

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ■

SEPTEMBER 2009
NUMBER 447



These photographs date from the First World War when a German Zeppelin carried out a raid on Gillingham, probably in 1917, and a bomb landed in Woodside making a small crater (inset with locals lining the rim). The resulting flying debris damaged the roof of the first house. The house, much altered, but clearly recognisable, is on the south side near to the Maidstone Road entrance. Stewart Pope (374453), the owner of the pictures, would love to find out more. Any information would be most welcome.

Robert J. Kitney

Building Contractor of Repute and Distinction

BRICK EXTENSIONS AND
COMPLETE HOUSES
ALSO MAINTENANCE
DIVISION



Medway 363669

NO JOB TOO BIG
OR TOO SMALL

WHERE **NO** INFERIOR TRADESMEN OR MATERIALS ARE USED

Next Issue October 3rd 2009
Copy Date: Sept 15th, Sm Ads Sept 23rd

AF

Editorial: Barbara Mackay Miller
Advertising: Hamish Mackay Miller
5 Meresborough Cottages, ME8 8PP
Telephone: 231307 or contact
Action Forum Office, 21 Station Rd, Rainham
(above Sunburst Books)
Telephone: 310011 Email: af@thenet.uk.net

Editorial

This morning has been one of those idyllic summer days, warm and sunny with wispy white clouds highlighting a picture perfect blue sky, the kind of day you imagine when you plan a holiday. Sadly all too often it does not materialise. However the human brain is wonderful as I find it is perfect days like this that I remember when I think back to years gone by. Although I know it rained and we had storms and floods and gales, and even a hurricane near Dover on one occasion, it is the hot sunny afternoons on top of a hill with a view going on for ever that I recall. Weatherwise it seems we made the right decision this year to stay in Kent for the holiday season. It has been by far the best region - always supposing you want hot and dry conditions of course. At the end of July one weatherman said on the BBC, 'no one can be worried about watering their garden this week'. Well we have had barely more than a short shower since April and our garden is bone dry. Never one to undertake unnecessary work I have not cut the front grass since May! Notice I do not pretend to call it lawn, green is all we aspire to and some of the weeds are quite pretty. The ground is so hard and dry any rainfall just runs straight off and certainly does not rejuvenate the grass at all. Our rain gauge is virtually redundant with less than half an inch so far in August. No doubt we will get our comeuppance sometime, we will need to or we will see saw back to the water shortages and hose pipe bans of a few seasons ago. Coincidentally this month we have a letter from John Reed retelling his memories as a boy living in wartime Wigmore in 1941 and a request for information about a bomb that dropped in the Woodside area during the First World War, probably in 1917, when there was an attack by Zeppelin in the area. Your memories are important. Unless they are recorded in some form children studying 20th century history will soon have to rely on text books and will lose the intimacy of living witness accounts. It can be quite insignificant details that really bring the story to life. The fact that, as Mr Reed recalls, it was possible to loot eggs from hens kept in back gardens for Canadian soldiers shows a totally different Wigmore from the one that we know today. So if you spent some of the war years in this area do let us have your memories, we would love to read them.

The year is rushing on and all too soon autumn will be here so do enjoy this great weather while it lasts and have a very good month until we see you again in October.

Correspondence

CATS PROTECTION ADOPTION CENTRE

Dear Editor

The Cats Protection, Bredhurst, Kent Adoption Centre will be holding its annual Open Day at the Centre in Matts Hill Road, Hartlip ME9 7XA (just outside Bredhurst village) on Sunday 13th September from 11am - 4pm. Entrance only 50p with free parking nearby, the Open Day is a lovely day out for all the family. There will be lots of entertainments (including children's entertainers, dancing and local martial arts club displays) plus refreshments, barbecue, bric-a-brac and lots of CP stalls selling all sorts of goodies! Plus lots of beautiful cats seeking loving homes. For more information please phone the Centre on 01634 232471

Best wishes

Linda Lisgarten

Secretary, Friends of Bredhurst Kent
Cat Adoption Centre.

Email lindalisgarten@hotmail.co.uk

BABY AND TODDLER MUSIC GROUP

Dear Editor,

Sunbeams is a musical baby & toddler group run by enthusiastic volunteers at All Saints' Church in Hempstead. We sing songs, listen to music, play a variety of instruments, perform action rhymes and have great fun. Each month we go on a different adventure and our theme for September is 'Down on the Farm.'

The group has been running since June this year and starts back on the 15th September at 1.15 - 2.45pm. The Music Group takes place every Tuesday during term time and costs £1 a session including snacks and juice.

Babies and toddlers are welcome with their parents/carers, there is no need to book a place, just come along.

For more information contact Rev'd Chris Ferris on 322711. We look forward to seeing you.

Vivien Fuller

All Saints' Church, Hempstead Road

WIGMORE MADs SHOWSTOPPERS

Dear Editor,

Wigmore MADs present 'Showstoppers' an evening of musical entertainment including songs from the shows on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th September at 8pm, St Matthews Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore.. Tickets £6, (£5 concessions) available from Sue - Medway 370639.

Yours sincerely
Sue Burrows

MEMORIES OF WIGMORE

Dear Editor

Having read your excellent publication about local places and incidents, there has not been very much about Wigmore and the Second World War. I would like to relate my experiences when living in this area.

I was living at 139 Wigmore Road, aged about 9 years when a bomb landed on a bungalow owned by Mrs Stone some three doors down from us. Mrs Stone had a small shop which sold various "bits and bobs". The bungalow was completely destroyed. She also lost her aviary of budgerigars. Fortunately she was in her "Anderson Shelter" and was unhurt. The road at that time was unmade and used very little by vehicles. The side wall of 139 was completely blown out and the scars of the repair can still be seen today. I should add that my father, Jim Reed had a pig farm on the area which is now Kings Frith Park. There were several people keeping pigs on this area namely, Harry Foulds, Jack Carter and Joe Martin. How things have changed.

I also remember the invasion of Canadians, in massive lorries with bridge building parts in Wigmore Road just prior to the Invasion. I am sure that many of these brave men lost their lives. They only stayed in this area for about 2 weeks during which time the local residents made them very much at home. I remember that the thing they wanted most was eggs, and the children raided a few hen houses for these for which we were rewarded with chocolate, something we all wanted at that time.

The second incident involved a new "Morris" car which was delivered from Strood Motor Company to my Father on a Thursday and was gutted by an incendiary bomb on the following Sunday at Hartley, near Longfield. The car was sold for £12 for scrap. That Sunday was when the Royal Air Force shot down over 150 aircraft in one day and it marked the turning point in aerial warfare in the war.

We were living in rented property in Maidstone Road while 139 was repaired and my father purchased 178 Bredhurst Road with some extra land, and we moved in. One night there was an almighty bang and amid the dust we could see the stars through the roof. It transpired that an un-timed shell from "Gibraltar Guns" had landed on our house. Gibraltar guns were situated in the area where Elm Court Garden Centre is today.

I remember the Fire Watching Office in the Spyglass and Kettle and have many memories of those testing years. I am now 77 years old and was connected with 139 Wigmore Road for some 73 years. I now live in Windermere Drive in Rainham.

Happy Days
John Reed

ST MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY CONCERTS

Dear Editor,

19th September 2009

THE BEST OF BRITISH - Old Time Music Hall and Last Night of the Proms. The third series of St Matthew's Community Concerts, starts with this patriotic evening which will include many well known tunes to which the audience can sing along!

Kent provides the entertainers for the evening. - Mantissa Opera make a welcome return after their brilliant concert at St Matthew's last year and will perform many Old Time favourites.

The second half of the programme is devoted to a number of Last Night classics including "Jerusalem" and "I Vow to Thee My Country".

This will be great chance for our audience to let their hair down and "Wave Their Flags Down at the Old Bull and Bush"! (Patriotic participation will be definitely encouraged!) For tickets, £7 each, please ring 01634 372508, mattsconcerts@hotmail.co.uk or send a sae to 42 The Goldings ME8 0AX. Tickets are selling fast, so early booking is essential.

We hope to see Action Forum readers once again at St Matthew's for another great year of concerts.

