

ACTION FORUM

SEPTEMBER 2015
NUMBER 513

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA ■



A picture of Spring Vale in Wigmore probably in the mid 1920s when the pavements were first constructed and the roads surfaced. It was at this time 90 years ago, in 1925, that Church Services were first conducted in the area. For many years the Howard Hall in Woodside served as a church, a satellite of St Margaret's, Rainham (as was Twydall). Forty years later in 1965 the new Parish of South Gillingham proudly unveiled their modern purpose built St Matthew's Church and Community Centre in Drewery Drive. This picture was probably taken by Mr Read see the letter 'Wigmore Huts' on page 2.

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AF

Next Issue October 3rd 2015
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Editorial

Ninety years ago Wigmore was a new young suburb of Rainham. Until the reservoir was constructed at the southern end of Maidstone Road it was not possible to pipe water to this area so land use was severely restricted. However when the reservoir was built this immediately released many acres of mostly woodland for speculative development. Elaborate plans were drawn for the road grid and unmade tracks soon appeared. £10 plots of land on these tracks were eagerly acquired by 'townies' from Chatham and Gillingham. Originally the plots were used as weekend woodland retreats in the country. Soon though wooden huts appeared and, once water was available, homes for residential accommodation. Despite the notable lack of amenities the community rapidly grew and began creating their own facilities. The Small Holders Club in Woodside offered entertainment, companionship and an outlet for surplus produce. Church services were conducted by the clergy of St Margaret's Church in Rainham as Wigmore was within Rainham Parish which shared boundaries with Upchurch, Hartlip, Bredhurst, Lidsing, St Mary's Gillingham and the river Medway. Provisions and services were provided by Rainham, The Co-op and other stores had delivery vans which made regular visits so it was possible to buy your bread, milk, meat and greengrocery without making the long walk down Maidstone Road. Telegrams – the only method of urgent communication came via a delivery boy on his bicycle from Rainham Post Office. Life was hard but as you can see from the recent correspondence very fondly remembered by those who led the life. Now South Gillingham Parish is marking 90 years of ministry and 50 years of St Matthew's Church in Wigmore with a Flower Festival over the first weekend of October. You will be very welcome to join them in their celebrations. Coincidentally Wigmore MADS also celebrate their golden anniversary at this time with a special concert of favourite music from the past 50 years on October 9th & 10th. They will be delighted if you are able attend. Much more also for you within our pages – it seems we are no sooner back from our summer holidays than we are thinking of Harvest Teas, Autumn Shows, fund raising Quiz Nights and dare I whisper it Christmas! Do read on to see what else is happening over the next month and we will see you again in October, no doubt

thinking of autumnal tints, Halloween and Bonfire Night. Until then have a very good month. N.B. Apparently the money for the flower planters in Rainham comes from an allowance the three Rainham Central Ward Councillors Rehman Chisti, Barry Kemp and Mike O'Brien have to use in the area.

Correspondence

HARVEST TEAS

Dear Editor

It's that time of year again when preparations are under way by partners of members of The Lions Club of Gillingham for the Harvest Teas we organize for elderly or lonely people. This year they are on Sundays 11th and 18th October at The Millennium Centre, Rainham from 3.30 to 6.00pm. The venue and entertainment are booked so all we need are guests. If you, or someone you know, would like an invitation, contact either Mrs Brenda Woodrow, Flat 1 Macklands House, Station Road, Rainham ME8 7QX 01634 379062 or Mrs Yvonne Iles, 311 Hempstead Road, ME7 3QJ 01634 373840 who will be pleased to include you on the guest list. As always, there is no charge and, if required, transport can be arranged. Looking forward to welcoming you in October

Yours sincerely

Beryl Brenton

(on behalf of Lions' Partners)

MEMORIES WANTED

Dear Editor

In November I am directing a show to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE/VJ Day which will be performed at the Oast House Theatre on Friday 6th & Saturday 7th November.

I would like to include in the show stories/memories of people who served in the war, were evacuated or were living in the East End during the Blitz.

If any of your readers would be happy to share their stories I would love to hear from them. They can contact me on 01634 374183 or via e-mail at deanjcaston@gmail.com

Regards

Dean Caston

Public Relations - Rainham Theatrical Society

WIGMORE HUTS

Dear Editor

I have been very interested in the articles headed Wigmore Huts which have featured in the May and July editions of Action Forum.

