

Margate Civic Society

(Founded 1968)
Registered Charity No. 257884



Winter 2008/09
Newsletter
Issue No. 353

"The love of our town leads us"

President: Mr Ralph Handscomb
Chairman: Mrs Margaret Main

We end our 40th anniversary year with a special 16-page edition of our Newsletter. It is always pleasing to receive contributions from members for inclusion in our Newsletter and it was particularly so when, just a few weeks ago, I received a call from Arnold Schwartzman during one of his visits to Margate from his home in Los Angeles when he gave me his latest contribution for inclusion in the Newsletter. Members will recall his delightful letter, which was published in Newsletter No. 348 (Autumn 2007), which contained many happy memories of his life in Margate.

Arnold Schwartzman is an internationally-renowned graphic designer and documentary film-maker who began his career in British television and in 1982 received an Oscar for his documentary film *Genocide*. He is also the author of many books. In 2002, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) and, in 2006, was elected a Royal Designer for Industry (RDI). Although he left Margate more than half a century ago, he still has tremendous affection for the town which shines through his article in this Newsletter. He is a member of our Society and much enjoys reading the Newsletter. We are most fortunate that Arnold Schwartzman actively supports the Society from such a long distance.

I feel sure that members will enjoy reading his article over the Christmas period and that it will take their minds off the doom and gloom which otherwise surrounds us all during the worsening global economic situation.

At long last, work has finally begun on the construction of the Turner Contemporary art gallery. The weather conditions on the day of the ground-breaking ceremony gave the contractors an insight to the exposed position of the gallery. As one of those invited to the ceremony, it was difficult not to be constantly reminded of the many photographs showing the wreckage on the Rendezvous Site after the Great Storm of 29th November 1897 – almost exactly 111 years previously. Let's hope that history does not repeat itself once the building has been completed.

And lastly, it has been reported that filming for a future episode of the popular TV programme *The Apprentice* took place in Margate in October and that the episode is expected to be broadcast early next year. Apparently, the eight contestants were given the challenge to 're-brand Margate' in an endeavour to make the town more attractive to businesses and visitors. It will be interesting to see what ideas the contestants come up with to meet that challenge. Let's hope that the publicity the town receives will be good for the future of Margate. □

James Brazier
Newsletter Editor

Welcome to new members

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

Mrs Rita Anthony
Mr L. D. & Mrs K. M. Biggs
Mrs E. MacDonald
Mrs Monica Jones
Mrs G. C. Miller
Mrs Sheila Halliday
Mr Michael Thompson
Ms Elaine Phillips
Mrs Cynthia Cronin

Garry Cowans
Membership Secretary

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions were due for renewal on 1st October 2008. If you have not renewed your subscription, please note that this issue of the Newsletter will be the last one that you will receive. To ensure that you do receive future issues of the Newsletter without interruption, please send your subscription to the Membership Secretary (Mr Garry Cowans) c/o 34 Royal Esplanade, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EG. The subscription rates for the current year are shown on the back page of this Newsletter. □

Garry Cowans
Membership Secretary



We wish all our members a very Happy Christmas
and a peaceful New Year



Exhibition of Turner Watercolours at the Courtauld Gallery

An exhibition of Turner watercolours is currently on display at the Courtauld Gallery, Somerset House, London until 25th January 2009. It is the first full display of the Gallery's collection of watercolours by J. M. W. Turner. Included in the display are at least five watercolours of Margate which are most appealing, particularly one (*Margate Pier*, circa 1835-40) which features the full length of Jarvis's jetty. Do pay a visit to the exhibition if you are in the West End. For further information, phone 020 7848 2526 or visit the website www.courtauld.ac.uk

Margate Historical Society

The Margate Historical Society has recently announced that it will be wound up in December. As many of our members will be aware, Margate Historical Society produced for the last eleven years a magazine "Bygone Margate" – in recent years on a five-times-a-year basis. Sadly, the issue of "Bygone Margate" due to be issued in mid-December will be the last one. Mick Twyman, the magazine's editor, has had to give up due to ill-health and no-one has come forward to take on its production. Mick Twyman has been the editor throughout that time and the production of the magazine was supported by a small team of regular contributors as well as a number of occasional contributors. The purpose of the magazine was 'to seek and conserve the history of Margate' and there can be no doubt that it was successful in that aim and that the magazine raised the profile of the town's heritage. The range of subjects covered over the last eleven years – including a number of additional special editions dealing with, for example, the Tudor House – made the magazine essential reading for anyone interested in the history and heritage of Margate. Our town will be poorer without the magazine and one can only hope that someone else will come forward and produce something similar in the foreseeable future.

Special thanks must be given to Mick Twyman for his endeavours which, it is understood, go back to the early 1990s when the now-defunct organisation, The Friends of Margate Museum, was in existence.

The news that there will be no further issues of "Bygone Margate" after December closely follows the decision to close Margate Museum last October (as a consequence of TDC withdrawing its annual grant to the East Kent Maritime Trust). All this is very bad news for anyone interested in Margate's history and heritage.

One shudders to think what our late President, Dr Alan Kay, would make of these developments which will, inevitably, result in a loss of local-history knowledge in our town. Fortunately, for us, copies of a number of Alan Kay's books on the history of Margate are still available in bookshops. But, what of the future?

A report on the EKMT's special general meeting held on 20th November at Albion House, Ramsgate is contained elsewhere in this Newsletter. □

New Newsletter Distribution Officer

We are pleased to announce that the appeal in the Summer Newsletter for a volunteer to come forward from our membership to replace Jack Pilcher – who had carried out those duties tirelessly over many, many years – attracted offers from two of our members. It really was most gratifying that we received such a good response. With effect from this edition of our Newsletter, our new Newsletter Distribution Officer is:

Mrs Lynda Smith
5 Addington Square
Margate CT9 1NN
(Tel: 228174)

Westgate Heritage Centre

In the past, the Westgate Heritage Centre has been closed from the end of September until the following Easter. This year, thanks to the unlimited enthusiasm of its curator



Dr Dawn Crouch, the centre is operating a Winter Programme when the centre is open on the first Saturday of the month from 10.00am to 12.30pm. During these times, displays on Westgate's history will be on exhibit

and, at 11.00 am on those Saturdays, a short talk will be given by the Curator on some aspect of the history of Westgate and Westbrook.

The subject for the October talk was Westgate's Royal Visitors. In November, a special display was mounted to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Armistice and the centre's Victorian schoolroom was changed to a wartime one based on St Saviour's School log-book of the time. The Curator gave a most moving tribute to the men of Westgate who fought in the Great War and to the women of Westgate who waited – and wept. The display and the talk really were first class. In December, the wartime displays were still on display and the theme of the talk was the Westbrook Estate.

