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Quarterly | Feb - April 2019

# Folkestone

## Town Council community magazine

Photo: Loretta Izod



12th  
ISSUE



Folkestone Town Council: 01303 257946  
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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 New Year.

Folkestone Town Council were once again very proud of the Christmas light switch on event and amazing fireworks which followed. The crowds gathered from early in the day and enjoyed a variety of activities. We would like to thank all of those who attended as well as all of those who worked to help make the event a success. We are looking for feedback on the event and lights and would be grateful if you could complete the questions inside the magazine and return to us.

Thank you to Loretta Izod for the lovely image on the front cover taken from the Wear Bay area. If you have any photos of Folkestone you would like featured on the front cover please email them to me on [georgina.wilson@folkestone-tc.gov.uk](mailto:georgina.wilson@folkestone-tc.gov.uk) for consideration. Permission will be asked prior to the photo being used.

You will see inside the magazine various articles on a range of subjects relating to Folkestone. If you have an article you would like included, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above email address.

Folkestone Museum continues to offer a range of workshops and exhibitions, check our website [www.folkestonemuseum.co.uk](http://www.folkestonemuseum.co.uk) or Facebook/ Twitter/Instagram pages for updates, or pop in to the Museum which is open between Monday – Saturday from 10am – 4pm.

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# Folkestone Museum News



**Folkestone Museum had a very busy 2018. We presented a fascinating show about the Chinese Labour Corps in Folkestone in WWI, showcased the collections of local people in the Kent Collects exhibition, welcomed thousands of captivated visitors to our first Dinosaur Week, hosted a spellbinding show inspired by our Victorian taxidermy collections by Folkestone artist Kate Knight, and our Walter Tull exhibition has exceeded all expectations for visitor numbers and was covered by local and national news on ITN, ITV, and BBC.**

We also capped off a successful year with confirmation of Accreditation from Arts Council England. This marks an important milestone in the development of the Museum; becoming accredited means Folkestone Museum meets UK industry standards for museums and galleries. It tells everyone involved with a museum that they're doing the right things to help people engage with the collections and protect them for the future. This would not have happened without the dedication of staff and volunteers, past and present, and we are very grateful to them for their hard work and enthusiasm.

The 1st March to the end of May 2019 will see the celebration of the work of a much-loved self-taught local artist Shane Record in our exhibition gallery. Shane is a stalwart of the regenerated Old High Street and took a big gamble on opening his own gallery there back in 2005. His paintings capture the essence of a seaside town that has had its ups and downs and are infused with

a wonderful sense of light and space that only comes from living by the sea. Shane's paintings have now become the most famous contemporary artistic representations of the town and it is only right that a selection of his most admired paintings, on loan from private collections, be showcased at Folkestone Museum.

Other exhibitions will include a look at the architectural aspirations for the redevelopment of the old Gasworks site, building on the work completed by the Pioneering Places East Kent project, part of the national Great Place Scheme. In the autumn we celebrate 25 years since the opening of the Channel Tunnel, in collaboration with Eurotunnel. This exhibition will explore the positive and negative impacts that the most expensive construction project ever proposed had on the town. 2019 also marks 80 years since the outbreak of WWII – a small exhibition will explore Folkestone's role, once again on the frontline of conflict.

For more information go to [folkestonemuseum.co.uk](http://folkestonemuseum.co.uk) or follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

*Marine Crescent at Dusk, Shane Record, Image courtesy the Artist*





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# Folkestone Remembers Holocaust Memorial Day in the United Kingdom

**On Friday 25 January 2019, a commemoration service was held in the Town of Folkestone to mark the annual Holocaust Memorial Day, an internationally recognised day to remember the millions of people who were murdered or whose lives were changed beyond recognition during the Holocaust, Nazi persecution and in the subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.**

Held in the Methodist Church Hall and The Garden of Remembrance, Sandgate Road, Folkestone, and led by the Mayor's Chaplain, Father Stephen Bould, the service was attended by the Town Mayor, Town Councillors, local dignitaries and students from local schools and colleges. Students had undertaken their own research and took part in the commemorations to remember those who died in the Holocaust and subsequent genocides.

The Theme set by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust for 2019 was 'Torn from home' - encouraging audiences to reflect on how the enforced loss of a safe place to call 'home' is part of the trauma faced by anyone experiencing persecution and genocide. 'Home' usually means a place of safety, comfort and security. On HMD 2019 Folkestone reflected on what happens when individuals, families and communities are driven out of, or wrenched from their homes, because of persecution or the threat of genocide, alongside the continuing difficulties survivors face as they try to find and build new homes when the genocide is over.

The Town Mayor, Town Councillors and local students extended an invitation to all members of the local community to this year's commemorations, which took place in the Methodist Church Hall, and the Garden of Remembrance on Sandgate Road. Following

the service, there was the opportunity to share and sample food from different cultures provided by students from Folkestone College, whilst viewing an exhibition from Kay Sharpe.





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# Folkestone Festivals launches its 2019 Events Programme



**Folkestone Festivals are pleased to announce details of their 2019 programme of fantastic free events for the town of Folkestone AND are already looking forward to planning their 2020 diary based around a new event this coming year!**

On Saturday 13th July, a new event will be introduced at Folkestone's Famous Bandstand on The Leas with a Vintage Festival and Music Day taking place. Folkestone Festivals is hopeful this event might be replicated across several weekends in the summer of 2020 and are seeking sponsorship or donations to make this happen.

The idea has come about to recognise the 120 years the Bandstand has been in place and to mark what it has been part of over this time. Folkestone Festivals would like to lay on a series of events around the Leas Cliff Hall and the bandstand to commemorate the different styles of music through the past 120 years. There are numerous music groups, dancers and singers based in and around Folkestone who could provide the different sounds and Folkestone Festivals welcome interest from potential participants.

On the 13th July event, plans are already developed for the Vintage Festival when live music from Vintage Ruby, The Dulcettes and Folkestone Community Swing Band will entertain the crowds. Vintage Vehicles will provide static displays. Vintage amusements and Punch and Judy Shows and a host of other things will make the day go with a swing! Stall holders selling vintage and retro goods as well as craft and food will add to the ambience of the event. Dressing up in the style of the era is also welcome.

Enquiries are welcome from those who would like to take part. For Stalls contact [neville@folkestonefestivals.org](mailto:neville@folkestonefestivals.org) and for entertainment

and other content;  
[john@folkestonefestivals.org](mailto:john@folkestonefestivals.org)

As well as the new Vintage Festival, old favourites make a welcome return including 'One Great Day' in partnership with Bouverie Place Shopping Centre and the UK Strong Man Competition on The Leas. Back for its second year is the successful Mariner's Bake-Off Competition and Fun Day on Folkestone's Stade on 28th September. These great events complement Festivals regular events with Music at the Bandstand commencing Sunday May 26th through to September 8th and the brilliant monthly ArtMarts which take place on the last Friday of the month from March to November with a special Christmas date of 20th December.



