

Newhaven *Matters*

Spring 2025 // Issue N° 45



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Welcome to the Spring edition of *Newhaven Matters*, the free magazine for Newhaven residents produced by Newhaven Town Council.





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Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of Newhaven Matters!

We would love to hear from you. If you have any ideas for what you'd like to see covered in Newhaven Matters, please email us at newhavenmatters@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk to let us know.

It's Back! Newhaven Town Council's Sussex Day celebration is a **FREE** community event, taking place on **Saturday 21st June**, at the Sidings. It showcases what Newhaven and the surrounding area has to offer, including live music, food and drink, craft stalls, games and much more! Come along and join us as we celebrate our community.

The programme detailing the performance times will follow soon.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

Best wishes, from the team at NTC



If you would like to advertise, or have a story or event that you would like included in future issues of 'Newhaven Matters', email newhavenmatters@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk or phone on 01273 516100.

Copy deadline for the Summer issue is 9th May 2025

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News from The Mayor

This past year has been going past in a shot! It's not long now until the baton is passed to the next Mayor. I have really enjoyed this honour and privilege of being your Mayor and representing the town I love – it has been a dream come true.

As an independent councillor, I like the freedom to be able to represent the people of Newhaven in the way I feel best. I've also been lucky to have an active Deputy Mayor, the lovely Kim Bishop, who has been an amazing support for me in my role.

I've had an amazing year. Things I have very much enjoyed being a part of since becoming Mayor:

- Seeing all the wonderful people doing amazing things to improve the lives of Newhaven residents, such as CTLA, Hillcrest Community Centre, Havens Community Hub, SCDA, Hospitable Environment, Greenhavens, the RNLI, the Coastwatch institute, and so many more! Sorry if I have missed anyone!
- I have enjoyed every single opening, and event I have attended including entertaining the Vietnamese Embassy, The Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex and all their Deputies, the High Sheriff and their Deputies.
- I have very much been honoured to represent Newhaven in Dieppe alongside many very important international dignitaries for the marking of the Dieppe raid. I have been humbled to represent Newhaven at all the memorials and church services to mark

the fallen for Armistice, the anniversaries of HMS Brazen, and also the Sussex seafarers.

- I have loved attending all the dinners and fundraisers for the Sussex Mayors Association and, of course I have loved attending and representing Newhaven at the events led by my fellow Mayors of Seaford, Peacehaven and Telscombe.

In 2025, there's also a lot of things happening in Newhaven, including observing the 80th anniversary of VE Day on 8th May at 9pm at the Newhaven Fort, with a Tribute and Beacon Lighting, and celebrating Sussex Day, a free fun community event, at the Sidings on 21st June - I hope to see you at these and other events during the year!

In other news, we have been planting 500 new trees in the cemetery. We are planting 3 species of sycamore, hawthorn and field maple all UK grown to replace the sadly declining population of Ash which has taken a hit in recent years with ash die back which is a serious fungal disease of the European ash, characterised by the progressive death of the tree's branches which sadly often gives the council no option but to fell the tree to stop the spread to nearby ash. It is so important to ensure that we replace these lost trees with indigenous species so that the eco system is supported for our local wildlife. Often during my time as Chairman of planning, when we get a request to fell trees, we will always ask that these are replaced with native

trees to keep the important and fragile balance in nature.

As I mentioned earlier, this year has been amazing. But the past few years have also been not so great for me on a personal level. And so I feel it is so important for me to show others, as someone who volunteers in the mental health sector, and promote the message that it's important to be open and honest and speak out when things are not okay. For me, 2025 is the year I prioritise health and not spreading myself so thinly by making sure I share the load sometimes. Self-care is not selfish. I work with the Nebula Mental Health Group, a free support group for anyone who wants to come along and chat and share the load.

I very much try to keep in the know, by talking to the people of Newhaven when I am out and about. I'm very involved with running my mental health group, being a trustee for CTLA or doing things with the 3rd Newhaven Scouts, and the local Bonfire Society. I have many things I am involved with locally in addition to the charity and committee work.

Take care everyone. I hope you wave hi if you see me out and about on my bike! Your loyal servant, *Pinky*





Celebrating 80 Years of Adventure

3RD NEWHAVEN SCOUT GROUP

As the 3rd Newhaven Scout Group celebrates its 80th anniversary, it's a perfect time to reflect on the amazing contributions it has made to the local community over the last year. From raising funds for vital causes to creating a beautiful installation for Remembrance Day, this past year has been filled with remarkable achievements that showcase the Scout Group's dedication and spirit of service.

One of the standout events this year was the **May Day Mile**, where the Scouts embarked on a sponsored walk to raise funds for the RNLI. The Scouts, along with their families and supporters, collected donations for the charity that provides critical lifeboat services to our local coastline. Thanks to the generosity of the community and the hard work of the Scouts, the event raised an impressive **£1,209.88**.

In addition to fundraising, the Scouts have shown their respect and remembrance for those who have served the country through their involvement in **Remembrance Day activities**. This year, the group created a beautiful poppy installation at the Newhaven War Memorial. This thoughtful tribute was a meaningful way for the Scouts to engage with the community and honour the sacrifices made by servicemen and women.

The installation was widely admired, with many local residents taking the time to appreciate the Scouts' creative and heartfelt contribution to Remembrance Day.

The group also played a key role in supporting the Royal British Legion's annual **poppy appeal**. Scouts from 3rd Newhaven volunteered their time at **Paradise Park**, helping to sell poppies and raise awareness of the importance of remembrance. Through their dedication and the generosity of the community, the group raised an impressive **£2,214.21** for the Royal British Legion. This total will contribute to supporting veterans, service families, and those in need across the UK.

In addition to these community-focused initiatives, 3rd Newhaven Scout Group has continued to provide a safe and exciting space for young people to learn new skills, develop confidence, and build lasting friendships. The group offers a wide range of activities, from outdoor adventures and camping trips to practical skills and leadership training. It's a place where every young person is encouraged to challenge themselves, discover their passions, and grow as individuals.

As the group celebrates 80

years of scouting in Newhaven, there is a renewed focus on the future. The 3rd Newhaven Scout Group is always looking for new leaders to join their dedicated team. Becoming a Scout leader is an incredibly rewarding way to give back to the community and help shape the next generation. Leaders not only help run activities but also act as mentors, guiding Scouts through their personal development and helping them build skills that will last a lifetime. The group's recent nomination for the King's Award for Voluntary Service is recognition of the outstanding work of all the volunteers who enable 3rd Newhaven to run their sessions.

If you're looking to make a positive impact in the lives of young people and get involved in your local community, 3rd Newhaven Scout Group invites you to get in touch. Whether you have experience in scouting or just a passion for helping young people, the group would love to hear from you. It's a chance to be part of something special as the group looks forward to another 80 years of adventure, service, and community spirit.

For more information on how to join or support the 3rd Newhaven Scout Group, please contact join.3rdnewhaven@seahavenscouts.org.uk.



News from the Deputy Mayor

Hello Readers,

It has been a busy Winter, as Deputy Mayor. I have enjoyed every, single engagement and have met many, lovely people.



▲ Deputy Mayor Cllr Kim Bishop and NDMR Member Aidan

I spent a very interesting morning early November visiting an Exhibition hosted by "The Newhaven and District Model Railway Club". I walked around the exhibition with Paul Wilson,

the Chairman, looking at the incredibly detailed train layouts. There was even a Lego layout! The club is a Charity and has an increasing number of members, of all ages, who meet once a week to work on building and remodelling projects, have a cuppa and talk Trains. It is a diverse, all -inclusive club, which is community based, and everyone is welcome. This year, with increases in membership, donations and fundraising, they have managed to purchase a defibrillator and construct a new locomotive and carriage test track.

On November 24th, I was invited to open a new and vibrant shop on Newhaven High Street, "Hakuna Matata". Maria Urassa is the owner, a busy Mum to three boys, and a local resident. Originally from Tanzania, Maria is passionate about food and offers exotic fruits and vegetables, such

as Plantains, Yams and Okra. She shares recipes with the local community, encouraging customers to try something new. The shop also sells Clothing, Jewellery and Art Works in collaboration with the Culture Connect Project, who focus on enhancing community spirit, promoting cultural diversity and understanding different cultures.



▲ Cllr Mark Wardle and Deputy Mayor Cllr Kim Bishop

I am looking forward to the Spring and maybe even some sunshine!

**Deputy Mayor,
Councillor Kim Bishop**

Newhaven Town Council Meetings

Information on each meeting will be published on our website, including the MS Teams link, as we approach each meeting. For further information, please visit www.newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk or email admin@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk.

You are welcome to attend Town Council and Committee Meetings, either in person or via MS Teams.

2025		Followed by
8th April	Full Council	
29th April	Planning & Development	Regeneration & Strategic Development
6th May	Town Meeting 24/25	
13th May	Full Council Annual Meeting	
27th May	Planning & Development	Personnel



DENTON PARK PLAY AREA WAS RE-OPENED JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS

The Park was re-opened by the Mayor and Town Councillors. Father Christmas also made an appearance! The play area has been refurbished by Newhaven Town Council for children and young people to enjoy, learn and play together.

