

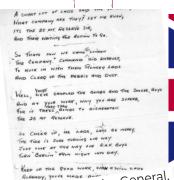
## THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTE

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

May 2025

Produced by THE LYMINGE ASSOCIATION www.lyminge.org.uk

From The Lyminge Association



'A smart lot of lads' said the General, 'What company are they? Let me know', 'It's the 25 MT. Reserve sir, And they're waiting for action to go'.

So that's how we came to London. 'The company' command did entrust, To muck in with them pioneer lads. And clear up the debris and dust.

Well, we've sampled the bombs and the shocks, boys. And at your work, why you are superb, For it takes more than bombs to dishearten. The 25 MT Reserve

So cheer up, me lads, let's be merry, The tide is sure turning our way. Just look at the way our RAF boys. Turn Berlin from night into day.

Keep up the good work, with a will lads. Already, you've made quite a show. And when we have cleared up a little bit more It's over to Berlin we'll go.

But it won't be clear of the debris. And neither to torture our foe. And neither to torture our roc.

But just to make the state of the Sta

In front of the s

W.E.H 35731 POSTAL INFORMATION CARD R.A.F. FORM 1980 I am proceeding overseas, and my correct postal address, which you should use until her notice is to 14,1928 58 Rank 2AC Name HUTCHIN SUN Initials D.F. ft No. (if applicable). 2131 

ADDRESS SU



Christmas card sent from France and reads "Bob, here you are you rascal. Some more pretties but don't tear them. Daddy xxxx

### William Edward Hutchinson, or Billy Hutchinson as he was known, was the grandfather of Angela Peall of Etchinghill. He lived in Lyminge for most of his life in 3 Sparrow Tree Cottages, North Lyminge and later

moved to Ethelburga Drive. His documents here provide an insight into the feelings of those war days. He wrote the poem when serving in the Army in London and some of the postcards were written when serving in France. It was there he sustained an injury to the head which lead to him being deaf in one ear. Once he had recovered from his injury, he returned to France to continue fighting for our freedom until 1944 when he was discharged as being unfit.

THANK YOU BILLY, AND THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM.





Cleethorpes on the Yorkshire coast by the waters edge on guard with the rest of the lads. Hello Bob. Here's a card from Daddy. Do hope you are a good boy, and do help your Mummy. Tons of love Bobby. Dad. xxxxx

BOB, SIR!"
"THAT ISN'T THE NAME OF A FLOWER!"
"YES IT IS, SIR, RUBOB!"

**21st to 29th June** Full programme in June edition of newsletter

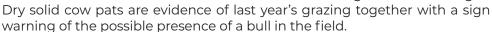
## **Margaret Saunders' Meanderings**

It is mid-morning on a bright early April day and the breeze is pleasantly warm. Crossing the triangle where wood anemones, celandines and bluebells are in flower, I take the North Downs Way towards Postling from Farthing Corner. The distant view is a little hazy with the sea horizon softly merging with the sky, in a slight change of colour. Fresh green leaves burst forth on the hawthorn trees in little tufts and here, facing north, blackthorn blossom has yet to bloom, buds appearing as small white dots along the twigs. To my left is a rough field of tussocky grass where half a dozen sheep shelter in the shade of a leafless tree. Wild garlic and bluebell

leaves offer the promise of a soothing show of blue and white blooms, yet to appear. Turning left, I see ahead of me the Tolsford mast and to the right, the millennium beacon – symbols of old and new.

Bordering the path is a thick and mature blackthorn hedge and the greater warmth that comes from a south facing aspect has brought out the blossom in abundance, thick and creamy, each delicate flower a piece of artistry. Molehills are light with chalk whereas those along the valley floor

near Ottinge are dark and rich. By the kissing gate, on a slight rise, germander speedwell and purple dead nettle nestle into the dry grass, providing delicate colour. Insects rise from the grass before me as I walk and a cabbage white butterfly flutters by. I pass through a gateway where the soil has cracked open from lack of rain. Cattle have regularly passed through this gate near a water trough and churned the mud into ankle twisting sun-baked ridges.



Ahead of me a deep depression unfolds, the grass at the bottom of the 'bowl' being much greener than the clumps of sandy coloured hillside grass, although on these slopes I find patches of violets and cowslips, whereas dandelions, daisies and celandines populate the flat area. I follow a track round to the right towards Postling and the Pilgrim's Way. The view is pleasing



to the eye, the soft folds of the downs forever producing small valleys which hide yet more behind them. Near the road the sun has warmed tar on a block of wood which is lying amongst old telegraph poles, hitting my nostrils with its particular smell. A pole has been sawn through, and the rings clearly show how old the tree was when it was felled. Hift a small piece of wood which had been cut off a pole and find a stripy bug beneath, it's two white eyes showing. As the sun beats down upon it, it starts to wriggle so I replace the wood, hoping I had not unduly disturbed its habitat. On the metal kissing gate leading on to the Postling road a notice tells me this is the Pent Downs and gives the dates of the bird nesting season - 1 March to 31 August - asking that dogs be kept on leads to prevent them from disturbing ground nesting birds, as numbers of these birds are in serious decline.

