

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ■

JUNE 2002
NUMBER 368

Memories of Rainham



Olding Street Silver Jubilee Street Party, June 1977, just before building began for the Rainham Shopping Centre on the orchard at the back of the picture.

Robert J. Kitney

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Next Issue: July 6th 2002
Copy Date: Jun 18th Sm Ads Jun 21st

Editorial: Mrs Barbara Mackay Miller,
5 Meresborough Cotts, Tel: 231307.

Advertising: Hamish Mackay Miller,
5 Meresborough Cotts, Tel: 231307.

Editorial

Many thanks to all who responded to my plea for help with our distribution. The additional helper will make a big difference but we could still use a few more so if you thought about it last month but did not actually get around to ringing it is not too late! We will be delighted to hear from you, particularly if you are able to help away from your immediate area, on either 01634 371591 (shop hours) or 01634 231307.

This month promises to be a busy one, starting with the Jubilee Celebrations both locally and nationally. There is hardly time to draw breath before the annual round of Summer Fetes and Fayres begins. These occasions are excellent ice breakers for people new to the area and those who find they now have more time to socialise. You do not need to have any other connection with the school or organisation hosting the event other than a willingness to help or just attend and make the day successful. Fund raising has become ever more important during the last few years of continuous cut backs in funding so any help you can offer will be much appreciated.

Those of you who have lived in Medway for most of your lives and can remember back before 1939 are asked to help a local primary school by recalling your memories in a short video interview. They are particularly interested in World War One, work during the depression, seaside holidays and toys that you played with as a child. Fair View School will arrange the interview to your convenience and the resulting features will then be available for all other schools to access via the Fair View School website (I know if you are 70 plus, as you would need to be to be able to help, this probably seems unbelievable but it can happen!). If you would like to help modern children understand your youth please ring 231618 to find out more.

If you have sometimes wondered what it would be like to attend adult education classes but have been put off by the cost Medway Council now have a solution. Free taster sessions on a variety of subjects are being offered during the week 17th to 21st June. So if computing or cookery, psychology or keep fit, or any other subject appeals to you, now is the time to join the national 'Bitesize' campaign. Ring 850235 to find out more. Other opportunities in our pages this month include an appeal for a Concert Manager, the

ultimate youth challenge with Parkwood Air Cadets, an opportunity to hear an internationally recognised operatic tenor, visits to various 'Open gardens' and the chance to view the newly roofed and refurbished St Matthew's Community Centre in Drewery Drive. Plenty then to keep you entertained plus of course there is always the chance that we will have some pleasant summer days to enjoy the fresh air out in the garden or on a walk in the countryside. Joe Ennis describes how beautiful Kent can be during early summer in this month's Nature Notes.

Whatever you decide to do this month, do enjoy the summer and make the most of the good weather, early May has been rather disappointing, to date, but better things are promised so we can only hope that June turns out really well, until we see you again have a good month.

Correspondence

OPEN GARDEN

Dear Editor,

Joan and Fred Jepson and their daughter Tracey are having their Open Garden again this year on the 30th June in the afternoon, 2.00 to 5.00pm, at 25 and 27 Hanover Drive, Wigmore. Admission will be £2.00 and the proceeds will be going to Macmillan Cancer Relief, Medway Committee, to help with the Kent Appeal to fund more Macmillan nurses in the area. If you have not been to their garden before, this is an excellent opportunity to see how imaginative gardening can make interesting views with surprises around every corner. And if you have been before you will know the gardens are worth another visit. There will be tea and cakes on the lawn. Enjoy the afternoon, buy some plants, and take home some ideas for your own garden.

Our thanks to the family for their support.

Yours faithfully
W.C. Tryshall,
Chairman,
Medway Committee,
Macmillan Cancer Relief

CONCERT - RUFUS MULLER

Dear Editor,

Further to David Lucas' letter in the April edition of Action Forum, I can assure him that with the size of the present congregation at St Matthew's Church, we are eternally grateful that we moved into larger premises. However, as he says, the roof has proved to be a problem and has to be replaced. Through the magnificent efforts of the parishioners and other contributors, a sum of over £428,000 has been raised so far out of a target of £600,000, and the Community Centre is now complete. To mark the next stage of fund raising, we are delighted to announce that we have been offered the wonderful talents of the International Operatic Tenor, Rufus Muller, who has agreed to sing for us on Friday, July 12th. Rufus is

the youngest son of the Rev. Wolf Muller, who was responsible for the vision of the Parish as it now is, and for the building of the 'new' St Matthew's.

