

Varne House, The Riviera, Folkestone, Kent.

August 9th, 1966

Dear Mr Varley

I was pleased to have news of the Sandgate Society's activities and congratulate you all on your efforts for us. The Exhibition last year was splendid, and I was pleased to give our public thanks through the Press at the time.

However, do not get too complacent, because I now propose to put the following enquiries to you, which I consider urgently require attention:

1. Has any approach been made to the Council to have the stones swept off the Sandgate "maintenance-walk"/promenade? This was done several times last year with both mechanical and manual labour. I need hardly stress what a nuisance to both residents and visitors these stones are.
2. Why was the all too inadequate front at Sandgate allowed to be encroached upon by the erection of that super-ugly public conveniences, when there would appear to be so much spare ground slightly off the front itself?
3. Why was the even uglier outfall pipe allowed to be place in such a stark position? Could it not have been ~~xxxx~~ sited less obtrusively, or some effort made to disguise its purely functional purpose?
4. Why, oh why, is not some pressure put upon the Council to keep the beach a little more tidy? It has never been so filthy as it has been this year. This is not entirely unconnected with the fishermen who quite openly leave paper and offal behind them, and dog owners who blatantly take their dogs on the beach to foul it.
5. And when, if ever, is the noisy, oily and ugly machinery on Sandgate front going to be moved?

Apart from the undoubtedly (but much overdue) improvement at the Military Tavern site, Sandgate seems to be very neglected by the Council. I accept that Big Brother Folkestone's new Council building and the Leas must have prior attention, but perhaps a timid reminder that even little Sandgate's residents also pay taxes might direct some attention this way. Our rates have increased whilst our services have decreased.

Yours sincerely,

W. J. Shewry
W. J. Shewry.

The Hon. Secretary,
The Sandgate Society.

BOROUGH OF FOLKESTONE



N. C. SCRAGG, LL.M.
SOLICITOR

TOWN CLERK
CLERK OF THE PEACE

TELEPHONE: 55221

THE CIVIC CENTRE,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
WEST TERRACE,
FOLKESTONE.

YOUR REF.:-

MY REF.:- TC/C/319/A

23rd August, 1966

Dear Mr. Vorley,

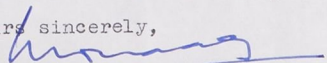
Thank you for your letter of 21st August enclosing copy of letter addressed to the Sandgate Society by Mr. W.J. Shewry. I read Mr. Shewry's letter in the local press and took the opportunity of obtaining the comments of the Borough Engineer. I am therefore in a position to let you have his considered observations. These are as follows:-

1. As you are no doubt aware, the maintenance gangway was constructed purely for coast protection purposes as an access for vehicles and plant and equipment to repair the groynes and other sea defences. However, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government recognised that there was some value to the public of the gangway as a promenade, and the shingle accumulating thereon from time to time has been cleared, at intervals. It is agreed that there has been too long a lapse of time this season between clearances. This had not previously come to the notice of the Borough Engineer but he has now taken action to see that the gangway is cleared more frequently. I hope that, in future, conditions will be satisfactory and that there will be no further cause for complaint.
2. The public convenience referred to by Mr. Shewry is, in fact, being built on what was formerly the part of the carriageway of Granville Parade, and it has not diminished the area of the promenade itself. The reason for siting the building where it is, was to leave the maximum amount of space for vehicles at the rear of the proposed shops. I think it is a little unfair to criticise the appearance of the building at the present time, since it is partly covered with scaffolding. Whilst it may be that Mr. Shewry will not like the appearance of the building when it is

completed, I think it must be appreciated that its design must be of a substantial nature in view of its proximity to the sea, and it is virtually part of the coast protection works. I hope that when the building is completed, Mr. Shewry's fears will not be realised.

