

Waterlines

The newsletter of the
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



Issue 50

www.shra.co.uk

February, 2010

Fifty - Not out!

When we produced the first issue of Waterlines back in 2005, we little dreamt that it would still be going strong almost five years, and another forty-nine issues, later.

In that time, it has evolved from one double-sided sheet of A4, printed in black and white on standard copier paper, to a twelve-page A5 booklet, printed in full colour on heavyweight glossy paper.

In May 2005, the newly elected SHRA committee was determined that it would keep harbour residents fully informed of what it was doing and Waterlines was born.

Initially, Waterlines was funded from the members' subscription but that burden was reduced by seeking 'sponsorship' from local businesses in return for a small advertisement. As time passed, and Waterlines became better known, sponsorship increased and the cost to members was drastically reduced. Over the past two or three years, the cost of producing Waterlines has been almost completely covered by income from sponsorship. We have been very fortunate that, for some time, there have been more prospective sponsors than we have space available for advertising. However, the primary objective of producing Waterlines is to keep harbour residents informed and we will never take more sponsorship than is necessary to cover our production costs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those local businesses that have helped us to make Waterlines a success. Many of them sponsored just

a single issue, some sponsored several issues, which made life much easier for us, but we are very grateful for whatever help they were able to offer.

We were exceptionally lucky in the early years to have had the help of Eastbourne Solicitors, Temple Bird, who not only sponsored Waterlines over an extended period, but also allowed the SHRA committee to use its excellent conference room at its Waterfront office to hold committee meetings. The whole staff was very supportive and we were very sorry when they moved out.

We are currently very fortunate to have secured the long term support of three sponsors, Belvoir Lettings, Quayside Dental Practice and the Water Dragon restaurant. Thanks to them, the future of Waterlines is secure for the remainder of 2010 at least.

Until the end of 2008, there was an issue every month, two on occasions, but at the beginning of 2009, it was decided to change production to bimonthly, which is the current situation. Since that first issue, Waterlines has been delivered, free of charge, to every harbour residence, currently almost 3,700.

Which leads us to the real unsung heroes, the people who trudge the streets, in all weathers, putting Waterlines through your letter boxes. Without them, the whole enterprise would have sunk without trace right from the start.

They are too numerous to name, but they know who they are and they have our sincere thanks. If you would like to join their ranks, you will be most welcome.

海龍 water dragon

Oriental Dining
Lunch - Dinner - Take Away
01323 - 479199

5 The Waterfront, Sovereign Harbour, Eastbourne BN23 5UZ

Unlocking the Trust

Like a bad penny, the Rentcharge demands from the Sovereign Harbour Trust have once again dropped on harbour residents' doormats.

As usual, there is only a basic explanation of what we are paying for and, as usual, the demand is accompanied by threats of legal action if payment is not made within fourteen days. We also understand that more residents, who have never previously received demands have received invoices going back eight years.

It's bad enough that the Environment Agency and the marina operator were allowed to place this unfair tax on us all, but worse, that the agency used to collect the tax, the Sovereign Harbour Trust, is so incompetent and insensitive.

Although the Rentcharge has gone down this year, mainly because the Trust has woken up to its past failings, you might have noticed a new line item on the accounts, 'Administration and collection costs', a staggering £144, 246. What is this? Could it be the cost to us all of the Trust sorting out the problems caused by its own incompetence? We will be asking the Trustees for an explanation, but past experience shows that a satisfactory response is unlikely.

We have been told that work is in progress to 'improve the working of the Trust'. Tinkering at the edges by those who have brought the Trust to its current state is not enough, only a root and branch reorganisation will work.

Its time to unlock the Trust.

Time for a new Master Plan

Much has been said over the past few years about the Master Plan for the final stage of the harbour development. Negotiations stalled, mainly because of Carillion's failure to accept that the inadequate infrastructure that had been provided, both social and physical, could not support *any* further residential development, yet alone the massive additional development it was pressing for.

