

# ACTION FORUM

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

AUGUST 2017  
NUMBER 534



The White Horse was one of four public houses listed in Rainham in Pigot's 1839 Directory. The other three were The Cricketers, The Green Lion and The George & Dragon, Moor Street. By the 1870s The White Horse boasted 'very fine livery stables', and it was the Liberal Party's headquarters during the election of 1874. This picture shows the newly rebuilt White Horse in about 1900 after the disastrous fire of 1892. (See David Woods article about the fire on page 9). For many years the Inn was run by Charles Adie assisted by his sons. By the end of the 1930s there were garages rather than stables, and aviaries to attract visitors who called for lunch or tea. Sadly after reopening under new management only a year ago the White Horse is now boarded up, having closed last month, giving a rather despondent feel to the centre of Rainham.

lorna elizabeth

PHOTOGRAPHY

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

[www.lorna-elizabeth.co.uk](http://www.lorna-elizabeth.co.uk)

07528 040036 [info@lorna-elizabeth.co.uk](mailto:info@lorna-elizabeth.co.uk)

**RECOMMENDED PHOTOGRAPHER AT PRESTIGIOUS LONDON & KENT VENUES**

AF

Next Issue September 2nd 2017  
Copy Date: Aug 20th Sm Ads Aug 21st  
Editorial: Barbara Mackay Miller  
Advertising: Hamish Mackay Miller  
Action Forum Office  
4 Saracen Close, Gillingham Business Park  
Gillingham ME8 0QN  
Telephone: 01634 310011  
Email: af@thenet.uk.net

## Editorial

Predictably after a couple of months of dry, sunny and sometimes too hot days as soon as the schools break up for the long summer holiday depressions roll in from the Atlantic bringing their usual mix of wet and windy weather. We should be used to it by now. August weather disasters pepper the twentieth century. Most involve torrential rain storms stalling over a small area and the resulting flood water cascading through towns or villages leaving devastation in its wake. August 15th 1952 was one of the worst when 34 people lost their lives at Lynmouth in North Devon. On August 14th 1979 the Fastnet yacht race was hit by a freak storm which resulted in the death of fifteen crew members. Even recently the West Country has suffered again with recent July thunderstorms flooding Coverack in Cornwall. Luckily for us the British Isles weather usually comes in from the west so over here in the far south-east we rarely feel the full force of these events. By the time a depression reaches Kent it has already dropped most of the rain and the winds have blown themselves out so we just get a few miserable days. Not so at the end of August in 1986 when we were camping with the Guides on the top of Dover cliffs when Hurricane Charley swept up the channel. Despite knowing all this we are an optimistic race and faithfully book our holidays in Cornwall, Wales or the Lake District trusting that this will be the year of endless days filled with wall to wall sunshine. If that is you this year do have a very good time whatever the weather brings!

For those of us staying at home we offer various experiences to fill the days. Free Film Afternoons for accompanied children, Fun Days and Craft Exhibitions plus of course the opportunity to join some of the walks organised by our local Rambling Groups. We are extremely fortunate in Medway having a selection of free venues within easy reach where children and adults can enjoy the countryside. Riverside Country Park, Capstone Farm Park, The Strand and the Riverside Cycle Path are all within easy distance of most. Further afield Penenden Heath, Mote Park and Cobtree Manor Park in Maidstone or Shorne Country Park and the Cobham Estate and Ranscombe Reserve are also good to visit. Going out for the day does not have to mean spending lots of money at a Theme Park or Shopping Centre, although that is always good for the occasional treat, but you really can have a great day getting dirty and

climbing trees in our Country Parks. Take a picnic and then it is just the ice cream to buy! Whatever you do have a great time this August and we will be with you again as the schools go back in September.

## Correspondence

### BERENGRAVE NATURE RESERVE

Dear Editor,

I have been sent a copy of Action Forum by a friend living in Rainham which includes the article about Berengrave Nature Reserve by Joe Ennis (June 2017 no 532)

The concrete blocks and wash mills mentioned in the Nature Notes are the only remains of the original chalk processing built about 1906 by Goldsmiths the barge owning family in preparation for the opening of their cement works on Rainham Creek, Motney. The Goldsmiths did not own this site of the chalk so had to pay the owner for the chalk and flints extracted, this continued until 1932 when the site closed.

I led the team which excavated the wash mill site, which we were unable to complete because Riverside Country Park, who manage the site raised concerns over Health and Safety which were never clarified. The resulting model which is in Rainham Library was constructed by me based on the evidence recorded during the dig, and is as accurate as I could make it.

The concrete blocks mentioned could be the six used in pair to mount three vertical ball grinders used to reduce the chalk slurry to a liquid in preparation to being pumped to the works at Rainham Creek. During the period when the Nature Reserve was flooded in 2013/14 the blocks became submerged, meaning the water at this time was four feet deep. The wash pond mentioned are in the area beyond the blocks. The flooding caused considerable damage to the trees and wooden walkways in the reserve, I am now led to believe the walkways are closed to the public.

Yours truly  
Fraser Miller

18 Flack Gardens, Hoo Rochester.

### DOLLS' HOUSE EXHIBITION

Dear Editor

The Rainham & District Dolls' House and Miniaturist Group are holding their 16th Dolls' House Exhibition on Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th August at St Margaret's Junior School, Orchard Street, Rainham ME8 9AE from 10.00am - 4.00pm on Saturday and 10.00am - 3.00pm on Sunday. There is Free Parking on school playground and admission is Free.

The exhibition is funded by the Big Lottery Fund and will also include exhibits of model railways, model aircraft, model vehicles and war gaming items to add to the fun.

Yours sincerely  
Sylvia Wildridge  
swildridge@blueyonder.co.uk

### LINE DANCE EVENING

Dear Editor,

Hempstead Village Hall Committee are holding a Line Dance Evening on Saturday 16th September, in the Village Hall (behind All Saints' Church in Hempstead Road). Tickets may be obtained from me at £10 each to include a supper of fish or sausage and chips. The doors will open at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. I can be contacted on 01634 230214, or email [valeriegorf@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:valeriegorf@blueyonder.co.uk).

Yours sincerely  
Val Gorf

### IT SUPPORT FOR THE TERRIFIED!

Dear Editor,

Over the last few years Rainham School for Girls has offered free sessions to the IT Terrified!

We would like to extend that invitation again. We will be running sessions in November on Tuesday afternoon, from 3.15 - 4.00pm.

There will be one to one support by the 'experts', our students! Remember this is an absolute beginners course. If you are interested, please book by ringing 01634 362746 and speak to Mrs Moon, send me an email, or leave a message and I will get back to you.

Regards

Mrs K. Moon (Director of  
Research, Careers and Community Liaison)  
Rainham School for Girls  
Tel: 01634 362746 Fax: 01634 388334

### PRINCE ARTHUR INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

Prince Arthur Road, Gillingham  
(opposite the Royal Engineers Museum).

