

ACTION FORUM

JUNE 2013
NUMBER 488

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ■



V.E. Day was celebrated at the end of fighting in Europe after nearly six years of the Second World War. Even though it was to be another three months before V.J. Day and the end of all hostilities local communities arranged street parties for the children, many of whom had never known anything other than wartime hardship and fear of bombing. This group at 56 Henry Street, Rainham welcomed Derrick Irons, Curate of St Margaret's Church, to the party (centre wearing a clergy collar) on V.E. Day plus one, 9th May 1945. Can you name any of the group? We would be pleased to know.

Robert J. Kitney

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AF

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Editorial

Sixty years ago as a country we were in party mood. June 2nd 1953 was Coronation Day. Happily the disappointing cold, wet weather did nothing to dampen the patriotic fervour and did not point to a disastrous reign. Far from it – who would have imagined on that rainy Tuesday as we sat glued to tiny black and white television sets, generously shared by their proud owners, that in 2013 our glamorous young Queen would be celebrating her Diamond Jubilee? The fact that Her Majesty still fulfils numerous engagements each year, which would be a strain for people years younger, is often overlooked, we just expect her to continue as she has always done. Perhaps now this milestone has been reached we should be more understanding of her position, surely it would be possible to continue as monarch but delegate the travel and tiring ceremonial occasions to the younger royals. They seem more than capable of fulfilling the tasks admirably!

For the Coronation Rainham, under the leadership of Councillor Freddie Cooper, had a full programme of activities planned. This started with a Coronation Celebration Carnival on the evening of 27th May continued with special Coronation Sunday Services and the main events were to take place on Coronation Day itself. These were not scheduled to begin until 2.30pm by which time the rain had mostly given way to the damp overcast weather we know so well this year. However the morning, when the organisers had intended setting up the activities, had seen torrential downpours. The programme for the arena included Girl Guides and RE Cadets Marching Displays, Sheep Dog Demonstrations, a Comic Football Match, Maypole Dancing, the London Mime Theatre Company and Children's Races. Around the Recreation Ground were to be Swings, Roundabouts and Sideshows, Bowl-out-Batsman, Bingo, Bowling-for-Pig, Football-in-Hole, Darts, Aunt Sally, Hoopla, Coconuts Shies, Wheel-em-in and all the other regular Village Fete entertainments. As anyone who has been involved with a Summer Fair knows this all takes a considerable time to prepare. Inevitably some events had to be cancelled but wherever possible the programme went ahead as planned. Despite the problems the whole event was voted a success and even made a small profit which caused much debate among the committee for months to come. Eventually it was decided to donate the clock above Barclays

Bank to the village (a small plaque on the wall commemorates this) and the Council undertook to maintain it. They continued to do so for many years only in 2009 reneging on the promise when the clock needed a major overhaul. To their credit the local Rainham Councillors generously paid for the renovation and we again have a reliable time piece. Less said the better about our recent weather I feel! I am looking forward to a glorious warm, sunny spell to take us past midsummer. Well I can dream! Have a good month we will see you again in July.

Correspondence

WIGMORE OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

Dear Editor,

I would like to invite your readers to the biennial Wigmore Open Gardens Weekend on the 22nd & 23rd June. Over twelve different gardens will be open at various times during the two days for people to wander around and enjoy. Plants and other items will be available for sale, together with lunches and refreshments.

Admission into each garden on the day is £1 or by a programme allowing entry into all gardens over both days just £6. Details of the gardens will be posted on St Matthew's Church notice board in Drewery Drive, Wigmore and on www.stmattswigmore.org.uk. Programmes can be purchased at any garden on the day or in advance from me on 01634 387328.

Kind regards

Paul Bellerby, Gardens Co-ordinator.

RAINHAM MAY QUEEN

Dear Editor

I was delighted when my granddaughter picked up my copy of Action Forum last month and shouted "Nan, I think this is you!" She had spotted me as May Queen, having seen the original photograph. My name was Sandra Woodsell and I was 7 years old when the other pupils chose me to be the May Queen that year. The celebration took place in the infant school playground at the rear of the old school building at the top of Station Road. My grandmother made my dress of satin and net, decorated with flowers and the school provided a green velvet cloak for me. The crown was made specially for the event and it is being held by Keith Randall. To the right of him is my best friend, Patricia Wilkinson, and she is holding the half hoop with Annette Ashdown. I think the boy chosen as the Captain, to the left of me in the photo, is Brian Bennett.