The dates and subjects of the remaining short talks are as follows:

Saturday, 3rd January 2009

The butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker
(Westgate's shops in the 1880s/1890s)

Saturday, 7th February 2009

Streete Court

Saturday, 7th March 2009

The Tower House/St Augustine's

Saturday, 4th April 2009

Westgate's Artisan Houses

All of the talks will start at 11.00am and the displays on Westgate's history will be on show.

Dr Dawn Crouch is actively seeking memories of the day that war broke out (3rd September 1939). If you can help her in any way and be part of history, please do contact her on 01843 832617.

The Heritage Centre is located at the back of St Saviour's Church, Westgate Bay Avenue. If you have not yet paid a visit to the centre, you are strongly recommended to call in on any of the above dates/times when tea/coffee and home-made scones are also available. You will not be disappointed. □

www.westgateheritagecentre.co.uk

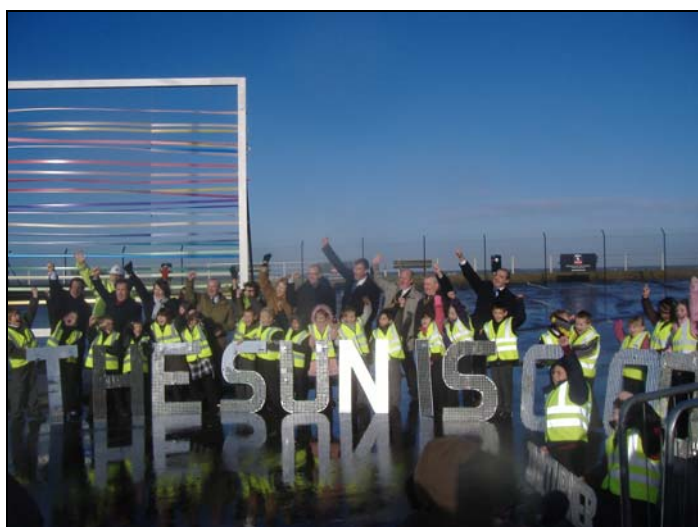
"My best holidays were at Margate"

– Sir Roger Moore

It was good to read the report of an interview with Roger Moore published in *The Sunday Times* on 19th October 2008 when the 81-year-old actor told the interviewer that his best holidays were before the war when he was seven or eight. He told how he and family stayed with a step-aunt in a house at the 'posh end' of Margate. Happy days!

Turner Contemporary: Ground-Breaking at the Rendezvous Site

More than 100 invited guests braved the wintry conditions on Tuesday morning, 25th November 2008 to witness the ground-breaking ceremony to mark the long-awaited start of works on the Rendezvous Site for the Turner Contemporary art gallery. Although the event was bathed in sunshine, the temperature was significantly lowered by the bitter north-westerly wind-chill factor. To add to the atmosphere of the occasion, enormous waves were breaking over the promenade. Cllr Michael Hill, KCC Cabinet Member for Community Services, made perhaps his shortest speech ever before hot coffee beckoned everyone to the Media Centre. Throughout its long gestation period, the 'Turner Centre' has proved to be a succession of challenges and the ground-breaking ceremony proved to be yet one more challenge to add to its record. Let's hope that it will be the last challenge! ☐



Children from Holy Trinity and St John's Primary School joining the invited dignitaries in showing their support of Turner Contemporary. The reflective letters read: "THE SUN IS GOD" – a quotation from Turner. It had been the intention to mount those letters on the frame in the background but the weather conditions were unfavourable



Cllr Michael Hill (KCC Cabinet Member for Community Services), Cllr Sandy Ezekiel (Leader of TDC) and Cllr Paul Carter (Leader of KCC) jointly prepare to break the ground for Turner Contemporary at the Rendezvous Site

Shottendane

Parts of *Shottendane* – originally the home of the late Dr Arthur Rowe and now Shottendane Nursing Home – were open to the public for the very first time on Saturday, 13th September as part of the Heritage Days event; thanks to the Home's Colin Foreman and to our Peter Blore. Many of our members took advantage of the opportunity to visit this Arts & Crafts architectural gem which was featured in the Summer edition of our Newsletter.

Amongst the visitors to Shottendane that day were Mrs Doreen Warren with her husband Melvin from Sandwich. Mrs Doreen Warren (née Hyde)'s grandfather – Mr Ernest Beaney – had been employed by Dr Rowe as Head Gardener at *Shottendane* from the time that Shottendane was built 1910 until he retired in the 1950s and she had brought along that day a number of early family photographs taken at *Shottendane* including the following:



Mrs Doreen Warren's mother, Doris Hyde (née Beaney), sitting on a garden wall at Shottendane with her mother, Mary Beaney, standing - both are wearing YMCA uniforms during WWI



Mrs Doreen Warren's grandfather, Mr Ernest Beaney, working as Head Gardener at Shottendane circa 1920. This boiler-house still stands but the doorway on the right and the window are now sealed up



Relaxing in the garden of Shottendane during the Great War – showing the Head Gardener's three children: Edward (in Army uniform on the right), Gwen (in the foreground) and Doris (on far right) with two friends. This charming photograph was also taken during WWI

Margate Museum

As a consequence of Thanet District Council's decision earlier this year to cease its annual funding of £100,000 to the East Kent Maritime Trust, both the Margate Museum and the Ramsgate Maritime Museum closed their doors on 1st October. TDC is now hoping that a new 'subscription-based' membership-led heritage association will be formed to allow the re-opening of the two museums.

In the meantime, it was reported in the local press that the East Kent Maritime Trust would be holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the evening of 17th September at Margate Old Town Hall and that it would be open to members of the public. The primary purpose was to approve the Trust's annual accounts for the three years 2005, 2006 and 2007. Four trustees attended that meeting and around a dozen local residents were in attendance including four employees of the Trust and at least six members of Margate Civic Society. The Chairman of the Trust, Mr Dennis Payne, then announced that the Charity Commission had advised the Trust that, because the Trust's Constitution required a quorum of ten trustees to be present at an AGM and that because the Trust currently has only six trustees, it would be necessary to put a formal announcement in the local press giving a minimum of 14 days' notice of a Special General Meeting (SGM) which the Charity Commission would accept in lieu of an AGM in the circumstances. Mr Payne also reported that all of their employees had been told that day that they were to be made redundant. After a general discussion, the meeting was closed with a promise that an announcement would be made in the local press regarding the date of the SGM at which the last three years' accounts would be available.

An announcement in the local press duly appeared at the end of September stating that the SGM would be held on 8th October at Margate Old Town Hall. On that occasion, only three trustees were present but the meeting did attract a few more public. However, because the accounts for the last three years were still not available (no reason was given for their unavailability), the meeting had to be adjourned. Members of the public were asked to leave their names and addresses and were promised that copies of the last three years' accounts would be posted to them before the date of the adjourned SGM. So, once again, off we went.

