

THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

For the communities of
LYMINGE, ETCHINGHILL,
RHODES MINNIS and POSTLING

April 2007

Produced by
The Lyminge Association

Due to the increased cost of paper we are having to raise the charge of business advertisers from £7.50 per month to £8.00 and from £75.00 per year to £80.00. Charity adverts remain unchanged at £1.50 per month or £15.00 per year. Front page sponsorship also remains unchanged at £30.00 for normally 1/3 page but the Editor reserves the right to reduce the content of an advert to fit the space available.

These changes will take effect from the May newsletter but those who have already paid for the year will not pay the increased rate until renewal date.

LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – Registered Charity 281845

WILD WEST LYMINGE DAY

SATURDAY 12th MAY – 1pm to 4.30pm
on Jubilee Field behind the Village Hall

“WILD WESTERN” VILLAGE FETE FUN!

SIDE SHOWS + displays
BUCKIN’ BRONCO
FUN FAIR + GAMES
BEER SALOON and BARBECUE

ADMISSION £1 for adults – accompanied children FREE

EVENT sponsored by RED DRAGON I.T. and HAXTONS



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

What a shame Mrs Hensby didn't do her homework. I, too, have recently moved to the beautiful village of Lyminge. I have also been known to open my mouth without thinking

but, thanks to God and to my patient friends, I am slowly improving!

We do not know what goes on in people's lives or what depth of sorrow lies therein. The perceived "unfriendliness" and "truculence" of the Newsagent stems from recent bereavement after protracted illness. The proprietor is struggling to conduct business whilst she copes with trying to move house and make ready for new people to take on the business; not to mention all that there is to do following the death of someone close and adjusting to widowhood and loneliness.

As for the Post Office - I have found nothing but friendliness and helpfulness there.

I do pray that this lady doesn't write off everyone except the village stores (who - yes - are also friendly!). There are a lot of lovely people to discover!

Norah Chinneck

Dear Editor

I was horrified at reading this month's letter from Beverley Hensby regarding the personal and wounding remarks apropos the Lyminge Newsagency, the Post Office and all their staff. I would be the first to agree that it is the prerogative of everyone to shop wherever they wish and for whatever reason. I do however feel that such an unprovoked public attack on the owners and staff of these premises was entirely out of order. The writer of the letter obviously expects to receive courtesy and friendliness from others. I would not have thought that this was the best way to obtain it. The views expressed do not coincide with my own or I am sure the vast majority of other residents. I personally cannot fault the service I have always received from either concern and neither can I understand why the Lyminge Newsletter is being used in this way as a vehicle for imparting such unkind and personal attacks on others.

June Baker

Dear Editor

I feel so sorry for Beverly Hensby. I can assure her that the impression she has of our village shops is not what most of us have. Shopkeepers are people like us who are sometimes experiencing very difficult situations and may not always be able to 'raise a smile', but even in the worst of times they give us unfailing service and I find the atmosphere in all our shops is happy and welcoming. I do so hope your correspondent will, in time, discover the same.

Margaret E. Morphew

Dear Editor

I am sure you will receive many similar letters to this in response to the letter from Beverly Hensby which was published in the March Lyminge Newsletter. My husband and I have used both the Post Office and Newsagents for nearly forty years under various ownerships. We have always and still do receive excellent friendly service from both. The present owners and staff are just as obliging and pleasant to deal with as those in the past.

Adele Entwistle

Dear Editor

I work in Lyminge and usually pick up a newspaper on my way in because I don't like the attitude in the papershop I didn't know that the Mace shop sells papers, I will go there now, it will save a diversion. I agree about the post office, I take the office post elsewhere on my way home. I was thinking of moving to Lyminge but the atmosphere in some shops puts me off.

This is the way that small villages die.

Caroline Palinski

Dear Editor

Thank you Beverly Hensby for your letter regarding our shops. You have put my mind at rest, I thought it was only me the Post Office were unfriendly towards
Nicholette Smith

Dear Editor

Having moved to the friendly village of Lyminge a few years ago, I have used the local shops whenever possible. I have always found the owners and their staff polite, courteous and helpful.

The scathing letter must have been very hurtful to certain shop owners, to Beverly Hensby I suggest she does a little research, before putting pen to paper in future, to avoid unnecessary pain.

If she prefers to do her shopping in Hythe, then I think it would be a good idea if she moves there as soon as possible.

Pam Brown

Dear Editor

I don't suppose that we were the only residents to be shocked and saddened by the letter of criticism directed at the Newsagent's staff in last month's newsletter. Not only the content, but also the decision to publish seemed hard to understand.

As people who have lived in the village only slightly longer than the writer, we have always been pleased with the service provided there. Perhaps Beverly has since found out a little more about the business concerned and regrets her comments; whether this is true or not, the advice 'Judge not that ye be not judged' is always worth remembering. We wish you the long and happy retirement which you so thoroughly deserve, Gill.

