

ISSUE 15  
March / April 2008

Circulation: 111,978

# Medway

## MATTERS

THE COUNCIL MAGAZINE FOR ALL MEDWAY PEOPLE



# On the move

Many council services are changing  
location - pages 12 and 13

# Contacting Medway Council



## On the internet

Visit [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk) to access information and services on the internet anytime.

## By phone

Call **333333** for enquiries about waste, recycling, roads, traffic management, public transport, greenspaces and environmental health (Monday to Friday from 8am to 8pm and Saturday from 9am to 1pm).

Call **306000** for all other services and you will be directed to the relevant department.

## In person

Visit one of the council's five Contact Points providing local access to council services:

● **Chatham** Riverside One, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4SL (next to Chatham Library - opens 1 April)  
Monday to Thursday: 8.30am - 5.15pm, Friday: 8.30am - 4.45pm

● **Gillingham** Gillingham Library, High Street, Gillingham, ME7 1BG  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9am - 5pm, Tuesday: 10am - 5pm, Saturday: 9am - 1pm

● **Rainham 1** - 3 Station Road, Rainham, ME8 7RS  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9am - 5pm, Wednesday: 9am - 7.30pm  
Friday: 9am - 5pm, Saturday: 9am - 1pm



**Kent  
Police**

*Kent Police services are also available in Rainham Contact Point.*

● **Rochester** Visitor Information Centre, 95 High Street, Rochester, ME1 1LX  
Monday to Friday: 9am - 5pm, Saturday: 10am - 1pm

● **Strood** Civic Centre, Strood, ME2 4AU  
Monday to Thursday: 8.30am - 5.15pm, Friday: 8.30am - 4.45pm,  
Saturday: 9am - 1pm



**Kent  
Police**

*Kent Police services are also available in Strood Contact Point.*

Many council services are moving location in March, April and May 2008.

For more information visit [www.medway.gov.uk/moves](http://www.medway.gov.uk/moves) or call **333333**.

## The council's main administrative office is at

**Gun Wharf**, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TU (opens 1 April)

Please call **333333** before you visit if you are unsure which services are available from a specific Contact Point or council office.



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# Time for me to sign off



I'm going to be a little self-indulgent with the editorial in this issue of *Medway Matters*, as it is the last one I will be writing. After six years at the helm I'm leaving the magazine as editor. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who, over the years, has contributed to the publication in some way.

I have to be honest and say that I'm feeling a little sad. I've watched *Medway Matters* grow from an eight-page newspaper into a 32-page magazine and I've done that with pride and determination that the publication should be what residents have asked for. The work that goes into putting each issue together is enormous for everyone involved and I want to say thank you to my colleagues for putting up with my rants at times. But most of all I want to thank you, our readers.

I'm leaving the magazine in very capable hands and I'm sure the new editor, who you'll meet in the next issue of *Medway Matters*, will look forward to your comments, feedback - both positive and negative - and suggestions, as much as I have.

Now, on to this issue. It's packed full of lively stories and features, as always. You can discover how our libraries are changing in Medway and you can find out just how difficult it can be to be a parking attendant at times. As most residents will be aware Medway Council is moving this spring. That means some very important changes for people who visit us in person. Please read the feature - it should help everyone know where they need to go and what they need to do.

Happy reading and goodbye.

Fay Coffin, Editor

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# Your council tax bill

**Medway Council has once again set the lowest council tax in Kent - a band D household will be paying £1,041.48 for 2008/09.**

That figure, which does not include charges for police and fire services and additional sums required by individual parish councils, is below the average band D figure of £1,370 across the country.

Deputy Leader Cllr Alan Jarrett said: "Once again Medway Council has delivered a sustainable budget that will allow us to continue investing in front-line services while limiting the impact on tax payers. We have one of the lowest council tax bills in the country, but careful budgeting has allowed us to target spending on better roads, facilities for vulnerable people, bringing empty homes back into use and looking after our older residents."

Council tax bills will increase by just under five per cent - the level at which the

government has indicated that it will begin to cap councils that set higher tax levels.

Cllr Jarrett said: "Our historically low level of council tax means that the capping system hits Medway hard. Despite this I am confident that careful budgeting and good use of resources means that this is another budget that will deliver value for money for the people of Medway."

The budget includes: £2million for improvements to the A228, £6.7million to develop Chatham centre and waterfront and £950,000 for disabled adaptation grants.

The council will be spending £31million on children's services, £73million on adult social care and other community services and £164million on education and schools in 2008/09.

# Bus station location agreed by councillors

The location of Chatham's new £5million bus station has been approved. The agreed site centres on Sir John Hawkins Way and Globe Lane and means demolition of the Sir John Hawkins flyover.

The decision by Medway Council's Cabinet ends months of extensive public consultation over the most suitable location for the new bus station, which is a key element of Chatham's regeneration programme.

Council Leader Cllr Rodney Chambers said: "Getting this right is vitally important for Chatham's future and that's why it has been the subject of so much discussion and consultation. It's now clear that the most logical location is option four out of seven. This makes demolition of the

Sir John Hawkins flyover unavoidable.

"This is a complex project and the work will cause disruption. That is a price worth paying. The new bus station is key in the vastly improved public transport system that Medway will need as the regeneration programme takes shape."

Demolition of the flyover and the building of the bus station will be followed by phase two of the Chatham two-way works that includes widening The Brook, junction improvements and three new car parks. Plans for the Chatham Waterfront site, between Sun Pier and The Command House pub, include apartments, a waterfront park, cafes, restaurants and a major new arts and entertainment venue.

## How much will I have to pay?

House banding	A Up to £40,000	B £40,001 to £52,000	C £52,001 to £68,000	D £68,001 to £88,000	E £88,001 to £120,000	F £120,001 to £160,000	G £160,001 to £320,000	H £320,001 and above
<b>Total for Medway residents*</b>	<b>£822.36</b>	<b>£959.42</b>	<b>£1,096.48</b>	<b>£1,233.54</b>	<b>£1,507.66</b>	<b>£1,781.78</b>	<b>£2,055.90</b>	<b>£2,467.08</b>
Medway Council	£694.32	£810.04	£925.76	£1,041.48	£1,272.92	£1,504.36	£1,735.80	£2,082.96
Kent Police Authority	£85.50	£99.75	£114.00	£128.25	£156.75	£185.25	£213.75	£256.50
Kent Fire & Rescue Service	£42.54	£49.63	£56.72	£63.81	£77.99	£92.17	£106.35	£127.62
<b>If you live in one of the following parishes you have to pay the parish precept shown. This is added on to the figures above.</b>								
Total precept for each parish is shown in brackets								
Allhallows (£35,000)	£39.85	£46.50	£53.14	£59.78	£73.06	£86.35	£99.63	£119.56
Cliffe (£17,000)	£6.02	£7.02	£8.03	£9.03	£11.04	£13.04	£15.05	£18.06
Cooling (£2,200)	£18.16	£21.19	£24.21	£27.24	£33.29	£39.35	£45.40	£54.48
Cuxton (£22,900)	£14.83	£17.30	£19.77	£22.24	£27.18	£32.12	£37.07	£44.48
Frindsbury Extra (£20,900)	£6.05	£7.06	£8.07	£9.08	£11.10	£13.12	£15.13	£18.16
Halling (£28,650)	£18.41	£21.47	£24.54	£27.61	£33.75	£39.88	£46.02	£55.22
High Halstow (£43,410)	£39.37	£45.94	£52.50	£59.06	£72.18	£85.31	£98.43	£118.12
Hoo St. Werburgh (£34,508)	£8.68	£10.13	£11.57	£13.02	£15.91	£18.81	£21.70	£26.04
St James Isle of Grain (£31,725)	£43.28	£50.49	£57.71	£64.92	£79.35	£93.77	£108.20	£129.84
St Mary Hoo (£3,750)	£24.86	£29.00	£33.15	£37.29	£45.58	£53.86	£62.15	£74.58
Stoke (£19,000)	£34.66	£40.44	£46.21	£51.99	£63.54	£75.10	£86.65	£103.98

\*Totals shown exclude parish precepts.

# All eyes on cameras

**You're never too old to play a game of eye spy and the Guildhall Museum in Rochester High Street, has a great new exhibition to prove it.**

Interactive cameras pointing at old and new Rochester are keeping visitors of all ages entertained. The cameras are controlled via an easy-to-use console allowing visitors to navigate easily across the landscape taking in views of Rochester Cathedral, castle and bridge as well as the Rochester Riverside development.

Live images are relayed on to a 50-inch plasma screen. The gallery also features audio commentary and exhibition panels highlighting the key features of Rochester

and the extent of the development work. The cameras, attached to the roof of the Conservancy Building, give visitors a real bird's eye view of the area. So whether you live in Rochester, have visited many times or not at all, this is sure to add a new dimension to sightseeing. The museum is free and is open Tuesday to Sunday.

**For more information visit [www.medway.gov.uk/tourism](http://www.medway.gov.uk/tourism) or phone 848717.**



■ *Bird's eye view of Rochester*



## World cup

Sporting fans are in for a treat - the British leg of the Modern Pentathlon World Cup Series comes to Medway in 2010. The Pentathlon GB's Board of Directors chose Medway to stage the British leg of the event. The athletes will take part in the competition at Medway Park, the former Black Lion Leisure Centre in Gillingham. The modern pentathlon is a multi-sport event made up of five disciplines - swimming, fencing, show jumping, shooting and running. Portfolio Holder for Community Services Cllr Howard Doe said: "Medway has aspirations to be recognised as a high-calibre sporting venue for national and international events. It is a great honour for us to host the Modern Pentathlon World Cup at Medway Park."

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# Quo to rock castle

It's going to be a summer of musical excellence in Medway. The line-up for the performers appearing at this year's Castle Concerts in Rochester Castle Gardens has been announced and tickets are now on sale.



For 2008 there will be four Castle Concerts, taking place from Wednesday, 16 July to Saturday, 19 July. So, who features in the line-up?

**Wednesday, 16 July –**  
Soul Party with The Edwin Starr Band featuring Angelo Starr; Brenda Edwards and The Soul Traders – tickets £20.

**Thursday, 17 July –**  
Jools Holland & His Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, with special guests Gilson Lavis, Marc Almond, Ruby Turner and Louise Marshall – tickets £30.

**Friday, 18 July –**  
Status Quo – tickets £33.

**Saturday, 19 July –**  
Castle Proms with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra – tickets £27.

Portfolio Holder for Community Services Cllr Howard Doe said:

“I am very excited about the acts who are appearing at this year's concerts. I think it promises to be a splendid series of concerts, which will appeal to a tremendous number of people of all ages. The concerts have always been popular and I believe that this year will be no different. Roll on July.”

