

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RESIDENTS OF RAINHAM AND WIGMORE ■

NOVEMBER 1975

NUMBER 75

Rainham from the Air



A view of Rainham from the Church Tower taken by Mr J Andrews (see page 2).

Old Newspapers

RAWCA are pleased to announce that they are again collecting old newspapers. This is an excellent opportunity for everybody in Rainham not only to help raise money for the Station Oasts Community Centre, but also to improve the balance of payments

and help with conservation.

Please bring them to Station Oasts any Sunday morning 10-1, preferably bundled or in boxes. The Community Centre is also open to interested visitors at this time. For more information, or if you need your papers collected, please contact Reg Field, 166 Wakeley Road. Med 362227.

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Editorial

We're at it again, aren't we! Already our thoughts are caught up in the preparations for Christmas - "Have you made your cake yet?" "Whatever can we buy Auntie Cynthia?" "Of course, we had meant to start early with our present buying this year, but somehow or other we still haven't started!" and so on . . . But it's good to have something to look forward to isn't it and what better than the celebration of a birthday - and *such* a birthday too. No doubt we are prepared to spend quite considerable sums proportionate to our incomes on the festivities in giving to our nearest and dearest and, indeed, it is an opportunity to express our love to others and our thanks and gratitude to those who have supported us through the year. Perhaps also we could extend our thoughts to those not necessarily known to us as individuals, but through the medium of such kind concerns as the Help the Aged. There is an article from these folk which you are invited to read sympathetically. Perhaps too we could go one stage further and consider including someone living alone in our celebrations.

Talking of celebrations, the comments made on the Gillingham Carnival are gratifying and I am sure we all wish the organisers even greater success next year and venture to suggest that they put in their order for good weather more forcibly.

If you are still looking for an interest in spite of all the courses going on in the evenings, arranged for the broadening of your mind, but which do not quite seem to suit your personal needs, we commend to you again the Gillingham Film Society and have published its future programme. Perhaps you feel that Rainham is a little arid and devoid of musical outlet, in which case information supplied by the Gillingham Gramophone Society may strike a chord and put you in tune again.

On that note I will leave you to read on through the pages and if you can spare a moment, drop a line to the Editor with any comments or ideas you may have for Action Forum or the community generally. Till next time then.....

HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION

A total of £962 was collected during September towards the cost of installing central heating in the Station Oasts Community Centre. The Community Association would like to repeat its thanks to all who gave so generously both money and time to collect.

Correspondence

RAINHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Dear Editor,

Early in September a group from the Society, by the very kind permission of the Rev Allington Smith climbed to the top of St Margarets Church to take some photographs of Rainham.

Looked at from ground level the church tower does not seem to be very high but when one has to actually climb all those steps one realises just how high that tower really is. All credit to the Vicar and his team of bellringers who make the climb several times a week.

The view from the tower is terrific, you can see right across into Essex and Sheerness, the view in other directions is cut off by hills. It was still quite light so we were soon busy taking pictures of Rainham.

When we had finished we were faced with the return to ground level and that is not as easy as it sounds either!!

Each member of the group processed his own films at home and later in the month we had a competition to select the best prints and I have pleasure in forwarding copies of the winning prints to you.

They were all taken by Mr J Andrews using a Nikkormat camera and FP4 film.

I regret that we have been unable to take any pictures of local activities because no one has asked us but I am hoping that we will be able to take pictures of the model railway exhibition to be held in Orchard Street in early November and if successful I will send you some prints in the hope that they may be of use to you in Action Forum.

Yours sincerely,
 Arthur J. Bond
 Hon. Secretary
 31 Northumberland Ave.

Editor: Many thanks to the Rainham and District Photographic Society for the excellent photographs of Rainham one of which is reproduced on our front page. We hope to include more at a later date.

RAINHAM ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE

Dear Editor,

It has been very pleasing to see the tremendous response to my article in the August edition of Action Forum. I am sorry the methods of enrolment were not stated clearly and in some cases lead to disappointment.

Most of our present classes are full but we have already been able to arrange six additional classes to cater for over one hundred people on various waiting lists. We have certain restrictions on the classes we can run but are trying to cater for the local demand.

Brian Haynes
 Head of Centre

RAINHAM POTTERY

Dear Editor,

I am an amateur potter who has recently moved to Rainham, Kent. I was very interested and also disappointed to find that the only existing pottery in Rainham had closed a couple of months before my arrival.

