



Thursday 3 December

Cliftonville "Switch-on" of Christmas Tree Lights by Margate Mayor at St Paul's Church, Northdown Road, with Will Wollen and Theatre Royal Margate cast from the Snow Queen, and the Salvation Army band playing Christmas carols. 5pm for 5.30pm.

Friday 4 December Margate Christmas Lights & Fireworks starting at 5.30pm in the Market Place, Old Town, Margate with traditional carols led by the Salvation Army. At 4.30pm a lantern procession led by the Boys and Girls Brigade will make its way along Margate High Street to the Piazza. The Margate Mayor will switch on the lights at 6pm. The cast from Oliver will be performing excerpts from the show and fireworks will follow.

4, 5 & 6 December The Christmas Market Market Place, Margate Old Town. Market stalls selling arts, crafts, local produce and numerous other items. Open from 11am-7pm.

Saturday 12 December Northdown Road Winter Community Event organised by Cliftonville Partnership Northdown Road, 10am-4pm. Come along and join in the fun with: Santa & his Elves in his Grotto at The Belle Vue, Holy Trinity & St John's Church of England Primary School choir, Live music from 12noon at The Belle Vue, African drumming at the Pie Factory (10am-12 noon), City of Canterbury Brass Band (11-12noon), Thanet Concert Brass Band (12noon-1pm), mulled wine, prize draw, snow machine, festive stalls and much much more!

Sunday 20 December Cliftonville's Award Winning Farmers' Market. Normally held on the last Sunday of each month, except in December when it will be held on Sunday 20 December at the Oval Lawns, Eastern Esplanade, Cliftonville.

Shop Local First this Christmas...

Love shopping? Then make sure you pick up your Shop Local First Incentive card to enjoy discounts, free gifts and more in over 100 different local



businesses taking part in Thanet District Council's Shop Local First scheme. The idea of 'Shop Local First' is to entice more local people to shop locally first and to feel the benefits that come from supporting their local businesses such as keeping money in the local economy and local people in jobs.

The Shop Local First incentive card can be used in businesses taking part in Birchington, Broadstairs, Margate, Northdown Road and Ramsgate. You will need to show your card to receive the incentive and meet each businesses terms and conditions, such as spending over a certain amount.

You can pick up your card from over 100 local businesses, libraries, Margate Visitor Information Centre and Thanet's Gateway Plus. To find out which business are participating visit www.thanet.gov.uk/shoplocal or call 01843 577000.

90% of respondents thought the content was either good or very good. They rated the overall look of the newsletter as 95% either good or very good.

Respondents said they read each of the following regular sections of the newsletter – SSCF: 100%. Margate Renewal Partnership: 95%. Housing Renewal: 84%. Sections were rated good or very good – SSCF: 78.9%. Margate Renewal Partnership: 73.7%. Housing Renewal: 68.8%. Comments included: ideal size and look. More pictures, less writing. Good events planner. All excellent, but could be in more depth at times. 100% agreed the Margate newsletter is written in plain English.

In relation to how the articles are presented – 21% would prefer more detailed, longer news, 10.5% would prefer news in brief articles, 68.4% are happy with the current presentation Thanet Matters, the council's corporate magazine – 79% read it, 21% don't.

Readers' Survey Winner

In the summer edition, we asked you to give us your views on this newsletter, which aims to keep you up to date and informed of the latest news and events in Margate Central and Cliftonville West. The winner was picked at random from the many responses received. John Orrin from Margate was presented with £50 of shopping vouchers to spend at many high street stores. John said: "I didn't expect to win anything and am delighted to have done so."



Results of the Survey – questions and feedback

Respondents were asked to rate the content of the Margate newsletter from 1-5, with 1 very bad, 2 bad, 3 average, 4 good, 5 very good.

Margate Renewal Partnership

For more information on the Margate Renewal Partnership contact Derek Harding on 01843 609337 or email derek.harding@thanet.gov.uk

Safer Stronger Communities Fund

For more information about the SSCF Programme please contact the SSCF Team on 01843 577534. Alternatively you can email sscf@thanet.gov.uk or visit www.thanet.gov.uk/sscf

Renewal Area

For more information about the Renewal Area contact the Renewal Officer on 01843 577748 or email housingrenewalarea@thanet.gov.uk or visit www.thanet.gov.uk/renewalarea

Empty Properties & Home Improvement Team

For more information telephone Home Improvement on 01843 577406, Empty Properties on 01843 577408 or email housing.conditions@thanet.gov.uk

Margate



Newsletter

Published by Margate Renewal, Safer Stronger Communities Fund and Thanet District Council's Housing Renewal Programme

