

ARCHE'S [LOCAL] PROFILE



A COMMUNITY IN TRANSFORMATION



ARCHE'S LOCAL PROFILE



Luton Arches from Chatham Hill.



Arches from Chatham Hill
Modern Arches and local Studies
Collection collection
DE-402/16.29 (J)

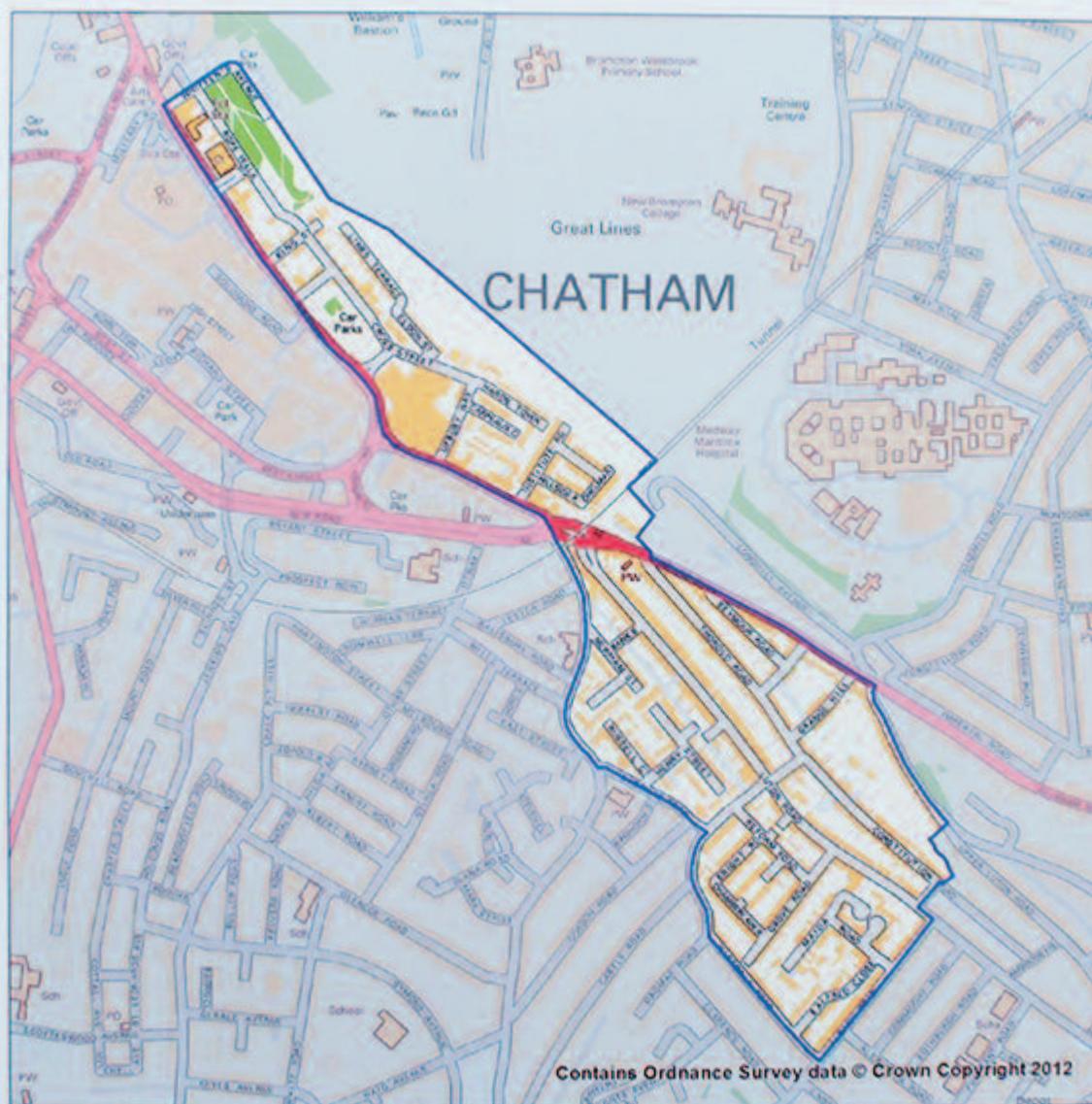
Luton Arch, Chatham
Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre
Collection collection
R02/1629 (J)