I can still remember part of my speech "I welcome you, friends, this happy day and thank you for making me Queen of May..." It ended with "...Be seated, friends, this happy day and let us begin our revels gay." This was followed with dancing round the maypole. I still keep in touch with Patricia and will be sending her a copy of magazine as she has moved away. This photograph brought back many

happy memories of my school days and, hopefully, to other pupils too. I always enjoy reading Action Forum but never thought that my few moments of fame would ever make it on to the front cover.

Yours sincerely
 Sandra Hayes

Email sandraj.hayes@btinternet.com

RAINHAM MAY DAY

Dear Editor,

My mother, who lives in Twydall, sent me your May edition with the May Day photo from 1955 and I am pleased to report I am in it! I was school captain standing just behind the May Queen's right shoulder - I think her name was Sandra. The young man behind her left shoulder is Keith Randall, who lived in Pump Lane but later sadly died. The two trumpeters at the back are Jimmy Hatcher, my best friend at the time (we lived in Dorset Square) and, I think, Peter Watson. The boy in the dark trousers on the left of the picture is Brian Flynn.

I am retired and living near Manchester but my mother, sister and one of her daughters all still live in Rainham.

Regards,
 Brian Bennett.
brianbennett@ntlworld.com

SUMMER FAYRE

Dear Editor,

Meredale Independent Primary School are holding their annual Summer Fete in the school playground on Solomon Road, Rainham on Sunday 30th June, from 12noon to 3.00pm. There will lots of fun for all the family, with various attractions and demonstrations, a mixture of stalls and activities including the traditional Tombola, Sponge the Teacher, Hook a Duck, games stalls, Raffle and Facepainting as well as stalls selling books, bric-a-brac, crafts etc. We also have traders offering various products, jewellery, cakes, cards and preserves. All the proceeds raised are used by the school to pay for equipment, books, visits and experiences that enrich the children's education and that the school would otherwise not be able to afford. Some stalls still available to traders. For more details call Mrs Gee on 01634 231405 or email schooloffice@meredaleindependent.com

Yours sincerely
 Michelle Hextall.
 (Friends of Meredale)

AN EVENING WITH TOM HART DYKE

Bredhurst Woodland Action Group
 Tuesday 18th June, 7.30pm
 Bredhurst Village Hall, Hurstwood Road
 Join Tom Hart Dyke, horticulturalist, plant hunter, TV presenter, author and creator of
 The World Garden at Lullingstone Castle
 Hear how the garden evolved; Tom's exploits around the world in search of exotic plants and about his passion for orchids.
 Rare and unusual plants on sale and signed books
 Tickets £5.00 per person (includes refreshments)
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 Vanessa Jones on 07813 785940 or email
bwag@vanessajones.plus.com

SPRING CONCERT

The Brain Tumour Charity (inspired by Samantha Dickson) Concert raised £450. Thank you to St Margaret's Parish Church and The Kingfisher Singers and all who supported by attending the concert.
 Olwen O'Dowd

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Diary 2013

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Copy should be in writing either by email to af@thenet.uk.net or 5 Meresborough Cottages, Meresborough, Gillingham, Kent ME8 8PP

Diary Copy Date: 18th June

June 1st – 29th - local artist Wynne Prescott exhibiting paintings and drawings Rainham Library, details 01634 234734 or Rodwynne@hotmail.co.uk.

June 2nd - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Bob and Kath Dyson, 10.00am for 6 mile walk at Loose Hill, near Chequers Pub. Pub at end with meals available.

June 2nd - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am, meet Roger Danks 01634 317993 at Cranbrook Church, for an 8 mile walk, dogs allowed.

June 3rd – Monday Hub, St Pauls Church, Parkwood, 10.00am – 12.30pm, light refreshments, conversation, games etc, all welcome ring 01634 230780 for details.

