

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ■

APRIL 2012
NUMBER 475



Bredhurst School c1910. The lady standing on the right is Miss Margaret Hyde. She was one of two daughters of Mr Hyde who lived for many years at 165 High Street, Rainham. Both girls were fine musicians and the younger Dorothea (called Dora) sang at many of Rainham's musical occasions. They both became teachers. Dora taught at Luton, Chatham and Margaret first at Bredhurst and then from about 1922 until her retirement in 1940 at Solomon Road Infants. She maintained her association with Bredhurst and was organist and choir mistress, making the journey on a motor bike. She organised the May Day Festival for some years. Margaret was one of the teachers sent with evacuated children to Wales. Her billet there was at the railway crossing in the house by the line. The noise of the main Swansea – Cardiff line which also carried frequent coal trains caused her ill health. She returned to Rainham on compassionate grounds but as the school was closed and she was almost retiring age she never taught again and left Rainham to live in Maidstone. She was very much liked at the school and many past scholars will remember her with affection.

Robert J. Kitney

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Editorial

It was in the early 1970s that we first published a chart depicting '8 ways you can save water' in Action Forum. Looking at current information little has changed since then other than the style of the accompanying cartoon illustration. By October 1973 Kent had suffered three dry winters in a row and the underground supplies which provide most of our water through boreholes were very low. These are replenished by winter rain which takes about 6 months to percolate through the chalk and reach the underground wells. After this early scare we had a succession of years when hose pipe bans became the norm. However, by using water from the River Medway and new reservoirs from the 80s onwards, despite the enormous increase in population in the south east, we have largely escaped such deprivations. That happy time is over and we now have to face the realities of acute water shortage in our area. Luckily no one is suggesting a return to the stand pipes in the street of 1976, but unless we take the situation seriously, and many more months follow like March which has provided the lowest rainfall ever since records began for this month, by autumn the situation could become critical. We know we have a hose pipe ban from 5th April but it is difficult to find out what that actually means as it varies in each water board region. Searching on the web does produce a list of prohibited activities for each company but starts with a warning that this may change – a rough summary seems to be no domestic use of a hose pipe but commercial use is OK. Generally we all have to make the best use of water that we can by restricting use wherever possible, reusing bath water and capturing rain water (should we ever get any) to keep our gardens growing. The exercise carrying water to the vegetables is going to be very good for us so there are some benefits! Of course having set all these ideas in motion we will probably have the wettest summer on record – not what we want at all. Apologies to everyone who looked in vain last month for the list of roads where we need help with distribution. Having asked for your assistance I then forgot to include the item. Since then the list has grown so now we really do need some willing volunteers to help each month with the door to door delivery of Action Forum. If you would like some good healthy exercise with a purpose please think of

Action Forum delivery. Over a hundred volunteers help each month and how much you do is entirely up to you – every little helps and as we all know many hands make light work. Please ring 01634 310011 or email af@thenet.uk.net if you could spare an hour or so during the first weekend each month, we will be delighted to hear from you. The long light evenings make everything seem much better somehow and we can now really look forward to summer but in the meantime we have the beautiful spring days to savour. Have a happy month until we are with you again in May.

Correspondence

CALLING ALL ARTISTS, SCULPTORS,
NEEDLEWORKERS

Dear Editor
Early interest regarding the Arts Weekend in Wigmore that we are planning for 30th June/1st July has been excellent. There is still some hanging space unreserved for the Art Show, readers can contact me on 01634 372508, at wigmore.arts@hotmail.co.uk or by writing with a sae please, to 42 The Goldings, to book this and for information. This Show is not only for painters, but sculptors, ceramicists, needle workers, flower arrangers—any artistic display will be accepted.

There will also be art demonstrations, workshops, formal "lessons" and lots of exhibits which will enable visitors to see how things are done. We can still accommodate more "artists". If anyone thinks that what they do is "art or artistic", then they should be there at the Arts Weekend. Participation is free, sales will be encouraged and the Weekend will be widely advertised, so we expect a lot of interest.

The support of your readers will make the Weekend a success!

Yours sincerely
Paul Warren

ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL
Dear Editor,

I work at the Alexandra Hospital in Walderslade and am trying to trace the origins of the Hospital's name, and wondered if any reader of Action Forum might have useful information?

