

THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

Serving the communities of
LYMINGE, ETCHINGHILL,
RHODES MINNIS & POSTLING

February 2007

Produced by The Lyminge Association

Show how much you love them this Valentines Day by visiting Wholistic Works here in Lyminge.

In addition to relaxing, healing treatments from our Complementary Therapy range, we also have an extensive and fabulous Beauty Therapy list including body wraps, facials, manicures and pedicures. Or look for presents amongst our selection of Aromatherapy Health & Beauty products; together with our scented candles you can create your own delicious Spa experience in your own home, and with 10% off these products for February there couldn't be a better time to try them.

Don't forget all of our treatments and product ranges are available in Gift Voucher form so if you're not sure you can let your loved one choose their own present.

WHOLISTIC WORKS 2 STATION ROAD LYMINGE 01303863359
CHIROPODY/PODIATRY, COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH & BEAUTY

Proposal for a Telecommunications installation at St Mary & St Ethelburga, Lyminge

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mary and St Ethelburga Church recently received a request from QS4 Limited on behalf of one of the mobile phone operators to position a mobile phone installation at the church. After discussing the technical and health & safety aspects on the proposal, the PCC now feels that it would like to hear the views of the members of the community before coming to any final decision.

The equipment would be placed within the tower and the Flagpole antennae located in the original flagpole position at the centre of the tower, replacing the current flagpole, would be only a minor change to the outside appearance of the church.

The installation would be managed and built by QS4 Ltd, the Church of England's Approved Installer of telecommunications equipment. QS4 have a thorough knowledge and understanding of all aspects of the industry and are committed to the highest standards of health and safety. QS4 are working with the PCC, the Local Authority and the Diocese to obtain all necessary approvals. Final approval of the scheme however would need to be given by the Consistory Court of Canterbury Diocese.

Realising that users want good coverage from their provider and that telecommunication companies have a legal obligation to provide a nation-wide service, the PCC believes that the church tower is the preferred local option.

Whether you are opposed, in favour or prefer the coverage to be provided from another site close by, you are invited to send your comments about the proposal to:-

Peter Finch, QS4 Ltd, Cody Technology Park, Ively Road, Farnborough Hants GU14 0LX or by e-mail to info@qs4.com by 22nd February 2007. Please quote the QS4 reference no A04503.

Dear Parishioners

As caring parishioners, spiritual practitioners or simply as people who practice enjoying peace of mind, we are all concerned about the wellbeing of our community however large or small. Although QS4, the company selected and appointed by the Diocese have partly rectified their failure to comprehensively deliver introductory letters to the Lyminge community by including an amended

letter in this publication, we are greatly opposed to the proposal to erect and install a mobile phone mast within St Ethelburga's church tower. There has already been ample debate about whether such masts are harmful to the environment and habitation in the vicinity and beyond, but we feel it is of vital importance to protect and preserve the quietude of the churches and environs of Lyminge and the health of parishioners of all ages.

To date, it appears that only a few people have received the letter. Having spoken with Reverend Peter Ashman, we now understand that a public debate will be open to all, including those who object to the project. We look forward this meeting. There remains mounting concern that -

- there may be some serious health problems from non-thermal effects
i.e. long term exposure to very low levels of radiation.
- some people are more susceptible than others, especially children and that masts could still have an impact on a minority of people particularly sensitive to electromagnetic energy.

Even the Stewart report, amongst others, recommends a "precautionary approach to the technology" and further research. This month the Electromagnetics and Health Research team have started work funded from the Mobile Telecommunications and Health Research Programme (MTHR) to establish if there are any short-term health effects from exposure to TETRA (Terrestrial Trunked Radio) mobile radio masts. The project will be completed in December 2008.

Objections and subsequent campaigns at church sites in Tunbridge Wells, London and Croydon have met with success, in a non-church site in Walmer also. External masts were brought down at Wishaw and Dudley in the West Midlands, Crosby in Merseyside and Tiverton in Devon. At least four have also been brought down in Northern Ireland. The KCC have excluded their buildings from siting masts, as have Kent Police and Kent Fire Brigade. The NHS are conducting an enquiry about the safety of mast emissions.

