



THE Broadie

Issue 28

Mrs Wally
Pulsing away

Broadie online
Yes, we've entered
the digital age

A Ripping
Yarn
Philpott goes
in search
of Jack

Chocks Away
Crispin's tales of
yesteryear



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Your Letters

Broadstairs. The notice placed in the shop window featured in your last issue has not been the first to blame all sorts of influences for the demise of the business therein.

It has to be pointed out that there are an abundance of quality shops, pubs and restaurants still trading successfully within our town.

We would say they continue to be successful because they are the ones who constantly re-evaluate their prices, service, products and customer experience, thus if there's something going wrong they are more able to get behind the problem and come up with a solution.

We have been trading in Broadstairs successfully for nine years. We moved down from London (yes we are DFLs!!) and are still trading despite going through a triple dip recession.

We would like to thank all our customers for their continued support. We strongly believe in good old fashioned service which is often so sadly lacking in many local businesses

Nick & Michelle
Keepers. Harbour Street

Hi, to all back at Blighty.
Whilst travelling around the world scanning sheep and hobnobbing with the rich and beautiful I do have to make time to relax and have a little read of The Broadie.

Niagara falls seemed like a good a place as any. I did try to find some other bearded gents to join me for a swim but no one seemed remotely interested. Softies. Hay Ho. Give my love to Rose.

Regards, Wally



Hi All, We are very proud and pleased to announce presentation of best Driveway transformation under seventy square metres award at the recent Marshalls Register roadshow. We continue to work with the best suppliers in the trade, Marshalls for paving and Jackson's fine fencing for Fencing Decking and Gates.

Most importantly we would like to thank all of our customers, it is always a pleasure to work for people who believe in quality, service and paying once for the right job.

Paddy Moyna

Dear Broadie

Have you been to Paris lately? The Broadie seems very popular in that most romantic of cities, especially in the Louvre.

Kind regards

Bec & Dave



Can we please have a moan? We believe it is possible to have a positive trading experience in





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My town and I

In our last issue we included an article from Derrin Hehir 'My Town and I'. The article provoked a huge response, especially online. Here's what you said....

Helen Fagg: I was born, grew up, went away and came back to Broadstairs as every minute spent away was a minute lost of being in an amazing place where you can walk along the prom or beach and feel like you are in a different world or an island abroad. I love Folk Week and volunteer every year. I love the beauty which is Broadstairs. I am proud to be working and living in Broadstairs and wouldn't leave.

Zoe Wren: My parents moved here when I was three and opened Allweather Clothing, a rather integral part of the high street! My childhood memories consist of watching the waves breaking over the pier, donkey rides on Viking bay, the enormous inflatable giraffe, living in fear of the folk week horse and being constantly covered in sand. Not much changes in this little town and although I have moved away several times, I always seem to find myself back here. I lived in London for 5 years, got married and had a child. When deciding where to move to it was inevitable that I'd be drawn back to this quirky place. I'm looking forward to watching my daughter experience all the same things I loved and, of course, protecting her from those evil folk week horses! I may not live here forever but I know I'll keep coming back.

Angela McGuire: Having lived in Thanet for 23 years out of my 27 years lol i never realised just how great a place it is and just how lucky i was to be living there. I then moved around from the age of 23 to various places around the country and currently settling in Cumbria (BIG MISTAKE!!) which is why me and my little family are coming back to Thanet very soon. So why do i love Thanet? There is the seaside, the towns, bars, restaurants, shops (mainly westwood cross), there is now a decent bingo hall (yay), casino, cinema complex, easy access to Dover and London not to mention Lakeside and Blueside both within easy reach and all though most people would disagree with me, there are jobs, YES JOBS, may they be in Thanet or having to commute further a field, they are there and its down to the individual if they are willing to put in the effort and look for them and possibly travel

Edward Temple: Broadstairs does have its own eco climate due to its geographical position. The English Channel finishes at the North Foreland also the Southern North Sea commences here. Turn left at the Foreland and you enter the Thames Estuary. The tides rotate in a 360 circle the different sea temperatures created on the change of tides and the close proximity of Europe also affect the weather.

Becky Mason-Smith: I love that others grow to love my hometown and want to live here too

Lorraine Francis: someone once told me that Broadstairs is a magnet... you just have to keep coming back. I've never left!

Nicky Dec: I came here first in 1985 for a teaching job-was living in Basildon at the time, having grown up in Cornwall and I had this vision that the southeast was all the same! Walking from the station down through the town to the seafront, I fell in love with this beautiful little archaic funny town within minutes... Darren and Ted echo many of my

own thoughts. Thank you Broadie Mag for publishing the article-I hope you didn't mind me sharing it with those of my friends who don't live here.

Shazz Kid: Great article!! Encapsulates exactly why we return. I LOVE Broadstairs and returned just over 2 years ago after a 13 year exile. Admittedly I didn't intend so long away because after 1 year I couldn't wait to return. My son (28 years old) has Broadstairs as his home town on FB even though he only came here when he was 5. Says it all

Jacqui Wellbrook: Aww brought a tear to my eye, finally moved to Broadie at Christmas having wanted to for 25 years. Cannot imagine ever regretting it

Carol Gammon: We have lived in Thanet for 34 years, 29 of those in Broadstairs. We had our children here and made Broadstairs our home. We have made some wonderful long term friends here over the years. But, sometimes we forget the beauty that can be found right here on our doorstep. It truly is a lovely place – it's like a village, you always recognise someone you know. This article is wonderful, highlighting for us all what we sometimes forget.

Bob Munday: Moved here in September after many summers as a day tripper loathing the journey back home to Essex, wishing our home was a short walk from the beach...it now is & we Love it, daughter loves new school & friends Wife loves everything new friends, town, beach way of life etc. we all love Broadie. Look out for us on stone bay our puppy Jasper the cockatoowe'll be the family that looks like the cat that got the cream...love it love it love it.

Sarah Gregory: Living the childhood holiday dream - and Broadstairs is as good in adulthood as it was in childhood! Fabulous place for my children to grow up in my opinion!

Caroline King: I've always lived here. I love Broadstairs, sometimes if I'm away for a couple of months I think, I could easily stay away but as soon as I drive back into Thanet I get a sense of being home. (like an old pair of favourite slippers) It's beautiful, I love that it never really changes, it always has an amazing, warm, friendly, charm and I love reading all the books about it's incredible history x

Kevin Crace: I moved here, because I can see the horizons.....

Donna Lawrence: I was born and bred in Broadstairs, as were my parents. I am travelling at the moment and have been away for over 5 months and the time away really makes you appreciate 'home'. I miss something about it every day and love Broadstairs, its people and its quirky ways. In the immortal words of Dorothy - 'there's no place like home'. Sometimes I wish I had a pair of ruby slippers...