Although the Hospital is now "Spire" branded, and before that "BUPA", I believe the Alexandra name has remained since the Hospital was built in the mid 1980s. Preliminary research suggests that the name may be linked to the old smallpox Isolation Hospital once situated off Hoath Lane at the top of Hempstead Hill. This was originally also called the Alexandra, although it was decommissioned before WWII and eventually demolished in the 1970s when the A278 link road was constructed. Any help anyone can provide would be much appreciated.

Regards,
Rob Austin
Finance & Commercial Manager

VARIETY SHOW IN AID OF THE FRIENDS OF THE WISDOM HOSPICE

Dear Editor,

I am a 16 year old student at Rainham Mark Grammar School, I am organising a Variety Show on Saturday 21st April, 7.00pm at school to raise funds for the Friends of the Wisdom Hospice. My reason for supporting this charity is that my Grandad was diagnosed a year ago with Cancer of the Oesophagus and the Hospice has provided much needed support to my Nan during this time.

Tickets are £6 for Adults and £4 for concessions. There will be a raffle and refreshments. To book email adamwigmore@blueyonder.co.uk, or telephone Jean Hanscombe 351902 or Carol Wigmore 374302.

Tickets will not be available on the door.

Yours sincerely
Adam Wigmore

WCRA - Wigmore Community & Residents Association

Dear Editor,

All WCRA members are invited to attend our AGM on Friday April 27th at Wigmore Library starting promptly at 7.30 until 9.30pm. There will be a facility for non members to join the Association on the night. We are delighted that our local MP, our Ward Councillors and representatives from the Police have all indicated that they will attend and be available to talk to us and answer questions. Please do attend and support the Committee in its work for you. Members why not bring a non-member neighbour, non-members be brave and come on your own, you will all be very welcome.

Hope to see you there
Bob Dunn
Deputy Chair WCRA.

AIRPORT

Dear Editor

We must not allow any suggestion for a fourth hub airport to be built in our area! It would be the kiss of death to villages and towns from Gravesend to Medway/Isle of Sheppey. Last year David Cameron said no airport would be built here! So how come he is now changing his mind? Extra traffic on our roads generated by the development is worrying! Medway already comes to a stand-still if there is an accident on the motorway. How can the government say it is the greenest ever? Just imagine the pollution if an airport

was built! Will we have any countryside left for our children and children's children in the 'Garden of England'? We should be preserving all the beauty we have for future generations! I want to be proud of the area that I live in.

Please Boris and anyone else keep your hands off our countryside, villages and towns! If it goes ahead no one will want to live here. Visitors would not want to visit either as our peaceful countryside became noisy with planes over-head and extra traffic on the roads. The politicians who want this airport to be built of course do not live in this area!

Yours sincerely
Diane Parmenter

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB

Wigmore Evangelical Free Church.

April 11th, 12th & 13th, 10.00am – 12noon
Games, activities, stories on an Olympic theme.
For age five to eleven. Free entry.
Enquiries to Lorna 01634 360181

