



ShorehamSociety.org.uk

# Quarterly

January 2026 (No 116a)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR MEMBERS!

### TALKING POINTS

We thought we'd take a peek at what 2026 has in store for our popular series of monthly talks.

Thanks, first of all, to all members who completed the survey about which days you would prefer. The most popular day remained Friday, so we will keep to the status quo, with each talk taking place on the third Friday of each calendar month.

There were many interesting comments about what kind of subjects you want to hear more about. Shoreham's history and heritage was one.

So in the spring we will be welcoming back Geoffrey Meade, doyen of local historians, to deliver one of his engaging lectures on Shoreham. We will also be continuing our series on the architecture of Shoreham's historic buildings with a look at the town's schools.

Other members wrote of their concerns about the number of large, flatted developments popping up all over town. Early in the new year we hope to be hearing from Councillor Becky Allinson, who is responsible for drawing up the Local Plan and will share insights about the lessons that have been learned.

Further details will feature in the monthly emails, so please keep a look out!

Finally, the Committee also considered a change of venue. We compared the West Street church hall with one of the large rooms to rent at The Shoreham Centre. The current venue in West Street won out as it is half the cost and offers a similar size with the added advantage of catering facilities.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sunday 11 January**

Deadline for your views on the Government's proposal for Local Government Reorganisation to be submitted on-line (further details below).

**Friday 16 January**

Paul Osborne, co-founder of [www.shorehambysea.com](http://www.shorehambysea.com), introduces us to this richly illustrated local history website. He will also talk about the challenges facing local history research in the age of AI. Please note that this talk will be on Zoom (link to follow).



## NEW UNITARY AUTHORITY

By the end of 2027, Adur District Council will be absorbed into a larger, so-called Unitary Authority.

The Government would like to hear your views on what that Unitary Authority might look like. They have launched a consultation on the three different proposals put forward by Councils in East and West Sussex.

The consultation period is open until 11 January 2026. You can view the various proposals and take the survey on the website of the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government [here](#).

The Shoreham Society has done its best to involve members in this important reform. So we were delighted to be told recently that not only did Adur have the highest proportion of responses to the first consultation in West Sussex, it was thought that this was at least partly due to our efforts.

## NEW YEAR, NEW OBJECTIVES

The Executive Committee has been busy reviewing its Aims and Objectives.

Many things remain the same. We are committed to conserving the heritage of the town. 2026, for example, will see the launch of "The People Who Built Shoreham", an exciting oral history project led by Jenny Towler.



Working with Marlipins Museum, Jenny will be interviewing a wide range of people about the housing developments that changed the face of Shoreham from the 1960s until the present day. Watch out for more details.

Since our Objectives were written in 1985, a lot has changed. Which is why we would like to introduce new terms such as "sustainability" and "livability". Our concern for the built environment does not stop at individual buildings but has to take into account the way these buildings help – or do not help – to build a "livable" community with access to transport links, infrastructure such as schools and green spaces.

Sustainability is an important part of this. In November, we held a well-attended workshop with Energise South Downs, a community energy company that provides renewable energy to people in Sussex. At the event, delegates got to grips with what the right mix of energy could be for Shoreham.

The draft Objectives will be presented at the AGM in May of this year.

If you have any comments on the new objectives, please let us know.

## GUERILLA KNITTING



The Phantom has struck again! Last year the post box outside the Co-op in the High Street was bedecked with a splendid textile recreation of Shoreham's past.

This Yuletide, it was the turn of the postbox in Downside to feature a Christmas scene.

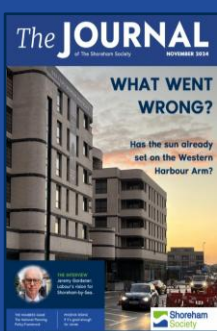
Where will the Phantom strike next? Any ideas for the next theme?

## MAKE A SPLASH IN 2026

Make 2026 special by buying a Shoreham-by-Sea Calendar. Each month features an award-winning photograph of our favourite town and its lovely people.

Copies are available to buy at Phtal Photography in Tarmount Studios and The Shoreham Gallery in Brunswick Road. Or you can order them online by clicking [HERE](#)

All profits will be donated to local charity Esteem – providing space for young adults to thrive.



## Fancy a Walk?

Thanks so much to our lovely volunteers Maddy Carr, Helena Lewis and Barbara Richardson who helped hand deliver copies of the Winter *Journal* to members.

Every time a *Journal* landed on someone's mat, The Society saved £1.40 in postage. In total, that's more than £400 per edition, which can now be spent on other things.

Thank you, crew!

New members are joining every month, which means more *Journals* to deliver. So we'd be delighted if you would join the posties. If you have a few hours to spare twice a year, please email [info@shorehamsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@shorehamsociety.org.uk)