beach news

The Magazine of Shoreham Beach Residents' Association



Summer 2026

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Councillor's Notes



By Joss Loader

A very warm welcome to the Summer issue of Beach News, after record-breaking temperatures in May and June.

It remains to be seen if the rest of the summer is as hot – but let's hope our children get to enjoy some sunshine and our lovely beach during the school holidays.

As always, we've asked for extra seasonal bins and regular traffic warden patrols, to help keep our streets clear and tidy.

Devolution – There's still no certainty about the biggest local government shake-up in more than 50 years.

What we do know is that Adur and Worthing Councils will cease to exist from 2028 – and the Government is set to decide this month, following its latest consultation. The most likely option looks to be a coastal unitary authority, comprising Adur, Arun and Worthing.

Cllr Julia Watts and I will remain as your district councillors until then. For more information, please see P22.

Youth provision – SBRA was delighted to support the Dock Youth Club, which has been running on Sundays at the Church of the Good Shepherd Hall on the second Sunday of every month.

Young people who are due to start secondary school in September are particularly welcome over the summer, giving them a chance to socialise with other children they will be attending school with. More information on P27.

Subscriptions: Beach News is produced and printed by Shoreham Beach Residents' Association and is delivered to every household on the Beach, three times a year, by our loyal volunteers.

Our sincere thanks to those who support SBRA through annual subscriptions. We account for all our expenditure by producing audited accounts at our AGM in March.

cont page 4...

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....cont from page 3

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Envelopes can be placed in the SBRA box at the Beach Store in Ferry Road; or delivered to 14 Shingle Road (Joyce Willson) or 25 Falcon Close (Joss Loader).

Alternatively, you can email shorehambeachra@gmail.com to pay by BACs.

The subscription is £2.50 per adult, or £5 for a household of two adults or more.

Funds help us to:

- Make occasional grants to Beach-based organisations.
- Fund community initiatives, including the community planting area by the Adur Ferry Bridge, street planters; and to continue to maintain the publicly-accessible defibrillators at Ferry Road, Emerald Quay and outside the church hall in King's Walk.

Wishing you a happy and enjoyable summer. With sincere thanks for your ongoing support.

BEACH NEWS

Shoreham Beach Residents' Association

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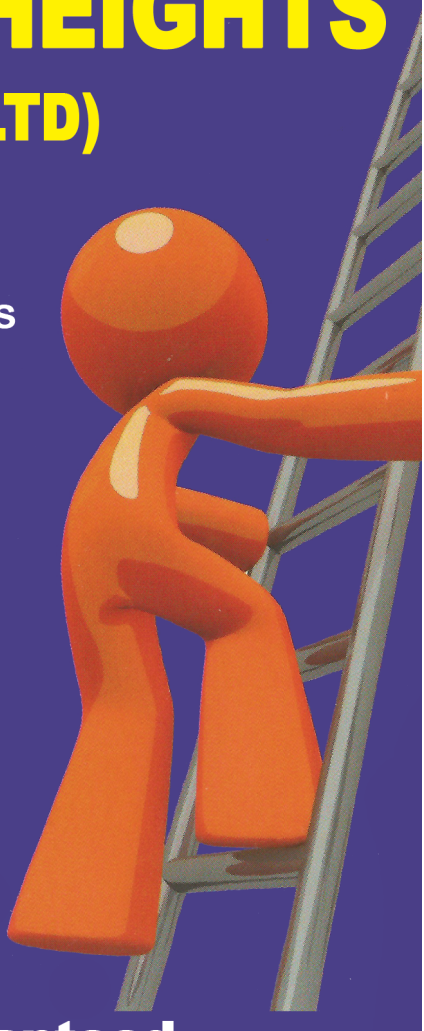
Page layout & design Sally Sinclair

Beach News is published by Shoreham Beach Residents' Association (SBRA) three times a year and is delivered to households, free of charge. Views expressed in the magazine are not necessarily those of SBRA.

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HELPING TO SAVE LIVES

Shoreham Beach now has another publicly-accessible defibrillator, thanks to generous members and donors at the Harbour Club.

The life-saving machine, which is located outside the main entrance to the Harbour Way club, is accessible 24/7.

Shoreham Beach Residents' Association funded and installed two defibrillators in Ferry Road and outside the Church of the Good Shepherd hall in King's Walk several years ago. SBRA maintains these and funds replacement pads and batteries.

