

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

JUNE 2003
NUMBER 379



The Hospital (now demolished) in the middle distance is sited on the piece of land bounded by Hospital Hill (now the tunnel underneath Hoath Way), Hempstead Road and the old Hoath Lane. This is clearly named on several maps, even as recently as the 1979 Borough of Gillingham street directory, as The Scrubs.

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Next Issue: July 5th
Copy Date: June 17th Sm Ads Jun 20th

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

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

Editorial

Three of our local primary schools are recording notable landmarks this term. As I always think of Mierscourt as Rainham's 'new' school it came as something of a shock to read that they are celebrating their silver jubilee this year. Exactly double the age of Mierscourt, Wakeley Junior School is 50 years old and has a planned week of events this month to mark the Golden Jubilee. This brings us to the third school, Meredale, which after almost one hundred years is closing on its present site and merging with Wakeley to reopen in September as Riverside Primary School. Many readers will have fond memories of their school so do read on to find the dates for each of the various events, everyone is very welcome to attend any of the listed occasions.

A couple of years ago we heard of childhood friends from Rainham who now both live in Canada but had completely lost touch with each other. They made contact again after reading a letter in Action Forum. This month we hear from two pals also reunited by AF but this time they grew up in Margate where they were friends 40 years ago and have both since moved to this area.

Plenty to do this month, as usual many of the local schools have one of their major fund raising events of the year in the form of a summer fete. School funds being in the mess they are at the moment this extra money becomes even more important, so, if you have a couple of hours to spare on a summer afternoon why not go along to your local school and help swell the crowd – you will be made very welcome. If you have time to volunteer to help on a more regular basis a couple of opportunities are within our pages this month. Swale Young Carers need helpers to befriend youngsters who are caring for someone at home. A little support from a friend can make all the difference to someone who is coping with a difficult home life. If you feel you could help ring 01795 581904 for more information. Alternatively if you would like to help the community but only have time once a month the luncheon club at Signal Court needs more help. You need only commit yourself to one morning every four weeks as they have several teams of people, but it is a service much appreciated by the regulars who attend; if you would like to know more ring Nancy Duncan on 360937.

With all the dates mentioned in our diary I am sure we will all have a busy month, filled with plenty of warm sunny days, so until July when we see you again, have a happy month.

Correspondence

BELLRINGING

Dear Editor,

Bellringing at St Margaret's Church, Rainham, may soon be a thing of the past. At the present time we are not able to get our local residents interested in learning the art and skill of campanology.

The people of Rainham, on the whole, love the sound of the bells. If you ever hear the eight bells being rung, it is because we are lucky enough to have visiting ringers from another church. It is a sorry state to admit Rainham can't boast just eight people to ring our beautiful bells.

Did you know our oldest bell, it is believed, was rung as an alarm when the Spanish Armada was threatening our shores? This bell weighs nearly a ton. What a history our bells could tell. I am sure there are people out there who would like the opportunity to come and learn. We are ordinary people just like you, the only requirement is you must be fit enough to climb the steps to the belfry! We have a laugh and a joke just like you, some of us go to church and some of us don't, but what we like is the sound of bells.

I hope this inspires some of the residents of Rainham to come and have a go. Come and meet us. We would love to meet anyone who is curious enough to have a look inside the fascinating, challenging and friendly world of the bell ringer. Tim Wraight is our Tower Captain and can be contacted on 233015.

Yours sincerely,
Christine King,
12 Nursery Road,
Rainham.

SUMMER FETE

Dear Editor,

St Peter's Church, Bredhurst, would like to invite your readers to its annual SUMMER FETE on Saturday 28th June, at Bredhurst Village Hall and Playing Field, Hurstwood Road, from 2.00pm.

We are hoping the School May Queen will be able to open the Fete, and the Black Lion Gymnastics Team have been booked once again to give us a display. There will be all the usual attractions for all ages, a balloon race, children's races and games, home-made cakes, plants, gifts and white elephant stall and much more.

The Charity Shop next to the hall will also be open as usual from 1.30pm.