Stuart Mullins: We've lived here for 23 years and there is nowhere else I would rather live. It's beautiful in the winter, it's beautiful in the summer, the changing light on Viking Bay throughout the year is something you can only appreciate if you live here.

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Meanwhile in other news...

More culture than a yoghurt?

Thanet, Canterbury, Folkestone, Dover and Ashford councils have joined forces (worrying in itself) to attempt to win City of Culture status. Eh?

Is that the City of Ashford, Folkestone, Dover, Thanet or just the plain old 'The City of Canterbury'.

Next issue:- Thanet, Canterbury, Dover and Ashford Councils join forces to change their name to "The South of France"

Separated at birth?



Paddy Moyna installation somewhere in Thanet?



Carl Andre installation at the Turner contemporary?

Anagram of the week

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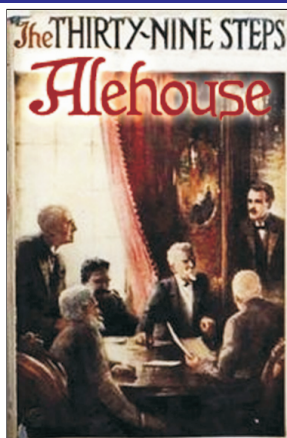
=

SEIZE KEY LAND

In Other News

The well known girlie named dictator Kim Jong-Un (Rhymes with Wrong-Un) has been blowing off steam at his neighbours to the South with threats of total war, which just goes to show what happens when you hand over the running of a Nuclear capable country to a chubby teenage computer game addict with a bad hair cut. UN ambassadors have been trying to calm the situation with regular diplomatic trips to Kim's bedroom with trays of cake, hot milk and a pile of back issues of 'Nuts' magazine

Chris Huhne (the only MP with a rather fitting sigh in his name) along with his ex-wife Vicky Pryce have both been jailed for eight months for their speeding point faux pas. A friend of the couple complained that their experience had been like "Being in the Stocks". Except of course not many people choose to buy the rotten vegetables themselves and then willingly lock in the hands and head.



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A Tale of two *ankers

A Fairytale of Broadstairs

Once upon a time (1993 to be precise) a Princess came to Broadstairs. She popped to the High Street to speak to the King who was in his parlour counting out his money. (Actually our money, but let's not split hairs so early in the story.)

'Please may I bank with you?' said the Princess. 'Most certainly' said the King. 'Have a cup of tea, show me your ID, sign here and abracadabra - you will have your account'.

And so it was, and the Prince and the Princess lived happily ever after ... until 2013 when same Princess (more of an old Queen by now) went to the same palace to open a second account for a lovely local group.

'Not so fast,' said the King. 'I don't know who you are. Well, I do but the Barons in the court don't so I need three IDs from you all, three signatures countersigning each other, a signature here, here and here (preferably in blood) to say this has been agreed by committee and when.'

'Phew,' thought the Princess - but diligently supplied all that was required. It bounced back. Additions were made under the watchful eye of the King. It bounced back. Finally the paperwork made its way on to 'the system' - and like magic, disappeared.

'It could be in Brighton' she was told. 'Equally it could be in Chatham.' Cloud cuckoo land more likely. Canny Princess decided to raise a complaint .. which placed on 'the system' in Birmingham - who gave it to Yorkshire who gave it back to Birmingham. Helpful banking indeed.

Utter frustration drove our Princess into the arms of another King Banker who declared much love for her money and vowed to 'open an account within seven days'. Hurrah, thought the Princess. Ah but wait she would have to meet the New Accounts Manager who wasn't available for not 24 hours, not 48 hours but three weeks.

The moral of this story is that Jack was right all along we should all stick to swopping cows for magic beans.

Name and address withheld as the money is under my mattress.



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Cllr Wells has left the building (Well, sort of)

Cllr Chris Wells recently resigned his post on Broadstairs Town Council, Viking ward. Here in his own words are his reasons for going

Having been a Town Councillor since 2003, and enjoyed the experience, why have I chosen to step down now?

During my time as Town Councillor, the most important project has been the new Community Centre in Pierremont Park. Not because of the size of the project, nor the prestige that may go with it, but because the community life of a town is an important measure of self worth and spirit. Many in Broadstairs come to retire, and then live alone when a loved one dies, when the facilities which provide community support in the broadest sense of the term become vital.

We are nearer to completing this project than at any time in the previous decade. The District Council is finally properly committed and has approved a changed positioning; the Hereson site sale brings in another tranche of funding; and consultation last year showed a substantial majority in favour from those who responded.

I have therefore accepted an invitation to become both a Director, and Chairman of the Board, of the Broadstairs and St Peters Community Centre Trust

As I also fought to retain the gymnasium on the former Hereson school site; and am already a member of the group taking over The Memorial Theatre for community use as KCC leaves that site, involvement in this project, and how it will blend with other facilities, is, for me, fundamental to the future of Broadstairs.

I do not believe I can fulfil a leadership position on the trust and be a Town Councillor without risking accusations of conflict of interest. I have thus decided to leave the Town Council, at least until the community centre is built and open. Such is the poisonous fragility of District politics, that excellent projects can be damaged by small minded gossip and rumour. It is sad to note that generally, the Town Council has been free from the influences of District politics, just getting on with doing things residents want without rancour.

My resignation is timed to permit the calling of any election for the same day as the County ballot, which will mean a considerably smaller cost than running election for this seat alone.

I would like to formally thank Roy Dexter, his dedicated staff team, and Broadstairs electors for all their support over the last 10 years.
Cllr Chris Wells

A special thanks to Ayamee Bee who has kindly performed some proof reading for us in this issue. (Don't blame her if you find loads of mistakes as we run out of time to give her the entire magazine to check for mistooks. Thanks Ayamee.

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If you have a few hours to spare, you can help make a local person's life a little bit easier. For example, we have a Broadstairs man who is blind and needs someone with a car to take him and his guide dog out for walks. So if you need a little exercise, like dogs and would enjoy a little jaunt, why not let us know?

Other people are just lonely and would really benefit from a regular visitor popping in for a chat - maybe to put the world to rights! This can make a world of difference to someone who never sees anyone from day to day.

If you are interested in getting involved or know someone who needs our help, you can call Louise or Fran on

01843 597115

(Mon- Fri 9am-3pm) or email:

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thanetcommunitysupport.org.uk

Thanet Community
Support Partnership



Its Bleedin' obvious and other news.

Sources from within

tell us that in a recent meeting with government officials, Mary Portas of 'Save the High Street' fame quite possibly suggested that to save the High Street those at the top should "Do the bleedin' obvious". This mantra has now been officially adopted as government policy and henceforth "Doing the bleedin' obvious" will be given top priority when considering how to arrest the demise of the great British High Street.