If possible I would like to contact the potter, out of interest and a desire to find employment, he may know of someone who needs an assistant or a vacant teaching post. I would therefore be grateful for his name and new address at least.

Yours sincerely,
 J.C. Lye
 333, Lonsdale Drive,
 Rainham.

Editor: We have been unable to help Mrs Lye but one of our readers will be able to.

Carnival

GILLINGHAM CARNIVAL

Now that we have had the opportunity to dry out and to recover from the many headaches, we can be reasonably pleased with our efforts. We have learnt many lessons that will be most helpful when the 1976 Carnival is organised, but for 'new boys' we coped very well. When a decision was made to have a Carnival in 1975 no-one envisaged the kind of problems we would have to deal with. Most of the Committee had been involved in the organising of various kinds of events, but although we had taken part in other Carnivals we had not been responsible for the arrangements. We started with no previous information, no trophies, no Carnival Queen, no regalia for a queen or a float for her to ride on. At times we despaired that the Carnival would ever become a reality, but in the end thanks to the hard work of a few people it began to fit together. In fact towards the end we had to refuse applications to

take part because we had so many entries. Having burnt the midnight oil on several occasions getting instructions out to all the entrants we waited hoping and praying for fine weather.

Saturday 13th September started out as a fine day and despite the other attractions in the area the Fete which was organised by the Gillingham Lions Club, attracted quite a large number of people. All went well until nearly 5 pm when it started to rain. It seemed as if some higher authority was determined to make up for the long dry summer. We had such a marvellous turnout, lots of youngsters taking part in majorette troupes and on the individual floats, and in the bands. People had worked so hard preparing their floats only to see the torrential rain doing its best to spoil them before the judges had been round. Nevertheless they all seemed so determined to make the best of it that they were an encouragement to everyone else. The pleasure and pride of our young competitors when they were judged to be the winners of their classes was tremendous. As one judge said it made it worthwhile getting soaked just to see their faces when we presented the trophy.

With over one hundred entries in the carnival it was after 8 pm when we checked the last entry back at the end of the route, having started the procession off at 6.30 pm.

Despite having more water than money in some of the collecting tins, we have been able to donate £350 to the Mayor's benevolent fund. A similar amount of money has been retained to finance the next Carnival and to have a float made for the Carnival Queen so that she can represent us at other Carnivals.

The Carnival Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to everyone who took part both in the actual carnival procession, and in the Fete. The support we received shows there is a need for an Annual Carnival, and we will do our best to see that next year it is better than this year. Who knows perhaps we shall be looked on with favour and will also have fine weather!

Mrs. Muriel Mould
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 Gillingham.

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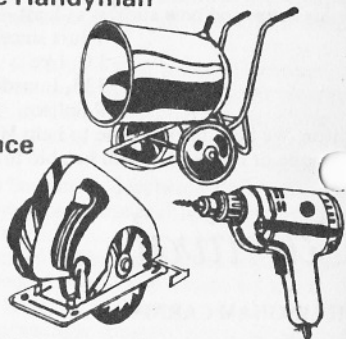
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Diary '75

Keeper: Christine Smith
31 Brockenhurst Close
Tel: 33098

No charge is made for Diary entries.

November 8th — JUMBLE SALE at St. Margarets
Hall, Orchard Street. 10.00 am.

November 8th — Rainham (Kent) Horticultural
Society SHOW DAY at St. Margaret's School,
Orchard Street, Rainham.

November 8th — Kent Trust for Nature Conservation.
Our Christmas Stall will be combined with the
Rainham Horticultural Show at St. Margaret's
School 2.30pm — 6.00 pm.

November 8th — Rainham District Girl Guides North
and South, JUMBLE SALE, with home made
cake stall and hand made toys, Teas. 2.30 pm at
the Methodist Hall, Station Road, Rainham.

November 11th — Medway Winemakers Circle, Film
and talk — Martell Brandy. Rawlinson Beer
Competition. Monthly meetings held at St.
George Hotel, 7 New Road, Chatham. Commenc-
ing at 8.00 pm.

