

Margate Civic Society

(Founded 1968)

Registered Charity No. 257884



Autumn 2017
Newsletter
Issue No. 388



Margate Civic Society is a
Founder Member
of Civic Voice

At the Mayor-making ceremony held at the Winter Gardens on 8th May, the new Town Mayor (Cllr Rosamund Dixon) stated that her prime objective during her mayoral year was for a Town Council to be created for Margate in place of Margate Charter Trustees as the residual area of the former Borough of Margate is now the only area in Thanet that does not have its own parish/town council. On 31st July, Margate Charter Trustees held an extraordinary meeting at which those Charter Trustees who attended the meeting unanimously agreed to request Thanet District Council to carry out another community governance review to that end. The last community governance review, which was also initiated by Margate Charter Trustees, was held only three years ago when the townspeople of Margate demonstrated a distinct lack of support for a Town Council for Margate (although a handful of Westgate residents were successful in obtaining parish council status for Westgate). There was a two-stage public consultation process. At the first stage, only 75 questionnaires were returned out of a total electorate for Margate of 36,000. Of those 75, only 33 residents expressed a preference for a Town Council for Margate. At the second stage, there were 337 responses of which only 137 expressed support for a Town Council for Margate. Because of these remarkably low numbers, TDC's Working Party decided to recommend TDC that a Town Council not be set up for Margate but that a parish council be created for Westgate-on-Sea. That community governance review is estimated to have cost some £10,000 which was borne by all of the council taxpayers in Thanet - not just by those in Margate/Westgate areas.

Thanet District Council has yet to consider the recent request from Margate Charter Trustees to hold another community governance review only three years after the last one when, as demonstrated by the above figures, the residents of Margate displayed a distinct lack of support for the creation of a Town Council in place of the existing Charter Trustees. In the light of the very recent Public Interest Report on the £30,000 paid in 2015/16 to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council (see article on page 10), it would, perhaps, be fitting if TDC were not to hold another community governance review until, say, ten years has elapsed since the last one (which was held in 2014).

The full text of the auditors' Public Interest Report on the flawed financial settlement of £30,000 paid by Margate Charter Trustees to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council is available on the Public Sector Audit Appointments' website: <http://www.psa.co.uk/archive/audit-reports/public-interest-reports/>

Do the council taxpayers of Margate *really* want a Town Council after that embarrassing episode? □ **JB**

Welcome to new members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members who have recently joined the Society:

Julian Dungey
Ms Diane Simpson

Sally Whitworth
Membership Secretary

The Annual General Meeting of the Margate Civic Society

will take place at the Walpole Bay Hotel on Thursday,
5th October 2017

Any proposals or nominations should be submitted as soon as possible before the meeting to the Secretary at:

25 Norman Road,
Westgate-on-Sea
Margate CT8 8RR

Geoff Orton
Secretary

Subscriptions now due

Our new year commences on 1st October 2017 and subscriptions for the year become due on that date. Please note that the subscription rates for 2017/18 remain the same as for 2016/17 and are as shown on the back page of this Newsletter. Any donations we receive on top of the subscriptions are very much appreciated. Members can renew their subscriptions at the AGM, or by post before the AGM, to me at:

C/o 25 Norman Road
Westgate-on-Sea
Margate CT8 8RR

We also offer the facility of membership payment by electronic transfer. For details of this facility, please see our website www.margatecivicsociety.org.uk

Sally Whitworth
Membership Secretary

See pages 4 & 5
for details of
this year's
Heritage Open
Days



President's Report

I was looking through previous reports and I came across some notes of a meeting held ten years ago (see box below). At that time, I was Chairman of Thanet District Council's Property Services Consultation Forum which was formed to bring together the Margate Civic Society, The Ramsgate Society and the Broadstairs Society together with representatives from TDC.

Meeting four times a year, we were able to face TDC officers involved in their various roles and put forward our views and ideas for the betterment of Thanet. This worked well for a number of years. Unfortunately, the Forum was disbanded by TDC.

Looking at that report, I am not surprised! Hosers Corner is still an eyesore. Dreamland Organ - I do not know if this has been restored or is ever going to be, but Dreamland looks good (at the moment). The Margate Old Town Pedestrianisation did happen but the hopes for The Lido fell flat when the developer went into liquidation. Cliff Terrace, after ten years of complaints was eventually renovated but is now beginning to look a little sad. And the Clock Tower: we took that into our own hands and now it is once again up and running (although there has been the occasional hic-cup).

I hope that you enjoyed that short journey into the past. Now it is time to talk of the present.

Not a lot has changed since my report last year. Pamela Pople continues as our Chairman and manages to fulfil her position with sorting out speakers for the season. It is not easy as I know well having carried out this task for ten years. Organising meetings and the annual Town Pride Awards is a responsibility and we should all be very grateful for all the hard work that Pamela does. And let us not forget Pamela's husband, Ray, who is always on hand to help her.

Our Vice-Chairman, Harry Scobie, kindly allows his house to be the venue for our Committee meetings and expertly chairs those meetings. During the past year, Harry has been extremely busy with local elections but he still manages to attend most of our monthly meetings at the Walpole Bay Hotel.

Our Secretary, Geoff Orton, is always involved with meetings, planning matters, Draper's Windmill and other local organisations.

Our Treasurer and Webmaster, Mike Wilton, looks after our finances and very successfully organises the Society's very successful trips to foreign parts. This year, Mike organised a day-trip to Arras in France on the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Arras. These day-trips have now become an annual event and I know that many of our members are looking forward to another trip in 2018. Mike is ably assisted by his wife, Heather, who runs the raffles at our meetings.

Our Newsletter Editor, James Brazier, continues to produce our famous Newsletter four times a year each issue being full of interesting articles and up-to-date information on what is happening locally.

Mike Thompson covers all planning applications and conservation-area matters in our area. Mike also helps out on other projects.

Our Membership Secretary, Sally Whitworth, has held this position for the past year and we hope that Sally will wish to continue in that role. Sally is a vital member of our Committee.

I also thank, on behalf of our Society, the staff of the Walpole Bay Hotel for their continued support. The Hotel is a very popular 'watering-hole' and a great venue for our meetings.

