

MARITIME MESSENGER

Newsletter Spring 2016 • Issue 54

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Food & Drink Festival

Pump House opening soon

Fundraising champion for
Help for Heroes

New Student Hub
taking shape



MARITIME MESSENGER



In brief

Andrew Mackness,
Chairman

I am delighted to welcome Jonathan Sadler to Chatham Maritime Trust as our Interim Chief Executive. He has a wealth of experience and is someone who has been instrumental in the regeneration of Chatham Maritime and continues to be committed to the ongoing development of our estate that we all value so much. I would personally like to thank all the team at Chatham Maritime for all their hard work in ensuring our estate is managed to the best possible standards.

The final stages of build out on St Mary's Island have commenced and I look forward particularly to the development of the Extra Care facility, much in demand across Medway that will ensure we provide housing to a sector of our population that currently is under provided on the Island. I am pleased to report that work is now being undertaken by architects on the feasibility of expansion of St Mary's Island School. Our outstanding School is at the centre of the Community and it is so important that we look to support the increasing capacity as the demand for places increases with additional housing both on the Island and in the local area.

The commercial estate is buoyant and I am pleased to see the great success of the Outlet Centre as it grows from strength to strength. Our Universities continue to be a huge asset to the estate and Medway as a whole and we will continue to work closely with them all. It is exciting to see the former Pump House come back to life as our local Distillery and I look forward to sampling some of the local Gin in the coming months.

Our Food and Drink Festival on the 28th/29th and 30th May now moves into its 3rd year and has grown in popularity year on year. It will be great to see you all at the event over that weekend and in particular supporting our local Rotary club who do so much for local charities and will be holding their Dragon Boat race event on Sunday 29th May.

Let's all hope for some better warmer weather!

*At Chatham Maritime Trust
we pride ourselves in:*

Acting with integrity

Always providing a high standard of service

Treating others with respect

Behaving ethically



Who's Who in The Observatory

Jonathan Sadler



Jonathan Sadler is the Interim Chief Executive of the Trust responsible for the Trust's role at Chatham Maritime and its funding.

01634 891888
ceo@cmtrust.co.uk

Grant Leathwhite



Grant Leathwhite is the Estates Officer and will provide on the ground monitoring working closely with Ward Security and the PCSO.

01634 793943 / 07867 507187
grantleathwhite@cmtrust.co.uk

Dean Marsh



Dean Marsh is the Contracts, Procurement & Facilities Manager, responsible for all aspects of contract procurement and management.

01634 793942
deanmarsh@cmtrust.co.uk

Peter Hall



Peter Hall is the Finance Manager & Company Secretary responsible for managing the Trust's finance function and related professional services such as banking and audit.

01634 793944
peterhall@cmtrust.co.uk

Jacqueline Tolhurst



Jacqueline Tolhurst manages commercial occupiers and service charges for South of Basin, along with Compliance and Covenant requests for SMI residents.

01634 793948
jacquelinetolhurst@cmtrust.co.uk

Elona Walker



Elona Walker is the Trust Administrator/PA to Chief Executive focusing on supporting the CEO and Trustees.

01634 793945
elonawalker@cmtrust.co.uk

Lynsey Kember



Lynsey Kember is a member of the AAT. She is responsible for collecting rentcharge payments, credit control and payroll.

01634 793946
lynseykember@cmtrust.co.uk

Vanessa Jarmak



Is the Community Centre Team Leader. Vanessa oversees hiring of the facility along with day-to-day operations with Nicole.

01634 890072
vanessajarmk@cmtrust.co.uk

Nicole Barrett



Is a Community Centre Administrator. Nicole works closely with Vanessa assisting in all aspects of hiring the facility.

01634 890072
nicolebarrett@cmtrust.co.uk



Study

New student hub taking shape

At this stage:

- A new floor has been constructed over the old swimming pool
- Activities room (mezzanine floor) is taking shape. The Deep End Café/Bar will be underneath the Activities room on the far right of the pool area
- Work has started on the glass lobby area next to the reception desk in the old bowling alley

Greenwich and Kent Universities announced last year an investment in student facilities at Chatham Maritime, with the creation of a new student union building. The former swimming pool and bowling alley (a derelict listed building) is being turned into a new student hub.