Returning to the 'bowl' I walk around the top. A rabbit darts out in front of me and bolts down the hill at breakneck speed, its white tail bobbing a warning to others, though this one seems to be alone. Descending at the further end I walk back up along the bottom of this circular feature where I am aware that the M20 hum of traffic has ceased, and I am in a warm oasis of silence and stillness. Chalk has been exposed in a slip making a white scar on the hillside. A buzzard cruises overhead, silently soaring in circles searching for prey. Beneath the buzzard a mountain biker rides along the top level, focussed on his ride. I pass a patch of feathers, the remains of a kill left by a fox or buzzard, with no bones, beak or feet in evidence. Looking seaward, a wide band of thin white cloud follows the line of the coast as it stretches out towards Dungeness, only just visible in the hazy distance.

Walking back along the path bordered by the blackthorn blossom I am in the lee of the easterly wind and the heat is gradually increasing. This turns out to be the warmest day of the year so far. In the taller trees behind the blackthorn, the wind soughs as it rushes through the boughs and twigs, where new leaves are beginning to show. A dunnock hops out of the hedgerow ahead of me, searching for nesting material, which it carries off in its beak. Now that I am back amongst trees, birdsong increases so I stop to listen, immersed in the beauty of the countryside around me. In the far distance, windscreens sparkle in the sunshine as traffic travels along the M20, motorists no doubt unaware of the beauty that surrounds them on this perfect Spring day.



## Diary of Forthcoming Events

This page is printed to give readers and organisers the opportunity of planning events without clashing with existing ones, which are already in the 'diary'. It is not intended as a means of advertising and we take no responsibility for errors or omissions. Acceptance is at the discretion of the editor. Please send your updates by email to <a href="mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com">pbarnes20@icloud.com</a> or via methods outlined on Page 4.

### Location and name codes below:

### **One-Off Events**

Date	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.	Date	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
01-May	7am- 10pm	May Elections	EVH/LVH		10-Jun	2pm	Bible Month	MC	
04-May	10am	Learn to Bowl	LBC		17-Jun	2pm	Bible Month	MC	
07-May	11.15am	Singing For All	TC		21-Jun	11am	Lyminge Primary School Fayre	TF	
08-May	12.30pm	Dementia Café	EGC		21-29 June		LYMINGE FESTIVAL 2025		863737
10-May	10am	Pick Up a Plant	MC		22-Jun	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH	
11-May	10am	Learn to Bowl	LBC		24-Jun	2pm	Bible Month	MC	
14-May	11.15am	Singing For All	MC		27-Jun	7pm	BBQ and Concert	LPC	
17-May	10am	Coffee Morning RBL	St Mary's Church, Elham		18-20 July		Summer Parish on Parade		
18-May	10am	Learn to Bowl	LBC		19-Jul	7.30pm	The Rude Mechanical Theatre Company	TF	
18-May	6pm	EVH AGM	EVH	07514758936	19-21 July		Summer Parish on Parade	JF	
21-May	11.15am	Singing For All	MC		27-Jul	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH	
24-May	2pm	Touch of Swing	LPC		24-Aug	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH	
24-May	2pm	Bowls England Big Weekend	LBC	863404	14-Sep	9am	Garage Sale		863600
25-May	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH		25-Oct	7pm	Autumn Quiz	EVH	07544 670363
25-May	10am	Learn to Bowl	LBC		30-Nov	4.45pm	Christmas Lighting Event	Meriden Park	07544 670363
28-May	11.15am	Singing For All	MC		07-Dec	7pm	ERA AGM	EVH	07544 670363
31-May	3pm	Haywardians Concert	MC						
03-Jun	2pm	Bible Month	MC						

### **Weekly Events**

Day	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.	Day	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
Mon	10am	Bridge Club	LBC	863177	Wed	10am	Pilates	TC	07825109670
Mon	10.30am	Lyminge Larks (Singing)	LMC	07951572920	Wed	10am	Baby/Toddler Group	EVH	07817777975
Mon	10.30am	Chromatic Greys Art Class	EVH	07783575802	Wed	11.15am	Singing For All (term time only)	TC/LMC	269602
Mon	5.15pm	Pilates	EVH	07951698008	Wed	7.30pm	Cantores Dominicae Choir	LVH	07778 333339
Mon	7pm	Pilates	EVH	07951698008	Thurs	10am	Lyminge Morning Art Group	EVH	01303211364
Mon	6.30pm	Ballroom/Latin/Salsa Dancing	TC	07966751991	Thurs	10.15am	Baby Rhyme Time	LL	03000413131
Mon	6.30pm	Judo Club	LVH	07369225021	Thurs	2pm	Lyminge Afternoon Art Group	TC	07870494644
Mon	7pm	Yoga	RMV	07977503897	Thurs	5pm	Pilates	TC	07951608008
Tues	9.30am	Tai Chi Qigong	EVH	07402203239	Thurs	6.15pm	Pilates	TC	07951698008
Tues	10am	Lyminge Baby & Toddler Group	TC	07870405567	Thurs	7pm	Short Mat Bowls	LVH	863842
Tues	11.45am	Pilates	EVH	07834839801	Thurs	7.30pm	Ballroom and Latin Dancing	EVH	07967979610
Tues	1pm	Seated Yoga	TC		Fri	9.15am	Nikki Barratt Art Group	EVH	07870494644
Tues	1.45pm	Pickleball	EVH	862696	Fri	10.15am	Talk Time	LL	03000413131
Tues	6pm	<b>Board Games Night</b>	Cahin		Fri	6pm	Junior Cricket Training Sessions	SPCC	07869283195
Tues	6.45pm	Short Mat Bowls	LVH	863842	Fri	7pm	Table Tennis	EVH	
Tues	7pm	Bridge Club	EVH	07790160476					