Rufus Muller is based in New York, and travels worldwide to fulfil his engagements. Already this year he has sung in Germany and Japan, and we are privileged to have him return to Wigmore to sing for the Roof and Renew Appeal. Following a champagne reception, the recital will consist of two parts, the first in the Church and the second in the Community Centre. Tickets are priced at £12 each and are available from me on Medway 360633. Space is limited, and we already have enquiries from all over the country, so seat reservations should be made as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully
John Tice

OLD BARN ORCHESTRA

Dear Editor,

On a number of occasions I have written about forthcoming concerts by the Old Barn Orchestra, and quite a few of your readers have become regular attenders as a result. I would now like to put out an appeal to any music lovers who might like to get a little more involved in producing such concerts.

The orchestra needs a Concert Manager - a job which is not nearly as grand as it sounds. The person would need to attend one committee meeting (usually just an hour) before each of the three concerts a year, and act as stage manager on the day, thereby relieving players such as myself of chores which they could well do without on concert day.

This would mean us not having to worry about chairs, staging, lights, etc, and the person can sit back in their free seat for the concert itself. We usually hold three concerts a year - in the St George's Centre at the Dockyard in March/April, at a private barn in Staplehurst in July and at Maidstone Boys' Grammar School in early December, so the furthest travel is just 50 minutes away.

If you would like to help, or just know more, please contact me on 376979 or by

Yours sincerely
Colin Brown

Abbeyfield VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED !!!!!

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Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01634 262266

SUNSHINE PRE-SCHOOL

Dear Editor,
The Sunshine Pre-school is holding an Open Day on Saturday 15th June at The Oasthouse Community Centre, Granary Close (next to the railway station) in Rainham from 10.00am to 2.00pm.

Past and present children and their parents are welcome to come along, as well as anyone with babies and small children who would like to see what our Pre-school has to offer.

There will be lots of activities and play equipment for the children and light refreshments will be available.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Jan Lawrence
Supervisor

MEDWAY EVACUEES REUNION GROUP

Dear Editor,

The next meeting of MERG will be on Wednesday July 10th from 1.00 to 4.00pm at Riverside Indoor Bowling Green, Dock Road, Chatham. New members are always welcome, either just turn up or ring 814922 for more information.

Yours sincerely
Jean Simmons

THANK YOU

Dear Editor,

I would be very grateful to discover the name and address of a very kind gentleman who gave me a lift home on 10th May after I had left a coach at the White Horse feeling ill. My health is improving now I am pleased to say.

Yours sincerely,
E.F.P. Harris
389518

THE OLIVER FISHER PREMATURE BABY UNIT, MEDWAY HOSPITAL

A Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale will be held at 2 Childscroft Road, Rainham, on Friday, June 28th at 10.30am. Admission, including refreshments, will be 50p.

We need goods to sell. If you can help please ring 01634 233795.

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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: 18th June 2002

- June 1st – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 10.15am, Yalding High Street. Dry packed lunch, no PH, 6.5 miles.
- June 2nd – Outdoor Service of Jubilee Praise to Celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, 4.30pm in St Matthew's Church Precinct, Drewery Drive, with music by the Gillingham Salvation Army Band. Tea will be available from 4.00pm.
- June 2nd – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 10.30am Queens Head, Sutton Valence. 6 miles. Dogs on leads.
- June 2nd – Rainham Jubilee Celebrations, 10.00am Pageant, 10.45am Service of Thanksgiving, St Margaret's Church, 12 noon Bring your own Picnic Lunch at the Millennium Centre, 7.30pm Variety Concert in the church. Tickets £3 from 374183.
- June 2nd – Ramblers Association. Medway Branch. Start 10.00am. 8 miles. Meet Linton Hill, A229. PH stop at end. Lunches available.
- June 3rd – Jubilee Bring & Share tea 4.00pm in St Matthew's Church Precinct, Drewery Drive. All are welcome but please bring some food to share, soft drinks and tea provided.
- June 3rd – A Charity Concert 7.30pm in St Matthew's Church Drewery Drive, by Annie Mawson, a Celtic harpist and folk singer. Tickets are available from Peter Hagger (01634 235056) price £5, concessions £4 and accompanied children free.
- June 4th – Gillingham Horticultural Society Floral Art Group. 'Bellissima' – an Italian Mass arrangement (fresh flowers/fruit etc), 7.30 to 9.00pm. United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham.

