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# THE Broadie

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fantastic  
facts**

**Short stories  
from the  
seafront**

TO THE GLORIOUS MEMORY OF OUR MEN  
AND WOMEN WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES  
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AND ALL OTHER CONFLICTS SINCE  
'WE WILL REMEMBER THEM'

Issue 57. Oct / Nov 2018. £1.00

**Getting fruity in town**







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# Poppy Proms in the Park

10th & 11th November 2018

Memorial Recreation Ground  
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Broadstairs



### Teeth for Christmas

On a recent visit to Broadstairs I was very interested in seeing your issue of The Broadie where you featured an article about Suzanne's, the shop at the bottom of the High Street that features old photos of the residents of Broadstairs.

My family lived in Broadstairs from 1950 to about 1958. Our parents ran a B&B in St Mary's Road. During the summer my mother supplied breakfast and dinner to our guests. The amazing thing was that we had no bathrooms in the house. There was a toilet on each floor and each morning my older brother and sister used to have the job of carrying large jugs of hot water up to the guests so that they could wash in their rooms. Any children that our guests had usually ended up spending all day out on the beach with us. I am sure their parents were glad of the break as we showed them the rock pool, the jetty and how to sieve the sand underneath the beach cafe for any lost coins! I was a regular at the Bandstand talent shows (see attached photo). My party piece was the song "All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth" and, as I had no front teeth at the time this was obviously considered quite sweet and I often won the contest. Because our mother was so busy and our father worked in London and only came home at weekends we literally ran wild and it was a very free happy childhood, Some time ago I took some photos into Suzanne's and recently took my grandson in there to see them.

Regards

Ann Rowe, Plumstead

### Ladies of Letters and Allotments

Dear Madam of Plot 18A,

You may be pleased to know that I have been working on our allotment; weeding, digging and planting. Hopefully, we will be able to match your exacting standards.

Whilst there I noticed: some cabbage white butterflies on your cabbages (not good); bees on your beans (very good); a cornucopia of cobs on your corn (wonderful) but I did manage to stop Scooby from attending to your peas!

I noted that you had been enjoying some Coke on your beautiful new bench. I trust that you have no objection to me using one of the empty cans as a cane protector: I have made a bird scarer with canes, twine and CDs. I searched long and hard for suitable discs. My choices were: Albatross; When Doves Cry; To Everything, Turn, by The Byrds. I would be grateful for any further suggestions of bird scaring CDs.

Maybe our visits to the allotments will coincide one day?

Your neighbour on Plot 19A



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And then dad said, "You've let me down, you've let your mum down, but worse of all you've let yourself down" - Eh, sorry. You've clearly not heard that joke.

I'll tell you another day.....

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Photo by James Stewart

## Manston Airport – To Fly or Not to Fly?

**We don't normally include much about Manston in The Broadie, that's mainly because it's more than covered in other local publications, which often include a never ending squabble between those for and against. The only reason we've let this letter in is because the whole issue is now at a stage where you can have you say for or against.**

That is certainly the question since news that the proposal to reopen and develop Manston Airport in Kent has now been accepted for examination by the Government's Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

The UK company behind the bid, RiverOak Strategic Partners (RSP), have spent four years and over £7million (by March 2018) in preparing their plans, that have the potential to bring a vast array of high-quality career jobs for local people and others in East Kent and beyond. The project will entail hundreds of millions of inward investment to East Kent. PINS accepts that RiverOak's

airport project counts as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project and that the application documentation is in order. The return of commercial aviation to Manston Airport has therefore moved a step closer, with passenger flights following later.

The planning application process, known as a Development Consent Order (DCO), has now entered its third phase, the 'Pre-examination period'. A great deal of research, including environmental assessments and extensive public consultation has resulted in a comprehensive DCO application with over 11,000 pages of detailed documentation. During the next stage of the process interested parties can for the first time submit views directly to PINS rather than RSP. There is no fixed timetable for this, it's up to the applicant/developer, but is subject to a minimum of 28 days. On average this pre-examination phase lasts about 3 months.

There is still further to go in the DCO process but the remaining stages have a legally defined maximum duration. As soon as the application moves on to Phase 4 (Examination) there is a maximum of 12 months for the Secretary of State to make a decision on whether to approve the DCO to reopen Manston Airport or not. Barring further delays, the final announcement by the Secretary of State for Transport, should be in 2019.

After Monday 3rd September you can have your say, as to why YOU support the airport - or not.

Please register with PINS at .

If you don't have internet access, then you can request a paper copy of the form from the PINS help desk on 0303 444 5000.

## The Benches in Pierremont Park. #01



After hearing about the photographic exhibition in Blackpool of all the people who visited a memorial bench in a local park, it made me wonder about all the benches in town and who they are in memory of. Deciding just to concentrate on those in Pierremont Park for now, I wandered around having a look at the dedications on each one. Some are so brief but caring and you

know that's private and you're not going to dig to find out any more, some are explicit and informative and you want to know more and then I found the one that made me do my home work first.

**'DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF THE BAHAI'S OF IRAN'**

The Baha'i religion is one of the largest in the world having started in Iran in the 19th century and attracts people from all over the world and from all faiths. It was started somewhat as a reaction to the severity of some of the teachings in Iran at the time and was responsible for starting the first girls' schools in the country.

A primary theme of Baha'is teachings is achieving world peace through the establishment of unity, justice and equality. They specifically advocate racial unity, gender equality, universal education, and harmony of science and religion.

The first Baha'i in Thanet was Paul Booth. He lived in Broadstairs. During 1975/6, Paul was joined by Baha'is from Iran and some Doctors who moved into the area to work in the local Hospital and by 1980 the community- now including residents of

Margate, Cliftonville, St Peter's & Broadstairs - were able to elect the first Local Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Thanet.

This annually elected body has the responsibility to oversee the activities of the Faith and its administration. When the local boundaries were changed by the Electoral Commission the administrative areas of the Faith were likewise changed and the largest community elected what has now become the Spiritual Assembly of Margate. Following the Iranian revolution, Iranian Baha'is suffered severe persecution and many were forced to flee their homeland. Some, after months of travel finally found sanctuary in the UK and the Thanet Baha'is are eternally grateful for the kindness shown by the British Government and the local community to their fellow believers. Today, the Margate Baha'i Community includes members from around the UK, Iran, Latvia, and New Zealand. A truly international community with "a world embracing vision."

Amazing what you learn when you just go for a walk in the park





# Sunflowers

Not so keen on a British summer as you might think

We set a challenge in the spring to find the tallest sunflower grown in Broadstairs this year and challenging it was. A wonderfully, hot summer with little rain followed by high winds proved to test even the hardiest horticulturists.

What prompted the idea was a normally magnificent array of the tall, elegant, happy flowers that one of the allotmenters at Culmer's usually has on display but even these were no where near their previous magnificence.

Initially we were sent lovely photos of strong healthy young plants with all the promise of future prize winners but one by one (and one weekend several) succumbed to the weather and curled up or down and out of contention.

Well done therefore to our winners for managing to cope.

We had several to visit and measure and with a variety of means they got measured. The fancy battery operated tape measure we started off with took one look at the job and refused to work although it's worked fine ever since. It obviously wasn't up to the responsibility so there was a lot of 'you hold that bit' and 'have you got it to the top' but we got there.

Congratulations to our joint winners Carole Sillence and Brian Martin for their splendid 9' 9" specimens who shared the £25 Broadstairs Garden Centre voucher.

We should also mention Rachel Macfarlan who grew a sturdy beast of 11' 5" but unfortunately grew it in Ramsgate and as the rules stated the flower had to be grown in Broadstairs we couldn't include in the competition but it deserves a mention.

If the summer weather continues to be as hot perhaps we should have the tallest bougainvillea competition next year.

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# NOW SHOWING 25 YEARS OF THE THANET FILM SOCIETY

As with many societies and clubs there's ups and downs and membership peaks and troughs. Thanet Film Society has recently suffered a lull in membership and attendees which has rather jeopardised its continuance. To lose such a fabulous asset of midweek entertainment would really be quite a loss, I mean where else can you see some of the films that are shown down at the Palace Cinema in Harbour Street.

If you're like me and fed up to the back teeth with Super-Hero movies and more CGi than you can shake a mouse at, then why not turn up midweek, if you're a couple then why not even make an artistic date night of it. We'll hand you over to Camille Sutton who'll tell you more...

This will be our 25th year and the years have passed swiftly since Autumn 1994 when we started with 'The Wedding Banquet'. At that time it was rare to get a chance to see any independent films in Thanet. Brian Stout the then proprietor of the Windsor Cinema was keen to see a film society set up, being an enthusiast himself and so Thanet Film Society was born. Initially we screened films once a fortnight from mid September until the Dickens Festival in June, when attendances tended to tail off. However demand quickly encouraged us to change it to once a week. With so many students of film and film makers in the area we put on two week end student film festivals which were a lot of fun and a lot of hard work. Over the years we have shown more than 830 World and Independent British Cinema films. That's around 35 a year.

Later we created our present membership scheme, which is very reasonable at £5 per year, running from September to August. This discounts our ticket prices to £5 for ordinary members, £4 for concessionary and student members and £6 for guests. You soon get your money back, so it's worth joining early. You can join on the night, on the door. We're also on Facebook now under Thanet Film Society and our website is:

There have been times when we've had queues stretching right up the hill to watch classic films, both current films and restored classics such as 'Les Enfants du Paradis' and 'Alexander Nevski'. We've also premiered films like 'The Russian Ark' but we generally go for the latest international films. However, more recently we have had a drop in attendance, for many different reasons and if this continues, it may be our last year, which would be a great loss to the area. Because, however convenient it is to watch films on your own screen at home, going to the cinema is special. There is nothing like watching a film at the cinema with your friends, in brilliant colour and with great sound. And then, if

you feel like it, going for a drink afterwards to chat about the film and anything else that comes to mind.

