

ACTION FORUM

NOVEMBER 2015
NUMBER 515

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ■



Coaches lined up in Rainham High Street (opposite Lloyds Bank) in the 1950s probably for an organised outing to the seaside as described in the letter from Margaret Jordan with her memories of Rainham Methodist Church. As few families owned a car at that time most Sunday Schools, Churches, Public Houses, clubs and many individual streets organised outings during the summer months. Some parties travelled by train but others hired fleets of either Pilchers or Maidstone & District coaches to accommodate the many who joined the excursions. The weather was in the lap of the gods! I can remember some glorious days when we all returned sunburnt (sun cream was almost unknown then) but also outings when it rained continuously and we spent all day in a church hall, prudently booked in advance by the organisers for just such an emergency, with not even a glimpse of the sea! Nevertheless these outings were always well supported occasions and provided a real holiday atmosphere otherwise unknown to many.

lorna elizabeth
PHOTOGRAPHY

Beautiful and elegant wedding photography with a contemporary aesthetic...

www.lorna-elizabeth.co.uk

07528 040036 info@lorna-elizabeth.co.uk

RECOMMENDED PHOTOGRAPHER AT PRESTIGIOUS LONDON & KENT VENUES



Next Issue December 5th 2015
 Copy Date: Nov 24th Ads Nov 27th
 Editorial: Barbara Mackay Miller
 Advertising: Hamish Mackay Miller
 Action Forum Office
 21 Station Rd, Rainham ME8 7RS
 (above Sunburst Books)
 Telephone: 01634 310011
 Email: af@thenet.uk.net

Editorial

What a glorious display of autumn colours we have experienced this year. When the sun shines on our golden trees they certainly rival the calendar picture of the Canadian Fall that I have hanging in front of me. Apparently this is the best year for brilliant colours since 2003 and of course all due to a particular sequence of weather patterns. Even now as we have warm, sunny days with a distinct absence of wild, windy, wet weather the leaves are falling slowly and our enjoyment can last much longer than is often the case. Of course the finale is ultimately the same as any year we still have piles of dead, brown leaves to clear away. Without the wind they are generously scattered over a wide area, not conveniently piled in drifts against a wall or even better blown right away! Some considerable output of effort is required to clear driveways and paths. Unfortunately if leaves are not cleared they can become a significant hazard as they decompose and rot making paths almost as dangerous as in icy conditions. The council does clear footpaths and gutters in the worst affected roads but it is up to us all to keep our own property safe. If you look at it as an exercise regime think how virtuous you will feel having completed your thirty minutes workout that we are all supposed to undertake daily. For years it has seemed that shops are out of sync with the rest of the world. By the end of June we have vast displays of 'back to school' uniform and stationery, during lovely summer weather the new look autumn and winter ranges crowd out things we might actually want like t shirts and shorts, then with snow and ice all around gone are the warm winter coats to be replaced with beach wear. But there seemed to be an unwritten rule that we were allowed Halloween and Bonfire Night before the great Christmas bonanza pervaded the shopping aisles. Not this year, Christmas trees decorated M&S and shelves of Christmas puddings, cakes, gifts and decorations were in all the major retailers by the beginning of October. Surely we don't need three months to prepare for one day – it gives me an uneasy feeling that I am missing something somewhere. Perhaps it is just best to ignore all the hype and concentrate on the month in hand so do browse through our pages and see what is going on locally, you may find a new hobby that interests you or a social group to join but I am afraid you will not be

able to avoid December 25th as every school, church and group advertises a Christmas Sale. Have a good month and we will be with you again in December.

Correspondence

M2 SERVICES

Dear Editor

The cover of October Action Forum reminded me of a day out my Father arranged when I was a child. We could either go to the new Swimming Pool at Grays in Essex or to the M2 Services. We chose the latter. We lived in Westcliff, Essex and the motorway was a great thrill for my sister and me, as you said, a day out in itself. Little did I know that I would one day live within walking distance.

Yours sincerely
 Ann Critchley
 30 High Street. Rainham

MATTS HILL ROAD

Dear Editor

Without very much to go on at present, I am searching for a Rainham/Gillingham man who owned land or a farm close to Farthing Corner Services on the M2, perhaps along Matts Hill Road. He was a pilot with the RAF and perhaps based at RAF Hawkinge near Folkestone. After WW2 he married a German lady and settled locally, later they had a daughter. He also became great friends with a German pilot he shot down near Folkestone. The German pilot became a PoW in Scotland but returned to the Rainham area after his release. I would be very grateful if anyone has any information about this man.

Please contact me via email:
 mikegunnill@mac.com or telephone 01634 373572

Thank you very much
 Mike Gunnill

RAINHAM METHODIST CHURCH CLOSURE

Dear Editor,

I was really sad to read that Rainham Methodist Church closed at the end of August. I have such fond memories of my time at Sunday School held there during the 1940s and 50s. In fact I still have my yellow Sunday School Star Register card which was stamped with a red star at every attendance (what strange items we hang on to for decades). The names on the front of the card are: A Mattocks, A Seymour, Uncle Bill and R Woolley as superintendents.

The Sunday School was held in the hall at the back of the church. We sang hymns from a large hymn sheet displayed at the front. I seem to remember Miss Roots from the corner shop opposite the church playing the piano. To this day I remember the words of many hymns sung on those Sundays. We would then have a story read to us. These stories always ended with a timely biblical message of course. In those days parents were too busy to take time to read to their children so I loved these precious moments. A lady called Iris was my favourite story teller, such a

wonderful voice and smile.

Another memory of the church and its role in the community is the summer outings to the seaside. A summer date was chosen and the venue, Margate, Ramsgate or Broadstairs. Each week we paid money towards the event. I can still remember the excitement on the day to see at least 10 coaches parked in Station Road. Each had a large number on the front and your ticket stated which coach you were allotted to. This at a time when few people had cars was a wonderful opportunity for families to have a day at the seaside. I'm convinced the sun always shone on these occasions! The coaches always stopped at the Halfway House approaching Thanet for a comfort stop during the journey.

On one trip I vividly remember getting 'lost' on the beach. I had rushed down to the sea while the grown ups were getting settled in their deckchairs, all fully dressed with only their faces exposed to the sun. When I decided to go back to them – shock horror – hundreds of people faced me and I had no idea where my mum was. I was soon reduced to panic and tears. Someone took me to the 'Lost Children Hut' on the prom and an announcement was blared out over the beach for someone to collect me. Mr Mattocks from the church was first on the scene to lay claim to me, closely followed by my mum. What a fright I had. I feel sad that I could not attend the 'Open House' event at the church in June. I am sure there were other folk with memories similar to mine. Nothing stays the same. There is always another end of an era. But no one can take away the good memories lovingly stored – treasure them.

Yours sincerely
 Margaret Jordan (nee Gillman
 'Allura', 24 Fairwood Road
 Verwood, Dorset BH31 6UA
 01202 825412

4th GILLINGHAM (RAINHAM) SEA SCOUTS

Dear Editor,

The 4th Gillingham (Rainham) Sea Scouts will be celebrating our Centenary Birthday in 2016. We are hoping that the local community can assist us with memories, old photos and memorabilia of their time at the Troop. We hope to share this with our current Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Young Leaders, and have a display at our forthcoming open day (in 2016 - date will be announced in AF). Past leaders,

and troop members will be very welcome to come and share their experiences and skills with today's current young people. Over the years the troop has been known by a number of names, 1st Rainham Boy Scout Troop from 1916, then 20th Medway (Rainham) Troop from 1943/4. In 1952 it changed to 20th Medway East (Rainham) Boy Scout Troop before becoming 4th Gillingham (Rainham) Sea Scout Group in 1959/60. If anyone has any memories/ Photos/ memorabilia that they would like to share please contact the Scout Leader- Dave Perkins gsl.4thgillingham@gmail.com or write to St George's Hall Scout Headquarters, Berengrave Lane, Rainham, Kent. ME8 7NA Thank You - we look forward to hearing from past members.