HAVENS COMMUNITY CARS VOLUNTEER CAR DRIVER RETIRES AFTER CLOCKING UP 5,000 MILES

At 82 years old, Seaford resident Keith exemplifies the profound impact volunteer drivers have on the community. Since joining Havens Community Cars in 2020, Keith has provided transportation for residents between Saltdean and Seaford in East Sussex. Over his time, he completed 273 journeys, assisting 126 unique passengers and covering an impressive 5,328 miles—equivalent to travelling from the UK to San Francisco.

Reflecting on his experience, Keith cherished the opportunity to meet new people and facilitate essential journeys, underscoring the invaluable service volunteer drivers offer to those facing transportation challenges.

Havens Community Cars, recognised with The King's Award for Voluntary Service in 2024, is committed to alleviating transport challenges as well as loneliness and isolation among residents in the local community. The organisation relies on compassionate individuals like Keith to continue its mission.



▲ Keith, pictured with Jo and Tricia from Havens Community Cars

Join Us as a Volunteer Driver

If you have spare time and a valid driver's licence, you can make a significant difference in your local community. Even dedicating time for one journey per week can change lives. As a volunteer driver, you'll receive training and support, with mileage expenses reimbursed.

Benefits of Volunteering:

- **Flexible Commitment:**
Offer as much or as little time as you can.
- **Expense Reimbursement:**
Mileage expenses are covered.
- **Community Impact:**
Provide independence and companionship to those in need.

For more information or to express interest, please contact havenscommcar@gmail.com or call 01273 918226.

Your contribution can make a world of difference.

NEWS FROM



Newhaven Green Centre hit the ground running in 2025 with our second ever **Swap, Share, Repair** event at the Hillcrest Centre.

We were delighted to see over 200 people swapping clothes, seeds and other unwanted items, enjoying live music and joining in our workshops.

We also successfully repaired people's clothing, electrical items and all sorts of things that people brought along. Thanks to the Connections Cafe for their delicious soup and scones too.

We look forward to seeing you at our **Repair Cafes** coming up on April 27th, June 8th and July 13th. These will take place at Meeching Hall between 2.30-4.30pm.

As Spring approaches don't forget to come to us before buying stuff. Our **Library of**

Things stocks a wide range of gardening, camping and party equipment and some tools too which you can borrow for free. As well as saving yourself money you'll be protecting the planet's resources and strengthening a sharing community. And we're building up our stock of gardening equipment so let us know if you have any suggestions for items you'd like to borrow that we don't already have.

For more information or to get involved please email info@newhavengreencentre.com.



VE DAY 80 – 8TH MAY 2025

A Shared Moment of Celebration

Thursday 8th May 2025 observes the 80th anniversary of VE Day, which in 1945 marked the end of WWII in Europe when Germany finally surrendered to the Allies.

'VE Day' stands for 'Victory in Europe Day' – marking the end of World War Two in Europe, after six long years of fighting.

VE Day is very much a celebration. Newhaven historian, Andy Gilbert, from looking at the historic information captured on 'Our Newhaven' said: *"Like most towns and cities in the UK, Newhaven celebrated VE Day in 1945 with street parties. Despite the obvious shortages of materials, enough material was found to string bunting around houses, and to create fancy dress*

costumes for adults and children. Food was also in short supply but somehow parents managed to find enough to give their children something of a treat. From the photos on Our Newhaven, it looks like, now that Europe was at peace, it was time to start to smile again – as Churchill put it, '...a brief period of rejoicing...'"

The photos below, from Our Newhaven, show VE Day celebration street parties in 1945 in Rose Walk, left, and Norton Terrace, on the right.



Rose Walk



Norton Terrace

This year, on 8th May, there are plans for beacons and 'Lights of peace' to be lit around the country, and for other commemorative celebrations. As part of the celebrations, Pageantmaster Bruno Peek is also encouraging eating fish and chips on this occasion, in acknowledgement to the fishermen who braved

German U-boats and mines and the farm workers and land girls who toiled in the fields to provide the ingredients for the staple meal of fish and chips which was one of the few foods not rationed by Prime Minister Churchill during WWII.

NEWHAVEN CELEBRATES VE DAY 80

As the UK observes the 80th anniversary of VE Day with a series of events across the UK, Newhaven will also be hosting commemorative events in the town.



FISH 'N' CHIPS SUPPER

a Great British tradition

with live 1940s style music and entertainment

THURSDAY 8TH MAY

RIVERSIDE HALL

7.15 PM TO 8.45 PM

£10 per ticket

Pre-booking is required - Book by 25th April 2025
Email: admin@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk to book your place(s)

80 VE DAY
80th ANNIVERSARY
A MARKING OF CELEBRATION
8 MAY 2025



Join us for the VE Day 80 Tribute and Beacon Lighting

Thursday 8th May

Newhaven Fort and Newhaven Town Council are organising a Tribute and Beacon Lighting. Please join us at Newhaven Fort at 9pm for the opportunity to pay tribute to all those that paid the ultimate sacrifice during WWII, followed at 9.30pm by the lighting of the Town's Beacon.

This is a free event.

More details on this event will be posted on Newhaven Town Council's website and Facebook page.

Newhaven Town Council is seeking your feedback on if you would like to see a Veterans' Breakfast Club run by and attended by Veterans, to be held in Newhaven.

The proposal is that the Breakfast Club will provide a warm welcome and good food for veterans of the Armed Forces.

We would welcome your feedback to find out if you would like to see a Veterans' Breakfast Club set up in Newhaven. Please could you email us at admin@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk with your feedback by Friday 30th May 2025.



Sussex Community Development Association (SCDA) works across East Sussex, supporting and running community-based projects and services, aimed at tackling loneliness and social isolation, improving health and wellbeing, and increasing economic stability. SCDA works hard to build stronger partnerships within the community, by connecting organisations and groups and individuals to help them deliver projects and services.



NEWHAVEN YOUTH CENTRE

Based on Denton Island in Newhaven, Newhaven Youth Centre is a warm, spacious base for local young people, with youth club sessions and a range of services on offer.



DENTON ISLAND NURSERY

Denton Island Nursery celebrated their 20th year anniversary in 2024, and is a community based nursery providing children with rich opportunities, such as a forest school, and learning through play and experiencing the natural and social world around them.



DENTON ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

Denton Island Community Centre offers rooms for hire and family activities, with our amazing volunteers cooking in the Community Kitchen, providing homemade food for the **Community Supermarkets**, which run each week in both Newhaven and Peacehaven.

This is only a snapshot of all the many services and activities provided by SCDA.

For more information, see our website, www.sussexcommunity.org.uk, and follow us on Facebook.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or would like further information about any of the services provided by SCDA, please email: enquiries@sussexcommunity.org or phone 01273 516032.



SCDA VOLUNTEER RAISES THOUSANDS FOR COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS

Joy Ashton, a dedicated Peacehaven resident and SCDA volunteer, has made an extraordinary impact on her community by raising over £4,000 for SCDA's Community Food projects. Over the past three years, Joy's enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment

have brought much-needed funds to support provision of affordable food for local residents.

Joy's journey began with a phone call to SCDA about donating egg boxes. This initial gesture led her to become a committed volunteer at Peacehaven Community Supermarket, where she has been an invaluable team member for over three years. Known for her warm and friendly welcome, Joy not only

assists with daily operations but goes above and beyond in fundraising, drawing on her resourcefulness and the support of her line dancing group.

Joy said, *"It is really good to look back and remind our dancers what they have achieved and I also have great memories of the ingenious ways we thought to raise money. I am so grateful to all our dancers who support our fundraising efforts."*



FREE

FAMILY FOOD

Denton Island Community Centre,
Denton Island,
Newhaven,
BN9 9BA

Monday
28th April, 5th,
12th and 19th May
10:00am - 1:00pm

Any problems please contact us at:
families@sussexcommunity.org.uk

Family Food is a free 4 week course that aims to provide families with children (aged 5-11) a comfortable space to learn new recipes and prepare and share a hot meal together.

Places are FREE but you must book through Eventbrite via the QR code
Places are limited so book today!





FREE

FOREST SCHOOL

Iford Woods near Newhaven

Wednesdays
23 Apr - 4 Jun
2025
3:30pm - 5:30pm

For parents/carers and children over 5 to come and learn new skills, hands on in the natural environment. Forest School sessions can lead to increasing a child's confidence as they problem solve and learn to manage risks.

Any problems please contact us at:
families@sussexcommunity.org.uk

Places are FREE but you must book through Eventbrite via the QR code
Places are limited, book today!






Around 400,000 ferry passengers travelled through the Port in 2024!***



The busy world of Newhaven Port

Nestled along the picturesque Sussex coastline, Newhaven Port has long been a vital gateway between the UK and Europe, steeped in rich maritime history and buzzing with modern potential. As a hub for trade, travel, and innovation, Newhaven's strategic location offers significant access to both domestic and international markets. But this is more than just a Port – it's a thriving community, a lifeline for commerce, and a bridge to exciting opportunities that continue to shape the future of Newhaven.

The Port covers a significant area, occupying most of Newhaven's eastern waterfront.

The Port is one of the major employers in the town, accounting for more than 500 direct and indirect jobs*. There has been much investment in the Port since 2012, and new organisations have made Newhaven their base of operations, e.g., Brett, FM Conway, Brightwells, Maple Handling and Rampion have all established operations at the Port. The Newhaven – Dieppe Ferry, which started a regular service in 1825, is on a stable footing; since 2012, the number of vehicles carried on the Newhaven – Dieppe ferry has increased by approximately 60%*.



