

# ACTION FORUM

APRIL  
2021

AN INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR RAINHAM AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

NUMBER 566



## Barbara Mackay Miller

Born 7<sup>th</sup> July 1945 Died 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021  
Aged 75

Readers of Action Forum knew Barbara as their editor for almost 50 years. She took

over from Brenda Bryant with the December 1971 issue and her last was March 2020. In that time the number of homes in the Rainham area has almost doubled to just over 20,000. Under Barbara's editorship AF has helped to make the newcomers become part of the community by supporting the wide variety of voluntary groups in the area. The Memories of Rainham articles that show Rainham as a place with a history also help to show people that Rainham is built on deep foundations.

In 1971 all the articles were typed on a special "golf-ball" typewriter and then cut up and pasted into page layouts. To save money after a while Barbara took on the paste-up, using her kitchen table. A new generation of typesetting machines then had the facility to create complete pages ready to send to the printer. Further advances made desktop publishing programmes available for home computers so Barbara then learned to create a single PDF file to email to the printer on the due date.

In 1970 AF paid an agency to distribute the magazine but they ceased trading after a few continued on page 2

**FENSA** Registered Company

## SALMON WINDOWS

Medway Fair Trader Scheme

Conservatories designed and built ~ Upgrades to existing conservatory roofs  
Energy efficient 'A' rated uPVC windows & doors ~ Misted units replaced

Family run independent company

Which? Trusted trader

For advice and a very competitive quote call

**Installers of Quality**  
Products for 35 years

www.salmonwindows.co.uk

01634 363881

	Next issue : May 1st 2021
	Copy date : April 19th
	Please contact us by email to the appropriate address and include your telephone number so we can call you if needed.
	Editor@actionforum.co.uk
	Diary@actionforum.co.uk
	Distribution@actionforum.co.uk
	Adverts@actionforum.co.uk
	Postal address: 5 Meresborough Farm Cottages Meresborough, Gillingham, Kent. ME8 8PP

## *Editorial*

Regular readers of Action Forum know what a major contribution Barbara made to the development of Rainham as a community rather than just a dormitory for commuters through almost 50 years as editor of AF. Much of this issue is given over to her obituary and letters from a few of those who benefitted from her friendship. It is a small celebration of her life. If others wish to add to what has been said I will try to find space in future issues.

Now, however, we are wondering what the future holds. As I write (27th March) we are cautiously, slowly and hopefully coming out of lockdown. This should mean you can start planning your regular meetings and events that were so much a part of our social lives until a year ago. When you fix the dates please email full details to [diary@actionforum.co.uk](mailto:diary@actionforum.co.uk) so we can resume our monthly diary of events. Copy date for the May issue is 19th April.

Many of those who would like to grow their own vegetables are frustrated by the long waiting list for allotments. Then there are some people with large gardens that they either lack the time or no longer have the physical ability to look after. On page 11 we have an advert from "Lend & Tend" a voluntary organisation who keep lists of gardens available and willing gardeners. When they find a match they draw up an agreement so that both parties are happy and feel safe. The garden owner usually receives a share of the produce.

Please see page 15 for a list of roads where distributors are needed. I am also looking for a small team of voluntary assistant editors .

**Hamish Mackay Miller 07835 859 846**

years. Barbara felt strongly that we should return to voluntary distribution which was the case for the first issues in 1969. Alan Parmenter volunteered to be distribution manager and appeals were printed in AF for volunteers to walk door to door, as they still are for replacements for retirees today. When Alan retired Barbara took on his role as well spending two days a month counting out bundles for individual distributors and then covered rounds for people who were sick or on holiday, often doing over 1000 a month. All this she did as an unpaid volunteer, as is the case with all distributors and others who contribute to the success of AF. Early on it was decided to donate any profits made to charities, usually St Margarets and St Matthews churches for their work in the local community and to a charity working overseas. These donations have been up to £6000 in a good year.

Barbara Mary Thomas was born in Rainham to William (Bill) Thomas, a wholesale greengrocer, and his wife Helena (nee Cheeseman), a schoolteacher. Both of them had been born in Rainham. Barbara's elder sister, Marion Cook, survives her. Barbara went to Sittingbourne Grammar School for Girls and then trained as a teacher at Madeley College in Staffordshire. Her first job was at Upbury Manor School in Gillingham and then moved to be Head of PE at Rowena Secondary School in Sittingbourne. In October 1971 she met Hamish and they began working together on Action Forum and then on the first Rainham Spectacular held in Cozenton Park on the last Saturday in May 1972. They became engaged in July and spent the school holidays house-hunting, moving into the house they found in Meresborough on their return from honeymoon in December. Their first daughter Kate arrived in 1975, followed by Rachel in 1976 and Andrew in 1979. Barbara never returned to teaching but became a partner in Hamish's business ventures, The Rainham Bookshop and Meresborough Books which he started after being made redundant 3 months after Kate was born. When the children began school she started working part time in the bookshop, increasing her hours as they be-

came more independent and eventually left home. Encouraged and helped by her mother and Rosemary Dellar in 1982 she compiled A Picture Book of Old Rainham reproducing old photographs sent in by AF readers and others from her family collections. This proved very popular and went to a reprint, Two further volumes followed which also sold out. In 2004 Hamish started The Net Magazine and Barbara took on the listing of contact details and diary of events for charities and voluntary groups in the areas covered. By March 2020 there were seven magazines reaching over 300,000 homes every month so it had become a major task. Her mother was a founder member of the first Girl Guide company in Rainham and



Barbara in turn joined the Guides. As an adult she was a guider running the first Rainham Guides for a number of years and then helping with other companies both at their weekly meetings and on their twice yearly camps. The last she went to was in 2019. Several former guides and young leaders have written expressing their appreciation of the training they had from her. Caring for and teaching children was one of her great joys in life so when the first of her four grandchildren arrived late in 2011 she was in her element. Her standard routine became to spend Monday to Friday one week in the month with Rachel, Helena and Thomas in Cheshire and then one day in the other three weeks with Kate, Jamie and Lenny in Surrey.

