

Sovereign Harbour Residents Association



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[Events](#) [Harbour Amenities](#) [Maps](#) [Transport](#) [Photo Gallery](#) [For Sale](#) [Trades](#) [Links](#)

31st March 2014

There were several thefts from cars in Eastbourne over the weekend.

On Saturday 29th March an iPod and mini radio were stolen from a car in the NCP car park, Junction Road. A window was smashed to gain access.



On Sunday 30th March a sat-nav and an iPod were stolen from a car parked outside Tesco Express in Seaside Road. Again, a window was smashed to gain access. Also on Sunday an MP3 player was taken from an insecure vehicle in Helvellyn Drive.

Sussex Police have issued the following crime prevention advice:

- Always lock your car - for however short a period of time
- Remove valuables from the car - don't hide things in the glove box
- Wipe off any tell-tale-sat nav marks left behind on your windscreen
- Double check the central locking has worked and your car is secure
- Where possible, park your vehicle in a busy, well-lit area
- If a vehicle is left insecure it on

28th March 2014

Works are getting ever nearer completion, particularly recycling, which should be complete for the winter next Friday. Plans have not really changed with just one or two days spent at each of Normans Bay East, Herbrand Walk and 'The Sandcastle'/Grey Towers to come.



Road lorries to complete a final bypassing of shingle round Sovereign Harbour are now not expected to start until Wednesday 2nd April, as Eastbourne BC's work to move shingle from the Outer Harbour back to the Wish Tower looks like it will overrun by a couple of days. This means our five days will go through until Tuesday 8th April.

After that there will be a couple of days tidying up with a bulldozer, which should then leave the beach clear for everyone to enjoy over the summer

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

25th March 2014

Although things have now calmed down, we still have two more weeks of recycling to get beach volumes back to some semblance of normality.

This week trucks will be loaded from the centre of Beachlands, delivering to Sovereign Harbour. Central Beachlands was one of very few areas that actually gained beach from the three months of storms to 3rd March. The top of the beach at Beachlands will not be touched, and it will only be the surplus shingle that has built up in berms and at the beach toe that will be removed.



Next week we will be back to 2 or 3 trucks working locally at Normans Bay East, Herbrand Walk level crossing amongst other places. Running concurrently, there will also be a final round of bypassing from Langney round Sovereign Harbour. This will clear shingle away from the rock spur on the south side of the harbour and hopefully prevent further shingle getting round the breakwater and blocking the marina entrance.

Dredger Sospan Dau is due at Sovereign Harbour to work for Premier during April, and whilst here will be adding sediment to Eastbourne's beaches as well as at Sovereign Harbour. With so much erosion at Sovereign Harbour this winter, it is not possible to reinstate the defences without additional supply of sea dredged aggregate.

Most work will – weather permitting – be completed by Friday 4th April when school holidays start. It is likely that one bulldozer will remain for a few days to tidy up and remove all ruts left by the trucks

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
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Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

18th March 2014

Eastbourne RNLI issued the following statement.

"Premier Marinas have issued a statement inferring that the removal of the shingle bank at the entrance to Sovereign Harbour is principally for the benefit of our all-weather lifeboat. This is not the case and that keeping the entrance channel clear is to enable ALL traffic to use the marina which is a commercial enterprise.



To reassure all seafarers and residents, Eastbourne lifeboats have never been in a position where we cannot respond to an emergency call for help regardless of the state of the tide. The current all-weather lifeboat draws less than 2 metres of water which is less than many of the vessels we are called to assist."

[See Press Release from Premier Marinas.](#)

17th March 2014



Engineers started building the 'roadway' across the beach (see below) on Saturday morning 15th March. Local residents were woken at 3am on Sunday as they continued in the dark. The work was finished by Sunday lunchtime, complete with passing point for the dump trucks, halfway along.

Thanks to Tony Smith for the picture.

14th March 2014

Premier Marinas has issued the following Press Statement.

Over the winter months, prolonged bad weather has resulted in a build-up of shingle seaward of the southern harbour arm, at the entrance to Sovereign Harbour. This shingle then moves around the arm and deposits in the form of the current visible bank. The volume of shingle now deposited is estimated at 4,000 cubic metres and is presenting a hazard to vessels using the harbour channel at low water spring tides. In particular, this new shingle bank has placed the RNLI's all-weather lifeboat in danger of being unable to respond to emergencies at low water.



Following consultations between the Environment Agency, Eastbourne Borough Council, Pevensey Bay Coastal Defence and Premier Marinas Eastbourne, an emergency licence has now been granted by the Marine Management Organisation to enable the urgent removal of the shingle.

Work on the removal of the shingle build-up is scheduled to commence on Saturday 15th March and will continue for 10 consecutive days. The contractors will construct a basic access route inside the Southern harbour arm that will support the movement of heavy vehicles at low water. Once this access route is in place, diggers will recover the shingle to the beach by the Martello Tower. From there, suitable shingle will be removed by the council for beach replenishment works. As the contractors will need to operate their machinery at low water it will be necessary for the work to take place at unsociable hours that will include early in the morning and late in the evening.

13th March 2014

Registration is now open for the 2014 Harbour Walk.

