

# Waterlines

The newsletter of the  
Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



Issue 51

www.shra.co.uk

April, 2010

## It's Time for some payback

It was very good to hear that Pacific Drive has finally been adopted. Although we can understand the reason for the delay, the developers should never have been allowed to put themselves so firmly in the driving seat that they were able to dictate the timetable and cause so much inconvenience to so many residents.

For far too long, harbour residents have been used as a 'cash cow' by both local government and developers and received virtually nothing in return. Most harbour properties are in Council Tax 'Band D' or above, which means we pay above the average for the town. We thought it was about time we got some value for our money, so we looked at what we have paid out over the past ten years; it makes very interesting reading.

Over the ten years, owners of 'Band D' properties have each contributed over £14,000 to the councils' coffers. For owners of Band E properties this increases to over £17,000 and for owners of 'Band F' properties to over £20,000. Additionally, all will have made 'donations' to the Sovereign Harbour Trust of £1,891.

If you consider that there are about 4,000 'Band D equivalent' properties on the harbour, we collectively paid about £6.25 million in the year 2009/2010. That's a lot of money and what have we got in return? Almost nothing! To make it worse, in the current financial year, this will rise to about £6.4 million.

Even the so called 'deprived areas' of the town have at least one community centre, a health centre, local shops, playing fields and parks, children's play areas,

Year	Band D	Band E	Marina
2000	£851	£1,040	
2001	£926	£1,131	£120
2002	£978	£1,196	£124
2003	£1,209	£1,478	£160
2004	£1,279	£1,563	£245
2005	£1,330	£1,625	£228
2006	£1,388	£1,697	£221
2007	£1,447	£1,769	£195
2008	£1,506	£1,841	£202
2009	£1,561	£1,908	£221
2010	£1,602	£1,959	£175
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£14,077</b>	<b>£17,207</b>	<b>£1,891</b>

the list goes on. Even more galling, the relatively high Council Taxes paid by harbour residents are used to subsidise other areas of the town. Added to that, the outrageous payments we have to make to the Sovereign Harbour Trust help to subsidise the cost of sea defences for much of the surrounding area.

It really is time that those who have been elected to represent us started to fight for our rights, instead of telling us that we are sufficiently wealthy to pay for our own community centre, or supporting hare-brained schemes to sell bricks for one at £10 each.

We are told that cash is tight and we must moderate our expectations, but the Borough Council was still able to find £90,000 to fund the 'Councillors Re-election Fund', or Devolved Ward Budget, as they prefer to call it. You might be

**Notice of AGM - See centre pages**

海龍 water dragon

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as surprised as we were to discover that £2,500 of this years budget for Sovereign Ward is to be spent on setting up and promoting a new organisation, 'The Harbour Community Association'. You might be equally surprised to discover that this has been done as a result of a survey of residents. We certainly have no knowledge of any such survey, and our enquiries have so far failed to find anybody else who has any knowledge of one. Please let us know if you were one of the respondents, or how the survey was conducted.

In our view, anybody who truly wanted to get the opinion of harbour residents would take advantage of the only publication guaranteed to be delivered to every harbour dwelling, Waterlines. We are puzzled, therefore, that no attempt was made to engage us, and no request was made to use our facilities, which we would have gladly provided at no cost.

You might also be surprised to know that £2,900 has been allocated for the construction of an 'outdoor gym' on the Kingsmere Estate, also as a result of a survey of residents.

Kingsmere residents are indeed fortunate to have sufficient public open space on which to construct the gym, but that is something it has in abundance, unlike Sovereign Harbour. In fact, the estate has enough to warrant a grant of £60,000 in 2005 for planting of public areas, a grant of £230,000 in 2008 to 'Improve Green Open Spaces' and also in 2008, a share of £300,000 for new play equipment in local parks.

This isn't about jealousy, this isn't about sour grapes, this is about justice. We aren't asking for special treatment, although by now we're certainly entitled to it; we just want what every other area of Eastbourne takes for granted.

## More Residential Development?



residential development. We would, therefore, like to remind you that, in recent meetings with the SHRA committee, the leader of Eastbourne Borough Council, and the leader of the opposition, both confirmed that it was council policy that there should be no further residential development on Sovereign Harbour.

