



Shadoxhurst Parish Council

Protecting the Woodland Gateway to the Countryside

WORKING FOR THE COMMUNITY OF SHADOXHURST

Shadoxhurst Newsletter December 2019

PLEASE STAY IN TOUCH



Welcome to our last edition of 2019. Once again, we offer a very warm welcome to all new residents moving in and coming to live in Shadoxhurst since our last edition.

On behalf of the Parish Council, we wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a very happy healthy 2020.

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

Christmas Craft Fayre

The next event in our village is on **Saturday 7th December** in the Village Hall 10.00 – 3.00. Lots of stalls, plus festive refreshments. Please come and support this event. The proceeds are going to the formation of the Shadoxhurst Countryside Trust. We look forward to seeing you there.

The 'Shadoxhurst

Big Night Out'

A big thank you to everyone involved in making the first ever Shadoxhurst Big Night Out such a success. 80 people came along to the big night out which was held in the Village Hall on Friday the 8th of November.

Thanks also for your really positive feedback. The two-course dinner was very popular and the light hearted quiz and bingo rounds helped create the warm and friendly atmosphere that we all enjoyed. We served Stag Brewery's superb real ale from our bar making this a truly local event, and it went down well too. All this for a ticket price of only £10. Overall, we raised over £900, this will be used to support future events and projects in Shadoxhurst. Thank you for your support and generosity.

The Shadoxhurst Big Night Out was a ticket only event and it sold out well before the night itself, so look out for future events and be sure to buy your tickets early.



Events such as this help to bring our community together. What kind of events would you like to see in the future? Please help us by completing the short survey in your newsletter or download a copy from shadoxhurstpc.kentparishes.gov.uk.

On behalf of everyone who attended we must thank the team that organised it, these include (in no particular order) Ian and Carol, Lis and Peter, Laurence and Diane, Colin and Val, Karen and Ron and ably assisted in the kitchen by Ann.

Murder Mystery

Once again, we are hosting another great evening where you can try and spot the murderer. This is our first big village event of the new year will be in the **Village Hall on the 1st February 2020**. Good value at £8.00, the ticket includes a ploughman's supper this time.

The proceeds will be split equally between the village and Renew South Africa, to enable some local teenagers to go to South Africa to help build a school.

To book a table of 6, please ring Lis on 01233 732901. If you have not been to one before, please give it a try, you will not be disappointed. Thank you to the 'Murder Again' team for putting it all together for us.

Countryside Trust

The emerging Trust has now reached over £1700 pledged from people. The new potential Trustees and the Parish Council are extremely grateful to all who have so far generously pledged.

We are looking to secure pledges of £5,000 to enable a full application to the Charity Commission to be lodged.

If you would like to pledge some money to help kick-start this journey, then please contact Sheila on

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.

The next event is a **Christmas Fayre** on the **7th December**.

Poonett and Farley Charity

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, the Trustees of the Charity are continuing the tradition of giving amounts of money to worthwhile causes. So far for 2019, the Trustees have not received an application. The date for this year will close on the 13th December.

The Charity has its origins in the 17th Century from two separate legacies when both helped to give money to the poor of the village. At some point in history they were combined.

It is recognised that in the 21st Century, life is very different. Slight changes have been made this year and the Trustees are now giving two bursaries per year up to a maximum of £250 each. Guidance about being eligible is given on page two with some examples.

The recipient must live in the parish of Shadoxhurst and have a specific use / need for the bursary, to allow them to do something, buy something or go somewhere that without the bursary would not be achievable.

Examples might include helping:

1. towards a young person travel to visit universities prior to making a choice
2. to pay for a young person to attend a course
3. to purchase tools to enable someone to start an apprenticeship
4. towards a retired person travelling to visit an elderly relative
5. to purchase a disability aid that otherwise would not be supplied through the usual channels.

These examples are concentrating on the young and the more senior members of our community. If you wish to apply, please contact David Ledger at david.shadoxhurstpc@gmail.com or 01233 733540, who will provide more details.

