



25th April 2025

Dear supporter of SoSD

Newsletter No 2

I feel I should bring you up to date with what's been happening with SoSD since the Covid 19 crisis caused us to suspend regular meetings just as the group was getting going. I also want to ask for your help in planning an exciting development that we want to take forward when it becomes appropriate to do so. I apologise if I'm repeating anything that's been mentioned earlier.

So far the following actions have taken place:

1. We have a self appointed steering group comprising
Mike Puleston (Co-chair, talks and safaris organiser)
Toby Sherwin (Co-chair, website management and secretary and meeting secretary)
Rob Morgan (Treasurer)
Anne Gwynn
Peter Jonas
Andrew Burgess
The minutes of our first and only meeting so far are posted on the website.
2. We have completed the paperwork to open a Bank account and sent it off to NatWest but are yet to receive account details
3. We have produced a constitution and data protection policies that are now posted on the website.
4. We have produced a membership application form which is posted on the website but there is no point in trying to join until our bank account has been opened.
5. The website is now fully active and I have started to post simple guides to our local rocky shores, but I need input and photos from fellow supporters to make it comprehensive. Some guides on how to explore rocky shore have also been added.

So we're up and running and raring to go as soon as the present restrictions are lifted sufficiently.

Dawlish Beach Hut Field Centre

Celia Hadow has come up with the idea of establishing a Field Centre at Coryton Cove, Dawlish. Those of you who know Coryton Cove will realise that having a beach hut there (with its easy access to the rocks) to promote the aims of the group makes a lot of sense. However, it costs quite a lot of money to hire a hut and Celia has the experience to go looking for it in the form of grants etc. But to do so she needs ideas about 1) what we could do with such a field station and 2) who would be prepared to sign up to a volunteer list to man it when it was open.

The Shores of South Devon

Marine Life Interest Group
www.shoresofsouthdevon.org.uk

The the sort of ideas we've already come up with are:

- displaying posters of what you can find on the shore;
- running the video that we showed at the inaugural meeting;
- providing information sheets;
- having a high resolution stills camera on the roof to monitor the annual change in the composition of the rocks as a possible Citizen Science project;
- producing fun activity sheets for children;
- hosting organised school visits to the shore
- etc etc.

So please, to help us take this plan forward, could you give us your ideas of what role you think a beach hut could fill (no matter how wacky) and let us know if you'd help to run it. We're not asking for a firm commitment at the moment, more we need to know that you're enthusiastic about the idea in principle. Moreover, Celia has to be able to demonstrate that our plan would have ongoing support from enough members prepared to man the hut.

Please reply to this request as soon as possible to info@shoresofsouthdevon.org.uk.

Thanks

Toby Sherwin