My father purchased 200ft fronting Woodside in 1914 for £25, followed a year later with another 200ft joining to Oxford Road (the old name for Asquith Road), for the cheaper sum of £20.

My younger days were very like Mrs E. Naylor, who wrote in July. Home grown vegetables and fruit etc enough to feed all the family. I lived in a small dwelling built in 1922, just two rooms and a very small kitchen and of course my fathers Hut. Like many of my generation this type of accommodation

was quite normal. But please don't call them huts, they were our homes, they were very cosy and we loved them.

I can remember at the age of 8 being so excited when we had running water and then electricity laid on. My home was lived in by my parents until the 1980s, when my husband and I had a brick built bungalow constructed to the front at the Woodside end of the property, where I still live.

My Grandfather and Father were some of the original members of the Small Holders Club, when home grown fruit and veg from their smallholdings was bought or exchanged – hence the name Small Holders. My father was a keen photographer, and most of the photos of Old Wigmore were taken by him. I wonder if Mrs Naylor (nee Adie) is from the same Rainham family as Tom Adie, a friend of my brother many years ago. I would be very interested to know.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J E Laming (nee Read)
81 Woodside

FLOWER FESTIVAL –

Celebrating 90 Years of Worship in Wigmore

Dear Editor

Next month we celebrate 90 Years of worship in Wigmore (and incidentally 50 years in our current location at St Matthew's Church in Drewery Drive). To mark this special milestone, ladies from the Parish of South Gillingham will be preparing a gala Flower Festival. Everyone is welcome to come and view the displays in the church on Saturday 3rd October (10am to 5pm) and Sunday 4th October (11am to 5pm). Entry is free and refreshments will be available throughout. Also, on Friday 2nd October at 8.00pm, we will be hosting a "Cheese and Wine Preview" of the flower arrangements. Tickets (limited number - allocated as requests are received) are £5 each from 01634 387425. We look forward to welcoming you at St Matthew's: do come along and join our celebrations!

Kind regards,
Paul Warren

MEMORIES - 50 GOLDEN YEARS 1965-2015

Friday 9th & Saturday 10th October, 8.00pm
St Matthews Community Centre, Wigmore
Wigmore MADS celebrating their golden anniversary with a special concert of favourite music from the past 50 years, a trip down memory lane. Tickets £7 & £6 concessions from Sue 01634 370639

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LADIES, DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

Are you free on a Friday afternoon between 2.00pm – 4.00pm? We are a very friendly group of mature ladies called 'The Phoenix Singers', and we are looking for new members, Alto's & Soprano's. We meet at St. Paul's Church, Parkwood Green every Friday afternoon. We sing popular songs from the musicals and songs from the charts. We give about half a dozen concerts a year to the elderly. If you would like more information, please ring Margaret on 01634 231532.

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on www.thenet.uk.net for more details
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Volunteer distributors of Action Forum are needed for:

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Nightingale Close
Top Marshall Road

Upchurch

Drakes Close

If you live near any of these roads or are able to travel to them and could help for about an hour or so during the first week of each month we would be very pleased to hear from you on 01634 310011 (please mention that you are calling about Action Forum) or email af@thenet.uk.net

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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: September 22nd

September 5th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, Part of
Capital Ring Walk. Meet Stephen Manning 07551
712438 for 8 mile hard walk from Wimbledon Park to

Richmond Bridge Contact Stephen for details, No dogs
September 5th - Bredhurst Village Show, 2.30pm,
Bredhurst Village Hall, Ring 01634 233554 for details

September 5th - Medway Folk Dance Club, United
Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham
7.30 - 10.00pm, new and experienced dancers with or
without a partner welcome, details 366189 or 388546

September 5th - 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

September 6th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Len
01634 319391 lenbeadle@blueyonder.co.uk, 10.00am,
Shipbourne. Park and meet Dene Park, Puttenden Road
large free car park TQ606510 TN11 9RJ for a 5 mile
leisurely Circular walk Chaser Inn, Shipbourne lunches

September 6th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am Meet Gill Smith 01622 710569 07999 858981
Toys Hill car park, Chart Lane, Brasted GR470517 For
a 6 mile moderate walk via Chartwell, Crockham Hill
and French Street No dogs