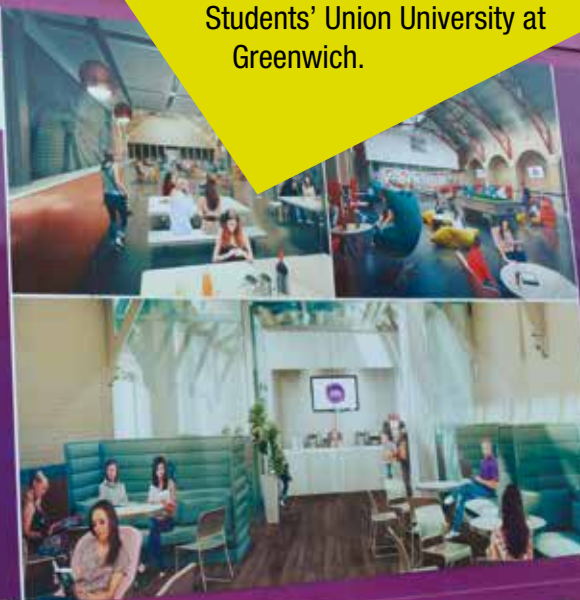
Building works are ongoing and the new facility is scheduled to open in September 2016, in time for the new student intake. The purpose-built student centre, which will include a café/bar which students voted to call **The Deep End**, will incorporate catering, entertainment and social activity space, and will also be home to GK Unions, the students' union partnership between Kent Union at Medway and the Students' Union University at Greenwich.

GK UNIONS

YOUR NEW STUDENT HUB OPENING SEPT 2016

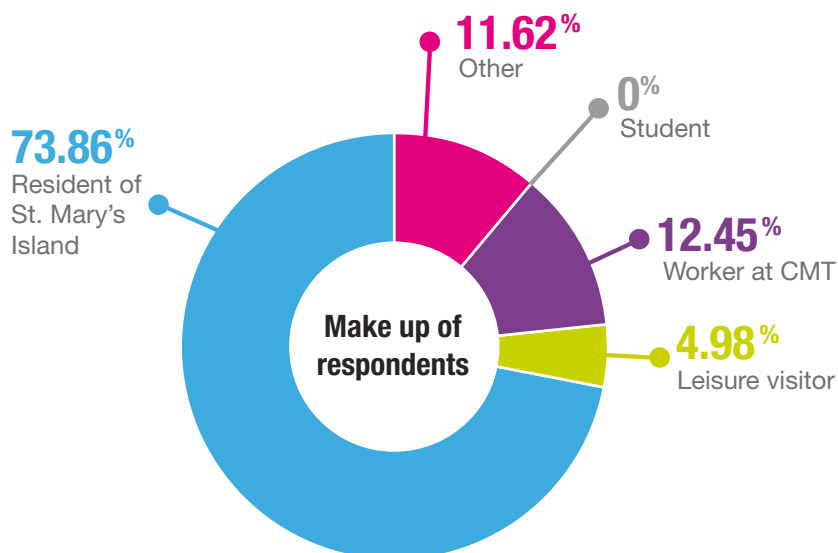


WWW.GKUNIONS.CO.UK



MARITIME MESSENGER

Satisfaction levels overall are very good with a marked improvement in all questions across the survey.



The vast majority of people feel safe in Chatham Maritime.

Most people feel a sense of community.

People are overwhelmingly positive about how services and facilities are maintained and run.

Satisfaction with security provision generally reported as high.

Please ensure that the Island is kept clean and tidy during the new building works. The roads can be very muddy as lorries leave the site caked in thick mud and debris.

Most people don't contact the Trust offices on a regular basis but those who do tend to use the phone and email and most are happy with the service.

The main communication methods are widely used/recognised. Most users are happy with the website.

Interest in Watersports Hub is lower than might be expected.

High awareness of and attendance at the Food & Drink Festival. Christmas Fair had more limited awareness (first year).

CMT are working with the Developer Countryside and the Council (owner of the road) to try and mitigate any issues through regular review by CMT team. Residents are asked to also report issues to Countryside directly on 01732 747010.

The majority of people are satisfied with the open spaces on the Estate.

People had not seen action as a result of last years' survey – improvements/changes need to be more widely communicated.

Community Centre satisfaction has increased from last year across all criteria – main issues cited were parking and kitchen facilities which need improving.

Some positive suggestions for improvement areas were received.

The nightly (especially at weekends) illegal cars racing around the complex exceeding all speed and noise limits is another major turn off of what should be a most successful and desirable place to live.

About half of people who answered believe the rent charge is good value for money

Please help negotiate the reopening of the number 2 caisson bridge.