Local campaigners have thrown their full support behind the scheme. Local DTBO representative Barry Cakplaster from the "High Street First" action group said "It's about time they did the bleedin' obvious innit, I mean we all know what it is that needs doing, after all it's bleedin' obvious, it's just that nobodies done it yet"

Panther Securities

"Worst Broadstairs Company of the month" as voted for by three people we met in a local coffee shop, owners of 8 - 12 High Street Broadstairs, otherwise known as "That awful blot on the landscape" have not recently announced that anything much at all is happening with their derelict hideous properties situated at the bottom of Broadstairs High Street..

Mr A Spokesperson, (that has absolutely nothing to do with their company) said "I couldn't give a Monkeys Trousers Niff what you think, but at least it does give the pigeons somewhere to have sex"

Margate Town Team II, (They're back and this time they mean business)

have only spent £112 of the £100,000 that was awarded to Margate to help re-invigorate the High Street. We can only assume that they're waiting for:-

1. Things to get really bad - like when the only shop that is left is run by a mad old hag that only sells spoons
2. The interest rate to go up to 15% thus giving Margate an extra income of £15,000 per annum, which will quite possibly be the annual turnover of the remaining establishments combined.
3. Some good Buy One Get One Free offers on paint from Tesco's if and when the new mega-mart is finally slapped onto Margate seafront with all the finesse and architectural beauty of the Hangar Lane Gyratory system.
4. The heritage fun park to be built on the 'Dreamland Site', at which point they will invest the money in some Victorian attractions such as the 'Caged Orphans', a 'Dancing Bear', and a Firework / Stunt spectacular attraction inspired by the Great Exhibition of 1851, where a mock up of the Crystal Palace mysteriously burns down at eight o'clock every evening throughout the summer. Now that would be very much in keeping with the cultural heritage of Thanet.

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The Brigadier



Well, what a long time it's been since I've sat at my desk and picked up the pen. Frankly, I couldn't be bothered over the cold and miserable months of winter.

All that snow, hail and rain didn't do much for relations up at the manor, her ladyship has barely spoken two hoots to me since December and with a face like a wet weekend in Chatham I'll be awfully grateful to see some sun, if only to crack the ice of the frozen pond that is marriage. I believe the problem is something going by the name of Seasonal Affective Disorder, a common complaint amongst the lower classes whose

lives are blighted with lack of sunshine from working long hours down't pit or in Asda or somewhere equally as common. Why it should affect her ladyship is beyond me, as far as I know she's not spent many hours at the coal face, not unless you include her weekly chat with her mother, I've even taken the 25 Watt bulbs out and had them replaced with 40 watt as a special treat in the vain hope that all the extra light flooding in will somehow bring cheer and serenity once again to the sitting rooms and corridors.

It all started soon after Christmas. There I was sitting in the tub enjoying a bowlful of winter mix tobacco, attempting to remove the layers of Grime that had built up since my birthday whilst simultaneously re-enacting the Battle of Jutland with ones fleet. I'd just lost the 'Indefatigable' when her ladyship appeared around the door and without a word came in with a mop and sunk my remaining flotilla, on remonstrating with my beloved and asking her why she was behaving so immaturely she proceeded to scrub me with the bleached mop that was still clutched firmly in her grasp. This terrible attack of cleanliness was not as you would imagine accompanied with a tirade of abuse but rather with a stony silence that really set my teeth on edge - well it would have done had I not left them in her Gin & Tonic by the side of the bed.

It's a funny old thing this marriage lark, I'm not sure I'll ever really get the hang of it, in those early years it all started out as a bit of an adventure, a bit like going off to war, lots of marching up and down and occasionally being sent over the top to get your boots wet, but not really getting anywhere. We deliberated over the thoughts of having children or dogs as we weren't able to decide whether we wanted to ruin our lives or just the carpets, but eventually settled on the idea of two, preferably one of each (Children that is). It took some doing I can tell you, there was no hirsute fellows in 'Joy of Sex' booklets to inform the reader about all the mechanics and hair pulling involved in pleasing the opposite sex in those days, just the trusted knowledge imparted by Grandpa that you should "Always wear a good Worsted Tweed, the scratchier the better" to "Avoid unpleasant thoughts" and the odd instruction written on the back of a public house toilet door. - 'Now Wash Your Hands'.

There was a time when I'd happily chase her round the manor with a feather duster (Nothing perverse in that - it's not as if I used the whole chicken) dressed in nothing but the Mawauwau tribal mating costume that I'd pilfered from a fine upstanding chap from the deep forests of Borneo, but of course, we don't often worry about all that old nonsense anymore, old age cures you of that nest of vipers, she'd rather sit down with a Jigsaw puzzle or spend an afternoon Hoeing with the gardener in the vegetable patch and I'd rather sit down with a good internet connection and a quiet room.

Hopefully by the next issue we'll be at peace again, the fleet will have dried out and her Ladyship's Christmas present might just have turned up. In the meantime, if you see me looking slightly dishevelled wandering aimlessly around the locality like a small lost lamb, you can always take me in the pub and buy me a large Gin & tonic.

Victory News

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Mrs Wally has her finger on the pulse

In the last Broadie I talked about my New Year plans to eat more plants and mentioned lentils as a way to do so. I have a confession to make – in the time that has passed between the two

issues I have been converted and am now completely crazy about pulses. They are great – they're cheap, they're easy, they're versatile and they're patiently hibernating in the cupboard waiting for you to make something delicious out of them. My favourite are lentils and chickpeas and here is how I like to eat them;

Lentils

I love lentils. They are my weeknight quick and easy supper and work packed lunch favourites. I tend to boil a big batch of Puy lentils up with stock and a sprig of thyme then cool and put in the fridge ready to be heated up, added to and turned into something fantastic. Here are my favourite lentil concoctions;

1. Heat about 250g of cooked lentils up in the microwave for a minute or two on high. Whilst they're cooking, halve a block of feta and mash it with a fork before adding lots and lots of black pepper, a big glug of extra virgin olive oil and a splash of balsamic vinegar then stir through the hot lentils. Yum.

2. Peel and dice a butternut or coquina squash. Put in a bowl and add a glug of olive oil, a generous helping of dried chilli and a sprinkling of sea salt. Roast - about 35 mins in a medium oven should do it. Whilst the squash is roasting, fry a thinly sliced onion slowly until it's pale and sticky, crush a clove of garlic into the pan, stir to mix with the onion and then turn off the heat. When the squash is ready, add the precooked lentils to the onion mix and heat with a few thyme leaves and a splash of wine or water, stir in a generous helping of squash, heat through and scoff.

3. Wash about 300g of curly kale or cavalo nero and shred. Pour a generous tablespoon of olive oil into a saucepan, slice a chilli, crush a couple of cloves of garlic, add the kale, stir to coat, put a lid on the pan and turn the heat down low – after about 15-20 mins the greens will have cooked down into an almost black sauce. Heat up some lentils in the microwave, stir into the pan and add some crumbled feta. Delicious.