The control of marine traffic entering and leaving the Port is managed by **Newhaven Port and Properties (NPP)**. This includes ferries, large cargo ships, fishing and private vessels.

Port Manager Captain Dave Collins-Williams and Harbour Master Steve Tindale along with their team manage the Port's operations. The breadth of these operations is vast, including:

- The Port Control office is manned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to manage vessels entering and leaving the Port.
- The ferry terminal is located in and owned by the Port but leased to LCT Support Services. The ferry route is contracted out to a ferry operator, DFDS Seaways. This arrangement has been successful and since the early 2000s, ferry carryings have approximately doubled*.
- The Port acts as a hub for construction materials and shipment of recyclables. For example, olive trees are a regular type of cargo and these are screened for mites and bugs. Steve Tindale, Harbour Master, said: 'Overall, the maritime sector supports over £47 billion in business turnover, and 220,100 jobs across the UK.*** Approximately 95% of all UK imports and exports by volume are moved by sea.*** This is about 475 million tonnes. Approximately 1 million tonne of cargo is imported and exported here in Newhaven.' For example, the vessel, the MV Britannia Beaver, regularly brings in dredged materials from the sea bed (aggregates), which can then be used in the building trade. Last year, there were 117 visits by aggregate ships, which brought 588,000 tonnes of aggregates through the Port. 40% of the aggregates that comes in though Newhaven goes out by train reducing the number of trucks on our roads. Newhaven is one of a few Ports with a railhead, which enables goods to be transferred onto trains.
- Overseeing the transporting of the crew who work on the Rampion wind turbines to and from the turbines.

Have you ever noticed the **Swing Plate**? This huge plate of metal, approx. 32m wide and 10m long, helps the ferries when they need to turn around in the Port.

The ferries sail front first, or more correctly, bow first into the Port and then dock in the Ferry Terminal area of the Port. If the weather is kind, they can back out of the Port when they leave. However, should the wind be 25 knots or more, the ferries are required to turn around in the Port and sail out bow first.

With the turning circle by the Ferry Terminal being 149m and the ferries being 143m in length, this doesn't leave much room for

manoeuvring around in. So the ferries use the Swing Plate to line up towards and push against whilst turning. This helps them with the turning process whilst of course also protecting the edges of the Port. The ferries are manually driven by their captains. Unlike car drivers, the ferry captains do not have computers or parking sensors to help them.

Last year, the Port replaced the old swing plate with a new one. The photo below shows the damaged state of the old swing plate, which had numerous repairs over the years, and provides a great indication of how it helps to protect the sides of the Port.



▲ Old Plate



▲ New Plate

Looking ahead, it is anticipated that the ferry business should continue to grow.

Newhaven has had an active Port since 1847, and Newhaven Port is doing its bit to ensure it continues to thrive for many generations to come. One of Newhaven Port's key aims for the next 20 years, as set out in the Port's Masterplan, is to reduce their carbon footprint and the environmental impact of their operations. The Port already contributes to **sustainable** economic growth for East Sussex and neighbouring areas by providing a low-carbon gateway for people and materials to

move in and out of the region. Transport by sea is the lowest emission option for cargo – on average, it produces 20 – 30 times less greenhouse gas emissions than air freight. In addition, a large proportion of aggregate material brought into the Port by ship is exported via freight train, thereby reducing emissions and the amount of traffic on our roads. One freight train removes around 40 trucks from our roads. The Port has installed substantial amounts of solar panels to meet their own energy needs within the Port estate and they are looking to expand this capacity in the future.

Swing Bridge

We have all probably sat in the traffic at some point while the Swing Bridge opens. In our next issue, we will include a focus on the Swing Bridge - why it opens, when it opens, what's

involved. Interested in finding out more? All and more will be revealed in the next Newhaven Matters...

Source: * Newhaven Port Masterplan August 2024, prepared by AECOM

** Steve Tindale, Harbour Master

*** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/board-of-trade-rePort-maritime/embracing-the-ocean-a-board-of-trade-paper-web-version#fn:2>



HAVING FUN WITH WOOD



Ours is a happy place to be! Based in Newhaven, the Wood Creatives have a large workshop dedicated to woodworking. If you're looking for a creative, interesting and enjoyable activity as part of a friendly, diverse group of all ages – then read on.

Wood Creatives members are crafting, making or restoring furniture, carving and turning wood, and more. Our aim is not simply to work with wood but to recycle, upcycle, repair and reuse wood in every possible way: discarded offcuts, cut logs, even driftwood are being transformed into unique, beautiful pieces, from boxes to bowls, pens to portraits, stools to signage. For beginners, the club offers the use of a good selection of carving chisels as well as the machinery, hand and power tools needed to bring a project to life. We are discovering that even those with their own equipped workshops at home find that coming along to the club is good for company and comradeship.

Wood Creatives have a dedicated space at the Hillcrest Centre, Newhaven. Parking

is free and the Centre's café is open daily. Currently, our workshop is open weekdays, 9.30am to 3.30pm, plus Thursday evenings, 6pm to 9pm. Since our numbers have increased, we are now considering sessions on weekends and on other evenings too. We strive to provide a friendly and helpful environment with informal advice and practical support from our more seasoned members. At present, fees are £25 per month (tea, coffee and biscuits included), with concessions where applicable.

We are always keen to invite new members to join us, so if you're interested in working with wood, do pop by – any weekday or on a Thursday evening – to see what we do and we'll give you a guided tour.



If you need further information, contact Joe on 07768 331038. See also our website at www.woodcreatives.co.uk and our Facebook page at Wood Creatives Newhaven.

NCI Newhaven: a recruit's story

Eight and a half years ago, during a lengthy re-fit of my boat, I felt I was losing my connection with the sea.

I had heard of the National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) so I looked into what they did and where they were. I was excited to find they have a coastal lookout on the clifftop above Newhaven Fort. I thought this is something I could do, so I made contact and arranged a visit, during which I learned of the very important work they do and decided to sign up.

There is a training programme which I passed quite quickly and became a certified watchkeeper with NCI. Personally, for someone who loves looking out over the sea and wishes to volunteer for a worthy cause, I cannot think of a better way to fulfil my desire to do something worthwhile and possibly save a life too.

The training enables us to spot, plot and report directly to His Majesty's Coastguard in the event of any concerning event along our part of the coast and out to sea.

The actions of the NCI nationally, including at NCI Newhaven, have contributed to saving many lives every year of the charity's 30-year existence. NCI now operates 60 stations along the coast of England and Wales.

A good day for us is when we haven't had to contact the coastguard, as that means

that nobody has needed assistance from our search and rescue partners. Our constant vigilance means that should we spot something that doesn't look quite right we know, due to our training, how to respond swiftly and accurately. This ensures that the correct search and rescue assets are deployed by HMCG in the shortest possible time.

Recreational watersports enthusiasts and beachgoers may not realise but using our very powerful optics and safety cameras we are keeping a constant watch over the whole area within our view during daylight hours. The events we witness and help with are varied: a kite surfer who gets into trouble out at sea, a small inflatable boat having engine trouble, or a child being carried out to sea from Seaford beach by wind or tide on an inflatable toy. It could be a person overboard from a fishing vessel, or an angler getting cut off by the tide. We are watching constantly to ensure that if needed, we will respond appropriately and quickly.

When I joined the NCI, I had no idea that 5 years later, I would become the Station Manager at NCI Newhaven, following a couple of years serving on the management team as Maintenance Officer. It is a rewarding and worthwhile role.

The fantastic thing about our crew of approximately 75 watchkeepers who volunteer at NCI Newhaven, is the wide variety of skills our watchkeepers bring from all walks of life. Many come to us without any knowledge of the



▲ Pictured from left to right: NCI CEO, David Crozier, Mayor Cllr Pinky McLean-Knight, and Station Manager, Mick Carter

marine environment, but that is no barrier to becoming a watchkeeper as full training is given.

During a quiet watch, I find it fascinating to learn of what a watchkeeper has done before joining NCI and I am always amazed at the stories they have to tell.

As a charity (No 1159975) our station is self-funding, so many of you may have seen members of our crew smiling, giving information and collecting funds outside local supermarkets. You may also see us at a local fete, where our fundraising team have set up a stall, and our coastal water safety officer is passing information on how to stay safe when visiting the coast.

If you do see our crew out fundraising, please consider dropping a coin in our bucket, or tapping your card on the card reader. If having read this, you think you might be interested in joining our worthy cause and becoming a watchkeeper, please contact me at mick.carter@nci.org.uk and I will send you some information about us and how to go about joining our happy crew.

**Mick Carter, Station Manager,
NCI Newhaven.**





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THE FRIENDS OF TIDE MILLS - 20 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR!

From a slow beginning in 2005, our Friends of Tide Mills (FOTM) group has steadily grown to 20 very dedicated members, all volunteers, who care deeply about this special place, "Tide Mills", situated at the western end of Seaford Bay. Most importantly Tide Mills is in fact the last tract of undeveloped open space to the sea west of Seaford for many miles.

In a nutshell for those who may not know or visit the area, Tide Mills consists of a very unusual mix of both manmade and natural interest, open to all to visit, enjoy and explore.