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Diary 2012

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Diary Copy Date: 17th April

- April 7th - Medway Towns Footpath Group walk, 10.00am, Meet Stephen Manning 01634 375821, Whitstable to Canterbury Bus Station, street parking, 7.9 miles, good footpaths, gentle gradient, bring drink but plenty of hostellers in Canterbury for food, no dogs
- April 8th - Medway Towns Footpath Group walk, 10.00am, Meet Capstone Country Park, 6 miles, undulating, could be muddy, no stiles, dogs allowed
- April 8th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am Meet Jim Bushnell for 5 miles Otford village car park. Bring picnic lunch. Pubs and café at end.
- April 8 & 9th - Fort Amherst Dock Road, Chatham, Easter Fair, 10.30am - 4.30pm, Free Entry, £2 Parking, Fun for all the family. Lot more to see, do and win. Details 01634 847747 www.fortamherst.com
- April 8th & 9th - Teddy Bear's Picnic, Upnor Castle, 10.00am - 6.00pm, One free child and teddy with every paying adult. £5.50 entrance fee, No need to book, For information ring 01634 335880
- April 9th - Orienteering Family Fun, Capstone Farm Country Park, 10.00am - 12noon Suitable for groups, families or who are after a bit of an adventure. £1.50 per person, book in advance 01634 338191
- April 10th - Junior Ranger Team, Riverside Country Park, 10.00 - 11.00am. For youngsters 5 - 12 years must be accompanied by adult, £1.50 per child, book 337432
- April 10th - Every Tuesday evening Healing freely given 7.30-9.00pm at The Centre mind.body.spirit, M2 services next to Travelodge, 01634 366944
- April 10th - Medway Antique and Collectors' Club, History of Milk Bottles, St George Hotel, New Road, Chatham, 7.30 for 8.00 pm. All visitors are made most welcome. Enquiries Miss E Boyes 0147 482 3606
- April 11th - Bredhurst WI, 7.30pm Bredhurst Village Hall, Mrs Jane Faulkner - Growing Old Disgracefully, ring 01634 389966 for more details.
- April 11th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am Meet Allan Buchan for 9 miles at Newington Car Park (behind Acorn Car Wash on A2). Circular, mainly flat walk. Bring picnic lunch.

- April 11th - Rainham Flower Club, Upchurch Village Hall, 7.30pm, "Thanks a bunch" Tutored by Barbara Mallard, For further information 01634 863034
- April 11th. 12th & 13th - Wigmore Evangelical Free Church Holiday Bible Club. 10am - 12noon, Games, activities, stories on an Olympic theme. For age five to eleven, Free entry, Enquiries Lorna 01634 360181.
- April 12th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Games, Tea & Chat, Hempstead Village Hall, behind All Saints Church, 169 Hempstead Road, 2.00 - 4.00pm, New members welcome, Phone 01634 366907
- April 12th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Our Charity for 2012 - Air Ambulance, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Wigmore, 2.00pm. For people over the age of 50, ring 235507 for details.
- April 12th - Parent and Child Fishing Teaching, Capstone Farm Country Park, 9.00am - 11.00am or 12noon - 2.00pm, All equipment and bait supplied. 8 - 12 years, £8 per child, book in advance 338191
- April 13th - Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group Millennium Centre every Friday 9.45 - noon to help people who have lost their spouse/partner, join us for a cuppa & chat, ring Julie on 364309 for details.
- April 13th - Gillingham & Rainham Local History Society 7.15pm, United Reformed Church, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, The Titanic, Mr. R. Slater, details 01634 854982.
- April 13th - MKAS, Bredhurst Village Hall, Hurstwood Road, second and last Friday each month, 7.45pm. Lee Macdonald - The History of the Isaac Newton telescope at Herstmonseux. Details Trev 07717 678795 or http://www.midkentaastro.org.uk/
- April 14th - Spring Craft Fair, St. Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow, 2.00 - 4.00pm.
- April 14th - Medway Folk Dance Club, United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham 7.30 - 10.00pm. New/experienced dancers welcome, with or without a partner 366189 or 388546.

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- April 14th - Instep Dancing, Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, 8.00 - 11.00pm. Enquiries 01634 363738 email s.collins02@btinternet.com
- April 15th - Volunteer Task Day, Capstone Farm Country Park, 10.00am - 2.00pm, Free, register interest 01634 338191
- April 15th - Medway Towns Footpath Group walk, 10.00am, Meet Pearl Stevens 07724 602929, Near Cobham turning into Halfpenny Lane, 5 miles, mostly flat with gentle slopes, no dogs
- April 15th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am Meet Sally Starbuck for 5.5 miles at Forge Lane, Higham (opposite Gads Hill House and School). Circular walk Pub at end with meals available.
- April 15th - Bredhurst Woodland Action Group, Volunteer Task Days, Third Sunday Every Month (throughout the year), 10.00am - 2.00pm, Meet at Hurstwood Road, Bredhurst, Lunch and refreshments provided, details please call/text Steve Wright 07801 386264 or email stevewright50@btinternet.com
- April 15th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am Meet Mike Collins 07855 929404 for 12.5 miles at Cuxton White Hart PH (do not use the pub car park). Bring packed lunch for picnic en route. Pub at end.
- April 16th - Parkwood Leisure Club, Tea and Chat, St. Paul's Church, Deanwood Drive, Parkwood 2.00pm - 4.00pm, new members welcome 366056 or 261098.
- April 16th - Wigmore WI, 7.30pm, St Matthews Community Centre, Drewery Drive, John Weir - Funeral Director, Visitors welcome ring 01634 263405
- April 16th - Rainham Evening Women's Institute, 7.30pm Millennium Centre, Rainham, Flynn's Bee Farm - Mrs Sudi Austin, competition Favourite DVD or Video, ring 01634 372282 for more details.
- April 17th - GHS Floral Art Group, 7.30 - 9.00pm United Reformed Church Balmoral Road, Gillingham, Figurines workshop with Wynne. Visitors welcome contact Kay Buss 01634 232998
- April 17th - The RSPB Medway Local Group Talk, Parkwood Community Centre, 7.30 - 10.00pm, £3.00, Futurescapes +AGM - Alan Johnson. For Walks see www.medway-rspb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk.
- April 18th - Bredhurst Garden Club, Malcolm Withnall - Illustrated Talk 'How to put Food on your Table', 7.30pm, Bredhurst Village Hall, 01634 233554, new members welcome.
- April 18th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 9.25am Meet