September 6th - Sunday Service every first Sunday in the
month with guest Medium and special healing time. All
welcome, £2, 6.30 - 8.30pm Healing after the service at
The Centre mind.body.spirit, M2 services, Travelodge,
ME8 8PQ www.thecentre-mindbodyspirit.co.uk

September 8th - Friends of Medway Archives, 7.30pm
Frindsbury Parish Hall, Church Green, ME2 4HY talk
by Amy Adams, Learning & Communications
Engagement Officer will speak on the newly opened
Nation Huguenot Museum in Rochester. Tickets £5 (£3
FOMA members) includes light refreshments.

September 8th - Medway Antique & Collectors' Club, St
George Hotel, New Road, Chatham, 8.00pm, The
British Navy 1793 - 1815 - Alaric Bond, All visitors
are made most welcome. Enquiries
medwayantiquespublicity1@virginmedia.com

September 8th - Gillingham and District Fuchsia and
Pelargonium Society, 7.30pm, Rainham School for
Girls, Derwent Way, 'Roses and their Cultivation' -
Peter Cox, for details ring 01634 852519

September 8th - Rainbow Whist Drive, Bredhurst Village
Hall Hurstwood Road, 7.30pm partner not needed and
all whist players are welcome, Details 01634 610364

September 8th - Every Tuesday evening 7.30 - 9.00pm
Reiki and energy healing is given by our fully qualified
healers. Free but donation welcome (see 6th Sept).

September 9th - U3A Rainham Mark Social Hall 56
London Rd, 2.00pm, Joe Mendell: Bob Newhart Rides
Again, ring 07895 890635 for details.

September 9th - Bredhurst WI, 7.30pm Village Hall,
Adele - Cupcakes, visitors welcome, 01634 389966

September 9th - Rainham Flower Club, Upchurch Village
Hall, 7.30pm, Demonstration 'A few of my favourite
things' by Sue Thompson, for details ring 01634
864572 or see www.rainhamflowerclub.co.uk

September 9th - Reiki, Crystal & Energy Healing every
Wednesday 10.00 - 11.30am with Trudie, Karen and
Heidi experienced fully qualified healers. Free but
donations welcome (see 6th Sept).

September 9th - All Saints Women's Fellowship, 8.00pm
Hempstead Village Hall, My Family and other
Setbacks: Mel Rees, Rhonda Peck 07951 629444

September 10th - Wigmore Thursday Club, St Matthew's
Community, 2.00pm, A visit from Imam Safer
Zartasht for over 50s ring 07434 672418 for details.

September 10th - Hempstead Leisure Club, 'Variety
Performances' talk by Dean Cason, Village Hall behind
the Church 2.00 - 4.00pm. New members always
welcome, phone 01634 366907

Sept 10.11.12.17.18.19 - Blue Remembered Hills by
Dennis Potter Oast House Theatre, Rainham, Curtain
up 8.00pm Box Office on 0844 8793224 or on-line
www.oasthousetheatre.co.uk

September 10th - Donn Barcott's 'Five 5 Live', 44Two

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Sports and Social Club, 8.30pmFeaturing Elaine Dyan
and Andrew Hawkes Magician, Admission £6, all
welcome, Details 01634 405037

September 10th - Chatham Historical Society, Lampard
Centre, Sally Port, Brompton. 7.15pm second Thursday
of each month. Visitors welcome. For details see
www.chathamhistoricalsoc.btck.co.uk

September 11th - 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.

September 12th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, Stour
Valley Walk section 5 Meet Stephen Manning 07551
712438 For a 10 mile moderate walk Fordwich George
and Dragon, King Street CT2 0DB Finish TR 296107
CT3 2DY Contact Stephen for details No dogs

September 12th & 13th - Medway Beekeepers
Association, Annual Honey Show Elmcourt Garden
Centre, normal hours, range of honey & hive products,
meet beekeepers, see www.medwaybeekeepers.com.

September 12th - GHS Autumn Show, United Reformed
Church Hall Gillingham, 2.30 - 4.30pm. Refreshments
available. All welcome.