MARGATE RENEWAL page 14
Dreamland: fantastic funding success

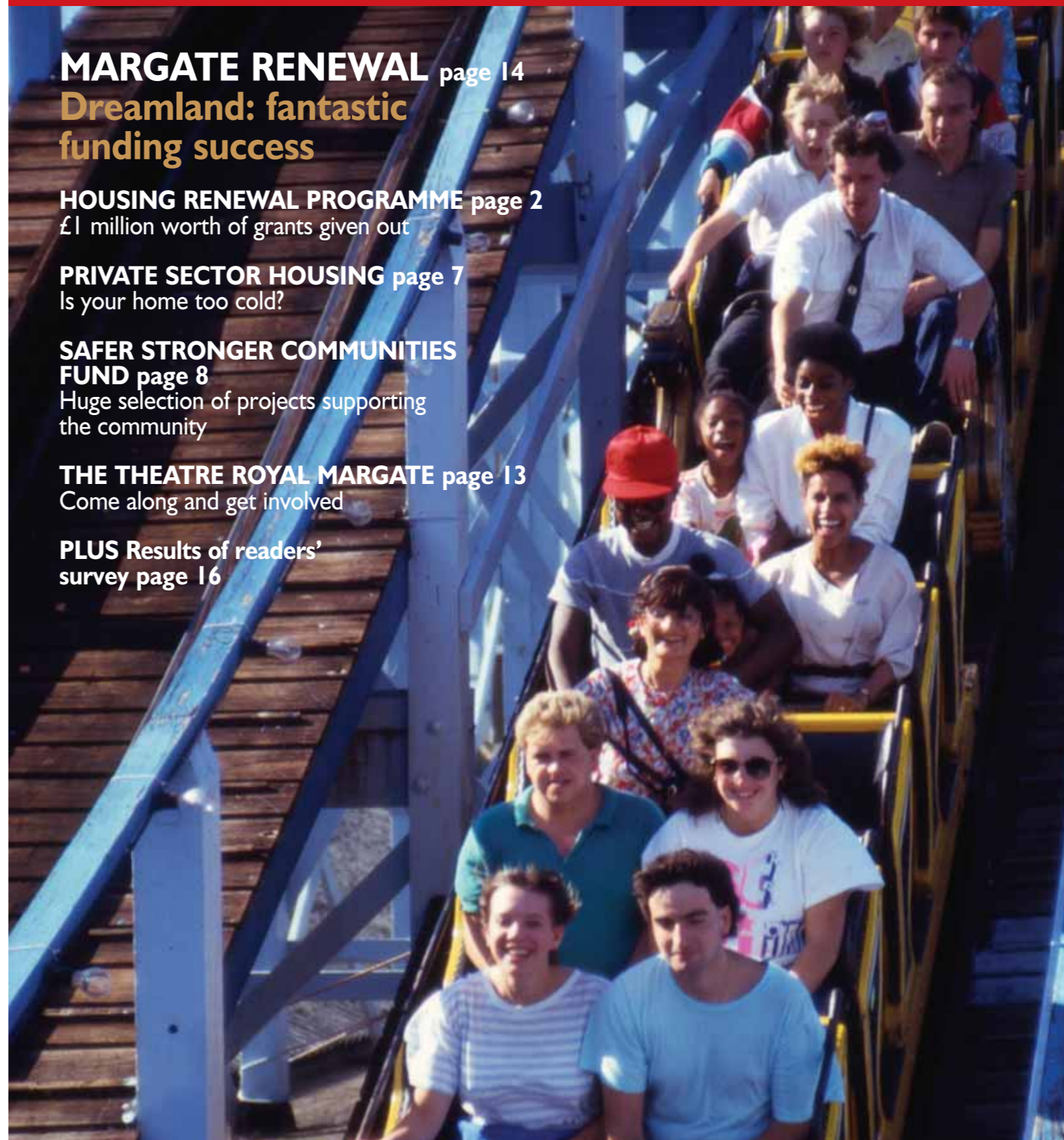
HOUSING RENEWAL PROGRAMME page 2
£1 million worth of grants given out

PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING page 7
Is your home too cold?

SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND page 8
Huge selection of projects supporting the community

THE THEATRE ROYAL MARGATE page 13
Come along and get involved

PLUS Results of readers' survey page 16





Housing Renewal Programme

£1m worth of Renewal Area Grants

Over the last four years, Thanet District Council have allocated over £1m of funding for the Renewal Area Grants, which has now successfully all been given out.

In 2004, the council recognised that the areas of Cliftonville West and Margate Central were one of the most deprived areas within the south east of England, with some parts having the worst housing conditions. To try and improve this, the Renewal Area Programme was launched in May 2005, with the main focus on Phase 1 in Cliftonville West, which was later extended to the three other phases in January 2008.

The funding allocated has been mainly awarded to help improve the appearance of residential properties and to contribute towards local community projects in these areas. The grants have helped to improve the overall look of some of the areas, making them much brighter.

Quotes from a residents' Customer Satisfaction Survey:

"I am very grateful for the helpful attention of both Dave Farmer and Lesley Dalton. My family has owned this house since 1945 and it has worried me not to be able to improve the frontage. Now it looks wonderful. Many thanks." Mrs R, Margate

"We were totally pleased with the whole service and are truly grateful for the Renewal Grant." Resident, Management Group Cliftonville

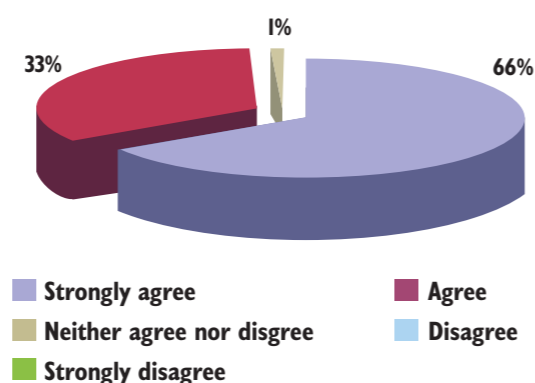
"Just to keep financial help coming to those that need it. We live in a very deprived area where security is a very big issue. Both Lesley and Dave were extremely helpful, understanding and patient. They didn't let me down and gave what felt like personal attention, very professional." Mrs F, Cliftonville

"The renewal event was executed well from start to finish, the information, start, the builder and final result, very well done. So myself I don't think any further improvements could have been achieved, were both so very pleased to have been awarded the grant, thank-you to all concerned." Mr W, Margate

Cllr. Zita Wiltshire, Cabinet Member for Community Services, said:

"There's no doubt the Renewal Area Grant scheme has been a huge success and has improved the appearance of many streets in the area. We have a long way to go to tackle the underlying problems faced in these areas, but small initiatives like improvement grants have helped make important contributions, raising standards and making Cliftonville and Margate a better place to live. We would love to continue the scheme beyond the £1m that has already been spent, but we can only afford to do this by selling other assets."

The overall customer service I received was excellent



Community Projects

Funding has been given for community projects in the Cliftonville area, such as colourful flowers, shrubs and trees which have been added to Dalby Square, plus hanging baskets along Northdown Road, as well as landscaping in Trinity Square Memorial Gardens and the car park. All of which have helped bring the area back to life.

