

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

JANUARY/
FEBRUARY 2002
NUMBER 364



Guests at Ernest and Hilda Bartlett's wedding in September 1928. A relative is trying to identify these gentlemen, if you can help do contact Mrs Cox, for details see her letter on page 3.

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Next Issue: March 2nd 2002
Copy Date: Feb 12th Sm Ads Feb 15th
Editorial: Mrs Barbara Mackay Miller,
5 Meresborough Cotts, Tel: 231307.
Advertising: Hamish Mackay Miller,
5 Meresborough Cotts, Tel: 231307.

Editorial

We wish you all a very happy new year – however, with our combined January/February edition we will all be well used to writing 2002 by the time you read this. We have received letters of thanks from both St Margaret's and St Matthew's churches for the contribution we have so far made to their roof repair funds, both parishes are progressing well towards their targets, but of course will welcome any additional help. Once again we say a very big thank you to all who regularly help with Action Forum distribution, it is much appreciated.

A query was raised last month about the exploratory trenches which were dug and then filled in on the old Co-op site in the High Street. Apparently this was an archaeological group who were digging to see if the site had any historical interest before building began. As the Sale signs are once more advertising the plot their haste seems to have been a bit premature.

Young or old, we have articles to interest you all this month. The Festival of Speech and Drama welcome applications from all age groups and you just have time before the 3rd February deadline to submit your entry. If you are of a more active nature the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme needs adult helpers and a local Guide District is in urgent need of more assistance. If none of this appeals perhaps the Horticultural Society's Floral Art Group is more to your taste, they welcome new members from eleven years upwards. These, together with a Barn Dance, Amateur Dramatics, Knitters Groups and the Antique Club all invite you, through our pages, to take an active part in community life.

The very beginning of March sees the annual Women's World Day of Prayer, this year being celebrated at St Thomas of Canterbury Church. The 2002 service has been produced by the women of Romania around a theme of 'Challenged to Reconcile'. The local organisers welcome anyone who would like to join them at the service on March 1st at 7.30pm.

I hope you can find something of interest in our pages this month. The days are getting longer so this cold weather cannot last for ever. Wrap up warmly and enjoy the brief spells of sunshine for a brisk walk, but whatever, have a good month until we see you again at the beginning of March.

Correspondence

THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION
RAINHAM SOUTH EAST DISTRICT
Dear Editor,

Calling all readers!

Did you enjoy Guiding? Were you lucky enough to enjoy the spirit of Guiding at its best?

Guiding is moving forward in many ways for young women from ages 5 to 25. An exciting new programme is evolving for all sections, Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

We want as many girls as possible to enjoy Guiding and all it can offer, but many units in this area are under threat of closure due to a shortage of adult help.

Whether you can only offer a few hours a week want to join us as a uniformed leader, your help would be great appreciated.

Think differently. Be confident. Join us.

For further information, please contact Mrs Carole Spy on 01634 682065.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Carole Spy
District Commissioner
Rainham SE District

FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S CHURCH
Dear Editor,

The Friends of St Margaret's Church wish to thank all those who supported the many events held towards the end of last year to raise funds necessary for maintaining and repairing our historic parish church building.

Most of the events planned so far for this year will be held at the Millennium Centre and include a Boot Fair, 10.00am to noon (£6.00 per table) and a 'Knowledge and Nibbles' evening starting at 7.30pm (£4.00 each), both on February 23rd; another Boot Fair on April 13th from 10.00am to noon; a Garden Party at 36 Marshall Road on May 25th; an 'Auction of Promises' on 1st June; a Craft Fair on 6th Oct and a 'Curry Night' on 16th November.

Please check the Action Forum Diary for further details of these and additional events or phone 235530 for bookings/tickets.

Yours faithfully,
Kay Jarvis
Friends Committee

OLD ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, WOODSIDE
Dear Editor,

I have lived in Gillingham all my life and in Wigmore for the last 35 years and was organist and choirmaster at Holy Trinity Twydall Green for 34 years. The old St Matthew's Church in Woodside is now used as a Masonic centre and being involved with this organisation and playing the organ there, I

have often wondered (a) where was the altar placed, (b) the choir, and (c) what kind of organ was used and where was that placed?