3. I assume that Mr. Shewry is referring to the new surface water overflow pipe which has been constructed opposite Martello Terrace. In this case there were severe practical limitations on its siting and there is no question in the view of the Borough Engineer that it is in the correct position, having regard to its functions. It is necessary to construct such an outfall at such a level that it would not be blocked by any rise in the level of the shingle and the only way in which it can be made less obtrusive is by covering the pipe in concrete. In view of the extreme exposure at this position, this would have been a very expensive and, in the Borough Engineer's view, this expense would not have been justified.
4. On the question of the tidiness of the foreshore, debris is removed from it every day and the problem is one which can properly be dealt with only by the users of the foreshore acting more reasonably, and not leaving so much rubbish behind. This is a problem which is not unlike the cleansing of public conveniences, which are often fouled minutes after they have been cleansed. The Borough Engineer cannot see any answer to this, apart from a continuous patrol along the whole length of the foreshore. His observations suggest that the conditions are not as bad as have been suggested.
5. With regard to the machinery on Granville Parade, this is, as Mr. Shewry says being used in connection with the extension of the sewer outfall and since it is necessary for the work and there is no other position in which it could be placed, it must remain until the work is completed. It had been hoped that the contract would have been finished before the season was so far advanced, but unfortunately, it has not been possible to do this. From the progress of the contract, it appears likely that the works should be completed within the next few weeks, and unless there are any unforeseen delays, the Borough Engineer hopes that the machinery will be removed within a comparatively short time.

Yours sincerely,



Town Clerk

D.G. Vorley, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
The Sandgate Society,
1 Castle Road, Sandgate.



The Planning Inspectorate

Room 1404
Tollgate House
Houlton Street
Bristol BS2 9DJ

Direct Line 0117 - 987 8927
Switchboard 0117 - 987 8000
Fax No 0117 - 987 8139
GTN 1374 - 8927
E-mail ENQUIRIES.PINS@GTNET.GOV.UK

Mr N A Nickinson
69 Seabrook Court
Hythe
Kent CT21 5RY

Your ref:

Our ref(s):
T/APP/2250/A/97/285148/P4

Date: 18 NOV 1997

Dear Sir

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 78 & SCHEDULE 6
APPEAL BY MESSRS ALLEN & FRAZER
APPLICATION NO: 97/0090/SH**

1. As you know, I have been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment to determine the above appeal against the decision of Shepway District Council to refuse planning permission for the erection of a block of 8 flats with garaging at 33-35 (consecutive) The Esplanade, Sandgate, Folkestone, Kent. I have considered the written representations made by you, the local planning authority, the Sandgate Society and by interested persons. As you will remember, I inspected the site on Wednesday 29 October 1997.

2. On the basis of my inspection of the site and its surroundings and my consideration of the written representations, I have decided that the key issue raised by this appeal is the visual impact of the proposed building on the present character and future appearance of the Sandgate Conservation Area and, as a result, the extent to which it would preserve the former and enhance the latter. It appears to me that this appeal should accordingly be determined mainly in the light of Policies BE1 and BE2 of the very recently adopted Shepway District Local Plan 1997.

3. Although the site is only partly within the conservation area, as designated in 1972, my view is that the appeal should be determined as if it were entirely within it. This view is based on the nature of the boundary which was defined some 25 years ago when, as indicated on the 1:1250 scale OS plan, the physical pattern of building and land ownership divisions would appear to be substantially different. The present situation is that the appeal site has been cleared by demolition, authorised in 1988, and that the form of redevelopment now proposed is unitary in its nature and architectural design.

4. It is appropriate to focus upon the architectural, urban design and townscape context of the appeal before me. The conservation area is essentially linear in form. That is to say, it extends for some 440 m or so along the seafront. Although in places it is about 150 m in depth, some 50-60 m of this is taken up by the foreshore (ie the area between high and low water marks). Indeed, the boundary of the conservation area is taken along the MLW (mean

low water) line which suggests that the architectural character and unity of the seaward frontage of most of the buildings is of the essence of the conservation area.

5. The architectural character of the area is essentially domestic. My visit showed me that, almost without exception, the townscape is composed of narrow fronted dwellings set behind small front gardens or other private spaces between street and building. There is a degree of formality in certain of the groups. By this I mean that, although individual dwellings may be quite modest in height or frontage width, they are composed in a symmetrical manner. Fairly close to the site there are two such groups of dwellings, one of which exhibits the "palace-fronted" compositional style, very characteristic of the early to mid nineteenth century.

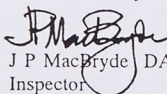
6. My conclusion is that the layout and design of the block of flats is not of an architectural standard consistent with this setting. It would have a single facade in excess of 30 m and be set almost on the back edge of the public highway. No matter which of the alternative designs is taken, the building would read as an architectural unity and thus be out of scale and character with the conservation area. Moreover, the attempt to give the seaward facade a semblance of symmetry is largely unsuccessful since its compositional axis is off-centre with respect to both building dimensions and pattern of window openings.