Cllr Joss Loader also installed a further 14 machines across Adur during her Chair of Adur appeal in 2018/19, working with the Sussex Heart Foundation and community groups. One of these is located at Emerald Quay, adjacent to the main entrance.

There is a further defibrillator outside the National Coastwatch Institute watchtower at Shoreham Fort, installed by their charity.

In the event of an emergency, please dial 999 and require emergency assistance FIRST. You will then be advised of the nearest machine and will be given the access code.

Joss said: "Huge thanks to everyone who donated at the Harbour Club. It was a great community initiative, initiated and run by them, and it's very positive to have another AED at the eastern end of the Beach."





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Beach Matters



Shoreham Beach Residents' Association councillor Julia Watts reports:

It has been an eventful four months since I last wrote in Beach News. Firstly, thanks to all of you who kindly voted for me in the May elections. I'm so grateful to get the chance to continue the work that I've done over the last four years and I hope that continuity will help with the smooth handover to the unitary authority.

The elections for these are next May and the shadow unitary begins at that date with full handover in May 2028.

I was surprised and delighted to be offered the chance to be Chair of Adur District Council for 2026/27 and I was elected in the first full Council meeting of this term.

I'm in good company; Cllr Joss Loader has already chaired the Council and there are four other previous chairs amongst the current members.

I've decided that rather than nominate a couple of charities and fund raise for them, I'd like to embark on a community project. I am calling this 'Additionally Adur' and the idea is to fund, facilitate and enable communities to look at obtaining the following:-

- Community libraries (I've ordered one for the beach already – details to follow)
- Adoption of planters and planting areas
- Memorial trees and wishing trees
- Swift and sparrow boxes
- Water butts

I will be organising a few events to help fund the project and I hope that some of you can come to these. At the minute I'm busy contacting all the organisations who might help - including Men in Sheds, Shoreham Library, Shoreham and District Ornithological Society, Southern Water etc.

I'd be very pleased to hear from anyone who would like to sponsor a tree in memory of a loved one.

If anyone would like to be involved in any aspect of the project, please do get in touch, using the contact details on P4.

Our summer issues – bins and parking

The hot May Bank Holiday weekend delivered the usual problems with overfilled refuse bins and inconsiderate parking. Parking wardens were deployed around our streets but inevitably they cannot catch them all.

Adur District Council did provide another five bins at the Ferry Road entrance at our request – their delivery naturally preceded two weeks of wind and rain!

As I write, Joss and I were due to meet our PCSOs to discuss various incidents of anti-social behaviour including speeding on Beach Green and the do-nutting in the Beach Green and Fort car parks.

Mostly they agree to 'monitor' this whereas I think some residents would just prefer to see the car parks closed at night but as with everything this throws up another set of issues. Please continue to report any issues to the Police.

Wishing you all a lovely summer



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FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS UPDATE

Household food waste collections are on track to be rolled out across Adur in September.

The new weekly collection service will be introduced in phases, and refuse and recycling will continue to be collected on alternate weeks.

ADC will write to all households over the summer to update residents regarding specific dates and how the new system will operate.

Food waste caddies will be then delivered to you before collections begin.

The waste collected will go to an anaerobic digestion plant in Horsham. The plant recycles the waste into fertiliser to help farmers grow crops. If there's extra energy, it will be sent to the National Grid to power homes and businesses.

West Sussex County Council reports that around a third of the average rubbish placed in bins in the county comprises food waste - most of which is avoidable.

In fact, 70% could have been eaten at some point before being thrown away. Of that, 41% is just not used in time and 25% is binned because too much has been cooked.

Saving food from going to waste is not only good for the environment but can also save you money; waste food is the equivalent of £20 per month per person, or an average of £80 per month for a family of four.

For more information, check out: www.adur-worthing.gov.uk/food-waste/

Looking to advertise in Beach News?

We publish our magazine three times a year, in March, July and November. Distribution is to every household on the Beach, by trusted volunteers.

Rates:Full page: £120
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WHAT A LOAD OF RUBBISH!

While I love a heatwave, hot weather always brings a myriad of litter-related issues on the Beach, writes Cllr Joss Loader.

Cllr Julia Watts and I always work closely with the council's refuse teams to ensure that seasonal bins are placed in key areas but some people still appear unable, or unwilling, to use them correctly.

