

Waterlines



The Newsletter of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association

Issue 68

www.shra.co.uk

December, 2012

Time to Save the DGH is Running Out

Despite massive public objection, a demonstration outside the Congress Suite, a seafront march and over 5,500 individual letters of protest to the Secretary of State for Health, NHS Sussex has now taken the outrageous decision to "single site" stroke services at Eastbourne DGH, and general surgery and orthopaedic services at the Conquest Hospital in Hastings.

This means both hospitals will lose some of the core services local people rely on, and should be entitled to. The "Save the DGH" campaign team says this is a potential disaster for Eastbourne.

The campaign is not against any change at all, and recognises that some is needed. However, ***it is vital that core services, the ones you need in an emergency, are all available at BOTH hospitals.***

The likely knock-on effects for the DGH could include a future downgrading of more services, including A&E, maternity and paediatrics. We only have a few days left to make a difference – ***your help is vital.*** Please sign the petition on www.savethedgh.org.uk

And please do so quickly! The petition will be presented to The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) on 13th December – ***thousands of signatures are need by then!***

Signing the petition yourself is very important, but there is more you can do. Download the petition form, and ask your friends, neighbours, family – in fact anyone who cares about our DGH to sign.

You can also sign the petition at Bright Ideas on the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront, or at the "Save the DGH" campaign shop at the Bankers Corner entrance to the Eastbourne Arndale Centre. If you can help staff the shop for an hour or two, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the campaign team via the website.

It is essential that all completed forms are returned by close of play on 12th December to ensure the petition presented to the HOSC contains the maximum possible number of signatures. Forms can be returned to:

- The address at the bottom of the petition form.
- The "Save the DGH" shop in the Arndale Centre.
- Bright Ideas at the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront.

Time is running out to save core services at our hospital – we must do all we can to protect local people.

For more information visit:
www.savethedgh.org.uk
www.shra.co.uk/news.html

Looking forward to 2013

Despite many frustrations and what sometimes seems little progress, 2012 has actually been a very good year for Sovereign Harbour.

The progress that has been made by the all-party SPD working group, although sometimes slow, has enabled the prospect of 2013 delivering significant improvements to the sustainability of the Sovereign Harbour neighbourhood.

If all goes well, early in 2013 we would hope that the "Master Plan" for the completion of the harbour development will be published. It is anticipated that this will include a Community Centre of sufficient size to meet our requirements, significant areas of public open space, and play areas for adults and children, amongst other benefits. A majority of residents at public consultations accepted that the improvements to the community infrastructure will be enabled by the building of 150 additional homes.

We are still waiting for the Planning Inspector's report on the major modifications to the Eastbourne Local Development Framework (LDF). It is hoped, however, that she will have accepted the arguments put forward by SHRA representatives at the "examination in public" that the combined Sovereign Harbour Retail Park and Waterfront fulfil all of the criteria necessary for it to retain its status as a "District Centre".

We are hopeful too, that the negotiations between EBC and Prupim following the granting of planning consent for the regeneration of the retail park, are close to conclusion. This, hopefully, will result in an early start to the work, with a linkage to the Waterfront, creating a superb centre for leisure and tourism, and the completion of the long-awaited cross-harbour bus link.

SHRA membership continues to grow, and now stands at well over 900. However, we hope that more residents will join us, and take advantage of the many discounts and special offers available to members.

Water Feature Update

The saga of the Columbus Point water feature rolls on. Eastbourne Borough Council (EBC) commissioned



an independent survey of the feature and has received the report. It is tying up a few loose ends and necessary formalities before publication. The Water Feature Action Group (WFAG) met EBC representatives on Tuesday 27th November to discuss the conclusions.

On Wednesday 21st November, the water feature was shown in the BBC's Watchdog Daily TV programme.

For the latest information, visit: www.waterfeature.eu

Special Offers from Bright Ideas



In the run-up to Christmas, Bright Ideas at the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront has some very tempting offers on leather gloves, evening shoes and boots.

They have also produced their own range of Christmas cards, the design of which, we are assured, have been endorsed by Lucky the cat, who makes a cameo appearance on one of them.

