



## **Press Release**

Issued on behalf of Visit Kent

### **VISIT KENT HOSTS VICTORIAN THEMED CHRISTMAS PARTY Investor supported event to thank media for its support throughout 2009**

Visit Kent hosted a glittering Christmas party last week (3 December) at the home of Chairman Amanda Cottrell to thank local, national and European media for their continued support of Kent and Visit Kent over the past year.

The event was Victorian themed to tie in with the release of the new Sherlock Holmes movie that was almost entirely filmed in Kent. The Visit Kent Board and team were in elegant Victorian costumes to welcome guests through real snow, accompanied by a stilt-walker and fire-juggler.

Together with Visit Kent partners, including Kent County Council members, almost 70 journalists enjoyed a traditional sing-along and variety of live acts throughout the evening, whilst dining on Whitstable fish and chips and platters of mince pies and fresh fruit.

Amanda Cottrell, Chairman of Visit Kent said: "We wanted to thank all of our friends in the media for their support over the past year. This event was only made possible through the backing of our partners, who donated many aspects of the evening, including food, drink, entertainment, decorations and accommodation. On behalf of the team at Visit Kent, we want to thank them for their contributions to the evening, helping to make it such an outstanding success. We hope this will become a regular feature on the Kent social calendar!

"As this year comes to a close, we are looking forward to a very exciting 2010 and hope to be celebrating our future successes with our friends and partners."

**-ENDS-**

For images of the event please contact Sarah Whelband on 01732 779087 or [sarahw@westgatecomms.com](mailto:sarahw@westgatecomms.com)

#### **About Visit Kent:**

Visit Kent Limited is a public/private sector partnership supported by Kent County Council, Medway Council, the district and borough councils, Tourism South East and the leading sector tourism businesses in Kent. Visit Kent

champions Kent's £2.5 billion tourism industry by targeting UK and overseas markets.

For further information visit [www.visitkentbusiness.co.uk](http://www.visitkentbusiness.co.uk).

Visit Kent and Southeastern are currently running a 2FOR1 campaign. Aimed particularly at the London market, the campaign aims to get people out of London on the train to experience the best of what Kent has to offer.

Attractions participating in the campaign include Canterbury Cathedral, Leeds Castle and Dover Castle. For more information see [www.visitkentbytrain.co.uk](http://www.visitkentbytrain.co.uk) or contact [lynette.clark@visitkent.co.uk](mailto:lynette.clark@visitkent.co.uk)