- Patrick for 8.5 miles at Hempstead Valley Linear Bus Pass Walk (return trip) Meet and park at Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre
- April 19th - Hempstead Leisure Club - Air Balloons - Susan Pope (see 12th April).
- April 19th - Wigmore Thursday Club, A Young Doctor in Bangladesh - Hannah Warren, (see 12th April).
- April 19th - Rainham Women's Institute 1.45 - 4.00pm Methodist Church Hall, Wakeley Road, Rainham. Speaker on What did we do and where did we go?, Visitors welcome for small entry charge per visit. Ring 01634 366276 for details
- April 19th - Medway Film Makers 7.30pm, Davis Estate Community Centre, Story boarding: lay out a story from a chose script, details 01634 360401.
- April 20th - RAFA Jazz Gig, 7.30pm, RAF Association Club, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra, Guest Star Pete Long on Alto Sax, £10 Enquiries 01634 365352 see Coljazz.webs.com
- April 21st - Wine and Wisdom evening, 7.30pm. £5, bring your own nibbles. The Centre -Mind Body Spirit, Farthing Corner, M2 Call 01634 366944 to book a table. www.thecentre-mindbodyspirit.co.uk
- April 21st - Varsity Show, Rainham Mark Grammar School, 7.00pm, in aid of Wisdom Hospice, Tickets £6 (£4 cons) from 01634 351902 or 374302
- April 21st - The English Festival, Riverside Country Park, 11.00am - 5.00pm,
- April 21st - Rainham South Ward Councillors surgery, Parkwood Community Centre 9.30am - 12noon. No appointment necessary.
- April 21st - Newington St George's Day Event, 1.00am - 3.00pm Stalls and entertainment, 01795 843334
- April 21st - Paranormal Investigations, Fort Amherst, Dock Road, Chatham, 9.00pm - 3.00am, Medium Richard Ware, Tickets £35 prebook on line, over 18s only, 01634 847747 or www.fortamherst.com
- April 21st & 22nd - Bredhurst Woodland Action Group, Bluebells & Cream Tea, Walks start at 2.00pm each day, Meet at Hurstwood Road, Tickets £6 pp in advance call Jim Chalmers on 07870 878907 or email bwag@vanessajones.plus.com
- April 22nd - Beginners Birdwatching (spring), Riverside Country Park, 11.00am - 12noon (classroom), 1.00 - 3.00pm (field based), £1.50 per person Book in advance 01634 337432

Continued on Page 11

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JAZZ GIG
The RAFA is pleased to produce a gig by the cream
of young jazz musicians from KYJO, together with
top saxophonist Pete Long from Ronnie Scoot's
club, on 20th April, 7.30pm at the RAF Association
Club, Dock Road, Chatham.
This is first time the band has played at the club and
we are hoping for a large and enthusiastic audience
to appreciate their fine talents.
Admission is £10, Enquiries - 01634 365352
More information on the website Coljazz.webs.com

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10.30am – 4.30pm
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Fire Engines, Napoleonic Soldiers
Shooting Gallery, Mr Bunny's Picnic
Lot more to see, do and win
Fort Amherst, Dock Road, Chatham
Details 01634 847747 www.fortamherst.com

SPRING CRAFT FAIR
St.Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow
Saturday 14th April, 2.00 – 4.00pm.
Come and join us for a wide range of local crafts and
home made produce, refreshments available.
The Thames Sailing barge, the 'Edith May' will also
be open in the dock adjacent to the church, to
welcome visitors, offering light lunches and
refreshments, Come and visit, arguably,
the prettiest location around!