The next announcement in the local press appeared in early November announcing the date of the adjourned SGM was to be held on 20th November at Albion House, Ramsgate. Just two days before that date, the Trust sent out copies of the 2005 and 2007 accounts to those who had attended the meeting on 8th October. Significantly, as it transpired, copies of the 2006 accounts were not sent out.

Around twenty members of the public attended the meeting at Albion House and, as might be expected, most were residents of Ramsgate. On that occasion, all six trustees were present although neither the Leader of TDC nor the Deputy Leader was able to attend although they had both been invited. It seems that the invitees had delegated another councillor to attend on their behalf but he neither appeared nor sent his apologies for absence.

A member of the public questioned why copies of the 2006 accounts were not sent out to those who had attended the previous meeting and one of the trustees explained that that year's accounts was subject to a 'full audit' because the turnover that year was such that it took the accounts into a higher category for the purposes of filing the annual accounts with the Charity Commission. On further questioning, those present were told that it would be necessary for the EKMT to hold yet another SGM to approve the 2006 accounts once they became available.

That same trustee reported that the reason why the turnover in 2006 was higher than usual was because a very large legacy of around a £¼ million had been received that year by the Trust from the estate of a former trustee. It was clarified that this former trustee was not Alan Kay as had been believed by some to have been the benefactor.

We were also told that the reason why three years' accounts had not been approved was because the last AGM was held over three years ago – in July 2005!

An interesting debate then took place regarding TDC's representation on the Trust. Two of the trustees, John Kirby and Bill Hayton, are TDC councillors but neither represent TDC despite the Trust's constitution providing for 'trustees are elected annually and include representatives from a number of named bodies such as Thanet District Council'. It would seem that either the Trust did not seek representatives from TDC or that TDC declined to appoint any representatives – or that no-one was bothered. Whether TDC would have made the fateful decision to cease funding the EKMT had TDC been properly represented on the Trust must remain a matter of conjecture.

It was very evident from the meeting that the trustees are struggling with the many problems the Trust faces. Not least of those problems are a number of legal disputes. Such disputes have already incurred the Trust in meeting legal fees and could result in crippling costs. As regards one of those disputes, a mediation meeting with the claimant is due to be held on 3rd December when, it is hoped, that particular matter will be resolved.

It can be seen that most of the discussion at the meeting on 20th November revolved around administrative matters rather than the way forward for the two museums. This is because the trustees really had nothing to report regarding TDC's intentions.

Those who attended the meeting left Albion House with a greater knowledge of the Trust's finances and of the Trust's many difficulties but with no more knowledge regarding the future of either Margate Museum or Ramsgate Maritime Museum.

What is certain is that the EKMT is to wind up as soon as it can bearing in mind that it cannot be finally wound up until the 2006 accounts have been approved and all of the outstanding legal disputes have been resolved.

One can only hope that TDC will find a way to allow the two museums to re-open and that both museums will, once again, provide a valuable service to both residents and visitors alike. TDC should be proud of both these museums and of the important contributions they each make to the outstanding heritage of our historic area. □

Two former ‘Town Shame’ properties restored to their former splendour

It is good to be able to report on the very successful restoration of two attractive buildings which so easily could have been lost to the town. Both are in Cliftonville and photographs of each of them have appeared for ‘Town Shaming’ in past issues of our Newsletter.

The first of the two is the imposing four-storey building on the corner of Cliff Terrace. The property had been empty for twenty years or so and the owner had refused to carry out the necessary repairs. The property was granted Grade II listed building status only last year and TDC eventually secured a voluntary change of ownership but were fully prepared to proceed with compulsory purchase action had this not happened. Together with the adjoining properties (Nos. 12/13), Nos 14/15 have now been restored and converted to apartments as a total package and are currently on the market.

Before the Cliff Terrace renovation works...



and after the Cliff Terrace renovation works...



Note: An article on the Grade II listing of 14/15 Cliff Terrace was contained in Newsletter No. 349 (Winter 2007/08)

The second property is 77 Eastern Esplanade (on the north-eastern corner of Surrey Road). This property was similarly empty for many years but with the added complication of multiple ownership by foreign nationals living overseas. Thankfully, TDC eventually purchased the property under compulsory purchase powers and has since transferred ownership to a housing association which has successfully converted the property into very attractive apartments which are currently on the market for sale on a shared-ownership basis.

No. 77 Eastern Esplanade before the renovation works...



and after the renovation works...



One of the nice touches in the restoration of 77 Eastern Esplanade is the addition of the year ‘2008’ in the stonework marking the completion of the restoration works. This addition matches the year ‘1899’ which was already incorporated in the building when it was first built as can be seen in the photograph below:



Full credit is given to TDC for their perseverance in securing the restoration of these two fine buildings and in particular to their Empty Properties Officer, Mike Thompson, for achieving such a pleasing outcome in both cases which should ensure that these important buildings last another century or more. Perhaps both the Fort Road Hotel and the former Arcadian Hotel will be similarly restored in the not too far distant future. Let’s hope so! □

Did you know... ?

Some of our Civic Society members who have moved to the area in the last 40 years may be interested in another bit of our town's history: that one of the country's major stores started its business in our town.

Mr F. Perkins, a respected local businessman and councillor, operated a coal-yard and furniture-depository site in College Road at the rear of The Victoria public house. In the early 1960s, the site was cleared to make way for Margate's first mini-market (housing developments in nearby Yoakley Square and Perkins Avenue were also established around this time). The mini-market was called 'Busy-B' but, sadly, did not last for many years. From the closure of the Busy B mini-market arose one of the town's first DIY stores 40 years ago. This is now a well known national group leader and, in fact, the leader of the giant Kingfisher Group.

The first store of B&Q retail was formed by two gentlemen who took the opportunity to start up the B&Q retail where the Victoria Carpets store now stands. Initially, the DIY store sold nothing else but imported hardboard from Sweden which, I believe, was sold in eight-foot by four-foot size for just £2. The sale of hardboard was followed by the sale of plaster-board. As demand grew, the store expanded its stock and eventually moved to Westwood where it still operates.

The transition from a small business to the now well-known established outlet with branches throughout the country has been of great help to many DIY enthusiasts. As the saying goes: 'from small acorns...' How the logo 'B&Q' came into existence, I don't know but I suspect that it is derived in some way from those two men's names. Can you add to this remarkable story? If so, please let our Newsletter Editor know. □

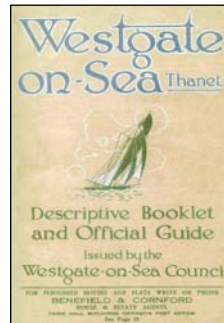
Jack Pilcher



Book Review

Westgate-on-Sea: Descriptive Booklet and Official Guide (undated but probably 1923) 48pp sb £3.99

Reprint published 2008 by Michael's Bookshop (copies are available from Michael's Bookshop, 72 King Street, Ramsgate and Westgate Heritage Centre)



This is another reprint from Michael's Bookshop and will appeal to anyone with an interest in Westgate in the 1920s. Original copies of these early guides published by Westgate-on-Sea Council are very rare and in reprinting this booklet at an affordable price, Michael's Bookshop is providing a service to those who are interested in the history of our area

and in the development of its towns and villages. Westgate, of course, really only came into existence as a separate parish in the late 1860s and by the 1920s – when this official guide was originally published – still retained a large part of its 'exclusivity'. Much of that appeal, however, was going to change when Margate Borough Council took over both Westgate and Birchington in 1935. The guide also contains, in addition to many evocative photographs (with scarcely a car in sight!), numerous trade advertisements which capture the atmosphere and independence of the town in the 1920s. The reprint is in A5 format which is slightly smaller than the original size.