David and Wendy Perkins

Dear Editor

I have resided in Lyminge now for three years and I have never come out of the Newsagent or Post Office feeling less than well satisfied. The ladies without fear or favour treat me well as a customer and sometimes we have some banter depending on how busy they are. I am sure if one goes into any establishment po-faced I am sure it is returned.

S Fentimas

Dear Editor

In the last few issues of the Newsletter there has been considerable correspondence regarding our local shops, some favourable and others rather derogatory.

I feel as a village we should realise how lucky we are to have such a variety of different shops. In many ways we are quite unique compared with other villages of our size. I perceive they all provide good friendly service, despite competition from the larger superstores and more importantly they act as a meeting point and social framework for the local community Without them the village would be a lot different.

A more serious point appears to be the growing litter problem that we have throughout the village in general.

I feel we should be proud of our village and do all we can to preserve village life and the local environment which means clean streets and walkways.

Jenny Martin

Dear Editor

Mr Norman King's letter in last month's Newsletter with regard to proposals for a mobile

phone mast installed in the parish church tower needs to be addressed. I do not share Mr King's somewhat cavalier attitude, and feel that it would be prudent in the light of mounting evidence on health grounds to proceed with caution. Mobile phones unlike televisions are not only receivers but also transmitters. Recent research carried out in Sweden has indicated possible health risks with the use of mobile phones, and particularly worrying children appear to be more vulnerable to the higher levels of radiation. Any increase in R.F. (Radio Frequency) whether occurring naturally or manmade needs to be carefully monitored. The long term effects of prolonged exposure are simply unknown. I would like to join Mr King and his younger generation to 'Be Real' and 'Get a life' ... if only life could be that simple.
John Phillips

Please Note: Because The Newsletter is a community publication we endeavour, as a matter of fairness, to publish all opinions. However, letters published do not reflect the opinions of the Lyminge Association. At the last Lyminge Association meeting concerns were raised that The Newsletter was being used in the manner June Baker's letter above suggests. As from next month, all letters on the subject shops will be published on the [Forum](#) part of the Lyminge Association's website.

Dear Editor

I would like to say a BIG thank you to China China, the Chinese restaurant in the village. I am a childminder living in the village and I planned to celebrate the Chinese New Year with the children who I look after. I went into China China and explained I wanted to bring a few children in to have a taster session trying different Chinese food. The manager opened especially for us on Monday lunchtime. The staff were very attentive, the children had a great time and even tried using the chopsticks, which they also took home. So all the children, parents and myself would like to thank everyone involved at China China for helping out on their day off.

The food was great.

Debbie Dunham

Dear Editor:

Reference the possible installation of a mobile phone transmitting aerial in Lyminge Parish Church. While arguments for or against can all be valid, until scientific proof affirms either claim, the subject can only remain a contentious issue. So it would seem, the question confronting the Anglican Church is, how contentious do you feel you can be in the name of Christ and still remain credible representatives of the message He has taught us. A message of love, forgiveness, tolerance, hope, peace and a way of life focussed on spiritual rewards. Sometimes, but not always, at the expense of things material. The Christian Church would not be true to the teaching of Christ if it avoided contentious issues. May I use as an example, for obvious reasons, the abolition of slavery 200 years ago. But it would seem that the main difference on that occasion was that no one could deny Christ's message of freedom. Unfortunately for us, He never had the need to give a view on allegedly dangerous transmitting aerials, but given what we know of His ministry it does not stop us drawing our own conclusions. ,

Roger Davenport

LYMINGE CHURCH AS A POSSIBLE SITE FOR A MOBILE PHONE MAST

No decision has yet been made.

But the members of the PCC are continuing to explore the possibilities. One of the reasons for doing so is because of the financial rewards. We anticipate that the cost for running the church and its ministry this year will be in the region of £52,000 plus an estimated £10,000 towards building repairs. We also estimate our income will be in the region of £42,000, a shortfall of £20,000. Yes we have reserves; yes we could do more fundraising, but there is a limit as to how long our reserves will last and how much people can do.

All our income comes from direct giving by the people who come to church, fundraising (such as St Nicholas' Fayre) and our gift day appeal. In short it will come from the people of this village. We receive no governmental help (as some people think we do.) If there are specific problems with the building we can apply for grants from different voluntary organisations but there is no guarantee we would receive any.

The challenge to keep our church open with its own minister is increasingly coming under threat and the response to our constant plea for more money in order to do so seems to be the only thing some people in our village ever hear from us. We do not want, nor do we enjoy, spending so much time on money issues but it is one of our responsibilities and one which we take seriously.

The members of Lyminge Parochial Church Council are greatly saddened by the reaction of some people in the village to our looking into the possibilities of finding other ways to raise money in order to keep the church open and in good condition.

We want to reassure you that we are listening to what people are saying both by their letters and their comments to us. It is difficult to gauge accurately what the people of a village truly think as it is always the case that those opposing an issue will always make a strong case and those in favour or indifferent say very little. We know there are some against but we also know there are others who are in favour of it, and some feel that if the village is going to have a phone mast then it would be better for the Church to benefit financially rather than an individual.