A friendly club that offers social, friendly and competitive games for all age groups.

Why not come and try this challenging game and make new friends.

Tuition is available from our coaches and we have bowls available for you to borrow while you are learning. For further information

ring 01634 281243 or check our website [paribc.co.uk](http://paribc.co.uk)  
We also run BOCCIA a game of bowls designed for the disabled most

Saturday mornings 10.30am - 1.00pm

We have an open weekend on the  
23rd and 24th September, 10.00am - 4.00pm.  
All are welcome to come and try the sport.

### 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](http://www.salmonwindows.co.uk)

### FILM AFTERNOONS FOR KIDS

Twydall Community Centre

Every Tuesday during summer holidays.  
12 for 12.30pm start.

August 1st - Moana,

August 8th - Sing,

August 15th - Beauty & The Beast 2017,

August 22nd - Lego Batman.

Available for ages 5 - 10 years, £3 per child includes free cup drink. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Adults free entrance & first tea/coffee free.

Sweets & drinks on sale. To book your place contact [bookings@twydallcommunitycentre.org](mailto:bookings@twydallcommunitycentre.org)

### FUN, FOOD & CRAFT DAY

Medway Queen Preservation Society

Gillingham Pier ME7 1RX

Saturday 19th August, 10.00am - 4.00pm

We are celebrating the heroine of Dunkirk's 93rd birthday in style while raising funds for her restoration.

Crafts, gifts and cake, hot food, holistic therapy treatments, music, kids games, guided tours of the Medway Queen and stories from past crew members

### DISTRIBUTION

Volunteer distributors are needed for:

**Rainham**

Wheatcroft Grove

Cherrytree Road & Church Mews

Tilbury Road, Finwell, Wivenhoe, Cooden & Twyford

**Hempstead**

Meadowdown, Thistledown, Tamarind & Mulberry,  
Closes

**Upchurch**

Ham Green circuit

If you can help please email [af@thenet.uk.net](mailto:af@thenet.uk.net)  
or ring 01634 310011 (please mention Action Forum)

**Beregrave Service Station**

FREE COLLECTION SERVICE WITHIN A 5 MILE RADIUS

<b>MOTS</b>	<b>SERVICING</b>	<b>DIAGNOSTICS</b>
<b>TYRES</b>	<b>REPAIRS</b>	<b>AIR-CON</b>

Lower Rainham Rd, Rainham, ME7 7TY [www.beregraveservicestation.com](http://www.beregraveservicestation.com) Call 01634 233619

### Home Help Service

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

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

**Take Care**  
Caring For Your Independence

Please call us on:  
**01634 316821**  
[www.takecareltd.co.uk](http://www.takecareltd.co.uk)

Assistants CRB checked,  
insured & referenced.

# Diary 2017

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: August 20th 2017

August 6th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am,  
meet Harry Keane 07729 356835 GR 847581 ME17  
1QT Huckling. Church Road Woodland Trust Car Park  
Height Barrier 2 metres. Fee payable 4.5 mile pleasant  
moderate circular walk. Some gentle ascents and  
descents. 6 Stiles. No Dogs

August 6th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Hadlow, 10.00am  
Leisurely circular walk 8 miles / 12.9 km, finish  
2.30pm, Meet Hadlow Square TN11 0DZ - please park  
considerately (TQ631497) A nice easy flat walk on  
footpaths and quiet lanes. Bring picnic, public house  
with food at end. Hop tour walk see maltings, huts, oast  
houses, hop gardens and the scene of the hop pickers  
tragedy where 30 lives were lost. Contact: Len, 01634  
319391, lenbeadle@blueyonder.co.uk

August 6th - Sunday service with guest Medium John  
Shaw. The Centre, Farthing Corner, ME88PQ (next to  
Travelodge) 6.30pm, £2, Healing available after the  
service. www.thecentre-mindbodyspirit.co.uk

August 7th - Monday Hub, 10.00am - 12.30pm, St Paul's  
Church, Parkwood, ME8 9PN, Board games, Table  
Tennis, use of Laptop and much more, Free light  
refreshments, phone Jill on 01634 230780

August 7th - Medway Towns Bridge Club, Sociable  
duplicate Bridge every Mon, Tues and Fri, 7.30pm, St.  
Luke's Methodist Church Hall, City Way, Rochester  
ME1 2BQ. Table money £3.50 guests, £2.50 members  
(£10 to join) find a partner on Monday, details 01634  
375706, or visit www.bridgewebs.com/medwaytowns

**FOLK'S FOOTCARE** MCFHP MAFHP  
Home Visits for All Nail Conditions  
Nail Trimming, Corns, Verrucae,  
Callus Reduction. Diabetics Treated.

Call Mrs Heidi Folk to book your appointment on  
**07549 166031**

Saturday morning and evening appointments available.

**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. Domestics**  
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  
www.a1-roofing-services.co.uk

August 8th - Twydall Community Centre, Film  
Afternoons for kids. Every Tuesday during summer  
holidays, 12.30pm start. 'Sing', ages 5-10, £3 per child  
must be accompanied by an adult. Adults free & first  
tea/coffee free. Sweets & drinks on sale. Book at  
bookings@twydallcommunitycentre.org

August 8th - Healing, every Tues evening 7.30 - 9.00pm  
and Wednesday 10 - 11.30am Reiki, Spiritual, Rahanni,  
given freely, donations acceptable. (see 6th Aug)

August 8th - Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society, 7.30pm,  
Rainham School for Girls, Derwent Way, ME8 0BX  
The History of Weather Forecasting - Ian Currie,  
Members £1, Non-members £1.50, New members and  
visitors always welcome, for details ring 01634 852519

August 9th - Star Wars and solar system Craft Fun Day  
for 3-12 years. 11.00am - 3.00pm, make Jedi swords,  
galaxy slime, moon rocks, space ships, and lots more  
outer space crafts, £6, 01634 376507 (see 6th Aug)

August 9th - East Medway U3A, Rainham Mark Social  
Club, 2.00pm, Helen Allinson 'Farewell to Kent - Poor  
emigrants in 19th century who were assisted to  
America, Australia and New Zealand' Guests welcome  
Cost £2. Phone 07895 890635 for further details

August 12th - Craft Market, St Margaret's Millennium  
Centre, Rainham, 9.00am - 12.30pm, Free entry, Stalls  
are £10 each contact cjdcraftmarkets@yahoo.com or  
ring 07779 366054 for more details

August 12th - Quiz Night, 7.30pm, Stockbury Village  
Hall, in aid of Remus Horse Sanctuary. £5 per person.  
Please pre book 01622 884600

