What’s on MEDWAY

Festivals  Theatres  Arts  Libraries  Heritage  Outdoors  Sport

@Enjoy Medway
enjoymedway.co.uk
Christmas light switch-ons

Celebrate the countdown to Christmas by watching the Christmas lights get switched on at the towns of Medway and meet Minions duo Bob and Kevin, Kung Fu Panda, Shrek and cast members from this year’s pantomime, Cinderella. For more information: medway.gov.uk/christmas
Sat, 16 Nov – Rochester
Fri, 22 Nov – Gillingham
Sat, 23 Nov – Chatham
Fri, 29 Nov – Rainham
Sat, 30 Nov – Strood

Rochester Christmas Market

Browse the stalls for unique gift ideas and unusual stocking fillers. Wander the Bavarian food village or visit the funfair. There will also be live performers and even guaranteed snowfall. medway.gov.uk/christmas
Sat, 30 Nov – Sun, 1 Dec; Fri, 6 – Sun, 8 Dec; Fri, 13 – Sun, 15 Dec. See website for times. Rochester Castle Gardens

Mistletoe Ball - Balmoral Christmas

Come dressed in Victorian Highland attire – kilts, tartan, sashes. Scottish pie dinner, piper, live band plus more. medwayticketslive.co.uk / 01634 338338.
Fri, 6 Dec, from 7pm – on the eve of Rochester’s Dickensian Christmas Festival (7 and 8 Dec)
£22 up to 18 Nov, £26 up to 2 Dec Corn Exchange, Rochester
**Dickensian Christmas Festival**

Uncover a feast of Victorian delights, costumed characters and wonderful Dickensian parades. Then when dusk is upon us, join in our Christmassy open-air carol concerts on Boley Hill. While you’re taking in all things Dickensian, why not visit the Rochester Christmas Market for unique gift ideas and shop for festive goodies along Rochester’s historic high street?

**Sat, 7 and Sun, 8 Dec, 10am-5.30pm**
Rochester

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**Chinese New Year**

Come and celebrate Chinese New Year along Chatham High Street. Celebrating the Year of the Rat. This event is in association with The Town Centre Forum.

**Sat, 25 Jan, 12noon**
Chatham Town Centre

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**The English Festival**

Riverside Country Park transforms for the annual festival. It’s a fun-packed free day out for the whole family celebrating St George’s day and the most iconic and ironic English traditions. From building sandcastles, donkey rides to a helter skelter, there’s something for everyone to enjoy.

**Sat, 18 April**
Riverside Country Park, Rainham

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**Sweeps Festival**

A weekend not to be missed! Come down and witness the modern day Sweeps Festival. A colourful array of live folk music, dancing and entertainment with Morris sides and entertainers celebrating throughout the festival. You’ll be able to browse the musical instrument fair, record fair as well as sample artisan produce.

**Sat, 2 and 3 May**
Rochester
The Christmas Adventures of Archie the Mouse are bringing us on a magical Christmas adventure with Archie the Mouse and his friends.

To book tickets or for further information visit: medwayticketslive.co.uk or phone 01634 338338

Friday, 29 November to Tuesday, 24 December

A 50 minute interactive show created especially for children aged 3-6 yrs

The Christmas Adventures of Archie the Mouse is brought to you by Play on Words, Icon Theatre and Loop Dance Company: The Brook's resident professional creative companies.
The Central and Brook Theatres

Lucy Benjamin
(EastEnders)
as Fairy Godmother

Derek Moran
(Channel 5's Milkshake)
as Dandini

Jessica Croll
as Cinderella

Richard Pocock & Harry Hart
as the Ugly sisters

Mark Newnham
as Buttons

Cinderella

12 December 2019 - 5 January 2020

Box Office: 01634 338338
www.medwayticketslive.co.uk

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twitter.com/ChathamPantoUK

NO ADDED FEES
That’ll Be The Day - The Christmas Show
The UK’s most popular rock ‘n’ roll variety show returns and celebrates the festive season with all your favourite Christmas classics from the 50s, 60s and 70s, plus plenty of hilarious comedy.

Wed, 13 Nov, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre
Band A £26.50, Band B £25

The Nutcracker
Russian National Ballet returns to The Central Theatre to enchant you with the delightful production of The Nutcracker - a charming and kindly fairy tale is one of Tchaikovsky’s jewels.

Sun, 17 Nov, 2pm and 7pm,
The Central Theatre
Band A £23, Band B £21, concessions available

Faith – The George Michael Legacy
A stunning celebration remembering one of the greatest singer-songwriters of all time. This energetic, vibrant musical journey brings to life 35 years of hits from George’s glittering career. Presented by Entertainers.

Fri, 15 Nov, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre
Band A £25, Band B £24

Bye Bye Baby - A celebration of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons
Enjoy the sounds of one of the most successful bands of all time. A musical journey from their very beginning up until the disco era. Presented by Barry Collins Entertainments.

Sat, 16 Nov, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre
Band A £22.50, Band B £20

Al Murray: Landlord of Hope and Glory
A time of crisis, the country divided as it has never been before. Questions have been asked and non-answered. What we need is one man, to step forward, with all the answers. Well, you’re in luck – he’s here.

Fri, 22 Nov, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre £27.50

Theatre Loyalty Scheme member discount
Community hire
Professional hire
Bully Wee Band
With Ian Cutler from Feast of Fiddles (fiddle, keyboard and vocals), Colin Reece (vocals and guitar), Jim Yardley (vocals, mandolin and whistles) and Fergus Feely (vocals and mandocello) they’ll perform traditional and original songs with a hint of witty banter thrown in.

Thu, 23 Jan, 8pm
The Brook Theatre 🎟️ £14

Disney High School Musical Jr
Join our talented stars, from 4 to 17 years for their third consecutive year live on stage. Join the cast of East High in an all singing and all dancing spectacular. Presented by AMJ Theatrical Academy of Performing Arts.

