

# Deal & Walmer Chamber of Commerce

Serving Traders & The Community



## Your town needs YOU!

VOLUNTEERS are busy creating a brand new structure for the Deal and Walmer Chamber of Commerce, which includes new members – and we need your help. Accountability is essential in order to move forward.

Recent events such as increased parking charges have incensed the public, local traders and chamber volunteers, who also run businesses within the town.

We urgently need a united community in order to ensure that the people's voice is heard.

The Deal and Walmer Chamber of Commerce would like to demonstrate its commitment to this wonderful town, which it feels privileged to represent.

In order to take the chamber into a new

era, we need to generate fresh ideas other than the traditional seasonal events and ensure that these are implemented.

The chamber is offering a £100 prize for the best idea received by March 31.

The prize will be presented at the chamber's AGM – to which every local business is welcome – on April 14 at the town hall.

Questionnaires are being sent to members and hand-delivered to non-members. If you trade in this town, we urge you to take this opportunity to complete and return the surveys to ensure that your voice is heard.

■ **The completed forms can be returned to 11 High Street, Deal, or call 01304 362563 and a chamber member will collect it.**



■ Peter Varrall, chamber chairman, believes traders must unite to have their voices heard

## Your chance to make a difference

THE volunteer board members are urgently seeking more traders to assist with the following areas:

- Admin and finance – fees; correspondence; financial management.
- Marketing and PR – brand; communication; recruitment.

■ Lobbying.

■ Revenue generation – events; auctions; donations; recruitment; membership.

■ Web and data management – updating; maintenance; services.

■ Christmas lights – logistics; funding; purchasing.

Your skills are valuable to us and this is your chance to help make a difference to Deal and Walmer:

Contact a chamber member from the list on this page and get involved.

With membership at just 10p per day, it is a small cost to make such a big difference.

## Double issue ticket system in car parks

TRADERS are invited for a breakfast of bacon rolls and coffee at the Alma, West Street, Deal, on Thursday, March 27, at 7.30am.

The meeting will discuss how the double issue ticket system operating in the car parks can raise the town's profile and encourage more members of the public to shop locally.

Guest speaker Allen Finn, parking operations manager, will be there to explain costs.

Your comments are important to us. We need your ideas on how the system can be better implemented.

Please come along and join us in what we hope will be a lively and positive debate.

## Grab a slice of £45m

THE chamber would like to warmly welcome every local business to the annual general meeting at Deal Town Hall on Monday, April 14, starting at 7.30pm.

Guest speaker Ken Hannah, secretary of Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club, will be revealing developments on Kent's Royal

Golf Coast in the run-up to the Open Championship in 2011.

Come and hear how you can take advantage of the £45 million this will generate for local business.

■ **Please confirm attendance at the AGM or the breakfast meeting with secretary Ian Draper on 01303 261055.**

## A warm welcome to these new members

THIS month the chamber would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Stephen Solley – Solley's Farms Ice Cream.

Michael Barker – Prime of Edmund House Guesthouse.

Paul and Kath Lynch – Hole in The Roof hotel/bar/restaurant.

Alison and Graham Adcock – The Three Horse Shoes Pub.

Annual membership is just £25 for small businesses and £40 for those with more than eight full-time employees.

To join call 01303 261055.

**Board members**

President – Pat Heath, Dover District Council, 01304 361248.

Chairman – Peter Varrall, Britannia Castles, 01304 373251.

Christmas lights – Steve Davenport, Angels Lauderama, 01304 360926.

Christmas lights – Colin Mallinson, J.J. Woods, 01304 375676.

Christmas lights – Jeff Tyrell, E.B. Cavell, 01304 373275.

Web and data management – Peter Davies, Stalco Engineering, 01304 369925.

Web and data management – Peter Jull, Zoom Photos, 01304 368928.

PR and marketing – Jane Langstaff, The Best of Deal & Sandwich, 01304 362563.

PR and marketing – Dylan

Hampshire, Cocketts Mattresses, 07940 540 559.

PR and marketing – Allan Hobbs, iDeal Interiors, 01304 368550.

PR and marketing – Aumir Masud, The Campbell Clinic, 01304 369944.

Revenue generation – Bob Humphreys, Bank House, 01304 366122.

Revenue generation – Annette Jaye, Pembertons (S.E.) Ltd, 01304 379393.

Revenue generation – Gary Lahr, Blind Illusions, 01304 371600.

Lobbying – Valerie LeVaillant OBE, Le Vaillant Owen, 01304 361338.

Treasurer, admin and finance officer – Ian Draper, 01303 261055.

## Showcase for independent businesses

THE Deal and Walmer Chamber of Commerce wants to shout loud and proud about all our great independent businesses.

In partnership with The Best of Deal & Sandwich and sponsored by the East Kent Mercury, we will be providing a fantastic opportunity for all local independent traders to showcase their unique products and services at The Landmark Centre, Deal, on Friday, April 4.

The exhibition will run from 9am until 4pm and will feature a section on access and disability awareness.

Good business means meeting the needs of all your customers. Advice will be available for traders and the public on providing inclusive and accessible services and facilities for all.

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity.

■ **Call Jane or Stephanie on 01304 362563 to find out how you can take part.**

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