Zoe Reeves
 Assistant Cub Scout Leader

5th RAINHAM NORTH GUIDES

Dear Editor

5th Rainham North Guides will be celebrating their 40th Birthday on the 12th February 2016. Started in February 1976 by Mrs Vivien Blake we used to meet in Meredale Infant School in Solomon Road, Rainham until its closure in 2003. From here we moved to Riverside Primary School (formerly Wakeley Junior School) and have always met on Wednesday evening. As part of our celebrations we would love to hear from as many past members and leaders as possible – sharing their memories and photos with the current girls and to join us for a celebratory party on Wednesday 10th February from 7.00 to 8.30pm at Riverside Primary School, Wakeley Road, Rainham. If you have any memories to share, and/or would like to come to the party please contact Mrs Paula Sharp (previously Fullagar) at paulajsharp1@gmail.com

Kind Regards
 Paula Sharp

Unit Leader 5th Rainham North Guides.

Beregrave Service Station

FREE COLLECTION SERVICE WITHIN A 5 MILE RADIUS

MOTS	SERVICING	DIAGNOSTICS
TYRES	REPAIRS	AIR-CON

Lower Rainham Rd, Rainham, ME8 7TY www.beregraveservicestation.com Call 01634 233619

SALMON WINDOWS

Installers of Quality Products for 30 years

Conservatories designed and built - Upgrades to existing roofs

Energy efficient 'A' rated uPVC windows & doors

Misted units replaced

Family run independent company

For advice and a very competitive quote call

01634 363881 or 07973 860369

www.salmonwindows.co.uk

Home Help Service

<p>At Home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housework • Respite sitting • Well-being visits • Gardening/ Handyman 	<p>Out & About</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visiting the shops • Support to appointments • Companionship for outings
--	--

Take Care
 Caring For Your Independence

Please call us on:
01634 316821
 www.takecareltd.co.uk

You sent the very person I needed, Carol, she could have been family

Assistants CRB checked, insured & referenced.

Diary 2015

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 8PP

Diary Copy Date: November 24th

November 6th & 7th - Oast House Theatre Celebrating
VE Day Curtain up 8.00pm. Box Office 08448 793224
November 7th - Pamper Day, Breast Cancer Support
Group Medway Maritime Hospital, 01634 825033
November 7th - Winter Wonderland, St Matthew's
Church, 11.00am - 2.00pm, 50p - Children free
November 7th - Glen Powell "The Singing Cabbie",
Rainham Social Club, 8.00pm, All Welcome, free entry
November 7th - Barnardo's Quiz Night, 7.30pm, Twydall
Church Hall, Tickets £5 each, Tables of 6 - 8, Book in
advance, Details 01634 233405 or 01634 375486
November 8th - Volunteer Task Day, Capstone Farm
Country Park, 10.00am - 2.00pm, Get involved at the
Country Park, 01634 338191
November 8th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
Heather 07887 750881, Lullingstone Park Visitor
Centre car park. Pay and display approx £2.50. Toilets
available. TQ526638 DA4 0JF 6.5 mile leisurely
circular walk Bring picnic for midway break.
November 8th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am Meet Steve Giddins 07720 628511 Eynsford
car park behind Plough Inn GR 539656 DA4 0AE 5.5
mile moderate walk, fairly flat, 2 stiles No dogs
November 9th - Monday Hub, St Paul's Church,
Parkwood, ME8 9PN, 10.00am - 12.30pm all welcome
November 9th - Medway Scrabble Club, St Stephens
Church Hall, Maidstone Road, Chatham, alternate
Mondays 2.00 - 4.30pm, new members welcome,
details 01634 230500
November 9th - St. A's Parent Support Group. (ADHD)
7.00 - 9.00pm, St Augustine's Church Room, Rock
Avenue. 'Managing Anti Social Behaviour' £1 Parents:
£2 Others, Parking Chatham Girls Grammar School,
details 01634 851312 lesley.lacock@btopenworld.com
November 9th - Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group,
Millennium Centre, Rainham, 2nd Monday evening
each month for people still in employment who have
lost a loved one, ring Julie 01634 364309 for details
November 9th - Reiki Kyokai Led by Robert Jefford, 8.00
- 10.00pm, Ramada Encore Chatham Historic

Dockyard, £12 pp open to All. Booking Essential. For
details and book email kentreikishares@gmail.com
November 9th - Medway Organ & Keyboard Club
Concert, Parkwood Community Centre, Rainham, 7.30
- 10.00pm, Organist - Nicolas Martin, details ring
Brian Leonard 01634 234694
November 10th - Every Tuesday 7.30 - 9.00pm and
Wednesday 10.00 - 11.30am Reiki, Spiritual and
Crystal Healing, given freely but donations welcomed.
The Centre, M2 Services (London bound side, next to
Travelodge) ME8 8PQ, 07788 791677
November 10th - Gillingham and District Fuchsia and
Pelargonium Society, Rainham School for Girls,
Derwent Way, 7.30pm, 'Victorian Seaside' - Mr
Bundock, for details ring 01634 852519
November 10th - Friends of Medway Archives, 7.30pm,
Frindsbury Parish Hall, Church Green, ME2 4HY talk
by Linda Parker 'Army Chaplains in 1st World War.'
Tickets £5 (£3 members) includes light refreshments.
November 10th - Medway Antique & Collectors' Club,
St George Hotel, New Road, Chatham, 8.00pm, History
of the Royal Variety Performers (with films) Dean
Caston All visitors are made most welcome. Enquiries
medwayantiquespublicity1@virginmedia.com
November 11th - Bredhurst WI, 7.30pm Village Hall,
Mrs Moira Spearman - Life of a Magistrate, visitors
welcome. For details ring 01634 389966
November 11th - Rainham Flower Club, Upchurch
Village Hall, 7.30pm, In-house Dem & Dine
'Reflections', Ticket only for details ring 01634 864572
or see www.rainhamflowerclub.co.uk
November 11th - All Saints Women's Fellowship,
Hempstead Village Hall, 8.00pm, Boots No 7
demonstration/make-over: Emily and Angela, for
details contact Rhonda Peck 07951 629444
November 12th - Wigmore Thursday Club, St Matthew's
Community Centre, 2.00pm, Romania Part 2, Phil
Shorthouse, for over 50s ring 01634 234712 for details.

Happy Hounds
Dog Grooming Services
15 years experience - Individual Appointments
Clipping, Bathing, Nails & Ears
Handled with Care, Patience & Kindness
01634 234995 or 07776 150980
6 Childcroft Road, Rainham, Kent

November 12th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Whist, board
games, tea and chat and fund raising for Barnardo's.
Village Hall behind the Church 2.00 - 4.00pm, New
members always welcome, 01634 366907
November 12th - Chatham Historical Society, Lampard
Centre, Sally Port, Brompton ME7 5BU 7.15pm.
'Military Road before the Pentagon' by local historian
Brian Joyce. Visitors welcome. For details phone 01634
372823 or see www.chathamhistoricalsoc.btck.co.uk
November 12th - Donn Barcott's 'Five 5 Live', 44Two
Sports and Social Club, 8.30pm featuring Elaine Dyan
and Andrew Hawkes Magician, Admission £6 all
welcome, Details 01634 405037
November 13th - 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 01634 364309
November 13th - Hempstead Whist Afternoons, 1.30pm.
The Scout Hut, Dukes Meadow Drive, Hempstead.
Whist Players all abilities welcome. Partner not
required, details please call Eunice on 01634 231664
November 13th - UpARA Upchurch Active Retirement
Association Monthly Meeting, Upchurch Village Hall,
2.00pm, Members Free, Guests £2, New Members
Welcome. For details email Chairman David Powell
davidpowell5@hotmail.co.uk
November 13th - Gillingham and Rainham Local History
Society, 7.15pm, Byron Road School, Edith Cavell -
Meranie Gibson Barton, details 01634 854982
November 13th - Autumn Drop In, Wigmore Community
and Residents Association, Wigmore Library, 7.30pm.
Discuss local issues affecting our community with ward
councillors and other guest.
November 14th - Annual Craft Fair, Rainham Evening
WI, 10.00am - 12noon, Millennium Hall, Rainham.
Entry free, refreshments available.
November 14th - Barnardo's Coffee Morning, 10.00am -
12 noon, Macklands House, Station Road, Rainham.
Come for a fun morning and bring your friends. Coffee/
Tea and cake £1, Cards Tombola + more.
November 14th - Christmas Fayre, St. Mary Magdalene
Church, Gillingham Green 11.00am - 2.00pm Stalls
refreshments home made cakes and Father Christmas
November 14th - A Concert with Lucinda Drayton, the
voice of a 100,000 Angels, 7.30 - 10.30pm Ticket
only. The Centre, M2 Services (London bound side,
next to Travelodge) ME8 8PQ, 07788 791677

