

# Your Business Bulletin from Thanet & East Kent Chamber

## Thanet & East Kent Insider

# 5<sup>th</sup> August 2012 Issue No.: 191

This edition follows the news that the former Pfizer site at Sandwich has been purchased by Discovery Park Limited.

## I. What is Discovery Park Limited?

The new owner of Discovery Park is a holding company established on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012 for the clear and obvious purpose of acquiring the former Pfizer site at Sandwich. As with any newly formed company, accounts have not been posted, but it is public knowledge that DP Ltd has a board of three directors, Raymond Palmer born in 1947, Trevor Cartner born in 1960 and a youthful Christopher Musgrave born in 1965. They all have an interest in the successful business park at Wynyard where the tenants include an attractive mix of companies in the private and public sectors.

## 2. Why Buy The Discovery Park In Sandwich?

Being the closest part of the mainland to continental Europe, East Kent must rank as the ideal location for export firms. Companies involved in renewable energy and research on green issues can also expect a particularly warm welcome and will surely be happy to join some Chamber members near Sandwich such as the world's largest off-shore wind farm owned and

operated by Vattenfall, and the even larger London Array, which will soon inherit the title. Thus, it is heartening to note that Messrs Palmer, Cartner and young Musgrave attracted to their 700 acre Wynyard site near Billingham some attractive names including Earth & Environmental along with AEON, Amec, the Audit Commission, Balfour Beatty, Biotech Solutions, BSkyB, CapGemini, Cleveland Police, NFU Mutual, NHS, SEMTA, the acronym for the Sector Skills Council for Science, Engineering & Manufacturing, and many others. If East Kent business wanted a big good news story, then surely this is it. We assume that any stresses and disputes in the Tees Valley are resolved promptly through the presence on the Wynyard site of Zoe Thomas Psychological Services, just as East Kent has long benefited from Dover Counselling Service and Life Counselling Services, both at tel: 01304 204123, South East Mediation tel: 01843 608105, the Belmont Centre tel: 01843 587929 and Lynn Marchant Counselling tel: 01304 821328.

## 3. Why Should We Welcome Discovery Park Limited?

The short answer to this question is that the directors have a record of successful property development. Since the "positive milestones" on the road to the purchase of the Pfizer site by London & Metropolitan proved to lead to a dead end despite their exclusivity agreement, there has been a pressing need to find another suitable inward investor. Bearing in mind the rumours surrounding the interest of a certain Taiwanese company in buying the Port of Dover, there will be many who will greet the arrival of British investors with enthusiasm and some relief. More important perhaps is that the new owners have the skills and experience to regenerate the site with promising tenants in appropriate sectors of the economy. In an email to TEKC, the Thanet & East Kent Chamber Co-President Laura Sandys MP gave a warm welcome to Discovery Park Limited: "The new owners have a huge amount of experience in building outstanding business parks and will be able to attract world class businesses to the fantastic facilities in Sandwich." Laura's constituency includes Sandwich. She is certain that the local economy will see some serious benefits as a result of the sale: "I am very confident that many new jobs will be created. This is very exciting for the local community and should see the start of further investment into the area. Sandwich is a great place to do business and I am sure this will be a huge success."

## 4. What Do Discovery Park Limited Directors Do?

The Discovery Park Limited directors make money for those around them. Ray Palmer is the Chairman of Wrenbridge and Palmer Capital and has an impressive record of achievement in property deals. From 1970 to 1992, he orchestrated the phenomenal rise of Lambert Smith Hampton, successfully managing the amalgamation of 10 leading regional surveying partnerships. Since then his Palmer Capital vehicle has provided funds to Wrenbridge to develop property assets. A keen fisherman, Ray Palmer will find much to attract his attention in East Kent. Unlike the central character of the film The Ipcress File, who according to Michael Caine was so named because "the most boring boy in our school was called Palmer", the guiding light of Discovery Park Limited has provided a thrilling ride for his investors. Since October 2010, we understand that Raymond Palmer has featured as a Director of an impressive list of recently established companies (newest to oldest): Wrenbridge (Millers Yard) Limited, Wrenbridge (Tufton Street) Limited, Discovery Park Limited, Wrenbridge (Woodhouse Way Project Management) Limited, Wrenbridge (Woodhouse Way) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 9 Limited, Palmer Capital Residential Limited, Vanhan Limited, Wrenbridge (Hertford) Limited, Angle Property (Buckingham Street) Limited, Palmer Capital Investors (India) Limited, Angle Property (Buckingham Street Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 8 Limited, Cubex Land (West Gate) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 7 Limited, Bruton (Eurocentral) Limited, Bruton (Eurocentral Project Management) Limited, Wrenbridge (Site4)

