

Hastings Old Town Residents Association

July 2012 Parish News

Pelham beach Childrens playground

This opened officially on 22nd June. At last local smaller children have somewhere safe to play on the seafront that is FREE. Positioned between the Pelham Playa multi use games area and the sand Volleyball court this makes the third major improvement. Now young people can be active outside in the fresh air all year round. HOTRA has been pressing for these improvements for years.

Foreshore Trust

The complex legal process to set up this charity has at last led to significant gains for Hastings residents. The income comes from the seafront car parks and property rents. The Trust has the ability to invest in free facilities which can be seen all along the seafront. It is also able to make small grants to local charity and voluntary groups using the annual surplus. Old Town Councillor John Hodges has just taken over as Chair of the Charity Committee – a great job to have and a compliment reflecting Johns efforts.

Stade Amusement Park

The leaseholder is considering ways to upgrade the whole area between Stade Hall and the west end of the boating lake. The leaseholder of the adjacent Crazy Golf has constantly upgraded his space. They are working together and have asked an architect to come up with ideas. HOTRA's Management Committee is fortunate to be invited to comment and make suggestions right from the start. This could lead to the next phase of major improvements to the Old Town seafront. We welcome the willingness to involve local people.

Isabel Blackman Centre

ESCC have decided to change the way the centre is managed. Deficiencies have been identified following a review. Hopefully the changes will be sorted soon. It is always worth taking a look at what is on offer – the café and the many courses are great value.

Feathered friends – a puzzle

Seagulls always cause comment from visitors and residents. But look beyond these (in)famous birds and there is a great mix to hold our attention. The swifts return here every summer from Africa just because they were born here? They fly over Spain and France for our summer ???