Tickets for all four concerts are on sale now. You can buy them online at [www.castleconcerts.co.uk](http://www.castleconcerts.co.uk) or from The Central and Brook Theatre box office, where you can also buy over the phone by calling 338338. You can buy tickets in person at Medway Visitor Information Centre in Rochester High Street and the Central Theatre's box office.

You can find out more about the acts appearing at [www.castleconcerts.co.uk](http://www.castleconcerts.co.uk)

## Changes to parking will make Medway safer

**An overhaul of parking services is under way to make Medway a safer place.**

Councils across the country can now change the way they tackle congestion and disruption on the roads by using new enforcement powers. The Traffic Management Act gives councils more power to manage parking policies and the appeals process.

Medway Council's Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services Cllr Phil Filmer said: “Our officers are inundated with calls from residents to help stop people from parking illegally outside their homes, or careless motorists who park outside schools during rush hour and force children

and parents to walk into busy roads.”

Anyone caught flouting parking regulations or causing a dangerous obstruction will have their penalty charge notice sent to them in the post. Previously, parking attendants had to photograph the notice attached to the motorist's window for it to be valid. Now it can be issued if an attendant has been prevented from serving the notice, or the motorist drives away before the notice can be completed. There will also be two levels of penalty charges depending on the severity of the

contravention: The higher bands in Medway will be £70, reduced to £35 if paid within 14 days. The lower band in Medway will be £50, reduced to £25 if paid within 14 days.

CCTV operators can now monitor traffic flow and issue penalty charge notices to anyone they see flouting parking regulations. This is monitored from the council's CCTV hub and also by officers in a new mobile car that will patrol Medway's streets, particularly outside schools during busy hours.

The team can also enforce against motorists who block dropped pavements - a power that was previously held by the police. Residents whose

driveways are blocked by inconsiderate motorists can also report the vehicle to the council by phoning 331650.

Motorists who cause a hazard by double parking next to another parked car will find themselves facing enforcement action.

Cllr Filmer said “These changes are not about making money, but about giving our officers the powers to tackle motorists who flout parking restrictions that have been put in place to protect everyone.”

Find out more about the changes and the levels of penalty charges by visiting [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk) or phoning Customer First on **333333**.

# Three-star council

The people of Medway are still receiving three-star, value for money council services. While the latest independent assessment by the Audit Commission has judged Medway to be good, the message is clear: "We want to get even better."

Council Leader Cllr Rodney Chambers and Chief Executive Neil Davies called the three-star result "a reflection of the dedicated work by staff throughout the authority to deliver high quality, value for money services".

Cllr Chambers said: "Performance in most of our key services has either been maintained or improved since last year, demonstrating our determination to continue to deliver high quality services."

The benefits element of the council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) score increased from three stars to an excellent four.

The children's care element of children's services improved. The council's adult care services missed out on a top rating, but the Commission for Social Care Inspection praised partnership working with the health service, the council's intensive home care packages and its use of technology to help people stay in their own homes.

CPA inspectors said the council was "making it easier to travel around Medway" and praised its work on the environment, where they pointed out: "Environmental performance, including composting and recycling, has improved, but levels of waste collected are above average."

The commission confirmed that the council "delivers good value for money on most services" and is "developing good strategic plans for improvement." The report also confirmed that the council is "improving adequately".

# Freedom for the engineers

The Corps of the Royal Engineers is to be given the freedom of the borough in a day of celebration on Saturday, 17 May. Medway Council is allowed to give the honorary title to any individual or organisation it feels has given excellent services to the area. There will be a parade with the Royal Engineers and a band taking part. This will be followed by a salute to be taken by senior councillors and a civic reception.



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2008  
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- BA (Hons) Creative Events: Design and Production
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- BA (Hons) Health & Social Care Practice
- BA (Hons) Journalism and the News Industry (new Sept 2008)
- BA (Hons) Social Work

- BA (Hons) Tourism Management
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## Flagship diplomas for our students

Medway students will be among the first in the country to be taught the government's new vocational diplomas for 14 to 19-year-olds.

By 2013, students will be able to choose from 17 specialised subjects, including IT, construction and the built environment, leisure and tourism and society, health and development. They will also have to do work experience during their studies.

The diplomas will be linked to industry and provide students with hands-on practical experience from relevant sectors linked to their qualification. Schools and colleges will offer the diplomas alongside GCSEs and A-levels as part of the drive to encourage more people to stay in education and training and to fill the local skills gaps.

There will be three levels of diploma: Foundation is equivalent to five GCSE passes and Higher is equivalent to seven GCSE passes at grade A\* to C.

Advanced is equivalent to three-and-a half A-levels and will be accepted by universities and colleges, as well as allowing students to go directly into work.

Portfolio Holder for Children's Services Cllr Les Wicks said: "I am extremely pleased that Medway has been successful in gaining permission to offer diplomas to its young people. I am confident that those that select to study them will be pleased with their choices as will their employers."



## Happy birthday Medway

Ten years ago, on 1 April 1998, Gillingham Borough Council and Rochester Upon Medway City Council were merged into one unitary council and Medway was born.

In the May/June issue of *Medway Matters* we will be

reflecting on Medway's formative years and exploring what plans are in store for the next decade. We'll also be reporting on some of the events the council has planned to celebrate the 10th anniversary.



## Rubbish and recycling collections over the spring and May bank holidays

If your rubbish is normally collected on

It will be collected on

Monday, 5 May

Tuesday, 6 May

Tuesday, 6 May

Wednesday, 7 May

Wednesday, 7 May

Thursday, 8 May

Thursday 8 May

Friday, 9 May

Friday, 9 May

Saturday, 10 May

Monday, 26 May

Tuesday, 27 May

Tuesday, 27 May

Wednesday, 28 May

Wednesday, 28 May

Thursday, 29 May

Thursday, 29 May

Friday, 30 May

Friday, 30 May

Saturday, 31 May

The household waste recycling sites will open from 9am to 4pm on May and spring bank holidays.

For more information phone **333333** or email [wasteminimisation@medway.gov.uk](mailto:wasteminimisation@medway.gov.uk)

## Partnership in action

A new partnership body is set to transform the way local organisations work together to make Medway a better place in which to live.

Medway's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) has been strengthened to make sure it brings together the right agencies to deliver a bright future for the area.

The idea behind LSPs is that they link up organisations that can share resources and expertise to improve the local area. They recognise the fact that no one organisation can tackle wide-ranging issues alone.

The government recognises the LSP as the body that sets priorities and delivers key improvements in services. In Medway the council has been running a national pilot scheme designed to highlight how an effective partnership should work and has now set up a re-focused group, set to make the area a better place.

New members of the LSP

executive board include Kent Fire and Rescue Service and Jobcentre Plus, a crucial partner in helping people find work. As part of the streamlined set-up, the LSP will work through five partnership groups. Those five thematic partnership groups will deal with health and well-being; children, young people and families; economic development; community safety and regeneration.

Chaired by the council, the LSP is expected to deliver the Local Area Agreement (LAA) that sets out how local agencies will work together to meet targets agreed with the government.

To find out more phone Yvonne Wilson on **332043** or email [yvonne.wilson@medway.gov.uk](mailto:yvonne.wilson@medway.gov.uk)



## New improved register office now open

Medway Register Office has said goodbye to its offices and ceremony rooms in Maidstone Road, Chatham, and hello to new refurbished space in Northgate, Rochester. The move to the new location brings with it the ability to provide full disabled access to the register

office. Birth and death registration is now operating from a separate building on the same site. Portfolio Holder for Adult Services Cllr Tom Mason said: "The staff at the register office pride themselves on providing a high-quality service and will continue to do so."



## The ball's in your court

**Improvements at a Medway community centre – including CCTV and a ballpark – have increased its popularity among residents.**

Hook Meadow Community Centre in Walderslade, now boasts a CCTV system linked to Medway Council's operations centre, plus new fencing and a new ball court.

Around £128,000 has been spent on the project, which was funded through members' priorities from the council's capital programme.

Medway Council's Portfolio Holder for Community Services Cllr Howard Doe said: "The improvements at the community centre have given it a new lease of life. The ball court means young people have somewhere to go.

"Since we've had the CCTV system and fencing installed, the incidents of anti-social behaviour have dropped dramatically. In addition, bookings to hire the hall at the community centre have been on the increase, both during the day and in the evenings, which is excellent news."

## How efficient is your home?

**Did you know that up to one third of your heat escapes through your walls?**

Medway Council is working with the Kent Energy Centre to improve the energy efficiency of homes. Home insulation provides benefits for households by reducing the rate that heat escapes through the walls and roof.

The initiative has been given a boost following an announcement that people aged 70 and over, as well as people who receive certain benefits, now qualify for free insulation. Subsidised rates for insulation measures from

£199 are available to all householders who do not qualify for a grant. If your home was built between the 1930s and the early 1980s you probably have cavity walls. Loft or cavity wall insulation saves around £90-£110 per year on your heating bills and will make your home warmer and more comfortable. It is quick and easy to install. The Kent Energy Centre operates a free helpline line providing impartial advice. This includes referral to installers and grant schemes. Please phone the Kent Energy Centre on **0800 358 6669**.

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## Partnership working gets results

**Medway Community Safety Partnership brings together key organisations from across the public and private sector. It is an effective driving force in delivering community safety.**

Bottles of lager, cider and vodka have been confiscated from underage drinkers. Medway safer communities officers also seized more than 50 cans and 20 bottles of alcohol from people drinking in public places during patrols of Medway's streets and parks as part of their work to make the area safer. The alcohol has now been disposed of and the bottles and cans have been recycled.

Medway Council's Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Enforcement Cllr Rehman Chishti said: "Medway Council and our partners are working hard to make Medway a safer place for everyone. Confiscating alcohol is one of many steps we are taking to stop people – especially those who are underage – from drinking in restricted areas and places, like parks, where people go to relax. By taking alcohol off street drinkers, we have increased community safety and improved the environment."



**For more information visit our website.**

[www.medway.gov.uk/communitysafety](http://www.medway.gov.uk/communitysafety)

# Please park sensibly, we're

**Parking attendants don't always have a great press but, as Laura Patrick discovered, not everyone hates seeing them on the streets.**

Along with estate agents, and journalists, it's safe to say that parking attendants are often seen as one of the most despised professions in the country.

Verbal and physical abuse is common and while being spat and sworn at would hardly encourage many people to go to work, attendants like John\* have learned to deal with the constant tirades. He believes he's doing his bit to help make Medway safer.

John's shift starts at 7am.