And, of course, I thank all those members who continue to support us. Without you, we could not function. Our numbers have diminished in recent years and we ask you to mention our existence to friends and to encourage them to join our Society. We need new members.

I hope to see many of you at our meeting in October. □

**Ralph Handscomb
President**

Notes on the meeting of the Property Services Consultation Forum held on Wednesday, 11th April 2007 in TDC's Council Chamber

This meeting was the AGM and, after preliminaries, the Chairmanship was passed over to Lee Ault of the Broadstairs Society.

Hosers Corner - A new planning application in for greater density

Dreamland Cinema Organ - included in the plan for Dreamland

Margate Old Town Pedestrianisation - TDC officer did not attend meeting

77 Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville - contract completed. Work to convert property to four flats due to start immediately

The Lido - Plans for a 120-bed hotel with restoration of the Clifton Baths

Cliff Terrace - Proceeding with compulsory purchase order

Margate Clock Tower - remains on the agenda but, at the moment, no funds are available for the time ball

A number of items could not be dealt with due to TDC officers not being present at the meeting: the lamp standards from The Oval being one of them. The listed public convenience opposite Dane Park was discussed but no decision was taken.

Owing to the non-representation at the meeting of The Ramsgate Society, it was agreed that the change-over of the Chairman would be ratified at the next meeting.

Margate Carnival 6th August 2017



Margate Clock Tower proved to be one of the most popular locations to watch the procession pass by

This year's Margate Carnival was advertised as being led by David Sanger, a relative of 'Lord' George Sanger the Victorian circus-proprietor who was the originator of what later became Dreamland Amusement Park. Unfortunately, David Sanger - for whatever reason - chose not to follow the whole of the procession route resulting in many members of the public (including yours truly) being denied the opportunity to see him and to take photographs of him for our Newsletter.

There were no marching bands in this year's carnival (nor were there any Brazilian dancers). The procession did not seem to be as long as it has been in the past and there seemed to be a very large number of commercial floats advertising local trading operations.



Ramsgate's Town Mayor, Cllr Trevor Shonk, with Ramsgate's Mayoress, Mrs Shonk, awaiting the float carrying Ramsgate's Carnival Queen and her Maids of Honour



The RSPCA float was one of the more imaginative floats with the driver of the van wearing a sheep-dog mask

The weather was very good and the carnival certainly attracted a large number of spectators. Without doubt, a lot of work had gone organising the carnival but, for me, the carnival was a shadow of the Margate Carnival of some half a century ago when perhaps as many as half-a-dozen marching youth bands took part in the procession and many public service undertakings entered very imaginative floats. Who could ever forget watching the hugely impressive USAAF marching band from Manston Aerodrome playing *When The Saints Go Marching In* with their unique display of about-turn marching as the procession passed or the year when grown men from a local Round Table club performed magnificently as majorettes to the public's great amusement? Oh, they were the days and I am very pleased that I lived to see them. Certainly, the 1953 Cadillac in this year's carnival brought back many such happy memories to me.

JB



The open-top bus which conveyed Thanet's civic dignitaries to Marine Terrace to watch the carnival procession from the upper-deck as the carnival passed by



Local singer and cabaret-artist Mandy Winters riding in the back of a powder-blue 1953 Cadillac convertible. The car was undoubtedly one of the most popular entrants in this year's carnival

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS - SEPTEMBER 2017

This year, the three civic societies in Thanet - Margate Civic Society, The Ramsgate Civic Society and the Broadstairs Society - have acted together with TDC to produce the brochure showing those properties in Thanet which are participating in this year's Heritage Open Days during the period 7th September to 10th September. Further details of those properties in Margate and its environs which are participating in this year's HODs are shown below.

MARGATE

12 ARTHUR ROAD, Cliftonville CT9 1DA
www.thanet.gov.uk

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September 2:00pm to 4:00pm

This is a continuation of the Dalby Square Heritage Townscape Initiative. The earlier 'Hotel Cecil' has been painstakingly restored to as near to its original 1890s presentation as is possible and is now opening to the public for the first time. Margate Civic Society will be stewarding the property for the first of the eight days a year it will be made open. One for Victorian connoisseurs. See also feature on page 6.

Not suitable for wheelchairs and there are stairs to surmount. No toilets available and parking in street may be difficult.

INDIA HOUSE

Boys & Maughan Solicitors, 11-13 Hawley Street
Margate CT9 1PZ

www.boysandmaughan.co.uk

Saturday 9th September 10:00am to 4:00pm

Grade II*-listed building celebrating its 250th anniversary. Originally the home of a retired tea planter and latterly that of an ex-Gaiety Girl. The present solicitor occupants are mounting an exhibition especially for Heritage Open Day.

Accessibility will be difficult on the front steps but the exhibition is on the ground floor. Parking and toilet facilities in the College Square shopping precincts.

DREAMLAND TRUST

49-51 Marine Terrace, Margate CT9 1XJ
www.dreamland.co.uk

The Heritage Amusement Park is believed to be the first of its kind and is home to the oldest Scenic Railway in the country. The Dreamland Trust are presenting a series of exhibitions telling the story of the historic park through the ages which can be found at the entrance to the Park between the newly refurbished Cinque Ports public house and Dreamland Cinema on the sea-front overlooking Margate Main Sands. General accessibility down a steep slope to the entrance. Public toilet and parking facilities near by.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Victoria Road, Margate CT9 1LN
www.stjohnschurchmargate.org.uk

Saturday 9th September 10:00am to 5:00pm and Sunday 10th September 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Margate's Parish Church: one thousand years of history – a guided tour by a local historian at 2:00pm on Saturday and a local art exhibition. Many unique architectural features and it was the incumbent, the Reverend David Railton, who suggested the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey.

Generally accessible with local street parking. No public toilet facilities.

THEATRE ROYAL

Addington Street, Margate CT9 1PW
Tel : 01843 292795

Email : boxoffice@yourleisure.com

www.theatreroyalargate.com/event/heritage-open-days

Saturday 9th September 10:00am to 4:00pm

Open generally and Optional Guided tours @ £3 at 10:30am, 12:00noon, 1:30pm and 3:00pm

Pre-booking advisable

The second oldest theatre in England (1787) – Dickens' lady friend Ellen Ternan befriended the theatre when she lived in Margate with her schoolmaster husband. Partial access for disabled and those with mobility problems – the Gallery will be a problem. Toilet and nearby parking facilities.