THE RSPB MEDWAY LOCAL GROUP TALK
Parkwood Community Centre, Gillingham,
Tuesday April 17th - 7.30 - 10.00pm, £3.00
Futurescapes and AGM - Alan Johnson. For Walks
see www.medway-rspb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk.

SWING TIME IN THE SPRING TIME
Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research
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28th April, 7.00 – 10.00pm, Chatham Dockyard
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Volunteer Task Days
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Meet at Hurstwood Road, Bredhurst
If you enjoy using Bredhurst Woods, please consider
giving a few hours to help restore and maintain the
site. Jobs vary throughout the year and may include
light coppicing, ground clearance, fencing and litter
picking. Please bring gloves and wear suitable
clothing. Lunch and refreshments provided.
For more details please call/text Steve Wright
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NEWINGTON ST GEORGE'S DAY EVENT
Saturday 21st April, 11.00am – 3.00pm
3.00 – 9.00pm Live Music
Bouncy Castle, Irish Dancers and much more.
Evening - the band The Relics a Pink Floyd tribute
band, Nikki Cardelle, a talented singer/songwriter
with her band and The Springstreet Band who are a
Springsteen tribute band and more
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RAINHAM THEATRICAL SOCIETY
'Death & the Maiden' A drama by Georgina Reid
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'Happy & Glorious' A concert to celebrate the
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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR MARCH

Each year my wife and I eagerly await the reopening of National Trust and other properties. Our visits to these places provide an opportunity to take in the sights and sounds of early spring. In March we visited the gardens at Sissinghurst Castle, Goodnestone House and Godinton House.

The gardens at Sissinghurst are owned by the National Trust and are internationally famous. In March they were comparatively colourless, but they contained some spring flowers which were a welcome sight after the deprivations of winter. The Lime Walk contains most of the early flowers and here we came across hellebores, daffodils, primroses, white and blue anemones, crocuses, primroses and snowflakes, among others. From the top of the Elizabethan tower we had a good view of the gardens as a whole. In the absence of leaves on the deciduous leaves and shrubs, the structure of the various gardens was readily apparent. In particular, the lines of the box and yew hedges were clearly defined. The yellow daffodils in the orchard and the Lime Walk stood out prominently in the spring sunshine.

We took the opportunity to walk around the two lakes alongside the Hammer Stream. Hazel catkins and pussy willows were the only clearly visible signs of Spring. We had hoped to hear the call of a newly arrived chaff chaff in the adjacent woodland, but did not do so. However, during our visit to Sissinghurst as a whole, we came across bumble bees which had emerged from hibernation and saw or heard robin, wren, chaffinch, greenfinch, duncock, blackbird and blue tit. It seemed that winter was now behind us; this was something to celebrate, in the Granary Restaurant, with a cup of tea and a cake.

Goodnestone House is near Wingham, between Canterbury and Sandwich. It lies in a landscape of large, open fields of cereals and sheep. For me, the main attraction of the venue is an ancient sweet chestnut tree to the side of the Georgian House. It is awe inspiring. It has a trunk which is massive in both height and girth. The heavy, lower branches of the tree reach to the ground; some have been propped up and

others have been lopped in order to enable visitors to pass underneath them. The upper trunk is riddled with woodpecker holes. In March the ground under the tree was covered with a mass of delightful, miniature daffodils. What must have been an impressive display of snowdrops to the side and rear of the house was, unfortunately, past its best.

