

FROM THE CHAIR

AS everyone keeps saying, it has been an extraordinary year! Due to Covid, the Society has had to restrict its activities somewhat. However, we have been busy on a number of fronts.

◆ Thanks largely to Jenny Towler and our new committee members (Tony Hodgson, Anne Younger and Jason Sutherland-Rowe), we put out an excellent survey to members and non-members exploring what people want from the Society in the coming months and years. The survey had five main themes: (1) Bringing people together; (2) having a local say; (3) a vibrant town; (4) getting around Shoreham; (5) loving where we live.

The survey was completed by almost 700 responders and was very well received by almost everyone in the community including local councils. We are now analysing the responses and will be basing future activities on survey responses.

◆ Jenny Towler, our Vice-Chair, has organised a series of excellent public talks by active members of the community. To date, these talks have been presented online by: (1) Green Tides; (2) Vicar Ann from St Mary's Church; (3) Ropetackle; (4) Tom Foolery; (5) Shoreham-by-Cycle; (6) Enjoy Shoreham (a coalition of local businesses); (7) Adur Collective Land Trust.

◆ The local Community Rail Group (encouraged by Adrian Towler) now continues to explore the possible re-opening of the level crossing's underpass.

◆ The Adur Arbor/Shoreham-by-Tree continues within the limits of Covid restrictions. We have collaborated with Sompting Council to plant trees along one of their main streets and Eastbrook Community Gardeners Group in Fishersgate continue to plant trees. We hope to kickstart our tree planting initiative across Adur once Covid restrictions have been lifted.

◆ Bea Huezio is one of our committee members and a very successful local architect. She has put a lot of effort into supporting the Society with the Adur Collective Community Land Trust (ACCLT).

We hope you will continue to support the Shoreham Society in whatever way you can. After all, you ARE the Shoreham Society!

Gerard Rosenberg, Chair

Planning Hell

STRANGE TIMES

“Let's meet and mingle” (in a covid-regulated way)

by Jenny Towler

FOR someone who likes to plan ahead, the last 14 months have been an exercise in trying to second-guess practically everything.

So here we are trying to plan for another AGM in changeable times. After last year's virtual AGM we decided that this year, with most restrictions (maybe) lifted, we would attempt a 'hybrid' AGM. You can vote by post, or e-mail, and joy-of-joys **vote in person in our first in-person Shoreham Society gathering** for many months at the **Ropetackle on Tuesday 22nd June** in a Covid-19 sensitive space.

Last year was all about adapting to the circumstances and this year will be about transition. We have tried keeping an events programme together by using Zoom and inviting groups and individuals to talk about what they do and how they have been coping; by putting these Shoreham Network conversations on our website we have reached a wider audience. Those who are not connected by technology we have only been able to keep in touch with by the Journal and the News sheet.

Three of our new committee members and myself worked on the Shoreham Society Survey and the results from this has informed what we do next, but we are going to need some help. There is a lot going on in Shoreham, so if you are aching to keep it the wonderful place it is, join us at the AGM, meet the Committee and tell us what you can offer!

THE new committee members haven't had a chance to introduce themselves so here they are now:

Jason Sutherland-Rowe - Jason has lived in Shoreham most of his life, firstly on the beach and for the past 25 years in the town centre. Growing up here, and then raising a family with his wife Sarah, Jason has a good understanding of the local issues and opportunities, and what makes Shoreham a great place.

Anne Younger - There is so much to want to keep and so much that is good in our small town. Anne sees that the Shoreham Society can work towards a sustainable future through involving all, looking forward through the lens of the past and creating a rounded vision for a healthy, energising place to live.

Tony Hodgson - Tony is a newcomer to Shoreham, having moved here in 2019. He quickly saw how the Shoreham Society's campaigning has helped preserve the town's heritage, whilst it also works towards building a sustainable, inclusive and vibrant future. So Tony wasted no time in getting involved himself!

In other committee news, Rhiannon Winters has decided to step down, Ray Chandler, our esteemed webmaster is standing down later in 2021 and will hand over to Tony Hodgson. Gerard Rosenberg will stand down as Chairman in 2022 but hopes to stay on the committee and help where he can. Adrian Towler (and I, Jenny) are also intending to take a back-seat in 2022 and let others take the reigns of leading the Society on to bigger and better things.

So I thought I'd give you an idea of **what the Committee roles are** – Job Descriptions, as it were...