Parish News

As we mentioned in the last newsletter we are continuing with improvements and very recently we have replaced the aging and sometimes failing heaters in the village hall. These are more efficient and we hope will reduce our electricity bills.

Due to various factors, the date of our December Parish meeting has had to be changed. The **December meeting will be on Wednesday 18th**.

Stop Press item ... as we go to press, we have just learnt that a planning application for 22 houses just north of Farley Close is being submitted to Ashford Borough Council imminently. It was previously refused for 21 houses, they went to appeal, which was dismissed, but only on the ground of insufficient affordable housing. This they have addressed and so providing the required 40% for rural locations.

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 07729 734149 or email:

shadoxhurst@parishcouncil.onmicrosoft.com

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

Please stay in touch...

There are over 290 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 **880** members. There is also a more recent **"Shadoxhurst Community" Facebook Page** with currently over **200** members and growing. Join us if you can.

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

Village Survey

Enclosed with this newsletter you should find a survey sheet. The Parish Council and the Village Forum are very keen to have a two way conversation with all in the community. So periodically we send out surveys and encourage everyone to complete them and return them so that we can make positive progress.

This time it is from the Village forum and has been put together by residents who want to know...

1. How do we better engage with families?

2. How do we better engage with young people?
3. What type of events should we run?
4. What is the demographic profile of our community?

Please email Ian on ianprocter1@yahoo.co.uk if you would like an email version of this survey, alternatively, return the form to Ian at 7 Park Farm Close TN26 1LD.

All replies will be treated confidentially, and the results will be summarised in the February newsletter. Thank you in advance for completing this form, your views are very important to us. Deadline for return is 16th December 2019.

1st Shadoxhurst Scout Group

We currently have spaces in our Beaver Colony (Mondays) and our Scout troop (Fridays).

If you are able to help and join in with our Cubs (Tuesdays) then we would like to hear from you. We currently have assistant leader, assistant vacancies and helper roles. We also offer a 4 week challenge, so you can try before taking the next step. All roles are flexible and offer training and support.

In 2019 we took to the water 6 times, we climbed walls, cooked lots of food, camped between the Spring and Autumn, hiked and helped a local school with one of its projects. We also participated in St Georges day and Remembrance Day services and opened our doors for the Shadoxhurst Harvest Fete in September.

If you would like to join in our adventures next year, then please feel free to contact us.

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. Please contact the Club's Secretary, Gaye on 732212 for further information.



Shadoxhurst Christmas Fayre

Saturday 7 December,

Shadoxhurst Village Hall

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Choose from a selection of handmade and unique gifts for Christmas

Get together with friends and neighbours.

Enjoy a glass of mulled wine, mince pies, or cake and cup of tea/coffee

Buy a raffle ticket (s) to try and win the scrumptious Christmas Cake

made by Julie of our very own Kings Head Pub!

Many stalls, including TWO craft and food demonstrations

Support your local craftsmen/women

All proceeds from this event will be used to raise funds for the

Shadoxhurst Countryside Land Trust

A new project to project our green spaces

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Update

Latest data from the Police indicate an increase in reportable incidents across the village in September, up on August, with two reported burglaries – one each in Nairne Close and Nickley Wood road. There were a number of incidents behaviour related, with anti-social behaviour (Recreation field/the Street), criminal damage (Hamstreet Road) and public order (Blindgrooms Lane) offences taking place in locations across the village.

Whilst thefts continue to feature in the reported incidents across Ashford, there is also a blight of incidents involving property (cars and houses) being damaged by items fired from catapults.

Whilst to-date no one personally appears to have been injured it's only a matter of time before something serious happens when moving cars are targeted. Within the village it is noticeable that mirrors placed opposite drives appear to be targets for such activity.

Generally "Scams" feature across the country – please beware of approaches from people on your doorstep, by post, telephone or email, seeking to sell you items you haven't asked for and do not release any credit/debit card or bank details to such people, unless you are sure as to their identity. Remember any reputable company will be happy for you to provide information at a later date.