Yours sincerely,
Pam Merryweather
01634 366370

LUNCHTIME CLUB

Dear Editor,

I wonder if anyone would consider taking over the cooking of the meal at Signal Court Luncheon Club. I have been doing it for 23 years but due to ill-health will now have to cut down my activities. The work involved mainly is cooking the meat for about 38 people once every tenth week. The rest of the group prepare the vegetables and sweet. We have four groups of six people and we all work well together – the members appreciate the meal very much.

There must be someone out there who would undertake this work just once a month. I hope so because we don't want the club to close down.

Yours sincerely,
Nancy Duncan
360937

SILVER SUMMER FAIR

Dear Editor,

On Saturday 5th July, Miers Court Primary School celebrates its Silver Jubilee, with an extra special Summer Fair, 11am to 2pm. Additional stalls, fun and games are organised to celebrate 25 years, to the day, of the official opening of the school.

Former pupils, parents, staff and friends are invited to join us for the celebrations. Everyone welcome.

Yours sincerely,
Felicity Holton,
Miers Court PTFA

FRIENDS OF WAKELEY SCHOOL

Dear Editor,

Wakeley Junior School will be celebrating their Golden Jubilee during the week 9th to 14th June with various activities and trips scheduled to mark the school's 50 years of achievement. The week's events will finish with the School's SUMMER FAYRE, which is to be held on Saturday 14th June, 10.00am to 1.00pm.

The Fayre is open to everyone (admission 30p) and among the many attractions there will be a Coconut Shy, Bouncy Castle, a Magician and Punch & Judy, Tombolas, Raffles, Homemade Cakes and Refreshments. A Skipping Exhibition and Talent Show for children at the school are also being held.

Boot and Craft stalls are also available (£5 payable

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in advance or £6 on the day) and anyone interested in a pitch should contact the school on 231965.

This is Wakeley's last Summer Fayre as the school will be merging with Meredale Infant School and reopening in September as Riverside Primary School and we would like to see as many people as possible turning up to enjoy a fun-packed morning.

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

CHILDREN'S FUN DAY

Dear Editor,

The Medway Branch of The National Childbirth Trust is holding a Children's Fun Day on Monday 23rd June at Kidstreet in Chatham from 10.00am to 3.00pm. Entry is £2 per child (under 1's free) EVERYONE WELCOME. No need to book. Just turn up. Please phone Corinne Frost for further details 818980. Activities including the following will be available: play on the equipment, tombola, face painting, craft activities, photograph of your child (small charge).

The National Childbirth Trust offers information and support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood and aims to enable every parent to make informed choices. The NCT is working towards ensuring that its services, activities and membership are fully accessible to everyone. The Medway Branch is run by volunteers who are all parents. We provide the following services: antenatal classes, breastfeeding counselling, postnatal support, coffee mornings, nearly new sales, fundraising and social activities for adults and children, quarterly newsletter. We are always looking for new members so if you have a baby or young child and would like to know more about us please get in touch. Telephone our enquiry line on 07950 939898 or visit our website at www.nct-medway.org.uk or email contact@nctmedway.org.uk. Registered charity no. 801395.

Yours sincerely,
Angela Dowsett,
National Childbirth Trust
Medway Branch
01634 373424