June 3rd - Parkwood Leisure Club, Quiz/Games, St Paul's Church, 2.00 – 4.00pm, new members welcome ring 01634 366056 or 373594 for details.

June 3rd – Rainham Wives, 8.00pm, Methodist Church Hall, Wakeley Road, 'Macmillan Nurses' our charity, talk by Joy Saunders, New members of all ages welcome, subs £1.50 per meeting, 01634 230639.

June 3rd - Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group, Millennium Centre, Rainham, meets 2nd Monday evening of each month to help people still in employment who have lost a loved one, join us for a cuppa and chat ring Julie 01634 364309 for details.

June 4th - Dementia Café, St Paul's Church, Long Catlis Road, 1.00 – 3.00pm, A friendly and supportive place for people with Dementia and carers. All welcome, free refreshments Sylvia Wolfson 07557 111060 or email sylvia.wolfson@alzheimers.org.uk

June 4th – GHS Floral Art Group, 7.30pm United Reformed Church, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 'Imposed arrangement (£4.50 budget), details 232998

June 4th - Rainham Horticultural Society, Talk - The Greenhouse Story – Roland Stevens, 7.30 pm Rainham Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane, Rainham. New members welcome, ring 366276 for details.

June 6th - Wigmore Thursday Club, The UK's Youngest Classical Baritone, Matthew Crane, St Matthew's Community Centre, 2.00pm, for over 50s, ring 01634 235507 for details

June 6th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Village Hall, behind All Saints Church, AGM, 2.00 - 4.00pm New members welcome. Phone 01634 366907

June 6th – 8th - Wigmore MADs 'Calendar Girls' by Tim Firth, 8.00pm, Community Centre, Drewery Drive, Tickets £7.50 (£6.50 cons) from Sue 01634 370639

June 7th - Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group, Millennium Centre, Rainham, meets every Friday 9.45am – 12noon to help people who have lost a loved one, join us for a cuppa and chat ring Julie 01634 364309 for details.

June 8th - Charity Quiz Night (Multiple Sclerosis Society), St Margaret's Millennium Centre, 7.30pm, Teams of up to 8, £5 per person, Bring own drinks and nibbles, To book ring 01634 238502, 01634 374938 or email JaneMSMedway@gmail.com

June 8th - Medway Folk Dance Club, United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gill 7.30 – 10.00pm. New and experienced dancers welcome with or without a partner, for details ring 01634 366189 or 388546

June 9th - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Pete and Kate Ware, 10.00am for 6 mile walk at car park behind Birling Church. Pub at end

June 9th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am, meet Roger Norman 01634 232404 07941 965272 at Cobtree car park, Forstal Lane, Aylesford, for a 5 mile walk, sloping terrain, no dogs.

June 9th - Volunteer Task Day, 10.00am – 2.00pm, Riverside Country Park, Free, register interest 337432

June 10th - Diabetes Support Evening, 7.00 – 9.00pm, St Pauls Church, Parkwood, presentation Tesco community worker a member of Diabetes UK, ring 07725 238464 medwaydiabetesupport@hotmail.co.uk

June 10th – Medway Scrabble Club, St Stephens Church Hall, Maidstone Road, Chatham, alternate Mondays 2.00 – 4.00pm details 01634 230500

June 10th - Parkwood Leisure Club, Bingo, (see 3rd June).

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June 10th – Rainham Wives, 'Coronation Day Memories' members evening, (see 3rd June).

June 10th - Medway Organ Club Concert, 2nd Monday of each month, Parkwood Community Centre, 7.00pm for 7.30, finishing 10.00pm, Brian Leonard 01634 234694

June 11th - Medway Antique and Collectors' Club, Ordnance Survey Maps, St George Hotel, New Road, Chatham, 7.30 for 8.00pm all visitors are made most welcome. Enquiries Miss E Boyes 0147 482 3606

June 12th - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Peter and Ann Green 01634 718895, 7.00pm, for 4 mile Evening walk at public car park on the right as you go into Cobham from Strood area, just after the Ship pub. Pub at end.