We regularly post on social media, to remind visitors to the beach of the following:

- Dog poo bags can be placed in ordinary litter bins if red bins are full
- Rubbish left by a bin is fly tipping
- Other bins are often located close by - with capacity - if one is overflowing
- Public green-coloured bins, placed in public areas, can be used for any litter
- Surplus household waste should be taken to the tip, not crammed into public bins
- If there's no bin capacity, please take rubbish home.

Public-spirited residents, plus the Friends of Shoreham Beach, work hard to organise litter-picks on both the nature reserve and in public areas.

If a public bin has been missed - or is overfull - you can report it online: https://shorturl.at/blaU7

You can also report other issues including graffiti, missed household bins, requests to remove dead animals and issues with public toilets - Report it - Adur & Worthing Councils (adur-worthing.gov.uk)



MIKE SANDON LOOKS AT BEACH LIFE



"Don't worry, Charlotte, somebody will clear it up ! "

For signed copies of Mike's work, please email him at mikesang@mikesang.plus.com

Beware of bogus parking tickets

Scams are becoming increasingly believable, so Adur and Worthing Councils are reminding residents to stay vigilant and always check that any correspondence received is genuine.

The councils' parking team regularly checks for potential scams, reporting them to the relevant organisations and helping to raise awareness. If you receive a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN), please remember:

- A genuine PCN issued by a council warden will always be placed on your vehicle's windscreen first.
- If the charge remains unpaid, a Notice to Owner will be sent by post to the registered keeper of the vehicle. This will always include our organisation's name and contact details. Registered keeper information is obtained through the DVLA.
- The councils' parking team will never text you. They'll only call you if returning a voicemail. If you make contact by email or letter to appeal a PCN or ask a question, the response will be by the same method.
- They'll only request payment of a PCN through their official parking portal, never via a third-party website.

The latest parking scams use councils' names and include the recipient's name and vehicle details, but quote an incorrect PCN. It's therefore important to check the points above carefully before clicking on any links or making a payment.

If you're unsure whether a PCN is genuine, email parking.comments@adur-worthing.gov.uk

If you believe a message is fraudulent, please report it to Action Fraud.





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Would you like to get involved with making Shoreham Beach an even better place to live?

There are several ways you can help - including:

- Supporting Shoreham Beach Residents' Association as a member (subscriptions envelope enclosed in this magazine).
For details of how we spend the subscriptions and where to drop off subs envelopes, please see P3.

SBRA has two independent councillors representing us on Adur District Council - Cllrs Joss Loader and Julia Watts.

- Joining SBRA as a committee member.
We meet once a month, apart from August and December.

- Becoming part of our gardening group, which has helped to transform the public beds by the Adur Ferry Bridge.

- Advertising your business in Beach News.
We are a non-profit making organisation and endeavour to cover all the magazine's production costs, through advertising.

- Supporting community groups including the Friends of Shoreham Beach and the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI).

SBRA chair Joss Loader said: "We are very lucky to live in such a lovely place, flanked by the river and the sea. We are always looking for help to enhance life for residents and would very much like to hear from you."

Like to find out more - please email shorehambeachra@gmail.com for more information.

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Celebration Party for Popular Local Residents

By Julia Coe

In June there was a celebration party held for four friends, Richard, Ann, Andrew and James. Following a campaign that has last for over three years their future is finally secure.

Their house was generously bequeathed to the charity Leonard Cheshire Disability by kind resident, Frank Hill back in 1987.

Frank's wishes were that his home would provide a safe home for adults with learning disabilities to enable them to live in a caring, supportive home environment.

This house has been a shining example of the way in which adults with learning disabilities can live fulfilled and enriched lives - successfully integrated into the local community.

For over 20 years, Richard, Ann, Andrew and James' families have been confident in the knowledge that their loved ones are living in a community which welcomes them and helps them live as independently as possible.

Sadly, in January 2023, Leonard Cheshire Disability informed their families that the house was to be sold which would result in the four friends being moved away from each other, their families and friends to a new location anywhere in West Sussex.

When a campaign was started by their families to save the house the local community stepped forward to help.

MPs Tim Loughton and Tom Rutland both met the directors from Leonard Cheshire in person. Local councillors, Joss Loader and Kevin Boram joined the families at meetings and provided invaluable advice.

After over three years of campaigning, everyone was overjoyed when, in September, an offer made by Worthing Homes housing association was accepted and with the sale now complete was was time to celebrate.