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Diary 2003

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

No charge is made for Diary entries
Diary Copy Date: 17th June 2003


- June 7th – Medway Folk Dance Club, 7.30 to 10.00pm at the United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham.
Contact no. 01634 366189 or 01634 388546.
- June 7th – Countryside Event. Talk on Badgers – 2.00pm, Capstone Farm Country Park. £1.70 per person. Book 812196.
- June 7th – Mantissa Opera present an intimate evening of song, 7.00pm, St Albans Church, Blue Bell Hill Village. Simon Tatnall and Claire Williamson sing classics by Schubert, Dvorak, Vaughan Williams and many more. Tickets £10 booked in advance from Simon 01634 575842.
- June 7th & 8th – Flames of Creation Art & Craft Exhibition, Millennium Centre, Rainham.
- June 8th – Medway Towns Footpath Group, 10.30am, Lenham Village. Dogs on leads. 5 miles.
- June 9th – Countryside Event. Evening Nature Ramble, 6.00 to 8.00pm around Riverside. £1.60 per person, book 378987.
- June 9th to 14th – Wakeley Junior School will be celebrating their Golden Jubilee during the week with various activities and trips scheduled to mark the school's 50 years of achievement. The week's event will finish with the school's SUMMER FAYRE which is to be held on Saturday 14th June.
- June 10th – Medway Antique & Collectors' Club, 'Doulton and the Craftsmen Potter Movement'. Mr David Sandon. 8.00pm, St George Hotel, New Road, Chatham. Tel: 365861 for details.
- June 10th – Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club. 8.00 to 10.00pm, Red Cross, Balmoral Road, Gillingham. Details 862673.
- June 10th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. West Mall car park, left after Bear pub, 7.00pm. Dogs on leads. 4.5 miles.
- June 10th – Gillingham & District Fuchsia & Pelargonium Society, Rainham School for Girls, 7.30pm. Show preparation and Fuchsia folklore – Bob Chislett. Details 362683.
- June 11th – Medway Camcorder Club. Talk & Demo by Amplex Video of Sevenoaks. 7.30pm, Medway Motor Yacht Club, Medway Bridge Marina, Manor Lane, Borstal, Rochester.
- June 11th – Countryside Event. Ladies Walk at Capstone, 10.00am to 12 noon. £1.60 per person. Book 812196.
- June 11th – Bredhurst Women's Institute, 'History of Hempstead'. Mr Bird. 7.30pm. Bredhurst Village Hall. Ring 232617 for details.
- June 11th – Rainham Flower Club. Workshop. 7.30 to 9.30pm. Upchurch Village Hall.
- June 11th to 14th – The Kentish Players present 'Jesus Christ Superstar' by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice. 7.30pm, Central Theatre, Chatham (Sat matinee 2.30pm). Box Office 406271.
- June 12th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Arthur Laming – History of the Scout Hut. 2.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. For people over the age of 50. For further information telephone 235507.
- June 14th – Instep Dancing, Social/Dance, Rainham School for Girls. Ballroom Latin/Sequence, 8.00 to 11.00pm. Details 363738.
- June 14th – Wakeley Junior School Fayre. Coconut Shy, Bouncy Castle, a Magician and Punch & Judy, Tombolas, Raffles, Homemade Cakes and Refreshments. Boot and Craft Stalls are also available (£5 payable in advance or £6 on the day). Contact the school on 231965. 10.00am to 1.00pm. Admission 30p.
- June 15th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.00pm Offham Village Green. 5 mile walk. Dogs on leads.
- June 16th – Medway Spinners, Dyers and Weavers Association. Kathleen – Navajo Plying 'Have a go at Navajo'. Bring your own wheels and two balls of spun yarn. 7.30 to 9.30pm at the Annexe (Urchin Playgroup) building in Marlborough Road, Gillingham.
- June 16th – Rainham Evening WI. Members Evening. Competition: Any Wartime memorabilia.
