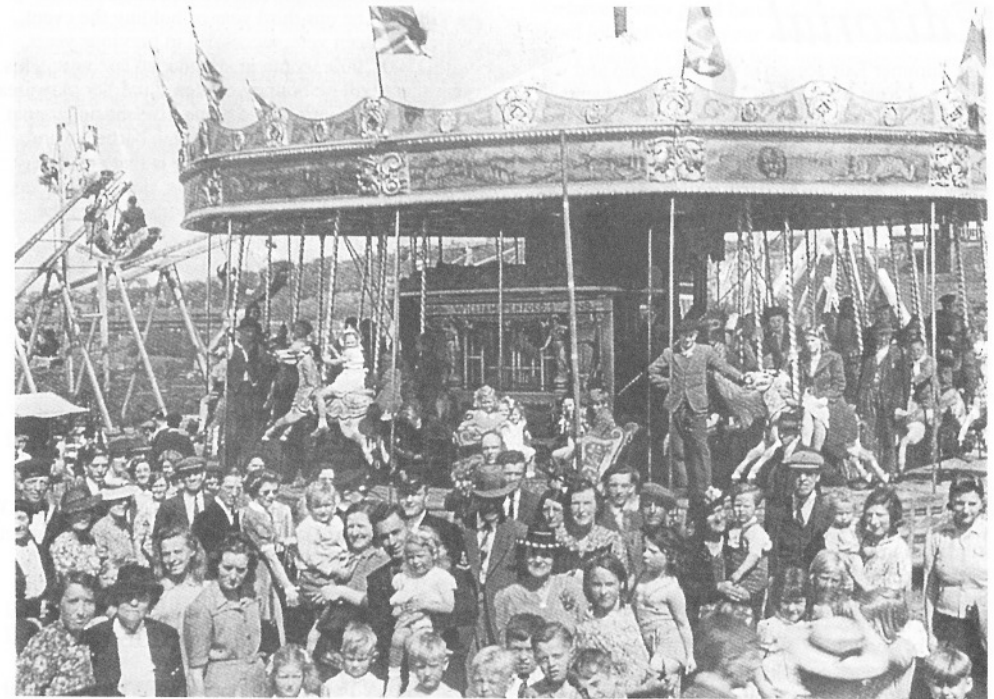


ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

JUNE 2001
NUMBER 357



Penfolds Gallopers at an unknown venue in Kent c1943. Fine paintings commissioned by Ted Andrews are visible on the rounding boards, if you can help identify anyone, or the occasion, the Penfold family would love to hear from you, see the letter on page 3.

Robert J. Kitney

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Next Issue: JULY 7th
Copy Date: Jun 19th Sm Ads Jun 22nd
Editorial: Mrs Barbara Mackay Miller,
5 Meresborough Cotts, Tel: 231307.
Advertising: Hamish Mackay Miller,
5 Meresborough Cotts, Tel: 231307.

Editorial

The Summer Fair season is upon us again and we feature at least a dozen different outdoor events in our diary. Congratulations to the organisers, there are very few clashes of dates this year, rather you could probably visit a different fete each Saturday of June and July, should you so wish, with a few weekday afternoons thrown in for good measure. Now all that remains is for the weather to co-operate and success is assured. One particularly enterprising activity is the Wigmore Gardens Weekend, now is your chance to have a good look round some of those interesting-looking gardens. It is a bargain and will help provide much needed funds towards the 'Roof Appeal' for St Matthew's Church.

Talking of walking by on footpaths, we are in need of distributors for Action Forum in several parts of the area. We have a loyal band of volunteers who do a marvellous job with about nine-tenths of the copies but the final 2,000 do present a problem. If you have an hour or so to spare during the first week of each month (Action Forum comes out on the first Saturday of the month and we aim to have all copies delivered by the following weekend) and you like a walk with a purpose, perhaps you would consider delivering a couple of hundred copies for us. The money we are saving by arranging voluntary distribution is given to the Kajiado Project, a local charity that sends people to Africa a couple of times a year to dig wells and provide a clean water supply in areas where none exists at the moment. To date, almost a thousand pounds has been raised for the charity, which really does help them, and we are finding our volunteers are providing a better, more reliable, service with the door to door distribution. If you can help please contact us via The Rainham Bookshop, 371591, during shop hours, or on 231307 at other times.

