CARGO
BAR & GRILL
BLOCK T | LIBERTY QUAYS
OPEN 12:00 - 23:00
MONDAY - SUNDAY

Quality food, drink
and live music

Nôl
KITCHEN
ROCHESTER BUILDING
MEDWAY CAMPUS
OPEN 8:30 - 15:30
MONDAY - FRIDAY

Freshly made tea
and coffee

Delicious breakfasts,
lunches and snacks
Welcome from GK Unions & Kent Union

The Medway campus is a unique place, shared by the universities of Kent, Greenwich and Canterbury Christ Church. GK Unions at Medway is a partnership between the University of Greenwich Students’ Union and Kent Union, the students’ union of the University of Kent. Basically, you get the best of both worlds… you’ll become a member of GK Unions AND Kent Union – hooray!

From campaigns and elections, sports to societies, bars to cafés and jobs and advice, you name it, we’ve got it!

We can provide you with support services such as a Jobshop and an advice centre as well as activities such as sports clubs, societies and volunteering opportunities that make studying and living in Medway as stress-free, fun and challenging as possible. GK Unions also runs The Deep End – a social venue that’s set to run some fantastic events throughout the year.

Being a part of the University of Kent at Medway can be one of the most enjoyable, rewarding and exhilarating experiences of your life, meeting new people and learning new things. We’re here to make sure you have the best possible experience alongside your academic studies. Feel free to come and chat with us on campus about any problems that may arise during your studies.

So what’s next?
To #discoverMedway, visit www.gkunions.co.uk and check out all the exciting things we do and how you can get involved.

University is one of the most amazing times of your life. You get to make friends and study the subject you love. The only piece of advice that I’d give you is to get involved in as many activities as you can, so you can make the most of your experience.

Aaron Thompson, Kent Union President
E: union-president@kent.ac.uk  www.kentunion.co.uk
Why we love Kent Uni

There’s a lot to love about being at Kent – the social life, the fab facilities and so much more. We asked our students to tell us about their favourite things...

“Confidence is the number one thing that’s changed. Every time I think I’m as confident as I’ll ever be, I do something else – extra-curricular or part of the course – and my confidence grows just a little bit more!”

**Helen Bedi, Business and Management with a Year in Industry**

“Kent has exceeded my expectations, I love the professionalism and the resources that are available. I feel like I have everything I need under one roof. The lecturers’ doors are always open as well, so the level of one-to-one support is really impressive.”

**Katie Palmer, Journalism**

“I love Kent because it’s given me an opportunity to learn about the subject I am passionate about, and develop skills to pursue a career in the IT industry. Since day one, the lecturers have been amazing; they are easily accessible via email and have an open door policy. The University also has a really positive reputation for offering student support such as advice for study or other skills.”

**Muhammad Danial Ali, Business Information Technology**

“In my first year, every lecture I went into, I came out thinking, ‘This is the area for me!’ The lecturers are so passionate about their subject and that’s inspirational. You can see how they apply their social work skills in the classroom – the way they relate to people and build relationships.”

**Davina McMahon, Social Work**

“My fellow students are happy, passionate and motivated! The people make the place – and I have met so many wonderful people.”

**Vanessa Voong, Business and Management with a Year in Industry**
“The academic support is second to none and the library is one of the best with seemingly endless resources. The events team does a fantastic job of offering activities to students at extremely low prices! What’s not to love?”

**Ben Demetriou, Social Sciences**

“Everyone is so friendly, the lectures are inspiring and people are always willing to help. My first few days here were amazing and I knew from the start this was going to be an incredible and unforgettable experience.”

**Matilda Allerfeldt, Social Sciences**

“Right from the start you’re getting the experience that a journalist needs. Every morning you have a news conference where you pitch ideas, and you also have news days where you go out and find your own stories and spend a whole day producing them. The support is very one-on-one if you need it to be. My lecturers have an open door policy. You can go and see them whenever you want and they’re all really nice people. They’ll all go the extra mile for their students: you get so much useful feedback.”

**Sarah Boast, Journalism**

“In the first year everyone is settling in. And it’s good because the group work gives you the chance to get to know each other really well. In the seminars everyone values what you say – even if they don’t completely agree!”

**Barbara Blackwell, Criminal Justice and Criminology**
GK Unions is your first stop for everything you’ll need on campus, from help getting a job to having a drink with friends.

