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Issue 4 Volume 4

Rye Harbour Newsletter
Compiled By & For The Residents

January 2005

Editor's Comments

Wishing you all a Happy New Year for 2005.

Below is Valerie Haffenden who won the Christmas Hamper in last months competition. There was considerable interest and commiserations to the losers but maybe another chance next month for Valentines. See page 18 for last months answers.

Last years Children's Christmas Party was a great success, well done Julie and all your helpers. Parent and Toddler party went well until Santa turned up and frightened all the



little ones, as above, but I think they were happy in the end.

Next months deadline is **Saturday 15th January.** January, generally in the

past, has not been a large issue, so it was good to see 40 pages in this issue, maybe we can do the same for February.

Once again I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to this New Year. Pictures for both parties mentioned can be seen on page 20 and eventually will be on the www.ryeharbour.org website in colour for all to see and have.

Special Features

- ♦ What's On
- ♦ Local Bus Times
- ♦ Comments & Letters
- ♦ Sailing Club
- ♦ Sea Defences
- ♦ Shop Times
- ♦ Church News
- ♦ Nature Reserve
- ♦ Rye Harbour Heritage
- ♦ Fishing News
- ♦ Family News
- ♦ Neighbourhood Watch Update
- ♦ Fairway Buoy
- ♦ Characters of Rye Harbour
- ♦ Tide Timetable
- ♦ Parent & Toddler
- ♦ Harbour Masters Report
- ♦ Rye Harbour Picture Gallery



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ON SATURDAY 1ST JANUARY WE ARE DISPLAYING A SELECTION OF ORIGINALS BY PETER JONES AND OTHER LOCAL ARTISTS.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHOW UP TO FOUR PICTURES

PLEASE CALL THE GALLERY AT THE NUMBER BELOW.

THE WALL SPACE WILL BE FREE OF CHARGE.

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LIGHT REFRESHMENTS ON THAT DAY ONLY

VIEWING FROM THIS DAY THROUGHOUT JANUARY

FOR THE WORK OF LOCAL ARTISTS

TELEPHONE: 01797 229678 / 07989 056788 FOR FREE FRAMING QUOTATION

SEE PAGE 8 FOR SELECTION OF LOCAL PICTURES IN GALLERY

Rye Harbour Newsletter

Editor - Marcus Whitaker
Design - Marcus Whitaker
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New Advertising Rates

From Issue 1 Volume 3

Full Page £25.00
Three Quarter Page £20.00
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Quarter Page £10.00
Eighth Page £ 5.00
Back Page Add On £20.00
Inside Front or Back Page Add On £10.00
Initial Artwork Charge Of £10.00
If Required, Unless Otherwise Agreed
All artwork done in colour
will remain in colour on the
Web Site: www.ryeharbour.org

Rye Harbour Newsletter

Office 01424 814003

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E-Mail : ryeharbournews@ic24.net

Or Post Box In Rye Harbour Stores

Views and opinions that are expressed in this magazine, are not necessarily those of the Editor or named contributors. To the best of my knowledge all the details are correct at the time of going to press and I regret that I cannot be responsible for any alterations or cancellations. I claim copyright for everything in this publication. There can be no reproduction of any article without prior written permission from the Editor.

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Rye Harbour Stores

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Saturday's 8 am to 5.30 pm

Sunday's 8 am to 1.30 pm

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There will be the opportunity to play / participate in:

Badminton	Short Tennis
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Extend Aerobics (Thursdays)	Extend Water Aerobics (Thursdays)



Tuesdays 1.30 pm - 3.30 pm

Thursdays 3.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Members: £3.00 per session + free drink
£3.25 per session + Extend Class + Free Drink

Non Members: As above +75p admission charge

For further information please contact Rye Sports Centre (01797) 224747

Preserving our Local Heritage

I'm sure we all agree that Rye Harbour is a very special place for many reasons, not least for its wonderful history and beauty.

From its humble beginnings, when we consider the development of the Harbour, much has already been documented but much more remains as it is passed from generation to generation in the form of photographs, and rich word-of-mouth stories. It is important that this information is preserved, archived and made available not only to the present generation but future generations of "Harbour Ducks" so that they too can be proud of their heritage.

The Lottery Fund is currently awarding grants to local communities such as ourselves under the banner of The Local Heritage Initiative to enable local groups to develop their own heritage projects. On that basis it is intended to make an application to the LHI for a grant to enable us to document and record the history of our community to be made available to all and maybe even put on

permanent display. It is proposed to do this in a number of ways:

a) Obtain as many photos as are available, scan them into a data base and add as much information about them as possible, ie who are in the pictures, when, where and why they were taken, what was happening at the time etc etc.

b) Record conversations with the Harbour's older residents, collect their stories and memories both good and bad and make this available as part of a heritage display.

c) Research the development of the general historical development and the Harbour's industries, starting with the arrival of the Dragoons to patrol the smuggling routes, the village's various concrete industries etc.

Whilst those of us planning to make the application to fund this project think it is hugely worthwhile, there is little point moving forward without the full support of the village as obviously the benefit will be for EVERYONE.

We propose therefore to hold an informal meeting in the village hall on **THURSDAY JANUARY 27 2005** to discuss the way ahead and to give everyone a flavour of what we propose. There will be another slide show similar to the previous one put on by Steve Tollett, but hopefully with a few more pictures, and we'll be encouraging your memories and general banter and hope to record anything which doesn't fall foul of bad taste or libel laws. We would also like to play a few recorded interviews from some of the elder statesmen and women of the village with a few anecdotes and tales, tall and otherwise, of the old days. There will also be a glass of wine for us all to belatedly see in the New Year.

Please keep an eye out for the reminder posters and put a note in your 2005 diaries. Remember, this is YOUR important heritage we would like to preserve.

