

inside Swale

Autumn 2017

Keeping you informed about your council services

Faversham, Sheerness, Sittingbourne and surrounding rural communities



In this issue

- What to do this Autumn
- Swale: a year in numbers
- Sittingbourne regeneration
- Trick or treat and firework advice



Making Swale a better place

HOLIDAY HEROES

October Half Term Activities

Sat 21st - Sun 29th October

Book now!

Sheppey Leisure Centre

- Roller Disco
- Joey the Clown
- Pool Inflatable

Swallows Leisure Centre

- Go Karting
- Inflatable Football & Darts
- Wave Rave Pool Party
- Aqua Challenge - Book online

Milton Creek Country Park

- Milton Creek Fun Club



For full details of all activities available:
www.swaleleisure.com

Sheppey Leisure Complex

Off the Broadway, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 1HH
Swimming Pool: **01796 668652**

Swallows Leisure Centre

Central Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 4NT
Tel: **01795 420420**

 @SwiminSwale  /SwaleLeisureCentres

Milton Creek Country Park

Grovehurst Rd, Sittingbourne
ME10 2DE
Tel: **01795 417850**

 /FriendsOfMiltonCreek

Highlights

- Green flag over Oare** 4
- A new way to walk around Swale** 6
- What's on in Swale** 8-9
- Sittingbourne regeneration timeline** 10-11
- Christmas shopping made easy** 19
- No tricks, just treats** 20

Contact us

Swale Borough Council

Swale House, East Street
Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT
website: www.swale.gov.uk

email: csc@swale.gov.uk

phone: **01795 417850**

facebook: **Swale Borough Council**

twitter: **@SwaleCouncil**



Do you have difficulty in understanding this magazine? Do you need it in Braille, large print or on audio CD? For translations or interpretations contact us on **01795 417850** or csc@swale.gov.uk and we will do our best to help.

Inside Swale is written and designed by Swale Borough Council's Communications and Marketing Team and distributed to 59,700+ homes.

For advertising or editorial, please email: insidewale@swale.gov.uk

Cover photo: Sittingbourne's Food Festival in August.

Swale Borough Council neither endorse or accept any liability for representations made by its advertisers.



Andrew Bowles, Leader, Swale Borough Council

Welcome to the Autumn issue of Inside Swale.

As the days get cooler and the nights get longer, it can sometimes feel as if all the fun of summer is far behind us.

But while big celebrations like the Faversham Hop Festival or Sheppey's Pirates Weekend have come and gone, there's plenty to look forward to this autumn. Take a look at our What's On guide on pages 8 and 9 to find out more about exciting events coming up near you.

Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night are fast approaching too. We've got some useful tips to help you enjoy these occasions in safety this year – just turn to page 20.

If you fancy getting out and about to enjoy the changing autumn scenery, Oare Gunpowder Works is a great place to start. Turn to page 4 to read about its Green Flag Award win, marking it out as one of the best in the world for the second year in a row.

And there's news of another way to explore Swale's beautiful countryside, as our borough's section of a world-beating coastal path gets closer to completion. Read all about it on page 6.

Some people, however, seem happy for their waste to be strewn across Swale's striking landscapes. Turn to page 23 to see why not taking responsibility for your rubbish could land you in a heap of trouble.

Whatever the season, the council is always working to make Swale a better place and to support local people, business and communities. See what we've been doing over the last financial year in our infographic on page 27.

Enjoy your autumn.



Local Plan adopted

The local development plan for Swale, Bearing Fruits 2031, has now been formally adopted.

The plan looks at the need for jobs, homes, schools, shops, open space, transport and other services until 2031, and where development will take place to meet that need.

Cllr Gerry Lewin, deputy leader of the council and cabinet member for planning services, said: “Securing approval for the Local Plan has been a challenging process, balancing the need to meet the inspector’s housing target while defending the borough against an onslaught of development proposals.

“But with an approved plan in place we are in a much stronger position to fight off speculative planning applications, and we can now work to ensure that sufficient infrastructure is in place to support the planned development.”

The plan will be reviewed by April 2022, alongside a revised transport strategy from Kent County Council to help address potential adverse traffic impacts from developments beyond this date.

You can see the plan on our website at www.swale.gov.uk/local-plan-for-swale

Green flag flying over Oare

Oare Gunpowder Works Country Park has once again been awarded a prestigious Green Flag.



The award recognises the park, found just outside Faversham, as one of the best in the world.

Its rich variety of habitats, including woodland, wetlands and open glades, make it a wonderful place to discover wildlife.

Much of the park’s success is due to the efforts of local people who give up their time to maintain and improve the park. Find out how you can get involved with the Friends of Oare Gunpowder Works on their website: www.gunpowderworks.co.uk

Our new website

The next time you visit www.swale.gov.uk, you might see some big changes.

We've been undertaking a major project, using input from local residents as well as council staff, to give our website a much-needed overhaul.

Our new site will be much easier to use, helping you to find the information and services you need much faster. It's not finished yet, but we're launching beta versions of our Waste, Recycling and Environment pages first, so we can see how the new site works in the real world.

We want to hear from users to make sure the site is as useful as it can be, so please complete the online feedback form when you visit the new sections of our website.

Stay connected

Don't forget, for another way to stay up-to-date with council news, services and developments, you can subscribe to our monthly email bulletins.



The free service brings a monthly round-up straight to your inbox, keeping you connected with your local council.

To sign up, visit services.swale.gov.uk/stayconnected/stay-connected.aspx or click on the Stay Connected tab from anywhere on our website.

Volunteer Swale awards – nominations open soon!



The Volunteer Swale awards are our way of saying 'thank you' to some of the borough's hidden heroes. Now in their fifth year, nominations for the 2018 awards will open soon.

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their volunteering efforts? We want to hear from you about the person, group or project who you feel has made the most difference to the people and communities of Swale.



The winners at this year's awards

Now in their fifth year, nominations for the 2018 awards will open soon. We want to hear from you about the person, group or project who you feel has made the most difference to the people and communities of Swale.