The whole area is owned by Newhaven Port, with whom we have established an excellent supportive relationship. Very thankfully most of the area is now within the South Downs National Park.

In a nutshell, our principle aim back in 2005 and to this day is to ensure Tide Mills remains this jewel it undoubtedly is- to both regular and occasional visitors alike. Another aim at the time was to put Tide

Mills "on the map" which it undoubtedly now is.

Our main tasks are keeping litter down, undertaking conservation tasks as necessary and shouting loud and clear when we perceive any threats that possibly would undermine its quiet and peaceful aura. For example, we will object to any commercial development proposals that do not offer serious and meaningful consideration of the open space and area.

Moving forward we are in principle supportive of outline proposals to develop an integrated management plan embracing both Tide Mills and its nearby open spaces. You

can be sure the FOTM will be an active participant in this process!

We would be delighted to see you at one of our monthly meetings, which take place on the third Sunday of each month. All meetings start at 9am and last for around two hours. Our meeting point is the beach waymarker at the southern end of Mill Drove, the road that routes through the old village from the railway crossing.

We very much look forward to seeing you! More information can be obtained from myself at brianjimskinner@gmail.com.

Jim Skinner, Chair



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A HISTORY OF RIVERSIDE HALL AND LOCAL MENCAP

Riverside Hall was originally built in the very early 20th Century as a place of worship. It was used as a "Mission for Seamen" and in wartime was used by troops before they were transported across the channel to fight. The hall itself has altered over the years, adapting for use when required.

Newhaven, Lewes and District Mencap has gone through many transitions since the original Society began.

In 1965 a group of parents and friends of young people with learning disabilities and difficulties created the club for all in the local area. In the very beginning, the group of parents and their children used to meet up in their own homes every week to encourage social interaction. The bond between

▼ Newhaven Town Mayor, Cllr Pinky McLean-Knight, with Mencap Trustees Karen and Cindy



the society and its members has continued over the years.

Riverside Hall has been the venue for the social club since the 1970s when the hall belonged to British Rail and was used by our group.

During the 1980s, the hall became the permanent location for our charity and club, run by a group of totally dedicated people.

From October 2009, the Society incorporated the name of Lewes in its title, and since then we have been known as Newhaven, Lewes & District Mencap, welcoming our Members from all the surrounding towns, as far as Lewes, Eastbourne and Hove.

Our charity is indebted to the "Pioneer Families" and volunteers for establishing our organisation and we continue their vision today.

We have Friday night clubs for our Members when entertainment is provided, and twice a month we have Event nights, inviting the public to join us and enjoy booked entertainment.

As a charity, we attend all local fayres and events, raising much needed funds on our Tombola stalls.

Since 2023, we have been making our hall available for private hire. With capacity for



Our Valentines Day event. Above: the decorated hall. Below: Mencap trustees: Simone and Karen



over 85 people, access to a full kitchen, toilet facilities and tables and chairs, it is a great space for holding a function.

Hope to see you soon,

**Simone Tooley, Treasurer and
Trustee of Newhaven, Lewes
and District Mencap**

Many events are planned for 2025 - come along and see what we do! For more information about us, please email newhaven.lewesmen'cap@hotmail.com.

DENTON COMMUNITY CHALLENGE 2025 - 'GO DENTON GO'

Saturday 7th June at Avis Road Recreation Ground, Denton, Newhaven 1pm – 5pm



Preparations are underway for the 13th Denton Community Challenge.

As always, the event is well supported by local families and businesses. There will be all the usual fete attractions including a wide variety of stalls and a licensed bar, plus a BBQ kindly provided by the local 2nd Denton & South Heighton Scouts. A programme of events in the arena will keep everyone entertained, and children can let off steam on the zorbs and bungee trampolines, plus test their strength and stamina on the climbing wall.



The aim of the day is to provide a fun and inclusive day for families to enjoy and also to raise awareness of the many sporting groups in our locality, who provide sporting challenges for the children to enjoy. Teas, coffees and delicious cakes will be on sale in the hall, where you can also browse around the craft fair selling locally made arts, crafts and produce. The Grand Raffle will be drawn later in the afternoon and the ever-popular grand Tug of War finishes the day on a high!

Email dentonchallenge@gmail.com for more information on the event or check out our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/DentonCommunitychallenge for all the latest news.



Denton Community Challenge is organised by a committee made up of Denton Church, the James Daniels Memorial Foundation and Denton School and is run by local volunteers.

Lynne Mendelsohn

Counsellor MBACP (Senior Accred)

Have you been through a change or loss of any kind?

I can help you find a way forward

Face-to-face; online or telephone sessions

lynnemendelsohn.co.uk
07866-960396

Combine friendship and business in Newhaven

For businesses in and around Newhaven, joining the Newhaven Chamber of Commerce is a game-changer. Whether you're a start-up, an established business, or a sole trader, becoming a member offers valuable opportunities to grow, network, and stay informed about the latest business support available for companies in Newhaven. But that's not all - our networking group have become real friends - the kind you can rely on - and that means a lot these days. We get together for fun socials and an annual summer weekend away in Dieppe.

The Benefits of Membership

Becoming a member of the Newhaven Chamber of Commerce provides numerous advantages. It offers business visibility through the Chamber's directory and promotional channels, giving you a more substantial presence in the local market. You'll also gain access to exclusive business support, advice, and mentoring from fellow entrepreneurs and industry experts.

Another key benefit is advocacy—the Chamber represents local business interests and ensures members' voices are heard in discussions with local councils and policymakers.

Networking Breakfast – Connecting Local Businesses

One of the Chamber's most valuable initiatives is the Networking Breakfast, which meets weekly. A little crazy at 7am, but starting the morning with like-minded business owners, professionals, and decision-makers to exchange ideas, collaborate, and build relationships does work. These more informal yet structured meetings create a welcoming environment where new connections frequently turn into real business opportunities.

Stay Informed on Business Grants and Support

Navigating the world of business grants and funding can be challenging. Still, the Chamber makes it easier by informing members about the latest local funding opportunities and where to apply.



"I would just like to say how much I've enjoyed the Chamber breakfasts. You really are a great bunch. I'm so pleased I joined and I've enjoyed getting to know you all. I also have two guests coming this week to the breakfast, from a Newhaven business, and they are very keen to embrace networking in the town. Have a great week."

Theresa, More Radio

Joining the Newhaven Chamber of Commerce isn't just about networking—it's about thriving in a supportive business community and taking advantage of the resources, connections, and advocacy, it offers to propel your business to the next level. If you don't want to join - you can still use the online members directory, the business support and many other things by checking out www.newhavenchamber.co.uk. You can even come along to breakfasts a few times without joining - why not try us – it is only £99 p.a. to join. For more information, please email office@newhavenchamber.co.uk or phone 01273 517544.



...AND ALL FOR THE PRICE OF A PINT OR TWO!

It had all started so simply. Paul Vaughan, a wandering musician of this parish, had negotiated a space in The Ark Pub on West Quay to sing and play guitar. There was no amplification and no stage. A simple A4 flyer stuck on the window encouraged any would-be performers to join him. I, and many others, did exactly that.

A year on... same venue... You could almost have heard a pin drop. Jane, the landlady's mother had stepped up to the microphone to treat the pub's customers to a sensitive rendition of "Somewhere over the rainbow". It was beautifully done and accompanied, and the applause was long and loud. That same evening, blues, rock and roll, satirical ballads, reggae, punk and folk also had an airing... and at one particularly raucous

point of the evening her daughter, the landlady herself, leapt onto the bar top to lead some frantic dancing. Who would have thought that there were so many varied musicians and music lovers tucked away in and around Newhaven?

From the small beginning, the event had grown. There was now a PA and a full back line available. Regulars came from as far afield as Hastings, Uckfield and Brighton. Why, we even entertained the off-duty crew of the Newhaven-Dieppe ferry and cyclists dropping in on their way from London to Paris. The venture spawned extra events at key parts of the year such as Halloween, Easter and Christmas, when as many as fourteen musicians would be "on stage" at any one time. There were other spin-offs. New bands formed and some regular attendees went off to start open mics in their own towns. If we measure success by the numbers attending, whether performing or watching, and the money passing over the bar, that first open mic venue quickly became a roaring success. We were stunned by the response. It was always rammed on Open Mic nights.

In the intervening years between then and now, much has changed. Covid came and lingered and our musical endeavours were limited to banging baking trays on the

doorstep. Licensees moved on, performers and audience got older, married, moved, had children, found other interests, and the Open Mic itself has travelled, residing in turn in the now defunct Newhaven Social Club, the Jolly Boatman, the Prince of Wales and for some years now, in our current home, the last pub in England before France...The Hope Inn.

"Open Mic" takes place every second Friday of the month, starting at 8.30pm. Microphones and amplification are still on hand and there is always a house band present, usually consisting of guitar (Paul Vaughan) bass (Duncan Campbell) and drums (Tony Still) ready to support any performers who wish it. We welcome first time performers, seasoned troupers and music of all kinds. It is always very informal. Just turn up and talk to one of us to get your name on the list. The only thing we are wary of (though we'd never ban anything outright!) is the use of backing tracks. Don't be shy or nervous, you'll find us very supportive. If you are not a would-be performer and just looking for a good night out, all for the price of a pint, just turn up in time to get a seat. Better still, come earlier and eat.