This book is a 'must have' for anyone interested in Westgate and, at £3.99, this booklet comes highly recommended. □



Santa at the Shell Grotto – December Dates 2008



John Abrey is the stage name of John Cotterill, who is one of our members and who suggested that the lovely magazine article by Roy Hudd opposite might be of interest to the membership at large. We are most grateful to him for supplying the article which appeared in *Yours* magazine earlier this year and to both Roy Hudd and the publishers of *Yours* magazine for giving us permission to include it in our Newsletter.

For further details of Santa's Grotto:

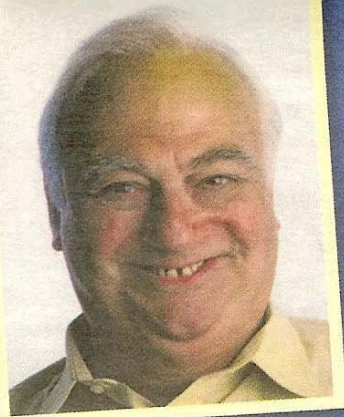
Telephone 01843 220008 or visit the website www.shellgrotto.co.uk

Santa at the Shell Grotto weekend open dates:

Saturday, 6th
Sunday, 7th
Saturday, 13th
Sunday, 14th
Saturday, 20th
Sunday 21st

12noon to 4pm





Roy Hudd

Because a little of what
you fancy does you good

Once a Redcoat always a red coat

Roy is shelling out to see a special Santa perform before he hangs up his beard for the final time

As Harry Secombe said in a memorable Goon Show: "Ah! Christmas Eve and not a booking for pantomime!" As panto seasons, alas, get shorter and shorter, where do performers get to work at Christmas? Some of my chums are on the cruise ships – well, stoking pays pretty good money – some are sorting letters and others are on the dole.

But here's someone who's done most things as an entertainer and has a job that, like my agent buying me a drink, happens just once a year. John Abrey IS Father Christmas.

'The grotto is a most fascinating mysterious place'

He's more than your average, 'Ho-Ho-Ho-er'. Not just your everyday reindeer rustler. He even gets reviews of his character from satisfied customers, 'Truly the most magical Santa ever.' 'He is the top Santa.'

It doesn't surprise me in the least. What a life in entertaining John has had – and is still having. Shows in the RAF led to him getting into the then great training ground for would-be wannabes – Butlins. John was a Redcoat 40-odd years ago and he's still a red coat, only now with a beard and a sack! He was the perfect holiday camp host. What a day he had to cope with – and I know because I took the same route after

National Service in the RAF. A typical 24 hours started at 7.30am for a 'jolly' breakfast with the campers and then you were at it till around midnight. It was like being on stage for 17 hours.

John handled it all very well, so much so that he became a Butlins entertainments manager, organising and compering all the knobbly knees-type contests. They were terrific fun. Do they still do them, or are they considered totally non-PC these days?

So many **Yours** readers will remember and, no doubt, have tried to be, *The Holiday Princess*, *The Glamorous Grandmother*, *Miss She* or even a finalist in the famous (£2,000 to the winner) talent contest. In his 'spare time' he produced the weekly hour-long Redcoat Show and organised prize-winning floats for the Margate Carnival.

I first saw John as a music hall chairman at the Lyceum in The Strand. He did this job all over the country – great preparation for his seasonal role. But this Christmas, John says, is his last as the legendary bringer of joy. I don't know why – he's only 85! He says he's tired of sitting in one place for so long – I know the feeling!

But what a venue John has for Santa's swansong. His grotto is indeed a genuine grotto, The Shell Grotto in Margate. It's a most fascinating, mysterious place. Re-discovered in 1835, it had lain forgotten and buried under farmland. Its rooms and passageways are covered by 2,000 sq ft of mosaics created from 4.6 million shells. Some say it was an ancient



Santa John will be Ho Ho Ho-ing for the last time

temple, some that it was a venue for a secret sect and others that it was simply a Regency folly. The mosaics are of gods, goddesses, trees of life and naughty bits. There seem to be lots of historic Masonic symbols, and one of today's Knights Templars has claimed it was one of their early meeting places.

The grotto is owned by mother and daughter, Sarah Vickery and Patricia Ratcliff, and it was they who saw that the place was a perfect home for Santa. But where could they find the perfect Santa? Just down the road in Cliftonville! Santa John and the magical Shell Grotto were made for each other.

After doing the business in The House of Commons, The Dorchester Hotel, Chelsea Football Club and at the home of the Duke and Duchess of York (even the nobs love him), he'll be hanging up his beard at last. You have a merry Christmas, John.

// You can find out Shell Grotto opening times by calling 01843 220008.

THE QUEEN'S PROMENADE: BRIDGING THE GAPS

by Arnold Schwartzman



*The Queen's Promenade in Edwardian days.
Lewis Crescent is on the left and the original Queen's Hotel is
directly facing the camera*

*How lightly municipal, meltingly tarr'd
Were the walks through the lawns by the Queen's
Promenade
As soft over Cliftonville languished the light ...*

Margate in 1940 – John Betjeman

This Little Piggy Went to Margate

Following the survival of a direct hit by enemy aircraft on our home during the London Blitz, I was evacuated to the countryside. At WWII's end, my parents took me on my first holiday to Cliftonville, Margate.

My father, who was a former waiter at London's Savoy Hotel, predicted a post-war holiday boom, so my parents opened a small boarding house in Warwick Road and after a few successful seasons acquired a small hotel on Lewis Crescent. Thus began my life and romance living adjacent to the Queen's Promenade, also referred to as Queen's Parade or Flagstaff Promenade.

From the age of nine for a period of ten years I enjoyed some of the best years of my life domiciled between two gateways to the sea: Newgate and Hodges Gaps.

On returning to Cliftonville some half century later, I witnessed many changes due to the capricious habits of holidaymakers, economics, storms and fires. In the words of T. S. Eliot "I could connect nothing with nothing".

Despite these losses, I was delighted to discover that there has recently been a serious attempt to renovate many of the surviving buildings of the area.