Nominations for the 2018 awards will be open from Monday 23 October – Friday 15 December.

You'll be able to nominate via our website, so keep an eye out for updates and further details there; in the meantime, please call **01795 417142** for more information about the awards scheme.

The winners will be announced at a gala celebration on Friday 2 March, 2018.

A new way to walk around Swale



The coastal path along the Swale Estuary. Photo courtesy of Natural England



Little Egret (above) and Brown Hare (left) are some the wildlife found around Swale's coastline.

The Swale section of the England Coast Path will soon be ready to welcome walkers.

Joining up coastal paths nationwide, the England Coast Path will be 2,700 miles long once completed: the longest trail of its kind in the world.

We've been working closely with Natural England to bring the path through Swale, and, following extensive consultation with landowners, our borough's section of the trail should be open by next summer.

While the new route is based on the Saxon Shore Way, it diverts from it in places to provide better sea views along the dramatic and varied coastline of the Swale estuary.

Wildfowl and wading birds provide a living spectacle along much of the stretch and lucky walkers might even catch a glimpse of the majestic marsh harrier.

Taking in Faversham, Oare and Conyer creeks, the route also offers fascinating insights into our borough's long history of ship-building.

This new trail for the borough should help many more people, from inside and outside Swale, to discover more of our local heritage and beautiful countryside.

Find out more about the England Coast Path here:
www.nationaltrail.co.uk/england-coast-path

Can't wait for
summer 2018?

Find more fantastic routes and trails to help you explore Swale – by foot, by bike or even on horseback – on the Visit Swale website: www.visit-swale.co.uk/see-and-do

Love cinema? Love Swale

With the nights starting to draw in, autumn is a great time to spend a cosy evening at the cinema – and our borough offers options for seeing a huge range of films.

Faversham Film Society, established in 1981, screens the latest British, American independent and international films, plus the odd reissued classic, at the town's Grade-II listed **Royal Cinema**. This mock Tudor gem, which boasts one of the biggest screens in Kent, has been hosting the Society's fortnightly screenings since 1995.

Jane Hannath, chair of the Society, said: "We are passionate about bringing the best of world cinema to local people. Without the commitment of voluntary film societies like ours, many of these films would be difficult to see outside the major cities."

Another society of local film lovers brings independent cinema to Sittingbourne: set up in 2014, the **Swale Film Society** uses the **Avenue Theatre** for its monthly screenings. Showing a range of critically-acclaimed classic, foreign and modern films, all of the Society's screenings are followed by a relaxed discussion in the theatre's bar.

Helen Stock, co-founder of the Society, said: "We set up the group to bring people together through a love of cinema, and we've been blown away by the level of support.

"Our membership has doubled this year – but we always welcome new members!"

Over in Sheerness, the **Criterion Theatre** shows a range of cinematic treats, from blockbusters to Oscar-winning independent big-hitters.

They also offer live theatre screenings and – uniquely in Swale – sing-a-long showings of classic musicals!

Find out more online:

- www.favershamfilmsociety.org.uk
Facebook: [FavershamFilmSociety](https://www.facebook.com/FavershamFilmSociety)
- Facebook: [swalefilmsociety](https://www.facebook.com/swalefilmsociety)
- www.thecriterionbluetown.co.uk
Facebook: [bluetown.heritage](https://www.facebook.com/bluetown.heritage)

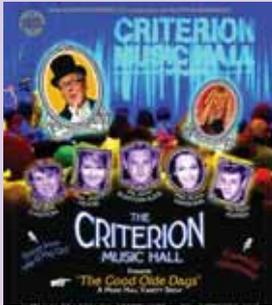
More ways to watch

Don't forget the **New Century Cinema** on Sittingbourne High Street! And turn to page 11 for a preview of **The Light** cinema, coming to Sittingbourne in 2019 . . .

What's on in Swale

19 September-25 October

The Good Olde Days



This music hall variety show brings a range of artistes to the stage of the Criterion in Blue Town, Sheerness.

The show is a nostalgic trip down memory lane,

with classic music hall songs performed for your entertainment – audience participation very much encouraged!

£25 per person; group discounts available

www.thecriterionbluetown.co.uk

3 October-12 December, every fortnight

Young at HeArt

Based at No. 34, Sittingbourne High Street, Young at HeArt offers free activities for anyone aged 55+. The sessions cover film, craft, movement and cultural talks.

Upcoming sessions include Charlie Chaplin films and a talk from the Mid Kent Astronomical Society.

Free transport available on request.

Sessions every other Tuesday from 3 October-12 December

www.ideastest.co.uk

Saturday 14 October

Faversham Carnival

Wrap up warm and come out for the town's annual carnival – the only autumn illuminated carnival in the county.

The brightly lit procession includes marching bands, community and school



entries, as well as visiting carnival queens from all over Kent and beyond.

www.favershamcarnival.com

Sunday 29 October

Hallowe'en at Belmont



Tricks and treats for all the family!

Children can reveal their inner artist with pumpkin carving and creepy craft sessions, and parents can

join them (if they're brave enough!) for a terrifying trail around Belmont's gardens.

£1.00 adults; £5.00 children (all craft materials included)

www.belmont-house.org

Saturday 4 November

Doddington Firework Spectacular



Join in the fun at the Palace Farm, where there will be a licensed bar and hot food to help you stay warm throughout the display!

Free parking on site.

£6 adults; £2 children 5-12; under 5s go free!

doddingtonkent.btck.co.uk

Saturday 25 November Faversham Christmas Lights & Night Food Market



The big switch-on of Faversham's Christmas lights is once again followed by a festive night food market.

The event starts at 5pm, when the switch is flipped by Father Christmas and friends. The night market starts at 6pm, with local food and drink and entertainment galore!

Wrap up warm to enjoy the evening's festivities – blankets are recommended if you aren't dancing!

www.favershamchristmaslights.org / faevershammarket.org

Saturday 25 November Sittingbourne Christmas Lights & Shop Local Market



Make a day of it: support local businesses at the town's first ever Shop Local market, then stay on for the Christmas lights switch-on!



sittingbournechristmaslights.org

 [SittingbourneArtisanmarket](https://www.facebook.com/SittingbourneArtisanmarket)

Saturday 2 December Sheerness Christmas Lights, Christmas Market & Santa Run



A full day of festive activities bring the Christmas spirit to Sheerness!