This year's walk will take place on Sunday 8th June, beginning at 12 noon, starting and finishing from behind Cineworld at the Sovereign Harbour Retail Park.

The logo for Harbour Walk 2014 is a blue square with the text "Harbour Walk 2014" in white, sans-serif font. "Harbour" is on the top line, "Walk" is on the second line, and "2014" is on the third line.

This year, the event is being jointly organised by the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour and the Sovereign Harbour Community Association (SHCA) and all proceeds will be equally divided between the Rotary Club charity, "Combat Stress", and the SHCA Community Centre Fund.

As is the previous two years, bringing your dog is not just welcome, it is positively encouraged.

For more information, or to register, [visit the Harbour Walk website](#).

13th March 2014

Although the weather has finally moderated there is still plenty to do to restore the beach to its normal condition. Within the next few days most areas will again be protected as work focuses on Herbrand Walk and Normans Bay East. At Herbrand Walk there is so little beach that peat and old tree stumps have been seen through the shingle at low water.



After that the final hurdle will be to restore Sovereign Harbour. In total over 60,000m³ of beach has left the area this winter despite repeated recycling, the addition of 10,000m³ from Langney and 7,000m³ from the stockpile. To put it in perspective, our normal annual recharge with Sospan Dau only places 20,000m³. Not all of the material has gone completely, but it has gone 8km to Cooden and a few places in between.

Unfortunately this means having to transport it back along the beach over the coming two weeks or so. Assuming the weather remains spring like, our aim is to complete the bulk of this work by 4th April when schools break up for Easter. This does mean there will be wheel ruts along the beach for a while yet, but bulldozers will be grading out other areas that have been churned up by reinstatement works.

I apologise in advance for the continuing inconvenience the trucks will cause, especially now it is sunny and warmer and the beach is once again a pleasant place to be. Hopefully they will be gone by the beginning of April and everyone can enjoy a quiet, restful summer.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
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6th March 2014

Sussex Police are conducting a survey to determine the priorities for our neighbourhood. They are also keen to understand how residents interact with our Neighbourhood



Policing Team.

Your responses will help the Police to deliver a better services, more targeted to individual neighbourhoods.

[Please take the time to complete the survey > >](#)

5th March 2014

On Tuesday 4th March, the Eastbourne Planning Committee gave the go ahead for the £6 million investment of an Innovation Centre on site six in Sovereign Harbour. The proposal to build a three storey employment centre on site six opposite the Harbour Medical Centre was given unanimous approval by the committee. The development will bring much needed employment opportunities, not only to the harbour, but to Eastbourne as a whole.



The building will give small and start-up businesses the space to grow and establish themselves, it will also bring the opportunity for larger, already established businesses, to move to a new state of the art building.

3rd March 2014

I have to say the severity of Sunday night's storm was something of a surprise as we were expecting waves from 230° not 185°. The difference was really quite marked and erosion in some areas, particularly Normans Bay East was the worst we have seen in the 13 years we have been here. By contrast Beachlands did well as there is still some crest left.



There are very few areas where we have unrestricted crest access, so a degree of repair work is necessary before trucks can continue/re-start their journeys moving beach from east to west. It is going to be a long haul (in two ways) in getting the beach restored. There is surplus material between Herbrand Walk and Cooden, as well as in a few other places, and there is a shortfall of 30,000m³ at Sovereign Harbour, so we have to juggle restoring defences there with repairs at Beachlands, Normans Bay and elsewhere.

Machines are still working at Sovereign Harbour for another day or so, before heading east. Lorries will continue to run beach round the harbour from Langney until Wednesday. We have had three breakdowns in the last few days, which has not helped get a bulldozer to Normans Bay East, but one should be there at some point tomorrow morning, and by Thursday the bulldozer at Langney will be back on the north side of the harbour as well

Just so as you know, Sunday night's event was a 1:50 year storm, the second one we have had this winter, and hopefully the last. Now where have I heard that before...!

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk

2nd March 2014

Due to essential lock maintenance there will be **NO** pedestrian access across the locks from 08:00am on Monday 3rd March until 17:00pm Friday 7th March.

The alternative route is walking around the inner harbour using the North, West and South bridges.

Premier Marinas apologises for any inconvenience this causes.



1st March 2014

It is no surprise to me, given the year so far, that the 8.0mCD tide on Monday is to be accompanied by more gale force winds and 2m+ waves. At the moment it looks as though it will only be a problem for one day. However, given the height of the tide, I believe we will see further crest erosion in those places where we have been attempting repairs. Even though there is only a small surge predicted, I suspect the Environment Agency may issue a Flood Alert for tides at midnight and/or lunchtime on Monday. Neither tide is expected to be as bad as any of the storms earlier in February.



Because erosion at Sovereign Harbour revetment has now exposed more rock than should be uncovered, we have been working on re-burying it. So, if we lose beach crest through Grey Towers, 'The Sandcastle' and Beachlands, it is going to be difficult to get machines back to all areas on Monday. Winds are forecast to swing westerly and drop through Monday so the two Monday tides should see the limit of any problems this time.

