



# THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

(Digital Edition)

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

<http://www.lyminge.org.uk/>

**January 2010**

Produced by  
**THE LYMINGE ASSOCIATION**

## Lyminge Association News

By the time you receive your first newsletter of 2010 it will all be over. We hope you have all enjoyed a very merry Christmas and we look forward to a peaceful New Year. We would like to thank the huge gathering who came to the 'Switch on' performed by Father Christmas. They then enjoyed Carols sung by Lyminge Primary School and music by the Lyminge Hand Bell Ringers. To finish, mince pies and mulled wine were served by The Lyminge Association with sweets for the children, although I did hear that one little girl had consumed 7 mince pies! Snow was produced by Adrian Willcox and was a great hit with the children, seeing who could get the most on their hat. Hot soup went down very well provided by Lyminge Hardware Stores and tea, coffee and nibbles were enjoyed at the Library.

A big THANK YOU to Laing Bennett for their cooperation in allowing us to have the 'switch on' at their premises. Thank you to all who participated in any way, particularly the local businesses who had their own special offers.

This year see the 40th Anniversary of The Lyminge Association and we would like some ideas on how to celebrate and make it a special community occasion. All and any ideas will be welcomed and if feasible will be used so please put on your thinking caps and either email or 'phone the editor, or contact any member of the committee.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR !**

## THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR OF THE NEWSLETTER IS:



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## LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH SERVICES

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<b>8.00am Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.30am WOW service</b>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.00pm Holy Communion (short said)
	7.30pm Open House (Bible study)
	9.15pm Wednesday Silence
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.00pm Holy Communion (short said)
	7.30pm Open House (Bible study)
	9.15pm Wednesday Silence
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2.00pm Pram Service
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.30am Joint service with the</b>
	<b>Methodists for Week of</b>
	<b>Prayer for Christian Unity</b>
	<b>6.30pm Evensong</b>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.00pm Holy Communion
	7.30pm Open House (Bible study)
	9.15pm Wednesday Silence
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>8.00am Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.30am Holy Communion</b>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.00pm Holy Communion
	7.30pm Open House (Bible study)
	9.15pm Wednesday Silence
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	10.30am Matins

### Sunday Afternoon Tea - Nailbourne Court – 3<sup>rd</sup> January

These teas are held on the first Sunday of the month in the lounge from 3 - 5pm. If you would like to come but need a lift, please contact Sue Rawlings on 862221

### Craft Afternoons - 2pm – 4pm

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Wentworth Close Lounge**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan - Nailbourne Court Lounge**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Jan - Ceramic Painting at Rhodes Minnis**

Everyone is welcome to join in on these afternoon activities, for more information please contact Lynne on 863010

### Coffee morning - Wentworth Close - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January

Coffee mornings are now held on the second **Tuesday** of the month from 10.00am to 11.30am in the lounge.

#### ***Please note the change of day.***

Do join us as we meet with the residents of Wentworth Close for coffee and a chat.

### Mothers Union – 13<sup>th</sup> January

This month we will be meeting for lunch at the 'Rose and Crown' Stelling Minnis at 12.30pm.

For more information contact Sue Rawlings on 862221

### Pram Service – 14<sup>th</sup> January

This is a short pre-school friendly service for babies and toddlers and also a chance for their carers to get together and chat over refreshments afterwards.

For more information contact: Trish on 862151

### Bereavement Support Lunch – 21<sup>st</sup> January

These lunches are normally held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 12.30pm. All are welcome and transport can be arranged. For more information please contact Lynne on 863010

### Mothers Union – 28<sup>th</sup> January

Prayer time at the Cathedral 12 noon

For more information contact Sue Rawlings on 862221

## LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH

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

### **Preachers for January:**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Jan** – Rev. Derek Hancock

Annual Covenant Service

**10<sup>th</sup> Jan** – 10.45 for 11am Café Worship

Led by Mrs M Blanch

**17<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Rev. Robin Blount

**24<sup>th</sup> Jan** – 10.30am United Service at Parish Church

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan** – Mr Dudley Shipton

### Monday Fellowship 2.30 – 3.30pm weekly

From 11<sup>th</sup> January

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

## Rhodes Minnis 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 January:**

**Jan.3** - Rev. Derek Hancock

**Jan.10** - Rev. Barry Armson (annual covenant service)

**Jan.17** - Rev. Ian Hamilton

**Jan.24** - Mr. Dudley Shipton

**Jan.31** - Mr. David Foreman

## POSTLING CHURCH SERVICES

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan** Evensong 6.30pm

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Jan** Family Communion 9.30am