Sadly, Foot and Mouth still prevents the use of local footpaths, but as long as our area escapes it is a small price to pay and there are plenty of other ways to get exercise (see the paragraph above!). When we have the odd ray of sunshine the countryside is looking particularly beautiful at the moment. The orchards and hedgerows are full of blossom, possibly a result of all the rain we have had during the last year, so we have a lot to be thankful for and we can only hope the worst is over and now look forward to

a long dry summer. Have a good month, we will see you again in July.

Correspondence

FUNDAY SUNDAY

Dear Editor,

One 1st July New Life Community Church and All Saints' Church (Hempstead) will once again be holding their Funday Sunday from 2pm until 6pm in Hempstead Playing Fields (Hempstead Road).

This will be our third year of holding the event, which has been very successful in previous years, with 1500-2000 people in attendance last year. This year there will be bouncy castles, a toddler play area, assault course, unrideable horse, live music, puppet shows, majorettes, a magic show, a barbecue and much much more. The best thing is that absolutely everything is FREE. All the stalls, rides and events are free – even the food on the barbecue and the cakes and refreshments are free.

Please come and join us for a free fun packed family day on Sunday 1st July.

Yours sincerely,
Robert Schulz
New Life Community
Church
01634 389225

BARN DANCE

Dear Editor,

The PTFA of Rainham Mark Grammar School, Pump Lane, will be holding a Barn Dance with HOT RATS on Saturday 30th June, 8pm to 11pm. Tickets are £5 per person. Phone 365953.

Yours faithfully
PTFA Committee

FRIENDS OF WAKELEY SCHOOL

Dear Editor,

Wakeley School's **SUMMER FAYRE** this year will be held on **Saturday 30th June at 10.00am to 12 noon.**

Attractions will include side shows, raffles, children's games, coconut shy, tombolas and refreshments and, an added attraction this year will be the 'Santa Fe Train' which will be available for children's rides throughout the morning.

Admission will be 30p and there will be a prize for the Lucky Programme holder.

Pitches for boot and craft stalls are also available at £5 per pitch and anyone interested should contact the School (during school hours) on 231965.

All proceeds from this event will be used for the benefit of all the children in school, which includes our very successful unit for the visually impaired.

Yours sincerely,
Vanessa Reid (Mrs)
Secretary –
Friends of Wakeley

PENFOLDS AMUSEMENTS

Dear Editor,

I have noticed that nothing has ever been included in Action Forum about Kent Travellers, not the Romanys but the proud and hard working travelling showmen. My husband's family have been showmen for many years, travelling around Kent with their gallopers, traction engines and caravans. Penfold Amusements were a familiar and popular sight and Rainham was often on the agenda. My mother, who is 77, remembers having rides on Penfolds Gallopers when they were at Rainham Recreation Ground. The smell of the traction engines, the music of the old fairground organ and the calling showmen all added to the atmosphere and excitement for the children.

The picture on the front cover, taken in 1943, is of a set of Penfolds Gallopers. The ride was recently known to be owned by Carters Funfair, but in this photo we believe it is in either Rainham or Gillingham. The operator to the left of the ride is William (Bill) Penfold and standing just right of centre is James Penfold (senior); he was my husband's (David James Penfold) grandfather. I can recognise some of my family (Bakers from Upchurch and Rainham) but we would love to know more about the venue and occasion. If you recognise yourself or a relative and can help with information please do get in touch, we are also keen to know what happened to 'Old Topsy' the engine that towed the ride at snails pace along the road.

Yours sincerely
Pamela Penfold
17 The Maltings
Rainham
01634 365427

DEANVIEW '95 BOYS FOOTBALL CLUB

Dear Editor,

Please could you ask through your excellent magazine, if there are any enthusiastic football players out there who wish to show an interest in joining this successful club. We run teams from the age of U8s through to U15s – most teams are in Division I. If you think you can play like Marlene King or Iffy Onuora or even a little bit like them!!

