

YOUR VIEWS

The Editor
Canterbury Times

**WHITSTABLE
SHIPPING NEWS**
Charles Traill

PHONES APPEAL

Give an old mobile to help refugees

DO YOU have an old phone you don't need? Believe it or not, it could save a child's life – so I'm asking you to donate it to me as soon as possible.

For one of the hundreds of children alone in Europe – like Nagham, whose mother was killed in an airstrike in Syria and his father kidnapped – a phone means he could call for help in an emergency, use maps to find his way to a place of safety, or contact his remaining relatives.

With the demolition of the "Jungle" camp in Calais imminent, the British and French governments still have no plan to provide safe places for the unaccompanied children there – even though Europol says they are at extreme risk of being kidnapped for sexual slavery.

When the demolition happens, hundreds of children could disappear, just like more than 100 did when the southern half of the camp was evicted in February – so we urgently need to get phones to them as soon as possible before it is too late.

If you can donate a phone, text me on 07583 570895 – I live in Faversham and I can collect from you. If you have a charger that works with the phone, that is ideal – and do remember to delete your personal data and, if you can, unlock the phone. Thank you.

Gavin McGregor
Faversham

RAIL STRATEGY

Case for reopening Elham Valley line

ON TUESDAY, September 27, I addressed members of the Joint Transportation Board (JTB) of Canterbury District Council and Kent County Council, at the meeting held in The Guildhall in Canterbury, before agenda item eleven discussing Kent County Council's Local Transportation Plan 4's consultation.

In my speech, I requested the JTB's support for the reinstatement of the Canterbury Loop railway line, which linked the London, Chatham, Faversham and Dover line to the London, Ashford and Ramsgate line, to now relieve the traffic congestion expected to be created

PICTURE OF THE WEEK



Derek Darby took this picture of a Red Admiral butterfly in Reculver last Wednesday afternoon. He counted more than 15 of them enjoying the sunshine and flowers of the Ivy growing in profusion on the roadside hedgerow.

Do you have a similarly stunning picture to share? Send your photos to newsdesk.times@KRNmedia.co.uk with "reader's picture" in the subject line

by the Mountfield Park, Thanington Park and former Chislet Colliery site housing developments.

What little mention is made in draft local plans and transport plans for rail use currently being considered only refers to the High Speed 1 line, not reducing local congestion and journey times on each of the two historic lines.

Building a village railway station nearer Mountfield Park would not on its own resolve increased traffic congestion between the park and ride sites.

The former Canterbury Corporation, as the county borough council, was understood to have purposely not given development consent to build on the routes of the former Canterbury and Whitstable and Elham Valley railways, to enable their future reinstatement.

I am looking into the exact situation and the extent to which it was the current Canterbury City Council which has consequently made light rail options less

easy to implement now than they could have been.

The proposed Mountfield Park development straddles the route of the Elham Valley Line, which in turn could link Thanington Park and the existing Wincheap park and ride, before entering Canterbury on the railway line and extending to Sturry and on to Hersden, paid for by increasing existing developer

READERS' OPINION

Write to:

Your Views, Westcliffe House, West Cliff Gardens, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1SZ

e-mail newsdesk.times@KRNmedia.co.uk
All letters should be no more than 350 words and include your name and address. The Times reserves the right to cut and correct any letters and does not guarantee to use every letter submitted

LOCAL INFORMATION

CHEMISTS

Canterbury: Asda, Sturry Road, Mon-Fri 9am to 10pm, Sat 9am to 9pm, Sun 10am to 4pm. Boots, 12 Gravel Walk, Whitefriars Shopping Centre, Mon-Sat 9am to 6pm, Sun 11am to 5pm. Boots, Ten Perch Road, Mon-Sat 8.30am to midnight, Sun 10am to 4pm. Boots, 29 Oaten Hill, Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm. Boots, Unit 2, St George's Centre, St George's Place, Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm. Bridge Pharmacy, 16 High Street, Mon-Fri 9am to 1pm, 2pm to 6pm, Sat 9am-12.30pm. Eckersley, 2 Northgate, Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 12.30pm. Morrisons, Ten Perch Road, Wincheap, Mon-Fri 9am to 9pm, Sat 9am to 7pm, Sun 10am to 4pm. Porter, 2B Hales Drive, Mon-Sat 7am to 8pm. Sainsbury's, Kingsmead Road, Mon-Sat 8am to 9pm, Sun 10am to 4pm. Sturry Pharmacy, 8 High Street,

Sturry, Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm. Superdrug, 23 St George's Street, Mon-Fri 8am to 5.30pm, Sat 8am to 6pm. United Pharmacy, 68 St Dunstan's Street, Mon-Fri 9am to 6.30pm, Sat 9am to 2pm. University Pharmacy (Cheadles) Giles Avenue, Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm.