Sat, 25 Jan, 7pm and Sun, 26 Jan, 2.30pm
The Brook Theatre 🎟️ Adults £16.50, Under 16 £14

Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra
The Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra will play a mix of jazz and jazz-funk. These gifted young people from across Kent and Medway, under the direction of trombonist Graham Mann with special guest, the highly talented sax player Derek Nash from the front-line of The Jools Holland R&B Orchestra.

Sat, 8 Feb, 7.30pm
Brook Theatre 🎟️ £15, concessions available

Boyzlife
Two members of the world’s biggest bands Boyzone and Westlife come together for the very first time, with a full band production show. Featuring Brian McFadden and Keith Duffy. This specially adapted theatre production will include many of their greatest hits. Presented by Industry Music Group in Association with Ellis Live Ltd.

Fri, 14 Feb, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre 🎟️ Band A £29.50, Band B £27.50, meet and greet tickets available

Ed Byrne: If I’m Honest
Join Ed as he takes a long hard look at himself and tries to decide if he has any traits that are worth passing on to his children. A TV household name, in the past year Ed has appeared on Live At The Apollo, Mock The Week, The Pilgrimage, Top Gear and QI. Presented by PM Live Ltd Proudly.

Thu, 6 Feb, 8pm
The Central Theatre 🎟️ £25

NO ADDED FEES
Cabaret of Curiosities
Join us at Dizzy O’Dare’s final Cabaret of Curiosities for a night of love, laughter, mayhem and an array of dazzling performers from Burlesque to circus. Guests include Avdotia the Russian Doll, Miss Burlesque UK First Runner Up 2018 among many more spectacular stars of the stage.
Fri, 14 Feb, 8pm
The Brook Theatre £18

An evening with snooker greats starring: Steve Davis and Dennis Taylor
Join Steve Davis and Dennis Taylor as they recreate the 1985 world snooker final that gripped a nation. This is your chance to see the rematch as they recreate the final frame from that special night with snooker royalty. Snooker legend John Virgo is your host and referee for the evening and he will include his comedy snooker impressions and a Q&A session with the lads.
Presented by AIM Ltd.
Wed, 26 Feb, 8pm The Central Theatre Band A £30, Band B £27.50 meet and greet tickets available

Peter Pan
Join GDS Productions as they whisk you away to Neverland with their magical half term pantomime, Peter Pan. Battle pirates alongside the Lost Boys and cheer as good triumphs over evil. Fun for the whole family.
Wed, 19, 7pm, Thu, 20 to Sat, 22 Feb, 2pm and 7pm
The Brook Theatre £12, concessions available

City of Rochester Symphony Orchestra
Join the CRSO on their 50th anniversary season with a programme including Walton’s Viola Concerto, played by former CRSO member and now internationally renowned chamber musician Robin Ashwell, and the CRSO premiere of George Lloyd’s Symphony number 9.
Sat, 29 Feb, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre £17, concessions available

Brace of Spades
Following a sold-out run at last year’s Edinburgh Fringe Festival Fringe, Tom Brace returns with a brand new magic show for the whole family. Featuring Tom’s unique blend of comedy and magic, the show promises to have a little something for everybody.
Sat, 7 Mar, 3pm
The Brook Theatre £12

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Theatre Loyalty Scheme member discount Community hire Professional hire
Jack Dee: Off The Telly
Join Jack Dee for an evening of entertainment in his new stand-up tour. “In these difficult and uncertain times people need hope – a ray of sunshine to brighten their day. And that’s very much where I come in” says Jack. Presented by Off The Kerb Productions. 
Sat, 7 Mar, 8pm
The Central Theatre £23

MaKe U.Dance as part of the South East Regional Platform U.Dance 2020
Celebrating the diversity and breadth of youth dance across the South East. Groups selected to take part in this showcase are also in with the chance of being shortlisted for One Dance UK’s National Youth Festival. 
Sun, 8 Mar, 5pm
The Brook Theatre £6.50, concessions available £23

Rob Beckett – Wallop
Rob Beckett is back on tour with a brand new stand-up show. Its been a busy few years for the Mouth of the South and he’s coming fill you in and make you laugh. Presented by Off The Kerb Productions. 
Sat, 14 Mar, 8pm
The Central Theatre £23

Woodland Tales with Grandad
Something is happening in the woods, voices can be heard, and a strange metallic smell fills the air. Velda the Vixen knows there’s one person who can help them – Grandad. But can they save the wood? Presented by Pickled Image Ltd. 
Sun, 15 Mar, 11.30am
The Brook Theatre Adults £7.75, Under 16s £6.25, any four tickets £25

Little Shop of Horrors
Come and see this wonderful musical extravaganza showcasing the talented Rochester Independent College students. Fantastic music, fabulous characters and lots of gore. A family must-see. Not suitable for plant lovers!
Tue, 17 and Wed, 18 Mar, 7pm
The Central Theatre £7.50, concessions available £25

NO ADDED FEES!
Take comfort in booking your tickets without paying those extra fees.
Boogie Collective
Take an incredible trip through the finest work of David Bowie. This group of rock musicians, artists and performers recreate Bowie’s most iconic recordings in exquisite detail against a spellbinding backdrop of lights and visual magic.

Sat, 21 Mar, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre
Band A £25,
Band B £23.50

Karen Hauer and Gorka Marquez - FIREDANCE
Expect hot pulsing beats, seductive choreography and passion that will take your breath away. With live Latin musicians and a dynamic dance ensemble. A seductive dance experience you strictly won’t want to miss.

Presented by Raymond Gubbay & Kilimanjaro Live Limited.

Thu, 26 Mar, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre
Band A £42.50, Band B £37.50,
20 per cent discount on more than 10 tickets

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Foster & Allen: Timeless Memories Tour
Foster & Allen’s tour is supported by a special edition new release Timeless Memories which features 182 tracks from 10 of their most popular and favourite albums, many of which have not been reissued in the UK for a number of years; Maggie, After All These Years, Reminiscin, Remember You’re Mine, Souvenirs, Memories, Heart Strings, By Request and Songs We Love To Sing. Presented by CMR Promotions.

