

# Waterlines



The Newsletter of the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association

Issue 73

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

October, 2013

## Progress at Last



On 2nd October, the exciting plans for the development of "Site Three" proposed by the Eastbourne Fishermen, were considered by the Eastbourne Borough Planning Committee.

As this publication was already with the printer at that time, we are unable to let you know the outcome. However, as these proposals received considerable support from residents at the recent public consultation, and as the report presented to the committee by the planning offices recommended approval, we hope that the first step in the delivery of the project is now in place.

Way back in 1980 when the Eastbourne Harbour Act was debated in Parliament, a major justification for the harbour's construction was to provide a permanent home for Eastbourne's fishing fleet. It is difficult to believe that it has taken 33 years for this objective to be realised and, even now, only because the fishermen were forced to act under the threat of eviction from the site.

It was originally intended for the fishermen to be located in the inner basin of the Outer Harbour, however this would require substantial dredging works to be undertaken. This, plus the cost of providing pontoons and access to the higher level spit, made it clearly unviable.

The proposed development will comprise buildings, with storage and chiller space, office accommodation on the upper floors, and a separate Visitor Centre.

The Sovereign Harbour SPD confirms that the preferred option for Site Three is to provide a permanent home for the fishermen, to enable them to land their catch and to store their equipment. In addition, it is considered the site would also be suitable for associated and ancillary uses such as fresh fish sales.

There is still much to do, not least in securing the necessary funding. Work is underway to secure match funding from the EU and, with a fair wind, this project will soon be enhancing the attraction of Sovereign Harbour for residents and visitors.

## Harbour Development Completion

Despite all the good news earlier in the year, harbour residents have seen very little progress towards the completion of the harbour development. However, although things are not moving as quickly as we would hope, the wheels are still turning slowly in the background.

Following further discussions with the SPD working group, it is expected that Sovereign Harbour Ltd will be presenting its planning application for the development of the remaining harbour sites, including the very long awaited community centre.



Once submitted, the application will be subject to a further thirteen weeks of public consultation. During this period, officers of Eastbourne Borough Council will be working with residents and the developers to complete a legal agreement that will ensure the development is sustainable and will incorporate all of the promised community facilities.

We are also told that work is progressing well towards the submission of an application for the development of "Site Six", which will include the Sovereign Harbour Innovation Mall, and other employment opportunities.

Last, but by no means least, progress grinds on towards the delivery of the cross harbour bus link. This has been a painfully slow process, not least because the proposed route crosses land owned by three different owners, all of whom are intent on protecting their own commercial interests.

We have been assured, however, that all interests appear to have been satisfied and work will start as soon as the legal documentation has been finalised.

## Hearing Link

Seasons, the new deli/bistro on the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront was the venue on the afternoon of 11th September for a charity cheese and wine event in support of the harbour based charity, Hearing Link.

The event, which was attended by the Mayor of Eastbourne, Cllr Mike Thompson, and a number of his council colleagues, culminated with a charity auction, with Cllr Caroline Ansell wielding the gavel, which raised over £500.



Hearing Link, which is a national charity, aims to achieve the best quality of life for adults affected by hearing loss, whose main method of communication is speech.

The charity's remit is to ensure that people living with hearing loss can find the information they need, the specialist services they require, and the social contact they want in order to live well with hearing loss. It also seeks to represent the views, experiences and concerns of people with hearing loss and their partners, family and friends.

Hearing Link's Chief Executive, Dr Lorraine Galley, said, "The £500 raised was a great result. I would like to thank everybody who supported the event which I'm sure has raised our profile within the town."

For more information on Hearing Link, visit: [www.hearinglink.org](http://www.hearinglink.org).

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## Sovereign Harbour Community Association (SHCA) Update



Since the Sovereign Harbour Community Association Short Mat Bowls Group restarted after the summer break, a number of new members have joined.

Because of the increased activity, numbers have become too great for the usual two mats and it has been necessary to bring a third mat into operation.

However, there are still opportunities to join this very friendly group, and players at all levels, including beginners will be made very welcome.

After a break from the Eastbourne Sunshine Carnival this year, the SHCA has taken on the task of organising the Sovereign Harbour entry for the 2014 event.