ARCHE'S LOCAL

We are a group of local people who want to make a big change in the area we live. Over the past 2 years we have been holding meetings, events + celebrations to find out what local residents want to see change in their area. This profile represents their thoughts + opinions. Together we have developed a plan with £1M of Big Lottery money to respond to the needs of the people who live here and transform the Arches local community.





ARCHE'S

old + new

The central point of the Arches Local community is Luton Arches. The railway arches are a natural dividing point for the area + were previously well maintained.

The rich history of the Arches Local area can be seen in the following pictures - from tram lines, horses + carts to billboards + steel girders - this is a thoroughfare for the local community and a landmark of which we are proud.









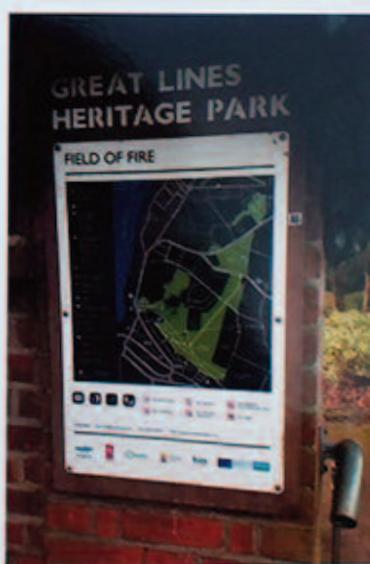


OUR AREA - What is it like?

This area of Chatham has about 4,440 residents from diverse backgrounds. We have a lot of young people + newly arrived migrants from Eastern Europe living in the area. There is a large proportion of housing that is rented out by private landlords. Although there are green spaces around, they do sit just outside of the Arches local area - this is the same for primary + secondary schools. We have lots of beautiful places, spaces + buildings, but many are poorly maintained. We have lots of passionate residents who love the area + want to make it a better place to live + work.







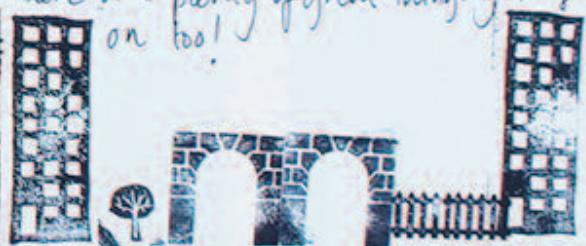


PLACES what's around?

Here are a number of local services + facilities around the Arches Local area. These are pictured in the next few pages.

Statistically the area is ranked in the bottom 10% of the country for employment deprivation, crime deprivation + living environment deprivation.

This is only part of the picture though, there are plenty of great things going on too!



COMMUNITY

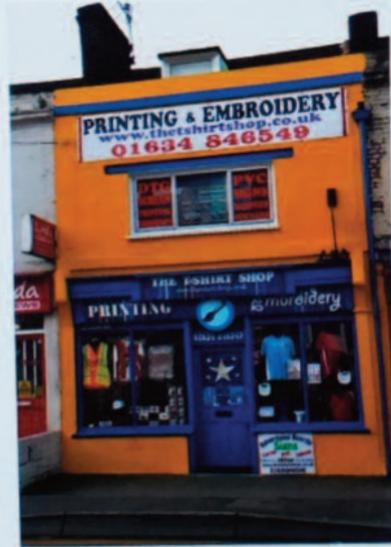




BUSES, SHOPS
& HOUSES



C O M M U N I T Y C A R E & D E V E L O P M E N T



We have many thriving local businesses that represent our diverse + vibrant community. From car washing to kick boxing - we have a lot going on. With many international cafes + supermarkets you are spoilt for choice. There are many people making a living + spending money in the Arches local area!