After that, it may be we are back to square one, which means another four or five weeks moving shingle. I will endeavour to provide updates as and when each new plan is changed by the next period of bad weather

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
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27th February 2014

Ian Thomas has issued the following progress update on the repairs to the beaches following the recent storms. PDCL does a great job of keeping us safe, and is paid a fixed fee for this, irrespective of the amount of work that is necessary, and is unrelated to the recent rent charge increase.

A lot of shingle has now reached Langney beach and the southern breakwater, as you can see from the picture below. The rock spur built by Carillion, intended to prevent beach from reaching the harbour entrance, has been swamped and is barely visible. This means we are collecting shingle from both sides of the spur. If we leave it, we would lose valuable sea defence material that is being added to the North Harbour, and it would wash into the Marina's entrance channel and increase the amount and cost of the annual maintenance dredge that Premier undertakes.



Consequently, it is likely that road lorries bringing this shingle round the harbour will need to carry on into next week.

In excess of 30,000m³ of beach has left the area immediately north of the harbour and we are trying to replace it as quickly as we can. Unfortunately the compacted haul road that allowed road lorries coming from Langney to get on the beach has largely disappeared, so they are struggling to deliver shingle to where it is most needed. Thus the beach between the Martello tower and the harbour may be temporarily widened and used to store this shingle until all surplus material from Langney has been brought round. Then the excavator from Langney will be brought round to load the bigger dumptrucks as they are able to track right up to the rocks.

This may seem a convoluted process, but there is no easy way of getting sufficient beach back to the rocks. At this time of year there is no choice other than to truck beach along the crest. The stormy weather has meant dredger Sospan Dau has been unable to fulfil her existing obligations let alone taking on more, so replacement sea dredged shingle is not currently an option. Besides, she cannot dredge or deliver aggregate in sea conditions like we have had this month. She will return in summer and will doubtless have to add more than usual.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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26th February 2014

Volunteers are urgently needed to work in the gift shop of the Countryside Centre at Beachy Head. Morning or afternoon shifts during the season, from April to end October. This would suit a young retired person.

If you are interested, please call Hazel Levene on:
01323-479796
07903-840287



21st February 2014

There is still much to do to restore defences to

their pre-storm condition and not too much time before the March spring tides. A survey this week showed that close to 30,000m³ of beach has been lost from Sovereign Harbour since Christmas. It will be replaced, but as access along the beach remains restricted, it is not that easy. Not all of it has been lost completely, but that which remains is 8 or 9 kilometres away at Cooden. Thus for the next couple of weeks trucks will periodically be travelling along the length of the beach returning shingle to the west. Initially Herbrand Walk by the unmanned crossing needs to be reinforced as does the crest at Normans Bay East



Some shingle has built up again at Langney, so from Monday we will be bypassing more sediment round the harbour. Because access is so restricted it is unlikely we can get it all the way to the revetment with road lorries, so it may be temporarily added to the beach nearer to Martello tower 64 and subsequently moved up to the revetment.

At this time of year there is no choice other than to truck beach along the crest. The stormy weather has meant dredger Sospan Dau has been unable to fulfil her existing obligations let alone taking on more, so replacement sea dredged shingle is not currently an option. She will return in summer and will doubtless have to add more than usual.

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Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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20th February 2014

At yesterday evening's meeting of Eastbourne Borough Council, a large number of harbour residents packed the public gallery to hear the following motion unanimously approved by the members. Thanks to all who took the time to give their support.



"This Council acknowledges Sovereign Harbour residents' strong feelings with regard to the harbour charge. Therefore, the Council instructs its officers to facilitate discussion between key stakeholders."

Councillor Warner was forced to modify his original motion (see below) and remove references to the council's previous failings after opposition from the controlling group.

However, during the debate, councillors from both sides of the chamber expressed sympathy and support for residents and agreed that the time had come to re-examine the council's position. The Chief Executive committed to instruct the council's officers to work with residents to help find a solution to the issues.

19th February 2014

In response to Sovereign Harbour residents' concerns over the increase in the 2014 Marina Rent

Charge, Cllr Patrick Warner has tabled the following motion to be discussed at this evening's meeting of the full Borough Council:



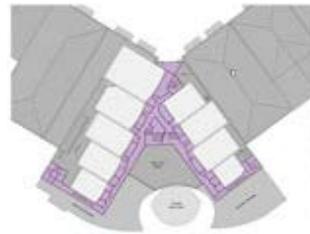
"This Council accepts that residents have every right to feel that they were failed from the outset and for them to consider that fairness was not at the heart of the agreement which sees a charge put on Harbour residents alone to maintain sea defences. Furthermore, members will instruct officers to look into how best this council can contribute to righting the historic wrongs and ensure that fairness is at the heart of any new agreement in future."

The meeting will be held at the Town Hall, starting at 6pm; public entry from 5:45pm. Members of the SHRA committee will be speaking in support of the motion.

Sovereign Harbour Residents Association chairman, Jan Weeks, said: "It is very important that council members are made aware of the injustice felt by harbour residents, and we would encourage as many of them as possible to make the time to join us at the Town Hall this evening".

18th February 2014

The owner of Eastbourne's Arndale Shopping Centre, Performance Retail, has failed in its High Court challenge to the status of the Sovereign Harbour Retail Park.



Performance Retail had asked the High Court of Justice to overturn part of Eastbourne Borough Council's Core Strategy Local Plan that designates the Sovereign Harbour Retail Park as a "District Centre", thus strengthening its status in planning terms.