Chickpeas

I eat a lot of hummus and am one of its greatest fans but there is a lot more to chickpeas than hummus. The trickiest bit is cooking them – First you'll need to place chickpeas in a large bowl and cover completely with cold water leaving for about 12 hours or overnight. In the morning, drain and transfer to a large pot, cover with water twice the amount of chickpeas and bring to a boil. Cover and allow to simmer for about an hour – just check a couple and once they're tender they're ready. Once they're cooked and cooled they will keep in the fridge for 3 days. Here are my current favourite chickpea treats;

Chickpea and aubergine bake

250g Chickpeas, 1 medium aubergine, Spices, salt and pepper, olive oil. Heat the oven to Gas 5/ 190-200 degrees.

Heat some olive oil up in a dish in a medium oven (as if you were making roast potatoes) and whilst it's heating up, dice an aubergine into 1cm cubes. Put the diced aubergine in a bowl and add salt,

pepper, and some spice – I use a generous sprinkling of garam masala and a chopped chilli, mix so the aubergine is nicely coated then pour into the hot dish and pop back in the oven. Leave for about 10 mins before adding

250g of cooked chickpeas and a crushed clove of garlic. Stir through and put back in the oven for another 10 mins. Chop up a handful of coriander and stir through. Serve with some yoghurt and a flatbread or naan bread.

Falafel-ish patties

An onion, garlic, a couple of dates, 400g cooked chickpeas, spices, salt and pepper, fresh coriander, olive oil. Heat the oven to Gas 5/ 190-200 degrees.

Put an onion in a food processor and whizz it up until it's really fine, drain of any juice before adding a crushed clove of garlic, a couple of chopped dates, 300g chickpeas, 1tsp cumin, 1tsp ground coriander and a generous grind of salt and pepper and whizzing it up again until it makes a rough paste. Add ½ tsp bicarb of soda, 3tbsp plain flour and give a couple of pulses to mix through. Roughly crush 100g whole chickpeas with a fork, chop a handful of coriander and stir through – this gives the patties a nice bit of texture. Oil your hands and shape into 12 balls before squashing a bit to make patties. Line a baking tray with greaseproof paper or baking parchment and bake in the middle of the oven for about half an hour turning half way. Serve with salad or in a toasted pitta full of lovely salad and a generous dollop of hummus.

Mrs Wally's top tip

If you're not going to use all the pulses you've cooked, pop some in a tub in the freezer. All you need to do is thaw out overnight in the fridge before using them.



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Crispins tales of yesteryear



I had the following conversation with a youngster recently:
 'Did you know that Broadstairs once had an airport?' I enquired.
 'Manston you mean? That's still going' replied the scruffy irkling.
 'No, not Manston, that's miles away. There was an airport on Pyson's road'
 'Whatever'
 'No really, there was..'

And so it went on. Indeed, as I'm sure many readers are already aware, there was a small airport between the border of Ramsgate and Broadstairs, where the industrial estate stands today. To prove to the young scamp that I wasn't the most incorrigible fibber (as if I had the reputation) I was forced to engage the services of a smart-phone to refer to an image of it. The insolent doubting Thomas was forced to accept a generous slice of humble pie on seeing the proof. Granted, it wasn't a large airport; more an airfield in fact, but it did have a departure lounge and a bar. Light aircraft would travel to and from the continent from the airport, as well as flying aerial sightseeing tours of the isle. It ceased to be in the 1960s.

But it's not just the airport that has vanished and been confined to history. I was reminded of that when I watched, with great joy, a tourist video of Broadstairs made in 1965, which is stored safely and forever on YouTube. Its narrator is charmingly and typically plummy, and he takes us on a trip around an apparently idyllic Broadstairs in the height of summer. Stout older gentlemen sunbathe in full Sunday best with knotted hankies on their heads, supple youths frolic in the waters and comely lasses glance coquettishly at wholesome-looking men with pipes. Moreover, you also see a great deal of the town itself. For a Broadstairs resident in 2013, it's a pleasant thought that much of what is shown in the film is immovably familiar. Glance at the seafront today and you'll find no difference to glancing at it in 1965. But look closer. There are a number of long since vanished features that appear, ghost-like, in the film.

The Viking Bay lift is seen and mentioned ("Viking Beeey is accessible by stair or lift"). The lift, in fact, was actually one of the few funicular railways in Britain. It opened in 1909 and closed only in 1991. Uniquely, it was a funicular that travelled inside the cliff, with one 'station' in the garden of a house in Albion street and the other, which still stands

today, on the beach itself (I believe a certain unconscionable scoundrel once tried to convince The Broadie readership that it was the entrance to a fictitious underground railway network, of all things).

Another aspect included is the traditional social life of a seaside town of that age. What we might regard now as rather archaic and laughably quaint activities were conducted in that time with sincerity and gusto. The annual Water Gala is given some attention, and demonstrates a level of comical enthusiasm and cordial reverie that one might consider sadly absent of late. There is also footage of the lovely parade of lovely ladies that was the Miss Broadstairs competition. Such contests are still held now in some capacity, but invariably with a thoroughly modern sense of irony. Then, however, it was very much a staple of the summertime itinerary. It was all part of a culture that has ebbed away between now and then, due to social politics and also the fact that people have found other things to do.

Such events were often held in The Grand Ballroom, which as its name suggests also held dancing evenings and concerts. Where the immense Charleston Court complex of apartments now stands was where the ballroom once stood as an annexe to the Grand Hotel. It closed in the 1980s, and remained as an eerie relic standing empty on the cliff-top until its demolition in the early 1990s. Just a quick snippet is seen in the film of tourists diving into its outdoor swimming pool, with the building itself in the background. In that era, and times before it, the ballroom was a primary venue for all that encapsulated the holiday resort that Broadstairs was, and what the tourist population retreated to for their evening leisure time. In 1962, the Grand Ballroom played host to a band of upstart young men who would later be known to all around the world as The Who.

Let's not keep the rose-tinted glasses on too long though. Broadstairs isn't what it used to be in many respects for the simple reason that people have moved on. It has responded just as anywhere else in Britain to commercial and social progress. It's telling that the narrator describes the High Street as 'the main shopping centre...where you will find all you need', where now the more globally corporate Westwood Cross fulfils that role. When I think to my childhood in the 1980s and 90s, I remember the empty shell of the Grand Ballroom overlooking Viking bay and I'm reminded of the West Pier in Brighton – a larger and more prominent equivalent. That too stood abandoned for many years defunct and in ruin, like a museum artefact of times past.

In recent decades, as we all know, foreign travel has become more affordable and routine. That has of course had an impact on the popularity of seaside towns, but the more significant result is that people's eyes have been opened to broader tastes, different cultures and more diverse experiences. That phenomenon really ought to be celebrated, but it is also the reason why the tourist landscape of Britain is not what it was.

