

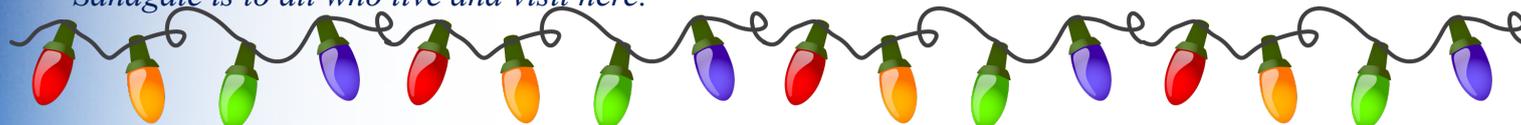
SANDGATE NEWS

Issue 5

Autumn/Winter 2013



The end of the year is fast approaching and the countdown to Christmas will soon begin. It's a busy time of year for your Councillors and Parish Clerk as they plan ahead and budget for 2014. Things aren't so hectic though that we can't sit back and reflect on some of the highlights of the year – the winning of a Quality Coast Award for Sandgate; the Sandgate Sea Festival and the Family Fun Day on the Military Road Rec are but a few achievements which highlighted what a very special place Sandgate is to all who live and visit here.



Christmas tree lights switch on in Sandgate

Sandgate's residents are invited to the switch-on of the Christmas tree lights on Friday 22nd November by Miss Sandgate. The event will start at 6pm in the grounds of Saga – please go via the side entrance off Military Road. Whilst we can't match the glamour of the Oxford Street lights in London, everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy the festive fun at this annual event which is being organised by your parish council. Come and join the carol singing by children from Sandgate Primary School. A very distinguished white bearded gentleman will be there too - he will want to meet all the younger children! After the carol singing, join us for a mince pie and a sip or two of mulled wine at Escondido's.

Anti-dog poo poster competition entries sought

Sandgate's beaches not only won a coveted Seaside Award during 2013 but their bathing water quality was also judged to be Excellent under the Keep Britain Tidy campaign's award criteria. These are fantastic accolades for all those who have worked hard to keep our local beaches clean. Our aim is to keep our beaches that way so that everyone can continue to enjoy them safely.

Despite much progress being made with beach cleanliness, one of the biggest issues still facing the area is dog fouling. Sandgate Parish Council is seeking budding designers and artists among Year 4-6 pupils in the neighbourhood's schools to participate in a poster competition in an attempt to raise awareness about the dangers of dog fouling - in particular, its unpleasantness and its unacceptability.

The parish council is looking for eye-catching posters about dog fouling and/or a separate poster about dogs not being allowed onto beaches between 1st May and 30th September. Each poster should have the child's first name, age and school on the front.

Entries should reach Amanda Oates, Parish Clerk, in Sandgate Library by Friday 14th February 2014. Judging will take place in the week beginning 11th March 2014.

The children's pictures and messages will be judged by parish councillors and Shepway District Council officers with prizes awarded to the best three poster entries. The first prize will be a £15 voucher, second and third prizes will be a £10 and a £5 vouchers respectively.

Winning entries will be printed, published and put on display throughout the neighbourhood by 1st May, which is when Sandgate's beach will once again become a dog-free zone.

Do you know of a blocked drain?

Sandgate is known for its steeply wooded slopes and, if fallen leaves and torrential rain of the like we've seen recently are thrown into the equation, blocked street drains and flooding does occur. While contracts are in place with KCC Highways and Environmental Health to ensure regular gully and street cleansing in Sandgate, there's no predicting the weather and the two don't always coincide. Should a drain near your property happen to be clogged with leaves, and you can do so easily and safely, perhaps you could push those obstructions aside so that the surface water can flow freely into the drain again? This is by no means meant to be in place of regular cleansing services, but your intervention could mean the difference between surface water reaching the drain or flooding homes further downhill in Sandgate. Thank you.

Did the earth move for you? - landslip map in preparation

Sandgate's geological history is peppered with landslips as the sea and wild weather take a toll on its topography. While landslips in Sandgate's more distant past have been well documented – the March 1893 landslip which left around 200 homes uninhabitable is a case in point – more recent incidents have been less well recorded. The parish council is trying to draw up a map showing those areas in Sandgate which are at risk of landslip. The information collected will help in future planning applications to decide whether an area of land is prone to landslip and whether it should be built on. The parish council is looking for examples of landslips in the area which have happened in the last 50 years. If you can remember one that took place near you, or you have documentary evidence of such an event, please send the details to our parish clerk.

Young Sandgate Society call for members

Are you aged between 9 and 13 years of age? Would you like to meet new people, make new friends and take part in amazing projects and activities? If you answer yes to any of these questions then the Young Sandgate Society could be for you. Run by young people for young people, the group meets monthly at the Chichester Memorial Hall, Sandgate High Street from 6.00pm until 7.30pm. The next meeting is set for 6th December. Meetings are free and annual membership of the society is just £3.00. For further information please contact: Adel Wilson, tel: 07795 511355 or email thewilsonsabout@hotmail.com.

FAMILY FUN DAY 4TH AUGUST



YOUR COUNCIL

Sandgate Parish Council is much more than a dry list of names on a website or printed minutes on the notice board outside the chip shop. We are living, breathing, human beings (honest) all of whom are committed to making Sandgate a great place to live.

We are the level of government closest to the community in Sandgate Parish and we are here to represent your interests and concerns. The council plays an important role in maintaining and improving local services and facilities, supporting local voluntary organisations and activities and influencing and lobbying on local development. When decisions are being made we are here to put your views across.

The parish council has a number of committees that meet on a monthly basis in Sandgate Library to discuss environmental, planning, finances and other matters affecting the community. These meetings are always open to the public and the press, unless specified otherwise. Residents are welcome to come along and listen. There is also a section of the full council meeting where residents and non-council members can ask a question and put their concerns to the council.

If you would like to contact your council, email Amanda Oates our parish clerk at: sandgateparish@tiscali.co.uk. You can also speak to Amanda on: 01303 248563 (9am – 1pm Monday to Friday only). We look forward to hearing from you. You can also find out more about what your parish council is doing by visiting the website at: <http://www.sandgatepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/default.cfm>

The Recreation Ground

With funding from the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust and with added funding from the Parish Council we now have a lovely upgraded tennis court and multiple use games court. The grassed football pitch is being seeded, with reinforced goal ends and new goal ends - this work will be complete early next year. New bins, picnic tables and benches have also been provided to make this a great amenity for all the family. But - we are not stopping there - we have plans to put fitness equipment on the lower part of the Rec and are also exploring the provision of event toilets throughout the warmest months. Following the successful Family Fun Day earlier this year, we plan to hold more community events, such as 'Music in the Park' on the Rec for June, July and August so watch out for more information about these events.



NEW MUGA AT THE REC



PETANQUE PITCH AT THE REC

Look out for forthcoming Sandgate Events

SANDGATE FARMERS' MARKET

This market is held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month in the Chichester Hall, Sandgate. A huge range of bread, pies, biscuits, fruit & vegetables, meat, eggs, cheese & charcuterie, olives, cakes and quiches, preserves and chutneys, chocolate and more (stall holders attending may vary). It's a great way to support Kent produce, local suppliers and the environment. Next market dates 7th & 21st December, 4th and 18th January.

Sandgate Art & Craft Fair

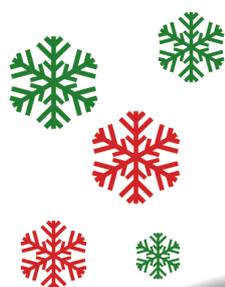
14th December 10am-4pm at the Chichester Hall, Sandgate High Street. Affordable art, crafts, jewellery, Christmas gifts, decorations and wreaths, vintage home wares and more for sale.

Don't forget free parking

Where to leave your car without getting a parking ticket while doing a spot of Christmas shopping is always a worry. Sandgate Parish Council has come to the rescue. It has arranged with SAGA that residents can park their cars for free in their grounds at Enbrook Park (nr St Paul's Church) on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year.

Shepway District Council's car parks in Castle Road and Wilberforce Road will also be free on Saturday 7th December, Saturday 14th December and Saturday 21st December, in a bid to help businesses during the festive period. Additionally, in Folkestone, on-street parking in Zone 1 will also be free on those three Saturdays.

**SANDGATE PARISH COUNCIL WISHES ALL OF
SANDGATE'S RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES A VERY**



*Happy Christmas and a
happy and healthy 2014.*