It includes grabbing a quick cuppa and checking his attendant's kit – that means making sure his two-way radio

works, his handheld computer and printer are fully charged and he is in full uniform. He'll then set off on his round, which could be anywhere in Medway. "We never work the same route," John explained. "We will have a different patch each day, which makes the job more interesting."

John said: "It certainly keeps me fit and I love working outdoors, especially when it's sunny. I couldn't imagine working in an office, I think I would get cabin fever."

About 10 minutes into his shift we spot our first offenders – four cars parked outside a parade of shops in Rochester High Street. "Parking is only allowed at this place when a vehicle is loading or unloading and this must be visible, or if a vehicle is displaying a valid blue badge" He inputs the cars' details into his handheld computer, including the time. This will help him check how long the vehicles have been



in the bay when he walks past later.

As we stroll up the High Street several people say hello to John which, considering their bad press, I find pleasantly refreshing. The *Big Issue* seller outside the cathedral asks how he is, while a builder working in an empty shop pops out to ask if it is okay to park his vehicle outside. Even drivers who are asked to move on are amiable.

As John issues his first parking ticket of the day he says: "This is the bit I hate. You don't know the reasons why

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## Free insulation for over 70s



\*Based on a standard three-bed semi detached home. Prices may vary.

Loft or cavity wall insulation is available in Medway for £199\* and free for over 70s or recipients of certain benefits.

Loft or cavity wall insulation:

- saves around £90 - £110 per year on your heating bills;
- will make your home noticeably warmer and more comfortable.

Medway Council is working with the Kent Energy Centre, a not-for-profit organisation which operates a free helpline that provides impartial advice and information about energy saving around the home, including referral to trusted installers and grant schemes.

Call the Kent Energy Centre:  
**0800 3586669**





# trying to look after everyone

someone has parked somewhere they shouldn't. We have to judge each situation by how it's presented to us."

As John is securing a ticket to the windscreen of a car that's parked in a restricted area, an elderly lady comes towards him. "I forgot to display my disabled badge," she explains. She shows John her disabled badge, which he photographs with his handheld computer. Once the ticket has been issued officers at the council's head office would already have processed the offence on a central database, meaning John can't simply tear up the penalty notice. However, he explains to the woman that he will include details of her disabled parking permit as evidence to help her with her appeal.

Our walk takes us past an area where, in the past, John was deliberately run over by a member of the public he was issuing a ticket to. He said: "It still brings back bad memories and getting attacked is always at the back of my

mind when I start my shift. I have to examine each situation when deciding whether to issue a ticket and walk away or call for back up if it looks like it might be dangerous."

During our shift John issues three more tickets – they're given to three drivers who have parked on the pavement, despite being given five minutes to move their vans.

"Some drivers don't appreciate that their parking can cause obstructions and lead to accidents," John says. "We shouldn't be forcing children to cross the road between parked cars, just because some

people can't be bothered to park in a safe place and walk to meet their children at the school gates.

"I've been doing this job for five years and I get a huge amount of job satisfaction. I try to be fair and judge each situation with the evidence in front of me. It's not very nice when someone you've given a ticket starts swearing at you, but it's all outweighed when someone asks if you can increase patrols in their road or tells you you're doing a great job."

*\* Name has been changed.*

• Find out about changes to parking and how it could affect you on pages 6-7.



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## Open day

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**Web:** [www.gre.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.gre.ac.uk/opendays)

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# We're on the move this year

Many Medway Council services are on the move this spring. The changes, which are already under way, are part of the council's drive to put customers at the heart of all it does.



## What's happening?

The most significant change affecting customers visiting council offices is the opening of a new contact point – called Chatham contact point – in Riverside One, Dock Road, Chatham. The new contact point will be home to the usual range of services provided from existing

contact points, plus council tax, housing benefits and housing information. The council is also moving most of its administrative and support staff to Gun Wharf (previously known as the Lloyds building) in Dock Road, Chatham. Most of these staff are based at existing council sites at Municipal Buildings, Gillingham; Civic Centre,

Strood and Compass Centre, Chatham Maritime.

These sites will then be permanently closed to the public. However, some services, including the relocated Strood contact point with Kent Police, will still be based in part of the Civic Centre site.

The planning reception, now based at Compass Centre, Chatham Maritime, will move to Gun Wharf.

## When are the changes taking place?

The new Chatham contact point is expected to open on Tuesday, 1 April. Customer reception areas at Municipal Buildings, Gillingham and Chatham's Local Office in Military Road, will be closed for good from Friday, 28 March.

Strood contact point will be moved to the annex part of

the Civic Centre site in Strood. This is the building with the clocktower on it. This is expected to be completed by Friday, 23 May. After this the Civic Centre customer reception area in the main building will close permanently. Administrative and support staff will be moving into the Gun Wharf building in April and May.

## I want to write the council. What's the address?

From Tuesday, 1 April please write to Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TU. Post sent to other sites will be redirected for a limited period.

## Are the council's phone numbers changing?

No. All council phone numbers including Customer First (333333) and switchboard (306000) remain unchanged.

## I pay council bills by cash at Municipal Buildings in Gillingham, or the Civic Centre in Strood. What should I do?

When the existing cashiers' counters close the council won't be accepting cash payments directly, except for parking. There are many alternatives - including direct debit, standing order, cheque by post or paying by credit/debit cards on the internet or by phone.

If you still wish to pay with cash, you can pay a wide range of council bills, including rent, council tax and business rates at post offices and banks. Use a





payment slip from your payment book or the tear-off slip from your bill.

You can also pay your council rent in cash - safely and securely using an Allpay card at more than 40,000 outlets nationwide. Just look out for a PayPoint or Pay Zone sign. There are more than 50 places accepting payments in Gillingham, including one opposite the Municipal Buildings. More information about alternative ways to pay is available at [www.medway.gov.uk/paying-cash](http://www.medway.gov.uk/paying-cash)

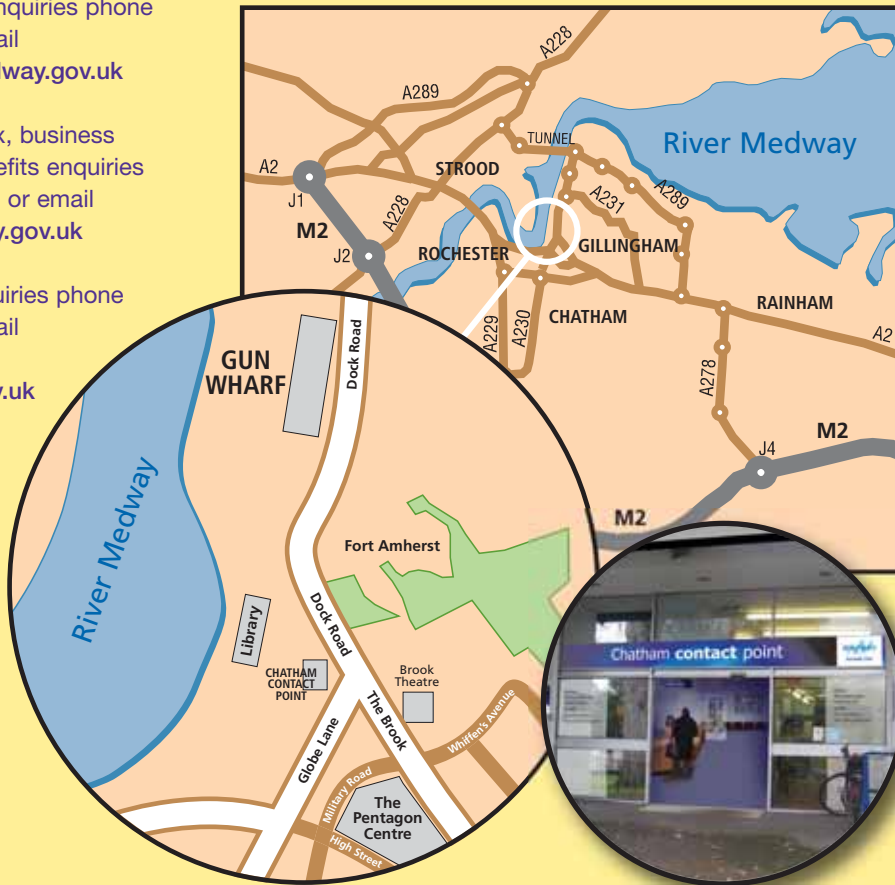
**How can I get more information about this?**

There is more information, including latest updates, on the council's website at [www.medway.gov.uk/moves](http://www.medway.gov.uk/moves).

For housing enquiries phone 333500 or email [housing@medway.gov.uk](mailto:housing@medway.gov.uk)

For council tax, business rates and benefits enquiries phone 332222 or email [ctax@medway.gov.uk](mailto:ctax@medway.gov.uk)

For other enquiries phone 333333 or email [customer.first@medway.gov.uk](mailto:customer.first@medway.gov.uk)



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**1 June**  
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Capstone Farm Country Park, Gillingham



**6 July**  
*Countryside Experience*  
Riverside Country Park, Gillingham



**16-17 August**  
*Kites Over Capstone*  
Capstone Farm Country Park, Gillingham

For more information phone 01634 812196 or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/countryside](http://www.medway.gov.uk/countryside)

# On the spot

**James Brown** is a happy man. He loves his job as the superintendent registrar of Medway and he loves the new premises that are now home to the registration service. He's had a varied career, having been in the army, worked as a riding instructor and managed a store in the West End. **Alison Day** talked to James about his role here.

**Are you married?**

Yes, I married my wife Jackie at St Werburgh Church. My mum and dad were married in Chatham Register Office.

**How long have you been registration services manager? Was it a career path you chose to follow?**

When I saw this job advertised two years ago, I was working in retail, managing a store in the West End. Before that I was a horse riding instructor and prior to that I was in the army.

**What attracted you to the role?**

I suppose it was a combination of factors. I was a Grenadier Guard in the army, where I took part in the Trooping of the Colour parade. Tradition and history are drilled into you every day in the guards so the sense of ceremony and being the custodian of historical documents appealed to me. As in any role, there are skills that can be transferred such as personnel management and the marketing of the service. It is such a privilege to be involved in the core moments of people's lives.

**What does a typical week involve?**

I am responsible for managing the service. I oversee the registration of all births, marriages and deaths in Medway. Although I am not involved in the ceremonies held in churches, synagogues and other places of worship, all those certificates come to me. I also maintain and make amendments to the registers and check the validity of the certificates. If I am conducting a ceremony, I meet couples to plan their services. I like to ensure each wedding service is different.