**Did you know?**

GK Unions provides a range of services for students from the University of Kent and the University of Greenwich by working with the students’ unions of both universities.

For Kent students, GK Unions works specifically with Kent Union to make sure your voice is always heard and to ensure you get the most out of your time at university.

**What we do**

**Give it a Go!**

Why not try something new? Our Give it a Go! programme is an exciting way to try a new activity or learn a new skill. You don’t need to join anything and it’s all at a student-friendly price.

Last year’s line-up was definitely diverse – everything from a trip to the Harry Potter Studios to community volunteering, nights out in London, sporting and society events and even exam napping sessions.

This year is going to be better than ever, so make sure you check us out during Fresher’s Week. For more details, see www.gkunions.co.uk/activities/giveitago

**Sport**

Sport is a great way to get involved with university life, a brilliant opportunity to meet lots of new people and, of course, keep you fit and healthy. Under GK Unions, there are 20 sports clubs, all of which are run by students from the University of Kent and the University of Greenwich. These clubs operate under the Team Medway banner, which represents all the sports clubs at GK Unions.

Everyone is catered for – from complete beginners to more advanced athletes, and many of our clubs compete in the national student leagues within British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS). There are also local competitions, such as the annual Varsity match between Medway-based students from the universities of Kent and Greenwich.
Societies and groups
Getting involved in societies is an excellent way of meeting new people and involving yourself in student life. Our range of societies is constantly expanding but if there still isn’t anything that takes your fancy, you can start a society yourself – no matter how weird or wacky! For more information, please see www.gkunions.co.uk/activities

Volunteering
Volunteering can be a great way to have fun and to meet new people; it also looks fantastic on your CV. At Medway, there are opportunities to join in with lots of different activities. Our student volunteers have learnt how to cut trees down at our local country park, helped with an international Christmas appeal, given out Easter eggs to children at our local hospital, helped children to read, and raised money for charities.

GK Unions and Kent Union run the Kent Student Certificate for Volunteering (KSCV), which is endorsed by the University. Each year there’s an annual awards ceremony, which recognises the fantastic efforts of everyone involved. For all the latest opportunities, check out www.gkunions.co.uk/activities/volunteering

Jobshop
Jobshop is an on-campus employment agency that helps you to find part-time work while you study. You can earn while you learn and enhance your employability skills ahead of graduating.

We advertise a variety of jobs in areas such as catering and bar work, marketing and administrative roles, teaching, cleaning, health and care, retail and IT positions. There’s an office in Medway as well as information online. See www.gkunions.co.uk/jobs

Student Advice Centre
There are many reasons why you might need professional advice and the Student Advice Centre is here to help. Our friendly staff can help you with academic appeals, financial, health or housing issues, employment advice, consumer concerns or visa applications. For more info see www.gkunions.co.uk/advice
Sport and recreation play a big part in university life. Whether you’re an accomplished player or athlete, or someone who just wants to try something new, there are plenty of ways you can get involved with sport at Kent – and plenty of reasons why you should! We think that sport is hugely important; it keeps you healthy, is good for your mental wellbeing and, most importantly, it’s fun! And there is no need to choose between your sporting passions and your academic studies, as Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to sport and recreation, with no seminars or lectures.

Here at GK Unions, we invite you to become part of Team Medway with 20 clubs to choose from, all of which are run by students from the University of Kent and from the University of Greenwich on the Medway campus. If you can’t find something you like, we will support you to start your own! Team Medway includes everything from drop-in social sport, to team membership and competitive sport and it’s never too late to join: students who run the clubs are always happy to see new faces!

BE A SPORT!
When you become a member of a sports club, the membership fee covers the cost of the equipment you train with, transport to fixtures, referees for games, training hire costs, and insurance for the year.

Each year, we have a Varsity match between teams of Medway-based students from the universities of Kent and Greenwich. A range of sports are played so make sure you get your tickets and support your home side! Another highlight of the year is Team Medway Sports Awards which celebrates sporting achievements. It’s a great event and always one of the best nights out on campus, so make sure you don’t miss out.

**Medway Park**

Medway Park is a fantastic sports centre near the Medway campus with a swimming pool, sports halls, squash courts, health suites and an athletics track. The uni helped to pay for it which means Kent students get special rates.

