

Thursday, December 4, 2003

Cadets' good news

THE Folkestone and Hythe Sea Cadets are to have a new home following the sale of their current building in Sandgate.

The dilapidated TS Invicta in Castle Road is to be sold to Gilcrest Homes for development.

The cadets will march from their old building towards the proposed new site on Ministry of Defence land at Shorncliffe army camp, on January 5.

In the meantime, the group hopes to meet at the former garrison church.

Board member John Barber said: "We are delighted things are moving forward and hope to have our new home established as soon as possible."

There was more good news for

the cadets at the Kent Awards for Volunteering Excellence announced on Sunday.

In the Pfizer awards for community support and development, the unit was one of three winners.

Commander Richard Colville, former unit president, was also one of three winners in the Saga award for voluntary committee support.

A fundraising dinner held at the Tavernetta on Friday, in memory of the unit's supporter Captain David Clapson, raised £1,530.

Capt Clapson, a former exhibition centre manager for Eurotunnel, ex-chairman of Hythe United FC and director of the chamber commerce, died in June.

Car park shut for one day's

PARKING attendants were told to pack up and get out with only one day's notice leaving a parking free-for-all for shoppers and traders in the town centre.

Both the Britannia and NCP car parks in Alexandra Gardens in Folkestone were set to close in July this year to make way for the Bride Hall shopping centre.

But staff who worked at Britannia were shocked to hear on Monday that they would be out of a job by the next evening. The five men who worked at the car park did not

By AMY WOODLAND

want talk to the *Herald* as they said employers had warned them not to be fearful of losing pay that was owing.

One member of staff commented: "I have not been told us any lies, but I have not been told the truth at all."

Bride Hall managing director John Shaw said: "The car park will remain but it will be run by us. It will close in July when we start developing the public in July when we start developing Britannia have a lease agreement with a month's notice. We told them a month's notice."

Death in custody verdict

AN INQUEST into how a man died in police custody has ruled a verdict of misadventure.

The case of Tony Tucker, 34, who died following his arrest for making threats to kill last May, was heard at Ashford Magistrates' Court from Wednesday June 15 to Friday June 17.

The Rossendale Road resident was taken to the William Harvey Hospital while still in custody, and died from an overdose of blood pressure tablets he had taken prior to his arrest.

After the verdict of misadventure,

coroner Rachel Redman said: "I have no option but to sign the inquisition, but I can write a letter."

"In custody if one is suspected as having an overdose, one is treated as such. I'm concerned that there was an hour and two minutes' gap between [when the nurse] raised her concerns and the action was taken."

"This is an area they may wish to reconsider and 15 minutes between observations may be better."

After the inquest DS Andrew Gent said: "We will take regard of the coroner's recommendations."

Uproar over Sea Cadet plans

SANDGATE residents are threatening to report Shepway council to the Ombudsman over their approval of the controversial Sea Cadets building.

Plans to construct two three-story blocks of flats at former site of the Sea Cadets headquarters in Castle Road - right next to Sandgate castle - were finally given the go ahead by the council on Tuesday June 14.

The plans had been refused three times previously on the grounds that they were over intensive, would cause traffic problems and had a detrimental

affect on the surrounding properties. But more redesigns on the application eventually won the committee over.

Parish councillor and landlord of The Ship Inn Stewart Whiffin said: "The point is that this is a conservation area. No one objects to the site being redeveloped, but not higher than three storeys - how many villages have their own castle? We should be able to see it."

He added: "We are now considering going to the Ombudsman over this. It comes down to what is right and what is wrong, and these plans are just wrong."



FOLKESTONE & HYTHE SEA CADET UNIT

Registered Charity No. 302743

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SEA CADETS AT SANDGATE

There are 400 Sea Cadet Units and a total of 16,000 Cadets in the UK of which the Unit at Sandgate is one, with 52 Cadets. Its full title is *The Folkestone and Hythe Sea Cadet Unit*. It can also be known by its ship name which is *T.S. Invicta*, T.S. meaning Training Ship.