Limited, Opus Land (Axletree Way) Limited, Angle Property (Terlings Park Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 6 Limited, Angle Property (Terlings Park) Limited, Angle Property (Battersea) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 27 (Number 2) Limited, Wrenbridge (Benet Street (Number 2)) Limited, Manse (Perth) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 4 Limited, Manse (Darnley Project Management) Limited, Manse (Darnley) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 3 Limited, Danescroft (Reading) Limited, Danescroft (Reading) Project Management) Limited, Wrenbridge (Stapleford) Limited, Wrenbridge (Moorfield Development) Limited, East Point (Oxford) Limited, Cantium (Farnborough) Limited, Edith Cambridge Limited, Opus Land (Kingswood) Limited, Suffolk Punch Lowestoft Limited, Palmer Capital Asia (Hold Co) Limited, Danescroft (Rosebery Project Management) Limited, Walbrook Land (Wardour Street) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 2 Limited, Danescroft (Rosebery) Limited, Palmer Golden Gate li Limited, Opus Land North (Birkenhead) Limited, Opus Land North (Birkenhead Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second (B) Nominees 5 Limited, Wrenbridge (Stansted) Limited, PCDF IL (B) General Partners Limited, Wrenbridge (Laindon Project Management) Limited, Wrenbridge (Laindon) Limited, PCDF (B) Nominees I Limited, Angle Property (St Margarets) Limited, Angle Property (St Margarets Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 31 Limited, Angle Property (St Martins) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 30 Limited, Wrenbridge (Coldhams Lane) Limited, Wrenbridge (Coldhams Lane Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 29 Limited, Angle Property (Redhill Project Management) Limited, Angle Property (Redhill) Limited, Wrenbridge (Midlands) Limited, Wrenbridge (Sport) Limited, Opus Land North (Castleford) Limited, Opus Land North (Bourse Asset Management) Limited, Walbrook Land (Cannon Street) Limited, Walbrook Land (Cannon Street Project Management) Limited, Court Park Properties (Farringdon) Limited, Manse (Edinburgh) Limited, PAVF Second Nominees 18 Limited, Manse (Edinburgh Asset Management) Limited, Bruton (Dunstable Asset Management) Limited, Opus Land North (Bourse) Limited, Angle Property (Gatehouse) Limited, Angle Property Limited, Cantium (Jersey) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 28 Limited, Wrenbridge (Benet Street) Limited, Wrenbridge (Chiswick) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 27 Limited, Angle Property (Aylesbury) Limited, Wrenbridge (Benet Street Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 26 Limited, Wrenbridge (Chiswick Asset Management) Limited, Cubex (Glastonbury Project Management) Limited, Cubex (Glastonbury) Limited, Wrenbridge (Chingford Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 25 Limited, Wrenbridge (Chingford) Limited, Wrenbridge Beer Limited, Wrenbridge (Ipswich IL Project Management) Limited, PCDF Second Nominees 24 Limited, Wrenbridge (Ipswich IL) Limited, Cantium (Hardwick Farm) Limited and Danescroft (Old Marston) Limited.

## 5. What About Trevor Cartner?

Trevor Cartner is the Chairman of Helios, a company he established in 1996 in a merger with his own firm, Fifth Avenue. He has successfully developed over 6 million sq ft of commercial land. Helios maintains offices in Tees Valley, Leeds, London, Zagreb and Abu Dhabi. We understand that Trevor Cartner serves on the board of the following companies: Natzone Limited; Discovery Park Limited; Helios Property Management Services Limited; Cartner Property Services Limited; Strategic Sites Middlesbrough Limited; Wynyard Regeneration Services Limited; Wynyard Park (Estate Co) Limited; UK Strategic Partnership Limited; Strategic Sites Limited; Tees Valley Ventures Limited; Wynyard Serviced Offices Limited; T C Catering Limited; Tees Valley Ventures Limited; PPZ Europe Limited; Natzo Limited; Helios (City) Ltd; Helios Development Management Ltd; Helios (Industrial Developments) Ltd; Wynyard Park Limited; Helios Property Holdings Limited; Helios Wynyard Limited; Selene Property Services Limited and Helios Properties Public Limited Company.

