

# Waterlines



The Newsletter of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association

Issue 72

[www.shra.co.uk](http://www.shra.co.uk)

August, 2013

## A Significant Development for the Harbour



A cross-party initiative by East Sussex County Council, in conjunction with Eastbourne Borough Council, has secured funding of £6.4 million from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) for the construction of an "Innovation Mall" at Sovereign Harbour. The scheme will underpin the first phase of developing the employment land at Sovereign Harbour.

The mall, which will deliver 30,000 sq ft of flexible, serviced, accommodation, and deliver about 300 new jobs, will be located on the land adjacent to Pevensey Bay Road (known as Site Six).

The proposal has a strong strategic fit with SELEP objectives, and addresses the regeneration of a key priority area in Eastbourne. The scheme is ready to be taken forward with all approvals in place; a planning application can be expected within a very short time-frame.

Sovereign Ward County Councillor, David Elkin, said: "This very exciting project is the result of a great deal of hard work by many people within East Sussex County Council working closely with their counterparts in Eastbourne Borough Council. It is an excellent

example of what can be achieved when the benefit to the local economy is put before party political considerations. This is the project that we have been waiting for to “pump-prime” the development of the Sovereign Harbour employment land “.

Eastbourne Council leader, Cllr David Tutt, said: “This is going to be an absolute game changer in terms of the future of Sovereign Harbour and the development of the employment land. It will attract new, high-tech businesses that will be of benefit to the area and of Eastbourne in general. I’m absolutely delighted.”

SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, said: “This is excellent news, and builds on the work done to create the Sovereign Harbour SPD. Our thanks to everybody who has contributed in bringing this excellent project to fruition. It will, I believe, be the catalyst for the creation of the work-life environment that was the vision for Sovereign Harbour”.

The projects will be managed by “Seachange Sussex” and, when it progresses to the planning application stage, updates will be posted on: [www.seachangesussex.co.uk](http://www.seachangesussex.co.uk)

## Fishing Quay for the Harbour



In their response to the consultation on the Sovereign Harbour Ltd (SHL) plans for the completion of the harbour development, residents gave their

overwhelming support for the proposal that Site Three should become a permanent home for the Eastbourne fishing fleet.

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As one of the primary justifications for the construction of a harbour in Eastbourne was to provide this home, it is a very welcome, if overdue, development.

Since the consultation, an association of local fishermen has formed a Community Interest Company (CIC) to take the proposal forward.

Having agreed a price with SHL for the purchase of the site, the fishermen have submitted a planning application (no. 130442), details of which will be published on the Eastbourne Borough Council website for comment.

Current plans allow for a range of traditional black net huts, all built from sustainable and considerate materials, workshops, offices, wet-fish sales and a fishing 'learning centre', perhaps with an aquarium of local fish species.

There will also be a 'fish-market' promenade, and a cuttlefish breeding station to help the local stocks of cuttlefish for the future is being considered.

More details of the plan can be viewed on the Eastbourne Fishermen's website:  
[www.eastbournefishermen.co.uk](http://www.eastbournefishermen.co.uk)

If you have any views on this exciting new development the fishermen would like to hear from you. Contact details can be found on the fishermen's website.

There are 30 to 40 family owned fishing boats operating out of Sovereign Harbour; this number does fluctuate up and down on a regular basis.

Most of the boats are classed as 'small' fishing boats with most being under 10 metres in length. Nearly all the boats are running and operating completely static fishing gear (static nets and pots etc and not beam or net trawling).

This method of fishing is classified as 'low impact' fishing with low environmental damage and has created an extremely successful and stable local industry which can be built-on in the future

The fish and shell-fish landed by the Eastbourne fishing fleet is of a consistently high quality and it is usually, caught, landed and sold on the same day. A great deal of the catch is sold locally and, because of the quality, a high proportion is exported to some of the best restaurants in Europe.

## The Harbour's Latest Attraction

The "VIP opening" of the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront's latest offering, the new deli/bistro, "Seasons", took place on 21st July in glorious Sovereign Harbour sunshine.

Guests, including Stephen Lloyd MP, Cllr Caroline Ansell and Sovereign Ward Councillors, Elkin, Ede, Jenkins and Warner were entertained by the excellent band, "Loose Ends".