August 13th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Wye & Crundale  
Downs Ramble, 10.00am Moderate, circular, dog  
friendly walk 8.5 miles / 13.7 km, estimated finish time:  
2.45pm, Meet outside Wye Church, small car park and  
toilets nearby. TN25 5BL (TR054468) North Downs  
Way spectacular long-distance views. Bring picnic  
lunch, pubs and restaurants at end. Contact: John,  
07749 760788, billingsjc@blueyonder.co.uk

**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 Childscroft Road, Rainham, Kent

August 13th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 10.00am  
meet Jim Gevaux 07807 896995 GR183542 CT4 5LB  
Bridge High Street. Park considerably, junction - Red  
Lion Pub Patribourne Road. 5 mile undulating walk, 2  
stiles. No toilets. Dogs allowed

August 14th - Monday Hub, (see 7th Aug)

August 14th - Medway Scramble Club, 2.00 - 4.30pm, St  
Stephens Church Hall, Maidstone Road, Chatham, new  
members welcome, details 01634 230500

August 14th - Rainham Evening Bereavement Friendship  
Group, Millennium Centre, Rainham meets 2nd Mon  
each month to help those in employment. Join us for a  
cuppa and chat, ring Julie 01634 364309.

August 14th - Rainham Flower Club, St Matthews Church  
Hall, Drewery Drive, Wigmore, ME8 0NX Practical  
Evening 'Baskets', 7.30pm, for more information see  
www.rainhamflowerclub.co.uk or ring 01634 864572  
01634 863034 / 01622 884478

August 14th - Concert Medway Organ & Keyboard Club,  
Parkwood Community Centre, Rainham, ME8 9PN,  
7.30pm, Organist - Reg Rawlings, details ring Brian  
Leonard 01634 234694

August 15th - Twydall Community Centre, Film for kids.  
'Beauty & The Beast' 2017, (see 8th Aug).

August 16th - Wigmore Ladies Club, Howard Hall,  
Woodside, 2.00 - 4.00pm, new members welcome to  
this cheerful group, just come or ring 01634 388912

August 16th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Lower Halstow  
'Figure of Eight', 10.00am Moderate circular walk 11  
miles / 17.7 km, finish 4.00pm, Meet Lapwing Close,  
Lower Halstow, ME9 7DZ (TQ858673) 'Figure of  
eight'. 5.5 + 5.5 miles. pm 1.15pm, Lunch Three Tuns  
Lower Halstow Contact: Margaret, 01795 843927,  
maglou1@yahoo.co.uk

August 16th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group, 6.30pm,  
meet Stephen Manning 07551 712438 GR 745685  
Rochester Railway Station. P&D Car Park, 3.5mile  
Evening Walk around old & new Rochester on  
pavements. Dogs allowed

August 16th - Bredhurst Garden Club, Third Wednesday  
every month, Village Hall, 7.30pm, Brian Williamson  
'Two Rocks and a Hole in the Ground - Chalk, Flint  
and Chislehurst Caves', Pelargonium Show, Bring and  
Buy Produce Stall, New members always welcome,  
ring 07791 781 910 for details

August 18th - Hempstara Whist Afternoon, 1.30pm start,  
The Scout Hut, Dukes Meadow Drive, Hempstead.

Whist players of all abilities welcome. A partner is not  
required. For details please ring Eunice 01634 231664.

August 18th - An evening of clairvoyance with the  
amazing Daniel Pitt, £5. 7.30pm, (see 6th Aug)

August 18th - Jazz Gig, Anchorians Rugby Club, Darland  
Avenue, Gillingham, 8.00pm, Dave Ital's Fat Freddy's  
Cat. £12, Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743

August 19th - Fun, Food & Craft Day, Medway Queen  
Preservation Society, Gillingham Pier ME7 1RX,  
10.00am - 4.00pm celebrating the heroine of Dunkirk's  
93rd birthday, Crafts, gifts and cake, hot food, holistic  
therapy treatments, music, kids games, guided tours of  
the Medway Queen & stories form past crew members.

August 19th - Family Barn Dance, 7.00pm, Lower  
Halstow Memorial Hall, entrance £5 adult, £2.50 12  
years and under, please bring your own supper and  
beverage. Tickets contact Kay 01795 844408.

August 20th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,  
10.00am, meet Brian Gevaux 01634 235883 677362  
Lamberhurst, The Broadway Car Park, 5 mile circular  
loop walk Lamberhurst to Scotney Castle and return.  
No hills, Toilets at start & Castle. Dogs allowed

August 20th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Margate to Herne  
Bay, 10.00am, Moderate linear walk 12.5 miles / 20.1  
km finish 4.45pm, Meet Margate Railway Station -  
Train from Medway arrives 9.29 or 9.58am, Station Car  
Park £3, CT9 5AD, TR347705/Finish at CT6 5JG  
TR178684 linear walk along the North Kent coastline.  
Plenty of cafes etc. at end. Return train to Medway at  
33 and 44 minutes past each hour. Contact: Chris,  
01634 360270, chris.strachan@live.com

August 20th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Medway  
Mountain Tops Urban Walk, 10.00am, easy circular  
walk 4.5 miles / 7.2 km, finish 12.15pm Park just  
beyond St Barbara's Garrison Church, Maxwell Road,  
ME7 5SG walk along the top of the Medway Towns.  
Tea stop Sun Pier. Fort Amherst cafe at end. Contact:  
Sally & David, 01634574552, smithgaul@aol.com

August 21st - Monday Hub, (see 7th Aug)

August 21st - Wigmore WI every 3rd Monday in month  
7.30 - 9.30pm, St Matthew's Community Centre,  
Drewery Drive, interested please ring Chris Ellison on  
01634 372976 or Barbara Strachan on 01634 268611

August 21st - Rainham Evening Women's Institute, St  
Paul's Church, Parkwood, 7.30pm, Members only  
meeting, ring Kate Archer 01634 360797

Continued on Page 11

## 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

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

**Whiskers Lodge Cattery**  
Witlis Cottages, Dunn Street,  
Bredhurst, ME7 3NA

Situated 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. F&B 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

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

**QCR CAR REPAIRS**  
Good Garage Scheme

Auto electrics  
Servicing - Diagnostics - MOT's  
Keys - Key Fobs - Air Con - ABS

Call Mick 01634 238777 or 07801 429527  
www.qcrsales.co.uk qcrmick@hotmail.co.uk  
1 Hothfield Road, Rainham. ME8 8BJ (Just off Station Rd)

**GREG BRYANT**  
CONSTRUCTION LTD  
REGISTERED HOUSE BUILDERS  
EXTENSIONS  
A1 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—Established 18 years

Non surgical face lifting — Facials — Waxing  
Electrolysis — Body Treatments — Reflexology  
Geleration Manicure & Pedicure—Massage  
Lava shell massage — 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

**FEMALE PAINTER & DECORATOR**  
Friendly, Reliable and Professional Service

Please call Joanne from  
Art Decorating Services  
for a free no obligation quotation

on 07948 025558 or 01634 353000  
www.artdecoratingservices.com

**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

**EAST MEDWAY U3A**  
Rainham Mark Social Club  
56 London Road, ME8 6YX.  
Wednesday August 9th, 2.00pm  
Helen Allinson

'Farewell to Kent — Poor emigrants in 19th century  
assisted to America, Australia and New Zealand'  
Guests welcome Cost £2.  
Phone 07895 890635 for further details

**JAZZ GIG**  
Anchorians Rugby Club,  
Darland Avenue, Gillingham  
Friday 18th August, 8.00pm  
Dave Ital's Fat Freddy's Cat.  
Admission £12

Enquiries 01634 365352 or 07544 312743  
If jazz/funk is your "thing" then come and see one of  
the finest bands of this genre and get in the groove!