# 6. What About Young Christopher Musgrave?

Chris Musgrave is the Chief Executive of Wynyard Park. Between 2005 and 2011, he attracted more than £250 million of private investment into Wynyard with 60 new arrivals on site employing in excess of 1,500 people. In June 2011, last year, Chris Musgrave welcomed Paul Barber to the team with a brief to be: "responsible for developments off the Wynyard Park site, including a proposed Advanced Manufacturing Park on the South-West Iron Masters site in Middlesbrough which it is intended will focus on the future energy sector." We understand that Christopher Musgrave serves on the board of the following companies: Discovery Park Limited; Strategic Sites Middlesbrough Limited; Wynyard Food And Catering Limited; JCM Catering Limited; UK Strategic Partnership Limited; Allens West Limited; JCM Envirocycle Limited; Wynyard Management Consultants Limited; Wynyard School House Limited; Wynyard School House Limited; Strategic Sites Limited; JC Musgrave Limited; Wynyard One Limited; Wynyard School House Limited; Chris Musgrave Limited; JCM Holdings Limited; Wynyard Serviced Offices Limited; Chris Musgrave Limited; JCM Holdings Limited; JCM Retail Equipment Limited and JCM Disposals Limited.

# 7. What Must I Do To Supply Products Or Services To Discovery Park Limited?

All Chamber members of the Thanet & East Kent Chamber not in arrears of membership fees will be represented at a meeting with the new owners. As the largest business support organisation in the area, the Thanet & East Kent Chamber is best placed to represent the commercial interests of local companies wishing to benefit from the regeneration of the site. We are also aware that the owners of commercial properties in the East Kent coastal business community will also take a keen interest in any incentives for incoming tenants and will wish to be taken into consideration in any special arrangements offered by government agencies.

# 8. Train Hard, Fight Easy

This headline motto is often heard in the UK armed services and it represents a simple truth that has been aptly demonstrated by the success to date of the GB team at the London Olympics; unprecedented in the modern era. With golf likely to be an Olympic sport in Rio in 2016, there is every motivation for club golfers to start practising now. Seb Coe's cyclists, rowers, sailors, horse-riders, gymnasts, tennis players and athletes have surely met their objective "to inspire a generation". Although Olympian Adam Gemili did not start running seriously until January of this year, our medal winners have all been supremely dedicated to their sport with 'practise, practise, practise' an oft-repeated mantra in the years before the games started. Ambitious East Kent golfers have an unrivalled choice of practice opportunities to suit a variety of budgets. Manston Golf Centre offers a Beat the Pro competition every two weeks from 16<sup>th</sup> August. It costs just £2 to enter and the winner receives a handsome prize of a sleeve of Srixon AD333 balls. Manston Golf Centre is also offering a fitting day on 17<sup>th</sup> August for Ping's new range of Anser clubs. If you are a competent golfer with some free time on any day between 1700 hrs to 1900 hrs and possess a  $\pounds 5$  note, those are the blue ones, you can be supplied with an unlimited number of golf balls to hit on the Manston Centre driving range, telephone 01843 823133 for more details. Stonelees Golf Club at Ebbsfleet between Sandwich and Ramsgate has excellent road links now that the dual East Kent link dual carriageway has been completed. A choice of three courses to suit all abilities is available. Whether you prefer a par 3 for beginners, a 9-hole 'Executive' for those with aspirations or the full-length Heights course for good golfers who can reverse their cars better than Tiger Woods, you can be

assured of a warm welcome in the new club house, described by Ronnie Corbett as "It's just so comfortable, so un-stuffy". For more details, telephone 01843 823133.

# 9. Golf Day Inflation & Bank of England

The Thanet & East Kent Chamber Golf Day is scheduled for Prince's Golf Club on  $12^{th}$ October 2012. Gene Sarazen played at Prince's in 1932 and called it "the finest links course". This was perhaps not surprising since his total there in 1932 of 283 strokes for 72 holes won him the Open Championship along with the princely sum of £100. The Chamber Golf Day on this magnificent course this year will have a prize fund of over £30,000; a plain fact that might serve as one measure of inflation for our good friends at the Bank of England to consider at the next meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee. Chamber members who have followed the recent Libor Parliamentary enquiry will know that it featured an alleged misunderstanding between Paul Tucker of the Bank of England and Bob Diamond of Barclays Bank. They may also recall that Paul Tucker is the Deputy Governor of the Bank of England and was our guest of honour at a Thanet & East Kent Chamber business seminar last year when his expert analysis of the UK economy was warmly received for its honesty, integrity and evidence-based conclusions. It cannot be of any surprise to Chamber members that Paul Tucker has been tipped to be the next Governor of the Bank of England. Bob Diamond resigned as Chief Executive of Barclays Bank on  $3^{rd}$  July 2012.