7. The overall architectural effect would be discordant and incongruous. The proposed building would not be in sympathy with the conservation area's existing character and would therefore not enhance its future appearance. The proposed development would fail to satisfy the two local plan policies which I have identified as being the most material. As far as I can see from the written representations, there are no other material considerations which would suggest that my determination of the appeal should not be made in accordance with my interpretation of the adopted local plan policies and having careful regard to published guidance set out in PPG1 and PPG15.

8. In arriving at the above conclusions, I have considered all the other matters raised in the representations. In particular, I have noted the comments made in connection with both pedestrian and vehicle access to site. Although I regard the proposed arrangements to be unsatisfactory, my decision does not turn on these matters. They are not relied upon by the local planning authority and the inadequacy of wholly safe and convenient access seems to me to be a reflection of the physically cramped nature of the design in relation to its local setting and to the conservation area, seen as a whole.

9. For the reasons which I have just given and in exercise of the powers which have been transferred to me, I hereby dismiss this appeal.

Yours faithfully



J P MacBryde DA(Edin) DipTP(Lond) ARIBA MRTPI MCIT
Inspector

ENC

[C:\CASE\081SHEPW.TWN]

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

Notification of Refusal of planning permission to develop land

To: N A NICKINSON
69 SEABROOK COURT
HYTHE
KENT
CT21 5RY

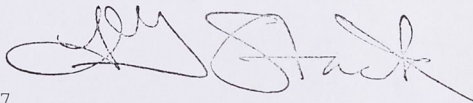
Take notice that The Shepway District Council, the district planning authority under the Town and Country Planning Acts, **HAS REFUSED TO PERMIT** development of land situate at 33,34,35 The Esplanade (Site Of), Sandgate, Folkestone

and being
Erection of a block of eight flats with garaging (As amended by Drawings Revision 7/4/97 and Revision 14/4/97).

referred to in your application for permission for development received on 6th February 1997.

REASONS:

- 1 The site is in a prominent seafront location on The Esplanade which is characterised by a variety of Edwardian and Victorian buildings typical of the seaside location. The proposed development, by virtue of the bulk of the building, its detailed design and its relationship with surrounding properties, fails to reflect the character of the area and as such would have a detrimental impact on the streetscene and on the appearance of the area generally. The proposal would therefore be contrary to policy BE1 of the Shepway District Local Plan Deposit Draft and would fail to reflect the advice contained in Planning Policy Guidance Note No 1 - "General Policy and Principles", both of which state that care should be taken to ensure that development should accord with its surroundings.



dated this 8th day of August 1997

Shepway District Council,
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue,
Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY.

Planning Control Manager.

SN 11/8
R4 11/8

This is a simply expressed modern flat development which with careful choice of materials and details will contribute to the architectural character of the area without copying historic styles appropriate to another age and building type.

1.4. Assistant Director (Client Engineering)

Land stabilisation works have been completed and since that time monitoring has shown that the major landslipping has been arrested. However I would advise that the applicant is informed that there is a history of landslipping within the area and that they should make their own assessment of whether future slippage at the site will occur.

2.0 PUBLICITY

2.1. Neighbour notification expiry 01.08.97.

2.2. Site notice expiry 7.03.97

2.3. Press Notice expiry 4.03.97

3.0 REPRESENTATIONS

3.1. Letter received from A D Oliver, 2 Encombe, Sandgate CT20 3DE commenting as follows:-

1. The proposal will affect visibility into and out of Encombe, increasing danger to residents in the area.
2. Height of building. Hope they will not exceed height of former buildings on the site.
3. Plans more suitable than previous permission.

4.0 RELEVANT POLICY GUIDANCE

4.1. INT1, BE1, BE2, BE21, HO1 of the Shepway District Local Plan Deposit Draft apply. Planning Policy Guidance Note No. 1 is also relevant.