Alternatively, become a member of Kent Sport, take the free shuttle bus to Canterbury and take advantage of the University’s excellent facilities there. For details of membership costs and the various activities on offer, see www.kent.ac.uk/sport
The Medway campus has everything you need to take you from day to night.

**Student Hub**

The Student Hub is the place to be on campus. It’s buzzing with activity all year round – so you will never be bored!

In the daytime, make use of the social and study spaces. Maybe you are having a meeting with the members of your student society? Feel like having lunch out with the team? Got a big group deadline coming up? Whatever you need to do, the Hub has space for you to do it. But the fun doesn’t stop there – our evening events have everyone dancing from dusk till dawn, with nights run by the students’ union, student groups and outside promoters. We also put on live music and comedy nights, as well as DJs and performances.

The Hub also has a restaurant and bar known as The Deep End. Whether you fancy a burger, a sandwich or just a drink, the menu has something for everyone. And you can pick up a Starbucks coffee if you need a quick pick-me-up before your morning lecture. And if you’re wondering why it’s called The Deep End, here’s a bit of history. Back in the days when our campus was a naval barracks, the Deep End was a swimming pool! This gave rise to the restaurant’s name, as voted for by our own students.

You’ll also find GK Unions’ offices in the Student Hub. From the Hub reception, you can take care of your day-to-day union needs: buy your University hoodies, ask any questions you might have and organise your society or sports club events. Our friendly Union staff are on hand to help!
During Freshers’ Week, activities in the Hub will help you settle in and get used to campus. To start your first year of university in style, there is plenty to do, from quiz and comedy nights to live music and nightclub events. The Hub is a great place to meet people and nurture new friendships – and there is bound to be something that you’ll enjoy!

The Hub also hosts our Freshers’ Fair, where you can meet members of our sports clubs, check out the societies on offer and discover what volunteering opportunities are available to you. And you’ll also get to see what Medway has to offer, with local businesses around to answer your questions and get you used to your new surroundings.
Downtime on campus

No1 in the Rochester Building is a great place to meet friends for lunch. Here, you can enjoy hot meals, cooked to order in a relaxed setting or, if you’re on the go, grab something fresh from a range of sandwiches, panini and other snacks.

Venue Café

Right in the centre of campus, in the Pilkington Building, you can grab great food in a great atmosphere! The Venue Café serves hot meals, snacks and sandwiches, using local, seasonal and Fairtrade produce where possible.

Archibald Hay Mess

A vibrant, modern café in the Drill Hall Library; at the Archibald Hay Mess, you can pick up homemade sandwiches, made with local and free range produce, alongside a range of Fairtrade tea and coffee.

Pembroke Café

Fancy a slice of pizza and Costa coffee? This is the place for you! You can pick up the House Special pizza every day, along with a range of hot meals, snacks and drinks, all using local, seasonal and Fairtrade produce.

Touchdown Café

Touchdown is great for getting together for a quick bite to eat. You can pick up locally sourced, healthy, seasonal food all in a bright and contemporary setting.

The Deep End

Based in the Student Hub, this spacious venue at the heart of campus is one place you’re sure to be spending a lot of time. To find out more, see p10.
The Historic Dockyard

Explore the wealth of history that Medway has to offer at the Historic Dockyard; you can pick up a variety of British food here. Visit the brand new Mess Deck, the Wagon Stop Canteen, or bring a picnic to enjoy on the open spaces in the Dockyard. With a rich maritime heritage, you can see boats, submarines and ships... Everything from the large to the small!

Galvanising Shop Café

Take a break at The Galvanising Shop Café on our Historic Dockyard site. Open Monday to Friday, you can enjoy breakfast, lunch, or a quick snack between lectures. This venue also hosts special events.

Let’s celebrate!

Not only are you invited to all the events at the Student Hub but you’re also invited to the Canterbury campus for Kent Union events such as Freshers’ Ball and the summer extravaganza. Our free shuttle bus can get you there from Medway and there’s extra transport for big events. Fire-eaters, stilt-walkers, dodgems, champagne, live music from big names – our parties are some of the best in the country... and you’re invited to them all!
When there’s so much going on, why wouldn’t the Hub be our favourite place to hang out? Whether you are after a bite to eat, or a good night out, there’s lots to do. If you can drag yourself out of The Deep End, there are plenty of other places you can visit locally, including our favourites...

