

New for 2013:
choir competition
and food & lifestyle fair



One of the largest May Day celebrations of its kind

Rochester 2013 Sweeps Festival

4, 5 and 6 May

Festival highlights include:

- ◆ More than 50 Morris dancing sides ◆ Great evening concerts ◆
- ◆ Free music in pubs and bars ◆ Fun children's activities ◆ Jack-in-the-Green ◆

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Welcome

Over the years this festival, with its Morris dancing, music and ever-expanding activities, has become one of the most established May festivals in Europe.

It hardly seems possible that it's 33 years since local businessman Gordon Newton revived the spring celebration that originally began 400 years ago when children were used as chimney sweeps.

The festival recreates the joy and laughter enjoyed by the chimney sweeps on their traditional holiday. It was the one time of the year that the sweeps could leave the soot behind and have some fun by parading through Rochester. Their fun also involved the Jack-in-the-Green ceremony. Jack was a huge character who they used to awaken at dawn on Blue Bell Hill, Chatham. In 1981 keen historian Gordon Newton decided it was time to bring the festival

back and over the years he has helped develop it into what it is today – an extravaganza of traditional Britain.

Today, as well as producing the festival, Gordon finds time to play the melodeon for several of the moris teams, while Doug Hudson has held the role of festival's music director for many years. Both Gordon and Doug work closely with Medway Council's Events Team, who organise the event.

As Rochester's Sweeps Festival marks its 33rd year, it is fitting that it has become the largest May Day celebration of its kind in the country.

New for 2013

Buskers' Corner and a Choir Competition. Amateur choirs will take to the stage at the Corn Exchange on Bank Holiday Monday to showcase their vocal talents and wow the judges and the crowd with variety of genres, from traditional and modern folk songs to sea shanties.



Tim Edey



The Singing Loins

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Festival highlights

Sat, 4 May, 8pm

THE SINGING LOINS with support from **Lupen Crook**

For years the Singing Loins have been the jewel in the Medway musical crown. This is pure performance passion that doffs a hat to punk, folk, cabaret, theatre and music hall. As fresh today as ever, this will be a night to remember.

Tickets: £10, Rochester Corn Exchange

Sat, 4 May, 7.30pm

NO WORRIES with support from **John Barden**

Brian and Marion Rodgers in concert - rich harmonies, sensitive guitar arrangements, combined with poignant or witty repartee and the swell of welcome audience voices joining them in chorus, guarantees a very special musical experience.

Tickets: £8, Edith May Sailing Barge

Tickets available online at www.medwayticketslive.co.uk, by phone **01634 338338** or in person from the Visitor Information Centre the Central and Brook Theatres and the Edith May Thames Sailing Barge.

Sun, 5 May, 8pm

TIM EDEY with support from **Alister Atkin & The Ghost Line Carnival**

One of the greatest folk instrumentalists of the 21st Century, Tim has been BBC 2 Folk Musician of the Year. He is an amazing guitarist, melodeon player and composer with a captivating and breathless stage show.

Tickets: £10, Rochester Corn Exchange

Sun, 5 May, 7.30pm

LUKE JACKSON

The brilliant, feted, fast rising 18-year-old singer/songwriter from Canterbury looks destined for stardom having been nominated for both BBC and Horizon Folk Awards. His incisive songs are delivered with a dynamic stage persona and great guitar work that belie his years.

Tickets: £10, Edith May Thames Sailing Barge



No Worries

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Luke Jackson

Festival guide

Pre-festival entertainment

Friday, 3 May

7.30pm

The Terry Pearson Memorial Concert with The Simon Care Trio and special guests, MC Gordon Newton

Tickets: £5, Rochester Corn Exchange
Box Office - 01634 338338

7.30pm

Gordon Hotel - Pre-festival music from the Songwriters' Den

Coopers Arms - A pre festival play-along with P.J.

8.45pm - 11pm

Prince of Wales, Strood - Sur Les Docks

Singapore Lounge - Bubble Band

Good Intent - Singaround session with John Barden

Man of Kent Alehouse - Ash Mandrake

Throughout the Festival all three days

Rochester Castle Gardens

10am - 5pm

Traditional family fun fair by Smith's Fairs.

Food, drink and lifestyle fair NEW

Stalls will be selling a variety of wares with the opportunity to taste and try before buy.

