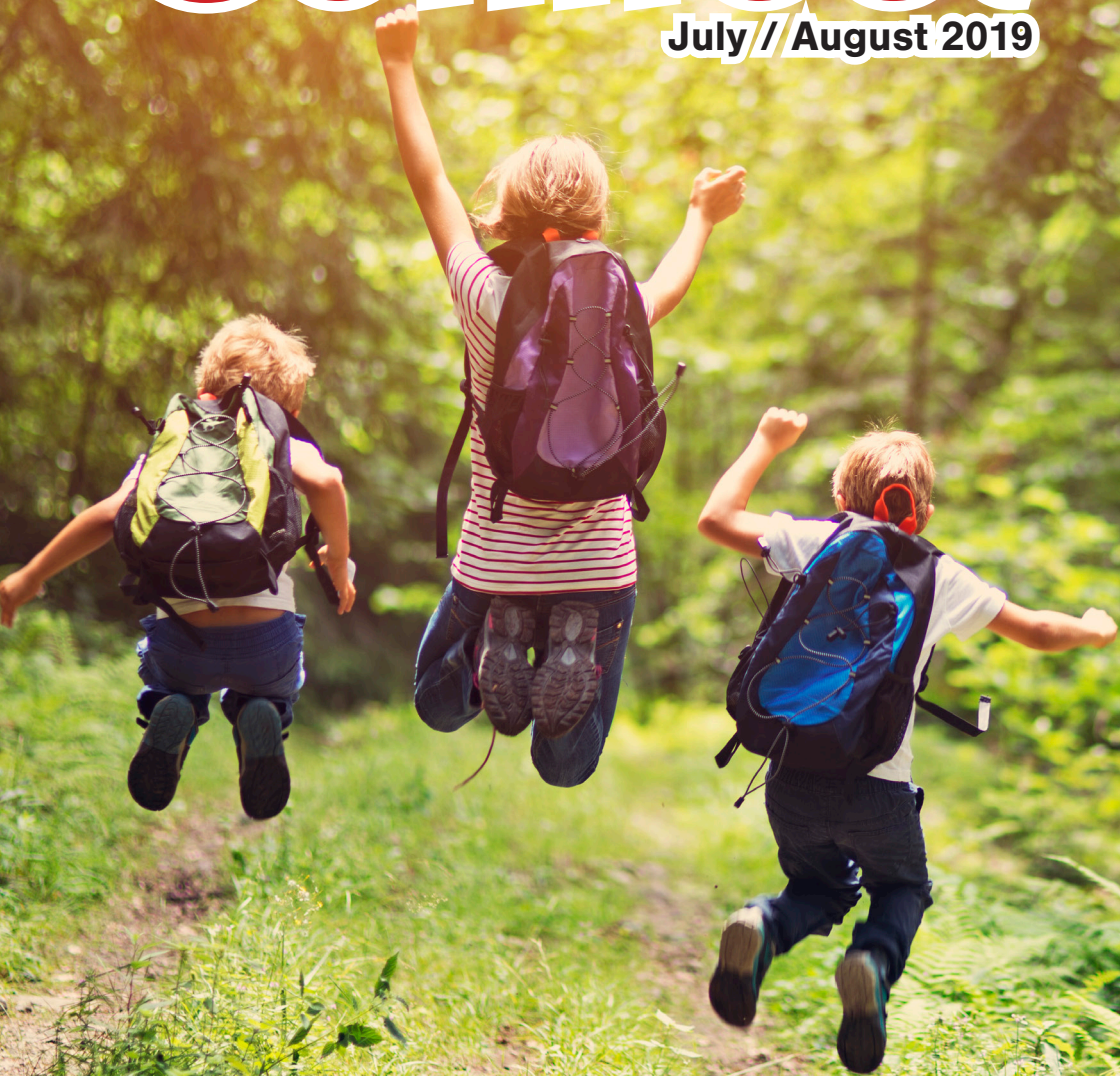


# Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

July / August 2019



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# Welcome!

WELCOME to the July/August edition of Bearsden & Milngavie Connect.