Our next season, Autumn 2018, is as follows:

October  
30th: Tehran Taboo (Animation)  
November  
6th: Kissing Candice  
13th: Apostasy  
20th: The Miseducation of Cameron Post  
27th: Arcadia (DOC)  
December  
4th: Lucky  
11th: Betty: They say I'm different (Music DOC about Betty Davis - wife of Miles)

Hope to see you at the Palace on Tuesday nights at 0830pm  
Thanet Film Society

## St Andrews Church Reading Street - Events

Railway Swing Band Concert – Wednesday 31st October  
St. Andrew's Church, Reading Street 7.30pm  
Railway Swing Band return to St. Andrew's for a second concert this year. Tickets £10.00 each (includes free refreshments) available from Church Office Monday to Friday 10.00am – 12 noon. All enquiries please phone 01843 576789.

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 1st December  
St. Andrew's Church, Reading Street 11.00am – 2.00pm  
Christmas Fayre with a wide variety of stalls including refreshment and light lunches. Grand Prize Draw. In aid of church funds. Enquiries please call church office on 01843 609513.

**November 5th Family Fireworks 2018**  
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Live music from 6pm

Fireworks from 8pm\*

\*Display timing is subject to weather conditions

For up to date information:

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# The New A-Z of Fannit Factishes

**A** Arthurian legend suggests that the Isle of Thanet may well have been the legendary Avalon. Geoffrey of Monmouth describes it thus:  
*"The island of apples which men call the Fortunate Isle gets its name from the fact that it produces all things of itself; the fields there have no need of the ploughs of the farmers and all cultivation is lacking except what nature provides. Of its own accord it produces grain and grapes, and apple trees grow in its woods from the close-clipped grass and people live there a hundred years or more. There nine sisters rule by a pleasing set of laws those who come to them from our country."*

This description also explains why you can often find many of the isles residents off their chumps on cheap cider

**B** Bananas. Thanet was the first area in England to see Bananas. They appeared in 1632 a full year before they were first reported in London. On seeing the fruit, leading Thanet clergy declared the curved yellow food an 'abomination before god' and 'clearly the work of the devil'. Many Thanet residents to this day believe the same of all fruit and many vegetables  
 (Except Apples: See A)



**C** Cauliflowers.  
 Cauliflowers have been grown in Thanet since the early 1700s. They were once traded on the early commodities market. The well known Cauli-Bubble of 1749 made fortunes to collectors of rare examples, however as with all bubbles, the market burst in 1752 causing a global Cauli Crisis, the Army was sent to Minster to quell rioters and five local farmers were executed after sowing the seeds of rebellion amongst the local populace.

**D** D - Don't get cut off  
 Julius Caesar once visited England during a warm spring. He came ashore at Botany Bay at low tide and was so impressed with the beautiful sands that he tarried too long building sandcastles with a number of Roman Centurions. He had to be rescued by a group of local farmers who were hurried at spear-point to their small fishing boats to save the unfortunate emperor. Caesar wasn't very impressed by the attitude of his saviour and had him castrated after he suggested that he should in future 'Beware the tides of March'



Caesars Coin depicting his day at the seaside with buckets and spades

**E** E - Edinburgh (Duke of)  
 The Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Charles recently visited Thanet Earth. While Philip praised scientific innovation, Charles spoke out against the intensive farming of Courgettes in controlled conditions. The row became so heated, cucumbers were picked and the Duke and Prince battled each other in a green gourd sword fight. Upon return to London the pair were reprimanded by the Queen and both went to bed without and Royal Duchy biscuits

**F** F - Flats.  
 There are more flats in Thanet than could be lived in by the entire population of the UK. In fact if everyone decided to come here next year on holiday you could still find room for your Aunt Doris from Bermuda, although you might have to queue a while for chips.

**G** G - Grand Mansions  
 The Grand Mansions only got the name after the original building on the site was destroyed by fire by the nefarious dealings of 19th Century property developers. The original building prior to this time was locally known as the 'Not very grand hovel'

**H** H - Hertz  
 The German entrepreneur Hertz Van Rental first started off hiring out carriages in Margate in the late 18th Century. He offered very good rates and prided himself that his horses offered very good fuel economy. He originally went into business with his friend Hans Kneesandboomsidaisy but the two fell out over an argument about who had the silliest name.

**I** I - Igloos  
 During the cold winter of 2017 TDC councillors suggested that the ongoing housing crisis could be averted by building homes out of a god given free commodity which required no planning permission. The motion was eventually passed in June of 2018. TDC are awaiting the first phase of construction in December

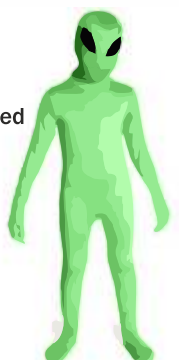
**J** J - July  
 2018 brought with it a July heatwave not seen for decades. The temperature reached such dizzying heights that residents dismissed the joys of Barbeques and associated food poisoning and instead opted for Carpaccio parties. Local sunshine shop and Barbeque outlet 'Burnt Offerings Ltd' went out of business as a result.



**K** K - Kant  
 Immanuel Kant argued that the human mind creates the structure of human experience, that reason is the source of morality, that aesthetics arises from a faculty of disinterested judgment, that space and time are forms of human sensibility, and that the world as it is "in-itself" is independent of humanity's concepts of it. Unfortunately Immanuel never had anything to do with Thanet. However Trevor Kant of Birchington recently suggested on Facebook that 'It's a funny old world innit' after posting a particularly amusing video of a cat balancing on a swing bin.

**L** L - Len Goodman  
 Light footed Len used to come to Broadstairs as a young man. If you look carefully along the pavement in York Street you can still see where he painted a number of different foot symbols outside the B&B to help him learn his Cha-Cha-Cha

**M** M - Martians  
 Many people on the Isle have reported strange lights out at sea and have associated the sightings with the arrival of strange and exotic extra terrestrials from beyond the stars. However on closer inspection of the facts, it appears that these outer space witnesses have a very limited understanding of Geography and what they are actually seeing and meeting is France and the French.





**N** - NASA  
NASA recently warned Broadstairs residents that a meteorite was set to hit the town on the 30th September - the time and location of Broadstairs Food Festival. Attendees were advised to wear hard hats to mitigate any possible cranial damage but nobody seemed to bother heeding this advice

**O** - Oswald Moseley / Oddballs  
Oswald Moseley spent a great deal of time in Broadstairs - which incidentally is nothing to be proud of (even with the voting record in the vicinity). Only 15 babies were named Oswald in the UK during 2016

**P** - Pierremont (Geoffrey)  
Geoffrey Pierremont of Park fame was a local children's entertainer famed for his ability of making children cry. His act was not only in the most appalling bad taste but also included foul language and a short skit which involved him eating five live goldfish. He performed the routine at the Royal Variety show in 1898 in front of a highly unamused Queen Victoria. The only time she tittered was when the twenty three urchins brought in specially from the local home to watch all simultaneously burst into tears and wails and would not be comforted even once they'd been thrashed.



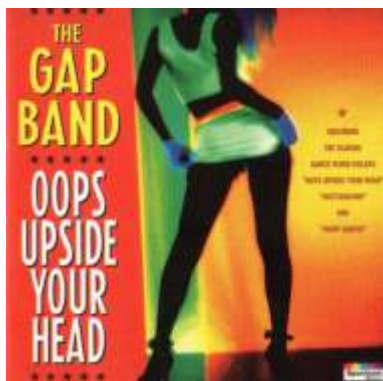
**Q** - Queen  
Freddie Mercury, a keen cyclist, was a regular visitor here in the summer. He would often be seen cycling the coastal path as he so enjoyed riding his bicycle. He and his bicycle were once thrown off the golf course even though he insisted that he 'wanted to ride it where he likes'

**R** - Risk  
In early versions of the board game 'Risk', the Isle of Thanet was said to be the best region to own and was the easiest to defend - especially as no-one else ever wanted it. It was phased out of the board game in 1981.

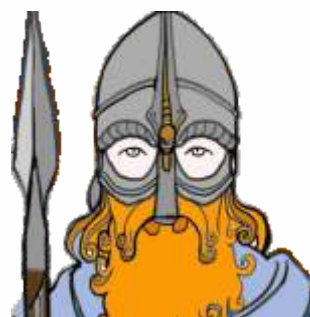


**S** - Spud-U-Like  
Before the explosion of Pizza shops, Indian takeaways and upmarket gastro-pubs, residents of Thanet would enjoy the exotic delights of the local Spud-U-Like along Northdown Road in Cliftonville. Gone are the days when you heard you mate say - 'Lets all go out for six pints and a hardened cheesy baked Potato on the way home'

**T** - Tennis  
Tennis never really caught on in the Isle of Thanet. During its 1970s heyday as the likes of Jimmy Connor battled it out with Bjorn Borg it was discovered that over 78% of Thanet children preferred lobbing their Tennis balls at the 6.45 from London Bridge rather than practising their backhand smash



**U** - Up side your head (Oops)  
A dance to the above named song popularised by DJ Nigel Tolley was performed each night at Neros nightclub continuously for approximately five years. The resulting debacle always ended up with at least one argument per row due to the unnecessarily close proximity of crotch to bottom arrangement of the dance.



**V** - Vikings  
Viking Bay is of course named after the arrival of a Viking Longship back in 1949. However the Vikings did used to visit Broadstairs many years before this in the mid 850s. They mainly came for the superb weather, the local souvenir shop, rock emporium and of course to cut the lungs out of the chest of anyone who looked at them in the least bit funny way.

**W** - Winkles  
Much has been written about the Broadstairs Winkle and Wally Wiltons World of Winkles. However few have heard of the great Winkle race traditionally adjudicated each May by bored Beachcombers.

