

ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

SEPTEMBER 2016
NUMBER 524



The original Wigmore Football team founded in 1967 by Stephen Peatfield (see his letter on page 3). The players in the photo are, back row, left to right, Dave Emery (left back), Andy Chatfield (LW), Clive Reader (GK), Phil Hodges (R. Half), Graham Moore (CH), Alan Gosney (LH), Bob Brown (Inside left), front: Malcolm Young, (IR), Steve Peatfield (RB), Brian Donovan, (RW) and Graham Chatfield (CF). We are fortunate to have several clubs, including Wigmore who still use Kings Frith Playing fields, within the area. They generally offer coaching and match play to youngsters and, for the enthusiasts, adult leagues and five aside teams. If you want to get fit now is the time, as a new season begins, to dig out your boots, find your local club and get playing!

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Editorial

Harvest Teas, Reunions, Football, appeals for volunteers – it must be September and the beginning of the new academic year. All our local clubs, societies and groups reassemble this month after a short summer break and get down to business again. It seems no time at all since schoolchildren were counting down the days until their long break and here we are back to school again. At least they have had a decent spell of good weather during August this year so they should all have been able to get outside and enjoy the lazy days. If you are just returning for a new year with your favourite group and would like to attract more members, do email me your programme and meeting details for the year ahead so they can be included in Action Forum at the appropriate time. We have details of two significant anniversaries this month. The Sea Scouts have reached their 100th anniversary and welcome anyone who has a connection with the troop to an afternoon of nostalgia on September 24th at their headquarters in Berengrave Lane. To cap that Barnardo's are celebrating 150 years with a Coffee Morning get together earlier in the month. Many families have reason to be grateful to the charity who step in and help when things are tough within a family. In their early days most of the work was providing a safe haven for children who would otherwise be sleeping on the streets. Nowadays they have a much more diverse but nonetheless essential role. Today, Barnardo's still works to transform the lives of vulnerable children and young people, and aims to enable them to fulfil their potential. The charity provides a comprehensive range of local support, counselling, fostering, adoption, education, residential and training services for more than 100,000 children, young people and their families. A large part of their fund raising is through their chain of charity shops, there are several in Kent. For many years local 'Friends' groups have also been valuable fund raisers for the charity and we have a well-established branch in Rainham. If you have reason to be grateful to any charity do consider 'putting something back' and volunteering when you are able. It does not have to be a regular commitment, although the many charity shops in the area are always wanting more helpers – but it could just be holding a collecting tin during the lead up to Remembrance Day in November, or helping out on an ad hoc basis when needed with a youth

group. Volunteering enriches the life of the volunteer equally as much as the organisation you help so do give it some thought this autumn. We have much more within our pages. Concerts to attend, a sponsored knit or knit and natter if you want to revive your craft skills, or how about becoming a Silver Surfer. Together with various Produce Shows, Heritage Open Days, a newly refurbished cats home to inspect or helping at the Rainham Community Centre. If you have time you may consider becoming a School Governor, a very worthwhile but time consuming job that makes such a difference to the life of each school. Whatever you decide do have a very good September and we will be with you again when autumn has well and truly begun in October.

Correspondence

GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Dear Editor

The Governing Body of St Margaret's Church of England Junior School, which is in Orchard Street and is a founding member of the Medway Anglican Schools Trust, has vacancies for two governors to be appointed to its Governing Body. Among other duties, the Governing Body holds the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the School and oversees its financial accounting. Governors are expected to attend at least six meetings a year, some in the day and some in the evening, to carry out strategic monitoring of the school and to undertake training at various venues, including Gun Wharf, Chatham. The role of a school governor can be demanding but it is also most satisfying. Anyone who wishes to know more about the role, especially those who have financial, legal or HR expertise, may care to ring me on 01634 235182.

Yours Sincerely
Joe Ennis

HARVEST TEAS

Dear Editor

Summer is almost a memory and now is the time to look forward to Harvest Teas. This year the partners of Gillingham Lions Club have arranged to hold them on Sunday 9th and Sunday 16th October in the Millennium Centre from 3.30pm to 6.00pm. As in previous years, we extend invitations to the elderly who maybe live alone or don't have the opportunity to get out very often. If you, or someone you know would like to attend, please ring or write to Mrs Brenda Woodrow, Flat 1, Macklands House, Station Road, Rainham ME8 7QX 01634 379062 or ring Mrs Yvonne Iles 01634 373840. Transport to and from the Millennium Centre can be arranged if required.

