

About the Portrait Bench

The Portrait Bench is a new and unique National collection of local portraits. The figures are inspired and chosen for their individual contribution to the life of the community.

Creating portraits is an old custom - honouring individuals for their philanthropy, political prowess or acts of heroism, and most commonly for the love of family members. All major public spaces are graced by statues or portraits of eminent individuals and family photos are treasured across the world.

Each Portrait Bench is a collection of three distinctive, life-size local figures cut from sheet steel and installed by a simple bench, inviting you to sit or step up into the space and become a part of the portrait group.

The features of each character have been simplified while retaining their essential characteristics. The characters reflect those things that are important to the community; each is inspired by the local heritage, culture and aspirations of the area; some we'll know and some we won't...together they will represent around 230 characters chosen by thousands of people from across the UK.



Choosing the Shoreham by Sea portraits

The portrait bench was advertised in the Adur Outlook magazine which is delivered to every household and business in the district, in local papers, and on local radio.

Residents were asked to send in suggestions of who they thought should be immortalised and remembered in this way, and why.

The suggestions were collated and those with the most votes were chosen.

New walking and cycling networks

Sustrans is bringing the award winning National Cycle Network deep into the heart of communities across the UK to enable many more people to get about on foot and by bike. Find out more about walking and cycling routes in Shoreham by Sea and how to find this portrait bench at www.sustrans.org.uk/c2/shoreham

Portrait Bench Shoreham by Sea



Sustrans is the charity that's enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make every day.

It's time we all began making smarter travel choices. Make your move and support Sustrans today.

www.sustrans.org.uk

sustrans
JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Sustrans is a Registered Charity in the UK No. 326550 (England and Wales) SCO39263 (Scotland)



Joan Morgan (1905-2004)



Joan Morgan was the last star of British silent cinema.

During the First World War she made several pictures in New York but when the war ended the Progress Film Company took over the famous 'Glasshouse' Studio on Shoreham Beach where Joan appeared in films directed by her father Stanley Morgan. The Shoreham Beach Glasshouse Studio produced film for Britain and the World between 1919 and 1923. Joan became the leading actress, being described as "a beautiful British star". Harry Lauder said "she's like an English wild rose or a buttercup blowing in the wind". Although she made a talkie in 1932 she was no longer in demand as an actress, but she had success writing popular novels, film scripts and plays. Joan Morgan returned to Shoreham Beach when in her nineties, to unveil a plaque commemorating the Glasshouse Studio on the site of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

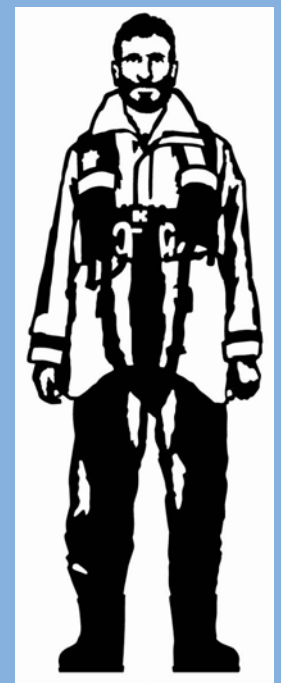
King Charles II (1630-1685)



After the final defeat of the Royalist army at the Battle of Worcester in 1651 King Charles II travelled 610 miles for 6 weeks, hotly pursued by the Parliamentary army. After travelling, he arrived at the South Coast and finally along the South Downs to Shoreham Harbour. Here he found a Captain Tattersall who was willing to take him across the Channel. The King and his friends, worried that the Captain would report them to the authorities, kept the Captain with them drinking until they left port. So he made his escape to exile in France.

Charles II was the eldest surviving son of Charles I and was twelve years old when the Civil War broke out. His father was executed in 1649 and it was not until 1660 that he was invited to reclaim the throne.

Peter Huxtable MBE



Having initially joined the Shoreham crew as a volunteer Peter devoted 43 years to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), during which time he helped to save 449 lives at sea. In 1991 he became the coxswain of the Shoreham Lifeboat and continued as such until his resignation in 2011. In 2005 Peter was awarded an MBE for his services to the RNLI and received two RNLI Thanks of the Institution on Vellum, one of the Institution's 4 senior awards for gallantry.

Like almost all RNLI stations the lifeboats at Shoreham are manned by a group of volunteer crew members and shore helpers. Every crew member has extensive training in first aid, sea survival and firefighting too.