

Rye Harbour Newsletter

Issue 1 Volume 1
September 2001



Issue 1

Rye Harbour

28th September 2001

Newsletter Compiled By & For The Residents

Editor's Comments

WELCOME to the first edition of our local newsletter.

I would like, first of all to extend the communities condolences to any families suffering, a loss from this heinous act of terrorism committed earlier this month.

I would like to thank all the residents, that have contributed, in one way or another to the first edition of this publication and hopefully will continue for many more, with many thanks to my wife Karen, who has kept things together for me.

The Newsletter may start very small but I hope will grow with your help, support and input.

I have collated some local facts that you may find useful, if you wish to add anything I may have overlooked, then just drop us a line to: 17 Tram Road or e-mail me on:
marcus.whittaker@ic24.net

Any suggestions will be welcome.

I hope to publish the newsletter on a monthly basis, on the last Friday of every month. So the deadline for any thing to be printed next month, will be the second to last Friday in every month.



Special Features

- Youth Page &
- Competition
- Sea Defences
- Family News
- Local Events & Meetings
- Jumble Sale
- General Comments & Letters
- Tide Timetable

Fund Raising—Jumble Sale

Hello everyone, I am Pam Carroll, as most people in the village, will already know, I have been raising money with the help of friends, to try and purchase a skate pipe for all the teenage children in the village. We have almost two thousand pounds, which is great; we need about six thousand pounds in total. I am arranging a **Jumble Sale** in the

Village Hall on the **13th October** at **2.00pm.** to try and boost the fund a bit. If anyone could supply jumble or make a cake, I would be most grateful. And if anyone wanted to come and help, even better.
You can contact me, Pam Carroll on 01797 227090

Rye Harbour Youth Action Group

I have also been working with Val Gemmell from East Sussex County Council (Education Officer) and also other parents from the village, to form the Rye Harbour Youth Action Group. This is now underway and we hope to apply for funding to start up a Youth Group for the children in the village very soon. We will be holding a meeting for children to come along and express their views on equipment that they may want us to buy and purchase for the Youth Group. This will be held on Tuesday 9th October at 4.15pm. So kids don't miss out on what's going on and do come along after school.

There will be coke and biscuits served. I will keep everyone posted in the next newsletter. Oh and thanks to Marcus for starting the Rye Harbour Newsletter up again. I am sure we will all enjoy reading it.

Pam Carroll
See Page 7

Local Bus Information By Our Community Correspondent

The weekday bus service to Rye will be half hourly during the daytime commencing shortly, whilst the community bus will take over the High Street and Cadborough Cliff section of the town service. Regrettably the evening service tried last year, had less than 10% take up on passengers. This is the minimum for a subsidised service, under subsidy rules. We have heard of a possibility

of electrification of the Hastings - Ashford line, with through services of Ashford to Brighton. We await details with interest and will keep readers informed of developments.

Parish Council Notebook

For the time being meetings are being held in the Village Hall here in Rye Harbour. Usually on the second and fourth Monday at 7.15pm. Please look at the notice board outside of the hall for the agenda, a few days before the meeting.

Questions are invited during the first fifteen minutes, but due to abuse of questions by certain individuals, not from Rye Harbour, a written note must now be handed in beforehand with the query, also limited to three items in relation to Parish matters.

However items of interest to us, in Rye Harbour, were the new amenity land adjacent to Oyster Creek and Lucas Shadwell Way, has now been formally handed over and in association with Rye Harbour residents, children to our more senior residents, facilities will be added.

Hopefully a children's play area and sand pit, with something for the older children and adults. Present thinking is a hard court and a half pipe, has been mentioned. The council with the advice of the planning officer from Rother will be preparing an overall plan and consulting the community in due course.

Proposed Community Shop. Following a well attended public meeting recently, the Rye Partnership is proceeding with the purchase. Further details and how the shop will be run, will be presented later. Various options are available and will be considered.