**FOLKESTONE FESTIVALS** are delighted to share dates of their 2019 events for your diary:

- June 15 - One Great Day – Bouverie Place Shopping Centre (BPSC)
- July 13 - Vintage Festival Music Day - Bandstand
- July 14 - UK Strongest Man Competition & Health/Fitness- Bandstand
- Sept. 28 - The Mariner's Bake Off and Fun Day - The Stade

**FOLKESTONE ARTMARTS**

(last Friday of the month at BPSC):

March	29
April	26
May	31
June	28
July	26
August	30
September	27
October	25
November	29
December	20

All the above should state  
**"subject to change"**

For more information visit :

[www.facebook.com/FolkestoneFestival](http://www.facebook.com/FolkestoneFestival)

or online at

[www.folkestonefestivals.org](http://www.folkestonefestivals.org)

**BANDSTAND EVENTS**

2.30 to 4.30pm:

- May 26 - Kent Police Band
- June 2 - East Peckham Band
- June 9 - Hythe Concert Band
- June 15 - (SAT) Crystal Palace Band
- June 16 - UK Paper Band
- June 22 - (SAT) Cranbrook Town Band
- June 23 - Invicta Jazz Orchestra
- June 30 - Armed Forces Day Folkestone
- July 7 - Community Fun Day (All Day)
- July 7 - Invicta Concert Band
- July 13 - (SAT) Vintage Music Festival (All Day)
- July 14 - Strongest man Competition (All Day)
- July 21 - Sevenoaks & Tonbridge Band
- July 28 - Hythe Town Concert Band
- August 4 - Faversham Mission Band
- August 11 - Birchington Silver Band
- August 18 - Second Wind Concert Band
- August 25 - tbc
- September 1 - Whitstable Scouts Band
- September 8 - Canterbury City Band



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# 100 Miles for 100 Years

by Bob Peedle MBE, Fellow of The Royal Society of St George.

**Last year, Chairman of The Royal Society of St George, 65 year old Joanna Cadman, walked from HMS Victory to Nelson's Column, some 80 miles, and raised nearly £3000 for charity, including Combat Stress. As 2018 was the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, she decided she would walk 100 miles to raise money for The Royal British Legion.**

It was decided that she would walk from Sandwich to Newhaven in East Sussex to link the ports vital in supplying our Forces across the Channel. This would link Richborough (near Sandwich), Dover, Folkestone and Newhaven.

Accompanied by 87 year old Jeffrey Long, she left Sandwich at 8.30am on Tuesday 6th November. The party stayed at Dover overnight and on Wednesday 7th walked to Capel-le-Ferne to visit the Battle of Britain Memorial, bearing in mind that the year is also the 100th anniversary of the formation of the RAF. After a delightful visit hosted by Major Gomez its Manager, they continued to Folkestone aiming to arrive in time for lunch.

They reached the Memorial Arch in good time and were met by the Mayor, Cllr Ann Berry and Tim Geere, President of the Cheriton & Morehall Branch of The Royal British Legion. It was good to hear the history of the Arch and to examine the memorial plaques in the seating area. One aim of Joanna Cadman was to plant a cross at the site of First World War VCs, and of course there was one at Folkestone. The icing on the cake for the party was to be invited by the Mayor to join her in a fish and chip lunch in the town, which



was a great and enjoyable privilege for us all.

On leaving Folkestone the walk continued to Dymchurch for an overnight stay, and then as the route was greater than 100 miles, it was decided to have a treat and to our great delight, on a weekday when out of season the trains do not run, the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway laid on a special three car train pulled by the famous Hurculese steam engine, one of the carriages was the one once used by the Royal Patron of The Royal Society of St George, HM The Queen to take us to Dungeness.

The walk then continued by way of Camber Sands and Rye to Fairlight for an overnight stop, then by way of Hastings and Bexhill-on-



sea to Cooden Beach, then the following day to Seaford by way of Pevensy and Eastbourne. We saved the last 3 miles for Sunday morning from Seaford to Newhaven arriving there just before 11am on Sunday 11th November – Remembrance Day.

So far the effort has raised more than £20,000 for The Royal British Legion and was an

experience that we will remember for some time. The giving site is open until February, go to <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/joannacadman1>

Finally, thank you Folkestone for such a lovely welcome and a memorable stop in this 100 mile endeavour.



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# Christmas Light Switch On Event



**Firstly, Folkestone Town Council would like to thank all of you who attended the Christmas Light Switch on event and joined in the spirit of the evening, we hope you all enjoyed it as much as we did.**

Secondly, we would like your help by giving us some feedback on the Christmas Lights and the Switch On Event in Folkestone. The Switch On Event, which was held on 30th November last year, featured lots of entertainment including a parade from The Leas Cliff Hall to the Town Hall, the panto cast and a fireworks display amongst other entertainment. We are always working on improving services that we offer and would like some feedback from residents of Folkestone about how you feel we could improve this event for future years. The budget for 2018-19 was £51,000 for the Christmas lights and £12,000 for the Switch On Event. We would be grateful if you could complete the questions over the page and return them to us either by post to The Town Hall, 1-2

Guildhall Street, Folkestone, CT20 1DY or email any comments to [georgina.wilson@folkestone-tc.gov.uk](mailto:georgina.wilson@folkestone-tc.gov.uk)



*Photography: Albane*



# Christmas Lights Feedback

## What time of year do you think we should start decorating Folkestone For Christmas?

- What time do you think the Christmas Switch On event should start?
- What day of the week do you think the Christmas Switch On Event should be?
- What time do you think the Christmas Lights should come on each day?
- Have you visited the Christmas Light Switch On event before?
- If yes, would you return?
- Would you recommend the event?
- Did you participate in the activities/parade?
- Early November    Mid November    Late November    Early December
- 4pm    5pm    6pm    Other
- Friday    Saturday    Other
- 8am    1pm    3pm    Other
- Yes    No
- Yes    No
- Yes    No
- Yes    No

## How could we improve the Christmas Light Switch On event?

- How would you rate the Switch On event overall?
- How would you rate the Christmas Lights overall?
- How would you rate the fireworks?
- Do you think the Christmas Light Switch On event and lighting benefits residents?
- Do you think the Christmas Light Switch On event and lighting benefits businesses?
- Do you think the Christmas Light Switch On event and lighting offers value for money?
- Would you like to donate to the Christmas Light Switch On event and lighting fund?
- Very poor    Poor    Average    Good    Very Good    Excellent
- Very poor    Poor    Average    Good    Very Good    Excellent
- Very poor    Poor    Average    Good    Very Good    Excellent
- Yes    No
- Yes    No
- Yes    No
- Yes    No