November 11th — Young Wives Group. Films on
South Africa. 8.00 pm at the Methodist Hall,
Station Road, Rainham

November 12th — Rainham (Kent) Floral Art Group.
Demonstration: Mrs D. Eggington — "CHRIST-
MAS" 7.15 pm — 9.00 pm. St. Margaret's Hall,
Orchard Street, Rainham.

November 12th — Berengrave Ladies Social Club.
"Diamonds are a Girls Best Friend". 8.00 pm at
the Methodist Hall, Station Road, Rainham.

November 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th — Wigmore
MADS present a Musical "WHITE HORSE INN"
at the Community Centre, Drewery Drive,
Wigmore. 8.00 pm. Tickets from Mrs Nickolds,
210 Edwin Road, Rainham. Tel: 31546.

November 13th — Rainham Evening Townswomen's
Guild. Annual General Meeting. Competition:
Dressed Sausage. Meetings held at 7.15 pm every
second Thursday in the month at the Methodist
Hall, Station Road, Rainham.

November 14th, 15th, 20th, 21st & 22nd. — At the
Oast House Theatre, High Street, Rainham, the
Rainham Amateur Theatrical Society presents a
comedy "NO TIME FOR FIG LEAVES" at 8.00
pm. Tickets obtainable from Mr C Hamlyn, 11
Fowler Close, Wigmore. Tel. Medway 33852.

November 17th — Young Wives Group. Medau Keep
Fit.

November 18th — Gillingham Film Society "Peeping
Tom".

November 18th—22nd — The Medway Opera
Company present 'TALES OF HOFFMANN'
7.15 p.m. at Chatham Town Hall, Seats 85p,
Saturday 95p. Reductions for children. Tickets
available from Medway Travel Bureaux, Chatham
and Rochester.

November 19th — Berengrave Ladies Social Club.
Jenny Kemp, Beauty Therapy.

November 19th — Wigmore Evening Townswomen's
Guild. Guild meeting. Smallholders. Annual
General Meeting. 8.00 pm.

November 22nd — St Margaret's School (Rainham)
P.T.A. 11.30 am until 5.00 pm in the School's
Hall, Orchard Street, Rainham. A Display of
Model Railways. Working layouts and static
display to enthral the children and illustrate to
parents that dad's don't just "play" trains.
Refreshments available. Admission at the door
15p adults and 5p children.

November 22nd — CHRISTMAS FAIR at Parkwood
Free Church, 2.30 pm.

November 22nd — Gillingham Film Society "The
Producers" and Annual Social.

November 24th — Young Wives Group. Xmas
Decorating.

November 26th — Berengrave Ladies Social Club.
'Sophisticats' — More Xmas Gift Ideas.

November 29th — Rainham Methodist Church is
holding a CHRISTMAS FAYRE to be opened
by Sir Cecil Wakeley in the Church Hall, entrance
in Wakeley Road. 2.30 pm admission is by pro-
gramme 5p, obtainable from Church members or
at the door.

November 29th — Medway Cage Birds OPEN SHOW
at the T.A.V.R. Centre. Territorial Hall, Watling
Street, Gillingham. 2.30 pm — 9.30 pm, also on
the 30th 10.00 am — 5.00 pm, adults 15p,
children 5p.

November 30th — Parkwood School Christmas
Bazaar. 2.00 pm.

December 1st — Young Wives Group. Mrs. Magee:
Talk.

December 3rd — Rainham (Kent) Horticultural
Society XMAS SOCIAL EVENING.

December 3rd — Berengrave Ladies Social Club.
Country Dancing.

December 3rd — Medway Cage Birds Society.
Inquest on SHOW.

December 6th — 8th Gillingham (Wigmore) Scouts
Group Supporters Association CHRISTMAS
BAZAAR — 2.00 pm at Headquarters, Edwards
Close, Wigmore.

December 6th — Wakeley Road School CHRISTMAS
BAZAAR — 2.00 pm.

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December 8th — Young Wives Group. Dinner at
Queens Head.

December 10th — Rainham (Kent) Floral Art Group.
A.G.M. and Slides of Show. Buffet.

December 10th — Berengrave Ladies Social Club.
Club CHRISTMAS DINNER.

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Poppy Day

The Royal British Legion Organisation has been busy for the past year preparing poppies and wreaths for Remembrance Sunday which is on November 9th this year. In the week preceeding, particularly on the Saturday, poppies will be available in return for donations large or small.