Fri, 20 Mar, 7.30pm The Brook Theatre £24

Bootleg Beatles
Celebrating 40 years since their debut on the West End stage in Beatlemania, the world’s premier Beatles band continues to draw critical acclaim. With a little help from their own orchestral ensemble, and featuring a special set to mark the 50th anniversary of Abbey Road.

Tue, 24 Mar, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre
Band A £32.50, Band B £30
NO ADDED FEES!

Take comfort in booking your tickets without paying those extra fees.

Dads Army Radio Show
Perry and Croft's classic BBC sitcom brought gloriously to life. Lovingly enacted by two master performers. David Benson and Jack Lane transport the audience right back to Walmington, working from original radio scripts. **Presented by Something for the Weekend.**
**Thu, 26 Mar, 7.30pm**
The Brook Theatre 🎟 £16

Circus of Horrors
The almighty cast that stormed into the finals of *Britain’s Got Talent* is now a worldwide hit and will take you on a rock ‘n’ roller coaster ride of unbelievable, bizarre and beautiful acts. It is a circus like no other and a show you simply can’t afford to miss.
**Fri, 27 Mar, 7.30pm**
The Central Theatre 🎟 Band A £26, Band B £22, concessions available, earlybird discount until 31 Dec

Feast of Fiddles
This is a group of friends who put on a show of huge dynamic range performed with passion, joy and a liberal dose of fun. This show features a wide range of ensemble pieces – instrumental and vocal: a live music entertainment like no other. **Presented by Slaughterhouse Productions.**
**Sat, 28 Mar, 7.30pm**
The Brook Theatre 🎟 £19

Medway Young Musicians Awards 2020
Local talented young musicians perform at this concert to win the Haselden Trophy and cash prizes. The 2019 Young Musician Awards winner, Sam Cox, is guest soloist and the evening features a special guest group. **Presented by Rotary Clubs of Medway.**
**Fri, 27 Mar, 7pm**
The Brook Theatre 🎟 Adults £9, students £5
Let The Music Play - A celebration to Barry White
William Hicks, along with his live band and three-piece female group, The Supreme Dreamgirls celebrate the music of this legend. Featuring all the hits including *Can’t Get Enough Of Your Love Babe*, *Never Never Gonna Give You Up*, and *Love Theme*.
Presented by AIM.
Fri, 3 Apr, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre 🎬 Band A £25, Band B £23.50 🆕

Remembering the Oscars with Aljaz and Janette
Fresh from their sell-out tour with their highly entertaining and innovative Remembering The Movies, Aljaz and Janette will be returning with their brand new show Remembering The Oscars. Get ready to celebrate the Oscar winning songs in this exhilarating new dance spectacular with *Strictly’s* favourite couple, Aljaz and Janette. Presented by Imagine This (Live) Ltd.
Wed, 8 Apr, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre 🎬 Premium seats £42.50, Band A £37.50, Band B £28.50, meet and greet available 🎧

La Bayadère
Bluebell School of Dance present their adaptation of the ballet *La Bayadère* to music by Ludwig Minkus. It’s a tale of love, betrayal, loss and forgiveness set against the glorious background of historic India.
Fri, 3 Apr and Sat, 4 Apr, 7pm, Sun, 5 Apr, 3pm
The Brook Theatre 🎬
£13, concessions available 📑

Annie
Annie is forced to live a life of misery at Miss Hannigan’s orphanage until she’s chosen to spend Christmas with billionaire Oliver Warbucks. Includes unforgettable songs – *It’s A Hard Knock Life* and *Tomorrow*. Presented by Three Towns Theatre Company.
Fri, 17, 2pm, Sat, 18, 2pm and 7.30pm, Sun, 19 Apr, 2pm
The Brook Theatre 🎬 £15, concessions available 📑
Jimmy Carr: Terribly Funny
Jimmy’s brand new show is back for the third time and contains jokes about all kinds of terrible things. Terrible things that might have affected you or people you know and love. But they’re just jokes - they are not the terrible things. Having political correctness at a comedy show is like having health and safety at a rodeo.
Presented by Chambers Touring.
Tue, 21 Apr, 8pm, The Central Theatre  £29.50

The Jive Aces Big Beat Revue
Britain’s Got Talent semi-finalists, The Jive Aces, explode onto the stage in their trademark yellow suits and vintage style.
With classic tunes from artists such as Louis Prima, Bobby Darin, Keely Smith, Big Joe Turner, Ruth Brown with the flair of a rock ‘n’ roll extravaganza show, this show will have you out of your seat with its larger than life big-beat sound.
Thu, 23 Apr, 7.30pm
The Brook Theatre  £19, concessions available

The Masters of the House
Europe’s leading musical theatre concert show features former stars from Les Misérables, Phantom of the Opera, The Producers and other hit West End musicals.
Presented by Entertainers.
Sat, 25 Apr, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre  Band A £26.50, Band B £25

Take comfort in booking your tickets without paying those extra fees.
Johnny Cash Roadshow: The Man in Black Tour
Back on top form for 2020 with a brand new show. Award-winning Clive John pays homage to Cash’s career as the Man In Black, alongside his iconic wife June Carter played by Emily Heighway the Roadshow Horns, and on selected shows The Carter Sisters. The only show to be endorsed by the Cash Family. Presented by Aim.
Thu, 30 Apr, 7.30pm
The Central Theatre 🎟️ Band A £25, Band B £23

Richard Digance
Richard Digance embarks on his one-man show, negotiating motorway closures and diversions to play his favourite venues around Britain. New songs, after all, there’s been plenty to write about in recent times, along with his popular nostalgic songs that promise the kind of audience participation he has made his own.
Thu, 30 Apr, 7.30pm
The Brook Theatre 🎟️ £16.50

Medway Stage Festival
CAM presents young stage stars of the future for the 30th annual Medway Stage Festival. Dancers and vocalists compete in classes ranging from ballet to song and dance, with competitors from 4 to 20 years of age.
Sun, 26 Apr, Sat, 2, Sun 3 and Sat, 9 and Sun, 10 May, 9am
The Brook Theatre 🎟️ £6, concessions available

FOR HIRE
The Central and The Brook Theatres both offer performance and rehearsal space and conference and meeting rooms for hire.
For more information phone: 01634 338300 or email: theatres@medway.gov.uk
NO ADDED FEES!