How can a Master Plan for the final development of the harbour ever be successful when it is built on sand? Until the initial phase of the development has been completed, and that is far from done, there is no basis for expansion.

The land owners insist that any improvements to the infrastructure can only be funded by additional residential development but, this ignores their obligation under the initial consent that Sovereign Harbour should be a 'Work - Life' development that was essentially a self-contained sustainable community providing homes and jobs for the residents. To their shame, the recent LDF consultation showed Sovereign Ward, Eastbourne's most recent area of development, almost at the bottom of the league table for sustainability.

The politicians tell us that we must not dwell on the past and that they would be negligent in providing the services from the public purse, but they have no qualms about collecting our Council Tax.

So yes, let's have a Master Plan, but let it be for the completion of Phase One, then we can think about the final stages.

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Sussex WRAS (by Trevor Weeks)



2009 saw WRAS receive over 2000 calls, to which their volunteers were able to help either with advice or by responding on site and taking a casualty into care. The past twelve months have been very hard for WRAS and it has seen many changes.

Because of the recession, funding was tight and during the summer, the organisation was forced to cut back on its work; fortunately, this was short lived and WRAS was able to recover

Trevor Weeks said: "2010 is my 25th year and I sincerely hope that it will be a good year for WRAS. We are looking to build more aviaries including a flight aviary for test flying birds. We also hope that we might be able to expand our facility at Whitesmith too. This will all cost money of course and depending on suitable volunteers being found to help out at both Hellingly and Whitesmith plus with rescue work.

I would like to express my thanks to Dick Harris who helped cover many of the empty shifts over Christmas and New Year as well as to Murrae, Keith, Elaine, Tony, Jess, Hannah, Monica, Brian, Lillian, Les, Micheal, Pauline and June for helping to look after casualties either at home or at the Casualty Centre.

I would also like to thank our locum vet Simon Harris as well as Henley

House Vets Uckfield, Downwood Vets in Horam, St Annes Vets Eastbourne, Chase Vets Eastbourne and Bexhill and Greenleaves Night Clinic in Bexhill for all their help throughout 2009 giving discounted services to WRAS, please support these vets.

2010 is going to be a challenge for WRAS but one we are looking forward to and we hope that you will continue to support us. There are thousands of animals which have been saved as a result of your support and there are thousands more which will need our help throughout 2010. Happy New Year."

Trevor Weeks

East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance service (WRAS)

To make a donation to WRAS, visit: www.wildlifeambulance.org/

Political and Financial Awareness

A meeting, with the objective of raising political and financial awareness in the lead up to the General Election, will be held at the Eastbourne Centre (formerly the T&GU Centre) on Grand Parade on Wednesday 17th March.

Doors open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start. It is expected that the meeting will close at about 9:00pm.

The organiser of the meeting, Linus Gunning, has invited local representatives of all the major political parties.

Everybody is welcome to come along to listen, or join in. There should be some very lively debate on a number of important issues, at a very important time for the future of our country.

Sovereign Harbour Rotary Club

Over the past few months, a new Rotary Club has been in formation at Sovereign Harbour. The club President, Don Perman, told Waterlines:

"It would be great to have some fellow Harbour residents, both men and women, join us. We meet at 'Simply Italian' every Tuesday at 7:00pm. So why not come along and see what we do?"

Don asked us to thank all residents of Sovereign Harbour and the surrounding areas for their generosity on 11th and 12th December when members of the club, and others, collected for St. Wilfred's Hospice outside Boots in the Crumbles Retail Park.



Don said: "It was our first fund raising effort and we were delighted to achieve a total of £530 for the Hospice. The generosity of all you shoppers will assist St. Wilfred's to continue its excellent work, and has inspired us all to go on to further projects in the new Year."

