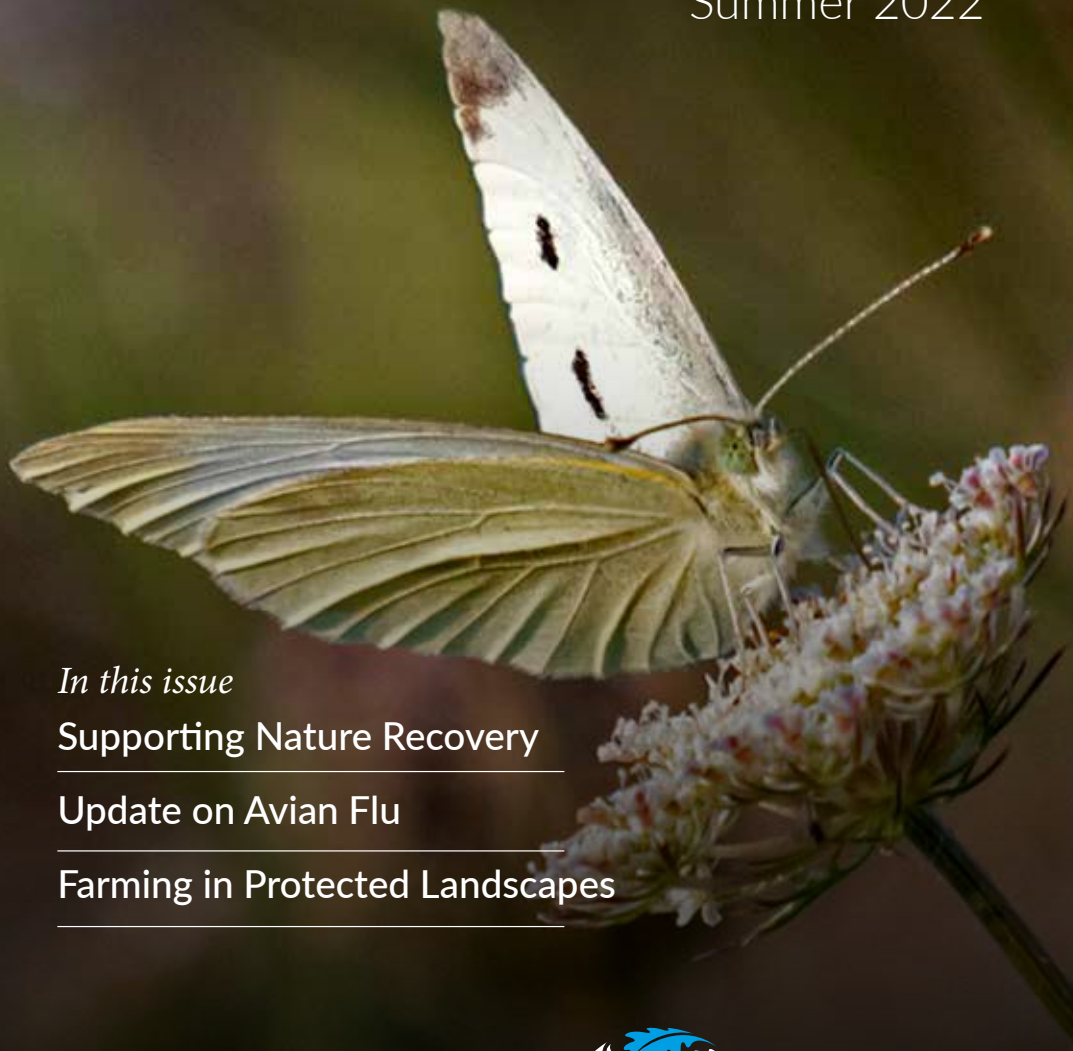


# Harbour *Life*

Summer 2022



*In this issue*

Supporting Nature Recovery

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Update on Avian Flu

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Farming in Protected Landscapes

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# Welcome

Summer is here and it's lovely to see the water busy with sailors, paddleboarders, kayakers and boaters of all kinds. Solar Heritage is sailing again and taking people out to admire the wonderful landscape that makes Chichester Harbour an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, or to safely visit the seal colony.

Details of all the sailings this summer are included in our What's On section. Also in this issue, you can learn about some of the steps we are taking to protect and restore wildlife in the Harbour, find out more about the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme or read some fantastic creative writing done by local students.

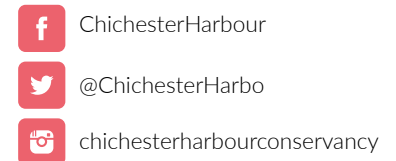
This might all sound rather eclectic, but it's a good example of the breadth of the work we are involved in at the Conservancy. Read on to find out more.