Take comfort in booking your tickets without paying those extra fees.

Join the Theatres’ Loyalty Scheme and start saving straight away

You will get a discount on the adult price for shows marked with this symbol. And, once you have booked three events through the box office during the course of any 12-month period, you will qualify for two free tickets for the pantomime at The Central Theatre.

For further details, phone: 01634 338338, email: boxoffice@medway.gov.uk or visit: medwayticketslive.co.uk

Terms and conditions apply.

We’re now on Instagram

Find out the latest news on shows and get behind-the-scenes access to Medway’s Brook and Central Theatres.

Follow our new page:
@TheCentralandBrookTheatres
#MedwayTheatres
#TheCentralandBrookTheatres

Just £10 per year

Take comfort in booking your tickets without paying those extra fees.
## NOW BOOKING - Book early to avoid disappointment

Plus many more. Visit [medwayticketslive.co.uk](http://medwayticketslive.co.uk) for details or follow [thecentralandbrooktheatres](http://thecentralandbrooktheatres) on facebook for show announcements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Theatre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CRSO</td>
<td>9 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Pop Party</td>
<td>10 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menopause 2: Cruising Through the Menopause</td>
<td>12 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Royce</td>
<td>14 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Music of Prince</td>
<td>15 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin Legends: Seven Drunken Nights</td>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sounds of the 70s with Johnny Walker</td>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk Right Back,... is BACK</td>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensational 60s</td>
<td>6 June</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost in Music</td>
<td>18 June</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islands in the Stream</td>
<td>20 June</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s Love Got to Do with it</td>
<td>3 July</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Vintage Boys Rock ’n’ Roll Show</td>
<td>4 July</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luther Vandross Celebration</td>
<td>17 July</td>
<td>The Central Theatre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Theatre information

**The Brook Theatre:** Old Town Hall, Chatham, Kent ME4 4SE  
**The Central Theatre:** 170 High Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4AS (ME4 4RG for sat navs)

- The box office is open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 5pm or until 15 minutes after curtain up on performance nights. Doors open 30 minutes before curtain up.
- Tickets must be paid for in person, by phone, credit card or by post within three days of reservation or 30 minutes before curtain up (whichever is the earliest).
- Tickets should be considered non-exchangeable and non-refundable and we advise customers to check their tickets upon receipt.
- The Central and Brook Theatre reserve the right to introduce, remove or alter special offers and discounts without notice. Discounts will not be applied retrospectively.
- If you are disabled and require assistance to visit the theatres, then become a member of the Assisted Access Scheme and buy an additional ticket for your assistant at half price.
- Wheelchair access and spaces are available at both theatres. Please advise staff of your requirements when booking.
- Access to The Brook Theatre is by the electronic platform on the front steps or via the ramped entrance at Whiffens Avenue. Access to The Central Theatre is by the front entrance, via a platform, or by the side entrance by the Blue Badge holder car park.
- Management reserves the right to refuse admission.
- Customers cannot bring their own alcohol into the theatres. Any alcohol will be taken away and not returned.
- For your safety, you are advised that you may be subject to a bag search.
The Windrush Generation: Continuing their legacy...
Learn about and celebrate the contributions of The Windrush Generation. Enjoy a mini exhibition inside The Historic Dockyard Chatham’s Visitor Centre, with accompanying free events for all ages. No entry fee to the Dockyard required.
Visit: blackhistorylive.org.uk

Exhibition
Sat, 2 to Fri, 22 Nov
Opening times: 10am-4pm (last admission 3.30pm)

Drop-in games
Play traditional Caribbean games including dominoes and ludo, learn through the interactive Windrush Game and enjoy other creative activities. Suitable for all ages.
Sat, 2, 9 and 16 Nov, 10am-12noon

MACA Saturday School
A taster of MACA’s monthly Saturday fun for families.
Sat, 2 Nov, 12noon-2pm

Continuing Their Legacy – a talk by Patrick Vernon OBE
Social commentator, political activist and creator of The Windrush Game.
Sat, 9 Nov, 12noon-2pm

Caribbean Storytelling
Traditional stories and songs with plenty of actions, from the incredible H Patten of Music for Change. Suitable for families.
Sat, 16 Nov, 10am-12noon

All these events take place inside the Dockyard Visitor Centre, with delicious lunches and treats available all day from the Mess Deck Restaurant, and specialist books to browse in the Gift Shop.

Distinguished Visitor Lecture: The Windrush Scandal – with Martin Forde QC
The University of Kent invites you to a lecture by this distinguished barrister, who is leading efforts to compensate victims of the Windrush scandal.
Wed, 20 Nov, 6pm
Royal Dockyard Church
Free and open to all. Just come along.
Jointly hosted with the Historic Dockyard Trust and Medway African Caribbean Association.

Missed it? The exhibition will transfer to Chatham Library, Community Hub Chatham from Mon, 25 Nov 2019 to Sat, 18 Jan 2020. See page 24 for full details.
MaKe U.Dance as part of the U.Dance South East Regional Platform 2020
This event celebrates the diversity and breadth of youth dance across the South East region. Groups selected to take part in this regional U.Dance showcase are also in with the chance of being shortlisted for One Dance UK’s National Youth Festival.
Sun, 8 Mar 2020, 5pm, The Brook Theatre
£6.50, concessions £5.50

The Confluence Sessions
The Confluence Sessions are an informal monthly afternoon event to help families discover new worlds of poetry and storytelling, run by Wordsmithery. The venue is wheelchair/buggy accessible. confluencemedway.wordpress.com
Free - just drop in
Sat, 16 Nov, 2-4pm
Breaking Bread Rochester, Bellerophon House, Doust Way, Rochester, ME1 1FG

Medway Dance Network
MDN aims to make dance more prominent in Medway by bringing people together with a dance interest to share, explore and raise awareness of opportunities. Please visit: facebook.com/MedwayDanceNetwork to find out more. Next meeting: Thu, 23 Jan, 2pm, Sun Pier House