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan** Holy Communion 8am

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Jan** Family Service 9.30am

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan** No Service in Postling

## L.E.T. (Lyminge Ecumenical Team)

**Prayer Box.** Please place any prayer requests concerning a bereavement or illness in the prayer box at Lyminge Post Office. It would help to have the name of the person you are praying for but not necessarily your name.

These will be included in Sunday worship in both churches and added to private prayer life.

# Forthcoming Village Events

We would like you to give us details of your future events for this page. This will help us all plan for our own events and help spread them throughout the year. There is no charge for entries on this page. For entries into future issues please phone Gillian on 863232 and leave a message if necessary, or John on 862972

Are you planning an event this year ? Please use this diary to help avoid clashes

One Off Events In Forthcoming Months		When and Where?	Contact Details	
8 Jan	'pushing up daises' Book Fair & Story telling	6.00 Lyminge Methodist Parlour	863729	Margaret
6 Feb	'pushing up daises' Boot Fair	10.00 Lyminge Methodist Hall	863729	Margaret
18 Jul	Rude Mechanical Theatre Company	7.30 Tayne Field	862743	Mike

Weekly Events Dates 2009		When and Where?	Contact Details	
Mondays	Etchinghill Open House	10:00 Etchinghill Village Hall	863418	Rosemary

Monthly Events Dates 2009		When and Where?	Contact Details	
1 <sup>st</sup> Tue <sup>2</sup> .	Lyminge Historical Society	7:45 Lyminge Methodist Hall	840419	Derek
1 <sup>st</sup> Wed.	Lyminge Friends	10:30 Lyminge Methodist Parlour	862427	Mavis
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed.	Rhodes Minnis Evening Circle	7:30 Rhodes Minnis Village Hall	862913	Marion
1 <sup>st</sup> Sat.	Farmers and Craft Market	10:00 Etchinghill Village Hall	862832	Bryan
2 <sup>nd</sup> . Sat	Coffee Morning	10:00 Postling Church	863536	Pat
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat. <sup>1</sup>	Beetle Drive	7:00 Rhodes Minnis Village Hall	862616	Mick
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun.	Parish Walk	10:00 Lyminge P.O. Car Park	862015	Richard
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue.	Etchinghill W. I. Meeting	2:30 Etchinghill Village Hall	862141	Dottie
Last Mon.	Parish Council Meeting	See Parish Notice inside Newsletter	239500	Crispin

## Copy deadline for next month's newsletter is the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month

Call Jean Howard on 01303 862488 or email in word doc. format to [jean.howard1@talktalk.net](mailto:jean.howard1@talktalk.net). Money must be received before articles can appear in the newsletter. A paper copy and money can be left at the Lyminge Newsagents or the Lyminge Library. Charges are as follows: Business adverts - £8.00 per month or £80.00 per year (12 issues for the price of 10). Charity adverts - £1.50 per month or £15.00 per year (12 issues for the price of 10). Please make cheques payable to The Lyminge Association

<sup>1</sup> Beetle Drive will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> Sat.

<sup>2</sup> Except Jan & Feb.

## **Coach and Horses**

Under new ownership

**Pj and Ray** welcome you.

Customers wanted - apply at the pub.

We will be offering a full menu starting the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in January.

Below is a sample of our menu...

### **Starters**

Stuffed filled mushrooms

•  
Prawn and poached salmon cocktail

•  
Homemade asparagus and cherry tomato tart

### **Mains**

Classic sausage and spring onion mash

•  
Slowly braised lamb shanks

•  
Spaghetti con gambretti e rucola

•  
Also steaks and light bites

### **And**

Great beer and coffee

Ring for reservations

01303 862 694

## ***Dates for your Diary***

### **Line Dancing**

Beginners Line dancing classes will commence on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January at Etchinghill Village Hall

### **Pilgrims Hospices IN EAST KENT**

**January 2010**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

Meet last years friends and make new ones at our first coffee morning of the New Year. Enjoy a piece of fruit cake or a scone, all served by Silvia and her band of happy helpers.