CMT are in negotiation with Peel to obtain a licence to re-open the Caisson and refurbish with a new walkway for all residents to use safely. Anticipated re- opening Summer 2016.

More litter picking and bins.

The soft landscaping team undertake litter picking as a minimum 3 times a week Mon/Wed/Fri along with emptying dog and general waste bins across the estate. In the last 6 months 3 additional waste bins have been added; this is reviewed at regular intervals.

There is a distinct lack of security.

CMT reported a change to Security arrangements across the estate in 2014. Security arrangements come in a number of forms to include but not limited to Estate Officer, PCSO, Council Warden, Wards nightly security vehicle patrols and 24/7 CCTV monitoring.

I would like CMT to be more pro-active in enforcing the restrictive covenants.

CMT are working towards Covenant Auditing every property on St Mary's Island to confirm compliancy and standardisation across the Island.

Far too frequent staff changes.

CMT has a robust dedicated team of 5 full time and 4 part time members with most staff being in post for over 3 years.

CMT through the Kent Police PCSO are working hard to help resolve with regular speed camera checks and review by PCSO working a variety of shifts, days, nights and weekends.

I have concerns over two abandoned vehicles.

In the past year a number of abandoned vehicles have been reported and or removed through joint working between the Council Warden and PCSO and this will continue.

SMIRA Meetings & PCSO surgery

SMIRA (St. Mary's Island Resident's Association) meetings take place in the Community Centre at 7 pm and the meeting dates for the rest of the year are:

- 28th June
- 9th August
- 20th September
- 1st November

The AGM is due to take place on Friday 2nd December at 7.30 pm at the Community Centre. Formal Notice and AGM details are sent to Members prior to the meeting.

Before the SMIRA meeting a Resident's Surgery is held from 6 pm to 6.45 pm giving residents the opportunity to raise or talk through any concerns that they may have.

On the same day of the above-mentioned SMIRA meetings the PCSO, Helen Kristic, holds a Police Surgery again giving residents an opportunity to discuss any issues. This takes place from 5 pm to 7 pm.



Helen can be contacted during her shift hours on 07870 252191; she will only answer if on duty. You can also email her on: helen.kristic@kent.pnn.police.uk

Live

Capturing the last 20 years

With support from Chatham Maritime Trust, St. Mary's Island History Group is embarking on a new project – 20 years of St. Mary's Island – capturing the history of those years and Islanders' experiences. With this project the Group hope to engage residents in creating a sense of pride in the unique community in which they live.

The Group's research will be on show at an exhibition to be held in the Community Centre on Saturday 5th November.

The Group will be organising two history walks on Saturday 28th May, during the Food and Drink Festival, at 11.30 am and 2.30 pm. Walks will depart from Basin 1 near the historic tugs.

The History Group meets every two months and forthcoming meeting dates are: 11th July, 12th September and 21st November. Each meeting includes a speaker and contributions from members and visitors. Non-members are welcome for a fee of £2.00.

The Group holds regular meetings, guided walks and talks throughout the year. Go to their website www.stmarysislandhistorygroup.co.uk for further information.

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Dubbed a 'foodies dream' by the **Kent Messenger**, once again we will have a wide range of locally produced foods showcased alongside foreign gastronomic delights, together with beer, wine and cider producers to titillate the taste buds.

There will be music on the bandstand and entertainment for young and old. New additions for 2016 include a children's fun fair and a flea market.

The Dragon Boat racing organised by **Medway Sunlight Rotary** will be back again in 2016 with the biggest field of entrants so far providing a fantastic spectacle for the thousands of spectators expected on the Sunday of the festival.

Chatham Maritime Food & Drink Festival wouldn't be possible without the support of some fantastic sponsors – and this year its three main partners are **Countryside Maritime, the University of Greenwich and Bose.**

Chatham Maritime Food & Drink Festival

This Spring Bank Holiday will see the return of the Chatham Maritime Food & Drink Festival. Now in its third year, the festival is now a fixture in the social calendar and this year it will be bigger and better than ever.



Play

"Brilliant!
We went on all 3 days.
Obviously a shame it rained on Monday but that is out of our control, Dragon Boat racing was fab, food and drink was awesome and music and atmosphere was brilliant. Same again next year please."

Whatever
you're planning to
do this bank holiday
make some time
to come along to
your very
own festival.