In fact, however, much of this decades-old footage of Broadstairs could have been filmed today. Whilst generally we might no longer consider a night of variety entertainment at the ballroom, or council-approved ogling of women in swimsuits particularly sophisticated pastimes, people will always enjoy sitting in the sun, swimming in the bracing sea and eating elaborate ice-creams. In those invaluable measures, nothing whatsoever has changed in Broadstairs. For reassurance, think of how crowded Viking Bay becomes every summer.

I do wish we still had the airport though -that would be brilliant.

Crispin Smith

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GHASTLY MURDER IN THE EAST-END. DREADFUL MUTILATION OF A WOMAN. Capture: Leather Apron

Another murder of a character even more diabolical than that perpetrated in Back's Row. At on Friday week, was discovered in the same neighbourhood, on Saturday morning. At about six o'clock a woman was found lying in a back yard at the foot of a passage leading to a lodging house in a Old Brown's Lane, Spitalfields. The house is occupied by a Mrs. Richardson, who lets it out to lodgers, and the door which admits to this passage, at the foot of which lies the yard where the body was found, is always open for the convenience of lodgers. A lodger named Davis was going down to work at the time mentioned and found the woman lying on her back close to the flight of steps leading into the yard. Her throat was cut in a fearful manner. The woman's body had been completely ripped open and the heart and other organs laying about the place, and portions of the entrails round the victim's neck. An excited crowd gathered in front of Mrs. Richardson's house and also round the mortuary in old Montague Street, whither the body was quickly conveyed. The body lies in the rough coffin in which it has been placed in a fearful sight. The coffin is that of a woman about 45 years of age. The height is exactly five feet. The complexion is fair, with wavy brown hair; the eyes are blue, and two lower teeth have been knocked out. The nose is rather large and prominent.

A RIPPING YARN

It is Sunday afternoon, and being such, and living near Balmoral Gardens, the present Mrs Philpott can normally be found playing with her favourite stray pussy. I myself for one, having fished of a Saturday, prefer to

degree of injuries inflicted on these poor women is too gruesome to discuss here, the very mention of such has been known to bring on a bilious attack in Mrs Philpott. Lest say, that generally the women where first strangled, then their throats were cut, and then disembowelled. Other activities on the cadaver were at the whim of the Ripper, and very much seemed to be based on how long he felt safe to be with the body, before he chanced discovery.

We would now recognise the Ripper as a serial killer; a concept unknown to the Victorian police. Crime scene investigation was such that the Ripper murders were the first to feature scene of crime photographs, sniffer dogs, fingerprints, and so on. In many ways, the Ripper murders single-handedly revolutionised police investigation techniques. Ultimately, they also assisted in justifying the regeneration of the east end of London, and highlighting the plight of the poor 'unfortunates'.



Aaron Kosminski

spend a leisurely Sunday afternoon airing my tackle. But today it was not to be, for you find this writer blackmailed. Yes, it's a strong word but by damn I'll use it again, blackmailed into writing a new article for the Broadie.

Yesterday evening, whilst Mrs Philpott was otherwise engaged, I received a phone call from one of the underlings of the editor of the Broadie – the editor, still holidaying at Her Majesty's pleasure (he's done more bird than Bill Oddie). Said underling informs me that if I do not deliver an article to the offices within 24 hours, then the editor will have no choice than to introduce a "Page 3" feature.....! And that the first of this series would be Nerys from Walpole Bay, age 72 no less! Knowing the effect this would have on Mrs Philpott, I find no choice other than to furnish said article; and hope that no more mention is made of Page 3.

So, as Mrs Philpott is out in Balmoral gardens; exhibiting her ginger-tom; I take pen to paper to tell you the tale of Jack the Ripper's connection to Thanet...

Let me give a brief summary of the activities of Jack the Ripper, for those not already in the know.....

The Ripper struck through the autumn of 1888, in a reasonably limited area of London, centralising on Brick Lane. He targeted woman of ill fortune; not just common prostitutes, but those women who had to casually ply the sex trade; in order to make a basic human level of existence.

Surprisingly, there is contention as to the number of victims Jack killed; this being caused by the fact that there is no definitive stop or start dates to the Ripper's activity, and accordingly, there is some significant overlap of potential victims. For ease of argument, let us agree on five victims, this being the most common figure. The list and

Unknown to the public

at the time the police

had identified Jack the Ripper

The Jack the Ripper murders have all the ingredients of a classic Victorian 'who-dun-it'. He continuously eludes capture, whilst every murder becomes more gruesome and audacious. Each murder was taking place under the very nose of the police, and they seemed totally unable to stop him.

Now, with over 500 named suspects in books, and with the 'common knowledge' being that the Ripper was never caught, it may come as some surprise to say this is actually not true, and that the police did indeed capture Jack The Ripper.....

Unknown to the public at the time, the Police had identified Jack the Ripper as one Aaron Kosminski, a poor Polish Jew who lived in the area. The revelation of the identity of the Ripper was only made some years after the case was officially closed. Comments and notes made in the margins of the autobiography of Sir Robert Anderson (Assistant Commissioner of Police), by Donald Swanson (policeman in overall charge of the Ripper Murders) identifies and names Kosminski.

Walter Sickert



The Broadie

Interestingly, Aaron Kosminski's brother and his wife owned a bed and breakfast on the east cliff of Ramsgate at the time of the murders. Even more interestingly, the police files relating to Kosminski refer to him being released to the care of his brother, so it's not unfeasible to suggest that The Ripper may have indeed at one point stayed on our Fair Isle....

Ramsgate's East Cliff was also home to Sir Charles Warren, Head of the Metropolitan Police in 1888; a blue plaque now marks the location. On the West Cliff of Ramsgate, in Royal Road, the original 'lodger' story was born, as reported by the papers and eventually becoming a classic Alfred Hitchcock film.

In Broadstairs, we too are immersed in Ripper connections; well actually St Peter's, but that's close enough. Here in St Peter's, for the latter years of his life lived one Walter Richard Sickett. Sickett being not only the father of the Camden School of Art, but also the central character in the theory linking the royal family to Jack the Ripper, via an illegal marriage and a baby born to one of the victims. He and his wife remain interned at St Peter's.

Finally, whilst we could add a whole myriad of smaller connections to both victims and suspects, connected to this isle, it is worth looking at one singular fact. As we discussed earlier, Donald Swanson in marginalia revealed the identity of the Ripper; he also went on to state that "And after this identification which suspect knew, no other murder of this kind took place in London... After the suspect had been identified at the Seaside Home where he had been sent by us with great difficulty in order to subject him to identification, and he knew he was identified.

I contest, that with so many connections to this Isle of ours, logic says that the seaside house mentioned here was in fact in Thanet... well, who knows? Could it be true?