June 12th – Bredhurst WI, 7.30pm Village Hall, Dr. James Gibson - Rochester Bridge, ring 01634 389966

June 12th - Rainham Flower Club, Upchurch Village Hall, 7.30pm, Workshop – Informal competition "Celebrations" Details 01795 472973 / 01634 863034

June 13th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Strawberry Tea with entertainment by Phoenix Singers, (see 6th June).

June 13th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Outing to "Pudding Club Crawley", (see 6th June).

June 13th - Donn Barcott's Five 5 Live, 8.30pm 44Two Club Featherby Road, Elaine Diane (Vocals) with special guest, songs from Great American Song Book plus a magician at your table, raffle, bar, admission £6 all welcome, details 01634 405037

June 14th - Gillingham & Rainham Local History Society, United Reformed Church, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.15pm, Members Evening, Further information from Ron Baker 01634 854982

June 15th - Chatham & District Model Railway Club's Chatham Show Medway Park Leisure Centre Mill Rd Gillingham ME7 1HF 10.00am - 5.00pm.

June 15th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, walking the North Downs Way (section 3) with Stephen Manning 07598 330622, 11 miles from Ranmore Common Road, RH5 6SR (near St Barnabus Church) ring for details.

June 15th - Craft and Produce Fair, Millennium Centre 9.00am – 12.30pm supporting St. Margaret's Church, Free entry to the public.

June 15th - Rainham South Councillors surgery, Parkwood Community Centre, 9.30am - 12 noon, no appointment necessary.

June 15th – Instep Dancing, Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, 7.30 – 11.30pm, Summer Ball ticket only, 01634 363738 email s.colins02@btinternet.com

June 16th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am, meet Chris Morris 01634 374923 07847 828249, car park rear of Birling Church, for a 5 mile undulating walk with nice views, no dogs.

June 16th - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Mim/Frank Ewen 10.00am for 4 or 7 mile walk near Rose and Crown PH, Stelling Minnis. Bring snack, Pub at end.

June 16th - Chatham & District Model Railway Club's Show 10.00am – 4.00pm. (see 15th June)

June 17th - Parkwood Leisure Club, Ghosts (some local) – Mr Arnold, (see 3rd June).

June 17th – Monday Hub, (see 3rd June).

June 17th – Rainham Wives, Beetle Drive, (see 3rd June).

June 17th – Wigmore WI, Dean Caston - The Victoria Palace, St Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, 7.30pm, Visitors welcome, Ring 01634 263405

June 17th - Rainham Evening WI, 7.30pm, Millennium Centre, Rainham, Jean Talboys talk 'Saving Plant Heritage', competition - A Sunset, ring 01634 262577

June 18th - Dementia Café, (see 4th June).

June 18th - BWAG Presents 'An Evening with Tom Hart Dyke', 7.30pm, Bredhurst Village Hall, Tickets £5.00 pp (includes refreshments) Must buy in advance call 07813 785940 or email bwag@vanessajones.plus.com

June 18th - RSPB Talk, Parkwood Community Centre, 7.30 - 9.45pm, £3.00, Birding in Iberia - Ernest Garcia. For Walks www.medway-rspb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk.

June 18th – GHS Floral Art Group, Period Arrangements/techniques, (see 4th June).

June 19th - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Mike Patrick 9.30am for 7.5 mile walk to Maidstone at Commuter Car Park just north of Bredhurst. Return by bus.

June 20th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Tea and chat, (see 6th June).

June 20th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Glass Paperweights, History and Valuation, John Simmonds, (see 6th June).

June 20th - Rainham WI, 1.45 - 4.00pm, Methodist Church Hall, Wakeley Road, Rainham, Speaker on Italian Olive Oil, Visitors welcome for small entry charge per visit. Ring 01634 366276 for details

June 21st - Deanwood Primary School, Summer Fayre, 3.15 - 6.00pm, Adults 50p, Children 30p, Pre-School Free, Games stalls refreshments

June 21st - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 7.30pm, AGM, Nye Bevan Memorial Hall, Twydall Lane, Gillingham, all welcome.