### **Monthly Events**

When	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.	When	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
1st Mon	10am	Stroke Support Group	C&H	07903150099	3rd Tues <sup>2</sup>	7.30pm	Gardeners' Society	TC	07703149008
2nd Mon	7pm	Parish Council Meeting	LVH	07999403948	Last Tues	12.15pm	Lyminge Poetry Group	LL	03000413131
3rd Mon	7pm	Etchinghill Cinema Club	EVH	07544670363	1st Wed	10.30am	Lyminge Friends	TC	862598
3rd Mon	10am	Stroke Support Group	C&H	07715221705	4th Wed	2.30pm	RM Circle	RVH	864256
1st Tues	2pm	RBL, Elham Valley Branch	St Mary's Church Hall, Elham	07734 383691	Last Wed	7.30pm	Quiz Night	C&H	01303901011
1st Tues	2pm	Library Reading Group	LL	03000413131	2nd Sat	10am	Postling Ch. Coffee Morning	PC	863536
1st Tues <sup>3</sup>	7.30pm	LHS Talk/Event	TC	863879	2nd Sat	10am	Ethelburga Quilters	EVH	
2nd Tues	2pm	Library Reading Group	LL	03000413131	4th Sun	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH	

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  In term time only  $^{2}$  Except Jan and Feb  $^{3}$  Except Jan, Feb, and trip in Aug  $^{4}$  Except Aug and Dec  $^{5}$  Not held in August  $^{**}$  Every three months

C&H: Coach & Horses; EGC: Etchinghill Golf Club; EVH: Etchinghill Village Hall; ELVH: Elham Village Hall, ERA: Etchinghill Residents' Association; ES: Elham Square, EVLT: Elham Valley Line Trust, JF: Jubilee Field; LB: Laing Bennett; LBC: Bowls Club; LL: Library; LMC: Lyminge Methodist Church; LPC: Lyminge Parish Church; LPS: Lyminge Primary School; LVH: Lyminge Village Hall; LW: Lord Whisky; NP: Nailbourne Court; PC: Postling Church; PH: Lord Whisky, Park House; PVH: Postling Village Hall; RVH: Rhodes Minnis Village Hall; RMC: Rhodes Minnis Church; RMCS: Rhodes Minnis Cat Sanctuary; RR: Rigden Room; SMVH: Stelling Minnis Village Hall, SNL: See Newsletter for info; SP: Sibton Park; SPCC: Sibton Park Cricket Club; TC: Tayne Centre; TF: Tayne Field; WF: Well Field

### St Mary and St Ethelburga Parish Church, Lyminge

### **Sunday 4th May**

10am WOW Service Lyminge Paddlesworth 6pm Evensong BCP

**Thursday 8th May VE Day 80th Anniversary** 

5.30pm VE Day 80th Anniversary Commemoration Lyminge

6pm National Peal of Bells

9.15pm(approx.) Lighting of beacon on Church

#### **Sunday 11th May**

8am Holy Communion CW2 Lyminge 6pm Choral Evensong

### **Sunday 18th May**

10am Holy Communion CW1. Lyminge

Paddlesworth 4pm Evensong BCP **Sunday 25th May Rogation Sunday** 

8am Holy Communion BCP followed by Paddlesworth breakfast and walk to Lyminge if desired

10am Family Praise On arrival of walkers

then continue walk to Stanford, via Postling, if

Stanford 5pm End of Rogation Sunday Evensong

**Sunday 1st June** 

Lyminge

10am WOW Service Lyminge Paddlesworth 6pm Evensong, BCP

A reminder that reordering work is underway in the Church. Work should be complete this month.

If more information is required please contact the Church Wardens, Derek Smith 01303 862508 or Mike Chinneck 01303 863911

### **ORGANIST REQUIRED**

Lyminge Parish Church is seeking an organist and choir leader for church services at Lyminge and, on occasions, within the Elham Valley Benefice, and choir rehearsals. Applicant should be a competent organist and willing to help the choir reach a high standard in choral work. Remuneration is in line with Royal School of Church Music guidelines. For more information, please contact the Church Warden, Derek Smith 013903 862508 or e-mail derek@well-field.co.uk

### **Valley Methodist Church**

A warm welcome awaits you at our services followed by a time of refreshment and fellowship in our Lyminge Church or at our small and beautiful Chapel at Rhodes Minnis.