A pleasant afternoon is guaranteed and we look forward to welcoming you.

Yours sincerely
Beryl Brenton
(on behalf of Lions' Partners)

WIGMORE FOOTBALL CLUB in 1968

Dear Editor,

I enclose a photo of the first football team to play in Wigmore. I founded the team in 1967 and was secretary. We played in the Medway Towns Minor League, for one season only, as most of us left the area to go to university. We comprised mainly my fellow 17 and 18 year old pupils from Gillingham Grammar School, which did not play the round ball game. We are now all in our mid 60's.

We played home games on the only field at Kings Frith, between Wigmore Road and Bredhurst Road that was formal grass: the rest were still overgrown paddocks. Our changing room was in an unimproved pigsty, near the prefabs, which can be seen in the background of the photo. Gillingham Council charged us 7/6d rent per game. I made the goal posts and marked out the touchlines etc.

The photo was taken at the end of our final game, which we lost 3-5 to Cliffe, the champions, a reasonable score, bearing in mind that our leading scorers, Pete Samwell and Micky Nash, were missing. We also ran an under 16 team, which played for two seasons and for whom Dave Abbey, John Steadman, Keith Sharman, Kevin Nichol and others played. I haven't met the majority of my team-mates whose names are listed under the photograph on page 1, since 1968 but would be glad to hear from anyone who wishes to get in touch.

Yours sincerely
Stephen Peatfield,
Woohouse Eaves, Leicestershire,
LE12 8TN
peatfield_stephen@hotmail.com

REUNION LUNCH

Dear Editor,

We are pleased to invite former pupils and staff to this year's Reunion Luncheon of the Chatham Grammar Association. The Luncheon will be held on Saturday, 24th September at 1.00pm in the "Lime Lounge": drinks will be served in the School Hall from 12.30pm. The School will be open from 11am for anyone who wishes to have a walk around before the lunch. This year our speaker is Dr Andrew Webber who has taught English and Media Studies at the School for many years and who is also a published author. Tickets are £24 per person. Please make cheques payable to "Chatham Grammar Association" and send

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your ticket request to: Mrs Wendy Draper, Treasurer, Chatham Grammar Association 37 Homefield Drive, ME8 8RS Monies raised from the Lunch meant that the Association donated £630 to the School last year which was used to purchase a specialist printer for the Art Department."

Best regards
Wendy Draper

QUIZ NIGHT

Dear Editor,

Medway Neighbourhood Watch Association are holding their annual 'Quiz Night' on Friday 16th September. A fun event, in aid of the Association, open to all members of the public, you don't have to be a member of a Watch Scheme to participate! It will take place at the United Services Club, 171 High Street, Rainham. Doors open at 7pm, for a 7.30pm start. Tickets £5 per person. Bring your own nibbles, but sorry - only drinks bought at the bar can be consumed on the premises (Licensed bar 7 - 11pm). Tea and coffee also available for purchase. Ideally teams of 6 (8 max) with a cash prize for the winning team. The Quiz Night will consist of 8 Rounds and a Bonus Round. To book tickets please ring the Office on 01634 792131 or secretarymnhwa@outlook.com

Yours sincerely
Maria Jarvis

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Diary 2016

No charge is made for Diary entries
Copy should be in writing either by email to
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Diary Copy Date: September 20th 2016