**FAMILY BARN DANCE**  
Lower Halstow Memorial Hall  
Saturday 19th August doors open 7.00pm  
Dancing begins 7.30pm.

Entrance £5 per adult, £2.50 12 years and under  
Please bring your own supper and beverage.  
Tickets contact Kay 01795 844408.  
See you there.

**FAMILY FUN DAY**  
Thursday August 31st, 10.30am - 5.30pm  
The Star Meadow Sports Club,  
Darland, Gillingham

Raising money for the children's ward.  
Cakes, Tombola, Raffle, Crafts, Bouncy Castle,  
Craft Activities, Penalty Shoot Outs, Face Painting  
Popcorn/Candy Floss, Ice cream, Balloons. Live  
Entertainment, Singers, Dancers, Magician.

Special guest appearances  
The Trolls and Many more Characters  
More details from 07805 782690

**WOW A "CHARITY AUCTION"**  
St Mary Magdalene Church, Gillingham  
(The Church on The Green)

In aid of the Re-Ordering Project Appeal  
Sunday 17th September, 2.00 — 5.00pm  
with entertainment from "The Warblers"  
Refreshments, Free entry  
Car parking at Saxon Way School  
Further information Hilda 01634 932135

**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  
Rainham

01634 312633  
07792 244 315

**SUMMER FETE**  
Lower Halstow Village Hall  
Saturday 9th September 12noon - 4.00pm.  
Flower Arranging and Home Grown Vegetables  
Competitions.

Subjects for Flower Arranging are  
1. Look at Me, 2. Dinner for Two,  
3. I'm in the Hedge Rows.

Subject for the Home Grown Vegetables  
1. Just Right, 2. The Funniest/Oddest Shape,  
3. One for The Pot.

Exhibitors can arrange their flowers and or produce  
from 9.00 - 11.00am. Judging begins 11.15am.  
Rosettes to First, Second and Third of each Class  
plus a keep Plaque and a returnable Trophy for both  
the Overall Flower arrangement and Home Grown  
Vegetables Competition.

Trophy's donated by St. Margaret's Church, and a  
member of our Lower Halstow St. Margaret's  
Church, will present them at 4.00pm.

The Fete includes Craft Stalls, Coconut Shy,  
Tombola, The U.K's Mrs. Galaxy, (she will be  
collecting money for the PDSA and Dream Flights  
for Children). Indian Food, Home-made Cakes,  
Puzzle Stall, Hot Dogs and Burger BBQ,  
Refreshments and many more fun packed stalls, the  
Grand Raffle will be drawn at 4.00pm  
Can't wait, see you there.

**QUIZ NIGHT**  
Saturday 9th September  
7.15 for a 7.30pm start  
Twydall Community Centre  
Beechings Way, Gillingham

To help raise urgent funds for  
Children's Brain Tumour Research  
Tickets £7.50 per person, Teams of 6  
(includes light supper of Sausage & Chips or veggie  
option) Bring your own drink and nibbles  
Free parking. To Book a Table Call:  
John or Ann on 01634 815430  
e-mail ann.hopley@outlook.com  
or john.guy@sky.com

**HERITAGE OPEN DAYS**  
St Mary's Church, Newington  
Sat & Sun, 9th-10th September, 2pm-5pm  
Find out about Newington's rich heritage  
@newingtonhg

**Master Alarms**  
WE DON'T JUST INSTALL!  
WE CHECK, UPDATE AND MAINTAIN  
ALARMS AND CCTV

163 Fairview Avenue, Wigmore, ME8 0PX  
Telephone: 01634 379762  
Email: mail@masteralarms.com  
www.masteralarms.com

**Fair Trader**

# Nature Notes

## NATURE NOTES

This month's notes are mainly about my search for the nightingale, the cuckoo and the turtle dove in the lower Rainham Road Countryside Park, in the months of May, June and early July. All three species are summer visitors. The Park includes Eastcourt Meadows which are covered in hawthorn and other trees and have an understorey mainly of brambles and nettles. Birds such as blackcap, garden warbler, dunnock and white throat nest in the understorey. In early May a Park warden told me that a nightingale had been heard singing on the Meadows, in a triangle of fenced off scrubland. So, on that evening and the next one, I sat on a bench next to the triangle. On both occasions, I heard the songs of chaffinch, blackbird and song thrush, but not nightingale. The thrush often sings well after sunset and its song, which is loud, far-carrying and musical can sometimes be confused with that of the nightingale, as is evidenced by the song line "A nightingale sang in Berkeley Square." As the second evening wore on, I began to ask dog walkers, in some desperation, whether they had heard one. This was all to no avail until one lady said that, one recent evening, she had recorded one, on her mobile, near to where I was sitting. She had played it back to the nightingale, which responded with another long, loud song. I explained to her, although I suspect she knew already, that the nightingale was trying to scare off an imagined intruder into his territory. The lady kindly played her recording twice but there was no response from the triangle or anywhere nearby. I thanked her and said goodbye. As the sun went down, rabbits came out in increasing numbers. I glanced down at an open page of my guidebook on birds. "... a shy, skulking bird keeping to thick vegetation in damp woods, copses and hedges," it noted. How very true! I decided to give up and go home. I was not a happy bunny.