September 12th - Gillingham Parish Church, Proms
Concert 7.00pm, The Medway Band playing well
known, rousing music. Tickets £8 incl refreshments,
01634 932135. Free parking Saxon Way School.

September 12th - The Brain Tumour Charity Concert, St
Margaret's Parish Church, Rainham, Autumn Melodies,
Kingfisher Singers, 7.30 - 10.30pm, Ticket £7.50
Contact Olwen 01634 263622

September 13th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Tony/
Ann 01634 406634 vajra.faulkner@btinternet.com,
10.00am, Yalding Teapot Cafe/Museum Parking
roadside by the canal for free or the Lees (Parking fee).
TQ690497 ME18 6HG for a 6 mile leisurely walk
Bring picnic for midday. Pub at end The Anchor Inn

September 13th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am Meet Brian Gevaux 01634 235883 Camer
Park car park, Meopham GR650670 DA13 0XT For a 5
mile moderate walk mostly flat through fields and
woods. Toilets in car park. No dogs

September 14th - Medway Scrabble Club, St Stephens
Church Hall, Maidstone Road, Chatham, alternate
Mondays 2.00 - 4.30pm, new members welcome,
details 01634 230500

September 14th - Monday Hub, St Paul's Church,
Parkwood, ME8 9PN, 10.00am - 12.30pm all welcome

September 14th - 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

September 14th - Reiki Kyokai Led by Robert Jefford,
8.00 - 10.00pm, Ramada Encore Chatham Historic
Dockyard, £12 per person open to All. Booking
Essential. Book email kentreikishares@gmail.com

September 14th - Medway Organ & Keyboard Club
Concert, Parkwood Community Centre, Rainham, 7.30
- 10.00pm, Organist - Trevor Flunder, details ring
Brian Leonard 01634 234694

September 15th - GHS Floral Art Group, 7.30pm, United
Reformed Church (rear hall Balmoral Road, Gillingham
"Leaf Manipulation" - Workshop with Carol and Kaye,
New members welcome, first visit free, no experience
needed details 01634 232998 kayebuss@btinternet.com

September 15th - The RSPB Medway Local Group Talk,
Parkwood Community Centre, 7.30 - 9.45pm, £3.50.
Wading through Waders - David Darrell-Lambert. For
Walks see: www.rspb.org.uk/groups/medway.

September 16th - HempstARA Hempstead Active
Retirement Association, Scout Hall, Dukes Meadow
Drive, 2.00pm. Contact 01634 364440 for details.

September 16th - RainARA, 442 Club, Featherby Road,
Rainham, Talk on "The Medway Paddle Steamer" by
Mark Bathurst, Members only, Details 01634 373596

September 16th - Bredhurst Garden Club, 7.30pm,
Bredhurst Village Hall, AGM, Issy Whatrup - 'Digging
for the Past in Bredhurst' & Potato Competition, New
Members Welcome, Ring 01634 233554 for details

September 17th - Rainham Women's Institute Wakeley
Hall, Oasthouse Community Centre, Granary Close,
Rainham, ME8 7SG. 1.45 - 4.00pm, Speaker on
"Flowers". Visitors welcome for small entry charge per
visit. Ring 01634 366276 for details.

September 17th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Kurling,
Bocchia, board games, tea and chat (see 10th Sept)

September 17th - Wigmore Thursday Club, 'Cinemas
of the Medway Towns', Brian Joyce (see 10th Sept).

September 18th - HempstARA Whist afternoon, 1.30pm.
Scout hut, Dukes Meadow Drive, all abilities welcome.
A partner is not required. Details 01634 321664

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MORE ABOUT INDIA ...

A huge thank to readers who have been following
our articles about volunteering and fundraising for
our sponsored schools and orphanage in Udaipur
India. The June Open Garden event in Wigmore was
a great success and raised a £1,000, which goes a
long way in India and is about equivalent to a year's
salary for the average worker.

Currently there are a number of Medway young
people volunteering in Udaipur, all members of the
Children in Care Council, who for various reasons
are not able to live with their own families in the
UK. These Medway young people have their own
challenges to work through so it is wonderful to hear
their experiences of working in India with very
deprived children, really thought provoking! Please
follow the link below to hear more about their time
volunteering. <http://yif.org.uk/category/blog/>
Some of the money you helped us raise has gone
with the YLF group to buy a special meal for the 100
boys in the orphanage. We know from our
experience the boys will be very excited about that!
Back home we are now planning a trip for 2016 to
continue the volunteering support and fund raising.
If you are interested in finding out more about how
you could help please call Sandra on 01634 362863.