- September 3rd - Medway Ramblers Walk, 8.30am meet Jim, jimbush46@btinternet.com Bredhurst commuter park ME8 0LU for 12 mile moderate circular walk finishing 2.00pm approx at the famous Seven Sisters.
- September 3rd - Bredhurst Village Show, 2.30pm, Village Hall, Ring 01634 233554 for more details
- September 4th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet Ade, 01634 306405, adeballard@yahoo.co.uk Amazon and Tiger pub, Harvel, DA13 0DE for a 5.6 mile leisurely circular walk finishing at 1.00pm via Dode
- September 4th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am meet Steve Giddins 01634 325343 RSPB Northwood / Woodside High Halstow car park for a 6.5 mile flat walk may be muddy. 3 stiles. No Dogs
- September 4th - Volunteer Conservation Task Day, Riverside Country Park, 10am - 2.00pm, Get involved by helping with some practical tasks. Meet at the Visitor Centre. For more details phone 01634 337432
- September 4th - Bredhurst Cats Adoption Centre - Grand Opening, Matts Hill Road, ME9 7XA, 11am - 4.00pm, parking close by. Entertainment, refreshments, Stalls, Contact Carol 07973 677390 for more details
- September 4th - Concert 'Then Sings My Soul' St. Mary Magdalene Church, Gillingham, 2.30pm, £10 at door.
- September 6th - Rainham Barnardo's Helpers Group Celebrating 150th Anniversary Coffee and Get-together 10.00am - 12noon, Macklands House, Station Road, £1 details 01634 375486 or 01634 233405
- September 6th - Sponsored Knit, Lions Club of Gillingham, Beds for Babichi, 2.00 - 4.00pm Parkwood

- Community Centre, ME8 9PN Six Knitters per Team contact Gina Druker, 07491 134174 for details.
- September 6th - GHS Floral Art Group, United Reformed Church (rear hall) Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.30pm, 'Up the Pole' - a vertical arrangement + pre-show discussion. New members welcome, first visit free, no experience needed, details Kaye Buss 01634 232998 or email kayebuss@btinternet.com
- September 6th - Rainham Horticultural Society, 7.30pm Rainham Cricket Club, Berengrave Lane. Putting the garden to bed in the Autumn - Jean Griffin, New members welcome, ring 366276 for details.
- September 7th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet Mike at the commuter car park Bredhurst ME8 0UL finish 2.30pm approx. Bring picnic lunch Pub at end.
- September 8th - Wigmore Thursday Club, St Matthew's Community Centre, 2.00pm, Serbia, Phil Shorthouse, for over 50s ring 01634 234712 for details.
- September 8th - Hempstead Leisure Club, whist, board games, tea and chat. Village Hall behind All Saints Church 2.00 - 4.00pm New members always welcome phone 0758 334 3782
- September 9th - Gillingham and Rainham Local History Society, 7.15pm Byron Primary School, Gillingham, The Home Guard, Tony Carter, details Val Barrand 07947 583327
- September 9th - Rainham Bereavement Friendship Group, Millennium Centre, every Friday 9.45am to help those who have lost a loved one. Join us for a cuppa and chat, ring Julie 01634 364309.
- September 9th - UpARA, Monthly Meeting Upchurch Village Hall, 2.00pm, Members Free, Guests £2, for details email Chairman davidrpowell5@hotmail.co.uk
- September 10th & 11th - Newton Uncovered, Heritage Open Days, St Mary's Church, Newington ME9 7JT, Sat 10th, 10.00am - 12noon, Sun 11th, 1.00 - 4.00pm Free, Follow @NewingtonHG on Twitter for details Email: newingtonhistorygroup@outlook.com