Yours sincerely
Paul Warren

DISTRIBUTION

Volunteer distributors are needed for:

Berengrave Lane - Railway to Lower Rainham Road
Lower Rainham Road from Berengrave Lane to Pump Lane including Lower Bloors & Lower Pump.
01634 310011 or af@thenet.uk.net if you can help.

www.SALMON WINDOWS.co.uk

Installers of quality products for 25 years

- Conservatories - designed and built
- Upgrades to existing roofs
- New energy rated "A" uPVC windows & doors
- Misted units replaced • Soffit & fascia replacements

For advice and very competitive quote:

01634 363881 / 07973860369

FENSA

MEDWAY FAIR TRADERS

ability **Outlet**
.co.uk

What we do... We sell, service, hire, install, insure, part exchange, deliver, train, fix.

Mobility Scooters, Rise & Recline Chairs, Stair Lifts, Bath Lifts, Walk in Baths, Wheelchairs & lots more

7 London Road, Rainham. ME8 7RG

Tel 01634 375537

Curtains & Blinds
FINDLAY DESIGNS

Hand Made Curtains,
Blinds, Swags & Tails and Pelmet
Roman, Vertical and Roller Blinds

Sharon Findlay DIP. Tex 01634 262135

Diary 2009

No charge is made for Diary entries

Copy should be in writing either by email to af@thenet.uk.net or

5, Meresborough Cottages, Meresborough, Gillingham, Kent ME8

Diary Copy Date: 15th September

September 5th – Bredhurst Art, Craft and Produce Show, Bredhurst Village Hall, Hurstwood Road. All very welcome Doors open 2.30pm. Adults 50p, Children 10p. Exhibitors free.

September 5th – Upchurch Horticultural Society September Show in the village hall.

September 5th – Rainham Horticultural Society, Summer Show, Millennium Centre, ring 231972

September 5th – Evening of Trance mediumship with Robin Hodson. 7.30pm – approx 9.30pm, cost £5. Please book early by calling The Centre, M2 Services, Farthing Corner Rainham 01634 366944.

September 6th – Medway Towns Footpaths Group walk with John Trebill 01634 244045, 10.30am at Snodland Community Centre, Paddlesworth Road for a 7 mile walk, no dogs, lunch/pub stop.

September 6th – Sunday Service with Diane Hubert, from 6.30pm, entrance £1, The Centre, M2 Services, Farthing Corner Rainham 01634 366944.

September 6th – Bird Walk, Riverside Country Park, 8.00 – 10.00am. Book in advance £1, 337432.

September 6th – Medway Ramblers Walk Marian Gilham. 10.00am, 7.5miles. Sittingbourne. ME10 3NL. Meet near the Central Park Stadium. Bring picnic lunch.

September 7th – Wigmore Darby & Joan Club meet each Monday for bingo, a raffle, tea and biscuits 2.00 – 4.00pm, Howard Hall, Woodside. A friendly club for the over 50s, ring 01634 362662.

September 8th – Every Tuesday, our probationer and full healers are available from 7.30 – 9pm for free healing. All welcome. Donations welcome. The Centre, M2 Services, Farthing Corner 366944.

September 8th – Medway Antique & Collector's Club, 7.30 for 8.00pm, St George Hotel, New Road, Chatham, Mrs Pauline Dewick 'A fortune in your attic'. Ring 01474 823606 for details.

September 8th – Fairview Frogs, Toddler Group, 10.00 – 11.30am each Tuesday in term time, Fairview Community School, 01634 338710.

September 9th – Tiny Tots, Riverside Country Park 10.00am – 2.00pm. Arts and crafts for younger children suitable for accompanied children aged 2 to 5 years. Drop in any time £1 per child.

September 9th – Rainham Flower Club, 7.30pm, Upchurch Village Hall. Demonstration by Jane Edmonds. Ring 01795 425700 or 01622 884657.

September 9th – Bredhurst W.I., 7.30pm, Village Hall, Hurstwood Road. Mrs Anita Jones – Handkerchiefs a Brief History, ring 232617

September 9th – Rainham Poetry Group, 7.30pm, 40 Birling Avenue, all lovers of poetry welcome, ring 01634 260228 for details.

September 10th – Fairview Tadpoles Parent and Baby Group, 1.15 – 2.45pm every Thursday term time only, Fairview Community School, 338710.

September 10th – Wigmore Thursday Club, Waterwise by Southern Water – Kate Baker, 2.00pm, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. For people over the age of 50, ring 235507 for details.

September 10th – Let's go Batty, Capstone Farm Country park sunset. Book in advance £2 per person 01634 338191.

September 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 & 19th – 'Up and Coming', a comedy by Eric Chappell. Oasthouse Theatre, Rainham, Curtain up at 8.00pm. Box Office on 01634 233660.

September 11th – Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group, Millennium Centre, Rainham, every Friday 9.30am – 12noon to help people who have lost their spouse or a close relative, join us for a cuppa and chat, ring Julie on 01634 364309 for details.

ONE DAY CLASSES

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS WATERCOLOUR

BEGINNERS CALLIGRAPHY WITH GOLD LEAF

Treat yourself to a fun, relaxing (stress-busting) day out in a country barn studio in Lower Halstow ~

Sept 22nd, Oct 27th, Dec 1st.

Gift vouchers



Find us at www.suninthewoodcraftdays.co.uk

Phone Jacky for brochure: 01622 861983

September 11th – Charity Golf day in aid of Guide dogs for the blind, Gillingham Golf Club, 12 noon, 4 ball shot gun challenge, 18 holes of golf with refreshments and a 2 course dinner. Contact Vanessa Johnson 07946530491

September 11th – Mid-Kent Astronomical Society (MKAS) Peter Gill – The Sun 7.45pm Bredhurst Village Hall ring Trev on 07717678795

September 12, 19 & 26th – Junior Netball Taster Days, 10am to 12noon at Rainham Girls School for any girls aged 9yrs to 17yrs. To book a place please call Jill on 01634 364039

September 12th – Chatham Grammar Association Reunion, 1.00pm lunch, tickets £20 non-members from 37, Homefield Drive, Rainham ME8 8RS

September 12th – GHS Floral Art Group, United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Rd, Gillingham. Autumn Show, ring 01634 234734 for details.

September 12th – Bredhurst Garden Club, Village Show, Bredhurst Village Hall, doors open 2.00pm, ring 01634 233554 for details.

September 12th – Instep Dancing, Rainham School for Girls, Ballroom, Latin, Sequence dancing 8.00 – 11.00pm, ring 01634 363738 for details.

September 12th – Medway Folk Dance Club, United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Rd, Gillingham, 7.30 – 10.00pm. New and experienced welcome with or without a partner. 366189 or 388546.

September 13th – The Cats Protection, Bredhurst, Adoption Centre annual Open Day at the Centre in Matts Hill Road, Hartlip ME9 7XA 11am – 4pm. Entrance 50p free parking nearby, 01634 23247 Email lindaligarten@hotmail.co.uk

September 13th – Medway Ramblers Walk Peter/Kate Ware 01622 738609. 10.00am, 5 miles. GR: TQ833545 Hollingbourne. ME17 1TT. Meet at Eyborne Street in Hollingbourne. Park in village hall car park behind the Windmill PH. Pubs at end.

September 13th – Medway Towns Footpaths Group walk meet Roger Danks 01634 317993, 10.00am at Hollingbourne near 'Dirty Habit' Pub, no dogs.

September 13th – Mountain Bike Trail, Capstone Farm Country Park, 9.00 – 11.00am Book in advance £1 per person 01634 338191.

September 13th – Hempstead Valley Farmers' Market, 10am to 2pm, outside in Green car park. 'The Farm To You', a mobile farm run by livestock farmers, will be bringing farm animals. Sandra Woodfall 07775 736116 meophamfmkt@aol.com

September 13th – Beginner's Trees, South Wood 9.00am – 12. Book in advance, £2, 01634 33819.

September 14th – Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group for those still in employment 7.15 – 9.00pm, Millennium Centre, Rainham, ring 364309.

September 14th – Junior Ranger Club, 3.45 – 4.45pm Capstone Farm Country Park, For accompanied children aged 5 to 12 years, £1 per child, 338191.

September 14th – Medway Spinners, Dyers and Weavers 7.30 – 9.30pm, Balmoral Road Church Hall (left of the church), Spinning, 01634 578294.

September 15th – The RSPB Medway Local Group Talk, Strood Library, 7.45 – 10.00pm £3.00.

