

Defibrillator at Tidebrook Church

Just a reminder that there is a defibrillator in the porch of Tidebrook Church.

The outside door of the church which opens into the porch is unlocked 24/7.



Sonya Oldfield

On Monday 8th September Sonya passed away at Pembury Hospital. Before moving to Sparrows Green, Sonya lived for many years at Gill Wood in Tidebrook, where her home was host to the Tidebrook Fete for several years.

She was known by many in Tidebrook and was greatly involved in the life of Tidebrook Church, where her husband John was a longstanding churchwarden. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Our thoughts and condolences are with her family especially Jemma and Nigel, Lucie, Anina and Guy.

Tidebrook Breakfast with Prayer

On the first Saturday of each month a small group meets for breakfast at 8.30am in the Parish Room. We follow breakfast with a brief Bible reading and a time of prayer, ending at 9.45am.

We welcome all who may like to come and also welcome prayer requests on behalf anyone who may not be able to attend. The date for the next Breakfast is 4th October.

Contact David Payne at davidpayne07@gmail.com or on 01892 783731

Services in October

5th	11.00am	Harvest Family Service followed by Harvest Lunch <i>Please note later time for service start</i>
12th	5.00pm	The Five (refreshments served from 4.30pm)
19th	10.00am	Holy Communion
26th	10.00am	Morning Prayer

2nd November 10.00am Family Service – Shoebox Sunday

Beverley Boylan and David Barker, Churchwardens

Deadline for November: Thursday 16th October

Please contact Rosie Pearson with your news or other contributions for the next newsletter on 01892 784802 or email: rosie@hucksters.co.uk



TIDEBROOK NEWSLETTER

October 2025

This month there is the opportunity to meet with others at the Harvest Lunch on 5th October and looking ahead to November we will have the annual Shoebox Sunday service.

Thanks go to Alex Macdonald for, once again, painstakingly transcribing Lucy Maud's handwritten diary which you can read overleaf.

Harvest Festival Service and Lunch, 5th October

The service will be at 11am, followed by a Ploughman's Lunch at 12.30pm. All are welcome. If you wish to, please bring non-perishable items for Nourish our local foodbank. A useful list of items needed can be found on page 4 of FOCUS or their website www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk

*If you would like to come to the lunch please contact Betty Payne
bettypayne@gmail.com Tel: 01892 783731, or Beverley Boylan
sean.boylan@btpopenworld.com Tel: 01892 782332*

Shoebox Sunday: 2nd November

At the Family Service we will be packing gifts into shoeboxes to send to families in Eastern Europe who would otherwise not receive Christmas presents. Please bring empty shoeboxes and gifts as suggested in the leaflets placed in the church porch or download the leaflet with list of items for filling your shoeboxes at linktohope.co.uk Please check this list before you buy anything. Your shoebox will make a huge difference to someone's Christmas.

Details Beverley Boylan 01892 782332 sean.boylan@btpopenworld.com

Tidebrook Coffee Morning - would you like to host?

We are looking for someone who would be willing to host the next Tidebrook coffee morning which is due to be held on Thursday 30th October at 10.30am-12.00pm. Coffee/cake/biscuits are served and it is a lovely opportunity for people in Tidebrook to get together. All are welcome. You can turn up any time between 10.30am and midday as gatherings are always flexible. If someone kindly offers then details of the venue will be provided via Tidebrook WhatsApp or Tidebrook Communications email.

Vicki Soutar email: vickisoutar@gmail.com or phone 01435 874897

Lucy Maud's Diary - a Tidebrook History 1886

October 5th

There have been some excitements today as Mrs Hamilton came in the morning to fit us and Nell and Bess went to meet her by the early train (I arranged the flowers while they were gone for luncheon as Uncle Earnest and Miss Collard were coming to lunch. Then Ethel and I took Miss Hamilton to the station for the second train and so neatly missed a horrible state by lunch which of all things in the world I hate the most. Of course I suppose I shall find it interesting enough when I am able to talk with the others. It was arranged then that Miss Collard should give Et, Nell and myself drawing lessons which I have deserved awfully long. I even could learn by myself I'm afraid I haven't perseverance enough. Little Kathleen came down in the afternoon for about a half an hour and played ball with Iss on the lawn. She is such a sweet little child. Mrs Herrick said she must go away awfully soon in the afternoon. Perhaps it was that she was afraid of the cold but Puss says she is afraid we will convert her. Isn't it an absurd idea.