I heard my first male cuckoo call, in early May, in the vicinity of the reed beds at the bottom of the Motney Hill Peninsula. These beds are one of the largest of their kind in south east England. They are the habitat, among other birds, of the reed warbler, in whose nests,

along with those of the dunnock and the meadow pipit, the female cuckoo typically lays her eggs. I heard other male cuckoo calls during my visits to the scrubland areas of the park, particularly Eastcourt Meadows. According to the RSPB, we have lost six out of ten visiting cuckoos since 1970. The plight of the turtle dove is more precarious than that of the cuckoo. The RSPB has reported that the bird's breeding population has declined by 90% since 1970 and is now largely confined to eastern and south eastern England. This may be attributable to the doves being shot whilst migrating over the Mediterranean and mainland Europe; and also to the use of herbicides in this country to kill the short-lived weeds such as common fumitory, chickweed and scarlet pimpernel, on the seeds of which the birds mainly feed. The RSPB and other bodies are encouraging farmers to grow certain flowers on bare land and landowners generally to leave out seeds favoured by the doves. The wardens of the Countryside Park spread seeds on the concrete apron of Bloors Wharf, as an initial source of food for incoming turtle doves and these attracted two or three of the species, among other seed eating birds such as linnetts. Despite these sightings, I myself did not see or hear a single turtle dove, within two months and more of searching the whole length of the park, from Rainham Dock East in the east to Eastcourt Meadows in the west. That does not mean that my visits were entirely unproductive. I saw many other species of birds, wild flowers, butterflies and grass snakes in the main pond (with the bridge across). From past experience, I knew that I had a good chance of meeting a turtle dove on Motney Hill, which is just outside the boundary of the Park. At a notice declaring "PRIVATE ROAD" I got out of my car and walked. Upon reaching the houses on the top of the Hill, I came to a long, dense and impenetrable length of tall brambles, on my right, which stretched about half way down the Hill. Beyond the brambles was rough grass dotted with hawthorn trees and bushes and, adjoining the embankment of Otterham Creek, was an area of common reed. At a metal gate across the road, on which there was a notice stating, euphemistically, "Waste Water Treatment Plant", I turned right onto a public footpath, part of the Saxon Shore Way, which

leads to Otterham Creek. I had not been sitting long on my portable seat when I heard the unmistakable, soft, purring song of a turtle dove somewhere on the brambles. After a minute or two of no further singing I rose slowly from my seat, but the dove saw me and flew up to some overhead electricity cables. There, through my binoculars, I could see – and admire – the orange and buff checker patterns in his wings. In order to get away from the smell of the "waste water", I walked down the Hill and sat on the embankment, the grass on which had just been mowed by the Environment Agency. It was low tide in the creek. Black headed gulls were settled on the narrow channel of water and shelduck, redshank and oyster catcher were feeding in the mud flats. The dove's song is symbolic of a languid summer's day. I sat in the sun on what was indeed a languid summer's day but I was too far away to hear the soft, soporific song of the turtle dove.

Joe Ennis

## DESTRUCTION OF THE WHITE HORSE INN

On May 14th 1892 one of the biggest blazes seen in Rainham took place when a fire broke out in the White Horse Inn on the corner of Station Road and the High Street.

The Inn closed as usual on the night of Friday May 13th and the customers left while publican Charles Adie, his wife, their two children and four lodgers including two Royal Engineers stayed in the building. When everyone went to bed everything seemed normal according to Mrs Adie but at 4.20am she awoke to see smoke coming from the bedroom fireplace and heard knocking but at first she decided not to do anything. Unable to sleep she got up and went to the landing where she saw thick smoke coming from below. She realized that a fire had started so she woke her husband then the two Royal Engineers sleeping in the adjoining room. She went to the children's bedroom, woke them up, wrapped a blanket around each and then took them out of the building by the back staircase. Mr Adie and the lodgers also managed to vacate the premises. While Mrs Adie and her children were taken into the Cricketer's Inn opposite by the landlord Mr Jarrett, Mr Adie, assisted by police constables Packman and Bridgeland who had arrived on the scene, managed to take the horses and traps from the coach-house next to the inn to safety before the fire engulfed it. By this time a large crowd of Rainham residents had

converged on the scene after the alarm had been sounded. A mounted messenger was immediately sent to Chatham to rouse the fire brigade. Richard Wakeley junior from Moor Street Farm cycled to the waterworks at Keycol Hill to request that the water be turned on as it had been turned off during the night. Meanwhile, people present at the fire could only watch as large orange flames and thick smoke shot up into the sky and completely engulfed the building. According to the East Kent Gazette a large amount of spirits stored in the cellar contributed to the speed of the fire expanding. Just before this Mr Adie managed to get into the bar where he recovered the safe containing a large amount of cash before the roof caved in at about 6am. The two Royal Engineers managed to prevent the fire from spreading to 'Church House' next to the inn by cutting down a wooden shed between the two buildings with axes.

When the fire brigade arrived from Chatham the inn with all its contents had been completely destroyed and only the charred walls and the inn sign remained. The Chatham firemen could only push down the walls of the building with poles to make it safe leaving a heap of ruins apart from the coach-house which survived.

The White Horse building belonged to E Winch & Sons from Chatham. Fortunately, they had insured it so although the estimated damage totalled £2,000 the inn was rebuilt immediately and still exists today. An investigation later attributed the cause of the fire to a beam that ran into the chimney at the back of the bar. The end had ignited then burst into flames. However, the biggest concern regarded the water being turned off and fire hydrants not being available. Mr Adie later commented that if the water had been turned on buckets of it could have been used to extinguish the fire before it took hold. This led to the establishment of Rainham Fire Brigade and hydrants being placed in different parts of the village during the following decade.

David Wood.

## BRAIN TUMOUR CHARITY QUIZ

Saturday 7th October 7.15 - 10.00pm  
Twydall Church Hall, Twydall Lane, Gillingham  
Raffle - Bring Your Own Food and Drink  
Tea/Coffee and Biscuit available.  
Free Parking on Twydall Green  
To book please Contact Olwen 01634 263622  
for booking

## 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 24 HOUR PLUMBING

Leaks—Bursts—Ball Valves  
Taps Repaired/ Replaced  
Tanks- Cisterns -Blockages  
No Job Too Small  
**FAST, AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE**  
All Work Guaranteed  
Fully Insured

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



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

**LINDSAY & COMPANY**  
TREE SURGEONS

TEL/FAX 01634 366923

Reg No.  
6629



## D.H. MILLER

For all your Plumbing Services  
**HELP is on its way**  
UPGRADING CENTRAL HEATING  
BOILER EXCHANGES  
POWER FLUSHING  
LUXURY BATHROOMS & SHOWERS

01634 235831 – Mobile 07860 471210



## 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 PFA

## Local Qualified Financial Adviser

With 30 years experience within Financial Services,  
I provide specialist advice in a wide range of areas  
including: Investment and Pensions Planning, Annuities,  
Protection and Inheritance Tax.