For those more gruesome readers among us, there is a most excellent book called "The Ripper in Ramsgate", by Chris Scott, and plenty of additional material on the internet.

For now I must bid you goodnight on this journey. Should the editor decide to pay me, and should the editor decide to stop blackmailing me, then I may again put pen to paper. But then again what can you expect from the editor (a man who claims to be related to one of the Chuckle Brothers), only time will tell.....

Albert Philpott
Somewhere near
Balmoral Gardens.

*Sir Charles
Warren*



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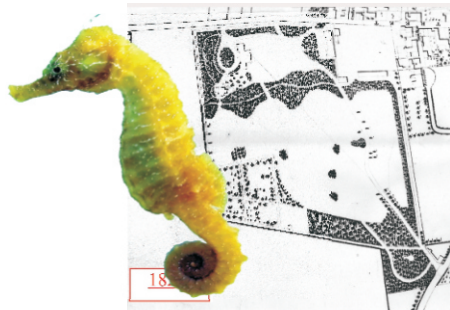
Real Horses in your Lasagne? Well now there's Sea Horses in Pierremont Park

Local chap Simon Gerrard, certainly likes a view. Not content with finding old Galleons in our street system, he has now found Sea-horses in the park. Could this be the first example of a 19th Century art installation by a Georgian Tracey Emin? Here's what Simon has to say.

Dear Ed

Concerning my on-going research into the wonderful hidden histories of Broadstairs, can you help me as follows : do your readers see a Seahorse carved and built into the 18thC Pierremont Hall landscape as indicated in this 1824 map kindly provided to me by Mr Alf Beeching, Thanet historian? The Seahorse image and mythology embraces many of the aesthetic and positive attributes of the human spirit recognised far back into civilised antiquity. This eloquent link to Broadstairs' maritime community and history - particularly with our humanitarian role as a fore-runner to the RNLI - echoes the widely-held legend that Seahorses guided the souls of sailors lost at sea back to a safe rest; in this case you may observe the sculpture looks landwards towards St Peter's and of course its parish church. Princess Victoria stayed and played throughout here in 1829, and I feel it's high time this picturesque family walk was revived once more just as it was intended by its original founder Mr Thomas Forsyth in 1792. In this ever-changing world of ours, Pierremont Park does seem to have a uniquely tranquil atmosphere about it, wouldn't you say? I believe readers are seeing this artwork, if it's true of course, for the very first time since at least 1824.

Regards
Simon Gerrard



SEAVIEW



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Let there be light

Like any small town at the end of the world we have had (and still have) more than our fair share of 'characters'. People who believe their husbands are pigeons and currently, naming no names and pointing no fingers, a 'character' who nicks all the leaflets in every business. This person is also not averse to trying on all the sample make-up in town. On more than one occasion she has been observed with BRIGHT red

lipstick as eye shadow!

In the last few years you may have thought that we were adding to the ever growing list of 'characters' if you had seen various locals wandering up and down the high street, kicking lamp posts and muttering before going to the next lamp post. This isn't a new religious rite or even a hobby but (hopefully) a member of the Brighter Broadstairs sub-committee of the Chamber of Commerce. To have decorative lighting hung on it, each lamp post must be in good enough condition to hold them. Before they can be deemed good enough for this, the older ones had to undergo an engineer's report. This is expensive and if the lamp post in question fails, as did a row of them a few years ago, then an expensive exercise with no results.

The lamps at the top of the High Street have just been replaced, to the loud cheers of the Brighter Broadstairs gang. Good job too for the general public as they were condemned 15 years ago.

They have to be painted black then numbered and then eventually we will have festive lighting from the Broadway to Rooks.

The only problem with that is that they will cost quite a bit of money. Two years ago when it was last estimated, the price was going to be £105 per post. So far several businesses have offered to pay for one each, hopefully more will follow.

So when you see the town beautifully lit up in the future, think of the individuals who sat on committees discussing this for years and the people who have put their hands in their pockets for the town and bruised their toes

News from your GP

From Monday 1 April, doctors will be in control of a £190million annual medical budget for people living in Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs.

This is when NHS Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group takes over from the primary care trust as part of a national reorganisation of the NHS.

The group is made up of the area's 21 GP practices. They are represented by a 12- strong governing body of six elected GPs, and two members of the public, a secondary care doctor and a nurse supported by two highly experienced health managers. It is one of eight clinical commissioning groups covering Kent and Medway as part of the NHS reforms to give GPs control of almost 70 per cent of the national NHS budget so they can use their knowledge to tailor services for their area.

Thanet has a high number of teenage pregnancies, many "looked after" children, a higher than average infant death rate and a high

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level of childhood obesity. Thanet children are also 50 per cent more likely to be brought up in poverty than the rest of Kent.

The area is also affected by long-term unemployment with higher than average levels of dementia, diabetes, strokes and cardiovascular disease.

The GPs have identified six health goals:

- Reduce health inequalities by helping people to live longer and healthier lives, particularly those living in Thanet's most deprived communities
- Encourage young people to take control of their own health earlier, so they continue to make healthier choices throughout their lives
- Educate people about mental well-being, sexual health, drugs, alcohol and obesity
- Diagnose possible problems earlier
- Improve access to health services
- Improve the quality of life for patients suffering from long-term or complex health conditions by improving the quality, range and choice of services with better information to manage their own health.

The public can contribute by joining patient groups at their own GP surgeries or join the CCG's Health Network, an online group of patients, members of the public and voluntary groups. Members receive regular e-newsletters, share ideas and take part in focus groups, consultations and surveys about healthcare.

To sign up, visit www.thanetccg.nhs.uk/health-network

Local people are also welcome to come along to NHS Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group's meetings in public to find out more about its plans and how people can get involved. The first of these meetings is on Tuesday 28 May at the Global Generation Church, Westwood Cross from 1-4pm. Future ones and any CCG events will be listed on the website. www.thanetccg.nhs.uk.

NHS Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group is based at Thanet District Council's offices in Cecil St, Margate, CT9 1XZ. Phone: 03000 424 615, email: thn@thanetccg.info

Natwest deposits 100 years

NatWest staff from Broadstairs branch made it a day to remember today, as they celebrated 100 years of banking in the town by cutting a birthday cake and providing refreshments for their customers. Mrs Morris, a customer who has also celebrated 100 years, kindly did the honours of cutting the cake. She worked for the Westminster Bank in London during the 1940s. The team at the branch also used the day to talk about NatWest Broadstairs both past and present.

The origins of NatWest's Broadstairs branch go back to the January 1913 when London County & Westminster Bank opened a branch in



Broadstairs High Street. In 1921 the branch relocated to its current site at 47 High Street in Broadstairs. In 1970, Westminster Bank merged with the National Provincial Bank to form the National Westminster Bank. Today, Broadstairs remains as important as ever for NatWest and they can now boast 100 years of proud banking heritage in the town.