The Renewal Team have helped fund Christmas lighting along Northdown Road and the uplighting of St Paul's Church, which has successfully enhanced the shopping area and improved security.

The installation of additional street lights and upgrades to existing lamps have increased the lighting, making the streets brighter. Additional work has also been carried out to trees in some areas, which has helped to reduce dark areas and increase visibility for the CCTV cameras.

Screening for the recycling bins in Trinity Square and new Eurobins along Ethelbert Road, Athelstan Road and Dalby Square have been supplied to help to keep the area clean and litter free.

Various alleygate schemes have been funded to support the local residents to help make their homes feel more secure.

The Renewal Team in partnership with Thanet Community Development Trust have engaged with local youths on an art project at Newgate Gap.



Local Community Groups

Dalby Square Project

Jenny Cranstone or Jackie Rands:
info@dalbysquare.org.uk, 01843 228414
or visit www.dalbysquare.org.uk
Covering Arthur Road, Dalby Road and Dalby Square.



Grotto Hill Area Street Scheme (GHASS)

Mo Walls: 01843 227434. Covering Bath Road, Bath Place, Brockley Road, Caroline Square, Clifton Gardens, Clifton Place, Clifton Road, Grotto Gardens, Grotto Hill and Grotto Road.

Gordon Road Area Street Scheme (GRASS)

Betty Ward: 01843 231972. Covering Edgar Road, Ethelbert Crescent (between Edgar Road and Sweyn Road), Gordon Road, Percy Road, St Paul's Road, Stanley Road and Sweyn Road.

Godwin Road Area Street Scheme

Sarah Hyde: s.j.hyde@kent.ac.uk
Covering Godwin Road.

Surrey Road Area Action Group (SRAAG)

Mariette or Greg:
snowball_drylands@yahoo.co.uk
Covering Cumberland Road, Eastern Esplanade *, Harold Road, Norfolk Road, Northdown Road*, Surrey Road and Warwick Road (* between Harold Road and Cornwall Gardens).

Dane Area Action Group (DAAG)

Peter or Faye Hatton:
fayhatton2@sky.com or 07929 145069.
Covering Anchor Hill, Booth Place, Clifton Street, Dane Hill, Dane Hill Grove, Dane Hill Row and Wellington Place.

St John's Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)

Emer Seamark: 01843 225170 or geoffandemer@yahoo.co.uk
Covering Alma Road, Byron Avenue, Charlotte Place, Charlotte Square, Church Road, Church Street, Cowper Road, Milton Avenue, Milton Square, Osbourn Terrace, Poets Corner, Princess Crescent, St John's Road St John's Street, St Peter's Footpath, St Peter's Road, Setterfield Road, Shakespeare Road, Sussex Avenue, Victoria Road and Wheatley Place.



Housing Renewal Programme

What will happen now?

The Renewal Area Programme's original aim was to help improve the area and bring together local agencies, residents and businesses, to address the area's problems which include poor housing conditions, unemployment, crime, poor health and education. This will continue despite the loss of the Renewal Area grant programme.



offer of a grant and whose properties are deemed to be detrimental to the area.

The Renewal team will continue to carry out regular multiagency, mini Clean Sweep operations to tackle a range of anti-social issues, including dealing with housing and planning enforcement issues, dumped rubbish and improving fire safety measures.

Property owners will still be responsible for ensuring that their properties are of a decent standard to live and are visually in good external decorative order. Action will now be taken against those owners who did not take up the

Meet the Neighbourhood Team

Your chance to ask questions or pass on information to the local Neighbourhood Police Team, Renewal Area Officers and Community Safety Officers.

The meetings are to be held in Northdown Road, dates and locations will be advertised in the local press.

Bulky Domestic Waste

Your weekly refuse collection service does not include the removal of large furniture items such as beds, wardrobes, chairs etc.



There are four main options for disposing of domestic bulky waste items:

Contact a local Charity Shop

If your item is in good condition and useable, please contact one of the many local charity shops or second-hand shops in the area; they may remove it for you or agree for you to deliver to them.

Take the item to the KCC Recycling Sites

Your nearest recycling site is located at Manston Road, Margate, which accepts a wide variety of materials for reuse, recycling or safe disposal. Items need to be separated and deposited in the appropriate container. Disposal is free of charge for local residents with domestic waste only. (Please note there is a height restriction barrier of 2m and vehicles are no longer allowed to park outside the centre and wheel rubbish in.)

Pay a local registered waste carrier to remove the item

It is your responsibility to ensure that the company employed is properly registered with the local Environment Agency – 0800 807060 – ask the question and obtain a receipt, it's your proof that the waste was disposed of legally.

Pay the Council to remove it

Thanet District Council offer a collection service starting at £7.00 for a small single item from the front of the property or an additional charge of £3.00 for collection from inside the property or the rear garden. For full details and costings please telephone 01843 577115 or visit www.thanet.gov.uk/environment_planning/rubbish_waste_recycling/refuse_collection/bulky_waste.aspx



Renewal Area Questionnaire

Crime	Worse	No Change	Improved
More community Police and Wardens			
Tackle vandalism and other anti social behaviour.			
Signs/publicity to deter offenders			
Remove graffiti			
Comments			

Waste & Recycling	Worse	No Change	Improved
Improve street cleanliness/more street cleaners			
Rubbish – action to be taken against property owners for dumping rubbish			
More waste bins and dog bins			
More information on recycling			
Comments			

Youth	Worse	No Change	Improved
Safe play areas for children			
Create indoor and out door activities for children			
Comments			

Social	Worse	No Change	Improved
Make absentee landlords more responsible for bad tenants			
Encourage fundraising ideas to support the local community			
More activities and facilities for the disabled			
Comments			

Other	Worse	No Change	Improved
Improve/increase street lighting			
No more flat conversions / 1 bedroom flats			
Less emergency and temporary housing / No more HMO's			
Reduce the number of boarded up properties			
Comments			

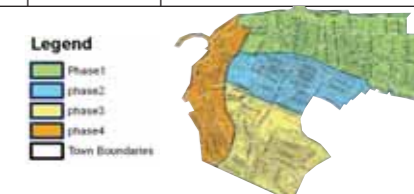
What are your ideas (if not listed above) to improve your community?