Guests seated at the terrace tables were entertained and baffled by the card tricks of magician Richard Bellars who appeared on the Penn and Teller TV show.



Seasons opened to the public at 9:30 on Monday 22nd July and will be open every day.

A wide range of locally sourced products will be available in the deli,

and customers can relax at tables in the bistro, in the comfortable coffee lounge, or outside on the terrace. The Bistro will sell tasting platters of the products available in the deli, so customers can try them before deciding what to buy.

Seasons also stocks a wide range of selected, top quality world wines, including several from England's best vineyards, for drinking on the premises or for home consumption.



Customers may purchase samples of a variety of the wines from state-of-the-art wine dispensers, which keep the wines at peak condition and at the optimal drinking temperature. The wines are available in small (taster) medium or large glasses.

Seasons' future plans include wine evenings at which customers will be able to sample and purchase top quality wines from specialist suppliers.

For further details of products and opening hours, visit the Seasons website: [www.seasonseastbourne.com](http://www.seasonseastbourne.com).

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## Our Best Wishes Rick



In the previous issue of Waterlines, we gave you the good news that Rick Runalls had been accepted onto the board of the Sovereign Harbour Trust.

Unfortunately, due to an unexpected change in his family commitments, Rick's

time will be severely limited and he will now not be able to take up the position; he has also resigned his membership of the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel.

Although Rick will also have to drastically reduce his commitment to the SHRA, he will remain a member of the committee and will be kept involved in developments.

SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, said: "Rick has been a cornerstone of the SHRA since the current committee took office; he was chairman for several years and has always been at the heart of everything the association has engaged in.

I'm delighted that we will still have the benefit of his extensive knowledge, experience and tactical awareness, but of course his personal life and his family must come first.

I'm sure all harbour residents will join me and the rest of the SHRA committee in offering Rick and Christine our best wishes. We hope that their problems will be swiftly resolved."

## Beware Identity Theft

When a harbour resident returned home from a recent holiday, he found some mail that indicated he had recently requested a new replacement credit card. Knowing that he hadn't, he immediately called his bank who said that he had phoned them on a specific day to request one. He denied this, which set the ball rolling for them, and they immediately blocked his card. When he asked how some person was able to do this, they said that certain security questions must have been answered correctly, albeit that was probably just his date of birth and mother's maiden name.

It transpired that this criminal had subsequently made two cash withdrawals at banks in Eastbourne using the correct PIN number, which the resident never divulges and which he is careful to guard when entering it into any machine.

During the following week it became apparent that someone was applying for more credit cards in his name with other banks, fortunately without success. He then received a new card from another of his bank accounts, also unrequested.

The victim of this fraud believes the thief may have targeted his mail box, but has no firm evidence to support it. He is also aware that another resident of the same development has suffered a similar problem.

Until the perpetrator of these crimes is apprehended, take extra care of your personal information and look out for unusual activity on your accounts.

Subsequently, other Sovereign Harbour residents have reported suspicions that their mailboxes have been tampered with. There have also been other incidents of identity theft reported.

Residents are advised to take care with their mail and to report any suspicious activity to Police on 101, or 999 if it is actually happening at the time.

## Cabinet Minister Visits Harbour



*Picture © [www.aspectphotography.net](http://www.aspectphotography.net)*

When cabinet minister, Oliver Letwin, visited Eastbourne on July 15, a visit to Sovereign Harbour was included in his itinerary.

Mr Letwin was joined by the prospective Conservative candidate for the next General Election, Cllr Caroline Ansell, Sovereign Ward councillors, Elkin, Ede, Jenkins and Warner, and SHRA committee members, Jan and Ian Weeks. The group met in Seasons, the new harbour deli/bistro, where staff training in preparation for the opening at the weekend was interrupted to give the visitors a "taster" of what will be available.

Jan Weeks showed Mr Letwin the proposed plans for the completion of the harbour development, explained the SHRA's involvement in the process and outlined the association's vision for the future of the neighbourhood; he was very impressed by what he saw, describing the harbour as "a revelation".

Mr Letwin was also shown plans for the development of "Site Six" and the Innovation Mall, and the proposed fishing wharf on "Site Three", after which he visited both sites.

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## Neighbourhood Clean-up



Roads and verges around Asda superstore at Sovereign Harbour are looking tidier than ever thanks to a community litter pick. Sovereign ward Cllrs, David Elkin and Gordon Jenkins, were joined by Asda staff and the council's new Neighbourhood First advisors to collect any rubbish in the area.