If anyone has any suggestions or offers of information in the meantime feel free to give me a call (222 304)

Alan Read

Rye Harbour Art Gallery

Pictures Displayed At
Rye Art & Framing



Keith Kettle



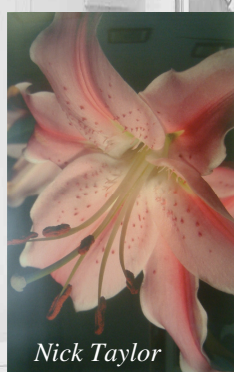
Richard Adams



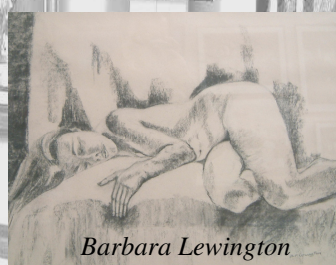
Patricia Barefoot



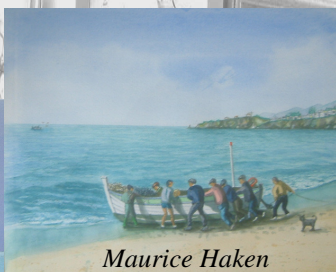
Helon Lavinia Moore



Nick Taylor



Barbara Lewington



Maurice Haken



Peter Jones

Pictures featured on this page will be in black & white, although any pictures that are colour can be viewed as such on www.ryeharbour.org or at Rye Art & Framing, details page 2. Please remember these are only photos of art and hence do not necessarily do the picture or painting justice.

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For Further Details

AGE Concern

Due to the increase in demand, Age Concern East Sussex require more self employed gardeners to include in their gardeners register for many parts of Rother. The gardeners agree to work for no more than £7.00 per hour for the current year. They are also required to supply two references and evidence of insurance.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact the co-ordinator Age Concern East Sussex, the Almonry, High Street, Battle TN33 0EA or ring 01424 775721.



01797 225006

NEW PROGRAMME FOR 2005

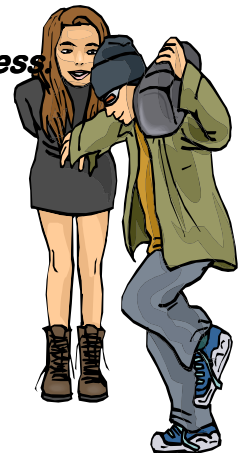
Monday	3.30-5.30pm	After-Schools Club (free) 11-14 years
Monday	7.00-9.00pm	Youth Club 11-14 years (50p)
Tuesday	10 -12.00pm	Parent and Child Group (£1.25)
Tuesday	3.30-5.30pm	After Schools Club
Wednesday	3.30-5.30pm	After Schools Club
Wednesday	7.0-11.00pm	Over 16's youth club (free)
Thursday	3.30-5.30pm	After Schools Club
Thursday	7.00-9.30pm	Youth Club 14+ - 50p
Friday	3.30-5.30pm	After Schools Club
Friday	7.00-9.00pm	Amateur Dramatics Group
Saturday	7 - 10.00pm	Young People with Learning Difficulties Disco £1.50 From 11 Upwards, No Age Limit



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



BOGUS NHW CALLER

There have been several reports of a bogus caller operating in the area. He is claiming to work in conjunction with Neighbourhood Watch, which he is not. He is also claiming to be a representative from a well known double-glazing company. He wanted to inspect one man's house, saying that he wanted to check his home security. He also entered the home of an elderly lady and threatened her. The man is described as being in his 40's, short, dark, well spoken and polite. He maybe working with a woman. Do not answer the door to anyone you do not know, or who you are not expecting.

RAT ON A RAT CAMPAIGN

Joe Edwards, Sussex Police's Deputy Chief Constable is urging the public to 'Rat on a Rat' as part of a new campaign that invites the public to tell the authorities about drug dealers - who they are and where they operate - using the Crimestoppers anonymous phone line.

The campaign will be used throughout Sussex in conjunction with different operations and initiatives to combat the blight caused by drugs.

The information provided by the public could alert the police to a new problem or confirm existing intelligence. Either way, the police can take action to rid the local community of drug dealers and the problems they cause.

Anyone who wants to rat on a rat should phone Crimestoppers on 0800 555111. You do not have to give your name and you may qualify for a reward.

Visit <http://www.sussex.police.uk/campaigns/ratonrat.asp> for further information.

DON'T JUST TELL STRANGERS THAT YOU ARE OUT?

Message from one of our members

I frequently place free advertisements in the Friday Ad for various unwanted household items I have for sale. I am getting increasingly concerned about the number of people who, in response to my ads, ask me in a mock-casual fashion when I will be in and when I won't be in.

Despite my being an astute and streetwise person I actually gave out this kind of information to a couple of people. Only when they subsequently failed to show up to view the items did I start to realise that maybe they weren't genuine buyers after all but burglars! The callers sound very genuine and express great interest in the item you are selling, then the questioning starts and sounds quite innocent: "If I call round tomorrow, will there be anybody in during the day?"

It's the easiest thing on earth to reply along the lines of "Oh no, sorry, there's no-one here during the day except at weekends, can you come after 7pm?" One is helpful and amenable because one wants to sell the item and not alienate the potential buyer.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Cont...

I now say "there is someone here all the time, but only I can deal with this sale, so why don't you come after 6pm", something along those lines. Alternatively, if people say "I've been advised by the police not to give out that kind of information, so why don't you tell me when you can come and I'll see if I can be available."

It can't be only me who has had these kinds of calls, so can you circulate this by email and pass it on to the police to make people aware of the potential danger?

HASTINGS & ROTHER APPEALS

At approximately 2 am on Sunday 12 December a man suffered a broken ankle in an incident outside The Club Horizon in Ferry Road, Rye. Police are appealing for witnesses to come forward.