Members of the Sovereign Harbour Rotary Club were in action again on Saturday 23rd January when they joined members of the other Eastbourne Rotary Clubs at the Arndale Centre to collect donations in support of the Haiti Relief Appeal.

Thanks to the generosity of Eastbourne's shoppers, the combined clubs collected over £2,500 for the appeal.

For more information, ring Don on 01323-479713 or visit the Sovereign Harbour Rotary website:

www.sovharbour.rotaryweb.org

Harbour Friends - Five years on

The Harbour Friends Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 21st February 2010 at 7:30pm in the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club.

With Harbour Friends now five years' old the committee feels that it should encourage more participation from members and would welcome some fresh support in helping to guide the club over the coming year. With this aim, a slightly more formal structure has been proposed, which will be discussed at what is in effect the group's first AGM.

The group's founder, Bev Adams, said: "We do hope you will come along and support us - and to encourage you to do so we will be providing a 5th birthday glass of wine on your arrival at the Yacht Club from 7:00pm prior to the AGM starting at 7:30pm. Later on we will be cutting and eating our 5th birthday cake. We look forward to seeing you there and to hearing your views on what you would like from the club over the coming year. We are keen for some new volunteers to help, even if only on an occasional basis, as some of the longer standing committee members have decided to take a well deserved break."

Members are invited to send nominations for election of Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer plus four further committee members. These nominations must be seconded by another member and be accompanied by proof of the nominee's willingness to stand for the position.

All such nominations must be submitted to the Secretary of the Club, a role currently being filled by Bev on a temporary basis, at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. Also, any items members wish to include within the agenda for the meeting must be submitted to the Secretary at least 14 days ahead of the meeting.

Members are reminded that to attend the AGM, or to nominate candidates for any position, they must have renewed their membership for 2010.

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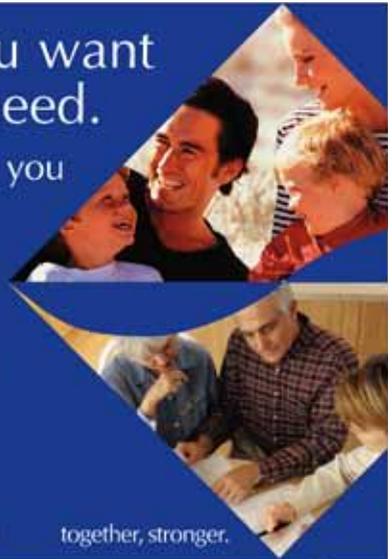
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SHRA Committee Meets Local Political Party Leaders

During January, members of the SHRA committee had meetings with senior members of both of the main Eastbourne political parties.

Meetings took place with Nigel Waterson MP and council opposition leader, Cllr. David Elkin, and also with council leader Cllr. David Tutt and the Liberal Democrat Prospective Parliamentary Candidate, Stephen Lloyd.

The first item on the agenda at both meetings was the Local Development Framework consultation. Both leaders confirmed that, following the September 2006 motion, the council's policy was clearly that there should be no further residential development on the harbour.

Further, it was agreed that, whatever was agreed for the remaining development land, it was imperative that the social elements should be completed first.

The next item discussed was the provision of the missing social infrastructure, in particular a community centre.

Although it was generally agreed that the facilities were necessary, and that sources of funding exist, neither group seemed prepared to be the front runner on the issue.

Cllr. Elkin and Mr. Waterson were told that the continuing delays to the adoption of the harbour highways and the failure of the County Council to grit Pacific Drive during the recent cold weather were unacceptable. It was made clear that residents feel they are not getting value for their Council Tax contributions.

The injustice of the contributions that we are all obliged to make to the Sovereign Harbour Trust was discussed and Mr. Waterson committed to give his help in finding a resolution to this problem.

Further discussions with Cllr. Tutt and Mr. Lloyd were centred around the 2008 referendum for the formation of a Sovereign Harbour Community Council and on resolving the ongoing communication breakdown between the SHRA committee and our Ward Councillors.

