

# Lighthouse

Combating Homelessness, Creating Opportunities, Promoting Change



**Pride**  
**My Tenancy**  
**Water Saving Tips**  
**Richard Allan Court**  
**Keeping Cool in Summer**  
**Solar Panels at Cashman**  
**Lodge**  
**and more**



Dear Tenant,

As summer comes to a close, so too do the community days our team planned for this season. Thank you to everyone who came along, chatted with us, and shared your feedback. We still have three more stops to go—please come and say hello! You'll find more details on page 5.

This year, we have a record number of entrants in our annual 'In Bloom' gardening competition. It's truly inspiring to see how many tenants have taken on the stewardship of the green spaces around them.

In this issue, Mary Stevens shares insights about ways to save water so it's good for your pocket and environment.

We also have some fascinating information about how certain BHT Sussex properties got their names. So grab a cuppa and a pen, and enjoy the wordsearch—and the read! Yours truly,

*Anna Kuzan - Involvement Officer*

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## Staff Updates in Housing Services Team

In recent months, we said goodbye to one of our Income Recovery Officers, Traci Brooks, who supported tenants in Saltdean, Eastbourne, St Leonards-on-Sea, and Hastings. Since her departure, Shirley Campbell has taken over responsibility for these areas and now works with all tenants of BHT Sussex. Shirley is available to assist tenants with any queries related to rent accounts and benefits.

We have also bid farewell to Shirley Bridle, Housing Officer for Saltdean, Eastbourne, St Leonards-on-Sea, and Hastings. Recruitment for a new Housing Officer is currently underway, and we will share an update as soon as the position is filled.

We're pleased to welcome Amanda Hand, who has recently joined BHT Sussex as our new Head of Health and Safety. In her role, Amanda is responsible for:

- Developing and implementing a health, safety, and wellbeing strategy, along with a health and safety management system that aligns with legislation, internal policies, and BHT Sussex's mission
- Ensuring legal and regulatory compliance
- Providing expert advice across the organisation
- Overseeing the reporting and investigation of accidents, incidents, near-misses, and acts of aggression
- Managing risk and overseeing the risk assessment process
- Promoting continuous improvement and engaging staff in health and safety matters

Amanda also line-manages David Reid, our Facilities and Health and Safety Manager.

Amanda hopes her appointment will bring a renewed strategic focus to how BHT Sussex manages the health and safety of its clients, tenants, and employees.

Following the fire at Richard Allen Court in Brighton on 3rd October 2023, we are pleased to confirm that the five tenants who have been in alternative accommodation since the incident have returned home last month.

The fire caused significant damage and led to a lengthy and complex process to repair the building, the roof, and the individual flats.

Throughout this period, we have remained in regular contact with the affected tenants, including holding a series of face-to-face meetings to offer support, address concerns, and answer any questions they may have had.

The incident was caused by a faulty lithium-ion battery that was being charged inside a tenant's property. The battery, intended for use with an e-scooter, caught fire and escalated extremely quickly.

As a result, BHT Sussex made the decision to accelerate plans—already under consideration—to implement a total ban on the use, storage, or charging of e-scooters and e-bikes within any of our properties or on BHT Sussex-owned land. We adopted a robust, zero-tolerance approach, and—except for one or two isolated incidents—we are grateful to report that we have received full support and cooperation from our tenants and clients.

As our tenants return home after more than 18 months away, this serves as an important reminder to us all to remain vigilant about fire safety in our homes.

We strongly encourage all tenants to book a Home Safety Visit with East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, either through their website at [www.esfrs.org](http://www.esfrs.org) or by calling 0800 177 7069

## Richard Allen Court







The image shows a view of My Tenancy landing page

As a BHT Sussex tenant, you are able to manage your tenancy at the click of a button by accessing an online portal called MyTenancy. This enables you to report a repair, check your rent account, change your personal details and to read or print a rent statement.

In the coming weeks, the MyTenancy system is going to be upgraded to provide some additional features to help you manage your tenancy. These will include being able to download documents, such as your Tenancy Agreement or certificates for your property, as well as providing the option for you to make a payment on your rent account.