Norfolk, A Personal View Steve Rowland www.medway-rspb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk.

September 15th – Baby and Toddler Music Group, every Tuesday during Term Time, 1.15 – 2.45pm, All Saints Church, Hempstead. Babies and toddlers are welcome with their parents/carers, there is no need to book just come along. For more information contact Rev'd Chris Ferris on 322711. We look forward to seeing you.

September 15th – GHS Floral Art Group, Basic Shapes workshop, (see 12th Sept).

September 16th – Bredhurst Garden Club, AGM & Pam Hollington Slide Show 'This & That', Potato Competition, (see 12th Sept).

September 17th – Wigmore Thursday Club, History of Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School – Keith Baker, (see 10th Sept).

September 18th – A coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane, Rainham, 10.00 am to 12 noon. Entrance, which includes a cup coffee/tea, is £1.

September 18th – Gillingham and Rainham Local History Society, United Reformed Church, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.15pm, 'The Scenes of Old Gillingham', contact 01634 854982.

Continued on Page 11

K. Gillard

Interior & Exterior Decorator

Plastering # Tiling

Established 30 years
NO JOB TOO SMALL
FREE ESTIMATES

Tel: (01634) 263817
Mobile: 07850 996832

A.C. Domestic

reg. 206985

Gas safety checks
Landlord certificates.

Service, repair and installation of gas central heating, boilers, fires, gas and electric cookers.

01634 234963 / 07799887754



TURF · BARK · COMPOSTS
AGGREGATES
RAILWAY SLEEPERS
TOPSOIL IN BULK BAGS
(app 1 ton) OR LOOSE
RUBBISH BULK BAGS
– you fill, we collect
IDEAL FOR GARDEN CLEARANCE
LANDSCAPE PROJECTS
UNDERTAKEN

**INVICTA
LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES
01634 263700**

AERIALS AP DIGITAL SYSTEMS

• RECEPTION PROBLEMS?

• NO CHANNEL 5?

WE CAN HELP!

• REPAIRS • EXTRA TV POINTS

• CABLE/SATELLITE TV IN ALL ROOMS

• FREE TO VIEW DIGITAL CHANNELS

• COMMUNAL SYSTEMS

FREE ESTIMATES **01634 262582**

ENGINEER **07949 588464**

Medway Bathrooms

**Luxury to basic
Design & Install**

NO JOB TOO SMALL

Friendly service

Free quote

01634 387075 or 077383 66444
www.medway-bathrooms.co.uk

TELEVISION HOME SERVICES

Television Repairs
SET UP & TUNE IN SERVICE

Usually same day service

Qualified engineer

30 years Experience

Reasonable rates

**Carlton Vision Repairs
MED 360367 Mob. 07768228024**

J | A | D *CHARTERED IN COMMON SENSE*
ESTABLISHED OVER 20 YEARS
 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

4 Bloors Lane, Rainham,
 Kent ME8 7EG
 Tel: 01634 375222
 Fax: 01634 371318
 E Mail: admin@jadaccountants.co.uk
 www.jad.sage24.com

- Accounts
- Tax
- Book-keeping
- Payroll
- Audit
- Associated Services

Craniosacral Therapist
 Gentle and effective therapy for all ages and conditions including:

- neck/ back/ joint pain
- headaches
- stress & anxiety

Based in Rainham
 Sharon Cresswell RCST
01634 304308 or mob. 07896 468456
 email sharon.cresswell@blueyonder.co.uk
 (£5 discount off first treatment on production of this ad)




MIRANDA
DOUBLE GLAZING REPAIRS
 WE REPAIR ALL TYPES OF DOUBLE GLAZING.
 FOR A FAST, FRIENDLY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
 CALL THE REPAIR SPECIALISTS NOW ON
01634 717400
 NO JOB TOO SMALL – FREE QUOTATIONS

WINDOWS, DOORS & CONSERVATORIES
 We handle everything from the initial quotation,
 manufacture to the installation. **We only fit quality...**
Eden Windows
 telephone 01634 840 999
 www.edenwindows.co.uk

Puma pvc
 Approved installers of
 Fascia Soffit Guttering Cladding
 * 10 Year Guarantee * Free Quotations
 WE GUARANTEE TO BEAT ANY COMPETITOR'S PRICE !!
CALL NOW 01634 235900
 159 Edwin Road, Rainham

Paul's 1-8 Seater Taxis
Bookings only.....
 Airports-Hospitals-Days/Nights Out
 Nightclubs-Friendly and Reliable
 * Gatwick from £55.00 *
 * Heathrow from £75.00 *
 Tel 01634 268567 Mob 07904955375



Back & Body Health Care.
 Upper & Lower Back pain, Sciatica, Frozen shoulder,
 Neck pain, Tennis & Golfers Elbow, C.T.S & R.S.I.
 Sinusitis, Asthma, Eczema, Hay-fever,
 Everyday as well as Sports injuries.
 Bowen Therapy, Massage & Reflexology
Bren Barry—ECBS. BTER. ITEC. IFR.
 Phone: 01634 234 835 Home visits available

FAREWELL SERVICE
 A Farewell Service for Chris & Tricia Butt and Family will be held on Sunday 20th September at 4.30pm (followed by light refreshments) at St Matthew's Church, Drewery Drive, Wigmore. After eleven years as Team Rector of the Parish of South Gillingham, Chris has been appointed Dean of St Christopher's Cathedral, Bahrain. He and Tricia would be delighted to have the opportunity to say farewell to their friends in the community.

AGE CONCERN SHOP – RAINHAM
 It has been announced that the Age Concern Shop in Rainham High Street is to close on November 10th. We have received this article from one loyal customer.
 I was very sad to hear that Age Concern is to close in November. It is a pity that they are in the High Street which doesn't seem to catch the trade as people do not walk far when the precinct fills their needs. Age Concern opened on the banks (opposite to their present site) in the 1980s and I am proud to say that I was the first customer. I bought some books and six glasses, the volunteers were still arranging the goods for sale!
 Rita Bernard and Tony were the first to run the shop and over the years I made a great many friends from the helpers and customers. Initially when the shop moved across the road to bigger premises a help desk assisted with all sorts of enquiries and problems, then later this area became a café. The café made a very good cuppa and round of toast but still could not generate enough trade so sadly this closed. The shop was rearranged to use the additional space for larger donations and over the years I have bought some very good items and have been more than satisfied. The staff are pleasant and helpful and everything is clean and well displayed. Beverly, the manageress, runs a good ship.

Rainham Bookshop
Macmillan Coffee Morning & Book Signing
 10:30am – 12:30pm Friday September 25th
 Patrick Harris "A Long Road Home"
Local Author All Welcome
 17-19 Station Road Tel: 01634 371591

Plumbing & Heating
T.R.T.
DAVID TATTON Fully qualified engineer
 Installation • Maintenance • Service • Heating Systems
 Gas Fires • Bathrooms • All general plumbing
 • Power Flushing
 Corgi Registered No. 205861
01634 262659 Mob 07901 654306




A petition is in the shop to try to save it from closure, please sign it and help save the day, it will be so sad to see it close after all the good work which has gone into it over the years and above all please give it the support it deserves.

Jan- a loyal customer

MILLENNIUM CENTRE MARKETS
 In view of the current economic situation we have found that there is not sufficient business to support two monthly Markets. We have therefore decided to combine the markets into one monthly 'Craft and Produce Fair' for the remainder of the year. The first combined fair will be on 19th September and we look forward to your support. Others will be held on 17th October, 21st November and 19th December.