Sea Folk Sing
Last chance to catch these unique musical performances in public spaces, venues and online across Medway and North Kent. Listen to new songs that chart our relationship with the sea, performed and written by local people and artists.
Sat, 16 Nov and Sat, 23 Nov
For full details, times and locations visit: ideastest.org.uk/seafolksing

Dickens 150 - Print open call
In 2020, Medway will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the death of Charles Dickens. To mark this, Rochester Art Gallery will be hosting their first print open call as part of the Medway Print Festival 2020. Printmakers are invited to create work inspired by a range of Dickens themes for a special exhibition at the gallery running from April-June 2020.
Online submissions have just opened and taking part is FREE. Subject to space we plan to exhibit at least one work by each entrant and we have a special category for printmakers under 21. Prints will be exhibited alongside beautiful Victorian funerary treasures and Dickens items kindly loaned from the Rochester Guildhall Museum collection. FREE to enter, find out more: medwayprintfestival.com
Rochester Art Gallery

**Flax, Fibres and Plant Dyes: Kent Cloth textile works by Francesca Baur**

Francesca Baur is showing a series of seasonal wall hangings exploring the landscape of four locations as the culmination of the Kent Cloth project. The project advocates a slower approach to creating eco-friendly local textiles, employing traditional skills. Francesca has been inspired by a botanical journey from the flax fields of Belgium and Normandy to the White Cliffs of Dover and Kent’s Garden of England.

www.kentcloth.co.uk #kentcloth

Supported by Arts Council England.

**Until Sat, 4 Jan 2020, Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm (closed Sundays Oct-Mar)**

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**Echoes - Experiments by Zara Carpenter**

Multidisciplinary artist Zara Carpenter will show a new body of experimental photographic work. She turns the camera on herself, disrupting the chemistry, creating evocative abstractions. The work is deeply personal yet universal. The exhibition will be accompanied by a range of activities including a photography workshop, photobook club meet up and a free artist’s talk. Visit our Facebook or Instagram to find out more. #ZaraCarpenterEchoes

New work created with the support of Arts Council England, Developing Your Creative Practice Grant.

**Fri, 17 Jan – Sat, 28 Mar 2020, Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm, (closed Sundays Oct-Mar)**
Suzanne Corbie: Witches & Witch Trials in Kent
Were there really witches in Kent in the Middle Ages? If so, who were they, what did they do and what happened to those that were caught? Which were the hot spots of witchcraft in Kent: Faversham, Maidstone or Gillingham? This talk will reveal their stories as well as dispelling the myths. Suzanne Corbie is a well-known speaker and lecturer in folklore and the history of witchcraft and ancient religions.

Wed, 20 Nov, 8pm
Ian Porter:  
**Young Dickens (and how he invented Christmas)**  
Popular Wigmore speaker Ian Porter talks about Dickens’s early years before he found fame and how his Christmas stories became an annual Victorian event. So many of the things we now associate with Christmas sprang from his pen, not just *A Christmas Carol* but *The Chimes* and other stories too. Scrooge, Marley, Tiny Tim and the Ghosts of Christmas Past and Present will all be present.  
**Wed, 18 Dec, 8pm**

Bertie Pearce:  
**Now You See It, Now You Don’t**  
An in-depth look at the mystery of perception and the art of visual deception. For centuries, artists have used illusions and the stretching and distorting of perspective to delight and astound, just as a magic tricks do. There’s a primal enjoyment in being deceived by optical illusions, seeing things which are not there, yet are there.  
**Wed, 15 Jan, 8pm**

Hudson & Lestrade:  
**A Musical History of Music Hall**  
Janet Ayers on vocals and violin and Matthew Parsons on banjolele and percussion take on the guises of Hudon and Lestrade to revive and relive some of the forgotten gems of Music Hall, featuring songs made famous by Marie Lloyd, Harry Champion and others. A lively mix of sing-along songs, stories, anecdotes and facts.  
**Wed, 19 Feb, 8pm**

Andy Thomas:  
**The Story of English Freedom**  
From the rebellions of Boudicca against Roman invaders, to the Peasants’ Revolt and the modern Poll Tax riots; from the truly revolutionary ideas put forward in Cromwellian times to influential movers and shakers such as Thomas Paine, the Suffragettes and George Orwell, ‘freedom’ has always been a key issue in English history. Andy shines a captivating light on some of the most significant leaps and shows how they still resonate today.  
**Wed, 18 Mar, 8pm**
This year we continue with the successful Wigmore Lectures ON TOUR – offering this winning programme to three other libraries across Medway.

Please note the Wigmore ON TOUR tickets cannot be included in the Season Ticket deal – this is only applicable to the six lectures at Wigmore Library.

John E Vigar: Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals
An entertaining talk that shows how pictures and objects in local churches reveal historic practices, many of which have been forgotten or superseded, surrounding the so-called 'Rites of Passage'. Illustrated with images of carvings, wall paintings, stained glass and objects from a thousand years of depictions of these milestones in our human journey.

Wed, 6 Nov, 8pm
Hempstead Library

Colin Harvey: Wings Over Sheppey
The Isle of Sheppey can claim to be the birthplace of flying in Great Britain. In 1908 the Short brothers built the first aeroplane factory at Shellbeach Leysdown, (later relocated to Eastchurch). From here, JTC Moore-Brabazon made the first official UK flight in 1909. Photo-animator Colin Harvey shows archive film footage from the period and talks about their astonishing achievement.

Wed, 5 Feb, 8pm
Twydall Library

Alison Cable: The History of Rochester Bridge
The first bridge at Rochester was constructed soon after the Roman Invasion of AD43 and there has been at least one road crossing of the River Medway at this location ever since. This illustrated lecture explains the history of the bridges and explores the work of The Rochester Bridge Trust.

Wed, 4 Mar, 2pm
Lordswood Library
Regular events

for children and families

Medway libraries run regular events for children of all ages. To find out where and when these events are happening, visit: medway.gov.uk/libraries or phone your local library.