In order to try to answer people's questions and concerns **(before the PCC makes any decision for or against) we are holding an open evening on Monday 23rd April between 4.00pm and 7.00pm** in church. Representatives from the PCC and QS4 (the phone mast company) will be in attendance.

FROM: Lyminge Parochial Church Council

ETCHINGHILL UPDATE

Clean Kent Campaign

What a great day. 12 adults turned up on Saturday 17th March to clean the streets, footpaths and surrounding amenity land of Etchinghill. Over 16 bags of litter were collected. It just goes to show that we care for our environment. Thanks to you all for turning up and doing a fantastic job.

Neighbourhood Watch

Is your address readily available on the electoral roll? Did you know that you can restrict

access to your details? Write to the Electoral Roll Officer at the Civic Centre and ask to have your details removed from the general list. Stop unscrupulous persons using this information to their advantage.

Be warned - there are three fish vans in the area purporting to sell fresh fish and a book 'collector' - DO NOT BUY ANYTHING FROM THE DOOR or LET ANYONE IN - especially not from these 'fisher folk' or book buffs.

If you join Neighbourhood Watch you are able to negotiate a discount on your insurance premiums. Speak to Judith about joining! Finally a reminder that it is a very good idea to shred all documents with any personal details, ie names, addresses, etc. It is possible for these details to be used illegally and the art of searching rubbish bins for this information is spreading.

Your Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator is Judith - 862498

Our New Lake

You may have noticed, from time to time, the large expanse of water together with some ducks, behind the old hospital wall of Meriden Park. Our sincere thanks go to the MOD, and in particular Nigel Fisher, for the most generous offer to construct a drainage ditch and bund with soakaways to reduce the risk of flooding to the residents of St Mary's Drive and the lower sides of Canterbury Road. Adequate fencing to restrict people from exposing themselves to risks together with notices associated with water hazards have been provided. We ask parents of young people under the age of 16 to remind them of the need to respect the area and not treat it as a place to play. The water is present only for periods following heavy storms and gradually soaks away to leave muddy banks so please, please keep away from this area and do not damage the works.

Multi Sports Court

Help is required in filling in the many application forms for grants to fund the new multi sports court. If you can give a few hours a week or month to help Barbara go through the numerous applications then please ring her on 862873

Picnic in the park

The Residents' Association is organising a musical afternoon/evening on 16th September and invite you to bring your picnic and refreshments for a sociable gathering. Before we finalise the musical selection please let us know what type of music you would like to hear and we will try to source local talent to meet the needs! Please let Rodney know by phoning 862028

Farmers' Markets

Don't miss the Farmer & Craft Market in Etchinghill Village hall on Saturday 14th April 2007, 10.30am. Entrance is free! Stalls include a local butcher, vegetables & fruits, preserves, and a fantastic local Wood Turner. For more information, please contact Catherine on 862421.

Garage Safari

Following last year's successful Safari it has been agreed to run a further one this year on Saturday 21st July from 08.00 to 12.00. If you would like to join in with the whole hamlet of Etchinghill on this day we are suggesting a charge of £3 per garage to support the efforts of the ERA. We will be preparing a map of all participating garages which will be for sale to the punters at 50p. Please contact Rodney on 862028 if you wish to take part. We are hoping to

arrange for refreshments either in the village hall or at Cherry Tree Cottage, Canterbury Road.

Dates for your 2007 diary

Farmers' markets 14th April 12th May 9th June 7th July 8th September
Garage safari 21st July
Picnic in the park 16th September .

GARY HARRISON - K.C.C. COMMUNITY WARDEN ELHAM VALLEY

In reply to my thank you from Lyminge Parish Council (Feb.newsletter), regarding my work in the area, can I say a thank you to them, who all give up their time to make a difference to the local community and without their support my job would be a lot more difficult, less effective and less enjoyable.

A great example of how the Parish Council are helping the community is by supporting Lyminge Youth Action, who are well on their way to gaining all the funding for the sports facility at Jubilee field. I think this will make a huge difference to lots of people and it was fantastic to see the success of the variety show put on by Lyminge Youth Action, which included children from all types of backgrounds and shows that if people give up some time for them, they give their time to see it through and help raise money for themselves to have something they want in the village. Well done to all of you and to the hard work put in by the Lyminge Youth Action Team. (I know I bet that some of you kids wouldn't see it through, but I was happy to lose and pay up!)

BOGUS CALLERS

We have had a couple of instances of people calling at houses with different stories of who they worked for and the purpose of their visits. Although on these occasions one of the individuals checked out when I caught up with them, I was a little worried at how easily they had gained entry to the houses without proper ID checks and paperwork with personal details were shown to the salesperson. My advice is not to buy or discuss anything on the doorstep and to politely send anyone on his or her way who has called without an appointment.

There has been a sharp increase in crimes committed by bogus officials claiming to be from the water, gas, electric or even gardeners , builders or home help. If you have a visit you think is not official, please report it to Folkestone police first and then to me as I may be in the area and can check them out.

FOOTBALL!

