

... a shore thing — and you can pitch in to help with our big clean-up

CLEAN UP OUR BEACHES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2004
a We Can Do It campaign

by **Jeremy Dunning**
The News

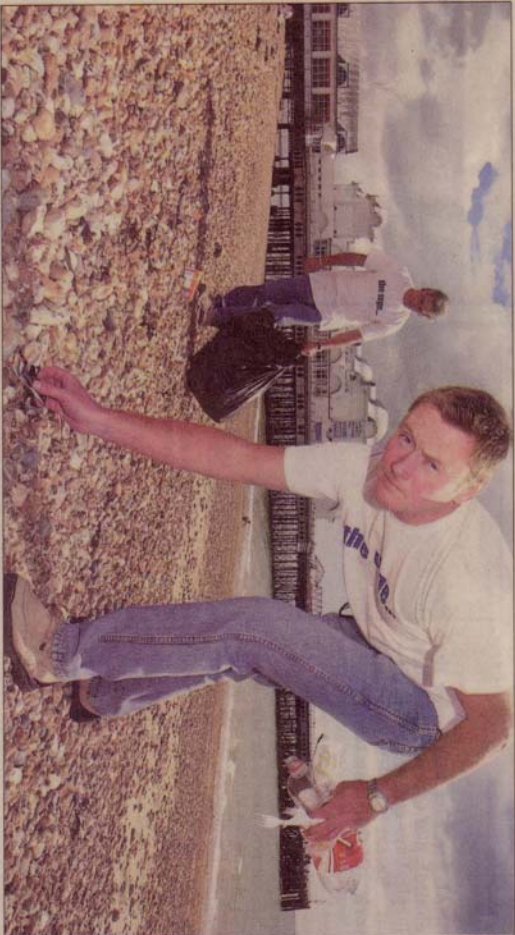
PLASTIC bags, wooden forks and cigarette butts litter our beaches.

Dumped by thoughtless holiday makers or from ships, not only do such objects look unsightly but they are harmful to the marine environment.

Now, in the spirit of We Can Do It, *The News* is backing a massive clean-up along our seafronts.

We Can Do It It is all about pride in our community, and the seafront is one of the jewels in the crown of our area. So we're calling on anyone with time to spare to pitch in and help.

The aim is to conserve the aquatic environment, educate the public on the issue and gather information that could help in the fight against trash. The clean-up campaign is be-



David Jones, right, and Leith Skinner, from Triton Scuba, make a start on picking up litter on Southsea beach ahead of the big clean-up day on Saturday, September 18

PICTURE: MATT SCOTT-SONN (R42P5-37)

ing spear-headed by dive shop Triton Scuba, in Highland Road, Southsea, who are targeting Southsea beach. They want to hear from anyone who can pitch in and help them at Southsea, or who wants to clean up another stretch of local shoreline. Last year the firm co-ordinated a beach clean using

about 40 people and managed to collect between 30 and 40 bags of rubbish at Southsea, including plastic bags and cups, wooden forks, polystyrene wrapping and sanitary pads. The day is part of an international beach clean-up day arranged by Project Aware, a charity dedicated to protecting the environment, especially the sea. Those who take part will receive a certificate from Triton Scuba. Triton manager David Jones said: "This is about raising awareness of nature. If you are out there and want to do an hour or even half an hour at Southsea, let us know."

"Or, if you want to do a clean-up at your local beach, call us for advice on organising it and using the right equipment." The clean-up will take place on Saturday, September 18. Those interested are asked to call Triton Scuba before the day on (023) 9283 8773. **STOP THE GROT** ■ Page 18