

Waterlines



The Newsletter of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association

Issue 66

www.shra.co.uk

August, 2012

Royal Couple Name New Lifeboat "Diamond Jubilee"



Normality, if that is a word that can be used in connection with one of the country's busiest lifeboat stations, has returned to Eastbourne RNLB after months of hectic activity.

The new lifeboat, named *Diamond Jubilee* to honour the Queen's 60 years as Monarch, arrived in Eastbourne for the first time shortly after 15:30 on Tuesday 29th May, accompanied by lifeboats from our flank stations at Newhaven and Hastings.

She made an historic and emotional entrance into Sovereign Harbour amid a rapturous welcome by hosts of

enthusiastic supporters who had lined the quayside in anticipation of her arrival.

No sooner had she arrived than she was off again to London to take pride of place in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee pageant along the Thames with our own Coxswain Mark Sawyer at the helm.

On her return the serious business of crew training resumed and on Wednesday 27th June the boat and crew were passed out by RNLB inspectors as being fully competent to handle any emergency. The official naming ceremony by their Royal Highnesses the Earl and Countess of Wessex went

without a hitch and even the weather was kind to us on the day with the event bathed in glorious sunshine.

Meanwhile the town's outgoing 18 year old lifeboat *The Royal Thames* will soon enjoy a new lease of life. She has been transported to RNLi headquarters at Poole where two new engines are being installed. Then, after her transom has been suitably sign-written with the name of her new home port, she will be taken to the RNLi's newest lifeboat station at Leverburgh on the Isle of Harris to be welcomed by her new crew.

The Royal Thames served Eastbourne very well over the years having responded to 960 emergency calls, rescued 1520 people and, using strict RNLi criteria, saved 115 lives. The crew, some of whom have served aboard since she first arrived in Eastbourne in 1993,

bade an emotional farewell and wish her and her new crew continued success.

Diamond Jubilee has already begun her life saving work; even whilst the crew were training they were despatched to an incident at the Harbour entrance when an ill-advised swimmer was seen clinging desperately to one of the channel marker buoys in rough seas.

The crew have also rescued a heavy commercial fishing vessel left helpless and drifting eight miles out to sea with five crewmen on board when its engine failed, and recently spent many hours searching for a diver lost overboard after returning from a routine trip.

Bob Jeffery,
Volunteer Lifeboat Press Officer,
Eastbourne RNLi Lifeboat Station

Sovereign Harbour is on the Map

Eleven new signage boards have been installed all along the seafront from Holywell to Sovereign Harbour.

Board number ten is at Langney Point, and number eleven can be seen on the land overlooking the outer harbour, adjacent to the locks.

The boards were intended to replace the "Walk for Life" boards that used to line the seafront from Holywell to the Waste Water Treatment Plant. However, when the plan came before the Planning Committee, Sovereign Ward Councillor, Gordon Jenkins, pointed out that, although not yet completed, the seafront didn't stop at Langney Point and, when the land known as "Site 1" was developed, the promenade would be extended to the sea locks.

Fortunately, the Borough Council's tourism officers have now woken up to the harbour's potential as a tourism and leisure destination and agreed to add the two additional boards.

Board number eleven has been installed by the side of the "Seabird Interpretation Board" that was designed and funded by the SHRA, with assistance from the Borough Council, through the devolved ward budget, and other commercial sponsors.



Cllr. Gordon Jenkins and Jan Weeks at the Outer Harbour

We're here to help
 Regular housework
 Spring cleaning
 Shopping
 Ironing...

Call Joyce 01323 500204

Friendly, reliable staff and great value!
NEW! Quality carpet cleaning
 at LOW rates



FRESH SPACE

Fresh Space Cleaning
 15A Mountfield Road
 Eastbourne BN22 9BJ

SPD Consultation Event



On Saturday 30th June, about 250 residents came to the Yacht Club to examine the details of the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and to discuss them with members of the group that has worked on it over the past year or so.