*Barbara reading to grandson Thomas.*

### Some memories of Barbara

Barbara was a great Girl Guide leader for many years of her life, and she was always full of creative ideas for activities to help us learn new and important life skills. She would encourage every girl to try their best and push themselves outside of their comfort zone. Most importantly, she was a great cook and kept us all well fed at camps. Kat Ince, Charlotte Golding and Amy Stapleton (nee Campbell Barr) Previous Guides, Young Leaders and Leaders of 2<sup>nd</sup> Rainham Guides.

*More on page 4*

**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.

**Berengrave Service Station**  
**FREE COLLECTION SERVICE WITHIN A 5 MILE RADIUS**  
**MOTS** **SERVICING** **DIAGNOSTICS**  
**TYRES** **REPAIRS** **AIR-CON**  
 Lower Rainham Rd, Rainham, ME8 7TY www.berengraveservicestation.com **Call 01634 233619**

**Shaw Electrical Services**  
*For all types of electrical works*  
 Extra Sockets & Lights ~ Fuse Board Changes ~ Full Rewires  
 Security & Outside Lights ~ Showers ~ Smoke Alarms  
 No job too small  
 Qualified Electrician, Reliable Service, Fully Insured,  
 Call Chris on: **07939 018998** or **01634 613523**  
 For free quotations & advice

**Home Help Service**  
**At Home**  
 • Housework  
 • Respite sitting  
 • Well-being visits  
 • Gardening/  
 Handyman  
**Out & About**  
 • Visiting the shops  
 • Support to appointments  
 • Companionship for outings  
**Take Care**  
 Caring For Your Independence  
 Please call us on:  
**01634 316821**  
 www.takecareltd.co.uk  
 Assistants CRB checked, insured & referenced.  
*You sent the very person I needed. Carol, she could have been family.*

**Memories of Barbara continued  
From Daphne Stearn**

My first meeting with Barbara was in 1965 when I started secondary school and she was my PE and Geography teacher. We then met again when I moved back to Rainham in 1985 as we were both leaders within Girlguiding: Barbara ran 1<sup>st</sup> Rainham Guides and I ran 2<sup>nd</sup> Rainham Guides.

Barbara soon found out that I had my camp licence and made an offer to come with me to camp and do the cooking if she could bring some of her Guides.

Well, this was the best match ever made in history; even after Barbara gave up active Guiding she still came away with my Guides twice a year.

Barbara's enthusiasm for Guiding and having fun while helping the girls to develop their potential was outstanding: she had a way of teaching which engaged and motivated the girls.

We would spend hours together planning every detail for the camps and once we arrived at our destination it was always like a great big family holiday. We took the Guides to so many different campsites and residential weekends, and we ventured abroad to France, Switzerland and Iceland.

Barbara's and my friendship was infectious to the girls around us and they loved the fact that she used to be my teacher. During Barbara's illness I was always getting messages from ex Guides, Young Leaders and of course other adults checking on her condition; I found their support invaluable.

Barbara gave so much of herself to Guiding and the local community, she was always an inspiration, and she had such a wealth of

knowledge. Even between her treatment sessions we would sit in her garden, social distanced, and plan Guide activities. Several times in the last few months, when asked about local issues concerning Rainham, I have found myself saying to people, "Barbara would have known the answer to that."

My husband was always amazed by the length of time Barbara and I could spend together, if Barbara collected me at 12 noon for lunch he would say, "See you at 5pm," he was never far out. It was such an easy, loyal friendship. Saying goodbye to Barbara, has been one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. May God bless and keep you safe Barbara.

**Hayley. Young Leader 2<sup>nd</sup> Rainham Guides**

Barbara helped a lot with Guiding. I am so glad I got to know her as she helped a lot with explaining things whether it was my homework or Guiding activities.

She was an amazing person who will be missed by many.

**From Maria McLoughlin nee Wilkins**

I first knew Barbara as 'Captain', having attended 1st Rainham Guides, the unit that she ran. I used to look forward to Friday nights and the varied activities each week. It was at Guides that I learnt to wire a plug and following a visit that Barbara had organised from a local firefighter, the importance of shutting bedroom doors at night in case of a fire. When the weather allowed, catch rounders on the field was always a favourite.

When I returned to Rainham after university, I heard that Barbara was still involved with Guiding. Having enjoyed my time as one of Barbara's Guides so much I made enquiries

***Mr. Dig-it's  
Garden Service***

***Complete maintenance  
achieved at realistic prices***

*For a fast friendly & very reliable service call*

*Tel: 01634 574676  
Mob: 07787 813512*

**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**

about volunteering. Barbara was still in Guiding but was now volunteering with the unit that we had enjoyed our annual camps with. I therefore joined Barbara and Daphne as a Guider at 2nd Rainham Guides.