Brought to you by Newsquest Scotland, Connect is proud to shine a spotlight on the feel good stories, inspirational residents and local events going on throughout the community.

Inside this issue we hear of the success of Bearsden Academy's summer concert finale, where over 200 pupils blew the audience away with their performance. Turn to page six to find out more.

The community is also gearing up for some summer fun with a packed calendar of events, turn to page 12 for our highlights.

On page 30 we look to the seaside for this season's latest decor trends.

We hope you enjoy this issue. Until next time,

**Team Connect**



Art class lets locals show off their creative side

Page 22

## Contacts

### Editorial

If you have a story that you would like to be included in a future issue of Bearsden & Milngavie Connect please email:

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# Concert hits the right notes

**More than 200 talented pupils from Bearsden Academy wowed audiences with their end of term summer concert finale.**

On Wednesday, 19 and Thursday, 20 June, 12 musical groups from the school performed to a packed crowd of parents, fellow pupils, teachers and members of the community. They also held an additional afternoon concert on the Thursday for local care home residents with cabaret style seating and afternoon tea served up.

There was something for all tastes at the concerts, with the musical offerings including a wind band, string ensemble, jazz band, samba band, man choir, rock band, pipe band, saxophone ensemble, brass band, female choir, a Baroque group, folk group and orchestra.

The pupils had all been practising hard in preparation.

Bearsden Academy head teacher, Mr Cooper, said: "We have been treated to three wonderful concerts over two days. Our pupils, staff, parents, carers and supporters have combined to deliver top class performances in an excellent and enthusiastic atmosphere. The sense of community has been

been tangible. The concerts have been a grand finale to the school session. Well done and thank you to all involved."





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## Gold award for anti-bullying

**The Glasgow Academy, which has a preparatory school for younger years in Milngavie, has become the first school in Britain to be accredited with the Diana Gold Award for anti-bullying.**

The Diana Award was founded as a legacy to Diana, Princess of Wales' belief that young people have the power to change the world for the better. The Academy's Preparatory School has been working with The Diana Award since August 2017 to raise awareness of how to combat bullying in schools.

A team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors from Primary 5 to 7 have developed a whole-school, peer-led approach to anti-bullying and have been instrumental in changing policies so that they are child-friendly, while putting in place support mechanisms for children to seek help if needed.

The Ambassadors worked with fellow pupils on scenarios that might occur in school and discussed potential solutions to various situations.

Following training from The Diana Award team, the Ambassadors set up an online forum for sharing key events and updates. They also established a 'Safe Space' referral system, a place to go if pupils need help to talk to someone about their experiences, suggestion and communication boxes and noticeboards.

The Ambassadors are visible in the playground and children know who they can approach if they are feeling unhappy. They also work alongside playground friends to help children to play together safely.

Commenting on the achievement, The Glasgow Academy's Head of Preparatory School, Sandy Mathewson, said: "We are so proud of our pupils' achievement and we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that bullying has no place in our School."



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## Bearsden & Milngavie Connect

# Volunteers praised for donating their time



**Volunteers from Barnardo's store in Milngavie were praised for their "amazing" support last year.**

The children's charity revealed that 267 people offered a combined total of 22,973 hours at its stores in Milngavie, Kirkintilloch, Alexandria, Clydebank, and the Clydebank Donation Centre to coincide with Volunteers' Week. Across Scotland, nearly 3,500 people offered a combined total of over 361,770 hours.

However, Barnardo's says despite this immense generosity, the charity's stores still need more support to help transform the lives of Scotland's most vulnerable children.

Volunteering adviser Alison McLaughlin said: "Our local stores play a vital role in raising much-needed funds to maintain our work across Scotland. Some volunteers come in for just an hour each week, others for much longer, but every effort is sincerely appreciated."

Volunteers can choose from a wide variety of roles - from helping behind the scenes by recycling, sorting and pricing the donations and steaming the clothes, or to helping on the shop-floor by arranging window displays, styling mannequins or serving customers at the till.