Our first prize in the 2012 carnival shows that we certainly have the talent in the harbour to create a winning entry so, if you have construction or design skills, or would just like to be part of the 2014 team, please e-mail your details to [carnival@sh-ca.org](mailto:carnival@sh-ca.org)

The SHCA will also be sharing the organisation of the 2014 Harbour Walk with the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour. Sponsorship receipts will be shared equally between the two groups and the SHCA share will be used to help fit out the harbour community centre which will, hopefully, soon become a reality.

As in previous years, this walk will take the same 5Km route around the marina and, as before, walkers will be encouraged to bring along their dogs.

If you would like to take part in this event, look out for further information in the December issue of Waterlines.

## Harbour Friends Update (by Dave Hawkins)

The publicity officer for Harbour Friends (Elaine) is unable to provide an update for this issue due to family commitments, so it is up to me as chairman to try and fill Elaine's shoe (sounds a bit risqué!). Anyway, here we go.

Harbour Friends continues to attract new members; no doubt lured in by the welcoming atmosphere, low annual membership fee and wide range of social activities, a sample of which are below.

On Saturday 10th August fifty members "took over" the end section of The Moorings restaurant in Pevensey Bay for a group meal. Although I was personally unable to attend this event, I have been reliably informed that a great time was had by all. Many thanks to Sue Johnston for organising.

Sunday 1st September saw over half the membership gathered at the yacht club for a combined BBQ and race night. Members were treated to a good selection of tasty BBQ food with all the trimmings, followed by a hilarious race night session with human horses, on a course set out across the venue. There were some super stallions, plus a few frivolous fillies, oh yeah and a couple of mares as well, but the less said about that the better! Many thanks to Charles Herrod for some wonderful compering/commentary and also Roger Keirnan and Nick Dawkins for dealing with the tote side. All three must also be praised for their time spent organising the event and setting out the course.

Saturday 15th October is the date set for "Bryan's Railway Rave to Rye" hosted by Bryan and Jackie Drewett. HF members are welcome to join them for this sightseeing trip, where Bryan will be able to provide plenty of local/historic information about this quaint seaside town. For further information, please contact Bryan on 01323 479180.

Other forthcoming events:

On Saturday 26th October 28 members are booked to go to The Langham Hotel

for a dinner dance. Sorry to disappoint, but this event is now fully sold out, however, as it has proved so popular, it is likely to be repeated some time next year

On Wednesday 13th November the winners of one of our previous quiz nights will have the chance to host their own fun (not too difficult) quiz. The good thing about that is it will definitely stop them winning again, so who will be victorious this time? Usual format applies; £1 per person participation fee and a maximum of six persons per team.

Saturday 21st December is the date set for the annual Harbour Friends Christmas Party. A new venue this year (The Afton Hotel) where we expect to see the vast majority of the membership enjoying a festive three course meal with all the trimmings, party favours, crackers, silly hats etc etc before boogieing (is that a word?) the night away with the fun disco. Depending on numbers it is also hoped to provide coach transport. Special cost is £20 per person + £3.50 if coach transport is required. A few places are still available for this event, so if there are any HF members that have not yet shown interest can they please do so asap by emailing me: [harbourfriend@googlemail.com](mailto:harbourfriend@googlemail.com)

New members are always welcome; memberships are renewed each January, at a current cost of only £14 per year (£7 for half year). If anyone would like to join Harbour Friends, why not do it now and enjoy the warm social aspect over the coming darker nights? Last year we had some new members join in the latter part of the year, whose first special event attended was the Christmas party. If you are quick that could be you this year. For more details on membership please enquire by email to [harbourfriend@googlemail.com](mailto:harbourfriend@googlemail.com)



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## Community Police Update by PC Ed Faulkner



**PC Ed Faulkner**    **PCSO Martin Hylands**  
**07787-685813**    **07909-873787**

In early September we welcomed the Police and Crime Commissioner for Sussex, Katy Bourne, to the Harbour.

Mrs Bourne attended the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel. The meeting gave her a useful insight into the area, and went to underline how safe the area continues to be. She has promised to return to the Harbour in the

future to see for herself how things have progressed, and was also keen to hear from any residents about their concerns or views on Policing in Sussex. Details can be found on the Sussex Police website.

In October the public enquiry office at Grove Road Police Station will be relocating to the Eastbourne Borough Council Offices at 1, Grove Road.

Whilst this seems like a major change, in reality it simply means that all the services offered by the Police Station will now be available further down the road.

Police Staff will still be on hand to speak with you about any issues you have from Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm and, should you have matters relevant to the Council, EBC officers will also be there to help.