The group was chaired by Stephen Lloyd MP, and included Council Leader, Cllr David Tutt, Opposition Leader, Cllr David Elkin, the three Sovereign Ward Councillors, Senior Planning Officers and members of the SHRA Committee.

The feedback provided on the day will be combined with the feedback from the online consultation, which ended on 24th July. The results will be analysed and used to refine the SPD prior to being taken to the Planning Committee for approval. It will then be sent to the Cabinet and full Council, before being submitted to the Secretary of State for inspection and, hopefully, incorporation into the LDF.

Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour



The speaker at the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour on 25th July was Elizabeth Baxter from St Wilfrid's Hospice, who gave a talk about the new purpose-built Hospice set in beautiful surroundings, that is scheduled for completion in January 2013.

Elizabeth told members that the new hospice will double the current capacity to twenty in-patients. There will also be extensive facilities for families and friends visiting in-patients.

Gordon Jenkins gave a vote of thanks from the Rotary Club and presented Elizabeth with a cheque for £1,000 from the club.

The Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour meets every Tuesday at 7pm in the annex of Simply Italian on the Waterfront. Guests, visiting Rotarians and prospective members are welcome.

For more information e-mail:
president@rotarysh.org

Don't Let Them Spoil the Harbour



When consent was given for the development of Sovereign Harbour, the developers were obliged to install expensive block paving and the blue roadside bollards that can be seen in every development. Who paid for this? We did of course, through the purchase of our homes.

Before the development roads and pavements were adopted by East Sussex County Council (ESCC), any damage to the block paving had to be repaired to the original specification. Any damaged or dislodged bollards had to be repaired, or replaced and, following safety audits by highway engineers, developers were obliged to install additional bollards in some areas.

As home owners, and ESCC council tax payers, we are entitled to expect that the County Council will maintain the streets and street furniture to the standard that **it** demanded of the developers.

However, in a number of harbour areas, where repairs were necessary, the highway engineers have failed to complete them to the required standard. Block paving is being replaced with ugly tarmac patches, and uprooted bollards are being removed and not replaced.

Residents have been told that the bollards are purely cosmetic and serve no useful purpose, which seems at odds

with the results of the safety audits that were conducted prior to adoption.

Examination of bollard installations clearly shows that they were placed in areas where pedestrians could be in danger from vehicles, and would serve to provide protection for them, so maintenance is essential. It is also essential that where repairs are made to bollards situated in areas of block paving, the block paving should be replaced.

Sovereign Ward's County Councillor, Cllr. David Elkin, is aware of the situation, and agrees that residents have every right to expect that this prestigious development should be maintained to the standards that the County Council demanded of the developers.



Cllr Elkin inspects a badly completed repair

Cllr Elkin said; "It is totally unacceptable that repairs of this low quality appear to have become the norm. This is a new development, and therefore relatively low maintenance, so it is only fair that repairs undertaken are completed to the highest possible standard. I will be making representations at the highest level to ensure that residents' concerns are heard and understood."

If there are examples of shoddy repairs in your local development, please e-mail photographs to info@shra.co.uk and we will ensure that Cllr Elkin receives them.

Harbour Handyman

All your Home Maintenance Needs
Pre-let Property Service for Landlords



Tried and Trusted
30 Years Experience
CRB Checked

www.harbourhandyman.com

Decorating - Repairs - Shelving - Flat Packs - Tiling - Fixtures & Fittings

Fast Free Quote Call Rob today T: 01323-478239 M: 07957-611040

Sovereign Harbour welcomes "The Boat Project"



On 5th July, the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront welcomed "The Boat Project", a state-of-the-art piece of waterborne artwork.

Designed by Lone Twin, one of Europe's leading performance companies, and created by artists Gregg Whelan and Gary Winters, the thirty foot boat, is named "*Collective Spirit*". It is the result of twelve hundred wooden artefacts donated by people across the South East, each with a story to tell and all constructed into a living, seafaring archive of stories and memories.