COFFEE MORNING
 A coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support is being held in the Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane, Rainham, on Friday 18th September between 10.00am and 12 noon. Entrance, which includes a cup coffee / tea, is £1. Preserves, cakes, books and bric-a-brac will be on sale. All welcome, please come along and support us. Medway Macmillan Fund-raising Committee

FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S GARDEN PARTY held on August 1st
 It was a very enjoyable day for all and the weather was kind to us. Approximately 120 people attended and overall the Friends made £500 towards their funds.
 The food provided by our committee ladies was of an excellent standard and was extremely well presented. Thank you to all the willing helpers who made the occasion such a success.
 Alan Doyle (Chairman)
 01634 362619

KITCHEN SPECIALIST
18yrs experience
 • Full Installation Service • Worktop Joining
 • All Major Brands • Competitive Prices
 • Large Selection of Quality Kitchens
Convenient, Friendly, Reliable Services
CONTACT PAUL ON:
T: 01795 426868 M: 07950210799

DOIT4U *Qualified technician. References available*
home improvements/handyman
 Kitchens • Bathrooms • Tiling • Radiators • Doors • Sockets
 Flooring • Lighting • Blinds • Shelves • Small jobs welcome!
Call Rob now for a free estimate!
 01634 261502 | 07759 635678 | www.doit4u.org

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
Using the most powerful system in the world
Carpets dry within 2 hours!
 Safe for children, pets, allergy and asthma sufferers.
 No solvent, detergents or enzymes!
For a free quote ring 01634 261014
HYDRO-DYNAMIX

GREG BRYANT
CONSTRUCTION LTD
REGISTERED HOUSE BUILDERS
EXTENSIONS
NHBC **A1 RATED BY NHBC**
01634 231321




T.J. BUILDERS
 All General work Undertaken, Interior Decorating
 Plastering, Laminated Flooring & Much More...
External Work:
 Painting, Guttering, Fascias, Rendering,
 Fencing etc...
 Phone for FREE Estimates on:
 Home: 01634 581072 Mob: 07968 852558

LADY DECORATOR
Karen Spooner
Apprenticeship served
Fully qualified with 15 years' experience
 All aspects of decorating undertaken
 Competitive Prices
 No job too small – Special rates for OAPs
Tel: 01634 233815 Mobile: 0778 0810 316



Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR AUGUST

Motorists travelling east along the A2 have their first sight of Canterbury Cathedral as they reach the top of Boughton Hill and commence their descent into the valley of the Great Stour. On their right they have a view of rolling hills, chestnut coppices, apple and pear orchards, fields of sheep and the white cowls of former oast houses. It is a view of one of the areas in Kent that can still claim to constitute the Garden of England. In August I visited two traditional apple orchards in the area, one at Chartham Hatch and one and Old Wives Lees.

I approached the first old orchard by means of a stretch of the North Downs Way as it skirts the edge of the recreation ground at Chartham Hatch. After a short walk through a chestnut coppice I arrived at "No Man's Orchard", which is owned jointly by Harbledown and Chartham Hatch Parish Councils. A fading poster on a notice board showed that, in July, the local community had celebrated, apparently a little belatedly, the 60th anniversary of the planting of the orchard. The events included Morris dancing, a brass band, a wandering minstrel, food and drink (including a hog roast) and children's activities. It was a pity that I had missed the celebrations. The orchard is bounded on three sides by woodland and on the fourth by a field of sheep. It consists of eight acres of mainly Bramley Seedling apple trees which were planted in 1947. In recent years six cider apple varieties have been planted on a further two acres. A number of the Bramleys are now either dead or dying, which tends to give the orchard an appearance of neglect and dereliction. Some of the Bramleys that have died have been replaced by other traditional apple varieties, including Flower of Kent and Kentish Fillbasket. However, other dead trees have deliberately not been removed as they are a source of nesting holes for birds such as tawny and little owls, green, great spotted and lesser spotted woodpeckers, blue and great tits, starlings and nuthatches. The dead trees are also a home of beetles, grubs and other invertebrates, which provide food for the birds, particularly the woodpeckers. The trees as a whole, dead or alive, also

support a large number of lichens and mosses. The floor of the orchard seemed overdue for a mow. There were extensive patches of bramble, thistle, nettle and plantain. A pamphlet on the orchard claims that it is mowed twice a year, after the wild flowers and grasses have dropped their seeds. On my own visit the only flowers I came across were buttercups although the pamphlet notes that cuckoo flower, or lady's smock, among other species, are found in the orchard.

Local people are allowed to pick the apples and I would like to think that, in the autumn and winter, many families tuck into apple tarts, pies and dumplings - all topped with lashings of creamy custard. Britain's infinite range of apple puddings and this country's preference for cooking apples with a tart taste almost certainly stems from the historically abundant variety of British apples, many of which were astringent. Britain remains the only country in the world where a culinary apple, Bramley's Seedling, is one of the best selling varieties on the market. Kent produces half of the country's output of Bramley apples; these are almost all grown, not on standard trees in traditional orchards, but on dwarf stock in the serried rows of commercial orchards.

Those apples in "No Man's Orchard" not taken for human consumption are eaten by blackbirds, starlings, redwings and fieldfares, particularly in harsh winters. Foxes, rabbits, badgers, stoats, slow worms and grass snakes are just some of the mammals and reptiles that have been seen in the orchard.

In due course I moved to Cork Farm apple orchard on the edge of Old Wives Lees. It also consists mainly of Bramleys and is likewise being conserved under DEFRA's Countryside Stewardship Scheme. Sheep were grazing there and so the floor of the orchard looked neat and tidy. It was consequently more photogenic than that at Chartham Hatch and was the epitome of a traditional Kentish apple orchard. The downside was that there were no wild flowers there. Growing on the adjoining roadside were marjoram, scabious, knapweed and hedge woundwort, flowers which might have bloomed in

the orchard had it not been for the constant nibbling of the sheep.

Soon it was time for lunch in the picture postcard village of Chilham. As I climbed up the hill towards the village square I had two questions on my mind. Should I head for the White Horse Inn, the Woolpack Inn or the Copper Kettle Restaurant? And, here in the middle of the East Kent fruit belt, would there be apple crumble - topped with lashings of creamy custard - on the menu?

Joe Ennis

WHY BE A FRIEND?

Many of you will be aware, and if you were not already the scaffolding surrounding the church tells its own story, that over the past few years there has been an urgent need to raise money for very necessary roof and tower repairs to ensure that St Margaret's continues to serve the people of Rainham as it has for nearly 700 years. This has been done through the Heritage Appeal and although work has started the fundraising will have to go on for some time yet. However this does not tell the whole story. The church building and surrounds need continual upkeep as does any medieval building. There is an ongoing maintenance programme to ensure the church is kept open every day. It is also worth remembering that unlike many historical sites in England this church receives no direct government financial support nor does it have recourse to any funding from within the Church of England. Despite this it has stood the test of time. It's origins date from the middle of the 13th century and right up to the present day it has not only been a place of religious worship but also a place of celebration (eg for baptisms and weddings); a place for quiet reflection or a place where generations have come to find comfort in times of trouble. It is fair to say that most people in Rainham have been touched by its presence and ministry.

Why be a Friend? Well the Friends of St Margaret's Church was established in 1978 with its sole purpose being the restoration, preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement and beautification of the building and its grounds. The Friends are a diverse group of people who share this common goal and who offer an open door to all and you do not need to have any religious faith to join. All we ask is that you share and support this wonderful heritage which has

been passed down to the people of Rainham. We, and we hope you, are now the stewards for our lifetime and it is our aim to pass this important landmark at the heart of Rainham on to future generations.

We know from the response to the Heritage Appeal that many of you are concerned that this historic building survives so please consider becoming a Friend. Individual Membership is just £12 per annum and Family Membership (two parents and children under 16 £25 per annum. Whilst existing to raise money for the fabric of the building we do hold various social events throughout the year to which all are welcome. An annual newsletter will keep you informed of our activities.

Why not join us to ensure a very precious building which holds the past, serves the present and looks to the future is maintained to the highest possible standard. If you require more information or would like an application form you can contact me on 01634-364618.

Hilary Noakes - Membership Sec

PAMPER DAY

Medway & Swale (West) Breast Cancer Support Group Saturday 26th September 10.00am - 4.00pm Medway Hospital. Reflexology, Hand Massage, Manicure, Reiki, Facials etc FREE to Breast Cancer Patients. For information and to book a place please contact Breast Care Nurses 01634 825033.

JUNIOR NETBALL TASTER DAYS

Junior Netball Taster Days will be held on Saturdays 12th, 19th & 26th September, 10am to 12noon at Rainham Girls School for any girls aged 9yrs to 17yrs. To book call Jill on 01634 364039

UP AND COMING

A comedy by Eric Chappell
Oasthouse Theatre, Rainham
Sept 10:11:12:17:18:19
Curtain up at 8.00pm
Box Office on 01634 233660

HOME COUNTIES HERITAGE

John Vigar, well known author and historian is running a 20 week course in Gillingham on Tuesday mornings starting on 22nd September entitled 'Home Counties Heritage'. For further details contact Mrs. Lorna Bailey on 364375 after 6.30pm.