There is not enough space in this entire newsletter to include all the objections and concerns expressed throughout the world about cell phone mast radiation but we would suggest if you are at all concerned visit some of the websites. Mast Sanity, www.mcw.edu/gcrc/cop/cell-phone-health-FAQ/toc.html Christian Ecology Link, BBC.CO.uk, www.feb.se/NEWS, www.powerwatch.org.uk <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/PhoneMasts/DotBPGEjybT7C7GL0xA5S4o>

We would like to keep looking up the church tower, steeple or spire to be reminded of God; or at least to be enfolded in the peace and serenity of a sacred site within our community. A petition is being circulated around the village and will be presented to the Parish Church Council.

From P.A.L.M. (Parisioners Against Lyminge Mast) Tel: 01303 862877

Lyminge Association News

At an open Lyminge Association meeting on 23rd January 2007 we talked over the contributions from a handful of people over a change of name for our organisation. We decided that we would extend the deadline to 18th February 2007. Please send your suggestion to: Korf House, Canterbury Road, Lyminge (opposite the Coffee Shop) or e-mail to [John Carr](mailto:John.Carr@lyminge.org).

We discussed the feasibility of the following future events: * Garage Safari probably in April; * Charity Stall Day probably in April; * Garden Safari probably in June.... details of these events in next month's Newsletter.

We began discussing the size, production and distribution of the Newsletter and its content with a need for more people to become contributors about popular subjects. We will finalise matters at our next open meeting on Tuesday 20th February 2007. Please contact Mike Foxon on 862073 if you would like to attend to discuss the Newsletter or have your say on organising any of our forthcoming events.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I read with incredulity the comments and opinions from a resident of 2 years regarding our local parking problems and charges etc. I feel I should enlighten the author of this nonsense to the

indisputable fact that the local car park is definitely not being monopolised by the few remaining local shopkeepers or by the local residents, of which I am one and have been my entire life as has my husband and my daughter. The car park does however often contain a large proportion of vehicles during office hours belonging to the employees of the local offices, many of whom have to travel from outside the village to work and would be delighted - I don't think - for the reinstatement of car parking charges. Virtually no-one used the car park when charges were being levied and this (I am reliably informed) was when shop owners bore the brunt of its effects. Eventually, Shepway Council had to accept that to continue with this course of action would have resulted in devastating consequences to our local businesses.

I must also point out that Lyminge and its surrounding areas have a significant number of retired residents within its boundaries as well as the younger contingent mentioned. The former definitely need all the facilities that this village is still able to offer them. The latter should not imagine that there will never come a time when they too will not be glad of these amenities for whatever reasons.

Finally, I consider the sarcasm and cheap jibe regarding the hairdressers and the pharmacy to be in poor taste. I am pleased to know that the writer doesn't wish to lose these assets from our village and also sleeps well at night, but I feel that he or she should realise that as wonderful as Lyminge is, it is not Utopia and naturally has its fair share of car parking problems, vandalism and even the occasional serious crime. Perhaps in future some fact finding homework would be beneficial.

Name & Address Supplied

Dear Editor:

We read with interest the letter entitled 'Preserving Our Shops' in last month's newsletter and thought that some of the points were a little unjust. We all know how hard it is to make a living, but as a self employed person, one of the best ways to improve sales is to diversify.

There was, years ago, a lot of worry for the post office when the newsagent moved next door to them from round the corner where the Cafe is now, however they have both survived and diversified in their own ways to do so.

We are quite sure that it is possible to purchase in the chemist some of the beauty products that are available in Wholistic Works. The Hardware Store sells batteries, as do the Post Office, the Chemist and the Newsagent. Cigarettes are available from at least three outlets in the village, as are cards for all occasions. The list of duplicated items goes on and on and gets bigger every day.