The party was held in the garden with entertainment provided by the band, Catalina. A special song was written by the band members to sing along to which brought a tear to a few eyes! There were supporters from far and wide and some people who had only heard about the friends plight through the publicity campaign started by the families.

So, a happy ending for Richard, Ann, Andrew and James and what a fine example of a community coming together. The families have always felt that this community has wanted to support and care for these four friends and it just goes to show what can be achieved when everyone pulls together and never gives up hope!

Thank you to everyone who has helped along the way!





Learning is fun at Shoreham Beach Primary School

As always, it's been a busy time at Shoreham Beach Primary, writes head teacher Darren Vallier

Last term we were visited by an author, welcomed Superheroes in Nursery, experienced a Silent Disco, enjoyed plenty of exploring and climbing, and ensured children experienced plenty of music and art opportunities.

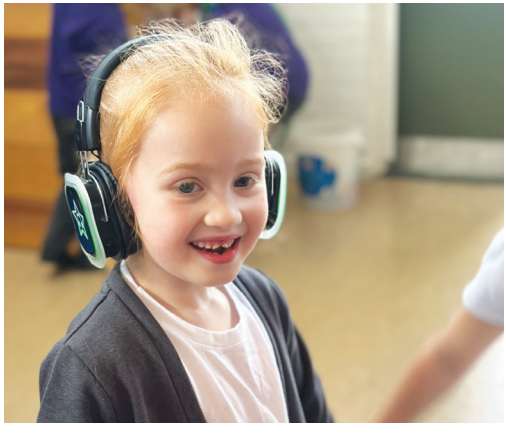
Each class has visited the beach and we all enjoyed watching our ducklings hatch and grow.

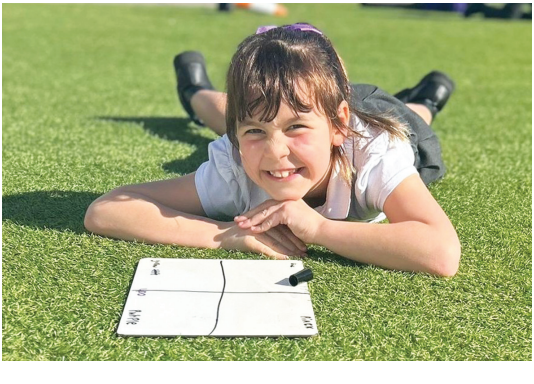
Children have been visiting the pond, growing things, and have thoroughly enjoyed their learning journeys.

We even have a Kazoo Orchestra.

We have a few spaces in a couple of year groups and are currently filling up our Nursery sessions. Contact the school office if you would like more information on 01273 462688.











Shoreham beach primary school Kazoo Orchestra















SHOREHAM WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Connect, Share, Belong

By Caroline Webster

The Shoreham Beach WI was suspended in April 2026 due to the National Federation of Women's Institutes announcing that it could no longer offer formal membership to transgender women.

The Women at our WI felt that they could not support this decision and decided to relaunch a new independent group - a fully inclusive social group so we can continue to meet, support each other - without compromise.

Our new group is now set up and already has over 40 members. Our aims and objectives are:

- To create a safe, inclusive and supportive space for women
- To provide a mutually supportive network for connection and collaboration
- To organise educational, cultural and social events for members
- To uphold values of equality, respect and empowerment

Membership is open to any person who identifies as a woman and supports our aims and objectives – it is committed to inclusivity and will not discriminate based on race, disability, religion, sexual orientation or background.

We are up and running and already enjoying various outings, walks and social events.

We would love to meet you if you wish to join us and see what we are all about.

We meet at the Church of the Good Shepherd Hall, Kings Walk, Shoreham Beach on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

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LATEST NEWS
FROM THE FRIENDS OF SHOREHAM BEACH

By FoSB Chair Julia Watts



FoSB ran a very successful flower walk on the gorgeous late May Bank Holiday Sunday. It was a particularly beautiful Spring on the beach and the flowers were in full bloom.

20th anniversary celebrations - We are planning a Beach Clean and a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Local Nature Reserve on Saturday 25th July at 12 noon at the Ferry Road entrance. Please bring a picnic.

We will be organising a **shoreline exploration day** in August but we don't have a firm date yet – we'll announce this on our Facebook page when more details are available.

Meanwhile our invasive species clearing days will be continuing over the summer months. We've noticed a considerable spread of 'Three Cornered Garlic' this year which shelters around the walls of people's gardens. This one is hard to eradicate as anyone who has it accidentally in their garden will tell you. We are aiming for 'control' rather than extinction here.