- 7.30pm at Platters Farm Lodge, Highfield Road, Rainham.
- June 17th – Gillingham Horticultural Society Floral Art Group. Wiring workshop – silk posy – practice evening. 7.30 to 9.00pm. United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham.
- June 18th – Wigmore Afternoon Townswomen's Guild. Joan Howard – Exchange Teachers. Competition: Decorated Hard Boiled Egg. 1.45 to 4.15pm. Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore.
- June 18th – Bredhurst Garden Club. Summer Supper. Members only.
- June 18th – Medway & District Group of HF Holidays. Meet 11.00am, Long Meadow car park, Maidstone. Riverside Walk. Dry packed lunch. 5 mile walk.
- June 18th & 19th – Bredhurst WI. Aylesford 2003.
- June 19th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Strawberry Tea – Entertainment by the Rainham Recorders (see 12th June).
- June 19th – Rainham Afternoon WI. Ceremonial London. Miss A. Carter. 1.45pm Methodist Church Hall, Wakeley Road, Rainham.
- June 20th – Countryside Event. Summer bird watching cruise. Tickets are £13 payable in advance. Book 01634 378987.
- June 20th – Coffee Morning, Berengrave Cricket Club. 75p admission in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief.
- June 20th & 22nd – The Old Reed Bed Ceramic Studios, The Street, Lower Halstow, Opposite Three Tuns pub. 10.00am to 5.00pm daily. Details 01795 842481.
- June 21st – St Matthew's Roof & Renew Appeal welcome Kent Chamber Choir, 7.30pm, St Matthew's Church. Tickets £5 (con £4) from 235056.
- June 22nd – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 2.00pm, Selling, Perry Wood. 7 mile walk. Dogs on leads.
- June 23rd – National Childbirth Trust Medway Branch. Children's Fun Day at Kidstreet, Chatham. 10.00am to 3.00pm. Entry £2 per child (under 1's free). Everyone welcome. No need to book. Just turn up. Tel: 07950 939898.
- June 24th – Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club (see 10th June).
- June 25th – Medway Camcorder Club. Setting those Films to that Music (see 11th June).
- June 26th – Wigmore Thursday Club. Service, Sales Stall and Beetle (see 12th June).
- June 26th – Rainham & District Dollshouse and Miniaturist Group. 7.30pm. St Thomas of Canterbury Church Hall, London Road, Rainham. Details Mrs Sylvia Wildridge on 01634 312038.
- June 26th to 5th July – Medway Little Theatre present TOPGIRLS by Caryl Churchill. Box Office 01634 400322.
- June 28th – Fairview School, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. JUNE FAIR, 2.00pm. Admission 50p.
- June 28th – St Peter's Bredhurst SUMMER FETE 2.00pm, Village Hall & Playing Field, Hurstwood Road. Charity Shop adjacent to the hall open. 1.30pm. Contact no. 366370.
- June 29th – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 10.30am. Wye Village Hall. 7 mile walk. Dogs on leads.
- June 29th – Countryside Event. Riverside Country Fair. 12 noon to 5pm. Tickets 50p per person or £2 family ticket. For further details telephone 01634 378987.
- June 30th – Medway Spinners, Dyers & Weavers Association. Spinning (see 16th June).
- July 1st – Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet 7.00pm. Lower Upnor next to Arethusa Centre. 5 mile walk. Dogs on leads.
- July 1st – Gillingham Horticultural Society Floral Art Group. 'Stars and Stripes' – a continental parallel arrangement (see 17th June).
- July 2nd – Rainham (Kent) Horticultural Society. Mr B. Carvill: Delphiniums. 7.15 for 7.30pm. Berengrave Cricket Club, Clubhouse, Berengrave Lane, Rainham.
- July 3rd – Wigmore Thursday Club. Peter Shearan – All for your Delight (see 12th June).
- July 3rd – Wigmore MADS present a musical concert 'SIX OF THE BEST' at St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. 8.00pm. Tickets £4, £3.50 concessions. Box Office 370639