Father Christmas himself will be at Rose Street Cottage of Curiosities, and there'll be a Christmas market and Santa Run through the town.

Later, following the twinkling lantern parade, comes the big moment: the Christmas lights switch-on!



Email chrisonsheppey@aol.com for more info.

All of these events, and many more things to do in Swale, can be found on the freshly revamped Visit Swale website www.visit-swale.co.uk

Visit Swale is a great place to advertise events and attractions, and can help you reach thousands of people – locally and from further afield – for free. We also publish as many listings as we can in this magazine.

Contact us by emailing:

tourismsupport@swale.gov.uk

or follow us on social media:

 [@Visit_Swale](https://twitter.com/Visit_Swale)

 [VisitSwale](https://www.facebook.com/VisitSwale)

Vision to reality

Sittingbourne's regeneration project has shifted gears, with the work to bring this long held plan to life getting underway around town.

Construction of the big box retail units off Eurolink Way is progressing, and works to prepare the town's road network and utilities for the changes are well into their first phase.

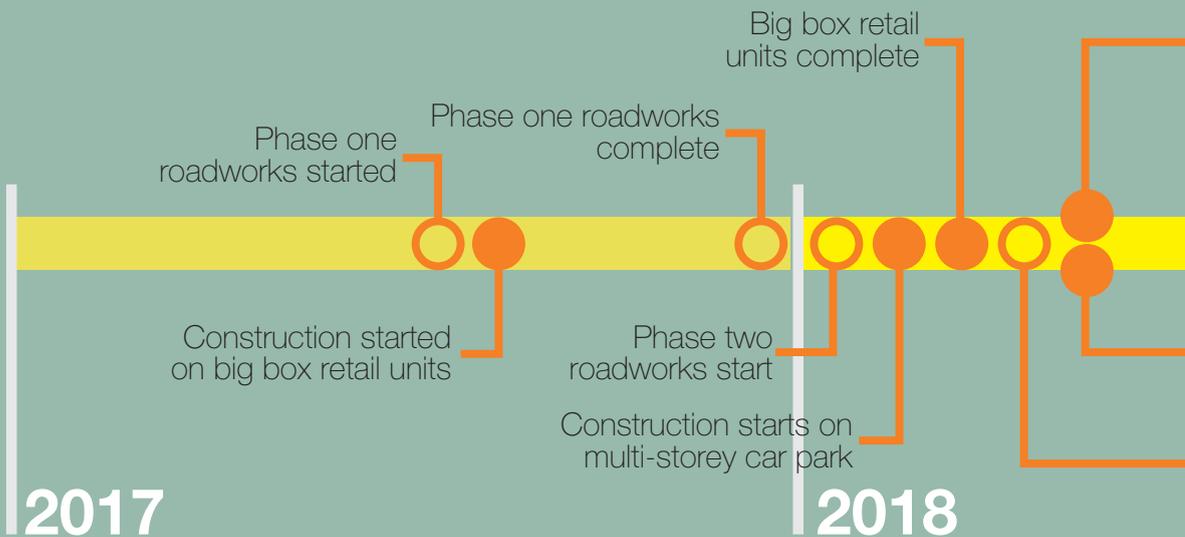


Cllr Andrew Bowles, leader of the council, said: "The works currently taking place are key to bringing the most exciting elements of the regeneration to fruition.

"We're looking forward to seeing the town change and develop as the Spirit of Sittingbourne really starts to soar."

The current phase of roadworks will be completed before Christmas this year, with phase two beginning in early 2018.

See our timeline below for more project milestones, and don't forget to visit www.spiritofsittingbourne.com for more information.



Getting ready to see the Light



A new cinema experience for Swale, the Light Cinema Sittingbourne is an integral part of the town centre regeneration project.

Located in Sittingbourne's new public square, the eight-screen cinema is due to open in summer 2019.

Visitors will be able to enjoy the latest blockbusters, independent film and live broadcasts of music, theatre and sport from the cinema's 1,049 seats.

Keith Pullinger, chief executive officer of the Light Cinema Group, said: "Our cinemas are a place where everyone can feel they belong and everyone is welcome.

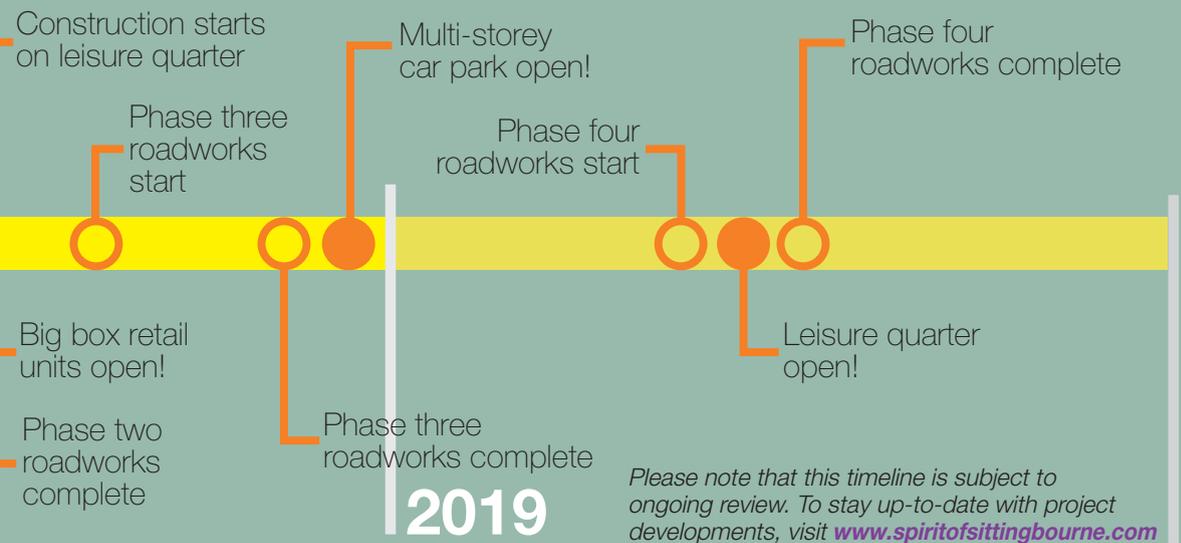
"We are all about giving the visitor a complete cinema experience: from the moment they enter through to post-film socialising in our bar."