- September 10th - GHS Floral Art Group, United Reformed Church Balmoral Road, Gillingham, Autumn Show for details contact Kaye Buss 01634 232998 or email kayebuss@btinternet.com
- September 10th - Craft Market, Millennium Centre, Rainham 9.00am - 12.30pm Free entry, Stalls £10 from 07779 366054 or carole@cdadswell.freemove.co.uk
- September 10th - Rainham Horticultural Society, Show Day, Oast House Community Centre, Granary Close, 2.00 - 4.00pm Visitors welcome, 366276 for details.
- September 10th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group meet Stephen Manning 07551 712438 London Capital Ring Walk - stage 8 start Marvels Lane. Grove Park for an 8.5 mile walk finishing Anerley Road, Crystal Palace
- September 10th - The FAS (Foetal Alcohol Syndrome) Charity Ball Black Tie Event, Priestfield Stadium, 7.00pm, Carriages 1.00am, Tickets £80 each from grace@graciousevents.biz or 07840 120586
- September 10th - Concert, St Mary's Island Community Centre, 7.30pm. Harmony and the Vision Signing Choir for MAGIC Tickets £10, con £8, including buffet; bring your own drinks from Wendy 07816 159668 or Lynne 07979 693205 or email: harmonykent@hotmail.co.uk.
- September 10th - 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
- September 11th - September Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am meet John Trebil 01634 244045 Charing School Road Car park GR 952495 TN27 0JR for a 6.5 mile walk using roads, tracks through woodland with a steep climb. No Dogs
- September 11th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet Tony/Ann, 01634 406634, vajra.faulkner@tesco.net at Bearsted, ME14 4EF park just past the church beside allotments for 5.2 mile leisurely circular walk finishing 1.00pm approx mostly on footpaths.
- September 11th - Volunteer Conservation Task Day, Capstone Farm Country Park, 10.00am - 2.00pm, Meet at volunteer block near orchard car park. 01634 338191
- September 16th - Jazz Gig, Anchorians Rugby Club, 8.30pm, Dave Lewis Band, Admission £10 Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743
- September 12th - Medway Scrabble Club, alt Mondays, 2.00 - 4.30pm, St Stephens Church Hall, Maidstone Road, Chat, new members welcome, 01634 230500
- September 12th - Rainham Flower Club, second Monday each month 7.30pm, St Matthews Community Centre, Wigmore ME8 0NX 'Update your Skills' part 3 For details see www.rainhamflowerclub.co.uk or ring 01634 864572 Visitors welcome.
- September 12th - Rainham Evening Bereavement Friendship Group, Millennium Centre, meets 2nd Monday each month to help those still in employment who have lost a loved one. Join us for a cuppa and chat, ring Julie 01634 364309.
- September 12th - Concert Medway Organ & Keyboard Club, Parkwood Community Centre, Rainham, 7.30pm, Organist - Janet Dowsett, details ring Brian Leonard 01634 234694
- September 13th - Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society, 7.30pm, Rainham School for Girls, 'Organic Growing in the Garden' Talk Brian Carline, Members £1, Non members £1.50, All Welcome ring 01634 852519
- September 14th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 9.00am meet Margaret, 01795 843927, maglou1@yahoo.co.uk The Tuck Inn, London Road, Newington ME9 7PB, for a 5.5 mile moderate circular Breakfast walk finishing at 11.30am approx
- September 14th - All Saints Women's Fellowship, Hempstead Village Hall, 8.00pm, Women in the Navy - Andrew Theobald, Rhonda Peck 07951 629444
- September 15th - Rainham Women's Institute, 1.45 - 4pm. Wakeley Hall, Oast House Community Centre, Granary Close, Speaker on "Portrait of Matt Monro". Visitors welcome for small charge. Ring 01634 366276
- September 15th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Talk by Brian Laverick-Smith "30 years of bother on the Hover" (see 8th Sept)
- September 15th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Fingerprints and Murder, Jack Deans, (see 8th Sept).
- September 16th - UpARA, Village Walk, 10.00am from Village Hall, (see 9th Sept)
- September 16th - Hempstara Whist Afternoons, 1.30pm, The Scout Hut, Dukes Meadow Drive, Hempstead, Whist Players of all abilities welcome. A Partner is not required. Details call Eunice 01634 231664.
- September 16th - Quiz Night, Medway Neighbourhood Watch Association, United Services Club, Rainham, 7.30pm start. Tickets £5 Bring your own nibbles, only drinks from bar, Tea and coffee available. Teams of 6 (8 max) cash prize. To book ring 01634 792131

Continued on Page 11

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GP PATIENT PARTICIPATION

The Wigmore and Hempstead Medical Centres are seeking additional members of their Patient Participants Group (PPG) which at present is a group of eight volunteers representing the, approximately, 4,600 registered patients of these Centres. The main objectives of the PPG are to share the experiences about the services provided by the Centres for the benefit of the registered patients, becoming involved in the development of new or extended services and assist in the communication of the services offered by the Centres to the local community. The PPG does not involve itself in clinical matters nor the circumstances nor has access to the details of individual registered patients of the Medical Centres. The PPG meets, usually on a mid-week afternoon, about six times per year. As the Group consists mainly of members of a "certain age" we would welcome the input from younger members of the community. If you are a registered patient at either of these Centres and think you could contribute to the PPG and are interested in joining the Group please contact Kelly Mills who is the Practice Manager at the Wigmore Centre telephone 01634 231752 or email: kelly.mills1@nhs.net

If you are interested in joining the PPG but are unable to attend meetings please do not be put off because arrangements can be made to accommodate you as a "virtual" member.

