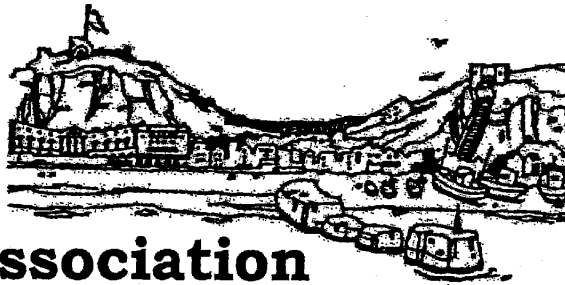


# Hastings Old Town Residents' Association



*President:*  
Amber Rudd MP

*Chairman:*  
Dick Edwards

*Please reply to:*

## JUNE PARISH NEWS

### **Annual General Meeting**

We had our largest ever attendance on 6<sup>th</sup> May in the new Stade Hall with nearly 100 people present. Some came to see the inside of the new community space. Most liked it although there are some issues with acoustics. Many came to hear Liz Gilmore the new Director of the Jerwood Gallery. Liz gave an update on the building work and explained the plans for future exhibitions. Members were clearly impressed. There are growing high expectations of the benefits for the visual arts here in Hastings.

New officers Jill Bradley was elected Secretary and Phil White elected Treasurer.  
ALLOTMENT PARTY PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE TO SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY AT LOWER TORFIELD ALLOTMENTS TICKETS £10

### **Subscriptions**

Please help our new Treasurer Phil White to keep HOTRA's finances healthy. If you have not yet paid your subs please do so now. £8 for individuals, or £10 per household. Please put them in an envelope marked HOTRA subs together with your contact details – including your email address if you have one. Cheques payable to HOTRA. Drop them in to Nelson House Antiques in the High Street. A membership card will be issued.

### **A Safer High Street**

East Sussex County Council promised a new pavement from George street to Swan Gardens on the west side of the roadway over 3 years ago. It has been quietly dropped from the programme of planned improvements for pedestrian safety. Members are clearly disappointed. The new Management Committee has decided to organise a petition. This will be available to be signed throughout June and July. If you support our plea please make sure you sign. The raised pavement outside the Old Town Hall Museum will also be included. It is unsafe for pedestrians and wheelchair users. More details will appear on our website - [www.hotra.org.uk](http://www.hotra.org.uk)

### **Storytelling Festival**

A very successful pilot event took place in the new Stade Hall on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Our Patron Quentin Blake came along, sat and drew in his magical way, and then opened the afternoon session with about 35 children and 45 adults present. About 50 people came to the evening session. Plans are now being worked on for the main event in November. There will be work in childrens centres and schools. Separately there will community based events. The Isabel Blackman centre plan to start some reminiscence work around local stories and the Electric Palace hope to find some appropriate films. More details will be on the website [www.hastingsstoryfest.org.uk](http://www.hastingsstoryfest.org.uk)