



ON THE MOVE

## Membership Events Team Newsletter

July 2017

Issue 7, Number 1

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**In the next issue: Moving inside for the winter months.** A report from Allan Jones our diary manager on the arrangements being made for the winter and Christmas season.

**If you would like to make a contribution to our next issue please contact David King at:**

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### Kent B2B Medway Exhibition

We are continually looking for new venues within East Kent Province where footfall is concentrated and where we might find like-minded people who are attracted to the philosophy of Freemasonry. There are a very few events where such gatherings occur and, it is for this reason that we have decided to take a stand at the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce B2B exhibition at the historic dockyards in Chatham on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017.



There are reported to be hundreds of delegates attending the event with celebrity guest speakers giving talks on timely topics – from digital marketing to business strategy. It is also hoped that we may be able to give a short presentation on Freemasonry spanning 300 years during the course of the day.

We have also taken a pitch at the Kent County Show in July 2018 which boasts 80,000 visitors over the three days. This is one of the largest events in Kent and, whilst we will be rubbing shoulders with farmers and land agents, we feel sure that we will attract a good deal of interest particularly if we offer some hospitality homemade Cider courtesy of one of our volunteers!



**6, 7, 8 JULY 2018**

If you would like to get in early for either of these events, get in touch with Ron Carter or Ian Ireland straight away whilst there are still places left. I am sure that both events will be extremely busy and should give us many more genuine enquiries.



## Inside for the winter



I am pleased to announce that Allan Jones our events diary manager has been successful in securing formal arrangements with Tesco's and Sainsbury's to allow us to carry out awareness displays in their foyers across East Kent and, at no cost! This is a tremendous achievement and, effectively means that we can now go to towns and cities where we could not previously exhibit due to constraints from the local authorities on exhibiting in high streets. It'll be warmer too!

## One in the eye for our sceptics



Over the past few months we have been battling with an events organisation who refused to allow us to exhibit in the shopping malls for which they were employed to manage on the grounds that Freemasons are a religious cult and were sexist. I am pleased to be able to inform you that after our challenge and intimation that they were discriminating against Freemasons, a few well-placed letters did the trick. They have since rescinded their decision and allegedly changed their opinion and have consented to let us take space in their centres. However, we have since looked at the area that we have been offered and have declined to take the space.

## How are we Doing?

Here's some information that you may be interested in: Number of public events attended since January 2017 = 15. Number of Tercentenary events attended = 5. Number of Centre/Lodge open days attended = 7. Total number of visitors to our events= 455. Out of which, 193 were masons, 112 were women, 3 were visitors from overseas, 10 were students and 135 were non-masons. We have referred 32 of these 135 to the MA's in East Kent and other provinces of which 17 are progressing including re-joiners. Numbers for last year were 206 enquiries and 13 initiations. Food for thought!

## 2017 events diary updated

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>Hythe Venetian Fair</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>Hythe Hythe Carnival</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19th</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>Biddenden Tractorfest</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>Biddenden Tractorfest</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>26th</b>	<b>AUG</b>	<b>Dover Regatta</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>SEP</b>	<b>Ashford County Square</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>15th</b>	<b>SEP</b>	<b>Ashford County Square</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>SEP</b>	<b>Ashford County Square</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>SEP</b>	<b>Brands Hatch Cycle Race</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30th</b>	<b>SEP</b>	<b>Sittingbourne Medieval Mops Fair</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>Cranbrook Apple Fair</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8th</b>	<b>OCT</b>	<b>Gillingham Tree Planting picnic</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>Chatham Dockside Outlet Centre</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>Kent B2B MEDWAY Chatham</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>Canterbury Whitefriars Centre.</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>25th</b>	<b>NOV</b>	<b>Dover De Bradleigh Wharf</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>Medway Hempstead Valley</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>Thanet Westwood Cross</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>22nd</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23rd</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>DEC</b>	<b>Gravesend Thamesgate</b>



**PLEASE KEEP ON VOLUNTEERING! Your support is very much appreciated!**