- June 4th – Open Garden Jubilee Garden Spectacular, Torry Hill, Sittingbourne, 6.00 to 8.30pm, including the Band of HM Royal Marines Beating Retreat. Adults £5 Child £2 in aid of SSAFA Forces Help & Red Cross.
- June 5th – The Friendship Circle meets 2.15pm, Parkwood Christian Fellowship. Ring 365758
- June 5th – Rainham Kent Horticultural Society. Mr C. Wade. Four Seasons Walk through Kent. 7.30pm Pavilion Cricket Ground, Berengrave Lane, Rainham.
- June 5th – Wigmore Townswomen's Guild. Charity Coffee Morning, Jubilee Theme – Cake & Bric a Brac etc Stalls. 10.30 to 12.30, 86 Lyndhurst Avenue, Rainham. Admission 50p.
- June 5th – Countryside Event Children's Nature Day, 10.30am to 12 noon or 1.30 to 3.00pm. Riverside Country Park. Ring 378987 to book.
- June 6th – Gillingham Flower Arrangers. Arrangements for Queen's Jubilee. 7.30pm, The Garrison Church Hall, Mansion Row, Brompton.
- June 6th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Golden Memories from Members. 2.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. For people over the age of 50. For further information telephone 235507.
- June 6th – Countryside Event. 10.00am to 12 noon or 2.00 to 4.00pm, Children's Nature Day, Capstone Country Park. Ring 812196 to book.
- June 8th – Wine and Wisdom in aid of RNID at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. Tickets £5 including Supper. Telephone Tina for details on 370492.
- June 8th, 9th & 10th – Three Local Potters, The Old Reed Bed, Lower Halstow. Ring 01634 378692 for details.
- June 8th – St Matthew's, Wigmore, celebrates Jubilee. Open Day 10.00am to 12 noon at St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. Come and see the facilities of the newly refurbished Centre. Details from Peter Hagger on 01634 235056.
- June 8th – Instep Dancing Saturday Social Dance. Rainham School for Girls. Ballroom/Latin/Sequence, 8.00 to 11.00pm. Enquiries 01634 363738.

- June 9th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.30pm Bush Road, Cuxton. 6 miles. Dogs on leads.
- June 9th – Ramblers Association. Start 10.00am. 8 miles. Meet at Village Hall in Littlebourne.
- June 9th – Ramblers Association. Start 10.30am. 6 miles. Meet at Village Hall, Lower Halstow.
- June 9th – Countryside Event. Beginners trees study day 10.00am to 2.00pm, Capstone Farm Country Park, £3.50. Ring 812196 to book.
- June 10th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club. Golden Jubilee celebrations. 2.00 to 4.00pm, Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore.
- June 10th – Medway Spinners, Dyers & Weavers Association. Bobbie Koeiejow – working as an artist in residence in schools. 7.30 to 9.30pm at the Annexe (Urchins Playgroup) building in Marlborough Road, Gillingham.
- June 11th – Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club. 8.00 to 10.00pm, The Red Cross (Gillingham Centre), 31 Balmoral Road, Gillingham. Ring 862673 for details.
- June 11th – Medway Antique and Collectors Club. Mutiny on the Bounty. 7.30pm for 8.00pm. St George Hotel, 7-8 New Road Avenue, Chatham. Ring 365861 for details.
- June 11th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 7.00pm, Mote Park. 4½ miles. Dogs on leads.
- June 11th – Gillingham and District Fuchsia & Pelargonium Society. Mr Hilary Newman – Talk on growing Clematis. 7.30 to 10.00pm, Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way.
- June 12th – Rainham Flower Club. Workshop. 7.30 to 9.30pm, Upchurch Village Hall.
- June 12th – Bredhurst WI, Linda Steward – subject: Cooking for Royals, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
- June 12th – Medway Camcorder Club. Basic Film Editing Techniques. 7.30pm, Medway Motor Yacht Club, Manor Lane, Borstal.
- June 13th to 16th – Rainham Flower Club, WAFA SHOW.
- June 13th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Victoria Golding – Talk on Libraries (see 6th June).
- June 14th – Ramblers Association. Start 7.00pm. 5 to 4 miles. Meet and park at Ship & Trades PH near Chatham Historic Dockyard.