Cllrs Elkin and Jenkins said: "Our new Neighbourhood First teams have made a fantastic impact to communities across Eastbourne and have been very proactive in getting to know residents to understand the issues that matter to them. We were delighted to join the team and Asda's dedicated staff to help keep the superstore looking neat and tidy. We would encourage residents with any concerns about their neighbourhood to contact the council's Customer First team on 01323 410000."

Jan Weeks, Chair of the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel, also took part in the event; she said: "This area attracts a large number of visitors, so keeping it clean and attractive is very important. It was really good to see the Neighbourhood First team working with a local business and ward councillors for the benefit of the local community."

## Extra Evening Bus for Harbour



Stagecoach is providing an extra evening journey on Route 51 on Mondays to Fridays from Terminus Road (departs at 21:35) to Bridgemere, terminating at Tesco Roundabout. Customers from Sovereign Harbour North benefit from the route 99 journey at 2210, which is diverted to serve Pacific Drive.

For a day out, don't forget that route 252 now runs through to Tunbridge Wells (calling at the Spa Valley Railway) every two hours on Sundays and Bank Holidays

## Harbour Friends Update

(by Elaine de Biracli Levy)

Another couple of successful months for Harbour Friends. My...the time goes quickly when you are having fun!

Since the last issue, Harbour Friends have continued to band together for the greater good; well figuratively speaking, but it can be said that they are not about to let the grass grow under their feet before dancing on it.

Skittles night on the 13th July at the Royal Oak, Barcombe turned out as successful once more. The coach picked up 29 Harbour Friends and whisked them to Barcombe for an evening of skittles, a delicious buffet and a lot of fun. Considering that this was supposed to be a non competitive evening, the competition was fierce. In the end Gilly Smith took away the ladies prize, with Linda Hawkins in second place. The Gentlemen's (if we can call them that) prize was won by Trevor Jarvis, second place going to Dave Hawkins. A big thank you to the Royal Oak for yet another good evening.

Harbour Friends went to the dogs...well the Greyhound Racing at Brighton, on 9th June. It was so successful that there have been numerous requests to repeat the episode. A little flutter combined with great food from a comprehensive choice and reasonably priced drinks made a good day. There were even rumours that a little private sweepstake took place but I cannot confirm this.

A fun quiz held at the Yacht club was hosted by Brian Drewett and Anton Levy on 26th July and produced a prize of £28 which was donated to charity. The winners (we know who you are) are reminded that it's their turn to do the next quiz and we wait with bated breath to see what they come up with. One request - nothing too difficult please.

The Moorings meal on 10th August is fully booked and has been for some while. It just goes to show how popular

that restaurant is. Really looking forward to this.

Brian and Jackie Drewett will be hosting another sightseeing trip. This time by train to Rye on 15th October. The last trip to Hasting was so successful that members have been requesting more. For further information, please contact Brian on 01323 479180.

Future events.

A late summer BBQ is still in the planning stage also a Race Night and a Dinner at the Langham. Watch this space for further details.

## RNLI Update

by Bob Jeffery



So far this year we have been the busiest we have ever been. Our volunteer crews have launched an incredible 98 times, 52 for the all-weather lifeboat and 46 for the inshore boat, all this and the school holidays have barely begun which is traditionally the period during which we are most likely to be needed.

The majority of our calls have been to vessels suffering some sort of mechanical failure but we have also responded to medical evacuations at sea, vessels caught in carelessly deployed fishing gear and to people either being cut off by the tide or in difficulties off our beaches.

One of our more high profile rescues recently was when we were tasked to collect an injured crewman needing



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hospital treatment from a luxury 73 metre cruiser which was on passage to Gibraltar.

We are all becoming increasingly dependent on our mobile phones but we don't always appreciate their shortcomings. We have had several instances recently when people under the shadow of the cliffs between Cow Gap and Birling Gap have had no signal and are unable to call for help or report sightings of people in trouble.

Being cut off by the rising tide in these areas is a case in point. It is vital, especially if we have house guests or are hosting students, that we make our visitors aware of tide times before they set out on walks along the beach. Remember the tides are rising and falling almost 8 metres at the moment and it's very easy to get backed up against the cliffs with nowhere to escape. These times are widely published locally and on our station website at: [www.eastbournernli.org.uk](http://www.eastbournernli.org.uk).