Do you think the Renewal Programme has been successful and have you noticed and changes in your area?	Yes	No	Unsure

Are you aware of the PACT (Partners and Community Together)?	Yes	No
Margate Town Centre		
Cliftonville Area		

It would also be helpful if you could advise us what area you live in?

Phase 1: Cliftonville West Ward, North (North of Northdown Road)
Phase 2: Cliftonville West Ward, South (South of Northdown Road)
Phase 3: Margate Central Ward, East (Poets Corner Area)
Phase 4: Margate Central Ward, West (Margate Old Town to Upper High Street area)



Do you attend your local community group meetings?	Yes	No
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Optional Questions

What is your age? (Please tick one box.) Under 18 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+

Are you Male? Female?

What is your ethnicity?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire, your opinions are very important to us. We do not ask you to supply your details so please be as honest as you can.

Please return your survey by January 31st 2010 free of charge to: Renewal Area Team, Thanet District Council, FREEPOST SEA 8273, Margate CT9 1BR or hand in at one of the local community groups.

Private Sector Housing



Over recent years, the council has focused on tackling empty and derelict buildings that have blighted some streets. There have been initiatives set up to tackle environmental problems and improve the appearance of the areas, which have been backed up with a regime of regulating private sector landlords to ensure that properties are kept in good repair. Loans and grants have been made available to landlords to improve housing conditions for their tenants.

The Old Laundrette and 'No Use Empty' clean up! (in full spin)

Another long-term empty property has been turned around thanks to partnership working between the owner and the council. The 'No Use Empty' campaign has assisted the owner of the old laundrette in Bath Road, Margate to redevelop the site.

The former laundrette building had been empty for a while and had been the subject of vandalism ending up in a sorry state, but after a planning application was approved to demolish the existing structures and replace with two new town houses, the site has been redeveloped to provide much needed family accommodation.

For more information about The Empty Property Initiative please contact Mike Thompson on 01843 577408.



'Your Home, Your Health'

The Housing Improvement Team is working with other professionals from services such as the NHS to help your community create a healthier and happier living environment.

The 'Your Home, Your Health' scheme aims to help residents improve their housing conditions and get information and help about health issues.

We offer to carry out a free home check and the team will be able to give you advice and tell you if there

are any schemes you can take advantage of, as well as ensuring that you have access to the local services that you need.

We would like to ask you some general questions about your health and neighbourhood, but only if that's okay with you and we can make referrals to other services on your behalf if you would like us to do so.

The team aims to carry out a street by street inspection of all properties in the area. Dalby Square, Dalby

Road and Arthur Road have already been completed and they are now visiting properties in Athelstan Road.

You will be notified by letter when the team reaches your area and visiting officers will always show you their Thanet District Council identity cards.

If you're out when we visit your home, don't worry, we'll leave a letter for you. The letter will provide details of how to get in touch with us.



Is Your Home Too Cold?



You may be eligible for assistance of up to £4,000 to improve insulation and heating to your home if you receive one of the means tested benefits listed below.

- Income Support
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Job Seekers Allowance (income-based)
- Attendance Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,460)
- War Disablement Pension (which must include a mobility supplement or Constant Attendance Allowance)
- Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Working Tax Credit (with an income of less than £15,460 which must include a disability element)
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (which must include a mobility supplement or Constant Attendance Allowance)

Or if you are aged 18 or over, live in your own home or rent privately and have a gross household income of less than £30,000 per year and savings of less than £16,000.

What work could I have done?

- Cavity wall insulation
- Loft insulation where the existing depth is less than 150mm
- Boiler replacement
- New heating controls including programmer, hot water thermostat, room thermostat and thermostatic radiator valves
- Central heating system
- Solid wall insulation may be available for some properties
- Connection to gas if appropriate
- Solar water heating may be offered in some hard to heat rural properties

How to apply

For more information or to apply for assistance to improve insulation and heating contact East Kent Housing Project on 0800 316 8485 or visit www.warmthiswinter.co.uk.

For more information telephone the Housing Improvement Team on 01843 577437 or email housing.conditions@thanet.gov.uk

Kent Landlord Accreditation Scheme

What is the Kent Landlords Accreditation Scheme (KLAS)?

This is a Kent wide scheme to recognise good landlords and agents who have the skills that are needed to run a successful rental business and provide good quality and safe accommodation.

Who can be accredited?

Any individual, partnership, company or agent whether you are a landlord, thinking of becoming a landlord or a letting or managing agent.

What are the benefits of being accredited?

- Recognition across Kent that you are a good landlord and agent
- Access to grants/loans to improve your premises
- Reduced fees for licensing
- Preferential treatment by universities
- Regularly updated reference material
- Regular updates

Are there any additional requirements for accredited agents?

The agency must be able to show that they are a competent organisation, such as membership of a recognised professional body governed by a code of conduct.

The KLAS aims to accredit good landlords and provide them with the knowledge they require to maintain their properties to an acceptable and appropriate standard. In the near future we will be providing more information to tenants on what they can expect, particularly from their Accredited Landlord.

Where can I get additional information about the scheme?

For more information and to register online visit www.kentlas.org.uk



Safer Stronger Communities Fund

The Safer Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF), which is in its fourth and final year, continues to fund partners who provide services, advice and support for residents, businesses and community groups in the two wards of Margate Central and Cliftonville West.

SSCF funded projects and workers are available to work with you to build community spirit and work towards the welfare of residents in the area.

You Said, We Did!

In the previous newsletter we asked you to tell us if the facilities funded by SSCF had improved the area, making it a better place. Responses told us that over 70% strongly agreed that the following three SSCF funded projects had improved the area.