5.0 LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION OF SITE

NO MENTION OF
CONSERVATION AREA

- 5.1. The application relates to a triangular site 930 square metres in area which slopes upwards towards the north. Situated between Encombe and Prospect Road, the site was formerly occupied by a semi-detached pair of 3 storey houses with basement and a detached bungalow, all of which have since been demolished. The site has a 30 metre frontage to the Esplanade and Prospect Road and a 36 metre frontage to Encombe.
 - 5.2. The surrounding development is mixed in character, comprising 3 and 4 storey dwellings along The Esplanade and bungalows along the high ground in Encombe at the rear.
- 6.0 THE PROPOSAL
- 6.1. Permission is sought to redevelop the site with a block of 8 flats and garaging. The accommodation comprises three x 2 bed flats on the ground and first floor and two x 3 bed flats on the second floor, each with a balcony facing on to the Esplanade.
 - 6.2. Surface car parking would be provided for 8 cars with garaging for one to the rear of the premises, the remaining parking spaces to be provided underground - a total of 16 spaces.

Vehicular access would be from Prospect Road. A footpath link would be provided from The Esplanade to the rear of the flats and a new footpath would link The Esplanade to the Encombe entrance.

- 6.3. The pitched roof would be covered with dark, blue/green cement fibre sheets with terracotta hip and ridge tiles. Facing bricks to be stone-leigh multi buffs and central area of stucco is to be painted pale blue.

7.0 PLANNING HISTORY

- 7.1. CH/3/49/65 - Alterations to form entrance to café and basement. Approved 25.03.49.
- 7.2. CH/3/49/205 - Ice cream kiosk. Refused 13.7.49.
- 7.3. SH/87/904 - Outline application for development of 28-29 sheltered accommodation apartments on four floors with underground parking (numbers 34 and 35 also). Permission not issued.
- 7.4. SH/87/910 - Listed building consent to demolish numbers 33 and 34. Approved 8.08.88.
- 7.5. SH/88/659 - Variation of permission SH/87/904. Permission not issued.

8.0 APPRAISAL

- 8.1. Permission was resolved to be granted in 1987 and 1988, but the consents were never issued, the latter consent being subject to a Section 106 Planning Agreement which was never completed by the applicant due to the uncertainty over the landslip problem at Encombe. Both applications were however given favourable consideration by the Committee, so despite the fact that the consent were never issued, it is apparent that the use of the site for the redevelopment for flats was considered acceptable at that time. Circumstances have not changed greatly in the area in the meantime, so it is fair to say that the principle of the use proposed is acceptable. The main issue to be determined in the consideration of this application therefore is whether the proposal is acceptable in design and layout terms.
- 8.2. The previous schemes were for 29 and 21 units respectively for sheltered accommodation with warden facilities. This proposal represents a much reduced form of development to 8 units. There was at the time of the two previous applications a problem with ground instability in the area. However, stabilisation works have been completed and monitoring has indicated that land slipping has been arrested.
- 8.3. Recent Government advice to local Authorities on design control, (annex A of PPG1 1992 "General Policy and Principles"), states that "the appearance of proposed development and its relationship to its surroundings are material considerations, and those who determine planning applications and appeals shall have regard to them in reaching their decisions". Although aesthetic issues are to some extent subjective, they are indicative of generally consistent values, primarily related to conserving local character. Alien materials, details and designs can have a significant adverse impact upon local landscape and townscape. In this instance it is important to consider whether the proposals is of an appropriate standard for this prominent location on the seafont.
- 8.4. The original design with its mansard roof was considered to be unsuitable. The revised scheme is considered to represent a significant improvement as set out in the comments of the Conservation/Design Architect. The central gable has been increased in size to provide a stronger focus to the elevation and is emphasised by a change of material to smooth coloured render which is much used historically on the Esplanade. Balconies dominate the main elevation stressing the site's relationship to the sea and fine channel views. Materials have been chosen to recognise the coastal site, incorporating blue green slates with terracotta ridges and hips and pale buff bricks again reflecting the historic use of pale colours by the sea.

In short, this is a simply expressed modern flat development which with careful choice of materials and details would contribute to the architectural character of the area without copying historic styles appropriate to another age and building type. It is concluded that such a development would be appropriate to this particular setting and it is therefore recommended that the amended scheme be approved.