Tracey Graham, NatWest's Manager at Broadstairs Branch, said, "We are really proud of our association with Broadstairs and these celebrations have been a great way of showing our customers how important they are to us. It has also given my colleagues an excellent opportunity to talk about NatWest both past and present, including the recent extension to our opening hours which now includes opening on Saturdays. We want to thank all of our customers and members of the local community for joining in with the fun today and for celebrating not only our past, but also our future."



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THE LOSS OF THE MARGATE LUGGER 'VICTORY'



SHIPWRECK OF "THE NORTHERN BELLE" THE CREW OF "THE MARY WHITE," IN THEIR LIFE-BOAT, DRAWN THROUGH BROADSTAIRS. — (SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

**BY CHRIS SANDWELL, REPRODUCED WITH
KIND PERMISSION OF MARGATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

Up until a few years ago there was, at the foot of the steps up to the high wall at Margate harbour, a very badly weathered memorial tablet, erected by the Margate Pier & Harbour Company in 1857. This memorial honoured the nine brave crew of the lugger VICTORY who were lost at sea. The events leading up to the loss of the VICTORY began at 3am on Monday 5th January 1857, when the American vessel NORTHERN BELLE, on passage from New York to London, anchored in a north-easterly gale off Kingsgate. By 8am, it was feared by those watching ashore that the anchors would not hold and a message was sent to Broadstairs, requesting that the lifeboat MARY WHITE be sent. It arrived at 9am, having been bought overland by carriage but did not launch as the NORTHERN BELLE was still riding to her anchor. News had also reached Margate and the luggers OCEAN, ECLIPSE and VICTORY put out from the harbour to assist.

**AS DAYLIGHT DAWNED, 6 - 7 AM, AN AWFUL
SIGHT GREETED THE ONLOOKERS AS,
LASHED TO THE ONE REMAINING STANDING
MAST, COULD BE SEEN 23 MEN**

By 11am the clifftop was lined by a multitude of people from the Thanet towns as the news had spread like wildfire and at 11.30am they witnessed the sad sight of the VICTORY being struck and overwhelmed by a huge sea, the lugger going straight down with all hands. The anchors of the NORTHERN BELLE were expected to part at any minute but they miraculously held until between 10 and 11pm, when they parted and she drove ashore. By now there were sleet, hail

and snow storms. It was dark, visibility was nil and the launch site for the lifeboat was ½ mile from the wreck so nothing could be done till the morning. As daylight dawned, 6-7am, an awful sight greeted the onlookers as, lashed to the one remaining standing mast, could be seen 23 men. Five of these had been put aboard by the OCEAN the day before. At 7.30am the MARY WHITE launched and with 10 crew rowed to get seven of the survivors aboard, then returned to the shore to be greeted by the cheers of the crowd. By then the 2nd Broadstairs lifeboat the CULMER WHITE had arrived and promptly launched to the wreck and succeeded in taking off a further 14 men. Two still remained the Captain and the Pilot, put aboard at Dover. They had stated it was their intention to go down with the ship but the CULMER WHITE crew relaunched and managed to persuade them off the doomed vessel. All of the rescued men were taken to the

Captain Digby Inn where they were cared for. The Second Mate of the NORTHERN BELLE is said to have declared 'that none but Englishmen would have put off to the rescue in such a sea'. In the Kentish Gazette dated 27th January 1857 it was reported that a fund had been set up to help the widows of those lost was progressing favourably.'

The US President of the day, Franklin Pierce, wrote to thank the men's families for their sacrifice and awarded silver medals to the crews who came to the aid of the Belle.

After the event Margate's pub the 'Waterman's Arms' was renamed the 'Northern Belle', and timber salvaged from the shipwreck was used to renovate the pub. The original wooden beams and davits which became bar posts are still visible today. The Northern Belle was built in 1680 and hidden away in a back street near the harbour and is listed in the 2011 CAMRA Good Beer Guide.

It is thought to be the oldest pub in Margate and is supposedly quite haunted. There are also thought to be smugglers caves under the pub.

On 16th June 1857 it was reported that a marble tablet had been erected at Margate harbour in memory of the nine poor unfortunate individuals who had lost their lives in the VICTORY, at a cost of £25 borne by the Margate Pier & Harbour Company. Sadly as already stated the memorial tablet has been gone for some years.

But an appeal was launched to raise the money to reinstate the plaque and on the 156th anniversary of the shipwreck, Sir Roger Gale MP met with the organisers to congratulate them on raising more than £5,000 to pay for the new marble memorial tablet.

Support for the committee came from the Mayors of Margate & Broadstairs, the American Embassy, TDC, Shepherd Neame Brewery, Thorley Taverns, Henry's, The Sundowners Bars, The Rose Pub,

Northern Belle Pub and the people of Margate and Broadstairs.
Drinkers at the Northern Belle pub raised more than £600.

Campaigners have been trying to track down relatives of the
dead boatmen to take part in the event.

The deceased were:- John SMITH, 63, Isaac SOLLY 46, Abraham
BUSBRIDGE 35, Charles FULLER 34, George SMITH 29, Henry
PARAMOR 27, Frederick BATH 22, John and William EMPTAGE 29
and 52

Dignitaries from the US High Commission will join the RNLI, Royal
British Legion and Thanet's mayors for the dedication of the new
stone on the Harbour Arm on Saturday 27th April 2013

INSCRIPTION ON ORIGINAL TABLET

"The voice of the Lord is upon the waters"

This tablet is erected to commemorate the disastrous
loss of the
"VICTORY"

Lugger of this port in the destructive gale of 5th January
1857, when in a heavy and dangerous sea and
before the break of day, our boatmen, with their usual
intrepidity, put out to succour ships in distress

The "Victory" while sailing in the direction of the
American ship "Northern Belle" of 11,000 tons burthen,
from

New York, seen to be in imminent peril and which
afterwards stranded on the Foreness Rock was caught
in

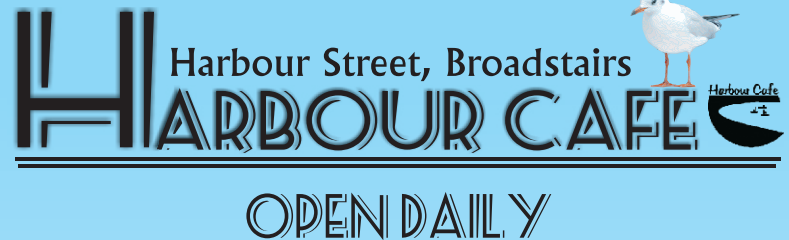
A fearful gale and plunged down in an instant with all
her crew

The sufferers were: John Smith, aged 63 years, William
Emptage, aged 52 years, Isaac Solly, aged 46 years,
Abraham Busbridge, aged 35 years, Charles Fuller, aged
34 years, John Emptage, aged 29 years,
George Smith, aged 29 years, Henry Paramor, aged 27
years, Frederick Bath, aged 22 years.