- 8 CCTV cameras and lighting installed in the Old Town Margate
- Refurbishment of St Paul's Community Centre
- The new lighting in Dane Park



A further 65% of responses strongly agreed that four more projects, plus the three above, had also improved the area:

- 13 streets in Cliftonville with brighter street lighting
- New Viking playground
- New lights on The Harbour Arm
- Weekly doorstep recycling

Get Involved

We are looking for residents to take part in an SSCF Evaluation Group and provide their views on the impact of the programme in the area. To join this group contact Myfanwy Williams on 01843 577534 or email sscf@thanet.gov.uk. Please provide your name, address and contact phone number or email address. The evaluation will take place in the New Year and you can choose to be involved through either answering a questionnaire or attending a focus group, or both.

Community Activities

There are many opportunities for residents to get involved in activities, which take place in the two wards. Below are just some of the activities that SSCF projects are supporting and we hope that you will use the opportunity to take part and benefit from them.

Thanet College runs Short Courses at St Paul's Community Centre

A range of courses run by Thanet College have been taking place at St Paul's Community Centre from September and will continue into January 2010. A four-week cooking course 'Healthy Eating on a Budget' was held recently at the centre and proved very successful.

Weekly Basic English and Computer classes are running until December. In the New Year, a **Basic Maths course** will also be available. If there are any courses you would like to see offered contact Elaine on 01843 221290 at St Paul's Community Centre. The courses are open to all and free to those in receipt of benefits.

Wednesday Lunches

If you're looking for good food, home cooking, value for money and pleasant company then come along and join us for a two-course meal on Wednesdays at 12.30pm at St John's Community Centre. A two-course lunch costs £3 for adults and £1.50 for children – everyone is welcome. To book your lunch call Joan on 01843 224957.

GREAT VALUE
2 course lunch

£3 for adults
£1.50 for children

Everyone welcome!



Step-by-Step English with a Czech Interpreter

Every Tuesday there is an informal and friendly step-by-step English group available to help Czech and Slovak residents learn Basic English. Come along from 10am-12 noon at Cliftonville Childrens Centre in St Paul's Road. For more information call Lucie on 01843 231122 or Dominika on 07824 446104.

Angličtina Krok za Krokem s českým výkladem

Každé úterý od 10 do 12 hodin v Cliftonville Childrens Centre v St. Paul's Road, toto je neformální přátelská skupinka, Angličtina Krok za Krokem, která se schází, aby pomohla Čechům a Slovákům s učením základní Angličtiny. Pro více informací prosím volejte Lucii na 01843 231122 nebo Dominiku na 07824 446104.

Friends in Pain

This group for people with chronic pain get together for friendship and support every Wednesday morning from 10.30am-12.30pm at St John's Community Centre. Just come along and join us, we'd be pleased to meet you. For more details call Joan on 01843 224957.

Chickens & Family Allotment Project

Come and join us in looking after our chickens and community allotment; and in the spring, goats and turkeys are planned! If you and your family would like to get involved we are based near the Windmill Community Allotment Project – call Beth on 07792 226103 or Rachel on 07854 160663.



Activities for Young People

The Theatre Royal Margate

As well as learning drama skills, young people will be able to gain confidence, social skills and self-esteem. To join the senior youth theatre (11-16 yrs), junior youth theatre (7-11 yrs) or the Inspiration Inclusive Theatre (7-18 yrs) which is open to youths with sensory/mobility disabilities or other special needs, call Will on 01843 293397 or email admin@theatreroyalargate.com.



For details of this year's Snow Queen Christmas show and how to get involved with other activities see page 13.

The Thursday Night Club

celebrated its second anniversary in November. The club welcomes young people of secondary school age and meets at the Quarterdeck Youth Centre in Zion Place, Cliftonville every Thursday from 7-9pm. There are lots of games, activities and fun to join in with every week. Call Dominika on 07824 446104.



After School Club is for 7-11 year olds, and is held every Monday from 4.30-6.30pm at St Paul's Community Centre. Activities are chosen by the young people; they include quizzes, team games, cooking, art and craft. It's a great way to make friends. Under 7 year olds must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who is solely responsible for them. Call Elaine on 01843 221290.



Karate Club takes place on Thursdays from 7-9pm at St Paul's Community Centre. This club started in October and is open to all age groups from the young to the young at heart. Call Elaine at St Paul's on 01843 221290.

The Den Youth Club meets at St Paul's Community Centre every Saturday from 11am-3pm and caters for 6-13 year olds. There are a range of activities and workshops on offer for children and young people. Call Angela or Katrina on 07939 213859.

Theatre Group is for young people who are working towards writing and producing their own music. They meet every Wednesday from 5-6.30pm at the Quarterdeck Youth Centre. If you would like to get involved and are aged 12 or over call Rachel on 07854 160663.

Quarterdeck Street Dance Group is aimed at young people – it is really popular and is a good way for young people to express themselves and keep fit. It also encourages individuality and originality in dance and this improvisation is at the heart of the dances they develop for performances. This summer they performed at Quex Park and the Cliftonville Games.



The group meets at the Quarterdeck Youth Centre every week on Tuesdays from 5-6.30pm and on Thursdays from 7-9pm. Whatever your dancing ability, if you are aged 12 or over come along and enjoy the fun. Call Beth on 07792 226103.

Create Dance Workshop – February 2010 half term
Due to the success of the 2009 dance workshop, Create (an arts charity), will be returning to Cliftonville in 2010 to run a week-long dance workshop with young people from the area. The workshop funded by Cllr. Chris Wells, will be held in February half term. Create's professional dancers and musician work with young people to create their own dance which is performed in front of family, friends and local residents at the end of the week. If you are aged 12 or over and would like to get involved call Beth on 07792 226103 before all the places are taken.

St John's Community Centre Playgroup

for pre-school children, meets on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9am to 12noon. On Tuesdays, the playgroup runs from 9am-3pm. On Wednesdays, the Centre's Chatterbox Group is held for pre-school children and their parents and carers from 10am-11.45am. Come along and join us or call Joan at St John's Community Centre on 01843 224957.