I have managed to arrange some football coaching for the Easter break for those interested.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC COACHES are coming to the Elham Valley

Thursday 12 April 2007 12 noon - 3.00pm 10-19 year olds-Jubilee field, Lyminge

Bring your football boots and shin pads - turn up and play

Forthcoming Village Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>	
1-Apr	GARDENERS' INTER SOCIETY SPRING SHOW	HAWKINGE	272056	KIRSTY

7-Apr	FLOWER SHOW	LYMINGE METHODIST HALL	863225	PETER
11 -Apr	CHILDRENS' EASTER PARTY	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
14-Apr	BOOT SALE	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB		
14-Apr	FARMERS' MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862421	KATHARINE
15-Apr	GARAGE SAFARI	LYMINGE VILLAGE	863197	LIZ
18-Apr	GARDEN SOCIETY VISIT	THOMPSON'S NURSERY	863225	PETER
21 -Apr	TABLE FAIR BY LYMINGE PRE-SCHOOL	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862044	JACQUI
21 -Apr	SENIOR CRICKET STARTS	SIBTON PARK CRICKET CLUB		
27-Apr	1930'S SWING THING	ETCHINGHILL GOLF CLUB	863863	
27-Apr	BEETLE DRIVE	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
28-Apr	BOOT SALE	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB		
28-Apr	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
29-Apr	SPONSORED WALK	ELHAM VALLEY LIONS		R
5-May	BOOT SALE	LORD WHISKY ANIMAL SANCTUARY	862622	
5-May	HOG ROAST	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
12-May	BOOT SALE	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB		
12-May	FARMERS' MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862421	KATHARINE
12-May	LYMINGE DAY	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862044	JACQUI
12-May_	QUIZ	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
1 5-May	GARDEN SOCIETY VISIT	MAJOR BLIZARD, HYTHE	863225	PETER
19-May	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
20-May	MEMBERS' DAY	RHODES MINNIS CAT SANCTUARY	267858	CHRISTOPHER
25-May	QUIZ NIGHT	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
26-May	BOOT SALE	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB		
26-May	STEAM FAIR	SELLINDGE	01304828990	
9-Jun	BOOT SALE	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB		
9-Jun	FARMERS' MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862421	KATHARINE
9-Jun	BOOT SALE	LORD WHISKY ANIMAL SANCTUARY	862622	
9-Jun	SUMMER FETE	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
9-Jun	SUMMER FETE	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
16-Jun	GARDEN SAFARI	LYMINGE VILLAGE	862488	JEAN
17-Jun	GARDEN SAFARI	LYMINGE VILLAGE	862488	JEAN
1 9-Jun	GARDEN SOCIETY VISIT	DEREK COPLAND, WHEELBARROW TOWN	863225	PETER
23-Jun	BARN DANCE	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862 044	JACQUI
23-Jun	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
3-Jul	GARDEN SOCIETY VISIT	SIR CHARLES JESSEL, HASTINGLEIGH	863225	PETER
3-Jul	JUMBLE SALE (1PM)	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
7-Jul	BOOT SALE	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB		
7-Jul	FARMERS' MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862421	KATHARINE
7-Jul	SUMMER FETE	MISTY, RHODES MINNIS	862 865	DAPHNE
15-Jul	ANNUAL OPEN DAY	RHODES MINNIS CAT SANCTUARY	267858	CHRISTOPHER
21-Jul	GARAGE SAFARI	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE		
20-Jul	QUIZ NIGHT	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
28-Jul	BOOT SALE	LORD WHISKY ANIMAL SANCTUARY	862622	
28-Jul!	GARDENERS' SUMMER SHOW	NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL	272056	KIRSTY
28-Jul	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK

THE GURKHAS
are coming to
ST MARY'S HALL, ELHAM
to talk to
THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
at 2.30pm Tuesday 3rd April
This talk accompanied by slides will be given
by Major Marcus Reedman and focus on the
life of the Regiment past and present.
Open to non-members
Admission Free
Tea and biscuits will be available
Don't miss this interesting event!

Pilgrims Hospices IN EAST KENT
Wednesday 4th April
Fashions from the Hospice Shop at our usual
coffee Morning. Come and choose your Easter
outfit. Decorate a hat and join our Easter
Bonnet competition.
Prizes for both Ladies and Gentlemen
Raffle and Refreshments
Trinity Church Hall, Sandgate Road,
Folkestone.
10am- 12 noon
This is the year that we are celebrating the
25th Anniversary of the opening of the first
Pilgrims Hospice at Canterbury. We have
many events planned including a service of
thanksgiving to be held at Canterbury
Cathedral on 3rd June 2007

Newington Village Hall
Presents it's annual
Easter Party
Wednesday 11th April 3pm till 5pm
Easter Bonnet (Hat/Cap) Competition
Plus Fun & Games with Prizes
£3 per Bunny
Price includes Nibbles, Easter Goodie Bag and
1 drink For Tickets or more information
Please contact: Karen & Terry 277050
or Kirsty & Mark 272056