*Festival
Time
again!*



*"Great event
and great weekend at
Chatham Maritime
Food & Drink Festival,
well organised, well
attended & lots of
lovely people!"*





The Copper Rivet Distillery to open at Chatham Maritime's Pump House No. 5

A brand new craft distillery will open its doors to the public at Chatham's Historic Dockyard this summer. As well as producing a range of premium gin, vodka and whisky spirits, the Copper Rivet Distillery will be open to visitors, who can tour the Victorian pump house to see the distilling process in action, experiment with tastes in the laboratory and sample the premium Kentish craft spirits for themselves.

It is the first business of its kind in the Medway area and one of just a few in the country that will be responsible for the whole distillation process from grain to glass, with everything from the raw grains used in the spirits, to the stills being sourced and built by craftsmen in the local area.

The men behind the scheme are Bob Russell, his sons Matthew and Stephen, master distiller Abhishek Banik, and site manager Antony Wallis.

The distillery, situated inside Pump House No. 5 – a Victorian building that was used to pump water out of the dry docks, is the latest and among the most significant dockyard buildings to be brought back into use.

Work is due to reach completion on the craft distillery in late May with visitor tours starting in June 2016.

For more information visit:

 facebook.com/copperrivetdistillery

 [@rivetdistillery](https://twitter.com/rivetdistillery)

 www.copperrivetdistillery.com

COPPER
RIVET
DISTILLERY
ENGLAND



Work

Major £1 million investment for ship & trades

As we go to press work is underway on a £1 million expansion of the Ship and Trades at Chatham Maritime.

Dating from 1875, the Ship and Trades' basic structure is a steel frame that once housed dockyard offices and an engineering shop. Today, this former derelict building, which

was taken over by Shepherd Neame in 2001, has been transformed into a contemporary bar, restaurant and hotel, overlooking one of the yacht basins at the former Royal Naval Dockyard. Outside, its ample waterfront seating offers stunning views of the pleasure boats in the marina and across the River Medway to historic Upnor Castle.

The Ship and Trades currently has 11 en suite letting rooms on the first floor and, owing to high demand, five new rooms are being created, two with waterfront balconies. One room is being removed in order to accommodate a major expansion and refurbishment of the kitchen, which is also on the first floor.

On the ground floor a new wrap-around glass fronted restaurant overlooking the marina is being created which will be able to take an additional 80 covers. For the first time online table booking will be available.

The external terrace will be improved with the provision of heated covered areas and a glass fronted cask cellar is to be introduced as a new feature.

Shepherd Neame's director of retail and tenanted operations, Nigel Bunting, said, "We are thrilled to begin work on this exciting new development which represents a significant investment, not just in the Ship and Trades, but in the local area. The Ship and Trades is one of our most popular pubs and we want to maximise that potential by expanding the opportunities for guests to eat, drink and stay."

The Ship and Trades is expected to re-open in the third week of May – just in time for the Chatham Maritime Food & Drink Festival!



MARITIME MESSENGER

Fundraising Champion in our midst

Steve Craddock, a former soldier who lives on St. Mary's Island, continues to embark on gruelling challenges to raise funds for Help for Heroes.

At the end of last year Steve was named **Point of Light** by the Prime Minister, David Cameron, in recognition of volunteers – people who are making a change in their community and inspiring others to do the same.

Steve, who has served as a Royal Engineer for fifteen years, went to Northern Ireland on a number of operational tours on peace-keeping duties.

To date Steve has completed 7 **Help for Heroes** Big Battlefield rides averaging 400 miles per ride. The next one is early June when he will cycle from Ypres in Belgium to Verdun in Northern France. Next year's challenge is to cycle 1,400 miles from John O'Groats to Land's End via all the Help for Heroes recovery centres. The total route is 1,400 miles and includes more than

The Youth Club has been closed for over a year now and many young children between the ages of 10-14, both on and off the Island, have been prevented from experiencing what many of us enjoyed and remember from our youth.

An attempt was made to re-open the Youth Club earlier this year but unfortunately this was not viable due to the lack of regular volunteers.

50,000 feet of climbing. There will be three participants in this event, two with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the third who, mainly confined to a wheelchair, will be powering his recumbent bike with his arms.

Read the full story at:
www.ourcycle2recovery.co.uk

Steve has also organised golf days, quiz nights and concerts to raise much needed funds.

Steve is an incredibly motivated and determined individual and has just taken part in a 350km cycle route through Thailand and Burma – a tough 10-day challenge through unforgiving terrain. Historical stop-off points in Thailand included the Bridge over the River

We now have waiting in the wings a new Youth Worker supported by Chatham Maritime Trust and the aim is to re-open the Club in early September at the beginning of the next school year every Friday evening in term-time between 7 pm and 9 pm (closed in school holidays).

