

### **Visitor Survey Research Results**

Last year we conducted in-destination visitor research to measure the changes in visitors numbers, motivations and profiles since the last face-to-face survey in 2010. One of the aims being to assess the impact of previous Destination Management Plan activities. The final reports are now published and can be [found here](#), with a snapshot in the form of an [infographic here](#)

The good news for this report is that we have been able to break results down for the three towns, so there is information specifically relating to Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate, which will help you with your marketing activities.

### **Press and PR**

Since our last Tourism Matters, Tidy Britain Group announced the results for the Blue Flag and Seaside Awards 2019 and the good news is we now have awards for 14 beaches and bays - find out more [here](#)

This good news was mentioned in the following coverage, plus we dominated a fab bulletin on ITV Meridian and were included in BBC South East's report on all the awards in their patch.

- Telegraph - [Revealed: England's cleanest beaches, which region tops the table](#) - this also includes "This year, three councils tied for the most awards (14); Cornwall, Thanet and BCP (Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole)."
- Daily Mail - [England's CLEANEST beaches: List reveals the 71 destinations awarded Blue Flag status \(so is your favourite coastline among them?\)](#)

This month we have also received the following coverage as a result of press trips arranged through the PRs for Royal Harbour Hotel and Sands Hotel.

- Express and Star and Shropshire Star, both in print and online - [Travel: A taste of the high life on a visit to Ramsgate](#)
- The Telegraph - [How the 'Down From London' hipsters saved this faded seaside town](#)

Other coverage picked up this month includes:

- Margate being featured in the Irish Times - [Beside the seaside: British beach towns are back in vogue with hipsters](#)
- Broadstairs and Margate were featured in The Sun - [Sand, Sea & Scallops - Head to the Kent coastal town of Broadstairs for that traditional Brit seaside experience.](#)

### **Visitor Information Service**

Thanet District Council has recently announced that it will be maintaining a Visitor Information Centre (VIC) presence at The Droit House for the next 12 months. This will operate on a slightly reduced timetable, opening five days a week Wednesday to Sunday, 10am to 5pm. The VIC will be closed on Monday and Tuesday. This new timetable came into effect on Monday 3 June 2019.

Tourism is an integral part of Thanet's ongoing success as a destination. Since 2011, the number of visitors has increased by over 35% and jobs supported by the visitor economy has increased by 45%. The district's tourism economy is worth £320m and is one of the fastest growing in the UK.

Over the next 12 months, the council will review how it continues to deliver an effective tourism service for the district into the future. This is to ensure it remains a successful part of the local economy. This is in the context of the council facing serious financial pressures and significant cuts in central Government funding.

### **FREE Google Training**

Canterbury City Council are hosting FREE Google Marketing Workshops on Tuesday 18th June at The Marlowe Theatre between 9am-2pm.

To find out more and to book, [please click here](#)

### **Heritage Open Days 2019**

Registration is open to take part in this years Heritage Open Days scheme, which runs from 13 to 22 September. 2019 marks the 25th anniversary of this national scheme masterminded by the National Trust and the theme this year is 'People Power'. The event shines a light on the contribution made by individuals, volunteers, organisations and community groups across Thanet, plus the chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences all for FREE.

The deadline to sign up and take part locally is by the **end of June**. To find out more [click here](#)

### **View Thanet District Council's Accounts - public sessions in July**

Each year, Thanet District Council's Finance Team is required to publish a 'statement of accounts'.

The accounts are pretty technical and essentially set out how the council has spent its money over the past 12 months.

The draft accounts for the 2018/19 financial year (which ended 31 March 2019), are now available to view on the council [website](#) and are open for public inspection until Friday 12 July 2019.

This year, to make the process more open and accessible to residents and local businesses, in addition to being able to come in by appointment and access the accounts during the day, there will be three special evening surgeries.

At these surgeries, members of the public will be presented with an overview of the current financial picture and have the opportunity to ask questions about the income and expenditure in the 2018/19 financial year.

Anyone who wishes to inspect the accounts is invited to follow the guidance within the [Notification](#) of the public right to inspect the 18/19 Accounts, or to sign up to attend an evening session [here](#)

Spaces at the evening sessions are limited and attendees must register in advance.

### **New Residents Newsletter - The Wave**

Thanet District Council has revamped its residents' e-newsletter. Now published on a monthly basis, The Wave is available to subscribers who wish to know more about the work that the council is doing. If you would like to receive The Wave [please sign up here](#)

### [Turner Prize Update - Save the Date](#)

Wednesday 10th July

Time TBC

Location: Turner Contemporary

Are you a local artist or business owner? Then save the date to hear some exciting new updates on Turner Prize 2019.

### [Your News](#)

#### **Broadstairs Town Shed 5th anniversary**

Over 80 shedders, community group representatives, friends and family joined Broadstairs Town Shed in celebrating its 5th Birthday. The day was a celebration of the journey it has taken from opening the little Shed in Pierremont Park in May 2014 to the established community project it is now. The event raised £681.00 towards the Raise the Roof fundraising campaign, to replace the old, leaky and rusty roof. For more information or to get involved in the project contact Debbie Meacham on 07597 349290 or [debbie@broadstairstownshed.org.uk](mailto:debbie@broadstairstownshed.org.uk)

#### **Margate Live**

[Margate Live](#) launched in May as the new combined site for Margate Theatres (Margate Winter Gardens and Theatre Royal Margate). The aim is for the site to grow into a hub for live entertainment/events for the whole of Thanet.

The key aspirations of Margate Live are:

- To help residents and visitors discover the wealth of live entertainment and events Thanet has to offer
- Create a community of venues that support each other for a greater goal
- Promote the Isle of Thanet as Kent's capital of culture by the sea

More information about Margate Live's cross promotional opportunities can be [found online here](#)

#### **Dickens House Museum is open for business**

We are aware of a few instances where locals and visitors believe Dickens House Museum has closed. We would just like to confirm that this is not the case, Dickens House is open and welcoming visitors daily from 1pm to 4:30pm until 16 June, when it will be open daily from 10am to 4:30pm until end August. Opening times from August can be found [here](#).

Bleak House is closed until further notice and we believe this could be causing the confusion.

#### **Resort Studio 6th Birthday**

Join Resort Studios as they celebrate their 6th Birthday on Saturday 6th July between 6-10pm. To find out more visit the [Resort website](#)

### [Events](#)

Here are just a few events taking place across the area in the next few weeks

- 14th - 17th June: [The Grange and St Edward's Presbytery Open Days](#)
- 15th June: [Dreamland: The BBC Big Band and Claire Martin](#)

- 16th June: [Father's Day](#)
- 21st - 23rd June: [Broadstairs Dickens Festival](#)
- 22nd June: [Late Night Live](#), Turner Contemporary
- 22nd and 23rd June: [Beautiful Noise](#), Micro Museum
- 28th - 30th June: [Quex VW Show](#)
- 5th - 7th July: [Skagate](#)
- 6th July: [Shakespeare on the Beach](#)

For more events happening in the area go to [www.visitthanet.co.uk/whats-on/find-events](http://www.visitthanet.co.uk/whats-on/find-events)