Over the last few weeks poppies and wreaths have been despatched to places all over the United Kingdom and the World for the Ceremonies that take place on that Sunday. Last year the collection from Gillingham and Rainham was just over £2,200, this year we would like the figure to increase and to do this we need as many volunteer collectors as we can get. I expect someone will say "Where does the money go?" Of all the money collected Nationally, not more than 5p per pound is used in administration, the remainder goes to assist ex-service men and

women, their children and dependents whether or not the ex-service men are Legion members or not.

The Legion runs, in addition to its industries which employ disabled men and women, Convalescent Homes, Rest and Country Homes for those who need a roof over their head. The Legion also trains Taxi Drivers, Car Park attendants and now operates a Housing Association which since 1974 has produced about 3000 flats, houses and bungalows in projects which have been completed in various parts of the country. By the end of 1975 there will be a further 1000 with 2500 more planned for the near future. The Housing Association is registered as a Friendly Society and is separately financed.

All these activities I believe are well worthwhile and even if you can't 'Carry a Tray on Poppy Day' please give generously.

John Goulder

Model Railways

DISPLAY OF MODEL RAILWAYS

St. Margaret's Schools, Orchard Street, Rainham,
Saturday, 22nd November 1975, 11.30 am to 6 pm

STAND UP the dad who's never wanted to drive a train. Alas, the P.T.A. cannot become the Fairy Godmother, wave a Magic Wand and grant your wish, but for 15p a head (5p for children) we can transport all into the World of Model Railways.

Saturday, 22nd November is the date. Unlike the Beechingised British Rail we can offer a continuous service with an intensive timetable on at least nine working layouts featuring model steam and diesel operations.

Weather permitting we'll also be providing "live steam" rides for the children in the junior playground. The School's halls will feature displays of at least five scales of model railways and other exhibits including a "live" robot made from Meccano and an operating model tramway layout.

We'll also be showing that railway modelling is

not just for father and son. On display will be several exhibits fashioned by the gentle sex, who might even be seen at the controls at some time during opening hours - 11.30 am to 6 pm.

The "Display of Model Railways" has been mounted for the P.T.A. by the Southern Eastern and Chatham Group of the Three Millimetre Society with the co-operation of the East Kent Model Railway Society, Herne Bay Model Railway and Engineering Club, members of the Hornby Railways Collectors Association, Medway Transport Modellers, Baker's Model Shop Gillingham, the Ever Ready Company (Great Britain) Ltd., Kaye and Ward Ltd. and the individual support of Brian Bailey, Nigel Grinstead and Cyril Potter.

The Kent and East Sussex Railway and the Sittingbourne and Kemsley Light Railway will be on hand to provide a reflection on the former glories of steam railways and in addition to advice on the hobby, several exhibitors will be selling off surplus stock.

Refreshments will be on sale in addition to other souvenirs and a guide to the display, as well as a raffle for which the prize will be a new model railway train set.

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Help The Aged

It is now an accepted fact that the numbers of old people in proportion to the total population is increasing and will continue to increase. For the vast majority of these senior citizens the basic problems of the aged namely readjustment; financial; friendship are satisfactorily solved but for a very significant proportion poor housing, lack of friends can lead to an early death and for a human being what can be worse than dying alone and in utter squalor, the plight of 300,000 of our own old folk. It takes little imagination to realise the agony endured by an old person perhaps somebody who has spent all her life in the service of the community ending her days utterly alone and uncared for. The sobering thought is that it could happen to any one of us!

Some of us are Christians, others Humanists yet others just simply care about what happens to people – do you CARE enough to actually DO something about this, intolerable, situation or is it a matter of hoping that “they” or the next door neighbour will do something?

What do we at “Help the Aged” do for our old folk – let’s get one thing straight at the beginning we all believe that the only way to help them is by taking some form of IMMEDIATE ACTION and not hoping that at some, unspecified time in the future somebody, somewhere will solve the problems!

We provide for needy old people the basic requirements – decent housing, a place to meet, something to read to while away those lonely hours.

