



# Man killed by lorry in A2 tragedy

by Joe Walker  
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An investigation is under way after a man was killed when he was hit by a lorry on the A2 near Canterbury on Tuesday night.

The pedestrian was struck by the Dutch-registered vehicle on the London-bound carriageway between Bridge and Wincheap shortly after 6pm.

His death is not being treated as suspicious by police, amid claims he may have run into the road.

Emergency crews attempted to resuscitate the man, but he died at the scene.

The victim, described as in his 20s, has not yet been identified or his family informed.

The road was closed between Bridge and Wincheap and traffic was diverted to the A20 and M20, causing huge tailbacks into the evening.

Police are now conducting an investigation for the coroner.

Only last weekend three people were taken to hospital after a crash on the same stretch of road between Barham and Bridge.



Emergency services at the scene of the accident, top, and, above, traffic queued on the London-bound carriageway

And last month Henryk Konopacki was killed after crashing his lorry into a concrete bridge support just past the Barham slip road.

➤ Is the A2 a dangerous road? Email [kentishgazette@thekmgroup.co.uk](mailto:kentishgazette@thekmgroup.co.uk) or write to Gazette House, 5-8 Boorman Way, Wraik Hill, Whitstable, CT5 3SE.

# Home, sweet home is on the market for £3m plus

by Gerry Warren  
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BUSINESSMAN Peter Malkin is selling the country mansion where he once hid in a secret corridor after kidnapping his young son.

The colourful 68-year-old has put Bridge Place on the market for offers of more than £3 million, saying he has done so with a heavy heart.

He has owned the Jacobean Grade II-listed, eight-bedroom mansion for almost 50 years.

Among its many stories is when Mr Malkin abducted his son Oliver 25 years ago following the breakdown of his marriage and took him to Egypt.

On their return, they hid from the police in a secret corridor in the 17th century house before being discovered by sniffer dogs. Mr Malkin was convicted of kidnap and served more than eight months in prison.

Mr Malkin said: "I did it for love and don't regret it. Oliver and I are very close and speak several times a week and I go to see him regularly in Devon."

The property, set in six acres, is one of the most expensive in the area, and Mr Malkin, who has painstakingly restored the building, says he will be sad to leave.

He said: "Obviously I love the place and am very attached to it. But it's just me and my brother, who is staying with me for a while, so I am rattling around the house. But I will only sell it if the price is right."

Mr Malkin opened the Bridge Country Club in the swinging Sixties and still runs a night-club on the last Saturday of the month, which he says attracts a nice crowd.

But he believes the house



Peter Malkin has lovingly restored the original features of Bridge Place

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would make a wonderful family home or a country hotel.

For many years he specialised in buying and conserving old buildings and has worked on more than 40 properties.

He said: "I have done so much work to restore its original features, including the staircase, and it's looking wonderful. The whole place is in tip-top condition."

"It would be a great wrench to leave after all this time but my son Oliver lives in Devon with his wife and they have just had my first grandson."

"I quite like the idea of buying a place down there and having one here because I still love the Canterbury area."

The house has a fascinating history. It was built by a Dutchman, Sir Arnold Braems, who became the first manager of Dover Har-

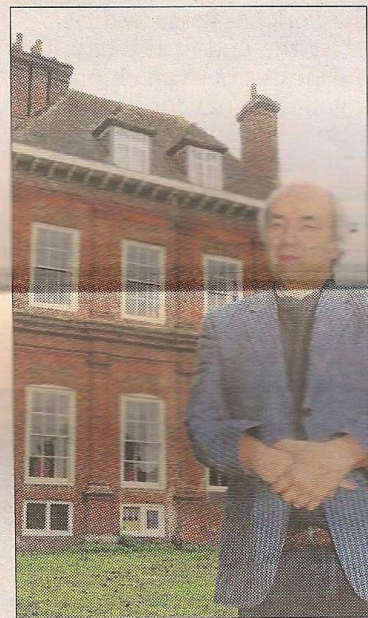
**'Obviously I love the place and am very attached to it...But I will only sell it if the price is right'**

bour Board and renamed Bridge Place in about 1650.

The property is being marketed by Strutt and Parker in Canterbury.

Partner Simon Backhouse says: "The house has magnificent period detailing and retains a wealth of interesting features, both inside and out, and now offers great potential."

"It provides a fine canvas from which to recreate a magnificent family home."



Peter Malkin will be sad to leave his home for nearly 50 years

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**The Rev Julia Pickles,  
Martin Vye of Viridor, church  
warden Jane Millyard and  
Archdeacon of Canterbury  
The Ven Sheila Watson** FM2570318

## Church project is completed

ST PETER'S Church in Bekesbourne is celebrating the completion of its £35,000 renovation project.

Work has included installing a toilet with composting facility and a total facelift for a section of the church which had become unusable.

Funding for the project came from various organizations such as the Friends of Bekesbourne Church, Kent County Council, and Bekesbourne Parish Council.

Waste firm Viridor provided £14,000 of the money.