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We would like to hear from you. Trials will be taking place – Fully qualified coaches on all teams with first aid experience (just in case)!!! – If you 'fancy a change of clubs' – and are experienced players – give me a ring – Karen Adgie, 01634 370211.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Karen Adgie
Secretary for
Deanview '95

DISTRIBUTION

We have a very good band of distributors who do a grand job delivering your Action Forum each month. Many thanks to all who help but inevitably there are hot spots where more assistance is needed. If you could spare an hour or so during the first week of each month to distribute a couple of hundred copies, help is needed in the following areas.

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Woodside, Swain Road and Hoath Lane.
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Lonsdale Drive.

Parkwood – south-west quarter (Long Catlis Road area).

Several parts of Hempstead, particularly The Everglades and Greenfinches.

If you live in or near any of the roads mentioned and can help please do get in touch during the day at Rainham Bookshop on 371591 or 231307 at other times.



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Diary 2001

Keeper: Mrs Christine Smith
275 Wigmore Road
Wigmore
Tel: 233098

No charge is made for Diary entries
Diary Copy Date: 19th June 2001

- June 4th – Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers Association. Tunisian Crochet. 7.30-9.30pm at the Annexe (Urchins Playgroup) building in Marlborough Road, Gillingham.
- June 5th – Medway Scrabble Club. 2.00 to 4.30pm, Riverside Indoor Bowls Complex, Chatham.
- June 5th – Gillingham Horticultural Society, Floral Art Group, United Reformed Church, 7.30pm. New members welcome, ring 234734 for details, 'Summer Walk' – a Landscape.
- June 6th – Countryside Event, Berengrave Walk, 10.00am to 12 noon at Berengrave Nature Reserve, ring 378987 to book.
- June 6th – Friendship Circle. Parkwood Christian Fellowship, 2.15pm. For further details telephone 01634 365758.
- June 6th – Rochester & West Kent Art Society. Workshop – Bring along your own work or try a townscape in pastel. For further information telephone 233053.
- June 7th – Countryside Event. Talk 8.30pm, Capstone Farm Country Park. 'Bats – man's best friend'. Tickets £1.50, ring 378987 to book.
- June 7th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Bingo, 2.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. For people over the age of 50. For further information telephone 01634 235507.
- June 7th, 8th & 9th – Wigmore MADS present the play, a drama, 'I LOVE YOU LOVE' by Fay Weldon at 8.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. BOX OFFICE: Sue on Medway 370639. Tickets £5, £4.50 concs. Cheese and Wine included in price.
- June 7th – Colourstrings Kindermusik. Babies (up to 18 months) 12.25-1.5pm. 1.00-1.30pm. Children (18 months-3 years) 1.40-2.15pm. 3.10-3.45pm.

- Children aged 3-4 years 2.25-3.00pm. Children 5-7 years 4.00-4.40pm. For further information telephone 01435 872086. St Paul's Church Hall, Parkwood, Rainham.
- June 8th – Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. Come along and find out what this month's featured constellation will be with Pete Parish, 8.00pm Riverside Country Park, Lower Rainham Road, Gillingham. All are welcome. Contact Amanda Peters evenings and Wednesday mornings only on 01634 308035.
- June 8th – Charity Garden Afternoon in aid of The Cancer Caring Fund, 2.00pm, 53 Lakewood Drive, Wigmore. Do come and bring a friend.
- June 9th – BOOT FAYRE & SUMMER FAYRE, St Margaret's Junior School, Orchard Street, Rainham. Fun starts at 1.00pm. Entrance 30p. Stallholders please phone the school 01634 230998 for details.
- June 12th – Gillingham and District Fuchsia & Pelargonium Society. Another 'Off the cuff' talk and tips on Pelargoniums by Ron Holmes from Edenbridge. 7.30pm. The Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, Rainham.
- June 12th – Rainham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. Flower Arranging – Mrs Low. 2.00pm, St Margaret's Millennium Centre, Gatekeeper Chase, Rainham.
- June 12th – Medway Antiques and Collectors Club. The Mutiny on the Bounty. Mr Derek Chandler. 7.30 for 8.00pm, Gordon Hotel, High Street, Rochester. For further details telephone 01634 366586 or 851512.
- June 12th – Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club, Club Demo: Garter Bar. NEW VENUE: The Red Cross (Gillingham Centre), 31 Balmoral Road, Gillingham. 8 to 10pm, ring 862673 for details.
- June 13th – Bredhurst WI. Mr David Taylor: Romanian Hospice. Competition: An Item in Iron. 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
- June 13th – Rainham Flower Club. Demonstration: Gill Platt 'Something Old Something New'. 7.30 to 9.30pm, St Margaret's Millennium Centre, Rainham.
- June 14th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Musical