MARGATE MUSEUM

Market Place, Margate CT9 1ER

Email: friendsofmargatemuseum@gmail.com

www.margatemuseum.wordpress.com

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September 11:00am to 5:00pm

Current exhibitions of the history of HMS Thanet and the Battle of Margate 1387 (the English 'liberated' the French wine fleet and hence 'Merrie England.') The old Court House had the police cells below it which housed Sidney Fox who murdered his mother and went on to Maidstone for execution – read all about it!

Access very limited for wheelchair users. Toilet and parking facilities nearby.

MARGATE (Continued)

THE TUDOR HOUSE

King Street, Margate CT9 1DA

Email : friendsofmargatemuseum@gmail.com

www.margatemuseum.wordpress.com

Friday 8th, Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September
11:30am to 2:30pm

The oldest private building in Margate, a merchant's house dating from at least the beginning of Henry VIII's reign exhibitions inside the various rooms on two floors.

Access limited to the ground floor for wheelchair-users/disabled. Toilet and parking facilities nearby.

DRAPERS WINDMILL

St Peters Footpath

Margate CT9 2SR

Tel : 01843 291696

www.draperswindmill.homestead.com

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September 2:00pm to 4:00pm

A smock mill which is the very last of the nineteen windmills found in Thanet in the late-nineteenth century. Built c1845 by John Holman of Canterbury. Restored 1965 to 1974 by volunteers. Thanet Beekeepers and the Trust for Thanet Archaeology are exhibiting in the rear meadow on the Saturday. Julius Caesar noted Thanet for its corn.

Toilet facilities available and local street parking. Access to mill itself restricted to the reasonably mobile and the stairs are very steep.

WESTGATE-ON-SEA

WESTGATE HERITAGE CENTRE

Town Hall Buildings, 31 St Mildred's Road,

Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8RE

Email : curator@westgateheritagecentre.org.uk

www.westgateheritagecentre.org.uk

An exhibition of Westgate-on-Sea's history since the 'coming of the railway' when it became known as 'Mayfair-by-the-Sea' because of the many titled people who took up residence. A famous local resident was the 'Cat Artist' Louis Wain and Westgate boasts having had the first bungalow in Britain.

Limited access as the exhibition is on the first floor and stairs are steep.

BIRCHINGTON

POWELL-COTTON MUSEUM

Quex Park Park Lane, Birchington CT7 0BH

Tel : 01843 842168

Email : enquiries@quexmuseum.org

www.quexpark.co.uk

**Sunday 10th September Museum and Gardens
10:00am to 5:00pm**

QUEX HOUSE 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Thanet's own 'stately home' which hosted King William III on his journeys to and from Holland. Extensive gardens with developing 'heritage conservatory' plans and a unique wildlife museum.

Generally accessible for the disabled and less mobile and there are toilet/parking facilities.

BIRCHINGTON HERITAGE TRUST

Burley Room, The Library, 7 Alpha Road Birchington

CT7 9EG

www.birchingtonheritage.org.uk

Saturday 9th September 10:00am to 1:00pm

An exhibition of what went to make Birchington what it is today including information about the numerous historic buildings there to be discovered. The Trust holds an enormous number of historic photographs.

Generally accessible with toilet and parking facilities.

MONKTON

Monkton Nature Reserve

Canterbury Road, Monkton CT12 4LH

Tel: 01843 822666

Email: monktonnaturereserve@hoymail.com

www.monkton-reserve.org

Saturday 9th September 11:00am to 4:00pm

Thanet's premier inland nature reserve and home of Thanet Observatories.

Sixteen acres of diverse wildlife habitats with two wildlife ponds, 26 species of butterfly, eight species of rare orchids, and a variety of adventure trails.

Refurbished Museum Room and extensive second-hand bookshop.

'Heritage & Nature' is a Key Theme this year.

New accessible paths for the disabled and less mobile especially to Damsel's Pond.

Members are strongly recommended to take advantage of Heritage Open Days

Some of the many delights at 12 Arthur Road, Cliftonville

One of the properties participating in this year's Heritage Open Day at 12 Arthur Road. The building has recently undergone restoration work (it is hoped that the restoration work will be completed by the time of HODs). The high-quality restoration work was funded by the Dalby Square Townscape Heritage Initiative.

This house and the rest of the terrace which forms this side of Arthur Road were all built in the 1890s. Most of the houses in this terrace were single fronted. However, Nos. 12 and 28 were built as much larger double-fronted houses with slightly more ornate decoration to the front. An orangery over the front porch at No 12 was probably added shortly after the house was built. All of the stained glass in

the house, including the orangery, has been carefully restored as can be seen in the photos below all taken in the orangery.

The colour of the front stucco was carefully created by the architects behind the restoration, Studio Sam Causer, to reflect the original stone colour the house had when it was built.

Do go along to 12 Arthur Road during Heritage Open Days. The house is scheduled to be open from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on the Saturday (9th September) and Sunday (10th September) but it might be advisable to first check on TDC's website before travelling. □

JB



Visit to Grade II*-listed Dreamland Cinema

Ten years have now passed since the closure of Dreamland Cinema (see MCS Newsletter 349) and much has changed to the building since then. Thanet District Council now owns the building and was successful in obtaining monies from the Coastal Communities Fund to restore the exterior of the front of the cinema which dates from 1935. As can be seen from Marine Terrace, the exterior of the building is looking better than it has for many decades with the restoration of its original windows to the former appropriately-named Sunshine Cafe on the first floor. However, the interior of the building is now looking very sad and requires an enormous amount of work to restore it and to replace all of the super brass handrails in the building which were stolen a few years ago. Nick Dermott, TDC's Heritage Advisory Officer, kindly offered to take members of the Society's Committee on a tour of the building which took place on 28th July 2017. These photographs indicate the state of much of the interior of this fine building.



