NEWS

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Superdraw helps footie youngsters

THE Gills Superdraw raises funds for the club's youth development and community schemes.

It costs £1 per week to play, which players pay through newsagents, pubs, the KM Group's cash collectors or direct to the club by standing order or cheques. The draw is made every Monday, 52 weeks a year, and gives players the chance to win cash prizes each week. There is also a Birthday Accumulator Jackpot, where the player enters their birth date for a cash prize of £100.

Week 48, April 25, 2011, Superdraw winners are:

£1,000 – Mrs S Murray – W1585

£150 – Mrs J M Heale – K2548

£100 – Mr A Clarke – M3090

£75 – Mr G Mobberley – L3886

£50 – Mrs R E Parker – Q4832

£50 – Mrs L Worton –I5182

£25 – Mrs L I Clifford – M1405

£25 – Mr Bennett – X4407

£25 – Mr G E Allen – D4105

£25 – Ms Y Currier – M1665

The birth date drawn this week was 02/12/63 and the £100 prize was won by S Broomhall.

Next week's prize will be £100.

Doctors believe tansy folk remedy could be effective

by Danny Boyle
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A FOLK remedy might be an effective treatment for herpes, according to research by a Medway scientist.

Dr Solomon Habtemariam, from the University of Greenwich, believes the flowering plant tansy could help sufferers of the sexually-transmitted disease.

The plant, found across mainland Europe and Asia, has been used as an alternative remedy for fevers and rheumatism since the Middle Ages.

But the medical benefits of tansy – whose folk names include golden buttons, cow bitter and mugwort – have often been questioned.

Now research by Dr Habtemariam, from the School of Science at the Chatham Maritime campus, has revealed the potential of tansy as a treatment for herpes.

His work, alongside Prof Francisco Parra at Spain's Universidad de Oviedo, has been published in the Phytotherapy Research journal.

Dr Habtemariam said: "We have identified several compounds in the plant with strong antioxidant potential.

"Antioxidants are important for healing wounds and can be used to treat the skin eruptions and blister-like lesions or cold sores that are the symptoms of herpes.

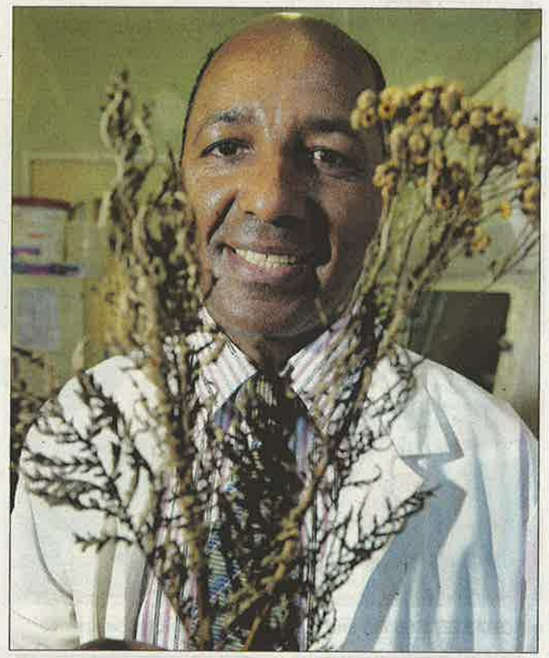
"The drugs currently available to treat the disease are becoming less effective as the virus is developing resistance to them.

"Our studies have proved the scientific basis for many traditional medicinal plants."

Genital herpes, particularly common among young adults, is highly contagious and can be passed on through intimate sexual contact.

The disease is a long-term condition with an average rate of recurrence four or five times in the first two years.

Over time, the frequency of attacks decreases and the condition becomes less severe.



RESEARCH: Dr Solomon Habtemariam holding a tansy plant

Indian twist

INDIAN food will be a feature of lunch at a royal wedding party at the Welcome Centre in Chatham High Street, on May 5. About 35 guests will join staff for the day-long celebration.

See craft session

RIPPLES and rockpools is the theme of a story and craft session for children, aged three to eight, at Cuxton Library, in Bush Road, on Tuesday, May 31, at 11am. To book, call 01634 711391.

Fun and games

CHILDREN can join fun and games with a Christian message and a picnic, at St Alban's Church, Blue Bell Hill, on May 23, from 3.30pm to 6pm. Call 01634 683688.

Generous gift

CHATHAM Rotary Club has donated £1,500 to the Parkinson's UK branch in Medway. The charity holds monthly meetings at St Stephen's church hall, Maidstone Road, Chatham, for sufferers and carers.

Staywhite
www.staywhite.co.uk

Easter fun for our competition winners



Hop is a movie for all the family

FIVE lucky readers of our Easter supplement (Medway Messenger, April 18) won Cineworld tickets to see the family movie Hop over the holidays.

They were Louise Robins, of Strood; Sarah Baker, Tonbridge; Dawn Trivess, Rochester; Pat Morris, Rainham and Lyn Burton, Hoo.

They told us that the initials EB stand for Easter Bunny.

In the same supplement, our Going Out leisure guide ran a competition to win Cineworld tickets and goodie bags for the 3D animated film Rio.

Five winners told us that the main character in the film is a parrot.

They were: Mrs Phillips, Rainham; Ms J Jones, Strood; Tracy Mann, Rainham; Janie Howard, Chatham and Nicola Boniface, Chatham.



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