They are asked to contact police on 0845 60 70 999 quoting serial number 1029 of 12/12/2004.

MESSAGE FROM TRADING STANDARDS Louise Baxter

£20 per minute and £50 per minute 'premium rate scam' warnings

Over the last few days, ICSTIS has received dozens of enquiries about the above 'scams', which are being widely publicised by e-mail. To help us put an end to the current spate of enquiries, please pass this information on to all contacts.

Please note that these stories are NOT true.

£20.00 per minute and £50.00 per minute premium rate tariffs do not exist - the highest premium rate tariff available is £1.50 per minute. Despite the dozens of enquiries received by ICSTIS about these 'scams' (and most people appear to have heard about them second or third-hand), not one person who claims that it has

SUSSEX POLICE

In an emergency dial 999

For all other calls use 0845 60 70 999. If responding to a NHW by e-mail message please quote the Serial No. and date or the Crime Reference No.

Crimestoppers: 0800 555111 Information about any type of crime can be given anonymously on this number. Trading Standards: 01323 418200

Hastings Borough Council ASBO (Anti Social Behaviour Order)

Helpline: 0800 783 6084

Rother Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator: 01424 456160

Harbour Watch

Do you want to be kept up to date with Neighbourhood Watch information about crime prevention advice and issues relating to your area.

Then why not subscribe to this free service to receive this information by e-mail, either at work or at home.

It's as easy as sending an e-mail to HarbourWatch-owner@yahoo.co.uk to join. Please make sure that the subject reads 'SUBSCRIBE'.

If you would like to receive the NHW information at a different e-mail address, then include this in the message body.

Rye Harbour Nature Reserve Report

At the beginning of December we had a well supported pre-Christmas clean up of the beach. Over 100 bags were filled with rubbish, mostly blown in from the sea, followed by hot soup at Lime Kiln Cottage. Pictured are just some of the volunteers and



The replacement for the Parkes hide has now been completed (apart from the display boards), and is open

for business as it were! The increased size of the hide has required some re-jigging of the electric fence and the removal of some of the old fencing and screening. We are

winter visitors. At least two Bittern were present around Castle Water, the first Smew of the winter visited Ternery Pool, together with large flocks of waterfowl,



Friends of the Nature Reserve at the start of the event.

Despite the often un-seasonally warm weather during November, the bird interest was largely provided by the 'hard-core'

including up to 160 Shoveler duck! Other winter visitors included thrushes such as Fieldfare and Redwing and finches such as Brambling and Redpoll, while a rare visitor to the reserve was a Waxwing at Castle Water.

awaiting contractors to renew the fencing near the hide, as much of it is rather rusty and dilapidated, while the wardens will replace the screening on the banks leading to the entrance. The shingle in

(Continued on page 17)

Rye Harbour Nature Reserve Report Cont..



(Continued from page 16)

front of the hide was landscaped by volunteers during a work party. By the time you read this, work will have been carried out re-surfacing the path to the new hide to make it accessible to some wheelchairs and a lot easier for the rest of us.

With the weather still mild for this time of year, schools are still venturing out of the classroom. Camber Castle has recently been explored by a school

visiting from Hackney in London, with a spot of bird watching at Castle Water to round off the day. The spectacular sunset over the hills was one that the children will remember for a long time.

Forthcoming events:

Sun 25th January - Beach Reserve Circular Walk.

Why not come along and take a closer look at our waders, wildfowl and other wintering birds. Meet at the Rye Harbour Car Park at 10am, returning 1pm

(2 miles)

Sun 6th February – A Winter Ramble Around Pett Level. A look at the wintering birds of the levels and a visit to the hide at Pannel Valley Nature Reserve. Please bring your own lunch and binoculars if you have them. Meet at the Roadside Pool at Pett Level at 10am, returning 2pm (4 miles).

Barry, Miriam, Chris and Sam

RYE HARBOUR HERITAGE - PAGE 21

Rye & District Age Concern

**Age concern is providing an Outreach Information Service in Rye
At Rye CVS, 25 Cinque Ports Street, Rye**

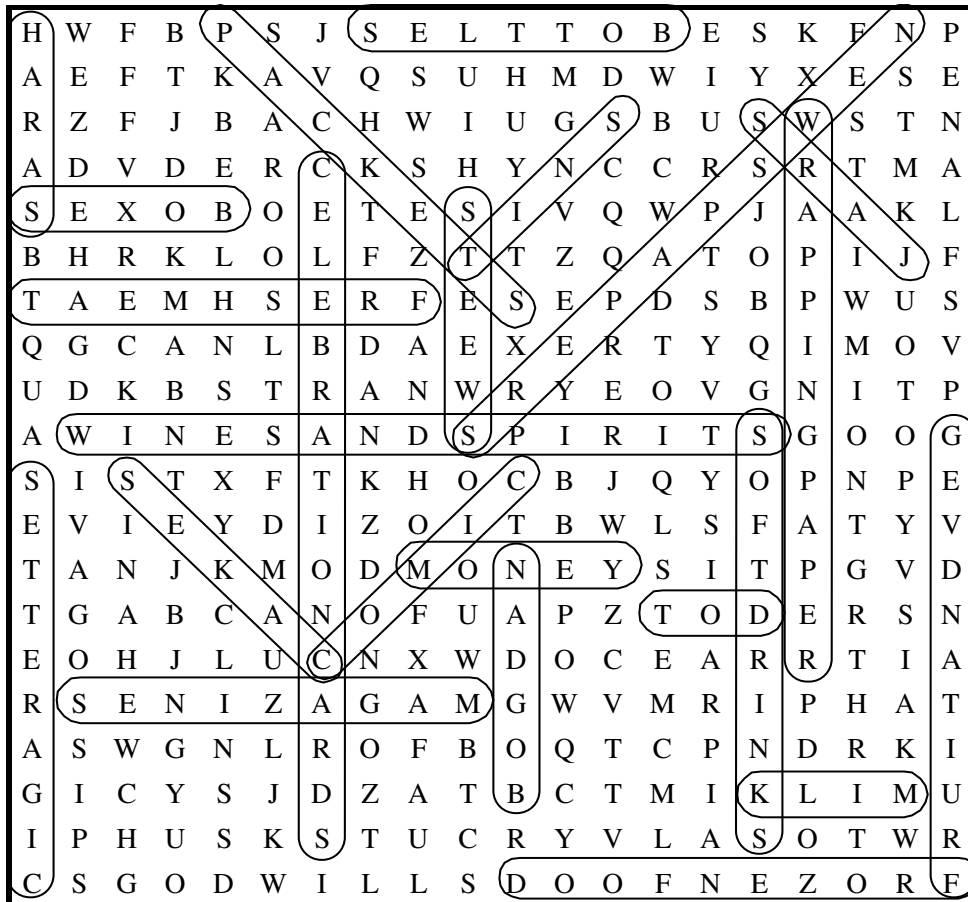
On the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 10am to 12noon