- Afternoon by 'Gryphon' One man – 14 Instruments (see 7th June).
- June 14th – Colourstrings Kindermusik (see 7th June).
- June 16th – The National Childbirth Trust. Alexandra Rose Day. National Childbirth Trust members will have a stand and collection box at Wyevale Garden Centre, Elm Court. Please come and visit / make a donation to help train a new breast-feeding counsellor, and provide support for the Medway area.
- June 16th – Music Quiz. Tables of 6-8. 7.30pm start. Deanwood Junior School, Rainham. Tickets £4. Contact 387466 or 231901.
- June 16th – Friends of St Margaret's Church Boot Fair/Craft Fair at the Millennium Centre, 10 to 12 noon. £6 per table, admission 25p, ring 372680 to book.
- June 16th – Upchurch Open Day gardens open, flower festival, art exhibition, pony rides, cream teas, ring 374220 or 231326 for details.
- June 16th – Friends of Meredale School Summer Fayre, 10.30am. Stalls £5, contact the school on 231405 or Mrs Lorraine White on 378795 after 3.30pm to book or for more details.
- June 16th – St Thomas of Canterbury Summer Fayre, 12 noon to 3.30pm, ex pupils particularly welcome.
- June 17th – Holywell School Summer Fete, Forge Lane, Upchurch, ring 388416 for details.
- June 17th – Countryside Event, Downland Wildflower Walk, 10.00am to 1.00pm at Darland Bank. Ring 812196 to book.
- June 18th – Rainham Evening WI. Letter 'F'. History of Fashion. Grace Wakefield. 7.30pm, Platters Farm Lodge, Highfield Road, Rainham.
- June 18th – Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers Association. Spindle Spinning and Care of Wheels (see 4th June).
- June 19th – Medway Scrabble Club (see 5th June).
- June 19th – Gillingham Horticultural Society. Floral Art Group. Figurines & Staging – a Teach-in with Wynne and Carol (see 5th June).
- June 20th – Bredhurst Garden Club. BARBECUE in Village Hall. Members only.
- June 20th – Wigmore Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. My Year of Platinum – Mrs Burton.

- Competition: Ugly Ornament. 1.45 to 4.15pm, Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore.
- June 20th – Rochester & West Kent Art Society. Michael Chaglin – Talking about 'Watercolour Challenge' as he helps judge (see 6th June).
- June 20th-23rd – The Kentish Players present 'Chess the Musical', Central Hall, Chatham, 7.30pm. Ring 406271 or Box Office 403868 to book.
- June 20th – Save the Children Fund AGM. 7.45pm, Millennium Centre, everyone welcome.
- June 21st – Rainham WI. Speaker: Mr R. Walton – Hop Farming in Kent. 1.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, corner of Wakeley/Station Road, Rainham.
- June 21st – Wigmore Thursday Club. Strawberry Tea – Entertainment by the Rainbow Concert Party.
- June 21st – Wigmore MADS Choir present a concert MADS AT THE MOVIES, 8.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. BOX OFFICE Sue on 01634 370639. Tickets £3.50, £3.00 concs.
- June 21st to 30th – Medway Little Theatre presents 'THE REAL THING' by Tom Stoppard. BOX OFFICE 01634 400322.
- June 21st – Colourstrings Kindermusik (see 7th June).
- June 23rd – SUMMER FAYRE, Miers Court Primary School, Silverspot Close, Rainham. 11.00am to 2.00pm. Come along for a FUN FILLED SUMMER SATURDAY.
- June 23rd – The National Childbirth Trust. 8.00pm, Indian Quiz Night at Lady Chutney's Restaurant, 74 High Street, Chatham, including Indian buffet. £10 per person. Tables of 6. Vegetarian or non-Indian food available. Booking essential. Telephone 07950 939898 or e-mail our website www.nct.medway.org.uk
- June 23rd – Dolls' House Exhibition by Rainham & District Dollshouse Group at The Oast House Community Centre, Granary Close, Rainham, 9.30am to 4.30pm, Admission: Adults £1, Children 50p, family ticket (2+2) £2.50. Ring Sylvia on 312038 for more information.
- June 23rd – Countryside Event, Downland habitats study day, 10.00am to 4.00pm at Capstone Farm Country Park, cost £22.20, ring 845359 to enrol.