Cards, which can be viewed on: www.brightideaseastbourne.com/ChristmasCards can be purchased singly, or in packs of eight and, for every card you buy, you will get one card free.



Plumbing & Heating

Proudly supporting
Eastbourne Lifeboats

PR Plumbing and Heating is a Gas Safe registered company offering plumbing and heating services including:

- Boiler installation, servicing and repairs
- Bathroom and kitchen plumbing works
- Heating system installation and repairs



07967 015670



prplumbing@tiscali.co.uk



507046

More Special Offers for SHRA Members

Pasha
Eastbourne

Pasha, the modern Turkish restaurant and cocktail bar in South Street in the Town Centre, is offering a special deal for members of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association.

From Sunday to Thursday, if you mention SHRA when booking your table, you will, on arrival, receive a complementary meze to get your meal off to a good start.

However, to take advantage of this offer, you will need to produce your membership card.

For more information on Pasha, and to view its extensive menu and wine list, visit: www.pashaeastbourne.com.

See the enclosed leaflet for Pasha's Christmas and New Year menus.



Full Throttle Charters, is offering SHRA members a 10% discount on its one hour, "You Drive" powerboat experiences, and on its half hour speed boat rides.

Starting from the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront, these trips are suitable for all ages.

For more information this offer, or Full Throttle's other services, call Will on:

01424-442729 or 07876-135911.

E-mail:

contact@fullthrottleboatcharters.com

or visit:

www.fullthrottleboatcharters.com

Say "YES" to Superfast Broadband



Despite repeated denials from staff at East Sussex County Council, it is now clear that Sovereign Harbour was excluded from the plan to roll out the "Infinity" fibre optic superfast broadband network to Eastbourne. Enquiries to BT have also shown that there are no current plans, and no future commitment to do so.

It has become very clear recently that the harbour broadband network has become heavily over-used, with line speeds steadily dropping, especially on the North Harbour.

HDTV services, which are being heavily promoted by service providers, require line speeds of 10-24 mbps. Following a request by the SHRA for residents to check line speeds, results have shown that speeds range from around 2 mbps to 9 mbps, making many services, totally out of reach to most harbour residents.

The broadband network is much like a water main. If you are close to the source, you get great pressure, but this drops off consistently the further away you are. At times of high demand, as more users turn on the tap, the greater the pressure drop at the end of the line. The only way to improve the service is to put in a wider pipe and increase the speed of the pump. A fibre optic broadband network provides a much wider pipe and greatly increased flow.

Recent improvements to the Eastbourne Pevensy Marina telephone exchange seem to have provided an improvement in line speeds of about 25%, with less fluctuation but, even this still falls well below acceptable levels.

With the rapid increase in interactive internet applications, mobile devices and "smart TV" availability, nothing short of a full-blown fibre optic network

will deliver a fast and reliable service.

East Sussex County Council has now woken up to the situation and has set out to install superfast broadband across the county. However, to secure a supplier, homes and businesses need to register their interest in having faster, more reliable broadband.

Your registration will provide clear evidence that there is a high demand for faster, more reliable broadband across East Sussex, making it a more attractive proposition for telecoms companies to install the necessary infrastructure.

Registering your support does not mean you will have to subscribe to the service when it's launched, but saying "Yes to superfast broadband" will directly help everyone in East Sussex to receive faster, more reliable broadband.

Register an interest on the go e-sussex website: www.goesussex.co.uk.

Christmas at the Haven Church

The Haven Church sends warmest Christmas greetings to all Sovereign Harbour residents.

You are welcome to join them to celebrate the Good News of Christmas this year. All are welcome and they look forward to seeing you at some of their events.

The Church meets in The Haven School on Atlantic Drive.

Sunday 16th December at 4pm.
All Age Christingle.

Sunday 23rd December at 10am.
Interactive Nativity Service.

Saturday 24th December at 8pm.
Carols by Candlelight.

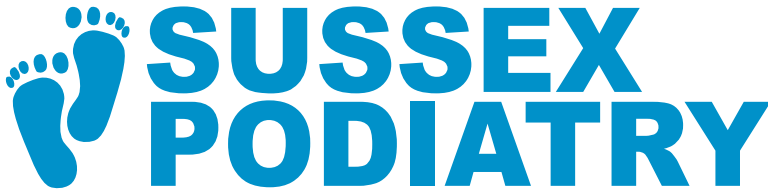
Sunday 25th December at 10am.
Family Christmas Day Service.

