



Maidstone Town Mail

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...another initiative from Town Centre Management

Do you want to access 1,000's of tender opportunities?

Business Link Kent is hosting a free half day event at Chatham Maritime on 5 November that could help you obtain a piece of the estimated £9.3 billion being spent on London 2012 or the £4.5 billion spent annually by local government.

Among the objectives of this half day seminar attendees will learn how to sell to London 2012 and local government, find out what a PQQ is and learn what buyers look for in a 'great' supplier. To book your FREE place, go to: www.southeast2012events.co.uk

TCM member wins O2 contract

TCM member RAP Office Contracts Ltd, have won a contract for a full refurbishment project at the O2 Arena.

The project involves stripping-out the cafeteria area and converting it to 517 sq metres of office accommodation for their client Time Warner Group, who are relocating from Canary Wharf.

TCM congratulates RAP Office Contracts on their successful tender,

More from: www.rapofficecontracts.com

Graham Clarke Gallery

A new exhibition featuring work by local artist Ian Johns will run from 6 October to 1 November in the Graham Clarke Gallery at the Hazlitt Theatre.

"Through My Eyes" illustrates Ian's journey through Australasia, Africa, North America and Europe and his compositions utilise gel ink on paper influenced by the relationship of shape, form and colour found in nature.

Brachers Law supports:

Bin the plastic bag

Town Centre Management is delighted to announce that Brachers Law is supporting their 'Bin the plastic bag' campaign for the town.

Brachers will be financially supporting the push to rid Maidstone of its plastic bags and provide it with paper bag alternatives in the first instance to create an environmentally aware town that cares about rubbish in its community.

Town Centre Management will be providing the 600 retail outlets of Maidstone with an information pack about how to work towards the town being plastic bag free by March 31st 2009. This will include paper bag examples, facts and figures about how damaging plastic bags are to the environment and the aims of the campaign.

There will be a public relations campaign starting in October to engage the people of Maidstone in helping to work towards the ban on March 31st 2009.



Marketing Manager for Brachers Law, Angela Witcher said:

"As a leading local employer, Brachers Law is committed to working with our staff and the local community to help improve our impact on the environment.

When Town Centre Management approached us with their plans, we felt that it was a positive, proactive project that was perfect for us to lend our support to. We welcome such motivation and determination to make Maidstone a more environmentally friendly town for all."

KMFM

THE MUSIC YOU WANT
THE NEWS YOU NEED



For Maidstone 105.6



Leading the way in education

By 2010, Maidstone's first two academies will be completely transformed, offering new buildings, enhanced 21st century curriculums and outstanding facilities for pupils.

Construction work on these state-of-the-art buildings for New Line Learning Academy in Loose and Cornwallis Academy in Linton begins in November costing £62m.

Facilities such as learning plazas, extended vocational centres, performing arts theatres and outdoor performance arenas are in the pipeline. There are also plans for music/art studios, hi-tech specialist rooms and exceptional sporting facilities.

Executive Principal, Dr Chris Gerry, says: "The new academies will be innovative exemplars of what is possible to enhance pupils' education in the early 21st century. At its heart, there lies an ethos where pupils come first and academic standards are met, with programmes underway to cater for each child's social and emotional needs."

Both academies have their own specialisms. NLL Academy's is business, enterprise and

vocational studies and its 1050 students can enjoy nine vocational courses, school farm, sport and extra curricular clubs at its Boughton Lane campus.

Cornwallis Academy at Hubbards Lane holds its specialism in technology and science, has strong local business links, a vocational centre used extensively by all 1630 students and thriving sixth form offering 41 courses.

In addition, both academies employ exceptional teaching staff with outstanding qualifications to ensure pupils gain the best standard of education possible.

Dr Gerry adds:

"When it comes to caring for a child's well-being and helping them to excel in education, our academies are very much leading the way."

New Line Learning *Academy*
Tomorrow's Future Today

Cornwallis *Academy*
Tomorrow's Future Today



NLL Academy's Executive Principal, Dr Chris Gerry

Maidstone's Newest Bar...

Great Food • Excellent Wine • Gaggia Coffee
Fabulous Garden Terrace

Now Open



thegreenroom

70 Bank Street | Maidstone | Kent ME14 1SN
tel: 01622 766006

Stone Court Hotel

28 Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6LX
01622 769769



A hidden gem located within 2 minutes walk from the bustling Town Centre of Maidstone.

Traditional Tudor decor features throughout our boutique hotel and all 16 bedrooms including our two luxury 4 poster suites. Our exceptional Chambers Restaurant serves delectable and diverse European cuisine with 3 courses for **£20** plus our new lunch menu is suited for those that want something light, fast, and tasty all for under **£5**. Or why not try the new Sunday Carvery at only **£7.95**! With 2 function suites at the Stone Court Hotel can cater for day delegates, private parties, wedding receptions and with both rooms holding civil licenses we can cater for Civil Marriages, Civil Partnerships, Renewal of Vows and Baby Naming ceremonies. With a semi permanent Marquee with it's own self contained bar and leading to a courtyard any event can be catered for.

Done with ordinary hotels? Try something extraordinary.
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Bookings Call Stone Court Hotel on 01622 769 769

www.thestonecourthotel.co.uk

Around Town...