In a court hearing last November, Performance Retail claimed the decision was in breach of national planning policy aimed at protecting town centres, and posed a risk to the town's "retail hierarchy".

In a written judgment, Deputy Judge Ockleton dismissed the case. Performance Retail was ordered to pay the council's costs and refused leave to appeal. Performance Retail can still take its case directly to the Court of Appeal.

16th February 2014

Friday night was a 1 in 5 year event on its own, but added to the sequence we have seen this winter, was "just another storm". Thankfully, the +0.8m storm surge became -0.2m, so Saturday lunchtime saw 1m less water.



As a result there will be no machines working until Monday. On Monday we will work a normal 07:30 – 17:30 day, but may have to revert to tides for a couple of days so we can recover shingle that has been drawn down to the toe of the beach.

Essentially we will be back to square one and need to rebuild the crest from PBSC back to Sovereign Harbour, where, at a conservative estimate, we will have lost at least 20,000m³ in the last couple of weeks. Thus in the next month we will need to haul beach to the harbour from wherever we can find any.

At the same time bulldozers will continue to re-profile at Beachlands and Normans Bay, where additional sediment will be delivered by dumptrucks as is

required.

More shingle has drifted from Eastbourne to Langney, so should we get some calmer weather, from Monday 24th we hope to start a further 5 days of bypassing beach round the harbour.

Let us hope we have now had our 2013-14 allocation of storms!

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202

Mob: 07884 234298

email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk

Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

15th February 2014

Plans for a Sovereign Harbour float in the 2014 Eastbourne Sunshine Carnival are under way, organised under the direction of the **Sovereign Harbour Community Association (SHCA)** Drama Group. We would love more harbour residents to be involved so please **email SHCA** if you would like to help in planning and putting the entry together.



There will be an open meeting on Wednesday 26th February 2014 at 7pm in the Sovereign Harbour Yacht Club. It would be really good if as many of you as possible can attend so that the organisers can "get the show on the road" and have the opportunity to show you what has already been sourced. **Everyone Welcome!**

14th February 2014

Sussex Police is issuing an urgent warning to residents, especially the elderly and anyone living alone, not to be taken in by a current wave of crime in which phone callers posing as police officers or bank staff ask for bank and card details.



Within a 36-hour period on Tuesday 11 February and the following day there were nine more cases in Sussex, in three of which money was obtained.

[Read more > >](#)

13th February 2014

I imagine this extraordinary winter will end sometime, but not yet apparently. Obviously the first week in March is the next period we should be most concerned about, but before that we have another 'shot in the arm' overnight tomorrow into Saturday. Potentially there are some very big waves due, but at present they are predicted to worst around low water on Saturday morning. If that is the case then despite a +0.5m storm surge things should not be too bad.



On the other hand, I would expect much of the haul road and beach crest re-established in the last week or so to be eroded again. In anticipation of the storm, we expect to have three bulldozers working early Saturday morning for a single tide, but with Sunday due to be relatively calm, we would not expect

to be working on Sunday.

There is still a substantial shortfall of beach at Sovereign Harbour so trucks will need to continue delivering beach to the western end of there frontage for some time to come. In view of the storm to come, I won't attempt to guess where we will be working next week, other than to say that I expect to be in the area of PBSC and 'White Horses' first thing, and then see what unfolds.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

13th February 2014

Pevensey Bay Sailing Club Surfing ahead to host Olympic Class Laser World Qualifiers in March.



Despite experiencing some of strongest seas, and most challenging conditions Pevensey Bay Sailing Club members are preparing their club house to host the largest gathering of Olympic Class Lasers the South Coast will see this year on 15th -16th of March in the waters off Pevensey Bay Sailing Club.

This winter Pevensey Bay Sailing Club members have been seen armed with spades, brushes and paint pots. Ensuring the venue for some of GB's aspiring Olympians is in top condition.

Elaine Fowler commodore of Pevensey Bay Sailing Club said: "We are thrilled to have been chosen to host this exciting event which is really drawing the club together. There's a great buzz about this event"

12th February 2014

Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story On Stage is coming to the Eastbourne Congress Theatre on Tuesday 13th to Saturday 24 January **2015**. Tickets go on sale on Valentines Day, 14th February, and demand is expected to be high!

When it launched in 2011, the first ever UK tour took an unprecedented £42,000,000 at theatres across the country, receiving standing ovations and 5 star reviews. It also smashed box office records in Glasgow, Aberdeen, Dublin, Leeds and Stoke. The production subsequently opened at the Piccadilly Theatre in London's West End where it currently runs until February 2014, prior to launching a new UK and Ireland tour.



Dirty Dancing –The Classic Story On Stage opened in London in 2006 with a record- breaking advance of £15 million, making it the fastest ever selling show in West End theatre history. The production became the longest running show in the history of the Aldwych Theatre and played to over 2 million people during its triumphant 5 year run; a hit show all around the world, now it's Eastbourne's chance to experience the magic.

More information

10th February 2014

There was excitement in the Inner Harbour today when a sport boat sank at it moorings. Divers attached rubber bags to the sunken vessel which were then inflated to raise it to the surface.