There is a wide range of information available, on subjects such as benefits, residential homes, sheltered accommodation, support services, clubs, transport and many more. Age concern factsheets are available and copies can be supplied on request.

The service aims to help older people, their families, friends and carers. Callers can drop in during the opening hours mentioned above or telephone on **01797 225466**

WORDSEARCH COMPETITION

Last months competition winner was Valerie Haffenden opposite, with part of the hamper. She certainly won't be short of turkey this Christmas.



WHAT'S ON - IN YOUR LOCAL AREA

JANUARY

SUN 2ND

A New Year's Walk in Northiam

Start New Year with a winter's walk round the paths and lanes of Northiam. Meet at Northiam public car park off A28 near church at 1pm

Guided New Year's refresher walk

round estate – Meet at 2pm Pestalozzi International Village, Reception. No public transport on Sundays.

SAT 8TH

Christmas Tree Recycling

– Rye Rangers use old Christmas trees to help stabilise the sand dunes at Camber. Whole trees only please. Meet at 10am Central car park, Old Lydd Road, Camber or Tanhouse Furniture Peasmarsh near Jempsons supermarket.

Wed 12TH

Sand Dune Conservation Task Day

Come and assist the Rye Rangers with conservation work on the only sand dune system in East Sussex. NO skills necessary as training will be given. Wear stout footwear and old clothes. Meet at 9.30am Camber central car park, Old Lydd Road. Pre booking essential – 01797 226488

SUN 16TH

Footprints at Fairlight? – A winter walk around Fairlight on a maritime Heritage trail featuring the quite rural village of Pett, Cliff End and Knowle Wood as well as some local geological history and search for Dinosaur footprints. Bring drink snack or packed lunch to eat afterwards.

Meet 9am outside visitors centre at Fairlight. Donations appreciated.

SUN 23RD

Beach Reserve Circular Walk

A closer look at our Waders, Wildfowl and wintering birds. Meet Rye Harbour car park 10am – 1pm. Donations appreciated.

FEBRUARY

THU 3RD

Winter Festival

- Runs till 6th February. Please visit www.visitrye.co.uk and click on Rye Festival link for further details.

SUN 6TH

Friends of Rye Wurlitzer

– Held at Thomas Peacocke Community College from 2.30pm. Ian Griffin will be playing. Tickets £4.50. Phone 01424444058

A Winter Ramble Around Pett Level

– A look at the wintering birds of the levels and visit a hide at Pennel Valley Nature Reserve.

Please bring your own lunch and binoculars if you have them. Meet at The roadside pool at Pett Level – TQ 903146 at 10am. Return about 2pm. Donations appreciated.

Winter Wildlife

– Guided estate walk, Winter Wildlife. Meet Pestalozzi International village at reception for 2pm. Charge £1. NO bus service on Sundays.

TUE 8TH

Pancake Race

- Details to follow

FRI 18TH

Rye Bay Scallop Festival

– For further details please contact Tom Cosgrove (Ypres) 01797 223248 or Yolanda 01797 229600. Runs till 27th

SAT 19TH

The Friends of Rye Harbour Nature Reserve

- Animal Architecture – The Mysterious world of a spider and ant. Held at Rye Community Centre, Conduit Hill at 2.30pm. Speaker Dave Maylem.

Fun Bird Feeding Activities

– A fun family events, come and learn about all The different bird feeding habits and try making some bird feeders and tasty meal to take home for your garden birds. Meet Rye Harbour village hall at 10am until 12.30pm. Materials provided. Cost £2 per child accompanying adults FREE. Wheelchair accessible

Please note:-

Rye Farmer's Market held every Wednesday at Strand Quay From 10am – 1pm.

General Market held every Thursday

& Bank Holiday Mondays at Station Approach from 9 – 3.30pm approx

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT YOU WOULD LIKE ME TO ADD, PLEASE LET ME KNOW BEFORE DEADLINE

RYE OBSERVER - VILLAGE VOICE

RYE HARBOUR NEEDS YOU!!!

To write a small column each week on the events of Rye Harbour that often get missed by a monthly publication.

The job does pay, it won't make you a millionaire but a little is better than nothing. So if you think you have a little time each week to write a few words, then don't be shy and give it a try, you may surprise yourself. Contact Andy Helmsley at the Rye Observer on 01424 854242 for a warm welcome.