I have many fond memories of Guides and Barbara, but two stick firmly in my mind. Firstly, that she used to make the best millionaire shortbread (don't tell my mother-in-law)! Secondly, was when Barbara took the Guiding motto of 'be prepared' to a whole new level. It was a particularly wet and windy day at Camp, and the girls were booked in for kayaking. Barbara went off to her car and returned with a pile of cagoules in a selection of colours and sizes. They had once belonged to her own children, and she had saved them in case they came in useful one day. And they did, each girl, and there were about fifteen of them, was loaned a cagoule that fitted for the kayaking session!

#### From Joe Ennis

In 1978, with some trepidation, I went to see Barbara, in Rainham Bookshop, to ask her whether there would be any interest, among readers of Action Forum, in monthly articles about bicycle rides from Rainham. Barbara was very encouraging and supportive. My first article was to be about a short ride to Upchurch and Lower Halstow and would be published in August 1978. I was determined to show that Barbara's faith in me was not misplaced. Fairly soon after publication Barbara received a letter from the Vicar of Lower Halstow Church that he had enjoyed reading my article, but wanted to

point out that it contained two factual errors. One related to the breed of red beef cattle grazing locally and the other concerned the type of lamp that lit the way to church on dark winter evenings. Somewhat sheepishly, I went to see Barbara about the letter. She was fairly relaxed about my mistakes, but I had learned my lesson. I shall be ever grateful to Barbara for giving me the opportunity to write monthly articles for Action Forum, which has given me great enjoyment and satisfaction. It has been a great privilege to have known Barbara and to have worked in harmony with her, on Action Forum, for over 40 years.

#### From Rosemary Dellar

I first came to know Barbara while working in The Rainham Bookshop but our friendship grew through working on Action Forum. I contributed articles (signed RAD) and then we walked together distributing AF to roads that were short of a distributor that month. This usually led to a cup of tea and long chats afterwards. Largely because of its positive outlook and useful content AF was the one free paper where people complained if they didn't receive it. Barbara's work in sourcing front cover illustrations and writing the Editorial made it welcome everywhere. Barbara took good care of her mother both in practical ways (e.g. mowing her lawn) and by taking her out for "rural rides" when I was often invited along. For me this was wonderful as Barbara, a great driver unfazed by narrow Kentish lanes, showed me so many places I would otherwise never have seen.

### **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

### **Problems with your IT?**

I'm an IT engineer here to help you with your pc, laptop, printer, or internet. Software licences provided incl anti-virus and office 365.

Call Mush on  
07542 795078 or email  
munshya@midkentit.co.uk

### **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

- Probate Services
- Powers of Attorney
- Inheritance Tax Planning

**J A D**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**Not just Accountants!**

4 Bloors Lane 01634 375222  
Rainham admin@jadaccountants.co.uk  
Kent ME7 8EG www.jadaccountants.co.uk

**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



**Cleopatra's Beauty Room**  
Wigmore—Established 22 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

**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

**G R ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES**  
(CIAT Registered)

Drawings prepared for :-  
- extensions - loft conversions  
- new builds - planning applications  
- building regulation applications

07970 799036 - grarchitecturalservices@gmail.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

**GREG BRYANT CONSTRUCTION LTD**  
REGISTERED HOUSE BUILDERS  
EXTENSIONS  
AT RATED BY NHBC  
01634 231321




**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

**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

Remember to protect your loved ones

**While the world is upside down**

mail@masteralarms.com www.masteralarms.com  
Alarms-CCTV-video entry 01634 379762

FAMILY BUSINESS ESTABLISHED OVER 40 YEARS  
GOLD

**MASTER ALARMS**



**Massage**  
By Nick

Professionally qualified massage therapist based in Hempstead  
Specialising in relaxing, deep tissue and hot stones massage.

For further details call 01634 370583/07701007866  
e-mail nicallcott@outlook.com or  
find me on facebook: Massage by Nick




**BB Property Services**  
Painting & Decorating, internal and  
external, Carpentry and Plumbing

Barry Baker  
barrybaker1955@gmail.com  
07849 418 868

## SERV Kent Bloodrunners.

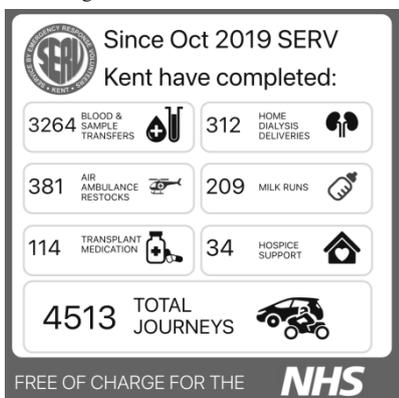


### ALL SERV KENT MEMBERS ARE VOLUNTEER RIDERS, DRIVERS OR CONTROLLERS.

Most volunteers use their own vehicles, and provide their own fuel whilst on duty for SERV Kent. We split Kent into two regions: north and east which generally ensures members are not required to travel huge distances in order to provide our services.

The Charity does own a limited number of marked bikes and cars, these marked vehicles are used by a specially selected team of Response Riders and Drivers, you may have seen one of the cars or bikes in the marina when I have been on call.