You'll be assured of a warm welcome, both on and off-stage...

Yours, Duncan Campbell



THE HILLCREST CENTRE'S VIBRANT REVIVAL



Since the Havens Connections Café re-opened in September 2024, the Hillcrest Centre has experienced a vibrant revival. The Café has brought renewed energy to the Centre, drawing in new groups, members and visitors. The return of the Café has created such a wonderful atmosphere for everyone at the Centre. A heartfelt thank you to Havens Community Hub for their continued support.

The Centre thrives on the activities and groups that make it such a lively and inclusive space. From choir and Pilates to art groups, meditation, ballroom and mental health support groups, there's something for everyone.

Reflecting on last year's achievements, the Hillcrest Christmas Market was a resounding success. Organised by Sam, our Manager, and Jodie, our receptionist, it featured market stalls, Santa visits, bauble workshops and a performance by Haven Harmonies, who filled the Centre with festive cheer. Events like this are vital for fostering community spirit and fundraising efforts.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting fundraising event planned for July 2025 – a live performance by a talented local band. Stay tuned for further

details in the coming months!

At our successful AGM in December, we welcomed a full board of trustees who bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the Hillcrest Centre.

Hillcrest is offering a 15% discount for the first three months on regular weekly or monthly bookings with us.



As always, we need your support to keep the heart of the Hillcrest Centre beating. If you'd like to contribute, please visit our Local Giving page: <https://localgiving.org/charity/hillcrestcentre>.



Want to try something new for 2025? Come along to the Hillcrest Centre, Bay Vue Road, Newhaven, BN9 9LH on a Monday evening 7 - 8.30 pm and take advantage of a free taster session with Haven Harmonies Choir.

Open to all - no need to read music and no audition required.

If you enjoy it and want to come again it is £5 a session thereafter.

If you require any more information you can contact us by calling:- 01273 611068 or by email:- havenharmoniescommunitychoir@gmail.com.

You can also find us at:- www.havenharmonies.wordpress.com and on Facebook.



© Victoria Dawe



Newhaven Fort re-opens following £7.5m restoration



Newhaven Fort has re-opened its doors to the public following a transformative £7.5m restoration of the historic landmark.

After 12 months of closure, the newly restored 19th century fort boasts an enhanced visitor experience, featuring a brand-new adventure playground, interactive exhibitions and an exciting 1970s-themed escape room, which opens in April 2025. Visitors can now explore previously inaccessible areas, including the restored Battery Observation Post, which offers stunning views of the Sussex coastline.

The Romney Hut in the fort's parade square has been re-clad and insulated, providing a versatile event space for schools, weddings and corporate hire. Additionally, each of the fort's 18 casemates – vaults within the site – have been re-vamped to serve as engaging exhibition areas, with two casemates available for venue hire.

The fort is hosting a vibrant programme of events this year, including workshops, guided tours, exhibitions and talks.

Standard tickets (£12.95 for adults, £9.95 for children, free for under-4s) allow unlimited visits for 12 months during seasonal opening hours, with discounted rates available for seniors, students, disabled visitors, families and groups.

Lindsay Lawrence, general manager at Newhaven Fort, said: *"We are thrilled to welcome visitors back to this historic site after such a milestone project."*

"Our restoration has not only preserved the fort for future generations, but has also transformed it into a more accessible, sustainable and dynamic visitor attraction. With a brand-new escape room, a bigger and better adventure playground and a host of new exhibitions, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy."

Visitors can relax in the fort's new café, run by the Sussex-renowned Cadence Cycle Club, serving freshly brewed coffee, toasties and pastries. Visitor facilities have also been upgraded, including the gift shop and toilets, with improved accessibility and updated

signage across the fort.

To safeguard the fort's long-term future, extensive preservation works were undertaken, including structural and drainage repairs, brickwork re-pointing, and electrical and ventilation upgrades.

Duncan Kerr, chief executive at Wave Active, which operates Newhaven Fort, said: *"Newhaven Fort stands as one of Sussex's most cherished landmarks. Preserving this unique site is a privilege, and we look forward to the many benefits its restoration will bring to our community for years to come."*

Pilbeam Construction served as the delivery partner for the restoration, while funding was granted for the fort's restoration by Lewes District Council through capital funding programmes being delivered in Newhaven, including the Town Deal fund.

For more information or to book tickets, visit: www.newhavenfort.org.uk.



N.I.P.P.E.R.S. has been providing out-of-school activities to Newhaven and the surrounding area since 1973. We operate Monday to Friday after school 15.00-18.00 and 07.30-18.00 during school holidays (except the week after 26th December). We are currently based at East Side Social Centre, in Newhaven.

We have been successful in bidding to the Department of Education via East Sussex County Council to provide additional after school club places, to meet the needs of parents and carers returning to the workplace in line with the government's 'Getting Britain Back Working' agenda.

The sessions will cost £10 per child and will include school collection, activities and tea.

Staff and volunteers are qualified in Playwork, Early Years, Forest School Leadership, Care, Paediatric First Aid and are DBS checked.



For further details and to arrange a visit/free first session, please email nippers1973@outlook.com; or phone 07564 452837.

NEWHAVEN LITTER PICKERS

We are passionate individuals from all walks of life, united by a shared goal of creating a greener, cleaner future, through community litter picking and raising environmental awareness. We work to keep our community clean and protect the environment. Our ethos is to reduce pollution, preserve eco-systems, and prevent harm to wildlife, keep our community clean and prevent litter from entering drains and the sea.

Benefits of joining our group:

- Litter picking is therapeutic and good for mental health
- Litter picking can provide exercise and quality time
- Litter picking can make people feel they are making a difference.



It's easy to get involved. Find us on Facebook Newhaven litter pickers, www.facebook.com/share/g/17Ae1v5D18/?mibextid=wwXifr, or contact Jo on 07563 566107.

The Rotary Club of Newhaven Coast West

Happy Spring everyone - thank goodness the winter seems to be releasing its hold at long last.

We are happily settled in at our new home in the Hillcrest Centre, where our meetings always seem to graduate into the Havens Cafe, for a hot drink or some lunch.



We would love to meet any prospective members or friends, just ring us on 01273 516018 or email whiteleyjacquie@gmail.com so that we can give you any information you need. We meet every Tuesday at 12.00 midday.

We held our annual Christmas party for local elderly people, which, this year, was mostly funded by Newhaven Chamber of Commerce. Everyone seemed to have a great time - and they all left with a Christmas gift. Some pictures of the event are shown here.

This year, we hope to be at various events around the region, including the ever popular Denton Challenge in June, the Newhaven Lifeboat fete, Peacehaven Summer Fair and the Lions Fete in Saltdean during July.



If you are running an event and would allow us to have a fundraising stall, please let us know - as we are continuously looking for awareness and fundraising opportunities.

In the next newsletter, I hope to bring you details of the local young person we have been able to help achieve the Rotary Young Leadership award.

**Jacquie,
Vice President**



In Newhaven Matters Summer 2024, we talked of "the importance of getting out" for our mental and physical health. But what if chronic health conditions have impaired your personal mobility? Maybe driving or even walking to the nearby bus stop has become a problem? Well, the good news is that local charity CTLA has the ideal solution.

We operate a varied programme of accompanied outings in one of our easy access minibuses so that our members can continue to visit places in a supported and social environment. Our monthly newsletter contains full details of many trips to local places of interest

WHERE WOULD YOU GO IF ONLY YOU COULD?

including garden centres, shopping malls, lunches, teas and special events and even our mystery trips which our members can participate in at very affordable prices.

So don't stay home... find out how Travel Club membership can help you or a loved one get out and about and meet like-minded others - call us on 01273 517332 or e-mail info@ctla.org.uk or visit www.ctla.org.uk. Membership is free* and can be organised over the phone - you just pay for the trips you wish to book.

**subject to qualifying criteria*

**Hope to see you soon,
from all at CTLA**

"Travel Club is a tremendous service and one I appreciate very much"

Mrs R - Peacehaven



HAVEN YOUNG CREATIVES RECEIVES £5K FUNDING FROM NEWHAVEN ENTERPRISE ZONE

An arts charity in Newhaven which provides free drama workshops for children and young people has received nearly £5,000 from Newhaven Enterprise Zone's Community Fund to employ an early years artist. Haven Young Creatives will use the funding to provide extra support to children with additional needs during its weekly term time drama classes which take place in the Hillcrest Centre.

Newhaven community groups are urged to apply for support from the Community Fund by Friday 9 May 2025, as funding should still be available. Corinne Day, programme director at Newhaven Enterprise Zone, said: "We are so pleased to be able to help Haven Young Creatives to enhance their drama classes which enrich the lives of children and young people in the town. We're also asking community groups to apply for support from the Community Fund. Newhaven has so many groups which work tirelessly to make the town a better place to live and we're looking forward to lending a helping hand in 2025."

Haven Young Creatives co-artistic director Bex Milner said: "The money from Newhaven Enterprise Zone will enable us to employ an early years artist to be an assistant facilitator for our weekly drama groups."

Haven Young Creatives relies on funding which comes from sources such as Lottery Award for All, BN9, the Arts Council, Chalk Cliff Trust and Newhaven Town Council.