Continued on Page 11

P. Gillard

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CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT
Saturday 8th June, 7.00 for a 7.30pm start
St Margaret's Millennium Centre, Rainham
Teams of up to 8, £5 per person
Bring your own drinks and nibbles
Organised by the Medway Branch of The Multiple
Sclerosis Society raising funds for research and
support locally.
To reserve a table phone Medway Branch Helpline
01634 238502 or ring Jane 01634 374938
or email JaneMSMedway@gmail.com

THE RSPB MEDWAY LOCAL GROUP TALK
Tuesday 18th June, 7.30 - 9.45pm
Parkwood Community Centre, Gillingham, £3.00
Birding in Iberia - Ernest Garcia. For walks see
www.medway-rspb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk.

CHARITY BARN DANCE
Friday 21st June, 6.45 for a 7.00pm start
Dobbies Garden World Gillingham ME8 0FB
(in large restaurant area)
In aid of
HANDS & Gillingham Volunteer Centre
Tickets £8 per person
Light supper included
bring your own drinks
Lively dancing, with caller; fun guaranteed!
For tickets, call Ann or Wendy
01634 815430 or 07816 159668

JAZZ GIG
Anchorian's Rugby Club,
Darland Avenue, Gillingham.
Friday 21st June, 8.30pm
Alan Barnes/Mark Nightingale Quintet.
Admission £10
Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743
This gig features BBC Poll Winners Alan Barnes on
saxophones and Mark Nightingale on trombone in a
night of top class jazz. All welcome.

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Friday 21st June, 8.00pm.
Starting and finishing at Priestfields Recreation
Ground, by kind permission of Medway Rugby Club
the route is through the historic town of Rochester.
All we ask is that you try to raise £50 each
Entry £15 adults, £7.50 under 18
Entry fee includes a T-shirt, glow stick, medal,
refreshments and all the information you need to
successfully complete the Moonlit Walk.
Registration is now open via our website
www.fowh.org.uk or you can give us a call on
01634 831163 to request your entry form.

SUMMER FAYRE
Deanwood Primary School
Friday, 21st June, 3.15pm - 6.00pm
Adults 50p, Children 30p, Pre-School Free
Something for all the family with many stalls
including Tombolas, games, craft, raffle, books,
gifts, home made cakes, a bouncy castle and more.
Refreshments available including pizza, hot dogs,
chips, ice creams and hot and cold drinks.
Why not start your weekend with a visit!

Verdi's REQUIEM
Saturday June 22nd at 7.30pm
Mote Hall, Maidstone Leisure Centre, ME15 7RN
Maidstone Choral Union with members of
Faversham Choral Society
conducted by Martin Hindmarsh
Tickets £7-£16 (children and students half-price)
from Maidstone Museum, St Faith's Street, 01622
602169, Maidstone Leisure Centre 0845 155 2277
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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR MAY

In May I visited the National Nature Reserve at Northwood Hill, near High Halstow on the Hoo Peninsula, which is owned by the RSPB. I assembled with other visitors at Bromhey Farm, the local HQ of the Society, just off the minor road from High Halstow to Cooling. Under the leadership of the warden, we were to visit the viewing area for the nesting site of the grey herons, little egrets and rooks in the late afternoon and, in the evening, areas where we were hoping to hear nightingales singing. At Least 20 pairs of the latter breed on the reserve.

We set off through an area of mixed scrub and grassland. Almost immediately we heard the characteristic, soft "purring" calls of a turtle dove. The bird's song, like that of the yellow hammer, is reminiscent of hot days in the English countryside. Bare and exposed branches are much favoured by male turtle doves for perching but this particular bird was out of sight of all of us. Its nest, if there was to be one, would be a flimsy structure of fine sticks in one of the hawthorn bushes from which the calls were emanating.

We proceeded around the edge of Northwood Hill, where it borders Cooling Marshes, until we arrived at the viewing point. Some 100 pairs of grey herons, 250 -300 pairs of rooks and about 50 pairs of little egrets nest in the oak trees in the wood. The herons have had a colony there for about a hundred years, having bred previously at Cobham. The rooks originally nested in the wood's elm trees but, since the ravages of Dutch elm disease in the 1970s, moved into the oaks as neighbours of the herons. The little egrets have arrived at Northwood Hill only relatively recently and, due to a shortage of sites in the oaks, also nest in the hawthorn and other low growing trees and bushes. The nesting site of the three species is the woodland equivalent of the noisy, sea cliff colonies of nesting gannets, guillemots and razorbills.