The following chart indicates the services provided by SERV Kent from October 2019 to October 2020 entirely free of charge to the NHS.



In a normal year SERV Kent provides this free service

**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

to the NHS between 7:00 pm and 6:00 am every night of the year, all day every weekend and all day every Bank Holiday (including Christmas Day). However in March this year the NHS asked if we could provide our services on a 24/7 basis until further notice due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. For this reason the data for 2020 shows a significantly higher commitment than previous years.

On behalf of the NHS we deliver blood and blood products between hospitals, medication to transplant patients at home, home dialysis samples from patients to pathology laboratories, patient records and medical equipment. We support Demelza House Childrens Hospice by delivering urgent medication or even on occasion a child's favourite cuddly toy that has been left at home. We collect human milk from donors and deliver it to The Milk Bank, we also deliver human milk from the milk bank to Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Units to feed poorly babies.

Every other evening throughout the year we supply fresh blood to the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Service, this blood is known as, "Golden Hour Blood" and is carried on every flight for use at the scene of an accident to stabilise the patient if required prior to transportation to hospital. We are proud to say this service was pioneered in Kent and is now used throughout most of the UK.

SERV Kent is an affiliated member of the National Association of Blood Bikes (NABB) and is a registered charity. We are seen as a member of the Emergency Services but we receive no financial support from the Government or the National Health Services. It currently costs the charity approximately £70,000 per annum to provide this vital life saving service even though most of the members use their own vehicles and pay for their own fuel. Furthermore two of the charities vehicles are prohibited from entering central London because they do not meet the Emission Regulations and will need to be replaced at an approximate cost of £70,000.

In a normal year we raise money by giving talks to clubs and associations, having a presence in shopping centres and supporting other organisations events such as the Gillingham Marina Open Day. During this past eight months this has not been possible due to the Covid-19 restrictions and our income has fallen dramatically. Please visit our Web Site at [www.servkent.co.uk](http://www.servkent.co.uk) for more information and videos. You will also find links where you can make a donation to help our vital service through this difficult time or express your interest in joining our team of volunteers.

Keep safe, take care and protect each other.

Hugh Curtis

p. p. SERV Kent

**GARDEN DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

Contact Tim Gilbert on 07920 728340 or [gilbertandcogardenservices@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertandcogardenservices@gmail.com)  
[www.gilbertandcogardenservices.co.uk](http://www.gilbertandcogardenservices.co.uk)

## *Nature Notes*

### NATURE NOTERS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

In February we had a fall of snow which hung around for some time. I would have been able to write about the effect of the snow and ice on the birds and mammals in the countryside were it not that I have been obeying the advice to stay at home. I have decided therefore to describe how my favourite artist of the English countryside in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, S R Badmin, depicted three scenes of the cold, wintry months of the year, in watercolour. One scene is in Sussex and two are at the same location in Kent. Badmin was one of the most gifted artists of his generation, particularly of trees. Some readers may remember that his countryside scenes were printed as greetings cards, Christmas cards and calendars, from 1945 onwards, by Royle Publications Ltd. The first of his wintry scenes that I have chosen was most probably painted in the early 1960s and was entitled "Evening Snow". In the background are the rounded, snow-covered hills of the South Downs. They are painted from a position in the Sussex Weald. In the middle distance is a farmhouse with a large brick chimney, from which wood smoke curls up. Nearby is the sandstone tower of the Parish Church of Tillington. The fields of the Weald are white with snow but the woods and trees, particularly hundreds of solitary oak trees, are free of it. Badmin wanted, I think, to show the distinctive shapes of the trees, unobstructed by layers of snow. The red and yellow flames of a fire of wood trimmings can be seen in the middle of a hedgerow. Clearly a hedger has been carrying out the winter job of laying a hedge by hand. A properly laid hedge will grow thick at the base and create a safe nesting habitat for many species of farmland birds such as robins, wrens, dunnocks, blackbirds and song thrushes.

In the foreground of Badmin's painting is a plot of standing kale in one of the fields, doubtless for the winter feed of sheep or cattle, and a lone hare can be seen streaking across snow-covered furrows. In "Evening Snow" the artist has caught the beauty of a winter sunset. The red sun has fallen below the horizon and is being reflected in the clouds.

My second Badmin winter scene, dated December 1929, is labelled "Storm over Pole Hill" and was painted when the artist was aged 23. It shows that part of the escarpment of the North Downs that overlooks the upper Darent Valley around Otford. A quarry, which has been dug into the chalk of the Downs, is surrounded by beech and other trees that are growing down from the top of the escarpment. In the middle of the painting, at the bottom of the slope, is a road lined with telegraph poles up which lorries are climbing in the direction of London. The road ascends and clings to the chalk escarpment, near the top of which is the Polhill Arms Public House. Pole Hill (or Polhill) was a favourite spot of Badmin; he used to come down from Bromley and make sketches of it. His 1929 painting shows the sun shining on the white chalk face of the quarry in contrast to the dark and dramatic clouds over the tree line of Pole Hill. Badmin's third and final painting is entitled "Clearing snow, Pole Hill. It was probably painted in the 1940s or 50s and shows a scene more to the top of the Hill. "Clearing" refers to the snowy weather that is clearing and the snow in the fields that is melting. Beech trees are spilling down the slope in the form of what is known as a hanger, the term Rev Gilbert White used when writing about the beeches growing on the escarpment of the Hampshire Downs at Selbourne. Whitebeam