**Richard Craven,**  
Director and Harbour Master

## Contact us

Chichester Harbour Conservancy  
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[www.conservancy.co.uk](http://www.conservancy.co.uk)  
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Office Hours: Mon–Fri 0900–1700  
Sat 0900–1300 (1 Apr–31 Oct)



We'd love to hear your stories about what you love about Chichester Harbour, and how you use it. Share your thoughts and photos on our social media channels or contact us at the Harbour Office.

# News in *brief*

Congratulations to the Maybush Copse Friends who celebrate their 10th anniversary this year!

## Maybush Copse Arts Trail

Earlier this year we commissioned a group of 14 Fine Art students from the University of Chichester to produce temporary artworks for Maybush Copse, the 8 acre community orchard in Chidham.

The outcome was a collection of contemporary pieces created from materials including metalwork and textiles, designed as a celebration of the natural beauty of Chichester Harbour and its unique landscape characteristics. The art trail wound its way through Maybush Copse,

and was open to the public for two weeks in early May. Some of the works included an interactive element with items for the public to take away. Maybush Copse is owned by Chichester Harbour Trust and was created in 2009 from a once derelict site. The art trail was a partnership between University of Chichester Fine Art Department and Chichester Harbour Conservancy and was supported by Chichester Harbour Trust, The Friends of Chichester Harbour and Maybush Copse Friends.

## Seasonal Patrol

Our new seasonal staff have joined the Patrol team to work around the Harbour during the busy summer season. The team will be responding to incidents, offering safety advice, enforcing byelaws, collecting harbour dues and supporting the emergency services.

Summer inevitably sees the number of visitors grow as local residents, visiting boaters and holidaymakers enjoy all this stunning area has to offer. With an increase in traffic on the water our seasonal staff allow us to maintain safety and help make sure everyone has a great time on the water.



## Remembering Richard Williamson

It was with sadness that we marked the passing of naturalist, Richard Williamson, in May. Richard was hugely influential in the protection of Chichester Harbour. He was one of the first to recognise the importance of the mudflats and saltmarshes for huge numbers of ducks, geese and waders that they supported, and the danger that development and recreation pressures posed to their populations.



In the 1960s, he prepared a detailed map of Chichester Harbour and a report showing how the whole ecosystem worked. This inspired more studies and the scientific designations and environmental protections that Chichester Harbour received over the following years, and also the way that local officials viewed the Harbour. This was undoubtedly influential to the work that would lead to the formation of Chichester Harbour Conservancy in 1971.

Richard was at the forefront of instigating wintering bird surveys, a scheme that still runs today. He remained part of the team of volunteers that monitored the birdlife of the Harbour for 50 years, his patch being the Fishbourne channel, and he gave many talks and presentations at Conservancy events.

His enormous passion for the natural world and his great depth of knowledge came through in everything he did, and Chichester Harbour has lost one of its great champions.

If you want to hear Richard speak about his work, take a look at our series of 50th anniversary vlogs on our YouTube channel. Richard features in several, but talks about his early work in Part 9.

## Boosting Our Team

Two new members of staff have joined us to help support the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme, which runs until March 2024. Steven Pick will be working as our Farming & Grants Officer, and will be focusing on building strong relationships with farm managers and landowners in order to create and support high quality applications for the programme. Michelle Rossiter has also joined as our Administration Officer to help support the scheme.

A special feature about the FiPL programme is included in this issue.



# One Good Tern...

Return of the Tern, the partnership project between Friends of Chichester Harbour and Chichester Harbour Conservancy, began in late 2021 after funding was received from the Green Recovery Challenge Fund. Jessica Vagg, our Nature Recovery Officer and Return of the Tern Project Manager, shares what's been happening.



With five new tern rafts now anchored at selected spots across Chichester Harbour, the 'Return of the Tern' project is well and truly underway. After managing the project for six months, it's been hugely exciting to see the tern rafts launched last month! Initial steps towards this ambitious 18 month project were made late last summer thanks to the £182,300 grant from the Government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund.

The recent investment in and deployment of extra new tern rafts signified the first of four key aspects of the project – others to come are the shingle recharging of nesting habitats in the Harbour, a small fish survey this summer and developing a Nature Recovery Plan for Chichester Harbour.

In recent years the Conservancy has deployed tern nesting rafts on lagoons near the Harbour to support breeding common terns. These rafts have proved extremely successful in providing safe, predator-free nesting sites and have made a hugely positive impact to the common tern population in the Harbour. The raft modules are transported to site each spring, and then disassembled and removed from the water at the end of each season.

Early this year we were able to commission five new purpose-built rafts from Marine Access Engineering, an Isle of Wight based company who have been working on their nesting raft design for 10 years.

The new rafts, plus the three existing ones, built by the Conservancy ranger team and the Friends of Chichester Harbour volunteers, were launched in mid-May in line with the arrival of terns back to the shores of the UK.

We're now using visual and audio cues to encourage the terns to land and (hopefully!) nest on the rafts. This year, the visual cues were 3D printed tern models which were painted by the amazing Conservancy youth rangers during the Easter holidays.