November 14th - Charity Paranormal Investigation. Fort
Amherst, Dock Road, Chatham, medium, Richard
Ware. 8pm ends 3am approx. Tickets £35 per person
Over 18's only Book on line at www.fortamherst.com
November 14th - Medway Folk Dance Club, United
Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham
7.30 - 10.00pm, new and experienced dancers
welcome, with or without a partner, for more
information ring 366189 or 388546
November 14th - Instep Dancing, social dances, Rainham
School for Girls, Derwent Way, ME8 0BX, Ballroom,
Latin, Sequence, 8.00 - 11.00pm enquiries 01634
363738 or email s.collins02@btinternet.com
November 15th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am Meet Lindsay Floyd 07743 702049 Otford
Railway Station car park (Free) GR533593 For a 5.5
mile easy linear walk from Otford to Eynsford, return
by train (£2.80). Good footpath mainly flat with 2 stiles.
Two tea and toilet stops, No dogs
November 15th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
Margaret maglou1@yahoo.co.uk 01795 843927,
Eastling Village Hall, Kettle Hill Road, fee 50p per
person TQ964564 ME13 0BA 9 mile moderate circular
walk over fields, woods and country lanes Moderate
pace, some hills. Bring picnic lunch, Pub at end.
November 16th - Wigmore WI, Mrs Beaton's Christmas
by Toni Mount, St. Matthew's Community Centre,
Drewery Drive, 7.30pm. Anyone interested ring Sue
McGrath 01634 365369 or Mags Beard 01634 234000
November 17th - The RSPB Medway Local Group Talk,
Parkwood Community Centre, Gillingham, 7.30 - 9.45
pm £3.50. British Dragonflies - John and Gill Brook.
For Walks see: www.rspb.org.uk/groups/medway.
November 17th - Rainbow Whist Drive, Bredhurst
Village Hall Hurstwood Road, 7.30pm A partner is not
needed, all whist players welcome, 01634 610364
November 17th - GHS Floral Art Group, United
Reformed Church Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.30pm,
Double-ended funeral tray arrangement or Christmas
table arrangement, New members welcome, first visit
free, no experience needed For details contact Kaye
Buss 01634 232998 or email kayebuss@btinternet.com
November 18th - Christmas Bazaar R.V.S. Darby & Joan
Club Upchurch, 10.00am - 12noon, Upchurch Village
Hall, Various Stalls, Refreshments, Raffles and Craft,
All Welcome (no rented tables) Ring 01634 268476

Continued on Page 11

P. Gillard
Interior & Exterior
Decorator
Plastering # Tiling
Established 30 years
NO JOB TOO SMALL
FREE ESTIMATES
Tel: (01634) 320846
Mobile: 07834 851 004

A.C. Domestic
reg. 206985
Gas safety checks
Landlord certificates.
Service, repair and
installation of gas central
heating, boilers, fires, gas and
electric cookers.
01622 730960 / 07799887754

A1 Roofing Services
• TILED ROOFING
• FLAT ROOFING
• LEAD FLASHING
• PVC FASCIA / SOFITS
• FULL REPAIR SERVICE
For a prompt reliable service
01634 710539
07884 180595
enquiries@a1-roofing-services.co.uk

AERIALS
• TV Aerials / Freesat
Systems Installed
• Extra TV / SKY Points
• TV Wall Mounting
• TV & Appliances Set
Up
Call Nick 07949 588464
or 01634 262582
AP SERVICES RAINHAM

**Medway Bathrooms
& Wetrooms**
Design and Install
35 Years Experience
Fully Insured
Friendly service
Free quote
01634 387075 or 077383 66444
www.medway-bathrooms.co.uk

Whiskers Lodge Cattery
Willis Cottages, Dunn Street,
Bredhurst, ME7 3NA
Sited in a quiet rural location in an area
of outstanding natural beauty, boarding is
for cats only.
A completely new cattery, fully compliant
with all new legislation. FAB accredited care
provided.
Viewings welcomed by appointment.
Contact: Nichola
Telephone: 01634 235032
Email: info@whiskerslodge.com
Web: www.whiskerslodge.com

J | A | D *CHARTERED IN COMMON SENSE*
ESTABLISHED OVER 30 YEARS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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

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

Salter-Mclean & Co
Accountants and Tax Consultants
 Established over 30 years we offer an efficient and personal service to all types of business as well as assistance with personal tax problems and returns

For a free initial consultation telephone
01634 361366
 Cranford House 24a Longley Road, Rainham ME8 7RU
www.salter-mclean.co.uk

Want to REDUCE STRESS & ANXIETY?
Like to IMPROVE YOUR CONFIDENCE?
Need help to QUIT A HABIT OR PHOBIA?
 Eden Guidance is **here for you!**
 Hypnotherapy & relaxation techniques in Medway
 Mobile service also available
07944 252337
eve@edenguidance.com **www.edenguidance.com**

GREG BRYANT 
CONSTRUCTION LTD
REGISTERED HOUSE BUILDERS
EXTENSIONS
AI 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**

Beauty Room
 Wigmore—Est 15 years
 Non surgical face lifting — Facials — Waxing
 Electrolysis— Body Treatments Reflexology — Bridal
 New Generation Manicure & Pedicure Massage
 Make up — Lash & Brow Tinting — LVL lashes
 Lash Extensions — Monthly Special Offers
 Telephone Sally on **01634 375999** or **07957 242 268**

Boiler - tech
HEATING & PLUMBING
 Boiler Servicing & Repair - Cylinders - Power Flushing
 Bathrooms - Landlords Certificates
 Cookers/Repairs & Gas Fires
Tel: 01634 230468 Mobile: 07770 784877
boilertechservices@btinternet.com
All work guaranteed, Genuine OAP Discounts 

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 & Reliable
 -Theatre trips - seaports
Tel 01634 268567 Mob 07904955375

 **S H AUTO'S**
BODY REPAIRS
 Mob: 07738 660329
 Mob: 07960 715018
 Email: s.hautos@outlook.com
 Unit 1, Oast Park, Spade Lane, Hartlip, Rainham, Kent. ME9 7TT

Bodywork • Welding • Tyres • MOTs
Free Estimates • Insurance Work

AUTUMN DROP IN
 Wigmore Community and Residents Association
 Wigmore Library Friday 13th November, 7.30pm
 Informally discuss local issues affecting our
 community with ward councillors and other guest.