Inside the Sunshine Cafe (looking north-west)

architectural interest and because of its heritage and important location on Marine Terrace. It is a huge building and it is hoped that the three main areas (i.e. the cafe, the ballroom and the cinema) within the building will attract interest from potential parties to ensure that the building is once again put to use and contributes to the local economy. TDC is to be congratulated in having restored the exterior of the building as the first stage of the project and our thanks go to Nick Dermott for his interest and enthusiasm over many years particularly for the whole of the Dreamland project including the restoration of the Grade II*-listed scenic railway. □



Inside the Sunshine Cafe (looking north-east)



Showing the foyer and the main entrance to the cinema. Many of our members will fondly remember it as it was in its hey-day



The Bingo Hall in the auditorium



The wonderfully restored exterior of the Grade II*-listed Dreamland Cinema building



Two of magnificent Art Deco figures that still adorn the auditorium



The Directors' Room in the Art Deco building took the form of Tudor galleon



The window, complete with lion heads, in the mock-Tudor former Directors' Room

CWGC asked to add the name of one of Margate's fallen to their Debt of Honour 100 years later



The Hoile family grave in Margate Cemetery

name was not included in the HMSO publication *Soldiers Died in the Great War* yet the headstone on the Hoile family grave in Margate Cemetery clearly showed that he had been killed in action.

Then, in January 2008, I had - by chance - stumbled across the Hoile family headstone in Margate Cemetery during one of my many visits to the cemetery. Unfortunately, the headstone provided no further information other than to confirm that he was killed in action in 1917 and that he was, indeed, a 'Margate man'.

Readers may remember that, during the first two years of the WWI centenary period, I wrote a monthly article on Margate's fallen on a month-by-month basis from August 2014 for publication in the *Isle of Thanet Gazette* - as I had been specifically asked to do by the former editor (Rebecca Smith) of the *Gazette* a year or two earlier. Those articles ran each month under the *Gazette's* successor editor (Kathy Bailes) for two years until there was yet another change of staff at the *Gazette* when publication of my articles abruptly ceased without any explanation.

It was whilst I was watching the excellent BBC TV coverage of the events in Ypres on 30th July that it occurred to me that it would be fitting for an article to go in this issue of the Newsletter remembering the large number of men from Margate who lost their lives in the Battle of Third Ypres (sometimes known simply as Passchendaele) 100 years ago and whose names are inscribed on Margate War Memorial.



Margate's War Shrine now on display in Margate Museum. Pte C. S. C. Hoile's name is the eighteenth from the bottom in the fourth column

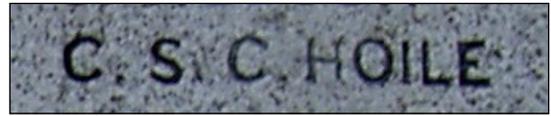
During my extensive research over many decades into the names listed on Margate War Memorial some years ago, I came across a small number of names of local men who were not commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) nor were they included on their *Debt of Honour Register* yet their names were inscribed on Margate War Memorial. Two of those names were those of John Devereux and John Pulleng. My research resulted in my writing to the CWGC in 2003 appealing to the CGWC to add the name of John Devereux to the Chatham Naval Memorial and to the erection of a small tablet at the foot of the grave of John Pulleng in Margate Cemetery. I am pleased to report that both have now been achieved and that the names of these two men are also now included in the CWGC *Debt of Honour Register*. (See MCS Newsletter 361)

Another name on Margate War Memorial not commemorated by the CWGC is that of Claude Stanley Claringbull Hoile whose name is shown on the memorial as 'C. S. C. Hoile' and on Margate War Shrine as 'Hoile Pte C. S. C.'.

I had searched in vain for further information on Claude Hoile but all I found were two 'In Memoriam' notices placed by his family in the *Isle of Thanet Gazette*: one published on 4th October 1919 and the other on 1st October 1921. The latter referred to him being killed in action on 29th September 1917. I found it curious that Claude Hoile's

According to my research, 42 men from Margate are known to have fallen in that great battle (31st July to 10th November 1917) and I considered it likely that, if evidence could be found of where Claude Hoile fell, the total number of names would rise to 43.

So, once more I decided to see whether I could find any further information on Claude Hoile. Being a subscriber to the Ancestry website, I decided to see what I could discover on Claude Hoile and, to my delight, I found an entry for him on the Medal Index Roll now held at The National Archives. Importantly, his entry on the Medal Index Roll shows that he was serving with the 4th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers when he was killed and it shows his service number. It also shows that his date of death for Army purposes was 30th September 1917 rather than 29th September 1917 as his family had believed. Perhaps that difference accounts for his actual date of death not being recorded on the family headstone in Margate Cemetery. I also found, on the Ancestry website, the 1911 Census entry for Claude Hoile showing that he was then 19 years old, working as an errand boy and living with his family at 15B Victoria Road, Margate.



Claude Hoile's name on Margate War Memorial

The regimental history of the Royal Fusiliers shows that the 4th Battalion was engaged in the individual battle known as the Battle of Polygon Wood (26th September to 3rd October) at the time of Claude Hoile's death,

With the centenary of Claude Hoile's death coming up shortly, it seemed right and proper that I should write to the CWGC and ask if they would make consider Claude Hoile's name being commemorated. As he has no known grave, his name should - in my opinion - be inscribed on the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing and his name be added to the CWGC *Debt of Honour Register*.

Having eventually achieved success five years ago with the addition of the names of both John Devereux and John Pulleng to those being formally commemorated by the CWGC, I have high hopes for Claude Hoile's name now also being commemorated by the CWGC 100 years after his sacrifice. □

JB

(To be rendered in duplicate.)

ARMY FORM W 5102.
B. Roll.
Sheet. 1692

ROYAL FUSILIERS REGIMENT OR CORPS.

ROLL OF INDIVIDUALS entitled to the Victory Medal and/or British War Medal granted under Army Orders 266 & 301. of 1919.