Further meetings will be arranged.

Fifty issues of Waterlines is a milestone we thought was worth recording so, to refresh your memory, here is a list of you of some imp



Wake up Sovereign Harbour



The B&Q planning application will be heard on
Thursday 13th October, at 4:30pm
in the Gold Room of the Winter Gardens

It's up to you now!

DON'T LET THE DEVELOPERS WIN!



A Victory for Common Sense?

Residents' feedback primes Carillion talks



B&Q Application Rejected
But the fight has to go on



Community Council? - It's your choice



Adoption - Myth or reality?

Your Harbour STILL needs you!



Whatever happened to our medical centre?



Greed, pure greed

Sovereign Harbour Ltd show it's contempt for harbour residents



New Master Plan delayed



You Did it Again!
Planning Committee Reject all 'Five Sites' Applications



Don't be distracted by Politics

of Waterlines

your memory of the issues that have been important to us all, we would like to remind you of some of our most important headlines.



Under the old legislation, the Borough Council merely had an obligation to pass on the petition to the Secretary of State for Communities, who would decide if the council should be set up. Under the legislation, the Borough Council had the ability to bring the process, and were able to actually affect the outcome.

Under the new legislation, the Borough Council has an obligation to fully consider the request, and to conduct whatever consultation it feels is required including, if necessary, a referendum. Under the new legislation, having consulted the electorate, the Borough Council has the power to refuse the request.

Another factor contributing to our strategy was that at the start of the campaign we received assurances from the leaders of both political groups on



Bert Legger



Stewart Mitchell



Open Meeting
 to debate the
Referendum to form the
Sovereign Harbour Community Council
 chaired by
Peter Austin
 Editor of the Eastbourne Herald
 to be held at
The Haven School
 Atlantic Drive
on 2nd October 2008
starting at 7:30pm
 (doors open at 7:00pm)



Community Police Update



PC Ed Faulkner and PCSO Martin Hylands

Well 2010 has certainly brought some challenges to all of us. The weather has been truly terrible causing huge problems for everyone living and working around the harbour. I know a number of people have raised concerns over the maintenance of Atlantic Drive and Pacific Drive, however the speed people were driving at on very icy roads certainly did not help.

I witnessed a large number of drivers simply going too fast causing their vehicles to slide into kerbs and struggle to brake. Everyone must do their bit to stay safe during cold weather.

We have also seen a small rise in the number of "off road" bikes and mini-motos being used around the seafront and also the undeveloped areas.

Also the pathway leading from Wade Close to the Haven School has seen a huge rise in the amount of dog mess in the area. This is completely inappropriate given the nearby school, and the fact that there is a dog bin half way down the walkway.

Both of these problems are causing a lot of nuisance to residents and PCSO Martin Hylands and I are trying to identify who is responsible. If you have any information please get in touch.

To keep up-to-date with Neighbourhood Policing issues between issues of Waterlines, why not take a look at Ed's and Martin's blogs on the Sovereign Harbour page of the Eastbourne Neighbourhood Panels website:

www.shnp.org

Health Centre Update

At the end of January, we received the following update from Dr Adoki's Project Manager, Peter Waugh.

"Progress continues with the Medical Centre. Detailed design is complete and the preparation to go out to tender has begun. The ground conditions as shown by the deep site investigation have shown a need for some extra investigations which will be carried out within the next two weeks. These will consist of a number of shallower ground tests.

We are in detailed discussion with Carillion regarding the purchase of the land and we are keeping in touch with the PCT over the NHS support for the project."

Seniors Club 2nd Birthday

To celebrate the 2nd Birthday of the Sovereign Harbour Social Club, Eastbourne's Mayor and Mayoress have accepted an invitation to attend the celebrations on Wednesday the 10th of February at Seamors Wine Bar, and to cut the birthday cake.

The Club is open to all over-fifties in Eastbourne, especially those living in the Sovereign Harbour area.