BARNARDO'S COFFEE MORNING
 Saturday 14th November, 10.00am - 12 noon
 Macklands House, Station Road, Rainham
 Join us for a fun morning and bring your friends.
 Coffee/Tea and cake £1, Cards, Tombola + more

ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR
 Rainham Evening WI - Millennium Hall, Rainham
 Saturday 14th November 10.00am - 12noon
 Entry will be free & refreshments will be available

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
 R.V.S. Darby & Joan Club Upchurch
 Wednesday November 18th, 10.00am - 12noon
 Upchurch Village Hall
 Various Stalls, Refreshments, Raffles and Craft,
 All Welcome (no rented tables)
 Ring 01634 268476 for details

WINTER WONDERLAND MARKET
 Lower Halstow Memorial Hall
 Saturday 21st November, 10.00am - 4.00pm
 supporting The PDSA animals Trust and Dream
 Flights for terminally ill Children.
 Cheeses, Cakes, Toys, Indian Food
 Displays every hour, Closing with The Salvation
 Army's Band playing carols for all to join in

CRAFT MARKET
 Wigmore Smallholders Club
 Saturday 21st November 11.00am - 2.00pm
 Free entry to the public
 Stalls available to book in advance
 Refreshments Tea/coffee cake
 Email: smallholdersclub@btconnect.com
 Or phone: 01634 263408 for more information

 **Neat Feet** 
 Fully qualified & insured visiting Foot Health
 Practitioner
 * Corns & Hard Skin Removed
 * Verruca Treatments
 * Thickened & Fungal Nails
 * Ingrown Toe Nails
 * Diabetic & Routine foot care
 Call Naomi for an appointment on:
01634 322591

COMPLETE ELECTRICAL SERVICES
 Inspections & Testing to Latest Regulations
 Insured and Registered
ALSO ARTEXING—COVING—DECORATING
 No Job too small— free estimates
Neil Mace
19 Gayhurst Close **01634 312633**
Rainham **07792 244 315**

HEMPSTEAD CHRISTMAS FAYRE
 Village Fayre Committee with All Saints' Church
 Village Hall and Church, Hempstead Road
 Saturday 21st November, 11.30am - 3.30pm
 Many Christmas and craft stalls, games children's
 roundabout and crafts, Grand Raffle, Free entry

QUIZ NIGHT In aid of Bredhurst Village Hall
 Saturday, 21st November, 7.30pm start
 £7.50 includes Hot Supper, BYO drink For tables of
 up to 8 contact Pam 01634 230933 or 07920 887606

CHRISTMAS FAYRE Deanwood Primary School
 Friday, 27th November, 3.15 - 5.30pm
 Adults 50p, Children 30p, Pre School - Free
 Have your photograph taken with Father Christmas,
 many stalls & refreshments. For stalls, please contact
 Tracey Kingston at t.kington@btinternet.com

CHRISTMAS IS COMING
 Presented by Upchurch Choral Society
 A concert of festive music and readings
 St Mary's Church, Upchurch
 Saturday 28th November, 7.30pm
 Admission by programme £5 (children free)

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR
 St. Margaret's Church, Lower Halstow
 Saturday 28th November, 1.00pm - 3.00pm.
 Refreshments available.

CHRISTMAS GIFT AND CRAFT FAYRE
 in aid of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital
 Saturday 28th November, 10.00am - 2.00pm
 Parkwood Community Centre, Long Catlis Road,
 Details Paula 01634 373450 or Stacey 07897 007979

ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION AND SALE
 Rainham Ladies' Art Group.
 Sunday 29th November, 10.30am to 3.00pm
 Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore, Entry is free
 Information contact Barbara 01634 235733

Neil's on Wheels
Mobile Caravan & Motorhome Services
 Touring Caravan & Motorhome Habitation Checks
 Internal & External Repairs Undertaken
 Based in Newington - Serving the Southeast
 Fully Insured ACOPS Gas Registered
 C&G LV & ELV Electrical Aide Service Engineer
 Contact Neil on 07917 680814 or 01795 844223
 Or email: neilonwheels2014@hotmail.com
 Find us on Facebook: neilonwheels2014

MASTER ALARMS 
 FAMILY BUSINESS ESTABLISHED OVER 40 YEARS
Alarms - CCTV - Access Control
Locks and Safes
 www.masteralarms.com / mail@masteralarms.com
 Telephone: 01634 379762
 Medway Fair Trader 

Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR OCTOBER

Come ye thankful people, come, / Raise the song of harvest home; All is safely gathered in, / 'Ere the winter storms begin. (H Alford 1810 – 1871)

In early October I attended the Harvest Festival at St Margaret's church. Annual festivals of this kind, generally held in October, date back only to 1843 when the Rev Robert Hawker invited his parishioners to a special thanks giving service at his church at Morwenstow in Cornwall. These days, wheat grown in our area has usually been safely gathered in by the beginning of September. However, there is a stained glass window in St Margaret's church, to the memory of Solomon Brice, (1832 – 1904), which reminds us that harvesting a grain crop was a much more long winded affair before the days of combine harvesters. At the apex of the window is the scene of a grey partridge flying over a field of stooks of corn. By late Victorian times, horse drawn reaper-binders were in use to cut the corn and bind it into sheaves. These were then arranged into stooks to enable the grain to dry. The sheaves were subsequently taken to the stack yard ready for threshing, over the winter months, by a threshing drum powered by a steam traction engine. The sheaves were kept dry in a stack under a thatched "roof". Only then could the harvest be deemed to be safely gathered in.

Solomon Brice, incidentally, was a church warden and local farmer and he would have taken a sheaf of his own corn in procession into church on Harvest Festivals. No corn is now grown within the one-time, ancient boundary of St Margaret's parish. Wheat was, until recently, grown in two fields at Mierscourt Farm but they are now covered in serried rows of dwarf apple trees. In effect, along with the replanting of the orchards between the railway line and the Lower Rainham Road, there has been a renaissance of fruit growing within the parish. Bearing in mind, therefore, that apples are now the main crop in the parish, the date of October for our Harvest Festival is just about right.

It was not until the threshing machine had been well refined that weed seeds could be effectively sorted

from the grain. Consequently, for hundreds of years, corn fields were a riot of colourful flowers. These would have included the yellow charlock and corn marigold; the scarlet common poppy; the red - purple corn cockle and the blue cornflower. The seeds of these flowers discoloured the flour and gave it a bad taste. Furthermore, some were poisonous. So, nostalgic that some of us might be for these flowers, we can see why the farmer and miller were anxious to get rid of them. It was not, however, until the use of herbicides that corn fields were finally rid of weeds. The downside is that many of our once common, wild, arable flowers are now among the country's rarest. In the days of my own childhood, when the reaper-binder was still in use, the cutting of the corn was an exciting time. As the area of uncut corn reduced in size, hares, rabbits, grey partridges and the odd fox would make their escape. The bare earth between the rows of corn in today's fields holds no interest for these creatures. Corn fields do, however, continue to attract two species of birds, namely the wood pigeon and the house sparrow, as I discovered when I watched the wheat being cut, earlier in the year, in August, in fields at Lidsing and Bredhurst. I came across two flocks of house sparrow where human habitation adjoins those fields, near the Harrow Public House at Lidsing and near farm buildings in Kemsley Street, Bredhurst. The wheat in the two fields in question had been sown right up to the tall, rank plants such as dock, mallow, hogweed, thistle and fat hen that bordered the two fields. At the entrances to the fields from the respective roads, where herbicide had not been applied, somewhat unexciting plants such as pineapple mayweed and redshank (a member of the dock family) were predominant. I could find no trace of some of the delightful little flowers that can sometimes be found after the corn has been cut, and which have escaped spraying, such as field pansy, venus' looking glass and scarlet pimpernel. The subsequent ploughing of the field at Lidsing attracted the attention of hundreds of black headed gulls. It was a shame not to have seen any rooks following the plough, the nearest rookery being at Boxley and out of sight of the commotion. Rooks would have completed a scene, not far from the hustle and bustle of

Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre, of an important and long-standing part of the English farming year.

Joe Ennis

HEMPSTEAD LIBRARY

Your new look Hempstead Library, Neighbourhood Community Hub Hempstead Hempstead Library has had a facelift. On the shiny new shelving you can find a wide selection of new books from big bestsellers to hidden gems. There are free-to-use computers and free Wi-Fi available. You can download from our eBook collection to tablet or smartphone.