RYE HARBOUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



PARENT & TODDLER CHRISTMAS PARTY





L. J. EDWARDS
Executive Coach Travel



Day Trips for January 2005

<i>Sun 9</i>	<i>Brugge & Chocolate Shop</i>	<i>£ 27.00</i>
<i>Thu 13</i>	<i>Rye Market & Tenterden Garden Centre</i>	<i>£ 10.00</i>
<i>Mon 17</i>	<i>Cite Europe & Adinkerke</i>	<i>£ 22.50</i>
<i>Sun 23</i>	<i>Brugge & Chocolate Shop</i>	<i>£ 27.00</i>

Day Trips for February 2005

<i>Sun 6</i>	<i>Brugge & Chocolate Shop</i>	<i>£ 27.00</i>
<i>Tue 8</i>	<i>South Kensington Museums & Free Time</i>	<i>£ 15.00</i>
<i>Wed 9</i>	<i>Boulogne & Hypermarket</i>	<i>£ 22.50</i>
<i>Sun 13</i>	<i>London Eye & Covent Garden</i>	<i>£ 23.00</i>
<i>Sun 13</i>	<i>Sluis & Chocolate Shop</i>	<i>£ 27.00</i>

Short Breaks & Holidays 2005

A TASTE OF CORNWALL

Monday 14th February 2005 - 5 Days DBB £199.00

LONDON SPECTACULAR - IDEAL HOME WEEKEND

Saturday 12th March 2005 2 Days B&B £ 99.00

MINI BREAK IN WEYMOUTH

Friday 8th April 2005 - 4 Days DBB £ 169.00

IRELAND WITH A DIFFERENCE

Sunday 15th May 2005 8 Days DBB £ 425.00

WARNERS – THORESBY HALL

Monday 30th May 2005 5 Days DBB £ 320.00

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The Rye Fairway Buoy

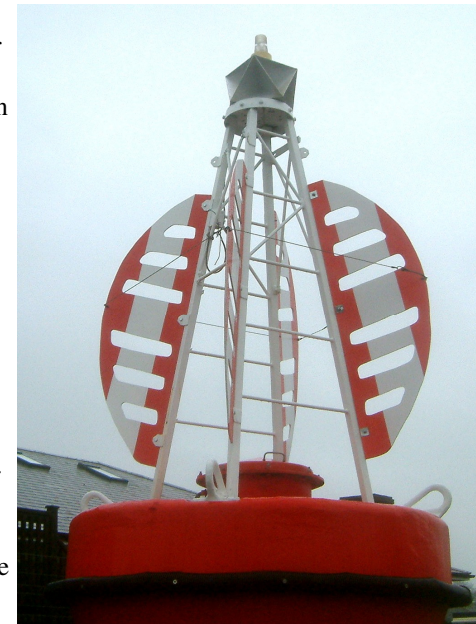
Part Two

Buoy number two used as a temporary one received the same whilst the main buoy was being serviced.

maintenance schedule as number one buoy, the buoy's anchor chain was 90 feet long, made up of open links forged from 1" dia steel bar. Each link was 7" long.

Because the Rye Bay seabed is very sandy, it was recommended to check the anchor end of the chain for wear, every 3-4 years. If wear was found, to change the chain around, i.e. Anchor end to buoy and buoy end to anchor.

The third buoy was known as the Spar buoy, this was because of its construction, which consisted of a long steel pole with a floatation tank in the middle of the pole. This was shaped like a large "Pear", on one end was a chamber just large enough to hold one Acetylene cylinder, and the other end had the lamp attached. This buoy was



One interesting episode, we had with the Spar buoy was as follows: Mick Sharp said to me one morning, "the buoy has gone missing, it must have sunk!" he went off to get his grappling irons and went to sea to grapple the anchor chain, the point must have broken off and the buoy had floated away. He told the Harbour Master (The late Colin Marsh) of this and we got the main

buoy, back on station as soon as possible. As the weeks went by the disappearance of the buoy was forgotten about until the Wharf manager (The late Peter Paine) said "the missing buoy has been found washed up on the Essex coast, and that J. Jempsons transport would be bringing the buoy back to the Wharf. Apparently the buoys "Home Town was determined by the buoys flash sequence, i.e. two over ten, two second burn at

eight second intervals before the next two second burn (two over ten). As a result of the missing buoy episode, buoy two arrived at the Wharf to replace it; this meant that a buoy was ready to replace the buoy being brought back from its station for servicing.

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Can you help the Village Hall?

Rye Harbour Village Hall Management Committee is looking for help with fund raising and with their Lottery Grant application. The hall is a large building and funding is needed to help continue the renovations and improve the access to the Village Hall.

The current committee is small and they are looking for willing volunteers to help.

If you are interested in giving up some free time to coordinate the Village Halls application for grants or help with fundraising then please contact:

Ann Newman or Steve Rogers on 225755

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child

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Sea Defences Project Progress – Nov 2004

It has been difficult to ignore the recent work taking place at Nook Point (by the harbour arm on the west bank of the river). Large deliveries of material have been made and there is of lot of activity. The contractors (Van Oord ACZ - Mackley) have helpfully issued a couple of newsletters, copies of which have been posted in the shop and at Lime Kiln Cottage. The next stage of the Pett Level Sea Defences project is thus under way, the intent being to finish the civil engineering work by the end of February. This season's scope of work is in four major parts: -



- 1) Installation of new timber groynes at Pett Level
- 2) Landward extension of the existing Concrete Terminal Groyne at Nook Point.
- 3) Installation of rock armouring for scour protection.
- 4) Shingle excavation and transport to Pett Level and Winchelsea Beach.