For more information on funding opportunities, please visit: sussexcommunityfoundation.org/newhaven-ez-fund/ and about Haven Young Creatives, please visit: www.havenyoungcreatives.com.



HARBOUR LIGHTS SPIRIT OF THE CORMORANT

On Sunday 19th January, the community came together singing and drumming with a magical lantern procession along the harbourside. The event had been rescheduled from November, due to the wild weather of Storm Bert.

Haven Young Creatives (HYC) created and produced

Harbour Lights, now in its second year. This Winter, fish lanterns were made in free workshops running up to the event. These were led by artist Patrick Bullock. There were also Drumming and Singing workshops on the day to create a soundtrack that the procession would walk with. A beautiful moving cormorant was made, which lit up, as it chased the fish lanterns along the parade, to the music and song.

HYC would like to thank BN9 and Newhaven Town Council for funding this event. HYC hope to run it again next Winter and are seeking funding.



NEWHAVEN ART CLUB

A Creative Community in East Sussex

Ever wanted to explore your artistic side but weren't sure where to start? At Newhaven Art Club, creativity is for everyone! We meet every Monday at 2:00pm at Peacehaven Evangelical Church Hall (24 Mayfield Ave, BN10 8RE).

A Supportive Space for All Artists

Whether you're a seasoned artist or a complete beginner, our weekly meetings offer a welcoming space to learn, share ideas, and grow. With structured projects, casual sketching, and expert demonstrations, there's something for everyone.

Engaging Events & Workshops

Beyond meetings, we host inspiring artist demos, hands-

on workshops, and excursions to fuel your creativity.

Showcase Your Work

Our exhibitions provide members with the opportunity to display and sell their artwork.

Upcoming exhibitions

📅 9th–12th April – Brighton and Hove Arts Council, Friends Meeting House, Brighton

📅 13th–19th May – Crypt Gallery, Seaford

A Warm Welcome Awaits

For nearly 70 years, we've nurtured a friendly, inclusive community. Many members started as beginners and grew into confident artists. It's not about being a Da Vinci—it's

about discovering your creative voice!



TRY IT FOR FREE!

Join us for a free taster session. Regular costs are just a few pounds per session and under £4 per month. For details, visit newhavenartclub.co.uk or contact Chris Cook at 07887 520708 / NewhavenArtClub@hotmail.com.

Newhaven Art Club: Where Creativity Blossoms in East Sussex!



Discover Local Sport at NEWHAVEN BOWLING CLUB!

Looking for a fun, social sport that's easy to learn?

Newhaven Bowling Club is the perfect place to stay active and make new friends! Located at Fort Road Recreation Ground, we welcome players of all ages and abilities.

Who Can Play? Everyone

Whether you're a seasoned player or a beginner, bowls is a relaxed yet competitive sport for all. We offer accessible facilities and a friendly, inclusive atmosphere.

No Equipment? No Problem!

We provide everything you need, plus free coaching from nationally qualified trainers to get you started.

Play All Year Round

Our outdoor season runs from

April to September, featuring friendly matches, competitions, and open days – including our free taster event on 17th May. On 29th June, we host the Bradbury Cup, bringing local organisations together for a fun competition. Sign up early as spaces are limited!

In winter, we play short mat bowls indoors three times a week, ensuring the fun continues year-round.

More Than Just a Game

Bowls is about community, fitness, and friendship. Enjoy social events, a clubhouse bar, and refreshments. We also offer a social membership for under 50p a week per year, including access to winter short mat sessions.



TRY IT FOR FREE!

Visit NewhavenBowlingClub.weebly.com, email nbowlscsocialmedia@gmail.com, or contact Jose Baker at 07542 608304.

Come along, have a go, and enjoy the game at Newhaven Bowling Club!

NEW TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

A new Tourist Information Centre (TIC) for Newhaven has recently opened in the reception of the Marine Workshops, just a short walk from Newhaven Train Stations and the shops. As well as giving advice on the town, the TIC has available a wide range of information on the local area. Local groups will be able to take advantage of the new box office at the TIC and sell tickets to their exhibitions, performances and other events. In addition, visitors can purchase a wide range of merchandise available from local suppliers for the perfect memento of their visit.



Winning bench designs 'capture spirit of Newhaven'

Two 'exceptional' designs for a pair of new wooden benches at Fort Road Recreation Ground have been announced as winners from almost 100 competition entries.

Alfie Sinclair, a Year 9 student at Seahaven Academy, and the collaborative duo of Newhaven artists, Diets Verschuren and Caroline Marsland, have each secured top honours with their imaginative creations.

Lewes District Council, in partnership with Hospitable Environment, a community-focused arts organisation, ran the competition which will see the two winning designs professionally etched into the benches in the new community orchard within the recreation



▲ Caroline Marsland and Diets Verschuren

ground. This orchard is a key part of the regeneration of Fort Road Recreation Ground, which is due to start this spring.

Councillor Emily O'Brien, Cabinet Member for Climate, Nature & Food Systems, said:

"We received a huge number of entries so thank you to everyone who took part in the competition. The high quality of entries made it a tough job



▲ Seahaven Academy Principal Mark Newnham-Reeve and Alfie Sinclair

for the judges, but the two winning designs stood out because they cleverly captured the spirit of Newhaven and celebrated its unique landscape and wildlife."

For more information about the regeneration of the recreation ground, including Shakespeare Hall and the Cricket Pavilion, please visit: www.fortroadnewhaven.org.

WIN
£30!

WORDSEARCH

HOW TO ENTER

Solve the wordsearch by finding the listed words which are hidden in the grid. The words in the grid can be across (forwards or backwards), or up or down, or diagonally, but always in a straight line.

One of the listed words cannot be found in the grid – that's the word you need for entering the competition. Write the word in the entry form and complete and submit the entry form by 17:00 on 2nd May 2025, to enter a draw. (Only one entry per person. Town Council employees and their relatives, and Councillors are not eligible to enter.) The first correct entry picked after the closing date will win a voucher worth £30.

So get puzzling and Good Luck!

D	R	A	O	B	R	A	T	S	E	U	N	C	D	Y
A	I	P	M	E	T	O	S	L	E	N	O	L	I	N
H	S	T	A	R	M	I	E	P	O	A	T	I	D	E
R	B	W	R	S	A	T	O	I	S	H	L	O	B	S
E	N	O	I	B	S	T	R	C	O	E	P	S	R	L
L	A	L	N	N	W	E	G	A	L	D	I	T	I	L
N	O	T	E	L	G	O	N	R	S	T	S	E	D	E
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M	L	A	R	S	O	R	E	L	T	R	O	P	U	N
E	I	N	F	Y	P	L	D	W	O	N	W	R	E	L
L	O	F	S	E	N	U	P	O	N	T	R	I	N	U
T	E	R	A	Y	R	A	I	H	N	E	D	A	R	T
S	M	A	C	K	E	R	E	L	I	R	C	N	O	A
D	O	S	A	O	O	N	Y	C	A	N	I	E	L	S

Bow	Ferry	Plate	Starboard
Bridge	Mackerel	Port	Swing
Cargo	Marine	Quay	Tide
Dolphin	Passenger	Seal	Trade

COMPETITION ENTRY COUPON

Send this coupon to reach the following address by
17:00 on 2nd May 2025.

Newhaven Matters Competition
Newhaven Town Council,
Council Offices,
18 Fort Road,
Newhaven,
East Sussex
BN9 9QE

SOLUTION WORD:

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss:

FIRST NAME:

SURNAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

TELEPHONE NO.:

EMAIL:

Dates for the diary.

April – June 2025

APRIL

Tuesday 8 April

Newhaven Tennis Club – Open Day. 9am to 1pm. Everyone welcome. Special Membership offer for new members on the Open Day. For more info, visit www.newhaventennisclub.co.uk or contact Bob on 07783 234894.

Sunday 13 April

Sublime Science Shows at Newhaven Fort. For further info, please contact: fortinfo@waveactive.org

Wednesday 16 April

Newhaven Tennis Club – Open Day. 9am to 1pm. Everyone welcome. Special Membership offer for new members on the Open Day. For more info, visit www.newhaventennisclub.co.uk or contact Bob on 07783 234894.

Friday 18 April

Easter Egg Hunt at Denton Park. 11am to 12 midday.

Monday 21 April

WOLO Foundation Fundraising Coffee Morning. Helping families affected by cancer in Sussex. 10am to 1pm. Bishopstone Station, Old Parcel Room, Station Road, BN25 2RB. For more info, contact: sam@woloofoundation.org

Tuesday 22 April

Newhaven Tennis Club – Open Day. 9am to 1pm. Everyone welcome. Special Membership offer for new members on the Open Day. For more info, visit www.newhaventennisclub.co.uk or contact Bob on 07783 234894.

Friday 25 April

Newhaven Twinning Association's Quiz Night. 7.30pm at the 3rd Newhaven Scout HQ in Fort Road. £5 per person. Please bring your own drinks, nibbles and glasses. If you would like to come along, please email: norman.hopson@btinternet.com or call 01273 588193.