*Arnold Schwartzman walking
along the Queen's Promenade
with his grandfather
- circa 1947*



The following essay is my salute to the Queen's Promenade of my youth, so allow me to take you for a stroll along the "Prom, Prom, Prom! Where the brass bands once played Tiddely-om-pom-pom"!

The Queen's Promenade begins at the western end of the parade at Newgate Gap. Cut from the chalk cliffs, the Gap slopes down from the chine steps on Ethelbert Terrace under an iron bridge to the beach below. This was built by Captain Frederick Hodges in 1861 to facilitate access to the flagstaff erected at Palm Bay.



*Pettman's Bathing Station below the Queen's Highcliffe Hotel.
Newgate Gap Bridge can be seen on the right*

In 1907, a new bridge to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough of Margate replaced the original span. At each corner of the new bridge were glazed Doulton tiles beacons. In 2003, the bridge had yet again been replaced *sans* the tiled ornament. On the sands below was Pettman's Bathing Station which advertised "50 cubicles, tea, coffee, Oxo and Horlicks, and open from 7 A.M.". A "Splashboard" deck with three sloping walkways led to the many horse-drawn bathing machines lined up in the shallow waters.

*From out the Queen's Highcliffe for weeks at a stretch
I watched how the mower evaded the vetch...*

- John Betjeman



*The Queen's Highcliffe Hotel with Newgate Gap Bridge in the
foreground*

Fronting the bridge at right-angles to the Promenade was the resplendent Queen's Highcliffe Hotel. Built in 1885, the hotel became one of the most luxurious and fashionable hotels on Britain's south-east coast. Originally, it was three separate hotels. To the north was the Highcliffe Hotel, in the centre was the Kimber's Hotel run by Miss Kimber. A centre tower was added in 1911 when Mrs Champion, the owner of the Highcliffe Hotel merged with the owner of the Queen's Hotel becoming the Queen's Highcliffe Hotel. In 1955, the Hotel became part of the Butlin's Hotel Group and was finally sold to ten separate companies.

One morning during the 1950s, while on my way to school, I witnessed the fire that destroyed the centre portion of the hotel. Following a subsequent fire in 1974, the building was demolished and replaced with the Queen's Court housing complex.



The Cliftonville Hydro Hotel, later re-named the Grand Hotel

Betjeman continued:

*How restful to putt, when the strains of a band
Announced a thé dansant was on at The Grand...*



The Oval Bandstand with the Queen's Hotel behind before the Highcliffe Hotel was built

The Queen's Highcliffe overlooked the 2,000 seat Oval Bandstand built in 1890 on the vast Queen's Lawns, which was once a school cricket ground. On the Promenade side of the lawns was a tennis court surrounded by hedgerows. The original structure, one of Margate's five bandstands, was identical to the one on Fort Green (replaced by the Winter Gardens and Fort Pavilion in 1911) and the Queen's Bandstand on Lewis Avenue. In the 1900s, the Oval was replaced by a hexagonal bandstand, which over the years had suffered from the elements, thus in 2006 a replica of the earliest bandstand was erected.

In his 1971 book *The Kingdom by the Sea*, the American author Paul Theroux described his experience of walking along the Queen's Promenade and passing the Oval Bandstand as follows: "... I heard music. It was *We'll Gather Lilacs in the Spring Again* being played by a man seated at an organ in an open-air amphitheatre. The wind whipped at the folding deckchairs around him and made their canvas flutter and flap. There were more than five hundred chairs, and all of them were empty. The man went on playing and pulling out stops while the chairs flapped under the grey sky."

South of the bandstand was the Balmoral Hotel at 27-29 Eastern Esplanade, formerly owned by Mrs Hill Smith; it was later owned by my aunt, Mrs Eve Stander. A little further to the east at 41-43 was the Cliftonville Hydro built in 1899, which boasted having both Russian and Turkish baths. In 1920, it became the Grand Hotel.



The Arbemarle Hotel, Eastern Esplanade

Just a few doors away at number 47, sandwiched between two schools, was Mr Walter Beazley's Albemarle Hotel distinguished by the fact that, in 1921, T.S. Eliot wrote *The Waste Land* while staying there.

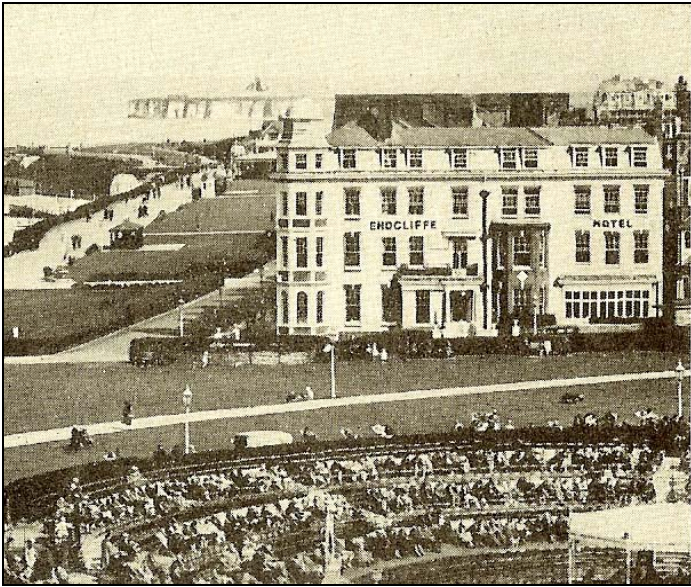
*On Margate Sands.
I can connect
Nothing with nothing.
The broken fingernails of dirty hands.
My people humble people who expect Nothing.*

On the Promenade to the south of the Oval are the remnants of an iron stairway leading down to the beach, where I was often egged on by peer pressure from my playmates to negotiate the almost hundred feet climb down to the beach.

Travelling east past the Oval and opposite First Avenue was a wooden kiosk, its windows advertising live performances at the Winter Gardens of the likes of Beniamino Gigli, Gracie Fields, and Laurel & Hardy, and at The Lido, Reg Varney and Benny Hill appearing in

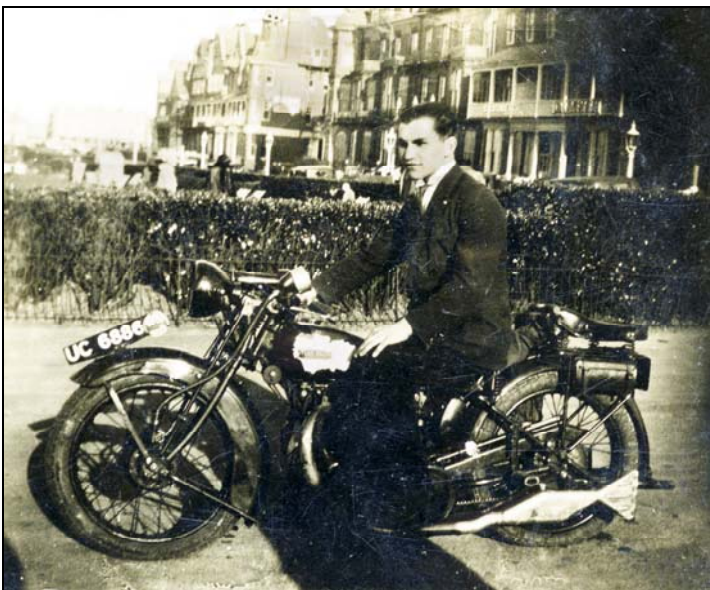
“Gaytime”. (Reg Varney died 16th November 2008, aged 92 – Ed)

Often stationed outside the kiosk was the popular Sunbeam photographer Chris Fright, who would gaze down into the large bellows of his Ruby Reflex camera urging holidaymakers to give him a big smile. The visitors would come back the following day to view their photographs.