Colin Ferris PPG Member

KNIT AND NATTER CLUB TWYDALL

The club meets every Monday 10.00am - 12noon (excluding Bank Holidays) at Twydall Library. Bring your own knitting or join in with our various charitable projects. New members always welcome. Donations of wool, patterns, needles, buttons, ribbons are gratefully received.

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CELEBRATING

The 150th Anniversary of Barnardo's

The Rainham Barnardo's Helpers Group would like to invite you to Coffee and Get-together
Tuesday 6th September, 10.00am – 12noon
Macklands House, Station Road, Rainham.
£1 including refreshments

Details please ring 01634 375486 or 01634 233405

NEWINGTON UNCOVERED

Heritage Open Days St Mary's Church
Church Lane, Newington ME9 7JT
Saturday September 10th, 10.00am – 12noon
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MEDWAY EAGLES
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Nature Notes

NATURE NOTES FOR AUGUST

"I do like to stroll upon the Prom, Prom, Prom, / where the brass bands play 'Tiddly-om-pom-pom'!" Music Hall song. John A Glover-Kind 1907. Deal, here in Kent, on the English Channel coast, has a long maritime history and has become a popular seaside town, despite not having the benefit of a sandy beach. I visited the town in August of last year. First of all, I walked along the pier which was lined with anglers. It was good to see that many of them were parents and their children. Enquiries of one family revealed that they were hoping to catch a bass or two. From the café at the end of the pier I could see, to the north, Ramsgate and, to the south, ships entering and leaving the Port of Dover. Straight ahead of me, I had a superb view of the buildings along Deal sea front, which stretch for about a mile and a half, from the remains of Henry VIII's Sandown Castle at one end to his Deal Castle at the other. The buildings range mostly from the 17th to the 19th centuries and there is not a modern, high rise building among them. It is a delightful view of perhaps the longest, oldest, most unspoilt sea front in the country. I then walked southwards along the sea front, in the direction of Dover. I passed a small fleet of fishing boats hauled up onto the steep shingle beach. The majority of boats sailing from Kentish ports and beaches are small and they fish as day boats in the English Channel. Catches are relatively modest. In tonnage, whelks are the largest catch but those of sole, wild bass, cod and lobster are the most valuable. I noticed that whelks and jellyed eels were on sale at a stall near the entrance to the pier. I also noted a number of boats that were available for hiring by sea anglers. I was told that Deal's coastal waters were among the best for sea angling and that world fishing championships were held there. I walked past Henry VIII's Deal Castle and, in due course, entered onto the Promenade, by the landward side of which is a well-used paddling pool, a summer only lifeboat station and a bandstand erected in memory of the eleven Royal Marine bandsmen who were killed in the IRA bombing of the Royal Marines