A bucket of winkles is collected at low tide  
Each player chinks their initials onto their favourite Winkle  
Each winkle is placed at the start line at the top of harbour street.  
The Shout of 'Hold your winkles' followed by 'Place your Winkles' followed by 'Winkles away' confirms the start of the race. At which point the race goers retire to a local hostelry for a few hours. After each hour a nominated person goes outside to check on the race progress. After seven hours the race is called off as no-one cares about the outcome - least of all the winkles

**X** - X used to be the way in which an illiterate person would sign their name. However due to the lack of education in Thanet at the turn of the century, the first telephone directory only had three pages up until the letter X and then a further three hundred pages followed by one entry from Zaphod Zephaniah



**Y** - Yolanda  
Was a nice old lady and local business owner who lived along Broadstairs seafront. She was regularly terrorised by gangs of silly teenagers who for some strange reason believed that she believed her husband had been re-incarnated as a pigeon.

**Z** - Zoo  
As fewer and fewer people now waste their time and efforts hitting a small hard ball with a metal stick on a Sunday morning, North Foreland Golf course will soon be attempting to gain planning permission to re-imagine the golf links as a wild animal park. At time of going to press they have collected three Squirrels, a Hedgehog named Daisy and one Grizzly bear that is let loose at night to dissuade would be burglars.



Nathan King & Tom



## It's gone completely Bananas at Rooks

We were contacted a while back by Dean Spinks who is a manager at Rooks, the butcher/baker at the bottom of the High Street. He was enquiring to see if we were interested in his fruit.

'Eh, what does he mean' was our initial reaction - was it a euphemism for something else.

Thankfully not. What Dean was of course referring to was his fruit carving decorations that adorn the windows of one of the best shop window locations in town.

The photos are just a small sample of Deans fruit based antics, so if you happen to be passing, do take a look at the display -

We think they're very apple-peeling and we're sure you'll think they're grape too (groan)



## The Brigadier

I was sitting there with one of Benson's cold cures in my hand wondering what on earth to write about this month, when suddenly I had the realisation that nearly everyone I knew also had this horrid lurgy going about. Benson does of course look after me well at such times and I swear by his concoction of Malt Whisky, Lemon Juice, Honey and did I mention Malt Whisky.

My beloved would of course not come near me, she uttered the words 'My, you're sticky' and disappeared off to do whatever she does with her sticks and wool and left me to my own devices with a crochet blanket and a free reign on Netflix. All this thought of colds and man-flu got me to thinking about the old times and the cures we had to endure which were handed out by the most ferocious nanny this side of Godzilla.

I remember one of her favourite involved placing a peeled onion in my socks at night,

however it wasn't until the third year at school that she finally told me it was best to take the onion out before you put your feet in. No wonder I couldn't walk and the girls stayed away from me at break-time. I recently remembered a cure for constipation which sounded like someone had completely misheard the phrase 'It was completely useless, I may as well have shoved it up 'me bum for all the good it did'. This particular constipation cure involved taking the herb Basil, which has long been regarded as a natural laxative and home remedy for constipation, however most modern herbalists just tell you to chew and eat the stuff.

The advice given in my old hardback copy of 'The Home Doctor - herbal edition' on the other hand, swears you need to insert the fresh leaves up through the back door and let it sit there until something comes out. I can't imagine how this awkward trick would work or who thought to test it out, or whether you need a neighbour to help, but on the bright side, your bowel movements will smell like pesto!

Back in my desert wandering days I had a young subaltern under me who was a mine of information, possibly one of the most pasty looking and generally most unwell people I've ever met, which I'm convinced was solely down to the never ending home remedies he would apply to himself and the rest of the company. We had him on a

charge in the end as most of the chaps ended up spending an inordinate amount of time either fishing herbs out of their behinds or applying camel dung poultices to boils, bunions, cuts and scrapes. The last straw came about when he produced a cup of herbal tea for me for a slight sore throat I'd gained from singing bawdy songs about sailors in the officers quarters.

'Did my Gizzard tea help sir'? he enquired soon after

"Gizzard Tea...What the bloody hell is Gizzard Tea"? I enquired with some force, as frankly this didn't sound good.

"Its simple sir, you just cut the lining out of a standard chicken gizzard and then let it dry out. After it's dry, you can pop it into a pot of boiling water and drink the tea until your sore throat disappears". came the unpalatable reply

"And once I've drunk this, I suppose you'll be recommending I stick some lettuce in my ear, tie a cream bun to my head and shove a carrot where the sun doesn't shine to cure the sickness and diarrhea that will surely follow" I countered

"Well sir, the carrot might help but frankly I'd just make sure you take your tin hat with you everywhere you go"



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# News Roundup

## Another bank does a runner

News that the Barclays bank concession at Asda is to close has angered local customers who relied on the absolute minimum service Barclays were offering in the area. You may remember the services were moved to Asda after Barclays closed their Broadstairs branch some years ago citing lack of customer use, but with the promise that customers could use the new services available at Asda. Times change as do our banking habits, however, there's still many customers who don't and are unlikely to start relying on technology to do their banking. After the financial crash the general public became very wary of the banking industry, Barclays included, especially after it was held to account over its involvement in the Libor scandal and later fined £290m. Perhaps closing what is left of the services locally isn't the best way to go about re-building that trust

## Fire at the Cross

The tonnes of compacted fuel cells, known as RDF (refuse-derived fuel) that went up in smoke at Westwood should have apparently never have even been there. Thanet District Council officers visited the site in May 2017 and reported concerns about waste to the Environment Agency. The Environment Agency spokesman said: "We served a notice on the operator in May 2017 to clear the waste from the site. This was not complied with. Our investigation is ongoing". According to records at TDC the company listed as holding the rates account for the unit at Westwood is Devon-based DW Land Ltd. The director of DW Land Ltd, David Weeks, is named as the person with significant control of the company on Companies House as of January, 2018.

The unit owner is British Virgin Islands company 'Conservation Property Holdings', All of which begs the question. If the authorities were aware the rubbish on site was there, was aware who owned the site and who rented the site, why hadn't anyone made those responsible for the mess, clear it up.

If a council employee can fine a single person for dropping a cigarette butt, why can't they fine a company a proportional amount for leaving 6000 bales or rubbish illegally in harms way.

## Folk Week

The topic of conversation we heard this year revolved around how much quieter the town seemed, which definitely seemed true. Of course this gave rise to the yearly rumours that either Folk Week is going to move to Quex Park or that it'll only be a weekend next year. Well, according to the website and what was printed in this years programme Folk Week 2019 will run from 9th - 16th August.

## So long Neptune

The Neptunes Hall is now closed for refurbishment. The pub is to be re-opened some time in the future as a pub that focusses on food. Ken and Jill Connell have decided it was time to move on, although they will be sticking to the near vicinity as they now own the building

next door to the Neptune. At time of going to press the owners Shepherd Neame are still looking for an interested party to invest in the new venture.

On another related subject, local Piano virtuoso Graham Burns is now looking for another interested establishment who may wish to employ his unique 'Jockey' piano talents therein.

## And Goodbye to University too

The Broadstairs Campus of Canterbury Christ Church University are up for sale on 'Savills'. The short life of the university was said to be due to the majority of students choosing to study in Canterbury rather than Broadstairs. (and the fact that Nandos was much closer to Canterbury Uni too I suspect - Ed)

The Buildings include offices, education accommodation, food hall and commercial kitchen, communal areas and gardens.

## Free Parking

Did you know there is free parking every Saturday in Vere Road car park so you can shop locally? Well now you do.

## Kiosk shuts up shop for the year

The Broadstairs Information Kiosk has a prime position on the Promenade just behind the Royal Albion Hotel, providing a warm welcome and useful information to visitors and to residents in Broadstairs and St. Peter's. There are nearly 50 volunteers keeping the kiosk running, answering thousands and thousands of enquiries between Easter and October. In fact our time is nearly up for this season, we shall close at the end of October. Each year the season seems to go faster and get busier, this year the footfall will have exceeded 30,000. So we are signing off from the kiosk for now, but if you pass us, do say hello, come and have a chat, there is always a welcome smile for you.

## Simple Living Walk of Peace

They came on 20 August as part of their walk for peace

Hosted by Hare Krishna Canterbury and Margate Mantra Lounge

Promoting the timeless values of "simple living and high thinking", the Walk for Peace was described as the perfect antidote to the trials and tribulations of 21st century living.

The ecstatic, colourful and diverse party of singing, dancing monks recently wandered, sung and danced their way through the town in a 6-day celebration of life that passed through the streets of Thanet, Herne Bay, Whitstable and Canterbury, aided by two live, working oxen. The event was advertised as all about sharing a non-sectarian, universal message of goodwill & a joyful, alternative lifestyle based on Lord Krishna's timeless teachings of yoga, meditation, animal protection and service to others.



Residents were greeted by a large plume of acrid smoke one Sunday morning



Folk Week. Quieter, but some might say it was all the better for it.



Jill does like a dance



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# Art on the beach

Joan Bakewell and Steven Mangan on Viking Bay with Sky Landscape Artist of the year? It's been a busy year for artists in Broadstairs



During the summer Viking Bay had several film crews as we do including the Sky Landscape Artist of the Year crew. The series films a group of professional and amateur artists from which a winner is chosen from six heats to then enter the finals. Each location also has 50 artists who may just turn up and one of them is also chosen.

In previous years each heat has been at a different location, including Margate Harbour Arm in the past. This year each location hosted two heats so there were two days of intensive filming which was fascinating to watch.

Viking Bay hosted the third and fourth heat so hopefully we will see them at the end of October or early November.

That's if you have Sky TV.....

It has been a busy 2018 on the sands for artists. Not only have they had to fend off advances from other 'not from round these parts' landscape painters, with their fancy easels and even fancier celebrity hosts, they've also had to contend with one of the hottest summers on record. All of which caused a fall on the commodities market of

paintings of Broadstairs Pier.

