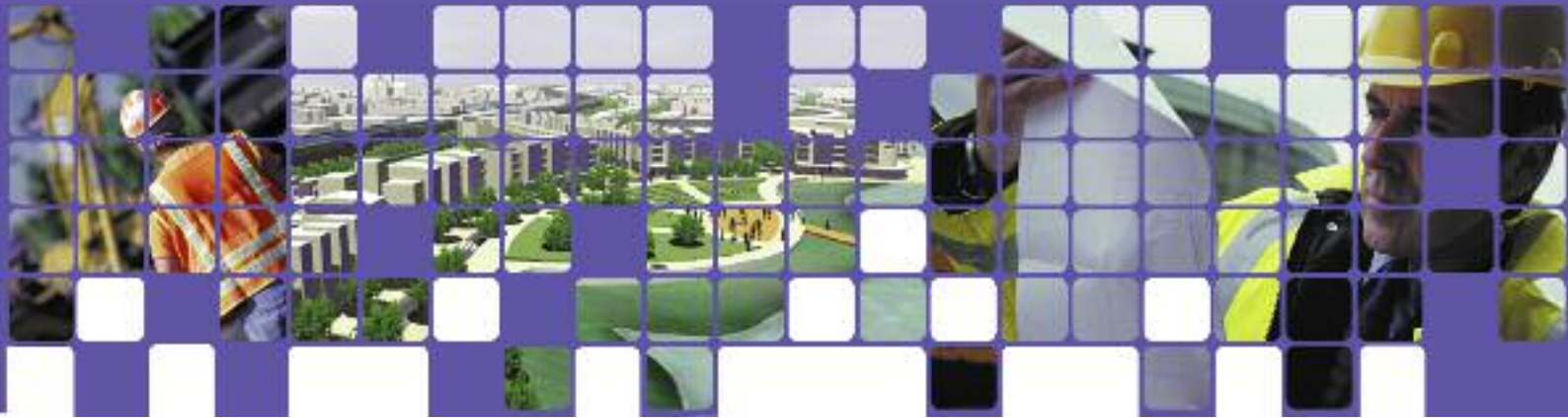


Winter 2008

Rochester Riverside Newsletter

This newsletter brings you up-to-date with progress on the flagship regeneration site – Rochester Riverside.



Construction training facility

MidKent College is providing a new construction skills centre at Rochester Riverside to meet the demand for training skilled construction workers in Medway. The centre will be sited at the junction of Corys Road and Gas House Road.

The college will use the facility for a wide-range of construction training for students, ranging from basic trades through to craftsman level skills and on to construction management and professional skills.

One of four centres funded by the Communities and Local Government (CLG) in North Kent, the centre will comprise two main teaching rooms. It will be available for use by other training providers, the Universities at Medway in particular, to deliver specialist subjects.

Planning permission has been granted for the centre and construction began at the beginning of December. It is anticipated the centre will be completed in about 12 weeks with lessons starting after Easter.



■ A MidKent College construction trainee.

Rochester Riverside **walk**

The winter opening times for the Rochester Riverside walk and cycle path are now in operation to suit daylight hours only.

The new handrailing to replace what was stolen in the summer is to be reinstated early in 2009. A CCTV camera is being installed on the crane at Blue Boar Creek and one of the CCTV cameras in the coach park is dedicated to the Gas House Road entrance. This allows the site to be monitored via Medway Council's CCTV control room and provides good security for the walk at all times. In addition the Community Safety Officer for Rochester and the River Ward Police Community Support Officer have added the riverside walk to their daily patrols to provide a visible presence during the day.

The mile-long walkway - with its stunning views of the river, castle and cathedral can be accessed at three points, Gas House Road, Blue Boar Lane and Doust Way. Along the route are 12 information boards explaining

the site's history and plans for its future as a new riverside community of 2,000 homes.

The walk is graded as easy-suitable for children, wheelchair users, dog walkers and cyclists.



Design awards win

The Rochester Riverside crane has won a design award for regeneration at the Medway Culture and Design Awards held in November 2008.

The design section of the awards recognised the most notable developments in Medway and incorporated large and small development, urban or rural, new buildings and restorations.

The schemes could also involve the development of commercial, community or residential uses, public space or any mixture of uses.

The crane was dismantled in 2006 to allow construction of the new river wall. In 2007 the crane was reassembled and repainted in its original colour before being re-erected at the edge of Blue Boar Creek. The crane provides a link with the



■ Dean Brunton collecting the award from Councillor Jane Chitty.

site's historical past and acts as a landmark for Rochester Riverside.