Events at Hempstead Library include: For children and young people; Baby bounce and rhyme; Storytime; Homework club

For adults: Family history group; Knitting for charity group; Two readers' groups; Play readers' group; New to computers

To find out when these events happen and much more please visit www.medway.gov.uk/libraries As well as library services you can collect recycling bags and dog-poop bags, purchase caddy liners and visit the monthly Medway Council customer contact surgery

BEEKEEPING COURSE

Ideal for potential beekeepers, those just interested and anyone who cares about the environment. No previous knowledge needed.

The syllabus follows that of the British Beekeepers' Association and is led by a qualified experienced tutor from Medway Beekeepers' Association.

To be held from 10.00am to 12noon on Saturdays for 10 weeks commencing 16th January at Rainham Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane, Rainham.

Further details from Pat & Terry Clare 01634 233748 or patclare89@me.com

BIG THANK YOU

Our thanks to everyone who donated or bought items at various car boot sale events over the summer.

Thanks also to the event organisers for their support.

With your help we have raised over £750 which has been sent to The Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund.

We will be continuing with these events next year and will advertise when we start collecting again.

Please keep those unwanted Christmas Presents- the money raised from their sale will do so much good.

For more information ring 01634 232665 or email gftomlin@gmail.com

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



LINDSAY & COMPANY
TREE SURGEONS

TEL/FAX 01634 366923

THE BRAIN TUMOUR CHARITY

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who helped me and attended the concert at St Margaret's Parish Church Rainham for The Brain Tumour Charity. The concert raised £635. £100 was donated to a charity The Kingfisher Singers support.

Special thanks to Davina Brisley and choir who had a 'show must go on' moment and responded with an excellent performance enjoyed by all. A Quiz in the Spring, hopefully, will be the next fundraising event. If any club or small group is looking for a speaker, I am able to give a talk about the work of the charity and my involvement. I can speak for about 20/25 minutes and then after a tea break I can run a Quiz and provide prizes. A small donation to the charity is acceptable.

Olwen O'Dowd -Fundraiser for Brain Tumour Charity

DOLLS HOUSE COMPETITION RESULT

Thank you for publishing details of our Exhibition, many visitors mentioned that they had seen the details in Action Forum. The winner of the 'Corners' competition was 'The Stable' made by Yvette Howell-Williams, she receives a bottle of wine as her prize. Overall, we sent £75.22 to Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust. Thank you to all who voted in this competition. For more information about our club please contact Sylvia Wildridge 01634 312038

ART EXHIBITION

Paintings by Local Artists, Clive Bass, John Gilson & Ron Wiseman will be on show and For Sale in Rainham Library, Birling Avenue between 2nd & 30th November 2015

FISH

I have too many fish in my garden pond so I am looking to reduce them by at least 20. They are a decent size and I am happy to deliver them locally. If you are interested ring Pete Rogers on 07815 835314

BWAG CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT

Thursday 3rd December, 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Hurstwood Road &

Green Court, The Street, Bredhurst ME7 3JY

The Cantium Singers - 50 strong choir from Rochester

Afterwards at Green Court for mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas raffle. Tickets only available in advance - £7 per person, u16s free, call Vanessa Jones

07813 785940 (eve/weekends) or email

bwag@vanessajones.plus.com

TAURUS LOCKS

UK LOCKSMITH ASSOCIATION MEMBER

24 Hour Service (No call out charge)
Emergency Non-Destructive Entry
Domestic and Commercial Work
All Locks Fitted, Repaired Upgraded
Rainham Based
Free Lock Surveys and Estimates
O.A.P. Discounts
So call today for a great deal, peace of mind and security

Phone Brian 01634 351244
Mobile: 07775 423744

MEDWAY PLUMBING

Leaks—Bursts—Ball Valves

Taps Repaired/ Replaced

Tanks- Cisterns -Blockages

No Job Too Small

FAST, AFFORDABLE,

RELIABLE, 24 hour call out

All Work Guaranteed

Fully Insured

Fair Trader

01634 301711

Mob 07976 438435

Boarding Cattery

Located in an area of outstanding natural beauty

Owner FAB trained

Built to FAB specifications

Individual luxury heated chalets

Larger pens available to accommodate

up to four cats from the same household

Viewing welcome, by appointment only please

www.catnapbredhurst.co.uk

Tel: 01634 386263

Mobile: 07772 276906

Email: catnapbredhurst@yahoo.co.uk

Elspeth, Blind Lane, Bredhurst, Kent, ME7 3JR



WHY MISS WORK ?

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

BY SQUADMATIC

Free call out

OFFICE 24hrs (01634) 373515 Mobile 07702 255105

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

Theresa Elsey Dip PFS

Local Qualified Financial Adviser

With 26 years experience within Financial Services, I provide specialist advice in a wide range of areas including: Savings & Investments, Pensions, Annuities, Protection, Inheritance Tax and Long Term Care.

For further details contact Theresa on:

Office: 01634 264322 Mobile: 07580 579031

theresa.elsay@sipp.co.uk / www.theresaelsay.co.uk

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 07802 608 222

HYDRO-DYNAMIX

Builders & Decorators

EXTENSIONS • GENERAL REPAIRS

PLASTERING • GARDENING

REPLACEMENT UPVC WINDOWS

Telephone: 01634 235383

86 Berengrave Lane

Rainham-Kent-ME8 7NJ

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE

Square or Landscape shape

£28 per month

£78 for 3 months

Email af@thenet.uk.net

or call Hamish 1634 310011

9.00am—5.00pm Monday to Friday

CERFACE PT FOR TILES

WE'VE GOT IT!

If your looking for : - Elegant, Contemporary, Victorian, or Classic tiles.
Porcelain - Marble - Ceramic
Mosaic - Stone - Glass.

look no further!

Supply & Fit Service

Showroom: 272 Canterbury Street, Gillingham, ME7 5XR

WWW.CERFACE.CO.UK

Contact us on 01634 571000
for more information and opening hours.

Window Fix Direct

Do you have windows or doors that....
Don't open or close properly?
Have condensation inside the unit?
Are draughty when closed?
Conservatory roof leak?

01634 789025 / 07950 761061

www.windowfixdirect.co.uk



Digital Hearing Aids from only £399

- Local Family Business
- Personal service in the comfort of your home
- Free demonstrations
- After sales service

Call 01634 848441

now for a free hearing assessment
www.21stcenturyhearing.com

Diary 2015

November 18th - Hempstara Hempstead Active Retirement Association, Scout Hall, Dukes Meadow Drive, 2.00pm. Contact 01634 364440 for details.
November 18th - RainARA, 442 Club, Featherby Road, Talk "H.M.S. Swiftsure by John Mankerty, Details kentsof Kent@tiscali.co.uk or 01634 373596
November 18th - Bredhurst Garden Club, 7.30pm, Village Hall, Vanessa Jones - Talk on 'B.W.A.G.' New Members Welcome, Ring 01634 233554 for details
November 19th - Rainham WI 1.45 - 4.00pm, Members Meeting, Wakeley Hall, Oasthouse Community Centre, Granary Close, ME8 7SG. Visitors welcome for small entry charge per visit. Ring 01634 366276 for details.
November 19th - Wigmore Thursday Club, New Zealand, Lorna Bailey and Margaret Ellis, (see 12th Nov).
November 19th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Talk on RSPCA by Robin Smith (see 12th Nov)
November 19th - Learn to make your own candles in time for Christmas and take one home, 7.00pm, £5, The Centre, M2 Services (London bound side, next to Travelodge) ME8 8PQ, 07788 791677 phone to book.
November 20th - UpARA, Village Walk, 10.00am, New Members Welcome, (see 13th Nov).
November 20th - Jazz Gig, Anchorians Rugby Club, Darland Avenue, Gillingham, 8.30pm, John Etheridge Blue Spirits Trio. Featuring John Etheridge guitar, Pete Whitaker organ, Mark Fletcher drums, Admission £10, Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743.
November 21st - UpARA Outing, Sittingbourne Greyhound Track, (see 13th Nov).
November 21st - Craft Market, St Margaret's Millennium Centre, 9.00am - 12.30pm Free entry, Stalls £5 from carole@cdadswell.freemove.co.uk or 07779 366054
November 21st - Craft Market at Smallholders club, 2 Springvale 11am - 2pm Free entry. Stalls available smallholdersclub@btconnect.com or 01634 263408
November 21st - Hempstead Christmas Fayre, Village Hall and Church, 11.30am - 3.30pm. Many Christmas

LOCAL BUILDER

Extensions, loft conversions, General building

Professional Reliable Service

01634 389675

07721 365 630

www.hprenovations.co.uk

53 Woodside, Wigmore



Hebdictch Property Renovations Ltd



ATKINSON HEATING & MAINTENANCE

Central Heating & Hot Water specialist

All Boilers repaired. Power Flushing. New systems. Gas Safety Inspections. Finance Options.