Alison added: "Volunteering provides immense personal satisfaction and is available to people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

"It's a great way to make new friends and learn new skills, together with gaining important qualifications and experiences which can really help in the search for work."

Visit [barnardos.org.uk/volunteering](http://barnardos.org.uk/volunteering) or email [MSW-Volunteering@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:MSW-Volunteering@barnardos.org.uk) to find out more.



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# WHAT'S ON

Keep an eye on some of the best upcoming events in Bearsden & Milngavie.

### EVENT: MILNGAVIE MAKERS MARKET

Date: Saturday, 6 July  
Time: 11am-4pm  
Cost: Free  
Location: Milngavie Town Hall

**What's on:** Browse over 30 stalls with unique, high quality products handmade in Scotland. This monthly market showcases a vast array of work from local craftspeople and is perfect to find gifts or personal treats.

### EVENT: ALLAN TAYLOR

Date: Saturday, 17 August  
Time: Doors open 7.30pm  
Cost: £10  
Location: Milngavie Folk Club

**What's on:** Allan Taylor will be playing at Milngavie Folk Club on Saturday, 17 August. To book tickets, visit [tickets.jmsconcerts.co.uk/](http://tickets.jmsconcerts.co.uk/)

### EVENT: MUGDOCK SENSATIONAL SAFARI - WOODLAND ADVENTURES!

Date: Thursday, 18 July  
Time: 1-4pm  
Cost: £10  
Location: Mugdock Country Park

**What's on:** 8-12-year olds are invited to search for animal tracks and signs, discover what lives in the streams and ponds, and build shelters on this three-hour adventure with the Ranger Service. Booking is essential and can be done by calling 0141 956 6100.

### EVENT: BEARSDEN & MILNGAVIE RAMBLERS WALK

Date: Saturday, 17 August  
Time: 9.30am  
Cost: TBS  
Location: Starting point - Rail station at Cardross

**What's on:** Join the rambles on this classic walk from Cardross over the hill to Balloch, with lovely views back over the Firth of Clyde and Loch Lomond. The walk will be followed with coffee at Ardardan estate. New walkers can email [join@bearsdenandmilngavieramblers.org.uk](mailto:join@bearsdenandmilngavieramblers.org.uk) to find out more.

### EVENT: MUGDOCK SUPERDOG 2019

Date: Sunday, 11 August  
Time: 2-4pm  
Cost: £3  
Location: Mugdock Country Park

**What's on:** Can you control your canine companion in the countryside or is your best friend just barking mad? Try out this crafty agility course and fun contests. All dogs are welcome, but beginners only. Meet in the overflow car park near the Visitor Centre. Proceeds go to Hesselhead Wildlife Rescue Centre.



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# A moving way to celebrate the past

**Residents in Bearsden have found themselves stepping back in time after the introduction of specially designed picture shows.**

Films are being automatically projected onto the pavements outside Bearsden Community Hub - between 5.30pm and 10.30pm daily.

They are being shown every evening - indefinitely - as part of the East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture (EDLC) Trust's Trails and Tales project, with similar films in Kirkintilloch.

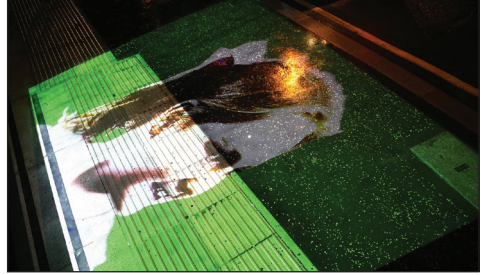
The silent films have been specially created by artist Graeme Roger, using footage from the archives of the National Library of Scotland related to Bearsden and Kirkintilloch, alongside contemporary filmed portraits of local people. They also include new observational film of nearby landmarks and places.

During the process of creating the movies, Graeme held open days where people were invited to come along and be filmed - helping to illustrate the many unique characteristics of local life.

The archive footage ranges from 1913 to the 1980s - providing a portrait of the towns and their residents, including pipe bands and highland dancers.

The merging of these eras into new moving image artworks, with dramatic, large-scale portraits, is intended by the artist to remind people that 'life is for looking at'.

