimes taking place around us. Vehicle windows are broken to gain access to items left on sight inside – please do not leave items visible even for a couple of minutes.

Items are being stolen from sheds and outbuildings – keep them locked and covered by security lights. Trailers and machinery capable of being towed are also at risk – fix tow-hitch and wheel locks to make them more difficult to move.

Fly-tipping – there have been several instances of this taking place on the roads leading to the village, if you see items dumped please report them to Ashford Borough Council directly, (telephone 01233 331111 (8.30am - 4.00pm Monday - Friday or online via <https://www.ashford.gov.uk/the-environment/streets/fly-tipping/>) if you have a "smart" phone use the App "CountryEye" <https://countryeye.co.uk/> which is simple to use – you take a photo of the items, answer a couple of questions as to where the items are, the App then adds the map location and all this is submitted for allocation directly to the area who need to take action.

Scam advice (fake HMRC calls have been on the increase) – whether approached by phone, post, email or text

- Remember – Your bank or the Police will NEVER ask for your PIN, your bank card or for you to withdraw money.
- Caution – NEVER share your PIN with anyone – the only times you should use your PIN is at a cash machine or when you use a shop's chip and PIN machine.
- Think - NEVER hand your bank card or any goods you have purchased as a result of a phone call to anyone who comes to your front door.
- Investigate – If you think you have been the victim of a scam, call the Police.

Importantly if you see a crime in progress ring 999. For non-urgent calls to the Police ring 101.

Working together we can keep Shadoxhurst a pleasant place to live with low levels of crime and deter those ne'er-do-wells who would try to destroy this life-style.

You can contact Peter Webb, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator Direct email:- Peter707R@Hotmail.com or via the village Facebook page or Nextdoor. For those with access to the internet, regular updates and current items are published on both Nextdoor https://nextdoor.co.uk/neighborhood_feed/ and of course Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1721139798106705/>. Additionally a dedicated page is also on the Parish Council website which includes current and past reports and is found at <http://www.shadoxhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/parish/neighborhood-watch/>

Peter Webb, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Shadoxhurst

Booking the Village Hall

Hall booking arrangements have changed. You can book through the web site or email Judith Batt, our Parish Clerk. She will get back in touch with you. She only takes telephone bookings or messages on Mondays to Wednesdays between 10am and 3pm. If you would like to book the hall or pavilion, please email her on

shadoxhurstvhp@gmail.com

Shadoxhurst Village Forum News

The Forum is designed for residents to get together and discuss important

matters in the Village. Concerns can be fed into the Parish Council. Events are also organised to raise funds for projects in the village.

The next meeting of the Forum is **Tuesday 16th April at 7.30 in the Pavilion**. The following meeting is the Annual General Meeting on **Saturday 11th May** where we will review the year and elect the Officers for the next 12 months.

'A Fate Worse than Death'

Another Murder Mystery evening is booked for **25th May at 7.00pm**, The proceeds here will be shared between funding Rhiannon Webb (from Ark Drama) taking a working break to engage with under-privileged children in Africa and help with building construction, and our village projects.

Let us all keep in touch...

The Village Forum has its own email: Shadoxhurst.forum@gmail.com Please drop an email to get onto the mailing list to get regular updates. The Forum Chair, Cheryl has also put her email address here for contacting her directly. cherylvander@tiscali.co.uk

Now there are over 250 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_feed/

The "Shadoxhurst, a Kent Village" Facebook Page now has almost 700 members! Join us if you can.

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

Keep up to date with activities and please visit our **Parish Website** www.shadoxhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk/ which has lots of information about groups, clubs and meetings.

Feedback is very welcome, and we would love to hear from you.

Mud on the Roads

We have all been affected by mud on the road from the two building sites on Woodchurch Road. The Parish Council has been trying to get improvements through Ashford Borough Council who need to enforce the conditions applied to the planning permissions.

There have been other conditions that have been ignored and disturbed the neighbouring residents. The Parish Council is gathering evidence and writing to ABC about various problems. If you have any evidence, please let us know.

Chatterbox Coffee Club

Every week the Coffee Club continues to be popular and well supported. Come along to the for tea, cake, chat and a get together **Every Tuesday Afternoon 2.00 - 4.00 pm** in the Pavilion. Lifts can be provided for those that need one, please ring Colin on 732784. Come along and join us.