Held by an individual in the Corps in respect of which the rolls are submitted.		NAME	In sequence Rank and Corps. Previous service, rank by each individual and Regt. No. shown: The highest rank, whether substantive, acting or temporary, excepted as having been held for any period in a theatre of War, unless awarded for misconduct, being shown against the name of the recipient or Corps which is to be inscribed on the medal.	Theatres of war in which served	Clips awarded (to be left blank)	Reasons of disposal of decorations			REMARKS
Regt. No.	Rank					(a) Presented	(b) Described by Post	(c) Taken into Service	
G47713	Pte.	ALLAN Adam Bernard	24/R.Fus.Ptc.47713	1(a) E. 4.16 to 6.5.16.					
G47716	Pte.	BOWBOTHAM Geoff Douglas	12/R.Fus.Ptc.47716 11/" " 2/" "	1(a) 25. 4.17 to 30. 8.17. 1(a) 19. 4.18 " 26. 4.18. 1(a) 27. 4.18 " 21. 8.18.					
G47732	Pte.	ENGLAND Frank Norblifer	17/R.Fus.Ptc.47732	1(a) 17.11.15 to 15. 8.16.					
G47733	Pte.	PRICE Francis	18/R.Fus.Ptc.47733 17/" " 2/" "	1(a) 8. 1.16 to 5. 5.16. 1(a) 9. 5.16 " 13. 7.16. 1(a) 11. 1.17 " 23. 1.19.					
G47734	Pte.	HOILE Claude	23/R.Fus.Ptc.47734 10/" " 4/" "	1(a) 16.11.15 to 6.10.16. 1(a) 51. 5.17 " 16. 6.17. 1(a) 17. 8.17 " 30. 9.17.					K.A.39.9.17.
G47735	Pte.	SMITH Frederick Richard	17/R.Fus.Ptc.47735 1/" " 20/" " 13/" "	1(a) 17.11.15 to 8. 8.16. 1(a) 2. 1.17 " 23. 1.17. 1(a) 26. 1.17 " 20.10.17. 1(a) 6. 2.18 " 8. 2.18. 1(a) 8. 2.18 " 28. 2.18.					

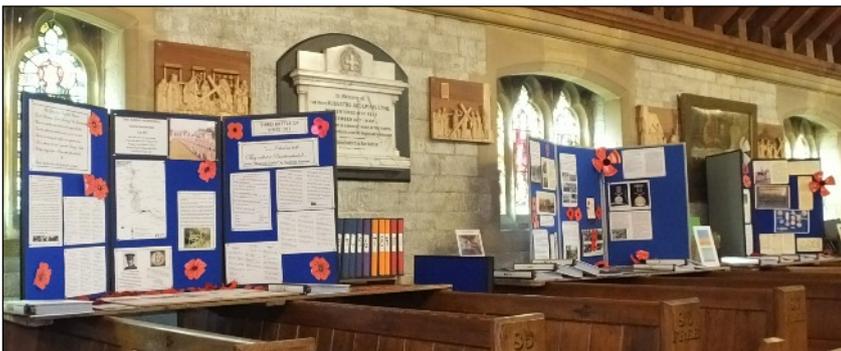
I certify that according to the Official Records the individuals named in this ROLL are entitled to the Medal or Medals as detailed above.

Place LONDON. Date 10V 1920

Major for Colonel.
i/c Infantry Records, London.
Signature and rank of Officer certifying.

The official Medal Roll showing Claude Hoile's service in the Royal Fusiliers and that he was Killed in Action on 30th September 1917

Westgate Heritage Centre exhibition to remember the men of Westgate who lost their lives 100 years ago in the Battle of Arras and the Battle of Third Ypres (Passchendaele)



An excellent little exhibition was put on display at St Saviour's Church, Westgate-on-Sea to mark the one hundredth anniversary of both the Battle of Arras and the Battle of Third Ypres in 1917 during the Great War. The exhibition was on display for two weeks during August and attracted many visitors. The poppies on the display boards were made by the Westgate Rainbows. □

Margate Charter Trustees receive damning report from their auditors

Nearly a year after a local elector made a formal objection to Margate Charter Trustees' external auditors regarding the payment of £30,000 to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council in 2015/16, the auditors (PKF Littlejohn LLP) have submitted their report to the Charter Trustees on their findings. There have been numerous references to this long-standing objection in past issues of our Newsletter but it might be helpful to readers to re-cap the situation.

The Order made, some two-and-a-half years ago, by Thanet District Council creating a Parish Council for Westgate (now known as Westgate-on-Sea Town Council) contained provision for the assets of the Charter Trustees as at 31st March 2015 to be split with the newly-created Parish Council. The cash balance at that date was to be apportioned in the same ratio as the Parish Council's Council Tax Base (the number of Band D equivalents) bore to the whole of the former Council Tax Base for the whole of Margate (including Westgate) at 1st April 2015. That proportion was calculated at 16.36%. The Charter Trustees cash reserves at 31st March 2015 amounted to a little over £126,000. Applying the actual percentage to the actual cash reserves produced a figure for Westgate of £20,343 and that sum was duly paid over to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council. That sum has never been in dispute and is quite separate from the payment of £30,000 which was the subject of the elector's formal objection.

The basis of the elector's objection was that there was no basis for the additional figure of £30,000 and that, in his opinion, the sum was excessively over-generous to the Town Council. In essence, the elector argued that the Charter Trustees had simply given away monies of which most, if not all, belonged to the council tax payers of Margate. It could, indeed, be argued that because there had been no transfer of tangible assets from the original Westgate-on-Sea Parish Council in 1935 when Westgate was 'swallowed up' by Margate Corporation, that none of the £30,000 should have been paid over to the Town Council.

On 23rd August 2017, the Charter Trustees' auditors issued their long-awaited report to Margate Charter Trustees and supplied copies of that report to the Secretary of State, to TDC's Monitoring Officer (Tim Howes) and to the elector concerned. Importantly, the auditors stated in their report:

Margate Charter Trustees must consider this report in public at a meeting held within one month of receiving it. At that meeting, the Trustees must decide what action to take in response to (the auditors') findings.

In their report, the auditors expressed:

- their concern over the insufficient basis for the calculation of the payment of £30,000;
- the payment of £30,000 represents a significant proportion (over 20%) of the year's expenditure and therefore, in their judgement, is a matter of public interest; and
- their view that Charter Trustees are responsible for the use of funds raised by taxation and other sources. Citizens expect the Trustees to account for how they have used and protected those funds.

But it is not just the Charter Trustees that have come in for criticism by the auditors in their report. Initially, the Town Council sought a payment from the Charter Trustees of £83,200 which was later revised to £62,000 before the former Interim Town Clerk acting on behalf of the Town Council indicated that the Town Council would 'reluctantly' accept £70,000. Eventually, the offer of £30,000 from the Charter Trustees, although never formally accepted by the Town Council, was considered by the Charter Trustees to have been accepted when their cheque was banked by the Town Council in October 2015. In their report, the auditors state that 'the negotiations were fraught with problems'. Anyone who attended meetings of the Charter Trustees and the Town Council at that time will know just how true that statement is!