Most of the work so far has been with the new groyne installation at Pett Level; simultaneously at Nook Point 5,500 tonnes of rock armouring have been delivered from Larvik in Norway. This is a high-quality material which can be moved several times to fit the needs of the

project. At the same time two parallel lines of temporary sheet piling, each about 75 metres long have been installed approximately 9 metres apart after the old wooden shingle baskets (cribwork) have been removed. Some of the rock armouring has been positioned to provide protection to the temporary work area to avoid a repeat of the damage from last winter's storms. Inside the sheet piling the new terminal groyne is designed to the same height as the existing Harbour Arm. It is cast in concrete, the bottom course of which is 7 metres wide, superimposed on which are two more courses, one 3 metres wide and above that a 1 metre wide wall. The top will be finished off with several courses of timber planking. The concrete will have a high quality surface finish so the visual effect should be very good. The total length of the terminal groyne is 74 metres cast in 24 cells, so there will be about 350 concrete deliveries from the Brett plant in Lydd through the village to the site over the next three months.

Most of the rock armouring will be used to prevent scour around the terminal groyne and the temporary sheet pile pocket groyne installed last year about 200 metres west of the harbour arm to create the shingle pocket. Some of the rock armouring will be used as a protection for the existing harbour arm to absorb wave energy and minimise the damage to what is already a venerable structure. Once the rock armouring is in its final position it will be much less visible than at present.

With both the shingle pocket and the river mouth properly protected it is then safe to dig out about 40,000 cubic metres per year of shingle. The plan is to re-charge the Pett Level beach between the new groynes being installed there using the timber brought in from Guyana on the ship recently stranded at Jury's Gap. The long-term success of the sea defences thus depends on moving the shingle back to Pett Level to make up any losses due to wave action. Apparently Rye Bay shingle is now not renewed from outside the area, except perhaps for some input from the collapsing cliff at Fairlight. The shingle



we see after the winter storms piled up on our beach has only come from Pett Level and Winchelsea Beach, the loss of which leads to the increased flood risk there. The crest line of the beach in the pocket at Nook Point is designed to go back as much as 60 metres depending on the tug of war between the sea depositing the shingle and the trucks transporting it back to Pett Level!

Next year's plan is to start building the flood defence bund between Rye Harbour and Winchelsea Beach. This will act as a secondary defence in case of a breach in the primary defence between Winchelsea and Nook Point. The bund will be built from material taken from the fields of Harbour Farm. Recently samples

have been taken at various points to determine the thickness of the surface layer above the shingle beds and at first sight there is a more than adequate material in place to construct the bund. It is then hoped to use some of the excavated areas to improve the Nature Reserve.

What is apparent is that both client and contractor are working well together since the project is going to plan at present; so far we have been lucky this autumn – indeed into the first days of December and in contrast to last year's storms – we have still to go through to next March, however. From a layman's viewpoint the risks in the project now appear to be better recognised and allowed for, so we should be confident of a successful outcome without excessive damage to the river or disturbance to the fauna, residents and visitors. Indeed the large flocks of golden plover and other birds in the area appear to be coping well. We hope therefore the weather continues to be kind and the concrete trucks keep their speed down while going through the village.

Mike Slavin



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Characters Of Rye Harbour

Miriam Inskip was born in Hastings on December 21st. 1978 and has one older brother called Jasper. They lived just outside Eastbourne at Chiddingly until she was 8 years old when they bought a farm on the Isle of Man. At first they reared beef but BSE struck and they moved to the rare Manx Loaghtan Sheep which proved to be great escape

artists. Throughout her life Miriam has always had horses, competing and representing the IOM horse trials, show jumping and tetrathalon (which is 4 disciplines - shooting, swimming, running and riding). She was always sporty at school and while at Nottingham University where she studied Animal Science (BSc. Hons.) which consisted of animal physiology and production she played in the University netball team. Miriam continued her studies at Napier

University Edinburgh doing an MSc. in Wildlife Biology and Conservation and did an indepth study on the African Wild Dog in the Ngorongoro Crater in Northern Tanzania, East Africa to see if it would

Visitor Services Assistant and gained a cat called Nugget and when she moved into rented accomodation in Rye the animals moved with her the horse was found a field in Iden! Rye Harbour

Nature Reserve gained a Community Officer where she most certainly enhances and promotes the Nature Reserve - doing guided tours for schools and other community groups.



be possible and feasible to introduce the Wild Dog there. When she was in Edinburgh Miriam had with her two foals which she had bred in the IOM and they were called Agatha and Christie - and their mum was called Jane Marple. Sadly Christie died when she was 3 years old of grass sickness which is a paralysis of the gut and it is not known why this happens.

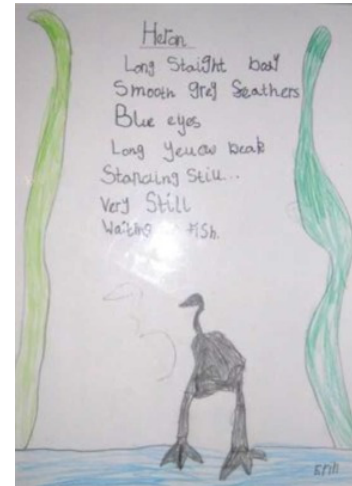
Miriam then moved to Cambridge to work for the National Trust at Wimpole Hill Farm as a Farm

Throughout the summer months Miriam organizes various fun activities for families - these are much appreciated and enjoyed. She organizes and manages over 100 volunteers throughout the year - these man/woman Lime Kiln Cottage and Little Tern Watches which help protect the rare Little Terns 24 hours a day after they travel here from Africa for the breeding season until they return again. She

(Continued on page 29)

Characters Of Rye Harbour Cont.....