CHAIRMAN – The public face of the Society, engages with councillors, council officers and networks with other local and national groups. **SECRETARY** – The administrator of the Society, organises meetings and deals with correspondence and general administration. **TREASURER** – Deals with all money matters of the Society including Charity Commission and HMRC returns. On average takes two hours a month and April is the busiest month producing the end of year accounts. But it is not overly onerous especially as we now have

cont. over



< **Shoreham-ites will not be driv!** There is work going on in the top corner of the airport site. If you read the signs shown here, you fear you cannot walk along the riverbank, on the airport side, and get out across the old tollbridge – but you can (by walking on the road a bit) so don't be put off by the rather harsh signs. Maybe it's just to help the contractors.

from p. 1.

online banking. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY – Handles all matters regarding the membership and works closely with the Treasurer. WEBMASTER – The overall manager of website content and website administration, currently acts as main publicity officer and handling correspondence. JOURNAL EDITOR – Generally puts it together and gets it out. EVENTS OFFICER – Prepares a monthly talks programme for Society members, selects speakers, prepares publicity and manages the talks on the night usually held at St Peter's Church Hall with other Shoreham Society members. COMMITTEE MEMBERS – attend once monthly meetings to discuss and agree any decisions made by the Executive Committee in the work of the Society. THE TOWN-PLANNING SUB COMMITTEE – this group looks and leads on significant planning applications in the Shoreham area. We are fortunate that current members of this committee include a practising architect and civil engineer.

Oddities of Shoreham

DURING lockdowns people have been out and about, exploring their local area a bit more – I know we have. So what have you discovered? Here are some...

The Meads, off Victoria Rd. Well, we've featured this little green space or 'park' before but it's worth a look if you've never been. Don't be put off by the un-prepossessing entrance up the side of Swiss Gardens Primary School and the high steel fences. It is a public open space although signage is noticeably absent.

Riverside Cottage, off Steyning Road. Walk north of St Nicholas' Church about 100 metres to a wide gate with a Footpath sign pointing to the track beyond the gate. Go along that and your footpath eventually goes uphill to the right (to join Mill Hill). But if you go straight on, along the roadway you get to Riverside Cottage, a private house, and a Southern Water treatment plant. It's a cul-de-sac but a pleasant detour and you'll see some interesting Japanese cars in storage too. The Riverside Cottage owners have been in a legal tussle with Southern Water for some years over issues we don't have space to relate here, so please be respectful and try not to disturb the residents.

Buckingham House Ruin, Woodview, off Norman Cres. We have the late Society member Michael Norman to thank, I believe, for this strange sight: some flats built behind the façade of a large country house whose estate is now Buckingham Park. Michael was instrumental in saving the frontage otherwise it would have been demolished with the rest of the house.

Queens Place footpath from opposite One-Stop Shop by the station. This raised walkway would take you to Ravens Road before the two were joined up (both Queens Place and Ravens Road were separate 'dog's legs' originally). This gets very overgrown and nobody bothers to clear it. Recently some Queens Place residents have had a go and Shoreham Society volunteers aim to finish it off soon (*does anyone have a flame gun we can borrow?*) Then you can use it whilst work continues at the Cecil Norris House building site.

If you want to tell us about any curiosities you have discovered we'd like to hear:

adrian.towler@waitrose.com,
editor



What's New on the Website?

The Shoreham Society is updating the website. The current one has served us well for many years, but we think now is a good opportunity to refresh its look and feel and introduce some new features. The newly updated website will reflect the wider focus and continuing evolution of the Shoreham Society.

We want it to have broad appeal and also attract a young audience. It will include some new features, including options for online payment for events and membership fees.

It will also embrace the Themes that emerged from our 2020 survey of Shoreham residents:

- ◆ *Bringing People Together* – preserving Shoreham's strong sense of community
- ◆ *Having a Local Say* – voicing concerns on development matters that affect us all
- ◆ *A Vibrant Town Centre* – taking care that it is accessible, inclusive and enjoyable
- ◆ *Getting Around* – addressing the challenges of traffic, cycling and public transport
- ◆ *Loving Where We Live* – protecting the river, beach and Downs natural environment.

We are conscious that the current Shoreham Society website has a well-established and attractive visual identity which we will ensure is recognised and enhanced within the new design. And we anticipate that the new website will be ready for launch very soon... probably at the AGM..

Tony Hodgson

Subway Update

- We are pleased to be working with Southeast Communities Rail Partnership to get the issue on Network Rail's (NR's) agenda. They seem to have a budget for refurbishing footbridges – but not our subway.
- We are trying to get rid of the 'discrimination' argument in that passengers are using it daily, without any complaint from disadvantaged passengers who cannot use steps. So why can't pedestrians do likewise? It does not make sense. I'm trying to get a statement from a local disability group to that effect.
- We suspect NR think that they have considered the issue, decided to do nothing and the matter's now closed (*they are defence, judge and jury, all-in-one!*) We cannot let them do that.
- We fear NR (and possibly GTR) are resisting opening the subway to the public because of possible extra expense (cleaning, security, maybe vandalism). They have not actually said that.
- We have asked our new Councillor Gabe Crisp to join the Southeastern Communities Rail Partnership meetings and 'champion' the subway cause. Previously there was a suggestion from a Councillor that a part-funding offer from ADC might galvanise NR into action? Worth a shot.
- We are going to Sussex Records Office, Chichester, this week to research local newspapers when the subway was first closed and what promises, if any, British Rail made at the time (1980s). Shoreham and Worthing libraries don't have this info.

MINUTES of Last Year's AGM

The Shoreham Society held its 2020 AGM on Friday 12th June at 7pm on Zoom.