If any of your readers can remember, I would be most grateful to hear from them.

Yours most sincerely,
David Lucas
92 Wigmore Road
01634 233538

MACHINE KNITTING CLUB
Dear Editor,

Rainham Afternoon Machine Knitting Club has been meeting in the Red Cross house at Rainham for the last fifteen years and recently we have had to move. We will be holding our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of most months from 1.30 to 3.30pm at Parkwood Community Centre, Parkwood (Cen, Rainham). We are going to incorporate other clubs into our meetings and if any of your readers would like to come along and join a friendly group to share our interest in handicrafts we would be pleased to welcome them.

Sincerely
G. Stanfield
01634 388546

BARN DANCE
Dear Editor,

Medway & Maidstone VSO Group will be holding their annual fundraising Burns Night Barn Dance on Saturday 26th January 2002 at Hillyfields Junior School in Gillingham. This year promises to be our best event yet as we will be dancing to the excellent band Pilgrims Way who come complete with their experienced caller Chris Woodward. Tickets are priced at £7.50 which includes a hot sausage and chips or vegetarian supper and are available from Pam and Philip Cole on Medway 376608. This is always a popular event so we look forward to hearing from Forum readers who are looking for a fun social evening in what is usually a 'flat' period after Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely
Pam Cole
(VSO Local Events Co-ordinator)

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FLUTE and PIANO DUO
Dear Editor,

I would like to tell readers of a recital of music for flute and piano that takes place in February.

The event is on Saturday February 9th 2002 at 7.30pm in the St George's Centre, Chatham Maritime, and is entitled 'A Continental Selection'. The recital is to be given by myself, Karen Brown (flute) and Martyn Williams (piano) and will include music by Schubert (Austrian) and Henri Dutilleux (French). The programme will also include the Sonatina for flute and piano by Martyn Williams (Welsh), the world premiere of which the duo gave in July 2000, making this recital truly Euro friendly!

Tickets for the recital are available from myself by telephone Medway 376979 or by e-mailing the address below and are priced at £6 for adults and £2 for children and include wine and interval refreshments. Profits from this concert will go to support Demelza Children's Hospice and the recital duo is grateful to Hidsons of Rainham (Citroen and Honda) for their continuing sponsorship.

Yours sincerely,
Karen Brown
kandmduo@btopenworld.com

BARTLETT WEDDING
Dear Editor,

I am trying to find out the names of the six well dressed gentlemen in the photograph on the front cover.

It is possible this could have been taken at the wedding of Ernest Bartlett and Hilda Bartlett (Seagars) of Berengrave Lane, Rainham, on the 1st of September 1928. I would be very pleased to hear from anybody who may recognise these people.

Please contact me on 01795 520826 or write to me by post.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Janet Cox (Bartlett)
Box Cottage
Lewson Street, Norton

Sittingbourne
Kent ME9 9JT

MEDWAY ANTIQUE AND COLLECTORS' CLUB
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Our meetings will now be held at The St George Hotel, 7-8 New Road Avenue, Chatham.

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Diary 2002

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

No charge is made for Diary entries
Diary Copy Date: 12th February 2002

- January 19th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. NEW YEAR LUNCH.
January 19th – Quiz Night, Oast House Community Centre, 8.00pm. Tables of 6, more details from 374558.
January 20th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 10.00am, Crown Point Inn, Near Seal. 6 miles. No dogs.
January 20th – Ramblers Association Medway Group. Start 10.00am. 8 miles. Meet near Red House PH in Hermitage Lane, South of Chart Sutton. Contact no 01622 747652.
January 21st – Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers Association. 7.30 to 9.30pm in the Annexe (Urchins Playgroup) building in Marlborough Road, Gillingham.
January 21st – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club. 2.00 to 4.00pm, Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore. We mostly play bingo, have a raffle, tea and biscuits. People over the age of 50 are welcome and transport can sometimes be arranged. Ring 362662 for details.
January 22nd – Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club. 8.00 to 10.00pm. The Red Cross (Gillingham Centre), 31 Balmoral Road, Gillingham. Ring 862673 for details.
January 22nd – Countryside Event, Birdwatching Cruise, £17, book and pay in advance 378987.
January 22nd – Gillingham Horticultural Society Floral Art Group. 'Welcome Back and Cheers', United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.30 to 9.00pm. Ring 234734 for details.
January 23rd – Wigmore Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. Presentation, Competition: Ornate Jam