There are three walled gardens at Goodnestone, attached to and in line with each other. Standing at the entrance to the first one, visitors can look down the middle of all three gardens towards a view of the ragstone tower of the parish church. The main interest during our spring visit lay in the third garden which consists mainly of soft fruit in bird proof cages and vegetables. Spinach, leeks, parsnips, curly kale and purple sprouting broccoli were still available for the kitchen and the new season's union sets and broad beans were growing well. We sat on a bench under a wisteria of great age and length which runs along the end wall of the garden. We listened to the cawing of rooks from a nearby rookery, the chiming of the church clock, the singing of a mistle thrush and the distant sound of a tractor pulling a mower on Goodnestone village cricket pitch. In due course we headed for the restaurant in the Old Coach House. As always, we were served with odd plates, cups and saucers which appear to have been bought at jumble sales. For us, the quaint crockery is part of the charm of Goodnestone, along with the endearing lady owner, Lady Fitzwalter, and her delicious home made cakes.

Godinton House and Park lie to the south of Ashford and in the valley of the Great Stour. The red brick Jacobean house and adjoining buildings are such a mass of Dutch gables and chimneys that they give the impression of a small village. The approach to the house is along a drive through parkland studied with ancient trees, mainly oaks. Jackdaws breed in these trees and, during our visit, we noticed two apparently male birds squabbling over a choice nesting hole. The trees are also a habitat of nuthatches whose presence is usually revealed by their ringing "chwit, chwit, chwit" calls.

The main attraction of Godinton in the spring is the wild flower garden. In March the garden contained

wood anemones, lesser celandines, primroses, violets and the first showings of snake's head fritillary. The bleating of lambs in nearby fields alongside the Great Stour were a reminder to me that snake's head fritillary is native to low lying water meadows. The flower has bell shaped petals with chequered patterns of mulberry and lilac. Godinton claims to have one of the largest displays of daffodils in the area, being widespread throughout the three acres of the wild flower garden.

The walled garden contains a large, Victorian style greenhouse, a vegetable garden, top and soft fruit trees and flower beds. At the time of our visit, the only vegetables in growth were onion sets, spinach and rhubarb, the latter of which was being forced in tall earthenware pots. Rhubarb is of course enjoying a renaissance, having been publicised by television chefs. Along with the usual pot plants, rhubarb was also for sale. Sticks of the vegetable, tied into bundles of six with garden twine, were selling like hot cakes!

Joe Ennis

THE RAINHAM PAROCHIAL CHARITY

This Charity is able to make small grants to those in need who live in the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Margaret's Rainham. They are unable to make grants in areas which are the responsibility of statutory State Benefits but may be able to assist those who have incurred unforeseen expenses which are not covered by the benefit system.

The Charity Commission have also approved that any surplus income can be given to other organisations and / or projects which are for the benefit of those living in the area. This year the surplus funds stand at £1000. The Trustees of the Charity invite applications from those eligible. Further information and application forms may be obtained from the Hon Secretary, Mr K. Stevens 10 School Lane, Lower Halstow, Sittingbourne Kent ME9 7ET Tel 01795 844304

YOU AND THE DIGITAL CHANGE OVER

Bredhurst Receiving & Transmitting Society
Thursday 3rd May, 8.45pm.

The Digital change over is coming. Find how much money you DON'T need to spend at a talk by Colin McCarthy-Stewart and Michael Couchman
Parkwood Community Centre
Entrance is Free and there is a Bar.

BLUEBELLS & CREAM TEA WEEKEND

Bredhurst Woodland Action Group
Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd April
Walks start at 2.00pm each day
Meet at Hurstwood Road, Bredhurst

Due to growing demand, BWAG are holding bluebell walks through Bredhurst Woods followed by cream teas over two days this year - shorter and longer walks available each day. Tickets are £6 per person and must be purchased in advance - tickets

will not be available on the day
(children under 16 free).

For more details and bookings please call
Jim Chalmers on 07870 878907 or email
bwag@vanessajones.plus.com

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Would you like to meet new people? Learn new skills? Manage your own money? Be more Independent? If you are aged between 16 - 19 with mild or moderate additional needs, and live in Medway area, come along to the Millennium Centre in Rainham on the fourth Saturday of the month. Our sessions run from 11.00am - 2.00pm and there is a £2 contribution. The next few sessions run on April 28th, May 26th, June 23rd & July 28th
Telephone Rachel Bowman (Co-ordinator)
07505 489049 or Jane Candler 07758 703627
Alternatively e-mail shortbreaks@kasbah.org.uk

QUIZ NIGHT

Hands & Gillingham Volunteer Centre

Why not join us for a Quiz Night

Millennium Centre, Rainham

Friday 27th April

Doors open at 7.00 for a 7.30pm start

Teams of up to 6 people

You are invited to come along for this fun social evening and to help us raise funds for the Hands & Gillingham Volunteer Centre.