We launched the rafts at two sites over a period of a few weeks. At one site, within minutes of deploying the rafts, we saw terns landing on them. And just two days later we had both tern and black headed gull eggs on the rafts! During a site visit at the start of June, we counted 82 Common Tern eggs, and this is likely to rise in the coming weeks.

The rafts are fitted with cameras and we'll be sharing footage and updates on the Friends of Chichester Harbour social media pages over the coming months. Please follow our channels to keep updated with what's happening!

## Follow updates:



@thefriendsofchichesterharbour



@FriendsChiHarbr



@FriendsChichesterHarbour

# Supporting Nature Recovery

Launched last year, Chichester Harbour Protection and Recovery of Nature (CHaPRoN) is a long-term partnership initiative to help respond to the increasing pressures on Chichester Harbour and protect, enhance and drive the recovery of nature. Due to the significant decline in saltmarsh, seagrass and native oysters within the Harbour we're initially focusing on subtidal and intertidal habitats, with our remit extending to the wider nature recovery network over time. Here the CHaPRoN team give an update of their work so far:

Reducing the pressures on the natural environment and enabling the recovery of nature is a very complex picture. Climate change and increasing human pressure on the natural environment create numerous different effects, lots of which we still don't fully understand. But CHaPRoN is driving forward development plans to start

to ease some of these pressures, identify opportunities to give space to nature and explore ways to restore priority habitats.

The CHaPRoN initiative focuses on eight core areas which are important for enabling long term change within Chichester Harbour and restore our vital ecosystems.

## Coastal Resilience and Saltmarsh Restoration

We're working to increase the Harbour's coastal resilience and adaptability to climate change, with the ambition to develop a long-term coastal environmental plan.

With the increasing pressures of climate change, rising sea levels and more stormy weather, the Harbour needs to become more adaptable and resilient. Hard shoreline defences currently make up approximately two-thirds of the Harbour's shoreline and significantly reduce adaptability. The pressure from hard sea defences together with rising sea levels creates an effect known as 'coastal squeeze'. This is when saltmarsh gradually dies back as it's submersed by deeper water for longer

periods of time and unable to migrate landward. Hard sea defences also reduce sediment supply, limiting coastal processes that would naturally regenerate saltmarsh. As saltmarsh is such an effective natural defence, we're exploring and promoting opportunities to employ more nature-based solutions to managing the coastline. In appropriate places these can help to reduce the impacts of climate change, provide greater long-term protection for the Harbour, increase biodiversity and provide many societal benefits.

The lack of sediment supply also impacts on the health and condition of saltmarsh and its ability to thrive. So we're exploring the potential options for retaining low nutrient sources of dredged material for saltmarsh restoration initiatives, known as Beneficial Use of Dredgings. Trials have been carried out elsewhere in the Solent, which we can use to learn from and adapt techniques to suit the conditions here.

## Seabed Disturbance and Seagrass Restoration

Numerous pressures on the Harbour's seabed can have a detrimental impact on both seagrass and invertebrates living in the mud. These pressures can come from a range of activities including dredging, anchoring and moorings, bait digging and hand gathering. To help seagrass regenerate naturally and maintain food source levels within the mudflats for wetland birds, we need to try and find ways to reduce these pressures and adapt the ways we do things, especially in priority areas. As part of this,

Sussex IFCA are currently developing a new Byelaw for Hand Gathering in the Harbour to help reduce the pressures generated from high levels of bait digging and harvesting of marine fauna and flora from the intertidal zone by hand, or with handheld implements. The proposed byelaw was open for public consultation earlier this year and closed last month.

We're also planning a survey this summer to determine the full extent of seagrass growing in Chichester Harbour and obtain up-to-date records. Once we have an accurate baseline, we can start to measure the impact our protection and recovery initiatives are having on the health of the seagrass beds.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust have been carrying out a range of seagrass restoration trials in Langstone Harbour, and we've been to visit some of these sites to learn from the experts and understand how the trials have been conducted. We hope that next year we'll be able to work in partnership and start to plan restoration trials at appropriate sites within Chichester Harbour.

### Water Quality

Water quality is very important to many people, mainly due to the potential health related impacts. CHaPRoN is working with partners to influence policy and environmental measures to help improve water quality within the Harbour.

A wide range of contaminants impact water quality. Our aim is to increase understanding and knowledge of sources of contaminants and their impact on coastal ecosystems and use this evidence to develop initiatives to reduce contaminant levels. We are actively supporting academic research to gather this evidence.

One well-recognised pressure within Chichester Harbour are the high levels of nutrients which encourage large quantities of macroalgae weed to grow. This smothers the intertidal habitats and prevents light reaching them. Thick areas of macroalgae weed then prevents the wading birds from feeding.

CHaPRoN will be working with partners to promote and develop catchment sensitive farming initiatives to help reduce the levels of nitrates and pesticides running off farmland into the waterways that feed into the Harbour. Through the Farming in Protected Landscape programme we've already been able to offer grants to help farmers develop initiatives that reduce the levels of fertiliser and pesticides they apply to their fields.