...with Bill Moss



Credit Crunch...

The Federation of Small Businesses is hosting a breakfast meeting at the Russell Hotel on 9 October between 7.30am and 9.30am to discuss ways of beating the credit crunch. Free to FSB members and £10 for non-members. More information and bookings contact Fran Smith on 01622 688134.

Farmers Market...

The next town centre farmers market will be held in Sessions House Square, outside County Hall on Saturday 25 October.

Bus depot refurbishment...

KCC have provided £50,000 for the refurbishment of the town centre bus station at the Mall Chequers.

Traffic Management System...

TCM is keen to see the hugely successful Urban Traffic Management System (UTCM) operating on Saturdays. Since its introduction, traffic has been moving in and out of the town more smoothly during the operating days of Monday-Friday, and it seems logical to extend the service to Saturdays. KCC who manage the system, is considering the financial implications.

Army and Navy building...

Following a question in last months Town Mail, we understand a revised planning application for the demolition and new-build on the old Army and Navy site is imminent.

ATM machines...

TCM has repainted the yellow boxes adjacent to the town centre ATM machines in the interests of town centre security. We understand Maidstone was the first town in the south to pilot this scheme in 2003 and TCM is proud to have introduced it!

Christmas trading hours...

Town centre traders have agreed the preferred Christmas 2008 trading hours, which are available from the TCM office on 01622 678777 or www.maidstonetowncentre.com.

Maidstone Goes Green ...

TCM worked closely with Kent County Council to manage the second Maidstone Goes Green Week. The week culminated with In Town without my Car Day on 18 September, when gyratory-bound traffic flow on Fairmeadow improved by 4 34% compared with an average Friday.

Art at the Centre...

The Art at the Centre project has drawn to a close and TCM would like to thank the project managers, Laura and Louise for their tremendous input. Without doubt the town centre is now a much more "artist friendly" environment. Thanks ladies!

New hotel planned...

A planning application for a 96 bedroom budget hotel with associated bar/restaurant and on-site parking has been submitted by Accor Hotels for 22-26 Tonbridge Road.

New member...

We welcome KOS Media, publishers of Kent on Sunday, Your Maidstone and Saturday Observer as a new member of TCM.

Our Members...

Town Centre Management is a non profit making, private limited company, and relies on sponsorship from local businesses to continue making our town an even better place.

Our grateful thanks therefore goes to the following businesses for their generous support:

GOLD

Boots • Fremlin Walk • Kent Messenger • Marks and Spencer • Maidstone Borough Council • Sainsbury's • The Mall Maidstone

SILVER

Any Waste Solution Ltd • Arriva • Barming Signs • Bridal Gowns At Jodi • Countrystyle Waste Management • The Great Danes Ramada Jarvis Hotel • Kent Life • kmfm • KOS Media • The Federation of Small Businesses • McDonalds • The Royal Star Arcade • Strawberry Moons • The Stone Court Hotel • The Marriott Tudor Park Hotel and Country Club • Young and Partners

BRONZE

The Friars at Aylesford Priory • G Cornell & Sons Jewellers • The Courtyard • The Downs Mail • Earl Street Employment Agency • Ethos • Gullands Solicitors • Laura Ashley • Maidstone Health • New Line Learning Academies • Pronuptia • RAP Office Contracts • Ronald White Photographic • Royal Bank of Scotland • The Russell Hotel • Victorias Cabaret Club • Wilkinsons



Up-to-date Information on Criminals in Maidstone

Photographs, CCTV and radios are a deterrent against thieves and potential trouble makers. Making Maidstone a great place to visit and a great place to shop...

Contact Intelligence Manager J Drogo 01622 758938



C CELEBRATE THE MAGIC OF OUR Christmas Fayre

29th NOVEMBER

Get your Christmas underway with a traditional festive fayre at The Friars, Aylesford. This ancient home of the Order of Carmelites is a place of welcome and hope open to the public, free of charge 365 days a year*. With beautiful, landscaped gardens, historic buildings, a gift shop, tea room and pottery, The Friars attracts thousands of visitors all year round; but at Christmas time there's even more to do and see...

- * Tell Santa what's on your wish list
- * Spend time with our real reindeer**
- * Enjoy our festive refreshments
- * Find a loved one that special gift
- * Listen to, or join in with carol singers
- * Look out for sudden unexpected snowfalls

ATTENTION ALL STALLHOLDERS: There are still stalls available for hire. Anyone interested in booking a place at the fayre should contact us as soon as possible to avoid disappointment and take advantage of our discount.

SO MUCH MORE THAN MANY PEOPLE THINK: With conference facilities, 65 rooms to accommodate overnight guests, ample parking and a beautiful barn available for commercial hire, The Friars is just as relevant to businesses as it is to the public; both are able to arrange guided tours of the site. For further information call 01622 717272, email priorsecretary@thefriars.org.uk or visit www.thefriars.org.uk

Registered in England & Wales. Company No 3487590. Charity No 1068518 * Whilst The Friars is open to the public for free, there is an admission charge for events such as the Christmas Fayre **The Friars thanks the Reindeer Centre for their understanding and support