AMERICAN SUPPER (bring & share)
with QUIZ
At Rhodes Minnis Village Hall
on

INDOOR BOOT FAIR
Sell/buy your things from a TABLE
Stelling Minnis Village Hall
Saturday 14th April
10am-12 noon
To book a table £10 - Roz Bacon 01233
750327
Teas, Coffees, Cakes, Raffle
Entry 20p
Organised by the EKH Pony Club

A Coffee Morning not to be missed -
Delightful Quilts and Talk by Rosemary
Marozzi
"A Life Changed by Quilting"
Saturday 21st April - 11 am .
at Stelling Minnis Village Hall
Homemade cakes, coffee, easy parking
In aid of Canterbury's homeless

APRIL BEETLE DRIVE
Come & join us at
Rhodes Minnis Village Hall
Saturday 21 April
Starts at 7.00 pm
Adults £2.00
Children 50p
Includes refreshments.
There will be a raffle

Elham Dog Training Club
Raising funds for Hearing Dogs for Deaf
People
Dog Show
21 ST APRIL 2007 Starts 10am
Breed, Obedience and Novelty Classes.
£2 per class.
Held at Elham Village Hall
Please phone LYN FAGG
01303 862820 for more info.

LYMINGE NEWSAGENTS
Thank you to all my customers and
friends, for all your support, particularly
over the past year. It has been much
appreciated.
Also thank you to everyone who has
worked for David and I in the shop, as

12 MAY at 7pm
Admission by ticket only
£3.50 ticket
TEL:862616

INDOOR BOOT FAIR

Lyminge Village Hall
Saturday 21st April 9.00am -12 noon
Come early for the best pick of the bargains.
Hot food and drinks available
Entrance 50p
Another great social event organised by
Lyminge Pre-School
Registered Charity 1029226

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1st May 7.45pm at
Lyminge Methodist Church Hall
A talk on
UNEARTHING ANGLO SAXON
LYMINGE
by Dr Gabor Thomas
from The University of Kent
Also hear about archaeological digs to be
started this year in Lyminge and future talks
for our meetings

In aid of the Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund
(Charity No 283483)

BOOT and SPRING FAYRE

Saturday, 5th May - 12 - 3.30pm
at Park House Animal Sanctuary, Stelling
Minnis Canterbury
Car Boots £7 - Vans £10
Lots of Attractions
Admission by Donation
Tel: 013038 62622
Forthcoming Events
9th June - Boot & Doggy Day
28th July - Boot & Summer Fayre
8th September - Boot & Autumn Fayre

**LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Reg'd. Charity No. 281845
WILD WEST LYMINGE DAY
Sat 12th May - 1pm to 4.30pm
On Jubilee Field
"Wild Western" Village Fete Fun!

drivers or on the paper rounds over the
past 8 1/2 years, we couldn't have done it
without you.

I wish Mr & Mrs Mirza a long and happy
time in the village.

Gill Broadley

**FROM THE LYMINGE
ASSOCIATION**

I was surprised when Gill said that
Saturday 17th March was her last day and
I am sure that almost everyone in the
village and surrounding areas join me in
wishing her a happy 'retirement' until she
finds a new direction. It is good to know
that she will not be leaving the village so
we will all make her welcome wherever
she goes. The association is very grateful
for the many years that Gill has collected
articles for the newsletter and the new
owners are happy to do the same.
We welcome Mr & Mrs Mirza to the
village and hope that they will enjoy
living here as much as we do. Editor

**RHODES MINNIS EVENING
CIRCLE**

Our speaker on the 21st March was Brian
Doorne. He showed us colour slides of
the river Stour from Pegwell Bay, inland
through the lovely Kent countryside and
it's Watermills and Waterways, to one of
it's sources at Lenham, showing us rare
parts of our beautiful county. The
competition - "A water picture" - was
won by Ronnie Mosley, with Mary Usher
2nd, Molly Walker 3rd and Pearl
Furminger.

Our next speaker on the 18th April is
Martin Lloyd talking on "Passports,
Assassins, Traitors and Spies" Visitors
very welcome. Marion Hoare Tel: 862913

ETCHINGHILL W.I.

Rita Warner, Vice-President, welcomed
members and one guest to the March
meeting. We were requested to bring
donations to the April meeting for the
'Stretch a Tenner' auction to be held at our

Side Shows + Displays
Buckin' Bronco Fun Fair + Games
Beer Saloon + Barbecue
Admission £1 for adults, accompanied
children FREE!
Event sponsored by Red Dragon IT. and
Haxtons

May meeting. Also any items of interest
to be included in our first newsletter
which we look forward to in December,
Birthday posies were presented to Daphne
Andrews, Dorothy Bain, Florence Bull
and Stella Samuels. As our planned
speaker was unable to attend, at short
notice Rita Warner welcomed Ann
Finney who spoke about the 'Life and
times of Grade Fields', the much loved
singer and film star. The competition
winner was Marilyn Norton
At the next meeting Lt. Col. D. Bolton
will speak about Romney Marsh and it's
Churches on Tuesday 17th April at
2.30pm. The competition is for a 'Picture
of a Church'. For further information
please contact Barbara on 265229 or
Dottie on 862141.