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**DON'T FORGET NEXT MONTH
FREE CLASIFIED**



Rye Harbour Nature Reserve Report



Wildlife highlights in the last month have included an Osprey heading over the Beach Reserve on 26th August. Rarer still was a Lesser Emporer dragonfly on the same day at Castle Water, a migrant species with only a few records in Britain each year. A Montagu's Harrier passed through on 30th August. The rarest bird this month was a Pectoral Sandpiper, an American species, at Ternery Pool on 16th and 17th. Ternery Pool is probably the best place on the reserve to see good numbers and a variety of birds at the moment, with large numbers of duck including Wigeon, Pintail, Shoveler and Teal. Two Avocets have also been present for several days following a flock of 19 there on 18th. A few Green Sandpipers can still be seen there and a Little Egret is often feeding around the margins. There are many migrant species passing through including good numbers of Swallows and martins and scrubby areas support good numbers of warblers, especially Chiffchaffs and Blackcaps.

At the river mouth, many Meadow Pipits and Linnets are present feeding on the ground.

Forthcoming events, open to all

Sat 20th October - Booming Bitterns. Come to a talk about our most important wintering bird by Gillian Gilbert of the RSPB, who is involved with a project aimed at increasing the national population of Bitterns.

Sunday 21st October - 7.30pm at the Winchelsea Beach Community Hall - Birds of the Beach Reserve

Come on a guided walk to discover a large variety of migrants and winter visitors. Meet at Rye Harbour car park at 10.00am. Return about 12.30pm.

For more information on the nature reserve, visit our web site at naturereserve.ryeharbour.org.

Warden: Paul Troake

Rye Harbour Lifeboat Report

This year we have had 27 shouts to date and these have varied from children missing at Camber to a 'Gin Palace' out of fuel in the bay. The amount of inflatables has been low due to us not having much offshore wind during the school holidays. Several of the shouts were false alarms, where members of the public thought that people were in trouble. We don't mind going out to false alarms because we think that definitely is best to be safe rather than sorry. Training at the station still goes on at a fair pace, at present we are doing a First Aid at Sea course. One of our newer crew, Paul Bolton is off to Cowes on the Isle of Wight for a week's intensive boat handling at the end of the month. Are you the type of person that likes to get involved in helping others? Like messing around with boats and socialising, if you can answer yes to any of these, you could be the person we are looking for. Why not come and see us at the Lifeboat Station.

By Richard Tolley



Harbour Master's Comments

The warm summer days are now becoming quite autumnal. We have all noticed the geese gathering over the nature reserve prior to departing south for the winter. The numbers of visiting leisure craft begin to diminish as the last of the yachts scurry to their home ports for winter lay-up. The summer has been exceptionally warm and the numbers of arrival craft are up on last year although visits by foreign vessels are notably down, probably due to the adverse press on 'Foot and Mouth'.

The Multiple Sclerosis sponsored boat the 'Tonic' arrived at Rye early September crewed by 9 suffers of this most debilitating disease. They stayed over night before journeying on to Dieppe.

Commercial shipping into what was J. Alsford's Wharf, now under the ownership of Rastrum Limited, continues to accept ships from France, Cornwall and North Wales bringing in large volumes of Stone for the construction and road building industries.

To date the traffic is some 70% more than the same period last year. This has taken around 8,000 lorries movements from the motorways M6, M25 and the main arterial roads from the West Country with a consequent improvement to the Environment and for those who use the roads as part of their work pattern.

Major repairs and rebuilding to the Admiralty Jetty continues although a little slower than planned. This structure, built by the Navy in 1942, provides moorings for 23 fishing vessels and angling craft. Piling work to some 10% of the jetty has taken place during the day so avoiding creating noise at night. It is hoped work will be completed by March next year at a cost in the region of £750k. The refurbished structure is designed to last at least 50 years.

Harbour staff, who work a summer routine that requires working every weekend, now go into winter mode with the H.M. and DHM working alternate weekends. The office is still staffed 7 days a week opening at 9am. and closing for 5pm. although attendance is required for all commercial shipping movements. You will have noticed the warning traffic lights, Orange to the Office roof and a combination of Red, White and Green to the masts showing up and down stream. Warning broadcasts are also given over the VHF (Ch. 14) of impending movements.