History of Sea Cadets: We can claim the longest continuous history of any British youth movement, dating back to the Crimean War when sailors returning home formed Naval Lads Brigades to help orphans in the seaport back streets. Our origins can be traced back to Whitstable where the first of the Naval Lads Brigades was established. So successful were the Brigades that the Navy league, with a membership of $\frac{1}{4}$ of a million dedicated to supporting the Royal Navy, adopted them in 1910. In 1914 with sponsorship from the Admiralty, the Sea Cadet Corps was formed, and by 1939 there were 100 units with 10,000 Cadets. This is recognised by the DoFES as a Voluntary Youth Organisation and is affiliated to the National Council for Voluntary Youth Services.

TS Invicta history: T.S. Invicta was formed in 1942, as were many others around the country during the last war, as a progression from the Navy League Association, which was a youth club mainly for children of naval personnel. The Sea Cadet Corps was used during the war to train young males to become partially trained signallers prior to joining the Royal Navy. Though supported by the M.O.D. (Navy) and under the auspices of the Admiral Commanding Reserves, the Sea Cadets retain their original youth club status, unlike Army and Air Cadets.

In 1947, after having to meet for their parades in various halls and schools, the Unit moved to the building in Castle Road, where it has remained ever since. The building has been put to many uses since its original use as the Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers Drill Hall in 1905, but in 1940 it was repossessed by the M.O.D. The property remained in the hands of the Folkestone & Hythe Sea Cadet Unit until the 5th January 2004, when it was sold to Gilcrest Homes for development. The Unit is presently temporarily housed at the Tower Theatre, previously known as St. Mark's Garrison Church, in Shorncliffe, owned by the Folkestone Hythe Operatic & Dramatic Society. On July 26th 2005, TS Invicta purchased the property known as Ross Mews, in Ross Way, Shorncliffe. The Unit plans to move into the building in December after extensive refurbishment works are completed.

Sea Cadets and Marine Detachment: The Sea Cadet Corps could be defined as a youth organisation for boys and girls from all conditions and walks of life, between the ages of 10 to 12 as juniors and between 12 to 18 as fully enrolled uniformed cadets. They are instilled into the nautical traditions of our country, and learn to be smart in their actions and appearances, to take responsibilities, to mix with and be considerate to others, and to turn out as eventual good citizens. Marine Cadets join at 13 and they also learn the combat skills of camouflage and concealment, how to storm a beach from the sea; reach a rendezvous with a map, compass or just the stars to guide them.

The Sea Cadets prepare the youth in Folkestone, Hythe and surrounding areas, to meet the challenges of the future and provide an opportunity for young people seeking something more worthwhile than trivial leisure pursuits and computer games.

Unit Management Committee and Parents: The M.O.D. (Navy) provide uniforms, some equipment and boats, and training courses in Royal Navy and Royal Marine establishments. However, there is hardly any financial help and the maintenance of the building and running costs such as heating and lighting, are paid for by funds raised by a Management Committee. The members of the Management Committee form a trust, which meets regularly, and gives the Unit registered charity status, raises funds and monitors the general effectiveness of the whole organisation. The Unit also has a Parents' Committee, which raises some funds by arranging outside events, and running a galley and "tuck" shop on parade nights. The money they raise helps to buy equipment, pay for outings and social events.

Activities: Boat work, sailing, canoeing, seagoing experience under sail and power form the basis of the Unit's activities, with meteorology to first aid. There is plenty of scope for competition and fun with that special blend of friendship, which comes from being a valued member of a team. Cadets compete in events ranging from sailing and rowing regattas, band, and drill and piping contests and sporting events. There are opportunities to go to sea aboard Royal Naval ships and visit Naval Bases such as Culdrose in Cornwall, Britain's largest Naval Air Station where Cadet courses include helicopter flight experience.

Training and Sports: The Sea Cadet Unit in Sandgate, which celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in 2002, provides opportunities in the heart of the community. TS Invicta welcomes any 10-18 year old boy and girl wanting life skills of teamwork, self respect and social responsibility.

Training and qualifications, for which appropriate badges are awarded for boys and girls on an equal basis, include general seamanship, maritime skills (drill and piping), radio communications, electrics, mechanics, and cook/stewards. Activities include all forms of boating, sailing and canoeing, adventure training, band music, first aid, cookery, computing, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Shooting with .22 rifles is done at Shorncliffe range and is part of inter-unit sports.