- Spoon. 1.45 to 4.15pm in the Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore.
January 23rd – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 7.5 miles. Meet near school in Ulcombe. Bring refreshments. Contact no 01634 234519.
January 24th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Talk by Thelma Grove – Dickens, Man of Medway. 2.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. For people over the age of 50. For further information telephone 235507.
January 24th to February 2nd – Medway Little Theatre, 'Up 'n' Under' by John Godber, 7.30pm. Tickets 400322.
January 25th – The Medway Geographical Society. Upper Medway – Mr J. Morgan. 7.30 to 9.00pm. Adult Education Centre, Green Street, Gillingham.
January 25th – Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. 8.00pm, Bredhurst Village Hall. Contact 308035.
January 26th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 10.15am Mote Park, School Lane Entrance, off Willington Street. Packed lunch. PH Crown & Horse Shoes available. 7.5 miles.
January 26th – Medway and Maidstone VSO group. BURNS NIGHT BARN DANCE with Pilgrims Way at Hillyfields School Hall, Gillingham. Tickets £7.50 (inc hot supper). Contact Medway 376608 to book.
January 27th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.00pm car park, Maidstone Road, Wigmore, adjacent to A278. 5 miles. Dogs on leads.
January 27th – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 9.5 miles. Meet at public car park in Lenham (near Dog & Bear PH). Contact no 01634 851187.
January 27th – Countryside Event. Winter Bird walk. 10 to 12 noon, Ambley Woods and Darland Banks. Book in advance 812196.
January 28th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club (see 21st Jan).
January 29th – Rainham Minders meet at Methodist Church Hall, Station Road. 9.30 to 11.30am. All registered childminders welcome. Ring Clai on 376270 for details.

- January 30th – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 7 miles. Meet and park at Camer Road, Meopham. Pub stop at end. Contact no 01634 718895.
January 31st – Wigmore Thursday Club AGM (see 21st Jan.)
January 31st – Rainham & District Dollshouse and Miniaturist Group. 7.30pm, St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, London Road, Rainham. 01634 312038.
January 31st – Gillingham Horticultural Society, Millennium Centre, 8.00pm. Mr Colin Coc: Talk on the local area with slides. Ring 360624 for details.
January 31st – Tales from the Mariners. Kate Corkery 'Tales from Ireland'. 8.00pm, The Three Mariners, Lower Rainham Road. £4 (concessions £2).
February 1st – Gillingham Recorded Music Society. Puccini Rarities: Bernard Smith (Lewisham RMS). 7.15 to 9.15pm, St Augustine's Church Room (top of Rock Avenue), Gillingham. Ring 852905 for details.
February 2nd – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. The Kent Area AGM. Egerton Village Hall.
February 3rd – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 7 miles. Meet and park at Otford rail station. Pub stop at end. Contact no 01634 718895.
February 3rd – Countryside Event, Learn how to hedgelay, 10.30 to 3pm, Capstone Farm Country Park. Book in advance 812196.
February 4th – Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers Association. Broomstick Crochet (see 21st Jan).
February 4th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club (see 21st Jan).
February 4th – Countryside Event, Talk, Riverside Country Park, 7.30pm. Wildflowers of Kent by Sue Buckingham. £1.50, book in advance 378987.
February 5th – Floral Art Group. 'Be My Valentine' (see 22nd Jan).
February 6th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 10.15am Newington Station. Packed lunch, PH available. Approx. 6.5 miles.
February 6th – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 3-4 miles. Meet at Cobham

