

FAVERSHAM CREEK TRUST

REGENERATING FAVERSHAM'S MARITIME HERITAGE



REFERENDUM AND THE SWING BRIDGE

The Faversham Creek Neighbourhood Plan goes to referendum on 4 May, after the Judicial Review in January dismissed objections lodged by a riparian owner. The revised Plan now rules out housing on Swan Quay. We believe the Plan offers the best hope for controlling development of Creekside land, and we hope local residents will vote to accept it. This will satisfy Swale's main criterion for releasing £200,000 towards the swing bridge. According to KCC's plans, the bridge will be installed next winter. We thank Cabinet Member Mark Dance and the rest of the team.

CREEK LEARNING PROGRAMME

The fourth 'back to work' training course for 14 local long-term unemployed people started in March, funded by the Department for Work and Pensions. Alan Thorne, who runs his boat building business from the Purifier, is teaching the participants practical skills to make wooden items for sale. Watch out for their stall in Faversham Market on 22 April. Jude Sach is training them in skills they need to set up and run their own businesses, and can use in employment. The first three courses achieved remarkable success in helping people off benefits and into employment or business start-ups.

HERITAGE FAIR

We took part in Faversham's recent Heritage Fair in the Alexander Centre, recruiting new members and talking to many people about our objectives and plans. Simon Foster gave a talk about how barges affected the growth of cities. Thanks to everyone who came to help.



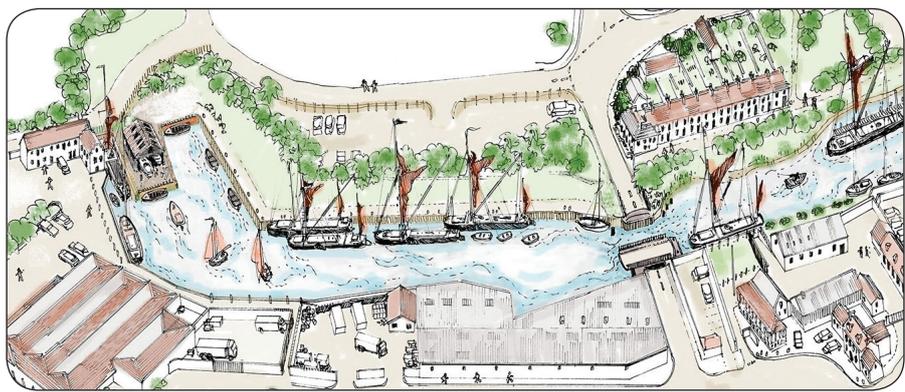
BOATCAMP

As part of our Boatcamp programme, a second group of young students from Abbey School, with accompanying staff, visited the Purifier Building in February. They met boat builder Alan Thorne, shipwright Simon Grillet and block-maker Colin Frake to get a flavour of the work they do.



Sir John Swire

We were very sad to learn of the death of Sir John Swire, before Christmas. The Swire family and Foundation have been very generous to the Trust and supportive of our vision over a long period. The present chairman and our two previous chairmen attended Sir John's Memorial Service in Canterbury Cathedral, and heard moving and inspiring accounts of his long life and achievements. We would find it much more difficult to achieve our aims without the help of Sir John and Lady Swire.