Equally the Red Valerian and Silver Ragwort whilst pretty in flower is really taking hold north of the boardwalk. We are aiming to just stop it jumping to south of the boardwalk where it could compete with the more fragile plants such as sea kale and yellow horned poppy which we are seeking to encourage.

Seal sightings - In June we had a visit from a young seal who hauled herself up onto the shingle for a snooze. One of the residents called The British Divers Marine Rescue and two volunteers who were trained in mammal rescue and recovery arrived to assess the seal's condition. She appeared to be breathing very fast but we were assured that this was quite normal.

The volunteers kept watch over the seal just to make sure that dog owners were alerted to her presence. Dogs can attack seals and equally seals have a nasty bite and tend to latch on! Luckily it was a horrible day so beach traffic was low.

I know because I sat and read my kindle near to her for a bit and was rewarded by her suddenly looking a lot more alert and finally flopping down the beach and into the sea. Amazing!

I have included some video on our FoSB Facebook page if anyone would like a look.

The number for BDMR is 01825 765546 in case anyone needs it in the future.





Tales Of the The Riverbank

By Toni O'Sullivan

It has been a busy few months since my last piece.

In March, my son and his best mate came down from Bristol to replace my top cabin roof which had started to leak. To be honest, I am surprised it lasted as long as it did – 21 years is pretty good going for what is effectively a glorified shed roof. Just ply and roofing felt and hardly any insulation.

A four-day job turned into a ten-day job as is the way but mainly down to lashing rain and high winds. We now have a very well insulated, rubber covered roof. My son was astounded we hadn't frozen to death in the cold winters, our bedroom being the least insulated area of the boat. The added bonus is that it will now be cooler in the summer and the seagull landing strip is more muffled now. Here's hoping it lasts another 21years!

Low tides at the end of May enabled us to get our hull painted too. Two local lads braved the mud and jet washed, then painted the hull in two coats of bitumen paint. So, good to go for another couple of years, I hope. Thanks to Sam and Drift, good job.





In June I took part in the Adur Arts Trail for the second year, running. I am part of the Rebus community arts group run by the very talented Lisa Green.

This year four houseboats took part in the art trail including Verity, the newest addition to the riverbank (that was on Grand Designs). Needless to say, we all had hundreds of visitors on each day even on the opening Saturday which had terrible weather. Hats off, literally, to the brave souls that braved the weather that day.

Our exhibition took place in the floating (when the tide is in obviously) studio next to houseboat Rebus Stone.

We had a theme this year of "Where the Land Meets the Sea" so a lot of our work used a similar palette of colours. It made for a very calming and tranquil exhibition, beautifully curated by Lisa who has a great eye for putting things in just the right spot.

We had a lot of lovely comments and compliments and I know I speak for the group when I say we couldn't have achieved half of it without her constant encouragement.

I have converted one of the sheds on my jetty into my very own art studio. Now that I know that "this art thing" isn't just a passing fad, I have decided to treat myself to a dedicated space that can contain my ever-growing supply of art materials and frames.

I am a second-hand dealer by trade and therefore am able to source lots of new and unused art supplies at car boots from people whom art was just a passing fad. I try to spend some time in there every day even if it is only for fifteen minutes. I can thoroughly recommend it.

The biggest shake-up of local authorities for more than 50 years has yet to be finally decided.

The Government is now proposing to form a coastal West Sussex unitary authority, comprising Adur, Arun and Worthing.

At the time of writing, the leaders of Adur District Council and Worthing Borough Council have written to the government in response to the second consultation on local government reorganisation (LGR) in Sussex.

As their official response to the consultation, which has now closed, both leaders have expressed enthusiasm for the opportunities that a coastal unitary authority which covers Adur, Arun and Worthing could bring but stressed that any new authority must be financially viable from day one.

Your Adur district councillors, representing the Beach - Cllrs Joss Loader and Julia Watts - have both stressed that the current proposals appear to be uncosted and called for clear, evidence-backed financial data.

In March this year the Government wrote to councils in Sussex to advise them that it had not made a decision on which unitary solution to apply in the two counties, and would instead run a second consultation to seek feedback on two potential modifications.

Proposals developed by West Sussex's councils would have seen one unitary authority covering Horsham, Crawley and Mid Sussex, and one covering Chichester, Arun, Worthing and Adur.