'Yes, I can confirm there is now a world shortage of South East England Jetty paintings' confirmed a Mr Geoffrey Chaucer of Barclays Commodities division. He continued 'Whilst we are seeing a fall in availability we are of course seeing a rise in price, this means that whilst these scenes may be harder to come by, local artists can expect an increase in worth. However it should be noted that the lack of availability has increased demand for photographs of the same vista'

We spoke to local abstract artist 'Cecil Digbert' whose paintings have long been described as 'absolutely terrible'. 'It doesn't seem to have affected my turnover at all, my Jackson Pollack inspired painting of the pier entitled 'No 57' only sold once I'd hung it upside down, which sort of made it look like a sleeping, drunk cat'.

Other local celebrity artists have recently shown an interest in framing Broadstairs Pier in all its glory. According to sources who once stood close to Miss Emin, she is presently involved in collaging Broadstairs Pier to scale, using nothing but torn up photographs of herself in the buff.

Not to be outdone the artist Chris Ofili, famous for incorporating Elephant dung into his paintings has said to have shown an interest in painting Broadstairs pier using nothing but the dogs mess he can pick up from a stroll around town, although going by recent wanderers in the vicinity the painting has increased exponentially in size

In other art news, the auction house

Sothebys is expecting huge interest when the prize paintings of a mystery local artist come up for grabs early next year. We are of course talking about the terrific 'Banksy' inspired graffiti paintings of the 'Cat with the paw in the air' often referred to as the 'Girl with the Pearl Earring of Thanet' which can be seen on telephone boxes and walls all over our fair isle.

The un-named artist is said not to be too interested in publicity and interviews are very hard to come by. However, after a night camped out round the back of Matalan we did manage to meet up with the painter of all things Feline and Pawlike.....We'll call them 'Catsy'

Interviewer (Jim)

(J) What does your art say about you and where you live?

(Catsy) Well, its all about the inner cat innit, and how our inner cat, likes to be noticed

(J) Hence the paw waving?

(Catsy) Yeah, the paw waving. It's like speaking to the wider world, but through the guise of an inner animal, an animal that doesn't care how anyone else feels, that doesn't care where it craps, that'll happily defile someone else's property with their nightly meanderings

(J) Just like a cat crapping in your rose-bed?

(Catsy) Yeah just like that.

(J) And what are you working on next Catsy?

(Catsy) Dunno, I quite like the cat. It's so Catty, and Wavy and Pawey

And with that the artist prowled off into the night.

For further details please see a telephone box near you.



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# A Helping Hand

by Liane Blades

The old man carries a bag in each hand and a third one hangs around his neck and rests on his stomach like a pouch. Each has a tag, one red, one blue and one brown. His mechanical reacher-grabber is slung by a cord over one shoulder and bumps gently against his back as he walks along the promenade, his limp only just noticeable. He passes the bed-and-breakfast signs hanging in the windows of the small hotels, the mini-golf, the ice-cream parlour. As he walks, he is often greeted, and he always returns the greeting, feels the pleasure this contact brings, part of why he does this.

'Good morning to you!' It's the Punch and Judy Man, on his way down to the sands to set up for the day, tipping his straw boater. 'Will we be seeing you later?' The old man salutes in response – he'll be there, never misses a show if he can help it. Keep the seaside traditions going and the beaches clean, that's his motto. There'll be lolly wrappers and crisp packets to pick up, and maybe he'll see her there again

This morning he's put his shorts on and pushed his socks down into the top of his large black trainers – sure to be warm today, he thinks. The early morning breeze is pleasant on his bare arms and neck, the sleeves of his soft check shirt rolled up, ready for business. He adjusts his old panama and gets on with the morning's business of sorting the left-overs from other people's lives.

There's the robotic wheeze of the white municipal dustbin clearer, caged to keep the gulls off the loose rubbish. The old man smiles. He's well ahead of them, his bags already half full. He's thankful that people are careless with their litter, easier to sort like that. Even the gulls could be allies. So much the better if they overturned a bin or two – as they did this morning. Not quite by chance, for he'd primed them with the left-overs from his supper. Like that, he can get at the contents before the bin men come to muddle it all up and cart it off to the landfill.

At least there's no broken glass today – though he'll have to check the upper sands later. He'd do that before the ten o'clock show. It was the smashed beer bottles that caused the real damage. They'd set up the targets on the steps, where the mechanical beach cleaner never reached, and the lethal fragments would lurk in the sand until found by tender feet. Common sense straight out of the window after a couple of pints. A lot to be said for a pebble beach, he thinks. Pebbles that grind the shards into smooth jewel-pellets, buried treasure, deep blue glass from poison bottles, amber from the medicine flasks, the feel of fingers scrabbling among cool stones ...

The old man shakes away the memories and takes firmer hold of his bags. Main thing now is to get the useful stuff, the paper, the card, the plastic, the cans. As for those takeaway coffee cups, still not recyclable, disgraceful, time to write another letter to the Council. There were ways of wearing them down, those men in their shut-away offices – like pebble action on glass, he thinks, and smiles. There should be time for a cup of tea at the kiosk later. He'd make time. Perhaps the pleasant woman would turn up there with her yappy Yorkie.

'Noisy little blighter,' he says. 'Feisty, though, I'll give 'im

that.' Talking to himself again, but so what? No-one to hear, this early. No-one to bother about him.

The old man arrives at the ornamental beds. Paper plates lie scattered amongst the geraniums and he can see a couple of the irritating cups sticking out of the laurel hedge. He lifts one leg over the low, hooped railing, steadies himself, puts the bags down on the grassy side and cautiously follows with the other foot. He shifts his weight first to the right leg, then to the troublesome left one – he's made a good recovery after the op but has to be a bit careful. He walks around the geranium bed until he can reach the plates and tweaks them into the red-tagged bag. Nice bit of card, they won't be getting that. Now for the cups. He grips each rim with the pincer tip of the helping hand – good name for it, he thinks – and pulling against the resistance of the hedge he slides them out and into his landfill pouch. Wonder what they did with the lids? Probably stuffed further into the hedge – just have a closer look – careful now. Using the tool he pushes the outer leaves aside to get a view into the dense woody interior, sees something gleaming – a plastic cover, for sure – if he can just get the reacher jaws through that gap in the branches ... He loses his balance, tries to save himself with his free hand and comes down heavily on his knees, his helping hand stuck in the hedge, his nose in the laurel, his glasses and hat somewhere else.

'Hey!'

The sound is faint. Could the tool have gone clean through the hedge and spiked someone on the other side? He rolls sideways until he's sitting up, knees grass-grazed, head spinning. He tugs at the helping hand but it's stuck fast. 'Help!'

The voice again. Coming from alongside him – coming from – can it be – his hat? The panama shifts a little to the left. The old man gives a final tug on the reacher handle, gets it free and lifts the hat with its pincer claw. A little man about six inches tall steps out and stands, arms akimbo, looking back up at him.

'Thanks,' says the man. 'That's a relief!' The old man blinks once, twice and shakes his head, then notices his glasses lying in the grass and reaches for them. 'Now then – mind me – you want to be careful with that gadget!'

The old man takes his spectacles from the pincer claw, puts down the helping hand, wipes the lenses with his handkerchief and puts them back on. There's no mistaking it. The tiny creature is wearing a white Panama hat, a loose, check shirt, long shorts and large black trainers. It was like looking into a mirror through the wrong end of his binoculars.

'Wh-who are you?' says the old man.

'Who are you?' says little man.

'Fred,' says the old man. 'Fred Hedges.'

'Suitable. I'm Fred Two.'

'Fred too?'

'That's right. You can call me Two, for short.'

'You certainly are that,' says Fred. 'Short, I mean.'

The little man sniffs.

'Now don't get the hump – you must admit there's not much of you.'

'That depends on your perspective. You're lucky. Don't make me sorry I picked you.'

'You – picked me?'



'You pick litter, and I picked you. I always get up early to have a good choice, ahead of the crowd. I spotted you yesterday, at the Punch and Judy. And afterwards.'

'I was just waiting to pick up the rubbish,' says Fred, feeling the blush rise under his collar. He'd always found an excuse for watching the puppet show. It had been another bit of ammunition for Lil, second childhood, she'd called it. Before she went off to Bognor. What was it they said about Bognor? Well, never mind, litter picking was easier than relationships – sorted, disposed of, forgotten. A lonely life, but simpler. Although ...

'I had my eye on you all yesterday,' says Two. 'It was the inefficient way you were going about it all that made me decide to sort you out.'

'Sort me –?'

'Yes. It's quite straight forward. You just have to ask about his name.'

'Who – whose name?'

'You'll see. Must be off.'

'But ...'

'That's the way to do it!'

'Are you all right?'

The little man has transformed into a pair of neatly laced grey leather shoes and stockinged ankles. Fred leans back to get a better view of the speaker.

'Can I help you? You could use this as a cane, perhaps.' She bends and picks up the helping hand. 'Or should I get someone'

An excited Yorkshire terrier bounces up and licks his ear.

'I'm so sorry,' she says. 'He's not very well behaved.'

'He's fine,' says Fred. 'I was just wondering – what's his name?'

'Mr. Punch. Silly name, I know, but I do so love the old puppet shows – no excuse now, with the grandchildren grown.'

Fred gets slowly to his feet.

'We could just make the ten o'clock show,' he says. 'If you fancy it.'



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# Florence and Robert

Robert was in the middle of one of those mornings at work, you know the sort, the printer won't comply, you spill your coffee over the edge of your keyboard and then the charge-hand from the shopfloor pops by to inform you that the 'Bloody line has gone down again', this is the sort of thing that happens to normal people at work, normal people with jobs in recruitment or data processing or something other than what Robert did, boring I know, tedious yes. Not as tedious as Rob's day though.