For more details, contact John Brook:

Telephone: 01323-325989

E-mail: john@thehavenchurch.org.uk,

Website: www.thehavenchurch.org.uk



A friendly, family run, home visiting chiropody and podiatry service

Julia Price Bsc(Hons) MChS - **07876 632733**
julia@sussexpodiatry.com - www.sussexpodiatry.com

Harbour Community Association (Charity No: 1146249) Update



Harbour neighbourhood, which is why a Community Centre, of a suitable size to meet the community needs, is vital.

In the meantime if you want to try something different why not come along to the Haven School in Atlantic Drive on the South Harbour (term time only) on a Thursday Evening from 6:45pm – 9:00pm and join our Short Mat Bowls group. Cost is just £4 per session, no membership fees, with free tea and coffee.

Come along and take the opportunity to meet new friends. Never played? Not sure about it? - Well give it a try – we will show you how to play, and loan you woods. The short mat bowls web page has photographs and video to show you what it's all about, why not take a look?

We had a very successful indoor BBQ in July - yes indoor – gazebos were up, BBQ ready and it poured with rain so everything was moved inside.

We will shortly be holding our annual Christmas drinks and nibbles event, and are currently planning social activities for 2013. So make Thursday, January 10th 2013 a definite date in your new diary and come along and join us for the first short mat bowls session of the New Year.

For more information, or if you have an idea for starting up a new activity, please e-mail info@sh-ca.org, leave a message on: 07770-621368 or visit: www.sh-ca.org.

We are pleased to report that since the Harbour Community Association achieved charitable status in April 2012, the Charity Commission has now approved the change of name with immediate effect to **Sovereign Harbour Community Association (SHCA)**.

As well as a change of name, the association now has its own website, www.sh-ca.org, which we hope you will visit.

The long term aim of the Association is to bring together the various groups and individuals working to provide a variety of community activities, in preparation for the anticipated delivery of the long-awaited Sovereign Harbour Community Centre.

The Association's Management Committee is keen to see a variety of activities based on the needs of the community as well as, where possible, supporting other groups operating within the Harbour. This is done within the constraints of a severe shortage of affordable venues within the Sovereign

Harbour WI (by Judy Latter)

Christmas came early for Ladies of the Harbour WI when, on the 13th November, twenty members of the Diners' Club went to The Marine pub in Eastbourne for lunch. The pub has a reputation for its Christmas lights – and it didn't disappoint; it was like Santa's Grotto! There are so many festive lights and decorations, there's no need for heating! They enjoyed a very pleasant lunch in delightful surroundings.

The previous day, the AGM was attended by 71 of the 108 members; a very good turn out considering the foul weather. All the existing committee stood for re-election apart from the Minutes Secretary, Wendy Roberts, who was thanked for her work over the last three years, and presented with a plant by President, Gill Nokes. Four new committee members were also elected for the coming year and Gill Nokes agreed to carry on as President. She was presented with a President's Brooch in Sterling Silver from the members as a thank you for all her hard work.

The meeting continued on a lighter note with Christine Bateman, assistant Treasurer, talking to the Ladies about a course she had attended at Denman College called 'Dressing With Style'. She demonstrated the different styles that we all come under using four Ladies who had also attended the course!

Coffee at the 'Grand' proved very popular again on 8th November; nearly fifty members turned up for coffee and pastries and a good old "chinwag".

The Craft Club meets at Pevensey Bay Baptist Church on the third Monday of every month. Christine French carried on the Christmas theme by showing how to make Gift Boxes; and the Fourth Monday Club will meet in Simply Italian for an afternoon of 'Spot that Tune'.

The Harbour WI is hosting a carol service at St. Luke's Church, Stone Cross on 7th December and the Christmas Lunch has

been booked again at Cooden Beach Hotel for the 14th December, so a busy month coming up.

The Harbour WI 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 10th December when 'A Magical Victorian Christmas' with speaker John Schofield will be celebrated.