By the time of our visit in May, leaf cover prevented us from seeing all but a few nests on the edge of the wood. Even so, there was much to see and hear. We watched parent herons bringing food for their young

from the dykes of the marshes. This doubtless included fish, eels, amphibians, small mammals and small water birds. We could hear the constant "ekk ekk" calls of begging youngsters which rose to a crescendo when food arrived. The parents themselves were quite noisy; they indulged in croaking, rasping and bill clattering whilst at the nest.

The spectacle and symbolism of a rookery is as closely tied to our sense of spring as the sight of snowdrops, hazel catkins or new born lambs. The cacophony of a rookery is matched by the colony's atmosphere of commotion. Rooks perform spectacular communal movements with towering spiral flights above the rookery, which are known as "crows" weddings. As the rooks at Northwood Hill rose into the air and circled around, their feathers reflected the sun's rays as if they were mirrors.

In due course, we retraced our steps along the edge of the wood and entered it at a point well away from the heronry and rookery so as not to disturb the breeding birds. We came across many spring flowers, including bluebell, early purple orchid, red campion, common dog violet and yellow archangel. Birds such as song thrush, chiff chaff, blackcap and lesser whitethroat were in song. The warden pointed out a number of boxes which were intended to attract any dormice that may be in the wood. However, only wood mice, bumble bees, blue tits and great tits had been found to use them. He explained that Northwood Hill was quite isolated, being connected to other woods only in a south westerly direction and the wood was surrounded by marsh land and river estuaries in the other directions. This makes it unlikely that mammals such as dormice would find their way to the wood. To my surprise, he added that even fairly common woodland birds such as nightjar, nuthatch, tree creeper and woodcock are either absent or rare, as breeding species, on the reserve.

We eventually arrived at a ride in the wood lined with hawthorn scrub and we were asked by the warden to stop talking. We were fortunate to hear two nightingales singing on the edge of the ride that evening but we saw neither of them. Whereas a song thrush may be readily seen singing from a tree top or a blackbird from its perch on a TV aerial, the

nightingale sings from deep within cover. The male's song has been described as "outstandingly rich in volume and range of notes" and "loud and musical with repeated notes and pauses". The nightingale's virtuoso performance is perhaps best heard in the stillness of a warm evening in early May when the competition from among the males to attract females arriving from Africa is at its height. We were very lucky with both the weather and the bird song during our visit and we went home a group of very happy bunnies.

Joe Ennis

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JUNE FAIR

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UPCHURCH FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

For the 2013 Festival, we have changed the format from a whole week of concerts to one concert each Saturday from the middle of June to the middle of July. All concerts will be held in St Mary's Church, Upchurch (by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Alan Amos and the PCC). There will be the usual jazz concert in Upchurch Village Hall. The programme of concerts is as follows:-

Saturday 22nd June - The Brook Orchestra
Saturday 29th June - OPUS 32
Fri 5th July - Bert Butlers Jazz Pilgrims (Village Hall)
Saturday 6th July - Upchurch Choral Society
Saturday 13th July - The Afternoon Tea Group - New to the Upchurch Festival. A group of highly talented performers offering a wide variety of classical and popular music. All concerts begin at 8.00pm.
Ticket Prices are - Single concert in church £5.00
Season Ticket (all concerts except Jazz - £10.00 (The bargain of the Festival!) Jazz Concert £10.00. Tickets available from 01634 361508, 361557 or 374220

BABY MASSAGE COURSE

June 24th, 1st & 8th July 10.00 - 11.00am
St Paul's Church, Parkwood, £3 for entire course.
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LATE SPRING SHOW

Upchurch Horticultural Society,
Upchurch Village Hall
Saturday July 6th doors open at 2.00pm presentation at 3.30pm, Full details from Steve 01634 373723.