Usual stalls, cakes and raffle

The Holy Trinity Church Hall  
Sandgate Road, Folkestone  
9.30am onwards

Pushing up Daisies

### **A WINTER'S EVENING**

### **BOOK FAIR &**

### **STORYTELLING**

Friday January 8<sup>th</sup> from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

in the Methodist Church Parlour

\* \* \*

Lots of beautiful second-hand books for sale

with short readings from favourite classic stories and poems to entertain throughout while you shop.

Mince pies, hot drinks and glögg will also be on sale.

Raising funds for local conservation and community projects.

### **ELHAM FARMERS' MARKET**

10AM – 12PM, ROSE AND CROWN COURTYARD

**Next Markets: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **Your Healthy New Year Starts Here...**

If you've vowed to eat more healthily in the New Year, our January markets are the place to shop for fresh, seasonal and locally sourced fruit and vegetables, traditionally made cheeses, local meat and game, as well as free range eggs, home bakes, chutneys, and wholesome, freshly baked bread.

All are more nutritious, much tastier and often cheaper than the supermarkets. So give us a try. And please visit us for our February 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day market – we'll have heart-shaped cakes, Breakfast in Bed gift packs (honey, tea etc), logs for a cosy winter fire and much more.

We hope to see you there!

PS. Many thanks to all who supported our Christmas Market and helped make it such a festive occasion despite the appalling weather.

### **Rhodes Minnis Village Hall**

#### **Beetle Drive**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

Come along and join us at Rhodes Minnis Village Hall

Starts at 7pm,

Adults £2.00 – Children 50p

Includes refreshments

There will be a raffle

## SHEPWAY & DISTRICT U3A

*You are invited to an*

### **Open Day**

Tuesday 2nd February 2010  
10.30am – 3pm

### **Methodist Church Hall**

153 Sandgate Road, Folkestone

**Come and meet us and enjoy some complimentary refreshments**

What is U3A? It is a worldwide network for older people where we can share knowledge, interests and skills with others, learn from them, and enjoy the experience in friendly surroundings.

*We currently have over 20 interest groups which meet regularly, including Art/Bird Watching/Music/Card and Board Games/Poetry/Walking/Computers/Handicrafts/Local History/Discussion Groups/Sunday Lunches/Coffee Mornings and meetings with guest speakers*

## Pushing up Daisies

### INDOOR BOOT FAIR & WINTER STOCK CLEARANCE SALE

\* \* \*

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February at the Methodist  
Church Hall

Doors open from 10.00 a.m. until  
lunchtime

To book a table phone Helen on 862352

## WINTER BLUES QUIZ

6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2010

**Time to come out of hibernation and start living again!!**

**Lyminge Village Hall**  
7:00 for 7:30pm start

**Hot meal, Bar**  
**Tables of 4-8 @ £8.00pp**  
**Hurry - tickets going fast!!**

**Contact Honor: 862928 or Niki 862530 for details**

Organised by the Village Hall Management  
Committee Reg Charity 281845

## FARMERS and CRAFT MARKET

### ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL

St Mary's Drive, Meriden Park CT19 9 NQ

**6<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

10am – 12.30pm

First Saturday in the Month

Contact Number for bookings

Bryan – 01303 862832

On **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February** The Counterfeit Beatles will be performing at the Leas Cliff Hall. The tribute group will be supported by local duo, Twice as Nice. Supper is included as well.

Tickets are just £35 each and can be purchased from [www.eventbook.org.uk](http://www.eventbook.org.uk) – the website gives you the information you need or call 01303 891001 if you don't have web access.

There will be prizes for the best dressed person and best dressed table so book early to avoid disappointment.

This is a valley event, promoted by North Downs West, North Downs East, Elham and Stelling Minnis branches of the Folkestone and Hythe Conservative Association. Don't worry though – this is not a rally so all are welcome to come along and perk up a dreary winters evening!