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

Haven Beacon PTFA Update by Wendy Smith

The Haven Beacons Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) would like to pass on their thanks to the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association for its invaluable support in the organisation of the Firework Event held on 10th November.

We would also like to say a big thank you to the members of the SHRA, the Sovereign Harbour Rotary Club, the Maritime Volunteer Service and the Sovereign Harbour Community Association who came to help us marshal the event on the night; without them, the event could not have gone ahead.

We are pleased to announce that we made £665 to provide extra resources for the pupils at The Haven VA CE and Methodist Primary School.

Thank you to everyone within the local community who came along to support this, and our other events, it is really appreciated.

Our next event is our annual Christmas Cake Sale, which will be held on Friday 7th December, starting at 3pm.

For more information, visit:
www.shra.co.uk/events.html



Richard's Property Maintenance
 Plumbing and Electrical
 City & Guilds Qualified
 Tiling, Painting, Decking and Handyman Jobs
 Mob: 07909 791456 Phone: 01323 479082

Sovereign Polyphony Christmas Programme



Sovereign Polyphony will, as usual be entertaining the public with their annual Christmas concerts.

The ladies, who are all fully sighted, raise funds for the visually impaired through their sponsored charity, the Eastbourne Blind Society.

Their programme starts on Sunday 9th December with a "Festive Fanfare", which will take place in the All Saints' Chapel.

You can also listen to the "Festive Fanfare" on Friday 14th December in Saint Luke's Church, Stone Cross.

Tickets, at just £5 can be purchased from members, or at the door at each venue, from 7:10pm. The concert starts at 7:45pm, refreshments will be available.

On Wednesday 12th December, the company will, as has become traditional, be entertaining evening diners at Simply Italian at the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront.

The concert, "12.12.12", will be a mixture of Christmas Carols and songs to get the audience into the party mood. This annual concert, which has been extremely popular in recent years is free to diners, although contributions are, as always, gratefully received. Simply Italian also makes a contribution to the charity for each diner at the event.



These concerts are a great way to start your Christmas festivities, whilst supporting a very worthy cause.

For more information, visit:
www.sovereignpolyphony.com.

RNLI Update

by Bob Jeffery

When it was announced last year that we were to receive a new lifeboat, we set ourselves the task of raising £100,000 locally towards the £2.7 million build cost. With the year coming to an end we are optimistic that we will exceed our target by some margin. One of the most gratifying things to come from the appeal, despite the current economic climate, has been the overwhelming support from all sections of the community.

We have been amazed at the number of anonymous donations we have received and the amount of corporate organisations that have chosen to support our charity. The latest contribution was from the Mountney Brownie pack who have been staging events all through the summer and presented us with a cheque for over £1100 this weekend. This was a magnificent effort by such a small group and is typical of the fantastic support we have received all year.



We undertook one of our more unusual rescues on 6th November when two engineers became stranded on the Sovereign Light Tower, six miles offshore from the harbour. Their support vessel suffered a mechanical failure whilst transferring them and their provisions to the tower, and they were left clinging to the structure.

The support vessel contacted Dover Coastguard requesting our help. The lifeboat was on scene within a few minutes and plucked the anxious couple to safety and then towed the support vessel back to Sovereign Harbour.



The last time we had a similar event was when the Beachy Head lighthouse was manned and we had to collect an injured keeper and take him back to the station for treatment.

On Sunday 9th December at 2:30pm, along with the band from the Salvation Army, we will be staging our annual "Carols with the Crew" with our new lifeboat alongside the Waterfront. This year the emphasis will be on a "good ol' sing-along" of everyone's favourite Christmas Carols followed by mince pies and hot drinks.

The crew are not known for their pure singing voices, so if there are any choirs out there who would care to join us they would be more than welcome.

Have a safe and happy Christmas from all the crew.

Bob Jeffery
Press Officer for Eastbourne Lifeboats



ROSS & CO

Regulated by RICS

Chartered Surveyors & Property Management

- Building Surveys and Reports.
- Specialists in Residential Block Management with over 25 years' experience.
- Commercial Estate Agents.
- Commercial and Residential Valuations.
- Specialist advice on Health & Safety, Fire Safety and Asbestos.