GARDEN SAFARI - PART OF THE LYMINGE FESTIVAL
16th & 17th JUNE 2007

Once again we are holding the Garden Safari as part of the Lyminge Festival weekend on 16th & 17th June. For newcomers to Lyminge, every two years we invite you to open your garden for people to see how you have developed it to your particular style. As well as proving very popular to visitors there is the opportunity to sell excess plants or provide tea and cakes in aid of your own garden fund or your favourite charity.

We are interested in hearing from people who would like to participate and would like all types of garden represented whether they are small or large. There will be a challenge for the children to participate in while parents are talking plants and garden design. We also hope that people will once again join in the fun of making a scarecrow and displaying it. You do not have to open your garden to enter a scarecrow in the competition.

Alongside the Garden Safari we will be holding an exhibition of Quilts in the Methodist Church Hall and it is hoped that the Lyminge Amateur Dramatic Society will exhibit some of the costumes used in their various productions. The Methodist Church will be organising their Flower Festival and a Craft Fair.

If you are interested in opening your garden, please contact us as soon as possible so that we can plan maps for visitors to follow in order to take in all the gardens. You may contact Lynn on 862799 or Jean on 862488.

LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH SERVICES - APRIL
2007

Sunday 1st (Palm Sunday)
8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am 'WOW' service
Monday 2nd 7.30pm Service of preparation for

LYMINGE METHODIST
CHURCH

Visitors are very welcome to
join us at our weekly Service at
1am and invited to share

Easter		fellowship afterwards with a cup of tea/coffee
Tuesday 3rd	7.30pm Stations of the Cross	
Wednesday 4th	7.30pm AGAPE MEAL in Church	
Thursday 5	7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper,	Preachers for April are:
	Washing of feet and Watch (one hour)	1st April-Palm Sunday-Rev. Barry Amson
Friday 6th	10.00am A children's service of Carrying the	
	Cross in Lyminge Parish Church	2nd April - Holy Week
followed by	Hot Cross Buns	Meditation 7.30pm at Rhodes Minnis
	12.00 noon Devotions before the Cross in	
the	Parish Church	3rd April -7.30pm at Elham
	12.45 A procession round the village	4th April - Agape Meal at Parish Church
from the	Parish Church to the Methodist Church	8th April - Easter Celebration - Rev. Alan Hewitt with Holy Communion
	1.15pm Lunch (soup and rolls in aid of ' Christian Aid) at the Methodist Church	
	2.15pm Devotions before the Cross in the Methodist Church	
	3.00pm Procession back from the	15th April - United Service at Parish Church
Methodist	Church to the Parish church	
Sunday 8th	EASTER DAY	22nd April - Mrs Mary Blanch
	10.30am Easter Day service with Holy Communion	
Wednesday 11th	[NO Holy Communion]	29th April - Mr Dudley Shipton
	[NO Open House]	
	[NO Wednesday Silence]	Monday Fellowship
Thursday 12th	2.00pm Pram Service	Weekly 2.30pm - 3.30pm
Sunday 15th	10.30am Holy Communion	Come and join our friendly group of men and women and enjoy a range of speakers, slides and music, etc and chat over a cup of tea.
	6.30pm Sunday Silence (Meditation and contemplation)	
Wednesday 18th	[NO Holy Communion]	
	7.30pm Open House - Bible Study and discussion	
	[NO Wednesday Silence]	For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals, please contact the Minister Rev. Barry Armson, on 01303 266281
Sunday 22nd	8.00am Holy Communion	
	10.30am Holy Communion	
	6.30pm Sunday Silence	
Wednesday 25th	7.00pm Holy Communion (Short/Said)	
	7.30pm OPEN DOOR RETREAT #1	
	[NO Wednesday Silence]	
Sunday 29th	10.30am Mattins followed by Holy Communion	

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEA - NAILBOURNE COURT

RHODES MINNIS METHODIST CHURCH

This small Chapel in beautiful countryside surroundings holds

1st April. Teas are held on the first Sunday in each month from 3 - 5pm in Nailbourne Court Lounge - for all people who live on their own in the village of Lyminge. If you would like to come, but need a lift, please contact Vanessa on 01303 862432.

PRAM SERVICE - 12th April

Our monthly services for pre-school children continue on the second Thursday of every month at 2pm in Lyminge Church. The service will finish in plenty of time to collect older children from school. For more information, contact Vanessa on 862432.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT LUNCH - 19th April

The lunches continue on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The meal will comprise of two courses followed by coffee, at a cost of £6.50 per head. Transport can be arranged for those who need it. All welcome. Please let Vanessa know if you would like to book a place.