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Correspondence

MIERS COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUMMER FAYRE

Dear Editor,

Boats bobbing on the water, Punch and Judy, ice cream, buckets and spades – yes it's the Summer Holidays, the theme for MIERS COURT SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE 2001.

Combine the delights of your fortnight's holiday into one fun-packed day for the whole family. Saturday 23rd June, 11pm to 2pm.

We're all going on a Summer Holiday, why don't you come too? Everyone very welcome.

Yours sincerely
F.M. Holton
Miers Court PTFA
01634 387095

BREDHURST SUMMER FETE

Dear Editor,

St Peter's Church, Bredhurst, will be holding their annual Summer Fete at 2.00pm on Saturday 7th July, on the playing field at the rear of Bredhurst Village Hall.

There will be all the usual attractions, including races for the children, with rosettes and prizes, plants, books, cakes, bric-a-brac, hot dogs, ice cream, coconut shy and smash the crockery. There will, of course, be a Grand Draw and other smaller raffles, and a decorated cake competition for the children, bouncy castle and other attractions. The fete will be opened by Bredhurst May Queen, which will be followed by a display by The Black Lion Gymnastic Club.

St Peter's is a beautiful 12th century church which is extremely popular for weddings in the parish. Needless to say, because of its age, the upkeep is very costly. The summer fete is one of the main fundraisers for the church, and any support we receive for this is so very much appreciated.

Please come along if you can!

Yours sincerely
Mrs J. Cox

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SAVE THE CHILDREN

Dear Editor,

The Gillingham & Rainham branch of SCF is holding an AGM on Wednesday 20th June, 7.45pm, at St Margaret's Millennium Centre. This will be an open meeting and anyone interested in either the fundraising of the local branch or the wider work of Save the Children is very welcome to attend.

We will also be holding a "Strawberry Tea" on Saturday 30th June, 2.30 to 4.30pm at the St Margaret's Millennium Centre. **The price at only £1.50 will include entry and refreshments.**

Any enquiries regarding the AGM or Strawberry Tea may be made to Medway 375610/376873.

Many thanks
Tina Barnard

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FAYRE

Dear Editor,

St Thomas of Canterbury School is holding its annual Summer Fayre on Saturday 16th June 2001 at the school in Romany Road, Twydall, from 12 noon to 3.30pm.

There will be bouncy castles, AA child self-drive cars, Beat the Goalie, lots of stalls and fun games, face painting, refreshments; the list goes on and on...

We have a raffle for a signed football, courtesy of Gillingham Football Club, plus many other great prizes. There will also be majorettes and fun races.

It will, of course, be a fun day for everyone. We would love to see some ex-St Thomas of Canterbury pupils, so please come along and support the event.

Yours sincerely
Catherine Emery
Secretary
St Thomas of
Canterbury PTA

KNITTERS ON THE MOVE

Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club have moved to a new venue at The Red Cross (Gillingham Centre), 31 Balmoral Road, Gillingham. We meet as usual on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month, 8.00pm to 10.00pm. New members are very welcome. Any enquiries ring Medway 862673.

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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR MAY

In 1983 the Kent Wildlife Trust bought two small flower-rich hay meadows from a family which had owned two farms in Marden for generations. The two farms were traditional mixed ones which grew hops, a variety of apples, a small amount of arable crops and grazing grass for their dairy herd.

The two fields bought by the Trust were about a mile from the main farm which appears to be the reason for their survival as damp unimproved meadows. It seems that the land was too wet to grow arable crops, unsuitable for growing apples or hops and, in any case, too far from the farm to be worth growing anything other than grass for hay. A late cut of hay was accordingly taken each year and carted to the main farm where it was stored in ricks and provided winter feed for the cattle. Apart from a limited amount of dung applied occasionally, and a light harrowing, the fields received no artificial fertilisers and the very minimum of mechanical treatment.