The SHRA policy remains that the harbour has already been overdeveloped and any further development would seriously damage the already fragile sustainability of the harbour community.

The remaining development land offers

We are hearing ever stronger rumours that we can soon expect to see a number of planning applications for the remaining harbour development sites.

It is inconceivable that these applications will not include some element of

The logo for Boatshed Sussex is displayed in a stylized font, with 'Boatshed' in yellow and 'sussex.com' in white. Below the logo is a white wave graphic. The background of the entire page is a photograph of a sailboat on the water, with several people visible on deck. The text is overlaid on the top left portion of this image.

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ample opportunity for developers to make a reasonable profit, so there is no justification for the return to the rampant greed that has characterised the development so far.

The Borough Council has very conveniently provided itself with a 'Get out of Jail Free Card' by the cleverly conducted, consultation on the Local Development Framework (LDF). By putting in an option that included an apparently modest 150 extra homes on Sovereign Harbour, and allowing residents of all other wards to vote on it, the council cleverly ticked the necessary box. However, the consultation was flawed; residents of Old Town, who showed almost no interest in the process, were given a second chance to make their views known. In order to ensure a better turn out for the second event, leaflets were delivered to all Old Town homes, thus skewing the result in favour of the council's preferred option.

All of the available harbour development land is owned by Carillion and past experience shows us that such a golden opportunity, so generously gifted by the council, will be seized with glee. We can also be certain that Carillion will, as before, conveniently ignore its own guidelines on community sustainability published on its website.

We will probably be told that the extra houses will allow the provision of much needed community facilities, but that insults our intelligence. Anyone can see that the construction of 150 houses will not generate sufficient profit to fund much more than a scout hut, let alone a community centre of sufficient capacity to serve the harbour. The requirement

that 30% of any residential development must be 'affordable housing' will further reduce profitability. Once the principle of 'no more residential development' has been abandoned, the floodgates will be open and any lingering prospect of the harbour becoming the development that we all bought into will be gone forever.

It's totally unacceptable for Eastbourne Borough Council to support the argument that residential development is the only way to fund the social infrastructure that the developers were so cynically allowed to omit from their previous plans. It is also essential that, having been so easily duped on two previous occasions, that the council should be doubly cautious in any negotiation.

After the refusal of the 'Five Sites' applications, it seemed that Carillion was prepared to take residents views into consideration, but the subsequent discussion on the 'Master Plan' for the final development of the harbour showed that its primary objective was to secure the maximum further residential development whilst providing the minimum community facilities in return.

Both Carillion and the Borough Council have committed to a full public consultation before proceeding with any plans, which we welcome. Having been misled so often in the past, it is difficult to have any confidence in the process, but we will wait and see what is provided.

However, it seems very likely that we will soon have another battle on our hands.

# Unlocking the Trust

In response to the serious concerns expressed by a number of our members, the SHRA set up a small sub-group to examine the background, history and operation of the Sovereign Harbour Trust (SHT), to which we are all contracted to pay an annual 'Rentcharge'.

Because of the secrecy under which the SHT has always operated, obtaining information has been difficult, and it has unfortunately been necessary to use Freedom of Information legislation to make progress. However, our understanding of the circumstances that led to the creation of the SHT is now much greater, and it has become apparent that organisations that should have been protecting the public interest could have failed to do so, seemingly under pressure from the developers.

Possible doubts have been raised over the legality of the Deed of Grant and Covenant that obliges all property owners to pay a 'Rent Charge' and of the SHT itself; our investigations are ongoing. However, in the meantime, it is essential that we all abide by the contract we have entered into and, although it is tempting to withhold payment, please resist, the repercussions could be very serious.

We have written to the SHT asking for further information on a number of issues and are awaiting responses. SHRA committee members have been provisionally invited to a meeting of the trustees, which, we hope, is progress.

It has also come to light that the SHT Trustees have formed a Community Interest Company (CIC), the Sovereign Harbour (Sea Defences) CIC, and have applied to the Charity Commission to have the assets and function of the trust transferred to it.