No details of the boat are available at this time, and there is no indication as to the cause of the incident.

10th February 2014

For all bed and breakfast and hotel owners in Eastbourne, Police are appealing for help in finding a vulnerable man missing from Bexhill since 7th February.

David Helm, 69, a white male of slim build, 5' 6", balding, wearing a 3/4 length khaki and hazel green goat, black cap, black jumper and black shoes, absconded from the Langford Centre, De La Warr Road, Bexhill where he is a live in patient. He suffers from mental health issues and is a known drug user.



He was last reported missing in January and was found to be staying at the

Cooden Beach Hotel. It is possible he could be staying at a hotel or B and B in the Eastbourne area.

If you see this man or have any information as to his whereabouts please contact Sussex Police on 101 quoting serial 0913 of 07/02 or e mail: 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk

9th February 2014

The campaign for improvements to the A27 between Polegate and Lewes has been notched up a gear. Prospective candidate for the 2015 Parliamentary election, Caroline Ansell believes that only by making a strong cost/benefits case is there any chance of success. She has, therefore, launched [an urgent online survey](#) of local businesses to gain a better understanding of the financial benefits that the improvements would bring to their operation and to the town in general.



Stephen Lloyd MP has also launched a petition that can [be completed online](#). Paper copies can also be downloaded.

7th February 2014

New Dynamic Hatha Yoga classes will be starting in the Sovereign Harbour Medical Centre in March. Classes will be on Tuesday evenings from 6pm to 7:15pm and will cost £6.50 per session.

The classes will be run by Tricia Martin, who has been practising yoga for over sixteen years and teaching for twelve years.

For more information, contact Tricia:
Tel: 07914-669681
[e-mail Tricia](#)
[Visit Tricia's website](#)



6th February 2014

The SHRA has been contacted by Eastbourne estate agents, Reid and Dean, with details of their new advertising programme, which shows prospective purchasers aerial video footage of the properties they are marketing. As part of the project, they would like to create a generic video of the harbour and its environs, which could then be tailored to individual property marketing. The purpose of the programme will be purely to market individual properties. Protection of privacy will be of paramount importance; close-ups of individuals will never be shown.



The idea is to add both more excitement and value to the marketing of residents properties. Since most buyers at the Harbour come from well out of town it could have a dramatic effect of increasing sales levels.

[Click here to view an example video](#). Click the "Video" icon to the right of the picture to start.

Although there is no obligation to do so, before Reid and Dean go ahead with the video, they felt it would be right and courteous to seek the views of harbour residents. If you have any comments, [please e-mail us](#).

6th February 2014

The high water just passed should be the last in the latest set of spring tides to be of concern as far as flooding goes. That having been said, the forecast is still showing waves as big as those we have had in the last



few days to continue through the weekend, albeit on low water levels.

In most places shingle is available lower down the beach to reinstate the crest. The one exception is Sovereign Harbour where there is a substantial amount of rock revetment now exposed. With the haul road along the beach washed away, it may be several days before it can be properly reinstated, but rest assured it will be repaired.

Assuming reasonable weather in the coming days and weeks (which may be unlikely...) it will take several weeks to get the beach back into something approaching its normal condition, so I'm afraid trucks will remain a common sight for some time to come.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
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4th February 2014

Although the highest tides in the part of the tidal cycle have passed, for the first time in this series, we are expecting a +0.4m storm surge on the 02:40 high water tomorrow morning. Coupled with waves from due south of up to 3.5m, then **it is highly likely we will see the worst conditions so far this winter**. Being southerly not much shingle will be lost (so it can be pushed up again afterwards) but some degree of overtopping is expected in places.



It is again likely that the Environment Agency will issue a Flood Alert for tonight's tide.

All machines will remain on the beach and will be ready to repair any resulting damage from 06:00 tomorrow morning.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
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4th February 2014

On Monday 3rd February, Advisors from the Eastbourne Borough Council Customer First team joined the Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Advisors in "Operation Aimee"



The team braved the cold winds and engaged with forty dog walkers, six of whom were provided with dog bags and educated about the risks to children of Toxicaria.

2nd February 2014

As far as I can tell, Friday night's storm was the worst of those likely to be seen over the current series of spring tides. Tonight may be similar, with lower waves, a slightly higher water level, but from the southwest rather than south as last night. Hopefully this means waves will run up the beach no more than they did last night.



Two bulldozers will be working again on this evening's low tide at Beachlands and Normans Bay East, with three working tomorrow morning

There is some respite with much lower waves tomorrow lunchtime, so we do not expect to work tomorrow evening. All machines will be back working the early tide from Monday.

There has been significant erosion to the crest almost everywhere, so some repairs are needed before the recycling team can head back to Cooden and start all over again. As the famous quote goes: "It's like déjà vu all over again"

In a few weeks we should be back to normal, and it would be nice to think that the 8.0mCD tides in early March do not coincide with a series of storms. It would make a change!

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

1st February 2014

Over one hundred harbour residents and guests met for a meal and an evening of Sixties music in Pablo's at the Sovereign Harbour Waterfront on Thursday 30th January.



The event, jointly organised by the Sovereign Harbour Community Association (SHCA) and the Rotary Club of Sovereign Harbour was held to raise funds for the construction of the SHCA entry for the Eastbourne Sunshine Carnival.