The Light will provide inclusive and accessible screenings – and even if you're not seeing a film, their Green Room bar and café will offer a stylish new venue for socialising.

Cllr Mike Cosgrove, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "We are thrilled that a Light cinema will be coming to our town centre.

"Cinemas are at the heart of a thriving local economy and the Light offers an excellent and exciting cinema-going experience that everyone will enjoy."

Find out more at lightcinemas.co.uk



Rec-ommendations needed

We're seeking the views of local people on plans for a major overhaul of Faversham Recreation Ground ('the Rec' as it's known locally).



LOTTERY FUNDED

Following the appointment of a design and project management contractor in June, we now need residents' feedback on the plans. They will then be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund in a bid for £1.6 million to pay for the works.

Input from local people can have a significant impact on the detail of the proposals, so we want to hear from as many of you as possible!

The goal of the revamp is to restore many of the Rec's original features while significantly upgrading its facilities.

The proposals will see a new café and outdoor performance area constructed, opening the park up to new visitors and uses.

The proposals also include extensive planting work, restoration of the park's wrought iron gates and upgrades to the play area and skatepark.

While the masterplan has been agreed, we really need feedback from local people and community groups to ensure that the detailed proposals meet the needs of residents. One consultation event has already taken place, and another will be held at the Rec on 21 October from 10.30am-4.30pm.

Join us then to make your views heard on plans to improve this important community asset.



Ahoy there mates!

Thistle Hill residents are setting sail for adventure at new play areas.

Offering a whole range of exciting equipment for pirates aged 12 and under (always the most fearsome), the new playgrounds in Minster opened in the summer.

Hundreds of local people came out to celebrate the official opening of the play areas in August. Mayor of Swale Cllr Colin Prescott cut the ribbon as children enjoyed the play areas' pirate galleons and climbable rigging.

The plans for the piratical playgrounds were chosen after consultation with local residents and have been heartily endorsed by the area's young buccaneers.

Cllr David Simmons, cabinet member for environment and rural affairs, said: "These play areas, along with the previously opened trim trail, were a key part of the plans for the Thistle Hill housing development.

"We're so pleased to see them open and in use. They've been tremendously popular so far and we hope local children enjoy them for many years to come."

To stay up-to-date with improvements to play areas and parks near you, follow [@SwaleCouncil](#) on Twitter and like [Swale Borough Council](#) on Facebook.



Remembrance on the radio



A group of local students took to the airwaves recently to commemorate the effects of WWI on the Isle of Sheppey.

History students from the Oasis Academy Isle of Sheppey worked with Sheppey FM to produce a 90-minute show, incorporating interviews, period music and audio effects recreating the sounds of life in the trenches.

The project was supported by a £750 grant from our WWI Centenary fund. Julie Nicholls, project manager at Sheppey FM, said: “The students worked really diligently to produce a creative, entertaining and educational show.



“This project was a huge achievement for the students and a significant boost to their self-esteem, which they might not have had without grant funding from Swale council.”

The show was such a success that it’s been nominated for a Community Radio Award. You can hear it online at sheppeyfm.org.uk.

Oasis Academy students in the studio at Sheppey FM.

Has this story inspired you to create

your own commemorative project? Find out more and apply for a grant here: www.swale.gov.uk/ww1-centenary-localism-grant-2

Sound of Swale

Community radio is thriving in Swale, with three further local stations in addition to **Sheppey FM**:



BRFM 95.6FM is also based on the Isle of Sheppey. Hear it at brfm.net



SFM 106.9FM covers Sittingbourne and the surrounding area. Listen online at www.sfmradio.com



Creek FM is the community radio station for Faversham. Tune in at www.creekfm.co.uk

All four local stations bring news, interviews and entertainment to the communities of Swale. Which is your favourite?

Poppy garden coming into bloom

We're working with Sheppey Matters to collect knitted and crocheted poppies for a Remembrance Day display.

The donated poppies will form part of a unique garden, to be displayed at the Sheppey Gateway.

Hundreds of poppies have been donated since July. Some have been made by local craft groups, but we've also received blooms from as far afield as Portsmouth and Poland!

The generous response to our poppy appeal will allow us to create a very special tribute to the fallen in November. But we still need your poppies to make it even more impactful.

To be part of this project, just drop your knitted or crocheted poppy off at Sheppey Gateway, Sheerness or at Minster, Queenborough, Sittingbourne or Faversham libraries by 3 November.

We can't wait to see the finished garden!



Cllr Sue Gent, Gateway Coordinator Sarah-Jane Radley, Justin Aggett and volunteers and supporters display a sample of poppies.

Grants could make you a business LEADER

Do you want to build your rural business? The LEADER grants programme could help you develop your company, creating jobs and bolstering the local economy.

Grants of £2,500 to £50,000 are available for a whole raft of rural businesses: from farms and growers to environmental organisations, heritage providers and more.

One recent Swale grantee is Dudda's Tun, a cider and perry producer based in Doddington. This micro business successfully applied for £11,000 towards the cost of equipment that will see their production increase – from under 500 litres per day up to 3,000 – and make their product more attractive to wholesale customers.



Photo courtesy of Dudda's Tun

Rob Payne, director of the company, told us about the application process: “Initially the form appeared quite daunting, but the LEADER team guided me through each step of the application process.

“I was delighted that our application was successful. The grant has gone towards equipment which will allow us to process in one hour the volume of cider we can currently process in a day, helping us satisfy the huge rise in demand for our cider!”