Then there is the episode of two items of silverware being handed over to the Town Council; one item of which did not even belong to the Charter Trustees.

Another paragraph in the auditors' report reads:

A review of minutes indicates that during 2014 and 2015, the previous Mayor and Charter Trustees of Margate were provided with information that indicated that the majority of the assets concerned were in the ownership of the then Margate Borough Council prior to the parishes of Westgate and Birchington being added to Margate in 1935. We understand that, when being asked to negotiate the settlement, the new Mayor and Trustees were not provided with this information. It also appears from the information we have obtained that the officer from Thanet District Council was similarly unaware of this background information.

The auditors' conclusions are:

The method adopted to calculate the settlement figure was flawed and does not adequately support the amount paid to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council for the following reasons:

- the basis for calculating the settlement was the fixed assets as shown in the 2014/15 Annual Return at £414,228. No evidence has been provided to us to demonstrate that at the time of the settlement negotiations any attempt was made to check the accuracy or completeness of that schedule or verify the existence of the assets listed therein;
- as was subsequently confirmed the fixed assets figure shown in the 2014/15 Annual Return reflected certain assets that were not owned by the Trustees, rather, many that were listed were held on behalf of third parties or whose existence could not be verified; and
- whilst no issues have been raised with us over the transfer of the Westgate silverware to WTC for no consideration, in our view the allocation of certain, but not all, assets with regard to their historical connection represents an inconsistent approach to the apportionment of the assets between the two smaller authorities.

No doubt the auditors will invoice the Charter Trustees for their investigation over many months and the subsequent issuing of their report. What a sorry saga!

Margate signs still not replaced

These three signs along the Canterbury Road adjacent to the Westgate & Birchington Golf Club's Car Park have feature in our Newsletter on a number of occasions (see Nos 381 and 383) and the large Margate sign was removed in 2015 and the smaller one (Cinque Ports) was removed the following year. They were removed (it is understood by KCC Highways Department) as instructed by Westgate-on-Sea Town Council but they have still to be put back somewhere along Canterbury Road. The Town Council wanted them removed because Westgate-on-Sea ceased to come under Margate Charter Trustees from April 2015.

As can be seen from the close-up photograph, the Cinque Ports sign was desperately in need of repainting as was the Borough of Margate coat-of-arms at the top of the Margate sign. No-one seems to know what has happened to the two signs which Westgate was so eager to have removed from their 'patch' and for them to be relocated along the Canterbury Road further towards Margate across the common boundary between Westgate-on-Sea Town Council and Margate Charter Trustees. Surely someone must know what has happened to these old signs!

Westgate-on-Sea Town Council also decided two years ago to replace the existing 'Welcome Westgate-on-Sea' sign with one featuring

the new logo adopted by the Town Council. The Town Council wanted the new Westgate sign to go up at the Canterbury Road/Hengist Road junction. Since then, all has gone very quiet. □

JB



The logo adopted by Westgate-on-Sea Town Council in 2015



Photo taken in November 2015 showing the three signs in place at that time



Close-up photo of the two Margate signs taken in January 2011

More councillors resign from Westgate-on-Sea Town Council

Westgate Parish Council was created less than two-and-a-half years ago. Its name was first changed to Westgate-on-Sea Parish Council and then to Westgate-on-Sea Town Council. Ten residents put their name forward to serve as councillors and, because there were just ten vacancies, all ten were considered duly elected although no-one actually voted for any of them. Eight of those duly elected to serve as councillors lived in Westgate and two lived outside Westgate but within three miles of Westgate Ward's boundary and were thus eligible to serve as councillors on the Town Council.

Since then, four of the ten original councillors have resigned. Cllr Ash Ashbee was the first to resign at the beginning of December 2016. Her resignation was followed shortly afterwards by Cllr Richard Charlton. Perhaps it was coincidence, but both of those councillors were not residents of Westgate. A by-election - costing more than £5,500 - was held in February 2017 and, for the first time, two residents were elected by the electorate to serve on the council.

The next member of the council to go was Cllr Graham Rickett who resigned in May 2017. In order to hold a by-election, it is first necessary for the Returning Officer (Madeline Homer, TDC's Chief Executive) to receive ten such requests from local electors in writing. Because she deemed not to have received ten requests by the specified date, it was determined that the Rickett vacancy be filled by co-option and an extraordinary meeting of the Town Council has been called for 1st September for that purpose. However, in the meantime, Cllr Dave Morrish resigned on 31st July 2017. This time, it is understood that more than ten requests for a by-election to be held were received by the Returning Officer and it is expected that a by-election to fill the Morrish vacancy will be held in October 2017. It does seem odd and somewhat undemocratic that the two vacancies are being filled by different methods rather than hold a single by-election for the two vacancies in October. □

JB

Antony Gormley cast-iron figure installed at Fulsam Rock

An Antony Gormley cast-iron sculpture was installed on the chalk bed Fulsam Rock in front of Turner Contemporary on 18th August this year. The sculpture is seven feet tall and is from his ANOTHER TIME series which is a series of 100 cast-iron figures by Antony Gormley who is known for his sculptures and installations that explore the experience of being human and inhabiting a human body. The sculpture is one of a series of 100 across the UK and is identical to his 100 sculptures of his 2007 work ANOTHER PLACE. All are made from a cast of his body. Antony Gormley is probably best known for his *Angel of the North* at Gateshead.

The sculpture at Margate faces the horizon and uses the tide to expose and then completely cover the figure thus demonstrating the passing of time. It is, however, only a temporary installation which is due to remain in place until 5th November 2017.

At the same time as the sculpture at Margate is on display, another two from the ANOTHER TIME series are on display at Folkestone as part of *Double Edge: Folkestone Triennial 2017*.

Individual sculptures from the artist's ANOTHER TIME have been installed all over the world from the River Thames in London to Kunisaki in Japan. Margate is privileged to have one of the series - albeit for a limited time.

Turner Contemporary is to be congratulated on bringing one of the artist's sculptures to Margate and it makes an interesting sight from their first-floor gallery.