Created by hundreds of designers, boat builders and volunteers, the project is part of a series of twelve public art commissions across the UK to celebrate the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, and funded by the Arts Council England. Visiting a selection of key destinations

across the South East, Eastbourne has been chosen as a key stopover for three nights on her maiden voyage.

The work behind the Boat Project began in February 2011, with donations of wooden items from the general public, including everything from pencils to piano wood, and even included donations from historic warships the *HMS Victory* and *HMS Warrior*.

Visitors were able to join in sea shanty singing with the crew on the quayside and also get creative themselves with a themed workshop.

Members of the public brought along their own treasured objects, which, with the help of an artist and staff from Towner, were photographed for inclusion in a collage, which was displayed at the Towner gallery.

Harbour Community Market



Having moved to its new location, outside Gringo's on the Waterfront, operation of the Sovereign Harbour Community Market has been temporarily suspended.

Market founder, Sam Sweiry, was injured in an accident at home, resulting in a stay in the Eastbourne DGH.

Keep an eye on the SHRA website news page for updates on the situation.

Abandoned Trolleys



Despite the efforts of EBC enforcement officers, who have issued a number of £80 fixed penalties, abandoned supermarket trolleys continue to be an eyesore all over the harbour.

If you see one of these trolleys, please call "Trolleywise" on 07930-662042, stating the exact location, and they will collect it and return it to the owner.

Harbour WI (by Judy Letter)

At the July Meeting of the Harbour W.I., speaker Laurie Manser had planned to give a presentation on a trip to Keukenhof Gardens and Floriade. Unfortunately, because of a change of venue, the lighting conditions made it difficult to view his slides. Instead Laurie, with the help of his wife, gave a talk entitled "Memories of a Garden Boy" which was interesting, amusing and very enjoyable.

The Craft Club met on 16th July. The members all brought their own craft to make and had a discussion on future projects. They meet every third Monday at Pevensey Bay Baptist Church.

Three days later 32 members of the Diners' Club enjoyed a very pleasant cream tea in member Jan Field's garden in aid of Breast Cancer Care.

The weather stayed dry, if a little chilly, and members were able to enjoy Jan's beautiful garden as well as the numerous home-made cakes and scones on offer! With a raffle and cake sale adding to the entrance fees, Jan was able to send a very healthy donation of £250 to Breast Cancer Care. The next Diners' Club meeting is for lunch on the 21st August at Michelangelo's Restaurant in South Street, Eastbourne organised by Maddie Francis and Tina Burnett-Evans.

The Ladies are looking forward to an outing to Goodwood Ladies Day on the 2nd August. They are all hoping this weather continues. There's a prize of a bottle of wine for the best hat!

A Coffee Morning at the 'Grand' is being considered for November and the Christmas Lunch has been booked at Cooden Beach Hotel for the 14th December.

The Harbour W.I. meets every 2nd Monday of the month in the Sovereign Suite of the Sovereign Yacht Club at 2pm. Next month the meeting will be held on the 13th August when the speaker will be Derek Fulford 'Justice of



the Peace' telling them about a day in the life of a JP.

The Harbour W.I. has reached a maximum for the premises where it is held, but visitors are welcome by prior arrangement with Frances Harrap on 01323 472649

Can SHYC be a Community Centre?

In its submission to the Sovereign Harbour SPD consultation, the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club (SHYC) puts forward the opinion that Sovereign Harbour does not need a purpose-built community centre. However, the whole SHYC case seems to be centred on providing community facilities at minimum cost, with no consideration as to the suitability of the premises.

The SHYC says that references to high costs and limited availability of facilities is unjustified, but there is ample evidence to support this. Groups wanting to use the SHYC have been refused because the structure of the building was said to be unsuitable for the proposed activities. Prospective users have also been told that, even if they have a firm booking, made months in advance, SHYC needs take priority.

The SHYC says it had discussions with Eastbourne Borough Council with a view to the council leasing the club's top floor, which, it contends, could provide the necessary facilities, at less cost. Significantly, no approach was made to the SHRA prior to the meeting with council officers.