RECOMMENDATION - APPROVE

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Standard time condition and reason | 101C/R |
| 2. Standard materials condition and reason | 202C/R |
| 3. Parking details and reason | 303C/R |
| 4. Amended plans (Revised plans, indicated as revision dated 14.3.97 and revision dated 14.4.97), and reason | 205C/R |

INFORMATIVES

1. You are advised to contact the Shepway Highways Management Unit at Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Tel: 01303 850388 before commencing work within or adjacent to the public highway.
2. There is a history of landslipping within the area. You are advised to make your own assessment of whether future slippage at the site will occur.

Decision of Committee

Attention Mrs Lowes

28 July 1997

Planning Dept, Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue

Dear Mrs Lowes,

Application 97/0090/SH - Sandgate Esplanade

I regret that these comments are somewhat late, but the Amended Plans C and D have only recently come to my notice and that of others. This is a prime site in Sandgate, and I care very much about the character and general siting of the building as a whole and its impact on the general amenity of the district.

The Design Too dense, too massy in contrast to what stood before. I consider that the seaward side of Tower Court (Sandgate High St) an excellent example of a well -designed seaward facing block of flats, each floor stepped, with ample balcony space, and privacy.

Plantings: The allotted space is so minimal as to be of no amenity or visual value whatsoever.

Traffic Arrangements. The plans as submitted obscure the real issues. Prospect Road is a narrow, dog-leg and dead-end street leading to West Lawn Gardens. The proposed building will attract a large increase in vehicles -- those of residents, visitors and Service Vehicles. A site meeting would be in everyone's interests. See also Spencer Court on Esplanade which has an archway under building to rear parking.

Please draw these comments to the Attention of the Development Control Committee.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) L.Rene-Martin

Plans for New Block on Sandgate Esplanade (Prospect Rd, Encombe area.

On Tuesday afternoon, I stopped off briefly at the Civic Centre to look at plans -- evidently amended -- and coming up before Planning Committee on 5 August, I subsequently gathered.

There was no one to whom I could address questions -- James Bowman and Mrs Lowe were on leave. I phoned on Wednesday and Janet Westgate spoke to me. She offered to send me copies of revised plans C and D together with the rest of the guff. ON LOAN only, which I promised to return.

Someone has pencilled (almost illegible) 'We still think this building is out of character with the area a objection

Quite apart from matters of design and materials, which I am sure the Society is dealing with, I have the following concerns:

1. There is a well-used footpath between the north side of the site and the little bungalow on stilts. It leads from the Encombe driveway to two garages in the angle of Prospect Rd. It may not be a designated footpath, but by prescription it is a right-of-way.
2. The plans are totally inadequate where vehicle access -- private cars and service vehicles are concerned. The plans should show clearly the Encombe driveway and width dimensions. The plans should show clearly the full extent of Prospect Road, including dog-leg, and opening on to trunk road -- the full width showing road and pavement should be shown. Plan D shows a little on the extreme left, but not in its entirety.
3. Sewers may be the responsibility of SWA. There has been trouble with the sewer in Prospect Road some years ago. Like the sewer, recently repaired in Wilberforce Rd (east) it probably dates back to the relaying in 1894, after the great Sandgate landslip. Can the present sewer take the increased flow?
4. Plantings and landscaping. These are so minimal and to be visually useless.
5. New private footpath. Shows no relationship with Encombe driveway and house opposite.

All very obfuscating -- how does a Committee deal with such plans?

I would not have known about this Application if Ann Edmunds in the midst of her traumas with Geoffrey and house move, hadn't mentioned it to me



Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY
Telephone: (General Enquiries) 01303 850388
Fax: 01303 852502
DX 4912 Folkestone

SHEPWAY

DISTRICT COUNCIL

My Ref: PL/97/0090/SH
Date: 30th July 1997

To: Mrs L. Rene-Martin
Coast Cottage
149 Sandgate High Street
Sandgate
Nr Folkestone
Kent
CT20 3DA