## If yes, please visit the Town Hall or send a cheque payable to Folkestone Town Council

- How did you hear about the Christmas Light Switch On event?
- Would you have come into Folkestone on the day if not for the switch on?
- Did you spend money whilst in Folkestone leading up to and during the switch on event?
- If yes, how much?
- How did you travel to the Switch On event?
- What is your age range?
- What is your employment status?
- What is your place of residence?
- Social Media    Leaflet in book bags    Word of mouth    Local Media    Other
- Yes    No
- Yes    No
- Less than £20    More than £20    More than £50    More than £100    Other
- Walk    Car    Bus    Train    Other
- Under 18    19-25    26-40    Over 40    Prefer not to say
- Student    Unemployed    P/T worker    Full time worker
- Retired    Prefer not to say
- Folkestone    Within the District    Kent    UK    Overseas

# Remembrance in Folkestone



**On Remembrance Sunday commemorations began in Folkestone at 6am with a lone piper playing Battle's O'er under the Step Short Arch on The Leas. This was part of the national 'Battle's Over - Sleep in Peace, Now the Battle's Over' project, with 1,000 individual Pipers across the United Kingdom and countries around the world heralding the start of the day's commemorations with the traditional Scottish lament played at the end of battle – Battle's O'er.**

The traditional Remembrance Service and Parade commenced at 10.45am processing from the Leas Cliff Hall, along The Leas to the War Memorial at the top of the Road of Remembrance.

Following the service at the War Memorial, the Column marched down through the Town for the Town Mayor to take the salute outside the Town Hall which provided an impressive display of the Town's local military, veterans, emergency services and youth organisations.

At 6pm St Hilda's Ukuleles played a medley of wartime music on The Leas Bandstand, whilst commemorative candles were distributed to members of the public by Girlguides and RAF, Sea, Royal Marine and Army Cadets. Collections were also made for the Battle's Over chosen charities – The Merchant Navy Association, The Royal Naval Association, Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund and ABF The Soldiers Charity. The generosity of those attending raised £260 for the nominated charities.

As part of the national Battle's Over commemorations, at 6.55pm a Sea Cadet played The Last Post at the Beacon on The Leas, joining over 1,000 individual Buglers sounding this historic tribute at WWI Beacons of Light locations across the Nation and UK Overseas Territories.

At 7pm the day's commemorations ended when over 1,000 Beacons of Light symbolising an end to the darkness of war and a return to the light of peace were lit across the Nation and UK Overseas Territories. In Folkestone, the Town





Mayor lit the Beacon on The Leas from the flame of a Lantern that had travelled from Le Mons as part of the 'Light in the Darkest Hour' project.

The Town Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Ann Berry, said "A very sincere thank you from myself and Folkestone Town Council to those townspeople of Folkestone who took part in the various services and activities that took place in Folkestone on Remembrance Sunday, marking the day 100 years ago when the guns fell silent.

Many thanks to those who planned and assisted with the events on the day and the various musicians, speakers and the veterans, emergency services and young people who paraded.

The huge support of the local military, veterans, emergency services, youth organisations and individuals goes from strength to strength each year and I feel that Folkestone should be extremely proud of this year's acts of Remembrance which were a fitting tribute to those whom we remember."



# Gurkha Memorial Service

**His Excellency the Ambassador of Nepal, Dr Durga Bahadur Subedi, along with many other distinguished guests including the Deputy Town Mayor of Folkestone, Cllr Richard Wallace, attended the third Gurkha Memorial Service in October which included presentations from the Gurkha Memorial Fund Chairman Dhan Gurung, who outlined the history of the fund and announced the third Gurkha Memorial day**

The Ambassador commented "The Gurkha Memorial team continue to support local Gurkhas and others in Nepal, seeing so many here today from the local Gurkha community is appreciated and it is my hope many people will travel to see our lasting memorial. They will think of the loyalty, bravery and self sacrifice when they stand before it". He thanked those who continue to help the ongoing projects to assist those in need primarily in Nepal and support to the local community which continue to grow and flourish.

Dhan Gurung the Chairman of the Gurkha Memorial Fund, outlined the details of the statue which was unveiled by Joanna Lumley OBE in October 2015 and since then, the Gurkha Memorial Fund organises this special annual memorial day and has progressed with assisting those within the Nepalese and Gurkha community both locally, nationally and internationally, with various projects, the most current one being a computer technology project in Nepal to provide internet connection and learning opportunities which has now progressed to a further computer suite in the Rolpa district.



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**LEAS**  
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Folkestone Academy Launches Combined Cadet Force to Instill Notion of Service

## Academy pledges to have largest CCF in Kent



**Top military brass gathered in Folkestone Academy to celebrate the launch of Folkestone Academy's Combined Cadet Force (CCF).**

Folkestone Academy is the only school in Shepway to have CCF and the cadets marked the occasion with a formal parade in front of Colonel Kevin Hearty, VIPs and parents. Also in attendance was the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Brigadier Trevor Minter; Lieutenant Colonel Peter Ellis, Head of Cadets and Youth for the South East Reserve Forces and Cadets Association; Major Rodney Gray, Brigade Commander of the Cadet Training Team; and the Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Ann Berry. The Academy's CCF has launched with 31 army cadets in Years 8, 9 and 10, with a waiting list of 10. Students take part in CCF on Thursdays and begin the day with morning inspection of uniform at 8.50 before they attend morning lessons. After school, the students learn basic

marching drill and the ethos of being a Cadet.

**Dr Jo Saxton, CEO of Turner Schools said:**

"I am absolutely delighted that Folkestone Academy is launching the first CCF in a Shepway school today, and I am especially pleased to have Deputy Lord Lieutenant Trevor Minter OBE with us – a former Brigadier, who is Keeper of Dover Castle and Founding Trustee of Folkestone Academy. There is a proud military tradition here in Folkestone with the Royal Engineers and Royal Gurkha Rifles, so it is only fitting that we honour that heritage, giving our young people the opportunity to develop the skills and discipline that run deep in the Forces."

**Paul Shilling, Contingent Commander at Folkestone Academy said:**

"It has been a long process to get where we are today – nearly two years from application

to staff training to recruiting cadets. Very often schools try and run before they can walk but we have taken our time to make sure we come out on top. I feel a great sense of achievement seeing our pupils in uniform and each of them taking pride of wearing it. I also think



that in a few years' time we can achieve the status of being the biggest CCF within Kent. A bold statement, but something we think is achievable."

**Samantha Tipler, Year 10:**

"The army has always been an interest of mine and I haven't had the opportunity to get involved before, so I wanted to join. I will gain discipline: it is like a family and will teach me teamwork and how to work on my own too. When we go out into the world of work, we will find it easier to work as a team, listen to others and think outside the box. I am looking forward to the camping weekends and the summer camp and meeting other cadet forces."