The Endcliffe Hotel with the Oval Bandstand in the foreground

Situated on the corner of First Avenue and parallel to the Promenade is my former home of Lewis Crescent. Anchored on its right flank at No. 1-3 was the Endcliffe Hotel once owned by Mr Bouldry.



The author's father, David Schwartzman, on his Matchless motorcycle in Lewis Crescent

A 1930s photograph shows my father with his motorcycle outside the Endcliffe. Little did he know that one day he would own a hotel on the Crescent, and as the Worshipful Master of his Masonic lodge hold his “Ladies’ Night” at the Endcliffe Hotel! After a disastrous fire the hotel was demolished and replaced by an apartment building in 2006.



Edwardian postcard of Lewis Crescent looking east (Note the total absence of motor-cars)

At No. 4 Lewis Crescent was the Dalkeith Private Hotel owned by Mrs E. L. Griffith, which later combined with No. 5 Lewis Crescent, became St Cuthbert’s Hotel. Its proprietor since the 1920s was Mr Leon Gradel (a family friend), who later renamed the hotel The Carmel. These premises were recently renovated as housing, receiving a Town Pride Award in 2008.

At Nos. 6-7 Lewis Crescent was The Granville Court owned by Mrs Hall, and adjoining at No. 8 was The Cliftonville Court Hotel owned by Mrs E. A. Green. Recently, it became the Fatty Towers Hotel and pub.



The unveiling of the Bournier Memorial Fountain by the Mayor of Margate, Councillor Harry Smith, on 7th November 1922

At the end of Second Avenue and set into the centre of the lawn fronting Lewis Crescent is the Bournier Memorial Fountain in memory of 2nd Lt R. M. N. Bournier who lost his life in WWI at Passchendaele. Constructed out of Forest of Dean stone, the fountain was recently brought back to its former glory. On the eastern side of Second Avenue at Nos. 9-10 Lewis Crescent was Garfield House, later renamed Cavendish Hotel and later Cavendish Mansions.

In 1951, after their purchase of Kingsthorpe at No. 12 Lewis Crescent, my parents acquired No. 11 (formerly Carisbrooke), which was once owned by Mr Adolphus Stephens. My parents renamed the two buildings Hotel Majestic, and proudly described the hotel in their brochure as being “situated in the finest position on the sea front” which, indeed, it was. In recent years, it was converted into the Majestic Court apartment building.



Nos 11 Lewis Crescent (on the right) and No. 12 Lewis Crescent – the two properties formed the Hotel Majestic and are now Majestic Court



The author's parents, David & Rose Schwartzman, with the staff of the Hotel Majestic standing on the front steps of No. 11 Lewis Crescent (the author can be seen on the extreme left) - circa early 1950s

No. 12 did not exist at the turn of the 19th century and was later slotted in between Nos 11 and 13 (Rowden Hall), the corner building of the Crescent. This elegant Victorian building overlooked the St George Bowling Lawns to the east, and was the summer residence of Jacob Van den Bergh, the margarine magnate.



This Edwardian postcard of Lewis Crescent shows the corner house (No. 13), the summer residence of Jacob Van den Bergh

During WWII, the building served as a New Zealand military hospital. I remember the graffiti of Disney cartoon characters that covered the interior of the house's rotunda, presumably executed by our restless Commonwealth wounded. After the war, the building was used as a retirement home for a time and later lay vacant for a number of years until it was purchased by my parents just prior to their retirement. The house has since been demolished and replaced by a rectangular block of flats.

Where Third Avenue reaches the Promenade is yet another recently renovated structure, the 1934 Art Deco Cliftonville cliff-lift. Operating only during the summer months, it was a boon for elderly visitors and parents with pushchairs wishing to descend to Walpole Bay beach. During the 1950s, the lift charged 3d for adults, 2d for children.

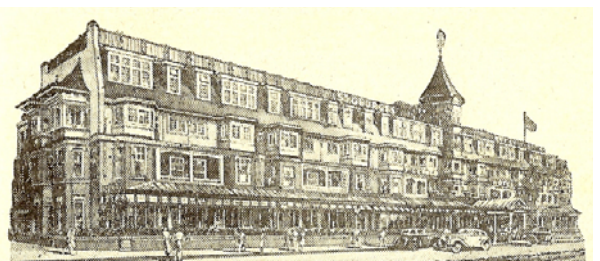
There were a number of Victorian promenade shelters dotted along the sea-front. They were later replaced by flat-roof concrete structures. More recently, an octagonal shelter has been erected on the Promenade near Third Avenue.

I recall the lamplighter with his long pole attending the many gas lampposts along the promenade. During the Cold War, Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev – wishing to portray our nation as being backward in its lighting utilities – denounced these gas lamps as archaic!

Margate for Sunshine

Centered to the south of the St George's Bowling Green was a fenced-off meteorological station where John Turner, the Borough's Meteorological observer, would daily take readings of the amount of sun, wind and rainfall. The location was ideal for the calculation of the amount of daily sunshine as it was not blocked by any surrounding buildings. Mr Turner sometimes allowed me to measure the length of recorded sunshine burnt into the green litmus-paper that sat behind a magnifying globe. Each evening he would despatch his findings by telegram to the Air Ministry.

Fifth Avenue is dominated by the Walpole Bay Hotel, built by Louisa Budge in 1914 (and extended in the 1920s), in 1946-7, my father served as the restaurant manager for the Budge family prior to establishing his own hotel. Today, the Walpole also contains a museum, and is the only surviving major hotel in the town (*the Nayland Rock Hotel has very recently re-opened as a hotel - Ed*) which once included the Cliftonville Hotel, as well as the hotels purchased by Billy Butlin in 1955: the Queen's Highcliffe, the Grand, the Norfolk, the St George's and the Florence. Incidentally, for several years, Mr Butlin would approach my parents offering to purchase the Majestic.