The migration to the new system will be happening within the next few weeks and you will be contacted before the upgraded version of MyTenancy goes live to be provided with your login details for the updated system. Once you have been issued with these new login details, you can change your password to something more memorable. The existing version of MyTenancy will continue to be available to access until the migration at [www.mytenancy.co.uk](http://www.mytenancy.co.uk).

If you have any queries regarding the use of MyTenancy, please contact Joe Ashdown on 01273 645444 or email [mytenancy@bht.org.uk](mailto:mytenancy@bht.org.uk).

## Upcoming Community Days

**30 Jul – Deepdene Gardens, Hastings**

**20 Aug – Olivier Close, Brighton**

**17 Sep – Open Community Day, venue TBC**

Come and chat to us about your experience with BHT Sussex. We appreciate your feedback and look forward to meeting you in person.

# Getting to know technology



**Join us for a friendly and relaxed session.**

**We will look at**

- practical and fun things to do with technology
- how to make it work for us not against us

**When:** Monday 18th August 2-3.30pm

**Where:** Tower House Community Café  
Towergate, London Road BN1 6WT

**AbilityNet is a charity that helps  
older and disabled adults with technology**

**0 3 0 0 1 8 0 0 0 2 8**

**Digitalskills@abilitynet.org.uk**

**BT Group**

In partnership with

**AbilityNet**

AbilityNet is a Charity, registered in England and Wales, registration number 1067673,  
and in Scotland registration number SC039866.



## Get Involved – Your Voice as a Tenant Matters

There are many ways you can help BHT Sussex shape the services we deliver. You could join the Tenant Scrutiny Panel to review policies and procedures, or work with us to help monitor outdoor areas and ensure our gardens are maintained to the highest standards. You might also enjoy contributing articles or photos to the Lighthouse newsletter. And if you have an idea for an interesting focus group—we're all ears!

### Update from the Tenant Scrutiny Panel

Thank you to all tenants who participated in our Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) survey, and to those who kindly agreed to be interviewed further. Your input is greatly appreciated.

The panel will meet next month to analyse and discuss the feedback you've provided. We will then compile a report that reflects your concerns and suggestions for improvements. This report will be presented to the Board, who are very interested in hearing what tenants have shared on this important issue.

Following the Board's review and guidance, we will work together to help reduce anti-social behaviour to the lowest possible level.

We recognise that ASB cases can be very distressing, and we kindly ask all tenants to continue being mindful of one another. Sometimes, small adjustments—like lowering music volume or being aware of noise levels—can make a big difference to those living around us. A little consideration goes a long way in helping to create a more peaceful and respectful community.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and involvement

### Brighton Pride Parade 2025

#### Join the Parade!!

On Saturday 2nd August BHT Sussex will be joining the Pride Parade, we will have a flatbed truck.

We have spaces on the float for a maximum of 40 people (staff and clients)

We will also need 4 people to volunteer as wheel stewards, this is important and fun role and involves lots of banter with the crowd.

Places are available for anyone, you don't necessarily have to be a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, you can just be a fabulous ally!

Please contact Ally Horska [ally.horska@bht.org.uk](mailto:ally.horska@bht.org.uk) to book your place.



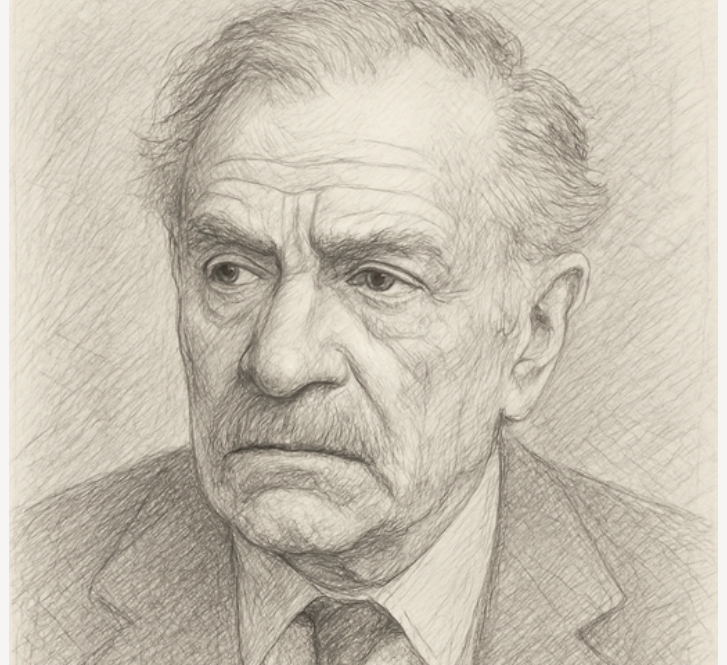
# Property Names – The Stories Behind Where You Live