- Church. Pub stop at end. Contact no 01634 855702.
February 7th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Valerie Goulden – Talk by Medway Mayoress (see 24th Jan).
February 8th – Gillingham and Rainham Local History Society. Some Historic Railway Accidents (illustrated). Mr H.D. Lingwood. 7.15pm, Adult Education Centre, Green Street, Gillingham.
February 8th – Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. Pete Parish, constellation of the month (see 25th Jan).
February 8th to 9th – Medway Little Theatre Senior Children's Workshop 'The Down-Going of Orpheus Hawkins' by David Clarke. Box Office 400322.
February 9th – Flute and Piano Recital, St George's Centre, Chatham Maritime. 7.30pm. Tickets £6 (children £2) from 376979.
February 10th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.00pm, Shipbourne Church. Dogs on leads.
February 10th – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.30am. 7.5 miles. Meet and park at Tower Hill. Coffee stop at Herne Bay. Contact no 01634 230585.
February 11th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club (see 21st Jan).
February 12th – Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club. 8.00 to 10.00pm. The Red Cross (Gillingham Centre), 31 Balmoral Road, Gillingham. For further details telephone 862673.
February 12th – Rainham Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. 2.00pm, St Margaret's Millennium Centre, Rainham.
February 12th – Medway Antiques and Collectors Club. 7.30 for 8.00pm, The St George Hotel, 7-8 New Road Avenue, Chatham. Arts & Crafts of William Morris and Companions.
February 12th – Countryside Event. Children's Nature Day, 10 to 12 noon, Capstone Farm Country Park. Aged 5-12 years (under 8 must be accompanied). £1.50 per child. Book in advance 812196.
February 13th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 10.30am Camer Park. Packed lunch. PH available. Approx 7 miles.


Continued on page 11

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WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

March 1st 2002 is the Women's World Day of Prayer. This year the subject chosen by the women of Romania is 'Challenged to Reconcile'. A service, prepared by the Romanian women, with a speaker from the Methodist Church and leaders from St Margaret's will be used at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, London Road, Rainham, at 7.30pm. Services will also be held at Twydall and Wigmore.

QUIZ NIGHTS AT THE OASTHOUSE COMMUNITY CENTRE

A friendly general knowledge quiz is held regularly by the Community Association on the third Saturday every month. Teams can be a maximum of 6 and prizes are given to the winners. To enter only costs £1.50 for Association members and £2.00 for non-members. A wide range of drinks are available at club prices and food is also available.

No need to book - just come along and join us for an 8 o'clock start at the Centre in Granary Close, Rainham (adjacent to the railway station).

The next quiz will be on 16th February and if you would like further information ring Brian Barrett on 374558.

We look forward to seeing you.

GILLINGHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY FLORAL ART GROUP

We have vacancies for Junior (11 years upwards) and Adult members (ladies or gentlemen) in 2002. All abilities - no experience needed.

We usually meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at The United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham at 7.30pm until about 9.00pm.

Our first meeting of 2002 will be on 22nd January, which will be a 'do your own thing' evening. Please feel free to come along and join us (ring the bell and we'll come running!) - we usually pay £1 per meeting (50p Juniors) but your first meeting will be free. We have a small raffle (paid for from meeting fees) plus tea/coffee and biscuits. All very friendly and informative. Ring 01634 234734 for more details.

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UPCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Don't miss this year's Channel Theatre Company's production of

The London Merchant at Upchurch Village Hall on
Saturday 16th February 2002 at 8.00pm.

Tickets £5 each.

This is a fast moving adaptation with live, original music from an 18th century play, which has been powerfully updated to 1980s London.

It will be an evening to remember!

Box Office: 01634 231326 or 01634 374220.