BUSINESSES

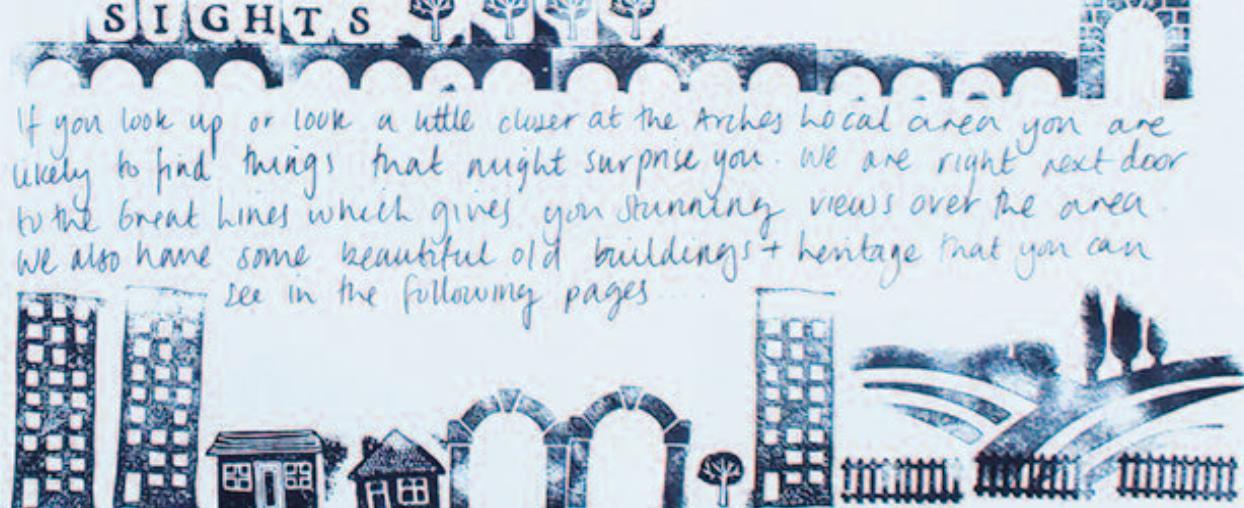






SIGHTS

If you look up or look a little closer at the Arches local area you are likely to find things that might surprise you. We are right next door to the Great Lines which gives you stunning views over the area. We also have some beautiful old buildings + heritage that you can see in the following pages...







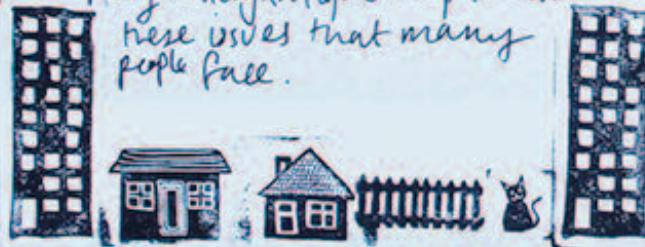




CHANGES

Despite the many good + promising things about our area - there are still some changes we would like to see. We have been talking to local people + many have told us that they would love to see more social investment in the area - this means help with personal finances, budgeting, advice, counselling, employment + training, health + lifestyles.

£1M of Big lottery ^{money} might help to address these issues that many people face.





CHANGES

Local people are very concerned about the open spaces + the environment of the local area. They would like the places their children play to be safe + well maintained.

Our community researchers who worked tirelessly to collect information from local residents heard comments like.... 'streets should be cleaner' 'fly-tipping' 'hanging baskets + community green projects' 'dog mess' 'cycle paths' 'foxes + bins' have a look at some of the problems we found...





CHANGES
Open spaces + the Environment...

CHANGES



Open Spaces + the Environment



CHANGES

Private rented sector housing is also an issue that local residents had a lot to say about.

They were worried about the quality of some of the private rented houses/flats and how this might have a knock-on effect on people's health + wellbeing.