• Baby bounce and rhyme
  Babies can enjoy knee bouncing and nursery rhymes.
• Toddler shake and boogie
  Rhymes, songs and movement for pre-schoolers.
• Pop in and play
  Parents and children drop-in to meet, chat and play.
• Storytime
  Stories and rhymes for pre-schoolers.
• Teatime storytime (3-8yrs)
  After school storytime.
• Chatterbooks (8-12yrs)
  Readers’ groups.
• Homework clubs
  Drop-in homework help for all ages.

Regular events

for adults

There are lots of regular groups, classes and activities for adults at libraries throughout Medway. To find out which events are in each library visit: medway.gov.uk/libraries or phone your local library.

Discover Medway’s past

at Medway Archives Centre

32 Bryant Rd, Rochester ME2 3EP
Phone: 01634 332714
Email: malsc@medway.gov.uk
medwayarchivesandlocalstudies
medway.gov.uk/archives

Medway Mobile Library

For routes and times visit: medway.gov.uk/libraries

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
medway.gov.uk/libraries Phone: 01634 337799
facebook medwaylibraries twitter medwaylibraries
### Special events for children and families

**Meet Minions**  
Christmas lights meet-and-greet event with Minions. 3-8yrs.  
Fri, 22 Nov, 2-2.30pm  
Gillingham Library, Community Hub Gillingham

**Meet Shrek**  
Christmas lights meet-and-greet event with Shrek. 3-8yrs.  
Fri, 29 Nov, 2-2.30pm  
Rainham Library

**Meet Kung Fu Panda**  
Christmas lights meet-and-greet event with Kung Fu Panda. 3-8yrs.  
Sat, 30 Nov, 2-2.30pm  
Strood Library, Community Hub Strood

**Traditional Christmas crafts**  
Make a Dickensian Christmas decoration. 3-8yrs.  
Sat, 7 Dec, 2-3pm  
Rochester Library, Community Hub Rochester

**Decorate a Christmas card**  
Toddler craft. 1-4yrs.  
Fri, 13 Dec, 10-10.30am  
Walderslade Village Library

**Windrush remembered**  
An exhibition  
Find out about the Windrush Generation. Read transcripts of oral histories gathered from local people. Feel the mood and the emotions through images and poetry. In partnership with MACA. All ages.  
Mon, 25 Nov to Sat, 18 Jan 2020, during library opening hours  
Chatham Library, Community Hub Chatham

**Essence of Christmas - Christmas gift making**  
Aromatherapy Christmas gifts. Make wonderful perfumed gifts for Christmas. £2 per completed gift. 8yrs upwards.  
Sat, 14 Dec, 10.30am-12noon  
Cuxton Library

**Birdlife – winter arrivals and departures**  
A touring exhibition about the wintering coastal birds of north Kent.  

**Essence of Christmas - Christmas gift making**  
Aromatherapy Christmas gifts. Make wonderful perfumed gifts for Christmas. £2 per completed gift. 8yrs upwards.  
Sat, 14 Dec, 2-3.30pm  
Hempstead Library, Neighbourhood Community Hub Hempstead

**Here comes Christmas**  
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.  
Tue, 17 Dec, 3.45-4.15pm  
Twydall Library, Community Hub Twydall

**Christmas wreath making**  
Craft. 4-10yrs.  
Thu, 19 Dec, 3.45-4.15pm  
Luton Library

**Christmas craft**  
Drop in craft. 3-8yrs.  
Tue, 17 Dec, 2.15-4pm  
Hoo Library

**Christmas tree cards**  
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.  
Thu, 19 Dec, 11-11.45am  
Lordswood Library

**Christmas wreath making**  
Craft. 4-10yrs.  
Thu, 19 Dec, 3.45-4.15pm  
Luton Library

**Christmas craft**  
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.  
Fri, 20 Dec, 2.15-3pm  
Rainham Library

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**Advance booking is essential**

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**Birdlife – winter arrivals and departures**  
A touring exhibition about the wintering coastal birds of north Kent.  
Let's get crafty at Christmas
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.
Fri, 20 Dec, 2.30-3.30pm
Chatham Library, Community Hub Chatham

Christmas craft
Drop-in and make a tree decoration and a Christmas card and enjoy a mince pie. 4-10yrs.
Sat, 21 Dec, 10am-2pm
Walderslade Hook Meadow Library

Christmas card making
Drop-in make a Christmas card or decoration. 4-10yrs.
Sat, 21 Dec, 10.30am-3.30pm
Gillingham Library, Gillingham Community Hub

All that glitters
Drop-in craft. 4-10yrs.
Sat, 21 Dec, 10.30am-4pm
Strood Library, Community Hub Strood

Calendar creation
Create a 2020 calendar – A drop-in activity. 4-10yrs.
Sat, 28 Dec, 11am-3pm
Rochester Library, Community Hub Rochester

Crazy hats
Craft. 4-10yrs.
Sat, 15 Feb, 11.30am-12.30pm
Cuxton Library

Waste not, want not
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.
Tue, 18 Feb, 2-3pm
Strood Library, Community Hub Strood

Recycle revival
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.
Tue, 18 Feb, 2.15-3pm
Twydall Library, Community Hub Twydall

Junk to jewellery
Craft. 4-10yrs.
Tue, 18 Feb, 2.15-3.15pm
Hoo Library

Recycled hats
Drop-in craft. 3-8yrs.
Tue, 18 Feb, 2.30-4pm
Wigmore Library

Don't throw it - bling it
Craft. 4-10yrs.
Wed, 19 Feb, 2.15-3.15pm
Rochester Library, Community Hub Rochester

Castle junk modelling
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.
Wed, 19 Feb, 2.15-3.15pm
Walderslade Hook Meadow Library

What a load of rubbish
Craft. 4-10yrs.
Wed, 19 Feb, 2.30-3.30pm
Hempstead Library, Neighbourhood Community Hub Hempstead

Fun feeding for birds
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.
Thu, 20 Feb, 11-11.45am
Lordswood Library

Book in any Medway library
**Recycled robots**  
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.  
**Thu, 20 Feb, 2.15-3pm**  
Walderslade Village Library

