

Folds Newsletter December 2025
 Friends of Old Shoreham

Listen, Drink, Enjoy

MID-WINTER CELEBRATION
 An evening of music and readings to mark the festive season

www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-old-shoreham

Saturday 13 December St Nicolas Old Shoreham Starts at 8pm

Winter is here and it's time to focus on heritage, arts and music—the 'ham' at the heart of Shoreham—and celebrate a year of great progress.

There's still time for rewarding outdoor work with **Greening Old Shoreham**, but also chances to unwind: - enjoy music and more at the Amsterdam on 28 November; FOlds' first-ever [History Talks](#) the following afternoon; and our [Christmas celebration on 13 December](#), featuring great music and wise words in the uniquely-seasonal setting of St Nicolas. Click the links for more details and tickets.

Folds Friends of Old Shoreham

Saturday 29th November
 3-5.30pm
 at St Nicolas Church, Old Shoreham

HISTORY TALKS

THIS MONTH IN OLD SHOREHAM

Fri 28 NOV 8pm till late at The Amsterdam
FOlds Fourth Friday Music Sessions
 Our last session of the year with

- *The Rude Mechanicals*
- *Joy* a three-piece band featuring vocalist Emma Knight

plus folk-rock from *Liege and Lief*

Sat 29 NOV 15:00 at St Nicolas
History Talks
 Citizen History in Action

- *New stories of Old Shoreham* Clare Ablett and Leia Sands
- *Local History Research in the Old Shoreham Area* Brian Drury
- *Shoreham Airport - Milestones, Monuments and Muck ups* Ray Staley

[Click here](#) for details and tickets

Sat 6 DEC 10:00-13:00
Greening Old Shoreham at two sites:

- Working at **Swiss Gardens School** to create a new micro-orchard. If you want to join this session please email joan@oldshoreham.org
- More chalk grasslands renovation on **Mill Hill**. Meet at the Upper Car Park

Both sessions start at 10:00 with briefings by the task leaders

Tues 9 DEC 12:30-14:30
Old Shoreham Banner Group
 working session at Circular Space, stitching the story together!

Fri 12 DEC 19:00 **Shoreham Harmony Group** - singing together at The Amsterdam

Sat 13 DEC 10:00-12:00 **Coffee, cakes, carols and catching-up** at St Nicolas

20:00-22:00 **Celebrating friends and welcoming the festive season** with an evening of great music, words and good company at St Nicolas

[Click here](#) for all the details

Thurs 18 DEC 10:00-13:00
Greening Old Shoreham on Mill Hill
 Chalk grassland renovation, footpath improvement and celebrating all the progress since October.

Sat 20 DEC 10:00
Greening Old Shoreham Christmas clear-up in St Nicolas with time for mince pies and a seasonal toast

If you have Old Shoreham activities for 2026 to add to our January newsletter please email info@oldshoreham.org

More about the music

We are re-establishing a lively music scene in Old Shoreham with regular line-ups at The Amsterdam, midsummer music at the Red Lion, a congress of choirs and acoustic performances in St Nicolas, and a new singing circle. We plan to build on this in 2026, but for now here's more detail of what is still to come in 2025

On 28 November in the Amsterdam, **The Rude Mechanicals** are a well-known Shoreham folk band who bring a novel twist to their music with traditional instruments from all parts of Europe. They will be performing alongside **Joy**, a trio featuring the superb vocalist Emma Knight with backing vocal and guitar. Expect classics from Carole King, Aretha Franklin, Amy Winehouse and Bonnie Raitt with R&B songs to bring joy to your soul.

And to finish the evening **Liege and Lief** have a growing reputation for great songs from the Sandy Denny era of Fairport Convention. Fresh from their recent sold-out gig at Ropetackle, they will entertain with a medley of folk-rock nostalgia from the late-sixties and early-seventies.



Two weeks later we have four acoustic performers at our Christmas celebration in St Nicolas with **Fiery Clockface** from the Crabtree, Amsterdam regulars **Phil, Jane and Trevor**, Old Shoreham's 'rock veteran' **John Finch** and the simply magnificent **Alfonso the Magnificent** with original songs musically influenced by Gypsy Jazz, Latin, Classical and Modern Folk.



Widening access

The Banner Group have been working with residents, staff and families at New Elmcroft care home, making lino-prints and other art for the banner. Many of the residents have fond memories of Old Shoreham. [Read more on the Shaw Health Care website](#)



Photos by Angela Clarke

Planning ahead

At our general meeting in April we talked about local planning and agreed that FOldS should engage with planning decisions, working with other groups and authorities to ensure that community voices are heard. Although Adur District Council will soon be replaced by the new unitary authority for Sussex, the Council has started work on [a new local plan](#), to provide 'a long-term vision for the area over 15 years' and a 'strategy for growth' setting out **what development will take place and where**. Already, consultants have been assessing [the biodiversity impact of building on green areas](#) between Old Shoreham Bridge and the flyover (look for sites E and H in the report.)

To avoid more ill-advised developments- like the empty airport warehouses- we need to participate. Our *Capturing Old Shoreham* exhibition at the Marlipins next year will be one opportunity to gather ideas for the future for Old Shoreham. Residents of St Nicolas Ward provided the highest number of responses to the [Council's first consultation](#) on the local plan, highlighting local interest in development. If you want to get more involved, email folds@oldshoreham.org

Meanwhile- and much more positive- the [Sussex Local Nature Recovery Strategy](#), a 'collective blueprint for targeted action' leads to a [wonderful map](#) that includes areas that could become important for biodiversity, with several along the riverside and on the Downs in Old Shoreham. It offers plenty of food for thought for future steps for Greening Old Shoreham, in partnership with the National Park and the local authorities.

To contact Greening Old Shoreham email gosh@oldshoreham.org. The coordinators are Pat Ditton, Julie Hurst, Brian Sayer, Joan Staley and Julia Widdows.