Have you wondered how the building or street where you live on came by its name? This article gives an overview of how some of BHT Sussex's properties came by their name.

Starting in Brighton and to the north of the city, you will find Golf Drive and Old Golf House. These properties date back to the late-1980s and are located to Hollingbury Woods. Directly to the north of the woods is Hollingbury golf course, a one-time eighteen-hole championship golf course that was first opened in 1908. Old Golf House is so named because this building is situated on the site of the golf course's old clubhouse.

In the Kemp Town area in the eastern part of Brighton, BHT Sussex has flats on Olivier Close. These properties also date back to the end of the 1980s and Olivier Close is a private road that backs onto the cliffs that surround the Freshfield Industrial Estate, which at one time was the site of the Kemp Town railway line's forecourt. Although the Kemp Town railway line stopped transporting passengers shortly after the First World War, goods trains continued to operate on the line until the 1970s. The street is named after the actor Laurence Olivier who lived in Brighton for many years and who died in 1989, shortly before the flats first became occupied.

Another of BHT Sussex's blocks found in East Brighton is Shanklin Court, located just off Hartington Road. In keeping with several of the streets situated in that area, the street and block takes its name from a settlement on the Isle of Wight. Shanklin Court was built on the site of Forfar's Bakery which had first opened in 1949. Before that, the site was home to a laundry.



L. Olivier as seen in Marathon Man - AI generated

The shipping containers at Richardson's Yard on New England Road in Brighton take their name from the scrap metal dealer whose business is found on the land directly behind the flats. The shipping containers are located on land directly adjacent to the former site of a pub, the Cobbler's Thumb, which called last orders in 2013, having previously been called the New England Inn.

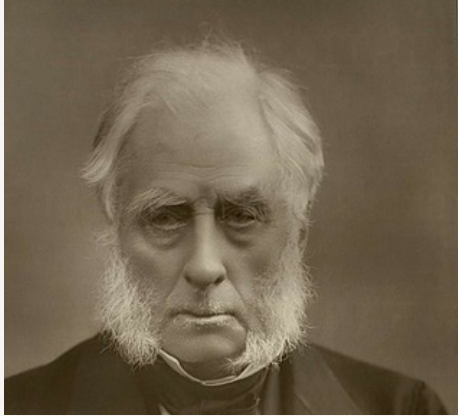
Like other streets in Brighton & Hove, Waterloo Street is named after the infamous battle of 1815, with many of the properties on the street being built shortly afterwards. The pub found at the bottom of Waterloo Street that is now called the Southern Belle that is named after a famous passenger train was originally called the Kerrison Arms, a senior army officer who commanded his regiment at Waterloo. Kerrison now has a mews named after him that is found behind Waterloo Street Arch.



*continued from page 8*

Moving over to Eastbourne, BHT Sussex's properties at Cavendish House and on Cavendish Place take their name from one of Eastbourne's most famous families.

William Cavendish, the 7th Duke of Devonshire, inherited a considerable amount of property in Eastbourne from his grandfather.



During the Nineteenth Century, Cavendish lent his considerable wealth to the redevelopment of Eastbourne with the building of parks and the installation of town baths. He is commemorated with a statue in Eastbourne town centre.