Eastbourne Office Tel: 01323 642426

www.rossandco.co.uk

Established 1982

Community Police Update by PC Ed Faulkner



PC Ed Faulkner
07787-685813



PCSO Martin Hylands
07909-873787

Sadly, we have suffered a rise in the number of burglaries, both of homes and sheds, in recent weeks.

Whilst the Harbour has been immune to this rise, we have seen a number of incidents close by in Langney Point and beyond.

With the darker evenings I cannot stress enough the need to check that all outbuildings are locked and secure, and all tools and other items are kept safe. Many burglars are pure opportunists so please be mindful.

I also want to raise the importance of maintaining your vehicles during winter months. We will be out conducting drink/drive checks in the coming weeks, but also checking people have cleared all ice and mist from their windscreens when setting off in the morning.

Road safety is important, especially when roads are slippery and icy, please consider others safety as well as your own.

The neighbourhood Police team holds regular surgeries outside Bright Ideas on the Waterfront to give local residents the opportunity to meet their local Neighbourhood Police Constables and PCSOs, to discuss any concerns they may have, or simply to say hello. We look forward to meeting you.

Surgery dates are published on the events calendar of the SHRA website and on the Eastbourne Neighbourhood Panel website, www.eastbournenp.org.

Finally we would like to wish all residents a happy festive period from all of us at Sussex Police.

Coworking:

More than just affordable office space



When moving their contact centre software company, Qology, to Eastbourne, Stuart and Laura Lambert were disappointed with the lack of quality, affordable office space for small businesses. So they set out to fix the problem.

The result is Cohub, an open-plan, air-conditioned space, kitted out with a variety of flexible desks and all the facilities you'd expect to find in a modern workspace, providing a sociable and collaborative working environment right next door to Eastbourne railway station.

Twenty-four hour access, no minimum term and use of a well-equipped meeting room mean members can treat Cohub as their own office but without the expense or commitment associated with a traditional lease or licence.

Stuart and Laura have made using Cohub as easy as possible, from providing ample stationery items right through to plenty of chalkboards to sketch and share ideas. This comes as part of a simple flat rate membership plan that includes business rates, utility bills and all other costs associated with running an office.

But physical space is only a small part of what Cohub offers. Stuart and Laura's primary aim is to sustain a community of like-minded individuals working

alongside each other and collaborating.

"Cohub is where ideas are formed, fleshed out and answered by a great community of people," observes IT technologist and project manager, Neal. "It's the best bits of an office all rolled into one for work, banter and fun."

Other individuals already signed up to the £85 + VAT monthly membership plan include those operating in sectors such as software and mobile app development, central government and the water industry, all of whom are looking for a more productive working environment.

"Working from home can be lonely," Justine, a freelance editor, points out. "Cohub gives me a friendly and comfortable space to connect with other freelance workers, while creating an atmosphere where I can get my head down and do some serious work."

Cohub's membership is also varied in terms of experience, ranging from semi-retired consultants through to entrepreneurs in pre-start up mode such as Shaun, MD of "jobsonthego" and "Brightn Magazine".

"Working on both a community-based magazine and a big data-powered mobile job site means I run into numerous road blocks or decisions to make every day," explains Shaun. "Having other people around me at Cohub gives me plenty of second opinions and ideas that I wouldn't necessarily come up with working alone."

Stuart and Laura would like to extend an offer to all the independent workers of Sovereign Harbour to come and experience the benefits of coworking for a day, for free. This can be whenever is convenient for you, just drop them an email at hello@cohub.co.uk or give them a call on 01323 707500 and they will happily arrange this for you.

To find out more about Cohub visit www.cohub.co.uk or follow @cohub on Twitter.

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
www.weclarkandson.co.uk
sales@weclarkandson.co.uk

JEWELLER
W·E·CLARK & SON
established 1819

Harbour Friends Update

(by Elaine de Biracli Levy)



Do you know what a strike and a split conversion are? It's surprising what you learn on a Harbour Friends trip out.

It took more than a touch of cold weather to put off a group of sixteen Harbour Friends members from taking part in an enjoyable evening of ten pin bowling at Ocean Bowl Bexhill on the 28th October.