The two meadows are among the last remaining examples in Kent of flower-rich traditional hay meadows and have been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest. In May and June the two meadows are covered in thousands of green winged orchids which are somewhat like small early purples. The 'hood' of the green winged orchid is shot through with delicate green veining. The majority of the orchids at Marden Meadow are of a deep purple colour although a small proportion vary from pale lilac through pink to white. The orchids grow in a relatively low sward of grasses and other plants including the diminutive adders tongue fern. By high summer there is a much higher sward of grasses and other flowering plants and the predominantly purple colour has changed to the pale green of grass flowers, the white of ox-eye daisies and the yellow of cats' ear.

H.E. Bates, the author of 'The Darling Buds of May', moved to Kent, from his native Northamptonshire, in 1931. His recollections of childhood summers ache with regret for the lost wild flowers,

butterflies and birds which used to coexist with the farmer's crop of hay. At Marden Meadows, however, even 25 years after his death, one can still walk through a traditional flower-rich meadow of the kind that Bates recollected from his childhood.

The meadows at Marden are bounded by hawthorn hedges which are covered in white blossom in the month of May. Bates described May blossom as 'the risen cream of all the milkiness of May time'. He wrote those words in 1936, after his arrival in Kent, but he doubtless had in mind the long hawthorn hedges of the 18th century enclosure fields of his native Northamptonshire. Professor W.G. Hoskins, the author of 'The Making of the English Landscape', wrote that on the 18th May each year the miles of snowy hawthorn hedges of the Midlands reach perfection, so dense and far-reaching that the entire atmosphere is saturated with the bitter-sweet smell of May blossom whichever way the wind is blowing.

And so it is at Marden Meadows in May. Despite the profusion of green winged orchids, hay rattle, buttercups and many other flowers, the entire atmosphere is saturated with the bitter-sweet smell of May blossom.

Marden Meadows lie halfway between Marden and Staplehurst alongside the railway line but are closed until such time as the foot and mouth emergency is over.

Joe Ennis

WIGMORE GARDENS WEEKEND Saturday 30th June & Sunday 1st July

An 'open' gardens weekend is planned to help raise funds for the St Matthew's Church 'Roof & Renew' Appeal. I would be grateful if you could advise your readers. Details of the weekend are as follows:

- 20 local gardens to explore and appreciate
- Teas & refreshments on sale
- Children's competition
- Entry programmes (admission to all gardens)
- £5 per adult - children free

Contact Bill and Sylvia Trees 370722 for an entry programme or further information.

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Tuesday 3rd July - Sittingbourne Orpheus Choral Society - concert in St Mary the Virgin, Upchurch Church, at 8.00pm

Wednesday 4th July - Musicam Amamus - concert in St Mary's Church at 8.00pm.
(5 musical ladies in a miscellany)

Thursday 5th July - Two for the Price of One - in St Mary's Church at 8.00pm
(A musical miscellany)

Friday 6th July - Canterbury Jazz Pilgrims - Upchurch Village Hall at 8.00pm - tickets £7.00 (Trad Jazz)

Saturday 7th July - Canterbury Brass Band - St Mary's Church at 8.00pm

Sunday 8th July - Upchurch Night - Choral Group, Church Choir and Holywell School - St Mary's Church at 7.00pm.

Tickets for concerts in St Mary's Church are £2.50. Season tickets for all concerts in St Mary's Church £10.

Should you require any further information please ring 233576.

GARDEN PARTY

Marilyn Soffe is holding a Garden Party at 55 Bredhurst Road, Wigmore, between 2.30 and 4.30pm on Saturday 14th July. Tickets are £1.50 and include light refreshment. There will be a cake stall, bric-a-brac, books, etc. There will also be games and music. Please come, everyone welcome. All proceeds in aid of the Medway Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund. Telephone Marilyn Soffe on 232158 or Bill Trythall on 230329 for more details. These garden parties have been held for many years and have always been very enjoyable.

FRIENDS OF MEREDALE SCHOOL

Our annual Summer Fayre will be held on Saturday 16th June at 10.30am. It will include raffles, tombola, side shows and a Boot and Craft Fair. Pitches for the Boot and Craft Fair will cost £5.00 and anyone interested in having a stall should contact the school on 01634 231405 or Mrs Lorraine White on 01634 378795 after 3.30pm.