The river is definitely getting cleaner. Test of recent samples taken at the Slipway and Monk Bretton Bridge show that our waters are officially class "A". That is they permit the movement of Migratory fish and sustain a wide variety of life. I was pleased to see a shoal of sand eels of the Admiralty Jetty during the early part of September, the first sighted in many years, so I am told. We also have a resident seal that can be seen sunbathing on the river banks within the middle channel. Have you noticed the abundance of vegetation growing at the waters edge both adjacent the Lifeboat Station and on the banks above Rye Wharf? A sure sign that our environment is improving.

We, at the harbour office, now settle down to a winter of general maintenance and repairs to the 60 or so beacons and lights that provide a safe navigation to berths and moorings in the river as far as the Strand Quay. It is never too soon to prepare for the next boating season 2002.

By Carl Bagwell

The Rye Partnership News

Progress towards re-opening the stores in Rye Harbour as a Community Shop is gathering pace. Rother District Council has earmarked a financial contribution towards the purchase of the shop subject to the Rye Partnership's application for funding from the South East England

Development Agency (SEEDA) being successful. This application is currently with SEEDA and a response is expected shortly. Additional to this, an application is being made to The Countryside Agency for funding to completely refurbish and modernize the shop. Watch

this space, but if you would like any further information on this or any other projects being facilitated by the Rye Partnership in Rye Harbour please, in the first instance, contact Kevin Stower on 01797-229600.

General Information

Local Tide Times

Add 1 hour for B.S.T. until 28th October

OCTOBER		Rye Harbour Approaches	
Date		O.D. Time metres	O.D. Time metres
1	M	1034 3.4	2254 3.2
2	Tu	1104 3.5	2321 3.4
3	W	1134 3.6	2348 3.4
4	Th	—	1201 3.6
5	F	0014 3.5	1226 3.6
6	Sa	0038 3.5	1252 3.6
7	Su	0105 3.5	1323 3.6
8	M	0138 3.4	1359 3.4
9	Tu	0219 3.0	1444 2.9
10	W	0312 2.5	1552 2.2
11	Th	0456 2.0	1756 2.1
12	F	0642 2.1	1922 2.5
13	Sa	0756 2.6	2030 2.9
14	Su	0854 3.2	2126 3.4
15	M	0944 3.7	2215 3.7
16	Tu	1030 4.1	2259 4.0
17	W	1113 4.4	2338 4.1
18	Th	1155 4.4	—
19	F	0016 4.0	1234 4.3
20	Sa	0053 3.9	1312 4.0
21	Su	0131 3.6	1351 3.6
22	M	0212 3.2	1435 3.1
23	Tu	0300 2.9	1527 2.5
24	W	0357 2.5	1628 2.0
25	Th	0502 2.0	1739 1.9
26	F	0617 2.0	1914 2.0
27	Sa	0739 2.2	2031 2.2
28	Su	0837 2.6	2113 2.6
29	M	0919 3.0	2143 3.0
30	Tu	0953 3.2	2213 3.2
31	W	1024 3.5	2243 3.4

Flood Warnings

Floodline
0845 988 1188

Local Police

Your Local Police Station No.
0845 607 0999

Mobile Library

The Library van will be parked in Rye Harbour Road every fortnight.

October
11th & 22nd

Youth Page

COMPETITION

Editors Note

We are running a competition for children of all ages.

If you have read the report on page two about The Rye Harbour Youth Action Group, just recently named.

We are looking for a young person to design a logo for the association's letterhead. All entries must be in by 10th October at 5pm with your name, address and telephone number to: 17 Tram Road.

Entries will be judged by three of our more senior residents on 13th October at 3pm in the Village Hall when we will award a prize.

The prize being four tickets to Drusillas Park. One adult must accompany. These tickets will not be dated, so you can go when you please.

I hope you enjoy the challenge.

I like living in Rye harbour because it is so close to the beach and I enjoy going to the beach in the summer. I like being able to walk with my friends without too much traffic to worry about.

I like Coronation field to play in.

For the future in Rye Harbour, I would like to see a bigger play area with play equipment for smaller children and toddlers as well as older children.

Nirosha Saunders aged 11 years

Hi, my name is Lee, I have lived in Rye Harbour for 3 and a half years. I like the Harbour because of a few things, the first thing is that the fishing lakes are very good and my second reason is bike rides, there are a lot of riding tracks. There is a big field to play games in and hopefully in the near future there will be more equipment, which will be our responsibility to look after.