Dear Sir/Madam,

APPLICATION NO: 97/0090/SH

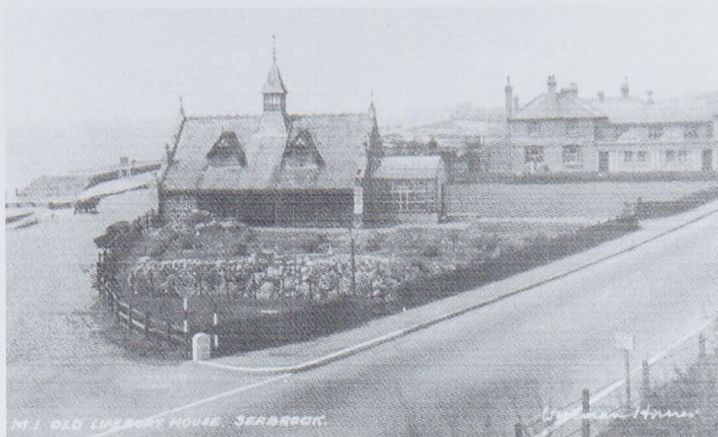
ERECTION OF A BLOCK OF EIGHT FLATS WITH GARAGING

Site:
33,34,35 The Esplanade (Site Of), Sandgate, Folkestone

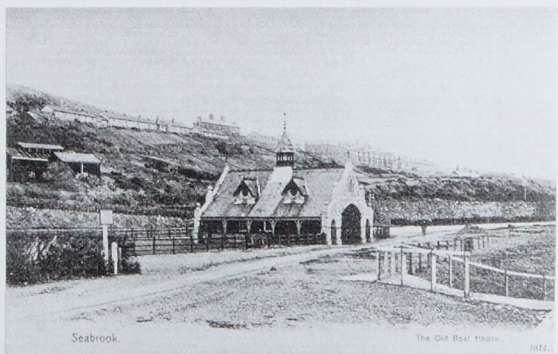
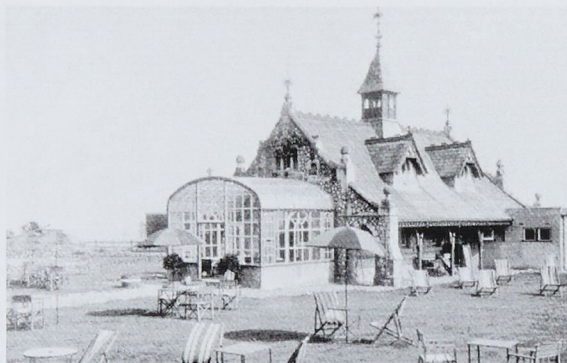
Thank you for your recent letter with respect to this application. I note your comments and these will be taken into account when the application is determined. I shall notify you in due course of the Council's decision.

Yours faithfully,
J.T. Stack
Planning Control Manager.

Phone call. Tuesday eve: 5 August
from Councillor Bliss —
Application refused



67. The distinctive old lifeboat house, built of Kentish ragstone, is captured here on a postcard published by Wiseman Homer in about 1925. The attractive building was nicknamed the 'Goose Cathedral' and was immortalised in the book of the same name by locally-born author Jocelyn Brooke. Erected in 1875 at a cost of £550 to house the Hythe (Seabrook) RNLI Lifeboat *Meyer de Rothschild*, the station remained active until 1893 when new stations were opened on Hythe's Fisherman's Beach and at Folkestone. This decision was taken following launching difficulties at Seabrook during the 'Benvenue' disaster of 11th November 1891, when at the third attempt 27 of the ship's crew of 32 were rescued by a lifeboat crew consisting mainly of Folkestone fishermen. The building subsequently became a bathing station for soldiers, a private house and then the Boathouse Café before it was sadly demolished in 1956. In the background can be seen Seabrook Police Station and Court, which still survives in rather poor shape as a Kent County Council landscape depot.



1974

Crash! It's a wet and windy pounding



The spray flies as a motorist bravely battles his way along West Parade, Hythe, which flooded to depths of up to two feet after high tide on Monday afternoon. Not surprisingly, there's not a pedestrian to be seen.



No, he's not making a Canale-like bid to turn the tide. This workman is busy cleaning pebbles from a blocked drain as flood water swirls down St. Leonard's Road, Hythe.

BATTERED, scarred and decidedly wet. These were the scenes near Sandgate and Hythe seafronts early

this week after a three-day pounding from some of the highest tides in 300 years whipped up by hurricane force winds.