Other sports are five-a-side football, physical training, cross country running, table tennis, swimming, sailing as a competitive sport, as well as pulling (rowing). These sports are played against the ten units of the East Kent District and winners go on to Area and National events.

Officers and Staff: The Unit, which is staffed by volunteer officers and instructors, provides a unique community resource – encouraging young people to develop social (and career relevant) awareness in the finest traditions of the Senior Service and instilling traditional values of good manners and consideration for others, as well as team-work and self-respect. The Unit provides a sense of belonging and a sound foundation for future employment.

The Commanding Officer is in complete charge of the day to day running of the Unit, including the Marine Cadet Detachment. Together with his officers and instructors a wide range of training and activity is organised.

Ceremonials: We cannot get away without talking about ceremonial. Some people like to call it militarism but we are following tradition and use ceremonial as a form of discipline. Our rifles are WWI and cannot fire and our bayonets have been blunted. We follow the tradition of raising the flag at the beginning of a parade night and lowering it at the end, which we call "Colours and Evening Colours". The whole of the ship's company do not always muster for these occasions but on the first Thursday of the month everyone parades in uniform with a guard. The Chaplain says prayers and the whole parade is inspected.

We, of course, play a big part in the Armistice Day parades and in the last couple of years our band has played at the Field of Remembrance ceremony and led the march through the town from the War Memorial. We always have a small party at Sandgate to carry our colour to St. Paul's and take part in the ceremony at the Memorial. We also parade outside for the Trafalgar Day in conjunction with the other ten units of the District.

SEACADETS FROM TRAINING SHIP INVICTA are ship-shape and growing fast!

The Unit has had an outstandingly successful 2002 and achieved the top Annual Efficiency Award for the first time ever and in its 60th Anniversary year. The "burgee" (a blue, swallow tailed shape flag) is awarded only to the top 25% of Units in the six Areas in the country.

On top of that, the Marine Detachment achieved the remarkable accolade of being the top Unit in Southern Area and competed in the final competition called the Gibraltar Cup. This was against the other five best Units in the country, and involved orienteering, assault courses, rifle shooting, drill and other activities. They came second by one point!

Thanks to business and other generous contributions, in 2002 the Unit was able to enter all District Competitions, six Area Competitions (including Pulling, when the Girls Team represented East Kent District) and three National events. The Unit also had the Best Drill Guard Commander, Best Armed Guard Squad and Best Dressed cadet – quite an achievement for a Unit that nearly closed but is now growing fast!

In 2003 TS Invicta continued to expand the training programmes and qualifications for both Officers and Cadets. The junior section is thriving and the Unit won the Shooting, Piping (including best individual), Band (including solo bugler) and Athletics Competitions. The Unit achieved another "burgee" for the year.

In 2004 and 2005, the Unit struggled in the temporary accommodation and restricted use of the premises but in 2006 things will pick up again as we move to our new HQ is August.

For further information please contact Lt Andy Orfila/Mandy Simpson on 01303 240487, or the Secretary on 01303 250343.



FOLKESTONE & HYTHE SEA CADET UNIT

Registered Charity No. 302743

HISTORY OF 2 CASTLE ROAD, SANDGATE

MOD VOLUNTEERS DRILL HALL

(Also known as the "Lord Lloyd Memorial Hall")

