

## **Ingoldsby Court Shakespeare Road**

This property was originally a small is bungalow, built soon after the Second World War, at a time when there were very strict limitations of the amount of space you were allowed to give to each person. Once the restrictions were beginning to be lifted, in about the mid 1950s, extra accommodation was added to the two outer sides of the building. They were in the style of the Cape Province houses in South Africa. The house was set far back on its plot, with a very large front garden, mainly grass with a few shrubs.

By 1999 Mrs Clarke, who had lived there for a number of years after her husband had died, had decided to move nearer her family. The new owners wanted to enlarge the house, but each time their plans were submitted, some objections were raised. Eventually it was decided to list the property, unbeknown to the new owners. A site meeting was called on the Friday afternoon, so that the latest plans could be considered in the light of the actual site in front of the Thanet Council Planning Committee. After much discussion, one member let it slip that it made no difference what the owner wanted to do, because the building would be listed by Monday morning.

The owner promptly phoned his builder and by the end of the day the roof was off and part of the outer walls had been demolished. By the end of Sunday night, not one brick was standing on another. This then left the owner much freer to develop almost exactly how he wished. The result is an enormous building about four times larger than the old Ingoldsby Court. It has also been built much further forward on its plot, so that it is in line with the properties on either side of it.