Finishing in St Leonards, BHT Sussex's block called Baird House takes its name from John Logie Baird, the inventor of television. Although born in Scotland, Baird lived in Hastings for much of his adult life and built strong connections with the town. He rented a workshop in the Queen's Arcade in Hastings and it was in this workshop that he made the world's first working television set. A blue plaque commemorating Baird is found outside his former home in Hastings.

## Solar Panels Fitted for 12 Flats

**Work is nearing completion on the installation of new cavity wall insulation and solar panels for twelve flats at Cashman Lodge in Hollingbury, Brighton. The work is part funded by a government grant from the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. Housing Team staff visited the flats to check on progress – and we are looking forward to the electricity generated making a difference for tenants and reducing our environmental impact. Once operational, the solar panels will feed electricity directly to each flat, making a big saving for tenants on their bills. Insulation and new windows will also keep the flats warmer. We are working on seeking funding to support further energy saving upgrades for our properties and look forward to future projects. Hayley, Daisy and Leigha from Housing Services have worked hard to liaise with tenants to ensure the work has gone smoothly.**



Mary, Hayley, Daisy, Leigha at Cashman Lodge



Solar panels on Cashman Lodge

# Eco tips from Mary Stevens, Environmental Officer

## Water saving

Water is an everyday essential which we often take for granted – for drinking, cooking and washing. Water also grows our food and keeps trees and plants healthy. We've had the driest spring for nearly 70 years so supplies are lower than they should be, and we live in a water stress area (where supplies are at risk of running low). Reducing the amount of water we use saves money if you have a water meter, as well as helping conserve supplies. There are many simple changes you can make to use water wisely.



- For laundry, only run full loads and use eco-settings.
- Shorter showers save litres of water and use less energy
- Don't leave the tap running when cleaning your teeth
- If you have any drips or leaks – these waste a surprising amount so report them to repairs.
- If you grow plants, indoors or out – collect rain water if you have space – in a butt or even a bucket – rainwater is better for plants too. You can use cooled down cooking water too – instead of pouring it away.



## Keeping your cool

On hot summer days it can get too hot in our homes. To reduce overheating, keep curtains or blinds and windows closed in the heat of the day, then open them to let in cooler air in the evening. Electrical equipment produces heat, so don't leave any unnecessary appliances running or plugged in. Indoor plants can help cool the air indoors too – for example aloe vera and peace lilies are easy to grow.



## Save with seasonal foods

During the summer months there is plenty of UK grown fresh food available – like strawberries, courgettes, beans, lettuce and tomatoes. As these foods haven't travelled far, they are fresher and often tastier and cost less than at other times of the year. Fresher food means more nutrients, buying local keeps money in your community and better for the environment as it hasn't travelled far. Reducing reliance on heavily packaged, imported food helps cut down on plastic pollution.

We are a **choir** for people impacted by **homelessness** and other forms of **marginalisation**.

An Open Rehearsal is your chance to join us and see what we're all about. **It's a night for all**. Come and enjoy:

- An evening full of **singing + laughing** with a **friendly + welcoming** choir
- **Belting your heart** out alongside our amazing members and experiencing the **joy of singing** together

Bring a friend (or 5).  
**All voices welcome**,  
no experience  
needed!

**'COME ENJOY WHAT MAKES A CHOIR  
WITH NO NAME SO SPECIAL!' - CHOIR  
MEMBER**



**AUTUMN OPEN  
REHEARSAL-  
6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER.  
COME SEE US  
AGAIN!**



# Wordsearch

created by Joe Ashdown

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

Alfresco  
Park Run  
Canoeing  
Day trip  
Holiday

Watermelon  
Seagull  
Sandwich  
Promenade  
Tennis

South Downs  
Petanque  
Ice cream  
Beach hut  
Festival

Sunshine  
Gardening  
Pride  
Sunscreen  
Picnic

## Make your own tasty pesto

**Pesto on pasta is a quick and easy meal – and tastes great in a sandwich**

or with salad. Pesto from jars is tasty – but it's easy to make your own which can be healthier, cost less and you can make your own flavours. 'Pesto' just means crushed – its crushed herbs with nuts, and oil to make a paste. If you have an electric blender you can make a smooth paste, but by finally chopping/crushing herbs with some oil, nuts/seeds and garlic and salt and pepper, you can still make your own yummy sauce for pasta, sandwiches, salads or potatoes. Traditionally made with basil and pine nuts – it's just as good using other green leaves you like – rocket, parsley or even kale and walnuts/pistachios or almonds. And for a vegan/low fat version nutritional yeast instead of cheese adds savoury flavour.