DRIVING INSTRUCTOR

☎ 01634 374502
07923 618033

L

**G E DRIVING
SCHOOL OF MOTORING**
Ged East D.S.A. A.D.I.



42 Sunningdale Drive
Rainham
Kent ME8 9EQ

GED EAST - D.S.A. APPROVED
Full hour lessons, Competitive rates.

STEP-UP LOFT LADDERS

Choice of models to suit your needs
Also new loft hatches, loft flooring
& lighting fitted if required

STAIRLIFTS

straight & curved

www.stepuploftladders.co.uk

For a free quote please ring

01795 554042 or 07870 559172

HOME HELP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

A family-run firm, a more personal service
• Cleaning, laundry & ironing • Shopping /
accompany you shopping or to
appointments • Prescription and pension
collection. Gardening service available for
those choosing regular Home Help service
All staff experienced, insured & fully vetted
• One-off or regular.

Home Help £10.50 per hr, gardening £11.50
Call Christine or Nick

HOME HELP Medway

01634 233537

- TREE MANAGEMENT
- CHIPPING
- STUMP GRINDING
- PLANTING
- MULCH
- FIREWOOD

**LINDSAY
& COMPANY
TREE SURGEONS**

TEL/FAX 01634 366923

D.H. MILLER

For all your Plumbing Services
HELP is on its way

Reg No.
6629



**UPGRADING CENTRAL HEATING
BOILER EXCHANGES
POWER FLUSHING
LUXURY BATHROOMS & SHOWERS**

01634 235831 - Mobile 07860 471210

WHY MISS WORK ?

Washing Machines, Dishwashers, Dryers, Cookers Etc.
ALL LEADING MAKES REPAIRED Monday to Saturday 7am to 9pm

BY SQUADMATIC

Free call out—Free estimates

OFFICE 24hrs (01634) 373515 Mobile 07702 255105

CITY & GUILD TRAINED ENGINEER Ex R.E.M.E

Munn Academy of Dance

Pupils from age 2yrs to professional

Subjects include: Ballet, Tap, Modern, Gym,
Street Dance, Drama and Singing Tuition

Exams Shows Competitions Cabarets

Principal: Lesley Munn, Fellow & Examiner I.D.T.A.

Medway 234168

Kent Garage Doors

Your friendly local experts

Electric Roller Doors, Automation,
Sectional and Up & Over Garage Doors,
All repairs. No call out charge. Free estimates.

01634 378885 01795 459105

For 24 hour service call 07738 921296

Builders & Decorators

EXTENSIONS • GENERAL REPAIRS

PLASTERING & ARTEXING

REPLACEMENT UPVC WINDOWS

Telephone: 01634 235383

86 Berengrave Lane
Rainham-Kent-ME8 7NJ

DAVID WHITE

BOILER CARE

- Member of Gas Safety Register
- All Boiler Servicing & Maintenance undertaken, New Systems Fitted
- Landlord Gas Safety Reports
- Fires, Cookers, Hobs Fitted & Serviced
- 24hr Emergency Service with NO CALL OUT FEE

Medway 376929
Engineer 07956 630003

CLEANING
OF DRIVES & PATIOS
Sealing & Repairs
We Do The Dirty Work For You...And Bring It Back Like New

McCourts

01634 375569

0800 298 7338

www.mccourtskent.co.uk
51 Wigmore Road, Wigmore,
Gillingham

Jigsaw Driving School
friendly, patient and reliable tuition



Gift Vouchers Available

For more information or to apply online
www.jigsawdrivingschool.co.uk
01634 378018
or text 07812695921

N.P.SUMMERFIELD 20 Years Experience CARPENTER

Kitchens, Floors, Bedrooms, Doors

32 Swain Road, Wigmore, Gillingham,
Kent. ME8 0SN

Tel/Fax 01634 361107 Mobile 07967 300269

Security Installation and Maintenance

- Access Control
- Automated Gates/Barriers
- CCTV, Fire & Intruder Alarms

Total Security Services

t 01634 387 762 m 0791 561 5535

NICK EASTER – CARPENTER

Kitchen design and fitting

Extensions – Bathrooms – Doors – Artexing –
Decking – Fitted Wardrobes – Plastering.

All work guaranteed ~ For a free estimate:

01634 260874 mob 07778 380285

91 Elmstone Road, Rainham

DA CONSTRUCTION

CARPENTRY & JOINERY
SPECIALIST

EXTENSIONS LOFT
CONVERSIONS

GENERAL COMMERCIAL/
DOMESTIC MAINTENANCE

City & Guilds / Institute of Carpenters

TOP QUALITY AT COMPETITIVE
RATES

MR ARCHER – Tel: 01634 389604
Mobile 07961 839328

MEDWAY TREE SURGEONS

A qualified & insured service



All aspects of
tree work
incl stump grinding
Free quotations

Joel Sims

11 Megby Close Rainham ME8 9EP
01634 669949 Mob 07899 995798

Diary 2009

September 19th – Indoor Craft and Produce Fair,
Millennium Centre, 9.00am 12.30pm, 371941.
September 19th – Barn Dance, 7.30 – 10.30pm.
Millennium Centre, Rainham (Lower Hall) £7 per
person includes supper, tea, coffee & soft drinks.
Please contact Olwen 01634 263622 to book, in aid
of SDBTT Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust.
September 19th – St Matthew's Concert "The Best
of British" – "Old Time Music Hall" and "Last
Night of the Proms" with Mantissa Opera and
Sittingbourne Orpheus Choral Society. 7.30pm,
tickets £7.00 each from 01634 372508, e-mail
mattconcer@hotmail.co.uk
September 19th - 20th - Survival Challenge, Capstone
Farm Country Park for children aged 7 plus, one
accompanying adult per child unless pre-arranged.
Book in advance on 01634 338191 £20 per person
September 20th – Medway Towns Footpaths Group
walk with Joan Weekes 01634 855522, 10.00am at
Yalding Walnut Tree PH, 6mile walk, dogs allowed
September 20th – Medway Ramblers Walk Peter
Green. 01634 718895. 10.00am, Hastingleigh.
TN25 5HP. 6 miles. Park in road just before
Village Hall, Pub at end (lunches available)
September 20th – Farewell Service (followed by light
refreshments), for Chris & Tricia Butt and Family,
4.30pm, St Matthew's Church, Wigmore.
September 20th – Peace One Day Service, from
6.30pm, £1.00, The Centre, M2 Services, Farthing
Corner Rainham 01634 366944.
September 21st – Rainham Evening Women's
Institute, 7.30pm, Millennium Centre, Rainham.
Citizens' Advice Bureau – Sonia Hyner, 364702.
September 21st – Rainham Wives meet 8.00pm
Methodist Church Hall, Wakeley Road, Rainham,
Holiday Souvenirs, coffee & biscuits. New

HPR Ltd The Modern Building Company

All **PLASTERING** work undertaken

Flat smooth Ceilings and walls.

Professional Reliable Service

01634 389675 / 07721 365 630.

189 Bredhurst Road Wigmore.



DISCOUNT WINDOW COMPANY

TOP QUALITY PVCU

Windows / Doors / Conservatories

All repairs undertaken. Misted sealed units replaced.

ALL AT TRADE PRICES!