Ashford Courtside Football Teams

New Players Wanted For 2019/20 Season...

We are looking for hardworking and committed players to join our U14's team for the coming season to play Saturdays in the Ashford and District Youth League. We already have a fantastic group of players who are ready to take on a new challenge, if you love football and want to see what our club has to offer, then please get in touch with Club Secretary Vanessa Grimmond to find out more or Chairman/Coach Tim.

Contact Tim on 07970820018 or Vanessa 07526431687. Their Emails are: tbayford@sky.com and grimmond105@gmail.com



The photo is the current Ashford Courtside Tornados Team.

Ashford Courtside Football Club Would also like to thank the Shadoxhurst Community and Parish Council for making us welcome and supporting us to maintain the pitches.

Car Parking at the village hall

The car park at the hall is private and is not a public car park. It is strictly for use by those hiring the hall or attending meetings and events at the hall. We are pleased that the use of the hall is continuing to increase, and with it, the need to park.

However, we note that the car park is also being used by some residents and their visitors at times. This often conflicts with hall bookings and thus reduces the limited spaces we have. We cannot accept any responsibility for anyone parking there, nor for any damage done and so we ask that residents do not use the car park.

There may be a need to use it as an occasional use but only in exceptional cases, in which case we ask residents to write for permission from the Parish Clerk first, as it may coincide with hall bookings.

Part of the problem relates to potential conflicts with safeguarding issues when the hall is booked for events and classes involving children.

We ask for your co-operation in keeping the car park for bone fide hall use and we don't want to have to start keeping the gates closed.

Affordable Housing Offer

Ashford Borough Council are in the process of purchasing some of the properties currently being built on the two sites close to the Kings Head pub. On first let, we would like to prioritise those with a local connection to

Shadoxhurst where possible. There will be affordable rented properties, as well as shared ownership properties.

Anyone wishing to be considered for the rented properties would need to be registered on 'Kent Homechoice', our choice based lettings system, and fulfil the criteria to be eligible for social housing, and for the type and size of properties that will be available.

The shared ownership properties will be advertised on the Help to Buy website, www.helptobuyese.org.uk, and anyone interested in them would need to register on that site to be able to view the details.

Donna Michael
Development Partnership Officer
Ashford Borough Council
01233 330496

Village Fete 2019

Shadoxhurst Harvest Fete Sunday 29th September 2019

Please keep the date free. The village is holding another fete this year – are you able to spare three hours either 9.30am – 12.30pm or 12.30pm – 3.30pm to help out?

There will be a variety of roles to help including running games for children, directing car parking, selling raffle tickets and helping on the hot and cold food and drink stalls.

If you are prepared to help, then please contact Peter by email @ Peter707R@Hotmail.com or by phone 01233 732901.

Village Contacts

1st Shadoxhurst Scouts, Cubs and Beavers Simon 07704 789155
African Drumming Lesley 733387
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 Sheila 733540
History Club Carol 732084
Lesley Munn Dance Academy Lesley 01634 234168
Line Dancing Kate 733015
Parish Council Judith 733994
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
Yoga Isabel 07757 858642

Hustings

Late information come in, members of the Village Forum are organising a 'Hustings Event' where you will have the opportunity to meet the candidates for our Ward in the Ashford Borough Council election. It will be held at **7.00pm Friday 12th April in the Village Hall**. The list of candidates had not been published at the time of going to print.

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

- April:** 10th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion
 13th **Creative Shadoxhurst** from 11am-3pm in the Hall
 16th Village Forum Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion
 18th Sewing Club 7.00pm in the Hall
 29th Gardening Club 7.00pm in the Pavilion
- May:** 1st Flower Club demonstration with Robin White 7.30pm in the Hall
 2nd Election Day 7.00am to 10.00pm in the Hall
 8th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion
 11th Annual Forum Meeting 2.00pm in the Pavilion
 16th Defibrillator and 1st Aid Training 1.30pm in the Hall
 16th & 30th Sewing Club 7.00pm in the Hall
 23rd Defibrillator and 1st Aid Training 1.30pm in the Hall
 25th **Murder Mystery Night** 7.00pm in the Hall
- June:** 5th Flower Club Demonstration with Joyce Pannell 7.30 in the Hall
 10th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion
 13th & 27th Sewing Club 7.00pm in the Hall

