



A sure sign that spring is on way

SPRING is most definitely on the way as residents at the Wildwood Discovery Park wake up from their winter slumber. Animals which have been in hibernation are beginning to reappear.

Adders being hand fed by keepers in a Wildwood reptile room are soon expected to be joined by lizards, frogs and pond tortoises.

Keeper Ali Bennett said: "It is always exciting to see them waking up."

Choice of activities

A RANGE of activities will be available at a Horsebridge Centre open day next month.

Arts and crafts, keep fit classes and dancing are just some of the delights on offer at the Horsebridge Road venue on April 10.

To teach a taster session or set up a stall at one of the workshops call 01227 281174.

For more information visit www.horsebridge-centre.org.uk

Phone thief

A THIEF stole a mobile phone from a woman as she was walking along texting a message in Palace Street, Canterbury.

The man came up to her near the Bell and Crown pub and snatched the phone from her. He dropped it when the woman called out and then he ran off towards St Radigund's Street.

Police say the thief is black, aged 20 to 25, 5ft 10 ins tall, of stocky build and with a goatee beard. He was wearing a dark green, three-quarter length coat.

Anyone with information can PC James Murrell on 01227 868378.

Centre meeting

WHITSTABLE'S Horsebridge Centre will hold its annual meeting on Monday.

People interested in attending and hearing about the last year's activities should drop into the Horsebridge Road venue and let staff know or email will@horsebridge-centre.org.uk.

The meeting will run from 6pm to 8pm.

Theft of pear trees

THIEVES have stolen 40 young pear trees from Brogdale Farm at Ospringe. The trees, which were bare rooted for planting, were taken last Saturday night and Kent police want to hear from anyone who may be offered them for their garden.

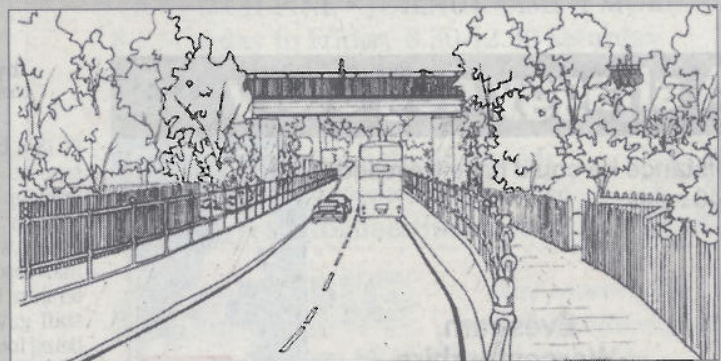
Anyone with information is asked to contact Kent Police on 01795 419182.



Robin Townsend of the Crab and Winkle Trust, David Young from Sustrans, Neil Baker from Whitstable and David Robert from Sustrans look at the plans



Proposed view looking west along The Bridge Approach



Proposed view looking east along Teynham Road

Cycle bridge plans go on display

by Joe Walker
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DESIGNS for two new bridges linking the extended Crab and Winkle cycle path have been on display.

A public exhibition at the Horsebridge Centre on Friday and Saturday allowed people to give their views on the proposed bridges crossing Old Bridge Road and Teynham Road in Whitstable.

The bridges will form part of a new route for pedestrians and cyclists between the existing Crab and Winkle Way at All Saints Close and Whitstable seafront.

Planning permission for the route was granted in September by Canterbury City Council, but work will

not begin until permission is also granted for the new bridges.

Crab and Winkle Line Trust chairman Marcial Boo said: "People were really interested in the designs and were able to satisfy themselves with what was actually happening."

"The feedback was mostly positive. People have been waiting for these bridges for a long time."

The project is a partnership between sustainable transport charity Sustrans, Kent County Council, Canterbury City Council and the Crab and Winkle Line Trust.

Once complete, the multi-million-pound scheme will complete a greenway and promenade along a 12-mile stretch of coastline.

It will also connect the existing Crab and Winkle Way between Whitstable and Canterbury with the Viking Coastal Trail in Thanet and the Oyster Bay Trail between Whitstable and Reculver.

Sustrans regional director for the south east Simon Pratt said: "We are really pleased that lots of people took time to come to see the exhibition at the weekend and many talked to the project team to ask questions about the bridges, offer their support and give their comments."

"There is still time for people to comment as the plans will remain on display at the library in Whitstable until the closing date for feedback on March 26."

Puppy Tulip blooms at Crufts

A DOG owner was celebrating this week after her puppy scooped a top prize at Crufts.

Vivienne Roberts, from Bridge, was over the moon when 11-month-old Tulip won first place in its Welsh Corgi puppy class.

The puppy, which was imported from Holland when it was nine weeks old, impressed judges at the competition last Thursday.

Mrs Roberts said: "It was a really nice surprise."

"I've been showing her for the last five months and she's been doing really well, but we didn't expect to win a first at Crufts."

Tulip's success is all the more remarkable considering she spent her first six months in quarantine.

Mrs Roberts, who has two other corgis, said: "Because she was imported she had to



Vivienne Roberts with Tulip

Picture: Barry Goodwin PD1686172

be kept down at Deal to have tests and injections.

"I went down to see her every day. We played together and developed a real bond."

"Two days after she was allowed out I showed her at two competitions and she won both. She's a lovely dog and a pleasure to have."

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