Not only did everybody have a fun evening, but £764 was raised for the carnival fund.

31st January 2014

Police in Eastbourne want to make drivers aware of a distraction theft that occurred on Thursday 30th January. At about 10:30am in the Tesco car park, Lottbridge Drove, a female was in her car about to drive off when a male knocked on her window and said she had a nail in her tyre.



She got out and he said he had pulled it out for her and she checked the tyre and it seemed fine. She then got back into the car and later found 2 bank cards had been taken from her purse. Two withdrawals of £300 were made from the accounts before she was able to contact her bank. The description of the male is Eastern European, 5' 9" tall of slim build, with collar length light brown hair and blue eyes. He was wearing a beige coat.

On 22nd January there were two similar incidents that occurred in Tesco car parks in Hailsham and Uckfield where a purse and a debit card were stolen. The suspects, a female and a male were described as eastern European early 20's and had tricked the drivers to checking their tyres saying they had nails in them before stealing the said items.

Anyone with information should call 101 quoting serial 1330 of 21/1, email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

30th January 2014

Given the type of winter we have had so far, it is no surprise to find that the next batch of stormy weather is to coincide with this weekend's high spring tides. The largest waves seem set to appear overnight from Friday into Saturday and although tides are high, they are not currently thought to be increased by a storm surge. If anything it may be slightly negative.



The highest astronomical tides are in the early hours of Sunday and Monday mornings, by when waves will be smaller and hopefully from the southwest rather than the south.

It does seem likely that the Environment Agency will issue a Flood Alert for the coast over tomorrow night's tide.

The beach is now largely repaired so is in good enough condition to withstand predicted storms for the next few days. At the moment none of these is expected to be worse than anything we saw over New Year. All the machines will remain on the beach and hence are available to react to any erosion as it occurs. I expect work to be necessary on Saturday, and we will take a view then as whether work is required on Sunday as well.

Ian Thomas

Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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29th January 2014

Neighbourhood First Advisors will be holding a full team "Dog Patrol" at Sovereign Harbour on Monday 3rd February 2014. The purpose of this event is to promote responsible dog-ownership.



This is a high visibility event to raise awareness of dog fouling as its main purpose. The Neighbourhood First Advisors will be patrolling in pairs and handing out dog poo bags to all dog walkers seen.

The first area to be patrolled will be the inner harbour promenades.

The second area will be Atlantic Drive and alleyway leading to Wade Close, taking in The Haven school.

Why not take this opportunity to say hello to the team, and let them know of any concerns or questions you have with dogs or with dog ownership.

29th January 2014

It has been reported that one of the swans which was nesting on the land adjacent to the North Harbour bridge was found dead in the North Harbour.



The cause of death is not known, if you have any information, please contact PCSO Martin Hylands on 7909-873787 **or e-mail Martin**

29th January 2014

The official launch statistics issued today by the RNLI show Eastbourne lifeboats to be the second busiest coastal station throughout the UK and Ireland having been credited with 139 launches, and rescuing 116 people.



Surprisingly the inshore lifeboat was called upon less than previous years with 66 call-outs despite the glorious summer which tempted people onto the bathing beaches. One explanation why less people got into difficulties from the beaches has been put down to the fact that we had less offshore winds than usual during the year so less people were swept out to sea on inflatable bananas and the like. No particular trends have been identified although mechanical breakdowns remain one of the main reasons for lifeboat launches in our area.

The volunteer crew has continued to be called to a variety of incidents ranging from the tragic to the downright comical. We have responded to requests for help from injured fisherman, people cut off by the tide, downed windsurfers and have even been called to assist a seal thought to be in difficulties.

The crew, their families and their employers should all take credit for another year of dedication and commitment responding to the pagers day and night for 365 days.

28th January 2014



The Waterfront based charity, **Hearing Link**, has published its latest newsletter. In this issue:

- New survey: How can hearing loss be easier to manage?
- Things to explore on our website
- Brand new opportunity for you to walk across a 20ft bed of hot coals!

[Download the complete newsletter](#)

27th January 2014

Night to Remember 2014 is a ladies only four or ten mile midnight walk along Eastbourne's streets and seafront on Saturday 17th May 2014.



Over the past four years, over 2,400 ladies have taken to the streets and seafront of Eastbourne and have raised a collective £292,000 for [Chestnut Tree House](#), the only children's hospice in Sussex. If you would like to take part, [complete the online registration form](#).

After an energetic warm up, the walk will start on the promenade at The Sovereign Centre in Eastbourne. After walking along the promenade to Sovereign Harbour and looping around, our ladies will then make their way towards Holywell and back to the Sovereign Centre, taking in the beautiful sight of Eastbourne Pier at night. Ladies opting for the four mile route will return to the Sovereign Centre after the harbour route.

Although this is a ladies only event, men can play their part by volunteering to marshal the course. If you are able to help, [complete the volunteer registration form](#).

26th January 2014

Due to a Road Traffic Collision yesterday, on the Martello roundabout at the entrance to the North Harbour, no traffic was able to leave or enter the harbour. PC Ed Faulkner, who attended the incident, sent us this report.