### Shellfish

There was once a thriving oyster industry in Chichester Harbour, but native oysters have declined to very small numbers and can't now be harvested. The reason for their decline can be contributed to a wide range of different factors. We hope to develop initiatives that reduce these pressures and explore potential active restoration methods to restore native oyster populations to self-sustaining levels again.

### Marine and Farmland Birds

A key pressure on marine birds is the decreasing area of high tide nesting and roosting sites as sea levels rise. So we're seeking opportunities to increase and enhance high tide sites, improving the resilience of bird habitat to the increasing impacts of climate change.

The Return of the Tern project is recharging Stakes Island, a popular site for nesting terns, raising the height of the island to increase the area above sea level at high tide. The project is also increasing the

number of Tern rafts, providing additional platforms during the nesting season.

In addition, to try and reduce the pressures on marine birds from recreational activities, we're trialling Wildlife Refuge sites at sensitive locations around the Harbour.

These sites are intended to raise awareness of the impact of human behaviour on marine birds and to encourage water-based Harbour users to admire the wildlife from a distance.

### Nature Recovery Network

Chichester Harbour can't and shouldn't be considered in isolation, as it's part of a much wider landscape connecting to Pagham Harbour and Medmerry in the east, Langstone Harbour in the west and up to the South Downs National Park in the north. As such we're working with wider partners to develop a nature recovery plan to create a Nature Recovery Network across the wider landscape, linking both coastal and terrestrial habitats. This will feed into the government's national plans for a Nature Recovery Network across England.

### Engagement

Raising awareness amongst Harbour users and local communities about CHaPRoN

and the initiatives' ambitions is a priority for us this year. We're in the process of developing a website for CHaPRoN that will provide a valuable platform for much of our wider communication and engagement, and hope to launch the site this summer.

### Funding Streams

Moving forwards, funding streams are critical for CHaPRoN to enable the planning and delivery of restoration initiatives. We're actively seeking opportunities to apply for funding to support project work, and have been delighted to be a named partner in Blue Marine's application to the Endangered Landscape Programme for a Solent-wide Seascape Restoration project, together with other partners including the Hampshire Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Portsmouth University and the RSPB. We hope to hear the outcome of this funding application later this year.

Longer term, as the metrics and frameworks evolve for carbon offsetting, biodiversity net gain and nutrient neutrality schemes, we hope that these will provide green funding streams to support ongoing restorative work within Chichester Harbour.



Photo © Paul Adams

Keep up to date with CHaPRoN by following Chichester Harbour Conservancy's social media channels.

# The Risks of Avian Flu to Seabirds

Avian flu has been back on the radar for some time, with many of the UK's domestic poultry population kept indoors for much of the spring. The situation has now begun to take a worrying toll on seabirds too. Sadly it's entirely possible that avian flu will reach the gull and tern colonies in the Solent including Chichester and Langstone Harbours in the next few weeks.

Over the spring, Scotland's important seabird populations bore the brunt of avian flu, which has affected a range of species including Guillemot and both Arctic and Sandwich Terns. As well as fears that the disease is spreading south across the UK, there are also concerns about its long-term impact on the seabird population. Seabirds live longer than other birds, taking more time to reach breeding age. They also tend

to produce fewer offspring than other birds. Losing high numbers of seabirds now could affect future numbers significantly, given any recovery would take much longer. With severe declines in many seabird breeds for a number of years already it's a concerning picture. And other threats also remain including climate change, lack of prey fish, deaths through entanglement in fishing gear and development pressure.

---

"Britain's seabird populations are of global significance. The UK holds 56% of the world's Northern Gannet population and Scotland has 60% of the world's Great Skuas. There is now great concern for the impacts of bird flu on our already beleaguered wild birds. Our seabird populations have halved since the 1980s. Now, a highly mutable and deadly new form of avian influenza, which originated in poultry, is killing our wild seabirds in large numbers. We urge UK government to develop a response plan urgently – to co-ordinate surveillance and testing, disturbance minimisation, carcass disposal and biosecurity. In the longer term, we urge much higher importance be given to prioritising and funding seabird conservation, so we help make our seabird populations more resilient to these diseases alongside other pressures." [Katie-Jo Luxton, Director of Conservation, RSPB](#)

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If you do spot any dead, dying or injured birds across Chichester Harbour please don't pick up or handle them. Please report to DEFRA on 03459 33 55 77.

# Teaching Future Generations

The Education Centre is busy during term time all year round, delivering memorable and engaging school visits full of real-world learning experiences. The service helps young people and adults to discover the delights of wildlife and bring nature to life and encourages future generations to value and conserve Chichester Harbour.

Most of the sessions are centred around geography or science, but we also welcome students working on more creative subjects such as art and photography or English. One such visit was made by Year 11 students from Bourne Community College in October last year. We held a workshop hosted by Kate Cameron, a creative writing specialist, funded by the Friends of Chichester Harbour, in which students produced some outstanding work that really captured aspects of the wildlife and landscape of the Harbour.