**CANNON**

CURTAINS & BLINDS LTD

**WOODEN SHUTTERS - BLINDS  
CURTAINS & TRACKING - AWNINGS  
01634 582116**

M: 07896 501690 E: sales@cannon-limited.co.uk

and yew trees can also be identified on the slope. The woodland floor is deep in snow but the crowns of the trees are free of it. As with the earlier painting, the artist has included lorries on the London Road and it seems clear that the road, winding as it did up Pole Hill, following the contours of the Hill, was a fascination for him and part of the character of Pole Hill. In the field from which the painting was done, the snow is melting, revealing the lines of stubble of the last wheat crop. Black headed gulls and rooks are searching for worms, leatherjackets and other invertebrates in the soil no longer covered by snow. The painting shows two hares, one in its form in tussocks of grass and one speeding blindly towards the painter. Joyce Pitt, Botanist and honorary warden, has written about the reserve managed by Kent Wildlife Trust at Polhill Bank, not far from the Polhill Arms P H. It consists of open chalk grassland which is alive with flowers and butterflies in the summer. She has known Polhill Bank for nearly forty years. It was a favourite place for family picnics. Snowy winter visits were good for sledging and the reserve became part of the family's traditional Boxing Day walks. The magnificent beech trees above Polhill Bank, with their low hanging branches, made excellent swings and climbing frames for small children. She went on to say that, however, these trees were, very unfortunately, felled by the Great Storm of October 1987. The wind swept along the wooded slopes and brought down most of the beeches. In that October of 1987 I thought of Badmin. I had not seen any obituary for him and assumed that he was still alive. He would have been saddened by the loss of thousands of beech trees on his beloved North Downs and particularly on Pole Hill. Two years or so after the Great Storm, I read that Stanley Roy Badmin, one of the most gifted artists of his generation, had died, aged 83.

Joe Ennis

## April in the wilder garden

We can be agents to reduce climate change and enrich our ecosystem.

While growing plants helps to lock in carbon, many gardeners do not realise the damage that using peat causes. Firstly, extraction of peat

damages rare and important habitats. Peat stores water helping to reduce the effects of flooding. But when peat is harvested it breaks down and puts more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, so adding to climate heating.

Every pot plant with peat as a component in the compost, every tray of seedlings, is contributing to that. We can put pressure on garden centres and growers to show that we understand how detrimental this is and vote with our money to support those that grow without peat. Always ask if the compost used for the plants we buy contains peat.

Even better, we can grow our own plants in peat-free compost to exchange with our neighbours saving the wetland habitats where peat comes from and saving plastic by reusing our pots. And this way, we have the chance to grow those plants that provide the greatest benefit to wildlife.

### Plant of the month

As the early part of the year has been so cold, I delayed planting seeds. Now I have started and have been amazed with the speed at which some have germinated. Cosmos and French marigolds are two great annuals for wildlife. Pollinators can get at their nectar and pollen easily, and French marigolds can be used round vegetables to attract the hover flies that Hoover up aphids. Double win!

### Job of the month

Your own compost is the most valuable resource you can have but will be too rich for seed sowing. Start planning for a corner to establish a compost bin or dalek. Layer green waste with shredded paper, lots of it and keep it watered and warm with a cover of old carpet. <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-compost-your-waste>

Happy Gardening, Victoria Golding,  
Kent Wildlife Trust, Voluntary Advisor

## Kitchen & Bathroom Installation

Design-Supply-Tiling-Plumbing-Plastering-Electrics  
Professional Family Business  
Over 25 Years Experience  
Fully insured  
Free Quotations

Contact Simon  
Mobile: 07836610348 Landline: 01634233724  
Email: Simontwigg@me.com

### 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

### 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

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 Pension Planning, Annuities,  
Protection and Inheritance Tax.

For further details contact Theresa at:

Lombard Wealth Associates Limited  
Office: 01634 264322 Mobile: 07580 579031  
theresa.elsey@sjpp.co.uk www.theresaelsey.co.uk

### B. HAYFIELD & SONS

Builders

Established 1971

All Building / Maintenance Work

Carpentry & Painting

Roofing & Plumbing

Medway 234072 or 078605 10222

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

  
**LINDSAY  
& COMPANY**  
TREE SURGEONS

TEL/FAX 01634 366923

### 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

### LOCAL BUILDER

Extensions, loft conversions, General building

Professional Reliable Service

 **HPR**  
Hebdictch  
Property  
Renovations Ltd

01634 615455  
07721 365 630

www.hprbuilding.co.uk

 Medway  
Fair Trader  
scheme

### Foot Health Practitioner

Corns, Hard Skin, Fungal Nail Infection,  
Ingrowing Toe Nails, Diabetic Foot Care,  
Athlete's Foot, General Nail Cutting.

In the comfort of your own home

 **Trudy Boulton** RGN, RM, MCFHP, MBAFHP.

Tel: 01634 371910

Mobile: 07903 793370

### 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



### CALLAWAY

### HOME IMPROVEMENTS

\*Kitchens \*Bathrooms \*Flooring

\*General Home Improvements

For your FREE ESTIMATE

Call 07950 613 385

### COMPOSITE DOORS DIRECT

Composite doors are the future for doors.