### In Aid of The Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund

Registered Charity: 2843483

Park House, Stelling Minnis, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6AN

Tel: 0303 862622 Fax: 01303 863007

Website: [www.lordwhisky.co.uk](http://www.lordwhisky.co.uk)

Email: [lord.whisky@btinternet.com](mailto:lord.whisky@btinternet.com)

### Fundraising Events in 2010

**Fur, Feather & Exotic Exhibition – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Boughton-under-Blean Village Hall, Faversham. 10am – 4pm**  
Come and meet some more unusual and exotic species and chat to the experts

Craft Stalls ~ Tombolas ~ Hot & cold refreshments served all day

**Boot & Spring Fair ~ Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May**  
**Dog & Owners Fun Day ~ Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Boot & Summer Fayre ~ Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July**  
**Boot & Autumn Fayre ~ Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September**  
All held at Park House, Stelling Minnis 12 noon - 3.30pm

### Become a Friend of Lord Whisky

For a minimum donation of £10 (or £60 to become a friend for life) you will receive quarterly newsletters packed with news and information about our work. Your support will help us care for the many animals we receive into the sanctuary every year. If you would like to become a Friend, please send your details and a cheque made payable to Lord Whisky, to the above address.

### Come and visit the Lord Whisky Tearooms & Gift Shop

Come and try our home-made Monday Specials, only £5!!  
Breakfasts, Lunches, Teas and Snacks, all freshly prepared on the premises. Delicious Home-made Cakes, Jams and Marmalades to take home.

Good quality Bric-a-Brac ~ 'Beauty without Cruelty' Products

Responsible, loving homes sometimes needed for young and elderly dogs and cats. Also ponies, horses, rabbits, guinea pigs etc.  
Please contact us if you could offer a loving home to an animal in need

## Notices and Reports

### **Rhodes Minnis Evening Circle**

Our members Christmas party was held on the 9th December when we enjoyed a buffet supper followed by the Christmas Raffle. The competition was won by Paula and the collection was given to

"Help for Heroes" which is our charity for this year. We ended the evening with Daphne playing carols for us to sing-a-long to before wishing each other a very Happy Christmas.

Our next meeting is on the 20th January when Chris Tutton will return with "RAMBLINGS". We meet at Rhodes Minnis Village Hall at 7-30pm and everyone is welcome.

Marion Hoare 01303 862913

### **Etchinghill W.I**

The meeting opened with Barbara Syrett asking all members to stand for one minutes silence in respect of Daphne Melrose, a long standing W.I member who will be sadly missed.

Birthday posies were presented to Ann Morgan and Denise Stewart. At the finish of the afternoon's business John Pearce entertained us with nostalgic music past and present. He played the guitar and sang many popular old songs with members joining in with great enthusiasm. We also participated in a quiz which was great fun.

A very delectable party tea was served and prepared by the committee. Each table looked very festive with every member receiving a small present and a bag of sweets.

Next meeting is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm. Sarah Grazebrook will speak about working class suffragettes.

For further Information please contact Barbara Syrett on 265229 or Dottie Cross 862141

### **LYMINGE BABY AND TODDLER GROUP**

Calling all parents, grandparents or carers with children under school age at a loose end on Tuesday mornings. We meet every week (during term time) at the Methodist Hall in Lyminge between 10.00am - 12 noon to give the children a chance to play and interact with others the same age.

We offer a wide range of craft and play activities including trikes, bikes and slides to painting books and jigsaws.

We charge £1.50 per session (1<sup>st</sup> session free) which includes 'half time' refreshments for both adults and children.

Come and join in the fun.

For further information 'phone Karen 01303 863274

### **RHODES MINNIS TODDLER GROUP**

We are a small group open to mums, dads, grandparents and carers who meet on Thursday mornings at Rhodes Minnis Village Hall from 10 am – 12 noon during term time.

Come and have a tea/coffee while having a friendly chat as your child plays. £1.50 per session (first session free)

'Phone Elaine on 01303 863096 if you need more information

### **Abbeyfield Vacancy**

Abbeyfield, Lyminge has the opportunity to recruit 3 residents to fulfil our bedroom vacancies.

Ideal residents should enjoy independence, friendship and support yet find the burden of managing their own property too demanding. Our mission is to help an increasing number of older people enjoy a high quality of independent living through our range of services:

Housing support, or care combined with local community involvement.