Members meet for coffee every Wednesday from 10:00am to 11:30am in Seamoor's Wine Bar at The Waterfront.

Sovereign Singers seek accompanist

The current accompanist of the Sovereign Singers female voice choir is unable to continue after May.

The choir need to find someone to accompany them next Autumn from October to December and hopefully thereafter for a while.

If you can help the choir find an accompanist please contact the Musical Director on 01323 470 445.

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Tooth coloured fillings	£80 - £120
Aesthetic porcelain crowns from	£300
Dentures from	£450
Root-canal treatment	£60 - £200
Implant treatments	£1200
Teeth Whitening Home	£99
Deep whitening	£350



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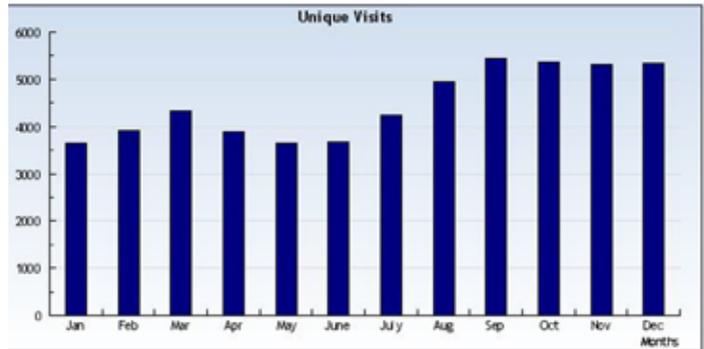
www.shra.co.uk

The popularity of the SHRA website, www.shra.co.uk, continues to grow. Our thanks to the SHRA webmaster, Tony Smith for all the hard work that goes into maintaining this very informative resource for harbour residents.

Regular visitors will have seen that the site was totally redesigned and Tony continues to 'tweak' the look and feel. A number of new pages have been added and navigation around the site has been improved.

There were a remarkable 54,000 unique visits to the site during 2009 with a steady increase in activity throughout the year.

Although the site is aimed at harbour residents, it has become well known in



many other areas of the town and is regularly visited by local politicians and journalists.

We hope that many more of you will become regular visitors and contributors to the site in 2010. Whenever there are updates to the major pages, they are flagged on the home page. Why not make www.shra.co.uk your 'Home Page' so that you will always be kept informed of what's happening on the harbour?

Harbour Clubs and Groups

For more information on any of these groups, call the number given, or visit the 'Harbour Clubs' page of the SHRA website (www.shra.co.uk).

Sovereign Harbour Art Group

The Sovereign Harbour Art Group meets in the Christ The King Church Hall, Princes Road on Thursdays 9:30am - 12:30pm.

Learn to paint with acrylics, oils and pastels with an experienced art tutor in a friendly, relaxed and enjoyable environment.

Phone Angela on 07914-884378 or e-mail acrylicart@hotmail.co.uk

You might also like to visit the Art Group's page of the SHRA website.

www.shra.co.uk/artgroup.htm

Sovereign Harbour Investors Club

The Sovereign Harbour Investors Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club, starting at 7:00pm. Membership is limited to twenty members.

Dates of meetings will be posted on the SHRA website.

To join the club, e-mail: chairman@shiclub.co.uk or visit: www.shiclub.co.uk

Strollers and Toners

Get fit, correct post natal posture patterns, tone up.

Mondays at 2:30 - 3:30pm. Cost £2.50

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:15 - 10:15am

Everyone is welcome and the sessions often run on with drinks on the harbour.

Please call Mari-Anne (fully qualified and insured) on 01323 479280.

Vet's Football

The Vets Football Team has now been running successfully for over three years, but more players are welcome to join, from the ages of 32 to 60, to play Sunday mornings on a casual basis.