- June 14th – Mid Kent Astronomical Society. 8.00pm, Bredhurst Village Hall.
- June 14th, 15th & 16th – South East Open Studios, The Old Reed Bed (opp Three Tuns PH), Lower Halstow, Three Local Potters. Ring 378692 for details.
- June 15th – Quiz Night at Oast House Community Centre, 8.00pm. Teams of 6, all welcome. For details ring 374558.
- June 15th – Countryside Event Evening Bird Cruise. Tickets £13, book and pay in advance 378987.
- June 15th – Sunshine Pre-school Open Day 10.00am to 2.00pm, Oasthouse Community Centre (next to the Railway station), Rainham. All welcome, 231677 for details.
- June 15th & 16th – The Rainham & District Dollhouse & Miniaturist Group will be holding an exhibition of dolls houses and club projects at the Guildhall Museum, Rochester. Entry to the exhibition is free. Further information contact Sylvia Wildridge on 01634 312038.
- June 16th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.30pm, Molash Church. 6½ miles. Dogs on leads.
- June 16th – Ramblers Association. Start 10.00am. 5 miles. Meet at Oxleas Wood, top of Shooters Hill, SE London.
- June 16th – Countryside Event: Nature of chalk downland. Darland Banks, 10.00am, approx 3 hours. £1.50, book and pay in advance 812196.
- June 17th – Rainham Evening WI. Letter 'R'. Anecdotes of a Customs Officer. Mr Dave Bucklee, 7.30pm, Platters Lodge, Highfield Road, Rainham.
- June 17th – Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club. Flowers, Plants and Craft Show (see 10th June).
- June 18th – Gillingham Horticultural Society Floral Art Group. 'History in the Making' period arrangements – teach-in with Carol Goodwin and Wynn Prescott. 7.30 to 9.00pm, United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham.
- June 18th – Rainham Minders. 9.30 to 11.30am, Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Rainham. All Registered Childminders welcome. Ring Claire 376270 for details.

Continued on page 11

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PARKWOOD AIR CADETS NOW RECRUITING

Did you know that Parkwood has a very active
Squadron of Air Cadets and are currently recruiting
new members?

25 (Parkwood) Squadron Air Training Corps, boys
and girls aged 13 to 18, are actively involved in what
is billed as 'The Ultimate Youth Challenge', fostering
the spirit of adventure and developing the qualities of
leadership and good citizenship. Whether it is Air
Experience Flying at an RAF station, Gliding, Rifle
Shooting, Model Making, Adventure Training
Expeditions or working towards the Duke of
Edinburgh Award the Cadets have something for
everyone, great fun combined with terrific
opportunity and experience.

Interested, want to know more? The Squadron
meet at their headquarters at the rear of Deanwood
school in Long Catlis Road on Monday and Thursday
evenings from 7.15 to 9.15. Just turn up and you will
get a warm welcome or phone 01634 233877
(Monday and Thursday evenings) for more
information.

RAINHAM & DISTRICT DOLLSHOUSE & MINIATURIST GROUP

Our group, which has increased membership quite
considerably over the last year, will be holding its
second exhibition of dolls' houses on 15th and 16th
June at **The Guildhall Museum** in Rochester.

There will be dolls' houses, 'Away from Home'
and 'A Corner', and a refurbished pre-1914 house.
Those who visited our exhibition last year will
remember the sad house which had spent a year out
on a patio before being rescued. It now looks much as
it would have done originally.

As the exhibition will be in the Guildhall Museum
building there will be **no admission charge** (to the
exhibition or the rest of the museum).

Members of the club have made items which will
be on sale and it is hoped there will be, at various
times during the days, members engaged in making
items.