Stepping into the maze of reeds drew back a curtain, revealing the backstage of nature. Spindly whisks of green framed the only path, guiding your footsteps down into the workings of the world. The air turned from a harsh wall of wind into a cold embrace. Time stood still. Shifting shadows strayed onto the path, the flickering of light cast strange images to the littered floor.

Up above, a seemingly endless sky stretched onwards, towards the horizon, where the steel grey shattered into fractured shards of black storm clouds. You could be alone here; the world could have stopped turning entirely and the eternal quiet would not be interrupted. Below you, a slow, meandering stream turned from clear and crisp, to darkened by mud.

The outside had invaded. After the security and shelter of the reeds, the strength of the wind seemed to have increased. It

was as if the sea had picked up knives of ice and thrown them inland, hoping to skewer any passer-by. This violent wind was manipulating the water, pushing and pulling it in unwilling directions. Small white outlines of birds rose and fell in the turbulent sea.

The stretch of coast where the land met the sea was desolate and unforgiving; areas of mud looked so deep that anything could be hidden or buried inside.

A shrill cry of a seabird sounded like a scream, it was carried by the wind and sounded like it was coming from everywhere.

**Kiera Olney**



There was a lonely oak up ahead. The path beneath our feet was muddy and rough, clearly beaten away by the recent rain and heavy footsteps. Surrounding us was a sea of tall reeds, obscuring our view of the tree-line beyond. I could hear the reeds rustling against each other, fighting for a bit of space. We crossed an old wooden bridge, clearly weathered and slightly

decrepit. Underneath, the dirty stream trickled along on its journey towards the sea. The air was fresh and cold, biting at our skin with every big gust. The oak got ever closer, its branches drooping like a tired hand. The tall reeds lashed out at us as we wondered along the path, as if defending their habitat from us.

**Josh Randall**

Soon after, I found myself on an enclosed coastal path, the rotting smell of wet moss and ivy flooding my senses. Crimson berries hung in front of me, the sweet scent drawing me in. I observed under-ripe blackberries and decaying dusty pink fungi scattered along the winding path. I could feel the snapping of branches beneath my boots and could hear the violent rustling

of leaves above me. I looked out to the glaucous sea and immediately spotted a bright yellow boat the colour of lemons and a matching pink one the colour of tropical flowers and the pungent smell of salt and seaweed. **Rose Higgins**



The reeds could be heard rippling along with the wind whistling, the once grey sky was breaking blue. I ran a reed through my cold hand, it was smooth but rough simultaneously.

Double backing on ourselves we walked to a large meadow passing the willow tree pond on our way.

**Stanley Poley**

At the shore the ground was marshy and filled with water from a storm the night before. The wind still lurked here from the storm and caused a shrill whistling from the foliage and over the dark murky sea. Fragments from the nearby shrubbery littered the coast, as if they had been carelessly lost or thrown aside. The ground was covered in a layer of seaweed, abandoned by the tide, which now crept up to reclaim its lost treasures. The ground here was squelchy and sodden from the water which lay all around it. In the distance the soft tinkling of boat masts could be heard. **Jasmine Laker**



For more information on the Education Centre and what it offers for schools, please visit [www.conservancy.co.uk](http://www.conservancy.co.uk)





# Farming in Protected Landscapes

With the first year of the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme (FiPL) now complete it's great to see several positive outcomes already achieved. Here's a review of some of the benefits the scheme has provided for Chichester Harbour:

The Farming in Protected Landscapes programme is a part of DEFRA's Agricultural Transition Plan, and offers funding to farmers and land managers in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), National Parks and the Broads. Running until March 2024, FiPL will be funding projects that:

- Support nature recovery
- Mitigate the impacts of climate change
- Provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and its cultural heritage
- Protect or improve the quality and character of the landscape or place

Within Chichester Harbour AONB, a total of 12 FiPL projects were approved by our LAP. Nine have already been completed

with three moved for completion in Year 2. Of the projects, four tackled climate change, 11 focused on nature recovery, two on people and 12 on improving the landscape, place and farm resilience. The projects consisted of a broad range of activities including:

- The use of high-tech farming equipment demonstrating ideal best practice for minimising impact on the natural environment and enhancing biodiversity.
- Increasing engagement, connecting people to the farming landscape and improving understanding of food production.
- Planting of native hedgerows to improve biodiversity, increase habitat connectivity and enhance the natural landscape.

We're extremely grateful to all the members of our Local Assessment Panel (LAP) who committed many hours of their time to assess and score all the projects that were presented to them. Without their support, the delivery of the programme wouldn't have been possible.

## A Project in Action

One of our showcase projects focuses on the farmland within the catchments of the rivers that feed into Chichester Harbour AONB.