In the government's revised West Sussex unitary arrangement option, Chichester would be moved into a unitary authority alongside Crawley, Horsham and Mid Sussex.
The population would be around 566,000.

The second West Sussex unitary authority would comprise Arun, Adur and Worthing, with a population of around 349,000.

The Government will now consider all representations received. Ministers will then decide which, if any, models for reorganisation will be taken forward for Sussex. It has said that all responses and representations received for all consultations will be considered, no final decisions have yet been made and that all reorganisation options consulted on for the area remain open for consideration.

A decision on LGR in Sussex was expected before the summer parliamentary recess, which begins on 16th July.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government has provided a summary of the local government reorganisation process.

Elections to the new shadow unitary authorities are anticipated in 2027, preparing for their formal launch in 2028.

More information can be found at www.shapingwestsussex.org.

There will be no immediate changes for residents and West Sussex's councils will continue to operate and deliver services until the handover to these new authorities in 2028.



MARKING THE LONGEST DAY OF THE YEAR

Shoreham Beach Residents' Association organised its first-ever Solstice event on June 20th – attracting a lively and engaged audience.

Held on a beautiful summer's evening – with a light breeze and warm sunshine – it was a fitting way to mark the impending "longest day" of the year (June 21st).

Organised by SBRA vice-chair Julia Watts, ably supported by Pat Hand, Yaz Jenner, Joyce Willson, Joan Moore and Joss Loader, we are sincerely grateful to our volunteers, supporters and the acts themselves for making it an event to remember.

ACTS:

The proceedings got under way with a traditional Mummers' Play, led by Hamish and his team. Our sincere thanks to them and the other talented performers and singers who made this such a great evening.

Other performers included:

Eray the belly dancer
The Agitators
Drum and Blaze
Shoreham Singers by Sea
Salty Mares

We would like to officially thank our **sponsors** for their generosity. They included:

Dell Stewart
Jenner Construction
Paul Dennett, Your Mortgage Guru
Hast Trading

Grateful thanks to our volunteers and supporters, who gave their time and support, including:

Louis Major – technical support
Carla and Darcey Davis
- face painting

To find out more about SBRA and its work, visit www.shorehambeachra.co.uk



National Coastwatch
EYES ALONG THE COAST

NCI Shoreham Publicity Officer Craig Searle reports:

Summer is normally our busiest period, both in terms of incidents and events we attend. We have a handful of trainees currently training with us and there is always room for more if you have a few hours to spare a week. We have recently renovated and modernised our watch room, ensuring we will be able to carry on saving lives into the future.

Incidents

We've had a busy start to the year already. Our incidents so far include capsized sailing dinghies, a lost child, unidentified objects in the water and multiple people overboard from the same vessel.

We observed an inflatable boat approaching the harbour. The two persons onboard fell into the sea, and with the engine still running, the boat continued round in circles. We immediately phoned 999 for the Coastguard and informed them of the situation.

Fortunately, there were other vessels nearby who also spotted the incident and came to the aid of the two people in the water within minutes.

There was communication between the vessels on the local harbour VHF radio channel, which we relayed the messages directly to the Coastguard. This included the need for one of the persons requiring medical attention. The Coastguard was able to arrange an ambulance to meet the persons ashore.

The two persons were brought to Shoreham Port locks by a RIB who pulled the persons out of the water, where they met the ambulance ashore. The inflatable boat was caught and towed in by a yacht.

West Sussex High Sheriff Award

Amongst other selected individuals and organisations, we were presented with the West Sussex High Sheriff Award in March. The award is presented in recognition of outstanding service to the community.

Colin Clay, Station Manager, on collecting the award said, "I am truly honoured and humbled to receive this award for our station and on behalf of all our wonderful volunteers. It came as a complete surprise and it's a real lift for all our crew who always pull together to keep our daily watches going, raise funds for our station and most of all play vital role in helping to keep people safe along this busy stretch of coastline."



SPOT

In June, our new national mascot was unveiled – SPOT the watchkeeper. The dalmatian dog makes a perfect fit and joins our line-up of more than 2,800 volunteers across England & Wales, all of whom help to keep people safe and save lives along the coast by maintaining a daily visual and radio watch, looking out for anyone in potential danger.