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BLUE REMEMBERED HILLS by Dennis Potter Sept 10.11.12.17.18.19 Curtain up at 8.00pm

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GRAND AUTUMN CHARITIES BAZAAR

Saturday October 24th, 10.30am - 12.30pm

St Matthew's Community Centre, Wigmore

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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR AUGUST

In August I visited Beachy Head near Eastbourne in Sussex. As I stood on the top of the Head and looked inland, the agricultural landscape was one of fields of sheep and cattle. There was not an arable field in sight. Between 1926 and 1931 Eastbourne Corporation bought 4, 100 acres of land from the Duke of Devonshire, comprising four contiguous farms and Beachy Head itself. The Corporation's aim was to preserve what remained of the ancient down land from the plough. However, the need for the country to become self sufficient in wheat during the Second World War was a setback for the Corporation's aim. Over the years, nevertheless, the land has been gradually put down to grass but virtually all of the remaining ancient down land is now confined to the land between Beachy Head Road and the top of the chalk cliffs. Beachy Head forms the eastern end of the South Downs. Growing on the chalk cliff face are plants such as wild parsnip, rock samphire, sea bindweed and rock sea lavender, which are able to withstand wind blown salt spray. I caught a glimpse of the famous red and white lighthouse at the base of the cliffs. It looked so forlorn and diminutive, viewed from the cliff top. The birds that nest on the cliff include rock pipits, fulmars, herring gulls, jackdaws and peregrine falcons. The peregrines prey on the other inhabitants of the cliffs. Beachy Head is one of the many landfalls along the south coast at which migrating birds, such as wheatears, enter and leave the country. In times past, many shepherds in Sussex, including those in the Beachy Head area, supplemented their income by trapping wheatears for the table. Those wheatears that come to Britain to breed tend to nest mainly in our upland areas. Typically, they nest in holes on or near to the ground into which they bolt when alarmed. They can be readily recognised by their white rumps. The shepherds' traps were called "coops" and were set between July and September to catch wheatears returning, across the Channel, to France. The traps were laid in tunnels under the down land turf. If conditions were not suitable for the birds to cross the

Channel they sheltered from the weather and predators in the tunnels and were caught. They could be gathered in their hundreds and were worth a penny each. What the shepherds would not have known was that the birds' winter quarters were in West Africa. Still less would they have known that some of the wheatears flying over Beachy Head and elsewhere were passage migrants, having nested in either Northern Canada or Greenland and arrived here via Iceland. To have ended up in a "coop" on the South Downs was an unworthy end for such a delightful and remarkable bird as the wheatear. The short, springy turf along the cliff edge at Beachy Head is kept low by the incessant tread of people and by coastal winds and very little of interest grows there. However, I noted, away from the footpaths, such typical chalk down land flowers as vipers' bugloss, stem less or dwarf thistle ("picnickers' peril"), greater knapweed, marjoram and wild thyme. These flowers had attracted bumble bees and marbled white, chalkhill blue and meadow brown butterflies. Also inland from the cliff top is scrubland of mainly hawthorn and privet. The trees and shrubs are bent over by the sea winds and sculpted into grotesque shapes. Birds such as linnets, and whitethroats nest in the scrub. Yellow hammers, meadow pipits and skylarks breed in the rough grass at Beachy Head. I paused to admire Belle Tout Lighthouse, beyond which the soil is deeper and the flowers grow taller. I came across clustered bellflower, harebell and carline thistle whose yellow bracts are so pale as to look as though they are dead. I soon came to Birling Gap where a shingle beach separates the cliffs of Beachy Head from those of the Seven Sisters. I decided to divert to a working down land farm just down the road in East Dean. As I approached it I came across a massive, mixed flock of rooks, jackdaws and black headed gulls resting on grassland at the farm. It was the biggest gathering of these birds that I had ever seen. The farm is centred on a 17th century Sussex barn built of flints and around which a couple of swallows were flying. The farm was packed out with families whose children could feed the orphan lambs and meet farmyard favourites such as goats, pigs and chickens. It was clearly not for me and so I went back

to Birling Gap and the National Trust café, shop and visitor centre, where a solitary, elderly, birdwatcher in a Panama hat would not look or feel out of place.