Under the FiPL programme we're also able to support projects outside the boundary if the outcomes benefit the AONB.

This particular project involved the construction of an enclosed, secure, bunded, crop sprayer filling and washdown area with a connected biofilter to

process the waste washings and remove contaminants. In addition, rainwater is harvested from the roof for use in sprayer applications and washing down the sprayer.

Reducing levels of nitrates and pesticides entering Chichester Harbour is a priority within our AONB Management Plan, so we're highly supportive of initiatives to reduce these.

Current authorised practice permits farmers to fill and wash down their sprayers within the field. This results in excess pesticides and nutrients being added to the environment, that will eventually filter into waterways.

Our applicant farms a significant amount of land around the River Ems and River Lavant that both feed into the Harbour. Over time, use of this new facility will

considerably reduce levels of contaminants entering these waterways from the land he farms. Furthermore, the biofilter will remove and naturally break down the contaminants contained within the washings into environmentally safe compounds, enabling the return of clean water to the ground. By promoting and encouraging catchment sensitive farming initiatives on the land around the Harbour, we hope to help protect and enhance the Harbour environment for the future.

#### Supporting the FiPL Programme

At the start of Year 2, we welcomed our new FiPL team: Steven Pick, Farming Officer, and Michelle Rossiter, Administration Officer, who will be driving forward the delivery of the programme over the next two years. Encouragingly we've already received a number of Expressions of Interest for Year 2, and Steven and Michelle will be offering support in developing these up into full applications that meet the FiPL criteria.

We're looking forward to helping farmers and landowners to deliver a variety of new projects again this year. To find out more about the programme, visit [www.conservancy.co.uk/page/fipl](http://www.conservancy.co.uk/page/fipl) or email [farming@conservancy.co.uk](mailto:farming@conservancy.co.uk)



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# Meet the Team

Brendon McCallum, Harbour Technician



Brendon has worked on our seasonal patrol team for many years and is now the face of the Conservancy in Emsworth. He boasts extensive experience the marine industry and is on hand to help our moorings customers in Emsworth.

## What do you do on a typical day?

A typical day involves lots of time with the public, either in the office in South Street, or out on the water. I'll be collecting harbour dues, looking after the public launch sites and operating the Emsworth water taxi.

## How do you feel about working for the Conservancy?

I really enjoy working for the Conservancy; every day offers new challenges, as being out on the water, you never know what you may be asked to deal with. It might be

a sinking vessel, a break-down, a vessel run aground or even a medical emergency.

## What's the main focus this season?

Having completed this winter's round of mooring maintenance, I look forward to the hustle and bustle that the warmer months bring. As summer approaches, more people are about enjoying the Harbour, although this season has not yet felt as busy as the last couple of years. Emsworth is a popular destination for holiday makers and visiting yachts from around the Solent.

# Electric Ems

Ems is a familiar sight in Emsworth, either tied up alongside the quay or jetty, or shuttling through the mooring buoys carrying passengers to their boats.

The hull may be over 35 years old, but the engine is now brand new. The decision was made to turn Ems electric as part of a review of the way all our vessels and vehicles are powered. Earlier this year the workshop team installed a Lynch Marlin 8kw electric inboard motor. It's powered by four 12v lithium ion batteries which have a weight advantage and allow for an increased range. At cruising speed, the boat can travel 12-14

nautical miles per charge. Brendon McCallum, our Harbour Technician, uses Ems daily as a water-taxi for moorings customers, to patrol the Emsworth channel and perform his moorings maintenance tasks, replacing top chain and making sure they are in good order.

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**The water taxi is available for mooring holders and visiting vessels, Friday – Sunday and bank holidays between April and October. The service runs for two hours either side of high water between 8.30 & 17.00. Please call on VHF Ch14 or 07864915247 to use the service.**

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# what's *on?*

Getting out  
and about

## Back on the Water!

Solar Heritage, our solar-powered catamaran, is sailing again after her refurbishment this spring. A range of Harbour discovery, evening cruising and seal safari tours are planned through the summer months.

Solar Heritage allows visitors to enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Harbour, with minimal disruption to the environment and wildlife. You can slip through the waters and get close to many of the birds and habitats that make this area so special. Our experts join each sailing and are on hand to answer questions and point out some of the highlights.

All bookings for Solar Heritage can be made through Ticketsource.