"At around 12.30pm on Saturday 25th January there was a serious collision on the A259 at the roundabout for North Harbour. The collision involved two vehicles, which had collided at some speed causing an obstruction to the road. Police, along with the South Coast Ambulance and East Sussex Fire & Rescue, attended very quickly to deal with the situation. Thankfully there were only minor injuries to all parties however there was an issue getting two people out of the vehicles safely. Therefore colleagues from the Fire service had to "cut" them out of the vehicles using hydraulic equipment. This took time, and our priority at every point is the well being of the people involved and colleagues working in the carriageway.

All of this, of course, involved a partial road closure being put into effect, on this instance the road at The Crumbles roundabout toward Pevensey Bay was closed. This caused significant disruption on what was a busy Saturday afternoon, and had a severe effect on those trying to access or leave the North Harbour area. As Police we completely understand the impact, and do not close roads without good cause. However a number of people, both local and not, got very agitated with us about the road closure and the impact this was going to have on their onward journey, having no regard for the welfare of those involved in the collision. Getting a firm grip of the traffic situation takes time, and when you have a large number of Paramedics, Fire fighters, equipment, and casualties in the road, keeping it free of traffic is essential for safety not to mention the investigation into the cause of the collision.

In the end the road was closed for around two and a half hours, and we re-opened it as soon as we could do. During this time we made sure that the

lifeboat crew could still get through, and the traffic kept moving, albeit very slowly. We genuinely thank those motorists for their understanding, and hope that everyone fully appreciates that if it was themselves involved in the collision that we would be working equally as diligently to help them.

We would also like to thank The Crumbles retail park for accommodating those local residents who were unable to get into the North Harbour. Our investigation continues into the collision, and we would ask anyone who witnessed the collision to contact Sussex Police on 101 quoting serial 649 of 25th January."

23rd January 2014

RDF Television is making a documentary for ITV about elderly drivers and their experiences on the road. They are currently looking for contributors who would be willing to take part.



There are over 70,000 drivers in Britain in their eighties and nineties and they would love to speak to them about how driving has changed over the years, the difficulties they face on the road, what their car means to them, and how much longer they plan on keeping on the road.

For more information please call 0207-013-4062, or email joe.barnes@rdftelevision.com.

22nd January 2014

Five dump trucks continue to work moving shingle from Cooden to Beachlands and Herbrand Walk. Although there is still beach to be recycled from Cooden, from tomorrow we will relocate to Normans Bay East and transport shingle through the village to 'White Horses' and Sovereign Harbour. The reason for this is that everything already added near the harbour has already moved, exposing more of the buried revetment than should be the case and cliffing the remaining beach.



Generally we try to minimise removal of accreting beach from in front of properties, particularly Coast Road, Beachlands. However so much shingle has built up in the region of The Kiosk that we do need to re-use some of it in the next week or so. Nothing will be removed from the crest, which will not therefore be narrowed. A bulldozer will push up from the beach toe to enhance the ridge that has been building in front of the crest. Only this ridge will be removed. This work will only last for 2-3 days.

Although tides are now falling, by the end of next week we are again back to 8.0m tides, so the recycling team could easily be changing location on a daily basis depending on what weather we receive at the time. As and when I have any feel for what conditions might be like I will update you accordingly.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensy Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensy Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk

Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

22nd January 2014

2014 sees the launch of a brand new walking

festival, a joint event organised by Eastbourne Borough Council and Wealden District Council, with local groups invited to join in too. Working with walking groups and special interest organisations, the two Councils launch Coast and Country, which starts on 27th September 2014 with two consecutive weekends of activities.



The walking festival will encourage residents and visitors to take up walking as a way of staying healthy while at the same time enjoying the stunning beauty of this part of Sussex.

Local groups and those from further a field are invited to organise and lead walks which focus on the seafronts, promenades, downs and villages of East Sussex from the coast through to the High Weald. The event will offer personal challenges, new perspectives, fun, quirky and special interest walks to suit all tastes and fitness levels.

The two Councils are inviting walking groups and organisations to sign up to take part in Coast and Country to join those already registered such as Nordic Walking for Health, Eastbourne Walks, Soles and Souls, Walk and Cycle Holidays, Discovering Fossils, Sussex Pathfinders, The Ramblers (Sussex), High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Long Distance Walking Association, Sussex Young Walkers, local children centres and Age Concern.

The first weekend of the event 27-28 September will focus on Eastbourne, the seafront, Downs and nearby villages, while between 4-5 October the event will move north through Wealden and on to North Weald. In the week between regular, scheduled health walks will be promoted.

Groups seeking further information on taking part should contact [Jayne Howard](#) at Eastbourne Borough Council (Eastbourne, Downs and coastal villages) and [Sophie Hepworth](#) at Wealden District Council

17th January 2014

The Eastbourne Crime and Safety Partnership has published its January 2014 Newsletter.



There's lots of news and advice to keep you and your hard earned cash safe from criminals.

[Download the newsletter > >](#)

16th January 2014

Last night four pedal cycles were stolen in Eastbourne in separate incidents. Two of the bikes were unlocked. Please see the following advice from Sussex Police on how to protect your bikes.