Mini psychic fair

Psychic / Clairvoyant - Raymond Worthy*

Raymond believes that the angels speak through him. His gifts give him the unique opportunity to have a positive effect on the lives of others.

Astrology and Tarot - Demian Allan*

Demian's aim is to help others to lead a more rewarding spiritual life.

**Please note: There are no guaranteed or certain results, this is for the purpose of amusement / entertainment.*

Woodland Wands

Hand-made wooden wands and staffs, also esoteric gifts, incense, essential oils, crystal products and jewellery.

Pixie Hut

A small family run business centred around spiritual development and growth, designed to help you on your own magical, mystical journey through life. www.pixiehut.co.uk

Record Fair

Mini music fair hosted by Recollect Records. Records, CDs, DVDs and memorabilia.

The Clog Factory

Roger Dower will be demonstrating clog making and selling his hand-made clogs.

Real Ale Bar

A variety of ales and ciders brewed and bottled in Medway's very own Nelson's Brewery.

Corn Exchange - Princes Hall

Traditional musical instrument fair.

High street

Morris sides from around the country performers throughout the day.

Boley Hill - Buskers Stage NEW

10am-5pm

Invited buskers performing throughout the day.

Kings Head and Boley Hill Car Parks

Rochester Farmers Market

10am - 5pm

Local farmers and producers have grown, bred, processed, pickled, brewed or baked the goods themselves to sell direct to the public.

Rochester Esplanade

The Edith May Thames Sailing Barge

Moored at Rochester Pier, she will be open between 10am and 5pm, with a programme of free folk music. Evening concerts (ticket only) will take place on Saturday and Sunday. *Please be aware that due to the nature of the vessel, there is no disabled access onto the barge.* www.edithmay.com

The Guildhall Museum

Guitar workshop - 2pm

Build your own electric guitar in two hours!

£20 includes all materials and tuition.

Booking advised as places are limited.

Phone: 01634 570331

Visit: www.astickinabox.com



Saturday, 4 May

10.45am

Guildhall Museum Forecourt, High Street

The Mayor of Medway will officially open the festival, followed by a dance showcase

11am – 5pm

City Wall Wine Bar, Stage

Songwriters' Den 'On the Road'. The best of young talent from Kent, hosted by Griff Rising

11am – 5pm

Castle Gardens Main Stage

Bounty Hounds, Fabulous Fezheads, Sur Les Docks, Coco & The Butterfields, Adam Beattie & The Consultants

11am – 5pm

Edith May Thames Sailing Barge

Capella, Brooke Sharkey

12.30 – 2.30pm

The Crown Freehouse – Selki

The Eagle Tavern – Skinnners Rats with Davey Slater

Gordon House Hotel – Cajun Dawgs

Two Brewers – River Breeze Blues Band

Prince of Wales, Strood – Andy Smythe Trio

Oliver's Bar – Atlantic Currants

Kings Head – Ash Mandrake

Good Intent – Singaround with Ruff N'Reddy

Singapura Lounge – Hobo Jones & The Junkyard Dogs

1 – 3pm

Ye Arrow – Ian Petrie Band

2 – 4pm

Man of Kent Alehouse – Funke & The Two Tone Baby

2.15pm

Outside Medway Visitor Information Centre

Guided walking tour of Rochester led by the City of Rochester Society. The tour will last for approximately 90minutes. Free of charge although donations to the society welcome.

3 – 5pm

Coopers Arms – Chris Taylor (Irish Music Session)

Gordon House Hotel – Tanglefoot Appalachian

4 – 6pm

The Crown Freehouse – Atlantic Currants

Eagle Tavern – Thee Waltons

Ye Arrow – Border Crossing

King's Head – Happy Trails

6 – 8pm

Oliver's Bar – Perfect Strangers

7.30 – 10pm

Coopers Arms – Playalong session with P.J. and Capella (8.45pm)

8 – 11.30pm

Gordon House Hotel – Gentlemen Duke, Eric Ness, Coco & The Butterfields

8.45 – 11pm

Man of Kent Alehouse – Sur Les Docks

Prince of Wales, Strood – Selki

Good Intent – Singaround with John Barden

Two Brewers – Phoenix

Singapura Lounge – Cajun Dawgs

Sunday, 5 May

11am – 5pm

City Wall Wine Bar, Stage

Songwriters' Den 'On the Road'. The best of young talent from Kent hosted by Griff Rising