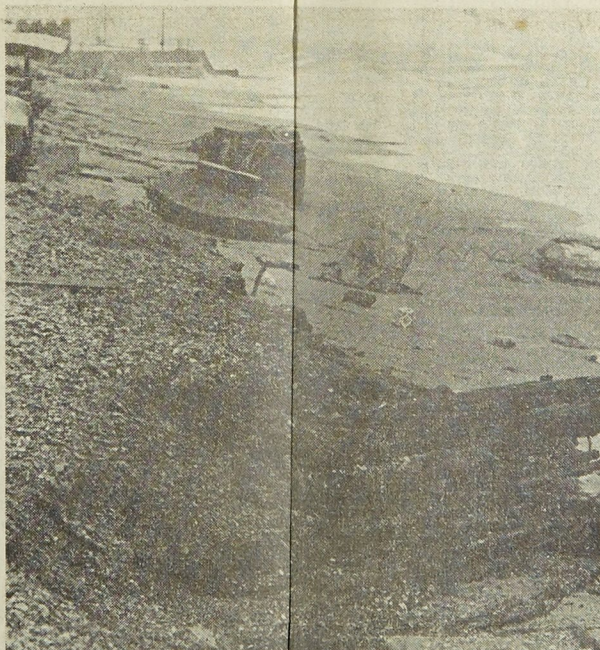
Seafront roads were closed by police during high tides on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

As mountainous waves swept across the roads, drains were blocked by shingle causing flooding up to two feet in depth. Constant pounding cracked and damaged sea walls.

One of the worst affected areas was West Parade, Hythe, where the battering was so severe that despite barricades of sandbags, garden gates were ripped from their hinges and windows smashed by pebbles.



Another car wash by courtesy of the British weather. Flood water laps dangerously close to houses in Sandgate High Street as a motorist goes afloat. The L plates could well



The aftermath of the storm. These old timbers were exposed after huge waves pounded the beach at Hythe, scattering debris 14' and wide.

CINEMA ORGAN SLIPS QUIETLY AWAY

THE end of an era was rarely acknowledged in Folkestone on Sunday.

It came when the last cinema organ in the town passed quietly away, sold for £800 by the Rank Organisation and taken away from the Odeon Cinema on a lorry to the home of a businessman in Essex, where it will be housed in a special building in the owner's garden.

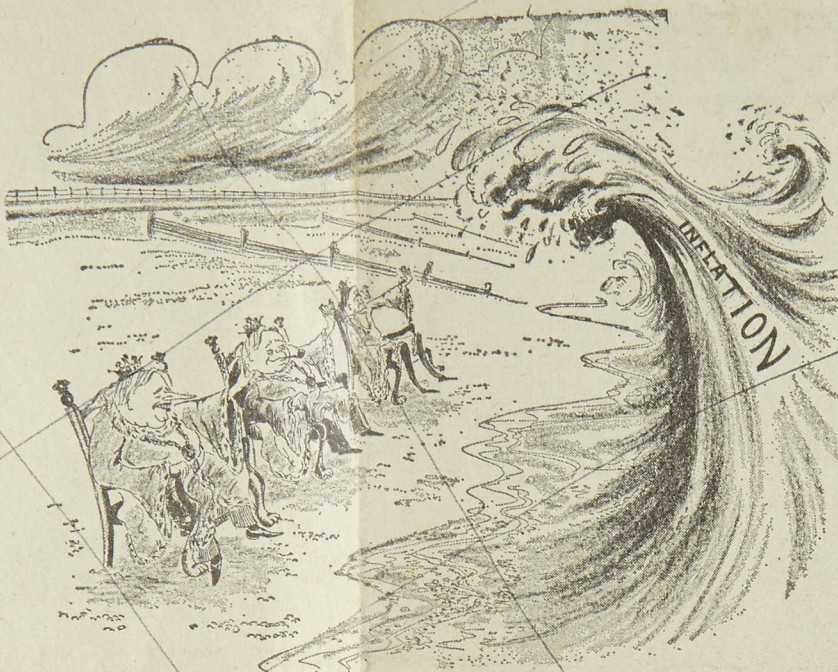
Only one person was present to mourn its early morning departure, Mr. Ricky Hart, the local representative of the Cinema Organ Society, who once—back in 1945—played the organ at the Odeon.

Mr Hart is devoted to the preservation of cinema organs.

So much so that when other organs in Folkestone were threatened with destruction he salvaged parts of them — and constructed his own organ in his small terraced house in Chart Road, Morehall.