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At St Matthew's Community Centre, June 23rd 2001
Start 7.30pm. Price £6 per person and includes a Chuck Wagon Supper (BYOD&G)
Tickets from Derek Lynch 01634 361976 or Mike Collins 01634 364818

CHARITY GARDEN PARTY

Instead of the annual coffee morning at Childscroft Road, this year we are holding a Garden Party at 93 Berengrave Lane, Rainham, on Saturday 14th July at 2.00pm. Proceeds will be divided between the Demelza Hospice and the Bredhurst Cat Shelter. Refreshments available. Donations of goods welcome (toiletries, bric-a-brac, etc).

Enquiries to 01634 233795 or 01634 389668.
Come along and bring your friends.

THOMAS BARNARDO FOUNDERS DAY July 4th 2001 at 8pm

Rainham Helpers Group invites you to come and spend an evening at the Millennium Centre and meet our Thomas Barnardo. Help to celebrate by raising funds for Barnardos.

Tombola - Stalls to Visit - A Mini Auction - Talk Entertainment.

For further information contact 01634 233405 or 01634 234053.

Refreshments. Admission £1.50.

CHARITY GARDEN AFTERNOON

A Charity Garden Afternoon in aid of 'The Cancer Caring Fund' will be held on Friday 8th June at 2.00pm in the garden of 53 Lakewood Drive, Wigmore. This will be 'The Grand Final'. Bargains galore, all items at sale prices, EVERYTHING MUST GO. There will be stalls of Cakes, Plants, Crafts, Bric-a-Brac and a Grand Draw. Do come along and please bring your friends.

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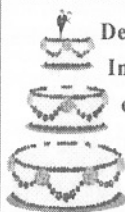
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June 23rd — Wigmore Men's Fellowship present

'Murder Mystery in the Wild West' at
St Matthew's Community Centre, 7.30pm.
Ring 361976 or 364818 to book.

June 24th — Mid-Kent Astronomical Society.
Riverside Country Park.

June 26th — Rainham Evening Machine Knitting
Club. Guest Speaker: Heathercraft's Brenda
Bristow (see 12th June).

June 27th — Medway Camcorder Club. How Did
They Do That? Spill the beans on how some of the
best of our group or individual films are made
(see 13th June).

June 27th — Countryside Event Evening Bird Cruise,
tickets £12 in advance, ring 378987 to book.

June 28th — Wigmore Thursday Club. Service, Sales
Stall and Hobbies (see 7th June).

June 28th — Colourstrings Kindermusik (see 7th June)

June 28th — Rainham & District Dolls House &
Miniaturist Group. 7.30pm, Oast House, Granary
Close, Station Road, Rainham. For further
information telephone Sylvia Wildridge 01634
312038.

June 28th — Tales from the Mariners, The Three
Mariners, 509 Lower Rainham Road, 7.30pm.

June Peters, Admission £4, £2 concessions.

June 29th — Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. Talk by
Margaret Morris from Glasgow University. 'An
Accretion Disc on Two Legs' (see 8th June).

June 30th — Wakeley Schools SUMMER FAYRE,
10.00am until 12 noon. Many attractions which
will also include 'Santa Fe Train' which will be
available for children's rides throughout the
morning. Admission will be 30p and there will be
prizes for the lucky programme holder. Pitches for
Boot and Craft stalls are also available at £5 per
pitch and anyone interested should contact the
School (during school hours) on Tel: 231965. All
proceeds from this event will be used for the
benefit of all the children in school, which includes
very successful unit for the visually impaired.

June 30th — Medway Mineral Fossil Fair 2001.

Uptairs Community Hall, Hempstead Valley
Shopping Centre, Gillingham. 10.0am to 4.00pm.
Admission 50p. Children half price.

June 30th — Save the Children Fund. Strawberry Tea
2.30 to 4.30pm at the Millennium Centre.
Admission £1.50 including refreshments, details
from 375610.

June 30th to July 1st — Wigmore Gardens Weekend,
explore 20 local gardens for £5, ring Bill and
Sylvia Trees on 370722 for entry programme and
details.

July 1st — Hempstead Churches present Funday
Sunday at Hempstead Playing Fields, 2.00 to
6.00pm, everyone welcome, everything FREE, do
come and join in, ring 389225 for details.