The move isn't just about saving money, which it will, it is also about closer working between local services to provide a better response to your needs.

In any event you can always contact Police on 101, or via our website.

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## Well Done Tom Carpenter

The SHRA Community Award is presented annually to the Haven School student who is considered to have given most to the local community.

At the Haven School leavers ceremony on 23rd July, SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, presented the 2013 award to Tom Carpenter.



Tom moved to Sovereign Harbour from South London in July 2002, when he was six months old, and has lived here ever since, first in the North Harbour and more recently in the South.

He has been a pupil at The Haven School since Reception year, where he has flourished, and thoroughly enjoyed his time there. Over the years Tom has made many friends all over the harbour and is often seen out playing with his friends at weekends and after school.

He is absolutely delighted to have been awarded the special Resident's award by

the SHRA for demonstrating community and Christian spirit, and for inspiring his fellow students at The Haven.

Tom said "I felt very proud and happy to win this award because I love living in Sovereign Harbour".

## New Man at the Helm



Premier Marinas has appointed Daniel Heckford as the new Manager of Eastbourne's Sovereign Harbour marina. Dan has previously worked for Premier Marinas at Brighton Marina.

Dan's career with Premier began as a Berthing Master at Brighton before going on to become one of the Marina's busy Duty Managers and dealing with all aspects of running the marina.

Andrew Garland, Premier's Area Manager, says: "Dan has great practical, operational and management experience gained from his time working at the UK's largest and busiest marina. We are confident that he will excel in running this award-winning marina.

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### Macmillan Big Coffee Morning



On Friday 27th September, Bermuda Place resident, Marj Pratt, and her friends and neighbours set out their stalls for the Big Coffee Morning in support of the Macmillan Cancer Relief Charity.

For a donation of £5, visitors, were offered unlimited coffee and biscuits and, for a further contribution, could take away a variety of home baked cakes provided by friends, neighbours and local businesses.

People strolling on the outer harbour promenade were also given the opportunity to take advantage of the delights on offer and many passers-by

made generous donations.

Tickets for Macmillan's national raffle were on sale, and there was a brisk trade on the "bring and buy" stall. In total, a very creditable total of £616 was raised on the morning.

Marj said, "This is our first effort at running a coffee morning and we have learned a lot from it. I'm delighted that we raised so much in such a short time and our target for next year's event will be at least £1,000. I'd like to thank all of those who made the day such a success by giving so generously of their time and cash."

One in three of us will get cancer and it's the toughest thing most of us will ever face. If you've been diagnosed with cancer, or a loved one has, you'll want a team of people in your corner supporting you every step of the way.

Macmillan provides practical, medical and financial support, and pushes government for better cancer care.

For more information, or to make a donation, visit: [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk).



Don't forget, if you're in the Town Centre and need a bite to eat, the Hidden Cellar Restaurant in Hyde Gardens offers generous discounts (10% at lunchtime and 15% in the evening) to SHRA members, on production of your membership card.

The Hidden Cellar tries to buy locally and support local businesses. It now also offers takeaway sandwiches and a special early evening set menu.

### Why is Eastbourne so Sunny?



A Daily Mail, reader asked the question: "Why is Eastbourne the sunniest place in Britain?"

The answer was, "Eastbourne holds the record for the most recorded hours of sunshine in a month, set in July 1911, when 383.9 hours were recorded. It often records the most sunshine in a calendar year.

Eastbourne breaks records because of its particular sea breezes, a phenomenon of the Sussex and Hampshire coasts.

On sunny mornings without much wind, the sea breeze starts just off the coast and rolls inland. This causes the air over the sea to sink and so disperse whatever cloud might form – leading to days of clear skies over the beaches.

When resorts crow about their sunshine records, they have the sea breeze to thank".

### Sovereign Polyphony at Christmas



Sovereign Polyphony have finalised their Christmas concert schedule.

- "Festive Fare" in St Luke's Church, Stone Cross on 7th December. Starts at 7:45pm. Admission £5.
- "Simply Carols in Party Mood" at Simply Italian on the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront on 11th December.
- "Festive Christmas Fanfare" in All Saint's Chapel, Meads on 15th December. Starts at 7:45pm. Admission £5.
- Christmas Music, Afternoon Raffle, Christmas Tea at the Ocean View Cafe, Pevensey Bay. 15:30-17:15. Admission £7.50.

Sovereign Polyphony is an all female harmony choir. All proceeds from their concerts go to support the Eastbourne Society.