**We also love:** The Ship Inn for live music and The Frog and Toad for its lovely pub garden.

**We also love:** The Broadwick for its views of the marina and Poco Loco for the tapas.

**Castle Concerts**

Rochester Castle is the spectacular setting for the annual Castle Concerts. Set in the beautiful gardens and attracting a range of mainstream artists, it’s one of the highlights of the summer. As Craig Sawyer says, “It’s like a mini Reading Festival on your doorstep!”

**We also love:** The Tap ‘n’ Tin for local bands and The Command House for a drink by the river.

**Cargo**

Cargo is our bar and bistro, right next door to Liberty Quays accommodation. Here’s what Joshua Belvi-Thomas has to say about it: “The staff are really friendly and make you feel welcome. Me and my friends love the pool table as well – we can get a bit competitive! The drinks are reasonably priced too and it’s right on our doorstep.”

**Student Hub**

1

3
Check out some of our favourite places in Medway.

Kind of a cheat, but why vote for one shop when you can have Bluewater? And with 300 stores, a multiplex cinema, a nature trail, a trampoline park, an urban beach, boating on the lake, as well as all the restaurants, who can blame us?

**We also love:** New Look for the student discount, the bakery on Gillingham high street for its student-friendly prices and The Range for just about everything!

Medway has a number of parks that have retained their prestigious Green Flag status and Riverside Country Park is one of them. Lucy Potter describes the park as a “beautiful bit of countryside next to the river... a great place to relax and get away from things”.

**We also love:** The Strand for taking it easy by the water on a sunny day and Capstone Farm Country Park for the cycle trail.

Moomoo Clubrooms in Gillingham has three rooms of music, where you can dance to current and classic tunes. Watch out for the guest DJ sets and special offers on certain nights.

**We also love:** Strawberry Moons in Maidstone.

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**Bluewater**

**Riverside Country Park**

**Moomoo’s**
Living here

You’ve seen the prospectus and maybe you’ve been to an Open Day. But what’s it really like to live here? Even if you’re local, you’ll be spending a lot of time on campus so here’s the lowdown about life at Medway.

Campus: vital statistics

• Library opening: over 100 hours a week (term time) and 24 hours a day in exam time
• Cafés and restaurants: 8
• Societies: 36
• Largest society: Medway Pharmacy Students’ Association
• Sports clubs: 20
• Distance from Liberty Quays to campus: 1.3 miles

Going out...

Work hard and party hard: Freshers’ Ball, Summer Ball, and subsidised trips to London, Thorpe Park, clubs, plus cultural and sporting activities (including the hotly-contested Varsity competition between the universities of Kent and Greenwich)... you get the picture. Your Medway activities team is on a mission to give you the best time of your life!

Best discounts in town...

• The Odeon cinema at the Dockside has a great range of student deals including supersaver prices, NUS discounts and great food and drink offers.
• You can visit Rochester Cathedral free.
• If you need stuff for your room, head to The Range, Wilko or Poundland. Between them, they’ll sort you out.
• Try supermarkets after 8.30pm – you’ll be amazed what bargains you can pick up.
• Your student ID card also works as a cashless card. Top it up online and get 5% off by using it to pay for food in No1, Cargo and the Galvanising Shop Café.

Did you know?

The University runs a free shuttle bus to the Canterbury campus during term time. See www.kent.ac.uk/campus-shuttle for departure times.

Fun foodie facts

• Bestselling item in Cargo bar and bistro? Bacon and cheeseburger!
• Is there anything that can’t be improved by the addition of curly fries? Not according to Kent students – the twirly temptations were No1’s bestseller last year.
• The jacket spud is always a firm favourite... top three toppings are cheese, cheesy beans and tuna mayo.
There’s lots to see in the county of Kent and it really doesn’t have to cost a fortune.

- Rochester Cathedral, the second oldest cathedral in England, is well worth a visit. Entrance is free and you get an audio tour for £1. You can also get in to Rochester Castle for £4 with student ID.

- The Historic Dockyard has a treasure trove of attractions, all right on your doorstep. You can get free admission for yourself and discounted admission for up to five guests.

- The Dickens Festival in Rochester is a free event – see the town come alive with parades, street theatre and costumed characters.

- The Turner Contemporary gallery in Margate has free admission.