## Sailings in July

Date	AM	PM	Details	Location
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11am	1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup>		1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>		1pm	Seal Safari	Itchenor
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup>	11am		Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup>	11am	1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	11am		Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Weds 13 <sup>th</sup>	11am		Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup>	11am	1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup>	11am	1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>		1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	11am	1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup>	11am	1pm	Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Sun 24 <sup>th</sup>	11am		Harbour Discovery	Itchenor
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	11am		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup>	12:30pm		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	1:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup>	12:30pm	2pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth

## Sailings in August

Date	AM	PM	Details	Location
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>		1:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup>		2pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup>		3pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup>		3:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>		5pm	Evening Cruise	Emsworth
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	10am		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Weds 10 <sup>th</sup>	10am		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	10:30am	12pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	1:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	12:30pm	2pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	3:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Weds 17 <sup>th</sup>	2:30pm	4pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	3pm	4:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup>	11am	12:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	11am	12:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	11:30am		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup>	1pm		Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	12pm	1:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	12:30pm	2pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Tues 30 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	2:30pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth
Weds 31 <sup>st</sup>	1:30pm	3pm	Harbour Discovery	Emsworth

Solar Heritage is also available for charter allowing you to enjoy a private trip for a celebration or group outing. To discuss the options contact **01243 513275** or [activities@conservancy.co.uk](mailto:activities@conservancy.co.uk).

## Walking and Cycling

Walking and cycling are great ways to discover the landscape and wildlife of Chichester Harbour. For walkers there are over 56 miles of public footpaths with a further seven miles of permissive routes. And for cyclists there are the bridleways and a number of dedicated cycle paths, including Salterns Way. Suggested walks and rides around Chichester Harbour, along with downloadable maps, are available on the Conservancy website.

Photo © Paul Adams



# Fun for families

With the weather offering long and sunny days, there are usually plenty of opportunities to be outside in Chichester Harbour. If you're entertaining children and need some inspiration for activities to keep them busy, here are some of our team's ideas:

## Summer Journal

A journal is a great way to capture memories of a day out. Whilst visiting the Harbour encourage children to take photos, collect shells, leaves or feathers and then give them time to create a record of their day out with a scrapbook, card or paper and some colouring pencils when back at home. It might also be a lovely item for your child to take into school with them after the holidays.

## Make a Raft

Making a toy raft can be a fun activity when you're beachside. Choose a small piece of driftwood (or bind some smaller pieces together with seaweed) before paddling in the shallows to sail it. It's also fun to see what your raft can carry – how many stones will it take before it sinks?!



## Crabbing

Chichester Harbour has a few perfect spots for crabbing. One of the best is at Dell Quay. Bring a clear bucket, some bait and your crab line, and dip in. The best time for crabbing is when the slack water (otherwise known as slack tide) is present – the period around the high or low tide.

# Nature Inspired Yoga to Try



Practising yoga is a lovely activity to do outside, especially at the end of a summer day when it's time to wind down. Here are some nature inspired moves to try on the beach or in a field:

**Tree** - stand tall and stretch your arms above your head like branches. Pull one foot up and rest it against your other leg. Sway gently in the breeze.



**Butterfly** - sit on the ground with your feet together. Slowly lift your knees up and down like a butterfly flapping its wings.



**Squirrel** - squat down, using your hands to steady yourself. Hold the pose for a few seconds, then leap up and bounce like a scurrying squirrel.



**Bird** - stand on one leg, then lean forwards and stretch the other leg out behind you. Spread your arms wide like the wings of a bird soaring through the skies.

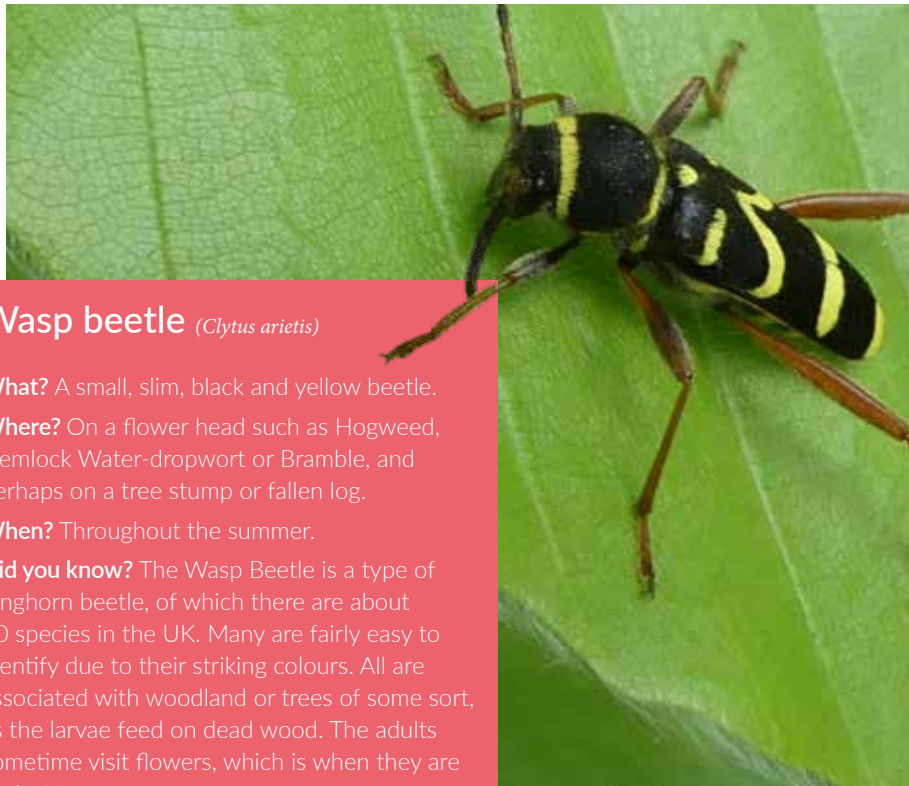


**Hedgehog** - kneel down, with your bottom resting on your heels and your forehead on the ground. Lay your arms down by your sides, and rest like a sleeping hedgehog.