(Continued from page 28)



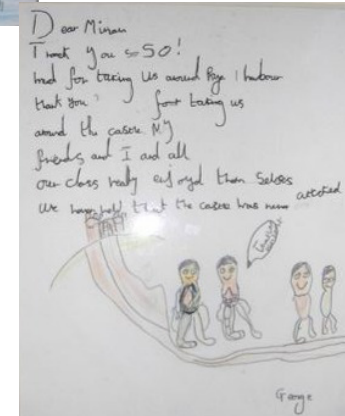
encourages volunteers to partake in the Practical Workparties on the Reserve and also opens up Camber Castle during the summer months. From working in schools Miriam now wants to teach and is also working part time in a school in Kent to get further practical experience in the classroom. Miriam has now bought a small cottage in Guestling and the horse lives there as well. Miriam is heavily involved with the Young Farmers in her spare time and was the Programme Secretary last year organizing trips throughout the year one being to the Rye Harbour Lifeboat

Station. She is now the Vice Chairperson and most important of all she met her partner Chris through the Young Farmers! Miriams parents gave up the farm on the IOM when she moved up to Edinburgh and now live in Andorra in the Pyrenees - 10 minutes from the ski slopes so Miriam and Chris get good ski-ing holidays. They are

spare time so was particularly interested in his sisters involvement with the environmental sculptures. Throughout her life Miriam has done a lot of travelling - spending 3 weeks in a Rainforest in Trinidad - researching the Rainforest and the wildlife and this started an interest in bird species identification. Miriam went to South Africa researching and tracking and

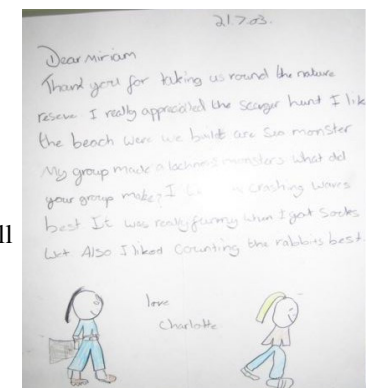
monitoring wild animals, on horseback of course! She has also travelled widely in Europe.

Miriam has been here for one year and eight months and hopes to stay in this neck of the woods. She finds Rye Harbour people very friendly especially the dog



flying off for the New Year on the new EUJet from Manston.

Miriam's brother now lives in Melbourne, Australia and guess what her next travel will be to Australia. He has set up his own art business and is doing well and paints in his





Rye Harbour Sailing Club News



Ken Halpin writes that most boats came out of the river onto the various boatyards during November. Maintenance can more easily be carried out from the ground whilst the boat sits on a cradle. During the winter months we keep our interest in the sea alive by having



speakers and also social evenings when we take it in turns to provide a meal. One of our winter speakers was Captain Simon Waite who spent some fifteen years in charge of the Cutty Sark which lies at Greenwich having been launched on the Clyde in Scotland in 1869. The name is Scottish in origin and literally translated means Short Vest or Top, as one of the members said to me - the mini skirt of its day. Robert Burns, the

National Poet of Scotland, wrote a poem Tam O'Shanter. In this narrative poem Tam was on his grey mare Meg returning home from the local hostelry, well over the limit.

there were even more screams and Tam was chased full pelt along the road. Tam knew he had to cross water to save himself from the witches. He reached the bridge and was nearly across when Nannie stretched out and caught his horses tail "leaving scarce a stump". Please look for Nannie with her outstretched arm as she is the figurehead of this famous clipper. Also please read the poem to celebrate Burns'

Swaying on his horse, he looked through the window of the deconsecrated Alloway Church. Candles were lit and there was a celebration of witches going on. There was a new batch of comely maidens newly arrived. Old Nick was in the corner, playing his bagpipes, but Tam had only eyes for the shapely young Nannie who was seductively dressed in scanty clothing. Tam was swept away by her charms and shouted out "weel done Cutty Sark". At that

Night on the 25th. of January. The moral is at the end of the poem. 'Now, who this tale of truth shall read, That man and mothers' son, take heed: When ever to drink you are inclined Or Cutty Sark's run in your mind, THINK! you may buy the joys too dear Remember Tam O'Shanter's mare'.

The **M.O.T.** Centre

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FISHING NEWS

ROUND RYE BAY FOR MORE



A very fine spell of weather for the first half of December has seen most boats putting in as much sea time as they want to. Scallop fishing is now the biggest fishery, leaving the bay to only a handful of trawlers from Rye, Dungeness and Hastings. Boats engaged in the scallop fishing have seen catches and managing to find a weeks pay with the trips they are doing, with the prices varying quite a lot depending on the area fished and the weight and size of the scallop. There is this difference in price and

still because boats are very scattered about trying old scallop beds, looking for new places and not being concentrated all on one bed when the fishing is at its best.

Catches for trawlers and netters alike have been much the same, as in only medium amounts but with enough time put in at sea, you end up with some sort of neap tides fell again in this fine spell of weather, but with no good catches of Cod, boats had to stick with it, hoping the next day would improve the fishing.

Trawling has been slow with the bulk of the catch

made up with Whiting which has stayed at a good price until December but has now seen prices come down with each landing, resulting in boats trying different places, looking for some flat fish or a bit of prime.

Work has now started on the re-building of the fish market and although there is a bit of upheaval in clearing some berths, some of the storage units and parking, things seem to be progressing quite well, with fishermen looking forward to the end results.