**Have you been involved in the marriage of anyone famous or who is in the public eye?**

No, although I was very interested to hear that Kelly Brook was getting married. My involvement in anyone's wedding service means a lot to me. It can be moving when family and friends are involved. I will be honoured to conduct the ceremony of my cousin in London this summer. I also conducted the ceremony for my best friend, who married in Eastgate House, Rochester.

**What do you think Medway can offer in terms of venues?**

The venues all offer something unique. Apart from the register office and weddings in hospitals and prisons, you can marry



on a ship, in the tunnels at Fort Amherst, one of the many historic buildings, a castle or a cricket club.

**You clearly enjoy your job. Do you see this as a job for life?**

Oh yes. You will rarely see vacancies for these roles and there is enough variety to keep me stimulated. Apart from the ceremonies, I'm fascinated every time I open one of these historical registers and see a whole story on a page. They offer such an insight into the changing face of history, from addresses for places that have now disappeared to the trades associated with particular places such as the dockyard.

**What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**

Spending time with my family, cycling the Saxon Shore Way and reading Terry Pratchett fantasy novels for some escapism.

**Do you have any advice for people preparing to marry?**

My best advice would be not to overstage it. Make your plans beforehand and, when you turn up, just let the day unfold and enjoy it.



# Stand-up on the road

by Steph Coole

## Award-winning Irish comedian and television regular Dara O'Briain brings his stand-up show to The Central Theatre, Chatham, this May. *Medway Matters* sneaks a quick preview.

Does the face seem familiar? Take another look at the picture. It should do. For the past three years Dara O'Briain has been living in your TV set.

Turn it on and there he is, presenting *Mock The Week*, guest-hosting *Have I Got News For You* or sailing up the River Thames in *Three Men in a Boat*.

Then there are his appearances on *Jack Dee Live at the Apollo*, *Parkinson*, *Friday Night with Jonathan Ross*, *The Last Laugh*, *QI*, and *Never Mind the Buzzcocks*. But it's a lonely existence, living in such a confined space; especially when you're six feet four. This is why O'Briain has decided to stretch out and take his stand-up show on the road.

O'Briain is no stranger to stand-up, having developed his blend of improvisation, observational humour and satire on the Irish comedy circuit more than a decade ago. "I get the biggest kick from chatting to punters," he revealed. "The banter makes every single show unique. It also gives it a massive element of the unexpected. I love reacting to stuff. Comedy works best when it's stumbling over impediments."

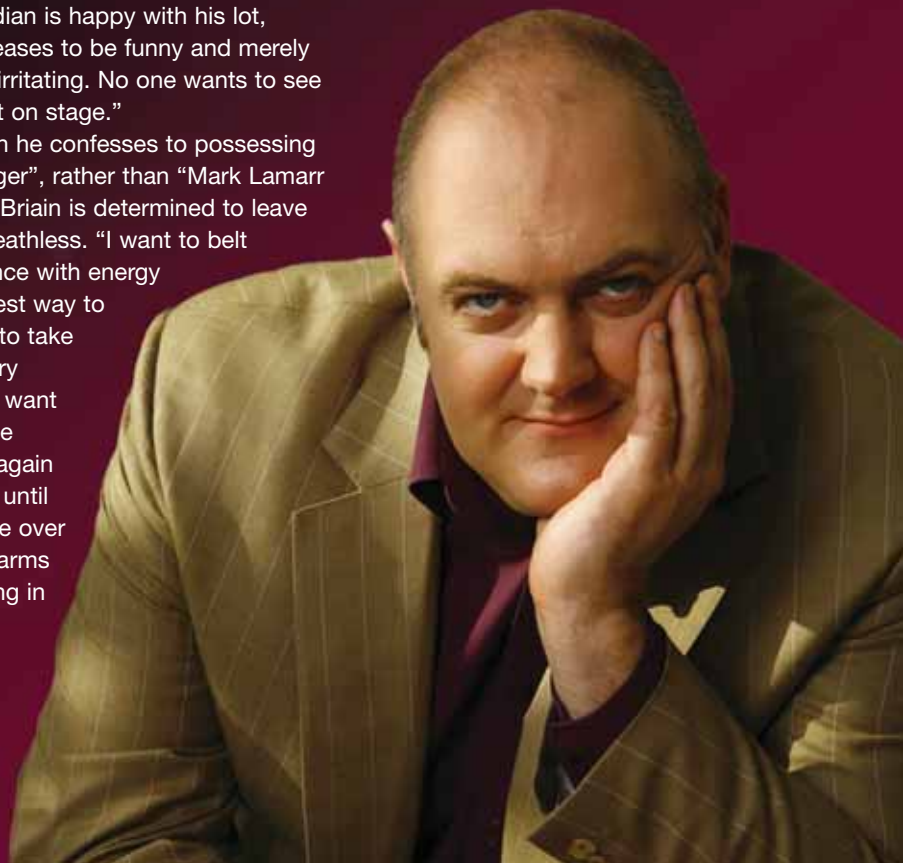
It's the seemingly small impediments in life that fuel much of O'Briain's live delivery. "The idea of disgruntlement is one thing comedians do better than every other art form," he said.

"You can paint grief or love, but you can't paint being annoyed by call centres. Grown-up emotions are covered by grown-up art forms like painting, music and film. Whereas petty grievances are perfect for stand-up. If a comedian is happy with his lot, then he ceases to be funny and merely becomes irritating. No one wants to see a smug git on stage."

Although he confesses to possessing "warm anger", rather than "Mark Lamarr anger", O'Briain is determined to leave people breathless. "I want to belt the audience with energy and the best way to do that is to take on an angry persona. I want to push the audience again and again until they topple over with their arms wind-milling in the air."

So if you want to empty your comedy air-sacks to the angry chimes of O'Briain's charms, then visit The Central Theatre on Wednesday, 21 May - and turn off your TV set, he doesn't live there anymore.

**Tickets are £18 and £19. To book, phone the box office on 338338, email [boxoffice@medway.gov.uk](mailto:boxoffice@medway.gov.uk) or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/theatres](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatres).**



## Comedy central

Dara O'Briain is the latest splash as The Central Theatre continues to host top names from Britain's comedic new wave. Jimmy Carr follows last year's sell-out show with another full house on Thursday, 24 April and Russell Howard had his way with a packed auditorium in February.

**Saturday, 28 June, 7.30pm  
Simon Amstell**

Acerbic host of *Never Mind The Buzzcocks*

## Belly laughs at The Brook

The Central Theatre's sister venue, The Brook Theatre, hosts Medway Comedy Club. Sometimes irreverent, often controversial and always funny, the monthly event showcases the newest and best comics on the stand-up circuit. Ross Noble, Mark Watson and Paul Sinha have all played here.

**For more information and to book, phone the box office on 338338, email [boxoffice@medway.gov.uk](mailto:boxoffice@medway.gov.uk) or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/theatres](http://www.medway.gov.uk/theatres).**



# The heart of our co

by Stephen Hannington

**Libraries are changing. That's not only what it says on the sign outside Chatham Library, but also what the people who visit it think. And they are changing for the better.**

**LIBRARIES FOR LIFE**

[www.medway.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.medway.gov.uk/libraries)





# community

**Libraries are increasingly becoming the heart of the communities they serve. That's the view of Philomena Leech. She's the chair of the Friends of Medway Libraries, volunteers who help out at their friendly local libraries.**

"My job is to make the public aware of libraries and what they have got to offer," she said. "Nowadays libraries are becoming almost community centres. They are for people to come in and enjoy the atmosphere."

Among those who do exactly that are the VIPs, a readers' group for visually impaired people (although they insist it stands for very important people). The group meets every month at Chatham Library to discuss the latest in talking books.

"I'm very pleased the library does this now," said Pat Deakin, one of the members, "because they never did when I was a girl. Meeting people with the same interests is more sociable than just sitting at home with a book. Talking books are the best thing ever invented."

Her friend Isobel Sephton, from Rochester, agreed. "I wish this meeting went on a bit longer. I'd quite happily be here all afternoon."

It's not just members who are impressed: The group was recently shortlisted for the Penguin Orange Broadband Prize for readers' groups.

It didn't win, but was rewarded by a visit from an author who came to discuss her work.

The Friends of Medway Libraries is also going from strength to strength – from a meeting of Philomena Leech and four others in Gillingham Library in October 2006,

to 45 members now, and it's still growing.

Philomena also works with the council's Re-Ignite project, which helps local people overcome barriers to employment. As part of her work with the project, she's introduced people to the library who might never otherwise have visited.

"All sorts of people are coming into the libraries now," she said. "One of the aims of the friends is to be a link between the library and the community."

Among the attractions, she said, was the availability of computers with free internet connection. They are proving increasingly popular in libraries throughout Medway.

One of the library's regular computer users is Loraine Walker from Chatham, a student at the University of Greenwich at Medway's Chatham Maritime campus, where she is studying performing arts and business.

"I come here two or three times a week to do my coursework," she said. "Otherwise I'd get distracted by friends and other things, but here I can concentrate and get on with it."

Anyone wanting to become a member of the fast-growing band of Friends of Medway Libraries can do so by calling in at any of Medway's 16 libraries.

At the moment, there are 10 readers' groups based in libraries throughout Medway. Anyone who would like to join one of them, or set up a new one, should call in at their local library or phone Chatham Library on 337799.

**More information about Medway's libraries can be found at [www.medway.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.medway.gov.uk/libraries)**

## 2008

NATIONAL Year  
OF Reading

**2008 is the National Year of Reading. This is being celebrated up and down the country. Here, in Medway, a range of activities will be taking place throughout 2008. Earlier this month the National Year of Reading in Medway was officially launched at Lordswood Library with a day of events taking place. Medway Matters is looking to find out what people like to read.**

While not everyone likes books they can capture the imagination. And when we're looking at the internet, texting our friends or flicking through a magazine – we're all reading something. To mark the start of the National Year of Reading in Medway, we asked the council's Portfolio Holder for Community Services Cllr Howard Doe to tell us about his favourite book.

If you'd like to tell Medway Matters what you like to read, we'd love to hear from you. Please email [medway.matters@medway.gov.uk](mailto:medway.matters@medway.gov.uk) marking your email favourite reading.

### My favourite book...

by Portfolio Holder for Community Services Cllr Howard Doe.



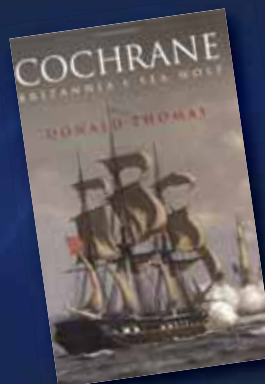
### Cochrane by Donald Thomas

"This is the extraordinary story of Thomas, Lord Cochrane, who was one of the most romantic heroes of the early nineteenth century.