**Jack Elliot, Year 10**

"I signed up as it will give me a sense of whether I would consider joining the forces for my career. We have been doing drills and I am looking forward to doing a greater

variety of things such as camping. We are going to be learning how to act in different scenarios, how to present yourself and talk respectfully to people. We'll also be learning leadership skills. I think that employers will like that we have had different



experiences and have learnt to work in a team and to be a leader."

**Brad Elliot, Year 10:**

"I think it will open doors when I get older, whether that is in the military or not. It helps you develop listening skills and team work ... I've also learnt to iron much better too!"


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# Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

**Members of Cheriton and Morehall Branch, Royal British Legion, were out in force collecting for the Poppy Appeal in the run-up to Remembrance Sunday in November 2018 and were joined by Folkestone's Mayor, Councillor Ann Berry, who took the opportunity to help sell Poppies to customers in Morrison's store in Cheriton Road.**

This year marks the centenary of the end of the First World War in November 1918 when the Armistice was declared, although the war wasn't officially over until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in June of the following year.

The Royal British Legion raises millions of pounds each year through the annual Poppy Appeal to help support and provide welfare to all serving members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces, their families and veterans and their families who have served since World War One and Two, including Aden, Korea, Suez, Lebanon, Northern Ireland, Falklands, The Gulf, Iran and Iraq.

For further information or if you would like to support the Royal British Legion, please call **0808 8028080** or visit the website [www.branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/cheriton/news-events](http://www.branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/cheriton/news-events)



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Capel-le-Ferne Primary School, Capel Street,  
Capel-le-Ferne, Folkestone, Kent CT18 7HB.

# Light in the Darkest Hour – First & Last - Bring them Home



**A unique journey to Mons and the St. Symphorien Cemetery in Belgium began in the early hours of Sunday, 11th November 2018 and brought a lasting memory to the many hundreds of people who attended the fourth 'Light in the Darkest Hour' event at Shorncliffe Military Cemetery hosted by the Shorncliffe Trust.**

Members of Shorncliffe Trust and Stephen Roberts, great great nephew of William Cotter VC travelled to Belgium with the Trust's two specially commissioned Lanterns named 'Maple and Tommy' to symbolise the returning "Spirit" of Canadian and British soldiers from Foreign fields.

After a moving ceremony in Belgium, the "flames" from Mons, were escorted to the UK and to Shorncliffe where an Honour Guard escorted them to Shorncliffe Garrison's Guard House.

An Honorary Lantern lit from 'Maple and Tommy' were given to Major Suresh Thapa MVO, and remained alight during the day of Remembrance.

The two Lanterns moved onto Shorncliffe Military Cemetery were hundreds of people joined in the commemoration. 500 Lanterns were lit from the Mons flame by volunteers, placing them on First World War graves and memorials creating a stunning image as dusk fell.

During the commemoration, prayers were led by Rev Brian McHenry, recently retired Vicar of Orpington All Saints Church (Canadian Corner). Chairman of the Trust, Chris Shaw gave moving accounts of the men and women at Shorncliffe during the years of conflict and the reasons why Light in the Darkest Hour commenced in 2014. He said 'when the lights went out over Europe, the Trust wanted to ensure the lights went on for those who never made it home; Shorncliffe was the final resting place for so many nationalities, some being repatriated after the war ended but British, Canadian, Belgium, Portuguese, South African, Australian troops were amongst them as well as the graves of 6 men from the Chinese Labour Corp'.

Following the event, 'Maple' travelled the short distance to Sandgate to light the Beacon at 7pm. 'Tommy' went to The Leas,



Folkestone where Town Mayor, Cllr Ann Berry lit the Beacon from the flame which had travelled back from Mons that morning.

On the 12th November, the Lanterns were present at 'Canadian Corner', Orpington; when a group from Thunder Bay, Ontario, who are in the UK to forge stronger links through a 'Friendship Agreement'; lit approx. 200 Lanterns on WW1 graves from the returning flame.

'Maple's' eventual journey will end in Canada, returning the spirit of the last soldier killed in conflict home.

The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die.  
In Flanders Field, John McCrae 1915  
For further information contact:  
Chris Shaw – Chairman, Shorncliffe Trust:  
[chris.shaw@shorncliffe-trust.org.uk](mailto:chris.shaw@shorncliffe-trust.org.uk) ,  
Tel: 07906605104 or Viv Kenny – Trustee  
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**WEST END Jersey's**

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# Channel Rotary Update

## FESTIVE SANTA'S TURN FOLKESTONE RED AND WHITE TO WELCOME THE CHRISTMAS SEASON!

**It was that time of year when Santa paints his sleigh and works flat out to make all those lovely toys for boys and girls. And so, it was also time for Folkestone Channel Rotary to hold its ever popular Santa's Giant Charity Fun Run sponsored by Sprinks Construction of Hythe. On an overcast but dry winter's day, the Club welcomed 250 Santas, Christmas Fairies, Christmas Puddings, people with children in buggies and people with dogs who ran, jogged and walked to raise money for Shepway Youth Charities and other local Rotary charities. We won't know the total amount until we receive the sponsorship money from the Santa's but, the Santa Run isn't just about money. It's also a**



**spectacle for Folkestone to celebrate the arrival of the Christmas Season.**

Many old friends joined us again

including the Reugther family for their 14th year and our friends from the 1st Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles based in Folkestone, Sprinks Construction, and local primary school children including a magnificent 50 plus Santas from Sandgate Primary led by Teacher Ninette van der Wal and 20 plus from Stella Maris Primary's Running Club led by Teacher Sophie Moore. It was fun, it was friendly, and it was for all ages and abilities whether you're a serious athlete, being pushed by your Mum in a pram, taking the dog for a walk or just enjoying a pleasant stroll. The circular course from the Bouverie Place Shopping Centre to Sandgate and back is about 5km and there was a shorter route along the

Leas for the children, both finishing on the Leas close to the town centre. And because it's a fun event there was a medal for every finisher, whatever their time.

We were graced by the Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Ann Berry who entered completely into the spirit of the occasion by starting the Run and helping Channel Rotary President Bill Flavell and Sponsor Stuart Sprinks with the prize giving. Run Organiser Stephane Bounous, in charge for a second year, said. "It was a super day. So many happy people having great fun raising money for local Youth charities. Our thanks to sponsors Sprinks Construction and to all our Santas and helpers who made today such a success."

## A WELCOME DONATION TO SHEPWAY SPORTS TRUST!

Shepway Sports Trust has received a welcome £1,500 donation towards its 'Fit and Fed' programme from Folkestone Channel Rotary Club. The money was raised as part

of Channel Rotary's first Folkestone Channel Triathlon in September which attracted 200 triathletes from the South East and will be repeated on Sunday 8th September next year.

Barry Pluck, General Manager of Shepway Sports Trust said "I'd like to thank Channel Rotary for their donation to our charity. They work very hard raising funds for so many good causes and are an asset to our community. Their donation will make such a difference to people's lives for which we are truly grateful.