Friendly competition combined with a nice meal added up to a good evening's entertainment. Prizes were awarded to all levels and the lower the score you got, the more fun it became. Charles Herrod took top score, with a tie for second place taken by Trevor Jarvis and Grant Jones. Keeping up the competition Linda Hawkins (first) and Sue Jones (second) ably demonstrated the power and strategy of the lady members. Well done to all.

Future events:

A Special General Meeting was held at the Yacht Club on Wednesday 21st

November at 7pm. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the Constitution: all Members were invited. After the brief meeting, Dave Hawkins hosted a Mystery Quiz.

What's the mystery? Well, why not come along and find out. Cost £1 per person; a chance to enjoy some Christmas spirit.

The Jigsaw Choir will be performing a selection of songs and carols at the Yacht club on 9th December at 7:30pm, the event will be in aid of the JPK project.

Bookings for the Christmas meal at the Langham have closed and the event is fully booked. An evening in the company of friends enjoying a good meal with the added bonus of music and chance to have a 'flutter', what could be better?

Events planned for the New Year include 'Call my bluff' and 'Who doesn't want to be a millionaire?'

For something different. Tony Flood, former Fleet Street journalist and Sky Television executive will give a talk to the members about the secrets of big name stars from the worlds of show business and sport. Date and time to be confirmed

All events are open to members. Not a member? If you live on the Harbour, why not join. Singles as well as couples are more than welcome.

The group meets every Wednesday evening at the Yacht Club. Membership is only £14 per year.

For more information contact Jilly Smith on 01323-470366 or Brenda Newland on 01323-470114.

**Want to improve Your Fitness -
Special Offer for SHRA Members**

**SDC Alumni – A new network for
ex-students of Sussex Downs College**

The logo for Boxercise, featuring the word "BOXERCISE" in a bold, blue, stylized font with a registered trademark symbol, set against a yellow background.

Classes at The Natural Fitness Centre

If you're looking to lose weight, tone up and improve your fitness, then Boxercise or TRX group classes will help, push and motivate you while having fun and are suitable for men and women of all ages, shapes, sizes and fitness levels. You'll build lean muscle so your body burns twice as much fat.

Besides the body transformation you'll experience, the biggest achievement is the sense of satisfaction and accomplishment of feeling and looking good. Your energy levels will soar and your stress levels will drop. Along with an increase in your stamina and strength, your body fat will decrease. If you are serious about your weight loss/fitness goals come give it a go!

Or, If you looking for something a little tougher, **Fitness BootCamp**, Eastbourne Seafront:

For men and women of all ages, shapes, sizes and fitness levels, Bootcamps will get the very best out of you. They are held outdoors on the Seafront with lots of motivation, hard work and fun to get you moving, elevate your heart rate and build lean muscle so your body burns twice as much fat. We use a variety of equipment, including; medicine balls, kettle bells and sometimes, telegraph poles. The most important thing for you to bring is a positive, can-do attitude and desire to have fun with others just like you!

Fancy giving either a go, then give Jason Hull a call on 07842-918311

Exclusive Special Offer for SHRA Members - two for the price of one or Bring a friend FREE for first month!

Did you attend Sussex Downs College? Or study at one of its predecessor schools or colleges, such as Park College, ECAT, Eastbourne Grammar and High School, Lewes Tertiary College or Eastbourne College of Further Education?

If so, Sussex Downs College would love to hear from you!

Sussex Downs has recently launched its own alumni network for former students of the college to join, and the college is interested in getting in contact with its ex-students and finding out what they are doing now.

'SDC Alumni' offers ex-students the chance to keep in touch with the college, find out about news, events and courses, volunteer, receive updates on jobs and apprenticeships, and gain access to exclusive alumni discounts and promotions locally.

The college is also interested in hearing from any ex-students who run businesses which might be able to offer work experience placements or apprenticeships, or who would be interested in promoting their business to other alumni members.

The network is free to join and open to all former students of Sussex Downs College and its predecessor schools and colleges, so get in contact and find out what Sussex Downs can offer you today!

You can sign up online at www.surveymonkey.com/s/sdcalumni or email alumni@sussexdowns.ac.uk for further information.