He'd been late waking that morning, a fitful nights sleep after one of the longest spells of sustained heat in years, had left him slightly delirious upon waking and had dulled his normally sharp senses. There was also that niggling feeling that he just couldn't put his finger on, that something had happened during the night, maybe it was simply a dream, nonetheless it was there poking at him, just tugging at his worry gland and leaving a general feeling of slight unease.

He'd been doing this same job now for what seemed like an eternity, day after day peering out at the same view.... oh but what a view. You see his workspace took in this marvellous scene looking out across a wide expanse of sea, sand and Turner-esque sky. No, not Turner, he never liked Turner, maybe Mc Taggart or Nasmyth, a sky that not only changed with the seasons from bright cloudless cyan to grumbling grey and dark angry hues but could also affect the mood of those below looking up - Robert included.

Of course he did manage to get away from his job from time to time, we all need a break after all. 'Maintenance' he liked to call it.

And that's exactly how it felt to him, a bit like tinkering with an old sailing vessel. Too long at sea and the tar caulking loosens between the clinker planks, the brass-work dulls and canvas splits, all of which means extra time is needed on maintenance and a general lessening of efficiency. Rob badly needed some maintenance, he felt like the water was getting into his joints, his skin was suffering too. 'Perhaps it's time to give it all up' he thought. Not a serious thought mind, he knew the consequences of giving this job up, he knew the regret and problems that would be brought about by simply calling it a day.

It didn't stop him fantasising about it though; creeping off one night out onto that stormy ocean and slipping beneath the waves never to be seen again. Would anyone really miss him, would they care or would it be that once he'd gone everything would simply be fine and no-one would notice. One thing was for sure, he wouldn't miss the constant ridicule and pointing.

Most of the underlings as he privately called them simply seemed to ignore him, they'd seen him up there in his workspace for years and had grown used to his ways, possibly not even knowing what it was he actually did or exactly how long he'd been in the job. Now and again there had been a whip round for him, it had probably been for some sort of anniversary, twenty years in service or something, although Rob had pretty much lost count; it could have been longer, much longer. Some of the underlings smiled at him, some even spoke with him, although he was always a little wary of these ones, 'Crazies' he said to himself so as not to be heard.

Of course once upon a time he was terribly important, the attention he received was second to none, in fact he'd go as far to say that he was almost considered the firm's lucky mascot back in the day, back in his youth before age had withered him and made his bones brittle, back before he was considered a relic, a wreck even. 'I suppose that it'll only be a few more years and I'll be considered a treasure' he thought 'Just like those stars I see from time to time'. 'National Treasures' they called them. Or simply old and famous.

All this nostalgia got him thinking about the old days. 'I wonder what happened to Isiah, I haven't seen him in years' thought Rob, 'I suppose he's still at the fish shop' Rob liked Isiah, he always seemed so proud in his work, so strong and towering his yellow smock and raincoat glistening in a million salt sea crystals, and always so welcoming. You could say they were almost in the

same business in their own way. It had been a few years since they'd met now that the fish business had moved away from Rob's locality, but he had heard him mentioned from time to time in overheard conversations.

All this self indulgent thought had let his mind wander off, so much so that he was surprised when he noticed what looked like a young man standing down below staring up towards him. Rob stared back.

The young man below didn't seem at all fazed by what had turned into a two minute staring competition. He was dressed in a dark suit and had some sort of shiny waistcoat over the top. 'Not very flattering' thought Robert. He was joined by another burly looking chap, he did not like the look of him at all.

Now they were clearly sniggering at him, sniggering and pointing.

'Oi, Now that's just rude' called Rob

Either they didn't hear or the sounds of the sea drowned out his shouts.

'Oh don't think drowned' remembered Robert, a thousand images and sounds came flooding back, the cold dark sea, the screams and shouts and then the muffled stillness and crackling of barnacles.

He shook those thoughts clear as the two gentlemen moved closer.

'Come on old timer' said the younger one. 'It's time we sorted you out' They moved towards him, clearly intent on no good. The burly one leaned over Robert's back and grasped his right shoulder.

Rob reached for his weapon but though he pulled with all his mite he just couldn't budge it from the sheath, he was trapped, they were too young, too strong and too tall. He let himself relax resigned to his fate 'Perhaps this is what happened to Isiah' was his last memory of that day as the two men carried him away down a flight of steps

It was one hell of a storm after that long hot summer. The El Nino affect had surely been a part of it, but still, nobody had expected hurricane force winds on the South East coast of Kent. Even Michael Fish came out of retirement to reiterate that he'd not gotten the forecast this wrong.

Broadstairs was seemingly the epicentre of storm Florence that had inexplicably turned tail from destroying North Carolina in the USA and instead gone off on an excursion across the Atlantic, pootled up the English Channel and let rip over Thanet.

Beach Huts had been turned to matchwood, cliffs had crumbled, Kingsgate Castle resembled the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey and the Golf Course now took a lot longer to walk round as most of the trees around and about had died a crashing death as their souls and limbs were wrenched from the earth.

In the town centre the initial clear up focussed on clearing the roads and paths of fallen trees, roofing slates and associated debris. Down on the seafront it was a different matter entirely.

Some unfortunate car owners had decided to park their pride and joys upon the jetty, unfortunately Florence had taken those cars on a joy ride, one could be seen out on the rocks as the tide receded, the other two simply swallowed by the sea, presumably to be used as a new home for a myriad of inquisitive sea-life.

On the beach side of the jetty the ancient and ship-lapped Harbour Masters office and associated building had been largely reduced to a pile of black and white timber which was now liberally strewn across the bay and seas - all except the seaward end. The end where Robert worked, looking out to sea, checking on the waves and weather, watching over the children playing on the sands, looking on as they ate their ice creams as parents pointed at Robert's kilt and thistle. He'd stood watching, waiting and generally keeping an eye on the comings and goings of the underlings below since the late 1800s

So long as Robert stood, Broadstairs prospered, but it was maintenance time.

Rob needed a holiday. He got it, but he'd be back.

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## BROADSTAIRSLIT

Inspiring events all year round



Over £640 was raised for Pilgrims Hospices and Breast Cancer Now at the BroadstairsLit "Meet the Authors" party, when eight of Kent's top writers

joined author Jane Wenham-Jones at the launch of her new novel *Mum in the Middle*. Anne Booth, Daisy Buchanan, Antonella Gambotto-Burke, Maggie Harris, Chetna Makan, Sonia Overall, Anna Richards, and Julie Wassmer went under the spotlight to give 90-second shout-outs for their latest books, which were on sale via Waterstones.

The 250 guests were joined by the Mayor and Mayoress of Broadstairs at a packed event in Broadstairs Pavilion which also celebrated the first anniversary of Broadstairs Lit - the year round festival, set up in 2017. Local folk group Shedness performed.

Jane's new book, *'Mum in the Middle'* (Harper Collins), is the story of Tess, a member of the stretched generation, coping with adult children returning to the nest as well as the demands of an elderly parent, and highlights the conflicts between locals and DFLs (Down from London) in areas where hi-speed rail brings in newcomers.

Jane said; "I was thrilled to see so many talented authors offer their support. A book launch is always a slightly nerve-wracking affair- in case nobody turns up! But we had a wonderful crowd."

"Raffle prizes were all donated by local businesses and it was lovely make money for these two worthwhile charities," said Jane, who lost her schoolfriend Karen Smith to breast cancer in January this year.



Denise Martin-Harker and Jane Wenham-Jones with the Mayor and Mayoress of Broadstairs. Photo courtesy of [www.encade.com](http://www.encade.com)

"Carol Todd, widow of local Chamber of Commerce stalwart Harry Lagan, who also died from cancer four years ago, worked hard to put the raffle together and we are both so grateful to everyone for their generosity."

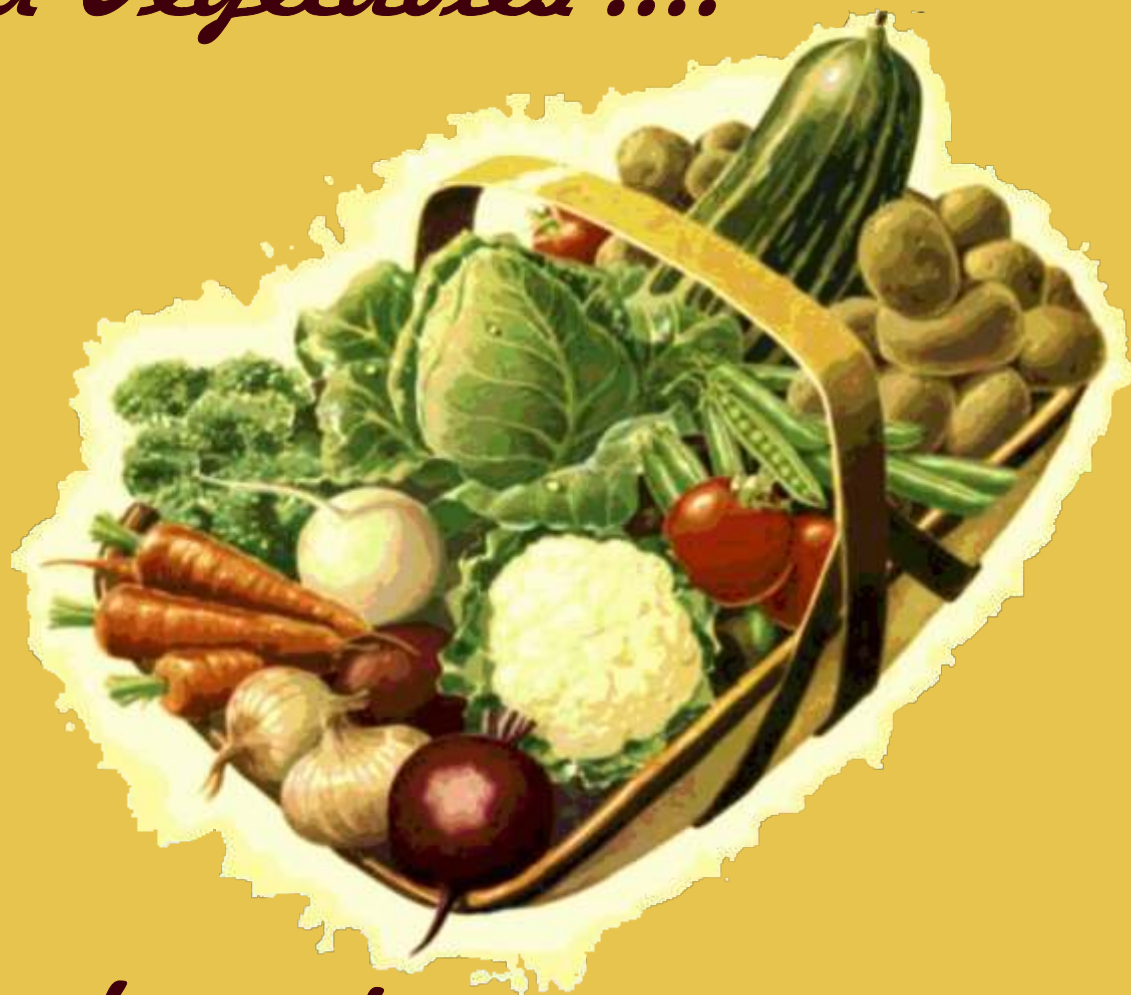
Denise Martin-Harker, Director of BroadstairsLit, announced the line up of guests for the 2019 programme, which will include Dermot O' Leary, Helen Lederer and Terry Waite, as well as a supper club event with Chetna Makan, a one-woman show by Sunny Ormonde and an afternoon tea with Jonathan Aitken.