Unfortunately, the Charity Commission is inclined to support the application because, "having had the SHT's rent charge collection activities brought to its attention, the Charity Commission concluded that they are inappropriate

for a charity." Despite receiving annual returns from the SHT and despite a complaint by the SHRA in 2006, the Charity Commission insists it had no previous knowledge of this activity.

The rules governing CICs state that the community that they are formed to serve must be consulted, and must be represented on the board. As this CIC was formed without consultation, and without community representation, the SHRA has asked the CIC Regulator to investigate the issues. The Charity Commission has also been asked to delay transfer of the Trust Deed until it, and the CIC Regulator, come to their respective decisions. Unless and until the Trust Deed is transferred, the CIC would have no authority to collect rent charges

It is our view that, if residents must continue to pay rent charges, a CIC might be an option, but will incur additional costs. However, unless harbour residents have a minimum of 50% of the seats on its board, and preferably a controlling interest, the result would just be more of the same injustice, with the same people who have let us down so badly still running the show. The big difference is that we would all be paying even more for the privilege of being ripped-off.

Members of the sub-group have also had a very productive meeting with the Environment Agency's (EA) Area Manager and members of his staff, to discuss the Agency's involvement with the Trust and the CIC. We forcefully expressed our view that the situation at Sovereign Harbour was unique and manifestly unfair and that our sea defences should be funded from general taxation, just like the rest of the local coastline. The EA team agreed to raise our concerns at a senior level.

Hopefully, by the time the June issue of Waterlines is Published, we will have some positive news to report.

# It's Time to do Something about this Eyesore



In any working harbour or marina, the areas around the exit to the sea are a magnet for local people and tourists alike. Sovereign Harbour with its huge sea locks has more to offer than most but, in Sovereign Harbour, this very important area is far from welcoming.

The area was designated for tourism in the plan for Sovereign Harbour and was designated as 'Site 11' in the stalled master plan negotiations for the final development of the harbour. It also creates a break in the marina promenade which was intended to link to the seafront promenade, allowing safe pedestrian access to the town centre.

A previous planning application for this area was successfully challenged by local residents because the developer, at the insistence of the Borough Council, included facilities that would allow the Dotto train to run along the Harbour promenade in front of Dominica Court, San Juan Court and Bermuda Place.

Residents successfully argued that it would present a serious hazard to pedestrians, and residents leaving their properties.

Sovereign Harbour, right from the outset, was seen to have the potential to be a superb asset to Eastbourne's tourist industry. However, visitors, who might return time and time again, are deterred by the absence of even the most basic facilities away from the Waterfront area. Access for the disabled is nonexistent and there is nowhere for visitors to rest their legs or purchase refreshments.

The problems presented by this area were highlighted during the recent Eastbourne half-Marathon when competitors were met by a steep and slippery slope at about the 10km point.



SHRA Chairman, Jan Weeks, has written to the land owner, Premier Marinas, asking for details of its plans for the site.



## QuaySide Dental and Health Centre

Upstairs at the Waterfront Shops, opposite Ganges and the Garden Bar  
01323 472772

[www.eastbournedentist.com/nervous](http://www.eastbournedentist.com/nervous)

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*Dr Rob Endicott*

My name is Dr Rob Endicott from the Quayside Dental and Health Practice in the Waterfront. I'm a General Family Dentist but the one thing I enjoy most is treating people who are Really Nervous.

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### Sussex WRAS (by Trevor Weeks)



Spring is a very busy time of the year for the East Sussex Wildlife Rescue Ambulance Service, and it's made much more difficult because of the number of baby animals (like the fox cubs in the photograph above) left to fend for themselves because they have been abandoned by their mothers or orphaned by a tragic accident.

WRAS carer Monica Russell has her hands full at the moment trying to hand rear five fox cubs.

All of this extra activity puts a lot of additional strain on WRAS funding so they would welcome any help that you can give them in their fund raising activities, and donations are always welcome. The SHRA is helping by donating 30% of the money raised from sales of 'The Crumbles Story'.

Trevor Week said: "WRAS is finding itself being called to more and more domestic and agricultural animals than ever before. However, this is outside of our remit as a wildlife rescue charity and we have to be very careful not to spend charitable donation on work of this type. Consequently, volunteers are often funding these activities from their own pockets." He went on to say: "There really is a need for another rescue group to take on this work."