Faversham: Emergency chemist: Sunday 10am till 4pm Tesco, Crescent Road, Faversham. 01795 567547.

Herne Bay: Boots, 116 Mortimer Street, Mon-Sat 9am to 5.30pm, Sun closed. Borno Chemists, 159 Station Road, Mon-Fri 9am to 7pm, Sat 9am to 6pm, Sun closed. Delmergate, 145 Reculver Road, Beltinge, Mon-Fri 9am to 5.30pm (closed for lunch), Sat 9am to 1pm, Sun closed. Delmergate, 269 Reculver Road, Reculver, Mon-Fri 8.30am to 5.30pm (closed for lunch), Sat and Sun closed. Delmergate, 38 Broomfield Road, Broomfield, Mon-Fri

9am to 6pm, Sat and Sun closed. Lloyds, 91 Sea Street, Mon-Fri 9am to 5.30pm, Sat 9am to 1pm, Sun closed. Boots, 161a Station Road, Mon-Fri 8.30am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm, Sun closed. Park Pharmacy, 102 King's Road, Mon-Sat 7am to 10pm, Sun 8am to 6pm.

Whitstable: Boots, 33 High Street, Mon-Sat 9am to 5.30pm (closed for lunch), Sun 10am to 4pm. Cheadles, 115 High Street, Mon-Sat 9am to 5.30pm, Sun closed. Cheadles, 28 Faversham Road, Seasalter, Mon-Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm.

HIGH TIDES

Until Wednesday, October 19

Thursday	09.27	4.49m	22.05	4.77m
Friday	10.23	4.91m	22.56	5.17m
Saturday	11.14	5.32m	23.44	5.52m
Sunday	–	–	12.02	5.66m
Monday	00.29	5.76m	12.48	5.86m
Tuesday	01.14	5.84m	13.34	5.88m
Wednesday	01.59	5.75m	14.21	5.71m

All times for Herne Bay, add 10 minutes for Whitstable and 18 minutes for Faversham.

premiums as the price for building around this historic city.

My September 14 letter and September 21 letter from David Kemsley published in this newspaper refer to the significance of restoring the Canterbury Loop railway line. Both letters can be read under Latest Articles on the chaucer.university website.

An archive video showing the whole of the Canterbury Loop line in use for flood relief in 1953 is pinned to the tweet at the top of Twitter account @ChaucerUniv.

Richard West
Founder, The Chaucer Education Project
Tudor Road, Canterbury

SPORTS COVERAGE

Get Julie to do teams' publicity

DO YOU at the Times know that Whitstable has football, cricket and rugby teams as well as other sports?

On your sports page, if don't happen in Canterbury and Faversham it doesn't get mentioned. Maybe be a good idea one of the above clubs got Julie Wassmer to be on the committee, then they might get a mention.

Oscar

AFTER her recent engine breakdown it was good to see Whitstable's regular freighter Pluto back in service and at the harbour last week.

The ship had lost power due to an engine coupling fault on her way from Rye to load at Northfleet on the Thames.

She had to be escorted into Ramsgate, where she was detained while a replacement was sought.

Eventually this was tracked down in Germany and specially brought over for fitting.

Ballast

After inspection by a Lloyds surveyor Pluto returned to service having spent more than a week at Ramsgate, sailing in ballast for the French port of Granville.

Here she loaded specialist aggregate for Bretts and arrived at Whitstable last Wednesday afternoon.

Early the next morning she left for the Isle of Grain where she loaded another cargo of stone, sourced this time from Glensanda Quarry, in Scotland which she transhipped to the Medway terminal to the harbour's east quay on Thursday afternoon.



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