CRAFT ACTIVITY AFTERNOONS

If you enjoy crafts, then you are warmly invited to join in our afternoons of craft activities. These will be held on the first Tuesday of each month from 2 till 4pm at Joan Coleman's house, 9, Greenbanks, and on the third Tuesday of each month at Ann Healey's house, 15, Mountpleasant Close. For more information, contact Joan on 863485.

a weekly Sunday Service normally at 9.30am

Followed by coffee and biscuits. A warm welcome is extended to any visitors

The Preachers for April are:

April 1 - Mr. Tim James

April 8 - NO service at Rhodes Minnis but a joint service at Elham Methodist Church at 9.30am

April 15 - Mr. Dudley Shipton

April 22 - Mrs. Sue Brockman

April 29 - *3pm Chapel Anniversary* -Rev. Wesley Kenworthy (no morning service)

Lyminge Pre-School

Registered Charity No. 1029226

We hold our sessions at Lyminge Village Hall, Woodland Road. Monday - Friday 9am - 3pm (Term time only). We accept children from the age of 2 years.

We are a non-profit-making charitable organisation.

We are members of the Pre-School Learning Alliance and on our latest Ofsted report we were (awarded the highest marks possible).

Our staff are friendly and experienced at providing a safe and stimulating environment for the children to learn, play and have an — enjoyable transition from Pre-School to Primary School.

Please feel free to call in and visit or

Lyminge Bowls Club

Lyminge Bowls Club welcomes social and competitive bowlers. We have a modern Clubhouse and are in a pleasant setting next to the village hall. The Club is always keen to welcome new members. If you fancy having a go at bowls, please come to our coaching sessions. They are Sunday mornings from 10.30 until 12.00 and start on 6th May. The sessions continue for six weeks.

Contact David Taylor (01233 650633) or Harry Storey (01303 862044) for more details.

RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL

Are you looking for a hall in which to hold practice sessions, private party/function or meeting?

Rhodes Minnis Village Hall has the capacity to take parties of up to 100 and has kitchen

telephone Julie on 01303 862634 or Lynn
on 01303 862831.

Lyminge Village Hall

At the heart of our community our recently redecorated Village Hall offers an excellent venue for up to 200 people and can meet a variety of requirements with it's small Committee room, larger Club room and the Main Hall with servery and large stage.

Excellent parking, kitchen facilities available and all in a delightful part of the Village. Price example.

Friday or Saturday evenings £45.00

Afternoon weekday birthday parties
£12.00

For full price details and availability give
Jaqui Storey a call on 862044

Sibton Park Cricket Pavilion Club

Having a party? Need a local venue?
Why not take advantage of Sibton Park
Cricket Club's lovely pavilion?

We have a bar with club price drinks &
friendly, efficient staff.

There is capacity for up to 100 guests. For
further information or to make a booking
please

Contact Lesley Kirk, Tel 01303 862366

Email address lesley@invercot.fsnet.co.uk

facilities at no extra cost.

Rates: Sun - Fri £13.00 per session £32.00
per day, Sat £19.00 per session. £26.00

evening session, £50.00 per full day

Session Times: AM session 8.30am -
12.30pm, PM session 1.30pm - 5.30pm,

Evening 6.00pm - 11.45pm

A £25.00 returnable deposit is payable in
advance. Electricity will be charged at 14p
per unit.

Regular users will be given a special reduced
rate. For further details contact Mick or
Dorothy Athow on 01303 862616

LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH

HALL HIRE

Hall

1 June to 30 September £5 per hour

£ 17 per 4 hour session £32 full day

1 October to 31 May £7 per hour

£24 per 4 hour session £42 full day

(includes heating)

Parlour

£4.50 per hour all year with use of

Electric over heaters if required

Overnight Stays

1 June to 30 September £30

1 October to 31 May £40 (Including heating)

**Please note that Mrs Jean Strange is no
longer the hall booking secretary. For any
enquiries please 'phone 07971 722401**

You may (or may not) remember that the Lyminge Association and Lyminge Gardeners wanted to provide another flower trough, similar to the trough already in position outside the Lyminge surgery. The second one was to be in memory of Doug Furminger, who was Chairman of the Lyminge Gardener's Society and a long time Lyminge resident. The delay in carrying this out was due to a few hiccups and a search which proved fruitless.

However, it has not been forgotten and we are hoping that the trough will be provided in the near future

LYMINGE GARDENERS SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society is on Wednesday 18th April with a visit to Thompson's

Nurseries, Stone Street, where we will be able to watch a demonstration on 'How to arrange a Hanging Basket'. The cost for this evening will be £1.00 members and £2.00 non-members. The nursery will be open to buy plants and the Cafe will be open for light refreshments. Meet at the Library car park at 6pm or at Thompson's Nursery by 6.30pm

A visit to Wisley has been organised for Thursday 5th April and the details will be

discussed at the March meeting. For further information please contact Peter on 863225 or Christina on 863049

GARDEN DESIGNER

Jane Reynolds, BSc, Diploma Garden Design

Does your garden need a face lift?

I can design whatever you want for your garden large or small. From a complete design with water features, pergolas, patios and steps to just a planting plan for a single border.

I can organise and oversee a contractor to do the work for you if you wish.