- 1845 *1st* National School (Sandgate) built with public funds and private donations
1866 *1st* National School moved to larger premises
- 1905 Building completed
- 1905-1906 1st Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers (Instructor Sgt Major Cooper)
- 1909-1911 3rd HC (CP) Brigade RFA (Sandgate Artillery) (Instructor Sgt Major Shirt)
- 1912-1914 H Coy Kent Cyclist Battalion (Instructor C/Sgt Jury)
- 1915 H Coy Kent Cyclist Battalion (Instructor C/Sgt H. Childs)
- 1928 Sold by MOD to Mr. Percy T. Henely
- 1929 28th June - Viscount Folkestone sells to Isabella Sarah Fall for £1,100
I.S. Fall purchases strip of land Sandgate Castle side for £100 from William Percy Allen.
Covenant stating that no building should be higher than 12ft along this stretch.
- 1931 Sold to Mr. Alfred T. Fall?
- 1940 Requisitioned by MOD – Home Guard Training Hall
- 1942 The Folkestone & Hythe Sea Cadet Unit formed, operating from Radnor Bridge Road
- 1945 17th July Isabella Sarah Fall sells to:
Admiral Sir Lionel Halsey (d 26/10/49) and Harry Theodore Bishop RN
both of Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square.
- 1947 Acquired by the Navy League (Admiral Halsey and H.T. Bishop) for the Folkestone & Hythe Sea Cadet HQ
Unit 144 – T.S. Invicta (Commanding Officer Lt. A.G. Crothell)
- 1951 H.T. Bishop and Navy League appointed Trustees
H.T. Bishop and Navy League sell to Margaret Helen Lipp for £1,200
- 1952 CPO by Folkestone - Shepway responsible for substantial repairs. Sea Cadets have the right to use sea wall and can carry boats over the wall, and the shingle to the sea
- 1960 26th October Miss M.H. Lipp sells for £1,550 to: Commander Charles Neate RN (Ret) of Flat 1, 63 Earls Avenue and Thomas Samuel Wilding of 35 Seething Lane, London, for Sea Cadet use.
- 1987 *Bowden*
Declaration of Trust Kelland John Bowynn/Anne Norma Fehr and Navy League Incorporated
- 2003 Trustees: SeaCadets Association, Commander Colville and Shirley Griffiths
- There is no Preservation Order on the land/building



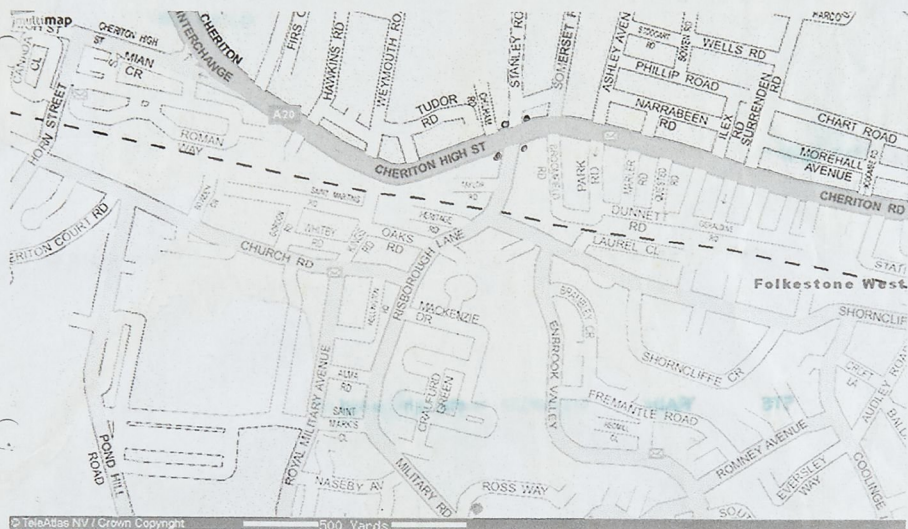
Folkestone & Hythe SCC



The Sea Cadets

Ross Mews
Ross Way
Folkestone
Kent
CT20 3LU
T: 01303 240487
www.folkestoneseacadets.com

From M20 Junction 12



↑
Turn into Ross Way
First building on the right

⚡ Traffic Lights

The Sandgate Society

Reply to:

The Old Fire Station
51 High Street, Sandgate,
Kent CT20 3AH
email: sandgatesociety@uk2.net

Plan for flats on historically shifting ground

PROPOSALS to build 48 flats on the Encombe estate have angered Sandgate residents.

An application has been submitted to develop a derelict mansion Encombe House, the site of a serious landslide in 1893.

Some £2.5million was spent on stabilising land at Encombe in 1960, but residents say there is still a serious danger of subsidence if any further flats are built on it.

Indeed, a number of bungalows in the area have suffered from flooding in recent years, after an attempt to drain the area failed.

The well-point scheme, completed by Halcrows in 1979, was designed to intercept ground water flowing at deep level, and reduce the flow of water running down the hill. But when it was abandoned in 1986 after a substantial amount of water was found to be

entering from unknown locations, rendering it ineffective.

Sandgate councillor Robert Bliss said: "Unless serious work is done to divert the springs, more damage could be done if more properties are built in the area."