# 10. BBC and Thanet & East Kent Chamber

As we related in the previous edition of the Thanet & East Kent Insider, the Chamber enjoys long-standing good relations with the media in East Kent across all sectors. We are always happy to represent the views of local businesses. The Chamber was particularly pleased to comment on BBC Radio Kent breakfast show yesterday on the growth of home working in East Kent. We had learned that Apple, IBM and other well-respected companies with offices in London had encouraged their staff to work from home during the period of the Olympics. Chamber member David Batten of JumpStart UK joined the interview which is available on the BBC iPlayer until 10<sup>th</sup> August 2012, click on <u>http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/player/p00w5c19</u> and fast forward to 1:38.45.

## **II. East Kent For Home And Business**

East Kent is becoming increasingly attractive to London-based companies that are downsizing. Reduced premises costs, lower salaries and improved connections through the High Speed link are generating an increasing number of enquiries from France as well as elsewhere in the UK, see "France Hollande And East Kent" below. Our proximity to Europe means that Kent has an advantage over every other county in the UK for export-orientated companies. Any London residents may conclude that a four-bedroomed house with a garden, sea views and ample parking in East Kent offers a better lifestyle and family home that a cramped flat with high service charges next to a busy main road in Kensington. Also, against the national trend, the East Kent economy has enjoyed something of a revival in the last two months, as revealed in the unemployment figures quoted in the previous edition of the Thanet & East Kent Insider. One of the key issues in providing attractive premises for inward investors is high-speed broadband links. If you wish to upgrade your IT systems or media services, then you might like to contact one or more of the following companies: AI IT Web Design of Broadstairs tel: 01843 604664; Auratek of Broadstairs tel: 0845 652 2438; Coastal Data Systems of Ramsgate tel: 01843 823324; ICC Services Limited of Deal tel: 01304 365200; InCloudOne Ltd of Sandwich tel: 01732 447859; Simtech Computer Systems Ltd of Margate tel: 01843 297652; Sota Solutions of Sittingbourne tel: 01795 413500; Symbolism Retail Ltd of Ramsgate tel: 01843 581826; Sticki Media Ltd of Whitstable tel: 01227 638083; Kavernel Media of Dover tel: 01304 213178; Multi Media Services of Deal tel: 01304 365138.

## 12. Good News On Tax Credits

David Batten of Jump Start informs members that HMRC Research & Development (R&D) Tax Credits are "not just for scientists in white coats". It appears that you can wear a coat of any colour and still qualify. David states: "Companies in the software, computer gaming, food, printing, and construction industries and many other sectors may be eligible. However, lots of companies are missing out because they think either they do not qualify, or do not have time to make a claim" David Batten maintains that many of those who do claim, do not claim enough. He has a valid point as it appears that many applicants receive a fraction of the sum to which they are entitled or do not even realise that they have a claim., Our research reveals that the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) is keen to support applications that "contribute directly to seeking the advance in science or technology or must be a qualifying indirect activity." David Batten tells us that around £1 billion of tax credit remains unclaimed each year. He continues: "To get the maximum benefit, you need in addition to a financial report, a robust technical submission which can result in four to ten times the credit thought possible. Even if an application has been made previously, this can be uplifted and backdated up to two years later, often resulting in a cash payment. Jumpstart works solely on R&D Tax credits and we work with your accountants and advisors where necessary. We have made nearly 4,000 successful applications in this complicated area using our team of technical analysts to ensure the maximum claim is accepted and not challenged by HMRC." Chamber member David Batten can be reached at Jump Start by email to david.batten@jumpstartuk.co.uk. The Thanet & East Kent Chamber has a mobile telephone number for Jump Start which is available on application by email to <u>admin@tekc.co.uk</u> with the subject line "Jump Start Mobile".