"Cochrane was the greatest single ship captain of the Napoleonic Wars and won an international reputation for actions in his tiny sloop Speedy and his defence of the fort of Rosas against incredible odds. He earned him a Knighthood of the Bath and he became an MP.

"He was clearly due for high command but his fatal flaw was that he was a Radical, who could never hold his tongue against injustice and the corruption that riddled the Admiralty. He made enemies and eventually they framed him for a Stock Exchange swindle. He was imprisoned, drummed out of the navy and stripped of his knighthood. He returned to the sea as Admiral of Chile, Brazil and Peru and played a major role in liberating them from colonial rule.

"His whole career is an exciting blend of hero, campaigner, inventor and visionary which Donald Thomas captures superbly in this wonderful book."





# Where do you walk?

**We need your help. Medway Council is reviewing rights of way in the area and your assistance will make sure we have got everything covered. The council needs to ensure it is aware of all the public rights of way in Medway as it is updating a document called the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way. It's a legal process, which means we must make sure we consult with people, including landowners and residents.**

## **What is the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way?**

It's a legal document defining where public rights of way exist.

## **How many types of public rights of way are there?**

Three – a footpath for pedestrians, a bridleway for pedestrians, horses and bikes and byways that are open to everyone.

## **Are all public rights of way included on the map?**

No, not at the moment, but they should be. In 1949 the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act said that all councils had to produce a map showing where all public rights of way were in their area.

As many public rights of way are over privately-owned land, there was a lot of investigation into old records and maps in an effort to prove whether or not the claimed rights were legitimate.

The job was made more difficult in Medway because much of the area is very built-up. The government gave permission, at that time, to exclude the fully developed areas of Chatham, Gillingham and Rochester from the map.

## **When was the first Definitive Public Rights of Way Map produced for Kent?**

1987. Its full title is the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way in the County of

Kent. All rights of way shown on the map are classed as footpaths, bridleways or byways in line with requirements in the parliamentary act.

## **Why is Medway Council re-visiting the map now?**

The council is responsible for reviewing the map and updating it. It now has to include the three areas that were excluded from the map in 1987 – Chatham, Gillingham and Rochester.

## **How will this be done?**

We are mapping all footpaths in the built-up (urban) areas that were excluded from the 1987 map. We've started with Gillingham and will then be looking at Chatham and Rochester. We need to complete this work by March next year.

A blank map of the excluded areas will be produced and all known footpaths will be put on to it. We will then talk to landowners and residents. For example, most people in Gillingham will be aware of one footpath that is part of a national trail, but a section of it is not on the definitive map because it is in what was previously classed as an excluded area. The footpath in question is part of the Saxon Shore Way.

## **What can I do to help?**

Your knowledge is invaluable. You'll know where you have walked and you can help us build up a picture of all footpaths in the excluded areas, so they can be

mapped out and included on the definitive map.

## **What happens now?**

Maps identifying the network of footpaths for the excluded areas will be available at Chatham, Gillingham and Rochester libraries. The maps can also be seen at the council's contact points in these areas. Visit [www.medway.gov.uk/wheredoyouwalk](http://www.medway.gov.uk/wheredoyouwalk)

## **When will the maps be available for me to see?**

The map for the Gillingham area can be seen from 16 April and we're anticipating maps for Chatham and Rochester being available to see from September. The consultation period for each excluded area will run for six months. A series of open days is planned for each area. The maps will be on display and council officers will be on hand to talk to people and answer questions. If you want to take part in the Gillingham event, it's on Monday, 21 April from 10am to 4pm at Riverside Country Park, Gillingham.

## **I want to find out more. Who can I talk to?**

You can contact us in writing at:  
**Public Rights of Way  
 Medway Council  
 Regeneration, Community and Culture  
 Gun Wharf, Dock Road  
 Chatham ME4 4TU.  
 Or you can email [prow@medway.gov.uk](mailto:prow@medway.gov.uk)**



# We'd like you to tell us



## Beginner's guide to work experience

by Laina Tuff

### What is work experience?

It's exactly what it says on the tin - experience that you gain from a work placement. It's available from years 10 and 11, but some workplaces look for people aged 16 or over, and it's voluntary. Usually, schools and colleges will prompt you to find your own work experience in an area that interests you. But, if you have no idea where to start, most schools will arrange something suitable for you, depending on your interests.

Work experience does not stop at secondary school, as many university courses involve work placements and nothing stops you arranging your own work experience outside school either.

### Why is work experience a good idea?

Whether you're looking for experience to put down on your UCAS form for university or simply trying to discover what sort of workplace suits you, work experience is a great idea.

Universities look for relevant work experience from applicants. It is a factor that can distinguish between someone who gets chosen for a course and someone who doesn't. When it comes to university, work experience not only shows a selection of skills that you have already gained for a course, but it also demonstrates a willingness to work voluntarily, as well as an independence and keenness for where you want to go in your future career.

For anyone who does not want to go to university, work experience is something that all employers will look for

on a CV. It is always a good thing if you have gained skills and have experience of a workplace before starting a job. Employers will recognise this.

If you're undecided about what you want to do after school or college, work experience can really open your horizons to many different career paths. For example, a general placement like office work or in a primary school can give you some thoughts about where your interests lie. Perhaps an office placement will lead you to realise that you find this environment boring, or working in a school helps you see that you enjoy working with children.

### How can you apply for work experience?

Work experience is easy enough to get, if you go about it the right way.

#### • What interests you?

Start by thinking about what interests you. If you have a certain area that you would like to know more about later on, think about the different types of work most linked to that area. For example, if you enjoy working with children, perhaps a primary school or youth club placement would suit you. If you have no idea, the best option is to go for something that interests you and that you could gain valuable skills from.

#### • List them out:

The next step is to come up with a selection of workplaces that offer the sort of placement you are looking for. For example, if you decide to do primary school work, make a list of possible schools that you could contact. Obviously, **be realistic** and try to think more about local placements as you are going to have to travel to

and from the placement. If you are unsure of workplaces in your area, the Yellow Pages or a local directory are good places to start.

#### • Get in touch!

Then, of course, you have to get in touch! It's a good idea to write a letter/email explaining your interest in doing work experience with the chosen workplace. You should include why you are interested in working with that particular company. What skills do you wish to improve? For example, communication or confidence. Talk a little about your future career and how you think the experience at the particular placement will help. Don't forget to include your contact details so they can get back to you! Keep it all **relevant** and try to **sell yourself**.

#### • Get in there fast!

It's also important to start early! Popular placements get filled up very quickly so it's best to start looking for your placement a good few months before you wish to take it.

#### • Follow it up

After contacting the workplaces you are interested in, you should receive a reply, whether it is a letter or email. If this doesn't happen, try calling the company. A phone call is often a lot more successful than any letter. The company has to deal with your request there and then. Be polite though! If your work placement has accepted your request, it's still important to follow it up to check you have the correct dates and that it is still okay, and also for you to get any extra information you need; like what time to arrive and what the dress code is.





Great opportunity for cub reporter - work experience at local paper

March / April 2008

# MY TIME WITH THE MEDWAY NEWS!



Report by **Laina Tuff**

**With my growing interest in journalism**, in year 11, I decided to organise my own work experience. I wanted to do this for several reasons. Firstly, I wasn't sure what type of journalism I was most interested in pursuing...print? radio? TV? It was all so confusing and I felt that any placement would at least define my interest a bit. Secondly, as I want to go on to university, I needed to make sure that journalism was the right career path for me. How could I really be sure of this if I had no actual experience of what it was like?

So what did I do? I thought about the different areas and aimed for the highest first - TV. This was near enough impossible to get a placement

in. So, on to the next option... radio! I emailed several local radio stations to find that most didn't take on people under the age of 18. For the few that did, I was too late in applying and places had already been taken. So, it was on to the last area, print journalism...

Finally I received a reply from the Medway News. I remember my heart skipping a beat when I read the first email reply that wasn't a negative, 'sorry we can't take you.'

Finally, the wait had paid off and I had a week booked with the local newspaper! My first day in the office and I was so nervous! I had bought smart new clothes especially and arrived a bit too early. My nerves turned into excitement to get started as my editor greeted me. I was introduced to the friendly team of journalists and my placement supervisor. I had my own space at the desk too, complete with phone and a Mac.

I have to say I was expecting to get there and be making teas for everyone but was delightfully surprised to be dropped right into the work.

On my first day, I learnt how to write up stories by typing up some of the journalists' pieces in the correct format. Just as I was finishing and worrying about what I was going to do next, dreading being sent to make the tea, I got called out with one of the journalists to do a public survey. I panicked at the thought of asking random people in the street questions, but once we got to the location it was actually really fun and I soon got into it.

On my second day I wrote up a few more stories and made several phone calls. It was a strange feeling saying the opening line, 'Hi, this is Laina Tuff from the Medway News,' but I could get used to it. Mid-week I wrote a music review and got called out on a story again with another journalist, this time to interview an elderly couple who were celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary.

On my last day I got to go out with one of the journalists and do

an interview. I was nervous about doing an interview on my own, but found the talking bit easier than expected. It was writing it all down that was the problem. My work placement was definitely worth it. The people I worked with were really welcoming and gave me a lot of advice. The experience gave me a lot of new skills.

My self-confidence grew; I found independence and expanded communication skills.

With these personal skills came some of the more work-based knowledge that is needed to work in a media environment too ■



**On-the-job experience benefits Laina**

# Viewpoint

## Have your say on local issues

Medway Matters welcomes letters from readers. Write to *Medway Matters*, Viewpoint, Medway Council, Civic Centre, Strood, Kent ME2 4AU or email [medway.matters@medway.gov.uk](mailto:medway.matters@medway.gov.uk)

### Too much packaging

I've just read issue 14 of *Medway Matters*. I got as far as the editor's comment before I had to make my own comments. She says: "...my neighbours and I now have competitions every fortnight...there we are, each counting who has the most blue bags out to be collected". My disappointment is over the competing to see who has the most blue bags. Surely the idea is to reduce and therefore wouldn't it be better if the competing was about who could get the fewest number of bags (both blue and black). I have been recycling for most of my life and am saddened by the amount of wasteful packaging everywhere. I applaud the council for its change in rubbish bag tactics and hope it works well. I do have a few ideas of my own; why not liaise with large supermarkets to have a skip/container for collecting excess food packaging. Then customers can rid themselves of unwanted paper/card/ plastic waste before they take it home - it might also make the supermarkets start to reduce excess.