School of Music in 1989. The base of the bandstand has eleven sides, each carrying the name of one of the dead bandsmen. Where the Promenade came to an end I continued in southerly direction down the Saxon Shore Way. Growing on the shingle on the seaward side of the Way were plants which can tolerate salty air. There was fennel, a tall umbellifer, with yellow flowers. It has leaves which smell like aniseed and are used in cooking. There was also sea kale which grows in large clumps and is a member of the cabbage family. When in flower, it has the appearance of oversized cauliflowers. Also growing on the shingle was red valerian or "Kiss me quick", the alternative name being appropriate for plants of those of the species growing at the seaside. Nearer to home, red valerian can be seen growing on the walls of Rochester Castle and on the steep, chalk bank of Chatham Hill. The flower is one of the most strikingly scented of our native species. Finally, there was viper's bugloss which has flowers in spikes that are pink turning vivid blue. They can put on a spectacular show of colour. The Saxon Shore Way was quite busy, not only with pedestrians but also with cyclists. One or two families were having picnics on the shingle. As the music hall song states, we do like to be beside the seaside, we do like to be beside the sea. Loitering near the picnickers were fierce looking herring gulls, among which squabbles would occasionally break out as to which gull was first in the pecking order. I also passed by a docile flock of herring gulls resting on the shingle; they were a mixture of adults and immature birds. Every now and again one of the latter would emit a somewhat pathetic squeak, hoping to be fed by one of its parents. They squeaked in vain. After a while I retraced my steps and joined others who had been strolling along the Prom, Prom, Prom. We headed towards the Royal Marines Bandstand where we were to listen to a concert given by the City of Canterbury Brass Band. A Union Jack hung down limply in the still air. The Walls Ice Cream man was doing a roaring trade. The concert got off to a rousing start with "Knightsbridge March". My favourite piece of the total of fourteen on the programme was an arrangement of Irving and Berlin's "Putting on the Ritz". The audience was a mostly elderly one. On

what was a hot, sunny day, there was a good selection of hats on display, including my own Panama. The bandstand was decorated with hanging baskets of flowers, much like many bandstands in other parts of the country, I suppose. But the name on the side of the bandstand nearest to where I sat, "Band Corporal David McMillan", and the constant, raucous cries of herring gulls, was a reminder that I was at Deal, here in Kent, on the English Channel coast.

Joe Ennis

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WIGMORE ARTS WEEKEND

Free Art Show and Craft Fair

Saturday 17th September, 10.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday 18th September, 11.30am - 4.00pm

St Matthew's Church and Community Centre

Drewery Drive, Wigmore ME8 0NX

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FAMILY BARN DANCE

Lower Halstow Memorial Hall Committee
Saturday 17th September, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Bring your own beverage and supper

Tickets £5 each under 14 years £3 each.

For Tickets call Kay 01795 844408

QUIZ NIGHT

Bobbing Village Hall (ME9 8PL)

Saturday 17th September 7 for 7.30pm prompt start

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100 YEARS CELEBRATION

Saturday 24th September, 2.00 - 4.00pm

St George's Scout Hall

Berengrave Lane, Rainham ME8 7NA

The 4th Gillingham (Rainham) Sea Scout Group is celebrating 100 Years and is calling ex members and anybody associated with the 4th (from 1960) or the 1st Rainham, 20th Medway or 20th Medway East in the 40s and 50s, to come along and help celebrate and meet up with old friends. Please bring any memorabilia or let us have a copy and please pass on this invitation to any other former members.

Refreshments will be available. For more details please contact the Group Secretary on email address 4thgillinghamsecretary@gmail.com

'SEPTEMBER SONG TIME'

Wigmore MADS present an evening of musical entertainment

Saturday 24th September, 8.00pm

St Matthews Community Centre,

Drewery Drive, Wigmore.

Tickets £7 adult, £6 concessions.

available from Sue on 01634 370639

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Diary 2016

September 16th - Jazz Gig, The Dave Lewis Band,
Anchorians Rugby Club, Darland Avenue, Gillingham,
8.30pm, Admission £10, Details 01634 365352

September 16th - Charity Paranormal Investigation, Fort
Amherst, Dock Road Chatham, Glass Work, Table
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Richard Ware, Gates open 8.00pm, ends 3am approx.,
Tickets £35 per person Over 18's only, Book on line
at www.fortamherst.com using the events icon.

September 17th & 18th - Wigmore Arts Weekend Sat
10.00am - 5.00pm, Sun 11.30am - 4.00pm, Free Art
Show and Craft Fair, St Matthew's, Drewery Drive,
Contact 01634 231350 or joycebest@blueyonder.co.uk

September 17th Rainham South Councillors surgery
Parkwood Youth Centre, 10.00am - 12 noon. No
appointment necessary.