For further details contact Theresa on:

Office: 01634 264322 Mob: 07580 579031

theresa.elsey@sjpp.co.uk / www.theresaelsey.co.uk

## WATERCOLOUR and CALLIGRAPHY Beginners and Improvers One Day Courses

Beginners August 23 September 26

Improvers August 24 September 28

Phone Jacky for details 01622 861983

www.suninthewoodcraftdays.co.uk

## LOCAL BUILDER

Extensions, loft conversions, General building  
Professional Reliable Service

HPR Hebditch  
Property  
Renovations Ltd

01634 389675

07721 365 630

www.hprenovations.co.uk

53 Woodside, Wigmore

Medway  
Fair Trader

## ATKINSON BOILER CARE

### Central Heating & Hot Water specialist

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

16 Boston Gardens, Rainham.

01634 366 435 / 07754 833 250

www.loveyourboiler.co.uk



## PR Improvements

Home improvements

Electrical and all other jobs considered:  
Plumbing, decorating etc. Reliable and trustworthy

Peter Ribbens

MOBILE: 07584 652017

N.P.SUMMERFIELD

20 Years Experience

## CARPENTER

Kitchens, Floors, Bedrooms, Doors

32 Swain Road, Wigmore, Gillingham,  
Kent. ME8 0SN

Tel/Fax 01634 361107 Mobile 07967 300269

CARPENTRY • DECORATING • PROBLEM SOLVING • DECKING

## CDS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Call Chris Smy

07919 270599

www.cdspropertymaintenance.freeindex.co.uk

GARDEN MAINTENANCE • FLOORING • GUTTER & FASCIA CLEANING

## CL DECORATORS

Complete Painting & Decorating Service

Interior / Exterior

Paperhanging, Specialising in Hall, Stairs and Landing  
For Your Free No Obligation Quote

12 De Mere Close, Rainham

01634 261913 Mobile 07900 190564

## BB Property Services

Painting & Decorating, Plumbing,  
Carpentry, Plastering and Tiling

Call Barry Baker on

07849 418 868

## CALLAWAY HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Improving Homes for Over 25 years

Kitchen Installation

Bathroom Installation

Carpentry, Floor, Electrics, Plastering

Painting & Decorating

For your Free estimate

Call - 07970 678895 / 07791 311251

## Neat Feet

Mobile chiropody in the comfort of your  
own home by a qualified lady  
practitioner. Treatments to include \*Corns

\*Callus \*Thickened Nails \*Verrucae

\*Diabetics Discounts for OAPs

Tel: 01634 322591

# Diary 2017

August 22nd - Twydall Community Centre, Film

Afternoons for kids. 'Lego Batman' (see 8th Aug).

August 25th - Organ Recital Series, 7.30pm, St Thomas  
RC Church Rainham, Peter Boxall (Channing School),  
Admission £10 donation to the organ fund, unwaged  
and under 25's free. Tea & coffee in the hall afterwards.

August 27th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,  
10.00am, meet Graham Starkey 01634 371948 GR  
189561 CT4 5EP Bekesbourne Station. Station Road  
parking. This is Bank Holiday Weekend 5.5mile  
undulating circular walk across grassland and fields  
also through woodland plus some roads. Dogs allowed

August 27th - Medway Ramblers Walk, East Malling,  
10.00am, Leisurely circular walk 6 miles / 9.7 km,  
finish 1.15pm, Park in free public car park in the High  
Street near railway bridge ME19 6AJ TQ702570 see  
Watercress Beds, Springhead Farm and up to Warren  
Wood Nature Reserve. An easy flattish walk with  
heath, coppiced woodland and farmland, Contact: Ade,  
01634 306405, adeballard@yahoo.co.uk

August 28th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Kit's Coty,  
10.00am, Leisurely circular walk 4 miles / 6.4 km,  
finish 12.15pm, park Bluebell Hill picnic site ME5 9RG  
TQ743621 Mostly footpath, see the White Horse stone  
and Kit's Coty. Contact: John, 07749 760788,  
billingsjc@blueyonder.co.uk

August 28th - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 14th Aug)  
August 31st - Family Fun Day for the children's ward,  
10.30am - 5.30pm. Stalls, Live Entertainment, Singers,  
Dancers, Magician, Star Meadow Sports Club, Darland,  
Gillingham ring 07805782690 for details.

August 31st - Rainham Friendship Group, Millennium  
Centre, Gatekeeper Chase, Rainham. Last Thursday of  
every month 1.45pm - 3.30pm, all welcome, hosted by  
Hands & Gillingham Volunteer Centre, £2 per session.  
Speaker/entertainment 01634 577984 for information.

August 31st - Rainham & District Dolls' House and  
Miniaturist Group, 7.30pm, Howard Memorial Hall,  
Woodside, Rainham, All welcome, more details from  
Sylvia Wildridge 01634 312038

September 1st - Rainham Bereavement Friendship  
Group, Millennium Centre, Rainham every Friday  
9.45am to help those who have lost a loved one. Join us  
for a cuppa and chat, ring Julie 01634 364309.

## COMPUTERS REPAIRED IN YOUR HOME

Virus/Malware removal  
PC repairs and Upgrades  
Speed up your PC!

Stuartfox

Over 22 years' experience

01634 328328

07870 641823



## ACE GLAZING REPAIRS

All types of doors & windows  
fitted and repaired

Fast, Friendly, Reliable,  
All work guaranteed

FOR A FREE QUOTE CALL JAMIE

01634 329029 or

07803 434929

September 1st - Games Afternoon Lower Halstow Village  
Hall, 2.00pm. Games include Euchre, Whist, Scrabble  
Rummucub, and other card or board games. £1.50 for a  
cup of Tea/Coffee, biscuits and a warm welcome.

September 2nd - Show Day, Rainham Horticultural  
Society, St Margaret's Millennium Centre 2.00 -  
4.00pm, ring 366276 for details

September 2nd - Bredhurst Village Show, Village Hall,  
Doors open 2.30pm, ring 07791 781 910 for details

September 3rd - Medway Ramblers Walk, Cuxton,  
10.00am, Moderate circular walk 5.7 miles / 9.2 km,  
finish 1.15pm, park considerably on the approach road  
to Cuxton Station. ME2 1AB, TQ712667 Bring picnic  
lunch. Woodlands, farm land, parkland, Mausoleum,  
good views, hills demanding for some. Contact: Tony/  
Ann, 01634 406634, vajra.faulkner@tesco.net

September 3rd - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,  
10.00am, meet John Williams 01622 764821 07977  
614033 Cranbrook Car Park off High Street. Near Coop  
GR 775359 Postcode TN17 3DQ for a 6 mile figure of  
8 walk around Cranbrook and its Wealden Woods. 25  
Steps. No stiles, Dogs Allowed

September 4th - Medway Towns Bridge Club, (7th Aug)  
September 5th - GHS Floral Art Group, United Reformed  
Church (rear hall) Balmoral Road, Gillingham, 7.30pm,  
"Do your own thing" - practice night / pre-show  
discussion, New members welcome, first visit free, no  
experience needed, for details contact Kaye Buss 01634  
232998 or email kayebuss@btinternet.com

September 5th - Rainham Horticultural Society, 7.30pm,  
Asters - Jacqueline Aviolet, Rainham Cricket Club,  
Berengrave Lane, Rainham. New members welcome,  
ring 366276 for details.