Chichester Harbour

# Spotter's guide

As the summer season takes hold there are some wonderful nature spots to be seen.



## Wasp beetle (*Clytus arietis*)

**What?** A small, slim, black and yellow beetle.

**Where?** On a flower head such as Hogweed, Hemlock Water-dropwort or Bramble, and perhaps on a tree stump or fallen log.

**When?** Throughout the summer.

**Did you know?** The Wasp Beetle is a type of longhorn beetle, of which there are about 70 species in the UK. Many are fairly easy to identify due to their striking colours. All are associated with woodland or trees of some sort, as the larvae feed on dead wood. The adults sometime visit flowers, which is when they are easiest to see.

## Common Vetch

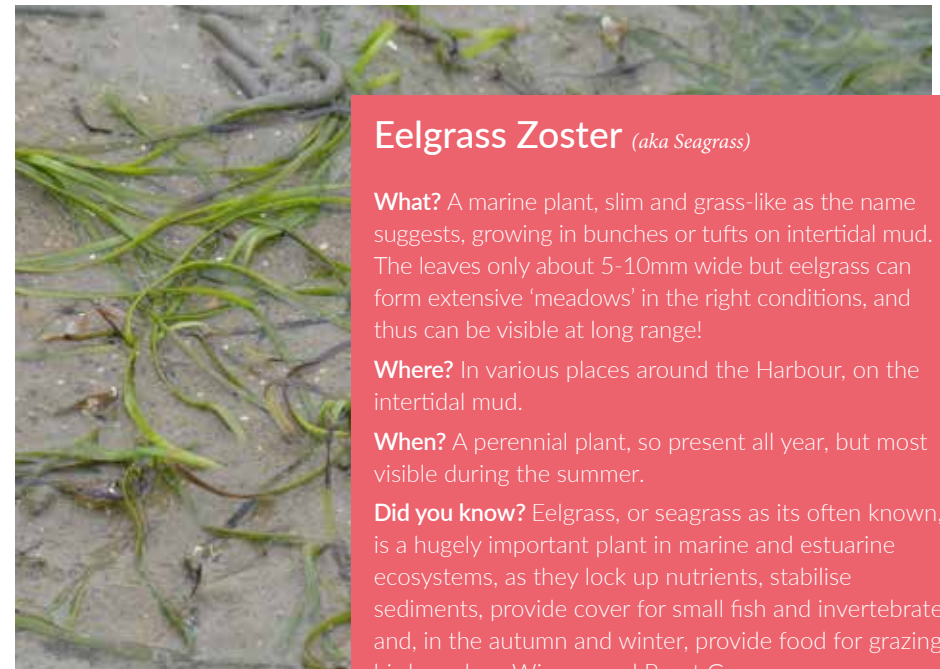
(*Vicia sativa*)

**What?** A legume, that is to say a member of the bean family, with a beautiful flower that ranges from pink to purple in colour. It scrambles and climbs its way through neighbouring plants, getting to about 70cm long.

**Where?** In meadows, hedgerows and verges.

**When?** All summer.

**Did you know?** Once upon a time this was an important livestock fodder as it (like most legumes) is rich in protein.



## Eelgrass Zoster (*aka Seagrass*)

**What?** A marine plant, slim and grass-like as the name suggests, growing in bunches or tufts on intertidal mud. The leaves only about 5-10mm wide but eelgrass can form extensive 'meadows' in the right conditions, and thus can be visible at long range!

**Where?** In various places around the Harbour, on the intertidal mud.

**When?** A perennial plant, so present all year, but most visible during the summer.

**Did you know?** Eelgrass, or seagrass as its often known, is a hugely important plant in marine and estuarine ecosystems, as they lock up nutrients, stabilise sediments, provide cover for small fish and invertebrates and, in the autumn and winter, provide food for grazing birds such as Wigeon and Brent Geese.



## Water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*)

**What?** A dark brown, round-looking small mammal.

**Where?** In or very close to a ditch, canal, pond or stream, usually freshwater but occasionally with a slight saline influence. They are not common, so any records are very welcome.

**When?** All year, but more likely to be seen during the summer months, early in the morning or at dusk.

**Did you know?** The signs of water voles such as burrows, small piles of cut vegetation and poo, are much easier to see than the actual animal itself. Usually, the most you see of a water vole is a small brown creature swimming rapidly across the surface of the water and disappearing into the bank.

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\* Emsworth in July/August