Do go along to Turner Contemporary to view the sculpture but just remember that it cannot be seen at high tide!

The sculpture is deservedly attracting a lot of interest in Margate and undoubtedly it will draw even more visitors to the town during the coming months.

I am sure that I am not alone in hoping that the sculpture will be granted an extension of stay in our town.

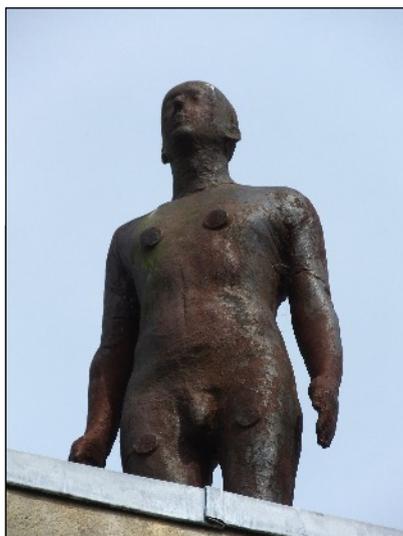
The three photographs alongside show the Gormley figure were taken on 23rd August 2017. □



The Gormley figure seen from the promenade at the rear of Turner Contemporary. The boy with his dog indicate the distance from the shore. The tide is coming in



A close-up of the Gormley figure taken around the same time as the top photo



These two photos show the Gormley ANOTHER TIME figure at Oxford. It is located on a rooftop at the junction of Broad Street and Turl Street. It was installed in 2009



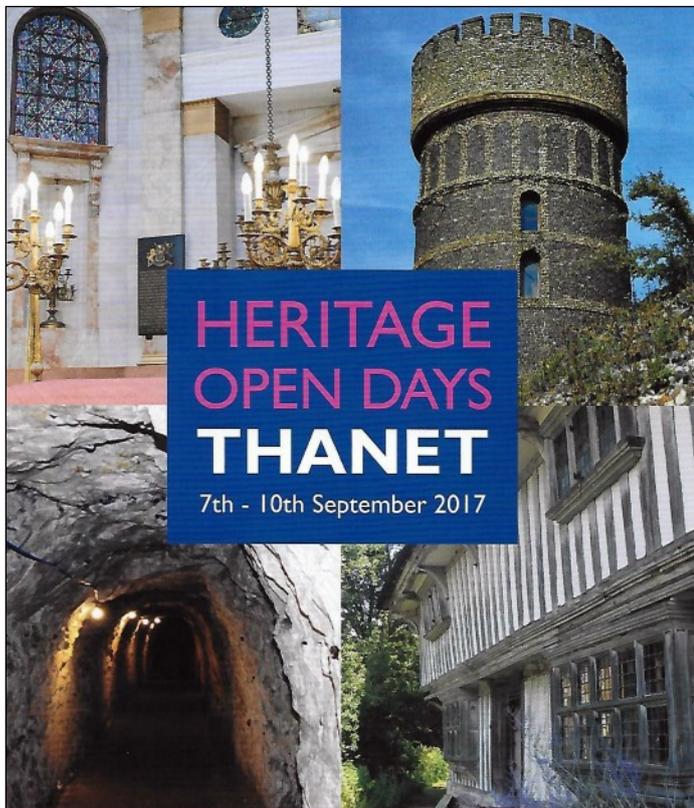
This photo was taken from the first floor gallery window at Turner Contemporary an hour or so after the two upper photos - with just the head and shoulders of the figure exposed. It would not be too long before the incoming tide completely covered the figure. At low tide, the figure is completely exposed

The former Crown & Sceptre Public House at Acol



The above photograph was taken on 13th August this year and shows the extent of the work being undertaken on this historic building at Acol. The entire roof has been removed along with much of the second floor. It is hoped that the building will be restored to its original external design. The building is not currently listed but many are wishing that it was listed and had the protection which listing affords properties such as this one.

Acol is within our 'patch' and this property is definitely one to keep an eye on. □ **JB**



heritage open days

 @VISITTHANET @HERITAGEPENDAY #HODSTHANET #HODS #ALLOURSTORIES

 /VISITTHANET /HERITAGEPENDAYS @VISITTHANET @HERITAGEPENDAYS

See pages 4 & 5 for details of the places in the Margate area which are participating in this year's HODs

Design South East are holding a 2-Day Workshop at Turner Contemporary 21st/22nd September

Design South East is a charity-based organisation in Kent which supports better design in the built environment. The organisation is holding a 2-day workshop (autumn school) at Turner Contemporary on 21st/22nd September. The focus of the workshop is to bring planning professionals, designers and students together to consider better ways to develop.

More detail about the event and about Design South East can be found on:

<https://www.designsoutheast.org/urban-design-autumn-school-with-uca/>



Margate Sands on August Bank Holiday this year - just like old times!

New Book Published

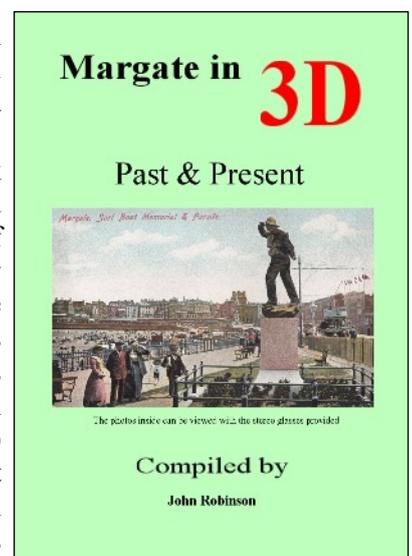
Margate in 3D - Past & Present

Margate Civic Society member John Robinson has produced a local history book with a difference.

The 76-page book contains 155 vintage and 47 new stereographs of Margate and nearby places with descriptive text. The stereographs have been prepared as overlapping red & cyan images (anaglyphs) which give a 3D effect when viewed through the red & cyan glasses included with the book.

The book is A4 size and spiral bound. Cost of the book is £12.50 (excluding postage).