September 6th - Medway Ramblers Walk, Breakfast Walk  
in Newington, 9.00am, Moderate circular walk 6 miles /  
9.7 km, finish 11.30am, Meet Tuck Inn, Newington.  
TQ846650 ME9 7PB, country lanes, fields & orchards.  
A couple of gentle hills. Returning to the Tuck Inn for  
breakfast at about 11.30 hrs. (Please phone Margaret  
beforehand if you would like to book in for breakfast).  
Contact: Margaret, 01795 843927,  
maglou1@yahoo.co.uk

September 7th - Wigmore Thursday Club, St Matthew's  
Community Centre, 2.00pm, Musical Entertainment,  
The Village Skiffle Group, for over 50s ring 01634  
234712 for details.

## CERFACE FOR TILES

WE'VE GOT IT!

If you are 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.



## Cliff's Mobile Foot Care

Foot Health Professional  
MCFHP MAFHP

Foot care in the comfort of your own home.  
All treatments including Nail cutting, Thickened, Fungal  
and Ingrown Nails, plus Hard Skin, Cracked Heels,  
Corns and Verrucae's.

For all enquires please call or text on,  
(01634) 316023 or 07876801830

## 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.  
30 Minute Fixed Fee Consultation - from £100.00 plus VAT  
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, Patio 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 2017

September 8th - Gillingham and Rainham Local History  
Society, Byron Primary School ME7 5XX, 7.15pm,  
History of the R.N.L.I. - Diana Lawrence, Visitors  
welcome (charge) details from Val Barrand 07947  
583327 email lupusrufus@sky.com or see  
www.grlhs.org

September 9th - Craft Market, St Margaret's Millennium  
Centre, Rainham, (see 12th Aug)

September 9th - Summer Fete Lower Halstow Village  
Hall, 12noon - 4.00pm. Flower Arranging and Home  
Grown Vegetables Competitions. Craft Stalls, Coconut  
Shy, Tombola, The U.K's Mrs. Galaxy, (she will be  
collecting money for the PDSA and Dream Flights for  
Children). Indian Food, Home-made Cakes, Puzzle  
Stall, Hot Dogs and Burger BBQ, Refreshments and  
many more fun packed stalls, the Grand Raffle will be  
drawn at 4.00pm

September 9th - GHS Floral Art Group, United Reformed  
Church (rear hall) Balmoral Road, Gillingham, GHS  
Autumn Show for details contact Kaye Buss 01634  
232998 or email kayebuss@btinternet.com

September 9th - Quiz Night, 7.15 for a 7.30pm start,  
Twydall Community Centre, Beechings Way,  
Gillingham for Children's Brain Tumour Research,  
Tickets £7.50 per person, Teams of 6 (includes light  
supper of Sausage & Chips or veggie option) Bring  
your own drink and nibbles, Free parking, To Book a  
Table Call 01634 815430 e-mail  
ann.hopley@outlook.com or john.guy@sky.com)

September 10th - Medway Ramblers Walk riverside stroll  
from Wateringbury, 10.30am, Leisurely circular walk  
5.3 miles / 8.5 km finish 1.30pm, park at Wateringbury  
Station Car Park. ME18 5EA TQ691528 Good views of  
river. A few stiles at start. A little road walking, led by  
Tonbridge & Malling Ramblers Group. Medway  
Ramblers most welcome to join members from another  
Kent Group. Contact: Mick, 07742728938

September 10th - Medway Towns Footpaths Group,  
2.00pm, meet Chris Morris 01634 374923 07847

## 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



Exterior  
Painting & Decorating  
All Garden Work

828249 Grays Tearoom, Brenchley Road, Brenchley.  
GR 673418 TN12 7NX for a 4.5 mile Cream Tea Walk  
mostly flat with 1 Stile followed by a Cream Tea which  
Must be booked in advance with Chris Morris, No Dogs

September 11th - Monday Hub, (see 7th Aug)

September 11th - Medway Scrabble Club, (see 14th Aug)

September 11th - Rainham Flower Club, Demonstration  
by Robin White 'Surprise Surprise' (see 14th Aug)

September 11th - Concert Medway Organ & Keyboard  
Club, Organist - Chiho Sunamoto, (see 14th Aug)

September 11th - Rainham Evening Bereavement

Friendship Group, (see 14th Aug)

September 12th - Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society,  
Bluebells, Buttercups and Beasts - Don Wilkes, (see 8th  
Aug)

September 12th - Medway Antique & Collectors' Club,  
8.00pm, St. George Hotel, New Road, Chatham.  
'Richard Champion and his Bristol Porcelain', New  
members welcome, for further information ring 01634  
851512 or simply just turn up

September 13th - East Medway U3A, Neil Arnold -  
'Spooky Kent' (see 9th Aug)

September 13th - All Saints Women's Fellowship,  
Hempstead Village Hall, 8.00pm, Library Services -  
Kate Clifford, details Rhonda Peck 07951 629444

September 14th - Wigmore Thursday Club, Broadly  
Speaking - Holidays Afloat, Wilf Lower, (see 7th Sept)

September 15th - Jazz Gig, Simon Bates/ Harry Harris  
Quartet in a tribute to Dave Brubeck featuring Simon  
Bates alto sax, Harry Harris piano, Dominic Howes  
Bass and Pete Cater drums (see 18th Aug)

September 16th - Line Dance Evening Hempstead Village  
Hall (behind All Saints' Church in Hempstead Road).  
7.30 pm start. Tickets from Val Gorf, £10 each to  
include supper of fish or sausage and chips. 01634  
230214, or email valriegorf@blueyonder.co.uk.

September 17th - Medway Ramblers Walk Sole Street -  
Camer Park, 10.00am, Moderate circular walk 11.5  
miles / 18.5 km, finish 4.15pm Meet in Camer Park  
Public Car Park (Café and Toilets available) DA13  
0XT, TQ649669 walk, Bring picnic lunch Contact:  
Simon/Mandy, simonellwood@hotmail.com

## Chartered Tax Advisers Tax Accountants

Self Assessment • Limited Companies  
Trusts • Partnerships • Company Formations  
Advanced Tax Planning • Property portfolios  
Inheritance tax • Capital Gains Tax

Call Sarah, Lucy or Kelly on 01634 260000  
Phipps Anthony, 24 Station Road, Rainham, ME8 7PH

## CANNON

CURTAINS, BLINDS & CANOPIES LTD

BLINDS - CURTAINS & TRACKING  
WOODEN SHUTTERS - AWNINGS  
01634 582116

M: 07896 501690 E: cannon-m@sky.com



## 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

### RALPH THE GARDENER.

Mowing, edging, weeding, pruning, planting, digging and tidying. Competitive rates.  
07415 151 015 or 01634 361505.