Phone 01634 370515

Mobile 07971 554335

Fax 01634 329771

CALL: GRAHAM RALPH for
Prompt & Friendly response!
Professional Survey Service
(over 30 years' experience)

members of all ages are very welcome. We have
a variety of speakers/activities etc. Subs £1.50
per meeting, this includes coffee and biscuits, for
more details contact Sue on 01634 230639.
September 23rd – Rainham Poetry Group, 5.45 –
8.15pm, Sunlight Centre, Richmond Road, Gill,
all lovers of poetry welcome, ring 01634 260228
September 24th – Wigmore Thursday Club,
Service & Singalong, (see 10th Sept).
September 24th – Rainham & District Dolls' House
and Miniaturist Group, 7.30pm, The Howard
Memorial Hall, Woodside, Wigmore, 312038.
September 24 & 25th – Wigmore MADS present
Showstoppers, including songs from the shows,
8pm, St Matthews Community Centre, Wigmore.
Tickets £6, (£5 cons) from Sue – 01634 370639
September 25th – Medway Geographical Society,
Adult Education Centre, Green Street, Gill, 7.30
– 9.00pm. A Traditional Wedding in Nairobi –
Tony Mitchell. Ring 01634 362683 for details.
September 25th – MKAS, Bob Oseman - The
Legacy of Kepler, (see 11th Sept).
September 26th – Upchurch Horticultural Society
Autumn Plant Sale at No 6 Oak Lane from 9am.
September 26th – Grand Auction in St Margaret's
Millennium Centre, proceeds to Church Heritage
Fund. Auction 12.30pm viewing from 10am
Donations of items required, 371941 or 362023.
September 26th – Instep Dancing, (see 12th Sept).
September 26th – Medway Folk Dance Club, (see
12th Sept).
September 27th – Medway Towns Footpaths
Group walk with Gill Smith 01622 710569, meet
10.00am at Chilham for a 6 mile walk, no dogs.
September 27th – Senior Citizens Harvest Tea,
Millennium Centre, Rainham, 3.30 – 6.00pm
01634 379062 or 373840 for a free ticket.

Continued on Page 13

Boiler-Tech Services

Heating, Plumbing, Boiler Servicing & Repairs

Gas Fires, Cooker Repairs – LPG and Oil

All work guaranteed – Special rates for OAP

CORGI REGISTERED No. 13480

Tel: 01634 230468 Mobile 07770 784877

CL DECORATORS

Complete Painting & Decorating Service
Interior / Exterior

Paperhanging, Specialising in Hall, Stairs and Landing
For Your Free No Obligation Quote

12 De Mere Close, Rainham

01634 261913 Mobile 07900 190564

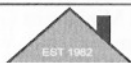
STUMPMASTERS

Professional Tree Care

All tree work undertaken. Stump grinding specialists
Local Authority Approved. Medway Fair Trader Member
Free quotes and advice. Fully qualified & insured.
SEASONED LOGS & CHIPPINGS FOR SALE
FREE DELIVERY

01634 361472 or 07789 632438

ZAMMIT ROOFING



SLATING & TILING - LEADWORK
CHIMNEY STACKS REPOINTED OR BUILT
UPVC FASCIAS, SOFFITS & GUTTERS
ALL REPAIR WORK UNDERTAKEN
NO JOB TOO SMALL OR TOO BIG

Your Local Reliable Contractor
James Zammit

01634 375129 - 07802 698300



Whitewater PLUMBING SOLUTIONS

All plumbing and tiling work undertaken
No job too small

Seven days a week

07841 518000 or 01634 374035

No call out charge
Fully qualified installers

Bredhurst Bodyshop

Car & commercial - Paintwork & repairs
Insurance work undertaken, from small
scratches to complete respray.

Call for a free quote.

Blind Lane, Bredhurst, ME7 3JS

01634 264753



STANNAH STAIRLIFTS

Reconditioned and new Thyssen Stairlifts
for straight or curved stairs.

Tel Mr Derek Organ on

01634 374524

or

07850 262 156

for a free estimate.

J.B.

Plasterer & Decorator

20 years' experience - Free quotation

All works guaranteed

Phone Jim: 01634 863497

Mobile: 07779987633

Grigson Ceramics

Specialists in Walls, Floors
Slate, Terracotta and Mosaics
Supplied and Fixed
or labour only

01634 235714

AJ ROSS ELECTRICAL

Extra sockets to full rewires

Call Andy on 07766 457999 or

01634 372411

11 Farnham Close, Rainham, ME8 8NS

Domestic Installer

FASCIA PLASTICS

FASCIAS • SOFFITS • BARGEBOARDS • CLADDING • GUTTERING

Where Quality Counts!

Removal of Old Timber
Maintenance Free Exteriors
Full Ventilation with Bird Guard

01634 321202

243 Edwin Road, Rainham, Kent ME8 0LJ



LINWOOD
ELECTRONICS
Est. 1982

Panasonic

ideas for life

www.linwoodhe.com

Plasma, LCD, DVD & Home Cinema
Sales, Service, Set Up & Accessories
01634 230261. 70 Station Road, Rainham.

J W DECORATORS

All aspects of decorating and small
building works undertaken including Block
Paving, Brickwork & Patios

Family run business for 20 years

Call 01634 375290 or 07831 149458

Johnthedec@hotmail.com



M & D DECKING

DECKING AND GARDENING SERVICES

Prompt and reliable service offered

Paths, weeding, hedge trimming,

General tidying & clearing.

Rainham based, ring me for a free quote.

Mick Eardley ... 01634 264266



Diary 2009

September 27th - Medway Ramblers Walk
Lesley/Terry 07958574363. 10.00am, 4 miles.
Cobham. DA12 3AW. Car park Jeskyns Country
Park (free) just off the A2, Gravesend turn off. Pubs
in nearby Cobham at end (meals available).

September 27th - Bird Box and Animal Home
Making, Riverside Country Park, 10.00am - 12noon
Book in advance, £5 per home, 01634 337432.

September 27th - Volunteer's Taster Day, Capstone
Farm Country Park 10.00am. Book 01634 338191.

September 28th - Rainham Wives, Talk 'Blythwood'
and its work by June Tottman, (see 21st Sept).

October 1st - Wigmore Thursday Club, Cerebral Palsy
Care - Linda Phillips, (see 10th Sept).

October 2nd - Ghost Tours, Fort Amherst, Dock
Road, Chatham. Tours 8, 8:30 & 9pm, Tickets £10.
No under 8's. 01634 847747 www.fortamherst.com

October 3rd - RAMASES North Kent Egyptology
Society, Study Day, Dr Helen Strudwick Aspects of
her work at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge,
Newington Village Hall. Contact Annette Jones
ramases@hotmail.com

October 4th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group walk
with Roger Danks 01634 317993, meet 10.00am at
Green Man Pub, Hodsall Street near Meopham for a
5.5 mile walk, no dogs.

October 4th - Bird Box and Animal Home Making,

Orchard Windows (Kent) Ltd

Manufacturers & Installers of Quality PVCu

Windows - Patio Doors - French Doors

Stable Doors - Conservatories - Porches

Soffit & Fascia - Composite & Bi-Fold Doors

6 ORCHARD STREET, RAINHAM

MEDWAY 261757

Treat Your Feet!

Qualified Foot Health Practitioner

Painful corns & hard skin removed.

Verrucae. Fungal infection treatment.

Diabetic foot care.

Ingrown & thickened toenails.

For a home appointment call

Lynda on 01634 235298



HOME HELPS

For all your domestic needs

Hoovering • Dusting • Laundry/ Ironing

Shopping • Meals • 1 off Blitz/Spring clean

FULLY INSURED AND REFERENCED STAFF IN YOUR HOME

HOUSEMARTINS

WINNERS OF Medway Small Business Community Care ward

123 High Street, Rainham, Kent. ME8 8AN

01634 366528 Office or 07904 038813



Capstone Farm Country Park, 10.00am - 12noon
Book in advance, £5 per home, 01634 338191.

October 4th - Medway Ramblers Walk. Meet
Tony/Ann Faulkner 01634 406634, 10.00am

Swan PH, 5 miles, at Sutton Valence ME17 3BQ
October 5th - Rainham Wives, Talk about 'Living
Well Organisation' by Deborah & Caroline, (see
21st Sept).

October 6th - GHS Floral Art Group, 'Tapestry
Cake', (see 12th Sept).

October 7th - Tiny Tots, Capstone Farm Country
Park 10.00am - 2.00pm. Arts and crafts for
younger children suitable for accompanied
children aged 2 to 5 years. Drop in any time £1.

October 7th - Rainham Horticultural Society,
7.30pm, Cricket Pavilion, Berengrave Lane,
Corsage and Button Holes, all welcome, 231972.

October 8th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Bingo, (see
10th Sept).

October 9th - Gillingham and Rainham Local
History Society, 'East Coast Floods, Bronwen
Sadler' (see 18th Sept).

October 9th - MKAS, Bill Galloway - Making a
Dobsonian Telescope, (see 11th Sept).

October 10th - Autumnal Leaves, Riverside
Country Park, 10.00am - 12noon, accompanied
children aged 5 to 12 years, drop in anytime £1.