Continued on page 11


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Correspondence

PARKWOOD SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION
Dear Editor,

We would like to invite your readers to Parkwood Schools' annual Summer Fayre, at Parkwood Junior School, Deanwood Drive, Parkwood, on Saturday 5th July from 12 noon.

There will be a great many attractions including a BBQ, licensed bar, fairground rides, bouncy castle, pony rides, and many other stalls, games and tombolas.

Also throughout the afternoon there will be several Arena events including dance and gym displays and the Army will be on hand with various activities for the children. The afternoon culminates in a Tug-of-War competition between the Army and everyone else!

All proceeds raised go directly to both the Infant and Junior schools so we hope everyone will come along and join in the fun.

Yours sincerely,
Jo Lambert,
Chairperson of Parkwood
Schools Association

WIGMORE MADS
Dear Editor,

Wigmore MADS present a musical evening, 'SIX OF THE BEST', featuring songs from six well known songwriters including Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Ivor Novello, Cole Porter and Andrew Lloyd Webber. Come and be entertained on Thursday 3rd July at 8pm in St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore.

Tickets £4, £3.50 concessions.
Box Office: Sue Burrows – Medway 370639.
Yours sincerely,
Mrs Sue Burrows

SCHOOL PALS RE-UNITE
Dear Editor,

I read with interest the letter published in your May edition relating to East Hoath Wood. It was not so much the subject title, but the name and address of the person who submitted the letter, which caught my eye (Bruce Smith, Hinton Crescent).

Bruce stated that he moved to Hempstead in 1966. Could this be the Bruce Smith that I grew up with in the 1940s, lived 100 yards from my parents house and attended the same junior school in Garlinge, near Margate? The plot thickens!

In 1962, whilst serving in the Kent Fire Brigade at Medway fire station, I married and moved to Rainham. Some years later I was informed that Bruce had moved to the Hempstead area, although the exact location was unknown.

My initial question has now been satisfactorily answered and I am pleased to inform you that, after a period in excess of 40 years, contact has now been made, thanks to Action Forum

Yours sincerely,
David Bellchambers,
Lambes Court,
Parkwood

THE SCRUBS
Dear Editor,

With reference to the correspondence concerning Scrubs Lane.

I have a copy of the 1909 Ordnance Survey Map of Rainham. This shows an elongated triangle of land on the west side of East Hoath Wood. The area is bounded by a split extension of track from Hoath Lane which stops at the hospital. This area is clearly marked as The Scrubs.

Yours sincerely,
L. Chubb,
Wigmore

WIGMORE OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND
28th & 29th June – A Horticultural Highlight
in aid of St Matthew's Roof & Renew Appeal

All readers are invited to visit the 18 gardens open over the weekend – we can guarantee it will be an excellent social event where you can pick up some good ideas for your own garden or just enjoy other people's hard work! Programmes cost £5 and give access to all the gardens open (accompanied children free) – contact Paul Bellerby on 387328.
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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR MAY

Drifts of bluebells are one of this country's great wild flower spectacles. If, therefore, Britain were to have an official native wild flower it would, I suppose, be the bluebell. The flower is, after all, a British speciality and not just an English one. It grows in shady habitats – and in open ones in the damper west – from Cape Wrath in Sutherland to Land's End in Cornwall. Bluebells are generally considered to be woodland plants but, except perhaps in East Anglia, do not need woods so much as humidity and continuity of habitat. They flower between April and June and so are at their peak in the month of May.

One place to see the bluebell here in Kent is Emmetts Garden, a National Trust property, to the west of Sevenoaks. Bluebells aside, the garden is historically important because its layout of exotic plants and conifers, set in wild countryside, was advocated by the famous gardeners William Robinson and Gertrude Jekyll. Emmetts has an unrivalled position on the crest of the Upper Greensand Ridge which sweeps in a great horseshoe round the northern flank of the Weald. From the garden there are views of Ide Hill village and Bough Beech Reservoir. The garden contains a Wellingtonia tree of over 100 feet in height. The National Trust claims that it constitutes the highest treetop in Kent. The exposed position of the garden was the cause, however, of considerable damage in the great storm of October 1987. Many great oak and beech trees were lost but the Trust has carried out an extensive replanting programme.

The acid, leafy soil of the North Garden makes it a paradise for rhododendrons, heathers, ferns, azaleas and alpenes. The lower, South Garden, is, in effect, an informal arboretum with glades and grassy banks above The Dell or bluebell wood. The bluebells at Emmetts cascade down the steep bank of The Dell. They can be seen from a number of view points on the top of the bank. For the energetic, a walk takes the visitor down some steps at the eastern end of the South Garden into the bluebell wood. Footpaths lead through The Dell and up into the South Garden again.

Among the bluebells are red campion, evergreen alkanet, greater stitchwort, ransoms and lily-of-the-valley. Birds that visit Emmetts from the surrounding woodlands include nuthatches, treecreepers and great spotted woodpeckers which search for insects and their larvae in the cracks and crevices of the large conifer.