LOWER HALSTOW FETE

Saturday 13th July from 12noon to 4.00pm
A Special date for your diary - St. Margaret's Church of Lower Halstow will be holding a fetein the Vicarage Garden, Vicarage Lane, or if it's raining in the Village Hall, School Lane.
There will be a Hog Loin Roast and BBQ, Flower Arranging and Vegetable Competitions, Potted Plants for Sale, Children's Fancy Dress Competition, Tea's and Home Made Cakes, Cake Raffle, Coconut Shy, Live Music By Jef Pedley (he played in the 1960's group of Screaming Lord Sutch) and Keith Howard (he used to be the lead singer of the 1960's group called The Honey Combs), a beer tent and of course, many more attractions. Schedules for the Flower and Vegetable competitions from Kay on 01795 844408

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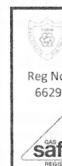
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- June 21st - Wander with Wisdom, 10km sponsored
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Ground through Rochester, raise £50 Entry £15 adults,
£7.50 under 18, see www.fowh.org.uk 01634 831163
- June 21st - Charity Barn Dance, Dobbies Garden World
Gillingham, 7.00pm, for HANDS & Gillingham
Volunteer Centre, £8 pp, Light supper included, bring
your own drinks, 01634 815430 or 07816 159668
- June 21st - Jazz Gig, Anchorian's Rugby Club, Darland
Avenue, Gillingham. 8.30pm, Alan Barnes/Mark
Nightingale Quintet. Admission £10, 01634 365352
- June 22nd - June Fair, Fairview Community Primary
School, Drewery Drive, 1.30pm, 50p, 30p children
(pre-school free), Further details 01634 302961
- June 22nd - RAMASES, An illustrated talk by Geoffrey
Martin 'The Re-Excavation of the Royal Tomb of King
Horemheb in the Valley of the Kings', Newington
Village Hall, 2.30pm, Members £6.00, Guests £8.00,
Tickets at the door. Contact ramasesnk@hotmail.com
or John Dewey 01795 472316 for more information
- June 22nd - Upchurch Festival of Music, St Mary's
Church, 8.00pm, The Brook Orchestra, Tickets £5.00
from 01634 361508, 01634 361557 or 01634 374220
- June 22nd - Verdi's Requiem, Maidstone Choral Union
with members of Faversham Choral Society, Mote Hall,
Maidstone Leisure Centre, 7.30pm, Tickets £7 - £16
(children and students half-price) from 01622 726193
- June 22nd - Medway Folk Dance Club, (see 8th June).
- June 22nd & 23rd - Wigmore Open Gardens Weekend. 12
gardens open various times. Plants for sale, lunches and
refreshments. Admission £1 or all gardens, both days,
£6. See Church notice board, Programmes at gardens
see www.stmattswigmore.org.uk or 01634 387328.
- June 23rd - Upchurch Farmers Market, Village Hall, 10am
- 1.00pm, variety of stalls, refreshments, free parking.
- June 23rd - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Allan Buchan
10.00am for 5 mile walk at Wouldham Recreation
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- June 23rd - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am,
meet Anne Bond and Pat Wells 07778 302866 or 07804
837155, at Leeds Church park at far end of car park,
for a 5.5 mile mainly flat walk 6 stiles, no dogs.
- June 24th, 1st & 8th July - Baby Massage Course, St
Paul's Church, Parkwood, 10.00 - 11.00am, £3 for
entire course. To enrol contact Elaine Wheeler 01634
379360 or e-mail babymassage@the139club.co.uk
- June 24th - Parkwood Leisure Club, AGM, (see 3rd June).
- June 24th - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 10th June).
- June 24th - Rainham Wives, Slides presented by Mr Coe,
(see 3rd June).
- June 26th - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Mike Patrick,
for 9.27am bus at Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre,
8 mile Linear walk, Do not forget your Bus Pass
- June 27th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Service followed by
Estate Planning, UK Legal, (see 6th June).
- June 27th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Talk "Cats
Protection League" (see 6th June)
- June 27th - GHS, Star Meadow Sports Club, Darland
Avenue, Gill, 7.30pm, The value of bees to the
environment Talk by local apiarist John Goffin, details
www.gillinghamhs.org.uk, email@gillinghamhs.org.uk
- June 27th - Rainham & District Dolls' House and
Miniaturist Group, Howard Memorial Hall, Woodside,
7.30pm, ring Sylvia Wildridge 01634 312038
- June 28th - Indoor Boot Fair, Upchurch Village Hall, 9.00
- 11.00am, Tables (Provided) £5, Refreshments
available To book call Lisa 01795 428006, Door Entry
20p collected for Kent Air Ambulance
- June 29th - Upchurch Festival of Music, OPUS 32, (see
22nd June).
- June 30th - Medway Ramblers Walk meet Mandy
Ellwood 077582 32871, 10.00am for 8 mile walk at
Penenden Heath car park, Maidstone. Bring a picnic
lunch. Pub at end.
- June 30th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am,
meet John Williams 01622 764821 079777 614033, at
Buckhurst No 2 car park, Sevenoaks, for a 5.5 mile
parkland walk around Knole House, dogs allowed.
- July 1st - Parkwood Leisure Club, Strawberry Tea (music
by Keith Pilbrow), (see 3rd June).