## **13. France Hollande And East Kent**

We are grateful to Andy Rayfield of Chamber member Maxim of Tunbridge Wells, tel: 01892 513033, for updating the Thanet & East Kent Chamber on French interest in East Kent. We learn that: "Figures from Locate in Kent, the county's investment promotion agency charged with attracting and retaining jobs in Kent, show that over the past five years, 17 companies from France have either relocated to Kent or reaffirmed their commitment to the county, compared to 12 from Germany." One of the reasons given for the surge of attention from across the Channel is a change in the tax structure mooted for business owners and senior executives in France. "With new President Francois Hollande proposing tax changes that would see his country's highest earners facing a 75 per cent rate and scrapping tax breaks on overtime, Kent may be reaping the benefit of an exodus of French businesses." Encouraged by the claim that the numbers of French citizens in London "make it the equivalent of the sixth largest city in France", Locate In Kent is making especial efforts to recruit disillusioned French entrepreneurs. Anyone who has visited Melbourne, Australia in the past twenty years will know how successful it has been in attracting Greek businesses. Melbourne is now generally considered to be the third largest Greek city. Locate In Kent's Chief Executive, Paul Wookey, is confident that such success in attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) can be replicated in Kent. "There are many reasons for these very encouraging figures, not least that as an organisation we have been working hard to generate opportunities from northern Europe, and particularly France". The Thanet & East Kent Chamber looks forward to working with Locate In Kent and other agencies in attracting FDI to Kent and in finding new markets for our indigenous firms.

## 14. Properties Wanted

Faced with a wave of prospective new tenants, Karen Simmons of On The Spot Property in Ramsgate is looking for landlords "with good quality apartments and houses in the area for our professional tenants including Wind Farm Personnel, who are seeking tenancies between 6-12 months". Karen has a long list of well-heeled clients waiting for accommodation and will welcome any recommendations from Chamber members. Karen is well-known to the Thanet & East Kent Chamber through her Ramsgate Yacht Sales company in Ramsgate. If you know of any suitable flats or houses, give Karen a call. She can be contacted by telephone to 07809 736327 or in person at 36 Military Road, Ramsgate CT11 9LG. We should add that if you have contacts that are not 'well-heeled', this can be easily remedied by directing them to Chamber member Brewer's Shoe Retail & Repair Ltd at 19 King Street, Sandwich CT13 9BT where they can expect first-class service at competitive rates from the best shoe repairers in East Kent.

# 15. Tourism News

Tourism is important to Kent and very important to East Kent. We are fortunate in our county that we are extremely well represented at the top table of national tourism. Visit Kent's much admired Chief Executive, Sandra Matthews-Marsh, has just been elected vice-chairman of the Tourism Society, the professional membership organisation for the industry. From this occasional elevated vantage point, she will be well placed to represent Kent's interests worldwide in what she describes as "a highly competitive international marketplace." Thanet & East Kent Chamber members will recall the brilliant presentation on in-bound tourism by Visit Kent Chairman Amanda Cottrell OBE, herself a board member of Visit England, when she addressed our Chamber Business Breakfast at the Bell Hotel Sandwich last June. Her central thesis was that East Kent businesses should work together to encourage overnight stays from tourists rather than make individual and sometimes conflicting bids to attract day visitors. The business case is unarguable since the evidence reveals what common sense dictates; overnight stays generate considerably more revenue than day trips. The value of tourism to our local economy was clearly shown in the comprehensive economic impact study of 2009 data. The figures demonstrate that East Kent coastal businesses outperform most inland districts in Kent and Medway, sustaining from 9% to 10% of the workforce in Thanet, Shepway, Canterbury and Dover districts, as the brief summary below confirms.

District	Tourism Income For Business	% of Total Jobs
Thanet	£217,051,000	9.9%
Shepway	£219,324,000	9.9%
Canterbury	£407,090,000	8.9%;
Dover	£210,599,000	8.9%
Swale	£207,264,000	7.4%.
Ashford	£236,061,000	7.3%
Maidstone	£228,416,000	7.3%

The Economic Impact of Tourism, Tourism South East Research Unit, 2010

## 16. East Kent In Focus

Last Monday evening. Kent County Council hosted a feedback session at County Hall, Maidstone on the latest developments to promote East Kent. Introduced by KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter, the main speaker was Michael Hayman, Managing Director of Seven Hills PR Agency which won the  $\pm 100,000$  contract from KCC. Michael Hayman is also a director of