Full details:

[www.sovereignpolyphony.com](http://www.sovereignpolyphony.com)



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## RNLI Update

by Bob Jeffery

Two of our senior crewmen have recently accepted full-time appointments at RNLI headquarters.

Dave Needham, who many of you will know as the assistant marina manager at Sovereign Harbour, has been selected to join the training team at the RNLI College in Poole.

Dan Guy, mechanic and deputy coxswain here at Eastbourne has accepted the post of Staff Coxswain, this means he will travel the country covering staff holidays and sick leave.

Whilst congratulating the pair on their new posts it does leave Eastbourne short of two very experienced and valued crewmen. Anyone who relishes the thought of being on call 24/7, can get to the lifeboat station within a few minutes of being paged, is prepared and able to drop everything at a moment's notice, go to sea in any conditions day or night and all this for no financial reward should either visit their doctor or call in at the lifeboat station to volunteer.

As reported in the last issue of Waterlines, and recently confirmed in official news releases from RNLI headquarters, we at Eastbourne have been one of the busiest stations throughout the country so far this year.

Fortunately very few of our callouts have developed into life threatening situations but it remains a concern that

people are going to sea apparently inadequately prepared and with equipment that is prone to failure. Perhaps it's because they know we are ready and able to come to their assistance whenever required or maybe it's because they underestimate or are simply unaware of the potential dangers of the sea.

Whatever the reasons, we have been called to many incidents of mechanical failure which, with adequate maintenance, might well have been avoided. Hopefully now that the summer season is drawing to a close boat owners will turn their attention to some serious servicing of their vessels and also hone some of their seamanship skills.



Since the Beachy Head lighthouse is currently being repainted courtesy of a local appeal I thought it appropriate to attach a recent 'before refurbishment' picture with the Inshore Lifeboat at the base.

## Harbour WI Update by Judy Latter

The Ladies of the Harbour W.I. were treated to two speakers at their August meeting. David Marsh ex-Milk Marketing Board scientist gave the Ladies a fascinating talk about the history and progression of milk in our lives. Right from when the Romans made cheese with it – until today when it is an important part of our diet. Nowadays a great deal of our milk comes from France and Poland – daily! – We are not self-sufficient any more, which was quite a shock. We've all got it in our fridges and most of us buy from the supermarkets. They use it as a 'loss leader' to encourage us to shop with them. How we're manipulated! The second speaker was Sylvia Baker, a member of Hove W.I. who carried the Olympic torch last year at the age of 87! She intends to visit as many W.I.s as she can by using her bus pass to tell them about her amazing experience and to raise money for charity. Her journey to the Harbour by bus was certainly memorable. The bus broke down and left her stranded! Then, when she eventually got to the Harbour, she realised that she had left her jacket on the bus!! After a cup of tea and a sit down, Sylvia told the Ladies how her daughter had put her name forward because she had been a swimming teacher. When filling in the application, for 'sexual orientation' she had put – 'past it'! Sylvia said that when the sponsors wrote and told her she had been chosen, they said – "This is your moment to shine", but she said the 'moment' keeps going on and on. She's had the best year of her life. – And raised a lot of money!

August turned out to be a busy month for the Harbour W.I. in spite of there being no Craft Club or 4th Monday Club meetings. These will be resumed in September. The Craft Club will meet at Pevensey Bay Baptist Church on the 16th September to make items to sell for funds for the Club and the 4th Monday Club will meet in Simply

Italian on the 23rd September. The Lunch Club enjoyed a demonstration by Michael Titherington - Head Chef at the Langham Hotel - followed by a delicious lunch on 14th August. We go to the Star at Norman's Bay in September. The Trip to the Congress Theatre to see 'Priscilla Queen of the Desert' on the 15th August finished off the month nicely! Coming up there's an outing to Rye and Tenterden on Thursday the 26th September – Market Day! – And also a trip to the Christmas Markets in Winchester on Tuesday 26th November. Christmas Carols are on the 6th December and the Christmas Lunch is booked again at the Cooden Beach Hotel on the 11th 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 9th September when the speaker, Oliver Symons, will be giving a talk on 'Covent Garden – In and Around the Royal Ballet'. 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

Information is also available on the SHRA website. [www.shra.co.uk/wi](http://www.shra.co.uk/wi)

## South Harbour Water Feature by Water Feature Action Group

The Water Feature Action Group and the Columbus Point Residents Association have been in contact with the Leasehold Advisory Service (LEASE) about the service charges for the South Harbour water feature. LEASE is a Non-Departmental Public Body funded by Government to provide free legal advice to leaseholders.