Our members will also be on hand to give
information about the exhibits

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If anyone wants more information on the club itself
(new members always welcome) or the exhibition,
please contact Sylvia Wildridge on 01634 312038.

OPEN DAY, SATURDAY 8th JUNE 2002

10.00am to 12 noon

St Matthew's Community Centre,
Drewery Drive, Wigmore

Many of your readers involved in organisations or
privately may at sometime need to hire a hall or a
meeting room. If this is the case, we may be able to
help.

Recently over £300,000 has been spent on re-
roofing and refurbishing St Matthew's Community
Centre. The Centre has a main hall and a number of
smaller meeting rooms available for hire.

If your readers would like to see the facilities the
Centre can offer, please come along to our Open Day
as above. Just come along or contact Peter Hagger
(tel: 01634 235056) for more information.

BREDHURST SUMMER FETE

Dear Editor,

Bredhurst Summer Fete, in aid of St Peter's
Church, will be held at 2.00pm on Saturday 29th June
2002 at the Village Hall.

There will be a display by the Black Lion
Gymnastics Club, races for the children, all the usual
stalls, and this year, the added attraction of the final
of the children's talent competition between 4.00 and
5.00pm.

Please come along - we greatly value your
support!

Yours sincerely
June Cox (Mrs)
01634 268544

WAKELEY SUMMER FAYRE

The Friends of Wakeley School's fundraising
SUMMER FAYRE will be held on Saturday 6th
July at 10.00am to 12 noon.

Once again Boot and Craft pitches will be available
at £5 per pitch (paid in advance) and £6 per pitch
(paid on the day). Anyone interested should contact
the School on tel 231965 (during school hours).

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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR MAY

The village sign in the middle of Bredhurst was the inspiration for this month's Nature Notes. It shows, among other things, a maypole and a swathe of bluebells.

The merry month of May sets off to a festive start with May Day when traditional pagan ceremonies were performed, symbolising the turning cycle of the year and ushering in summer. The maypole on the village green, itself a symbol of fertility, was decked with long ribbons and children danced around it plaiting and unplaiting the ribbons.

May is the month when bluebells carpet the woods and buttercups the meadows. The hedgerows are festooned with hawthorn and crab-apple blossom. Grassy banks abound with cow parsley, greater stitchwort, red campion and wild arum.

The beautiful white blossom of the hawthorn is so inextricably linked with the month of May that it is known as 'May blossom'. May Day always hinged around hawthorn in the old days, particularly before the calendar changes of 1752, when May Day fell on what is now May 12th (the day on which hawthorn is usually in full flower). The blossom was used for decorations, garlands and superstitious rites.

The most characteristic hedgerow and roadside shrub in May is the cow parsley. It is the first of the common wayside umbellifers to come into flower and its billowing clouds of lacy white flowers are a great attraction to a host of Spring insects seeking nectar and pollen. Hover flies, bees, predatory yellow dung flies and scorpion flies jostle with orange-tip and green-veined white butterflies. On warm days swarms of black, bristly, long-legged St Mark's flies perform their aerial courtship dance, intent on luring the females from their feeding places on the cow parsley flowers below.

Another early flowering umbellifer is alexanders, originally introduced from Southern Europe. Its large heads of yellow-green flowers can be found in hedgerows and waste places in coastal areas all around the British Isles although it is more common in the South. Once widely cultivated as a pot herb or

vegetable it has a fragrant, myrrh-like small and distinctive taste. It had been superseded by celery by the end of the 18th century.

Greater stitchwort is a shade loving plant which soon wilts if it is picked. It has lovely, star-like flowers. The plant was once used to alleviate the pain of a stitch in one's side.

The brightest splash of colour in a May hedgerow will generally come from the petals of the red campion. The plants are particularly luxuriant on the roadside banks of the West Country. Red campion became a favourite flower of 16th century gardeners and was cultivated to produce the lovely rose campion.

Wild arum, or lords-and-ladies, is one of the oddest of British wild flowers. It is a common sight in shady hedgerows in May. Later in the year the plant's spike of berries ripens to a glistening orange-red.

A good display of bluebells can be seen behind the library in Fairview Avenue, alexanders line the lanes of the Ham peninsular to the North of Upchurch and clouds of hawthorn blossoms can be seen on Darland Banks.