July 2nd — Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers
Association. Sheep's Head Mascot (see 4th June).

July 3rd — Medway Scrabble Club (see 5th June).

July 3rd — Gillingham Horticultural Society. Floral
Art Group. 'Bastille Day' — an Exhibit — to be
judged (see 5th June).

July 3rd to 8th — Upchurch Festival of Music.

See page 13 for details.
July 4th — Friendship Circle, Parkwood Christian
Fellowship (see 6th June).

July 4th — Rochester & West Kent Art Society.
Aylesford Bridge — Painted as a Watercolour
Challenge, Nettie Iles North will judge it.
Start 6.30pm.

July 4th — Thomas Barnardo Founders Day, 8.00pm
at the Millennium Centre, Rainham. Help to
celebrate by raising funds for Barnardos.
Admission £1.50. Ring 233405 or 234053 for
details.

July 5th — Wigmore Thursday Club. Medway Council
— Recycling talk by Brian Barker (see 7th June).

July 5th — Colourstrings Kindermusik (see 7th June).

July 5th — Countryside Event. Evening Talk. 7.30pm
at Capstone Farm Country Park. Wildlife
gardening, tickets £1.50, ring 812196 to book.

July 7th — St Peter's Church SUMMER FETE,
Bredhurst Village Hall, 2.00pm. Display by Black
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Continued on page 13

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July 7th — FUNDRAISER in aid of DYSTONIA.

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sale. 1.30 to 4.30pm, St Matthew's Community
Centre. 230358 for details.

July 8th — Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. Solar
Observing at Riverside Country Park 11.00am to
5.00pm. Members will be setting up telescopes for
safe viewing of the sun. Weather permitting.

July 8th — Countryside Event, Astronomy Open Day,
11.am to 5.00pm at Riverside Country Park.
Ring 308035 for details.

July 10th — Gillingham and District Fuchsia &
Pelargonium Society. OUR MINISHOW. A
chance for all members to bring back your
Distribution Plants for judging by Ted Sweetman
from New Zealand, followed by a talk commenting
on our Show. Please enter your plants
(see 12th June).

July 10th — Rainham Afternoon Townswomen's
Guild. 'Bee Keeping': Mr Clare (see 12th June).

July 10th — Medway Antique and Collectors Club.
Spode 1790-1833. A history of its development.
Mr Geoffrey Fisk (see 12th June)

July 11th — Bredhurst WI. Mr Eamon French, RNLI.
Competition: An Item in Copper.

July 11th — Rainham Flower Club. Workshop.

July 11th — Rochester & West Kent Art Society.

A day's painting in Rye. Those wishing to come,
please contact Pat Maynard-Smith.

July 11th — Evening Bird Cruise (see 27th June).

July 12th — Wigmore Thursday Club. Demelza
Hospice — Talk by Chris Masters.

July 13th — Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. Find out
about Atoms with Emma Nicholson in her talk
'Atoms for Dummies'.

July 14th — The National Childbirth Trust. 11.00am to
2.00pm. Teddy Bears Fete & Fun Day at Jigsaw
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every week, individual events are listed in the Diary.

Sunday Oast 'Ouse 'Oppers Morris Dancing,
12 to 2pm, contact Mrs Lynn Cass
370327.

Monday RWCA Bridge Club, 7.30 to 11pm,
contact Audrey Clarke 230370.

Tuesday Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness Club,
10 to 12 noon.
A1 Dancing School, 5 to 7pm,
contact 01622 717394.
Badminton, 7 to 11pm,
contact Laraine 373833.

Wednesday Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness Club,
10 to 12 noon.
A1 Dancing School, 5 to 7pm,
contact 01622 717394.
RWCA Whist Club, 7.30 to 11pm,
contact Mrs K. Naylor.

Thursday Kentara Line Dancing, 1.30 to 4pm,
contact Mr J.F. Smith 372288.
Weightwatchers, 5.30 to 8pm.
Rainham Chess Club, 7.30 to 11pm,
contact Tom Stonehouse 231374.
Dreamcatchers Line Dancing, 8 to 11pm,
contact 300026.

Friday A1 Dancing School, 5 to 7pm,
contact 01622 717394.

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