SPOT SAYS
STAY SAFE ALONG THE COAST

Visits

As part of our ongoing learning and collaboration with other organisations, some of our watchkeepers took the opportunity to visit Shoreham Port, the Coastguard Helicopter and the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre. The visits proved very insightful and strengthened our understanding.



Unusual Vessels

Our Watchkeepers are fortunate to enjoy a unique vantage point overlooking our busy waters, where we sometimes get unusual and noteworthy vessels passing by. Recent sightings have included the impressive tall ship Morgenster, who visited Shoreham Port over the late May Bank Holiday Weekend. Also observed was the expedition cruise ship World Navigator, who passed within 2 miles of Shoreham. We are also looking forward to seeing Nao Santa María which will be visiting Shoreham Port in July.

Fundraising

We rely entirely on donations to operate, and any donations received go straight into saving lives along our coast. If you would like to donate, find one of our donation tins, bank transfer using the details below, or pop into the station! Thank you.

Account NCI Shoreham
Sort code 40-34-35
Account number 01250787

Contact Information
National Coastwatch Shoreham
can be contacted:
By Landline - 01273 033457
VHF Channel 65 - Call Sign Shoreham NCI
Website - nci.org.uk/shoreham
Social Media - Search 'NCI Shoreham'





NEWS

FROM THE VICARAGE



The Rev'd Jane Bartlett reports:

At the Good Shepherd, we sometimes reflect that we may be one of the UK churches closest to the sea.

Our unique shoreline setting, between two local nature reserves, is something very special.

Since medieval times, Christian coastal communities have marked their spiritual relationship with the water. These traditions often include prayers for the protection of fishermen, for a fruitful harvest from the sea, and symbolic acts such as casting a wreath onto the water or sprinkling it with holy water.

Inspired by this tradition, the Good Shepherd held its first 'Blessing of the Sea' service last summer. The event took place outdoors at the Pollinator Café, which has a wonderful view over the harbour, and music provided by the talented Durrant family, who run the café. Because the service was so warmly received, we are holding it again this summer, weather permitting, on **Sunday 19th July at 3pm**.

In the light of growing concern about pollution in our rivers and seas, and overfishing, our water blessing includes a strong environmental focus. Last year, our service brought together local groups who care for those who go to sea, alongside conservation groups who care for the sea itself. We hope to do the same again this year. During the service, a driftwood cross was cast into the water as a reminder that the sea is part of God's providence and therefore something to be cherished. Everyone is very welcome to attend and be part of the sea celebration.

Having a church so close to the sea brings ongoing maintenance challenges. At the time of writing, we are trying to raise funds to replace our mullion windows - the tall windows in the 1970s church extension. Over the years, these windows have deteriorated, and the thin glass is a source of heat loss. We hope to replace them with windows of a similar design, but with double glazing to help conserve energy and fulfil our commitments as an eco-church.

Raising the thousands of pounds needed for major repairs is always a challenge, especially as we receive no funding from elsewhere and must generate all support locally. We are grateful for the generous donations we have already received, but there is still more to raise.

If you would like to donate, please contact the church treasurer and we will be glad to provide details of how to give (email: cogstreasurer2025@gmail.com).

As part of church general fundraising, we are looking forward to a summer concert from Coastline Harmony, a women's choir that sings a capella in harmony. This will be on **Saturday 22nd August at 6.30pm**. Donations go to the church, and all are welcome. The church is a fantastic venue for concerts, something we'd love to encourage.

The Good Shepherd is open most days for visitors, 9am-5pm. If you venture into the side chapel, you will find a changing exhibition of church community art. Do stop by and take a look - we have some great local talent. I hope you enjoy the many blessings of life on Shoreham Beach this summer.

www.goodshepherdshorehambeach.org.uk





Everyone in school Year 6-9 is welcome

SHOREHAM WORDFEST

1-11 OCTOBER 2026

Shoreham WORDFEST


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NATALIE HAYNES


JONATHAN FREEDLAND


ELLY GRIFFITHS

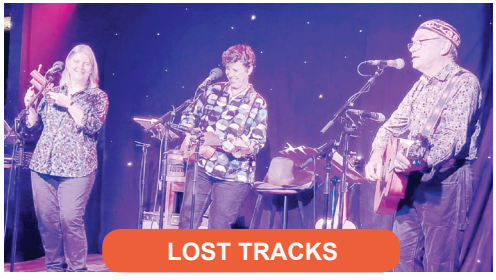

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TICKETS: www.shorehamwordfest.com
Shoreham Markets | 07515 800957

Shoreham Wordfest 2026: Time and Tide



LOST TRACKS

Shoreham Wordfest is launching a vibrant celebration of books, ideas, and imagination for their 15th annual festival from October 1st to 11th. In support of the National Year of Reading throughout 2026, the Wordfest team are delighted to present a dazzling line-up of outstanding authors and unforgettable events in this year's festival.