As well as a warm, friendly and homely environment, our house in Lyminge also offers:

- A professional house manager
- Communal areas for social activities
- Large garden for all to enjoy
- 24 hour emergency assistance
- Freshly prepared and home cooked nutritious meals

Abbeyfield provides a safe, comfortable and stimulating environment in which residents can pursue their own interests, become active members of their community and learn new skills

For further information, a brochure or an informal chat please call our house manager Rosemary 01303 864564 or visit [www.abbeyfield.com](http://www.abbeyfield.com)

## LYMINGE FRIENDS

**Happy New Year everyone. Come and join us as we look forward to another busy year.**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010 - NO MEETING.**

Christmas Lunch in the Rose and Crown in Stelling Minnis.

On **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** we will see Aladdin at the Tower Theatre.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010** - We will have a talk on the work of the Patients Advice and Liaison Service by Liz Coleman. This will be followed, if the Snowdrops are out, by Lunch in Brockhill Park.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010** - Our speaker will be Nikki Kimble on the work of the Dogs Trust. Meetings are 10.30 - 12.30 in the Methodist Church Parlour.

**Everyone welcome.** Entrance £1.50 inc. refreshments. For more details contact Marian on 862015

## Cycle Cuba

Kent Air Ambulance is looking for people who like a challenge!

To celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the life saving helicopter being operational in Kent, the charity is organizing a sponsored bike ride in Cuba.

Cycle Cuba is set to take place in **November 2010**, when a group representing the Air Ambulance will set off on a 5 day cycle ride covering some 348km. The route will take in the captivating city of Havana, the Bay of Pigs, Trinidad (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), the Sierra del Escambray Mountains and Santa Clara.

The Kent Air Ambulance is available to every person living, working and travelling through the county each day. We receive no Government assistance or other funding towards the annual cost of running the service, £1.7 million pa, all of which is raised through donations and fundraising by the people of Kent.

For more information visit

[www.kentairambulance.co.uk](http://www.kentairambulance.co.uk) or

contact Emma

[emma@lifecyclepromotions.co.uk](mailto:emma@lifecyclepromotions.co.uk) or

01303 862996 for a registration pack.

## Marie Curie Cancer Care

I have pledged to raise £3750 for Marie Curie and will be climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania in September. Please help me reach my total by supporting me at

[www.justgiving.com/sophiamoffattwhite](http://www.justgiving.com/sophiamoffattwhite) or by donating at the Marie Curie collection tins in China China and The Lyminge Food and Wine  
Thank you Sophia Moffatt-White

## The Valley's Got Talent! – Lyminge Dramatic Society

*Have you got a talent which will entertain people?  
Do you want to win £250?*

If so, then read on! The Lyminge Dramatic Society is holding a show in March to showcase local talent, although we will welcome competitors from anywhere in Kent or even beyond. Talented individuals or groups of 16 years plus are invited to enter - singers, dancers, comedians or any entertainment skills are welcomed. Acts which include animals will not be accepted.

The auditions will be held on the weekend of the 20th and 21st March at Lyminge Village Hall and successful acts will go forward to the final on Saturday 27th March, also at the Village Hall. There will be a panel of judges for the auditions, who will take feedback from the audiences to help them decide which acts should go to the final, but the winner will be decided by the audience at the final on the 27th.

Entry will be free and the February newsletter will contain details of ticket sales and where you can obtain entry forms including an email address you can write to. However, the panel will not decide the winner - the audience will!

The competitors will need an audience! This is a new event for the area and it looks like it will be very popular - so come along and support it, either on stage or in the audience!

## Lyminge Heritage Questions and Answers

Happy New Year. I have been contacted by Kirk Alexander who works for the White Cliffs Countryside Project and lives in Lyminge. He wrote about the environmental project question (**Q/A19** *Are there any environmental projects in progress in the locality?*):

"I am the project manager for the White Cliffs Countryside Project which has helped carry out a range of environmental projects in Lyminge and the Elham Valley over the last twenty years. The WCCP was involved in the creation of the Elham Valley Way which was officially opened in 1994... [and] was established in 1989 to help maintain and enhance the special coast and countryside of Shepway and Dover. We are perhaps best known for our large programme of guided walks and the Green Gang activities for children and their families during the school holidays. ...