Before it was created as a garden in the late 19th century, Emmetts was part of a common on which local people had rights to graze cattle and pigs, gather peat and firewood and quarry sandstone for their roads and buildings. In the middle of the 19th century the common was, however, enclosed and the commoners' rights were extinguished. One hundred and fifty years later, in the absence of grazing, much of the former common has become recolonised by oak and birch trees.

Small areas of the original heathland do, however, survive and some may be seen from the footpath at Toy's Hill which starts at the tearoom and shop at Emmetts. These healthy areas are covered in bracken, heather (or ling) and bilberry. Bilberries are good to eat raw but can also be made into jam and stewed in pies. They do not, of course, ripen until the summer months, which leads me to mention that Emmetts Garden was once primarily a spring and autumn garden but many more summer flowering plants have been introduced in recent years.

Joe Ennis

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

Swale Young Carers is a local voluntary organisation that supports children and young people who are helping to care for someone at home. They may be caring for a parent with a long-term illness or disability, maybe a sibling with learning difficulties, or perhaps a parent with drug/alcohol addiction problems or mental health problems. Being a young carer can be very stressful and many say that they would like to have someone with whom they can share their concerns and feelings, so we have set up a befriending scheme. A volunteer befriender meets regularly with his/her young carer and offers friendship and support – a listening ear, someone to socialise with, and someone to trust.

PH INTERIORS

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Not only is being a befriender rewarding and enjoyable, it can also give valuable experience for those who may wish to have a career in working with children. One of our befrienders is now a youth worker, and another is now training as a social worker! If you have a few hours to spare each week and are interested in becoming a befriender, then please contact Josie Foreman on 01795 581904 or 07986 120630.

MEREDALE INFANT SCHOOL

Meredale Infant School, which is closing in August 2003, is holding a Reunion for all pupils, parents, staff and friends, both past and present, on Tuesday 8th July between 3.00 and 8.00pm. Everyone welcome to view our exhibition, share memories and enjoy a slice of Commemorative Cake.

The Memories of Meredale booklet is now available from the school, priced £4. The booklet will also be on sale at the Reunion. More details from 01634 231405.

IS THERE A POTTER OR A PAINTER NEAR YOU?

This year the Medway arm of South East Open Studios will be fielding over 30 artists who will be opening their studios during the period 6th-22nd June 2003.

Rainham has more than its fair share of this artistic talent with etchers, painters, sculptors, potters, textile designers and ceramists.

An exhibition I the New Art Centre at 272a High Street, Chatham, together with displays in both the Rainham and Wigmore Library and the Rainham Bookshop Open Art Gallery plus a free full colour brochure available at all those locations will give you, gentle reader, the full information! Visit us.

John Evans, tel 364649

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

MEDWAY CAMCORDER CLUB, the only club of its kind in Medway, has scooped no less than four awards in **Movie International 2003**.

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Medway Camcorder Club meets fortnightly at Medway Motor Yacht Club in Borstal, where it welcomes people of all abilities and aptitudes, with or without camcorders. Club Secretary Gwen Whippy says 'There is always something to do for everyone, both young and old, as well as a very strong social aspect'. Anyone interested can call Gwen on 01634 371570, or call up the Club's website, on www.medwaycamcorde.co.uk.

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Do you want to put to good use the skills you have gained professionally? Do you have 2-3 hours a month to give to a local voluntary organisation? Home-Start Medway supports families with young children, and is looking for people to join its management committee. The committee currently comprises professionals from public services and individuals from the Medway community. Our main requirement is that you have an interest in the well being of families. Experience in the support and supervision of staff or in finance or business, would be helpful.

We are a friendly group who meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7.30pm to oversee the running of the scheme, making decisions regarding policy, staffing and financial matters.

If you are interested please contact Home-Start Medway, 46 Green Street, Gillingham, Kent. ME7 1XA.