Lee aged 11 years

The things that I would like to happen in Rye Harbour are an after school club, where you can play, dance, do Drama Class, etc and a Kids Disco once a month. Beach Games, Treasure Hunts and days out to farms and parks and a playing area.

I don't like the swing park that is all ready there. Nowhere to play, no shops and nowhere to ride a bike.

Michelle Tuohy aged 8 years.





Above: Top of Rye Harbour Road in 1930



Right: Tram Road in 1930

PROPOSED NEW SEA DEFENCES

Most of you will now have heard about the Environment Agency plans for a second line of defence against the sea flooding Rye Harbour and Winchelsea Beach.

According to plans supplied to me by Malcrow, working for the Environment Agency, this will be an earth embankment for the whole length of Mr. Douglas's Farm.

This embankment is planned to be just on the seaward side of the Nook Drain, but if was

nearer to the sea, along the line of the fence between the farm and the Nature Reserve, it would then protect the land as well as the villages and also preserve the view from the houses along the ridge at Winchelsea Beach.

It is also planned to take shingle (Rye Harbour Shingle) from near the river mouth, to strengthen the Pett sea defences, but not to maintain the first two miles or so of shoreline to the west of the

river Rother, thus making the new embankment essential, as if that length is not maintained it is only a matter of time before the sea breaches it as it did in the 1930's when Rye Harbour was flooded.

Surely our best protection would be for the first line of defence i.e.: the shoreline, to be properly maintained as well as the new embankment.

At the meeting on 24th Sept the general consensus of opinion by villagers was that the first line of defence, namely the Seashore, should be greatly strengthened. This was very strongly put forward by Parish councillor Hugh Sutton of Winchelsea bench and also supported by County councillor Keith Glazier.

We should all be thankful for the strong support of these two gentlemen, however, it seems most probable that the Environment Agency will flood Rye Harbour Farm by their inaction. Cyril Saunders

Proposed Sea Defences Cont.

At Mondays meeting, it was obvious that all the proposed schemes had been largely worked out on models and computers.

I was left feeling that none of those responsible had ever watched our sea at it's worst. I think we were fed some very dubious figures regarding costs.

No allowances had been made for the compulsory purchase of

the Rye Harbour Farm, and indeed, it was only direct questioning by councillor Glazier that made them admit that the scheme could not work without such a step.

It was also made plain to us that the Nature Reserve was not to be interfered with in any way, the fact that flooding would destroy the unique plant

life and change the character of the reserve entirely, seemed to

elude the planners. The whole scheme seems to me to be:

- 1, An engineers pet project.
- 2, A calculated attempt to extend the reserve, as of the list of consulted parties the first sort were all Conservation bodies.

The Bungalow, Tram Road

Rye Harbour Parent and Toddler Group

After the summer holidays, it is a fresh start for our group, and how nice to see so many toddlers and parents enjoying themselves in our Village Hall.

The new equipment, we have been funded for via the SRB, is certainly being put to good use. Thanks must go to so many people that have helped get us where we are today, namely, Greta Willet (community worker), Mary Allsopp (teaching advisor), Brenda and Margaret (health & Development workers) and not forgetting all at the SRB.

Parents are keen to take advantage of our Free Courses with creche facilities, that will be available to them soon.

The first course being, Basic First Aid, which will be certificated. Start date to be confirmed, hopefully October. There is also a lot of interest in Basic IT.

Many parents wish to try 'Make a Change' course which looks at career moves, i.e.: Where do you see yourself when you child is in

mainstream school?. These courses are designed to give confidence, to help retrain and/or follow up on interests, or perhaps try something new! Other courses will be available, we'll keep you posted, or come and join us at Rye Harbour Village Hall, Wednesdays 10.30 ~ 12.30 for fun and an informal chat.

Karen Whitaker.



Family Announcements

Deaths

SYD ANGEL

We have all been saddened recently by the deaths of so many of our friends. Syd Angel passed away the day after he had arrived in Ireland with his partner Janet for a fishing holiday.

He was a jolly good all round handy man and many people have many examples of his work.