The WCCP is helping manage the Kent Free Tree Scheme in Shepway and Dover and I can tell you that there have been a number of successful applications for free trees in Lyminge and elsewhere in the Elham Valley.

We have been working with Forest Enterprise to develop some walking and cycling routes for Lyminge Forest which together with a leaflet and information panel in the car park will be launched in the spring 2010. In the meantime local people are invited to test the proposed routes and make suggestions. I hope to be able to post the proposed routes on the WCCP web site in the near future ([www.whitecliffscountryside.org.uk](http://www.whitecliffscountryside.org.uk)). I could also print off the routes for those who do not have web access. In addition, the WCCP proposes to launch an Elham Valley Ranger scheme to involve local people in the protection and management of Lyminge Forest and the Elham Valley Way. Further information will be posted on the web site or details can be obtained from me."

Kirk is happy to advise and assist in any environmental project in Lyminge. His telephone numbers are: 07885 599182 and (01303) 862938 and (01304) 241806 (tel/fax).

Peter Lanes has contacted me about the ducks in Station Road, Lyminge (**Q/A22**). He told me that they have been living in the pond and stream that lie to the left of Station Road as one approaches Lyminge. Apparently there were twenty four born there this summer but some moved on and now there are thirteen. He said that when the water dried up, in the summer, the ducks started to land on his lawn which was a rather comical sight as they seemed to think the grass was water and so tumbled head over heels on landing. This jogs my memory. I remember hearing that when there was a petrol station on the corner of Station Road and Mayfield Road, the ducks regularly had to be herded out to avoid being flattened by petrol tankers. Ducks must have been resident in that area for many years.

Peter Gay phoned me and told me that he has regularly seen weasels (**Q/A18**) crossing the roads to the west of Elham. He also said that he has seen stoats on the army land near Arpinge and that he understands that there are feral ferrets living at the top of Teddars Leas Road. Presumably, these were originally escapees. This reminds me that I have seen coloured rabbits living wild between Teddars Leas Road and Tan Barn. They were brown, black and white. Again, these presumably escaped from a cage in the past.

Here are the Etchinghill weather statistics for November 2009:

Maximum Temp	15.1 °C (1/11/09)	Minimum Temp	1.6 °C (10/11/09)
Maximum Wind Speed	25.7 mph (14/11/09)	Beaufort Scale	5 Strong Breeze
Max. Rainfall in 24h	124.3 mm [4.9 in] (14/11/09)	Monthly Rainfall	630.8 mm [24.8 in].

The rainfall was quite exceptional in November but I still have some doubts about the rain gauge. As well as observing weasels and stoats Peter Gay has been collecting weather data in Elham for about ten years. He told me that the November rainfall was surprising but that his record for the month was about half mine. He also said that he has been in contact with a weather data recorder in Sellindge and they have noticed that there tends to be more rainfall in Elham than in Sellindge. Presumably this is because the North Downs push air upwards which then results in rain falling. This might, then, result in more rainfall here in Etchinghill than in both Elham and Sellindge. Whatever, I am now going to try collecting the rain figures manually as well as electronically to see if there is much difference.

That's all for this month. Can you provide any information about the locality's heritage? If so then please contact me.

Alistair Bailey

(email: [abailey447@aol.com](mailto:abailey447@aol.com) tel: 864235)



## **JANUARY ETCHINGHILL UPDATE**

### **FARMERS MARKET**

Congratulations to the winner, Mrs June Price of Etchinghill, who won the Christmas Hamper at the December Farmers Market. The next Farmers' Market will be on **Saturday 6 February 2010**, and on the first Saturday in every month thereafter. There will be no Farmers Market in January.

### **OPEN HOUSE AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

The talk on the role of the PCSO, in December, given by Richard Fowler, was very illuminating and well attended. We were pleased that our Community Officer, Gary Harrison was also able to be present. This gave a greater insight into how the two roles interact with one another. A lively question and answer time afterwards led to some interesting points being raised, with both the speakers agreeing to look into some issues that had been raised.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February - David Brocklehurst, Chairman of Kent Battle of Britain Museum Trust is giving a talk on the Elham Valley during the Battle of Britain. Do come along at 10.00 - 12.00 all welcome.