Contact me on 01303 862464 or email

info@janesgardendesign.com

Come and visit

The Lord Whisky Centre, Rhodes Minnis

Tea Rooms and Gift Shop

Open every -1-am to 4pm

Fresh cut Sandwiches, home-made cakes, snacks and lunches

All freshly made on the premises at affordable prices

Bookings welcome

Tel: 01303 862349 / 862622

LYMINGE YOUTH ACTION

!!!! BUILDING WORKS SCHEDULED FOR MAY !!!!

Ground works are due to start in May signalling the start of the new Sports and Leisure Facilities for Lyminge and the Elhani Valley. Lyminge Youth Action have worked hard to raise the £107,000 already in their funds and will continue to raise the further £50,000 required to complete the project. The new facilities will benefit the majority of the community and money raised so far will enable the following to be completed by the summer: **SKATEBOARD/BMX AREA -TENNIS COURT & FIVE A SIDE FOOTBALL COURT (now to include the basketball hoops) -CYCLE/JOGGING TRACK- FITNESS TRAIL.** Also included are the ground works for the Shelter, Junior Adventure Play Area and Tree & Hedge Planting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the committee for all their hard work we can be extremely proud of our achievement so far. Glenn Floyd, Chairman LYA.

LYMINGE YOUTH ACTION CHILDRENS VARIETY PERFORMANCE

A SELL OUT PERFORMANCE - YOUTH IN ACTION - A GREAT SUCCESS



"What a fantastic evening, please do it again, weren't they brilliant, that was ace!" These are just some of the comments from guests and performers alike. We sold out tickets very early and could have filled the hall 3 times over. A huge thank you to all the young people who took part, you were all brilliant! Many thanks must also go to the committee of Lyminge Youth Action and their partners, friends and colleagues who helped to

make this a landmark event in the village calendar. Our VIP guest Eileen Hall was called onto the stage to perform with Lyminge's answer to "The Dream Boys" dancing to "Come on Eileen" A memory for us all to treasure, well-done Eileen. A big thank you must also go to Jane Seymour and her marvellous team who rehearsed and produced this wonderful event. I and many of the Committee have been asked when is the next one? and we hope that Jane and her team will consider putting on another performance in the future.

Events like this do make you realise why Lyminge is such a great place to live and also what great kids we have in the Elham Valley villages. The event was held to raise money for the Jubilee Field Leisure project and we thank all those who attended and made generous donations at the end of the evening. The project is important to all of us even if you do not have children in the valley providing a focus and activity area for individuals and families alike.. The community can pull together to make this project a reality and we look forward to your continued support at our next community or fundraising event.

LYMINGE YOUTH ACTION

AGE CONCERN ELHAM RURAL

We are delighted to report that we now have two members of staff trained in delivering chair-based exercises. If any older person wishes to participate in an exercise group they should contact Matthew Martin for more information.

We have some spaces available for lunches at the centre in Everist Court. Meals are cooked freshly each day and consist of a small orange juice, a first course of meat, potatoes and two vegetables, a sweet and cup of tea or coffee afterwards. Meals cost £3.65.

We will be participating in Age Concern's "Your Rights 2007", providing advice and practical help to maximise income for older people. In April and May, efforts will be made to make older people aware of their rights associated with council tax and housing benefits. We will also continue to help with all other benefit enquiries.

If you have any enquiries please ring the Day Centre on 01303 862364 and speak to Lisa or Matthew.

A PILGRIMAGE OF CONTRASTS

I was privileged to be one of the 26 pilgrims from various local Churches who joined Peter and Vanessa Ashman on the trip to The Holy Land in February. We took in so much information supplied on a daily basis by our guide, Sammie, a Palestinian Christian from East Jerusalem, that my mind is still buzzing trying to digest it all.

What I can say is that I thought it was a pilgrimage of contrasts.

Firstly in Jerusalem, the contrast between the ornate decoration and intricate finery of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the simplicity and realism of the Garden Tomb and the steps Jesus walked on to his trial outside the Church of St Peter in Gallicantu.

On the day we visited Bethlehem I was upset by the dominating wall encircling the city and the strong Israeli security presence at the gate. Also to me the 'unholy scrabble' in the Grotto of the Nativity compared to the serenity of the Shepherd's Field, where sheep are still being grazed.

The fun moments, floating in the Dead Sea and paddling in the Mediterranean Sea compared to the disturbing time spent at the Yad Vashem Memorial to the Holocaust in West Jerusalem.

And finally the really special times.

The experiences of renewing our wedding vows at Cana in Galilee.

Having communion on the shore of the Lake Galilee near to where Jesus appeared to his disciples after the Resurrection and prepared breakfast for them.

Renewing of Baptismal Vows at the River Jordan; for the brave ones, Roger, Kathryn, Andree, Lynne, Bob, Rebecca, Peter and Vanessa by immersion in the River Jordan.

So many places that we visited, so much more to tell; which I'm sure that we, who were privileged to make this Pilgrimage, will be doing over the next few months.

Derrick Hamer