MEDWAY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC SPEECH AND DRAMA

Dear Editor,

The syllabus for the 2002 Medway Festival of Music, Speech and Drama is now available, and I would like to urge your readers to seriously consider taking part this year. The Festival takes place on 11th May 2002, and offers classes for all ages and abilities, soloists and ensembles large and small in most areas of instrumental and sung music, speech and drama. As a guide, the music styles catered for range from classical to folk song and Classic Popular Song.

Performances, which last from two to ten minutes, are in front of a professional adjudicator who will offer constructive advice, criticism and encouragement, which alone is well worth the modest entry fees. The Festival is competitive, and the best winners can appear in an evening concert where two overall trophies are to be awarded.

The Festival takes place throughout the day at Rainham Mark Grammar School, and the closing date for entries is 3rd February 2002. To obtain a syllabus, please telephone Margaret Holtby (Secretary) on 01634 844122; should you just like to know a little more about the Festival, please do not hesitate to telephone me on 01634 376979 or contact me through the Festival website: www.medwayfestival.co.uk.

Yours faithfully,
Colin Brown
Chairman/
Entry Secretary

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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR DECEMBER

December's Nature Notes are based on a visit to Leeds Castle, near Maidstone.

The entrance to the grounds from the ticket box leads through some impressive oak and sweet chestnut trees planted in the early eighteenth century. Jackdaws can usually be seen and heard as they fly among the tree tops. They swoop down at feeding times to steal corn from the ducks and geese in the duckery. The eider ducks and barnacle geese are among my favourite birds in the duckery. Neither species are readily observable in the wild in Southern England but here at Leeds Castle one can walk among them.

On our left as we came out of the duckery we could see six cormorants silhouetted against the sky as they perched on the top-most branches of a tall oak tree. Cormorant populations have been on the increase across Europe for many years and the birds have accordingly become a bone of contention with amateur inland fishermen. Ahead we could see two massive Cedar of Lebanon trees. Cedars grow comparatively quickly and so, despite the two trees having been planted only in the middle of the nineteenth century, they have now reached a very large size indeed.

We began the woodland walk beside the little River Len. Colour was provided by the red bark of thickets of dog wood and by the catkins of alder trees which took on a reddish brown hue in the winter sunshine.

On the lawn in front of the wooden summer house was a large group of coots. During the breeding season males will fight each other ferociously but during the winter they usually feed peaceably together.

On the croquet lawn beyond the gatehouse were some five or six pied wagtails. The birds walk with a deliberate, stepping gait, head and tail bobbing up and down. They catch insects on the ground by sudden dashes and swerves. In these winter months wagtails roost communally and those at Leeds will probably

do so either in an evergreen tree or hedge or in one of the buildings of the castle.

We crossed the causeway and went through the courtyard into the Culpepper Garden which is a cottage garden; a very English garden. It has low box hedges as borders. The garden is not of course as colourful in winter as in summer but in the winter one has the opportunity to see almost the complete layout of the garden from a number of vantage points.

Next to the Culpepper Garden is the Lady Baillie Garden which contains Mediterranean and sub tropical plants laid out on terraces overlooking the Great Water. None of the plants had been wrapped up for the winter so the gardeners are presumably hoping for a mild one. On the Great Water we could see flocks of tufted duck, pochard and mute swan. There were also four whooper swans which are distinguishable from mute by their yellow, wedge shaped bills. In the wild whooper swans are winter visitors to this country from Arctic Russia.

The dahlia beds at the back of the greenhouses had been turned over for the winter. The greenhouses themselves were full of cuttings and plants, including some very colourful cyclamen.

We returned to the courtyard in which two Indian bean trees grow, one of which was decorated with white Christmas lights. The tree is a native of the USA and has long thin fruit pods which hang down from the tree like runner beans. There is also an Indian bean tree outside Rochester Cathedral. We went into the Fairfax Hall restaurant to hear the Christmastide Choristers singing carols and to have a mince pie each.

Joe Ennis

Rainham Red Cross

RAINHAM RED CROSS CENTRE

Dear Editor,

April 2001 saw the closure of Rainham & Wigmore Red Cross Centre at 46 Orchard Street. Medical Loan items can still be borrowed from the Gillingham Centre at Balmoral Road.