Denise said: "We have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm that has been shown for all the BroadstairsLit events since we started a year ago and we look forward to going from strength to strength. We are indebted to our sponsors and our terrific audiences."

For more information on BroadstairsLit events and to buy tickets visit [www.broadstairslit.co.uk](http://www.broadstairslit.co.uk)



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# Beanie Feasts



Beanie Feasts.....on PUMPKIN.

I love autumn, I think most of us do. For whatever reason Summer is often hectic and as the weather cools and forces us indoors a bit more we're all ready to cosy up, slow down, and cook a roast. For the past 10 years I've partied so hard all summer long I've always been grateful for the excuse to hang up my dancing shoes (though only until Halloween) and get some much needed R&R for a few weeks. This summer has been even more intense than those spent frolicking in festival fields, with the season's work reaching crescendo at the Broadstairs Food Festival last month - and what a weekend that was!

I have always celebrated the change of Season with a tribute to one of my absolute favourite ingredients, the pumpkin. I guess the obsession probably started after making soup from the heap of flesh discarded from lantern carving and then it just developed from there. I was once gifted a great, big, glorious Crown Prince from the Garden Gate Project and I must have cooked at least 5 dishes from just that one beautiful beast alone. So this year this stands as my tribute to my number one; releasing some of my best recipes for you to try, the £1 varieties grown purely for carving can work but if you can get your hands on some of the more tasty eating varieties it's really worth it, in fact by one big Crown Prince and cook them all!

Get out to farm shops and farmers markets you won't be disappointed with the delightful produce they have on offer, supporting local businesses is good for them and you...win, win!

I have been holding out on sharing a curry recipe until the suitable time, well this is certainly it! And here's one of my best, the first curry I cooked for my weekly curry nights at The Ravensgate and one of my take away go tos. Butternut Squash can

always be used instead of pumpkin, and available all year round.

## Pumpkin & Spinach Dhansak (approx 5 portions)

**4 garlic cloves**  
**2 red chillies**  
**25g fresh ginger**  
**1.5 tbsp ground cumin**  
**1.5 tbsp ground coriander**  
**10 cardamom pods, seeds removed and crushed**  
**½ tbsp turmeric**  
**1.5 tbsp tamarind paste**  
**2 tbsp honey/agave syrup**  
**2 onions, chopped**  
**1 tin tomatoes**  
**250ml stock**  
**75g red lentils**  
**1kg pumpkin/squash, peeled and chunky chopped**  
**1 red pepper, chopped**  
**1 big bag fresh spinach or half bag frozen spinach**

- Toast all the spices in a dry frying pan.
- Make a paste with garlic, chilli and ginger by finely chopping, using a pestle and mortar or a little hand blender gadget. Combine with the spices.
- Add some oil to the pan and fry off onions for about 5 mins then add the paste and cook for a few more mins.
- Add the red pepper, pumpkin, and lentils. Then add the tinned toms, stock, tamarind paste and honey. Give it a good stir then cook on low with the lid on for about 15 mins

- When pumpkin and lentils are cooked you can add the spinach. If it is too liquid crank the heat up and cook some of it off, or add a slosh more stock if it's too dry. You can also add more tamarind and/or honey to taste.
- Serve the curry with rice and/or bread and Kachumber salad, not compulsory of course but something I'm in the habit of making every time I do a curry. Chop tomato, red onion, and cucumber and dress with fresh mint, lemon juice, a splash of olive oil and salt.

I've been acutely aware of how terribly healthy the majority of the recipes I've shared with you so far have been, the same cannot be said for this cheesecake. But, sod it....It's practically winter, time to fatten ourselves up.





## Pumpkin Pecan Caramel Cheesecake

3 tubs/ 540g cream cheese  
 Tin of condensed milk  
 4 eggs  
 400g steamed or roasted pumpkin, pureed  
 1 tsp cinnamon  
 1 tsp ground ginger  
 1/4 tsp nutmeg  
 1/8 tsp ground clove

1/2 pack ginger nuts (or more!)  
 Handful of pecan nuts  
 60g melted butter

100g sugar  
 30g butter  
 60ml cream

50g sugar  
 Handful Pecans

- Preheat oven to 170C. grease and line a springform tin, make sure you line the sides too.
- Blend or crush biscuits and nuts, mix with melted butter and press in to the bottom of a springform tin, chill for half hour.
- Whip the cheese until fluffy, whisk the eggs and then gradually add to cheese, stir in the condensed milk and pumpkin, try not to get lots of air in the mixture. Add all the spices, mix and pour on to biscuit base.
- Bake in the oven for 50 minutes to 1 hour, edges should puff up and the centre should still be ever so slightly wobbly.
- Make a caramel sauce, caramelise the butter and sugar in a shallow pan on low-medium heat, it will all melt, go golden and bubble; be careful not to burn it it'll be very bitter! Remove from the heat and stir in the cream, leave to cool then pour on to the cheesecake.
- I also decorated with pecans, caramelise sugar in pan, stir in nuts and pour out on to a silicone sheet or use greaseproof



paper. Leave to cool then peel off, you can use them whole or chop them up to decorate the top of your cheesecake.

Seriously, make this soup! I know we all have our favourites but this is so warming and so comforting with just enough twist to make it fun and exciting. It's easy to make but the ultimate comfort food; and I know I need that "hug in a mug" feeling whenever I can get it, oh dear and it's only October, at least by December we can reach for the Baileys when the cold, loneliness strikes! Scrap that, I'm jetting off to the States and to Mexico for 3 months Christmas to March so I must stop moaning and get excited about all the incredible food inspiration I'm going to come back with!

## Thai Red Pumpkin Soup w. Pumpkin Seed & Coriander Pesto

1.5kg pumpkin/squash, peeled & chopped  
 1 onion, chopped  
 3-4 tbsp thai red curry paste, shop bought or recipe below  
 400ml coconut milk  
 850ml stock

### To make - Thai red curry paste:

4 red chillies  
 4 tsp coriander seeds, toasted and ground  
 2 tsp cumin seeds, toasted and ground

1.5 tbsp fresh ginger  
 4 lemongrass stalks, tender inner third only  
 4 banana shallots  
 6 cloves garlic  
 Zest and juice 2 limes  
 1.5 tbsp hot paprika  
 \*Blend all ingredients to a smooth paste

## Pumpkin Seed & Coriander Pesto

1 bunch coriander, leaves and stalks,  
 1 clove garlic  
 1.5 cups pumpkin seeds  
 2 tbsp olive oil  
 2 tbsp toasted sesame oil (or just olive oil)  
 Zest & Juice 2 limes  
 Pinch of salt

- In a big saucepan soften the onion in a slosh of olive oil
- Add the curry paste and fry off for about 5 mins, stirring often.
- Add pumpkin, hot stock and coconut milk and cook with the lid on until the pumpkin is tender, about 5 minutes.
- Leave to cool a bit and then puree using a stick blender, or however you can.
- Make the pesto in a food processor and drizzle on top of each soup portion

# Made in Margate

Margate Made is a community engagement and development initiative, set up by local artisans Sarah Gibbon and Lydia Martin, with the aim of showcasing and celebrating the creative work of people living in Margate, and the surrounding areas, and giving them opportunities to sell their handmade work in interesting, accessible, and value for money venues - which can be hard to source in Thanet, despite Margate's well-deserved national reputation as a hive of artistic activity.

Sarah and Lydia, assisted by a team of volunteers, and sponsoring-partners, are putting on events and activities that support locally-based artisans and makers in developing their own skills and confidence, and in creating support networks and income-generating opportunities for themselves. Margate Made's markets and exhibitions provide the wider community with local opportunities to enjoy - and buy - high quality affordable artisan work, and to engage with, and learn, new creative activities themselves.

