

The Shroton Lines

The Shroton Lines is a community newspaper which celebrates the life of the village and its inhabitants. It is compiled by local volunteers and provides information and news. Those of us who are involved with the creation of the Lines are hugely grateful for everyone who contributes and particularly to Emma who is responsible for printing it. Contact: shrotonlines@gmail.com. Editor: Helen Christmas, Quince Cottage, The Corner. Please do submit stories, recipes and letters!

Issue 260

May 2023

Dates

Rubbish/Recycling

Main Village and Bessels

May

1: Recycling

8: Rubbish

15: Recycling

22: Rubbish

29: Recycling

June

5: Rubbish

The Corner and Courtney Close

May

3: Rubbish

10: Recycling

17: Rubbish

24: Recycling

31: Rubbish

June

7: Recycling

Every Wednesday in the Village hall: Coffee and chat from 10—12 pm. All welcome



SATURDAY 13TH MAY
10am - 1pm

VILLAGE HALL PLANT SALE

- Flower & Veg plants
- Perennials
- Produce for sale, jams, chutney etc.

Refreshments, tea, coffee, cake

URGENT
Please contact me if you can contribute to any of the above, I will even dig up and pot!
Also cake contributions greatly received.
Contact – Susan 860132

Order your annual bedding/basket plants in advance for collection on the day. Plant & Price List available on request.



It is the season of leather on willow and painstaking preparation of grass. Do come along and support Shroton cricket club and enjoy the new redecorated pavilion. For more details, see page 5 or contact Ailsa: 07917 743175

A short note from the editor:

May is in many ways a strange month. It promises much with tantalising sunshine and longer days, but often cold winds and sharp showers belie the appearance of summer.

However, despite this, Nature does its best to raise our spirits with budding flowers and trees, nesting birds and lawns which seem to grow when our backs are turned!

But, for many of our community it is also the advent of exams: GCSEs, A levels, University finals.

And I would like to send a warm message of 'Good luck' to all of those in Shroton who are facing exams in the coming months.

I am very conscious that this paper rarely mentions those who are still in their teens: or early twenties: a significant omission.

So...

GOOD LUCK and here's to a wonderful summer once they are all over!



It was with huge sorrow that Shroton said farewell to Tim Sullivan on Wednesday 26th April at St Mary's church.

As an excellent and hardworking chairman of the Parish Council, friend of the village, dog walker, telephone box painter and a generous, funny and kind person, Tim will be missed by all who knew him.

Our thoughts are with Maria, Jack, Julia and their family.

The May recipe: Rhubarb and Custard cake

ROASTED RHUBARB

Heat oven to 200C/fan 180C/gas 6. Rinse 400g rhubarb and shake off excess water. Trim the ends, then cut into little-finger-size pieces.

Put in a shallow dish or a baking tray, tip over 50g caster sugar, toss together, then shuffle rhubarb so it's in a single layer. Cover with foil, then roast for 15 mins. Remove foil. Give everything a little shake, roast for 5 mins more or until tender and the juices are syrupy.

The cake: ingredients

1 quantity roasted rhubarb (see above method)
250g pack butter, softened, plus extra for greasing
150g ready-made custard
250g self-raising flour
½ tsp baking powder
4 large eggs
1 tsp vanilla extract
250g golden caster sugar
icing sugar, for dusting

The cake: method

Make the roasted rhubarb first, carefully draining off the juice before you let it cool.

Butter and line a 23cm loose-bottomed or springform cake tin. Heat oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4.

Reserve 3 tbsp of the custard in a bowl. Beat the rest of the custard together with the butter, flour, baking powder, eggs, vanilla and sugar until creamy and smooth.

Spoon one-third of the mix into the tin, add some of the rhubarb, then dot with one-third more cake mix and spread it out as well as you can.

Top with some more rhubarb, then spoon over the remaining cake mix, leaving it in rough mounds and dips rather than being too neat about it. Scatter the rest of the rhubarb over the batter, then dot the remaining custard over.

Bake for 40 mins until risen and golden, then cover with foil and bake for 15-20 mins more. It's ready when a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean.

Cool in the tin, then dredge with icing sugar when cool.

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/rhubarb-custard-cake>

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Steve: 07833127929



Important Notice

Due to staff shortages

The dispensary at our Child Okeford surgery will be closing at 5:30pm on Friday 28th April

Whitecliff dispensary is not affected

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause

May by Christina Rossetti

I cannot tell you how it was,
But this I know: it came to pass
Upon a bright and sunny day
When May was young; ah, pleasant May!
As yet the poppies were not born
Between the blades of tender corn;
The last egg had not hatched as yet,
Nor any bird foregone its mate.
I cannot tell you what it was,
But this I know: it did but pass.
It passed away with sunny May,
Like all sweet things it passed away,
And left me old, and cold, and gray.

Ring in the new King

At 10 am on Monday 8th May, St Mary's ringers will be attempting to ring a peal of 5040 Doubles in 7 methods (St Nicholas, Winchendon Place, St Simon, St Martin, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, Grandsire)



NEWS from the VILAGE HALL

Huge thanks to the team that has given the village hall a Spring clean – Mike Jones, Barrie Mower, John Hedger, Matthew House, Judith Hewitt, Joe Holmes – it looks much brighter and welcoming.