September 17th - St. Mary The Virgin, Upchurch,
Choristers of Canterbury Cathedral, 7.00pm, Tickets £5
(Children free), Contact 01634 361508 or pay at door
September 17th - Quiz Night, Bobbing Village Hall ME9
8PL 7.30pm prompt start, £5 per person Tables of 6 -
8, BYO Drinks, Nibbles & Glasses, to book call Mike
01634 360906 or email mikew16@blueyonder.co.uk
All proceeds for Woodpeckers Short Mat Bowls Club
September 17th - Family Barn Dance, Lower Halstow
Memorial Hall, Dancing begins 7.30pm - Bring your
own beverage and supper. Tickets £5 each, under 14
years £3, call Kay 01795 844408

September 18th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
2.00pm meet Chris Morris 01634 374923 07847
828249 Grays Tearoom, Brencley, TN12 7NX for a 4
mile mostly flat stroll 1 Stile followed by a Cream Tea
which must be booked in advance, No Dogs

September 18th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
Ray, 01634 315967, raycolinashby@hotmail.com
Capstone Farm Country Park ME7 3JG, for a 5 mile
Moderate circular walk finishing at 12.45pm approx.

September 20th RSPB Talk, Parkwood Community
Centre, 7.30pm Wild Cuba—Martin Davies, £3.50

September 21st - Wigmore Ladies Club, 2.00pm, Howard
Hall, Woodside, a cheerful group of ladies would love
you to join us. Just come along or call 01634 388912

September 21st - Bredhurst Garden Club, 7.30pm, Village
Hall, Annual General Meeting - Question and Answer

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September 22nd - Wigmore Thursday Club, A Kick up
the Sixties, Alan Haines, (see 8th Sept).

September 22nd - Hempstead Leisure Club, Whist, board
games, tea and chat (see 8th Sept)

September 23rd - Medway Geographical Society, Holy
Trinity Church, Twydall Lane, ME8 6TN Plenty 7.30 -
9.00pm, 'Moscow, St Petersburg and The Arctic' -
Martin Harris, Everyone welcome, please come on the
evening or ring Lorna Bailey 01634 572139

September 24th - Reunion Luncheon, Chatham Grammar
Association, 1.00pm in the "Lime Lounge" Speaker Dr
Andrew Webber Tickets £24 from 37 Homefield Drive
ME8 8RS, cheques to "Chatham Grammar Ass.

September 24th - 100 Years Celebration, 2.00 - 4.00pm,
St George's Scout Hall, Berengrave Lane, Rainham All
ex members and anybody associated with the group
invited, email 4thgillinghamsecretary@gmail.com

September 24th - Medway Folk Dance Club, (10th Sept).
September 24th - 'September Song Time' Wigmore
MADS present an evening of musical entertainment,
8.00pm, St Matthews Community Centre, Wigmore.
Tickets £7 adult, £6 con from Sue 01634 370639

September 25th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.15am meet
Del, 01322 525296 Crown Point layby on A25 TN15
0HB, TQ576557 for a 9.5 mile Moderate circular walk
finishing at 3.30pm approx. choice of pub lunch at The
Plough in Basted or bring a picnic lunch.

September 25th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
10.00am meet Andy Boorman 07881 933358 Lynsted.
St Peter & St Paul Church. ME9 0RJ Park with
consideration 'The Street' near the church for a 5 mile
mainly flat walk with undulating sections. 9 Stiles. A
historical walk, Dogs allowed on leads.

September 26th - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 12th Sept).
September 27th - UpARA, Coffee Morning, Upchurch
Village Hall, 9.30am, Guests £2, (see 9th Sept).

September 27th - Lower Halstow Gardening Club,
7.30pm, Memorial Hall, School Lane, ME9 7ES. Club
member, Liz Moulard, will make simple flower
arrangements for the home. Visitors £1.50

September 28th - All Saints Women's Fellowship,
Birthday Social, (see 14th Sept).

September 29th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Social
Meeting including Harvest Service (see 8th Sept).