If you would like more information, or would like to make a donation to WRAS, visit: [www.wildlifeambulance.org/](http://www.wildlifeambulance.org/)

You can also watch some of the WRAS rescues on its YouTube channel. [www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras](http://www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras)

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### East Sussex 1 Shows Her Bottom



After six weeks of hard work in the boat yard, members of the Maritime Volunteer Service (MVS) returned their vessel, East Sussex 1 to the water in Sovereign Harbour Marina.

On the afternoon of Saturday 27th March she was loaded onto the boat hoist, transported along to the slipway and gently returned to her normal environment.

Her bottom had been painstakingly

scraped and rubbed clean, patches welded in, and a new coat of paint applied. She looked very smart, it seems a pity that most of the good work will be below the waterline and won't be seen.

Built in the seventies, East Sussex 1, a former New Zealand Navy Kiwi Class tender, is now operated by MVS volunteers and used mainly for training purposes and safety work.

More unusually, East Sussex 1 is one of the few vessels licensed to conduct burials and distribution of ashes at sea.

The Maritime Volunteer Service was founded in 1994 to stimulate the interest of volunteers, from all walks of life, in maritime affairs. The MVS now has over five hundred members in thirty-five units around the coast and estuaries of the United Kingdom. Units meet regularly for classroom training that is put into practice afloat on other evenings and weekends using a range of craft, such as East Sussex 1.

For more information on the MVS visit [www.mvs.org.uk](http://www.mvs.org.uk)

# Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Membership Application/Renewal 2010-2011

Title:

First name:

Last name:

Address:

Sovereign Harbour North / South \*delete as applicable

Postcode: BN23

Telephone:  -

E-mail:

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

Signature:

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

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

**For SHRA use only.**

Date processed:

Membership number:

**Alternatively, go to [www.shra.co.uk/join](http://www.shra.co.uk/join) to join or renew using your credit card through **

## SHRA Annual General Meeting

# Annual General Meeting

*for members only*

at the

**Haven School, Atlantic Drive**

**Thursday, 27th May, 2010**

Starting at 7:30pm

Doors open 7:00pm

**Please note:** There will be no facility to join, or renew at the door.

If you wish to attend, please ensure that we receive your application or renewal, no later than Friday 21st May so that we will have time to process your application and issue your membership card.

If you use the online facility, your transaction must also be completed by Friday 21st May.

*For more information, see back page.*

## The Year in Brief

At the last AGM, Rick Runalls stood down as SHRA Chairman to contest the Sovereign Ward seat in the County Council elections. Rick took his decision as an independent harbour resident and not a single penny of SHRA funds was used to support his campaign.

Considering that his campaign was short, and self funded, and he had no 'party machine', to help him, he did spectacularly well, polling 809 votes, just 180 short of Cllr. Susan Morris and a further 195 short of the eventual winner, Cllr. David Elkin.

The past year has been unique in that, for the first time since the SHRA was formed, there have been no significant planning applications. The luxury of having no major planning issues allowed us, amongst other things, to organise the Medical Centre petition and see the plans finally accepted; make progress on investigating the Trust; and hold a well attended community transport meeting from which we still hope to reap benefits such as completion of the bus lane.

The situation also allowed us to concentrate on improving our communications with residents. We undertook a redevelopment of the SHRA website, which is now much quicker to load and navigate. The number of visitors has risen to over 7,000 per month, 50% up on the same time last year. We also introduced a monthly email bulletin allowing us to quickly inform our 700 plus subscribers about any urgent matters and updates to the web site.

Waterlines has continued to evolve, passing the fifty issue milestone in February. The new glossy colour format is very popular with our sponsors and all advertising space for 2010 is already reserved. This means that, again, there has been virtually no cost to members

We have also had time to reflect on where we have been and where we think the Association should be going. We have, consequently, re-examined our aims and objectives, which will be expanded on in the Chairman's Report, which will be published in time for the AGM.

## SHRA Donates Award



In recognition of the close links that have been forged between the SHRA and the Haven School, the SHRA is sponsoring an award, and has donated a new trophy. The award, 'The Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Community Award', will be presented to the pupil who, in the view of the school, has done most for the community in the current year.