**Alan Munn, by email**

*Editor's note - It would be better if we had less black and blue sacks being filled, however my point in the editorial was that it was better to go through your rubbish and seek out recycling than send it all*

*to landfill. Some people are just starting on their recycling journey. Changing habits can take time. I was also making a point about the levels of packaging - my daughter didn't have sacks of gifts but you would have thought she had from the packaging on her presents. WRAP (Waste Resource Action Programme) is working with the Local Government Association to reduce the amount of packaging, by using new technologies to ensure that materials being used can easily be recycled.*

### Dog fouling is a disgrace

As a resident in Hempstead, I am getting completely fed up with irresponsible dog owners who continually allow their dogs to foul the footpaths and alleyways and don't clear up after them. There are dog bins, yet still they refuse to use them. If you cannot clear up after your dog then you should not own one in the first place. Can anything be done to stop these irresponsible people?

**Mrs Adams, by email**

*Medway Council's Safer Communities Team endeavours to maintain a local street scene that is clear from blight, including dogs' mess. The team looks to encourage responsible dog ownership by providing bins in hotspot areas and dog bags, which can be collected from the local offices for free. Our safer*

*communities officers carry out regular patrols, where any dog fouling that they see happening earns a fixed penalty notice of £80. If anyone else sees dog fouling taking place, enforcement action can also be taken through the council's Environmental Enforcement Team.*

### When does pass start?

I read in *Medway Matters* and on the council's website last year that a bus pass for children over the age of 12 could be available later this year. I have eagerly awaited news for this to launch

and as yet haven't seen or heard anything else. When can we look forward to this service for our children?

**S Scale, by email**

*Last September, Medway Council introduced a pass, which allows children under 16 to travel to school at half fare (the bus operators already allow journeys after 9am - including the journey home from school - to be made at half-fare without the council being involved). There was publicity in the lead-up to this and we are sorry if you did not realise that this was available.*

# LETTERS

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# Community news



If you would like your news featured on this page phone 332782 or email us at [medway.matters@medway.gov.uk](mailto:medway.matters@medway.gov.uk)

## All set for sport

There is a new sports complex at Woodlands Primary School in Gillingham. It includes a refurbished sports hall, full-sized basketball court, four badminton courts, a five-a-side football pitch and a gymnasium. The facilities are open to the community. The gymnasium has no membership fee.

Members pay £5 for an induction and can use the gym for £2 per session. It's all part of helping the community to get healthier. Find out more on 855583. It's open from 8am-10pm seven days a week.



### Park event

The Friends of Broomhill Park, Strood, will be holding an event called It's Your Park on Sunday, 6 April from 2-4pm. There will be activities for people of all ages, including an egg-rolling competition, orienteering quiz, wishing tree and face painting. You can take your own picnic for lunch. In the morning, from 11am-1pm, there will be scrub-clearing activities. Visit [www.friendsofbroomhill.org.uk](http://www.friendsofbroomhill.org.uk)

### Allotments available

Allotments are up for rent in Cliffe. The allotments are behind the Village Club in Church Street, Cliffe. Each plot is full-size and costs £10 a year. To find out more phone Janet Keates on 222412.

### Special request

Want to be part of a special team? Kent Special Constabulary is recruiting now. Volunteer for just 16 hours a month and you could make a

real difference to your community and learn some valuable new skills. Phone 0500 787700 or email [specials.recruitment@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:specials.recruitment@kent.pnn.police.uk)

### Award for equipment

Young people in Cliffe Woods now have a youth shelter and a set of five-a-side goal posts. After work by several council departments with support from Kent Police, Cliffe Woods Parish Council was awarded £5,000 from the Eon Peninsula Charity Fund that was matched from Medway Council's Ward Improvement Fund.

### Community call

If you live in Frindsbury and Wainscott you may want to contact your local community association. Phone Frindsbury and Wainscott Community Association on 710340.

### Charity walk

Pensioner Patrick Lawry, of Upper Halling, has organised a charity walk in memory of his beloved wife Greta who died of cancer. The Bluebell Wood charity walk will take place in the hills above Upper Halling on Saturday, 26 April. Any money raised will go to The Eve Appeal at University College London. Find out more at [www.eveappeal.org.uk](http://www.eveappeal.org.uk)

## Warm welcome

If you are an older member of the ethnic minority community in Medway, you may want to visit the Welcome Day Centre in Chatham. The day care centre works for the welfare of ethnic minority pensioners who are vulnerable and physically disabled and who cannot access mainline services because of language barriers.

Separate facilities are provided for male and female clients and transport is provided for people in the Medway area. At the centre in Chatham High Street, tea, coffee and snacks are served in the morning with freshly cooked vegetarian meals available at lunchtime. There is also Asian TV, video films, playing cards and other games.

Users can also access free advice on health issues and benefits, as well as English classes and yoga sessions. Phone 844639 or email [welcome@daycentre44.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:welcome@daycentre44.wanadoo.co.uk)

**Correction:** In the last issue of *Medway Matters* there was a story about the new Kicks Soccer Centre opening at Strood Leisure Centre. Unfortunately, the phone number for Kicks was incorrect. The number should have been 0800 988 4257.

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# The great no smoking

**It is estimated that one million people in the UK quit smoking this year on national No Smoking Day in March.**

If national No Smoking Day passed you by and you're still a slave to the cigarette, don't worry because Medway Stop Smoking Service is here to help.

The team can offer free help and advice to quit smoking and information on different treatment options, such as patches, gum, Zyban and Champix. The team can book you on courses, drop-ins and one-to-one sessions where you can pick up your chosen treatment for just the cost of a prescription.

According to the latest National Health Service figures, you'll be four times more

likely to succeed in giving up and using a proven drug treatment if you have the support and guidance of a stop smoking service.

Stop Smoking Advisor Joscelin Yates said: "Remember, getting help and support when you are stopping smoking is the most important thing you can do. If you take up the challenge to stop smoking for one week you could save yourself £36.40 which is equivalent to a cheap flight abroad or a few CDs."

Phone Medway Stop Smoking Service on freephone 0800 234 6805.



## Older people's consultation event

Medway Council and Medway Primary Care Trust (PCT) are planning for the future of older people.

Work is under way to develop strategies that will look at the future of social care, housing and health services for older people living in Medway.

To ensure the views of older people and other residents of Medway are considered in the development of these strategies a consultation event is being held at the Corn Exchange, Rochester, at 11am on Thursday, 10 April.

Anyone who can't attend the event will still be able to have a say. Questionnaires will be available at Medway Council's contact points, libraries and on the council's website from Monday, 31 March. This event intends to celebrate the contribution that older people make to Medway and seek their views about how



■ National No Smoking Day helped raise awareness and gave practical advice.



# challenge



■ Patients can get help and advice from trained nhs staff to help quit smoking.

social care, health and housing services should be provided in the future.

Cllr Howard Doe, Chair of the Older People's Programme Board, said: "This is an exciting time for Medway. Two key organisations are planning together the infrastructure required for promoting respect, prolonging independence for older people and ensuring that there is dignity in the services we provide. We want all Medway residents to take part and have a say about the future services that most of us will one day need."

Chatham resident Colin Cleaver, 71, has modern technology to thank for enabling him to remain in his home. Medway



Council and Medway PCT's telehealth system means that readings of vital signs can be taken at home and electronically sent to a central monitoring system.

Mr Cleaver can now keep a check on his blood pressure, heart rate and oxygen levels from the comfort of his own home.

He said: "This is a beautiful machine. It's a preventative machine and a real lifesaver. Without it I could end up in hospital, but now I can spot possible problems, such as high blood pressure or lack of oxygen and nip them in the bud before they get any worse and become a real problem."

Community Matron Deirdre Timmings made it possible for Mr Cleaver to have the telehealth system in his home. When she visits a graph enables her to quickly assess Mr Cleaver's health needs and, if necessary, get him to a GP, prescribe tablets or reassure him that everything's fine.

## Did you know?

- 41 per cent of volunteers working with volunteer bureaux in Medway are over 50.
- In 2006/07, 4,212 people over 50 enrolled on a course with the Adult Community Learning Service.
- Almost 5,000 people over 60 remain in paid employment in Medway.
- Medway has 1,311 supporting people units providing housing-related support to older people.
- In 2007/08, £240,000 from the Department of Health has been distributed to care homes across Medway to replace carpets and floor coverings in communal areas.

[www.medwaypct.nhs.uk](http://www.medwaypct.nhs.uk)

Medway Primary Care Trust,  
Unit 7-8, Ambley Green, Bailey Drive,  
Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham,  
Kent ME8 0NJ

# It's festival time

You're never short of something to do in Medway. In May and June this year there are three different festivals in the area to tempt you. *Medway Matters* takes a look at some of the highlights of each event.

● **Sweeps Festival**  
**Saturday, 3 – Monday, 5 May**  
 Get swept away with the magic of this enduring

and musicians and some great evening entertainment too, with a concert marquee in Rochester Castle Gardens hosting gigs on Friday, 2; Saturday, 3 and Sunday, 4 May. There are also two late-night ceilidhs at the Corn Exchange on Saturday, 3 and Sunday, 4 May. Tickets for all can be bought in advance or

festival, which has been taking place in and around Rochester High Street for more than 20 years. You'll find Morris sides performing, superb folk bands

on the door. You can get involved with Folk Factor, listen to readings and have fun with the traditional Sweeps Festival parade on Monday, 5 May.

Find out more at [www.medway.gov.uk/sweepsfestival](http://www.medway.gov.uk/sweepsfestival) or phone 843666.

● **Fuse Festival**  
**Saturday, 31 May – Saturday, 14 June**  
 Medway's venues, streets and open spaces will be filled with some of the world's most exciting, innovative and inspiring artists. The programme, will be announced shortly, visit [www.fusefestival.org.uk](http://www.fusefestival.org.uk) to find out more.

To get your hands on a copy of the festival brochure, just email your name and address to [arts@medway.gov.uk](mailto:arts@medway.gov.uk) or phone 338338.

The Fuse Medway Festival is a 15-day celebration of arts and creativity that is different, diverse and daring. It provides a platform for talent in Medway and brings to the area some of the newest and most unusual artists from the UK and around the world. Fuse Medway Festival. See it. Hear it. Be part of it.

● **Dickens Festival**  
**Friday, 30 May – Sunday, 1 June**  
 No one could ever have any doubt of the impact that novelist Charles Dickens had on the Medway area. His novels used parts of Medway to great effect. And that's probably why the summer Dickens Festival, held in central Rochester,

remains as popular now as it did 30 years ago. This year will be no different. There will be dancing, singing, readings, competitions and more.