### **ETCHINGHILL FOOTBALL TEAM**

Are you an armchair expert or would you like to get out a bit and give others the benefit of your knowledge? Before we can form a village team, we need a team manager and coach. Is anybody prepared to give a little time and effort to the young people in the village? If so, please phone Alan on 862277.

### **ETCHINGHILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

The Christmas Tree Project has been completed successfully. The lights were switched on by Richard Chubb, Chairman of the Lyminge Parish Council on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you to all those who supported the event. Afterwards, they adjourned to the Village Hall for mulled wine and mince pies. Special thanks go to Jamie Weatherley at Auto Economy Centre for designing the lighting system and to John Newing for the lighting housing.

### **ETCHINGHILL UPDATE**

After a number of years, Rodney Watts has resigned as co-ordinator for the Etchinghill Update for the Lyminge Newsletter. Anne Lloyd has very kindly offered to take over. Any information or copy concerning Etchinghill can be sent to her by the 17<sup>th</sup> of every month by e-mail at [annealanlloyd@gmail.com](mailto:annealanlloyd@gmail.com) or by telephoning her on 01303 862277

### **Additional information to record the amount of the work involved to enable the trees and lights to succeed.**

Barbara Collins-Newing, Judith Lansdell and Wendy Preston, started on this project in February 2009

Judith was responsible for researching which species of tree would be the most suitable. This involved visiting several garden centres and checking out facts given. The trees finally chosen are Norwegian Spruce. We are assured they will grow only moderately each year.

Barbara had the onerous task of tackling the source of power for the lights. She had long and difficult conversations with representatives of EDF Energy - each time she phoned the person she spoke to had a different view of the situation than the last person she had spoken to! The high cost of going through EDF Energy and the aggravation involved, led Barbara to seek an alternative method of providing an electrical supply for the lights. This is when battery power came into the picture. She has learnt an amazing lot along the way - about different batteries and different lights - but it has all come to fruition in the end.

Wendy's part was mainly administrative. Firstly to establish the ownership of the two areas where we planned to plant a tree. She then had to deal with the bureaucracy thrown at her by Shepway District Council. We had to pay £125 for a licence to be drawn up for us to plant a tree on their land and then, having agreed the licence, (with amendments to acknowledge the insurance involvement of the Lyminge Association) we have had to pay £25 rental for the year - with £25 due every year thereafter. With advice from those who knew what was required, Wendy drew up a specification, with illustrations, for the housing needed for the batteries, so that we could ask for competitive quotations.

We have to thank Jamie Weatherley of Orchard Garage for all his help and the help of his staff in finding the right batteries and doing tests for us. Also to John Newing who has done a brilliant job of building the housing for the batteries, working in torrential rain in order to finish the job on time.

We also have to thank the Lyminge Association, Lyminge Parish Council and KCC for grants towards this project. Although we - the ERA - raised a significant sum through our Quiz/Bingo evening and Race Night, this would not have been anywhere near enough to complete the project.



## LYMINGE HANDBELLS



The Lyminge Handbell ringers had a most successful festive programme of engagements that nicely rounded off a good fundraising year so will be taking a short break in the New Year. If you are planning a special event, where the sound of traditional hand bells will add to your celebration, why not consider handbells? A large selection of popular and classical music is available; all we need is a large table, room for up to 10 players and a donation of at least £40 for our charity, the Pilgrims Hospice. A contribution to travelling costs is asked for if bookings are at locations more than 5 miles from Lyminge. Weekends and evenings only please and plenty of advance notice. To request a booking please call Ro Edmond on 863201.

### To bee or not to bee

#### BRITAIN'S 1<sup>ST</sup> BEE KEEPING ACADEMY

Local lady, Jean Mozley, from Newington near Folkestone has got a bee in her bonnet about the declining bee population in the UK and is starting her own business to help stem the decline.

A self employed bee keeper for the last thirty years, Jean suffered a painful condition in 2008; acute pancreatitis causing inflammation of the pancreas and severe abdominal pain. The condition forced her to stop work while she received treatment and required a radical change to her health, diet and fitness.