Joe Ennis

A NEW LEASE OF LIFE

When the committee of the Friends of Berengrave Nature Reserve met in June, they decided that the time had come to face the inevitable and wind up the association. It had become too difficult to persuade people to stand for election as officers. So an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members was called. However, the committee's recommendation was rejected by a large majority.

The E. G. M. should have been followed immediately by the association's A. G. M., but the meeting broke up before it could take place. Instead it happened in July. The result was that a new committee was elected to lead the Friends, and the membership was reinvigorated by signs of new interest on the part of Medway Council, including attendance of their Volunteer Officer.

Those elected are Chair: the Revd Canon Nicholas Kerr; Honorary Treasurer: Mr Eddy Newport; Honorary Secretary: Mrs Pat Clare. Also elected were Mrs Liz Arnold, Mr Brian Baker, Mr Harry Keane, Mr Richard Lusted and Mrs Phyllis Platt. Canon Kerr is a relative newcomer to the association. He and his wife retired to Rainham in 2011 to be near their daughter and son-in-law. It was not long after his arrival that he learned of the existence of the Friends and paid his first subs. However, Canon and Mrs Kerr were not entirely strangers to the district. Their second daughter was born in Chatham, when Canon Kerr was serving as Assistant Curate of St. Margaret, Rainham, between 1980 and 1984, and Mrs Kerr was working as a Staff Nurse at the Medway Hospital. Mr Newport had previously served as Treasurer before becoming Chair in 2014. Mr Baker was the first Chair and now manages the Friends' Website and the quarterly Newsletter. Mrs Clare has served as Secretary for a number of years. Berengrave Nature Reserve consists mostly of the old chalk pit which is bounded by Lower Rainham Road to the north, Berengrave Lane to the west, Chalky Bank Road to the south and private land to the east. It connects with Rainham Dock East, Riverside Country Park and Motney Hill. The Friends have been responsible for carrying out some very significant archaeological research to do with the

history of the chalk pit. You can find out lots more about this and other facets of the association's work on the Website, www.friendsofberengrave.btck.co.uk. The new committee has proposed four meetings in the coming year, which will be held at Rainham Cricket Club in Berengrave Lane. It is hoped that speakers will be found to give presentations on a variety of topics around Natural History and Nature Conservation. The first will take place on Friday 9th October, at 7.30p.m. Look out for announcements in Action Forum.

QUIZ NIGHT

Medway Neighbourhood Watch Association
Friday 18th September, 7.00 for 7.30pm start
United Services Club, 171 High Street, Rainham,
Tickets £5 per person, Bring your own nibbles,
Teams of 6 - 8 To book ring 01634 792131 or
secretarymnwha@outlook.com

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

Medway Asthma Self-Help (MASH)
Tickets £5, teams of up to eight
Friday 25th September 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
Roko Health Club, Watling Street ME8 6BY
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QUIZ NIGHT

Lower Halstow Memorial Hall
Saturday 10th October, 7.00 for 7.30pm
Tables of 6. Tickets £5 each, includes a ploughman's
type supper. Brink your own drink.
Details 01795 844408

KNOWLEDGE & NIBBLES EVENING

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Millennium Centre, Gatekeeper Chase
Saturday 10th October, 7.30pm (prompt start)
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Booking essential 230430 or Lesley on 379796

QUIZ NIGHT

Hospital Radio Medway
Saturday 17th October, Doors open at 7p.m.
Quiz starts at 7.30p.m.
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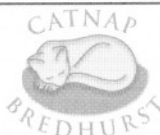
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Diary 2015