In the field of housing we have to date built 5,000 lovely, centrally heated flats, 500 in Kent alone. Every group of flats within a “sheltered housing scheme” has its own community centre with all sorts of facilities available. At this very moment such a Scheme of forty flats is being built in Rochester, Faversham and we are hoping to start a similar building in Rainham. Grants have been made to many Day Centres for the elderly including those at Gravesend and Gillingham. Our, monthly, entirely free newspaper for old folk “Yours” has now distributed its millionth copy and but for the financial support of “Help the Aged” the marvellous work of Sister Mary Theresa who daily and unaided rescues the dying from the streets of Calcutta would rapidly finish and those trapped in “disaster areas” would be without drugs, food, shelter.

It is because so many young people care so much for our old folk that all this money, (£20,000 locally) has been raised to build all these, marvellous projects, help the day centres, publish our newspaper. Typical of these young people who have helped so very much is the Chairman of our Youth Committee – Pam Kirby, a seventeen years old, sixth form pupil now studying for her ‘A’ levels at the Gillingham Technical High School. Pam who lives in Rainham, puts in a tremendous amount of work organising and helping at many of our fund raising events – she has presented our Certificates at a number of local schools and at H.M.S. Pembroke and she is without



Pam Kirby with some generous Sailors!
by courtesy of the Chatham Standard.

doubt a great credit to her generation.

The question Pam and I would like to ask to all of you who read ‘Action Forum’ is will YOU take some action to support “Help the Aged”? I have mentioned young people but, of course we do have excellent support from many who are “not so young” in fact our greatest ever walker was eighty eight years old – Albert Young of Ramsgate! Will you walk, swim, roller skate, sit in silence, cycle, SLIM, organise a jumble sale, a disco, a coffee morning or do ANYTHING to raise money to help us to do more, much more for needy old folk – you may not be able to cycle or walk but you may be able to encourage others to do so.

We have all sorts of fund raising activities organised but we must have YOUR (–yes you readers’ support–) please phone me at any time during any evening or weekend at Medway 47645 or write to me at 47 Fleet Road, Rochester and I should be very happy to send you forms or discuss any fund raising idea you have in mind – if you are still not convinced then please drive past our “sheltered housing scheme” in Nashenden Lane, Borstal and think – without all these people who ACTIVELY helped and just didn’t feel sorry that wonderful group of forty flats in which forty old folk will find comfort, happiness, friends would quite simply not be there ...

So please phone this evening or weekend – sorry I can’t help during the day – I’m teaching full time – “Help the Aged” is just a fascinating, very time consuming hobby!

Cyril E. Saunders,
Medway Director –
“Help the Aged”,
47 Fleet Road,
Rochester, Kent.
Phone: Medway 47645

Arts Council

Medway and Gillingham Arts Council was formed to promote the Arts in the Medway Towns and to work for the establishment of an Arts Centre. During its lifetime it has promoted two Arts Festivals and is at present contemplating a third for 1977 – Childrens Festival. This is as yet in the very early planning stages but if it does get off the ground then we hope not only will it be something new but of interest to a large number of our Members.

Membership is open to either individuals or societies and for £1 per annum subscription, members have the use of a room at the Adult Education Centre, Gillingham at a very reduced rate. This is the main benefit to Members at the moment but the Council is regularly in touch with the two local authorities to do everything possible to further the Arts in the Medway Towns.

Am afraid the provision of an Arts Centre, whilst still the ambition of the Council is very much a thing of the future due to the present restraint on local authority spending.

Gramophone Society

No – we do not sit with our ears glued to the horn patting our faithful dog who gazes at the instrument with awed wonder. The equipment we use is Hi-Fi Stereo carefully tuned by our “disc jockey” Frank Whittington to reproduce faithfully all the delicacies of present day recordings.

The Society started in 1934, in the days of the gramophone, at the home of Gordon Purt, our present President, at 88 Twydall Lane where a few friends gathered to hear the music of the Masters. – A small beginning but from these meetings came the National Federation of Gramophone Societies with Music Clubs throughout the country.

Gradually the number of members increased and the meetings were held in the reference room at Gillingham Library. Six years ago we moved to our present venue at the Adult Education Centre, Gillingham Street, Gillingham where we hold meetings on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from October to May. The annual subscription still remains only £1.00 thanks to the vigilance of our Treasurer Mary Purt.