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Diary 2016

September 29th - Hempstead Leisure Club, "Elastix"
 exercise with Sue (see 8th Sept)
 September 29th - Rainham & District Dolls' House and
 Miniaturist Group, 7.30pm, Howard Memorial Hall,
 Woodside, all welcome, more details from Sylvia
 Wildridge 01634 312038.
 September 30th - Hempstara Macmillan Cancer Coffee
 Morning, The Scout Hut, Dukes Meadow Drive,
 Hempstead with a Bring & Buy sale. Tea, Coffee &
 Cake from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Everyone is Welcome
 for details Call Eunice 01634 231664.
 October 1st - Quiz night in aid of Friends of St Mary
 Church, Upchurch. Teams up to 8, all ages, £4 per
 person, bring your own refreshments - raffle. Holywell
 School, Forge Lane, 7.30pm. Book 01634 366113 or
 lewling135@btinternet.com
 October 2nd - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,
 10.00am meet Patricia Daniels 07960 295164 (Text
 only) Otford Railway Station TN14 5QY GR 533594
 (Fee) for a 5 mile walk past 'Otford Planetary System'
 with break at Pluto. Muddy if wet with 1 stile. No Dogs
 October 2nd - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
 John, 07749 760788, billingsjc@blueyonder.co.uk
 Linton near Maidstone Linton Church Car Park (Free)
 ME17 4AW, TQ753501 for an 8 mile Moderate
 circular dog friendly walk finishing at 2.30pm approx.
 Bring picnic lunch for midway break. Pub at end.
 October 4th - GHS Floral Art Group, 'Harvest Garland',
 (see 6th Sept).
 October 4th - Rainham Horticultural Society, Growing
 and Using Herbs - Janet Bryant, (see 6th Sept).
 October 6th - Hempstead Leisure Club, Talk John Weir
 "A day in the life of a funeral director" (see 8th Sept)
 October 6th - Wigmore Thursday Club, The Norman
 Conquest, Rupert Matthews, (see 8th Sept).
 October 7th - UpARA, Village Walk, 10.00am from
 Village Hall, (see 9th Sept).
 October 7th - Games Afternoon, Lower Halstow
 Memorial Hall, 2 - 4.00pm - Euchre, Whist, Dominoes,

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 October 8th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group meet
 Stephen Manning 07551 712438 for a 9.5 mile London
 Capital Ring walk Stage 9 start Anerley Road, Crystal
 Palace via Streatham Common, finish at Wimbledon
 Park Underground Station No Dogs
 October 8th - Craft Market, St Margaret's Millennium
 Centre, (see 10th Sept).
 October 8th - Medway Folk Dance Club, (see 10th Sept).
 October 9th - Medway Ramblers Walk, 10.00am meet
 Ade, 01634 306405, adeballard@yahoo.co.uk at Birling
 car park behind Birling Church. ME19 5JG. for a 6.5
 mile leisurely circular walk finishing at 1.30pm approx.
 Bring picnic lunch. Pub at end with lunches available.
 October 9th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am
 meet Chris Morris 01634 374923 07847 828249
 Kearsney Abbey car park CT16 3DZ GR 287438 for a
 6 mile walk along Alkham valley, hilly, muddy patches
 if wet, Steps down to Alkham. Dogs Allowed
 October 10th - Rainham Evening Bereavement
 Friendship Group, (see 12th Sept).
 October 10th - Rainham Flower Club, Exhibition - Show
 off your skills, (see 12th Sept).
 October 10th - Concert Medway Organ & Keyboard
 Club, Organist - Dirkjan Ranzijn, (see 12th Sept).
 October 11th - Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society, Small
 Evening Show Not Just Fuchsias & Pelis, (13th Sept).
 October 12th - All Saints Women's Fellowship, The
 Guildhall Museum - Andrew Freeman, (see 14th Sept)
 October 13th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Armenia,
 Georgia & Azerbaijan, Tony Mitchell, (see 14th Sept).
 October 14th - UpARA, Monthly Meeting (see 9th Sept).
 October 14th - Gillingham and Rainham Local History
 Society, The Egyptians, Peter Hobbs (see 9th Sept).
 October 15th - Rainham Ladies Choir Concert,
 Gillingham Methodist Church, 7.30pm, Raffle/Tickets
 £10, £8 con, under 10s free 01634 370797 or 613715
 October 15th - Quiz in aid of Hospital Radio Medway,
 7.30pm, Holy Trinity Church, Twydall Lane, Tickets
 £5 per head, Bring your own drink & food. Tables of 6-
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