Cllr Andrew Bowles, leader of the council, said: “It’s fantastic to see a local business like Rob’s getting the support it needs to grow.

“We hope other rural businesses in Swale will take advantage of this scheme to help move their companies to the next level.”

Find out more and apply at www.leaderprogrammekent.org



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
Europe investing in rural areas

Save energy, save money



Want to cut your business' energy bills? We're hosting a Carbon Trust workshop at the Holiday Inn, Sittingbourne on 4 October which could help you do just that.

The session will introduce the Carbon Trust's Green Business Fund, which provides procurement advice and capital grants of up to £10,000 to help SMEs buy energy-saving equipment.

The workshop can still help your business even if you're not considering investing in equipment: come along and get advice to help your business reduce its energy usage, cut your bills and reduce your carbon footprint.

Find out more about the workshop and book your place at gbfsittingbourne.eventbrite.co.uk

Or, to find out about other upcoming events and to get support for your business, visit www.swalemeansbusiness.co.uk



Bringing more investment to Swale

Our Swale Means Business team are launching a new service to attract more businesses to the borough.



Subscribers will get a monthly round-up of local business and property news delivered straight to their email inbox, so they can see just how much Swale has to offer.

The service will also make it easy to find all kinds of business premises in the borough, linking readers directly to our commercial property register.

Cllr Mike Cosgrove, cabinet member for regeneration, said: "This new service will help us bring more business to the borough, in turn creating more jobs for local people.

"It'll also be really helpful for existing local companies who are looking to expand and take their business to the next level."

To sign up to the new service, email edu@swale.gov.uk or visit www.swalemeansbusiness.co.uk





Consultation continues on Junction 5 changes

The public consultation on plans to upgrade Junction 5 of the M2 is underway, and Highways England want to hear from you.

Swale council and others have long been lobbying for urgent improvements to the junction. As a result of this pressure, central government allocated £50-100m to fund this crucial redesign in 2015, with construction scheduled to start in 2020.

Currently blighted by long delays and an extremely poor safety record, the junction's capacity needs to be increased. The improvements will also complement the forthcoming Lower Thames Crossing, which may push more drivers to use the A2/M2 corridor, potentially bringing more drivers onto this already congested stretch of road.

Highways England is consulting on a proposal for improving the junction, and has been seeking feedback from local people since 6 September.

Cllr Andrew Bowles, leader of the council, said: "This consultation marks another significant step by Highways England towards making these much-needed improvements.

"We hope lots of residents take this opportunity to make their voices heard so we can ensure the plans taken forward are the best ones for the people of Swale."

A number of events have been held since the consultation's launch, welcoming opinions from local residents and businesses alike. If you missed these events, you can still give your views online at roads.highways.gov.uk/projects/m2-junction-5-improvements

The consultation closes on Tuesday 17 October.

Christmas shopping made easy

This December, we're making it easier for you to reach Swale's high streets.

Building on feedback from last year's trial, our new scheme is tailored to each town centre, helping more people get to the shops – so you can get your Christmas shopping sorted.

Sittingbourne

- Free parking in council-run car parks after 1pm on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays (2-24 December). Just pop a parking voucher on your dashboard and hit the shops!

Isle of Sheppey

- Free hop-on, hop-off bus service, running every Saturday in December before Christmas. The bus will bring passengers to the shops of Sheerness High Street and Neats Court on a circular route around the island.
- Free parking (with a voucher!) in Sheerness after 1pm on Sundays in December. Council-run car parks only.

Faversham

- Free park and ride service operating every Saturday in December before Christmas.
- Free parking (with a voucher!) after 1pm on Sundays in December. Council-run car parks only.

Parking vouchers will be available in the winter issue of Inside Swale, online, at council offices and in local shops.

Cllr Alan Horton, cabinet member for safer families and communities, said: "We want to make Christmas easier for residents by cutting the hassle and cost of parking on busy shopping days.

"By tailoring the scheme to each town's needs, we hope many more people will be able to take advantage of the fantastic shopping opportunities our high streets have to offer."

Full details of the scheme will be published on our website soon. In the meantime, start writing your Christmas shopping lists!



Feature _____

No tricks, just treats

There's lots of fun to be had this autumn, with Hallowe'en just around the corner.

But sometimes anti-social behaviour can spoil the fun, making others feel unsafe. That's why we're working with Kent County Council and Kent Police to provide additional foot patrols around the borough at half-term, so everyone can enjoy this exciting time of year.

The patrols will act as a clearly visible deterrent to anti-social behaviour, and a convenient point of contact for residents to report any concerns.

Another tactic that has helped cut down anti-social behaviour is to limit sales of eggs and flour in the days around Hallowe'en. Thanks to the continued support of the business community, many local retailers will again be preventing the sale of these items to under-16s.

This may seem excessive to some, but Hallowe'en can be a frightening time for vulnerable residents. We don't want to stop anyone having fun or trick-or-treating, but we do want to reassure people who are concerned about opening their doors after dark.

If you're worried about trick-or-treaters, you can download and print our 'No Trick or Treat' flyer to display in your front window. Just go to <http://tiny.cc/notrickortreat2017> or call **01795 417850** to request a copy.



Sparkle safely

Bonfire Night is also on its way! Go to www.visit-swale.co.uk/find-events to find a fireworks display near you.

If you're planning a display at home, make sure you follow safety advice and know the law.

It's illegal to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am, except on Bonfire Night (when the cut-off is midnight) and New Year's Eve, Diwali and Chinese New Year (when the cut-off is 1am).

Find out more about fireworks and the law here: www.gov.uk/fireworks-the-law

Help us protect vulnerable adults

We're taking part in Safeguarding Adults Awareness Week, which this year is running from 9-13 October.

Organised by the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board, the annual campaign is designed to raise awareness of the abuse vulnerable adults can suffer – and to make sure we all know how to report it to help protect people from harm.

This year's theme is 'Respect, Not Neglect – See it, Report It, Stop It!'. Neglect, whether deliberate or unintentional, can be an extremely serious form of abuse.