So far this summer we have been tasked twice to youngsters getting into difficulties in inflatable dinghies which have been blown out to sea in offshore winds. If you must buy these things please tie them to something solid on the beach with a length of strong twine or better still hold on to it yourself so that if things go wrong you can haul your kids back to safety. Stay safe and enjoy the sea.

**Coffee and Prayers**  
by Jan Say



My name is Jan Say and I would like to start up a group, "Coffee and Prayers", in the harbour.

It will be a place of friendship, where we can be ourselves, talk about life, the universe etc, over a cup of coffee or tea.

We would meet roughly once a month and there will be a short prayer at the end of the meeting.

If you are interested please email: [coffeandprayers@outlook.com](mailto:coffeandprayers@outlook.com) or text 07941-077574.

## Community Police Update

by PC Ed Faulkner



**PC Ed Faulkner**  
07787-685813

**PCSO Martin Hylands**  
07909-873787

There has been a concerning increase in the number of thefts from letter boxes in communal areas of apartment blocks all around the Harbour.

It would appear that residents are continuing to “buzz” people in through communal doors without checking their identity properly. This allows unknown people into private places and allows access to car parks, letter boxes, and unoccupied flats.

If you are not sure who is ringing your buzzer, do not let them in. This is the best way to keep your property, and your neighbours property safe.

Also, this month, we are renewing our efforts on keeping the roads of the Harbour safe. You should notice the new “SID” machine appearing in various locations.



This gives each driver their speed on a large display notifying them whether they are over the speed limit or not.

We have used it in Pacific Drive so far, and the worst offender was a taxi, travelling at 47 mph! The vehicle details were taken and action is being looked at.

This device is there to make drivers aware of their speed, not just to issue tickets. Our aim is to make the roads safer, not just to fine people. Please help us in this endeavour.

## South Harbour Water Feature

by Water Feature Action Group

In early July, just before a scheduled meeting between EBC and the developer Persimmon Homes to discuss the water feature's future, Persimmon commenced repainting the inside surface of the feature a rather vivid 'lido' blue and repairing the electrics. This was done without consultation with the local residents who had asked that any work on the feature should wait until after the planned discussion with EBC, and who would have suggested that a different colour or more subtle shade would have looked nicer and may have helped discouraged paddling and vandalism.



After the meeting between EBC and Persimmon had taken place, representatives of the Water Feature Action Group (W FAG) and members of Columbus Point Residents Association (CPRA), along with local councillor Gordon Jenkins, met with EBC planning officials on Tuesday 16 July for a report back.

## Haven Beacon PTFA Update

by Wendy Smith

EBC told us that Persimmon said they were sorry that residents were not informed about the repaint in advance and were mystified why this had not happened as it had been their intention. They said that Persimmon would write to property owners to inform them of their plans to repair the feature

Persimmon told EBC they had noted the result of the CPRA poll which identified the wish to decommission and landscape the area, but preferred to keep the water feature going and had decided to carry out all the work identified in the survey report necessary to bring the feature back to full working order – hence the start they had made on the painting. Additional tasks will include replacing the UV water filters, changing the internal lighting to LED fittings, and other work at a total cost of some £200,000. Persimmon also told EBC that they were anxious to move things forward and indicated their willingness to meet with residents' representatives for further discussions on the feature.

In view of the fact that Persimmon are not going to decommission the feature, EBC asked us to let them know what we now wanted from Persimmon so that they could communicate that to them. A joint W FAG/CPRA letter seeking clarification on a comprehensive number of issues including the repairs, guarantees, covenants, charges etc. has been sent and can be read on the W FAG web site.

Latest: Affected property owners have received letters from managing agents Fell Reynolds informing us that they have been appointed to manage the water feature and enclosing a proposed budget (at a cost of around £475 per property) and a schedule of works. Although the FR letter sheds some light on the work to be done, we are not clear about the status of this letter or the validity of the proposed budget. W FAG and CPRA will circulate further advice to local residents shortly.

For further background and the latest news see the W FAG website: [www.waterfeature.eu](http://www.waterfeature.eu)

The cloudy weather didn't deter visitors to the Haven School PTFA Summer Fete on Saturday 20th July.