The Easter egg workshop was well attended with a hunt and egg rolling on Hambledon Hill. A lovely family event. Hot Cross Buns on Good Friday started the Easter weekend off in a traditional way and it was lovely to welcome people in after the service on Hambledon Hill.

The Coronation is looming, and flyers have been distributed with details of what's on over that weekend. Please contact me if you'd like to help in any way emmahouse1@outlook.com 07983 464202. Coronation mugs are free to all Shroton school children and £5 for anyone else. Let me know if you'd like one, come and collect for your child/children.

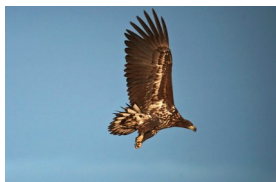
A general shout out for CAKES on Mon 8 May for our Make Do & Mend in the village hall. Please let me know if you can bring one along.

Plant sale on Sat 13 May 10am-12. More cake!

Village hall AGM is on Wed 7 June at 7pm. Please come along as we would love to hear what you would like from the village hall. What does it mean to you? If you don't use it now, what differences can we make so you might use it in the future? The hall needs a refurbishment and we'd like to know what your thoughts are. If you can't attend then please email me with your thoughts on the village hall, improvements, ideas etc.

Thank you, Emma

The 'eagle-eyed' amongst you may well have noticed the huge birds of prey which have haunted our fields for a couple of months. These are white tailed eagles, otherwise known as sea eagles and they are magnificent when seen soaring above the village. Having become extinct in the UK only a few years ago, they have been successfully introduced into areas, including the Isle of Wight and the pair who have been spotted here may well have moved across the sea to find new habitats. Whatever one's feelings about these raptors, they are certainly an impressive sight over our hills.



Shroton Cottage

The cottage was originally part of a small farmstead belonging (copyhold) to James Flippings and is mentioned in his 1715 Will. If you look at the 1836 Tithe Map, 3 fields are so named. The current cottage dates from the late 1700s. Charles Andrews lived and farmed the land when the Flippings family copyhold finished, and they continued farming at Stubhampton (you may have noticed Flippings Farm). The entrance to the cottage was originally past Quince cottage, Shroton Corner but the drive was in location on the 1836 Tithe Map.

Shroton farming changed in the late 1700s and the land was mostly held by the Andrews family with 2 big farms instead of small farmsteads. Shroton Cottage was described as '*dwelling house, garden and shrubbery*' and let to Captain Ryves in 1836. The Ryves family previously owned Ranston but had to sell it to pay off gambling debts in 1770.

The cottage was regularly advertised to let in London newspapers throughout the 1800s and often became the home of the clergy. The Reverend Seymour lived there whilst the Rectory was rebuilt in 1822 and the Bishop of Southwark rented it in 1895. The advert stated, '*furnished...the Cottage Shroton stands in 11 acres of paddock with small garden, good coach house and stabling for 3 horses. 3 sitting rooms, 4 good bedrooms, drawing room, bathroom with hot and cold water, 2 attics.*'

Shroton cottage was not part of the 1918 village sale although it was owned by the Pitt Rivers family, so it was probably sold privately before this date.

There was also a scandal at Shroton Cottage in 1851!

Emma Pethen had an arranged marriage to William Rabbetts with the ceremony being held at Hamoon Church. A baby was born 3 weeks later. Family gossip from the time suggested that the father of Emma's baby was a Minister of the church! It appears that Emma was a servant at Shroton Cottage, rented at that time by Frederick Bliss, curate of Hamoon. He was aged 37 with a wife and young family. After their hasty marriage, William (who was a farm labourer) was then suddenly elevated to a domestic gardener. We have to ask why?

He, Emma and their family lived at Shroton Corner. The Reverend Bliss moved away within 2 years of this event, and died at quite a young age.

Any questions? Judith 861565

N.B I will be giving a slide presentation in June (date to be decided) of all my village photographs, with associated village history information. Watch out for the advertised date. This will be held in Shroton Village Hall.

SHROTON CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

SAT 6 MAY

BAND (PRESSGANG) 6.30pm. Tickets £6, under 14's £4. Cash BBQ/Bar (meat & veggie, sorry no vegan). Village Hall.

Tickets available from Emma House emmahouse1@outlook.com 07983 464202

Or Wendy Gredley, Littleport, Main Street 07495 010396.

SUN 7 MAY

CELEBRATION CHURCH SERVICE 10am. Church open all w/e to view celebratory flower display.

THE BIG LUNCH: PICNIC ON THE GLEBE 12-2.30pm. Bring a picnic to share. Shroton Gin Bar. Music (12.15 Coronation Chickens, 12.50 Shroton Ukes, 1.30 The Dynamic Duo (Chris & Malcolm). Trestle tables & some chairs provided. Bring a gazebo and chair.

MON 8 MAY

THE BIG HELP OUT.

MAKE DO & MEND SURGERY 10am-12 Village Hall. Tea/coffee/cake.