Anita Heath, 68, who has lived in Encombe since 1977, thinks that the development could also cause traffic problems. She said: "It is already difficult for vehicles to get to Encombe, since the access road is very narrow and prone to subsidence, and an increased flow of traffic to flats could damage it irrevocably."

Linda Rene-Martin, from Sandgate High Street, is warning people to take action now before the development goes ahead.

She said: "This could have a huge impact on land stability in the general area, as despite

recent schemes there are still clear signs of heave and creep in the vicinity."

"The development will also have a huge visual impact on the unbroken, wooded backdrop, due to its over-scaled design, which is a 500 per cent increase in bedspace over the former mansion and outhouses.

"It could set a dangerous precedent for other hillslopes which are an essential part of Sandgate's unique character and charm."

A spokesman for Shephway council said: "We can confirm we have received an outline application for 42 flats in Encombe from Leon Wayne-DRM Trustees Ltd, which is currently being processed.

"The application is provisionally scheduled for consideration by the development control committee on February 17."

Sale of the Sea Cadet 'hut' is making waves

By KATHRYN TYE

IT IS the end of an era as the Folkestone and Hythe Sea Cadets are leaving their headquarters in Castle Road, Sandgate on Monday after 58 years.

The site has been sold to Gillcrest Homes, which is planning to develop the site with a four storey building of 18 flats.

Secretary John Barber said: "The building was very old, and crumbling around us, as it is only one brick deep, and is on slats over shingle, so the water used to splash up through the floor boards.

"It would have cost in excess of £200,000 to repair the site, so when Gillcrest offered to buy it from us, we jumped at the chance."

The group will be moving temporarily to the Tower theatre, in Shorncliffe, until their new home at the Sir John Moore barracks is ready, hopefully by September 2004.

Mr Barber said: "We are obviously sad to be moving away from the sea, but we will still be near, and the majority of our activities aren't water-based, such as drill practice and band rehearsals.

"It will just be nice to have meetings in a place which doesn't fill with water when it is high tide!"

Some local residents are worried about the development.

Sandgate society member Janet Holben said: "A number of people have written letters to us, expressing their concerns about the proposed housing.

"There are problems with parking in the area as it is, and with 18 new flats there, which will probably have at least two cars per household, it is bound to increase the traffic congestion and difficulties in parking.

"People are also worried that they will lose their view of the nearby castle, if the development is too high.

However, Gillcrest Homes development director Martin Wood said: "We have followed the criteria set by Shephway, and were careful to take the castle and the area as a whole into consideration when designing the building.

"A parking space has also been allocated for every flat, so it shouldn't cause too much disruption.

"We are planning to hold a meeting with residents in the new year to discuss plans and allay any fears about the development."

Have a word, Mr Howard

MICHAEL Howard, as new Tory leader, has very publicly issued his personal credo to indicate the future aims of his party to improve their image.

May I ask him if he also believes that charity begins at home? If so perhaps he could spend a little time looking at the devastating

effect deputy labour leader John Prescott is having on local people with his recent initiative for allowing Shephway district council to break essential planning rules in order to build accommodation for first time buyers.

I mention specifically the council's intention to build flats and houses on Princes Parade, Seabrook. If ever there was a need for protection against bureaucracy there is no better example!

Bernard Binns, Seabrook

Affiliated to Kent Federation of Amenity Societies and the Committee of the Preservation of Rural Kent.

Registered with the Civic Trust.

Registered Charity no. 280497

A BRIEF EXPOSITION OF THE SEA CADETS AT SANDGATE.

There are 400 Sea Cadet units in the U.K. of which the Unit at Sandgate is one. Its full title is THE POLKESTONE AND HYTHE SEA CADET UNIT. It can also be known by its ship name which is T.S.INVICTA; T.S. meaning Training Ship. The full address is: 2 CASLITE ROAD, SANDGATE, POLKESTONE, CT20 3AG. Telephone 01303 240487.