The money will contribute

to our 'Fit and Fed' programme. This supports families and young people who cannot access the same opportunities as their peers because of their economic position, and those families that struggle financially to provide food for their children on a daily basis. Our programme provides free access to sport, physical activities

### Prize winners:

#### Mens Run:

- 1st Anish Karmacharya
- 2nd Sunny Tgapa Magyar

#### Womens Run:

- 1st Johanne Daniels
- 2nd Claire Hart

#### Boys Run:

- 1st Lewis Wickham
- 2nd Micky Collins

#### Girls Run:

- 1st Amber File
- 2nd Erin Collins

#### Team Run:

Royal Gurkha Rifles

#### Largest Team:

Sandgate Primary School  
(50+ pupils, parents and teachers)

and a hot lunch for young people during every school holiday throughout the academic year and we also target families who use local foodbanks and pupils accessing free school meals. A large number of families and young people can't afford to pay for activities and feed themselves properly due to the absence of free school meals during school holidays. In our district, 14.9% of children receive free school meals and 15.7% of people currently face income deprivation which is higher than the national average."

Replying, President Bill Flavell said "Channel Rotary is delighted to make this donation to Shepway Sports Trust. We have supported local youth activities for nearly 40 years and we regularly assist the local food banks."



**FOLKESTONE CHANNEL ROTARY CLUB HELPS FARESHARE FOOD BANK TO ACQUIRE A MUCH-NEEDED FREEZER VAN**

FareShare Food Bank

now has a Mercedes Sprinter van with the help of a £2,500 donation from Folkestone Channel Rotary Club and it carries the Folkestone Rotary logo on its side panels. The van has the additional benefit of chiller and freezer functions which greatly increase FareShare's ability to transport, every day of the year, much needed food to distribution centres, charities and other good causes throughout the area. Since acquiring the van, FareShare has greatly increased its number and range of deliveries in the Shepway area from 8 to 24 charities. This year, it will distribute over 350 tonnes of food and expects this to triple over the next 3 years. Tesco is a major supporter in the Folkestone area. They said "We really appreciate the support of Channel Rotary in making all this happen". Repeating President Bill Flavell said "We are very pleased to contribute to this much needed service and to see our Club logo displayed in support."

**PILGRIMS HOSPICES WELCOMES A £2,500 DONATION**

In October we gave the Pilgrims Hospice in Ashford a very welcome donation of £2,500. The money had been raised at our annual

Charity Bike Ride based on the Star Inn at St Mary In The Marsh. 300 riders had lit up the 10, 30 and 50 mile routes around the Marsh with their brightly coloured lycra outfits to raise the funds. The Channel Rotary Bike Ride is an established favourite and has raised nearly £60,000 since 2009

Making the donation, President Bill Flavell said "We're delighted to support the Pilgrims Hospices and their invaluable work in the community. Many of our riders tell us of their own personal experiences of this remarkable organization."

Replying, Isabel Smith said "It takes over £11 million pounds a year to run the Hospices and we value every contribution. Channel Rotary has supported us since the very beginning and this donation is very much appreciated. It will be put to excellent use."

**CHANNEL ROTARY DONATES £1,500 TO THE CELIA BLAKELY CANCER CARE CENTRE AT THE WILLIAM HARVEY HOSPITAL**



As with the Pilgrims Hospices, Channel Rotary has supported the Celia Blakely Cancer Care Centre at the William Harvey Hospital for many years and much appreciates the help they have both given to our members and their families and friends. Last year we provided the Celia Blakely Centre with £2,500 to buy a tea and coffee machine to make life easier for patients who can spend up to 10 hours at a time attached to a drip during chemotherapy. In November we presented a further £1,500 raised by our September Triathlon.

Unit Manager Lucy Turner and her team were delighted to receive the cheque from Channel Rotary President Bill Flavell accompanied by Community Service Committee member Brian Banks. Appropriately, it was presented in front of the bell which is rung when each patient is discharged on completing their treatment. President Bill Flavell said "We have great admiration for the work and staff of the Centre which has provided valuable support to some of our Club members and their families."

In reply, Lucy Turner said "Thank you so much. It's a very generous donation and we'll use it wisely to make life easier for our patients."

## COMMANDING OFFICER OF 1ST BATTALION THE ROYAL GURKHA RIFLES JOINS FOLKESTONE CHANNEL ROTARY

Channel Rotary is proud of its close relationship with the Royal Gurkha Rifles based at Shorncliffe and in October the new Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Chris Conroy, joined our Club as an Honorary Member. This continues a tradition dating back to the early 2000's that the resident Commanding Officer of 'the Gurkhas' has joined our Club and we have enjoyed a close and mutually supportive relationship which has benefitted the Shepway community and various community projects in Nepal. Many local residents will remember seeing Gurkha pipers and soldiers taking part in our annual Santa Runs to raise funds for local charities. To name but a few, Channel Rotary has supported the 2015 Nepal earthquake appeal, The Gurkha Welfare Trust and the Gurkha Memorial Fund's work in Folkestone and in Nepal.

The induction took place at Shorncliffe Barracks where 1RGR is in process for its next tour in Afghanistan. As it was the festival of Dashain, Lt Col Conroy was inducted wearing his Dashain hat. Also, present were Battalion Second in Command Major Mark Shields and Channel Rotary Secretary Duncan Hopkin. Lt Colonel Conroy was appointed CO of 1RGR in 2017 and has wide experience in various operational theatres including Afghanistan and Brunei. Welcoming him, President Bill Flavell said "It is my great pleasure to welcome Lt Col Chris Conroy as a member of Channel Rotary and I look forward to continuing the strong and lasting friendship that we share with the Royal Gurkha Rifles."



### A FASCINATING VISIT TO BORDER FORCE AT DOVER HARBOUR

It's not all work in Channel Rotary. We have some

wonderful speakers, outside visits and social occasions to balance things up. Our visit to Border Force is an excellent example. Most people have heard about Border Force and know what it does, but how many have spent half a day being shown the key aspects of their work? 20 Channel Rotary members were fortunate enough to visit Dover Harbour and

see things first hand after Paul Morgan, Regional Director of Border Force South East and Europe, had been a guest speaker at a Club evening. It was a fascinating experience. Guided by Assistant Director Martin Coates and his colleague Barry, we started our tour on the White Cliffs above Dover Docks with a panoramic view of the shipping berths, roadways and freight and private vehicle movements. The statistics are impressive and underline the size of the Border Force's responsibilities:

- Dover Harbour is one of the busiest freight and passenger ports in the world with 12 million passengers, 3 million lorries, 2.5 million cars and motorcycles and 80,000 coaches passing through it in 2017.
- By comparison, the nearby Channel Tunnel at Folkestone now has 20 million passengers and 1.6 million truck movements every year.
- Put nose to tail, all these vehicles would stretch round the world several times.
- Amazingly, there are 217 traffic lanes squeezed into the restricted Dover site.