## New members' discount

Harbour resident and qualified and registered Counsellor, Tory Macdonald, has just 're-launched' in Eastbourne and is now able to offer professional counselling in the Harbour.

SHRA members are offered a 10% discount with her practice, 'Listening to You' ([www.listening-to-you.co.uk](http://www.listening-to-you.co.uk)), as well as a free half hour introductory session which can then be extended to a full session if desired.

Any subject can be addressed, including depression, bereavement, relationship problems, family or work issues, confidence, sexuality, and many more.

## Sovereign Polyphony Ensemble

The Polyphony Ensemble - We will be singing a full Spring concert programme of varied, light choral music on Friday 21st May at 7:30pm in All Saints' Chapel, Darley Road, Meads, and on Saturday 22nd May at 7:30pm in Christ Church, Seaside.



Sovereign Singers and Polyphony Ensemble are looking for new members in both choir sections.

If you are interested in joining these female-voice choirs please contact their Musical Director on 01323-470445.

## Volunteers wanted

The Beachy Head Countryside Centre is looking for volunteers to help out in the gift shop, starting in April.

If you can spare three hours (mornings 10:00am to 1:00pm) or afternoons (1:00pm to 4:00pm) Hazel Levene would love to hear from you.

Please call Hazel on 07903-840287 (Email : [hazel.levene@delta45.com](mailto:hazel.levene@delta45.com)) if you are interested.

## East Dean Art Group Exhibition

The East Dean and Friston Art Group will be holding an exhibition and sale of members' works at the East Dean Village Hall, Gilberts Drive, East Dean BN20 0JR.

The exhibition will be open:

Saturday 1st May 1:00pm - 5:00pm.  
Sunday 2nd May 10:00am - 5:00pm  
Monday 3rd May 10:00am - 4:00pm

Refreshments and raffle, free parking.

## Pacific Drive Speed Survey

In response to concerns about excessive speeds on Pacific Drive, a survey was conducted in November. The results, derived from installed speed sensors at two positions on Pacific Drive monitoring 24 hours/day over a 7 day period were presented at the January meeting of the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel by members of the East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Highways Department.



It was explained that ESCC receives more requests for traffic calming measures than they can resource. Each is prioritised on its merits with the overriding intention of preventing road casualties and this process occurs once per year. There are several criteria used in the assessment,

but a key one is whether there have actually been accidents/casualties in the area concerned.

Other criteria include whether vulnerable road users are involved, presence of cyclists and identified walking/cycling routes, horses using the road, schools in the vicinity and the number of pupils, and the speed of traffic flow. The assessment of each request/scheme leads to a score used to rank it against others and the list is presented to the Council cabinet member responsible.

There were thirty-two potential schemes in 2009, but limitations on funds meant that only two or three of these could be progressed.

The two reports that were produced showed that traffic speeds were, in the main, within expected limits and less than speeds perceived by residents. For full details, visit [www.shnp.org](http://www.shnp.org)

Further surveys will be conducted on Atlantic Drive when funding permits.



INNER BEAUTY

# Harbour Orthodontic Centre & Inner Beauty



INNER BEAUTY

## Open Day

Saturday, 22nd May 10am-2pm

- 11am - Demonstration on wrinkle reduction
- 12pm- Facial demonstration
- 1pm - Dermal Filler demonstration
- 2pm - Raffle

Throughout the day:

- Inner Beauty will offer Free Skin care consultations
- Harbour Orthodontic Centre can advise on the following treatments:
  - Enlighten teeth whitening
  - Facial aesthetics
  - wrinkle reduction
  - Dermal fillers
  - Invisalign

Inner Beauty provides a wide range of treatments including:

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- Waxing
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## Sovereign Harbour Rotary Club



**Rotary Volunteers at the Crumbles Retail Park**

Members of the Sovereign Harbour Rotary club were out over the Easter weekend, collecting money to support the Sussex Air Ambulance. Rotary President, Don Perman, said:

"I would like to extend sincere thanks from myself and fellow club members, to the residents of Sovereign Harbour and surrounding areas, for their great generosity last Saturday (3rd April) when members of the Club, and Air Ambulance volunteers were collecting for Sussex Air Ambulance outside Boots in the Crumbles Retail Park.