16 Boston Gardens, Rainham.



and craft stalls, light lunch, Grand Raffle, Santa with big elf and little elf arrive 11.30. Free entry.

November 21st - Winter Wonderland Market, Lower Halstow Memorial Hall, 10.00am - 4.00pm supporting The PDSA Animals Trust and Dream Flights for terminally ill Children. Cheeses, Cakes, Toys, Indian Food, displays Salvation Army's Band carols at end.

November 21st - Quiz Night, in aid of Bredhurst Village Hall, 7.30pm start, £7.50 including Hot Supper, BYO drink, For tables of up to 8 contact Pam 01634 230933 or 07920 887606

November 22nd - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am Meet Patricia Daniels 07960 295164 text only Shorne Country Park (charge) café and toilets GR683698 For a 5 mile moderate walk undulating with steps, no stiles, could be muddy No dogs

November 22nd - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet Frank/Mim, Barnyard Restaurant, Gore Farm Oak Lane, Upchurch TQ839660 ME9 7EZ for a 5 mile leisurely pleasant circular walk

November 22nd - RAMASES Wine & Wisdom Evening, Newington Village Hall, ring John Dewey 01795 472316 or email ramasesnk@hotmail.com

November 23rd - Monday Hub, (see 9th Nov).

November 23rd - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 9th Nov).

November 24th - UpARA, Coffee Morning, Upchurch Village Hall, 9.30am, Members £1.50, Guests £2 New Members Welcome, (see 13th Nov).

November 25th - Gillingham Horticultural Society 7.15pm start. Festive Meeting and Award Presentation. United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gill. £2, £3 non members, includes refreshments. All welcome. For more information contact 01634 852519.

November 26th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Whist, tea and chat and fund raising for RNIB (see 12th Nov)

November 26th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Service followed plus a short talk by Geoff Hufton, (12th Nov).

November 26th - Rainham & District Dolls' House and Miniaturist Group, 7.30pm, Howard Memorial Hall, Woodside, Ring Sylvia Wildridge 01634 312038

November 27th - Hempstara Whist Afternoons, (13th Nov)

November 27th - Deanwood Primary School Christmas Fayre, 3.15 - 5.30pm, Adults 50p, Children 30p, Pre School - Free, Tombolas, Games, Crafts, Raffle, Books, Gifts and much more! Refreshments available Tracey Kington t.kington@btinternet.com

November 27th - Medway Geographical Society, Byron Road Primary School, Gillingham ME7 5XX 7.30 - 9.00pm, 'Mayo with everything' - Paul Warren, Everyone welcome please come on the evening or ring Lorna Bailey 01634 572139

Day Claire

Respite Care Service - Home Help Service
Cleaning, Shopping, Gardening, Ironing
and many more

Fully Insured, Enhanced CRB, Qualified respite Carer

Please Call 01634 386806 to arrange a visit to view my portfolio in the comfort of your own home

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 FASCIA, SOFFITS & GUTTERS
ALL REPAIR WORK UNDERTAKEN
NO JOB TOO SMALL OR TOO BIG
Your Local Reliable Contractor
James Zammit
01634 375129 - 07802 698300



RUBBISH CLEARANCE

House, garden, sheds, builders rubbish,
Office & commercial etc. Single items from £14.95
Light demolition Licensed Waste Carrier
Also garden maintenance, hedge trimming etc

Call Doug 01634 363008 / 07708 293 745

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.

LUKEHURST

Come and Visit Us in Our New
Carpet and Curtain Showroom
Free advice and Quotations

The Chapel, 1 Orchard Street, Rainham
Carpets 01634 362170 Curtains 01634 387749

The Door Doctor

UPVC Specialist

Handles, hinges & locks replaced
24 hour emergency door opening
No call out charge. Discounts for OAPs
01634 263539

AJ ROSS ELECTRICAL

Fully qualified time-served apprentice.
Over 30 years experience

Call Andy on 07766 457999 or

01634 372411

11 Farnham Close, Rainham, ME8 8NS
Domestic Installer



ANDY SHEPHERD

KITCHEN DESIGNER LTD

Suppliers and Installers of Quality

Kitchens
Bedrooms
Bathrooms

Tel/Fax 01634 379423

www.andyshepherdkitchens.co.uk



TV PROBLEMS?

Linwood Home Electronics

offers a fast, efficient and simple repair service
to all makes of TV, DVD & Audio products.

Contact us or visit our website for more details.

Website: www.linwoodhe.com
Telephone: 01634 230261
Mobile: 079 0550 7338

Linwood
Home Electronics
Est. 1982

V E WHITE & CO. Solicitors
10 Parkwood Green Rainham ME8 9PN
Medway (01634) 376555

Your local solicitor for all aspects of family, property and
business law including Wills & Probate, Divorce,
Lasting Powers of Attorney, Conveyancing,
Tenancy, Employment and Immigration.
Contact us or pop in for a competitive quote
Saturday/evening appointments may be available
email: enquiries@vewhitesolicitors.co.uk
www.vewhitesolicitors.co.uk

For Free quote ring
Mick Eardley
01634 264266

Licensed Waste Carrier
Fully Insured

M & D DECKING

Decking and Gardening services
Paths, Patios, Turfing, Paving, Cleaning,
Garden Clearance, Garden gates made to measure,
Mowing weekly—fortnightly.

Odd Jobs and much more

No job too small
Prompt and Reliable Service

Diary 2015

November 28th - Christmas Gift and Craft Fayre in aid of
Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital in association
with Parkwood Community Centre, Long Catlis Road,
10.00am - 2.00pm. Own table, £10 each in advance,
details Paula 01634 373450 or Stacey 07897 007979

November 28th - Christmas Fayre, Friends of Wisdom
Hospice, 11.00am - 3.00pm, The Wisdom Hospice,
High Bank Rochester ME1 2NU Meet Olly in the
Grotto, Ring 01634 831163 for details

November 28th - Medway Folk Dance Club, Christmas
Dance, (see 14th Nov).

November 28th - Upchurch Choral Society 'Christmas is
Coming' A concert of festive music and readings, St
Mary's Church, Upchurch, 7.30pm, £5 (children free)

November 29th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
Graham graham.jenkinson@blueyonder.co.uk 07989
753278, Sole Street station car park. Fee currently £1.
TQ655676 DA13 0XY for a 7 mile moderate walk

through fields and orchards Reasonably flat. Pub at end
November 29th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am Meet Roger Norman 01634 232404 07941
965272 Higham Railway Station car park, School Lane,
(Free) GR715726 ME3 7JQ For a 6 mile easy walk, flat
with one stile. No dogs

November 29th - Art and Craft Exhibition and Sale,
Rainham Ladies' Art Group, 10.30am - 3.00pm,
Howard Hall, Woodside, Wigmore, Craft stalls,
watercolour paintings, bric-a-brac and much more,
Entry free, information contact Barbara 01634 235733

November 29th - St Margaret's Church, Rainham Advent
Carol Service, 4.00pm, All welcome

December 1st - GHS Floral Art Group, Christmas Door
Wreath/Swag, (see 17th Nov)

December 1st - Rainbow Whist Drive, (see 17th Nov).