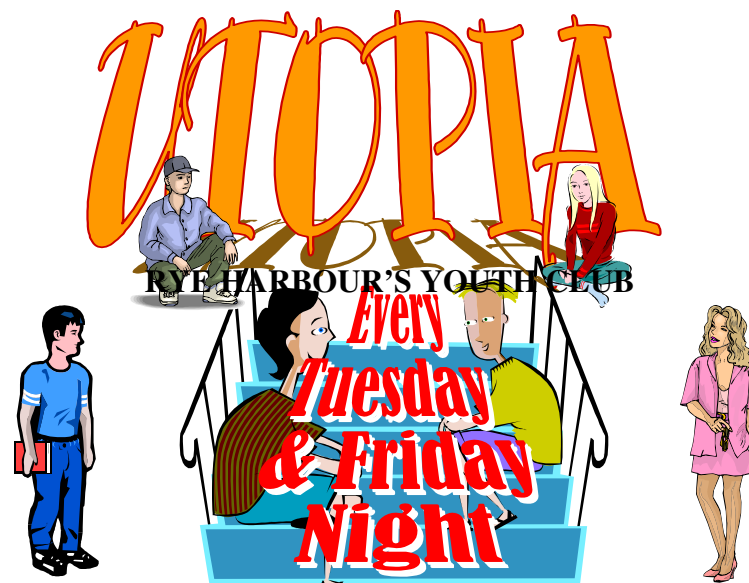
Boy Ashore

READ UPDATE ON SEA DEFENCES
PAGES 26 & 27

Don't Forget To Visit
RYE HARBOUR'S -Very Own
Web Site At
<http://www.ryeharbour.org>

Featuring The Rye Harbour Newsletter

RYE HARBOUR YOUTH ACTION GROUP At The Village Hall



Volunteers Are Still Required . Please call Venessa on 01797 229859

Children 11 yrs Upwards
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Children 4 yrs to 10 yrs
Friday's - 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm



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Rye Harbour Church News

Why are there so few men in Church? Is it because there are so many women there? or because it would be seen

as a weakness to attend, as a questioning of one's manhood or because it would mean facing up to some unresolved issues in one's life? or because such attendance would make one feel awkward, insecure? Perhaps I'm asking the wrong question. Why do so few men follow Jesus? You can't argue that he wasn't a man's man. He was brought up in an artisan's home and himself worked at the carpenter's bench, we may assume. He mixed with fishermen, consorted with society's outcasts and was happy to eat wherever he was invited. He addressed crowds, confronted evil, drove out sickness, rebuked hypocrisy and became, in the eyes of some, very unpopular. In



strengths. They sink to their knees to find the grace to go on. They acknowledge their frailty, seek mercy and rise, renewed, to continue their work. They

sympathise with the plight of others and find time to provide a helping hand.

Veni, Sancte Spiritus

the end, betrayed by a friend and deserted by disciples, he stood alone. He was unjustly condemned in the face of a mob baying for his blood. Cruelly whipped and treated with derision, he was consigned to the most brutal death conceivable.

When men think they are tough, that may amount to little more than physical prowess. Being tough has to do with inner strength, with certainty of purpose without being hard. In fact toughness and tenderness are two sides of the same coin. Hard men can't afford to show weakness. Tough men know their weaknesses as well as their

The Church needs men! It needs another 12 disciples (excluding Judas Iscariot!), including fishermen, tax collectors and patriots, to follow Jesus.

Services at Rye Harbour

Sunday 9th January 9.15 a.m. Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd January 10.30 a.m. Family Service

A very happy and peaceful New Year

Hugh Moseley
(01797 222430)

READ FINAL PART
RYE HARBOUR BUOY - PAGE 23

AT RYE HARBOUR VILLAGE HALL



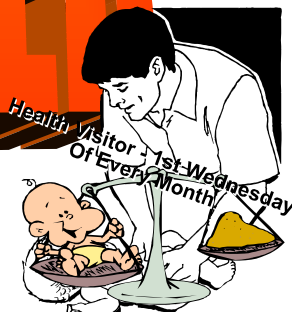
10.00 am to 12.00
Midday



TODDLER

Lots of fun things to do!

Toys



For further details contact: Claire on 01797 223894

Rye Harbour Parent and Toddler Group

Hi,
Well that's Christmas over again for another year, I do hope it was a happy and peaceful time for everyone. As I write this, the Christmas party has yet to take place but I'm sure it will be a great success, Children make Christmas in so many ways, it's a joy to see their little faces when they start to be aware of all the magic. The toddler group has been awarded some government funding, which will enable us to go from strength to strength. This fund-



ing will mean we can buy new toys and replace old ones as they wear out. It also means that during the year we will be able to hire the community bus and go on outings as a group, which will be lovely. Now all we need is for you all to come along and support the group and enjoy everything on offer. So see you all on Wednesday January 5th at 10.00am in the Village Hall.

Happy New Year
Rosemarie

WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE GET UP TO THESE DAYS ?

Just look at what they can get up to

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Family Announcements



Congratulations

Congratulations to Sylvia and Michael Alford who are now Great Grand-Parents, they now have a little Great Grand-Daughter. We don't know her name yet, but Best Wishes to all.

Congratulations also go to Sophie and Shawn on the birth of their little boy who they have named Benjamin.

THANKS

Kate Head and all the folks in Age Concern would like to give a big thank you to Bernie at the Conk for supplying all the vegetables for their Christmas Lunch. He does this every year and it is much appreciated.

Julie and Val would like to thank all those that helped out at the Christmas party as it was a great success with a high turnout it was a wonderful afternoon. Also the next Jumble Sale in aid of the Children's Christmas party 2005 will be towards the end of January, date still to be confirmed and will be published in the Village Voice as soon as known.

GET WELL SOON

Andrew Tollett has not been too good lately. We hope he will soon improve and be back in the family business.

George Caister is in hospital at the time of going to print. Hopefully he will soon be home and taking his early morning walks again.

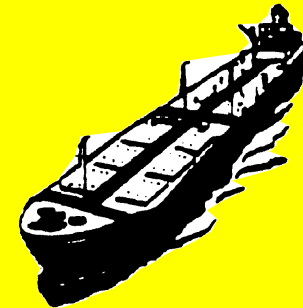
Can I just add that Nanny Pat who does these reports, is not too well herself at the moment, so we all wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her back to her normal self, very soon. - Marcus

As we all know, Sylvia Alford goes round the village-visiting people who are not very well.

If you know someone who is poorly, could you please get in touch with Sylvia on

The Ploughman's Lunches

The next Ploughman's Lunch will be Monday 17th January



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