The suggestion was made that we are 'not let a shop sell us something else if they are supposed to be selling us something that is named in the title of the shop'. By that logic the local pub is unfortunately named, they do a great pint but we have to buy a horse or catch a coach there, and what on earth are we supposed to know what to buy at Samuel Jacob?

Many people will continue to buy their newspapers at the Newsagent, after all they do have a lottery terminal and as far as we know it is the only one in the village. If there are enough people in the village to patronise two Chinese takeaways, and the author of last month's letter does not appear to have a problem with that, then we are sure that there are enough people to keep afloat two newspaper selling outlets.

There is no denying the fact that there are outlets within our community who are in competition with one another, either directly or indirectly, however if you really feel the need to check every shop, you will find that this is in no way confined to just newspapers. We also find it is very useful to have a shop here that stays open until 8 o'clock in the evening and as Mr & Mrs Thevalingan and their family appear to be hard working and courteous, we wish them the best of luck for their future in Lyminge.

Andy and Sarah House

Dear Editor:

Both Graham and the anonymous letter writer are correct in their comments, and we are grateful for them. When we ran the Post Office we were very much aware that the car park was full well before the shops opened, which was why we campaigned for the first hour, or perhaps 2 hours,

free, requiring payment for long-term parking. It has been very noticeable since the free parking returned of the reduced number of cars parked along Station Road and we are saddened that those drivers feel unable to continue their short walks each day. One day they may be disabled or frail and will then understand how it feels when you require parking near your destination.

Yes, it was always accepted that shops would not deliberately poach each other's trade and we have expressed our concern about selling paper to the new owners of Food and Wine in writing, but no reply. The unfortunate thing is that many of the food items previously available are not now, which again hits the elderly and others who find village shopping more convenient. The young couple who manage the shop are very pleasant and willing to listen, but maybe they do not have complete control.

The slogan has always been USE IT OR LOSE IT and all our facilities remain under threat, facilities which are part of the very fabric of what this village is about. In the last 25 years we have indeed lost butchers, baker, green-grocer, cobbler, electrical, haberdashery, etc., so if we want to keep the remaining retailers, it is entirely in our own hands.

Chris and Mary Blanch

Pilgrims Hospices IN EAST KENT

Wednesday 7th February

Our usual Monthly Coffee Morning.
Sales Tables, Raffles and Refreshments.
Holy Trinity Church Hall, Sandgate Road,
Folkestone, 10am-12 noon

Saturday 24th February

25th Anniversary Ball
at Ashford International Hotel, Ashford
to launch our celebration year
All enquiries to Lindsay Goode 01233 504102

Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary

Park House, Stelling Minnis

Tel: 0303 862622

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who supported us last year, and to everyone who very kindly gave lovely new homes to many of our animals. We look forward to seeing you all at our 2007 events.

Saturday 24th February 10am - 4.00pm

Fur & Feather & Exotic Exhibition
Boughton Village Hall, Faversham

Events at Park House:-

Boot & Spring Fair Sat 5th May
Dog & Owners Fun Day Sat 9th June
Boot & Summer Fair Sat 28th July
Boot & Autumn Fair Sat 8th September
All these events are from 12 noon - 3.30pm

BEETLE DRIVE

Come & join us at
Rhodes Minnis Village Hall
Saturday 24th February
Starts at 7.00 PM

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Elham Valley Branch

On Friday 16th March 2007, members of Elham Valley Branch will assemble at 2.30pm by their tree near the Elham Doctors surgery on the Sir John Williams Charity Trust land

Generally known as The Triangle, this is an appropriate place on the village green for their Remembrance Tree. On 16th March a plaque will be placed in memory of their fallen comrades.

You are welcome to join us in support

I am seeking someone to help in my garden in Lyminge by transplanting some shrubs and having a clear up generally. About five days' fairly heavy work but these days would not need to run consecutively. Noel Tatt 01303 862460 or NoelTatt@aol.com

Newington Village Hall

Fun Quiz Night

Friday 23rd February
7:30PM Start
Teams of 4-6
£2 per person
Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Adults £2.00

Children 50p

Includes refreshments.

LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH FEBRUARY 2007

Sunday 4th 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am 'WOW service 1

Wednesday 7th [NO 7.00pm Holy Communion]
7.30pm Open House
- Bible Study and discussion
[NO Wednesday Silence at 9.15pm]

Sunday 11th 10.30am Holy Communion
(Preacher: Rev. Desmond Sampson)
[NO 6.30pm Healing Service]

Wednesday 14th [NO 7.00pm Holy Communion]
7.30pm Open House -
Bible Study and discussion
[NO Wednesday Silence at 9.15pm]

Sunday 18th 10.30am Holy Communion

Wednesday 21st [NO 7.00pm Holy Communion]
7.30pm Holy Communion with
imposition of Ashes
9.15pm Wednesday Silence

Sunday 25th 8.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Sunday Silence
(Meditation and contemplation)

Wednesday 28th 7.00pm Holy Communion
7.30pm Open House
- Bible Study and discussion
9.15pm Wednesday Silence

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEA -NAILBOURNE COURT

4th February 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

Please note: There will be NO Pram service in February.

COFFEE MORNING - 12th February Coffee mornings continue to be held on the second Monday of each month from 10.00am to 11.30am in Wentworth Close lounge. Do join us as we meet with the residents of Wentworth Close for coffee and a chat.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT LUNCH - 22nd February The lunches continue, and this month will be held on the 22nd (not the 15th). We meet 12.00 for 2.30pm. Please let Vanessa know if you would like to book a place.

Transport can be arranged for those who need it.

CRAFT ACTIVITY AFTERNOON - Will resume in March.

Registered charity No. 302812

LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH

Visitors are very welcome to join us at our weekly Service at 11 am and invited to share fellowship afterwards with a cup of tea/coffee

Preachers for February are:

4th February - Mr David Foreman
11th February - Mr Dudley Shipton
18th February - Rev. Alan Hewitt
25th February - Rev. Barry Amson
Holy Communion

Monday Fellowship

Weekly 2.30-3.30pm

Come and join

For Baptisms . Weddings or Funerals, please contact the Minister, Rev Barry Armson, on 01303 266281

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 2nd March

At the Parish Church

2pm for approximately 1 hour

A warm welcome to all for this

Special Service

RHODES MINNIS METHODIST CHURCH

This small Chapel in beautiful countryside surroundings holds a weekly Sunday

Service normally at 9.30am

Followed by coffee and biscuits

A warm welcome is extended to any

visitors - .

The Preachers for February are:-

Feb. 4th - Mr. David Foreman

Feb 11th - Mr. Dudley Shipton

Feb.18th-Mr. Peter Ellis

*All Age Service *

WEDNESDAY SILENCE - Wednesday nights 9.15 - Feb.25th - Rev. Barry Amson
10.00pm The Church will be open for silent prayer, Holy Communion,
meditation, or just to sit and be still. Come and spend 5 to
45 minutes (as long as you would like) - In total silence:
*No music * No words * No interruptions * - Just time to
discover inner peace... Come and be still in the presence of
God

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
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 its 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

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

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

Lyminge Bowls Club

Our new and well- equipped pavilion is available
for hire where you may • Celebrate weddings,
anniversaries or birthdays • Hold fund-raising
events, such as quizzes and bingo • Stage a
family reunion or other special occasion Fully
licensed bar with drinks at 'club prices' Catering
available if required. Call 862855

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 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

Overnight Stays 1 June to 30

September £30

1 October to 31 May £40 (Including heating)

Contact Mrs J. Strange on 01303 863039

ETCHINGHILL W.I.

Barbara Syrett, our President, welcomed members and one guest to the January meeting. She told us about various events planned for the coming year, which include a coffee morning, B.B.Q., cream tea, pub lunch and a day trip to France.

Birthday posies were presented to Dottie Cross, Gill Le Cras and Ann Traynor. With the afternoons business concluded, Mr D Pearson gave a very interesting and amusing talk about his lifetime in the drapery trade. We then enjoyed tea, the hostesses being June Price, Marjorie Saunders, Ann Traynor and Rosemary Wood. ; The competition to make a night cap was won by Gill Le Cras.