11am – 5pm

Castle Gardens Festival Main Stage

The Beards, Fabulous Fezheads, Galley Beggar, Jerry Harmon, The Hot Rats

11am – 5pm

Edith May Thames Sailing Barge

Swinging The Lead, Adam Beattie & The Consultants, The Beards

12.30 – 2.30pm

The Crown Freehouse – Tombstone Liquor

The Eagle Tavern – Sur Les Docks

Two Brewers – Triality

Prince of Wales, Strood – Ian Petrie Band

Oliver's Bar – Pierre Vincent

Kings Head – Barry Laing & Davey Slater

Good Intent – Singaround with John Barden

Singapura Lounge – J.D. & The Longfellows

12noon – 1pm

Gordon House Hotel – Moveable Feast

1 – 3pm

Ye Arrow – Brides of Rain

2 – 4pm

Man of Kent Alehouse – Hartley Singers

2.15pm

Outside Medway Visitor Information Centre

Guided walking tour of Rochester led by the City of Rochester Society. The tour will last for approximately 90minutes. Free of charge although donations to the society welcome.



Coco & The Butterfields



3.30 – 5pm

Gordon House Hotel - Tanglefoot Appalachian

3 – 5pm

Coopers Arms – Irish Music Session with Chris Taylor

4 – 6pm

The Crown Freehouse – Davey Malone & The Longtails

The Eagle Tavern – Bounty Hounds

King's Head – Nigel Hobbins & The Dreamlanders

Ye Arrow – Skinners Rats

6 – 6.30pm

Gordon House Hotel – Didi Bergman

Good Intent – Tanglefoot Appalachian

6 – 8pm

Oliver's Bar – Old Country Crows

7.30 – 10pm

Coopers Arms – Playalong session with P.J. and Swinging The Lead (8.45pm)

8 – 11.30pm

Gordon Hotel – Sur Les Docks and the Bubble Band

8.45 – 11pm

Man of Kent Alehouse – J.D. & The Longfellows

Prince of Wales, Strood – Rustic Ramblers

Good Intent – Singaround with John Barden

Two Brewers – Tombstone Liquor

Singapora Lounge – Triality

Monday, 6 May

10.30am – 5pm

Rochester Castle Moat

Street dance the Maypole. Street and Ceilidh dancing for all.

11am – 5pm

Choir Competition

Corn Exchange, Queens Hall

Pre-registered choirs will sing songs with a folk theme and will be judged to find the winner for 2013. The event is open to spectators, tea and coffee will be available for purchase.

New

11am – 5pm

City Wall Wine Bar, Stage

Women Aloud - A new event showcasing mainly female talent with the Tribal Banshees, Camine, Liz Simcock, Shadrack Tye and Didi Bergman. Hosted by Lee Charles.

10am – 5pm

Guildhall Stage - Street Ceilidh with Threepenny Bit, Tribal Banshees

11am – 5pm

Festival Main Stage, Castle Gardens – Allen Family, Jerry Harmon, Bubble Band, Pierre Vincent, Brides of Rain

11am – 5pm

Edith May Thames Sailing Barge

Pierre Vincent, Border Crossing, Allen Family, Davey Malone's Floating Ukuleles.

12.30 – 2.30pm

The Crown Freehouse – Funke & The Two Tone Baby

Eagle Tavern – Happy Trails

Gordon House Hotel – The Hot Rats

Prince of Wales, Strood – The Old Country Crows

Oliver's Bar – Barry Laing & Davey Slater

Man of Kent Alehouse – Galley Beggar

Two Brewers – Ash Mandrake

Kings Head – Andy Smythe Trio

Good Intent – Singaround with Ruff 'n' Reddy

Ye Arrow – Missouri Guts

Singapora Lounge – Bounty Hounds

2.15pm

Outside Medway Visitor Information Centre

Guided walking tour of Rochester led by the City of Rochester Society. The tour will last for approximately 90minutes. Free of charge although donations to the society welcome.

2.45pm

Rochester Sweeps Festival's traditional Bank Holiday Procession

The finale to the Sweeps Festival 2013 will involve many Morris Sides, chimney sweeps and Jack-in-the-Green. A change to this year's route will be as follows:

Forming at the Star Hill end of Rochester High Street, the procession will proceed along the High Street to its junction with Corporation Street. It will then turn left into the Rochester Esplanade, left into Castle Hill and finish in Castle Grounds where the Mayor of Medway and Gordon Newton, Festival Director, will present the Green Man Shield.