Project Engage



Engage, the local forum for youth organisations, is building a new website which will enable disabled young people and their families to see what services and activities are available to them in Thanet.

Thanet Cando, Engage and East Kent Mencap are working with young people and parents to make sure the website is useful, accessible and meets the needs of the community. Alongside the website is a training package and workbook that organizations can use to identify any barriers that may stop people getting involved in the activities they provide.

Project Engage runs a Music Technology, DJ, MC Workshop at the Quarterdeck Youth Centre, on the last Wednesday of every month for 12-18 year olds from 7.15-9.15pm. Up to Christmas music workshops will be available too, on Thursday nights, which aim to look at the young people's attitudes towards other cultures and nationalities in the Margate and Cliftonville area.

The Pie Factory Music mobile recording studio also goes out a couple of times a month into the Cliftonville, Dane Park and Margate Central area. For more details call Mark at Pie Factory Music on 01842 596777 or visit www.piefactorymusic.com/main.

Tell Us Lads

Is there a project that you would like to do? With your help and ideas we'd like to set up a group for young men aged between 12-19 who live in the area. Call Beth on 07792 26103.

Help and Assistance for Residents

These are difficult times for everyone and if you are having problems and want advice you can contact the following:

Finding Funding

In September, CASE Kent (Community Action South & East Kent) held two successful workshops with KCC Cllr. Chris Wells on Funding and Sustainability for charitable and voluntary groups in Margate, Cliftonville and Thanet. The workshops provided advice on obtaining funding, and speakers included funders from Kent County Council, The Big Lottery Fund, Funding Buddies and the Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust. Pamela Pople from Cliftonville Partnership who attended said, "The workshops were very helpful and I now have more funding sources to explore."



CASE Kent provides support in identifying sources of funding, submitting funding applications and offers free training on a range of training courses for organisations that are active in the SSCF area of Margate Central and Cliftonville West wards. Call Marina or Heather on 01843 588780 or email thanet@casekent.org.uk.

CASE Kent also provides a drop in service at Thanet's Gateway Plus at Margate Library every Thursday from 9am-1pm. CASE Kent will continue to serve Thanet when the Safer Stronger Communities Fund comes to an end in March 2010. Further information on the services they provide is available at www.casekent.org.uk.

Event: Practical Steps to Funding Success

SSCF with the help of CASE Kent will be holding an event on 12 January 2010 for organisations to meet funders to gain advice on how to improve their chances of success with their funding applications. The event, open to all community voluntary sector organisations in Thanet, will be held at the Margate Media Centre in Margate's Old Town from 9.45am-2.15pm. For further information or to book your place, which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis call Heather on 01843 588780 or email heatherbiddles@casekent.org.uk.

Supporting People with Learning Difficulties

Ange from East Kent Mencap has been working in partnership with the Thanet Citizens Advice Bureau to provide an information and advice service to adults with learning disabilities and their parents and carers.

Margate's CAB, located in Market Street in the Old Town is open from 9.30-11.30am Monday to Thursday. The bureau runs a 'Drop-in' service, which gives people a 10 minute interview to discuss their issue, and if needed, a further appointment is made there and then. Ange is based at Margate's CAB every Thursday.

SSCF has also funded a group from East Kent Mencap to work on making a 'bank' of photographs, which will be used as a communication aid to help people to explain their issues and understand the options available to resolve them. Ange can be contacted at East Kent Mencap on 01843 224482 or email angela.brown@eastkentmencap.co.uk



Drop-in Advice Service

Kamilla a Czech speaker provides a drop-in advice service on Thursdays from 9.30am-4.30pm at Thanet Gateway Plus at Margate Library. Call Kamilla on 07976 450324 or email kamilla.hitchcock@migranthepline.org. Migrant Helpline is also developing a toolkit, which will provide Gateway and other Council officers with a greater awareness of how to provide advice to migrant communities living in the area.

Sara's drop-in advice service, previously based at St Paul's Community Centre, is now based at Thanet Gateway Plus on Wednesdays from 2-5pm and on Fridays from 10am-2pm. Call Sara on 07974 727864 or email sara.kardamitsis@hotmail.co.uk. Both Sara and Kamilla will be pleased to help you and work closely with Council officers to resolve issues quickly.

Domestic Abuse Support Service helps those suffering from domestic abuse by supporting victims.

The advice given is tailored to the individual and in all cases the help and support given is confidential. Funding from the Big Lottery Fund has secured this service in the area to March 2013. If you would like to find out more call the National Domestic Violence help line on 0808 2000247 or the Dove project on 01702 300006 or email community@oasiswomensrefuge.org.



St Paul's Community Centre is open from Monday to Friday from 9am-3.30pm and there is a daily welfare drop-in service and an Internet Café.

Supporting Local Businesses

If you are running a business or have just moved your business into the area, help is at hand. Pamela from the Cliftonville Partnership and the Margate Town Partnership team will be only too pleased to help. The two partnerships work with the local business community by providing free support and advice to businesses in Northdown Road and Margate Town as well as running events to promote the area. Call Pamela on 07903 126530 or email pamela@hurstoncottage.co.uk or visit www.cliftonville-partnership.co.uk. Call the Margate Town Partnership on 01843 609336 or email info-margaterenewal@thanet.gov.uk or visit www.margatetownpartnership.org.uk.

A Safer and Cleaner Community

In the last few years, many residents have been working with Thanet District Council, the Police, and other services to make the area a safer, cleaner place to live in. The following team would be pleased to hear from you about any issues or concerns.

Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator

In July Katie Ezekiel started to support the Thanet Community Safety Partnership team deal with identified anti-social behaviour issues. Call Katie or the team with any issues of concern on 01843 236007.

Community Wardens

David Myers and Roy Simmonds patrol Margate Central and Cliftonville West every day and deal with residents' concerns over anti-social behaviour and environmental issues. Call David on 07780 720907 or Roy on 07760 290989.