Many people think the Air Ambulance is Government funded, but it relies totally on public support to keep going. It was our second fund raising effort, and we were delighted to achieve a total of £910 for the Air Ambulance.

The generosity of all the shoppers will assist them to continue their excellent work and has inspired us all to go on to further projects in the summer.

Bless you all, and thank you again."

For more information about the Rotary, ring the President of the Provisional Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour, Don Perman, on 01323-479713 or visit the Sovereign Harbour Rotary website:

[www.sovharbour.rotaryweb.org](http://www.sovharbour.rotaryweb.org)

## Community Police Update



### **PC Ed Faulkner and PCSO Martin Hylands**

Following a request from the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel I can report that there has been a fantastic drop in the amount of crime taking place in the residential area of the Harbour.

In the last year the number of recorded crime has dropped from 183 crimes to 148. Any crime has a massive effect on the victim, however these figures show that crime is continuing to fall. I believe this is because of the close partnership work between Police, the Neighbourhood Panel, residents, local authorities and businesses.

I am encouraged by these figures but we need to go further in cutting crime for everyone.

I also want to bring your attention to a recent spate of thefts of debit and credit cards. With the advent of "self service" checkouts everyone needs to take extra care when they enter their PINs into the machines.

Recently, cards have been stolen shortly after the use of these machines and used straight away at the store cash points. Crime can happen anywhere, so please be mindful."

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

We also conduct regular street meeting around the harbour where residents can come along to discuss local policing issues. Visit [www.shnp.org](http://www.shnp.org) for more information.

## Health Centre Update

We have received an update on the progress of the Health Centre project, as at 31st March 2010, from the Project Coordinator, Peter Waugh.

"Tender documents have been issued to six building firms for the construction of the medical centre. The two-storey Centre will be built in brick with a zinc roof on piled foundations. There will be a total of eight consulting rooms, with additional space for minor operations, diagnostics, physiotherapy, counselling, community nursing, social work, medical teaching and training, health screening and health promotion, together with supporting office, waiting and staff rooms.

The entrance will be on the East-West section of Pacific drive and the building will be placed along the north-south section near the existing pumping station.

Whilst going ahead with the preparations for construction, we are waiting to finalise terms of land purchase with Carillion.

The approach road will go into the site from the existing bell-mouth which leads into the existing temporary surgery car park, then it will loop round the back of the building. Pedestrian access will be straight in off the pavement to the main entrance.

A cycle way will eventually run across the middle of the whole site and the beginnings of this will form the far boundary across the top of the site.

The building will be heated in winter and cooled in summer by an air-source heat pump, located in a separate brick-built out-house on the far side of the building, away from housing .

The building has been assessed by the infection control staff of the PCT as meeting the standards for minor operations."

Let's hope progress will be swift and residents can soon look forward to high quality health facilities at last.

## Harbour Clubs and Groups

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

### Sovereign Harbour Art Group

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

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

Phone Angela on 07914-884378 or e-mail [acrylicart@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:acrylicart@hotmail.co.uk)

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

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

### Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club

New members welcome. You don't need to own a boat - social members also welcome.

Enjoy the friendly clubhouse, good food and great fun. Open Tuesday-Thursday 17:00-22:30, Friday-Saturday 12:00-23:00 and Sundays 12:00-22:30.

Call in anytime or come to a new members evenings 19:00-21:00 last Thursdays of the month. Or call Alison, membership secretary, on 479429 for more information.

### Strollers and Toners

Get fit, tone up, make friends, feel better Mondays at 2:30 - 3:30pm. Cost £2.50

Thursdays at 9:15 - 10:15am

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

Please call Mari-Anne (fully qualified and insured) on 01323-479280, or visit: [www.strollersandtoners.co.uk](http://www.strollersandtoners.co.uk)

### Vet's Football

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

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

[vetsfooty@hotmail.com](mailto:vetsfooty@hotmail.com)

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

### Harbour Friends

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

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

For more information visit our website at [www.harbourfriends.co.uk](http://www.harbourfriends.co.uk).