To make this a reality we need more regular volunteers who are able to commit one Friday night a month from 6.30 pm to 9.15 pm to add to the existing volunteer list. Volunteers are needed to help set-up the



On Saturday 8th October the Chatham Maritime Trust will be holding another community planting day on the Central East Bund to recognise Help for Heroes – the planting will be in their colours of blue and red. This will be a real community event – everyone is welcome to join in.

Kwai and Hellfire Pass – part of the railway that was built by thousands of allied POWs. Steve said the heat was unbearable, but the cycle ride was one of the most rewarding things he has ever done. He was one of thirty eight cyclists taking part and at the end of the route, at Sittang Bridge, he laid a wreath on behalf of the Royal Engineers.

Steve is not one for relaxing; he is now organising another cycle event to tie in with Armed Forces Day on Saturday 25th June. To date Steve has raised £362,000 for the Help for Heroes Charity – his efforts are exemplary and to be congratulated.

Volunteers needed for St. Mary's Island Youth Club

equipment and just keep a watch or get involved if they so wish.

If you are able to give just one Friday night a month for no more than nine months a year to this very important and worthwhile activity, please give David Taylor a call on 01634 893447 or email taylordj@blueyonder.co.uk.

Our Best Garden Competition is still open but the deadline for entries is fast approaching.

Is your garden a winner?

The competition is open to all residents, property owners and tenants, and entries are sought in the following categories:

- The most colourful
- Structural (plants and features)
- Family garden (including area for relaxation and play area for children)
- Cottage or wild garden (this doesn't mean overgrown!)
- Children's garden (entrant must be 17 or under)

A photograph of your garden (preferably in jpeg format) should be emailed to **info@cmtrust.co.uk** with the title **Garden Competition** in the subject line. Your email should state which category you are entering and your full name and address together with a contact telephone number. Only one photograph should be submitted.

We look forward to receiving your entries!

The top prize in each category is £100 of Dobbies vouchers and the runner-up in each category will receive an annual subscription to a Home or Garden magazine of their choice.

The winner and runner-up in each category, plus two additional commended entries, will also have their photographs put forward to be included in a 2017 calendar that residents will be able to purchase.

**The closing date for entries is Friday 10th June 2016.
The winners will be notified by 24th June.**

Live



3rd to 5th June – Dickens Festival

The focus for this event is Rochester High Street. A celebration of Charles Dickens – costumed characters, parades, street entertainment, displays, readings and a lot more.

9th July – River Festival at Chatham Waterfront

A variety of sailing vessels come together to celebrate Medway's maritime connections. There will be processions, displays, live music, food stalls and entertainment for the whole family.

8th October – Community planting day

This will take place on the Central East Bund to recognise Help for Heroes. The planting will be in their colours of red and blue. A real community event – all are welcome.

26th November – Christmas Fair at St. Mary's Island Community Centre

Useful Contact Numbers

Chatham Maritime Trust	01634 891888	Grant Leathwhite	07867 507187
Security	01634 890292	Estate Officer	
Community Centre	01634 890072	Rebecca Pease	
Doctor's Surgery	01634 890712	Community Warden, Medway Council	
Pharmacy	01634 891207	✉ Rebecca.Pease@Medway.gov.uk	
School	01634 891050	River Ward Councillors	
Fen Pest Control	01580 754839	Clr Habib Tejan 07973 123614/01634 841108	
Odeon Filmline	0871 2244607	✉ habib.tejan@live.co.uk @HabibTejan	
Church Canon Ernie Mann	01634 304893	Clr Andrew Mackness 07970 734105	
✉ erniemann@blueyonder.co.uk		✉ andrewmackness@live.co.uk	
SMI Residents Association (SMIRA)		@andrewmackness	
✉ admin@smira.info	www.smira.info	PCSO Helen Kristic (on duty) 07870 252191	
CML After-sales:	01732 747010	✉ helen.kristic@kent.pnn.police.uk	
CML Customer Care team:		Kent Police Emergency	999
✉ customerservice.cs1.countryside@cpplc.com		Non-emergency	101
Out of hours emergency	0845 245 8260 0845 140 0339	Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Chatham Historic Dockyard	01634 823800	Medway Council	01634 306000
		MC Emergency	01634 304400
		(out of hours service)	
		Homes & Communities Agency	0300 1234 500
		Environment Agency Hotline	0800 807 060