Joe Ennis

TAKE A BITE OF LEARNING

Medway adult and community learning service is offering you the chance to attend some FREE taster sessions during the week 17th to 21st June.

These self-contained sessions will cover a wide variety of topics including: computing, psychology, history, English and maths, keep fit, cookery, sugarcraft, drama, needlecrafts, and much more. You are sure to come away with new knowledge and skills, as well as experiencing what it is like to return to the classroom as an adult.

The sessions are particularly aimed at beginners and adults who have not undertaken any study for sometime and are part of the national 'Bitesize' campaign. Last year over 300 people took part in this campaign with Medway adult and community learning service and many of the learners went on to enrol for longer courses.

For more information and a booking form you should call into your local adult and community learning centre or telephone 01634 850235. Pre-booking is essential.

TAKING UP SOME LEARNING THIS AUTUMN?

Whether you are considering learning for pleasure, or for work and financial gain, Medway adult and community learning service has a wealth of courses to choose from.

The new course directory from Medway adult and community learning service will be out later this month. All households in Medway, with the exception of postcode area ME8 0, will have a copy delivered by Royal Mail during June. If your copy has not arrived by 1st July you should telephone 01634 338400 and one will be posted to you.

Postcode area ME8 0 will already have had a leaflet delivered with a FREEPOST reply card to request a copy. We apologise to residents in this area but we were unable to get a booking with Royal Mail to coincide with the directory printing.

Enrolment for 2002/3 starts on Saturday 6th July and the Gillingham Green Street and Rochester Eastgate centres will be open 10am to 1pm for anyone needing assistance and information. Information, advice and enrolment then continues throughout the year.

In September a new daytime centre is to open in Woodlands Road, Gillingham, and residents of Rainham and the surrounding area may find this more convenient than travelling into Gillingham or Rochester town centres. As well as a planned programme of courses, this centre also has free computer access for everyone so you can just drop-in and get surfing, designing, emailing, whatever your interests.

OPEN AIR THEATRE and PICNIC in the PADDOCK

Saturday 6th July

Make a date to join Upchurch's JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Tickets:

£5 adults, £4 concessions, £2 children under 16

Please help us to make it a memorable day.

For tickets, or if you would like a stall please phone: 01634 231326 or 01634 230526.

HELP WANTED WITH HISTORY PROJECT

Fair View Community Junior School has received a grant from the South-East Grid for Learning to produce history materials for other schools to use with children via the Internet. The school is looking for people with the following memories to take part in short video interviews:

- People who have lost a relative in any war and can talk about the importance of remembering those who were killed;
- People with memories of World War One;
- People who can remember what work was like before the war, particularly during the depression of the 1930s;
- People who took regular holidays at the seaside when a child;
- People who can remember the toys played with when a child, especially if very different from toys today;
- People who can remember what it was like to live in Medway a long time ago and how it has changed.

These topics link in with primary school history study units. The idea is that the interviews will be placed on our school website for other schools to access. Children will then get the opportunity to listen to first hand accounts as an alternative to learning through using books or worksheets.

If any readers are interested in taking part, please give me a call at school on 231618. Interviews will be arranged to take place during the week beginning 24th June, and can either take place at the interviewees home, or in school.

Thank you for your interest.

Robin Halls
Deputy Headteacher

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Diary 2002 continued

June 19th — Bredhurst Garden Club. Barbecue in the Village Hall. Members only.

June 19th — Wigmore Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. Mrs P. Hall — Aviation. Competition: A Holiday Snap. 1.45 to 4.15pm, Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore.

June 19th — Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 7.00pm, The School, Lynstead. Pub stop at end. 5 miles. No dogs.

June 19th — Ramblers Association. Start 10.00am. 6 miles. Meet and park Cobham Village Hall.

June 20th — Gillingham Flower Arrangers. Framed Beauty incorporating a Frame. 7.30pm. The Garrison Church Hall, Mansion Row, Brompton.

June 20th — Rainham Afternoon WI. Perfume Bottles Old and New — Mrs J. Eavis, 1.45pm, Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Rainham. Contact No. 01634 372479.

June 20th — Wigmore Thursday Club. Strawberry Tea — Doug Harris entertains (see 6th June).