Trails and Tales - supported by the Heritage Lottery



Fund, East Dunbartonshire Council and Creative Scotland - has engaged a range of artists with communities to explore local history and heritage.

Councillor Billy Hendry, Convener of the Council's Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Committee, said: "You could find a forgotten world at your feet if you're walking past Bearsden Community Hub and Kirkintilloch Town Hall.

"This is a fascinating addition to both buildings - giving people a window into the past as part of the Trails and Tales programme, and helping to light up our town centres into the evening."

Sandy Marshall, Chair of EDLC Trust, added, "The films are an innovative way to bring the past to life. I hope they encourage people to engage with local heritage and the wonderful facilities on their doorstep, provided by the Trust and Council."

The Trails and Tales programme has included the creation of a series of outdoor sculptural arts and heritage trails, across towns and villages in East Dunbartonshire.



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# Increasing awareness with alerts

**Local residents are being encouraged by the Council's Trading Standards team and Police Scotland to sign up and stay informed by registering for East Dunbartonshire Community Alerts.**

The system, run by Neighbourhood Watch Scotland, allows people to keep up to date with the latest news - including reports of doorstep crime, scams, burglaries and more in East Dunbartonshire.

Alerts are sent out by e-mail and/or by text. To sign up, complete the online form by visiting [www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/sign-up-for-alerts](http://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/sign-up-for-alerts).

If you do not have Internet access or need support, call Trading Standards on 0300 123 4510, and they will assist you in registering.

Councillor Billy Hendry, Convener of the Council's Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Committee, said: "I am pleased we have been able to work with our colleagues in Police Scotland to develop East Dunbartonshire Community Alerts, which will help to keep residents safe.

"Our Trading Standards team works closely with Police Scotland and a range of partners to help raise



awareness and provide advice on avoiding bogus callers and rogue traders."

Chief Inspector Gerry Corrigan, Local Area Commander - Police Scotland, added: "We enjoy a fantastic relationship with our Trading Standards officers, which has resulted in increased detections for bogus crime in our area.

"By signing up to East Dunbartonshire Community Alerts we can increase awareness for residents in real time when we become aware of ongoing incidents that impact the community, as well as alerting them to emerging crime trends relating to fraudulent schemes.

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# Soap stars appear at Highland Games

**The Bearsden and Milngavie Highland Games had soap fans overjoyed when Emmerdale stars paid a visit to the local event.**

Bhasker Patel, who plays Rishi Shirma, acted as Chieftain in the annual event, and was joined by cast-mates Sandra Marvin (Jessie Grant), Katherine Dow Blyton (Harriet Finch) and Mark Jordan, who portrays Paddy the vet.

They appeared in support of this year's charity, Funding Neuro, which works to fund research in neuroscience.

Activities throughout the day included all the traditional Highland Games events such as wrestling, pipe bands,



heavies, arm wrestling and Scottish dancing.

The games began almost 50 years ago as a small fundraising event and has since become the biggest single day out in East Dunbartonshire.

Games organiser Alan Oliver and Sir James of Glasgow worked tirelessly to create this year's event, along with their volunteer team.

The Emmerdale band also took to the stage to perform a set at the West of Scotland Rugby Club alongside No Plan B, Papa Mo Band and comedian Stephen Hackett.



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# Creating cleaner, healthier play parks

**Pupils from Bearsden and Milngavie have helped ensure local play parks are now green, smoke-free places thanks to their posters showing a strong message to adults not to smoke where children play.**

Since 2016, the East Dunbartonshire Tobacco Alliance has worked with hundreds of pupils to design signage for parks in Auchinairn, Baljaffray, Bishopbriggs, Harestanes, Lennoxton, Milton of Campsie and Torrance to promote smoke-free play zones.

The latest project involved 200 P6 pupils from Killermont Primary, Mosshead Primary and St. Nicholas' Primary Schools in Bearsden and Clobber Primary in Milngavie learning about the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke and designing posters to promote smoke-free parks.