Subsequently, a request for a meeting was received by SHRA chairman, Jan Weeks. In its submission, SHYC says it was particularly disappointed that its request did not meet with a response; this is not true. The SHRA received the request with a degree of scepticism considering that, since 2005, successive SHRA chairmen have written to successive SHYC Commodores suggesting that a meeting, to discuss how the two organisations could cooperate, would be beneficial. All of the letters were hand delivered, one directly to the Commodore, but no reply was ever received, not even an acknowledgement.

Receipt of the SHYC request was acknowledged, and a response promised after the SHRA committee had discussed the proposal. However, as the proposal was intended to modify the SPD, it was discussed with the other group members, who considered it inappropriate for any party in the process to have independent discussions without the whole SPD working group being involved. The EBC Chief Executive agreed to arrange a group meeting with SHYC representatives at a suitable time.

The SHYC board urges all parties to openly consider the opportunities of its proposal which, it says, it genuinely believes to be in the best interest of everyone concerned.

The SHRA committee is of the opinion that only a purpose-built facility can fully meet the needs of the community, but has reserved its final judgement until after the SPD group has met with the SHYC board.

Community Police Update

by PC Ed Faulkner

Marine Conservation Zone



PC Ed Faulkner
07787-685813

PCSO Martin Hylands
07909-873787



We have been successful in solving the recent spate of burglaries on the Harbour.

A number of vital pieces of information were received, indicating who the suspects were, and they were arrested and interviewed.

Enquiries are continuing, however we appeared to have stopped the burglaries from taking place. I will update you on the final outcome of this when it is known.

A number of residents have contacted us regarding the increase in graffiti in all areas of the Harbour, and Columbus Point.

We are trying to identify offenders so, if you see anyone hanging around with marker pens, or writing or spraying graffiti please call us on 999 immediately so we can catch them in the act.

Lastly the Harbour has had two VIP visits in the last month, one from the Earl and Countess of Wessex, the other from the passing Olympic Torch. PCSO Martin Hylands and I were both involved in the policing of these events, and it is great to see the harbour looking so good, even if the weather wasn't very July-like.

Please let us know if there are any issues you would like us to look at, as we are here to resolve any issues that arise. We can be contacted on the numbers listed above.

Under a proposed new scheme, the sea off the beach at Sovereign Harbour may become a marine nature reserve known as a "Marine Control Zone".

In the last few years, the UK Government has been developing plans for a further hundred Marine Control Zones around the UK. MCZs, as they are known, have been designated all over world as part of a WWF initiative. Probably the best known MCZ is the Great Barrier Reef in Australia but more locally, Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel has been a MCZ for some years.

By controlling over fishing and exploitation of the sea bed, the zones have greatly improved both the diversity of marine life and increased the number of fish and shellfish. The proposed zone off Sovereign Harbour is part of the group of zones, from Isle of Wight to Thames Estuary, where the marine habitat is considered to be important or unique.

It is by no means certain that the government will accept all the proposed zones, so local interest in the project may be vital. A stakeholder consultation has already taken place and in the autumn DEFRA will hold a public consultation.

For more information, visit:

<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2409>

www.balancedseas.org/

www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/marine/mpa/mcz/default.aspx

COOK DELIVERS
REMARKABLE FOOD FOR YOUR FREEZER

MEAL BOXES
Our meal boxes contain five main meals and two puddings, from only £22 per person or £41.50 per couple. For full details go to cookfood.net/lewesmealboxes or call us for a menu!

FREE delivery on our meal boxes to Sovereign Harbour

Local Delivery from COOK Lewes
Call 01273 483450 to order

"We love COOK... frozen meals that really do look and taste homemade"
Country Life Magazine

Harbour Friends Update

(by Elaine de Biracli Levy)



After all the frenetic activity of the Jubilee, street parties and BBQs, you would think that life on the Harbour would quieten down, at least before the Olympics commence, but OH NO! Harbour Friends held its own Mini Olympic Games and BBQ on Sunday 22nd July at the Yacht Club.