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Diary 2003

July 5th - Medway & District Group of HF Holidays.
Meet 11.00am Faversham Station. Weekend of
Places of Interest and Houses open to the public.
Packed lunch or PH available.
July 5th - Medway Spinners, Dyers & Weavers
Association. Festival of Culture at Horsted Mid
Kent College, Maidstone Road, Chatham. Spinning
and Weaving. 10.00am to 4.00pm.
July 5th - SILVER SUMMER FAIR Miers Court
Primary School, Silverspot Close, celebrates its
Silver Jubilee 11.00am to 2.00pm. Stalls, Fun and
Games. Former pupils, parents, staff and friends
very welcome.
July 5th - Parkwood Schools SUMMER FAYRE.
12 noon at Parkwood Junior School, Deanwood
Drive, Rainham.
July 5th - Medway Mineral Fossil Fair, 10am to 4pm,
Hempstead Valley Community Hall. Admission
50p, details from 230976.
July 6th - Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet
10.00am, Painters Forstal nr School. 6 mile walk.
Dogs on leads.
July 8th - Rainham Evening Machine Knitting Club
(see 10th June).
July 8th - Gillingham and District Fuchsia &
Pelargonium Society. MINI SHOW (see 10th June)
July 8th - Medway Antique & Collectors Club.
Silent Auction (see 10th June).
July 8th - Meredale Infant School, Solomon Road,

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Rainham. Reunion 3.00 to 8.00pm. All welcome.
July 8th to 13th - Upchurch Festival of Music,
nightly concerts in St Mary's Church, Upchurch.
July 9th - Rainham Flower Club (Kent).
Demonstration, Kevin Gunnell 'Rhubarb and
Roses' (see 11th June).
July 9th - Bredhurst WI. Lena Hanan: Pets as
Therapy. Competition: Miles from Bredhurst
(see 11th June).
July 9th - Countryside Event. Over 60s walk at
Riverside. 10.00am to 12 noon. Book on 01634
378987.
July 10th - Wigmore Thursday Club. Shirley
Goodhew - Reminiscences of the Forties.
July 10th - Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet
7.00pm. Three Mariners pub, Lower Rainham
Road. 5 mile walk. No dogs.
July 12th - Instep Dancing (see 14th June).
July 13th - Medway Towns Footpath Group. Meet
10.30am, Wouldham car park (next to Recreation
Ground). 8 mile walk. No dogs.
July 13th - Countryside Event. Butterflies at
Riverside. 11.00am to 4.00pm. Details telephone
01634 378987.
July 13th - Open Garden, 25 & 27 Hanover Drive,
Wigmore. 2.00 to 5.00pm, admission £2, tea and
cakes, proceeds to Medway Macmillan Cancer
Relief.
July 14th - Medway Spinners, Dyers & Weavers
Association. Elspeth: Tatting.
July 14th to 26th - Medway Little Theatre present
The Duncan Rand One-Act Play Festival. Box
Office 01634 400322.
July 19th - Garden Party, 55 Bredhurst Road in aid of
Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Woodside WRVS Darby & Joan Club meet every
Monday at Howard Hall, Woodside, 2.00 to 4.00pm.
People over 50 welcome. Ring 362662 for details.

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Correspondence

MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF

Dear Editor,

Macmillan Cancer Relief are having three fund raising events in June/July and I hope many of your readers will be able to support them.

On 20th June Doris Perrin will again be having a coffee morning at the Berengrave Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane, Rainham. Admission 75p. You can enjoy a cup of coffee with your friends and browse around the various stalls. The last time Doris had a coffee morning she raised over £600 for Macmillan.

On 13th July Joan and Fred Jepson and their daughter Tracey are having their Open Garden again this year in the afternoon, 2.00 to 5.00pm at 25 and 27 Hanover Drive, Wigmore. Admission will be £2 and the proceeds will be going to Macmillan Cancer Relief, Medway Committee to help with the Kent Appeal to fund more Macmillan nurses in this 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.

Finally, on 19th July Marilyn Soffe will be having her Garden Party at 55 Bredhurst Road, Wigmore, in the afternoon. As before there will be musical entertainment, games for the children and various stalls. Further details will be in the July Action Forum.

We have been very successful at getting additional Macmillan nurses in this part of Kent and the money is needed to continue their good work.

Yours faithfully,

W.C. Trythall,

Chairman,

Medway Committee,

Macmillan Cancer Relief

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