**LOSE WEIGHT WITH Cambridge**  
Weight Plan. 1-1 private appointments  
Contact Lizzie on 07888 840 324  
or lizzie.cwp@gmail.com for a free no obligation consultation

### PIANO LESSONS

Qualified, experienced piano teacher, Hempstead resident. (EPTA member)  
ALCM, ALCM(TD) Cert. Ed.  
Please phone Wendy, 01634 360176

### STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Shelving - Cupboards - Wardrobes  
Custom made. Free quotes. Fair Prices  
Malcolm 07917 364832  
malcolmben@hotmail.co.uk

**APPLE JUICE FROM RAINHAM**  
Community Orchard is now available  
at £3.00 per litre bottle from Sunburst  
Books, 21 Station Road: Davey the  
Butcher, 189 Station Road: Berengrave  
Service Station or from the orchard 10-  
12 am Tues & Thurs. For more  
information see the orchard page on  
www.thenet.uk.net

### S W GARDENING SERVICES.

All year round gardener - grass cutting,  
hedge trimming, pruning, digging,  
general garden maintenance. Please  
call 07432 020557.

### STEVE'S GARDEN CARE

Lawns mowed, hedges trimmed, patio  
cleaning, Leaf collecting and general  
garden maintenance. Wigmore,  
Parkwood, Hempstead areas. Call  
Steve 01634 360359 or 07982 625641

### GARDENER / HANDYMAN

Reliable gardening & handyman  
service carried out by mature man at  
reasonable rates. Hempstead based.  
Contact Martin on 07799265299 or  
01634 376477.

### GARDEN TIDY UPS.

Hedges trimmed, mowing, lawn  
repair.. City & Guilds qualified. Shane  
01634 300313 or 079234 76573

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

### RALPH'S BARN DANCE

Calling to CDs. Tel 01634 375481

**GIRLS PAMPER PARTIES 376270**  
www.sparklesglitterparty.co.uk

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

### MATURE HANDY MAN

Gardens tidied, patios, drives cleaned,  
small painting projects, curtain poles  
and blinds hung, flat packs assembled,  
rates negotiable, available evenings  
and weekends. Phone 01634 235499 or  
07725 159 764 and ask for Alan.

### 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

**MICHELLE'S NAIL ROOM -**  
mobile manicures and pedicures 01634  
613871 / 07736 278509

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

### YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

with Somatics Learn to let go from the  
Inside out Improve posture, mobility &  
health. Call Evanthea: 01634 317463  
Website: www.freed-om.co.uk

### WJ Garden Care & Maintenance

For all garden care and landscaping  
needs. Driveway, patio and decking  
cleaning. Please call 07921269378 or  
email wjgardencare@outlook.com.

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

### DRUMS, PIANO & PERCUSSION

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

### NICK'S GARDENING SERVICE.

Lawns mowed and general garden  
maintenance in Hempstead and  
Wigmore area. Please call  
01634 370583 or 07701 007 866

### GARDENING TLC:- Lady Gardener

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

### STUMP GRINDING & TREE

SURGERY. Roger Alsey  
01634 376776 (Wigmore)

### 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.

### LOGS - Seasoned hardwoods

£70/m³ (≈250 logs), ½m³ £40  
Delivered - Jim 07795 278081

**STEJEN COMPUTER SERVICES**  
Repairs, upgrades, troubleshooting.  
No fix, no fee.

City & Guilds qualified engineer. Phone  
Steven 01634 302624 Mob 07775 793738

### INTERIOR DECORATOR.

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

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

### TONY'S PLUMBING SERVICES.

No call out fee.  
Bathroom and Kitchen refits.  
Call 01634 374332 or 07961 951 254

### GET SLIM FOR SUMMER

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

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

**Andrew's PROPERTY SERVICES**  
including garden maintenance  
01634 613871 or 07708 508 193

**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

**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.

### COMPUTER HELP for Beginners

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

### 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.

### DENTURE REPAIRS

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

### UPCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

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

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

### LUMBERJACK TREE SERVICES

All tree works and removals  
professionally undertaken. All  
enquiries call 07584 212520 or email  
andrewwoodrow@hotmail.co.uk

### THE WINDOW WIZARD.

Replacement glass, hinges & handles.  
UPVC specialist. 01634 871808.

### 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

### 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 Alan Eldridge 01634 231077.

### LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

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

### VOLUNTEER BOOKSELLERS

needed to work 4 hours a week in  
Sunburst Books, 21 Station Road,  
Rainham, including Saturdays. The shop  
is stocked with donated books (more  
always welcome) and raises money for St  
Margaret's Church. For more details call  
Gavin Strudley 0n 01634 231341 or  
mobile 07957 884 335.

## Musical Bumps

Top-quality friendly music classes for  
babies and children aged 0 - 4 years

Classes in  
**WIGMORE Smallholders Club**  
& **ROCHESTER Dance Junction**

Contact Emma for details:  
07484 183424 or  
emma.davis@musicalbumps.com

FREE TRIAL  
SESSION!



www.musicalbumps.com

## DAVID WHITE Boilercare

- Member of Gas Safety Register
- All Boiler Servicing &  
Maintenance undertaken,  
New Systems Fitted
- Landlord Gas Safety Reports
- Fires, Cookers, Hobs Fitted &  
Serviced
- 24hr Emergency Service with

**NO CALL OUT FEE**  
**Medway 376929**  
**Engineer 07956 630003**

## 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**

## 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**

## CALLAWAY KITCHENS

**TOP QUALITY KITCHENS at**  
**AFFORDABLE PRICES**  
**Fully Installed or Supply Only**  
**Also available**  
**Replacement Kitchen Doors**  
**Made to Measure Worktops, Sinks,**  
**Taps, Appliances!**  
**For Free estimates and Design**

**Call - 01634 262396**  
**07970 678895**

## 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  
**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**

H  
P  
H  
Est  
1983

Hallett's  
Plumbing &  
Heating

Chris Hallett

[www.hallettplumbingandheating.co.uk](http://www.hallettplumbingandheating.co.uk)

Central Heating, Boiler Servicing, Breakdowns

47 Lakewood Drive, Wigmore, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 0NS

**01634 370697**

**07711 362898**

## HOGWOOD Electrical

Extra lights,  
sockets,  
fuse boards  
& full rewires



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



**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](mailto:sales@crystalcurtains.co.uk), W: [www.crystalcurtains.co.uk](http://www.crystalcurtains.co.uk)

## 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, CD's 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

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"

## 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

CHAWNER

## Plastering

Skimming, Coving,

Drywall board work, Painting and Decorating,

Decorative Mouldings, Repairs



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

• Monumental Masons

• Home visits if preferred

• Pre-arranged Funeral Plans

• Private Chapels of Rest

• 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