The privately printed book is only obtainable from the author, John Robinson robinsons@the2jays.f2s.com



Safety railings installed along the Harbour Arm

Iron railings were installed on the Stone Pier (now known as Margate Harbour Arm) in the days immediately prior to the August Bank Holiday weekend. The Stone Pier has existed without any railings for over two hundred years but the risk of people falling into the harbour led TDC to install these railings. The Stone Pier is Grade II-listed and there will be many lovers of old Margate who feel that these railings detract from the openness and beauty of the harbour whilst others will argue that lives would almost certainly have been saved had the railings been installed earlier.

These photographs were taken during the afternoon of August Bank Holiday Monday when there were hundreds of visitors on the Stone Pier (although you would not know it by looking at these photographs).

The railings blend into the harbour quite well and certainly provide support for anyone wanting to lean on them whilst admiring Margate's fine seafront. However, many of the uprights are not secured firmly and one cannot help but wonder how long it will be before someone manages to uproot the vertical columns.

Do take a look at these new railings and see what you think about them.

Whilst on the Stone Pier, do also take a look at the red K6 telephone kiosk near Droit House. After having been painted and restored some six years ago, it has once again become an 'eyesore'. Vandals have again sprayed graffiti over it and broken a number of the kiosk's windows. Margate Charter Trustees 'adopted' this telephone kiosk some nine years ago but seemingly failed to make adequate arrangements to ensure that it was properly and regularly maintained as a non-functioning telephone kiosk. This K6 kiosk has featured in previous Newsletters (see Nos. 353, 359, 360, 362 and 363). No doubt this K6 telephone kiosk will again feature in future Newsletters. □ **JB**



What's On

Margate Civic Society (talks all start at 7.30 pm at the Walpole Bay Hotel, Fifth Avenue, Cliftonville)

Date 2017	Subject
5th October	Annual General Meeting followed by a talk on 'The Secret Gardens of Sandwich' by Steve Edney (Head Gardener at <i>The Salutation</i>)
2nd November	'The Vikings are Coming' - a talk by Imogen Corrigan, lecturer on Anglo-Saxon & Medieval History of Art
14th December	Our Christmas social evening, including films, our Christmas raffle, our quiz and refreshments. Guests £3.50 each
2018	
January	No meeting
1st February	'Christopher Alexander's paintings - Mediterranean Theme' by Steve Alexander
1st March	'Westgate-on-Sea in the 1950s' by Sally Whitworth
5th April	'Public Timekeeping on the Isle of Thanet' by Mike Bundock, Chairman of the Herne Bay Historical Records Society
10th May	Town Pride Awards followed by refreshments. Guests £3.50 each nominal fee
4th October	AGM followed by 'Thanet's Gift to the World' by Dr Andrew Brown BA, PhD, MCBA, Planning Director, South East Planning Group, Historic England
1st November	'Time to Thank Them' by John Drewy, Patron of The Nursing Memorial Appeal
13th December	Christmas 50th Anniversary Celebratory Event - a 1960s-theme evening with films, music, photo-quiz, raffle and refreshments - full details tbc



Westgate Heritage Centre (in the back of St Saviour's Church)

Our Autumn/Winter programme - Open on the first Saturday of each month from 10:00 am to 12 noon when there will be a talk by one or more of our members at 10.30 am Do come and see our Collection. Home-made refreshments are available at our meetings

Date 2017	Subject
7th October	'Roxburgh Road' - an illustrated talk by Dr Dawn Crouch on one of the earliest roads in Westgate-on-Sea. Includes new material recently obtained
4th November	'Westgate Bay' - an illustrated talk by Dr Dawn Crouch on the story of the bay which gave its name to the new town and watering-place of Westgate-on-Sea
2nd December	'Celebrating the seasons' - an illustrated talk by Sally Whitworth on past Christmas and New Year celebrations in Westgate-on-Sea.

Come and browse through our collection of material and photographs of Westgate, which is growing all the time. We have large-scale maps and plans which reveal great detail about your street or area

Margate Civic Society

www.margatecivicsociety.org.uk

Supported by



Founded in 1968, the Margate Civic Society is a registered charity. It is a founder member of Civic Voice and is affiliated to both the Kent Federation of Amenity Societies and the Kent History Federation.

The Society's purpose and aims are to encourage high standards of architecture and town planning in Margate and its environs (Birchington, Westgate-on-Sea, Cliftonville, Westbrook, Garlinge, Acol, Sarre and St Nicholas-at-Wade); to stimulate public interest and care for the history and character of the area; and to encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general amenity and historical interest. To this end, Town Pride awards are given annually to those buildings which have been refurbished, cleaned or modified and which, in the opinion of the Society, have enhanced the appearance of the town. New high-quality buildings are also eligible for the award. The Society also vets planning applications and makes known to Thanet District Council any objections to those applications which it considers necessary.

Evening meetings are held monthly between October and May at the Walpole Bay Hotel, Fifth Avenue, Cliftonville. The lectures, mostly digitally illustrated, are interesting and of local interest; they are also varied in their appeal. A Newsletter is published four times a year.

Committee for 2016/17:

President: Mr Ralph Handscomb, 14 Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 3AB (Tel: 01843 293169)
(e-mail: handscomb@talktalk.net)

Chairman: Mrs Pamela Pople, Hurston Cottage, Sloe Lane, Westwood, Margate CT9 4DX (Tel: 01843 221689)
(e-mail: pamela@hurstoncottage.co.uk)

Vice-Chairman: Mr Harry Scobie, 59 Gloucester Avenue, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 3NP (Tel: 078 6227 6466)
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Secretary: Mr Geoff Orton, 25 Norman Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8RR (Tel: 01843 835085)
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Newsletter Editor: Mr James Brazier, "The Moorings", 25 Barnes Avenue, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EQ
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(Tel: 01843 832834) (e-mail: mike.thompson6565@btinternet.com)

If you are interested in joining our Society, please fill in the enrolment form below:

✂.....

Enrolment/Renewal Form

I enclose the sum of £

Name:

Address:

Tel: **e-mail:**

Subscription rates for 2016/17 and 2017/18:

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Annual (Paper Newsletter*)	£12.00	£16.00	£4.00	—
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Please note that Life Membership subscription is no longer available

and send it to the Membership Secretary, Ms Sally Whitworth, C/o 25 Norman Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8RR

* A Paper Newsletter means that a black-and-white printed copy of the Newsletter will be delivered to you

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