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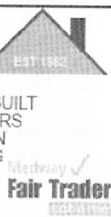
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Diary 2013

July 1st - Monday Hub, (see 3rd June).

July 1st - Rainham Wives, 'Brought Up in Barbados' talk
by Madeline. (see 3rd June).

July 1st - Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group, (3rd)
July 2nd - Dementia Café, (see 4th June).

July 2nd - GHS Floral Art Group, Parallel arrangements /
techniques, Workshop with Carol (see 4th June).

July 2nd - Rainham Horticultural Society, Talk Preparing
for a Show - Home Economics & Flower Arranging -
Margaret Clift, (see 4th June).

July 4th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Tea & chat, (see 6th).

July 5th - Upchurch Festival of Music, Village Hall,
8.00pm, Bert Butlers Jazz Pilgrims Tickets £10.00 from
01634 361508, 01634 361557 or 01634 374220

July 6th - Upchurch Horticultural Society, Late Spring
Show, Village Hall, 2.00pm, presentation 3.30pm, full
details from Steve 01634 373723.

July 6th - Upchurch Festival of Music, Upchurch Choral
Society, (see 22nd June).

July 6th - Jumble Sale, St Augustine's Shaw Memorial
Hall, Rock Avenue Gillingham, 2.00pm, Entry 20p

July 7th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am,
meet Kevin Nicholas 07515 330276, at Hythe Imperial
Hotel, Marine Promenade, for a 5.5 mile, a couple of
slopes and several stiles, dogs allowed.

July 7th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Karl Martin,
10.00am for 6 mile walk, Whiffen's Avenue Car Park
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July 8th - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 10th June).

July 8th - Parkwood Leisure Club, Bingo, (see 3rd June).

July 8th - Rainham Wives 'Phrases & Sayings' talk by
Paul Warren, plus update on FROGS, (see 3rd June).

July 8th - Medway Organ Club Concert, (see 10th June).

July 9th - Medway Antique and Collectors' Club, The
History of Amber, (see 11th June).

July 10th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Graham
Jenkinson 07989 753278, 9.40am for 10 mile Bus Pass
Walk, Wateringbury public car park, ME18 5DD, off
Bow Road near the traffic lights to catch the 9.48 bus to
Tonbridge. Bring picnic lunch. Possible pub stop
midway. Pub at end. Do not forget your Bus Pass

July 10th - Medway Evacuees Club, 2.00pm Millennium
Centre, Rainham A talk by Gillian Ellen on the
Medway Queen, all welcome £1.50 pp, 01634 372189

July 10th - Rainham Flower Club, (see 12th June).

July 10th - Bredhurst WI, Christopher Payne - Osteopath,
Managing Aches & pains, (see 12th June).

July 11th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Talk "Medway
Libraries" (see 6th June).

July 11th - Donn Barcott's Five 5 Live, (see 13th June).

July 13th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, walking the
North Downs Way (section 4) with Stephen Manning
07598 330622, 9.25 miles from Wray Lane car park
Reigate RH2 9RP, ring for more information.

July 13th - St. Margaret's Church of Lower Halstow,
Fete, Vicarage Garden, (if wet Village Hall) 12noon -
4.00pm. More details from Kay 01795 844408

July 13th - Upchurch Festival of Music, The Afternoon
Tea Group, (see 22nd June).



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