October 10th - St Matthew's Concerts,
Voskreseniye Ensemble - A choral evening of
unaccompanied Russian Folk and Sacred Music
performed by an octet from St Petersburg
conservatoire; 7.30pm tickets £7.00 each, from
01634 372508, mattconcerts@hotmail.co.uk.

October 10th - Paranormal Investigations at Fort
Amherst Dock Road, Chatham Arrive 8-8:30pm,
Enter Tunnels 8:30pm, Activities start 9pm,
Finish 3am. Tickets £35, over 18's & pre-booked
only. For more information 01634 847747 or
www.fortamherst.com

V E WHITE & CO.

Solicitors

10 Parkwood Green Rainham ME8 9PN

Medway (01634) 376555

For a complete legal service

Contact us or pop in for a competitive quote

Saturday/evening appointments may be available

email: enquiries@vewhitesolicitors.co.uk

Millennium Blinds

• Kent's Premier Blind Company

• Conservatory • House Blinds

• Awnings • Window Vinyl

Medway 230330

Showrooms: 25 High St, Rainham, Kent.

Carpark at rear

Small Ads

Price: £2.10 per line per month
Box Ads: £26.00 per month
£72.00 3 months paid in advance
See p2 for contact details & copy dates

SAVE WATER!

Water Butts supplied & fitted. Call Bill 01634 363310 or 07905 127 313

LOWER HALSTOW MEMORIAL

Hall for hire. Available most Saturdays & Sundays. Special rates for regular bookings & recognised organizations. Contact Jill on 01795 844054

LADY DECORATOR. Neat & tidy.

Call Margaret 01634 233270

TONE'S REMOVALS

Light removal & delivery service. 01634 312192 / 07832 194 575

BRIDGE LESSONS: BEGINNERS,

intermediate or advanced. V exp teacher but friendly classes in Rochester home setting. Start date late Sept. Day or evening. Phone Sally 01634 845722.

AVON CALLING! For latest catalogue

call Kay 0794 168 1244.

REGISTERED CHILDMINDER.

Full / Part-time places. Term time & school holidays. Drop off / pick up, to / from School / Clubs. Call Bernie 01634 232680 / 07958 923 856

CLEAN WITH STEAM: CARPETS,

upholstery, 3 piece suites. Flood recovery. Call Steve 07807 494 167

PJ PLUMBING. ALL ASPECTS

of plumbing work carried out. 24 hour call out. Call Paul 07913 012 848

TAURUS LOCKS: LOCKSMITH

All locks fitted, repaired & upgraded. 24 hour emergency door opening. OAP discounts. All work carried out by UK Locksmiths Association member. Tel Brian 07775 423 744 Email: brianburr@tauruslocks.co.uk

Crystal Jewellery Workshops:

relax, design and make your own unique pieces. Wednesday 16/9, Sunday 27/9, 01795 843354 www.gaia-angelicus.co.uk

WHISKERS LODGE CATTERY

1 Willis Cottages, Dunn Street, Bredhurst. A completely new cattery boarding cats only. FAB accredited care provided. Viewings welcomed. Contact Nichola Hood, 01634 235032. Email info@whiskerslodge.com

OFFSTED Registered Childminder.

Full / P/T places. Term time & holidays. Drop off & pick up from Hempstead schools & local nurseries. Georgina 01634 387325 / 07970 787 414

SECRETARIAL SERVICES FOR

businesses including invoicing, quotations, letters & some book-keeping. Telephone Jenny 07891 115 352.

DENTURE REPAIRS.

Same day service by registered technician. Home collection & delivery included. 01634 387824

GARDENING TLC:- Lady Gardener

Digging, pruning & garden maintenance. Hanging baskets & patio pots refilled. Chris 01634 372844 / 0796 3842 503

WATERLOO PLUMBING & Heating.

No job too small. Over 30 years' experience. 07712 760 147

"THE RIGHT HANDYMAN"

Small jobs - dripping taps - electric sockets & much more. Call Margaret on 01634 233270

CATS SORTED Cats visited, fed &

pampered whilst you are away. Contact Gill - 01634 373016 or 07999 979 202

APPLIANCE REPAIRS. Washing

machines, Tumble dryers, Dishwashers, Ovens. Friendly professional service with very low cost repairs, free call out & advice. Please call 07791 478 692 or 01634 387251

bf BUILDING SURVEYORS

Properties inspected & reports compiled. Extension drawings. General property advice given. Competitive rates from a professional practice. Call 01634 387118.

NEED A PLUMBER?

For that small job or annoying leak tel 234149.

NON SURGICAL FACE LIFTING.

Waxing, facials, electrolysis, massage, body treatments, manicure, pedicure, spray tanning, ear piercing etc. Also reflexology. Estab. 10 yrs. Wigmore based. For more details call Sally on 01634 375999 or 07957 242268.

THE WINDOW WIZARD.

Replacement glass, hinges & handles. UPVC specialist. 01634 871808.

DENTURE REPAIRS

While you wait service by an established quality Rainham Laboratory. Tel: Mardale 263766

General HOUSE MAINTENANCE

Also Plumbing, Fencing, Odd Jobs. DA Price (Medway) Est 1984 01795 842644 Mobile 07860 733980

KM PLASTERING. Medway Fair

Trader. All aspects of plastering. Contact Kevin 01634 315552 or 0785 6824 818

ANDREW'S GARDEN SERVICES

01634 314099 or 07708508193

HOUSE CLEARANCES

Houses cleared & contents disposed of efficiently. For more information call 07921 636 154 or 01634 351356

RAINHAM CHRISTIAN

FELLOWSHIP. Sunday Services 10.30am and 6.30pm at Begonia Avenue Church, Twydall.

Further details from 01634 302631.

CHIROPODIST JOHN JUDGE

M.InstCh.P. Home Visits - Clinic. Corns, Calluses, Ingrowing Nails. 01634 361720.

ALL SCRAP METAL WANTED

including cars with log book. Also rubbish clearances undertaken. Ring Debbie on 07836 585911.

WE TRANSFER OLD CINE FILMS

& slides to DVD. We also want old cine projectors & films. 01634 230799.

LES GENERAL BUILDER

All building work. Repointing, Patios, Drives, Walls, Garages. No job too small. Free estimates. Phone Les on 01634 264388. Mob 07743 128240

PC TROUBLESHOOTERS solving

all your computer problems. 01634 362294. I come to you eves & weekends. No fix no fee.

STUMP GRINDING & TREE

SURGERY. Roger Alsey 01634 376776 (Wigmore)

CARPENTER EST 30 YEARS

Property maintenance including doors, windows, flooring, roofing, general building/lofts/extensions. 01634 230821 or 07950 802370.

DENTIST: RUTH LINDSAY,

BDS. Home visits for elderly housebound. Dentures made and repaired. Free of charge for people receiving guaranteed pension credit. Tel. 842566 (surgery hours).

BRISTLES Painters & Decorators

City & Guilds qualified. Contact Lorna 01634 683605 or Barbara 01622 682736 or mob 0777 986 3977.

LANDSCAPE & PROPERTY

Maintenance, Tree & Conifer Surgery, Felling, Lopping, Topping, Hedge Cutting, Sheds, Garages, Gardens Cleared, Sheds Repaired and Refelted, all types Fencing. No Job too Small. Free advice and estimates for a first class job. Friendly, professional service. Call Colin: 01634 261749, 07970 759404.

BUILDER & DECORATOR

Any job considered. Roger Clay. Telephone 01634 361596

MAN & VAN at competitive rates.

David 01634 365427

PARKWOOD CHRISTIAN

FELLOWSHIP, Parkwood Green. Sunday Morning Service is at 10.30am to 12 noon. For any other details about the Fellowship and its activities, please contact Richard Hayton, 01634 235799.

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

Accounts, VAT, Tax Returns, Payroll. If you have a problem just give us a call. We come to you and the first consultation is free. Phone Michael on 01634 328537.

MASSAGE / BEAUTY THERAPIES

Extensive range of treatments. Very competitive prices. Rainham area. Call Jan 01634 377522 / 07930 378834.