The St George's Hotel, Eastern Esplanade



The Cliftonville Hotel, Ethelbert Crescent (site now occupied by the bowling alley)

Opposite Fifth Avenue is a flight of stone steps leading down to Walpole Bay and the large sun-deck, cabins and caf teria.

At Lewis Avenue Lawns was the former Queen's Bandstand, and later a croquet lawn was situated in front of the recently renovated High Cliff Hall.



Edwardian postcard showing the flagstaff at Hodges Gap with cannon

Finally, we reach Hodges Gap, which was built in 1870 by George Pitt. Its earliest bridge had only a white wooden picket fence, later replaced by stone balustrades. The wooden latticed copulas of Mr Sydney's Koh-I-Noor caf  later became Harold Page's The Bungalow Tea-Rooms, which sadly was destroyed by fire in 1975. Beyond the Gap leading to Palm Bay is Hodges Flagstaff and its several cannon leading on to Prince's Walk, opened by the Prince of Wales in 1926.

Here, after a distance of just over a half-mile ends our short stroll through time and place. It would have been so nice to complete our journey with a nice cup of tea and scones at The Bungalow caf ! However, I understand that one can still enjoy an afternoon cream-tea at The Walpole Bay Hotel.



The bronze plaque that was put up in 1870 at Hodges Gap. For text, see panel which immediately follows this article

The Last Plight of the Proms

The cruel sea had ravaged the Jetty, the lighthouse and the Lido. Fires had destroyed a sea-front arcade, Dreamland, the Bungalow caf , the Queen's Highcliffe and the Endcliffe hotels.

The advent of inexpensive flights to the Costa Brava in the 1960s brought about a decline in the number of holidaymakers to the south-east coast of Britain. One would like to think that the ever-increasing price of fuel today would, hopefully, suggest a resurgence in the town's holiday popularity. Thanks to today's civic pro-active regeneration programme, I can look to the day that the Clock Tower's time-ball will rise again like a phoenix from the ashes and bring the town back to some of its former glory.

So, let's take a page out of Chas 'n' Dave's songbook:

*Down to Margate, you can keep the Costa Brava,
I'm telling ya mate I'd rather have a day down
Margate with all me family...*

Arnold Schwartzman, Hollywood, California 2008

The actual wording (and unconventional punctuation) on the bronze plaque, that once was mounted at Hodges Gap and is now held in store at Margate Museum for safe-keeping, reads as follows:

BOROUGH  **of MARGATE**
FLINT. **MAYOR**

THIS FLAG STAFF. SEATS. GUNS AND FENCE
ERECTED IN 1861. BY F. HODGES ESQ^R
WERE PURCHASED AND PRESENTED BY
GEORGE PITT. OF MITCHAM. SURREY
TO THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE USE OF THE VISITORS
AND INHABITANTS AS A TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF
HIS FATHER. WHO WAS MUCH ATTACHED TO THIS SPOT

OCTOBER · 1870



One of the four magnificently glazed corner points which graced Newgate Gap Bridge which was constructed by Margate Town Council in 1907 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the granting to the town of the Charter of Incorporation in 1857. Sadly, the current whereabouts of these glazed tiles is unknown.

The townfolk of Margate remember



Some 500 local residents attended the annual Service of Remembrance which was held at Margate War Memorial in Trinity Square on Remembrance Sunday, 9th November 2008. The solemn service was conducted by the Rev Brian Sharp (Vicar of St John the Baptist Church, Margate) and the two-minute's silence was marked by the firing of maroons. Representatives from the various local ex-servicemen's organisations were in attendance as were both the Salvation Army Band and the local Sea Cadets Band whose presence was much appreciated by all present. The Margate Charter Trustees were also in attendance wearing their ceremonial robes.

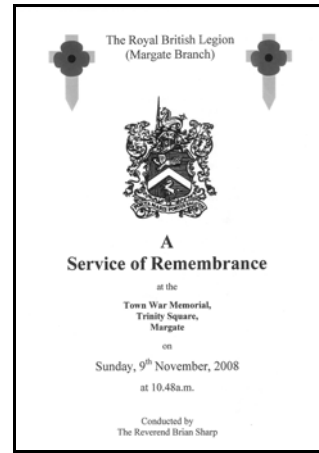
It did seem that the number of people present this year at the Margate ceremony was greater than in recent years. Perhaps it was the fact that 2008 marked the 90th

anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War or perhaps it was because of the number of service personnel who have lost their lives in Iraq and, more recently, in Afghanistan. Whatever the reason (or reasons), it was good to see such a large attendance in support of our fighting forces around the globe. Whilst a number of local families laid wreaths in memory of fallen members of their families, it is probable that the majority of those

who attended the service were not related to the names inscribed on the war memorial. But that is inevitable with the passing of time and the movement of families to distant parts.

Remembrance Sunday services were also held at Westgate-on-Sea War Memorial and at Birchington War Memorial.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning; we will remember them. □



The Order of Service for the Service of Remembrance

Standard-bearers at the Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance held at Margate War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday, 9th November 2008

This photograph is believed to have been taken on Remembrance Sunday, 1950 – ten years after 'Operation Dynamo' the evacuation of Dunkirk. The sailors are probably from a Royal Navy ship off Margate marking the tenth anniversary of Dunkirk.

Holy Trinity Church was badly damaged by enemy aircraft on 1st June 1943; it was finally demolished in the late 1950s. Whilst the church might look relatively undamaged in this photograph, the roof of the nave was totally destroyed as was much of the north wall.



K6 'Jubilee Kiosks'



In 1935, the Post Office commissioned the noted architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott to design a new telephone kiosk to celebrate the jubilee of King George V. He had previously won a competition in 1924 for his design of the K2 cast-iron telephone kiosk. The K6 'Jubilee Kiosk' was also made of cast-iron, painted red and put on the streets in 1936. By the end of the 1930s, there were 20,000 K6s in use

throughout the country. In recent years, the use of public telephone kiosks has declined with the increasing popularity of the mobile telephone and most of the old K6 kiosks were taken out of use in the 1980s and many sold to private individuals around the world. There are now only ten surviving K6s in public use throughout the whole of the area covered by Thanet District Council (see list at bottom of page for their locations) of which only three are in our Society's area. Two can be found beside *The Powell Arms* public house in Birchington and the third in Norfolk Road, Cliftonville, just a few yards from the junction with Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville. The two K6s in Birchington were each granted Grade II listed building status in 1988. Whilst the K6 kiosk in Norfolk Road is not a listed building (all of the other nine in Thanet are Grade II listed), it is understood that TDC has recently 'adopted' the Norfolk Road kiosk from British Telecom for £1 and that the kiosk will shortly be removed to a prominent position outside the Old Town Hall in the Market Place where, unconnected, it will stand for decorative purposes only. It is also understood that the Margate Charter Trustees have agreed to take over responsibility for its future maintenance. So, whilst the existing Norfolk Road kiosk will not become a listed building, its future looks good – unlike Margate Museum which, ironically, is housed inside the Old Town Hall.