The beauty of not having to comply with international rules is the ability to ensure the games were as energetic or relaxed as required by the participants without forfeiting any of the fun. Games included bagatelle, darts, hoops, and mini golf. During the evening no injuries were sustained but several people left with sore ribs caused by laughing so much.

The BBQ was delicious, just right for the hungry participants but it should be noted that the spectators ate more than those who took part. The Sunday evening was warm and fine, just the right temperature especially after the recent awful weather we have been experiencing.

Prizes were awarded to the winners of each game, and the overall winning Medal was awarded to Sue Johnston.

In all a really great evening was had by all.

Future events:

In keeping with tradition, the group that won the last quiz, i.e. Geoff Chatterton

Your local family jewellers.

Exclusive to Waterlines readers,
10% off* any purchase upon
presentation of this advert.

*excludes repairs and services



9 Langney Road, Eastbourne,
East Sussex, BN21 3QA

Tel: (01323) 411039 Fax: (01273) 430299

www.wec Clarkandson.co.uk

sales@wec Clarkandson.co.uk

JEWELLER

W·E·CLARK & SON

established 1819

et al, have been press ganged into organising the next Fun Quiz which will take place at the Yacht Club on Wednesday, 22nd August - "Brain of Britain not necessary".

The quiz will include local knowledge, marine and USA trivia. Cost: £1 per person maximum 6 members in each team. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

According to several Harbour Residents, the Royal Hippodrome has done it again by producing a good old fashioned fun variety show. You don't have to be old to enjoy it. The show is running until the end of September. Performances start at 8.15pm twice a week and plans are in the pipeline to organise a date.

Cost £17 or £16 concessions.

A trip behind the back stage of the Hippodrome is also in the planning stages. One resident who has already enjoyed the tour noted that 'It was fascinating seeing what actually goes on and being able to appreciate parts of the lovely theatre which are rarely seen.'

Harbour Friends meets on most Wednesdays and on occasional Sundays at the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club for a drink, a chat and sometimes an event.

Why not join Harbour Friends?

Membership costs £14 per annum. For further information on membership or any of the events please contact Gilly Smith on 01323 470366, or Brenda Newland on 01323 470114.

The Met Comes to Sovereign Harbour



This autumn, Cineworld will begin live transmissions from New York's Metropolitan Opera (The Met).

The High-Definition transmissions will start on 23rd October with Donizetti's L'Elisir d'Amore followed by Aida, La Clemeza di Tito, Les Troyens and Un Ballo in Maschera.

Those of you who have known these transmissions will be delighted. For others, you may want to give it try as it is great evening out. No need to worry that you won't understand the plot as there are sub titles. Not only do you get wonderful top notch singing and exciting stage sets but there are also interviews with the stars as they come off stage and a behind the scenes look at the wardrobe and the stage sets.

Early booking is advised. For further information see the Cineworld website.

www.cineworld.co.uk/films/event/metopera

TV Aerials, Satellite and Radio Repairs
Service, Installation, Fast Professional Service
Same Day Appointments Available
FREE QUOTES Fully Insured

*** SPECIAL OFFER ***

Freesat - Fully Fitted - £130

Aerials Fitted - From £89.99

Exclusive 10% Discount for Harbour Residents

01323-470040

0845-291-7152

www.astrasataerials.com
sales@astrasataerials.com



Water Feature Update

For the past year, a group of South Harbour residents, the "Water Feature Action Group" (WFAG) has been engaging with developers Persimmon Homes and Eastbourne Borough Council (EBC) about the poor condition of the large Columbus Point water feature and its proposed hand-over to residents. The WFAG has been reporting back to property owners and local residents associations.

The group has now been told that Persimmon is ignoring the concerns of residents and pressing ahead with the handover. Persimmon will shortly be writing to the 370 affected property owners to tell them, amongst other things, that:

- Property maintenance company Fell Reynolds has been appointed management agent to maintain the feature; and that the collection of maintenance charges from property owners will start soon.
- For the sake of consistency (according

to Persimmon), all property owners will be invited to sign a new deed of covenant.