Rochester Cathedral service and event times

Saturday, 4

8am Morning Prayer
8.30am Holy Communion
3.15pm Choral Evensong

Sunday, 5

8am Holy Communion
9.45am Choral Mattins
10.30am The Cathedral Eucharist
3.15pm Choral Evensong
8pm Taize Prayer

Monday, 6

9.10am Morning Prayer
9.30am Holy Communion
3.15pm Choral Evensong



Held throughout each day - offering readings from the Jesus Deck, foot and hand massage and prayer for healing in the Christian tradition. Free of charge, everyone welcome.

Sat, 4 May, 10am – 5pm and Sun, 5 May, 1 – 5pm

St Margaret's Church, St Margaret's Street, Rochester

The church will be open between the above times to visitors who wish to come and look round. Light refreshments will be available as well as a display of photographs of local interest.



Musical biogs

Tim Edey – BBC Radio 2 Folk Award Musician of the Year winner, Tim has toured with the Chieftains, Sharon Shannon and has recorded with Christy Moore. Simply, he is one of the best musicians you will ever see.

The Singing Loins – Music hall, cabaret, theatre, folk, punk, comedy reflecting the darker underbelly of Medway.

No Worries – Purely and simply Brian and Marion Rodgers are an excellent folk duo who take pride in their songs and performance.

Luke Jackson – 2013 Horizon and Folk Award nominee. A developing talent and an utterly compelling singer/songwriter.

Simon Care Trio – From the Albion Band to Edward II, Simon's talent is no stranger to the Sweeps Festival.

Hot Rats - Festival favourites feature Ian Cutler's world class fiddle playing.

Thee Waltons – Crazy band of Gravesend musicians with a unique blend of vegabilly, excessive drinking and cross dressing.



Jerry Harmon – Visiting American singer and storyteller extraordinaire.

Cocce & The Butterfields – One of the most exciting bands to have emerged in the last couple of years – new and innovative.

Allen Family – Superb teenage bluegrass outfit guided by American father Pete Allen.

Gentlemen Duke – Swing/folk with passion.

Adam Beattie & The Consultants – London's finest nu-folk sensation .

John Barden – Singaround supremo and charismatic figure who encourages others to play.

Threepenny Bit – Busking ceilidh band of international renown. Join in the fun and dance.

Alister Atkin & The Ghost Line Carnival – Quality songwriting and crafted performance from a classy outfit.

Festival dance list

Name	Type of dance	County
Alton Morris	Border	Berkshire
Alive & Kicking	North West Clog	Essex
Annie's Fantasies	North West Clog	Essex
Baldock Midnight Morris	Cotswold	Bedfordshire
Bishop Gundulf's Morris Ladies	North West Clog & Garland	Kent
Bishop Gundulf's Morris Men	Long sword & Rapper	Kent
Black Forest & Belasuzza Mummers	Modern Morris & Folk Dancing	Essex
Black Pig Border	Border	Derby
Boekka	Border & 'Oss Teazin'	Cornwall
Bows 'N' Bells	North West Clog	Essex
Cinque Ports Morris	Cotswold	Sussex
Cockleshell Clog	North West Clog	Essex
Copperfield Clog	North West	Kent
Customs & Exiles	North West & Border	Hampshire
Dacre Morris	Cotswold	London
Dark Horse Morris	Border	Essex
Deadhorse & Broomdashers	East Kent Black Face	Kent
East Kent Morris Men	Cotswold	Kent
The Fabulous Fezheads	Sand dancing (Kentish)	Kent
Gong Scourers	Border	Kent
Greenwich Morris	Cotswold	Kent
Hands Around	Cotswold, Border	Essex
Headcorn Morris	Cotswold	Kent
Hertfordshire Holly	North West Clog	Hertfordshire
Hook Eagle Morris Men	Border	Hampshire