22 people attended on Zoom. Voting was allowed in person, by post and by e-mail. After the Chairman's Report the following items were voted on:

- Approval of the Treasurer's report – Approved
 - Approval of Anji Pawlicki to be the Society's Independent Examiner – Approved
 - Approval of the Executive Committee – Approved
 - Approval of New Members of the Committee – Approved
- After general discussion the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Shoreham Society 2021 AGM

Tuesday 22nd June from 7pm

at The Ropetackle Arts Centre

with a presentation on the new Sussex Yacht Club

THIS talk about the new Yacht Club premises and AGM which follows will also be live-streamed (if we can manage it – please see our website www.shorehamsociety.org.uk the week before). Most of the current committee members are willing to stand again but we have vacancies for a Secretary, an Events Officer and a Publicity Officer.

The 2020 Survey produced a lot of new ideas and interest in the Shoreham Society. Why not come to the AGM and tell us what you can offer us. **To reserve your free tickets** for the Yacht Club talk please call or contact Ropetackle Box Office on 01273 464440. Or just turn upon the night, but there will be a reduced limit due to coronavirus precautions (and talk is open to the public).

Programme & Agenda

6.15pm – Doors open; Meet and Mingle

7pm The New Sussex Yacht Club Building – **Daniel Jenkins**, Architect and Director of ECD Architects and Yacht Club personnel will introduce the new design. Dan says, “ECD Architects have been a pioneer in sustainable design for 40 years. Their objective is high quality sustainable buildings that have a positive impact on their community and their environment.”

Interval for refreshments, followed by the 2021 AGM:

1. Welcome – Gerard Rosenberg
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the 2020 AGM, and Matters Arising
4. Officers’ Reports
- 5a. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Report**
We have put the accounts on the back of this sheet.
- 5b. **Approval of the Independent Examiner**
Anji Pawlicki is willing to stand again as the Independent Examiner.
- 5c. **Approval of the Executive committee**
The following are willing to continue in their current roles:
Chairman – Gerard Rosenberg
Vice-Chairman – Jenny Towler
Secretary – Vacant
Membership Secretary – Phil Hamerton
Web-masters – Ray Chandler & Tony Hodgson §
Treasurer – Jenny Towler
Journal editor – Adrian Towler
Events – Vacant
6. Any Other Business

Committee Members

Beatriz Huevo §
David Jezeph §
Jason Sutherland-Rowe §
Mary Tilling
Anne Younger
§ = on Town Development Sub-Committee

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If you are not coming to the AGM, please indicate your vote, before 11pm on 20th June, by either

Name

- E-mail to jaapple59@icloud.com adding your name
- post this slip to **59 Connaught Avenue, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5WL**
- text or call 07837 658552

5a. Approval of the Treasurer’s Report	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
5b. Approval of Anji Pawlicki as the Independent Examiner	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
5c. Approval of the Executive Committee & Existing Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN

Accounts
THE SHOREHAM SOCIETY

Registered Charity No.299391

Receipts & payments for 12 months ending 31st March 2021

<u>Opening Balances</u>	2019/20	2020/21
Current A/c @ NatWest Bank	2,621.37	3,347.31
100+Club A/c @ NatWest Bank	4,021.36	4,073.36
National Savings Investment A/c	8,715.70	8,785.43
Float	25.00	25.00
	<u>15,383.43</u>	<u>16,231.10</u>

<u>Receipts</u>		
Subscriptions	1,719.00	1,293.00
Donations	340.50	461.00
Fund Raising Gross	571.00	5.00
100+Club Subscriptions	598.00	572.00
Xmas Meal (Misc)	270.00	0.00
Interest on Nat. Savings A/c	69.73	63.25
Projects	440.22	0.00
Gift Aid (2015-16)	0.00	323.00
Banking corrections	0.00	34.61
	<u>4,008.45</u>	<u>2,751.86</u>

<u>Payments</u>		
Printing & Publicity (Postage & Zoom)	588.19	1,071.90
Hire of Halls & Speakers	732.78	113.00
Miscellaneous	433.62	0.00
Project	626.62	344.69
100+Club Prizes	612.00	674.00
100+Club Prizes not cashed	-75.00	-174.50
Donations (2019/20 General Election Hustings)	103.82	0.00
Xmas Meal	178.77	0.00
Subscriptions & Insurance	212.80	212.80
Banking corrections	0.00	46.27
	<u>3,413.60</u>	<u>2,288.16</u>

<u>Closing Balances</u>		
Current A/c @ NatWest Bank	3,347.31	3,849.76
100+Club A/c @ NatWest Bank	4,073.36	3,971.36
National Savings Investment A/c	8,785.43	8,848.68
Float	25.00	25.00
	<u>16,231.10</u>	<u>16,694.80</u>

Notes

Project 2019/2020	Heritage Open Days General Election Hustings
Project 2020/2021	Shoreham Survey 2020
Banking corrections	Unexplained Direct Debits on 181 account reimbursed and given an additional 13.34, £25 Transfer between accounts

In accordance with your instructions I have checked the above accounts to the Society's records. This does not constitute an audit.

Signed



Anji Pawlicki

Date

29.04.21