The PTFA members were supported by members of the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour and the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association committee, who manned stalls and helped with other activities.



As always, there were many super prizes in the Summer Raffle, including a 1st Prize of £100, a second prize of £50 and a Kindle e-reader donated by the SHRA; the PTFA thanks the local businesses and organisations that donated the prizes.



Other attractions included; Brighton & Hove Football Club; Eastbourne Fire Brigade; Punch & Judy; BBQ; Dance Display; Tombola; Cake Stall; Tea and Coffee; Bouncy Castle. All-in-all, the day raised a total of £1,218, most of which will be used to buy books for the school's new library.

## Harbour WI Update

by Judy Latter

Decorating cup cakes kept 12 Ladies from Harbour W.I. Craft club very busy when they met on the 17th June.

Under instructions from member, Heather Hyrapiet they had great fun with sugar paste, paint, dusting powder and all of Heather's many stamps and moulds! It was all edible but ended up looking too pretty to eat! The Craft Club is held on the third Monday of each month at Pevensey Bay Baptist Church. Next month they are being shown how to do 'Blackwork Embroidery' by Christine French,

At the meeting on the previous Monday the Ladies held a minutes silence in memory of Maureen Chesterman, a founder member and former committee member who died suddenly on the 19th May. Maureen was a fun loving member with a wicked sense of humour and will be very much missed.

Approximately 70 Ladies met for the June Meeting with a speaker from the Kent, Sussex and Surrey Air Ambulance telling the Ladies all about the great work carried out by the Charitable Trust with photographs and illustrations. The second half of the meeting had one of their own members, Jenny Walker, who gave a very lively account of her life as an artist in Art Design.

Social Secretary, Beryl Lloyd-Jones told the Ladies about events past and for the future. The outing to Canterbury on the 4th June was very enjoyable. The Fourth Monday Club is held in Simply Italian. This month they intend holding a 'Scrabble afternoon'.

The Lunch Club went to The Smugglers in Pevensey on the 19th June and have a Cream Tea in member, Jan Field's garden on the 24th July with proceeds going to St. Wilfred's Hospice. A Chef's Demo and Lunch at the Langham Hotel is

on the 14th August and a trip to the theatre is planned for 15th August to see 'Priscilla Queen of the Desert' at the Congress Theatre. With a visit to Winchester Christmas Market and the Christmas Lunch already earmarked for Cooden Beach Hotel, the Ladies have a busy time ahead.

The Harbour W.I. meets in the Sovereign Suite of the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club on the second Monday of the month at 2pm. The meeting on the 8th July will bring back a very popular speaker, poet Joan Harding to give a talk entitled 'World beyond Poetry'.

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.

## Changes to Street Lighting



Street lighting in East Sussex is changing. In Eastbourne, all existing yellow and orange lights will be converted to white LED lights. It is also proposed that some of these lights will be dimmed between midnight and the early hours.

These lights have been successfully trialled in other areas of the county and have been shown to:

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- Reduce long term maintenance costs
- Reduce light pollution

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### Special Offers for Residents



Move Sussex Estate Agents have recently launched their new division "Harbour Homes", specialising in residential sales in Sovereign Harbour. With over 30 years combined estate agency experience, Adam Rogers and his team at Move Sussex have recently been joined by Clive McGrane, a resident of Sovereign Harbour and former solicitor. Clive has enjoyed a successful start in his new role as Harbour Homes sales representative and sales progression expert.

Move Sussex provides a low fee, high quality, full estate agency service, including a special offer selling fee of just 0.5% + No VAT, available to all harbour residents, which includes advertising on RightMove the No.1 property website. For more information, call Adam or Clive on 01323 482234. [www.movesussex.com](http://www.movesussex.com).



The Green Room Productions presents "Just Joyce" a one-woman show (with a pianist) celebrating Joyce Grenfell's witty and wonderful writing. With all the pieces you love and remember, and some you may not have heard before, it promises to be an evening of nostalgia, fun and laughter.

This will be performed at The Under Ground Theatre, Eastbourne, from August 22nd – 24th 2013, 7:30pm (including a Saturday matinee at 3pm). Tickets can be purchased online, or in person at the Eastbourne Tourist Information or at The Under Ground Theatre. For further details visit: [www.thegreenroomproductions.co.uk](http://www.thegreenroomproductions.co.uk)