Overcrowding + anti-social behaviour was also of concern.

We want to see our neighbourhoods looked after a bit better!



CHANGES

Private Rented Sector Housing . . .



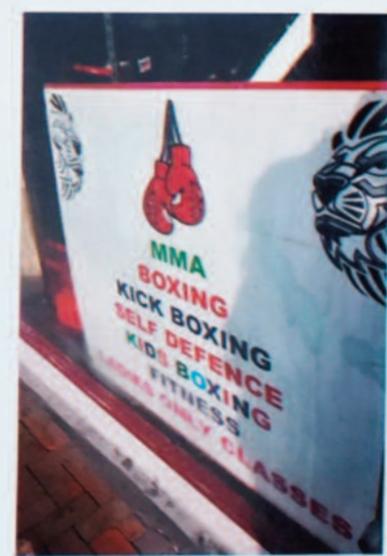
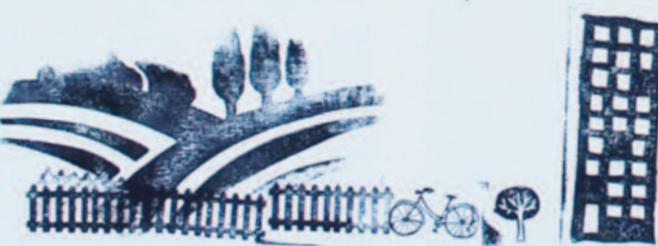


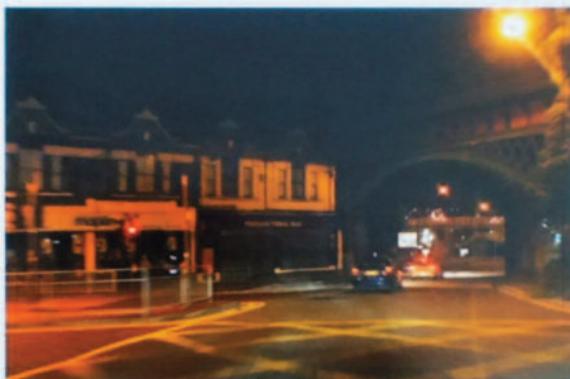
CHANGES

Many local residents say that there is a lack of things to do for young people in the Archer Local area.

Our community researchers found people saying 'nothing for children under 5' ... 'youths loitering' ... 'community centre for young people' ... 'unused facilities - Town Hall Gardens!' ... 'no parks' ... 'don't feel safe' ...

We need to bring young people together of different ages + backgrounds to make the area a better place to live!





Activities for Young People ...

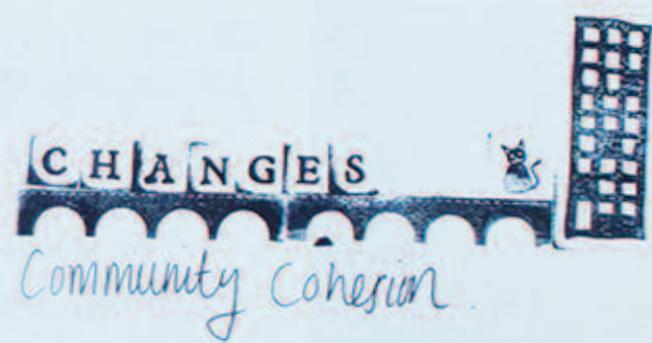
CHANGES

In the Arches local area it is sometimes difficult to get everyone in the local community to get together.

With so many people from different backgrounds, with language barriers + cultural issues, things can be a challenge.

The community researchers found that many residents wanted to get back that feeling of community spirit + have all sections of the local community working together.







CHANGE IN ACTION

Our Arches Local journey is only just beginning + already we have done so many things that have made a difference, from the mobile farm + the ten pin bowling party to the monthly meetings + steering groups we have developed. By spreading the word about our work + making lots of exciting changes, we are going to see our community grow + develop into an even more vibrant + diverse place

- please add yourself + your story to our photo journal!!



by katie charlton