Saturday 26 April

Friends of Bishopstone Community Food Project: Plant and Seed exchange. 10am to 12 noon. Bishopstone Station, Old Parcel Room. Free entry. For more info, contact: friendsofbishopstonestation@yahoo.com

Saturday 26 April

Tide Mills Choir. 12midday to 3pm. Marine Studios. A community choir singing songs inspired by the people, history and landscapes of the local area. £8 - £13 per session. Contact: Ellen.muriel6@gmail.com

Sunday 27 April

Newhaven Green Centre's Repair Café. Meeching Hall. 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

Tuesdays

Community Supermarket. Denton Island Community Centre. 11am to 1.30pm. Organised by the SCDA. Contact: food@sussexcommunity.org.uk

Tuesdays

Newhaven Green Centre. Borrow and return items from our Library of Things. By arrangement; contact: info@newhavengreencentre.co.uk

Thursdays

Newhaven Green Centre. Library of Things. Newhaven Library. 10am to 12noon. Booking in advance; contact: info@newhavengreencentre.co.uk

MAY

Thursday 8 May

Fish and Chip Supper at Riverside Hall. 7.15pm to 8.45pm. With 1940s style live music. In celebration of VE Day 80. £10 per ticket. Pre-booking is required, email: admin@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Thursday 8 May

VE Day 80 Beacon Lighting and Tribute Ceremony. 9pm – 9.40pm, at Newhaven Fort. Free entry. For more info, email: admin@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Sunday 11 May

Historic Falconry – WWII theme, at Newhaven Fort. For more info, email: fortinfo@waveactive.org

Sunday 18 May

Past 'n' Curious Car Show at Newhaven Fort. For further info, email: fortinfo@waveactive.org

Saturday 24 May

Friends of Bishopstone Community Food Project: Healthy Cooking with Healthy Food Workshop. 11am to 1pm at the Old Parcel Room, Bishopstone Station. For more info, email: friendsofbishopstonestation@yahoo.com

Saturday 24 May

Tide Mills Choir. 12midday to 3pm. Marine Studios. A community choir singing songs inspired by the people, history and landscapes of the local area. £8 - £13 per session. Contact: Ellen.muriel6@gmail.com

Tuesday 27 May

Come along to hear Denton Fellowship's guest speaker, Michelle Saunders, on Understanding Dementia. 2pm at Denton Church Hall.

Tuesdays

Community Supermarket. Denton Island Community Centre. 11am to 1.30pm. Organised by the SCDA. Contact: food@sussexcommunity.org.uk

Tuesdays

Newhaven Green Centre. Borrow and return items from our Library of Things. By arrangement; contact: info@newhavengreencentre.co.uk

Thursdays

Newhaven Green Centre. Library of Things. Newhaven Library. 10am to 12noon. Booking in advance; contact: info@newhavengreencentre.co.uk

JUNE

Tuesday 3 June

Newhaven Historical Society. Talk: 'A turbulent history in the pub life of Lewes'. Speaker: Matthew Homewood. Hillcrest Centre. 7.30pm. For more info: www.newhavenhistoricalsociety.org.uk or www.facebook.com/museuminnewhaven

Saturday 7 June

Denton Community Challenge. Avis Road Recreation Ground. 1pm to 5pm. For more info, email: dentonchallenge@gmail.com.

Sunday 8 June

Newhaven Green Centre's Repair Café. Meeching Hall. 2.30pm to 4.30pm

Saturday 21 June

Sussex Day, at the Sidings. 1pm to 4.30pm. Live music and entertainment, food and drink, local crafts and stalls. Free entry. For more info, email: admin@newhaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Tuesday 24 June

Come along to hear Denton Fellowship's guest speaker, Cliff Dargonne, on 'Thame Valley: Community Projects in the Everest Valley'. 2pm. Denton Church Hall.

Saturday 28 June

Tide Mills Choir. 12midday to 3pm. Marine Studios. A community choir singing songs inspired by the people, history and landscapes of the local area. £8 - £13 per session. Contact: Ellen.muriel6@gmail.com

Tuesdays

Community Supermarket. Denton Island Community Centre. 11am to 1.30pm. Organised by the SCDA. Contact: food@sussexcommunity.org.uk

Tuesdays

Newhaven Green Centre. Borrow and return items from our Library of Things. By arrangement; contact: info@newhavengreencentre.co.uk

Thursdays

Newhaven Green Centre. Library of Things. Newhaven Library. 10am to 12noon. Booking in advance; contact: info@newhavengreencentre.co.uk

Community Directory.

ARTS, CRAFTS & IT

Art Techniques with Carol Havard

See advert on the back page of this magazine

Into Art

Hillcrest Centre. Mondays 10am – 12pm and Fridays 10am – 1pm. £6 an hour. To book, email wildseararts@gmail.com

Knit & Natter

Newhaven Day Club. Mondays 2pm – 4pm

Life Drawing

Hillcrest Centre. Wednesdays: 10.30am – 1pm. To book, email julianlebas@yahoo.com

LinoCut Classes

Hillcrest Centre. Every Friday 2pm – 4pm. Contact: Jennings.sally@gmail.com

Newhaven Art Club

Peacehaven Evangelical Church Hall. Mondays: 2pm. For more information visit www.newhavenartclub.co.uk or ring Chris Cook on 07887 520708 or email NewhavenArtClub@hotmail.com

Newhaven Photographers Collective

Contact - Dawnie Thompson. Email: Phocol.dt@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/groups/803771370735753

U3A Art

Hillcrest Centre. Tuesdays: 2pm – 4pm. To book, email graham.heys@btinternet.com

Wood Creatives

Hillcrest Centre. Mon-Fri 9.30am – 3.30pm. Thurs eve: 6pm – 9pm. Beginners Welcome. Tel Joe 07768 331038. enquiries@woodcreatives.co.uk

CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

2nd Denton Scout Group "Ralph Reader's Own"

St Leonards Church Hall, Denton. Contact: 07974 972049. Fridays. Beavers (age 6–8) 5pm – 6.20pm. Cubs (age 8–10) 6.20pm – 8pm. Scouts (age 10–14) 8pm – 9.30pm.

3rd Newhaven Scout Group

Scout Hut, Fort Rd. Contact: join.3rdnewhaven@seahavenscouts.org.uk. Beavers (age 6–8) Thursdays 5.15pm – 6.15pm. Cubs (age 8–10) Wednesdays 5.30pm – 7pm and Thursdays 6.30pm – 8pm. Scouts (age 10–14) Mondays 7pm – 8.30pm and Wednesdays 7.15pm – 8.45pm. Dragoon Explorer Scouts (14–18) Tuesdays 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Squirrels Tuesdays 5pm – 6pm.

21 Detachment Newhaven

Army Cadet Force

Please visit www.armycadets.com. Transit Road, Newhaven, BN9 0BB. www.facebook.com/Sussex ACF

Children's Art Classes

Hillcrest Centre. Every Wednesday: 4.30pm – 5.30pm (Term Time Only). For more information, please email juliadunstandesign@gmail.com

Denton & South Heighton Junior Football Club

The Hollow, South Heighton, Newhaven, BN9 0TP. Saturdays 9am – 12pm - age group training times vary. Please contact Luke Martin to enquire, dashchairman@gmail.com

Harbourside Gymnastics Academy

Please call 07395 307616

Haven Young Creatives

FREE drama sessions for children and young people. The Hillcrest Centre. Tuesdays (term time) 4pm – 5.30pm. 8 – 12 years & 5.45pm – 7.45pm. 13 – 18 years

Newhaven & Seaford Sea Cadets

Email: admin@tsdefiance.co.uk or visit www.sea-cadets.org/newhavenseaford

Newhaven Youth for Christ

St Michael's Church Hall. Thursdays (term time only) 6pm to 7.30pm. Nintendo switch, pool table, craft, board games with a free meal. For ages 11 – 18. £1 entry.

NIPPERS

East Side Social Centre. After school club 3pm – 6pm. Monday to Friday (term time only). Holiday playschemes & Inset day cover provided. For details email nippers1973@outlook.com

Norcross Dance Centre

Classes in Ballet, Tap, Contemporary, Acro, Disco, Musical Theatre, Street, Commercial, Drama, Group Singing, Baby Music and Sensory, Tinytots Ballet. Please contact Alison on 07789 963560 or email norcrossdancecentre@gmail.com

SCDA Clubs & Groups

Newhaven Youth Centre, Denton Island. Please contact: youth@sussexcommunity.org.uk to find out more or enrol on to these sessions. Tuesdays: L.A.S.T. Project: 4.15pm - 5.30pm a free youth led LGBTQ+ and allies' 12-18yrs. Wednesday Youth Club (term time and summer holidays): 6.30pm - 8pm. 12-18yrs. Friday: Youth Club (term time and summer holidays): 6.30pm - 8pm. 12-18yrs

Crossfit Chimera

Fun, dynamic fitness classes for kids and teens (ages 5 – 17), building strength, confidence and athletic skills for life! Learn more at www.crossfitchimera.co.uk.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Meditation

Hillcrest Centre. Every Friday 6pm-7pm. Contact scarletlolocooking@gmail.com

Pilates Classes

Hillcrest Centre. Tuesdays: 11.30am – 12.30pm. Contact Tash: 07831 120600

Stay Active Longer

Exercises for healthier ageing. Hillcrest Centre. Every Thursday, 11am – 12pm. And at the Old Parcel Room, Bishopstone Station, BN25 2RB. Every Tuesday, 10am – 11am. Tel. Mary 07773 022429. Email: MaryMovesIt@gmail.com. Website: www.facebook.com/MaryMovesIt