Bring your broken gadgets and mending. Our sewing/knitting/craft team will patch, darn, mend, hem clothes & soft furnishings. The gadget team will have a go at fixing things – electrical, carpentry etc. All electrical goods will be pat tested Tuesday 9 May before being returned to owner.

CAR WASH 10am-12, Fourways, The Cross (John & Jan Simmons's house). Take your car for a free wash.

Do you need help with a trip to the tip? Gardening, (Hedges, weeding, pruning, general clearing), DIY, hanging pictures, putting up shelves, simple carpentry. Please contact Emma House emmahouse1@outlook.com 07983 464202 or Jan Simmons jan@fourways.plus.com or put a request in the box in the bus stop or church.

JUBILEE MUGS: Available from Emma House. £5 per mug. Shroton school children to receive a free mug.

Anyone for cricket?

We are keen to welcome children to Shroton CC who are keen to experience the game. Training sessions start at the Fairfield, Shroton, DT11 8QA on Friday 28th April, with younger players (generally U9 and U11) sessions running at 5.45 - 6.45pm and older juniors (generally U13 and U15) sessions running 7 - 8pm.

Our aim is to have a break at half term, therefore sessions will run from 28th April – 26th May with the second half of the training season running from 9th June - 7th July.

Session dates may be extended further into July, however we are just in the process of ensuring we have appropriate coaching staff in place.

A £50 membership fee is charged and covers all training and any matches. Any dispensation or special circumstances please speak to the club or get in contact: 07917 743175. The Club appreciates this may not be a viable option for some families in the current financial climate, so we would urge you to contact us. We are keen for all local children, who are enthused to participate to be facilitated to do so.

We have entered teams into the U9, U11, U13 and U15 leagues, along with the Ranston Evening League for our oldest juniors playing alongside adults.

Any queries do please get in touch: **Ailsa: 07917 743175**



Fontmell Community Support Hubs at Fontmell Magna Village Hall Hosted in partnership with the Fontmell Friendship Garden



2pm to 5pm

on these Wednesdays:

April: 26th
May: 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st
June: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
July: 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th

(Hall Closed from 31st July for 3 weeks)

All are welcome and it's FREE

Hot drinks, savoury snacks and cake

For further information please see the Parish Council website or visit our Facebook page @villagehallfontmellmagna or email: secretary.fmvh@mail.com

The Chalke Valley History Festival (26 June to 2 July)

If you have never been to this wonderful event, do take a moment to visit the website. Just up the road, you will find events, talks, re-enactments, lectures, book reading and much, much more. As the website says:

'With so much uncertainty in the world at the moment this unique festival of history invites us to look to the past to improve our understanding of what is happening today. Quite simply, history has never been more relevant.

We are constantly thinking of ways we can make your Chalke Valley experience exciting, varied and fascinating. Over the week, there are talks, panel discussions, up-close-and-personal sessions, with an astonishing array of brilliant historians, experts and public figures.

There are huge historic encampments, historical performers, special activities for children and families as well as all you would expect from an English summer festival: live music, food, drink, shopping, camping.

Immerse yourself in the sights, sounds and smells of past – the crack of cannon fire, glint of a sword, thunder of hooves, colourful banners flying – all set in the glorious, rolling landscape of ancient Wessex.'

<https://cvhf.org.uk/programme/>

RAPE SEED CROP

The yellow flowers of a rape seed crop can be seen around the village and the county. Although we think of oilseed rape as a 'new' crop, brightening up fields with their yellow show in spring and early summer, it was first recorded in the 14th century and 500 years later was used as a lubricating oil for steam engines. Oilseed rape production really took off in the UK in the 1970s. Now, nearly a million acres of these startlingly yellow flowers greet us from afar with their pungent smell: it is a member of the mustard family.

One reason we see so much rapeseed oil growing in our fields is because it helps to fertilise the soil by naturally adding nitrogen to it. This helps to improve the yield of the crops that are grown afterwards, such as wheat.

It is known as a 'break crop', a crop specially planted to give the cereal crops a 'break' from the cycle of weeds, pests and disease that build up in the soil. Other important break crops include potatoes, sugar beet, grasses, peas and beans.



Using each letter only once, how many words of 3 letters or more can you find in the word?

CORONATION

Coronation quiz: (answers on p 6)

1. Which 3 British monarchs have not had a coronation?
2. How long have coronations taken place at Westminster Abbey?

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THE TIGER

In 1767, it was advertised that a roaming menagerie was travelling to Shroton Fair, unveiling a Royal Bengal Tiger to the local inhabitants. As a popular event within the county, the Fair was an early location for these travelling shows, who brought a sample of the exotic to rural Dorset. The Eastern spices now used in every bottle of Zummit Dry® once again bring an Oriental splash back to the Blackmore Vale.

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Coronation quiz answers: 1. Edward V, Lady Jane Grey & Edward V111

2. Over 950 years



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Why did the golfer wear two pairs of pants?

In case he got a hole in one.

Why do seagulls fly over the land?

Because if they flew over the sea they would be bagels.



**Looking to advertise your company/
business or products? Contact Helen to
put an advert into the Shroton Lines::**

shrotonlines@gmail.com

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