Remember concerns / observations of suspicious behaviour or information relevant to criminal activity can be either phoned through to the Police using 101, logged online via their website or anonymously via CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

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

Village Forum News

The next Forum meeting will be on Tuesday the **14th January 2020**. The methods of contact are being reviewed at present. If you would like to know more, please contact Anne Forbes by email on: anne.forbes1962@gmail.com

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

On behalf of all Forum Members, Anne wishes everyone in the village a very Happy Christmas and New year.

Ashford Courtside Football Club

Despite the weather and our home ground at Shadoxhurst being waterlogged it was a winning weekend for our Under 11s and Under 10s teams. The U11's League Fixture was away to Mersham, with some great football played by both teams in some very muddy conditions.



Our U10's played Bromley Green with some very impressive teamwork and a late last minute winner. Both teams continue to improve each week.



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. Or Email:

grimmond105@gmail.com
tbayford@sky.com

Sewing Club

At the beginning of November, club members met at the 'Purple Pixies' sewing and material shop at the Hop Farm near Paddock Wood to use their long-armed quilting machine to quilt the Quilt of the Village. Everyone had a go on the machine which was quite an experience.

Now there are only a few more steps to completion of the Quilt and we are all excited. We will hopefully be able to bring you more news in the next Newsletter.

We held our last club meeting of 2019 on 28th November, and then will be celebrating Christmas with a meal on the 12th December. The club will start again on the Thursday 9th January 2020 in the Village Hall 7.00-9.00pm and every fortnight thereafter.

On 11th January 2020 we have a day trip arranged to visit material shops in

Tunbridge Wells (and maybe other shops with sales!). In February a few members will be attending a Pattern Making workshop.

New members are more than welcome to join us, we are a very friendly group of sewers and crafters and 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.

Ashford Borough Update

Our two Weald South Ward Members are continuing to hold 'Member Surgeries' in the four parishes they represent. These will be held in Hamstreet at the Cosy Kettle at 10.00, Woodchurch Hub at 11.00 and here in the Pavilion between 12.00 – 12.45 am on the **third Tuesday** of each month.

The next one is 17th December and the early dates for the new year are 21st January and 18th February.

Please drop in if you would like to discuss any matter related to the Borough Council. If they don't know the answers they will find out and get back to you. They see it as important to be available for face to face contact.

Otherwise their contact points for both are: George 01233 732791 and David 01233 733540

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

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 27th January, 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 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

Christmas Greetings from Saints Peter and Paul, Shadoxhurst Church

17th December at 7 pm, come and join us at **The King's Head for carol singing**. A popular night out, book ahead if you want a meal, but join us anyway with a drink and your voice!

24th December at 5 pm Crib Service. Bring the family as we bring up our crib figures and sing children's carols. **25th December 8.30 am** Christmas Communion with Carols. Join us on Christmas morning as we greet this special day.

All welcome to join us over the festive season as we celebrate the coming and birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

A warm welcome to all residents and especially new ones who have moved in over recent months.

NB no Songs of Praise this month but it will resume in January.

Christmas Blessings, Rev'd Caroline

Chatterbox Coffee Club

The Coffee Club will hold its final meeting of the year on the 17th December, a visit from Santa during the afternoon is eagerly anticipated. There will be mince pies and other delights created by the regulars and so we will need to know numbers. Let Val and Colin know at the Club or by phone (see below). The Coffee Club continues to be popular and well supported **every Tuesday Afternoon between 2.00 - 4.00 pm in the Pavilion**. Pop in for tea, coffee, cake, chat and a get together.

The Club returns after a fortnight break on the 7th January. Lifts can be provided on a Tuesday, please ring Colin on 01233 732784.

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

December: 7th **Christmas Fayre** 10.00am - 3.00pm in the Hall
 17th Carol Singing in the King's Head at 7.00pm
 18th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion ***Date Change***

January: 8th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion
 9th & 23rd Sewing Club 7.00pm in the Hall
 14th Forum Meeting 7.30 in the Pavilion
 27th Gardening Club 7.30 in the Pavilion

February: 1st Murder Mystery night 7.00pm in the Hall
 5th Flower Club Demonstration 7.30 in the Hall
 6th & 20th Sewing Club 7.00pm in the Hall
 12th Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm in the Pavilion