T.S.INVICTA was formed in 1942, as were many others around the country during the last war. As a progression from the Navy League Association, which was a youth club mainly for children of naval personnel. The Sea Cadet Corps was used during the war to train young males to become partially trained signallers prior to joining the Royal Navy. Though supported by M.O.D.(Navy) and under the auspices of the Admiral Commanding Reserves, the Sea Cadets retain their original youth club status, unlike Army and Air Cadets. In 1947, after having to meet for their parades in various halls and schools, the Unit moved to the building in Castle Road where it has remained ever since. The building had been put to many uses since its original use as the Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers Drill Hall in 1905, but in 1940 it was repossessed by M.O.D. The property now remains in the hands of the Sea Cadet Corps.

The Sea Cadet Corps could be defined as a youth organisation for boys and girls from all conditions and walks of life, between the ages of 10 to 12 as juniors and between 12 to 18 as fully enrolled uniformed cadets. They are instilled into the nautical traditions of our country, and learn to be smart in their actions and appearance, to take responsibilities, to mix with and be considerate to others, and to turn out as eventual good citizens. Marine cadets join at 13.

The M.O.D.(Navy) provide uniforms, some equipment and boats, and training courses in Royal Navy and Royal Marine establishments. However, there is hardly any financial help and the maintenance of the building and the running costs such as heating and lighting etc. are paid for by funds raised by a management committee and by rent from a small flat in the building. The members of the Management Committee form a trust which meets once a month and gives the Unit registered charity status, and apart from raising funds monitors the general effectiveness of the whole organisation. The present Chairman of the Committee is Mr. James Crofts who is an ex-ferry captain. The Unit also has a parents' committee which raises some funds by arranging outside events, and running a galley and tuck-shop on parade nights. The money they raise helps to buy equipment and pay/butings and social events.

The Commanding Officer, Lieut. (SGC) Ian Parker RNR is in complete charge of the day to day running of the Unit, including the Marine Cadet Detachment, and together with his officers and instructors organises a wide range of training and activity. Training and qualifications, for which appropriate badges are awarded for boys and girls on an equal basis, include general seamanship, radio communications, electrics, mechanics, and cooks/stewards. Activities include all forms of boating, sailing and canoeing, adventure training, band, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Shooting with .22 rifles is done at the Shorncliffe range and is part of inter-unit sports; other sports are five-a-side football, physical training, cross country running, table tennis, swimming, sailing as a competitive sport, as well as pulling (rowing). These sports are played against the ten units of the East Kent District and winners go on Area and National events.

We cannot get away without talking about ceremonial. Some people like to call it militarism but we are following tradition and use ceremonial as a form of discipline. Our rifles are LWW and can't fire and our bayonets have been blunted. We follow the tradition of raising the flag at the beginning of a parade night and lowering it at the end, which we call "Colours and Evening Colours". The whole of the ship's crew do not always muster for these occasions but on the first Thursday of the month everyone parades in uniform with a guard, the Chaplain says prayers, and the whole parade is inspected usually by a member of the Committee. We of course take a big part in the Armistice Day parades and in the last couple of years our band has played at the Field of Remembrance ceremony and led the march through the town from the War Memorial. We always have a small party at Sandgate to carry our colour to St. Paul's and take part in the ceremony at the Memorial. We also parade outside for Trafalgar Day but this done in conjunction with the ten units of the District; we had our turn last

Sandgate Sea Cadets continued:

year, when about 300 sea and marine cadets paraded through the town after a service at Trinity Church.

The Unit parades on Mondays and Thursdays between 1900 and 2130 and can be contacted at these times on 01303 240487.

Developer's dream



THIS prime site situated next to the historic Sandgate Castle provides a rare opportunity for development within the conservation area of Sandgate village, famed for its many antique shops and restaurants.

Sandgate also benefits from local shops and theatre along with water sports activities including

the rowing club. Wider activities are available in the nearby towns of Hythe and Folkestone, including shopping facilities, schools and access to mainline railway stations, M20 and the Channel Tunnel.

From the conveyance plan, the site is shown to have a frontage to Castle Road of approximately 87 feet nine inches, a sea frontage of 89 feet three inches and a maximum depth on the western boundary of approximately

154 feet two inches and currently has the detached sea cadet building on it.

A mixed courtyard development of town houses and flats is envisaged as appropriate for this superb seafront site.

Sole agents Fell Reynolds are inviting tenders for the sale with a closing date of 12pm on Friday August 22. Further information can be obtained from the agents by calling 01303 266422.