Queen's Crown

Whilst the original 1935-designed K6 kiosk bore an image of the King's Crown on each of the four sides near the top of the kiosk, all three surviving kiosks in our area bear images of the Queen's Crown indicating that they are all post-1953 in construction. □



Close-up of the two K6 kiosks beside The Powell Arms, Birchington



The K6 kiosk in Norfolk Road (2006) before the demolition of the Norfolk Hotel seen behind the kiosk (note that the kiosk is within the curtilage of the hotel site)



The same K6 kiosk today (note how the boarding, around the site of the former Norfolk Hotel, goes around the kiosk)



The Powell Arms, The Square, Birchington with the two K6 kiosks at its side

List of the ten surviving K6 'Jubilee Kiosks' in Thanet:

- The Powell Arms, The Square, Birchington (2)
- Norfolk Road, Cliftonville (to be re-located)
- Reading Street, St Peter's
- Nelson Place, Broadstairs
- Harbour Street, Broadstairs
- Pegwell Hotel, Ramsgate
- Westcliff Pavilion, Ramsgate
- Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate (2)

What's on

Margate Civic Society (talks all start at 7.30pm at the Walpole Bay Hotel):

January	No meeting
Thursday, 5 th February	'The Story of the Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury' by Alan Stockwell
Thursday, 5 th March	'Characters – Weird, Wacky and Wonderful' by Chris McCooley
Thursday, 2 nd April	'General History of Chatham Dockyard' by Mrs Joanna Creighton
Thursday, 7 th May	Town Pride Awards followed by a talk and speaker yet to be announced

Turner Contemporary Project Space (former M&S store in High Street)

Note: These events are open to everyone and admission is free. Further information on these events (and on various workshops) can be found on their website at www.turnercontemporary.org or by phone on 01843 280261

Ongoing until 4 th January	Exhibition: 'Far West' featuring work by artists from China, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, etc
24 th January to 22 nd March	Exhibition: 'Superabundant: A Celebration of Pattern' – exploring current approaches to pattern and surface decoration in contemporary art (elements of this exhibition will also be on display at Droit House)
Tuesday, 27 th January 6pm – 7pm	A guided tour of the exhibition 'Superabundant: A Celebration of Pattern' by Turner Contemporary's Exhibitions Curator, Sarah Martin, to find out more about the artists and works in the exhibition
Saturday, 28 th February 2pm – 2.15pm	Thanet Talks: a new series of short talks enabling local people to give their personal responses to exhibitions. Matt Field, Thanet Breakthrough Plus Project Worker, explores his views of the exhibition 'Superabundant: A Celebration of Pattern'
Thursday, 5 th February 6pm – 7.30pm	Jazz performance by Phil Robson and Christine Tobin

Rock Doc Walks (bookings for these walks should be made via www.thanetcoast.org.uk):

Sunday, 18 th January 11am – 1pm	Pegwell Bay – discover chalk cliffs, flints and fossils – meet by Hugin Viking Ship, Cliffsend
Sunday, 15 th February 11am – 1pm	Pegwell Bay – discover chalk cliffs, flints and fossils – meet by Hugin Viking Ship, Cliffsend
Tuesday, 17 th February 11am – 2pm	Winter Warmer Walk from Ramsgate to Viking Bay and back – meet outside the Maritime Museum, Ramsgate

Useful telephone numbers:

Organisation	Phone No.	Contact name/Notes
Thanet District Council – Press Office	577034	Cheryl Pendry
Margate Public Library – Local Studies Collection	223626	
Westgate Heritage Centre	832617	Dr Dawn Crouch, Curator
Birchington Heritage Trust Museum, Village Hall	846502	
Birchington Parish Archivist	842988	Jennie Burgess
Margate Historical Society	227574	Mick Twyman, Secretary
Isle of Thanet Archaeological Society	07906 360725	Val Robbins, Secretary
Isle of Thanet Geographical Association	863110	-
Kent Family History Society (Thanet Branch)	842933	Cliff Cole
Draper's Windmill Trust	226227	David Keep, Chairman
Margate Lifeboat Fund-Raising Committee	832846	Laurie Walton, Treasurer
Friends of Margate Cemetery Trust	230274	Vera Jenkins
Friends of Quex	842040	Edna Elven, Membership Secretary
Friends of Westgate Pavilion	226542	Mike Emery, Secretary
Turner Contemporary	280261	Victoria Pomery, Director
The Powell-Cotton Museum, Quex House, Birchington	842168	-
The Shell Grotto, Grotto Hill, Margate	220008	Sarah Vickery
Manston Spitfire & Hurricane Museum	821940	-
RAF Manston History Museum	825224	-
Cliftonville Residents' Association	226033	Keith Chadband, Chairman
Westgate & Westbrook Residents' Association	831474	Norman Smith, Treasurer
Birchington Residents' Association	843594	Roger D. Walford

Margate Civic Society

www.margatecivicsociety.org.uk



Founded in 1968, the Margate Civic Society is a registered charity. It is also 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 illustrated with slides, are interesting and of local interest; they are also varied in their appeal. A few afternoon meetings are sometimes also held. A newsletter is published four times a year.

Committee for 2008/09:

President: Mr Ralph Handscomb

14 Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 3AB (Tel: 293169)

Chairman: Mrs Margaret Main

32 Gordon Road, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2DN (Tel: 229678)

Vice-Chairman: Mr Harry Scobie

45 Cornwall Gardens, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2JG (Tel: 291298)

Secretary: Mr Tony Snow

34 Royal Esplanade, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EG (Tel: 221838)

Treasurer: Mrs Pat Snow

34 Royal Esplanade, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EG (Tel: 221838)

Membership Secretary: Mr Garry Cowans

C/o 32 Gordon Road, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2DN (Tel: 221938)

Newsletter Editor: Mr James Brazier

"The Moorings", 25 Barnes Avenue, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EQ (Tel: 298038)

Other Committee Members:

Mr Steve Villette, 29 The Ridgeway, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2TL (Tel: 221250)

Mrs Daphne Rowley, "Spring Cottage", 11 Pembroke Avenue, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EA

Mr Peter Blore, 29 Yoakley Square, Margate CT9 4BA (Tel: 291778)

Mr David Kinnear, 26 Linden Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8BY (Tel: 833394)

Ms Elaine Phillips, Flat 1, 9-11 Gordon Road, Cliftonville, Margate CT9 2DW

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:

Subscription rates for 2008/09:

	Individual	Joint	Junior (under 18)	Corporate
Annual	£6.00	£10.00	50p	£10.00
Life Membership	£50.00	£70.00	-	-

and send it to the Membership Secretary (Mr Garry Cowans) c/o 34 Royal Esplanade, Westbrook, Margate CT9 5EG