After a talk about the role and complexities of the work there were fascinating demonstrations of car drug searches by spaniels Sam and Moss under the keen eye of handler Dan, how to find hidden compartments in impounded vehicles led by Guy, and a tour of the horsebox in which Mari van Gerwen smuggled £4,000,000 of cocaine into the UK and was sentenced to 17 years in jail earlier in 2018.

It was one of our best outside visits. Our special thanks to Martin, Barry, Dan, Guy and their colleagues.

### CHANNEL ROTARY VISITS THE SUPER, REFURBISHED AGE UK MARIGOLD CENTRE IN CHERITON

Another excellent outside visit was our evening at the newly refurbished Age UK Marigold Centre in Cheriton. About a year ago, Age UK Folkestone sadly had to close because it could not secure enough funds to continue. Then, due to creative thinking by the Trustees and managers, and in cooperation with other local charities such as Headway East Kent, a way forward was found to completely re-design and re-furbish the large ground floor for Age UK, with Headway upstairs and other charities taking space on the site. The Centre then showed it was back in business at its official re-

opening in October by TV personality and chef Rosemary Shrager.

Channel Rotary members were impressed by the facilities, the warm welcome by staff, the freshly cooked food and the talk by Chief Officer Debbie Barrie on the services provided by Age UK and the challenges of our ageing population. She summarised the position saying "The Marigold Centre aims to ensure that all older people in Folkestone have the opportunity to enjoy their everyday life. It provides creative and wellbeing activities and helps people to stay independent and live life to the full. We now have a friendly, sociable environment where our guests can meet their friends, make new friends, enjoy the facilities and have a healthy, freshly cooked meal at a reasonable price. We look forward to welcoming many new friends to share our lovely facilities."

Age UK Marigold Centre: 65 Shaftesbury Avenue, Cheriton, Folkestone CT19 4NS  
1303 279031 admin@ageukfolkestone.org.uk



### FIRST FOLKESTONE CHANNEL TRIATHLON IS A SUPER SUCCESS!

The first Channel Triathlon took to the water and roads of Folkestone on 16 September 2018, organised by Joe Sullivan of Folkestone Channel Rotary Club and professionally managed by TriSpirit Events of Ashford. The response of the athletes was excellent, and Sunday 8th September 2019 has already been reserved for the next one. Please put it in your diaries now whether you'll be a competitor or a spectator. 200 enthusiasts of all standards from beginners to GB age-group athletes swam, cycled and ran. We were fortunate to have the use of the Harbour Arm which is a fantastic setting, and this enabled us to also showcase the major developments in the Harbour area, the Town and our amazing coastal and countryside scenery during the swim, cycle and run phases. The wind and sea conditions were rougher than forecast but the athletes took to the water like ducks with the safety protection of the canoeists (mostly from the Folkestone Rowing Club) and with the support of the Folkestone Rescue Boat. Organiser Joe Sullivan said "What a brilliant event with super athletes. Channel Rotary has raised approaching £5,000 for the Celia Blakey

Cancer Care Unit at the William Harvey Hospital and the Shepway Sports Trust which both do amazing work in our community. Together with the money raised by the athletes for their own personal charities we believe some £10,000 has been raised. We are immensely grateful to everyone who helped to make the Folkestone Channel Tri such a success: Tri Spirit Events, the athletes, our magnificent marshals, Channel Rotary members and friends, volunteers and sponsors including County, District and Town Councils, Roger De Haan Charitable Trust, Folkestone Harbour Company and all the local businesses who generously supported us."

#### Honours Board

##### Sprint Tri

1st Mark Hooker (Maidstone Harriers Tri 1:16:40),  
2nd Yiannis Chrisodoulou (Adalta CC),  
3rd Trevor Back (Tri Spoke)

##### Standard Tri:

1st Carlo Nebuloni (2:29:59)  
2nd Azon Belarre (Tri Spoke),  
3rd David Moffat

##### Sprint Aquabike:

1st Nigel Main (1:05:09),  
2nd Catherine Bray,  
3rd Tanya Vice

##### Standard Aquabike:

1st Claire Howard (Tunbridge Wells Tri Club 2:03:21),  
2nd Keith Bellingham  
3rd Paul Garrity

### YOU CAN PLAY YOUR PART, TOO!

Join us at Channel Rotary's next big Charity Event – Giant Wine & Wisdom Quiz Evening on 27 March 2019 This popular event has been a fixture in the quiz calendar for 30 years and regularly attracts nearly 200 quiz buffs. Please put the date in your diary. Details shortly at [www.channelrotary.org.uk](http://www.channelrotary.org.uk)

You Could Be A Channel Rotary Member or Helper It's not all work! Our year includes lots of talks, outside visits and social evenings. To hear about opportunities, please contact Alan Myers **07904 317047** or Duncan Hopkin **01303 242082** or visit [www.channelrotary.org.uk](http://www.channelrotary.org.uk)

**FINALLY, CHANNEL ROTARY HOPES YOU HAD A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND WISHES YOU A SPLENDID 2019.**

# Mother's Day

Sunday 31st March 2019

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**The Town Mayor of Folkestone's**

# FUN NIGHT

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**Friday 8 February 2019**

**7.00 pm for 7.30pm**

**AT BAR INVICTA**

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# The Town Mayor of Folkestone's Christmas Card Competition



**The Worshipful Town Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Ann Berry, invited students in year groups 7 and 8 at local secondary schools to design a picture reflecting 'Folkestone and celebrations at the End of World War One in 1918' for the annual Christmas card, which has been sent out to local businesses and dignitaries, including Her Majesty The Queen.**

The entries submitted by The Folkestone School for Girls, The Harvey Grammar School and Turner Free School were judged by the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor and Town Clerk.

**Amelia Dove** (The Folkestone School for Girls)  
**Fabien Lingisetty** (The Harvey Grammar School)  
**Theo Perry** (The Harvey Grammar School)  
**Berke Teke** (The Harvey Grammar School)  
**Kala Whitfield** (Turner Free School)  
**Ritee Rai** (The Folkestone School for Girls)  
**Emmalee Morrison** (The Folkestone School for Girls)  
**Piers Hogben** (The Harvey Grammar School)  
**Mingma Tamang** (The Harvey Grammar School)  
**Ruby Warman** (The Folkestone School for Girls)  
**Seth Atkins** (The Harvey Grammar School)

The effort and skill shown by the pupils was outstanding, which made it very difficult for



Councillor Ann Berry, said "We were delighted that the local schools 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:

us to choose one overall winner. However, after much deliberation, Amelia Dove was awarded first place with Fabien Lingisetty 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. Amelia's design was used for the Mayor's Christmas card for 2018.