In my house, I've got painting, wallpapering, curtain rails and outside fences and gates around my chicken run. All it needed was a telephone call to say you had a problem and Syd would come round as soon as he could.

SYLVIA WHALLEY

We are also missing Sylvia Whalley, she died very suddenly.

She was a very brave lady and had endured many years of pain and suffering, always cheerful, she was smiling every time you met her, and I am sure some days that was an effort. To her children we send our condolences.

VERA HUMPHREYS

One of our long term members of Rye Harbour W.I. We have also lost Vera Humphreys. She joined in every village activity, such as making cakes, when ever we entertained another W.I., although her

speciality was sausage rolls, they were delicious.

One of the best Treasurers we had, when it was subscription time Vera was there, and she made sure the money was right to the last penny. Also on the village committee, her opinion was always welcomed at each meeting.

MEG DOUGHTY

Many of you will I am sure remember Meg Doughty who has recently died. She was born in Broomhill, Margaret Baker, one of 4 boys and 4 girls.

One of the family is still living in Camber, Ted who is aged 90.

Meg lived in Tram Road for many years when her husband was manager of 'Spun Concrete'.

She had three children, May died a few months ago, but to Mary and Michael we send our sympathy, also to the Grandchildren, Bridget, Christopher and their families.

MAURICE CUTTING

We have all had a shock in the death of Maurice Cutting, known to us all as 'Morco'.

During the war when I was home on leave from working at Reading Aerodrome and Morco was home on leave from the Royal Marine Commandos, my dad used to take us

Family Announcements

Deaths Cont.

up in his car to Rye Station and we would travel together to Brighton and then I would go on to Portsmouth to see my sailor boy friend, or to Shoreham-by-sea to visit my future in-laws, and Morco would go on to Petworth, a town at the back of Brighton, to see his sweetheart Miss Lilian Gumbrell, later to become Mrs Lilian Cutting.

He was a great countryman and sportsman and we will all miss seeing him with his little spaniel dog. Mrs Cutting would like to say Thank You to the many friends for all the beautiful flowers, cards, messages and support shown to her at this time.

Thanks for Sympathy

VERA HUMPHREYS

We and the Humphreys family would like to thank everyone for the kindness shown during mum's illness and the subsequent funeral.

She made many friends during her 38 years in Rye Harbour and was made to feel an integral part of the community.

Thanks especially to those who visited her at home during her illness and the ladies who did the buffet out of kindness.

Viv & Pat Ennis

Hospital

At the time of writing, Marie Taylor is still in hospital, she has been in for many weeks, and we would like to send our best wishes for her speedy recovery.

She has been quite poorly for a long time and I am sure she will be very pleased when she is allowed to come home.

BIRTHS



Many Congratulations to Charlotte and Scott on the birth of baby Jessica.

Born 21/08/01 at 20.28 Hrs & weighing in at 7lb 4ozs. I went up to their house and had a cuddle the day she came home.



Also, Congratulations to Claire and Paul, we send our best wishes on the arrival of Isabelle.

Born 04/09/01 weighing in at 7lb 11ozs.

I have also seen this lovely little girl, wearing her new trainers.

All these reports were written
By Nanny Pat

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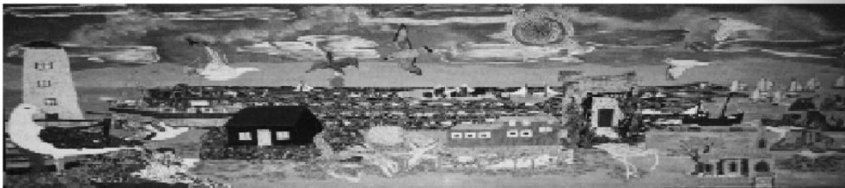
All Classified Adverts will be FREE

**Don't Forget To Visit
RYE HARBOUR'S
Very Own Web Site At**

<http://www.ryeharbour.org>

Sylvia Alford has started the winter Ploughman's Lunches again and those of us who went on Monday had a jolly good meal and a long natter with friends some of whom we see every day and some not so often.

The money raised now, Sylvia tells me, is to pay for a frame for the collage, which we made during last winter.



Sponsored By Rye Bay Steering Group

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