Traditional Yang Tai Chi & Dragon Kung Fu

Lewes Road Hut. Thursdays 6pm – 7.30pm & 7.30pm – 9pm. Contact Jon 07715 664228. www.DMAA.co.uk

Slimming World

Elim Church. Saturdays. 8.30am. Contact Tina: 07548 892488. Thursdays. 5.30pm and 7pm. Contact Tracy: 07736 047196

Yoga with Sue

Denton and Mount Pleasant Social Hall. Thursdays: 9.45am – 11.15am. Contact Sue on 07721 611314

Zara Yoga & Pilates

Mondays: 11am. Pilates at Mencap. Tuesdays: 1pm. Pilates at the Enterprise Centre. Wednesdays: 6pm. Yoga at Mencap. 7pm. Pilates at Mencap. Fridays: 9.30am and 10.45am. Yoga at Mencap. Contact Zara at zarano1@msn.com

INTEREST GROUPS

Castle Hill Group

1st Sunday of every month: 10am. Scrub management & other tasks. Please email seahavenpr@aol.com or contact Graham on 01273 514942

Friends of Tidemills

3rd Sunday of every month: 9am – 11am to litter pick & conservation tasks. For more information contact Jim Skinner brianjimskinner@gmail.com

Guesthouse Storytellers

Hillcrest Centre. Visit www.guesthousestorytellers.com, email: xanthe.gresham@gmail.com or info@guesthousestorytellers.com, or tel: 07812 181545

Historical Society & Museum

The Newhaven Museum is re-opening on 21st April 2025. For details of our talks series, and research or general enquiries, please visit www.newhavenhistoricalsociety.org.uk

Newhaven & District Model

Railway Club

Heatherside Business Park, Unit 4,
Norton Road BN9 0BZ.
Wednesday evenings: 7.30pm – 10pm
Email newhavendmclub@gmail.com or tel:
07563 840687 www.newhavendmrc.com

Newhaven Green Centre: Reducing Waste, Library of Things & Bring-and-Take Table

Newhaven Library
Thursdays: 10am – 12pm

U3A

Offers a range of groups and events at various venues. For more information, please visit newhaven-peacehaven.u3asite.uk

English Lessons

Organised by the SCDA. Tuesdays. 11am to 12.30pm. Denton Island Community Centre.
Contact:
Catheryn.Croft@sussexcommunity.org.uk

MUSIC & DANCE

Ballroom Dancing with Studio Tempo

Hillcrest Centre. Fridays: 6.30pm to 8pm.
To book, phone 01273 476565.

Haven Harmonies Community Choir

Hillcrest Centre. Mondays: 7pm – 8.30pm.
Contact marianstanley43@gmail.com or
havenharmoniescommunitychoir@gmail.com

Newhaven Ukulele Group

Hillcrest Centre. Wednesdays: 7pm – 9pm.
Please contact Peter on
petergn1805@gmail.com
Beginners welcome.

Private Dance with Studio Tempo

Hillcrest Centre. Fridays: 10am – 12.30pm.
To book phone 01273 476565

Singing Mamas

Singing for wellbeing group for all women, not just mums. No singing experience needed.

Newhaven Youth Club, Denton Island.
Fridays: 10.30am to 12pm. Contact Lizzie to book a free taster session:
lizziesingingmamas@gmail.com

Tide Mills Choir

Takes place on the 4th Saturday of each month. 12midday to 3pm at the Marine Studios. Contact: Ellen.muriel6@gmail.com.

SOCIAL

Denton Fellowship

Denton Church Hall. Every 4th Tuesday of the month at 2pm.
Contact: Aileen 07756 035454

Just Friends

Newhaven Day Club
1st & 3rd Monday of every month:
10am – 12pm
2nd Monday of the month Walking Group
4th Monday of every month Lunch Group
Contact: info@just-friends.uk

Newhaven Day Club

West Quay (Northeast of Carpark).
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays.
Variety of fun activities. Contact Tony on
01273 513189 for further details,
including membership prices

Newhaven Peacehaven Lions

For more information visit
www.npslions.co.uk

Rotary Club of

Newhaven Coast West

Fund-raising to help others. Tuesday lunchtimes at the Scout Hut, Fort Road,
For more information, please email
whiteleyjacquie@gmail.com or telephone Iris
on 01273 516018

Friends of Bishopstone Station

Old Parcel Room, Bishopstone Station,
Station Road BN25 2RB
Meet Up Mondays – community drop in.
10am to 1pm (closed bank holidays).
Man Space – men's social and wellbeing space. 1st and 3rd Friday of the month
10am to 12 noon. Email:
friendsofbishopstonestation@yahoo.com.
Tel: 07501 672424

SPORT

Affinity Rowing Club

For details email
info@affinityrowingclub.co.uk

Denton Cricket Club

For more information, please visit www.dentonsussex.play-cricket.com or
Tel: 07883 097264

Denton Island Indoor Bowls Club

For more information, please visit
www.dentonislandbowls.co.uk or
Tel: 01273 514664

Denton Table Tennis Club

Denton Church Hall. Wednesday:
7pm – 9pm and Friday: 10am – 12pm
Contact Rosemary on 07999 860333

Hillcrest Boxing

For more information, please visit
www.hillcrestboxinggym.co.uk

Newhaven Archery Club

A friendly outdoor archery club offering archery courses and social activities throughout the year.
For more information, please visit
www.newhavenarcheryclub.co.uk or
email newhaven_archery@yahoo.co.uk

Newhaven Gig Rowing

For details visit www.ngrc.co.uk or email
admin@ngrc.co.uk

Newhaven Bowling Club

We host free to attend roll-ups at Fort Road Recreation Ground. Monday from 6pm and Saturday from 10am.
For more information contact Jose Baker on
07542 608304, email
nbowlscsocialmedia@gmail.com or
www.NewhavenBowlingClub.weebly.com

Newhaven Cricket Club

www.newhaven.play-cricket.com/Aboutus

Newhaven Football Club

For more information, please visit
www.newhavenfc.co.uk or email
newhavenfootballclub@gmail.com

Newhaven Tennis Club

All offers of Club sessions and activities to its members are available to view on the club's website: newhaventennisclub.co.uk.
Please contact Bob 07783 234894 for all membership and general details and Clive 07526 267560 for coaching details. Or email: mailrkjackson@yahoo.co.uk

Newhaven & Seaford Sailing Club

For more information visit
www.sailinginsussex.org or
email info@nssc.org.uk

Newhaven Yacht Club (NYC)

For more information visit
newhavenyc.org.uk

Pétanque with Newhaven

Twinning Association

Every Sunday morning, opposite The Hope Inn, Newhaven. Spare Boules available! Weather permitting. Contact: 01273 588193 or norman.hopson@btinternet.com.

Seaford Rugby Club

For more information visit
www.seafordrfc.club

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA Meetings

Hillcrest Centre. Thursdays:
7pm – 8.45pm
Meeching Hall. Wednesdays: 9.30am

Bereaved by Suicide: East Sussex

Please contact the Sussex Suicide Bereavement Support Team
on 07376 616628 or email
sussexbereavedbysuicide@cruse.org.uk

Childline

Tel: 0800 11 11
www.childline.org.uk

Cruse Bereavement

Support Helpline
Tel: 0808 8081677
www.cruse.org.uk

Nebula

Hillcrest Centre. Mondays: 2pm – 3pm.
Just drop in www.facebook.com/groups/535810757234539

Samaritans

Tel: 116 123
www.samaritans.org

Warm Spaces Directory

Please visit www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/article/1280/Welcome-spaces or contact
Newhaven Town Council on
01273 516100

This listing is correct at the time of going to press and is not a comprehensive list of all the groups and courses in Newhaven

What we made during the winter

- Textiles, painted at the Women's group
- Miniature models
- Stencilled t-shirts at the Newhaven Green Repair Café
- Line drawings



What's coming up with Art Techniques

- Mondays:** 10.30am – 12.30pm. Experienced Adult Potters
4.30pm – 6pm. Start Art. For Primary children, years 3 to 6
- Tuesdays:** 4pm – 6pm. Bespoke Tutored Sessions
- Wednesdays:** 10.30am to 12.30pm, and 2pm – 4pm. Adult Pottery for Beginners and Intermediates. 4 week blocks.
- Thursdays:** 7pm to 9pm. Experimental Pottery
- Saturdays:** Bespoke Group Bookings, for families, friends and parties

Plus, Community Partnership Art Techniques Workshops for Festivals, Events, Themed Projects (e.g., mosaic, ceramics, drawing, acrylic painting, printing, murals and more)

For more info on any of the groups above and costs, please contact: info@art-techniques.co.uk or 07944 595505

Established in 1995, and based in comfortable studios at 25 Hillcrest Road, Newhaven, Art Techniques is a unique local Art Service, facilitating projects for children, young people and adults.

CELEBRATE

SUSSEX DAY

at the Sidings
(near the Marine Workshops)

Saturday 21st June

1PM TO 4.30PM

LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

FOOD & DRINK

LOCAL CRAFTS & STALLS

FUN FOR ALL AGES



FREE
ENTRY