Start Up Britain and until April 2010 was on the board of Creative Sheffield Limited alongside Cllr Helen Boukouris. In a stunning PowerPoint presentation that left images on screen long enough to impress but not long enough to copy, Michael Hayman outlined the strategic thinking behind a draft plan to highlight East Kent with a compelling story. Unafraid to enlist the support of Martin Luther King "The fierce urgency of now", John Fitzgerald Kennedy and a host of wellknown figures, he also produced some telling local quotes such as "On the same day, you can have lunch in France, theatre in London and sleep back in East Kent". Michael Hayman explained how the past seven weeks of meetings, workshops and interviews had provided the evidence behind his draft plan. He drew on the experience of the inward investment campaigns in Scotland "Success Likes It Here", Sheffield "Made in Sheffield", Liverpool "It's Liverpool, I'm Liverpool" and Manchester "We produce. We nurture. And we attract the very best." in proposing the slogan "East Kent: Grow For It". After a moment's reflection, this was well received by the invited audience of key decision-makers from the private and public sector. Offering the prospect of success to inward investors, the slogan also harks back to Kent's traditional title of "The Garden of England". Michael Hayman added that the evidence pointed towards a campaign that emphasized the four sectors of Green Technology, Biotech & Life Sciences, Creative & Design and Tourism. Questions afterwards revealed that KCC is prepared to devote £250,000 to the campaign if the initial stage is considered a success. Some questions from the floor alluded to the rivalry between towns, the difficulty of defining the area covered and parochial concerns about specific sectors, but these were easily brushed aside by Paul Carter who also rejected the notion that we should reject the name "East Kent" in favour of Greater Canterbury. Perhaps mindful of the many travellers who pass through without stopping and spending, Paul Carter recalled the words of his much lamented predecessor, Sir, later Lord, Sandy Bruce-Lockhart, who often referred to "East Kent, the best kept secret'. The Thanet & East Kent Chamber joins our County Council leader in the campaign to reveal the secret to as wide an audience as possible and looks forward to working with KCC, Michael Hayman and Seven Hills in promoting 'East Kent: Grow For It' for the benefit of all companies, workers and residents in our beautiful corner of South East England.

# 17. Media Watch

For the vast majority of sports fans who were not able to obtain tickets for the greatest show on earth, the small television screen at home or the large screens at venues around the country have provided the best opportunity to follow the visual dramas that have accompanied Team GB's successes at the London Olympics. Our excellent Kent-based regional news services have kept us all updated in print and on the radio on the progress of athletes from the county. It is perhaps a pity that such high standards are not always apparent in the output from national outlets. There were nonetheless some insightful comments. Hugh Porter, four times world cycling champion and husband of Olympic Gold Medallist Anita Lonsbrough, blessed us with the observation: "Success is getting what you want, happiness is liking what you get" which undoubtedly provides food for thought for all would be millionaires. The website of the Sun newspaper did not exactly distinguish itself by declaring: "Greg Rutherford gets shock Olympic high jump gold for Britain" and followed this with the lines: "Team GB's Rutherford was the surprise winner on an amazing day of medal success for the home nation at London 2012". This must have been a particular surprise for Greg Rutherford as he had entered the long jump and not the high jump. Needless to report, the error was corrected, but not before it had been seen and verified by one eagle-eyed Chamber member. Denise Lewis had earlier suggested on BBC1 that Greg Rutherford was "having to dig deep in the long jump". It is amazing how many British competitors were exhorted on all sides to dig deep. It suggests that a second Channel Tunnel could be built in record time if we could only somehow harness the energies of our Olympic athletes. It is easy to forgive factual inaccuracies in the excitement of medal-winning

performances from British Olympians. Less forgivable perhaps was the Beeb's Dan Roan's assertion to one startled performer: "You've secured a place in history. The very first medal that Britain has won in its very own Olympics. That must be something." It certainly would be something requiring the services of the BBC's own Doctor Who or Back To The Future's Doc Emmet Brown considering that Britain won 23 medals at the London Olympics of 1948 and 146 medals at the London Olympics of 1908. Anyone who takes a serious interest in the election of a Kent Police and Crime Commissioner due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 might like to reflect that in those London Olympic Games of 1908, the Tug of War Gold medal was won by the City of London Police. The silver medal was awarded to the Liverpool Police and the bronze medal entered the proud possession of the Londoin Metropolitan Police 'K' Division. Now those were the days before political correctness, ASBOs and the Human Rights Act. If an Edwardian bobby asked you to behave properly, you were actively encouraged to comply or he would indeed pull you in for questioning.

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David Foley Chief Executive, Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited Tel: +44 (0) 1843 609289 Email: davidfoley@tekc.co.uk Mobile: +44 (0) 7967 284850

It's happening now, it's happening in Thanet & East Kent. For details of membership, email <u>admin@tekc.co.uk</u>

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