#### **LYMINGE**

4th Mav 11am Mr Dwight Harris 11th May 10.15am Valley Service at Rhodes Minnis 18th May 11am Mr Tim James 25th May 11am Mr Richard Blackwell

### **RHODES MINNIS**

4th May 9.30am Mr David Songer 11th May 10.15am Valley Service at Lyminge Rev Gill Songer incl Holy Communion

18th May 9.30am A local arrangement 25th Mav 9.30am Mr Richard Blackwell

### **Postling Church Services**

No Service in Postling 4th May 11th May 8.30am Morning Service 18th May 8.30am Holy Communion 25th May No Service in Postling 8.30am Breakfast Service 1st June

### Rector's Message



Dear Villagers

This month sees our community putting on various events to mark VE Day -a time to celebrate peace and remember those who sacrificed and suffered so much for our freedom.

May we learn from the past and work together to create a future where justice and compassion reign.

Church bells are rung on this day, signifying a call for continued commitment to peace and reconciliation both within and beyond our communities.

May the peace of God which passes all understanding, bring you to the knowledge of God's reconciling love for you.

Rev'd Carol Bates

### Lyminge Newsletter

### Terms & Conditions: Copy deadline for next edition - 18 June 2025

Please email your copy to the editor (pbarnes20@icloud.com). Your payment must be received before your article or advert can appear in the Newsletter. Invoices will be issued and should be paid ASAP either by BACs, cheque, credit card or cash (details on invoice). **Business adverts** cost from £9.50 per month or £95.00 per year. Personal and charity adverts and articles from £3 per month, or £30.00 per year. The annual rate offers 12 entries for the price of 10. Please make cheques payable to 'The Lyminge Association'. If you do not have email, a typed paper-copy may be left with the payment at the Library. The Newsletter is printed by Canterbury Print & Mail.

The Lyminge Association accepts no liability for the accuracy of the advertisements or subsequent actions arising in conjunction with advertisers in the newsletter.

Further details from Peter Barnes (editor) on 01303 863737 or pbarnes20@icloud.com

### **Etchinghill Update - May 2025**

### **ETCHINGHILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (ERA)**

Chairman: David McCombe - 07939 076617 E-mail: dmccombel@gmail.com

Website: www.etchinghill.info Facebook: Etchinghill Residents

## ERA FILM NIGHT - MONDAY 19 MAY - DOORS OPEN AT 7PM FOR A 7.30PM START - "SAVE THE CINEMA" (12) 2022, DRAMA. RUNTIME is 2 HOURS.

The film stars Samantha Morton, Jonathan Pryce and Tom Felton. In 1993, a hairdresser in Carmarthen, Wales, begins a campaign to save the Lyric theatre from closure. Alongside the mayor, they enlist the help of filmmaker Steven Spielberg to host a special premier at the theatre. This is a feel-good film based on a true story. Entry fee is only £6pp and includes a glass of wine, tea or coffee with biscuits on arrival and entry into a free raffle. There will be an intermission approximately half way through the film when refreshments will be served. New members are welcome, simply register and pay on the night, there's no need to book.

**ST MARY'S FIELD - OPPOSITE THE VILLAGE HALL.** The ERA has asked Lyminge Parish Council if they are able to repair/replace the nets on the two sets of goal posts and to repair/replace the wooden posts that protect the six flowering cherry trees which make up the Queen's Green Canopy. Fred, the LPC handyman, has inspected the sites and is on the case - thank you!

**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY POPPY APPEAL** - We are seeking volunteers to knit or crochet poppies to decorate the village sign in Canterbury road, Etchinghill, in time for the run-up to Remembrance Sunday in November. We already have a small team working on the project but more volunteers are needed.

For further details please contact Geraldine on 07544 670363 or email: <a href="mailto:gpmccombe49@gmail.com">gpmccombe49@gmail.com</a>

### ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL (EVH) (Charity 302736)

Chairman: John White Bookings: Anna Allan 07514 758936, E-mail - <u>d.allan142@btinternet.com</u> Facebook: Etchinghill Village Hall Kent

**EVH AGM - Sunday 18th May.** Starts at 6pm - Trustees and Volunteers are needed. All Etchinghill residents are welcome and the meeting will last one hour followed by refreshments. Please come along and support your Village Hall.

Election Day - 1st MAY - Folkestone & Hythe D.C.

Doors open 7am and close at 10pm. Don't forget you need identification.

**The Wheely Fun Club.** This is a new company who will use our hall regularly. They take hourly bookings for children to use their "wheels". Our Facebook page will always show when the next booking is scheduled.

**Stage Area -** Thank you to all those who helped set the stage up in April. Our current project is making it a working stage. **Lyminge Parish Council** - now use our Meeting Room for residents to come with their questions for our Parish Council. Booking a slot is preferred - Contact: <u>clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk</u>

News contact: Jacqui Blandford - 07543 966830 or email: jacqui.blandford@gmail.com



An opportunity has arisen at Lyminge School for the appointment of a Clerk to the school governors. Could this be the flexible parttime job for you?