It can include failing to provide access to appropriate healthcare, social care or education, and may result in essential day-to-day needs – such as medication, food, drink and heating – being denied.

Self-neglect can also be a serious concern. This is when a person's neglect for their personal hygiene, health or surroundings, has a detrimental effect on their health and wellbeing. It can include behaviour such as hoarding.

Cllr Alan Horton, cabinet member for safer families and communities, said: "Generally, neglect or self-neglect take place behind closed doors, so can be difficult to spot.

"We'd encourage anyone to share concerns about friends or neighbours with us, whether they are worried about them being at risk of neglect or any other form of abuse – financial, physical, sexual or emotional."

If you have concerns about a loved one, friend or neighbour, you can come and discuss them with staff from Swale council and other agencies at ASDA in Sittingbourne from 10am-2pm on 11 October.

Alternatively, if you or someone you know is at risk of harm or abuse, call Kent's adult social services team on **03000 41 61 61**. You can also find more information at **www.kent.gov.uk/adultprotection**

If someone is in immediate danger, contact the emergency services on **999**.

Go wild in your garden

Are you wild about gardens? The Kent Wildlife Trust are! Their Wild About Gardens awards scheme is designed to encourage local people to welcome wildlife into their gardens.



Whether you favour formal flowerbeds or stylish landscaping, your garden – whatever its size – can provide vital support to our pollinating insects, hedgehogs, wild birds and more.

The Trust's volunteer advisors visit entrants' gardens to assess their wildlife-friendliness and offer advice. Unlike other garden award schemes, there is no overall winner . . . except for the wildlife, of course!

Sponsored by local businesses Optivo and Unipet, as well as conservation groups, this years' winners will be announced at a celebration event in October.

Thanks to local support from Swale in Bloom and volunteer groups, in 2016 and 2017 the Trust received more entrants from Swale than any other Kent district. Want to enter your own garden next year? Look out for more information about the 2018 scheme in spring.

And in the meantime, find out more about the awards on the Kent Wildlife Trust's website: www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk



**GARDEN WASTE?
LEAVE IT TO US**

You do the sweeping; we'll do the rest.

- * EASY
- * GREAT VALUE
- * NO MORE TRIPS TO THE TIP!
- * CONVENIENT

Only £35 per year

To find out more or to order your brown bin, visit swale.gov.uk/brown-bin-garden-waste or call **01795 417888**

Bagged it, binned it . . . won it!

Congratulations to Sue Smith of Warden, Eastchurch, whose responsible dog ownership has earned her a £50 shopping voucher.

The prize was part of our wider campaign to crack down on dog fouling in the borough.

Over the summer, council staff entered dog walkers into a prize draw whenever they saw them picking up after their pets.

Mrs Smith was seen clearing up after Storm, her 8-year-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier, in Warden Bay. Her name was picked out of the hat by the Mayor of Swale, Cllr Colin Prescott.

We appreciate the actions of every local dog owner who does the right thing, but we know that dog fouling is a serious concern. You can report it on our website here: www.swale.gov.uk/dog-fouling



Your rubbish, your responsibility



If you pay someone to take away your rubbish and it ends up dumped in the countryside, it could be you who lands in the dock.

As part of our new Cleaner Thinking campaign, we're reminding all residents that they need to make sure that whoever they pay to take away their rubbish is a licenced waste carrier.

"I didn't think they'd dump it" is no excuse: if you don't check, and you can't tell us who took your rubbish away, you'll have failed in your legal 'duty of care' and could face prosecution.

You can be given an unlimited fine and charged for the cost of clearing up your fly-tipped waste, and you might even end up with a criminal record.

So if you can't get to the tip to get rid of your rubbish, follow our Cleaner Thinking guide to disposing of large amounts of waste responsibly:

- **Ask:** if you pay someone for waste removal, don't be afraid to ask to see their waste carrier's licence or to check how they'll get rid of your rubbish.
- **Search:** call the Environment Agency on **03708 506 506**, or check their licence for yourself online at environment.data.gov.uk/public-register.
- **Record:** insist on getting a detailed transfer notice or receipt, including contact information, whenever you pay for waste removal.

And if you only have a few large items to get rid of, our bulky waste collection service might be your best bet. Go to www.swale.gov.uk/bulky-item-collection to find out more and book online.

Scrub up your recycling habits

Whether you're a shower singer or a boudoir beautifier, recycling empty toiletry containers as part of your morning routine can make a big difference to the environment.

As part of our support for Recycle Week, which this year

runs from 25 September to 1 October, we're encouraging everyone to recycle more packaging from their bathrooms and bedrooms.

While we all do our bit to recycle – in the UK, nearly 90% of kitchen packaging is recycled – some items just aren't reaching our blue recycling bins.



Digital hearing technology on your door step



- Free hearing tests
- Home visiting service
- Friendly personal attention
- 30 day money back guarantee
- Micro-suction earwax removal

Why settle for anything less?



Call: **01795 511195**
for a no obligation appointment.
www.21stcenturyhearing.com

Recycle Now found that 49% of us don't always recycle aerosols, while 38% don't always recycle glass perfume bottles.

You might be surprised by how much of a difference it makes to recycle more of this packaging. If every Swale household recycled just one more deodorant can, we could save enough energy to power a primary school for 54 days!

Many of these items can also be recycled without any loss in quality. So what starts as an aerosol could come back in your new mobile phone or dishwasher – or even another aerosol! What goes around, comes around . . .

Look out for more Recycle Week facts on our social media channels, and check to see what can go in your blue bin here: www.swale.gov.uk/blue-bin-recycling

Recycling and refuse collection dates

If you are unsure of your collection week, go to www.swale.gov.uk/my-collection-day and click the link 'Next Bin Collection', or call Customer Services on **01795 417888**.



Blue Wheelie Bin Collection week



Green Wheelie Bin Collection week

Don't forget, food waste recycling collections are collected weekly with both bins.

Week 1 collections

October 2017						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2017						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2017						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Week 2 collections

October 2017						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2017						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2017						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March 2018						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

For collections during the Christmas period please refer to our website or local press.