Our Secretary Joyce Horsley, of 59 Twydall Lane (opposite the house where it all started) has arranged a varied and interesting programme for this season. We shall have ten speakers whose subjects range from 18th century Beethoven to 20th century Vaughan Williams – from a Verdi opera to hearing the early recordings of the golden voices who sang these arias. Then there are the mystery programmes with enigmatic titles like “From Barrel Organ to Beethoven” – I wonder what that will be about. The remainder of our meetings will be

devoted to music chosen by members.

Not content with listening to music on records we like to hear live performances and several times in the year we journey by coach to the concert halls. Our trips have taken us to many places – the London Festival Hall overlooking the Thames, the excitement of the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall and the enchantment of Swan Lake at Covent Garden.

However it is not just the “London Scene” which attracts us but also the many musical events going on within a few miles of the Medway Towns. At Maidstone the Choral Society and Maidstone Orchestral Society and at Aylesford Priory the Christmas recital given by the Tudor Consort.

But in the Gramophone Society, as in society itself, it is the people who contribute to its success. Contributions which may come from the committee, under the chairmanship of Gordon Lickfield, from the infectious enthusiasm of the speakers or from the members who provide an interested audience ready to discuss all aspects of music.

My contribution is to arrange the outings – an interesting task rewarded by the pleasure of sitting in a concert hall listening to a favourite symphony (Beethoven of course!) in the company of 50 friends.

B.Cartwright
99 First Ave.,
Gillingham.

Film Society

1975 sees Gillingham Film Society still in action. This may not sound like news to get the world sitting on the edge of its seat, but behind this sentence lies a year of fingerbiting and hoping for the organisers of the society because we took a gamble and it paid off. Last year we put together a programme of good films of all types, regardless of expense and charged only a minimal membership fee; then we waited to see if enough people cared about the cinema in the Medway Towns to make us break even. The alternative was that we went broke and disappeared and with us the only place in the Medway Towns where one could see good films in a club atmosphere. And we did break even. Better still, we showed a modest profit which will be ploughed back into this year’s programme to give even better value for money.

We were so pleased our gamble paid off that we are repeating it again this year. For £4 (reductions for students and O.A.P.s) you can enjoy twelve good films this winter including such classics as ‘Sunday, Bloody Sunday’, ‘Alice’s Restaurant’ and ‘Brother Sun, Sister Moon’ and see the works of such producers as Mel Brooks, Eisenstein and Bergman. If you want more details or would like to come along and join us at the Adult Education Centre, Gardiner Street, Gillingham, get in touch with Tony Turner, 4 Salisbury Avenue, Rainham, Kent.

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Gingerbread

AN ASSOCIATION FOR ONE PARENT FAMILIES

GINGERBREAD is a self-help association for one parent families, that is where any parent, whether divorced, separated, widowed, unmarried, a prisoner's spouse or one whose partner is seriously disabled or hospitalised is bringing up a child or children single-handed. It is unique as a national organisation in that it is run by lone parents themselves. It was started in 1970 by a young woman with two children, who faced with the difficulties of being a lone parent, wanted to bring together people who were experiencing similar problems.

Gingerbread has local groups holding regular meetings so that parents and children can meet together socially and give each other practical aid such as arranging babysitting and keeping clothing and toy pools. Some groups have close links with housing associations and organisations giving welfare rights advice. So far over 150 groups are functioning in many areas throughout the United Kingdom.

The groups are backed up by a central office in London with a small staff including lone parents who give understanding and encouragement to one parent families by a telephone service and written correspondence and provide information to individuals to help them resolve their problems. Information sheets are available on a variety of subjects such as eviction, social security and family law. In certain cases professional advice on legal and financial matters can be given free by letter. We keep a register of other organisations so that people seeking specialist help and advice can be referred to an appropriate body. Gingerbread runs a penfriend scheme and keeps a register of people wishing to share holidays or who are offering holiday accommodation. These activities are co-ordinated by a central committee elected annually from the membership of Gingerbread.

Apart from the encouragement of self-help schemes, Gingerbread acts as a pressure group to draw attention to inadequate provision in the law and social services, though we think it is important to work in co-operation with existing social services wherever possible. Gingerbread charges no subscription.

MEDWAY GINGERBREAD meets at St. Peter's Centre, Trafalgar St. Gillingham at 8 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month. Children are welcome at all open meetings, but might be distracting when a speaker is present.

If you would like further information please phone:—
Daytime. Daphne Med. 364689 or Maureen Med. 403635
Evenings. Ann Med. 73242 or Pam Med. 53817.