The role of Clerk is varied, but the most important aspect is to organise meetings of the governing body and take the minutes. In addition, after suitable training or experience, the clerk will need to ensure that the governors work within the appropriate laws and regulations.

There are no fixed hours, but the Clerk is expected to attend all meetings of the governing body and to be able to respond to issues as and when they arise. On average, the Clerk will work about 10 - 12 hours a month.

The work is paid by the hour, with a starting salary of £24,040 £28,850 fte, depending on qualifications and experience.

If you have experience in school clerking or any similar role, would be ready to undergo bespoke training, and would like to know more about this vital role in the life of our local school, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Dr Sarah Montgomery, Chair of Governors, via the school office office@lyminge.kent.sch.uk for more information or to send in your application. The closing date for applications will be **14th June 2025**.





### District Councillors' Update - May 2025

As requested by the Government in its **Local Government Reorganisation** letter, an interim submission was made by KCC and all the Districts in the county, to the Government. The submission sets out proposals to divide the County into either three or four Unitary Councils. Feedback on the submission is expected shortly. The feedback will help prepare the final submission which will be delivered to the Government on the 28th November this year.



The Otterpool Park Collaboration Agreement with Homes England has finally been

signed. On signing the agreement Homes England has paid F&HDC a £1.56M contribution to the historic planning costs. Homes England own 10% of the land. They will also share any relevant costs incurred during the agreement period. The start of the Collaboration Agreement was backdated to the 1st February and will run until August. The purpose of the Collaboration Agreement is to allow negotiation time for Homes England to become F&HDC's strategic partner and prepare a case for Public Sector funding.

The **Reach the Beach bus service** will run between Folkestone West station and the Harbour Arm again this summer. They will charge a nominal fee of £1 each way, children under 16 go free and bus passes will be accepted. This service was extremely successful last year encouraging tourism to the District.

Finally, a reminder to bring your **photo id** along with you to the polling station to enable you to vote in the Kent County Council elections to be held on the 1st May.

Contact Elaine Martin: elainemartin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

**Governance** On 29 January 2025 I put a motion to full Council to remain as a Leader/Cabinet style of Governance rather than move to a Committee system in view of the Local Government Re-organisation programme.

On 2 April 2025, the Secretary of State, Jim McMahon wrote the following; "I confirm that I therefore consider that your Council's proposed course of action - to resolve to reverse the Council's decision of June 2023 to move to a committee system form of governance arrangements, and to retain a leader and cabinet model - is likely to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of some or all of the people who live or work in the area of the local authority. For these reasons I consent to your Council resolving to retain the leader and cabinet model. The full Council will now need to ratify this decision.

**Everist Court (Age UK, Lyminge)** – On 2 April 2025 at the Full Council Meeting I put a further question to the Leader of the Council asking him to meet with the Community Group to discuss their proposal. For his response please see Agenda for Council on Wednesday, 2nd April, 2025, 7.00 pm | Folkestone & Hythe District Council

### Citizens Advice Bureau

Although the Folkestone Office has closed, at a recent presentation by Citizens Advice we were informed that a presence will be retained in the Folkestone & Hythe district with the ability to increase the services offered. Advisers are available to be contacted by calling 01304 353861, visiting <u>doverdealadvice.co.uk</u> or by attending the Rainbow Centre, Folkestone (CT20 2AF) on Thursdays between 10am and 3pm.

**My Community Voice** – There is information about six different scams, including voice cloning. For further information please sign up to My Community Voice Kent <a href="https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk">https://www.mycommunityvoicekent.co.uk</a>

Finally our **County Clir Susan Carey** is standing down as a Member of Kent County Council as at 1 May 2025. She has been our Kent County Councillor for 20 years and I would like to put on record my personal thanks and also that of many residents of the Elham Valley Division. Her kindness, expertise and willingness to help and support residents over the years has been exceptional. Personally, I have worked with Susan for 26 years as previously she was also my District Colleague for North Downs West. I will certainly miss such a wonderful friend and colleague and wish her and her husband John, all best wishes for their retirement.

Contact Jenny Hollingsbee: jenny.hollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk





## **Lyminge Bowls Club**

LEARN TO BOWL
SUNDAY MORNINGS IN MAY
10AM UNTIL 12NOON

## MUSIC ON A FRIDAY

...are holding a

**BBQ and Concert** 

including <u>FREE</u> food and wine

Starting 7pm, 27th June at LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH

Come along to meet old friends and make new ones.

Hope to see you there!

Editor: pbarnes20@icloud.com 6 Tel: 01303 863737



## Update from the Lyminge Community Hub

Lyminge Community Hub C.I.C. (Community Interest Company number 16368284) was formally registered at Companies House on 7th April. In response to our request in the last newsletter for a volunteer to set up our website, we have now held our first meeting with a very kind person who is working with us on this. Watch this space! We continue with our negotiations with Folkestone & Hythe

District Council Members to secure suitable accommodation to enable us to operate the various services we hope to offer. The recently vacated Age UK building is already laid out as we would wish - no alterations needed.