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If you can't raise your own team but would still like to take part, you are welcome

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Diary 2012

April 22nd - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am Meet
Jim Bushnell for 8 miles at Harrietsham health/
community centre car park. Bring picnic lunch - there
will be a short pub stop.

April 22nd - Medway Towns Footpath Group walk,
10.00am, Meet Kevin Nicholas 07515 330276,
Shepherdswell Railway Station, 6 miles, part of the
Miners Way Trail, fairly flat one long gentle uphill
slope and 3 stiles, dogs allowed

April 23rd - Parkwood Leisure Club, Roger & Sue
St. George's Day, (see 16th April).

April 23rd - Rainham Wives, 8.00pm, Methodist Church
Hall, Wakeley Road, Rainham, 'Leeds Castle'
illustrated talk by De Ann Kneif, New members of all
ages very welcome, subs £1.50 per meeting, details
01634 230639.

April 23rd - Our new Wellness Night with Talita Wigg
of Kent Detox. Looking at Colonic Hydrotherapy,
Iridology, Hidrolinfa, Wellness Screening. 7.30-
9.00pm, £4.00, The Centre mind.body.spirit, M2
services next to Travelodge, 01634 366944
www.thecentremindbodyspirit.co.uk

April 25th - Junior Ghost Tours, Fort Amherst, Dock
Road, Chatham, 6.40pm, £6 book on line, For children
aged 8 – 16 years, information 01634 847747 or
www.fortamherst.com

April 25th - Experimental Sharing Group, 7.30pm.
Working with Nature, Natures Way with Anne Lederer
The Centre mind.body.spirit (see 23rd April).

April 25th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 6.30pm Meet
Peter/Ann Green 01634 718895 for 4 miles Evening
Walk at Hodsell Street village hall (near the Green
Man PH). Pub at end.

April 26th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Games, Tea &
Chat, (see 12th April).

April 26th - Rainham & District Dolls' House and
Miniaturist Group, Howard Hall, Woodside, 7.30pm,
ring 01634 312038 or 366183 for details.

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April 26th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Service
followed by "Take Care", (see 12th April).

April 27th - Quiz Night, Hands & Gillingham

Volunteer Centre, Millennium Centre, Rainham,
7.30pm start, Teams up to 6, £6 pp, Ploughman's
supper incl Please bring own drink and glasses)

To book ring 01634 362119, individuals welcome.

April 27th - Medway Geographical Society, Adult
Education Centre, Green Street, Gillingham, 7.30 –
9.00pm 'Namaste – Greetings from Nepal' - Graham
Dudley, Everyone Welcome, Details 01634 362683

April 27th - MKAS, Paul Money - Images of the
Universe Volume 2. (see 13th April).

April 27th - Wigmore Community and Residents
Association, AGM, Wigmore Library. 7.30 –
9.30pm. All are welcomed to attend.

April 28th - Kasbah Short Breaks Life Skills Project
For 16 – 19 years with mild or moderate additional
needs, Millennium Centre, Rainham 11.00am –
2.00pm, £2 contribution. Ring 07505 489049 or
07758 703627 email shortbreaks@kasbah.org.uk

April 28th - Medway Folk Dance Club, (see 14th Ap)

April 28th - Swing Time in the Spring Time,
Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research 7.00 – 10.00pm
Chatham Dockyard Join us on the Kingswear Castle
Paddle Steamer, Tickets £15, Dot 01634 864642

April 29th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am Meet
Jim Bushnell for 7.5 miles at Otford village car
park. Bring picnic lunch. Pubs & café at end.

April 29th - Bluebell Walk, Capstone Farm Country
Park, 10.00am – 12noon. £1.50 per person, book in
advance 01634 338191.