Name	Type of dance	County
Kettlebridge Clog	Northwest Clog	Kent
Kent Korkers & Pork Scratchin's	Border & North West Clog	Kent
Lady Bay Revellers	Cotswold	Nottingham
Loose Women	Border	Kent
Maenads	Border	Kent
Maldon Green Jackets	Cotswold	Essex
Manor Mill Morris	North West Clog	Cambridge
Marlings Morris	North West Clog	Kent
Motley Morris	Border	Kent
Mutineers	North West Clog	Leicestershire
Mythago	Bedlam Border	East Sussex
Old Palace Clog	North West Clog	Surrey
Offcumduns Morris	North West Clog	Kent
Oojah Kappivy	Cotswold	East Sussex
Priory Morris, Soken Molly Gang	Border & Molly	Essex
Pretty Grim	Border	Suffolk
Pump House Clog	North West Clog	Hertfordshire
Rampant Rooster	Cotswold & Border	Surrey
Rockingham Rapper	Rapper	Hertfordshire
Royal Oak Morris	Cotswold	Northants
Royal Liberty Morris	Cotswold, Border, Molly Sword	Essex
Spirimawgus	Border	West Sussex
St Clement Clog	North West Clog	Kent
Steam Punk	Border	Kent
Stockport Morris	North West Clog	Stockport
The Wild Hunt	Bedlam Border	Surrey
Westrefelda	Cotswold	Suffolk
Whitethorn Morris	North West Clog	Bucks
Witchmen	Border	Northants
Wolfs Head & Vixen	Border	Kent
Young Miscellany	Mixed Traditions	Herts



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at The Brook Theatre
Old Town Hall, Chatham, Kent

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Enchanted Gem Enterprises Presents Rochester's 1st

Enchanted Fairy Event

4-5-6 May 2013

Royal Function Rooms, Rochester Kent



Enchanted Fairy Bails
£35 Sat/£30 Sun
"Super Saver"
Both nights
£50

Fairy Craft Fayre
Sat: 9 - 5pm
Sun: 9.30 - 4.30pm
Mon: 9.30 - 4.30pm

Enchanted Fairy Ball
Saturday 4th at 7.30pm
Live Music from
Spriggen Mist & Serpentyne
includes medieval dance workshop. Tickets £35 each

Charity Faeumba Rock Night
Sunday 5th at 7.30pm
Fairy and Enchanted
ZUMBA® Fitness Party with
Lisette Flint (#271401)

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Sequentine
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JOIN THE CIGAR BOX GUITAR REVOLUTION

Build your own 3-string electric guitar at the Sweeps Festival for just **£20** Price includes all materials and full tuition

4, 5 and 6 May, 2pm at The Guildhall Museum
Rochester High Street

This fun two-hour course is suitable for everyone, no building or playing experience necessary.

Learn about the history of these simple handmade instruments and discover why everyone from Seasick Steve to Jack White has joined the revolution.

Places are limited so booking is essential.
Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult

Visit **www.astickinabox.com**
Phone **01634 570331** or **07974 020 368**



A stick in a box

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Train

Rochester station is only a five-minute walk from Rochester High Street and has excellent links between London and the coast. For information on planning your journey visit: www.setrains.co.uk

Car and coach parking

Limited car parking is available near the centre of Rochester. Public car parks are indicated on the festival map. Normal car parking restrictions will apply and information is available at all car parks. Car parking is available at the Civic Centre, Strood, throughout the festival and is only a short walk away. Normal car parking restrictions will apply. Coach parking is free and shown on the festival map. Coaches may use the drop-off and pick-up point also shown on the map.

For further information

Medway Visitor Information Centre,
95 High Street, Rochester, Kent
ME1 1LX

Phone: **01634 338141**

Email: visitorcentre@medway.gov.uk



1 The Crown
2 Guildhall Museum
Forecourt
3 Singapore Lounge
4 Corn Exchange

5 Kings Head
6 Ye Arrow
7 Boley Hill Village, stage
8 Gordon House Hotel

9 Medway Visitor
Information Centre
10 Two Brewers
11 City Wall Wine Bar, stage
12 Eagle Tavern

13 Coopers Arms
14 Oliver's
15 Man of Kent
16 Good Intent

Disclaimer: Every care has been taken to ensure that the details given are correct at the time of printing. However, circumstances can and do change and the publishers cannot accept responsibility for any subsequent amendments.

Rochester High Street is categorised as an Alcohol Control Zone. Although close working partnership between Medway Council, Kent Police and Pub Landlords has allowed drinking in outdoor areas within the festival area between 10am and 6pm only. Drinking restrictions will revert back to normal regulations from 6pm onwards each day of the festival.