The theme, "Time and Tide," takes inspiration from the ever-changing beauty of our local landscape, from the river estuary to the seashore. The shifting colours, textures, and tides capture a sense of transformation and wonder, inviting us to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and imagine the future.

This year's programme is bursting with opportunities for discovery, inspiration, and pure enjoyment. The much-loved author and poet Michael Rosen is making a return visit at popular request. The hugely successful Fatal Shore crime writing day is back, hosted by authors Elly Griffiths and William Shaw and this year featuring Richard Coles. Also, a whole day exploring Sussex History – from pagans to pirates.

First-time guests include the acclaimed journalist Jonathan Freedland, Iain Dale LBC presenter, author and filmmaker Afua Hirsch and the brilliant classicist and broadcaster Natalie Haynes. Add to that comedy and poetry from Henry Normal, Afternoon Tea and Prosecco with Simon Brett at Sussex Yacht Club and a host of other exceptional speakers and performers.



DAVID BRAMWELL



HENRY NORMAL

There is musical theatre with "Lost Tracks" by The Platform 3, a tale of forbidden love and the rise and fall of a 60s folk-pop group. David Bramwell will give an extraordinary presentation "Ghosts of the Medicine Show" on the shamanic roots of popular entertainment and the festival finishes with a concert of Sussex Poetry and Song.

Ticket sales will be live on the Shoreham Wordfest website from Wednesday 1 July. 10,000 copies of the festival brochure will be distributed widely across the region and at the Shoreham Markets and you can dive into the full programme at any time on the website.

Shoreham Wordfest is a locally based charitable trust championing literary and community arts, and they are looking forward to growing and evolving in the years ahead.

Powered by a team of dedicated volunteers and trustees, the festival continues to bring people together through creativity, conversation, and shared experience. The team warmly welcome new members, fresh ideas, and future supporters to be part of the journey.

For more details of the programme and to buy tickets go to the festival website: www.shorehamwordfest.com.

You can also buy direct from the Shoreham Markets throughout July to September or call the Wordfest box office on 07515 800957.

Shoreham WORDFEST

Transforming Outdoor Spaces with Colour and Light



Louise Durham, a renowned stained glass artist, has been creating stunning sculptures that celebrate life's special moments for over two decades, locally.

Known especially for her unique garden sculptures, Louise's work is a vibrant expression of colour and light, designed to uplift and inspire awe in both homes and gardens.

An example of her stunning work is featured on the front cover of this issue of Beach News.

Louise's artistic journey is deeply connected to her life in Shoreham, where she has lived since her early 20s.

She said: "I love my simple life close to nature.

"With the beach just a five-minute walk away from my home, my studio ten minutes away, and my allotment just two minutes further, I find inspiration in every corner."

Each sculpture combines reclaimed sea defence timber with fused and leaded stained glass, using traditional techniques.

The weathered timber, with its unique character and history, stands in striking contrast to the translucent vibrancy of the glass.

The combination of the two is truly magical, especially when the light hits.

Louise and her husband, Chris, can often be seen running with heavy sculptures down to the beach, eager to capture the perfect light at sunrise or sunset.

"Photographing my sculptures on the beach or on the riverbed marks a beautiful completion of the creative process."

While her sculptures are at the heart of her offerings, Louise also provides a diverse range of products suitable for both indoor and outdoor spaces.

She has always welcomed commissions for special pieces, allowing her to create personalised works that resonate with individual stories.

Additionally, a selection of her designs is available through her website, making it easy for art lovers to find something that speaks to them.

Louise's commitment to celebrating colour and light shines through in every piece, transforming gardens into vibrant sanctuaries that bring joy and inspiration to all who encounter her art.

Website: www.louisevdurham.com



SHOREHAM BEACH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION WORKING WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS TO SAVE LIVES.

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KING'S WALK - OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD HALL

SHOREHAM FORT - ON THE NATIONAL COASTWATCH WATCH TOWER FENCE

EMERALD QUAY - OUTSIDE THE MOORINGS CLUB



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