May I and a few other members still working in Rainham say thank you to the people of Rainham &

Wigmore who have supported us over the years. Around 50 years ago Mrs Coats, the District Nurse, asked if she could start a Red Cross Detachment to help train people to home nurse their family. Six people were needed to start the venture and they were eventually found. A dear friend Mrs Isabel Wyles (now 93) was one, she still likes to hear news of the Red Cross.

When I came into the service in September 1971 the detachment was meeting in the old Holding Street Clinic and the Commandant was Mr Ernest Musslebrook. Coffee Mornings and Jumble Sales were being held to raise funds towards a permanent building. This came about 28 years ago when 46 Orchard Street was acquired. Strong friendships were made whilst we scrubbed, cleaned, painted, dug the garden, etc. Mrs Marion Jones was the first Centre Organiser and soon had us all sorted. Various groups had the house, Fund Raisers, Cadets (Bob Britten in charge of 11-16 year olds and Barbara Hoy, later Gillian Stanfield, for the Links 6-11 years).

Jumble Sales in St Margaret's Hall provided much needed funds, once the old garage and sheds had been removed from our site we held these events and coffee mornings at the side of the Centre and in our members' gardens.

Throughout the time we carried out First Aid duties by request at local schools, RATS, Blood Doning sessions, Crisis at Christmas, walks, Allhallows and Leysdown Beach Huts, International Hockey Festivals, Dockyard Open Days and the Ice Bowl to name a few, by many willing members. Rochester Cathedral Services have for many years been covered by Rainham First Aiders, it is sad to think we may not be called to the Christmas Crib Service and Midnight Service any more. The Lions Club donated an ambulance, which saw many years of good service. During two ambulance strikes it was on standby at the Police Station manned by our members.

15 years ago three members were invited to join the Therapeutic Care Volunteers and went to Maidstone to learn the art of hand care in hospitals. Iris, Brenda and Alma were then placed in All Saints' and Queens wards and started work in April 1986. We enjoyed our days there, talking and making patients feel a little brighter just for having time spent

with them and holding hands. First Iris then Brenda had to leave but the work still continues by the third member in Keats ward at the Medway Hospital and John Fisher Day Hospital at St Barts on alternate weeks.

We miss our centre and the Rainham people who popped in for a chat in the same way as after the Disabled Club had to close. So many willing hands made those days something to look forward to. Our remaining members try to keep going by meeting every second Wednesday of each month for a cup of tea and a chat. I am pleased to record the years the Red Cross were a part of Rainham and the many friends we all made over the years.

Yours sincerely
Alma Carter
2 Broomcroft Road

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical skills, based on adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and social development of young people aged 14-25, regardless of gender, background or ability. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake exciting, constructive, challenging and enjoyable activities in their free time.

Award Groups are run by adults, many of whom are volunteers, including youth workers, teachers, employers, trainers, instructors, assessors and individuals from the community, all of whom are keen to share their skills, enthusiasm and organising abilities to help young people reach their potential.

In Medway, we have a large number of young people taking part, from schools and youth groups, and would invite adults who may be able to give up some of their free time to help, to contact our team. In particular, if you are able to help with sports leadership, unusual skills or with expedition training; map reading, navigation and a camp-craft, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact our field officers Dean Harding 01634 363340 or Rob Wood 01634 373454 for further information.

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Diary 2002

February 14th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Quiz (see 24th Jan).

February 15th – Gillingham Recorded Music Society. A ballet good programme. Brian Davidson (see 1st Feb).

February 15th – Countryside Event. Children's Nature Day, 10.30 to 12 noon, Riverside Country Park (see 12th Feb). Book in advance 378987.

February 16th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Social to be held at Newington Methodist Church Hall, 1 Church Lane, Newington. 11.00 am to 3.00pm. Fee 50p. Guests welcome. Bring Slides and Photos, American lunch. There will be a Raffle.

February 16th – Channel Theatre Company present 'The London Merchant' at Upchurch Village Hall, 8.00pm. Tickets £5 from 231326 or 374220.