The next meeting at Etchinghill Village Hall will be on Tuesday 13th February at 2.30pm when Mrs Harris-Dean will speak about the restoration of Higham Hall. The competition is for a photograph of an old house^ . For further information please contact Barbara Syrett on 01303 265229 or Dottie Cross on 01303 862141

ETCHINGHILL UPDATE

Multi Sports Court Coming soon to Etchinghill a monthly Farmers' Market starting 12th April 26p 7r^ This exciting new adventure will be raising money towards the building of Etchinghill's own state of the art Multi Sports Court. This project was recently granted planning permission and has already received £10,000 from the Lyminge Parish Council. To book a stall or find out more please ring Catherine on 01303 862421

Mother and Toddler Club Etchinghill Parent, Baby and Toddler Group would like to thank The Etchinghill Residents Association for the generous donation of £70 towards the costs of the hire of the hall. The group meets every Wednesday from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm during school term at the village hall. New members are always welcome - just pop along

Clean Kent Campaign Join the Great Kent Clean-up here in Etchinghill on Saturday 17th March. Sacks, gloves and litter pickers provided. Meet mums and dads, children and grandparents at the village hall at 10.00 am and share with others a pride in the state of your environment. From surrounding public footpaths to the local amenity land, roads to verges any litter is to be collected by you, the volunteers, and Shepway District Council will remove it. An offer we cannot refuse! Please let Rodney know whether you can spare two hours on Saturday morning on 01303 862028

Subscriptions Just a reminder that your voluntary subscriptions to the Etchinghill Residents' Association for 2007 are due (£1 per household). Please contact Wendy, our Treasurer, on 01303 863495

Salt Bins At last our salt bins are now filled (hopefully!). Be aware that if you are found to be using the salt for your own drive KCC will prosecute you. The salt is for Council roads only!

Dates for your 2007 diary Farmers' market 14th April, 12th May, 9th June, 7th July, 8th September

Etchinghill Clean-up 17th March

Garage safari 21st July

RHODES MINNIS EVENING CIRCLE

David Hoare gave us a very interesting talk with slides on "Home and Away Gardens" at our meeting on 17th January. We travelled from Kent to Norfolk and then were taken to the Czech Republic and the island of Madeira. Finally we crossed the globe to gardens in Canada, finishing back at home in Lyminge. The competition "A garden picture" was won by Margaret Leadbetter, with Pauline Hodder 2nd, Mollie Walker 3rd and Daphne Andrews 4th. Our next meeting is on the 21st February at 7.30 when Sue Chitty will talk about "Age Concern and what

it does for the Community". Visitors are very welcome. Marion Hoare 862913

AGE CONCERN ELHAM RURAL

We are able to offer any older person a lunch only service at our day centre. Lunch is served at 12 mid day and consists of a small orange juice, main course of meat, potatoes and 2 vegetables, a sweet and a tea or coffee afterwards for £3.65. The meat is cooked fresh on the day.

The day Centre is for all older people and you are quite welcome to just pop in for a cup of tea or coffee, the company of others or to join in our various activities i.e. arts and crafts, bingo or quizzes. You will be made very welcome.

We continue to hold a hearing aid clinic on the first Tuesday of every month and can offer free replacement batteries and re-tubing.

We sell 150g balls of double knit wool for £1.50 and there is a selection of colours available and more could be ordered on request.

If you have any enquiries or require information regarding our services or would like to receive a copy of our information booklet please ring the Day Centre on 01303 862364 and speak to Lisa or Matthew.