Or, ring Bev on 01323-479797 or e-mail her at [bev@harbourfriends.co.uk](mailto:bev@harbourfriends.co.uk)

### The Harbour Women's Institute

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

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

### Sovereign Harbour Racing Club

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

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

### Sovereign Harbour Social Club

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

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

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

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

## Harbour WI

"The Other Side of the W.I." is a book of short stories written and published by ladies of the Waldren W.I. Two of these ladies, Victoria Joyce and Beth Simons addressed the monthly meeting of the Harbour W.I. on Monday 8th March. After explaining how the book was started and eventually published they read out passages from the book to show how different all the stories are.

Sixty-three members and five guests were encouraged to form a 'Writing Group' and to maybe write their own stories. Then groups of ladies were given key words and told to come up with the skeleton of a short story. The results were amazing! There really is 'A Story In Everyone', which was the theme for the afternoon.

The Meeting continued with the President, Freda Stalker, presenting cards to members with Birthdays in the coming month and thanking Margaret Williams for organizing another very successful and enjoyable Lunch and Cookery Demonstration at the Langham Hotel on the 25th February.

Gill Nokes, the Social Secretary, reminded the members about the 'Open Day' at Debenhams on the 22nd April with a fashion show and asked if any more ladies would like to be included in the forthcoming trip to Battle and Batemans on the 22nd March

The Craft Club meets on the 16th March at Pevensey Bay Baptist Church Hall where they are continuing to knit scarves, mittens and bobble hats for the 'Mustard Seed' charity. The charity sends shoe boxes covered in Christmas paper and filled with 'goodies' to underprivileged children in the Ukraine, Romania and Moldova.

The Ten Pin Bowling team will meet at the beginning of next month at Lloyd Lanes in Eastbourne.

The Harbour W.I. meets every second Monday of the month at 2:00pm in the

Sovereign Suite of Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club.

Next month's Meeting will be on the 12th April with Simon Hurt giving a talk on "Container Gardening - Creating Colour and Style" - just in time for Spring! We hope!

### Visitors are always welcome

For further information please contact Freda Stalker on 471798.

## Haven School News

The Haven School are delighted that plans have been agreed for their new 30 place Nursery for 0-5 year olds. It is hoped that building works will commence during the summer holidays and we hope to have the Nursery up and running in Spring 2011.

As a result of a meeting with the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association, The Haven School are working on projects aimed at improving the Harbour facilities for the children in the community. The School Council are working enthusiastically with all of The Haven pupils to gather design ideas for a children's webpage on the SHRA website.

The children are also gathering ideas on how to make the Harbour community more child-friendly. The School Councillors have created a fantastic mind map and are now gathering more information from the other pupils in the school.

Jan Weeks has recently visited the school to judge the Easter Bonnet Competition. Jan was extremely impressed with the efforts the children had made and enjoyed giving out the prizes.

The Haven School would like to build upon its links with the Harbour Community and is keen to develop these as it considers itself to be at the heart of the community. If you would like more information about The Haven School and all it has to offer, please contact us on 01323 471781 or through our website [www.thehaven.e-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.thehaven.e-sussex.sch.uk)

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### Annual General Meeting

The SHRA AGM will be held at the Haven School on Thursday 27th May, starting at 7:30.

Only current members, in possession of a new-style membership card, as above, will be admitted.



Because of the delay in announcing the date of the of the impending General Election, it was not possible to secure a firm booking for the Haven School before this date, as the school is one of the Sovereign Ward polling stations.

We'd love to see as many of you as possible but, as last year, there will

be no facility to join or renew on the evening. So, if you want to take part, please ensure you give us sufficient time to process your application and issue your new membership card.

As required by the constitution, all committee members will stand down and, if they so wish, stand for re-election.

Nominations for election to the committee should be sent, in writing, to:

The Secretary  
SHRA  
PO Box 124  
Eastbourne BN24 9AW

to arrive no later than Friday 14th May  
Nominations must be seconded, and both nominator and seconder must be current members.

The SHRA tries to represent the best interests of the whole harbour community, so please consider joining us.

The larger our membership, the stronger our voice.