**Recycled creatures**  
Create your own creature from recycled materials.  
4-10yrs.  
**Thu, 20 Feb, 2.30-3.15pm**  
Gillingham Library, Gillingham Community Hub

**Recycled musical instruments**  
Craft. 4-10yrs.  
**Thu, 20 Feb, 3.45-4.15pm**  
Luton Library

**Reuse and recycle**  
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.  
**Fri, 21 Feb, 2.15-3pm**  
Rainham Library

**From trash to treasure**  
Story and craft. 4-10yrs.  
**Fri, 21 Feb, 2.30-3.30pm**  
Chatham Library, Community Hub Chatham

**Junky funky jewels**  
Create badges and wristbands from junk. 4-10yrs.  
**Sat, 22 Feb, 2-3pm**  
Lordswood Library

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**Special events for adults**

**Simon Scarrow - author visit**  
*Traitors of Rome* is the enthralling new Cato and Macro adventure in Simon Scarrow’s best-selling Eagles of the Empire series. Join us for an unmissable evening exploring a world of action, history and intrigue with this Sunday Times No1 best-selling author.  
**Tue, 12 Nov, 7.30-9pm**  
Rochester Library, Community Hub Rochester

**Medway authors fair**  
Drop in to meet local Medway authors who will be showcasing their work.  
**Sat, 16 Nov, 11am-3pm**  
Chatham Library, Community Hub Chatham

**Christmas crafts, coffee and cake**  
Knitting sale; refurbished bikes from Abacus; Guide Dogs Dogalogue goods and Fred Day’s festive designs.  
**Sat, 23 Nov, 10am-1pm**  
Walderslade Village Library

**A schoolgirl’s war**  
The story of a Kent school during World War 2 with speaker Mary Smith.  
**Wed, 4 Dec, 2.30pm**  
£4  
Medway Archives Centre, Community Hall

**Nicola Upson - author visit**  
Nicola Upson’s latest book, *Sorry For the Dead* is her eighth title with the fictional version of Josephine Tey as the heroine and detective. Josephine Tey, along with Agatha Christie, was one of the masters of Britain’s Golden Age of crime writing.  
**Sat, 22 Feb, 2-3.30pm**  
Rochester Library, Community Hub Rochester

**Birdlife talk - winter arrivals and departures**  
Join Bird Wise rangers Julie and Mel as they tell the story of migration, the challenges faced along the way and what we can do to help protect them when they arrive in Kent. Hear what it’s like to be a ranger out on the marshes and learn some fascinating facts about these tiny but resilient birds.  
**Thu, 5 Dec, 2.30-3.45pm**  
Strood Library, Community Hub Strood  
**Sat, 21 Mar, 3-4.15pm**  
Chatham Library, Community Hub Chatham
An evening of classic ghost stories
Come and listen to a selection of classic ghost stories in the unique setting and share a spooky tale of your own, if you dare. Not suitable for children under 12.
Wed, 30, Thu, 31 Oct and Fri, 1 Nov, 7-9pm, doors open 6.30pm
B 01634 332700, £10 (includes a hot drink)
Eastgate House

Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol
Sun, 24, Sun, 30 Nov and Sun, 1 Dec, 1, 2.30, 4, 5.30 and 7pm £12
Not suitable for children under 12 B 01634 332700
Eastgate House

Festive fun with the Fezziwigs
Come and enjoy a reading from A Christmas Carol and see Victorian dancing. Mince pies and soft drinks included. Dressing up optional.
Sun, 15 Dec, 3 to 5pm £10 for adults, £5 for children under 16 (under-fives free). For children aged 8+.
B 01634 332690
The Guildhall Museum

Storytelling with Victorian Father Christmas
Come and hear a fireside tale about the mice of Eastgate House, read by Victorian Father Christmas.
Sat, 7, Sun, 8, Sat, 14, Sun, 15, Sat, 21 and Sun, 22 Dec, 11, 11.30am, 1, 1.30, 2, 2.30, 3 and 3.30pm
Adults £4, children £2 (includes admission to the house). No booking required, drop-in sessions all day.
Eastgate House

Kids go free
Free entry for up to three children with one paying adult.
Sat, 15 to Sun, 23 Feb (closed Mon and Tue)
Adults £5.50, concessions £4. Children’s trail 80p per child.
Eastgate House

Half-term discovery trail
Sat, 15 to Sun, 23 Feb, 10am to 5pm
80p per child, free entry to museum.
The Guildhall Museum

Half-term mosaic crafts
Mon, 17, Tue, 18, Wed 19, Thu 20, Fri, 21 Feb, 10.30am to 3.30pm
80p per child, free entry to the museum.
The Guildhall Museum

A Victorian Christmas at Eastgate House
Explore this beautiful Grade I listed building all dressed up for Christmas, and discover how the Victorians invented many of our festive traditions.
Sat, 16 Nov to Sun, 12 Jan (closed Mon and Tue)
10am to 5pm (last admission 4.15pm). Normal admission applies.
Eastgate House

Christmas heritage trail
Take part in a festive trail around the keep for a chance to win a small prize.
Thu, 19 Dec to Sun, 5 Jan (except 24, 25, 26 Dec and 1 Jan), 10am-4pm (last admission 3.15pm)
80p per child, plus admission fee. Rochester Castle
**Wild food (one for the carnivores)**
Have you longed to be able to prepare fresh game? Not sure how to pluck or paunch? Join our rangers around the fire in the woods. You will be shown it’s not scary or gooey, plus a light lunch of the game we have prepared, cooked over the fire.

**Sat, 16 Nov, 10am-1pm**
£20 per adult, £5 per child, all game meat supplied.
Suitable for 11 years to adult, children must be supervised.
(WARNING event will contain raw meat in its natural form)

**Volunteer conservation task days**
Come and join our volunteers for the day. An ideal opportunity to learn about country park management and help out with some practical tasks on site. Refreshments will be provided, please bring your own lunch, and wear suitable clothing a foot wear for working outside.