Lyminge Handbells

What can Lyminge Handbells play for you in 2007? You may be surprised. If you want to find out, why not call us to book the bells for your special occasion. We have a large selection of music for all occasions both formal and informal and are quite happy to come to your home for a special celebration. All we need is a large table for our bells, room for up to 10 people and a donation of at least £35 for the Pilgrims Hospice. We also play tunes appropriate to the occasion from our classical and contemporary repertoire. Weekends and evenings only please. Call Ro Edmond on 863201 or Stuart Hunnisett on 862530. Alternatively you can e-mail Stuart on stuarthunnisett@hotmail.co.uk

Lyminge Library

Love reading? Join Lyminge Tuesday Evening Reading Group. Lyminge Library is hoping to set up a monthly EVENING READING group for adults. During reading group meetings members discuss books which they have previously selected and read; our daytime reading group on a Tuesday is very popular and we have been asked whether there could be an evening one as well.

Would you like to join? If the answer is "yes", then simply ring the library on 01303 862180 and leave your name and address for further details. We will be delighted to hear from you.

Lyminge Dramatic Society - The Importance of Being Earnest

Rehearsals have commenced for the Society's Spring production, Oscar Wilde's satirical assault on nineteenth-century fashions, manners, and morality "The Importance of Being Earnest". First performed in London in 1895, this timeless comedy has captivated audiences ever since. The play is to be staged from Wednesday 21st to Saturday 24th March in Lyminge Village Hall commencing 7.45pm. Tickets will go on sale on Saturday 3rd March at Haxtons Estate Agents, Lyminge. We have a special offer for tickets for the opening night only Wednesday 21st, tickets being sold at 2 for the price of 1. Also, senior citizens will be able to see the dress rehearsal free of charge on Tuesday 20th March at 7.45pm.

Make a note in your diary for what promises to be a classic production.

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH

We are now very happy to announce that the old fencing has been restored and reinstated and that over 50 metres of native hedgerow have been planted along the old boundary line. We hope that members of our community will visit and enjoy the improvements to this calm and pleasant place.

Thanks to Tim Millet and Jane Luck and staff from Light Engineering who have, between them, provided the professional expertise and guidance in this project. Special thanks as well to Les, Michael and Matty; willing helpers who braved the cold windy weather to help us plant the hedge.

We would also like to thank the family of Henry Shepherd who have kindly agreed to pay for

one of the small-leaved lime trees in commemoration of Henry. This is one of the three specimen trees (2 Limes and 1 Wild Service tree) that will be planted along the boundary and to the corner of the new Garden of Remembrance. Should anyone wish to make a donation towards the remaining lime tree or the wild service tree, which will add the final touches to the new Garden of Remembrance project, please contact The Reverend Peter Ashman.

Elham Valley Lions Christmas Float

I should like to thank all those who supported the Lions' Christmas float on its rounds in December. I should also like to thank local traders who supported us, in particular, Meridian Self Drive, (who very generously provided one of their vehicles free of charge to us for four weeks), Regent Electrical, Jacksons Fencing and all those who sponsored the programmes. We collected a magnificent, record £4,013, (including £569 at Lyminge, £319 at Etchingill & Postling, £165 at Stelling Minnis & Bossingham) enabling us to provide Christmas parcels to the old and needy and also to support various elderly peoples' Christmas parties.

This topped off a very successful year in which we were able to continue our support for our regular charities -local hospices, the Paula Carr Trust and Kent Air Ambulance, as well as to local schools and to individuals, for example in providing a special bed for a disabled young person. The Elham Valley Lions club is a registered charity and exists to serve the community. This it does through various fund raising activities to which members give freely of their own time and by keeping expenses to a minimum, often through the support of local traders. If anyone is interested in becoming a member, or wishes to contact us for any reason, please call me on 01303 840547.

Advance notice. The annual sponsored walk will again be in aid of local primary schools and will take place on 29 April.

Through the newsletter, I should like to say "Thank-you" to everybody who has supported us in any way in 2006 and give our best wishes for 2007. Reg Neves, President, Elham Valley Lions.

CALLING ALL BEAVERS!!

As you may or may not know, 1st Lyminge Beaver group has been running for ten years this year.

2007 is also the Centenary year of the Scouting movement, set up by Lord Baden Powell in 1907.