In the event of inclement weather, please leave your recycling and waste out on your collection day and we will get to you as soon as we can. Daily updates will be on our website: www.swale.gov.uk



HOLLIS HEATING

Family run business for over 50 years

Sittingbourne

01795 473170

Boiler installations starting from

£1600 inc VAT

**10 years parts and labour
warranty on selected boilers**



Swale: a year in numbers

249 community projects

given funding through our grants schemes



13,000 tonnes

of household waste recycled



229 families prevented

from becoming **homeless**



338 stray dogs

reunited with their owners

1,991,700 square metres of grass

cut in our parks and open spaces



300 local events



915 jobs done to help elderly or disabled people stay in their own homes



97,000 calls taken

by our customer services team

All figures cover the period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017



More ways to get your documents to us

If you need to supply documentation to support a housing benefit or council tax support claim, you now have more ways to get your information to us.

Got your smartphone to hand? Take a picture of your documents and email the photo to bens@swale.gov.uk. You can scan and email your documents too.

Alternatively, pop your documents in the post and send them to us at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne ME10 3HT. If you prefer, you can deliver them by hand to Swale House, Sheerness Gateway or the Alexander Centre in Faversham – either way, please include your contact details in case our team has any questions.

However you decide to supply your documents, make sure you include your claim reference with them. And remember that the sooner we receive your information, the sooner your claim will be reviewed.

For more information, visit www.swale.gov.uk/benefits



Your views matter

In the summer issue of Inside Swale, we asked you for your feedback and comments on this magazine.

The vast majority of the feedback was positive, but all the responses we received will help us do a better job of bringing you the news and information that matters to you. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey.

Of our respondents:

94% said they got their information about the council and our services from this magazine – almost double that of the next information source in the results;

82% said they think Inside Swale is good or very good at providing useful information;

64% said they wanted to see more community news featured in the magazine;

62% said they would like to read more events listings.

We've taken all of your feedback on board and will use it to make changes to future issues of Inside Swale. If you missed out on the survey but have any comments or recommendations for improving this magazine, please email insidewale@swale.gov.uk.

Respondents to the survey were asked if they wanted to be entered into a draw to win £100 of Marks & Spencer vouchers. The lucky winner, Ms S Sidders, was selected at random from the entrants.

COHESION +



**Kent Equality
Cohesion Council**



PROUDLY PRESENTS

Swale Fusion Festival 2017

Showcasing Music and Dance from around the World

**FUSION LIGHT PARADE AND FIREWORKS
FRIDAY OCTOBER 13TH - 6.30PM TO 7.30PM**

**Colourful Lantern Parade
featuring local schools, bands and artists
The parade will go from Sittingbourne High Street to
Albany Park where the event will climax with fireworks**

**FUSION MUSIC & DANCE STREET FESTIVAL
SATURDAY OCTOBER 14TH - 10.30AM TO 2PM**

**Music, Dance and Visual Arts in Sittingbourne High Street
along side the Artisan Market featuring performances
from local bands and artists**

For further information:
Gurvinder Sandher On 01474 369 329

 @CohesionPlusEvents

www.cohesionplus.com

 @swaleboroughcouncil

www.swale.gov.uk

 @cohesionplus

 @SwaleCouncil

Events partners:

Swale Community
Safety Partnership



Your councillors

▶ Conservative ▶ Independent

▶ Labour ▶ UKIP

Abbey



Bryan Mulhern

01795 538498
bryanmulhern@swale.gov.uk



Anita Walker

01795 531192
anitajwalker@yahoo.co.uk

Bobbing, Iwade & Lower Halstow



Duncan Dewar-Whalley

07889 808871
duncandewar-whalley@swale.gov.uk



Ben Stokes

01795 476979
benstokes@swale.gov.uk

Borden & Grove Park



Mike Baldock

01795 471139
mikebaldock@swale.gov.uk



Nicholas Hampshire

01795 477560 (eve) or 07739 108756
nicholashampshire@hotmail.com

Boughton & Courtenay



George Bobbin

01227 751388
george.bobbin@btinternet.com



Andrew Bowles

01227 752840 or 07778 629879
councillleader@swale.gov.uk

Chalkwell



Ghlin Whelan

01795 475629
ghlinmwhelan@gmail.com

East Downs



Colin Prescott

01795 590054
colinprescott@swale.gov.uk

Hartlip, Newton & Upchurch



Gerry Lewin

01634 366113
cllrlewin@swale.gov.uk



John Wright

01795 842852
johnwright@swale.gov.uk

Homewood



Alan Horton

07447 925760
alanhorton@swale.gov.uk



Roger Truelove

01795 425445
rtruelove12@gmail.com

Kemsley



Mike Dendor

07733 937102
cllrmikedendor@gmail.com



Sue Gent

01795 430768
suegent@swale.gov.uk

Milton Regis



Roger Clark

01795 430324
clark.rmiltonregis@gmail.com



Tony Winckless

01795 425987
tonywinckless@swale.gov.uk

Minster Cliffs



Andy Booth

01795 880444 or 07912 464213
andybooth@swale.gov.uk



Adrian Crowther

01795 874418



Ken Pugh

01795 871388
kenpugh@uwclub.net

Murston



James Hall

01795 430534
jameshall@swale.gov.uk



Samuel Koffie-Williams

07539 103459 or 07484 274235
samuelkwilliams@swale.gov.uk

Priory



Mike Henderson

07900 265337
mikeshenderson@outlook.com

Queenborough & Halfway



Cameron Beart

07592 108351
cameronbeart@swale.gov.uk



Richard Darby

01795 227592
rdarby@aol.com



Peter Marchington

01795 661960 or 07767 607456
petermarchington@hotmail.co.uk

Roman



Sarah Aldridge

01795 599272 or 07479 609550
sarahaldridge@swale.gov.uk



Paul Fleming

07470 233886
paulfleming@swale.gov.uk

Sheerness



Mark Ellen

01795 667027
cllr.markellen@yahoo.co.uk



Mick Galvin

01795 666903
mickgalvin@swale.gov.uk



Angela Harrison

01795 665029
angelaharrison@swale.gov.uk

Sheppey Central



Tina Booth

01795 880444 (eve) or 07921 394306
tinabooth@swale.gov.uk



June Garrad

01795 227592
jvgarrad@aol.com



Ken Ingleton

01795 873709 or 07973 303384
kjingleton@aol.com

Sheppey East



Lesley Ingham

01795 881123 or 07714 445871
lesleyingham57@yahoo.co.uk



Padmini Nissanga

01795 880980 or 07500 863623
mininissanga@swale.gov.uk

St Ann's



Mike Cosgrove

01795 591790
cllrcosgrove@swale.gov.uk



Nigel Kay

01795 531298 or 07710 487129
nigelkay@swale.gov.uk

Teynham & Lynsted



Lloyd Bowen

01795 522357
lloydbowen@swale.gov.uk



Mike Whiting

01795 842631
mikewhiting@swale.gov.uk

The Meads



James Hunt

07788 101228
jameshunt@swale.gov.uk

Watling



David Simmons

01795 532100
davidsimmons@swale.gov.uk



Ted Wilcox

01795 533004 or 07711 476769
tedwilcox@swale.gov.uk

West Downs



Monique Bonney

07973 443527
montybon1@aol.com

Woodstock



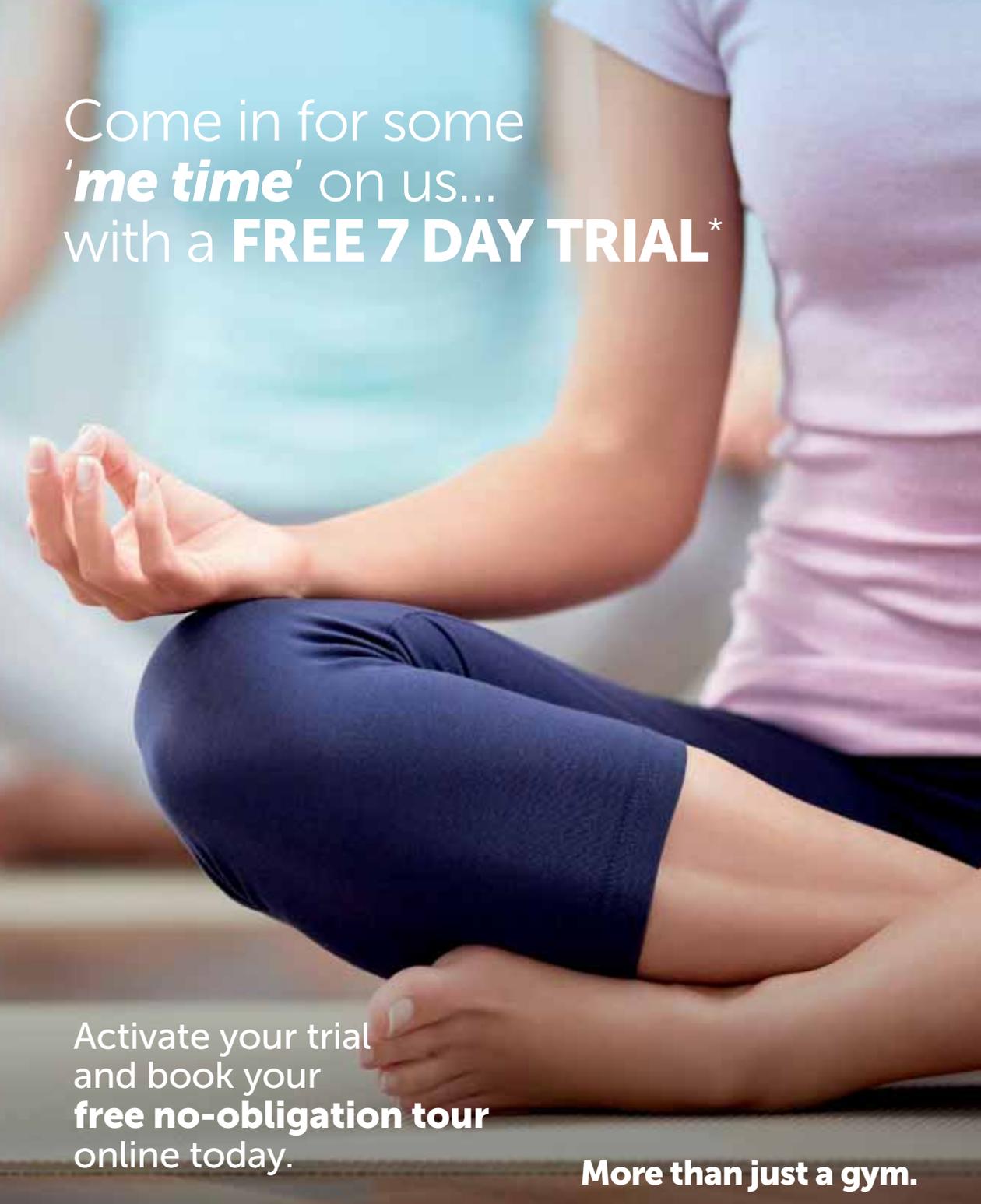
Derek Conway

01795 424865 or 07789 072677
derekconway@swale.gov.uk



George Samuel

07986 221966
gdsamuel1@aol.com



Come in for some
'me time' on us...
with a **FREE 7 DAY TRIAL***

Activate your trial
and book your
free no-obligation tour
online today.

More than just a gym.

www.swaleleisure.com

SWALE
COMMUNITY LEISURE

Sheppey Leisure Complex
Off the Broadway, Sheerness,
Kent, ME12 1HH
Tel: **01795 668 061**

Swallows Leisure Centre
Central Avenue, Sittingbourne,
Kent, ME10 4NT
Tel: **01795 420420**



@SwiminSwale

/SwaleLeisureCentres

*Free 7 Day Trial to gym, swim and classes offer ends 31st October 2017.