The winning design, by St. Nicholas' Primary pupils Kaitlin, Gabriela and Olivia, will soon feature on signage in 18 parks across Bearsden and Milngavie, letting smokers know that cigarettes are not welcome.

The striking artwork depicts a colourful scene of a busy, fun-filled play park where children ask 'Please



keep our playpark smoke-free'.

Susan Manion, Chief Officer for East Dunbartonshire HSCP, said: "We are proud to support the smoke free play parks initiative that supports children having a clean, safe and smoke free environment in which to play. By reducing children's exposure to tobacco smoke, we hope that in time smoking will no longer be seen as a 'normal' activity in today's society."

There are 67 play areas in East Dunbartonshire and by 2021, all will be smoke-free as work will begin in Kirkintilloch and Lenzie next year.

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reviewed their experience: "From the start the team have been helpful, supportive and informative. Never pushy or overbearing. The right advice was always given at the right time and their more than competitive charges show why they are one of the most influential and largest Estate Agent firms in East Dunbartonshire and West Central Scotland."



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# Explore your artistic talents

**Locals can get to the art of the matter thanks to a one-day course running at Lillie Art Gallery in Milngavie.**

On Friday, 26 August Drawing & Painting: Life Drawing for Everyone will run at the gallery aimed at those with experience of drawing but perhaps have never taken on the challenge of life drawing before. This one-day course, set in a relaxed teaching environment, aims to develop confidence and creative style.

Participants will work in a group, but also on a one-to-one basis with the experienced tutor.

Councillor Billy Hendry, Convener of Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets, said: "This is a great chance to explore your artistic talents in some of East Dunbartonshire's most iconic buildings. The event at the Lillie will actually be held in the main gallery, which is a rare chance to develop your skills while surrounded by stunning works of art.

"The Get Creative Summer Programme offers a wealth of inspiration, expertise and experience - don't miss out."

Sandy Marshall, Chair of EDLC Trust, added: "We are delighted to work with the Council to provide first-class creative events in a range of amazing venues. I would advise people to book now to ensure they secure a place."



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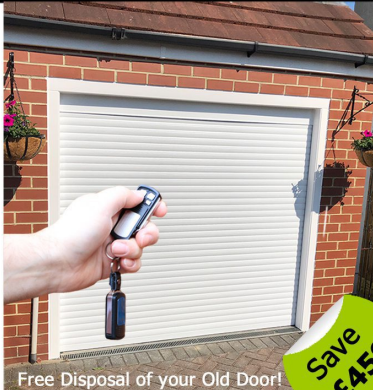
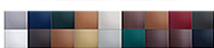
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# New changes for childcare funding

**Childcare funding will now be provided for East Dunbartonshire residents from the day after a child's 3rd birthday.**

The Council have announced the funding will be available from August 2019 for children attending East Dunbartonshire Council Early Learning and Childcare Centres and approved, privately-run childcare providers.

Previously, childcare funding commenced the school term following a child's 3rd birthday however, parents who have applied for funded childcare during the academic year 2019/2020 will shortly receive letters advising them of the changes.

This is also good news for parents whose children turn three between 1 March 2020 and 26 June 2020, as they are now entitled to funded childcare during the 2019/2020 academic year. Parents of eligible children can apply to receive this funding via the Council's website.

Parents are advised that applications must be received by 30 August 2019 and they will be notified of allocated places by 30 September. Start dates will



be subject to holidays and settling in periods and places will be subject to availability. If no places are available in a chosen centre, a place will be offered in a centre where places are available.

Convener of Education, Councillor Jim Goodall, said: "The Council is working towards delivering 1140 hours funded Early Learning and Childcare by 2020 and in order to achieve this we have been introducing additional provision and extended hours."