Community Service

NEW STYLE COMMUNITY SERVICE

Since April 1973 Courts in Kent have been able to make Community Service Orders ranging from 40 to 240 hours on certain offenders. Currently there are over 250 such workers engaged on 65 voluntary organisation projects in the county and in the last 12 months alone nearly 28,000 hours of work have been achieved.

Locally, the Rainham and Wigmore Community Centre building has received the benefit of nearly 5,000 hours of work over the last two years and the Community Service Department are now seeking to find ways in which local inhabitants can derive even greater benefit from the scheme.

Possible suggestions already received range from digging out a swimming pool in company with volunteers from a Parent/Teacher Association, to gardening and decorating for the elderly and physically handicapped.

To arrange the latter project successfully, it is necessary to find volunteers to prepare lists of work to be undertaken and help to organise a work force of C.S.W.s (Community Service Workers) so that tasks can be completed systematically.

The Community Service Department is able to provide not only small groups of C.S.W.s (age range 17-65) fully equipped with tools, but also a paid supervisor stationed at Rainham to provide support and advice.

Anyone interested in seeing that local senior citizens and physically handicapped gain full advantage of the scheme, or have ideas of their own should contact:

Mr. J. Sussex, Director,
Community Service Dept.
278 High Street,
Rochester,
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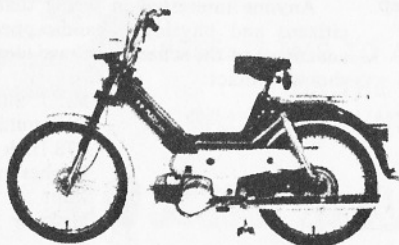
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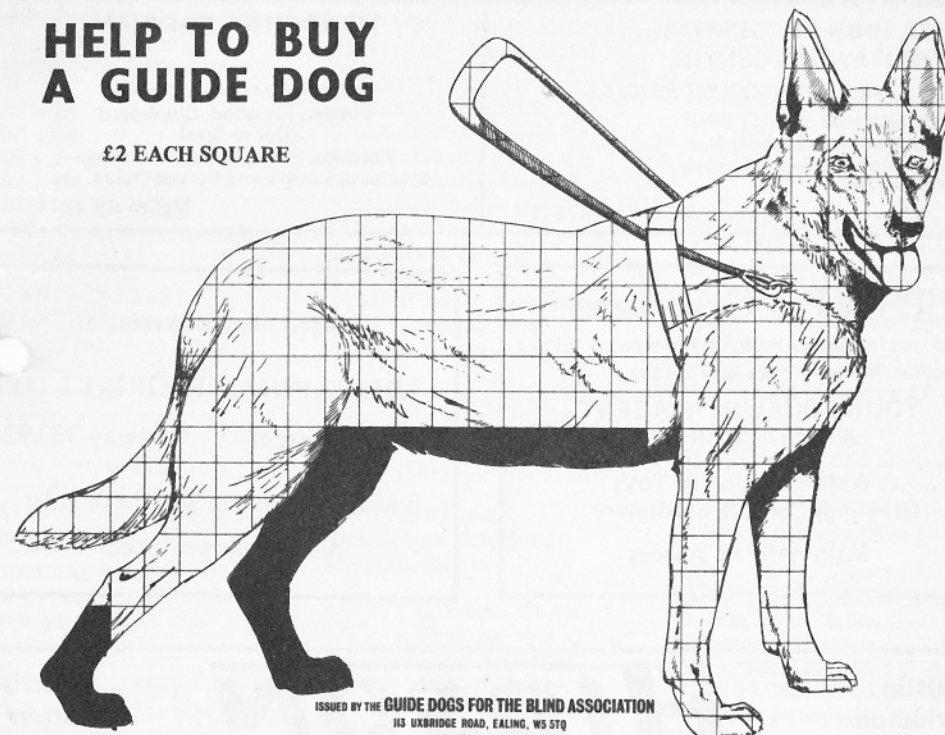
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Mr Davis
43 Gillingdale Drive
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Mr & Mrs Palmer
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We have been asked to correct a mistake given in a previous article about Guide Dogs for the Blind. Each square on the dog in fact represents £2 and not £1 as previously stated.

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Small Ads

Copy Date: 28th November
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