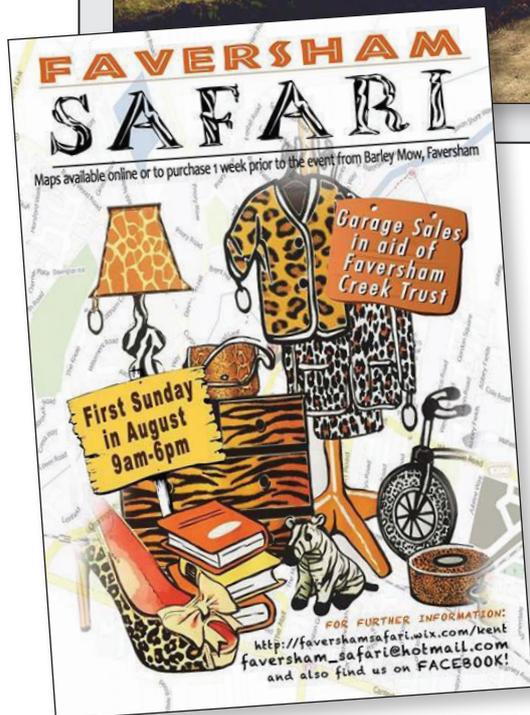
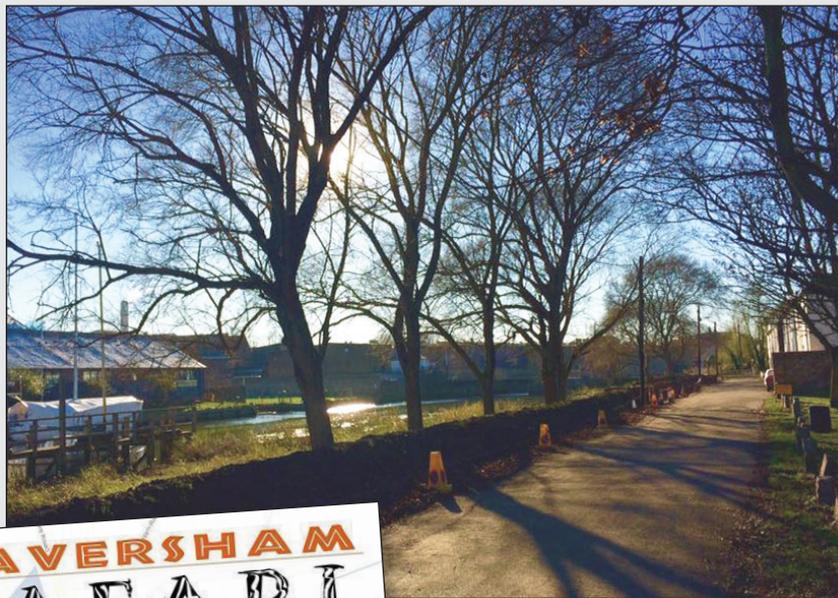


HILARY'S HILL

Last autumn the Environment Agency's contractors built a flood-protection bund along the Front Brents. Built of clay from the Isle of Sheppey, it has gates which can be dropped into position whenever an exceptionally high tide is predicted. The most recent very high tide in mid-January

reached the base of the bund. This bund will protect the houses along the Front Brents from the flooding they experienced in December 2013.

It is being called "Hilary's Hill" in memory of Hilary Whelan, who worked tirelessly to get it built. Hilary tragically died in November.



GARAGE SALE SAFARI

This year's Garage Sale Safari in aid of the Creek Trust will be on Sunday 6 August. To take part please contact Kathy West who will include you in the list and map.

faversham_safari@hotmail.com

She is looking for 50 households in the town who can display an estate agent's promotional board from Invicta or the new agency, Saxon Shore. They will donate £10 per board to Trust funds.



Simon Grillet, Shipwright, and trainee Bert Pengelly with the now fully planked Mayhi (below). She's ready for decking out this summer in between work on the barges.



Photos: Peter Smith

SHIPWRIGHTS TWINNING WITH TRURO

There is very little industrial quayside space left in Faversham. We hope the swing bridge will open up the Basin for boats and barges, with space for shipwrights to work.

Meanwhile our partner organisation, Faversham Shipwrights, has set up a twinning scheme with Truro in Cornwall. Working on the quayside of the river Fal, Luke Powell, a Faversham man now living in Cornwall, is building a 68ft traditional Falmouth Pilot Cutter with trainee shipwrights. There will be exchanges between Faversham and Truro trainees to increase their skills.

DIARY DATES

As we go to press, we have the following dates for your diary. If you would like to volunteer at any of these events - and we need help! - please contact **Debbie on 01795 227706 or dlr.lawther@gmail.com**

- Saturday 15 April**
Easter Saturday Sea Cadets Open Day
- Saturday 22 April**
Creek Learners' Market Day Stall
- Weekend 13, 14 May**
Transport Weekend, *Ottor* on parade, cafe at Purifier Building
- Thursday 25 May**
Talks by Tim Stonor and Harold Goodwin
- Tuesday 6 June**
Frances Beaumont talking about John Oliver
- Saturday 1, 8, 15 July**
Purifier in Open House Scheme
- Weekend 22, 23 July**
Nautical Festival
- Saturday 5 August**
Whitstable Harbour Day
- Sunday 6 August**
Garage Sale Safari

For Membership and Contact forms etc and for update and further information go to the website.
www.favershamcreektrust.com



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