The festival will get under way with a costumed ball and there will be a parade of costumed characters every day. Find out more at [www.medway.gov.uk/dickensfestival](http://www.medway.gov.uk/dickensfestival) or phone 843666.



John Tate

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WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON? WHAT'S ON?

**Theatre**

**Sunday, 6 – Sunday, 13 April**  
2 & 7pm  
**Beauty and the Beast**  
The Central Theatre, Chatham (338338)

**Wednesday, 9 April**  
7.45pm  
**April in Paris**  
The Brook Theatre, Chatham (338338)

**Thursday, 17 April**  
2pm  
**Storytelling and teddy bear's picnic**  
The Central Theatre, Chatham (338338)

**Wednesday, 23 April**  
**Jimmy Carr – Repeat Offender**  
The Central Theatre, Chatham (338338)



**Friday, 25 April**  
7pm  
**Medway Young Musicians' Awards**  
The Brook Theatre, Chatham (338338)

**Monday, 28 – Wednesday, 30 April**  
7.30pm  
**Strangers on a Train**  
The Central Theatre, Chatham (338338)

**Saturday, 10 May**  
7.30pm  
**City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra**  
The Central Theatre, Chatham (841567)

**Countryside**

**Saturday, 10 – Sunday, 11 May & Saturday, 17 – Sunday, 18 May**  
10am - 5pm  
**Cozenton Garden Festival**  
Cozenton Park, Rainham (232504)



**Friday, 16 May**  
10am  
**Tiny tots crafts**  
Riverside Country Park (337432)

**Saturday, 24 May**  
9am  
**Mountain bike trail**  
Capstone Farm Country Park, Gillingham (812196)

**Saturday, 14 June**  
8.30am  
**Riverside natural history walk**  
Riverside Country Park, Gillingham (337432)

**Events**

**Sunday, 1 June**  
Check with venue for time  
**Race for Life**  
Walk, run, or jog the three-mile course  
Capstone Farm Country Park, Gillingham (812196)

**Talks**

**Tuesday, 8 April**  
7.30pm  
**Place-names in Kent (part two)**  
Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre, Strood (332714)

**Tuesday, 29 April**  
7.30pm  
**Barge Heyday**  
Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre, Strood (332714)



**Community**

**Saturday, 12 April**  
7.30pm  
**Come and Sing – Faure Requiem**  
St Matthew's Church, Wigmore (372508)

**Saturday, 12 April**  
7.30pm  
**Musical Evening with Gravesend Crusade Choir**  
St Margaret's Church, Rochester (848900)

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**Exhibitions**

**Monday, 21 April – Monday, 26 May**  
Check with venue for time  
**Open exhibition for women artists**  
Medway Adult Learning Service, Gillingham (338400)

**Monday, 12 May – Tuesday, 24 June**  
**One for the Road – the story of pubs in Chatham**  
Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre, Strood (332714)



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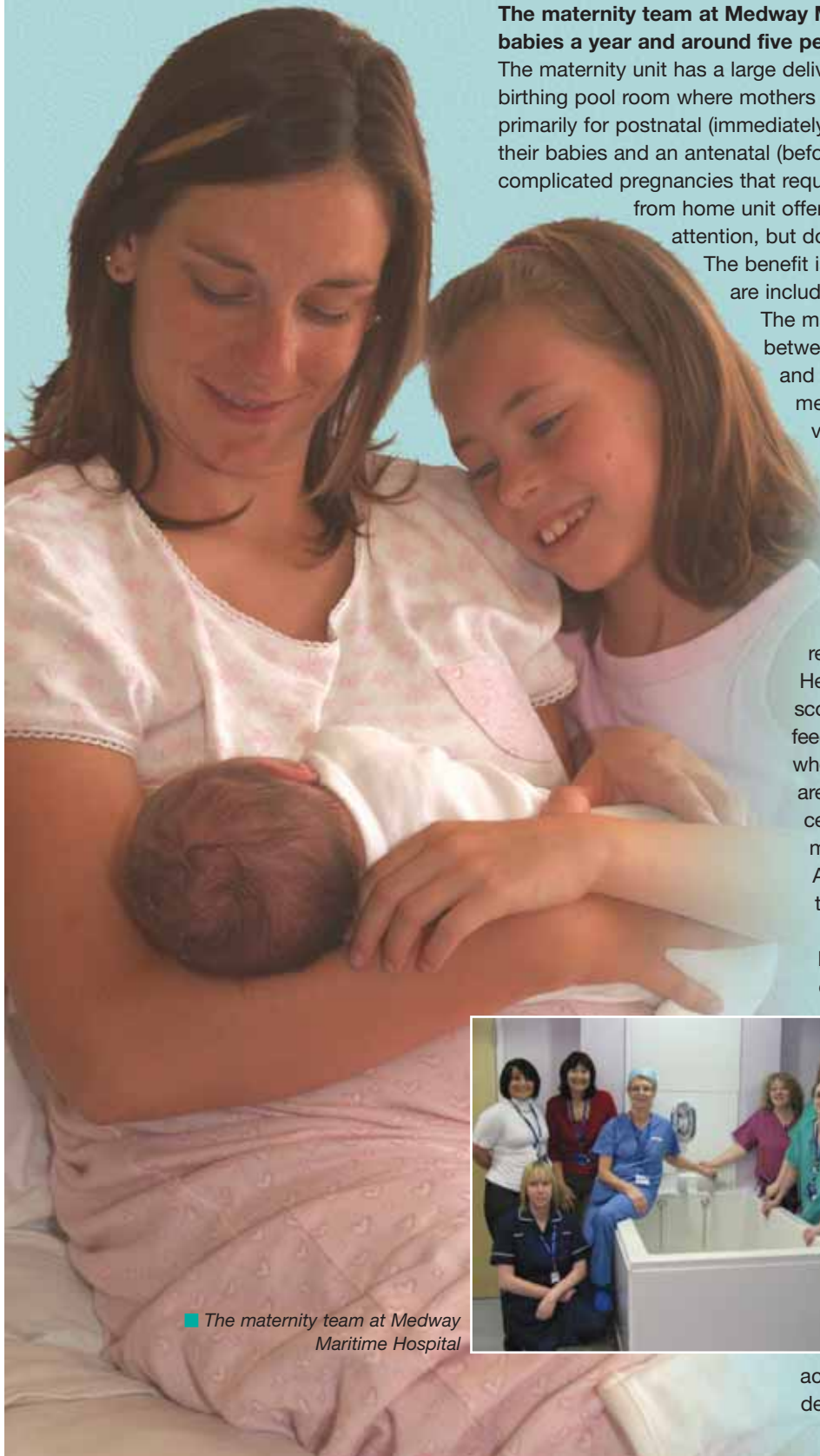
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# NHS News from Medway NHS Trust

## Maternity matters



**The maternity team at Medway Maritime hospital delivers around 4,500 babies a year and around five per cent of these babies are born at home.**

The maternity unit has a large delivery suite including a recently refurbished birthing pool room where mothers can give birth. There are two wards – one primarily for postnatal (immediately after a baby has been born) mothers and their babies and an antenatal (before birth) ward for mothers who have complicated pregnancies that require close observation. A purpose-built home from home unit offers care to babies that need extra care and attention, but do not need admission to the neonatal unit.

The benefit is that mothers remain with their babies and are included in providing care for them.

The maternity unit is supported by a partnership between King's College Hospital Foundation Trust and the Harris Birthright Centre, bringing the fetal medicine centre to Medway. This means that very few mothers now have to travel to London for a specialist opinion, as this is provided at Medway Maritime Hospital. The maternity unit is also supported by the specialist neonatal unit caring for babies that are poorly after delivery, again providing a high level of care here at Medway.

Medway NHS Trust recently participated in a review of maternity services conducted by the Healthcare Commission and achieved an overall score of 'fair'. It was an ideal opportunity to get feedback from patients, while identifying areas where it was performing well and highlighting areas for improvement. Areas of good practice centered on safe clinical care, support for mothers in labour, efficiency and capability. Action plans have been drawn up to address the areas where improvement is required.

In particular, the trust is implementing the Department of Health Maternity Matters key objectives by focusing attention on

addressing the inequalities in health; reducing the number of mothers who smoke in pregnancy; providing access to midwifery care early on in pregnancy; reducing the number of caesarian sections and supporting normal birth. The trust is working in close collaboration with Medway Primary Care Trust to

achieve these objectives and has actions to deliver these improvements in service.



■ The maternity team at Medway Maritime Hospital



# News from Medway NHS Trust



## Shorter waiting times for patients

Last year Medway was nominated as a shadow early achiever site for three services – respiratory, children’s services and orthopaedics.

This meant that for each of these services the trust had to treat 90 per cent of inpatients (admitted) and see 95 per cent of outpatients (non-admitted) within 18 weeks, by last December. A focused effort has been made by the teams in these services to achieve these targets, with the following impressive results:

	Admitted	Non-admitted
Children’s services	100%	99.7%
Respiratory	100%	97%
Orthopaedics	67%	99%

In short, the trust has achieved admitted and non-admitted targets for respiratory and children’s services and non-admitted target for orthopaedics.

Although it fell short of the admitted target for orthopaedics, the achievement within this specialty has been tremendous considering the significant challenges that had to be met in drastically reducing patient waiting times which, historically, have been lengthy. The orthopaedic picture is not unique to Medway, but was replicated across the country at all early achiever sites.

Last month, the overall trust position for the 18-week target was 61 per cent for admitted patients and 70 per cent for non-admitted patients across all services. Staff across the trust will continue to support the 18-week team in ending waiting for our patients and improving their experience of care at Medway.

## Do you want to know more about what is happening at the hospital?

Join us as a foundation trust public member and you will receive regular newsletters and have the opportunity to attend public members’ meetings – the last one was about infection control. There will also be opportunities for you to comment on the trust’s plans for the future and influence how we deliver services in Medway and Swale.

For more details visit [www.medway.nhs.uk](http://www.medway.nhs.uk) or phone the membership office on **01634 825261**.



## Treatment of patients with balance disorders in the south-east

**Dizziness and other disorders of balance rank among the top 10 most common conditions seen by GPs and often cause patients much distress and disability.**

Studies have shown that these disorders can produce significant occupational disruption and psychological problems, such as depression and anxiety. In fact, 65 per cent of those seen suffered a psychiatric illness and most took an average of nine months off work.

A new report published by the Royal College of Physicians – Hearing and Balance – highlights the lack of services available to patients suffering from balance disorders. However, in the south-east, Medway NHS Trust recognised the need for such a service with the appointment of Dr Surenthiran in 2002. He set up and runs the balance centre, based at Medway Maritime Hospital,

which is widely regarded as a centre of excellence in the diagnosis and treatment of balance disorders.