PCSO John Christian based at Hartsdown Technology College, continues to work with students and parents to ensure that student welfare is considered in every situation. The college has been awarded Safer Schools Accreditation in recognition of the processes it has in place to safeguard students. The college aims that all students operate in a safe and happy environment at school, dealing with issues affecting their safety and well-being. An anti-bullying system is in place to handle bullying experiences, to record and follow up in order to prevent repeat bullying. A range of support staff are available, which includes pastoral managers, teachers and mentors (who are students). The system caters for any type of bullying and cyber mentors are available to support students who have been bullied on Facebook. Call John on 07969 584292 or 07969 776823.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Christian Ward-Davies patrols the open spaces of the two wards and Dane Park, as well as running youth activities, which have included the popular bat and ball sessions in the park. To find out more call Christian on 07772 113193.

Waste and Recycling Enforcement Officer Tony Sowden works with the Council's Waste and Recycling team to improve the cleanliness of the area. Tony has used the law to force residents and landlords to clear up their rubbish that they have previously refused to do. This has included over 70 summons and letters in the last six months. For all issues concerning waste and street cleansing call 01834 577115.

The Cliftonville Tactical Group has used funding from SSCF and Kent Police to purchase portable speed enforcement equipment. Speeding, especially through the narrow side streets is a concern raised by local residents through their Cliftonville PACT meeting. The equipment will be used by Police Officers and PCSOs to address this ongoing problem. If you are concerned about speeding or any other issues contact Margate Police station on 01843 231055.

The Theatre Royal MARGATE

BE PART OF A PERFORMANCE ...

How to get involved

Smoke and Mirrors is a new piece of theatre that the Theatre Royal Margate is creating that will culminate in performances in the theatre in October 2010 as part of the Canterbury Festival. Working with writer Polly Wiseman, director Will Wollen and choreographer Bettina Strickler, will be a large group of community participants. The play will look at a Victorian Theatre Company working through the night to get ready for the next day's performance of the "Scottish Play" and really asks the question, "What is the theatre for?"

You can join in writing this play too...

Just answer the three simple questions below:

- ★ What three words describe your first memorable visit to the theatre?
- ★ In one sentence, describe what you feel a visit to the theatre should give you?
- ★ Tell us about a ghost you've seen

Whatever your age, email your replies to Will at the Theatre Royal or call him. If you are aged 16 or over and would like to join Polly, Bettina and Will on 23 and 24 January 2010 to share ideas, explore the building and play your part, call Will on 01843 293397 or email will@theatreroyalargate.com

In 2007, the Theatre was purchased with funding from the SSCF Programme in order to secure its future.

Further SSCF funding was also provided to install new lighting and staging for community outreach work. Art Hewitt, General Manager at the Theatre Royal Margate said: "The staging and new lighting have significantly helped us to provide state of the art equipment for our own productions and for incoming shows. This equipment has also provided a professional platform for our three youth theatre groups in the theatre."

Will Wollen, Artistic Director said: "Our focus is for the Theatre Royal to become part of the fabric of local people's lives where people know the theatre is for them and their children to enjoy."



Mark Proctor Photography



THE SNOW QUEEN

Christmas Magic for all the Family, 10 – 27 December

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without a family trip to the theatre and the Theatre Royal Margate is serving up a new feast of delights designed to appeal to all ages!

The Snow Queen is a new magical adaptation of the classic story by Hans Christian Andersen, packed full of Christmas fun, audience participation, catchy tunes, stunning sets, fabulous costumes and swirling snowstorms.

To book tickets contact the Box Office on 0845 130 1786 / 01227 787787 or visit www.theatreroyalargate.com

A Dream Come True



Grant of £3.7 million awarded for Dreamland

Richard Samuel, Chief Executive of Thanet District Council, said: "We're absolutely delighted with this news. It's everything we'd hoped for from our bid to the Sea Change programme. Dreamland is a key site for Margate's regeneration and a priority for local people and these plans for a major visitor attraction complement the work already underway on Turner Contemporary."

Dreamland is of national importance and is a completely unique attraction and this announcement should help to put it back in its rightful place in the hearts of visitors from across the country and further afield. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our partners in this bid, including the Dreamland Trust and the site owners for their help and support in achieving this wonderful result."

Nick Laister, Chair of The Dreamland Trust, said: "This is fantastic news and is yet another very positive step to delivering this 'world's first' visitor attraction. We are very pleased that CABE and English Heritage share our view, and that of the people of Margate, that this proposal has the ability to create an outstanding, 21st century attraction at Margate, capitalising on the resort's unique heritage in a way that will make a huge contribution to the regeneration of the town. The Dreamland Trust, along with its partners, is committed to bringing this project to reality as quickly as possible. I would like to thank our partners in the bid, and look forward to working with them over the coming months as we progress to implementation."

Peter Beck, Construction Manager at MTCRC, said: "We at Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company are delighted at the news that the Sea Change application has been successful. We realise how important this project is to the people of Margate and the regeneration of the town and look forward to seeing the transformation beginning to take shape in the coming months. We would particularly like to thank the Dreamland Trust and Derek Harding for their dedication and hard work and we also recognise the input and invaluable guidance of the Princes Regeneration Trust in this considerable achievement. We would also like to congratulate Thanet District Council for their courage in taking forward this scheme and having the conviction to see it through."

The park will create a major new visitor attraction in the heart of the town and provide a major boost for the tourism economy. The park will generate considerable employment opportunities for local people and attract around 700,000 visitors each year, of which about half would pay to go on the rides. The public will be able to enter the park and landscaped gardens free of charge, with wristbands being sold for those who want to enjoy the rides.

The Sea Change programme aims to place culture at the heart of regenerating England's seaside resorts by investing in arts, public space, cultural assets and heritage projects. It is run by CABE, the government's advisor on architecture, urban design and public space.

Plans to create the world's first amusement park of thrilling historic rides in Margate have taken a major step forward, with news that the project will receive £3.7 million from the Government's Sea Change fund.