Following a very successful inaugural Makers' Market Event in July 2018, and pre-event workshops, in partnership with the Kent Adult Education team, and supported by Ageless Thanet's Community Fund, we're now putting on another Event, Christmas-themed this time, on November 24th 2018. Stalls and workshops are booking up fast! This event will again include lots of artisan and unique products for sale (30 + stalls); family-friendly, and largely free, creative activities and entertainment; live music; a community information stand; and Adult Education course tasters, also free - all taking place in the beautiful, iconic Margate Adult Education Art Building in Hawley Square again. Entry for the public is free. The July market event received tremendous feedback, from stall holders, volunteers, activity leads, partners and the public who attended. Due to extensive promotional efforts by our volunteers, supported by the local press and radio, the event was very well attended all day, exceeding our

expectations, and we are all now working hard to make sure the Christmas event will establish Margate Made as a premier event for show-casing the artistic talent of our makers, and helping our communities to support local small creative business owners.

Some Broadstairs-based artists are already actively involved in working with Margate Made to help achieve this, and will be selling their handmade wares at the Christmas event. Examples include artist Sian Morgan, who will also be drawing at her easel; Christine Jeffreyes (CJ Artist), and Dawn and Ruth Rollason, who will be showing a variety of mixed media pieces; Carlos Domingues is bringing his concrete creations; Carolyn Jones is also running a workshop on handmade seasonal greetings cards; and Gem Blastock of Turquoise Gem Textiles will be demonstrating her printing and illustration skills, with her contemporary accessories and stationery ranges.

Margate Made is working on other activities including more artisan markets, and exhibitions, in 2019 and 2020, and is also collaborating with other community event organisers and local business owners, always with the aim of celebrating creativity and community, and learning, and their importance to Thanet. Collaboration and partnership inquiries are always welcome. We're always interested to hear from anyone wanting to be included in future events, and are in need of volunteers to help on the day for the Christmas event - stewarding and helping at the workshops. We can't pay but we can guarantee a lot of fun, experience for the CV, and a great shopping experience! Please contact Sarah if you can help.

Local charities and community groups are invited to supply us with take-away information about their work, to be displayed on our Community Information Stand at the Christmas Event, there is no charge for this service.

More information, including bios and



weblink for the above-mentioned makers is on [www.margatemade.blog](http://www.margatemade.blog), follow us there for updates, or join our active Facebook and Instagram pages - Margate Made.

#### About the Organisers:

Sarah lives and works in Margate, running Beadecked By Beads, and developing Margate Made projects. She makes jewellery and accessories, and sells her work at markets, in shops and online. Lydia also lives in Margate and is just returning to work from being a full-time mum. She is a visual artist, sells Usborne books, and also works on community arts and development projects.

**Sarah Gibbon**

## New Kent Art Gallery - Autumn Exhibitions. 49a Albion Street, Broadstairs. Kent CT101NE

**30th Oct- 4th Nov:**

**Two's Company**

Resident artist curators Brian Hodgson & Karen Hiscock-Lawrence fill the gallery with their work

**6th Nov - 18th Nov:**

**John Hughes**

Figurative and realistic landscape paintings by the well known local artist and tutor. John creates stunning large scale triptych works of local countryside and coast.

**20th Nov - 2nd Dec:**

**Art under £100.**

A fantastic selection of artworks by local artists new and old - perfect ideas for Special Xmas presents!

**4th Dec - 14th Jan:**

**Fire & Frost**

Featuring Sky Landscape Artist of the Year contestants. Collaborative exhibition of work from local artists and some of the participants in the TV painting competition that came to Broadstairs earlier this year.

## Le Quiz

Broadstairs & St Peters Twinning Association will be returning to The Crampton Tower Hall on Saturday 27th October for 'Le Quiz'.

The event will start at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.00pm. Please bring your own food and drink.

There will, as usual, be a raffle prize for the winning team and for the best person dressed in a French style.

Tickets are priced at £5.00 per head and table sizes from 4 - 8 persons will be available.

Contact Peter on 862002 or Bob on 583180 for more information





**MEANWHILE.....  
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## Because we are here

### November 10th & 11th. Broadstairs

Bradstow School are looking for volunteers to not only help with the coming event but to also take part, well not just take part, inhabit the role of one of those brave Broadstairs chaps who lost their lives in World War One.

Bradstow school has been awarded a lottery grant to put on an event in Broadstairs and are looking for volunteers to help out in a variety of different roles and help commemorate the 187 combatants of WW1 from in and around Broadstairs and St Peters who lost their lives in the conflict. We can't say too much about what's going on, but be sure to have a walk round Broadstairs on the weekend of 10th & 11th November

Events will start at the Memorial Recreation Ground 1914-1918 (commonly known as the Memorial Ground) in Broadstairs on Saturday 10th November 2018, with a living history exhibit of life during 1914-1918 giving everyone a chance to recreate and experience life during the First World War. This exhibit will give a glimpse into the home front and beyond giving specific detail to events in Broadstairs and St Peters. A life size warhorse sculpture created during inclusive art workshops by Bradstow and other local schools will be on display. Stories from the home front and beyond will be told using acting, dance, song and music. Innovative music workshops for Bradstow and local schools during the preceding months will provide some original pieces in amongst some old favourites. Players of the National Lottery have helped make these workshops and learning opportunities possible. The evening will be a free, collaborative event with local schools, dance companies, inclusive choirs, theatre groups and musicians, bringing all abilities together to bring the Poppy Proms to life, and showcase the previous months of

learning.

On Sunday 11th November the Remembrance Day service will be held by the war memorial in town with all groups attending invited to join a reprise of the Poppy Proms at the Memorial Ground and visit the Living History exhibit, open until 3pm.

The whole event will be free, but tickets will be required for the collaborative evening event on the Saturday and the reprise on the Sunday.

We are also asking for volunteers from the community to bring together varied groups who have never worked together before.

#### **Saturday 10th November**

11am-3pm Living History exhibit  
Including WW1 Trench on a Trailer, Time Tunnel, Exhibition marquee, WW1 Field hospital, Interactive tent, full size war horse sculpture.

Food and drink and a licensed bar available.

7pm-10pm Poppy Proms in the Park  
Inclusive concert performances and stories of the home front in WW1 from, Bradstow Inclusive Choir, The Big Sing, Thanet Gospel Choir, Kent Show Choir, Sea Shanty Singers, Inspirations, Soloists, Professional and Amateur musicians and special guest artistes.

With a very special guest narrator.

Food and drink and a licensed bar available.

#### **Sunday 11th November**

12-3pm Living History exhibit  
Including WW1 Trench on a Trailer, Time Tunnel, Exhibition marquee, WW1 Field hospital, Interactive tent, full size war horse sculpture.

Food and drink and a licensed bar available.

12.30-3pm Poppy Proms in the Park  
Inclusive concert performances and stories of the home front in WW1 from, Bradstow Inclusive Choir, The Big Sing, Thanet Gospel Choir, Kent Show Choir, Sea Shanty Singers, Inspirations, Soloists, Professional and Amateur musicians and special guest artistes.

With a very special guest narrator.

Food and drink and a licensed bar available

## **Letters from the front WW2**

You may remember a few years ago that local historian Alf Beeching collated three volumes of newspaper cuttings, letters and correspondence that pertained to the lives of combatants from the local area.

Having exhausted the archives with regards to WW1 he has now moved on to WW2 with five volumes encompassing 1939 - 1945.

And very interesting they are too.

Entitled - 'Thanet Men & Women who Served King and Country during WW2'. it does, exactly as you'd expect - collates and archives cuttings and snippets of the time. On flicking through the pages you can't help but notice some of the local names associated with Broadstairs and the rest of Thanet, I even found my own father mentioned within. When you consider that before long there will be no living memory of serving in the forces during WW2, it seems ever more important to record and remember whilst we still can. Available from Victory News.

## Betty Fagg's war

Betty Hughes, as she was at the time, was a 16yr old girl living with her parents in a double-storey, brick house called 'Pelhamdale', at 30 Broadstairs Road, Broadstairs, Thanet, Kent when war was declared in September 1939.

Thanet and the coastal areas were declared a restricted zone open only to local residents and military personnel. Manston Aerodrome, an RAF fighter station and prime target for the Germans, was situated a short distance from Broadstairs and Betty's home.

Consequently, there was a large defensive military presence in the area. Pelhamdale backed onto a school playing field where a battery of 4.7" heavy anti-aircraft guns was deployed. A 40-man Bofors anti-aircraft gun was situated on the roof of the garage attached to Pelhamdale, right next to Betty's bedroom. Many a sleepless night was had.

The winter of 1939 was a very bitter, cold winter, with constant storms, snow and ice. Conditions for the soldiers manning the guns were atrocious, so feeling sorry for the soldiers, in an effort to make their life a little more bearable, Betty's mother made large pots of hot soup which Betty would take out to the nightshift soldiers on the guns. A large fire was kept going in the house where the officers were invited for hot drinks and a chance to get warm. Military cars, trucks and Bren gun carriers were regularly parked outside the house. It quickly became a sort of unofficial H.Q. Often German ME109's and ME110's would cross the English Channel, flying just above the tree tops and would then use Broadstairs Road as a navigation aid to take them straight to Manston where they would bomb and strafe the airfield before flying back along Broadstairs Road and home to Germany. Betty had a grandstand view of these raids and the ensuing retaliation by the anti-aircraft guns around her home.