- There will be no back charges for past years, provided property owners sign the new deed of covenant.

On the plus side, Persimmon have said they will re-coat the water feature.

WFAG believes that the water feature must be fully working and properly tested before handover. The group is pressing for a full survey of the feature and EBC are supporting this view. Persimmon have stated they don't object to a survey, but have not yet fully agreed to it.

Despite this small group's best efforts they clearly have had little effect on Persimmon. There needs to be a groundswell of opinion if they are to ensure that they are not handed a water feature that could become a liability.

Please visit the website below for background information or email WFAG at water.feature@btinternet.com with your views on the issue or to be added to their mailing list. www.shra.co.uk/waterfeature.html

Do you want faster Broadband?

BT is rolling out its fibre optic network "Infinity" across Eastbourne, but guess what? There are no plans to include Sovereign Harbour.

Once again, it seems, nobody seems to have considered that the harbour is part of Eastbourne when putting the plan together.

If you would like a super-fast Broadband connection, visit: www.bt.com, and click on the "Find out More" button on the large "Infinity" advertisement.

Then, click on the "Can I get BT Infinity" button and follow the instructions. When you are notified that you can't, click on the "Register Interest" button and enter your details.

The more of us that register an interest, the greater the chance that we will be included.

Harbour gets even more Dog Bins.



Owners have even less excuse for not cleaning up after their dogs. The Victoria Quay Management Company, which manages the Macquarie Quay development, has funded the installation of three additional dog bins on the surrounding promenades.

The new bins are located on the beach promenade, the outer harbour promenade and by the rising bollard at the entrance to the RNLI access road.

This brings the total of dog and dual purpose litter bins in the Sovereign Harbour neighbourhood to 26.

Sovereign Harbour Shingle Plants

(by Linda Bostock)



My name is Linda Bostock. I am a Medical Herbalist and one of my great loves is to walk the countryside and look at the huge variety of plants we have growing around us, many of which have medicinal

properties.

Some of you may have seen me walking on the beach or on the shingle banks with my red setter Henry.

In the past seven years we have lived on the harbour, I have enjoyed all the plants growing on the shingle.

This week I spotted these Bee orchids on the shingle. These don't have medicinal value but are breath taking to look at.

Some of the medicinal plants I have seen on the shingle are:-

Coltsfoot - used to treat tickly coughs; in fact its Latin name is *Tussilago farfara* which I am told means fairies take your cough away!

Sea Buckthorn - a purgative used for constipation

Poppies - used as a sedative

Mullein - also used to soothe coughs

Elder - Anti catarrhal and anti viral.

I have made a video of the plants growing on the shingle around Sovereign Harbour which you can have a look at on my website: www.herbalhealthinformation.com

Remember not to pick the plants (anyway the shingle is a bit of a free for all for dogs) and don't self medicate with plants if you do not know what you are doing.

But look and enjoy!!

Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Life Membership Application

Title:

First name:

Last name:

Address:

Sovereign Harbour North / South *delete as applicable

Postcode: BN23

Telephone: -

E-mail:

Provide additional membership card for:

Title:

First name:

Last name:

*I/we 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. * **Please also enrol me/us for membership of the Harbour Community Association** * delete if not applicable*