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## Moon in Blue Sky: Original Piano Collection was launched by Tim Finnis, pianist and composer



**A glittering occasion presented itself to all of us who were lucky enough to be invited to the launch by Tim Finnis of his album of original piano solos. The venue was the Old Synagogue in Canterbury, its centrepiece bathed in blue light as a backdrop to an impressive Steinway Piano, whose rich sounds gave depth to the music that delighted our ears.**

A wide variety of music, composed and performed by Tim on piano, was enjoyed through the evening. 'Moon in Blue Sky' itself is an uplifting melody that was inspired by the magical sight of the moon on a sunny morning. You may have already heard this played on Dover's Community Radio but, if you haven't, do listen out for it. Lighter tracks, such as 'Welcome!', had the audience tapping along, caught up in the sense of fun and family that the music engenders. Some compositions celebrate love and others invite us to feel the beauty of the world around us. The music

is calm and relaxing and was the perfect backdrop to a November evening.

The album took about three years in development. Tim has always been prolific in his writing of new music, but the choice of original pieces had to be made for this collection – and the music had to be revised, perfected and practised before the final recording at the Air-Edel Studios in London.

Ever since he was a pupil at the Harvey Grammar School, Tim has played widely in the area. He also went to University within the county, where he performed, composed and led music groups. Following this, Tim went on to train as a primary school teacher and, for many years, has shared his musical creativity and enthusiasm with hundreds of children. Tim also enjoys playing background music and can currently be heard at the Lighthouse Inn, Capel-le-Ferne, on a Sunday lunchtime. Be sure to give him your requests if you drop by. The

dates that he is available are on his website, [timfinnis.com](http://timfinnis.com).

One very special event that deserves a mention is the performance of Tim's original orchestral symphony, co-written with Richard Christian, performed by the Dürener Orchester Gemeinschaft, in Düren, Germany; the performance was conducted by Hans-Josef Loevenich on 1st May 2017. This was a very special evening, as the symphony had been written by Tim and his friend when they were just young men - mere teenagers. The composition was played by the orchestra to great critical acclaim. The audience was hushed throughout the performance and Tim was invited to take a bow, as the symphony, Land of Our Journey, had been so enjoyed by all. It was extremely moving to hear.

The launch of the album, on Saturday, 3rd November, attended by the Worshipful Town Mayor of Folkestone, Councillor Ann Berry and the Consort, Mr Maurice Berry, together with eighty invited guests, represented an important milestone in Tim's musical career.

As the notes of the final piece of the evening, gently faded, the audience rose to give Tim a standing ovation, and they were satisfied only after he agreed to repeat his rendition of Open Window.

Samples from the album can be heard on his website and the music can be downloaded or streamed from all major online music stores. Tim can be contacted for performances or to purchase a CD, which he can dedicate if desired via [timfinnis.com](http://timfinnis.com).

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**The Club's Young Chef just gets better and better! Thanks to the collaboration of the four Rotary Clubs of Romney Marsh, Hythe, Channel and Folkestone, and in liaison with the Folkestone, Hythe and District Hotel and Catering Association and especially the hospitality of Folkestone College, a budding young star chef of the future just might have been discovered.**

At the competition, held at Folkestone College, seven young people nervously unpacked their £10 ingredients knowing that they had just one hour to produce a main dish to impress the judges. One hour later, three top chefs gathered around the meticulously presented food and began the taste test to add to their scores from presentation, hygiene and organisation in order to come up with a winner.



After much deliberation, the winner was announced as 16 year old William Clark from Folkestone College with his dish of Folkestone fish pie topped with creamy potatoes and steamed vegetables. The runner up was 12 year old Molly Faulds-Parker from The Folkestone School for Girls with her chicken

with tomato, mozzarella & basil with Italian-style roast potatoes & asparagus wrapped in prosciutto with a balsamic glaze. The winner, William will now progress to the Rotary District competition in January and represent the local area.

William and Molly both received a money prize and all the contestants received certificates, a £10 Tesco voucher (donated by Cheriton Tesco) and a Recipe Recording Book. Daniel Sangiuseppe of the Catering Association said how talented these youngsters were and was impressed by their skills and enthusiasm for creating delicious dishes at such a young age.

None of this could have taken place without the support of Ann-Marie Jones and Kathryn Johnson of Folkestone College and Daniel Sangiuseppe of the Folkestone and Hythe Hotels Catering Association, and we are grateful for the enormous amount of time and effort they put into making the event a great success.

As if that wasn't enough excitement for the evening, members of the local Rotary Clubs, the Hotel and Catering Association and their guests were treated to a wonderful dinner prepared by the students of Folkestone College. The standard of food and presentation was amazing, and a good time was had by all.

Kate McNeice and Peter Bonner, organisers from the Folkestone Rotary Club were delighted with the success of the event and would like to thank all those involved in making it such a wonderful afternoon and evening.

Recently the Rotary Club of Folkestone were delighted to support the new Marigold Centre for Wellbeing and Arts based at Age Concern Cheriton. The centre

**has recently been refurbished and the club donated a defibrillator to the centre where the President Bill Wright presented the donation to Debbie Barry.**



Debbie commented that she and all the trustees, staff and customers would like to thank the Rotary Club of Folkestone for the donation of the defib machine to the new Marigold Centre. Their ongoing support has been essential to assisting

us in achieving such good aims for the local community.

**Over 600 runners enjoyed the 13th Folkestone Rotary Half Marathon on Sunday, 30th September. It was a fantastic day for runners, spectators and marshals as well as achieving its aim of raising many thousands of pounds for local charities. Congratulations to all those who participated.**

The race was established in 2006 and it has become a prominent fixture in the running calendar, bringing runners of all standards from all over the South-East in to Folkestone.

The race was won by Marshall Smith from Ashford Athletics Club, in a time of 1hr 14 mins 45 secs, 44 seconds clear of Carl Selya-Hammer

also of Ashford & District in second place 1hr 15 mins 30 secs, followed by Alix Ramsier in third place not far off at 1hr 16 mins 12secs. First lady home was Megan Bates with a time of 1hr 29 mins 35 secs. Second lady was Tanya Cornish and Helen Taranowski in third place. The men's team prize went to Dover Road Runners (Alan Wood, Chris Searson & Kevin Hart). The Ladies team prize went to Folkestone Running Club (Charlotte Avery, Carolyn Lewis & Diane Parson). In addition, the children's race was well attended.

Both race winners received a £100 prize courtesy of sponsors Independent Insurance Services.

This year's race proceeds totalled £36,275 and will benefit local and international charities through the good work of Folkestone Rotary Club, with the main beneficiaries being Folkestone Action for Children and The Rotary Helping Hand Project.

Race director Ray Johnson was once again a happy man! "With fabulous weather a huge raft of spectators, a great day and we have already received some superb feedback. As always, I am most grateful for the support from a number of local organisations who help make sure this event remains one of the most popular half marathons in the south east. We have now achieved over £430,000 for good causes since the race started in 2006 and many runners are raising further funds from their



sterling efforts yesterday including a large contingent of runner representing the Pilgrims Hospice”

The event will return on Sunday 29th September 2019 and features a prize of £100 to the runner that may crack the current course record of 1 hr 8 mins for the men's and 1 hr 21mins & 05 secs for the female.

