



Winning entry for Parish wide sign design competition



Runners up for Parish wide sign design competition



#### Shoreham village sign

Celebrating 100 years of the Cross in Shoreham and coinciding with the hundredth anniversary of village signs in Kent, Shoreham Parish Council ran a competition to design a village sign. The sign reflects the unique history and heritage of the Parish, focusing primarily on the Cross and the sweeping hills of this part of the Darent Valley, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Other features pick out important areas of historical and cultural value to Shoreham.

The Cross was dug in May 1920 as a memorial to those who died in the first world war. A line of sight to the Cross was re-established in 2019 from the War Memorial near the bridge. Both the bridge and memorial are listed features.

As the most bombed village in England during world war two, those links have stayed with the Parish. There are Commonwealth war graves in the churchyard, an aircraft museum and the Spitfire is a regular sight over the valley.

The church is grade 1 listed and dates back to Norman times. It houses a rare late medieval wooden rood screen and a Burne-Jones designed stained glass window, made by Morris & Co. There are several notable graves in the churchyard, from artists to explorers. George Wilmott took over Shoreham paper mill in 1841 and ran it for the next 60 years. George built The Mount which is now the site of the vineyard. He features in the painting in the Church of the explorer Cameron with his fox terrier by his wheelchair. The railway which served the paper mill now serves as important access for the Parish, bringing trade and tourists to the village. Many come to see the fields of purple lavender at Castle Farm or the annual Duck Race!

The tradition of artists in the parish is typified by Samuel Palmer whose Romantic paintings of Shoreham are his most famous.

With a two sided sign the sun is either rising or setting, reflecting the East and West nature of the Parish.

The Cross / Church / Memorial  
Bridge / River Darent  
Samuel Palmer  
Vineyard / Lavender  
Spitfire  
Paper Mill  
Train  
Duck Race