**Capstone Farm Country Park**
Sun, 1 Dec, 10am-2pm
Sun, 12 Jan, 10am-2pm
Plus weekly every Thursday, 10am-2pm
For more information phone 01634 338191
Meet at the volunteer block near the Orchard Car Park

**Riverside Country Park**
Sun, 8 Dec, 10am-2pm
Sun, 5 Jan, 10am-2pm
Sun, 2 Feb, 10am-2pm
Plus weekly every Thursday, 10am-2pm
For more information/register interest phone 01634 337432
Meet at the Visitor Centre

**Christmas wreath making**
Come down and make your own wreath out of natural materials to take home. Suitable for adults and children 7+.

**Tue, 10 Dec, 10am-12noon and 1-3pm.** £8 per person.

**B 01634 337432**
Riverside Country Park

**Thu, 12 Dec, 10am-12noon and 1-3pm.** £8 per person.

**B 01634 338191**
Capstone Farm Country Park
Kite making
Join the rangers in making kites in the Visitor Centre before flying them on the hill.

**Wed, 19 Feb, 10am-12noon**
£5 per child. Suitable for accompanied children aged 5-12 years
01634 337432
Riverside Country Park

Creative clay critters
A long standing favourite at the country parks. Join the rangers and get creative using air drying clay to make one of the many creatures found around the park.

**Thu, 20 Feb, 10am-12noon and 1-3pm**
£4 per child. Suitable for accompanied children 5-12yrs
01634 337432
Riverside Country Park

New play equipment at Capstone Farm Country Park
The play area at Capstone Farm Country Park has had a makeover. Check it out this winter.

Bird walks
Join one of our knowledgeable rangers on a gentle walk to identify the most common birds seen or heard along the estuary – adults only

**Sun, 24 Nov, 10am-12noon**

**Sat, 7 Dec, 10am-12noon**

**Sun, 19 Jan, 10am-12noon**

**Tue, 18 Feb, 10am-12noon**

**£4 per adult**
01634 337432
Meet at the Visitor Centre, Riverside Country Park

Beginners fishing for children
Learn the basics of fishing at Capstone with our park rangers. Aimed at beginners and those wanting to improve.
All equipment supplied. Limited numbers, so book early.

**Tue, 18 Feb, 10am-12noon and 1-3pm**
**£10 per child.** Suitable for accompanied children aged 8-12 years
01634 338191. Capstone Farm Country Park

Meet at the Visitor Centre, Riverside Country Park
**Ready to Run**
A 10-week programme of run coaching on the Medway Park track.

20 January. Beginners Mon, 6.15-7pm, intermediate Wed, 6.15-7pm
£5/session (free for Medway Sport Premier Members)

**Winter 5k Track Race Series**
Timed 5k winter track race on the Medway Park track.
Enter online at £10 in advance, £12 on the day (£2 discount for affiliated runners and Medway Sport Premier Members).
www.runbritain.com or email medwaysport@medway.gov.uk
Medway Park

**Medway Sport Swim Academy**
Join our new term of swimming lessons for all levels available across Medway’s sports centres. Plus don’t miss the February half-term holiday crash courses in swimming, synchro and diving.

6 Jan – 29 Mar (half-term 17-23 Feb) 2020
£7.10 per lesson payable termly. 30 per cent discount for Medway Sport Premier members.

medway.gov.uk/swimminglessons
Medway Park, Strood, Splashes and Hoo Sports Centres

**Training courses with Medway Sport**
Medway Sport runs a comprehensive programme of training courses in lifeguarding and first aid. They are all fully-accredited and delivered by our experienced Royal Lifesaving Society trainers.

**Paediatric First Aid**
Mon, 18 and Tue, 19 Nov
Medway Park

**Generation 9 NPLQ training course**
Become a fully-qualified lifeguard. Includes Anaphylaxis, Defibrillator, and First Aid a Work level 3 qualifications.
Mon, 17 to Fri, 21 Feb
Medway Park

Phone: 01634 336644 or email: denise.todd@medway.gov.uk

**CHRISTMAS IN OUR SPORTS CENTRES**
Follow @MedwaySport on social media for details of Christmas pool parties and sessions across our centres.
**Mini Youth Sports Camps**

Quality structured multi-sport coaching for 7 to 12 year-olds during school holidays. Runs daily Tuesday to Friday. You can book for single days or up to four days for these sports camps. Discount is available for junior members and children of premier members of Medway’s sports centres.

**Tue, 18 - Fri, 21 Feb 2020, 9.30am and 4pm daily**
*(breakfast club and twilight session options available)*

Four-day camps advanced bookings £20 per day or £65 for four consecutive days. On the day the charge £25 per day.

B Book online: www.medway.gov.uk/sportscamps

01634 333943 or email medwaysport@medway.gov.uk

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**British Universities Handball Championships**

Hundreds of students from across the country come for the national finals of the student handball cups.

**Fri, 6 to Sun, 8 Mar, 9am-6pm**

Free spectator admission

Medway Park

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**Student sport sessions**

Grab a couple of mates (or meet new ones) for our new student sports sessions for 14-25 year-olds.

**Synchronised swimming in partnership with Medway Mermaids**

Every Mon, 7.15-8.15pm

£4 per session FREE hat and nose clip.

To book a place email medwaysynchro@gmail.com or phone 07941 871456

Medway Park

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**Football in partnership with Riverside FC**

Every Mon, 4.45-6pm

Sessions are free

No booking necessary

Medway Park
Every Friday, All Rides £1 and Activities Half Price

For dates and times, please visit: medway.gov.uk/christmas

• All events listed inside are free of charge unless stated otherwise.
• All children must be accompanied by an adult.
• Whilst every effort is made to ensure that information is correct at time of going to press, the programme is subject to alteration without prior notice.

This information can be made available in other formats from 01634 333333 ▶ Minicom: 01634 333111

If you have any questions about this leaflet and you want to speak to someone in your own language please phone 01634 335577.

বাংলা 331780  हिंदी 331783  کوردی 331841
मराठी 331781  पंजाबी 331784  एनहुंसइब 331786
গুজরাটী 331782  Polski 332373  اردو 331785
فارسی 331840  Русский 332374  Lietuviškai 332372

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