Initially, we aim to provide a Café selling light bites and as a community meeting place, together with a thrift shop and rooms for other activities. Among those we envisage are a monthly Repair Café, an exercise class, singing sessions, and knit and natter for a start.

We would like to work with the Lyminge Climate Action group to support their vital work on Climate Change and Biodiversity, and other local organisations who need a base.

It will then be up to all to suggest further ideas that can be provided, not forgetting the rest of our lively community, both young and not so young.

### Letter to the Editor

With regard to the development of the Lyminge Village Hall (See Page 16), I strongly suggest the LPC engages with all the current users/stakeholders of the hall to gain their opinions, thoughts, ideas, etc. with regard to its future development before engaging with prospective planners, etc. This would then provide a balanced wish-list that engages with the whole community. Should this happen, The Lyminge Association would be one of these groups that would like to have an input when given the opportunity. *Peter Barnes, Chair of The Lyminge Association* 



## Fifth Trust Update

www.fifthtrust.co.uk

Now that the fine weather is well and truly here, don't forget to get all your garden supplies from the Valley Vineyard Garden Centre.

Did you know garden maintenance is one of the valuable training opportunities available to our students with learning disabilities? Working alongside an experienced team leader qualified in horticulture, they carry out a wide range of gardening jobs for private and commercial From customers. garden one-off jobs to regular maintenance, including design and planting advice, grass cutting, supplying and planting shrubs and trees, etc. Email: plant.centre@ fifthtrust.co.uk or call the garden maintenance team on 07403 796631 to discuss your requirements and book a free initial consultation.



## Lyminge Primary School Summer Fayre

Saturday 21st June 2025 11am – 2pm on Tayne Field

Free entry. Inflatables, stalls and games. BBQ, refreshments, bottle tombola, raffle, books & toys, live music and lots more! Please come and support our school.

Run by Lyminge School PFA Raising money to support the children at our village school



- Carpets Supplied & Fitted
- Carpets Professionally Cleaned
- Carpets Whip Edged & Cotton Bound

Whatever your carpet need, give us a call for a FREE estimate / assessment.

Over 50 years combined experience.

07943 764 442

### **Rhodes Minnis Circle**

We will be holding our AGM on 28th May, 2.30pm at Rhodes Minnis Village Hall. We hold our meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month and have interesting speakers booked up for the next 12 months. Visitors are very welcome to join us.

For further information contact Lis Hirlemann 07590 913856.

## News from the Valley Methodist Church, Lyminge

You may have noticed that we have stopped using the name Lyminge Methodist Church and starting calling ourselves the Valley Methodist Church. This is because the three Methodist chapels in the Elham Valley have united to become one church on three sites. This change simplifies administration but doesn't affect our services or community outreach.

### The Tayne Centre

As trustees of the Tayne Centre, the Valley Methodist Church is really honoured to offer these facilities to the community and are pleased that it is used by so many different groups. You may know that we have an issue with the flat roof to one side of the building which has meant that the Rigden Room is currently out of action. We are in the process of fundraising and seeking grants to enable the complete replacement of this roof. Revd. Gill has raised over £1000 by "swimming" the channel, a kilometre at a time, in a local swimming pool and the Haywardians have raised a similar amount with their excellent concerts – the next one being held on Saturday 31 Mary at 3pm, book it in your diary today!



Can you help us repair the Rigden Room? We need your help to raise funds for a new roof. If you have a fundraising idea, please do share it with Revd. Gill or a church member!

We have been greatly encouraged by the positive comments from you, the people who use this building, which shows what an asset the building is to the local community, below is just a snippet of the thoughts we have received:

- The Tayne Centre is an integral part of village life, for classes, socialising and community spirit
- The hall is good for my sanity one evening a week just for me!
- The Tayne Centre is a wonderful community centre, it brings us together. The Tayne Centre is vital! It is part of our life!
- The hall is a precious space for exercise with a wonderful atmosphere
- Where would be able to dance and play badminton in Lyminge? Coming to the Tayne Centre means a great deal to us.
- The centre is important to us both for dancing and the historical society besides all the other events that we don't participate in. It's vital the centre is kept in running order for future generations.

### **Volunteer Opportunity – Lettings Secretary**

We are seeking a volunteer to fill the position of Lettings Secretary at the Tayne Centre and Church, following the retirement of our valued colleague, Mary. We thank Mary for her hard work in managing the bookings and for ensuring that groups and people were able to access the building when they needed to. The role requires approximately two hours per week and includes managing bookings (phone and email), maintaining a diary, and liaising with the Treasurer. A job description is available upon request. Please contact Revd. Gill on 07359 145260 or gill.songer@methodist.org.uk to express your interest.



Come and listen to

## 'A Touch of Swing'

whilst enjoying an afternoon tea, homemade cakes and more.

## Saturday 24th May, 2pm

St. Mary & Ethelburga Church

Raising funds for the Flower Festival (21-22 June)

ALL WELCOME



### Lyminge Judo Club

(Bushido Club registered)

We are a small friendly village club. We welcome and encourage both novices and skilled players and train every Monday evening at Lyminge Village Hall from



6.30pm. Open to all ages from 6 upwards - no upper age limit.