December 2nd - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Mike,
10.00am, Rainham Park Wood car park TQ809642

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 511571 01795 459105

For 24 hour service call 07738 921296

Reflexology

Advanced Qualified Therapist
as featured in Kent Life magazine
- Holistic Dead Sea facials
- Waxing specialist

Elaine Wheeler MAR IIR ART

Medway (01634) 379360

www.bodytalktherapies.co.uk

Ladies
ONLY



ME8 9PP for a 6 mile Leisurely walk through orchards
and fields, some country roads to Queen Down Warren
and Hartlip. Bring a snack for mid walk stop.

December 3rd - Wigmore Thursday Club, It can't be
Christmas Again, Christine Pope, (see 12th Nov).

December 3rd - Hempstead Leisure Club, Christmas
Lunch at The Dog and Duck. (see 12th Nov)

December 3rd - Christmas Carol Concert BWAG,
7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Hurstwood Road & Green
Court, The Street, Bredhurst, Tickets £7, u16s free only
in advance (includes refreshments). 07813 785940 (eve/
weekends) or email bwag@vanessajones.plus.com

December 5th - St. Mary Magdalene Church, Gillingham
Green, 7.00pm, A "Come & Sing" Concert with mulled
wine & mince pies. Tickets £5 01634 0932135

December 5th - Celtic Christmas Strings with Chris
Newman & Maire Ni Chathasaigh, 7.30pm, Bredhurst
Village Hall for hall funds, tickets £9 01634 361263.

December 5th - The Union of Catholic Mothers, Carol
Concert featuring The Medway Singers, 7.45pm, St
Augustine's Church, Deanwood Drive, Parkwood.
Tickets from Mrs Janet Nastaly 01634 371897 or Mrs
Alma Payne 01634 362896.

December 6th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Jim
jimbush46@btinternet.com, 10.00am, free car park near
Wye church TR053468 TN25 5EG 10 mile moderate
walk via North Downs Way. Bring picnic, pub at end.

December 6th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am Meet Stephen Manning 07551 712438 River
Valley Upchurch Golf Course overflow car park ME9
7AY 4 mile easy pre Christmas Lunch stroll Lunch
book in advance with Joan Weekes No dogs

December 7th - Monday Hub, (see 9th Nov).

December 7th - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 9th Nov).

December 8th - Gillingham and District Fuchsia and
Pelargonium Society, 'AGM and Christmas Bash'
Bring and Share food, Table Decoration competition
and Fun Quiz, (see 10th Nov).

December 9th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Mike,
10.00am, park just north of Wrotham village TQ609595
TN15 7DD for a 5 mile moderate short gradual uphill
walk to Stanstead through woods and fields. Bring a
snack for mid stop, choice of 3 pubs with food at end.
December 9th - Bredhurst WI, Mrs. D. Hulm - Musical
Entertainment, (see 11th Nov).

December 9th - Rainham Flower Club, Demonstration 'A
Touch More Sparkle' by Avril Hill, (see 11th Nov).

CANNON

CURTAINS, BLINDS & CANOPIES LTD

BLINDS - CURTAINS & TRACKING
WOODEN SHUTTERS - AWNINGS

01634 582116

M: 07896 501690 E: cannon-m@sky.com
www.cannon-limited.co.uk

Small Ads

Price: £2.30 per line per month
Box Ads: £28.00 per month
£78.00 3 months paid in advance
See p2 for contact details & copy dates

Saxophone & Clarinet Lessons
John Berreen.LLCM, ISM
Medway Licensed Teacher.
Call 01634 234317.

PHIL THE SOUND. MOBILE DJ
Music for all occasions. Call Phil on
01634 234573 mob 07971569111.

WANTED: GARAGE / LOCK-UP
or parcel of Garden/Land for storage.
Please call Lynda on 07909 966 236
or Nick on 07949 588 464.

WJ Garden Care & Maintenance
For all garden care and landscaping
needs. Please call 07921269378 or
email wjgardencare@outlook.com.

Unique Pet and family portraits.
Contact Yvonne. 07707 059 074
venusart@mail.com
www.etsy.com/shop/VenusArt6

HAIR BY SUE. Professional Mobile
Hairdresser. Competitive rates.
01634 370323 or 07817 825 859

JOB VACANCIES.
Take Care Home Help are recruiting
now. We are looking for mature
minded, reliable people to work part
time. Own car and mobile phone
essential. See www.takecareltd.co.uk
for more info or call 01634 316821.

DOIT4U SMALL JOBS bathroom/
kitchen problems, plumbing, shelving,
blinds, curtain poles, lighting, sockets,
tiling & more Rob 07759 635678 /
01634 261502

PAINTING SOLUTIONS.
All painting outdoors, indoors and any
small jobs. Tidy and reliable. Call
Ayman on 07547 608 779 or
01634 264834

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

VINYL RECORDS WANTED FOR
cash. Rap, Soul, Funk, Jazz, Reggae,
etc. Phone Shaun on 07795 436140
Leave message if no reply

GIRLS PAMPER PARTIES 376270
www.sparklesglitterparty.co.uk

CLEANER - reliable & punctual
CRB checked. Vast experience
including the Elderly. 01634 261032
JEREMY'S GUITAR TUITION.
All styles. 07811 687 433

New Shine OVEN CLEANING
High quality, deep clean, oven
cleaning. Treat your oven to a
valet to bring back that New Look!
01634 350025 / 0771 450 6996

GARDENING TLC:- Lady Gardener
Garden maintenance: digging, pruning,
mowing etc. Baskets & pots refilled.
Chris 01634 372844 / 0796 3842 503

C&J CLEARANCE Houses,
garages lofts, sheds & gardens cleared.
Green waste shredding. Individual
items or complete houses. Rubbish
clearance carried out efficiently.
Professional, reliable, prompt
& friendly service. Free estimates.
No job too small. KCC & Environment
Agency registered. 01634 261749
Mob 07812 734 570/ 07970 759 404.

MIND THERAPY. Professional
Psychotherapy, Counselling and
Hypnotherapy Service. To find out
more call 07812 143 993 and ask for
Jane Hudson BAHons. AD.DIP.CP.
DIP.Hyp.CS.MHS.

LOCAL LADY will help with all
your pet animal / bird needs, i.e. daily
or holiday visits to feed or exercise,
general welfare & vet appointments
etc. Kind and reliable. CRB checked.
Call Diane at Petpals 01634 234922.

M & R GARDENING SERVICES
Gardens cleared, tidied and regular
maintenance. Call Richard on 01634
924217 or 07818 656 733

TONY'S PLUMBING SERVICES.
No call out fee.
Bathroom and Kitchen refits.
Call 01634 374332 or 07961 951 254

GET SLIM FOR AUTUMN
Slimming World, Hempstead Infants
School. Thursdays 5.30pm & 7.30pm.
Call 370390 or 0774 226 1053.

MAN & VAN at competitive rates.
www.vanworker.co.uk. 01634 365427

PET PORTRAITS. Your favourite
pet photos transformed into beautiful
hand drawn portraits in pencil and ink.
See www.davidmwoodrow.com or
call David on 07590 501 420.