September 18th - Quiz Night Medway Neighbourhood Watch Association, 7.30pm start, United Services Club, 171 High Street, Rainham, all welcome, Tickets £5 per person, Bring own nibbles, drinks from the bar, Teams 6 - 8, 01634 792131 secretarymnhwa@outlook.com
September 18th - Jazz Gig, Anchorians Rugby Club, Darland Avenue, Gillingham, 8.30pm, Sue Rivers Quintet, Jo Fooks sax, Pete Ringrose bass, Buster Birch drums, £10, Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743.
September 19th - Craft Market, 9.00am - 12.30pm, St Margaret's Millennium Centre, Free entry, Stalls £5 carole@cdadswell.freemove.co.uk or 07779 366054
September 19th - Rainham South Councillors surgery at Parkwood Community Centre, 10.00am - 12noon. No appointment necessary.
September 19th - Medway Folk Dance Club, (5th Sept).
September 20th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 2.00pm Meet Chris Morris 01634 374923 07847 828249 Grays Tearoom, Brenchley GR673418 TN12 7NX 4 mile easy Cream Tea stroll around Brenchley tea must be booked in advance. No dogs
September 20th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Mandy 07758 232871, 10.00am Penenden Heath car park, TQ772573 ME14 2DQ for a 9.5 mile moderate walk Bring picnic lunch for midday break. Pub at end.
September 21st - Wigmore WI, Birds of Prey from The Hawking Centre, St. Matthew's Community Centre, Drewery Drive, 7.30pm. Anyone interested ring Sue McGrath 01634 365369 or Mags Beard 01634 234000
September 22nd - Rainbow Whist Drive, (see 8th Sept).
September 23rd, 30th, 7th, 14th October - Silver Surfers Course, Rainham School for Girls, 4 sessions, 3.00 - 4.00pm. Ring 01634 362746 to book
September 23rd - Gillingham Horticultural Society, "Potato Weigh-in" and Giant Vegetable Competition. United Reformed Church Hall, Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.15pm, £2 members, £3 non members include refreshments. All welcome. Ring Janet 852519.

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September 24th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Service followed by Table Games and Quiz (see 10th Sept).
September 24th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Whist, board games tea and chat (see 10th Sept)
September 24th - UpARA Outing, Blood Brothers, Marlowe Theatre, New Members Welcome, For details email David Powell davidpowell5@hotmail.co.uk
September 24th - Rainham & District Dolls' House and Miniaturist Group, 7.30pm, Howard Memorial Hall, Woodside, Rainham, Ring 01634 312038 for details.
September 25th - HempstARA Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer, Scout Hall, Dukes Meadow Drive, Hempstead, 10.30am For details please call Eunice 01634 321664.
September 25th - Charity Quiz Night, in aid of MASH, Tickets £5, teams up to 8, 7.30pm start, Roko Health Club, Gillingham, book 01634 855844 or medwayasthmaselfhelp@btconnect.com
September 25th - Medway Geographical Society, Byron Road Primary School, Gillingham ME7 5XX 7.30 - 9.00pm, 'Golden Age of Travel' - Ian Porter, Everyone welcome, turn up or ring Lorna Bailey 01634 572139
September 26th - Chatham Grammar School for Girls Annual Reunion Lunch. Pre-lunch drinks 12.30pm lunch 1.00pm. School open from 11am. Speaker Jocelyn Buchan, an Old Girl. Tickets £25.50 from 37 Homefield Drive, Gillingham, ME8 8RS.
September 26th - Quilt Show, Wyddall Sewing Together, 10.00am - 4.00pm, Wyddall Primary School,
September 26th - Green Rock River Band, 7.30pm, Lower Halstow Memorial Hall 'Songs with Harmonies' and Jazz fused Trombone' Tickets £9, 01795 844408
September 27th - Medway Ramblers Walk, meet Simon simonellwood@hotmail.com, 10.00am, RSPB car park Cliffe Pools. TQ723761 ME3 7SU for a 6 mile leisurely walk via Cliffe pools and the Brennan torpedo launcher, chance to see wild life, especially birds. Bring picnic.
September 27th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am Meet Pearl Stevens 07724 602929 Camer Park car park, Meopham GR650670 DA13 0XT For a 6 mile moderate mainly flat walk through fields and orchards, couple of undulations No dogs
September 28th - Monday Hub, (see 14th Sept).
September 28th - Medway Scrabble Club, (14th Sept).
September 30th - All Saints Women's Fellowship, Diamond Birthday celebration: Afternoon Tea at Hempstead House, (see 9th Sept).
October 1st - Hempstead Leisure Club, 'Elizabeth Garrett-Anderson' talk by Ian Porter (see 10th Sept)
October 1st - Wigmore Thursday Club, 'The Holy Land', Tony Mitchell (see 10th Sept).