The value and importance of this service is illustrated by a review of 50 patients. This study has shown that these patients suffered from dizziness for an average of 44 months before first being seen in the balance centre. In that four-year period it was found that patients typically saw their GP about eight times and were seen four or five times by two other hospital specialists. Yet within nine months of being seen in the balance centre these patients were, on average, 70 per cent better. This clearly demonstrates the benefits of having such a service and the improved quality of care it is bringing to patients.

Lynn Lockett, one of Dr Surenthiran’s patients, said: “Having the condition was devastating for me and my family. I

couldn’t do simple things like take my children to school, drive or do the shopping. I felt depressed and a failure as a mother – it was heartbreaking for my children. The feeling of being unsteady is the worst and I felt there was no one out there who could help me.

“On my first visit to the balance centre at Medway Maritime Hospital, my mind was put at ease and at last, I felt someone could help me. I was given some exercises to do three times a day and I left the centre feeling very positive. I found the exercises difficult at first, but the more I did them, the easier they became and within days I noticed a difference in my condition.

“The balance centre has given me my life back. I am doing well with my progression exercises and can do many things I couldn’t do before being referred to the centre. I now look forward to living.”

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## Meetings calendar

**APRIL**

1	Licensing Hearing Panel Sub-committee	CC
1	Cabinet	CC
1	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	CC
2	Employment Matters Committee	CC
9	Standards Committee	CC
15	Audit Committee	CC
16	Development Control Committee	MB
17	Council	MB
18	Licensing Hearing Panel Sub-committee	CC
22	Cabinet	CC
22	Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee	CC

**MAY**

7	Annual Council	CE
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CC = Civic Centre    MB = Municipal Buildings    CE = Corn Exchange

**Please note:**  
The dates or venues for the meetings listed could change.  
To check phone 332011 or visit [www.medway.gov.uk](http://www.medway.gov.uk)

## Share your life with a child

Medway Council is looking for people who can give time, energy and commitment to adopting a child.

We need families for all ages of children but especially for older children and those from black and ethnic minorities.

Please call **01634 331113** to discuss our next open evening or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/adoption](http://www.medway.gov.uk/adoption)

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## Private fostering

Are you looking after someone else's child for more than 28 days?

Is your child living with someone else, who is not a close relative, for more than 28 days?

If so, then you must notify Medway Council for help and clarification of your responsibilities as a private foster carer.

**Phone: 01634 334466**  
Email: [ss.access&info@medway.gov.uk](mailto:ss.access&info@medway.gov.uk)



# Contact your councillor

Councillors are contactable by email. Email them using [firstname.secondname@medway.gov.uk](mailto:firstname.secondname@medway.gov.uk)

<b>Conservative</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Labour</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Liberal Democrat</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Independent</b>	<b>1</b>

If you want more information phone member services on 332732 or email [members@medway.gov.uk](mailto:members@medway.gov.uk)

## CHATHAM CENTRAL

**PAUL GODWIN** *Lab*  
c/o PA to the Labour Group Leader,  
Civic Centre, Strood, ME2 4AU  
Phone: 865944

**VINCE MAPLE** *Lab*  
13a Waghorn Street, Chatham,  
Kent, ME4 5LT  
Phone: 07981 661451

**JULIE SHAW** *Lab*  
79 Downsview, Chatham, ME5 0AL  
Phone: 813647

## CUXTON AND HALLING

**RAYMOND MAISEY** *Con*  
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## GILLINGHAM NORTH

**MAUREEN RUPAREL** *Lib Dem*  
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Kent, ME8 6LP  
Phone: 303498

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55 Milner Road, Gillingham, Kent,  
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**CATHY SUTTON** *Lib Dem*  
6 St Mary's Road, Gillingham,  
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Phone: 573918

## GILLINGHAM SOUTH

**GEOFF JUBY** *Lib Dem*  
16 Franklin Road, Gillingham,  
ME7 4DF  
Phone: 576675

**SHEILA KEARNEY** *Lib Dem*  
112 Nelson Road, Gillingham,  
ME7 4LL  
Phone: 576838

**STEPHEN KEARNEY** *Lib Dem*  
112 Nelson Road, Gillingham,  
ME7 4LL Phone: 576838

## HEMPSTEAD AND WIGMORE

**DIANE CHAMBERS** *Con*  
6 Mansion Row, Brompton,  
Gillingham ME7 5SE  
Phone: 842913 or 332732

**RODNEY CHAMBERS** *Con*  
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Gillingham ME7 5SE  
Phone: 842913 or 332732

## LORDSWOOD AND CAPSTONE

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**DAVID WILDEY** *Con*  
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37 Raleigh Close, Chatham, ME5 7SB  
Phone: 302538

**VAL GOULDEN** *Lab*  
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**DENNIS MCFARLANE** *Lab*  
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Phone: 671533

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ME3 9BZ  
Phone: 252394

**KEN BAMBER** *Con*  
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ME3 9BZ  
Phone: 252394

**PHIL FILMER** *Con*  
Bridgewater House, Parbrook  
Road, High Halstow, Rochester,  
ME3 8QG Phone: 254196

## PRINCES PARK

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Phone: 321265

**PAT GULVIN** *Con*  
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ME5 7QQ  
Phone: 670853

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Phone: 365231

**MIKE O'BRIEN** *Con*  
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**DAVID ROYLE** *Con*  
7 Watermeadow Close,  
Hempstead, Gillingham, ME7 3QF  
Phone: 377254

## RIVER

**BILL ESTERSON** *Lab*  
3 Phalarope Way, St Mary's Island,  
Chatham, ME4 3JJ  
Phone: 892773

**CRAIG MACKINLAY** *Con*  
8 Manor Road, Chatham, Kent,  
ME4 6AG  
Phone: 841108

## ROCHESTER EAST

**NICK BOWLER** *Lab*  
4 Howard Avenue, Rochester  
ME1 2AP  
Phone: 813243

**TERESA MURRAY** *Lab*  
318 City Way, Rochester,  
ME1 2BL  
Phone: 409486

## ROCHESTER SOUTH AND HORSTED

**NICHOLAS BRICE** *Con*  
Flat 14, 1-4 New Road Avenue,  
Chatham, ME4 6EX.  
Phone: 813957 / 07912 539297

**SYLVIA GRIFFIN** *Con*  
12 Beaulieu Rise, Rochester,  
Kent, ME1 2PQ  
Phone: 404139

**JOHN WARD** *Con*  
45 Madden Avenue, Chatham,  
ME5 9TH Phone: 318422

## ROCHESTER WEST

**TED BAKER** *Con*  
11 Watts Avenue, Rochester,  
ME1 1RX Phone: 847415

**MARK RECKLESS** *Con*  
11 Watts Avenue, Rochester, Kent,  
ME1 1RX Phone: 847415

## STROOD NORTH

**JANE CHITTY** *Con*  
c/o Medway Council, Civic Centre,  
Strood, Rochester ME2 4AU  
Phone: 07814 482173

**JANE ETHERIDGE** *Con*  
48 Watling Street, Strood, ME2 3NY  
Phone: 711003

**STEPHEN HUBBARD** *Lab*  
94 Jersey Road, Strood,  
Rochester, Kent, ME2 3PD  
Phone: 712129

## STROOD RURAL

**PETER HICKS** *Con*  
14 High Street, Upper Upnor,  
Rochester, ME2 4XG  
Phone: 715097

**TOM MASON** *Con*  
1 Leeds House, Cypress Court,  
Frindsbury Extra, Rochester,  
ME2 4PU Phone: 727301

**LES WICKS** *Con*  
Westcourt Farm, Salt Lane, Cliffe,  
Rochester, ME3 7ST  
Phone: 220347

## STROOD SOUTH

**RICHARD ANDREWS** *Con*  
27 Hoo Common, Chattenden,  
Rochester, ME3 8LT  
Phone: 252892

**JOHN AVEY** *Con*  
13 Elaine Court, Elaine Avenue,  
Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 2YR  
Phone: 712151

**SUSAN HAYDOCK** *Con*  
46 Trevala Road, Rochester,  
ME1 3PA Phone: 811172

## TWYDALL

**DORTE GILRY** *Lab*  
26 Twydall Lane, Gillingham,  
ME8 6HX  
Phone: 386662

**GLYN GRIFFITHS** *Lab*  
105 First Avenue, Gillingham,  
ME7 2LF Phone: 352734

**PAUL HARRIOTT** *Lab*  
26 Twydall Lane, Gillingham,  
ME8 6HX  
Phone: 233833

## WALDESLADE

**DAVID BRAKE** *Con*  
Sherwood House, 29 Robin Hood  
Lane, Walderslade, Chatham,  
Kent, ME5 9NS  
Phone: 668649

**IAN BURT** *Ind*  
13 Oakhurst Close, Walderslade,  
Chatham, ME5 9AN  
Phone: 863760

## WATLING

**HERBERT CRACK** *Lib Dem*  
25 Arthur Road, Rainham,  
Kent, ME8 9BT  
Phone: 231229

**DIANA SMITH** *Lib Dem*  
269 Napier Road, Gillingham,  
Kent, ME7 4LY  
Phone: 575192



**Wednesday,  
16 July**

**£20**

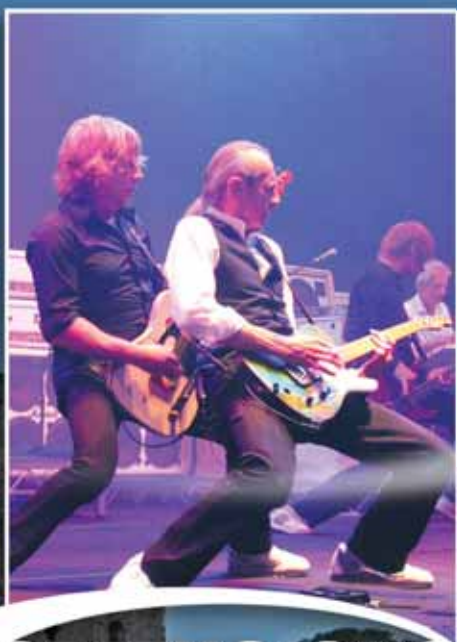
**SOUL PARTY**



**Thursday,  
17 July**

**£30**

**JOOLS HOLLAND**  
& his Rhythm & Blues Orchestra



**Friday,  
18 July**

**£33**

**STATUS QUO**



**Saturday,  
19 July**

**£27**

**ROYAL PHILHARMONIC**  
Concert Orchestra