With this in mind we are planning a reunion on Tuesday 6th March and would love to hear from any original Beavers who joined the colony in 1997, you would now be 15 or 16 and probably over 6ft tall! Would you like to come along and help us to celebrate 100 years of Scouting and ten years of Lyminge Beavers?

We would really love to hear from anybody who was involved in the Scouting movement all those years ago (maybe not 100!). We would love to hear your stories, what was the movement like? What did you wear? What sort of campfire songs did you sing? Ladies too please!

For information purposes this is the ideal opportunity to let people know that Lyminge Beavers meet on a Tuesday evening in Lyminge Scout hut, the boys (and girls) are aged between six and eight. We have great fun, playing games and working towards badges and it is a marvellous way for the children to get to know each other in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.

Going back to our reunion, if you think you could spare an hour on the 6* March (early evening) then please ring me Sarah House, on 01303 862165.

We really would love to hear from you.

Messy Mitts Toddler Art Workshops

www.messymitts.co.uk

- Messy Mitts is a fun and stimulating art group for toddlers aged 18 months -5 years.
 - Give your child the chance to be creative, and to be able to explore and experiment with a variety of materials.
 - (Set messy without having to worry about tidying up afterwards .
 - Each week a different theme and something to make and take home -
- Classes run every Friday (Term time)

10.00am-11.00am at the Methodist Church Hall, Church Road

Please contact Toni on 07720 447886 or email toni@messymitts.co.uk to book a place (as places are limited).

ROSENEATH CERAMICS

Pottery Painting Studio, White Horse Lane,
Rhodes Minnis, Kent.

www.roseneathceramics.com

Roseneath Ceramics is a small family studio. We have over 200 moulds for slip casting. Greenware and bisque can be purchased to paint at our studio or to take away.

Ceramics is an absorbing hobby. You can make all sorts of things from mugs to garden ornaments. It is suitable for all ages and all abilities.

Why not join one of our weekly groups. Studio fee £5 + cost of ceramic bisque or greenware. Priced from £3. All brushes, paints etc. provided. + Glazing and firing.

Pottery Painting Parties available in your own home or venue. Adults and Children

BEWARE CERAMICS CAN BE ADDICTIVE!!

For more info or to book your place at one of our groups Call 01303 862979

Recommendations Wanted

We live on Silverlands Road, Lyminge, and we are hoping to convert our garage into living space with a small extension. Have you had experience of any similar building work which was done on time and to a good standard? We would be grateful if anyone could take the trouble to point us in the right direction or if not, tell us who to avoid! (You needn't give us your name!)

We are new to the area.

And as we happen to be writing here in the newsletter can we just take the opportunity to express our thanks to everyone who has been so friendly to us. It was a massive upheaval for us to come here and it has been made so much easier by your ready kindness and friendship. We know some older residents have told us, perhaps inevitably, that; "things aren't what they used to be" but we can report back that community spirit is alive and well and we hope to do our bit to keep it that way!

With our thanks. Stewart, Jackie and Georgia.

Tel: 863720 or email: jackie.fenwick@talktalk.net

FOR SALE

PIANO: Small upright in walnut veneer -old but great for beginner. £20 (buyer collects)

TABLE TENNIS TABLE: Full size with fittings. Old but clean and serviceable £20 (buyer collects)

HOUSE CLEARANCE in progress in Lyminge. De-cluttering after 19 years. Assorted furniture, antiques, collectibles, office equipment, electricals, books, toys, games, tools & workshop items. Too many to show here so please email for a list which should be ready when this newsletter goes to print. No reasonable offer refused. Gill@monkonline.co.uk

TO LET: Self-contained furnished apartment to let within large family house in Lyminge. Large bedroom with en suite shower room (incorporating shower pod with hydromassage power shower), Sitting room with wide screen TV, stereo, broadband internet. Kitchenette with shared laundry facilities. Would suit working person needing accommodation on short term basis.

References & deposit required. Strictly Non-Smoker. No DSS. No pets. Rent inclusive of all bills except telephone. Call for details and to view on 01303 863803 or email

gill@monkonline.co.uk for pictures