Castleview Business Centre

Castleview Business Centre can be found in Gas House Road, Rochester and is next to the Rochester Riverside development site. The business centre has, and will continue to, remain open throughout the redevelopment of Rochester Riverside.

The business centre consists of 22 units with a mixture of uses. The table below gives a brief description of each unit:

Unit No	Name	Description
7, 8 and 19	Kent Rentals Ltd	National suppliers of cars and vans to rent. Executive and economy models available and all groups of vans. Phone: 01634 813056
9 and 10	Mayor Fashions	
11 and 18	IMTS	IMTS was founded in 1981 and rapidly established itself at the forefront of grinding technology. The thrust of its business is re-build, retro-fitting and the design and build of special purpose grinding machinery. IMTS has a significant record of innovation as a result of continuing research and development and advanced software capability. Our resources are people – today we have a team of skilled technicians and software engineers with a wide range of experience across major industrial sectors. www.imtsgrinding.com
15 and 16	Medway Memorials	
17, 13 and 14	Micks MOTs	Servicing, repairs, MOTs, air conditioning. Phone: 01634 827977
20	Art & Technical Supplies	26 years of printing excellence. We provide a comprehensive range of services and supplies to meet the printing and copying requirements of businesses throughout the SE. As well as a full digital printing, copying and scanning service, we also supply a comprehensive range of quality reprographic products for your business. To see our full range of products and services visit www.arttechnical.co.uk .
21	KDP Tools & Fixings Ltd	
22	St John's Ambulance	
23	The Kitchen Centre	Established family-run kitchen showroom. Planning and design service with fully fitted or supply only. Full range of appliances. Realistic prices. Kitchens to suit all budgets. Phone: 01634 827242
24	North Kent Hydraulics	Distribution of all types of hydraulic and pneumatic hoses and couplings. Hydraulic hose assemblies while you wait, cylinders manufactured. Phone: 01634 832211 Email: keithjevans@btinternet.com
25	Houlam Motor Services Ltd	Vehicle repairs and servicing, all makes and models. Courtesy cars available, Unipart Car Care Centre.
26	Rochester Discount Tyres	All brands and sizes available at competitive prices. Phone: 01634 827977
27	OCS Coachworks	
28	Affordable Cars of Kent	Family run business, supplying Medway and the surrounding areas with affordable quality used vehicles. Being one of Kent's largest suppliers of ex Motability cars, it is able to offer more than 500 one-owner vehicles in a variety of colours, all with low mileage and full main dealer service history. Phone: 01634 406834

Ingress Park and BEDZed visit

In September, 11 members of the Rochester Time is Now Forum, accompanied by five regeneration ambassadors and members of the Medway Renaissance Team, visited Ingress Park and BEDZed. The Forum is a group from the local community, which assists Medway Council on a range of issues associated with the regeneration of Rochester.

The visit was an opportunity to look at other schemes by the two developers selected for Rochester Riverside phase one. The site has planning permission for 950 homes and construction began in 2001. Ingress Park is a Crest Nicholson award-winning development on the south side of the River Thames in Greenhithe, near Dartford.

The Beddington Zero Energy Development, or BedZED, is an award-winning development and is one of the best examples of sustainable living in the UK.

Located in Wallington, South London, BedZED has 100 homes, community facilities and workspaces for 100 people.



■ Pooran Desai of BioRegional Quintain explaining the principles of BEDZed.
Photo by Peter Reed

New development

Due to the economic climate, progress with the redevelopment of Rochester Riverside has inevitably slowed down. However, negotiations with Crest Nicholson and BioRegional continue.

The first detailed planning application from Crest Nicholson is expected in 2009, with building beginning in 2010. This means the first homes should be ready in 2011. These dates are estimates and are dependent on the economic climate.



Contact information

If you have any queries about Rochester Riverside, please use the following contacts during normal office hours:

Organisation	Name	Title	Phone	Email
Medway Council	Marianne Luckhurst	Project Officer	01634 337144	marianne.luckhurst@medway.gov.uk
Medway Council	Sarah Beck	Project Manager	01634 338171	sarah.beck@medway.gov.uk

Medway Renaissance, Foord Annex, Eastgate House, High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1EW Phone: **01634 337154**

More information is available at www.medway.gov.uk/medwayrenaissance or www.medwayrenaissance.com

Please note: Castleview Business Centre and Acorn Shipyard are open for business as usual throughout these works