October 6th

Pussy went into Tunbridge Wells today to see about servants. We are going to have new housemaids, as Bessy is going away because she has misbehaved herself considerably. Puss brought our drawing papers and charcoal. We are going to have our first lesson on Tuesday. We went on a walk to the arch this afternoon and Nell and I called in to see Tony Blackman's wife, but she was out. I have forgotten to mention that M. Guay does not come at all this term. He wrote to Papa at the end of the holidays to say that he would not be able to come anymore. It's the most consummate stupid ass trick I ever heard as we were getting on so comfortably with our French and now we shall have to learn by ourselves. I am most awfully tired tonight so I don't intend to write anymore.

October 7th

This morning when I fed my doves they were getting ever so much tamer now to me and are always pleased when I come for they are always hungry. I got on very comfortably with my work this morning, only my sums were worrying. I'm doing stacks now. This afternoon George and I went to Buttons to see a girl that was ill. We had to go right down the front drive and so near to their house. I was dreadfully excited, because we met Miss Skerrit at the gate and she told us that they were all at home. However we got safely past and back which was a great comfort to me as I had an enormous dent in my dress which Auntie had cautioned me the day before to mend. Moral! Obey your Aunt. Another time when Nelly and I were with Papa we were not so fortunate and met Lady Santure and her brother-in-law in the middle of the drive where we could not fly and they made us come in and have tea with them. However I don't know how it was only I know they made me for one quite forget my untidy dress and dirty boots. Though we had tea in about the most magnificent

corner of a room you could well imagine and we saw the two daughters. They looked rather like milkmaids then but that was ever so long ago and now Alfred, who has seen them once at the station says they are the most splendid ladies he has ever seen, though the youngest is growing a moustache. So now to bed.

October 9th

Sunday! Sunday is usually a very pleasant day with me. It's so jolly, especially in the term where we drop work and then Alfred, as often as not, comes down from the city and spends the Sunday with us. And I do like the singing in church too. Singing by oneself ones voice sounds so weak but all together. I think in that book the Draytons and the Davenant the author has hold of the right end of both sides. Harry Davenant must have been exactly like Charlie, only Charlie is a Radical and all for liberty. I have been having vast discussion whether I ought to. I might put down allusions. I went out a long walk with Alf and Nell and George this evening. Aunt worried me when I was coming up the stairs this evening by saying that if I ever married (there is a million chances against it thank goodness) I was certain to marry a tiny little man altogether. If I write grievances anymore I shall get quite angry. Charlie wrote in his letter to me that he was coming here for a few days before he went to Oxford. Only now I am worried he isn't. If he did you know we might worry him to take her over to see Louey at Miss Watsons and that would put her into a good temper and Louey says she is awfully cross just now and we would be able to get a good talk with Louey which we haven't have for ever so long. There are one or two rules in this house which are very quaint. Auntie gets worried if we do not get out of bed at seven and if we are not down to meals. Nelly is never down in time for breakfast, always two or three minutes late.

Another Tale of Tidebrook *Thank you to Michael Sands for his contribution. He lived in Tidebrook from 1938 to 1960.*

The Tidebrook Cub Pack

Miss Kelsey lived at Riseden and ran the Tidebrook Cub pack. There is a pond in the field up beyond the house where she took us to have camp fires (in daytime) and to cook "damper" a sort of (rather unappetising) dough. She also let us fish in the pond where we caught lots of little perch. There was one big (well, biggish) tench which we dreamed of catching. One afternoon, Tony Farmer and I were fishing the pond and it was a bit boring, so we left our lines in the water and went exploring. On our return, I pulled in my line, felt resistance and hooked the tench!!! I carried it home in a big earthenware pot of water and later released it in the smaller pond in Towngate Farm. I think it didn't survive the move as that pond was not terribly well oxygenated.