Over recent years the composite door market

has experienced massive growth as

consumers recognise their benefits

No Salesmen. No Discounts. Just One Quality. One Price

Windows from £325, Conservatories from £4995



PLEASE CALL MARK/ROB ON: 07973 302996 / 01634 387963

### 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

## Letters

### USED POSTAGE STAMPS

The Leprosy Mission are still in urgent need of all your used postage stamps. Before covid we were doing very well and when "non-essential" retail is allowed to re-open the collection box will again be available in Sunburst Books, 21/23 Station Road, Rainham, ME8 7RS  
Thank you

Derek Tovey

### 1st Rainham Brownies turns 100

Our unit is turning 100 in May. We had hoped to celebrate with afternoon tea and games but these plans are currently postponed due to the current situation until later in the year if the rules allow. In the meantime, we are working on a memory book and photo book. If you were a 1st Rainham Brownie or a volunteer with the unit: Brownie Helper, Duke of Edinburgh Volunteer, Young Leader, Unit Helper, Leader, we would love to hear your memories or see photos of your time with the unit. Please email [firstrainhambrownies@gmail.com](mailto:firstrainhambrownies@gmail.com)  
Girlguiding has adapted over the last year to be able to carry on offering a safe space for girls and young women to try new things, help other people and discover their passions and talents. All while having fun with a ready-made group of friends! Some units have been meeting online, others do monthly activity packs and some have been able to meet face to face when local restrictions allow.

The three districts covering Rainham offer a

range of meetings (Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers) across the week for girls and young women aged 5 - 18.. Interested? Visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) to register your daughter and a leader will be in touch. You can also register your interest to volunteer too.

**Amanda (AKA Tinkerbell), Leader, 1st Rainham Brownies and Gillingham Division Marketing and Communications Advisor**

Lend  Tend 

[www.LendandTend.com](http://www.LendandTend.com)

**Can't garden?  
No problem!**

**Find someone who can!**

**Get help**

Do you have an unloved or under-used garden? Or can you no longer love your garden as you once did?

**If you can't garden it,** Lend it and share your garden with someone else?

**Garden-Share**

**Patch-Match & Get garden-sharing.**



Many people face long allotment waiting lists, or live in homes without gardens, who'd love to Tend to a garden space.

**Grow Veg**

Sharing your garden can be mutually beneficial.

**No garden? No problem!**  
Tenders offer help in exchange for room to grow. Get Patch-Matched, garden-share and cherish your garden again.

✉ [lendandtend@gmail.com](mailto:lendandtend@gmail.com)  
 @lendandtend @lendandtend

  
**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](http://www.a1-roofing-services.co.uk)

**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

5 Star rated  
by Local Authority  
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](http://www.catnapbredhurst.co.uk)

Tel: 01634 386263  
Mobile: 07772 276906  
Email: [catnapbredhurst@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:catnapbredhurst@yahoo.co.uk)  
Elspeith, Blind Lane, Bredhurst, Kent, ME7 3JR

## 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**

## The Door Doctor

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

## ZAMMIT ROOFING

EST 1982  
SLATING & TILING - LEADWORK  
CHIMNEY STACKS REPOINTED OR BUILT  
UPVC FASCIAS, SOFFITS & GUTTERS  
ALL REPAIR WORK UNDERTAKEN Members of Cheekatrade.com Where reputation matters  
NO JOB TOO SMALL OR TOO BIG  
Your Local Reliable Contractor  
James Zammit  
**01634 375129 - 07802 698300**  
Kent County Council TRADING STANDARDS APPROVED  
Medway Fair Trader Scheme

## THIS SPACE AVAILABLE

**Square or Landscape Shape**  
**£30 per month / £84 for 3 months**

Email [adverts@actionforum.co.uk](mailto:adverts@actionforum.co.uk)  
or call **07835 859 846**

## 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**

CARPENTRY • DECORATING • PROBLEM SOLVING • DECKING

## CDS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Call Chris Smy  
**07919 270599**

[www.cdspropertymaintenance.freeindex.co.uk](http://www.cdspropertymaintenance.freeindex.co.uk)

GARDEN MAINTENANCE • FLOORING • GUTTER & FASCIA CLEANING

## Bredhurst Bodyshop



Car & commercial – Paintwork & repairs  
Insurance work undertaken  
bumper repairs, scratches and dents  
Call for a free quote.  
Blind Lane, Bredhurst, ME7 3JS  
**01634 264753**

## 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](http://www.linwoodhe.com)  
Telephone: 01634 230261  
Mobile: 079 0550 7338

**Linwood**  
Home Electronics  
Est. 1982

## 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.

## 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 £150.00 plus VAT  
email: [enquiries@vewhitesolicitors.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@vewhitesolicitors.co.uk)  
[www.vewhitesolicitors.co.uk](http://www.vewhitesolicitors.co.uk)

## 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

## Electrical Vehicle Charging Points

OLEV Approved Installer  
Hopkins Electrical (Rainham based)

[www.hopkins-electrical.co.uk](http://www.hopkins-electrical.co.uk)

**01634 235465 or 07592 577521**

E:[damien@hopkins-electrical.co.uk](mailto:damien@hopkins-electrical.co.uk)

**Unveiling of a memorial in remembrance of Flt. Lt. Ian J. Muirhead DFC who died in the Battle of Britain on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1940.**