It is a fantastic achievement to complete the course either as an elite runner or a new participant to a half marathon. The objectives of the race were to encourage participation, assist charities, visit our district and promote good health, as well as increasing the profile of Rotary. This year we held our fifth children's race with over 30 participating.

As always it was particularly pleasing that there were so many spectators along the whole route which gave tremendous encouragement to the runners – it's always great boost to them which helps push them on we even had some providing extra support for our marshals.

The event went extremely well, and help was received with sincere thanks to members of the Folkestone Rotary Club, Hythe and Folkestone Channel Rotary Clubs, Folkestone Running Club including the juniors, other running clubs and the local community also assisted. Thanks also to Folkestone & Hythe District Council and the public for their valuable support.

Once again we have received tremendous feedback from the runners congratulating us for such a great event, by way of organisation, goodie bags and encouragement from marshals. They also thoroughly enjoyed the course and all of the facilities available although some runner had requested we reduce the temperature and remove the Road of Remembrance on the return which is known as the 'Sting in the Tail'.

Further feedback/information can be viewed by going to [www.runnersworld.co.uk/events](http://www.runnersworld.co.uk/events) and [www.folkestonerotary.org](http://www.folkestonerotary.org) in due course.

**On Thursday 20 September 2018, The Rotary Club of Folkestone held its second Annual charity golf day at Sene Valley Golf**

**Club. The purpose was to raise funds that would enable the Club to donate some brass instruments to the Shepway Brass Academy.**

Over 50 golfers turned out on the day and enjoyed good weather, albeit a little breezy, and a golf course in excellent condition. The event was won by a team captained by Dr Lawrence Po-Ba (pictured second from the right with team mates Winston Merkin, Mike Redmond and Adrian Watts.) The successful players each received a quality lambswool sweater for their efforts. Following the awards presentation (teams in second and third place were also awarded prizes) Bill Wright, the President of Folkestone



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#### **A brief update:**

A defibrillator was presented to Lorraine Hughes, Folkestone Harbour Master by the President of the Folkestone Rotary Club Bill Wright. The club were delighted to donate this essential equipment within the harbour arm to support those that may require this facility which in turn provides an added value emergency response within this area for the general public to use.

The club donated Food Parcels and blankets plus a donation of £325.00 to the Food Stop for their annual Boxing Day Lunch for Homeless : Bill Mills, from Food Stop is shown receiving the cheque from the president Bill Wright. Similarly, the club donated further Food Parcels and blankets plus donation of £350.00 to the United Response for their annual Christmas Day Opening for Lonely People. The picture shows Corrina from United Response receiving the cheque from Bill Wright the President. The charity do some sterling work primarily within the Cheriton area and support their clients with daily music and activities at their centre. In addition, they have a retail goods shop nearby.



# Thank you from Stephen Shaw



**On Remembrance Sunday over the past 5 years I have been organising a lunch for veterans, volunteers, cadets, the choir and Councillors who have been involved in the Remembrance Day service.**

I would like to thank Cllr Frank Mckenna for the donation to pay for the 2018 lunch - all the diners remarked on the quality of the food, the Hotel Burstin for the use of one of their dining rooms and all the sponsors who donated raffle prizes; all monies raised have been donated to



local charities as you can see in the photos. I told the diners that 2018 would be my last Remembrance lunch, as I am holding a service and an afternoon of entertainment in Dover in 2019 to honour the 30th Anniversary of the formation of the Merchant Navy, and it is also my 20th Wedding Anniversary and I would therefore like to thank everyone that has supported me over these last years.



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# Looking back 100 years and looking forward to the future



**The Shorncliffe Trust enjoyed an incredibly busy 2018 being the Centenary of the First World War when amongst other community events, the Trust marked the 11th November with 'Light in the Darkest Hour' at Shorncliffe Military Cemetery. Having commissioned 2 specially made Lanterns named 'Maple' and 'Tommy'; they made their way from Mons in Belgium where they were lit from the Mons eternal flame and commenced their journey back to Shorncliffe. In essence, bringing home the spirit of those who never returned.**

At Shorncliffe, from the two flames, a further 500 lanterns were lit by volunteers and placed on the graves of WW1 Soldiers in Shorncliffe. As dusk fell, the sight was moving and poignant.

Following the commemoration, 'Maple' and 'Tommy' were taken to light Folkestone and Sandgate Beacons as part of the Nations 'Battle's Over' commemorations that evening. Over 500 people attended the Shorncliffe Light in the Darkest Hour event which was covered by both the BBC South East and ITV Meridian.

Sir Peter Jackson: The second of the Trust's WW1 Heritage Tours to the Somme in October



resulted in a surprise encounter with one of their major supporters. Sir Peter Jackson (Director, Writer and Producer of Lord of the Rings and other significant films) was also touring the Somme and took time out of his busy schedule to talk to Trustees and reinforce his letter of support to the Trust sent that summer. Sir Peter is an avid WW1 enthusiast and his private collection has been on display in museums in New Zealand.

1RGR: When word reached the Trust that Soldiers from the First Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles were seeking support for items to boost morale for Troops away from home at Christmas, Viv Kenny, Trustee for Community




Engagement quickly spread the message to businesses and the result was amazing. Gifts included a trolley full of sweets, biscuits, cakes and more from Tesco Cheriton; Waitrose also donated 3 boxes of food items and Ashford company, Coty provided 12 boxes of toiletries enough for every 1RGR Soldier stationed overseas this Christmas.

A busy year to look forward to: 2019 will be just as busy for the Trustees and Volunteers ....Heritage Tours already in the diary include a further visit to The Somme on 16th March

focussing on the Arras area and Vimy Ridge; A 3 day tour in April exploring Normandy and sites relevant to D-Day. Dunkirk is the destination on 7th July with a further tour of Flanders visiting the Menin Gate for the moving Last Post Ceremony in October. Details of these can be found on the Trust's website where you can also subscribe to receive news.





As the Trust moves forward during 2019, the first of the 4 retained /listed buildings are now on the market for sale and the Trust is seeking avenues and opportunities to help fund the purchase of the Sir John Moore Library or future buildings on what will be the former Shorncliffe Garrison following redevelopment for 1200 new homes. If you can help, then the Trust welcomes support to its aspirations of creating a Heritage and Education Centre, retelling three centuries of Military History at Shorncliffe, the birthplace of the modern British Army under Sir John Moore, through to the present day.


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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

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Directed by  
Maxine Burrows

**March**  
13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

**TTT**  
THE TOWER THEATRE

**WEST END Jersey's**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 7.45pm**

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**TTT**  
THE TOWER THEATRE

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Directed by  
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