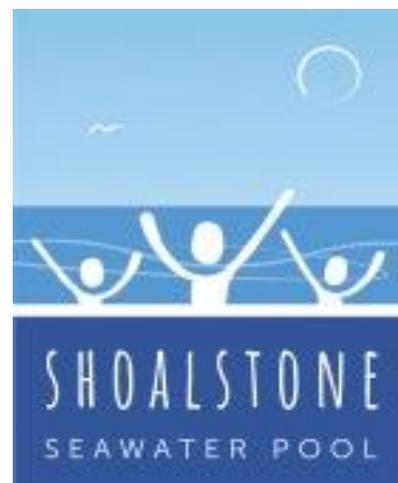


# Shoalstone Seawater Pool

## Newsletter Winter 2023



## Happy 2023!

Shoalstone Pool is preparing for another eventful year. In 2022 we had record numbers swimming in the pool in the summer and some examples of great lifeguarding kept everyone safe; then we had the great fish disaster in September when tonnes of fish were stranded in the pool after an autumn high tide – and all drowned. Our thanks go to our amazing volunteers who stepped in at short notice along with our local community specifically the 365 Swimmers, Brixham Trawler Agents and Jewsons, who helped with funding and logistics.

At the November AGM 10 people stepped forward to join the Trustee Board of our newly incorporated charitable organisation. Together we can move mountains!

The Christmas Concert by the Lympstone Military Wives Choir was a resounding success and meant that Friends could meet in the warm rather than freeze poolside. Sadly, the excessive rains combined with sewage discharge reduced the water quality and we were forced to cancel our traditional End of Year Swim – but we are bouncing back better than ever. Winter repairs are complete and so now we are in that anxious time of waiting and watching the weather forecasts to see which way the wind will blow in the big Spring storms.

## Introducing New Trustees

**DAVID COOPER** I live opposite the pool and am interested in gardening, local community and the environment. Last year our garden was awarded Gold in the Love your Brixham garden awards. I am a retired Control Systems Consultant and volunteer for general maintenance. I would like to further improve the Green area.

**AMY PLOWMAN** I've lived in Brixham since 1997, both my children were born and grew up here and we spent many happy days using Shoalstone Pool. I have worked at a senior level in wildlife conservation charities for most of my life so have a good understanding of charity

governance and operation. I'm currently Head of Conservation and Science with the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, where I lead H&S and safeguarding and am jointly responsible for HR matters with the rest of the senior team. I'm a very keen gig rower and rowing coach (including juniors) and have been Captain of Brixham Gig Rowing Club for several years. I'm also a regular sea swimmer, coastal walker, cyclist, runner, rugby player and wine taster and try to make the most of all the wonderful things Brixham has to offer.

## What Next for Shoalstone?

2023 sees us welcome a **new Operations Manager** to the pool. Many of you will already know David Thomas via his role at Bayside Marine and as a local musician. David brings years of retail experience and deep links with the Brixham community. We all wish him well in his new role.

We are also progressing with an initiative to install a **pumping system** into the pool to improve the water quality and visibility for lifeguarding. This project is dependent upon a pipe survey and additional grant funding to secure the pumps and labour. We'll keep you posted on our progress,

**Shoalstone Seawater Pool - Save from the Waves Campaign**— we are asking Brixham and all Friends to support our 2023 big fundraising campaign to bring in the £500,000 we need to carry out urgent major works on the North West corner buttress. Without the repairs, our consultant engineers have declared that the buttress will become more unstable and potentially collapse within a five-year timeframe, a set of major storms could speed this up. And that would be the end of the pool. But once the repairs are done – the pool will be secure for the next generation.

Our motto is Focus on the Future – Save Shoalstone Now!

Everyone needs to get involved. If you can run a BBQ, a disco, follow Marilyn Rogers' great example of a cream tea in the garden, do a sponsored swim – whatever you can do to help will make a difference. Business owners – can you give generously? Please all send your suggestions and ideas. Volunteers welcome.

Please be generous in your support of the fundraising events we are currently planning:

**28 March: Rockfish Fundraising Supper.** A 3-course meal at Rockfish, Brixham, for £25 per head. Raffle, live music, email [dawn.gelshinan@shoalstonepool.com](mailto:dawn.gelshinan@shoalstonepool.com) to book your tickets. Please also tell Dawn if there are any dietary requirements.

**Dog Swims and Twilight Swims** will kick off the beginning and end of the season (May and September), with dates to be announced.

And get your bling out for the **Shoalstone Sparkle Night** in September. Watch this space for dates and details.

We also want to encourage all Brixham charities and organisations to use Shoalstone as a venue for some of your events this year. It is a beautiful space, with the picnic green above and the pool below – we want people of Brixham to have more reason to come down to the pool, and maybe to see what we are in danger of losing.

### **Become a Lifeguard this year!**

Save lives, earn money and enjoy helping your community this summer. Shoalstone Seawater Pool will be starting the process of hiring Lifeguards again this March/April. All ages are welcome to apply. Lifeguard courses are on offer near you, visit the RLSS website <https://rlssuk.tahdah.me/event> for more information.

### **Spring Challenge**



**Rosie Ockwell, aged 11 years,  
from Purton: winner of our  
Summer Writing Competition**

Rosie sent us a lovely piece which encapsulated summer at Shoalstone Seawater Pool. Congratulations!

For the spring season, we are inviting budding writers, 12 years old and under, to tell us in 150 words what the creatures in our mural get up to when the pool is closed during the closed season.

**Prize of £25.00 for the most imaginative story.**

**Rules:-** *Children 12 years old and under; One entry only per child; All entries must give name, age and contact details Committee decision will be made 10<sup>th</sup> April 2023 the winner will be notified by email.*

Submit to: [capetownkay@gmail.com](mailto:capetownkay@gmail.com) Subject : Shoalstone Mural Writing Competition

Please share this newsletter wherever you can. All questions and feedback – please send to [info@shoalstonepool.com](mailto:info@shoalstonepool.com)