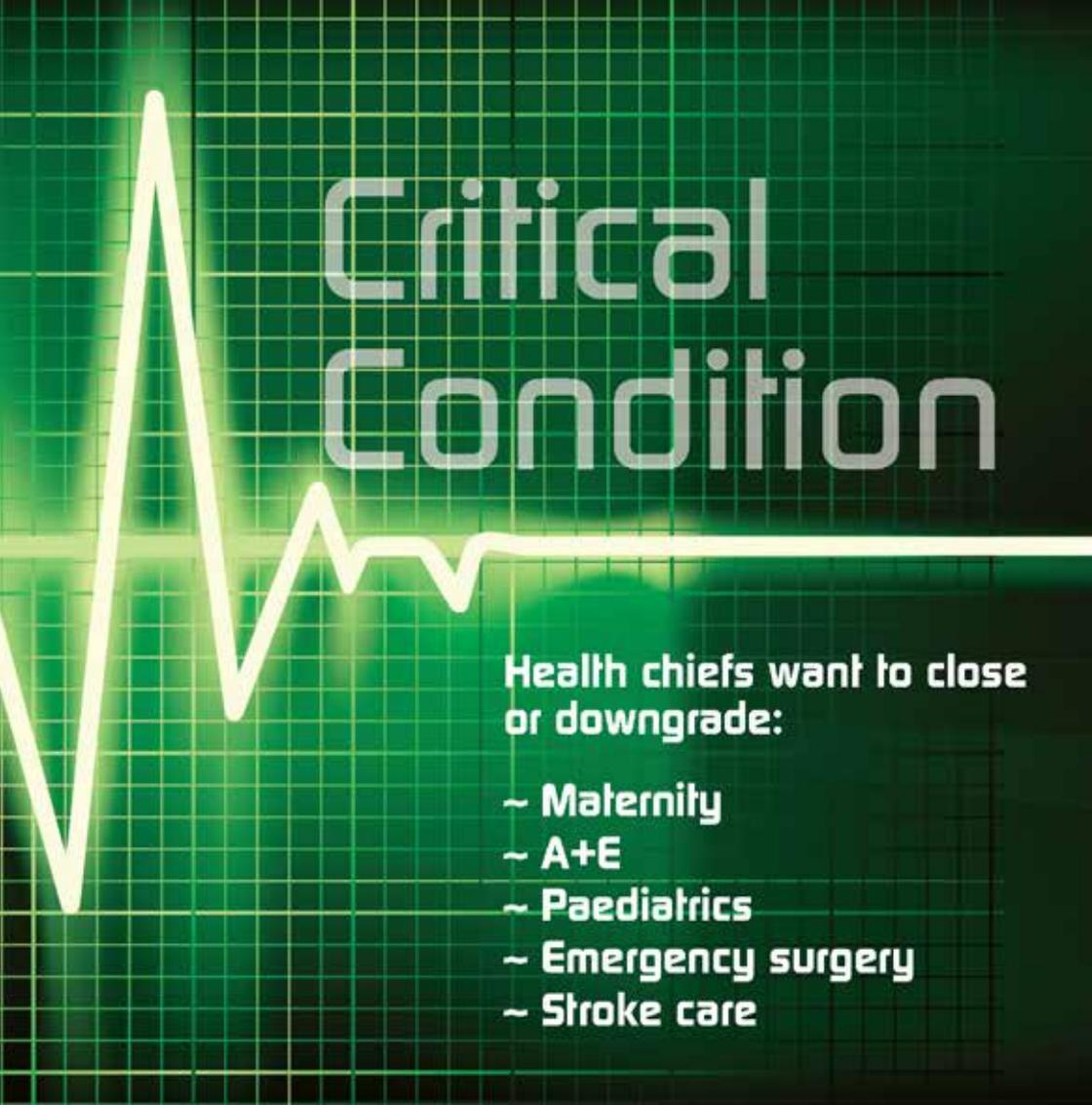
Signature(s):

This form, with a cheque for £10.00 **per household (New members only)**, 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. Membership No (s)

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



Critical Condition

Health chiefs want to close
or downgrade:

- ~ Maternity
- ~ A+E
- ~ Paediatrics
- ~ Emergency surgery
- ~ Stroke care

In 2007 we fought to save our maternity unit.

We won

Today we are fighting to stop catastrophic cuts planned for the Eastbourne DGH.

Join our fight now by emailing info@savethedgh.org.uk to pledge your support. If you have not already signed our original petition, please state this when you reply and we will add your name to our online petition.

Follow us  facebook.com/savethedgh  twitter.com/#1/SaveTheDGH

www.savethedgh.org.uk