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**To arrange a private appointment phone Ms Bobby Dougan, Antonine House Care Home Manager, on 0141 942 4644.**



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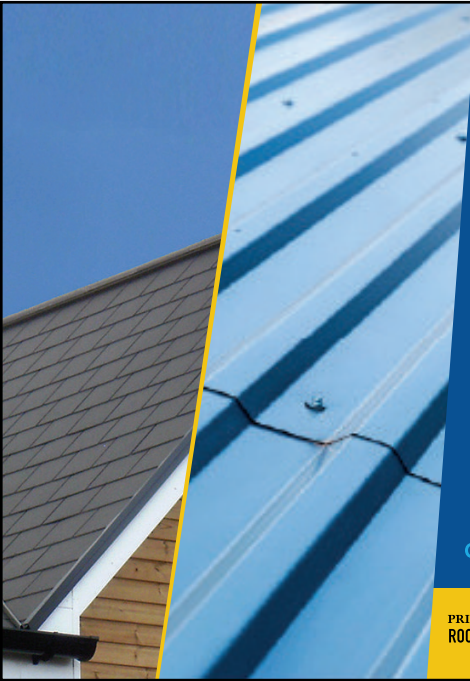


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# Selling your house this summer?

Here are six tips to get your front garden looking its best.

### 1. Tidy up

If you have tools, buckets, outdoor toys and other ephemera peppering your front garden area, move them out of sight.

### 2. Sort out quick planting

If you have harsh concrete steps, soften the look by lining the path with evergreen plants in pots, and place container plants around the front door to make the entrance look welcoming and cared for.

### 3. Watch the parking

If you park your car in the front garden, don't try to enhance the area with fiddly little plants which may flop over the parking space and end up being squashed. Instead, group a few plants strategically - taking account of the movement of cars - to create a bold and practical effect.



### 4. Keep it simple

Quick-fix planting should be low-maintenance. Shrubs and conifers add stature and texture and can virtually be left to their own devices once you've prepared the soil. Plants like chrysanthemum, gardenia or jasmine can retain moisture longer and therefore require less watering.

### 5. Make the most of climbers

If you already have climbers such as wisteria and clematis, make sure they are tied in and neatly pruned, which will give a great impression before any potential buyer goes over the threshold.

### 6. Soften paved areas

If your front garden is just paved, lift a couple of slabs to make space for creeping plants such as thyme, which will also attract bees and other pollinating insects.



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# Deep dive into seaside trends

The decor tide has come in and brought with it one of our favourite looks - seaside style. Evoking a serene landscape of sandy beaches and blue water in your home will transport you to a shoreside idyll in no time, no matter where you live.

### Dive into deep blues

Shades reflecting blue skies and seas are a winning combination and are on trend this year.

"Choosing the right colour palette is essential in nailing the modern coastal look," says Becky Snowden, interior style advisor, Furniture Choice.

"It's all about recreating the zen and relaxation of being by the sea, but while light blue and white are the usual go-to colours, experiment with darker hues like indigo and navy for a 2019 update," she suggests. "If you prefer neutral white and cream, use that as a base and contrast with rich blue tones to create a calming, ocean-themed vibe."



### Take in sea breezes

"When creating a coastal inspired room, it's crucial to keep the overall mood light and airy," says Vanessa Hurley-Perera, chief product officer, Sofa.com.

"Natural finishes like linen and cotton are a great choice for a coastal look, as these textures have a lovely breezy feel about them. Keep things simple by opting for light toned fabrics, and create interest by layering an accent chair or some scatter cushions in a subtle stripe."

Her colour palette choice is blues muted with a soft grey undertone, complemented by whites and ash grey. "Stripped and varnished or painted floorboards are characteristic of a beach-side sanctuary, but soften the effect with scatter rugs," she suggests.

### Talk to the sand

For a cool, coastal vibe, pick up on mellow, golden sand shades for a shoreline-inspired setting.

"Colours inspired by sandy, sun-drenched beaches are the newest way to interpret shoreside style," says Sue Kim, senior colour designer, Valspar.

"These golden hues are the perfect neutrals to transform a home into a relaxing summer escape. As they're on the warmer end of the colour spectrum their mellow glow will work well even when the sun's gone down and the light is colder.

"Warm, pink sandy shades are a stylish alternative to creams or yellow," she adds. "And accents of green, blue or aqua can be all that's need for a shot of enlivening colour."

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