Juniors £2.50 per week; Seniors £3.50 per week. First session free, with no obligation.

**Contact: Craig Munn** email: <a href="mailto:craig.munnl@yahoo.com">craig.munnl@yahoo.com</a> **Facebook:** <a href="mailto:www.facebook.com/Lymingejudoclub">www.facebook.com/Lymingejudoclub</a>

Available face-to-face or online KENT TEST & PRIMARY TUITION

**Aaron Rice** 

PGCE, BA English, MA (Journalism)
Lyminge teacher with over fifteen years of

Primary school and 11+ experience

DBS Certified

Call: (01303) 862128 or (07544) 406299

Editor: pbarnes20@icloud.com

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## **Lyminge Friends**

Imogen Corrigan is the speaker at our meeting on Wednesday, 7th May and her talk is "The Hazards of the Pilgrims Journey" - what possessed people to trudge hundreds of miles, often in appalling conditions and sometimes perishing on the way?

On the **5th June, Peter Stratton** from **The Fifth Trust** will be speaking about the charity and its work, supporting adults with learning disabilities in the Elham Valley.

Everyone welcome
Entry is £4 for Social Meetings
(including Tea/Coffee)

We are a friendly social group and welcome new members and visitors - so just drop into a meeting, or if you'd like to talk to one of us first, please call 07904157897. All meetings are held in The Methodist Church, Church Road, Lyminge from 10.30am to 12noon unless stated otherwise.





**ELHAM VALLEY BRANCH** 

invite you to a

### **COFFEE MORNING**

to celebrate VE 80 a shared moment of celebration

on

**SATURDAY 17th MAY 2025** 

10.00am - 12 noon

in

ST MARY'S CHURCH, ELHAM

Refreshments, cakes and more!

Free admission with donations welcomed



Children's Musculoskeletal & Orthopaedic Physiotherapy

I am an Advanced Practice Children's Physiotherapist in Musculoskeletal and Orthopaedics, specialising in children between the ages of 0-16 years.

Please get in touch for more information on how I may be able to help your little one.

Call Lucy: 07841 518234

<u>lucy@footprintschildrensphysio.co.uk</u> www.footprintschildrensphysio.co.uk



QUALITY PRIZES



## Lyminge Bowls Club

Woodland Road, Lyminge CT18 8EW

Bowls England Big Week-End Saturday 24th May

**2-4pm** 

**Plant Sale** 



# Refreshments ....and A FUN AFTERNOON OF BOWLS



Just Turn Up - it's a Fun and Social Event

Contacts: Coach Terry: 01303 863404 ~ Captain John: 01303 862467

## ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL

## **Annual General Meeting**

The Etchinghill Village Hall AGM

## **Sunday 18th May 2025 at 6pm**

All Etchinghill residents are welcome

- The Etchinghill Village Hall Trustees look forward to welcoming you, with the meeting lasting for no longer than 1 hour.
- Should you wish to put your name forward as a
  Trustee, or if you would be prepared to help out
  on an ad hoc basis, or if you would just like to keep
  up to date with Village Hall life, then this is your
- opportunity and we look forward to seeing you.
  Please come along and register your interest.
- Refreshments will be available following the AGM.

  JOHN WHITE CHAIRMAN.
- ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES.



## **GARDEN PARTY**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2:30pm MEMBERS ONLY

For more information about the Gardeners' Society please email: lymingegardeners@gmail.com or call Anne on 07703 149008



APART FROM THE

LINE AND LENGTH

## Railway Museum



## Countryside & Craft Centre

Join us for the sights and sounds of Miniature Steam Engines - 10th and 11th May

### On Parade for the Military Weekend 31st May and 1st June

Open every Weekend and Bank Holiday from 10am to 4pm from the 5th April until the end of November. Special Events throughout the year.

More details on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ElhamValleyLineTrust.Official">www.facebook.com/ElhamValleyLineTrust.Official</a>



OUTDOOR THEATRE

Tayne Field, Church Road, Lyminge, Kent, CT18 8JA Saturday 19th July – 7.30pm

'SUPERBLY DONE' - THE STAGE
A DELIGHT' - INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY
'SUCH A GOOD NIGHT! - THE TIMES
National Press On The Rudes
www.therudes.co.uk



## **Coach & Horses**



We are coming to the end of our 5 year journey at The Coach and Horses. We have had an amazing time and are sad to be leaving. We have tried to make the pub a real community space and we hope that the new people will be able to carry that on.

So here are some dates in the lead up to our final farewell: **Darts Open** - 10th May, £10 person. Starts 4pm.

Farewell - Bank Holiday Party 2nd and 3rd May
Friday 2nd May, 7pm - music by Geoff Stephens
Saturday 3rd May, 7pm - music by Little Big Stone
Please come along and have a dance, sing and drink with us.
Monday 12th May will be our last day, so pop in and say ta-ra.