DRUMS, PIANO & PERCUSSION,

lessons. 14 years' experience. Roan Kearsey-Lawson. MA, MA, BAHons 01634 365453

WIGMORE EVANGELICAL Free

Church, Durham Rd. Sunday services 11am and 6.30pm, Treasure Seekers (3-11 yrs) Sunday 10am. Bible Study & Prayers Tues 7.45pm. Tot's n' All (pre school & mums) Fri 1.30 to 3.00. Friday Club (6-9 yrs) 6.15. Fri Club Extra (9+ yrs) 7.30 Visitors welcome. Pastor Rev T.J. Wood. 01634 388187.

GENERAL GARDEN

Maintenance. Grass mowing, hedge cutting, weeding & tidying. Friendly service. 01634 378763.

JOHN INNES SEED & POTTING

compost always available. 20 Kilo bag £3.00. Also 200 litre Grower Bales of Peat £10.50. Meresborough Nursery. Medway 231639.

PARKWOOD CHRISTIAN

FELLOWSHIP PRE-SCHOOL

For children from 2½ to 5 years. Enquiries please phone 01634 366574.

UPCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Ideal for Weddings, Parties & Meetings. Facilities for the Disabled. Attractive Setting - Ample car parking. To book phone 01634 364859.

RALPH'S BARN DANCE

Calling to CDs. Tel 01634 375481

STEJEN COMPUTER SERVICES

Repairs, upgrades, troubleshooting. No fix, no fee. City & Guilds qualified engineer. Phone Steven 01634 302624 Mob 07775 793738

VIDEO FOUR

Re-live the sights and sounds of your special day. Call 01634 360401/371570 www.videofour.co.uk.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

All gardening work undertaken. Grass cutting, hedge cutting, tree work, fencing. Patios, decking, design & build available. 01634 364985 07930 183466.

LEAKING TAPS RE-SEATED

Loft & toilet overflows repaired. 01634 262912 Mob 07790 496387.

SPARKLES GLITTER PARTIES

Hair, Make-up, creations. Tel 376270

GARDEN TIDY UPS.

Garden clearance, turfing, mowing, lawn repair, hedges trimmed. City & Guilds qualified. Shane 01634 300313 or 079234 76573

PRESSED FOR TIME

Pet and smoke free environment for ironing services. Call Sandra on 01795 842097 or 07811 606988

M S P PLUMBING & HEATING

SERVICES. Boilers Change & Service, Fires, Cookers. Bathrooms, Kitchens & Tiling. No job too small. 01634 309765 07977 490748.

DEMENTIA RESPITE CENTRE

Hempstead Home gives carers a break by providing either day care for all or part of the day, short stay beds or a carer in the patient's home. For more details see www.hempsteadhome.co.uk or call 01634 365345.

INTERIOR DECORATOR.

Quality guaranteed. Tel Jim Jefferys 01634 378157 for a free no obligation estimate.

LAWN MOWER SERVICE

Sharpening and Repairs. 01634 361217.

TJC FENCING & DECKING.

Fencing repairs & erection. All types of decking undertaken. 01634 364985 079580 72928

C & J CLEARANCE

House, Garage, Loft, Shed. Rubbish cleared. No job too small. Fast friendly service. KCC Registered. 01634 261749 Mobile 078127 34570 / 07970 759404

SCIENCE TUITION: A LEVEL

Chemistry, GCSE Sciences & Special primary science classes. Fully qualified teacher CRB checked. For details call 07950 327935

BURROWS DOWN Holiday Home for

rabbits & guinea pigs. 01634 329297

ST MATTHEW'S COMMUNITY

Centre, Wigmore - modernised centre with main hall, meeting rooms and kitchen available for hire. Disabled access and hearing aid loop. To book phone 01634 374734 Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 4.30 to 6.30pm only.

YOGA CLASSES. MORNING (Tu/

We/Fri) & Eve (Tu/We). Friendly classes to improve health & wellbeing. Call Evi 01634 317463 / 07742 943781

SUNBURST BOOKS, 21 & 23 Station

Road sells donated second hand books in support of St Margaret's Church Heritage Fund. Also videos and vinyl records. More donations are always welcome at the shop 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Saturday.

THE DOOR DOCTOR.

UPVC Specialist. Handles, hinges & locks replaced / upgraded. 24 hour emergency door opening. 01634 263539

ACORN TILES: Kitchen, Bathroom,

Floors & Walls. No job too small. Call Craig on 01634 575017 / 07981 237823.

SMALL PET BOARDING & DOG

walking. Home visits - insured - Police checked, local collection & delivery. Claire 01634 230921 / 07775 946065

MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

Phone Jane on 07973 370296. Specialising in cutting & blow-drying.

MATHS TUITION GCSE & A Level

by a current teacher. 20+ years' experience. Phone 01634 378199.

THE GRANARY CHURCH

Rainham Evangelical, Rainham Community Centre, Granary Close. Sunday - 10.15am Other meetings in homes. Pastor: The Rev. P.S. Harper. Details Tel 01795 844031.

M & R GARDEN SERVICES

01634 267387 Mob 0781865 6733.

Old Photographs of Rainham

available as postcards at 40p each from Sunburst Books, 21 Station Road, Rainham. Prints at A5, A4 and A3 also available from The National Map Centre above the shop. To view the current selection see www.thenet.uk.net

ALLWAYS TILING SERVICES

Wall & Floor Tiling, Re-Grouting no job too small, friendly & reliable service. Fully Insured

01634 377599

Or 07877 428686

LOCKSMITH

call Loyal Locks

for a trusted locksmith and carpentry service for all your doors and windows. UPVC/timber.

Tel 07986 464970

11+ Preparation Rainham Tuition Centre

Help is at Hand

Maths
Literacy
Reasoning

Effective tuition for children working towards the 11+ grammar school selection tests in Medway and Kent

05602 538 882
(local call rates)

www.rainhamtuitioncentre.co.uk

JOHN STYLES FLAT ROOFING

Strip & Re-felt
All Work & Materials Guaranteed
Also General Roof Repairs
Free Written Quotation
MEDWAY 374028

CRAFT & PRODUCE MARKET

Saturday 19th September 9.00am—12.30pm
Millennium Centre, Rainham
To book a stall to sell crafts or home grown /
home made food please call 01634 371941.
Stalls cost £10
Proceeds to St Margaret's Church
Entry to the public is free.
Future dates: 17th Oct, 21st Nov, 19th Dec.

H
P
H
Est
1983

Hallett's
Plumbing &
Heating
CENTRAL HEATING



Chris Hallett

Boiler Servicing, Breakdowns & Luxury Bathrooms
47 Lakewood Drive, Wigmore, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0NS
01634 370697 07711 362898

Est. 1971



REPAIRS, GUTTERING, VERTICAL TILING, FLAT ROOFS, NEW ROOFS

For free estimates telephone: **01634 375069**
No Job too LARGE or SMALL – We do them "all"

B. HAYFIELD & SONS

Builders
Established 1971
All Building / Maintenance Work
Carpentry & Painting
Roofing & Plumbing
Medway 234072 or 078605 10222

GIFTS & GLAMOUR

37 Rainham Shopping Centre
01634 360060
New Gifts for Christmas arriving daily
Great Quality Choice & Price
Small deposit secures any item.



**CRYSTAL Curtains & Blind
Manufacturers Ltd**

Made to
Measure Curtains
Roman Blinds
Tracks and Poles
Wide Range of
Fabrics

Free Quotation and
Fitting Service
Visit our
Showroom Behind
Wyevale Garden
Centre, Hempstead
01634 817807

Verticals
Rollers
Venetian
Conservatory
Awnings
Patiola

S.B Plastering & Construction Services

All aspects of plastering rendering, pebble dashing,
skimming, screeding and coving. Insurance repairs.
All work Guaranteed.
Over 25 years experience.

Call Scott
07515 630545 or 01795 844336

In time of need ...

JOHN WEIR

Funeral Directors

A private family owned and run business

- 24 hour Personal Service
- Home visits if preferred
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Monumental Masons
- Pre-arranged Funeral Plans
- Horse Drawn Hearse available



01634 373111

130-132 High Street
Rainham
Kent ME8 8AR

01634 855558

127 Watling Street
Gillingham, Kent ME7 2YY
Car parking available

01634 408777

25 New Road, Chatham
Kent ME4 4QJ
Car parking available

01634 386999

31 Parkwood Green
Parkwood
Kent ME8 9PW