February 16th – Quiz Night, Oast House Community Centre, 8.00pm. Tables of 6. £2 non members. Ring 374558 for details.

February 17th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.00pm Teynham Rail Station. 5 miles. No dogs.

February 17th – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 12 miles. Meet at Penshurst Place Church. Contact no 01634 268422.

February 18th – Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers Association. Miniatures (see 21st Jan).

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February 18th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club (see 21st Jan).

February 19th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Committee Meeting, 58 Chart Place, Wigmore. 7.00pm.

February 19th – Floral Art Group 'In the Green' (see 22nd Jan).

February 20th – Wigmore Afternoon Townswomen's Guild, Mr Davies. Competition: Pretty Brooch (see 23rd Jan).

February 20th – Bredhurst Garden Club. Hamish White: Illustrated Talk 'Ponds-Life and Habitat'. 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

February 21st – Wigmore Thursday Club. PC Chas Alder – Talk on 'Crime Reduction' (see 24th Jan).

February 21st – Countryside Event. Birdwatching Cruise. £17. Book and pay in advance 378987.

February 22nd – The Medway Geographical Society. Walk – North Foreland to Land's End.

Mr K. Burbidge. 7.30 to 9.00pm (see 25th Jan).

February 22nd – Mid-Kent Astronomical Society. Guest Speaker Sally Mun: The Space Experience (see 25th Jan).

February 23rd – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 10.00am Cuxton White Hart PH. Packed lunch. PH available. Approx 7 miles.

February 23rd – Countryside Event. Winter Tree Identification. 10am to 12 noon, Capstone Country Park. Book in advance 812196.

February 23rd – Friends of St Margaret's Church. Boot Fair, Orchard Room, Millennium Centre. 10.00am to 12 noon. £6 per table. Ring 235530 to book. Admission 25p.

February 23rd – Friends of St Margaret's Church 'Knowledge and Nibbles'. Millennium Centre, 7.30pm. £4 per person. Tables of 8 (BYOB). Ring 235530 for tickets.

February 24th – Ramblers Association Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 7 miles. Meet at Rose & Crown PH in Stelling Minnis. Pub stop at end. Contact no 01634 362237.

February 25th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club (see 21st Jan).

Continued on page 13



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Diary 2002

February 26th - Rainham Evening Machine Knitting
Club (see 22nd Jan).

February 26th - Rainham Minders (see 29th Jan).

February 27th - Ramblers Association Medway
Branch. Start 10.00am. 5 miles. Meet and park at
Ringlestone Inn. Pub stop at end. Contact no 01634
666326.

February 27th - Countryside Event - Motney Hill
Walk. 10am to 12 noon. Book in advance 378987.

February 27th - Gillingham Horticultural Society,
Lloyds Social Club, Featherby Road. 8.00pm,
Mr Dusty Miller. Talk on Growing Vegetables
from Scratch. Ring 630624 for details.

February 28th - Wigmore Thursday Club. Service,
Sales Stall and Singalong (see 24th Jan).

February 28th - Rainham & District Dollhouse and
Miniaturist Group. Contact no 312038.

February 28th - Tales from the Mariners. Bernard
Kelly (see 31st Jan).

March 1st - Gillingham Recorded Music Society.
Hoddesdon and beyond - a survey of 22 years of
the Federation Weekend. Tony Thompson
(Canterbury RMS) (see 1st Feb).

March 1st - Women's World Day of Prayer,
St Thomas of Canterbury Church, 7.30pm.

March 3rd - Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet
10.00am Larkfield Village Hall off New Hythe
Lane. 6 miles. No dogs.

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March 4th - Medway Spinners Dyers & Weavers
Association. Show and Tell - Any craft
(see 21st Jan).

March 5th - Floral Art Group. 'Topiary Tree'
(see 22nd Jan).

March 6th - Medway & District Group of
HF Holidays. Meet 10.30am Rainham Station.
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Contact Mrs K. Naylor

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