ANDREW'S GARDEN SERVICES
01634 613871 or 07708 508 193

YOGA CLASSES / Mindfulness
Learn to work with body, mind &
breath. Improve posture & health.
Contact Evi on 01634 317463.
Website www.freed-om.co.uk

RALPH'S BARN DANCE
Calling to CDs. Tel 01634 375481

SMALL ALTERATIONS & repairs
Hems, zips, seams etc. Very
reasonable prices. Call Margaret 01634
363315 / 07766 980 732

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

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

DENTURE REPAIRS
While you wait service by established
quality Rainham Laboratory.
Tel: Mardale 01634 263766

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

COMPUTER HELP for Beginners
Everything from taking it out of the
box to sending your first E-mail.
Call PC-Aid on 07905 440433

John's MOBILE CAR CLEANING
Standard wash & wax from £6.50
valet from £10. Call 01634 304648

CINE FILM, SLIDES & VIDEO
transferred to DVD. We also want old
cine projectors & films. 01634 230799.

LADY DECORATOR. Neat & tidy.
Call Debbie 01634 611919

BALLROOM, LATIN & Sequence
Dance Classes. New adult beginners'
lessons Rainham area. Wed & Fri
evenings. First lesson FREE. For more
info call Julie 07983 397 439

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

BANJO TUITION 5 string & tenor
Fun, easy to learn, all ages, 1-2-1 or
group lessons. Graham 01634 260281

LANDSCAPE & PROPERTY
Maintenance, Tree & Conifer Surgery,
Felling, Lopping, Topping, Stump
grinding, Hedge Cutting, Sheds,
Garages, Gardens Cleared, Sheds
Repaired and Refelted, Fencing
repairs. Green waste shredding. Turf
laid. Gravel laid. Dry, seasoned logs
for sale. No Job too Small. Free advice
and estimates for a first class job.
Friendly, professional service. Call
Colin: 01634 261749,
07970 759404.

MOBILE FOOT CARE
Nail trimming, reduction of thickened
nails, removal of corns and hard skin,
ingrowing nails. For treatment in the
comfort of your home by registered
and insured practitioner contact
Ann on 07880 893614

STUMP GRINDING & TREE
SURGERY. Roger Alsey
01634 376776 (Wigmore)

SMALL PET BOARDING & DOG
walking. Home visits - insured - Police
checked, local collection & delivery.
Claire 01634 230 21 / 07775 946065
www.snowwitec birmans.co.uk

RAINHAM CHRISTIAN
FELLOWSHIP. Sunday Services
10.30am at Begonia Avenue Church,
Twydall. Further details from
07434 672418.

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 816093.

DISCO - professional entertainment for
any occasion. "The Black Pepper
Roadshow". Jim Lindsay 01634 375552.

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

CATS SORTED Cats visited, fed &
pampered whilst you are away. Contact
Gill - 01634 233571 or 07999 979 202

ARE YOU A TUTOR LOOKING
for more pupils? These Small Ads are an
effective place to find them. 3 tutors have
dropped out, one with a long waiting list,
one has retired, one moved. Email your ad
to af@thenet.uk.net and we will reply
with a proof and the cost.

THE WINDOW WIZARD.
Replacement glass, hinges & handles.
UPVC specialist. 01634 871808.

PLUMBING, HEATING &
Handyman services. No job too small.
No call out charge. Call Andy
01634 377138 or 07870 168 516

CHIROPODIST JOHN JUDGE
M.Inst.Ch.P. Home Visits - Clinic.
Corns, Calluses, Ingrowing Nails.
01634 361720.

WIGMORE EVANGELICAL Free
Church, Durham Rd. Sunday services
11am (with children's activities) and
6.30pm. For details of other weekly
meetings including children's and youth
work please see our website:
wigmorefreechurch.org.uk
Visitors are always welcome. Pastor
Rev T.J. Wood. 01634 388187

DRUMS, PIANO & PERCUSSION,
lessons. 19 years' experience.
Roan Kearsey-Lawson. MA, MA,
BAHons. ISM member. 01634 365453

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 235507..

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.

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

ACE GLAZING REPAIRS

All types of doors & windows
filled and repaired

Fast, Friendly, Reliable,
All work guaranteed

FOR A FREE QUOTE CALL JAMIE

01634 329029 or
07803 434929

Tel 01634 306692
Mob 07789 796256



SEEDLINGS For Professional Year Round Garden Care

Garden Clearance - Borders - Pruning
Licensed Waste Carrier - Hedging
Lawn Care - Decking - Patios - Paths
Fencing - Decorative Brickwork
RHS Qualified

D Bishop & Son Good Prices Paid for Scrap Cars

All types of scrap metal
taken and Recycled
Also Rubbish Cleared

Licensed Waste Carrier
Call Dave on
07836 585911

Gefion Dog Training Club



Classes held Wednesday evenings at
Rainham Mark Social Club,
56 London Road, Gillingham ME8 6YX

All breeds and ages are welcome.
We run Kennel Club Good Citizen
Classes at all levels.
Call Teresa on 07738 032607
or 01233 758309

for more information on classes
and dates of courses.
www.ronmillsdogtraining.co.uk

ROOFING REPAIRS

Roofing Repairs / Strip & Re-tile
GRP (Fibreglass) Flat Roofing
Roof Windows / Skylights

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Guttering / Fascias / Soffits
Interior & Exterior Painting
Fencing / Paving / Decking
Call Nick: 07949 588464
01634 262582

AP Services RAINHAM

Rainham Community Apple Orchard

Cox & Russet apples for sale
in Sunburst Books, 21 Station Road,
£6 for 5 kilo box, while stocks last.

More volunteer pruners
wanted, no experience needed.

We have 6000 trees to prune by end
of March. For more information
please email your contact details to
orchard@thenet.uk.net

LOCKSMITH

call
Loyal-Locksmiths.co.uk
for a trusted locksmith and
carpentry service for all your
doors and windows.
UPVC/timber.

Tel 07986 464970

GARAGE DOORS Repairs & Automation

All makes Supplied and Fitted
Roller & Sectional Specialist
All Repairs
Supply only & DIY

We also Supply & Fit Soffits, Fascias,
Awnings and Window Shutters.

GDA
GARAGE DOOR ASSOCIATES
Fair Trader

01634 244452
www.garagedoors4you.co.uk

JOHN STYLES FLAT ROOFING

Strip & Re-felt
All Work & Materials Guaranteed
Also General Roof Repairs
Free Written Quotation
MEDWAY 374028
Mobile: 07810 583 882

SUNBURST BOOKS

21 & 23 Station Road, Rainham
We welcome browsers to our new extended floor space in Sunburst Books and have thousands more books for you to see and enjoy.
Come visit and see our vast range of good used books, DVD's, VHS plus Vinyl Records in addition to New Books by local authors.
We also stock local history books
All profits support St Margaret's Church
Donations are always welcome
Open 9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Saturday

H
P
H
Est
1983

Hallett's
Plumbing &
Heating

Chris Hallett

CENTRAL HEATING

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"

HOGWOOD Electrical

Extra lights,
sockets,
fuse boards
& full rewires



Call John of Wigmore Part P compliant
on **01634 366145** or **07799 412 819**

NICK EASTER - CARPENTER Kitchen design and fitting

Extensions - Bathrooms - Doors
Fitted Wardrobes - Plastering.

Electrics from rewires to extra sockets
All work guaranteed ~ For a free estimate:
01634 260874 mob 07778 380285
91 Elmstone Road, Rainham



CRYSTAL
CURTAIN & BLIND MANUFACTURERS LTD.

FREE NO
OBLIGATION
QUOTATION

Made to Measure Curtains and all Soft Furnishings
Curtain Poles & Finials • Net Curtains • Tracks
All types of Blinds • Digital Print Blinds • Awnings
Call **01634 817807** for an appointment or visit our showroom
Unit 8, Invicta Business Centre
Bredgar Road, Gillingham ME8 6PG
M: 07956 398531, E: sales@crystalcurtains.co.uk, W: www.crystalcurtains.co.uk

CHAWNER

Plastering

Skimming, Coving,
Drywall board work, Painting and Decorating,
Decorative Mouldings, Repairs

Medway
Fair Trader

Tel: **01634 379822**
Mob: **07897 498189**
Free Surveys & Quotes



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

