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GOOD NEWS FROM RIVER WARD CONSERVATIVES



Council Tax to be frozen in 2011/12

Council tax in Medway is consistently amongst the lowest in the country. Now a very welcome £130 per year cheaper than the average in Kent, and at least £200 cheaper than an equivalent Labour run council.

Weekly bin collections and recycling improved

We give our commitment to keep weekly bin collections. The last Labour government wanted us to adopt madcap schemes such as 'pay as you throw' and bi-weekly collections. We simply said NO.

Safeguarding Medway's Grammar schools

If Labour came anywhere close to power in Medway, their first move would be to take Grammar schools out of the system. Medway Conservatives give their commitment to maintaining the Grammar school choice.

Permanent crime reduction in Chatham Town centre and River Ward in general

Close working by River Ward Conservatives with Kent Police in Medway has led to a new team of 8 dedicated officers for River Ward (up from just 3 in 2007) resulting in town centre crime down 50% with the disruption of prostitution, shoplifting and street drinking.

No toll ever on the Medway tunnel under the Conservatives

The opposition—Labour and the Lib-Dems—repeatedly spin the tale that Medway Conservatives will place a toll on the Medway Tunnel. This will never happen under the Conservatives.

Full Medway Council elections on May 5th. Established candidates for River Ward - Cllr Craig Mackinlay and Andrew Mackness



Craig is a Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax Adviser, with professional practices in Medway. He lives in Chatham Town Centre, was born in Chatham and educated in Medway. He plays a key role as trustee of many local groups and charities in Medway, notably the City of Rochester Round Table, Chatham Historic Dockyard and The Foord Almshouses. He has been your River Ward Councillor since May 2007.



Andrew lives in the heart of River Ward, and has done so, with his family, for nearly ten years. Formerly a commercial jet pilot, he is now Managing Director of a local catering company with its operations in River Ward employing 20 local people. A real success story for local employment.

GOT A MINUTE? TAKE OUR SURVEY



Have your say. Please take a few minutes on-line to tell us what you think about the services provided by Medway Council and tell us if you'd like to help in the May 2011 local election campaign.

Go to www.riverward.co.uk

Caring and campaigning for our community

 **Conservatives**



Work in St Mary's Island and Dockyard

River Ward Conservatives ensured that Medway Council subsidised the school bus service you wanted and needed.

The Island's future

We are calling for the remaining undeveloped SEEDA land to form the backbone of a permanent endowment to ensure top quality maintenance in perpetuity of the island's landscaping and roads. It may be that St Mary's Island

should become a new Parish with fundraising powers to ensure that the needs of residents are met. We fully support any such proposals if supported by residents.



If it needs gritting - let's grit it!

Whilst St Mary's roads remain un-adopted by Medway Council until completion by developers, the Council has no obligation to grit the roads in snowy conditions. River Ward Conservatives are asking the Portfolio Holder for Front Line Services to extend gritting, on a concessionary basis, to the main ring-road of St Mary's Island should appalling weather return this year.



Picture: Andrew Mackness on St Mary's approach road asks "Why grit just to here and no further?"

Chatham and Rochester Town Centres

River Ward Conservatives have been active in the birth of the new Chatham Town Centre Neighbourhood Panel (PACT), pictured on the left with Chairman Mike Spencer, a local business owner. Its purpose is to ensure that town centre regeneration is monitored, planning issues scrutinised, policing needs delivered and that the 'nuts and bolts' issues affecting residents and businesses are addressed.

Cllr Mackinlay also sits on the parallel, business only, 'Chatham Town Centre Forum'.




Andrew Mackness talks to Matt Brogan, manager of 'Caring Hands in the Community', New Road.

Brompton and Barracks

Brompton remains, uniquely, the 'village within the town'. River Ward Conservatives are active at local PACT meetings and have provided Councillor Ward funding to Brompton projects, notably the annual Brompton festival, the Melville resource centre and to support the new and growing Gurkha-Nepalese community group. In the photographs Cllr Mackinlay highlights repair work conducted, following his intervention, to address loose paving stones and with Brompton residents at a recent walk-audit of Medway Council housing stock in Brompton, to ensure tenants concerns are promptly addressed by appropriate officers.



River Ward Conservatives - Action ALL the time, not just at election time.

The two "MACKS" on May 5th 2011
 **Conservatives**