April 29th - Medway Towns Footpath Group walk,
10.00am, Meet Roger Danks 01634 317993, Holly
Hill car park, 6 miles, no dogs

April 30th - Parkwood Leisure Club, Quiz, (16th Ap).

April 30th - Rainham Wives, 'Call My Bluff' Quiz
plus charity fund raising, (see 23rd April).

May 1st - GHS Floral Art Group, Ikebana
arrangements. Visitors welcome contact Kay Buss
01634 232998 (see 17th April).

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Diary 2012

May 2nd - Rainham Horticultural Society, 7.30pm

Cricket Pavilion, Berengrave Lane, Rainham,
Gardening Anecdotes and Funnies from Air Times -
Jean Griffin, New members welcome, ring 366276
May 2nd - Rainham Wives, Talk by Leah Leideison, 'My
Grandfather', (see 23rd April).

May 3rd - Wigmore Thursday Club, Bingo, (see 12th Ap).

May 3rd - Medway Film Makers 7.30pm, Davis Estate
Community Centre, details 01634 360401.

May 3rd - Hempstead Leisure Club, Edinburgh Woollen
Mills - Fashion Show, (see 12th April).

May 3rd - Bredhurst Receiving and Transmitting Society,
You and the Digital Change Over, a talk by Colin
McCarthy-Stewart and Michael Couchman, 8.45pm,
Parkwood Community Centre, Free and there is a Bar.

May 3rd 4.5.10.11 & 12th - Rainham Theatrical Society
'Death & the Maiden' by Georgina Reid, Oasthouse
Theatre, Rainham, Curtain up at 8.00pm. Box Office
0844 8793224 or www.oasthousetheatre.co.uk

May 4th - Bredhurst Woodland Action Group, AGM
followed by guest speakers 7.00pm, Bredhurst Village
Hall, Hurstwood Road, Members and non-members
welcome, details call Vanessa Jones 07813 785940 or
email bwag@vanessajones.plus.com

May 5th - Junior Ranger Team, Riverside Country Park,
(see 10th April).

May 5th - St Mary's Church, Newington, Some
Enchanted Evening with Cameo Opera, Tickets £10,
01795 842478 or laneatborden@btinternet.com

May 5th - Junior Ranger Team, Riverside Country Park,
(see 10th April).

May 5th - St Mary's Church, Newington, Some
Enchanted Evening with Cameo Opera, Tickets £10,
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May 5th - St Mary's Church, Newington, Some
Enchanted Evening with Cameo Opera, Tickets £10,
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May 5 -7th - Sweeps Festival, Castle Gardens and The
Vines, Rochester, 10.00am - 5.00pm,

May 6th - Medway Ramblers Walks Meet Beryl Murr,
10.00am for 4.5 miles at Wouldham Recreation
Ground car park, Pubs at end with lunches available.

May 6th - Medway Ramblers Walks Meet Mike
Patrick, 10.00am for 11 miles at Egerton car park.

figure of 8 walk, 6 miles am, 5 pm, Bring picnic
May 6th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group walk,
meet Kevin Nicholas 075153 30276 10.00am, 5
miles at Nonington Trees of Fredville Park, dogs OK

May 6th - Sunday Service with guest medium Sheila
Appleton, £1.00, 6.30-8.30pm Healing after the
service The Centre mind.body.spirit (see 23rd April).

May 8th - Medway Antique And Collectors' Club,
Antique Sauce Boats (see 10th April).

May 11 & 12th - Wigmore Mads present 'Sinbad', a
family pantomime 8.00pm, Sat Matinee 2.30pm, St
Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive,
Tickets £6 & £5 Concession, Family ticket (2 adults
2 children) £20 Box office Sue Burrows 370639

May 12th - Bredhurst C. E. P. School May Day
Celebrations, procession 2.00pm, May Queen and
King, Maypole Dancing, Refreshments, etc details
01634 231271, office@bredhurst.kent.sch.uk

May 12th - St Matthew's Church, Wigmore, Plant Sale,
For timings see church Notice Board

May 12th - Medway Folk Dance Club, (see 14th Ap)

May 12 & 13th - Medway Flower Fair, Cozenton Park,
Rainham, 10.00am - 5.00pm Specialist nurseries and
garden related suppliers., children's activities and
refreshments

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