- Speaking of Margate, it’s got a fab beach, some great quirky shops and Dreamland amusement park. Dreamland is a bit of a Kent legend – the Scenic Railway rollercoaster is a must! A wristband gets you admission to the park, unlimited rides, plus you can re-enter throughout the day. If you purchase your wristband online in advance, you pay just £15.

- If you’ve ever wanted to try riding a JCB, tractor or dumper truck, Diggerland in Strood is the place for you. You can get a full day’s access to all the activities for £16.99 if you pre-book online.

- You can get discounted bus tickets from Arriva, ranging from a single journey to tickets that cover a whole academic year. For details, see www.kent.ac.uk/transport/discounts

- You can get to the Westfield Shopping Centre (close to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park) by train from Chatham for under £15 with a railcard.

- Buckland Lake Reserve and Capstone Farm Country Park are both free entry and offer woodland walks, nature trails and cycling routes.

- Howletts Wild Animal Park offers a great day out for under £18.

- Unleash your inner Tarzan at Go Ape in the grounds of Leeds Castle, near Maidstone. You can get 15% discount if you call and book with your student ID.

- London has so many sights to see and many of them are completely free. Go to Tate Modern, stroll around Hyde Park or catch a street performance in Covent Garden. It’s all only an hour away by train and an off-peak day return is less than £15 with a railcard.
What’s where

1. Rochester Castle
2. Rochester Cathedral
3. Odeon cinema

Rochester

M2
A228
A2
B2097
A299
Chatham Rail
Strood Rail

University of Kent
From purpose-built accommodation to private lets in Medway, there’s an option to suit everyone!
The University offers over 1,100 rooms at Liberty Quays. Part of a dynamic waterside village, Victory Pier, on the banks of the River Medway, Liberty Quays is only a ten-minute walk from campus.

Accommodation is self-catered and arranged in clusters of flats, typically housing five to eight students sharing a fully equipped kitchen. All single en-suite bedrooms have their own shower, toilet and washbasin. Included in the rental cost are all utilities and personal contents insurance, plus internet access. Liberty Quays has its own launderette and social spaces, including Cargo, an award-winning bar and bistro.

Other outlets next to the accommodation include Tesco Express, Subway and Domino’s Pizza. The accommodation also features CCTV coverage, 24-hour security and electronic entry systems.

Accommodation at Liberty Quays is available for all new and returning full-time students. You should apply as soon as you receive an offer from Kent and before 31 July in your year of entry. Many of our students continue to live at Liberty Quays throughout their studies.
Rooms for students with disabilities

A number of rooms have been adapted for students with disabilities. Please indicate any special requirements when you apply online for accommodation.

Best thing about Liberty Quays?

“The community spirit.”
**Kieran Watkins, Journalism**

“Cargo, the bar at Liberty Quays, is a really nice place to sit and relax with other students.”
**Kate Sparkes, Social Sciences**

“It’s modern, with good facilities.”
**Kirstie Baughan, Social Work**

“There were lots of other international students who were also away from home for the first time.”
**Vanessa Voong, Business and Management with a Year in Industry**

Fast facts: Living off campus

- Four universities in Medway; approx 7,670 students live in the area
- 1,900 students living in houses of multiple occupation
- Average students per household: four
- Average rent per room (not including bills): £85 per week for a 52-week contract
- Average number of properties viewed before signing a tenancy: three
- Most popular areas: Bridge Road/Mill Road (directly behind campus), Trinity Road/Strover Street/Charter Street/Saunders Street (close to Medway Park), and Corporation Road/Milner Road (opposite Liberty Quays)

Looking in town?

There are a number of private landlords with student properties located close to campus. Many advertise on www.studenttenant.com/kent or with local letting agents.

Accommodation advertised on Student Tenant will have current gas and electrical safety certification.

For more info

If you want more information on accommodation, visit www.kent.ac.uk/accommodation
## Useful contacts

**If you need more info, then these people can help**

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| As a Kent student, you can use the facilities on all our campuses – for more details on what’s available, visit: www.kent.ac.uk/locations | www.thestudentroom.co.uk  
  www.whatuni.com | Tickets, timetables, and live information on when the next bus is due.  
  www.arrivabus.co.uk |
| **Accommodation**       | **Stay in the know..** | **Train Tracker**   |
| Ready to book or want to know more?  
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  www.thestudentroom.co.uk |
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YOUR STUDENT BAR ON THE MEDWAY CAMPUS

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SOCIETIES EVENTS | LIVE SPORTS

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