With the condition under control, diet, Jean wished to return to employment, but in a new direction. She sought the help of the Royal British Legion which provides employment, training and support for people, including those with disabilities. They referred her to Enham's Self Employment team and their Business Ability Programme, which helps disabled and disadvantaged people to start their own business. The programme is a free and confidential service designed to help clients to make their business ideas happen and progress towards self employment. It includes information, advice and guidance from a team of professional business advisors across eight counties in the South of England, with help in areas such as business planning, market research and PR.

Jean's idea was to start a bee keeping academy and, in her words, to teach the 'gentle art of beekeeping'. Jean's course will be the first bee keeping academy in Britain. The first course kicks off across three Sunday afternoons, one per month in January, February and March 2010, where students will be able to learn how to keep bees, studying in the picturesque village hall in Jean's home village of Newington.

For details contact Jean on 07952 739795

#### *Dear Editor*

This week I'm saying thank you that I live in a village like Lyminge and thank you that we still have a Post Office at the centre of our community.

Late on Saturday I could not find my driving glasses and thought that I must have mislaid them at the Post Office earlier in the day, when I needed to swop to a near-vision pair.

On Monday morning, enquiry at the Post Office determined that, although they were not there, the finders had kindly reported the find there. They were to be found a bit further along, at number 27, where they had also posted a sign about the find.

Glasses restored; driving again possible. Thank you kind people.

Yours sincerely,  
Fronika Heath

## Lyminge Village Hall

At the heart of our busy community the 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. We have invested heavily during 2008 with a storage extension completed plus new Ladies toilets. With the full stage now available concerts and bands can be accepted. With excellent parking, kitchen facilities and plenty of tables and chairs the Village Hall makes a great place for larger celebrations or charity events. Price example: Friday or Saturday evening £50.00

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

## LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH HALL HIRE

### Hall

1 June to 30 September £5.50 per hour  
£19 per 4 hour session £35.50 full day  
1 October to 31 May £8 per hour  
£26.50 per 4 hour session £46.50 full day (includes heating)

### Parlour

£5.00 per hour all year with use of Electric over heaters if required

### Overnight stays

1 June to 30 September £33  
1 October to 31 May £44  
(Including heating)

For any enquiries please 'phone 07971 722401

## Lyminge Pre-School



'Partnership with parents and carers is outstanding' Ofsted (Oct 2007). We are a well established pre-school with committed, enthusiastic and friendly staff passionate about providing excellent childcare. We welcome children from all the surrounding villages and towns, offering a breakfast club together with a range of sessions to suit your needs. Located in the village hall we have a fabulous outdoor play area together with spacious indoor facilities. To register your child and find out more please call 01303 863149/01303 862634. Alternatively visit our website

[www.lymingepreschool.org.uk](http://www.lymingepreschool.org.uk) or email [admin@lymingepreschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@lymingepreschool.org.uk)

## ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL HIRE FEES

### Occasional Users

Standard weekday rates (08h30 to 23h00)

Hourly rate – up to 4 hours ..... £7.00  
1 Session – 4 continuous hours ..... £21.00  
2 Sessions – 8 continuous hours ..... £42.00  
All-day rate ..... £70.00

Weekend rates (08h30 – 22h00 Sundays) will be £10.00, £30.00, £60.00 and £100.00 respectively

Discounted rates are available for **Etchinghill Residents** who are occasional hirers and for **Regular Users** after 12 months' hiring.

**The Committee Room** costs £6.00 per session for **Regular Hirers**, £6.00 per hour for **Non-Residents** and £5.00 per hour for **Residents**.

All-day hire for **Weddings, Banquets and Commercial Functions:**

**£100.00 for Residents**  
**£200.00 for non-Residents.**

For bookings and enquiries, please contact **Eileen** on 01303 862832.

## 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 £14.00 per session. £34.00 per day  
Sat - £20.00 per session. £27.00 evening session  
£55.00 per full day.

### **Session Times:**

AM session 8.30am – 12.30pm  
PM session 1.30pm – 5.30pm  
Evening Session 6.00pm – 11.45pm

A £25.00 returnable deposit is payable in advance. Electricity will be charged at 18p per unit. Regular users will be given a special reduced rate.

For details contact **Mick or Dorothy Athow** on 01303 862616

## 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**