Solicitors from LEASE have kindly agreed to attend an open meeting for affected property owners so we can learn from them first-hand how the existing law affects leaseholders in relation to the Water Feature maintenance charges. All South Harbour leaseholders and freeholders faced with water feature charges should make a

special effort to attend this meeting. Although freeholders cannot be directly represented by LEASE, they are sure to benefit from learning what options may be open to leaseholders so are cordially invited to attend. Leaseholders may wish to bring a copy of their lease to the meeting.

The meeting will held in the Conference Room - Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club on Saturday 12 October 2013 at 11:30am

Columbus Point residents are very grateful to the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club for donating their conference room for this community meeting.

### Crime funds Notice Board Repair

When the SHRA notice board at the Waterfront was damaged by vandals earlier in the year, the broken perspex cover was replaced with a much stronger poly-carbonate version



At the Waterfront on 5th August, PC Ed Faulkner and PCSO Martin Hylands presented a cheque for £100 to SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks to cover the cost of the repairs.

The award, which came from the office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, was obtained from a fund financed by recovered proceeds of crime.

### Multi-Skills Workshop



If you're looking for a new hobby and enjoy working with your hands, the Multi-Skills Workshop (MSW) might be just what you're looking for.

The MSW offers courses, tuition and workshop facilities to support a large number of craft skills.

The workshop is equipped with a large variety of hand tools, power tools and fixed machinery which could help you in your work. Whether you are a hobbies craftsman, DIYer or tradesman the MSW could have something for you.

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DIY – Blacksmithing – Wood Carving  
Furniture Making, and more.

The workshop is always available for students and competent individuals to use outside of the formal class sessions.

For more information, or to use the facilities, or for the rates and type of usage available, call 01323-488886 or visit: [www.multiskillsworkshop.co.uk](http://www.multiskillsworkshop.co.uk)

## "Opinions" by Michael Morland



collective exchange.

OK confidence and humility are required in seeking a balanced and sustainable text that is both flexible, innovative and inclusive. I feel our decades of experience acquired from our attendance of the 'University of Life' is the ideal base from which to express positive and constructive 'Opinions'."

Mike continued, "If you are around and have the courage, on the first Monday of each month Keith and I will be in Gringo's at 11:30am, exchanging opinions and searching for a positive way forward ... join us if you dare!"

## Dance Class Offer for Residents

Since the beginning of the year, Mike Morland has been working to set up a harbour discussion group, "Opinions"

Unfortunately, Mike didn't get the response he hoped for and, after a number of attempts, was ready to call it a day.

Despite the initial lack of response, Mike, and his author friend Keith, decided it was worth persevering for a while and it appears that their persistence could have been rewarded.

Interest in Opinions has been received from off the harbour; it seems the reach of Waterlines is spreading.

However, meetings will be informal, by arrangement and possibly "off harbour" as that's where the predominance of interest has been shown!!

Mike said: "Opinions seeks to tap into the vast experience of so many in contributing toward a "Way Forward" for GB. Learning and enlightenment is only achieved by "Individuals" contributing to the



Professionally trained dancer, Estelle Sprecht, has recently started teaching at the Eastbourne Academy of Dancing.

She has just launched a new class for children aged 18-36 months, using the "Melody Bear" syllabus which is a nationally recognised license for children's dance.

Estelle would love to offer local residents the first two classes for free.

[www.melodybearseastbourne.wordpress.com](http://www.melodybearseastbourne.wordpress.com)

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### The Big Clean-up Continues



A small group of residents joined the ASDA Community Involvement Team in a "Big Litter Pick" on Tuesday 3rd September.

The team started at 10am at the store, and cleaned up the area around the Retail Park and the Harbour until midday, collecting fourteen bags of rubbish, an umbrella, a venetian blind and some tent posts.

Another group started after lunch at the Waste Water Treatment Works on the

seafront and blitzed the beach along the promenade and Sovereign Park, collecting another five bags of rubbish.

Theresa Parkinson, Community Life Champion at Asda Eastbourne, said: "It was great to have the support of the council, the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association and local community. We cleared so much rubbish in a day and goes to show how much can be achieved when the community comes together. We should be proud of where we live and hope we have inspired everyone to keep looking after the area."