Spitfire author and enthusiast Greg Davis recently learned that a pilot who had been shot down during the Battle of Britain had crashed close to his home in Hempstead, Kent. Flt. Lt. Ian J. Muirhead DFC, an accomplished and successful fighter pilot, was flying his Hawker Hurricane N2546, when 605 Squadron were engaged in a dogfight with 25 German ME109s over Maidstone. Flt. Lt. Muirhead was attacked. His aircraft severely damaged and he crashed into a field near Spekes Bottom, Gillingham. Ian James Muirhead was born in 1913 in West Ham, East London. He joined the RAF in September 1929 as an Aircraft Apprentice and 'passed out' in August 1932. He later trained as a pilot and served with 151 Squadron. He was promoted to Flight Sergeant on 24th October 1939 and commissioned in April 1940. Flt. Lt. Muirhead joined 605 Squadron who moved to Hawkinge on 21st May 1940. During the Battle of Britain he shot down or damaged a number of enemy aircraft. He was shot down himself and spent a short period in the RAF Hospital in Torquay, returning to his Squadron on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1940.

He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC), gazetted 28th June 1940; 605 Squadron's first decoration. He was appointed 'B' Flight Commander on the 29th and promoted to Acting Flight Lieutenant about 10th October. He was shot down in combat with Me109s over south London on 7th October and bailed out unhurt. Flt. Lt. Muirhead was finally shot down and killed on 15th October 1940. He was just 27 and is buried in St Mary's churchyard, Holme Cultram, Cumberland.

Greg learned of the incident on its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He spoke to a local farmer who remembered the incident. He also spoke to David Carruthers, the pilot's nephew. Discussions were held with the family and the landowner and an appeal was made



Flt. Lt. Ian. J Muirhead DFC

online for assistance with the groundwork that would be required to permanently mark the site with a memorial. Mike Fry of M Fry Garden Services volunteered to carry out the groundworks as he too is a great Spitfire enthusiast and fully appreciated what Greg was trying to achieve in remembering one of Churchill's "The Few".

The memorial is made from a 100kg War Department boundary stone dating back to the 1940s. It has a brass plaque which reads:  
IN REMEMBRANCE OF

**Flight Lieutenant Ian J.  
Muirhead DFC**

KILLED IN ACTION ON THIS SITE  
DURING THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN  
15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 1940

*'Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few'*  
WINSTON S. CHURCHILL

The plaque was unveiled on Remembrance Sunday without an audience due to Covid restrictions. It is positioned at the edge of Groves Wood on the public footpath that leads to Spekes Bottom.

## Small Ads

**Price:** £2.50 per line per month  
 Box Ads: £30.00 per month  
 £84.00 3 months paid in advance  
 Please email wording & your address to [adverts@actionforum.co.uk](mailto:adverts@actionforum.co.uk)

**LR SPORTS MASSAGE Therapist**  
 Varied massage treatments available  
 E: [lukeremingtonsmt@gmail.com](mailto:lukeremingtonsmt@gmail.com)  
 M: 07523532784  
 Facebook: LRsportsmassage.

**MOWERS serviced & sharpened.**  
 Free collection – very prompt. Call 01634 613011 or 07523 669 034.  
[davidmedlockmowers@hotmail.com](mailto:davidmedlockmowers@hotmail.com)

**GARDEN FENCING, WINTER Tidy-Ups.** ALSO General garden maintenance, Mowing, strimming, pruning, weeding. Local.  
 Call John 07917 108 867

**GIRLS PAMPER PARTIES 376270**  
[www.sparklesglitterparty.co.uk](http://www.sparklesglitterparty.co.uk)

**J. DIDDAMS DECORATING**  
 All aspects of painting both interior & exterior. High quality at reasonable prices. Tel: 07841 675 253

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

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

**LOGS - Seasoned hardwoods**  
 £80/m<sup>3</sup> (≈250 logs), ½m<sup>3</sup> £45  
 Delivered- Jim 07795 278081

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

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

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

**NICK'S GARDENING SERVICE,**  
 Lawns mowed and general garden maintenance in Hempstead and Wigmore area. Please call 01634 370583 or 07701 007 866

**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 304948.

**GARDEN ADVICE IN YOUR**  
 own garden. Professional & friendly.  
 Contact Eva [www.gardenity.co.uk](http://www.gardenity.co.uk)

**LATIN/BALLROOM DANCE**  
 classes. In line with Government guidelines we are hoping to start private lessons in April & then small bubble groups to follow. Come join our friendly school & learn something new! Contact Julie on 07983397439  
[www.latinfeverdance.co.uk](http://www.latinfeverdance.co.uk)

**PARKWOOD CHRISTIAN**  
 FELLOWSHIP Parkwood Green, Rainham. ME8 9PN. For details of church services and activities please go to [www.PCFbaptist.co.uk](http://www.PCFbaptist.co.uk) or phone the Administrator, Mrs Betty Abraham 01634 372384.

**APPLE JUICE FROM RAINHAM**  
 Community Orchard is now available at £3.00 per litre bottle from Sunburst Books, 21 Station Road: Snaffles, 4 The Street, Upchurch, Riverside Country Park, Lower Rainham Road, Mierscourt Farm Shop or from the orchard 10-12 am Tues & Thurs.