Such a calamity as this is not known to have occurred
here before, may never such occur again.

This tablet is also intended as a graceful tribute to the
benevolence of persons, not only in this town and
neighbourhood but in London and other distant places,
who have so generously responded to the public
appeal made on behalf of the widows and orphans and
have by subscription amounting to two thousand one
hundred pounds declared their sympathy with a class of
men engaged in a most important but adventurous
avocation

"WHO SO IS WISE, WILL PONDER THESE THINGS"



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Shop Watch



Broadstairs Garden Centre

The Young's family have been in the horticulture business locally since the 1930s - Here's what 'Jackie' from the new 'Broadstairs Garden Centre' has got to say:-

As well seasoned horticulturalists our aim is to provide a one stop shop for all your gardening needs from seeds through seed potatoes and onion sets to chemicals, feeds and a good selection of hand tools. All our bedding and a lot of our pot plants are grown on the nursery at Sacketts Hill. We also supply the lamp-post baskets for Broadstairs and Westgate, hanging baskets for Cliftonville and Minster, and giant volcano planters for Ramsgate Town Council. Also the hanging baskets for Cecil Square in Margate, the railing top troughs for The Piazza, The Clocktower in Margate and Canterbury Road in Westgate, the giant pots with Palm Trees that are scattered along the sea shore of Thanet. At Christmas time we wholesale Christmas trees and supply some of the extra large trees in Thanet, including those for the Turner Contemporary and QEQM Hospital.

DH's Emporium

Not long opened at the top of Carlton Avenue, DHs sells a delightful selection of antiques, collectables & bric-a-brac. Run by Dave Humphries & Simon Valentine.

Dave & his wife have always planned to retire to Broadstairs to be closer to their daughter & grandchildren because they love it here. So when Dave took early retirement they took advantage of moving here & setting up their very pleasant shop. It's full of interesting bits & pieces & well worth a potter round.

Simon is a Ramsgate lad & specialises in buying & selling musical instruments especially drums, which could be something to do with being a musician who plays in several local bands.

Sweet Temptations

This lovely little sweet shop has recently opened on the High Street, between Bay 158 & The Cat's Whiskers, It's very pink - not that I don't like pink.....just saying. Rob (Broadstairs born & bred) has been involved in the sweet business for years & loves the nostalgia of the old fashioned sweet shop. They have great plans for the future with their new shop front & are excited at the prospect of their new venture.

So, how lucky are we two sweet shops in town? By the time you have finished your sherbet lemons you can nip into the other one to stock up on half a pound of coconut mushrooms.

Paolo's Kitchen

Paolos has just opened at 39 Albion Street. Paolo is the chef.

They specialise in burgers, made to their own recipes in the restaurant & contain no additives or preservatives. Their meat is all British & bought from a local butcher & their burger buns are baked for them by The Old Bakehouse in Broadstairs. Even their chips are handcut on the premises which makes their food a world away from you get from those mass produced burger bars. They have steaks & salads on the menu & also cater for non-meat eaters.

Evolve

Which is currently a hair salon, half way down the High Street is moving in May to the 'been empty for over a year, bridal-shop-that-was, by the Station'. It's a much bigger business, offering a plethora of spa & beauty treatments. People will even be able to sit in the garden on warm days

Picnic Pantry Café

07835 634833. 1 Oscar Road.

They've been open for a while but I've only just found out that they have a book lending service, which is a nice idea.



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EVENTS & STUFF

www.sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk/

Sat 30th March 7.30pm:

Easter Variety Show

Fri 5th & Sat 6th April 7.30pm & Sun 7th April 3.00pm

Proof by David Roburn.

Sat 13th April 7.30pm:

Portraits in Song, Edith Piaf & Bertolt Brecht

Fri 19th 7.30pm & Sat 20th April 2.30pm,

H.M.S. Pinafore & Trial by Jury

Sun 21st April 3.00pm:

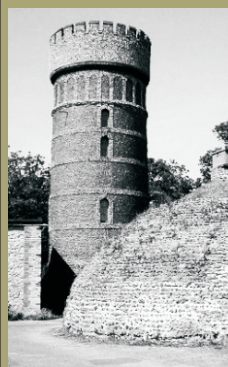
Spring Classics 3

Sat 27th April 7.30pm:

Gershwin, Porter and Other Great Songwriters

Sun 28th April 3.00pm:

Tap Catz & Friends



Crampton Tower Museum

Mon 8th April Basic Archaeology Course

Sat 20th – Sun 21st April Hobbies Exhibition

Mon 22nd April Journeys in Time and Space

Mon 20th May Ancient Egyptian Boats

BANDSTAND CONCERT AT BROADSTAIRS

2.30 – 4.00pm

APRIL

1st - Fairisle

MAY

5th - Northfleet Brass Band

6th - EK1

12th - Crystal Palace Band

19th - Big Broadstairs Weekend

26th - Kent Coastal Concert Band

27th - Swingtime Sweethearts



SING YOUR SOCKS OFF

There will be no excuse not to be down the Neptune at the daily sing-a-long in Folk Week now. We already have some great choirs in town & what sounds like another is just about to get going. Jodi Watson has recently moved back home to Broadstairs from Cumbria where she has been running singing groups & workshops & she is starting Sing Your Socks Off on Weds 10th April at 7-9pm at York St Methodist Church. Normal price £6 / £5 conc but it's only £3 for the opening night. 18+ only

Helter Skelter on the tellybox

Broadstairs has made several appearances on TV lately beside the reruns of Location3, Homes Under The Hammer & the like, we have recently been on 'Come Dine With Me' and 'Derek' looking gorgeous in both. We have yet another bit of TV exposure to look forward to. The Freer family from Ramsgate have been followed round by a Channel 4 documentary team, filming for their programme '16 Kids and Counting'. As regular visitors to the children's indoor play centre Helter Skelter, they have been filmed having one of their children's birthday parties there. The episode is due to be aired on April 2nd.



Thanet Film Society

Tuesday 9th April at 8pm

Alps

Tuesday 16th April at 8pm

The Hunt [Jagten]

Tuesday 23rd April at 8pm

The Joy of Six [short films]

Tuesday 30th April at 8pm

Bullhead [Rundskop]

Tuesday 7th May at 8pm

A Liar's Autobiography: The Untrue Story of Monty Python's Graham Chapman

Tuesday 14th May February at 8pm

Caesar Must Die [Cesare deve morire]

Tuesday 21st May at 8pm

Lore

Tuesday 28th May at 8pm

I Wish [Kiseki]

Tuesday 4th June at 8pm

No

Tuesday 11th June at 8pm

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