The money, the largest amount allocated in this wave of funding, will help to create an exciting theme park from the past on the Dreamland site, giving the chance to enjoy spectacular historic amusement park rides that have been rescued from amusement parks across the UK and are the last surviving examples of their type. They will be built around the centrepiece of the park, the Scenic Railway, which is the UK's oldest surviving wooden roller coaster, and fourth oldest in the world. Restoration work will also be carried out on the grade II* listed Dreamland cinema building.

The project involves the Margate Renewal Partnership, The Dreamland Trust/Save Dreamland Campaign, site owners the Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company, and Thanet District Council, who submitted the application.

MARGATE OLD TOWN – *the place to be seen*

Over the last two years, we have been investing in Margate Old Town to help create a new cultural quarter. A mix of funding including European and council money has been used to fund a range of projects including new CCTV, improved lighting, Shell Ladies trail, festivals and markets, and the creation of new studio spaces such as the Pie Factory, the Harbour Arm and photographic studios.

The investment has helped bring new visitors to the area and prepare the Old Town for the opening of the Turner Contemporary Gallery in 2011. Over 20 permanent jobs have been created and the £930,000 of European funding has levered in an additional £1.3million of private and other public money into the area.

Anne-Marie Nixey, owner of Qing and Chair, of the Old Town Action Group, said, "I am delighted that OTAG has had a successful year bringing new people into the Old Town through our Summer Markets and exhibitions. There is so much for visitors to come and see, and it

really is becoming a vibrant cultural quarter. Anyone interested in finding out more can visit www.margateoldtown.co.uk for events and meetings. We'd be delighted for more people to join in as we have a packed year ahead of us."

Janet Williams of the Pie Factory said, "The funding has enabled us to develop the Pie Factory into five artist workshops, all now fully occupied. We have opened a project space where events such as Pushing Print – an open print submission exhibition – has brought artists and visitors from far and wide. Margate is on the brink of a renaissance, visit us and be part of it!"

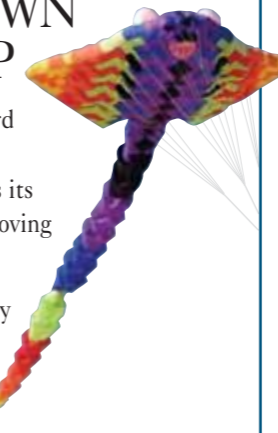


MARGATE TOWN PARTNERSHIP

After ten years' service as a board member of the Margate Town Partnership, and several years as its co-ordinator, Dave Kinnear is moving on to new challenges.

Dave has worked hard over many years to improve and promote Margate, including bringing the spectacular Kite Festival and Quad Bike events to Margate Main Sands, along with the Jazz Festival and Big Sky Jazz Festival which were a regular highlight in the national calendar of jazz events.

The Board of the Town Partnership wish Dave every success in future. If you are interesting in getting involved in the Town Partnership or would like to come along to one of our meetings, please contact: info-margaterenewal@thanet.gov.uk



INTERNATIONAL PRAISE FOR CREATIVE USE OF WINDOWS

A project launched at the beginning of the year proved very successful after attracting much international media attention including featuring on national BBC News, in The Guardian and The Telegraph, as well as the German newspaper Der Spiegel and the New York Times Global Edition.

The Windows of Opportunity scheme aimed to help bring new colour to empty shops in Margate and find out what type of retail residents want to see in the town in the future. The displays involve large scale papier-mache images using recycled materials, that were placed in enclosed window displays in empty shops and lit up for maximum impact.

Led by Thanet District Council, the project was supported by Waterbridge through the Unit Trust and the Margate Renewal Partnership, and involved regional artists 'Total Pap'. Its success has resulted in many other councils contacting Thanet District Council for assistance in setting up similar projects in their towns.



Turner Contemporary Build Progress

Work on site is going well with the underground services and the main structure of the retaining wall on Fort Hill near enough complete. Construction of the gallery building is proceeding well with the walls from ground to first floor almost complete, along with approximately 70% of walls from first floor to the roof. Both in-situ concrete construction and pre-cast concrete components are being used, and in-situ concrete has been used in the walls and floor slabs. Pre-cast concrete floor beams have been used over the multi-function rooms, the ground floor gallery and main reception area to give a high quality finish where the concrete finishes will be exposed.

The next major works to start will be concrete finishes to the retaining wall and to the plinth around the building, as well as the erection of the steel roof structure. With current planning schedules, the building will be fully clad and watertight by spring 2010. The final fitting out and finishes will be underway in early 2010 with a view to completion by the autumn. It will open to the public in spring 2011. The landscape design by Gross Max Landscape Architects and David Chipperfield Architects has been finalised. This is primarily a hard landscaping scheme to recognize the exposed nature of the site, comprising basalt setts, cast iron steps to the sea front, and new seating and street furniture. **Chris Gabriel, Turner Contemporary Project Manager**



ARLINGTON PLANS MOVE A STEP FORWARD

Landowners Freshwater announced that they have signed a deal with a leading supermarket chain to 'make-over' Arlington Tower. Regeneration of the site had become a priority when in June last year a planning brief set out the vision for the area.

Freshwater expects that consultation on the proposals will take place before the end of the year, and a planning application should be submitted in spring 2010.

MEANWHILE' PROJECT

Government Funding from the CLG's Meanwhile Programme has been used to help refurbish the redundant casino above the Kabuki Bar into new studios for a London based design company. HKD Ltd has re-located their offices to Margate and the grant funding has helped bring the premises back into use.

Kate Kneale of HKD Ltd said: "It was the vision of using cultural heritage, with a commitment to involve the local community, which attracted us to Margate. The opportunity to renovate this beautiful building, work in an amazing seafront studio, and be part of Margate's regeneration, was a chance we couldn't pass up. The new studio means we can expand our business and services, including the creation of our own gallery and meeting space. We will be hosting exhibitions, community and schools workshops, this will put us and our international client base, at the heart of Margate's cultural future."