**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.

### DENTURE REPAIRS

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

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

### 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](http://wigmorefreechurch.org.uk)  
 Visitors are always welcome.  
 Pastor Rev T.J. Wood. 01634 388187

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

### Free 24-hour listening support

When life is tough, Samaritans are here to listen at any time of the day or night. You can talk to them about anything that's troubling you, no matter how difficult.  
 Call free on 116 123 or visit the Samaritans website

**JUST STARTED A NEW BUSINESS OR NEED TO TELL PEOPLE YOU ARE TRADING AGAIN AFTER LOCKDOWN?**  
**Action Forum is delivered to 20,000 homes in the Rainham area each month**

These line ads are just £2.50 per line per month. Email your wording to [adverts@actionforum.co.uk](mailto:adverts@actionforum.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**

### 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**

### P. Gillard Interior & Exterior Decorator

**# Plastering # Tiling**

Established 30 years  
**NO JOB TOO SMALL**  
**FREE ESTIMATES**

**Tel: (01634) 320846**  
**Mobile: 07834 851 004**

## SUNBURST BOOKS

21 & 23 Station Road, Rainham  
ME8 7RS 01634 261643

**From Monday 12th April**  
(unless the rules change again!)

**OPEN 10am to 2pm**

**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat**  
only to customers wearing face covering.

We have a wide ranging stock of donated second hand books, DVDs, VHS and vinyl. Also local history books and books by local authors.

**Apple Juice stockists for Rainham Community Orchard**

We would like to open longer hours but need more volunteers to serve in the shop. If you can help please call Gavin Strudley on 07957 884 335 or email [sunburstbooks@gmail.com](mailto:sunburstbooks@gmail.com)

## Volunteer Distributors needed for

### Rainham

Longley rd, Vineyard crescent, Moor st, Pudding rd, Seymour rd, Lower Station rd/ Mardale Cl, Taswell Rd, Henry St. William St

### Parkwood area

Tanker Hill & closes, Culpepper Cl, Crispe Cl, Conrad Cl, Collings Walk, Beke Rd, Chute Cl, Brett Walk, Hardinge Cl. Howbury Walk Nares Rd, Old Castle Walk, Moyle Cl, Lyll Way

### Upchurch

Wallbridge Lane, Forge Lane, Poot Lane/ poultry farm, Wetham Green/Ham Green

Also emergency cover for sickness & holidays

If you can help please call Anne Neeves on 07791 585 998 for more information or email [distribution@actionforum.co.uk](mailto:distribution@actionforum.co.uk) (Please include your telephone number.)

## 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**



## 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](http://WWW.CERFACE.CO.UK)

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

## LOCKSMITH

call

[Loyal-Locksmiths.co.uk](http://Loyal-Locksmiths.co.uk)

for a trusted locksmith and carpentry service for all your doors and windows.  
UPVC/timber.

**Tel 07986 464970**



**BOB'S  
BARRELS**

**Bob gives new life to solid oak ex-whisky and wine casks by turning them into planters, dog beds and more!**

**07801 535 654**

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

Facebook: [@bobsbarrels59](https://www.facebook.com/bobsbarrels59)

## Whiskers Lodge Cattery

Willis 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. FAB accredited care provided.  
Viewings welcomed by appointment.



Contact: Nichola  
Telephone: **01634 235032**  
Email: [info@whiskerslodge.com](mailto:info@whiskerslodge.com)  
Web: [www.whiskerslodge.com](http://www.whiskerslodge.com)

## 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.



**01634 244452**

[www.garagedoors4you.co.uk](http://www.garagedoors4you.co.uk)

## 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 or 07970 678895**

**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**

Est. 1971

  
**DAVE MOON  
ROOFING**

REPAIRS, GUTTERING, VERTICAL TILING, FLAT ROOFS, NEW ROOFS

For free estimates telephone: **01634 375069**  
No Job too LARGE or SMALL – We do them "all"

**HOGWOOD Electrical**

Extra lights, sockets,  
fuse boards & full rewires  
Periodic inspections,  
NICEIC Registered

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

**NICK EASTER – CARPENTER**  
Kitchen design and fitting

Extensions – Bathrooms – Doors  
Fitted Wardrobes – Plastering.

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

 **CRYSTAL**  
CURTAIN & BLIND MANUFACTURERS LTD

FREE NO  
OBLIGATION  
QUOTATION

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

**Puma pvc**

Approved installers of  
Fascia Soffit Guttering Cladding  
\* 10 Year Guarantee \* Free Quotations  
**WE GUARANTEE TO BEAT ANY COMPETITOR'S PRICE !!**  
**01634 351575 / 07910 425 544**  
[www.pumapvc.co.uk](http://www.pumapvc.co.uk)

*In time of need ...*

## JOHN WEIR

*Funeral Directors*

**A private family owned and run business**



- 24 hour Personal Service
- Home visits if preferred
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Monumental Masons
- Pre-arranged Funeral Plans
- Horse Drawn Hearse available

**01634 373111**

130-132 High Street  
Rainham  
Kent ME8 8AR

**01634 855558**

127 Watling Street  
Gillingham, Kent ME7 2YY  
Car parking available

**01634 408777**

25 New Road, Chatham  
Kent ME4 4QJ  
Car parking available

**01634 386999**

31 Parkwood Green  
Parkwood  
Kent ME8 9PW