## Recipe

60g fresh basil leaves/other herbs  
 45g pine nuts (or eg walnuts, sunflower seeds)  
 25g grated parmesan cheese  
 3 cloves garlic  
 80ml/5 tablespoons olive oil  
 1 teaspoon lemon juice  
 Salt and pepper

1. Chop the basil/herbs, garlic and nuts/seeds as finely as you can. Mix them up then crush with the side of a knife which helps get the flavour out. Or mix ingredients with a blender.

2. Mix in the cheese, then lemon juice and add olive oil (you can add less for thicker paste). Add salt and pepper to your taste.

This can be stored covered in the fridge for a few days for a quick tasty snack.



# BHT in Focus Exhibition

We are delighted to share the news of an extremely successful opening day and a week-long event: **BHT Sussex in Focus – Art Exhibition**. As you may know from the previous newsletter, the event aimed to offer BHT Sussex tenants and clients an opportunity to display their artwork. Held in the reception area of 144 London Road, Brighton, the opening day welcomed an astonishing 125 visitors who enjoyed the art, music, and cake. Throughout the week, a further 200 visitors attended and enjoyed the exhibition.

The works of twenty-two artists were on display, featuring a wide range of paintings, drawings, photography, and conceptual art. The collection showcased the incredible talent among BHT Sussex clients and tenants—some pieces have already been sold!

Alongside the visual art, clients and tenants also shared their talents through the written word. BHT Sussex KALEIDOSCOPE—an anthology of poems, journal entries, and other powerful texts reflecting the diversity of BHT Sussex, and often capturing the emotional and physical experiences of the authors—is now on sale for £7.

A highlight of the opening day was a performance by the Choir with No Name in the car park, which was met with the warmest enthusiasm from the public. As a result, the choir has even welcomed a few new members!

The exhibition had two key goals: to promote clients' mental wellbeing by encouraging artistic expression—leading to greater confidence—and to raise public awareness of the services offered by BHT Sussex. In addition to the exhibition at 144 London Road, a display about BHT Sussex was also featured at the Jubilee Library, inviting the public to learn more about our organisation.

**A heartfelt thank you** to all the tenants who participated and shared their art.

The exhibition team has already started working on next year's event, and we'll share more details in due course. In the meantime—keep up your artistic spirit. We can't wait to see what you create next!



## Contact Us

### Head Office and General Enquiries

144 London Road Brighton  
BN1 4PH  
01273 645400  
info@bht.org.uk

### Rents and Repairs

01323 340018  
rents@bht.org.uk  
repairs@bht.org.uk

### MyTenancy

www.mytenancy.co.uk  
Report a repair or check your  
rent statement online

### Housing Officers

Brighton Housing Officer:

#### Daisy Fellowes

01273 645454  
07826 874849

Officer for Hastings,  
Eastbourne, Saltdean,  
Marine Parade and  
Southdowns Court:

#### TBC

07824 306591

### Involvement Officer

Anna Kuzan  
07500 972509

### Out of Hours Emergency Repairs

Redman Howard  
07493 223016

### Gas emergencies

Robert Heath Heating  
0333 014 1000

### Issues with fire alarms and detectors

Eastbourne Alarms  
01323 729420

Our mission: Combating homelessness; Creating opportunities; Promoting change.

Our values: Empowering People; Inspiring Change; Collaboration; Delivering Excellence; Being Accountable.

## Wordsearch Solution

### Congratulations to our prize draw winner

Congratulations to Katrina in Brighton who won a £20 shopping voucher in the Direct Debit quarterly prize draw simply for setting up a Direct Debit with BHT Sussex.

Your Housing Officers can guide you through the process step-by-step.

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