June 21st, 22nd & 23rd — South East Open Studios (see 14th June).

June 22nd — MUSIC QUIZ, Deanwood School, 7.30pm. 6-8 persons per table. £4 per person including Supper. Bring your own drink and nibbles. Telephone 387466.

June 22nd — Danecourt School. SUMMER FAIR.

June 22nd — Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 11.00am Reculver Church. 9½ miles. Dogs on leads.

June 23rd — Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 10.00am, The Black Lion, Lynstead. 5½ miles. No dogs.

June 23rd — Ramblers Association. start 10.00am. 10 miles. Meet and park Bredgar Village Hall car park.

June 24th — Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club (see 10th June).

June 24th — Medway Spinners, Dyers & Weavers Association. Spinning and Carding (see 10th June).

June 25th — Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club (see 11th June).

June 25th — Countryside Event Evening Talk — Moths, 9.00pm followed by Moth trapping, Capstone Farm Country Park, £1.60, 812196 to book.

June 26th — Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 11.00am, Long Meadow Car Park, Maidstone. 5 miles.

June 26th — Medway Camcorder Club. Sound tracking and selecting music to match your films (see 12th June).

June 26th — Ramblers Association. Start 7.00pm. 5 miles.

June 27th — Rainham & District Dollshouse and Miniaturist Group. 7.30pm, St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, London Road, Rainham. Telephone 312038 for details.

June 27th — Wigmore Thursday Club. Service, Sales Stalls, Card and Games (see 6th June).

June 27th to 6th July — Medway Little Theatre present ALFIE. Box Office 01634 400322.

June 28th — Mid Kent Astronomical Society (see 14th June).

June 28th — Coffee Morning, 10.30am at 2 Childscroft Road, Rainham. Admission 50p in aid of the Oliver Fisher Baby Unit. Ring 233795 for details.

June 29th — Bredhurst Summer Fete, 2.00pm. All usual stalls, Children's races, Displays by Gym Club, and final of children's talents at 4.00 to 5.00pm.

Continued on page 13

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Diary 2002 continued

June 29th - SUMMER FAYRE. 1.00 to 3.00pm,
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Rainham. All children admitted free.

June 30th - Medway Spinners, Dyers & Weavers
Association. Riverside Country Park. 10.00am to
5.00pm.

June 30th - Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet
10.00am Shorne Country Park. 5 miles. No dogs.

June 30th - Ramblers Association. Start 10.00am,
7 miles. Meet and park at Harrietsham Rail Station.

June 30th - Open Garden, 25 & 27 Hanover Drive,
Wigmore. 2.00 to 5.00pm. Admission £2 in aid of
Macmillan Cancer Relief.

June 30th - Countryside Event Riverside Country
Fair, 11.00am to 5.00pm, something for all the
family: craft stalls, falconry, morris dancers, Kent
Circus School, etc. Tickets 50p (£2 per family)
378987 for details.

July 1st - Wigmore WRVS Darby & Joan Club.
Outing to Hastings.

July 2nd - Gillingham Horticultural Society Floral
Art Group. 'Whakky American Nite' - anything
goes (see 4th June).

July 2nd - Rainham Minders (see 18th June).

July 3rd - The Friendship Circle (see 5th June).

July 3rd - Rainham Horticultural Society,
Mr J. Pilbeam - Cacti & Succulents. 7.30pm
(see 5th June).

July 3rd - Countryside Event. Evening Bird Cruise
(see 15th June).

July 4th - Gillingham Flower Arrangers. Around the
World (see 6th June).

July 4th - Wigmore Thursday Club. Bingo
(see 6th June).

July 6th - Parkwood School SUMMER FAIR.
1.00pm. Admission 50p, Senior Citizens 30p,
Children free.

July 6th - Friends of Wakeley School's fundraising
SUMMER FAYRE. 10.00am to 12 noon.
Sideshows and activities. Admission 30p. Boot and
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Contact the school Tel: 231965 (during school
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July 6th - Medway & District Group of HF Holidays.
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July 6th - Instep Dancing (see 8th June).

July 6th - Medway Mineral Fossil Fair 10.00am to
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July 6th - Upchurch Open Air Theatre and Picnic in
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July 7th - Countryside Event. Butterflies &
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