



# Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society Newsletter

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All gas – but no gaiters! SIAS members assembled by Emsworth's working gasholder.

See the report on the Society visit to Emsworth inside. (*Alan Green*)

These relics, of the once major industry, which have been retained in use since the nationwide introduction of North Sea Gas (natural gas) in the 1970s, to replace the need for the local plant previously used to produce Town Gas from coal with by-products, coke, coal tar and various other chemicals that were used as feed stuff for many products.

Apparently recent experience has been used to justify the decision that they are no longer required to store gas reserves for the peak winter demand. See page 17

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### Editorial

Welcome to *Newsletter* 161. Where did the last year go? - sign of advancing years I guess! Recently while researching to support Alex Vincent's newest book, *Tide Mills in Sussex*, I realised that I had most of the references on my shelves (resulting in a large pile beside my desk), there is nothing worse than looking at a footnote or bibliography for more information than to find it is in an obscure document. In some ways it is becoming more difficult to find such references as our libraries dispose of 'less used' items. Of course if I am able, I do snap these up, but it is just not possible to always be in the right place at the right time, nor is my wallet or space unlimited. So, may I encourage members to use their local libraries, take out books where possible and if in the reference section, return them to the counter so that their use may be logged. It is their proof that services are being used and supports the argument against yet more cut backs / disposals.

A fairly recent development is the ability to join other libraries, other than the one for your own council area. I am a member of West Sussex, East Sussex and Brighton, this is worthwhile as differing operating policies make some items available to borrow for home study, or just simply available, numerous visits to Lewes (over the border into deepest darkest East Sussex) where the staff (and policies) are most helpful. The online catalogues make finding the right volume much easier.