Of the halcyon days of the cinema organ, Mr Hart recalls that the instrument was the pride of the town in the 1930s as the "Mighty Compton Organ," played by many popular organists of the day, and was featured at the opening performance in 1935 at Leslie Holman.

The organ console rose from the depths of the orchestra pit and was bathed in a mass of brilliant colour



Street, the Pleasure Gardens Theatre and the Savoy. The latter had a fine Standard organ from the Dutch firm in Shiedam.

"I wonder how many people remember the Compton organ in the old theatre in Bouverle Road West," asks Mr Hart. "It came from the Rendezvous Cinema in Cambridge in 1949, but was sited badly under the stage where it was ruined by damp and soon became unplayable."

"Older citizens will still remember the Compton organ at the Playhouse, last used, I'm told, in 1930."

"The Standard of the Savoy had a more active life, starting with the grand reopening after the fire of December, 1923."

The cinema opened on August 29, 1923, with the film, *Burgmaster Of Sulemonde*, starring Sir John Martin Harvey. Jack Russell and his orchestra were on stage, and Percy Milton was at the organ.

The mayor Alderman Albert Castle declared the cinema open, and the prices of admission were 6d., 1s., 1s. 6d. and 2s. 4d.

Organs in cinemas may have become a rarity, but nostalgia reigns supreme in Mr Hart's home in Chart Road, where on most days can be heard the sound of the organ—a hybrid instrument, built from the organs which once graced local cinemas.

The pipes from these plants stand proudly in a specially constructed chamber on the roof of the house, along with the percussion section—vibraphone, chimes, Glockenspiel and xylophone.

AROUND AND ABOUT

WITH STROLLER

Restored also are the effects used in a bygone age—syrans, locomotive, fire engine, birds and cymbal crash.

There are also over 100 electronic note generators, which serve to augment the pipe voices.

The installation is really a "quart in a pint pot." A six-foot deep pit below the drawing room floor houses the blowers.

Anniversary for Rose Buds

NOBODY will deny that 1974 will be a significant year for all of us, but for the Brownies it will have a special meaning—it is the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Brownie section of the Girl Guide movement.

At the start of the budding guides were called Rose Buds.

Mrs. J. V. Down, Brown Owl of the 2nd Hythe, Kent Brownie guides tells me that the name Rose Buds was soon changed to Brownies—symbolising the helpful, lend-a-hand aspect of the movement.

Brownie packs all over the world will celebrate the anniversary.

The 2nd Hythe pack have organised a special thanking day meeting on Wednesday, 7th, at the cottage.

Decision faces mayoress

A LOT of thought is going into deciding what will happen to the funds which will be raised by the next ball organised by the Mayoress of Hythe, Mrs. Chris Capon.

For the glittering civic occasion on March 16, at the Hotel Imperial, Hythe, will be the last before the borough disappears under local government reorganisation.

The intention is that the money raised will benefit the local community.

Said the Mayor of Hythe, Councillor Chris Capon: "Careful consideration is being given to this matter."

Warning to those who would like to be among the 200 people who will attend the last year tickets were snapped up very quickly.

Wild life from Lymyne

A LOT of talk about wild animals at Lymyne in the future—but recently, Air Freight Ltd., the Lymyne airport based, all-cargo airline had the job of transporting two sea lions and two dolphins.

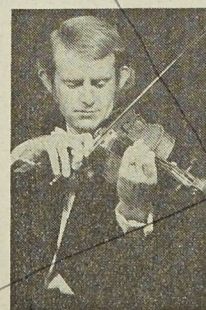
The consignment was part of a variety act currently touring the Far East.

London variety agents were faced with the problem of moving the menagerie to

At the start of his career

FOR its first winter concert the Folkestone and Hythe Orchestral Society has chosen a programme of popular music, including Beethoven's Egmont overture, Schubert's unfinished symphony No. 8 in A minor, Max Bruch's violin concerto in G minor and the English Folk Song suite by Vaughan Williams.

The soloist for the violin concerto will be 23-year-old Martin Hughes, of Essex, who was awarded a junior



Martin Hughes.

music exhibition at the Royal College of Music, and, in 1969, won a foundation scholarship.

In 1972, he was awarded his A.R.C.M. diploma with honours. During his time at college, Mr Hughes won several prizes, including the Dove violin prize.

Last year he won a

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5.20x14	£4.70	155x14	£7.10
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