[More > >](#)

16th January 2014

Last weekend two Eastbourne properties were burgled overnight where the intruder(s) gained access through unlocked front doors. A laptop, tablet, iPhone and Blackberry were stolen from a house in Elgar Way, and a Playstation taken from a property in Walton Close. Both offences occurred in the early hours of Sunday morning. Last night there was a break to a shed in Sandown Close and a quantity of tools were stolen. Access to the garden was gained via an unlocked side gate.



[More > >](#)

15th January 2014



The three NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups in East Sussex ([Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG](#), [Hastings and Rother CCG](#), [High Weald Lewes Havens CCG](#)) have today (January, 14 2014) launched a 12-week public consultation on the future of local maternity, in-patient paediatrics and emergency gynaecology services.

The 12-week consultation period starts on 14th January and finishes on 8th April 2014. We want as many people as possible to find out more about the options we are proposing and have their say during this consultation. Please read the document and give us your views. We want to know what you think and look forward to having a genuine conversation with the public and stakeholders over the next 12 weeks to help us make the right decision for local people.

[More > >](#)

15th January 2014

The Eastbourne Under Ground Theatre has had its first responses from local people who are ready to help it mark the one hundredth anniversary of the start of World War One. But it hopes that a lot more of them will be turning up at the theatre in person in mid-January, to enable it to put together an exhibition.



The UGT is planning a series of events in the summer of 2014, including a specially-commissioned show, a film, a professional drama, a Saturday morning of songs of the period, and several illustrated talks. However, it also wants to reflect the impact that the Great War had on the town of Eastbourne and the surrounding area. It is hoping to display both photographs and paintings in the theatre foyer, and also on-screen in the auditorium, and perhaps elsewhere. So: the theatre would welcome pictures of relatives in uniform, or of the "home front", or anything else that's relevant.

Anyone who has any photos or other images that fit the bill is asked to bring them to the Under Ground (below the main library) on either Friday 17th or Saturday 18th January, when the theatre will be open on each day from 10am until 4pm. The plan is to scan any pictures into a computer, for display later in the year. Anyone planning to bring in a picture, or pictures, is asked to provide at least a little information about the individual or the scene featured, if possible. Everyone will, of course, be able to take their pictures home with them, once the images have been scanned.

The volunteer in charge of the scanning operation will be committee member Chris Leach, who will be delighted to answer any queries people might have before bringing in their pictures.

[E-mail Chris.](#)

9th January 2014

In June 2012 East Sussex County Council was awarded £2.4 million from the Government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) to introduce measures to improve conditions for those walking, cycling and using public transport.



The aim of the LSTF programme is to support local authorities in delivering local transport schemes that will help deliver economic growth, whilst cutting carbon emissions and increasing levels of physical activity.

The money is to be used to introduce packages of local transport improvements in Lewes, Eastbourne, Newhaven and Peacehaven. This has to be spent by the end of March 2015, by which time all of the schemes will have to be implemented.

In Eastbourne the focus has been to provide a network of routes for cyclists linking key destinations in the town. In addition Eastbourne Borough Council is also consulting on routes that would be funded from a development contribution secured from Sovereign Harbour.

[Click here](#) to view the plans and make your comments.

4th January 2014

We have at least now passed the highest astronomical tides for this particular spring tide cycle, and as far as we can see there are just two more tides to be concerned about. Storm surges have been very low throughout (which has been of great benefit) but we do expect +0.35m at 01:20 tomorrow, which would mean the highest water level of the period. By then winds will have moderated and waves are predicted to be a little over 1m. If everything goes as expected, then this should pass without incident.



Before that we have the next tide at 13:00 today. This appears to be very similar to yesterday's lunchtime high tide, with slightly lower water level and slightly smaller waves...**but**...coming from the south rather than 30° further west as it did on Friday. Again, it is not expected to be significant enough for the Environment Agency to issue a full Flood Warning, but a further Flood Alert is being issued.

In view of this, machines will continue to work every tide until Sunday morning. If forecasts remain as they are, then we expect to return to more normal work patterns from Monday. I have no doubt it will take 3 or 4 weeks to get things back to roughly as they were before Christmas, and then of course we have to content with 7.9 – 8.0mCD tides between Friday 31st January and Monday 3rd February.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

Tel: 01323 761202
Mob: 07884 234298
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

2nd January 2014

As noon high water tomorrow approaches, the forecast appears to be moderating slightly. What was looking to be a southerly wave direction is now predicted to be closer to southwest, with the peak wave height expected late afternoon rather than midday. This all helps, but with high spring tides I would still expect there to be some overtopping.



Beach reinstatement has been going well in the most at risk areas, with calmer conditions this morning and again tonight helping considerably. Recycling will continue tonight and machines will again be out from 04:30 tomorrow ahead of the storm.

Although tomorrow may be improved compared to earlier forecasts, there is no respite over the weekend and into Monday. It may well be that the highest water level will be in the early hours of Sunday, but with reduced wave activity by then it should be no worse than what we will see tomorrow. All machines currently working will continue to operate each low tide through the weekend.

By Monday tide levels will be falling, so we hope to revert to more usual work patterns by Tuesday

Best wishes

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
Environment Agency Depot
Coast Road
Pevensey Bay
East Sussex BN24 6ND

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email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
Website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk