

Inside - all your local events, clubs & groups

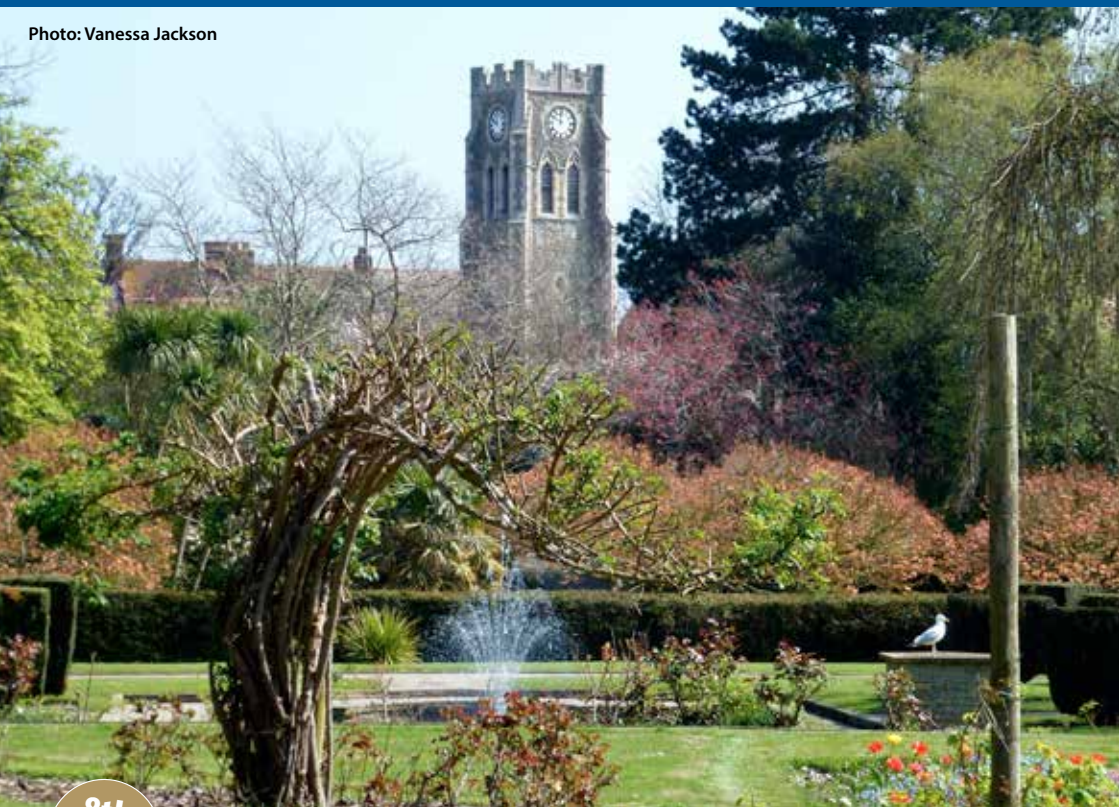


Quarterly | February – May 2018

Folkestone

Town Council community magazine

Photo: Vanessa Jackson



8th
ISSUE



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Welcome



Happy New Year and welcome to our Spring edition of the Folkestone Town Council Community Magazine. Folkestone Town Council Officers and Councillors hope you had a happy and healthy Christmas and wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

As you will see in the article inside, Folkestone Museum is currently hosting an exhibition on the Chinese Labour Corps. Keep an eye on our website www.folkestonemuseum.co.uk for upcoming exhibitions and events at our Museum. You may have also heard that a dinosaur footprint was recently found in Folkestone, further details are in the article inside or visit the Museum to see this amazing fossil with your own eyes.

I would like to thank Vanessa Jackson for providing the lovely spring time image on our front cover. If you have any photos of Folkestone you would like featured in a future magazine, please email them to me at Georgina.wilson@folkestone-tc.gov.uk, along with any suggestions for future articles.

Folkestone Town Council

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NEWS OF THE SAD LOSS OF
FOLKESTONE PRIEST

St. Peter's Church, Folkestone

St Peter's Church, Folkestone are sorry to announce the death of Father David Adlington from a suspected heart attack in the Vicarage, on 4th January 2018.



Rev. David Adlington (1951-2018) studied at Kings College London and St. Augustine's College, Canterbury. Father David was ordained as Deacon in 1973 and served his curacy at St. Paul's, Clapham (1974-1977) and St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green (1977-1980). He was ordained Priest in 1975. He served as Priest at St. Peter's, Stepney and was Succentor (responsible for liturgy and music) at Southwark Cathedral (1984-1987) before moving to Wales where he became Succentor at Llandaff Cathedral and then Priest of several Parishes between 1988 and 2000. He was Diocesan Director of Education (1991-2000).

Father David moved to the Canterbury Diocese in 2000, becoming Priest in Charge of St. Mary and St. Eanswythe, Folkestone (2000-2009) and then at St. Mary's, Elham (2009-2013). He returned to Folkestone in 2013 to be the Vicar of St. Mary, St. Eanswythe and St. Saviour, Folkestone and Vicar of St. Peter's, Folkestone, being the first incumbent to hold the two Benefices jointly. Father David was an Honourable Minor Canon at Canterbury Cathedral (since 2001) and had been serving as Area Dean of the Elham Deanery since 2014. Father David was widely recognised across Folkestone from events such as Town Sunday and The Blessing of the Fisheries.

Churchwarden, Dr David Wilson, of St. Peter's Church said:

"He was deeply loved by his parishioners and especially by the children of St. Peter's School, St. Mary's Primary Academy and St. Eanswythe's School. We are all devastated."

Forthcoming Meetings

All of these meetings will now be held in the Town Council's offices at the Town Hall starting at 7pm unless otherwise stated.

Full Council Meeting
15th March, 11th May – Annual Council and 29th May – Town Assembly

Members of the public are welcome to attend. Electors of the Town are able to ask questions relevant to the agenda. For further information contact the Town Council on 01303 257946.

Finance and General Purposes Committee
22nd February and 26th April

Scrutinise, monitor and further develop the Council's budget and oversee Council's policies.

Grants Committee
5th April

To consider Town Grant applications. There is currently approximately £30,000 in Town Grants available each year with a limit of £2,500 per project with a maximum of three applications per organisation per financial year. Please note this meeting starts at 6.30pm.

Planning Committee
15th February, 8th and 29th March, 19th April and 10th May

Closely examine all planning applications submitted to Shepway District Council in the Folkestone Town area and make recommendations and comments on acceptance as part of the statutory consultation process.

Community Services Committee
6th February and 3rd April

Look at how to enhance and improve the environment and facilities in our area, from agreeing expenditure on new facilities to supporting new and proposed events.

The Bishop of Dover, The Right Reverend Trevor Willmott, said in a letter to the Diocese that Father David

"... was a fine human being and a fine priest who served the communities entrusted to his care with love and faithfulness. His gentle spirit reflected his deep Faith into the transformative love of God revealed to us in Jesus Christ. We rejoice today in that love which is stronger than death. May he rest in peace and rise in glory."

Father David leaves wife, Kim, children and grandchildren.

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A Brief History of Cheriton by Vincent Williams

St Martin's church has stood on the hillside at the top of the Horn Street valley, at the west end of Folkestone for over a thousand years. The date the church was built is not known, however the original building (consisting of the nave and tower) was built prior to 900AD.

Inside of the church one can see the original Saxon doorway into the tower and a Saxon window above. This building is the oldest church in Folkestone and the parish church of Cheriton. But whereas many local history books have documented Folkestone few have given Cheriton more than a passing mention; mostly to acknowledge the fact that the churchyard contains the grave of Samuel Plimsoll, a Liberal M.P. for Derby, who is world renowned for creating the "Plimsoll Line" on ships which has undoubtedly saved the lives of many thousands of seamen, and earned him the nickname "The Sailor's Friend."

There is evidence of a settlement in what we now know as Cheriton as early as 2500BC although little is known about the settlers. The only evidence, so far, comes from the discovery of late-Neolithic pottery in 1972 by workmen laying a water main. The suggestion was that the two vessels found may have been casually discarded domestic rubbish, but they were more likely to be burial vessels as their condition tended to suggest they were buried complete. The two vessels found dated from different periods, the earlier one from the middle of the third millennium BC and a more complete bowl probably from around 2000BC. Other excavations in 1948 had also unearthed pottery believed to be Belgic and Samian ware, from a later period, 1st century AD. At the time

it was suggested, although not conclusively proved, that this find gave credence to a Roman road from Lympe to Dover passing through this area.

The name Cheriton derives from the Old English words "Cirice tūn" meaning Church farmstead and this church, as mentioned above, dates from Saxon times with additions being made in the 13th, 14th, 19th and 21st centuries. However, most people today think of Cheriton not as the rural village that stretches down the Horn Street valley but the built up area straddling the main road into Folkestone.

Land ownership in early times was based on service usually granted perhaps in the first instance by the monarch of the day and then granted similarly by his supporters. According to Hasted's History of Kent in 1790 there were several manors within Cheriton, namely: Cheriton, Enbrook, Bishops Enbrook, Sweet Arden, Caseborne, Swetton and Ackhanger. Records of these date back to the 12th century, but some had long since disappeared by the 18th century and Hasted's time. It is important to note also that the word "manor" does not necessarily mean that a stately home existed; the manor might just as easily have been a farmstead or other building and the surrounding land. In fact until the late 1800s well over 90% of Cheriton was agricultural land. But with the arrival of the railway and



the resulting success of Folkestone as a tourist resort together with the proximity of Shorncliffe Camp, a separate entity called Cheriton Street sprang up to service the needs of both the army camp and Folkestone's hotels. In fact Cheriton's main industry was to become the laundry business and earned it the name of the "Washtub of Folkestone!" Gradually the villages or hamlets of Cheriton, Risborough, Barton and now Cheriton Street have all merged into one – Cheriton as we now know it. Over the years industries have come and gone – the brickyards, and Dormobile (who converted Vauxhall cars and Bedford vans). And the invention of the washing machine sounded the death knell for the laundry industry with the last laundry closing down in the 1980s.

The Channel Tunnel has brought some prosperity whilst robbing it of ancient agricultural land, and yet Cheriton has continued to survive and grow in size with recent housing developments on former Shorncliffe Camp land.

So with Cheriton possibly losing some of its own identity from becoming simply an outskirts of Folkestone, local resident and author Vince Williams, has decided to chronicle the history of Cheriton in a series of books which are raising money for a new community centre. Seven 80 page volumes are available from Rocheforts Newsagents and Forget Me Not in Cheriton. The latest, Volume 5 is available at a cost of £10 for paperbacks and £15 for hardbacks. Five volumes chronicle various shops, buildings, business, schools, Shorncliffe Camp, and important events and people. The other two volumes focus on St Martins and All Souls Churches.

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The Town Mayor of Folkestone's Christmas Card Competition

The Worshipful Town Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Roger West, invited students in year groups 7 and 8 at local secondary schools to design a picture reflecting 'Festive Folkestone' for this year's annual Christmas card, which was sent out to local businesses and dignitaries, including Her Majesty The Queen.

The entries submitted by The Folkestone School for Girls and The Harvey Grammar School were judged by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Ann Berry.

Councillor Roger West, said "We were delighted that The Folkestone School for Girls and The Harvey Grammar School sent in entries for the competition which were of a very high standard. Special mention must be made of the following students whose designs were shortlisted:

Carys Rogers (The Folkestone School for Girls)

Maisie Martin (The Folkestone School for Girls)

Fern Hyslop (The Folkestone School for Girls)

Evie Hawkes (The Folkestone School for Girls)

Charlotte Cox (The Folkestone School for Girls)

Betty Mensah-Freeman (The Folkestone School for Girls)

Ely Fonseca-Shaw (The Harvey Grammar School)

The effort and skill shown by the pupils was outstanding, which made it very difficult for us to choose one overall winner. However, after much deliberation, Charlotte Cox was awarded first place with Betty Mensah-Freeman coming a close second. My thanks to the school staff for arranging for the students to take part and of course to all those students who took the time to submit an entry."

The winner received a £25 voucher with the runner up receiving a £15 voucher. A special gift was also presented to Ely Fonseca-Shaw who was self-taught in the use of Photoshop and used this to design his entry.

Folkestone Town Council as local tree charter branch and planting of a legacy tree

To mark the launch of the Charter for Trees, Woods and People in November last year, 800 'Tree Charter Legacy Trees' will be planted across the UK, serving as living reminders of the 800 years that separated the 1217 Charter of the Forest and the new charter.

These trees will be given free of charge to Charter Branches, community groups, universities, colleges, schools and organisations that pledge to stand up for the Tree Charter and embody its Principles into their activities and policies going forward.

Folkestone Town Council are one of the scheme champions and have signed up to the Charter.

For more information or to become involved please go to www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/get-involved/communities or contact Vicky Deakin (Tourism and Community Events Officer) on **01303 257946** or vicky.deakin@folkestone-tc.gov.uk

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Folkestone Town Council delivers spectacular Firework display as finale to its town centre big 'Switch On' event on Friday 17th November 2017

A SPECTACULAR fireworks display had Folkestone residents captivated for the third year running as thousands of people lined the streets to view the display from Folkestone Harbour.

The eagerly anticipated display saw residents turn out in force after enjoying all the fun of the event which included a festive lantern parade and live entertainment by Academy FM outside the Town Hall. Academy DJ's built up the crowd for the big event and provided the countdown for the lights switch on, Carols were provided by the pupils of St Eanswythes; and the Snowdown Colliery Brass Band played whilst families enjoyed fairground rides, real reindeer and food stalls.

The climax of the evening was a near 20 minute firework display with plenty of gasps, "oohs" and "aahs" from spectators.

The event was officially opened by Councillor Roger West, Mayor of Folkestone who praised all participants for delivering a fantastically attended and enjoyable start to the festive season for all.

Many grateful comments came from members of the public who were pleased that the whole event was free and a wonderful way to get in to the festive spirit and bring the community together.



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A History of the Chinese Labour Corps in World War I

31st January – 17th March, 2018

F The story of the Chinese Labour Corps, or CLC, has until recently been greatly overlooked in the context of WWI history. Folkestone Museum in partnership with Durham University Oriental Museum and The Meridian Society now present an exhibition revealing the immense contribution these men made to the war effort: building roads and docks; assembling equipment; digging trenches; and clearing mines.

After war broke out in France and Belgium, the Allies found themselves having to replenish their troops with men from munitions factories and strategic ports. To replace them, the British came up with the idea of enlisting labourers from China, known to be resilient, hardworking and in need of money. China was at the point of being carved up between various empires and was determined to gain a place for itself at the diplomatic table and regain control of its territories. 140,000 men were recruited, approximately 96,000 by the British alone. After intense military training in China they made the gruelling journey over sea and land, mainly via Canada and the U.K. Exposed to new diseases, understandably not all of the men survived and six of the CLC now have their final resting places at Shorncliffe Cemetery.

This exhibition will bring together artefacts and documentary photographs from the W.J. Hawkings Collection, courtesy of his grandson John de Lucy, to explore the history of the CLC and reveal more about the men buried at Shorncliffe Cemetery. In addition to the material from Durham University, some of the artefacts for the Folkestone exhibition have been donated by direct descendants of the CLC and their commanding officers and have never been on

show before, including a rare CLC service medal and an original CLC ID booklet from a recruit who died on route through Canada.

A series of adult and family friendly workshops, along with a screening of the film of oral histories produced by the Meridian Society, Forgotten Faces of the First World War, will take place alongside the exhibition. We also hope to offer an exciting insight into the activities the CLC would have indulged in at Chinese New Year on February 17th. Please check our website and social media for updates on associated events.

The exhibition will travel to Plymouth and Liverpool where the other CLC members who died on British soil are buried. Dates of exhibitions are to be confirmed. Please check the relevant institution's website for further details.

Partners:

The Meridian Society:

www.themeridiansociety.org.uk

Durham University Oriental Museum:

www.dur.ac.uk/oriental.museum

W.J. Hawkings Collection:

www.ensuringweremember.co.uk

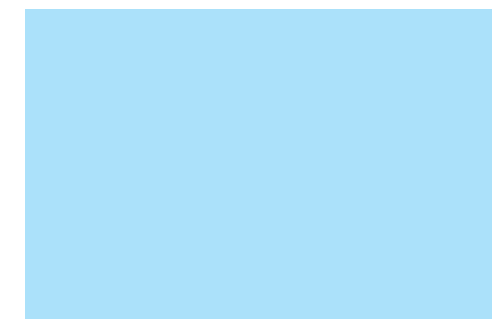


Photo - CLC Graves at Shorncliffe Military Cemetery. Images courtesy Andy Smith and Folkestone Museum.

Whats on – Spring 2018

FEBRUARY

23rd

Mayors Fun Night

At the Folkestone and Hythe Sea Cadet Unit, Ross Way, Folkestone – Join the Mayor for an evening of games, tickets are £5 per person and includes entry, baked potato and waffle berry pie, all proceeds go to the Mayoress of Folkestone's Charity Fund. For further information or to book tickets please call 01303 257946 or visit www.folkestonetc.kentparishes.gov.uk

MAY

11th – 7pm

Mayor Making

Election of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and appointment of the Town Mayors Chaplain. For further information visit www.folkestonetc.kentparishes.gov.uk or call 01303 257946.

29th – 7pm

Town Meeting

Electors of the Town and Parish of Folkestone may raise and discuss matters of general interest and hear reports on activities from their local County, District and Town Councillors, together with representatives from Kent Police and Kent Fire and Rescue. For further information visit www.folkestonetc.kentparishes.gov.uk or call 01303 257946.

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Please contact Vicky Deakin (Tourism and Community Events Officer) on **01303 257946** or vicky.deakin@folkestone-tc.gov.uk should you have any suggestions in respect of any of the above projects.



The Town Mayor of Folkestone's Fun Night

In aid of the Mayoress of Folkestone's Charity Fund

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7.00pm for 7.30pm

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Please pre-book your place

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The Town Hall, 1-2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1DY
Tel: 01303 257946 or email toni.brenchley@folkestone-tc.gov.uk

F Rare dinosaur footprint found in Folkestone

Folkestone Museum

The newly opened Folkestone Museum has recently acquired a very important donation.

Steve Friedrich, a well-known local collector and fossil hunter with over 40 years' experience, has discovered a rare dinosaur footprint including a trackway on the beach at Folkestone. It was found on 28 September 2017 in the Lower Greensand, making it around 120 million years old (Cretaceous period). Steve immediately realised the importance of the find and donated it to Folkestone Museum.

The Museum's Collections Officer, Phil Hadland, who helped to retrieve the find, had previously found evidence of dinosaur footprints in Folkestone. It was asserted by some that such footprints could not be found here because the local rocks are supposedly all from marine sediments. However it is now thought possible that the creatures were wandering ancient shorelines during low tides and scavenging. In Utah in the United States, it was recently discovered that some dinosaurs ate shellfish so it is plausible that they were doing the same in Folkestone.

The dinosaur that made this track is thought to have belonged to the theropods - a group of dinosaurs that included Tyrannosaurus Rex. Like most theropod dinosaurs, it walked on two legs and had three toes on each foot touching the ground. This natural cast of a footprint was formed when the impression left in the ground by the animal's foot was filled with sand, probably during an incoming tide. The Folkestone tracks may also be the youngest known dinosaur tracks from the British Isles.

This dramatic discovery removes any doubt that dinosaurs did indeed roam this part of the earth that we now know as Folkestone.

The finds have recently been published in Fossils of Folkestone, Kent by Phil Hadland: siriscientificpress.co.uk/products/fossils-of-folkestone-kent. A book launch and signing with the author will take place at Folkestone Museum on Saturday, 20th January from 2-4pm.

The footprint will be on display to the public in 2018, please visit our website www.folkestonemuseum.co.uk for further information, or follow us on social media.





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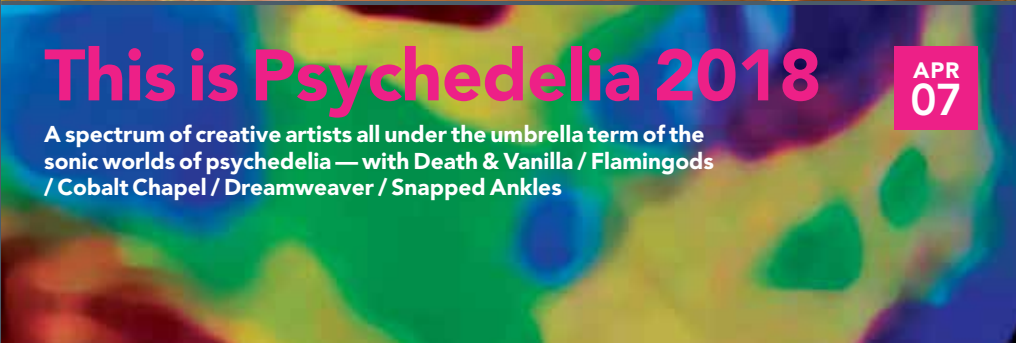
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MAR
25

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APR
07

A Coastal Walk

Chris and Norah Newey, two senior citizens from Yateley in Hants, have recently completed a marathon walk of the Coast of Mainland Britain, finishing when they walked into Folkestone on Saturday 18th November 2017.



They were welcomed by The Worshipful Town Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Roger West and a group of 32 family and friends. The

distance proved to be 4298 miles, completed in stages over ten years. Chris (a retired Army Officer) and Norah (a retired Nurse) are not new to long distance walking having previously walked from John O'Groats to Lands End, a total of 925 miles, again in stages between 2001 and 2004. It was at the finish of that walk that Chris realised he wanted a greater challenge, to walk the Coast of Mainland Britain, luckily Norah said she would do it too.

As a rule of thumb they decided to walk the Coast anti-clockwise, following the route of Shally Hunt and her husband Richard (who walked in the opposite direction). It was her book "the Sea on our Left" which inspired them to do the walk, as was the BBC series 'Coast' on television at the time.

It was decided, in order to enjoy the adventure, they would firstly not walk in the rain, and secondly, not walk more than 12 miles in any one day. They failed on both counts! As they were not sure if they would complete the walk (before their joints failed), they decided not to raise money for charity. People often asked them 'what was the most beautiful part of the walk or what did they enjoy most?' Well, that proved difficult to answer, they have fond memories of different areas. The remoteness of North West Scotland, the long flat beaches of Northumberland and Pembrokeshire, the



panoramic views of Devon/Cornwall. One thing was clear, the United Kingdom is a beautiful place and the best way to see it is on foot! Wherever they were, people were genuinely interested in what they were doing and wished them every success in achieving it.

When they started on their journey, they had a caravan, but latterly a small campervan which they used to live in. So, with military precision, campsites were selected, bus and train timetables obtained and each day's walk was planned using Ordnance Survey maps. In remote areas friends joined them to help out with logistics of getting from point A to point B and on a few walks joined them. During the walk they managed to wear out three pairs of boots in 425 days of walking – but thankfully they did not suffer illness or injury.

Now the walk is over – what next? Probably a well-earned rest, but they do plan on moving to Kent to be nearer to their family in old age. A remarkable achievement, well done.

TOWN MAYOR OF FOLKESTONE'S CHRISTMAS FUND 2017/18

Message from The Worshipful Town Mayor of Folkestone,
Councillor Roger West:

"May I thank the people of Folkestone who, one way or another, have contributed towards the Town Mayor's Christmas Fund. Wherever possible, the donations have been acknowledged but some were received anonymously and we have been unable to express our thanks to these people. The Christmas Fund Committee really appreciates the generosity of the many organisations and individuals from whom we have received gifts and, as a result of this kindness, we have been able to make payments to the elderly residents of our Town to assist with their winter expenses.

May I mention that the fund is open all year to receive donations and the Committee would naturally welcome support at any time – we know how much the gifts are appreciated by the beneficiaries."

Any organisation or individual who wishes to make a donation, however small, can do so by addressing it to:

**The Town Mayor of Folkestone,
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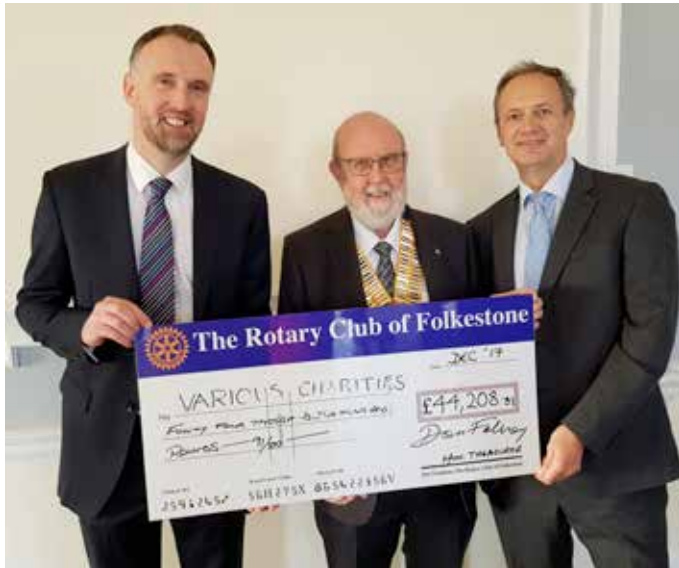
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Rotary Update

We are pleased to report that we have now finalized the total amount of money raised for this year's Half Marathon, which achieved £44,208.



Roger De Haan Charitable Trust, but most importantly the runners who without their participation would not have made this event as successful. We had a fabulous children's race and lots of good pics are on our website.

"The main charity was Folkestone Rainbow Centre, and we were delighted to help them raise over £4,500 this year in addition to direct funds. The funds include monies raised directly by runners for a wide variety of charitable causes. The Rotary Club will also distribute £4,500 in support of its work within the community."

Jon Wilson, Chief Executive of Folkestone Rainbow Centre, commented that he was delighted that the Rainbow Centre was chosen for this year's event and receiving vital funds via the Rotary Club of Folkestone has been most beneficial to our ongoing causes, supporting those primarily within the local area.

Further feedback / information can be viewed by going to: www.runnersworld.co.uk/events and www.folkestonerotary.org

We are also pleased to report that we have had an overwhelming response following our Christmas collections within the Folkestone district. Not only have residents been most generous, they have also enjoyed the opportunity to meet Santa – in particular the children, of course.

This year's total was a phenomenal £6,909.43. The Folkestone Rotary Club would like to express their sincere thanks to the local community as the collections have enabled us

to purchase large quantities of food that was separated into bags and distributed in parcels to the needy within the local area. Each year we receive numerous letters of thanks for support and consideration, and Folkestone Rotary Club will continue supporting the Winter Shelter Project for the homeless where local churches will be assisting with their accommodation and welfare needs.

President Tom McNeice commented, "As always we are most grateful to the local community that support our annual Christmas collections. In addition I would like to thank all of the many volunteers, not only members of the Rotary Club but also friends of Rotary who assist us at various events, and also the local supermarkets that have granted us permission to collect funds – not forgetting Father Christmas of course. In addition we would like to thank Inner Wheel for assisting in the preparation of the parcels."



"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind support for all of our events throughout the last 12 months."

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