All abilities and fitness levels welcome. For more information, contact Frank:

vetsfooty@hotmail.com
www.shra.co.uk/vetsfootball.htm

Harbour Friends

Whether you are new to the Harbour or have lived here for sometime, joining Harbour Friends is a great way to meet new people. Harbour Friends is a social group for Harbour residents of all ages, whether single or a couple. The group meets every Sunday at 7:15pm in the first floor bar at the Yacht Club.

If you are interested in joining, as long as you are a Harbour Resident, come along to our New Members evening which is held on the last Sunday of every month.

For more information visit our website at www.harbourfriends.co.uk.

Or, ring Bev on 479797 or e-mail her at bev@harbourfriends.co.uk

The Harbour Women's Institute

The Harbour branch of the W.I. meets on the second Monday of the month at 2:00pm in the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club.

If you are interested in taking part, please contact Freda Stalker on: 01323-471798.
www.shra.co.uk/wi

Sovereign Harbour Racing Club

The Sovereign Harbour Racing Club meets on a number of occasions through the year for excursions to local racecourses.

For more information, or to join the club, contact Linus Gunning on 01323-470757.

Sovereign Harbour Social Club

The Sovereign Harbour Social Club meets every Wednesday from 10:00am to 11:30am in Seamoor's at the Waterfront for coffee.

Each month, there will be one outing; lunch, theatre, places of interest.

All are welcome. For further details contact Sam Sweiry on 01323 479111.

www.harbourseniors.co.uk

Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Membership Application/Renewal 2009 - 2010

Title:

First name:

Last name:

Address:

Sovereign Harbour North / South *delete as applicable

Postcode: BN23

Telephone: -

E-mail:

I apply for membership of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association and understand that the information supplied above will be stored on a computer system. I also understand that this information will not be disclosed to, or shared with, any other person or organisation.

Signature:

This form, with a cheque for £10.00 **per household**, payable to 'SHRA', should be sent to:

The Membership Secretary,
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association
PO Box 124,
Eastbourne,
East Sussex, BN24 9AW.

For SHRA use only.

Date processed:

Membership number:

Alternatively, go to www.shra.co.uk/join to join or renew using your credit card through 

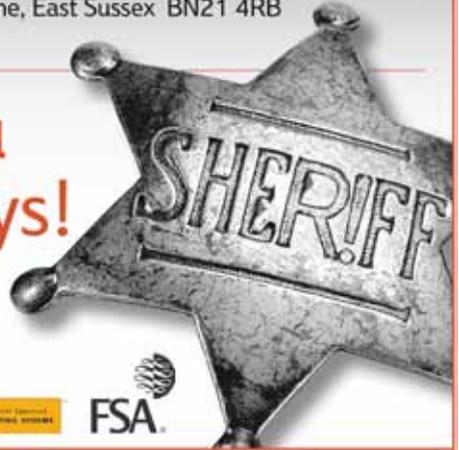
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It's that time of the year again

As we approach the end of another membership year, it's time once again to ask you to dig into your pockets.

Apart from helping to fund SHRA activities, and produce Waterlines and the website, your membership card can be used to get worthwhile discounts from a number of local businesses, including several of the Waterfront restaurants. See the SHRA website www.shra.co.uk for further details.

This year, for the first time, you have the opportunity to take out or renew your membership online. By taking advantage of this option, you not only make life easier for our treasurer, but also for yourself. Online renewal sets an automatic renewal process in place so you don't need to remember every year. Don't worry, you can easily cancel this if you leave the harbour or change your mind in the future.

One of the major advantages of the online system is that, as you might have seen, we have introduced new



membership cards that can be printed with your name and the date on which your membership expires. This means that we are no longer tied to a fixed renewal date at the end of March.

It would, as always, be very helpful if current members could renew their membership early, which greatly staggers the workload of our membership secretary, John Teasdale. Memberships renewed before the current expiry date will be valid until 31st March 2011.

Your continued support is vital, please take the time to (re)join the SHRA.