May 1940 came and with it the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk. Ramsgate harbour, the next town to Broadstairs, suddenly became a focal point for the returning soldiers. Thousands of exhausted, hungry, dirty, wounded soldiers flooded into Ramsgate, being unloaded from a variety of ships and boats. Once landed, they were sorted into a semblance of order and either sent to hospitals or military depots. This sudden massive influx of troops quickly exhausted all local food supplies, so vans were sent around the local community and towns asking for donations of food and cigarettes. In the midst of this chaos Betty volunteered her services and worked tirelessly alongside members of the WVS cheerfully handing out buns, hot tea, chocolate and cigarettes to the disembarking soldiers, doing her best to revive the sagging spirits of the soldiers. By now war was well established and coastal England, including Broadstairs, was under constant bombing by German planes. On Sunday, 3rd August 1941, Betty and her father were completing the rounds of



Broadstairs pubs collecting cigarettes which Pop Hughes took back with him to London to distribute to workers at the munitions factory where he worked. Pop was sitting at a table with Betty, finishing his pint of beer, when at about 1345 a JU88 slipped across the English Channel below radar level and dropped a stick of five bombs on Broadstairs. The first hit the railway station, the second the fire station, the third Councillor Forde's house, killing him. The last two landed in the grounds of the Catholic Church. The station hotel (pub) was next to the railway station and it suffered blast damage and extensive dust, ceiling plaster and flying glass from the window. As the explosion died down, Pop was heard to say "the bastards have ruined my beer" and on that note, covered in dust and plaster, Pop and Betty went to the Stationmaster's place where with others they helped pull him from the rubble. Next they went to the railway station where they worked assisting in the recovery of injured people. Betty managed to wave down a passing army lorry and diverted it to the nearby hospital with the injured aboard. Pop, realising it was well past lunchtime sent Betty back home to tell mum he would be late. Mum having heard the explosions, was very agitated and when she saw Betty coming up the road covered in dust and blood, immediately thought Pop had been killed and went into hysterics. It took Betty quite some time to calm her down and explain what had happened. Lunch was very late that day.

December 1942 saw Betty enlist in the ATS at Camberley as an ambulance driver. She was sent to No. 7 Training Centre at Guildford where she was posted to No. 4 Platoon C Company. From there she was sent to Derby. Betty was discharged August 1943.

Early 1944, when out in the front garden of Pelhamdale, Betty heard the sound of an approaching aircraft. Not knowing whether it was friend or foe she waited to see if she could see it. Suddenly, a German FW109 fighter roared up the street machine-gunning everything in its path. Betty's instant reaction saved her life. She threw herself face forward on the ground behind the front brick and wood fence and lay there as the plane thundered overhead. When it was gone and when she picked herself up, stitched along the top wooden part of the front fence was a neat line of bullet holes, exactly where she had previously been standing.

Betty's next brush with death came on the night of Monday, 10th July 1944, when a V1 flying bomb landed in Pelhamdale's back yard, exploding and half demolishing the house. Betty was asleep in bed at the rear of the house at the time, but escaped unhurt, though shaken. After emerging from under the bedclothes Betty remarked "well I never, I can see right down the garden." The bomb also caused extensive damage to surrounding houses.

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WW2 Peoples War Archive

# BROADSTAIRS TOWN TEAM

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# Shop Watch



## Ralphys

The pub next to Tesco on the High Street has new landlords, Bob Allen and Carla Medlock and has been renamed Ralphys in memory of Bob's brother. Hurts my head that there's no apostrophe but I've been assured it's not having one. Bob is also the landlord at The Oxford in Margate.

Ralphys is a sports bar and they're looking for people to form pool and darts teams, they already have a football team. By the time you get this their new restaurant should be open and they are already displaying the Christmas menu in the bar. Bob has told us that they are looking forward to some themed nights like Burger Night and an Indian Night and they will also have karaoke and live music at the weekends

## Scalpworx

Founder of Scalpworx Andrew Webb opens his doors in Broadstairs partnering with Master Barber Gareth Hollinshead moving from 135 high street to 100 high street. Andrew a local who has lived in Broadstairs his whole life decided to help people suffering from hair loss, Scalpworx offer a treatment called scalp micro pigmentation a hair tattoo replicates hair follicles that in non invasive so you look like you have a full head of shaven head of hair. The treatment works very well for women that suffer thinning hair. Scalpworx also offer laser tattoo removal and Barbering. Andrew has partnered with Gareth Hollinshead who has many years of experience in Barbering also a local in Broadstairs offering Gentlemens barbering and hot towel shaves, come in and see us we are friendly and easy to talk to about the services we offer. We look forward to seeing you all.  
www.scalpworx.com 01843 319788

## Hearing and Tinnitus Experts Regain

Hearing have opened their doors to their new Broadstairs premises.

Regain Hearing is an established Audiology practice under the directorship of Lee and Lindsay Fletcher. Regain Hearing have been

providing professional wax removal, hearing and Tinnitus solutions to their customers throughout London, Kent and Essex for over 11 years.

They are privileged and proud to be contributors to the Starkey Hearing Foundation, whose mission it is, to bring the gift of hearing to impoverished nations, personally helping to fit donated and refurbished hearing aids to many people, young and old, who would never normally have access to these hearing aids. So if you are wondering what to do with any old hearing aids please drop them in to their high street practice where they will gratefully received.

As an independent practice, Lee and Lindsay are able to access the latest technology that's available, from a wide range of hearing and tinnitus solution providers. This approach allows them to identify what they feel is the best solution for each individual patient, without restricting their solutions to those offered by a small range of specific manufacturers. As they explain, "people are individuals, we do not subscribe to a one size fits all policy, we have access to an extensive range of options in order to find the right solution to offer to each individual.

As a family owned practice, they are keen that their family values are reflected in their business, they build strong relationships with their clients that last, offering, regular check ups, maintenance and servicing along with a no fuss guarantee. The opening event of the Broadstairs practice was well attended by many of their existing East Kent clients as well as some new faces.

## Broadstairs Metalcraft

What a great addition to Broadstairs to have all round good guy Metalcraft Mark move his Blacksmith business into town at the top of the High Street, - (number 166) opposite the Bradstow Mill Pub. Mark is a true craftsman whose work graces many a house frontage, he's also responsible for many other pieces you may have noticed from the Folk Week sign by Victoria Gardens to some of the restored and repainted street signs that have been fixed and renewed completely off the cuff in a metallic repair guerilla action.

## Londis / Stacked

Brothers JD & AM Patel have been in Londis at the bottom of the High street for 10 years. Just to shake things up a bit they have now taken on the job of a Post Office in the Londis store. If that wasn't enough to do they have also renovated the old greengrocers next door which is now 'Stacked', a sandwich/baquette lunch stop where you can build the bite to your requirements



## The Eyesore

**CU/TH/17/1326 | Certificate of lawful development for commencement of works in accordance with F/TH/14/0480 for the erection of a three storey building with retail unit at ground floor and 3No. 2-bed flats and 9No. 1-bed flats at first and second floor level, following the demolition of the existing buildings | 8 - 12 High Street BROADSTAIRS Kent CT10 1LH**

No news yet on the demolished site at 8 - 12 High Street. We were previously advised by the town council that promises were made that work would be started in January 2018, but as you can surely tell, that never materialised.

The title seems a little open to interpretation in that whilst it says 'works to start following

Mark showing off what not to hit with a lump hammer





the demolition' the only time frame it gives in other documents is 'within three years', presumably at which time they will simply re-apply for further planning permission.

Perhaps what is most shocking is the way that developers are allowed to get away with holding on to eyesores that blight communities up and down the country.

#### Lloyds Bank

There's a planning notice in to open an establishment that not only sells alcohol on site but is also an 'Escape Room' too, (for those of you not in the know, think 'Crystal Maze' room that takes an hour to get out of.

Sounds like fun.

#### Veg 'n Out

You may have noticed that vegetarianism and veganism have been in the news of late with regards to the rather sensible scientific advice that many of us should perhaps start eating less meat and move to a more plant based diet.

Here's Stacy from the new Vegan café in Albion Street with a few words

"We are a vegan family who have been vegan for around 10 year.

We decided to buy a catering van and pitched in Canterbury high street for a year, we then decided to purchase a cafe in Broadstairs as Canterbury was so successful.

This will be the first fully vegan chip shop/café in Kent, which is also run by a family of passionate vegans.

My father (Martin Goodwin), makes the faux meats which are made of seitan and these include Bacon, Sausage, Chick'n, which he has spent a long time perfecting.

Our menu will include Vish, battered sausage, chick'n nuggets and drumsticks, we will also do rolls, baguettes and toasties with fillings of homemade seitan bacon, egg, homemade seitan sausage, homemade seitan chick'n, cheese, homemade coleslaw. We also provide an all day breakfast!

We have a nice lounge area for hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes."



## How short their memory

It was interesting to see Cllr Bayford rattling on about the success of the regeneration of Margate largely due to the sterling work of TDC and KCC citing Margate as an exemplar of success for seaside towns. He went on "We should be very pleased that Margate is seen as an exemplar of just what can be achieved in a relatively short time and these visits (referring to government fact finding visits) gave the opportunity to reflect on how far we have come and how we got here" Yes indeed - how did we get here.

The regeneration of Margate has undoubtedly been pretty successful, it is finally great to have a town that has so much going on where once the only reason to visit was if you had the perverse desire to be mugged. We've attended a number of great gigs at Dreamland this year, The Levellers, Orbital and Hawkwind to name a few, and the number of quirky bars and establishments makes a night out in the town really quite fun - to see all those people getting off the train on a warm weekend to take in the delights of Margate sands is a wonderful sight. And perhaps TDC should take pride that they took the bold step of compulsory purchasing the Dreamland site too.

But yes, how did we get there?

Oh, that was it. Instead of investing in the High streets of the towns of Thanet, TDC wholesale backed large business and put all their eggs in the Westwood Cross basket. This damaged our High streets immensely as the larger traders pulled out. Thus the smaller traders went under too as no-one was going to the High street anymore. The large retailers could then gain all that extra trade they lost to independent traders with favourable rents, rates and parking too. Then all the businesses that had other businesses associated with independent High street retail went out of business too.

So we're somehow supposed to accept and praise that a good job has been done on the regeneration of an area that went downhill largely because of the decisions of councillors at TDC. Mmm

## CHRISTMAS IN BROADSTAIRS



**SATURDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**PIERREMONT PARK**

**12 Noon – 6 pm**

**TRADITIONAL XMAS FAYRE & SWITCH ON OF XMAS LIGHTS**

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