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Diary 2015

October 2nd - Parish of South Gillingham, celebrating 90
Years of Worship in Wigmore 8.00pm, Cheese and
Wine Preview of Flower Festival. Tickets £5 each from
01634 387425

October 3rd - Medway Towns Footpaths Group Stour
Valley Walk section 6 Meet Stephen Manning 07551
712438 For a 10 mile moderate walk Lower Goldstone
(butchers) TR 296107 CT3 2DY Finish at Princes
Drive, Sandwich Beach car park TR356909 CT13 9QB
Contact Stephen for details No dogs

October 3rd & 4th - Parish of South Gillingham Gala
Flower Festival celebrating 90 Years of Worship in
Wigmore. Everyone welcome at the church Drewery
Drive, ME8 0NX Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday
11am to 5pm. Entry free, refreshments available.

October 3rd - RAMASES Newington Village Hall,
2.30pm, Lecture given by Carol Andrews 'What the
visitor never sees: from Tanis to Abu Simbel' Members
£7, Guests £9, Tickets at the door, ring John Dewey
01795 472316 or email ramasesnk@hotmail.com

October 3rd - Medway Folk Dance Club, (see 5th Sept).

October 4th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
Heather 07887 750881, Leysdown Country and Coastal
car park. Free parking. Toilets TR045698 ME12 4RJ
for a 7 mile leisurely walk, no hills, big skies, bring
binoculars! Bring picnic, Pubs and cafes in Leysdown.

October 4th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am
Meet Harry Keane 01634 231533, 07729 356835
Westwell Recreation Ground / Village Hall car park GR
989474 TN25 4LQ For a 4.75 mile moderate circular
walk, two long steady ascents at start and half way, 3
stiles, facilities at pub on return. No dogs

October 4th - Sunday Service The Centre mind.body.spirit
(see 6th Sept).

October 6th - Rainbow Whist Drive, (see 8th Sept).

October 6th - GHS Floral Art Group, 'Witches Brew'
using a pumpkin as your container, (see 15th Sept).

October 6th - Rainham Horticultural Society, 7.30pm
Rainham Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane, 'Witch
Hazels' - Chris Lane, New members welcome, ring
01634 366276 for details.

October 8th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Musical
Entertainment from Kingfisher Singers (see 10th Sept).

October 8th - Magna Carta and the Rochester Connection
Lecture, 7.30pm Guildhall, Rochester High Street, Sir
Robert Worcester, KBE, DL. Trustee of Magna Carta

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essential. Contact Rochester Guildhall Museum,
01634 332680 www.guildhallmuseumrochester.co.uk

October 8th - Donn Barcott's 'Five 5 Live', (10th Sept).

October 9th & 10th - Memories - 50 Golden Years 1965-
2015, 8.00pm, St Matthews Community Centre,
Wigmore, MADS celebrating golden anniversary with a
special concert of favourite music from past 50 years.

Tickets £7 & £6 concessions from Sue 01634 370639

October 10th - Craft Market, St Margaret's Millennium
Centre, (see 19th Sept).

October 10th - Quiz Night, Lower Halstow Memorial
Hall, 7.30pm, tables of 6. Ticket £5 each, includes
ploughman's supper. Bottle of wine for each winning
team member. Please bring your own drinks

October 10th - Knowledge & Nibbles Evening, Friends of
St Margaret's Church, Rainham, Millennium Centre,
7.30pm (prompt) Food provided bring your own drinks
& glasses, Tables of 8 - £6 per person Advance booking
essential, Contact Kay 01634 230430 or Lesley 379796

October 15th - Magna Carta and Rochester Connection

Lecture, Dr. Marc Morris. King John: Treachery,
Tyranny and the Road to Magna Carta. (see 8th Oct)

October 16th - Jazz Gig, Anchorians Rugby Club,
8.30pm, Kelvin Christianne Quartet Admission £10,

Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743.

October 17th - Hospital Radio Medway, Quiz Night,
7.30pm, Tables of 6, £5 per head, ring Eunice 01634
365300 or email mail@davidandeunice.com.

October 17th - Rainham Ladies Choir Concert, Methodist
Church, Third Avenue, Gillingham ME7 2LU, 7.30pm
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