Editor: pbarnes20@icloud.com

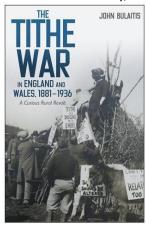




### LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Tuesday 6th May at The Tayne Centre, Church Road, Lyminge CT18 8JA

We present **Dr. John Bulatis** with his talk on **The Tithe War in the Elham Valley, 1931 – 1936** 



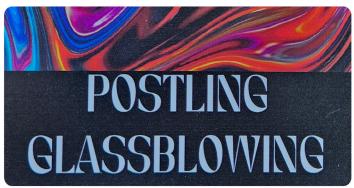
#### Members Free

New members and visitors are always welcome Visitors: £5 Payable on the door

All our publications, including our latest volume Lyminge a History Part 14, are on sale at our meetings. We accept payments by cash or card.

#### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

3rd June Bob Ogley "The Great Storm 1987" 2nd September Colin Varrall "Engineering Richborough



## Postling Glassblowing

A Bespoke Glass Blowing Experience

Come and enjoy blowing some glass to create your own piece.

Please contact us for further information:

(07951) 628173

postlingglassblowing@gmail.com

Inst: @postlingglassblowing



## Pet portraits in pastel by ROGER GOODY



Desk top or A4 mounted pictures, painted from email images or photographs ~ makes an ideal present

Please text Roger on 07768 977420

## The Lyminge Festival 21st - 28th June 2025



in concert at

# Lyminge Methodist Church

Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> May: 3pm

Retiring Collection
in aid of
Lyminge Methodist Church
Roof Repair Fund



CONSTRUCTION GROUP

SPECIALISTS IN PERIOD PROPERTY BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE ACROSS
ALL ASPECTS OF MAINTENANCE TO PERIOD
PROPERTIES USING TRADITIONAL
METHODS AND MATERIALS

CONTACT US TO DISCUSS YOUR PROJECT

EMAIL: INFO@FABRICCONSTRUCTIONGROUP.CO.UK

CALL: 07912 757311

WWW.FABRICCONSTRUCTIONGROUP.CO.UK

## LYMINGE AND ELHAM VALLEY STROKE SUPPORT

Have you or someone you know been affected bu a stroke?

Come and join our informal support group (no membership fees to pay). We usually meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month between 10:00am and Noon

New faces very welcome

May Meetings 5th May - NO MEETING AS **BĂNK HOLIDAY** 

19th May - Venue to be confirmed - see contact details

For more information, to check the dates of meetings/events, or if you would like support but are unable to attend the meetings Email: Lymingestrokesocial@gmail.com

or Telephone Fran on 07846 177 409 or Heather on 07427 664 084





**Freshly Prepared Breakfasts & Light Lunches Home Baked Cakes Vintage Afternoon Teas Coffees** Teas **Takeaway Available Private Functions** Open Tuesday to Friday

9am - 3pm Saturdays, open 8.30am - 1.30pm (breakfasts only) Dog Friendly

THE COFFEE CABIN TEA ROOM LTD. CANTERBURY ROAD, LYMINGE, KENT. CT18 8HU, 01303 864222 Instagram @thecoffeecabintearoomltd Find us on Google Maps

## Information & Advice: **Drop In** Sessions **Every Monday Drop In Sessions are** open from 10AM - 1PM

Lyminge Library, 7-9 Station Rd, Lyminge, Folkestone CT18 8HS

Need support with benefits, available services or other issues affecting later life? Our Information & Advice Drop-In offers free, confidential guidance on a range of topics, including:

- Benefit checks to see what you may be entitled to
- **☑** Blue Badge applications
- Local community resources
- ▼ Health & wellbeing services

No appointment needed—just drop in and speak with our friendly team!

Call 01303 269602 for more information



Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. ® Age UK Hythe, Lyminge and Ashford 2025.





Funded by the National Lottery, everyone is welcome - no matter your experience!

### FREE and booking is not required.

For further information call us on 01303 269602

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

First Wednesday of the month, 7th May: 11:15AM - 12:15PM at The Tayne Centre.

The Tayne Centre, Church Road, Lyminge, CT18 8JN

Then every Wednesday of the month 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May: 11:15AM - 12:15PM at the Methodist Church.

The Methodist Church, Church Rd. Lyminge, CT18 8JA



Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. ® Age UK Hythe, Lyminge and Ashford 2025.



## AGE UK



### Feeling low, worried, or stressed? We are here to help.

NHS Kent and Medway Talking Therapies, provide a range of support to thousands of people to help them to improve their mood and find ways to manage.

We understand that taking the first step to make a self-referral can feel overwhelming. That's why Age UK Hythe, Lyminge, and Ashford are here to guide you through the process, offer support, and help you access the assistance you need.

If you are 17.5 years or over and registered with a GP in Kent and Medway we can help you find the tools you need to get life back on track.

### Call or email us today

01303 269602

admin@ageukhla.org.uk









Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, Kent, CT21 6BD

10 - 1PM | Free to attend

**As part of Dementia Action Awareness** Week, Age UK Hythe is hosting an open day! Come along to:

- Discover the support we offer
- Learn about our Dementia Services
- Meet our team and ask questions

Everyone is welcome and our open day is free to attend!



If you have any questions, please call 01303 269602





Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. \* Age UK Hythe, Lyminge and Ashford 2025.

## LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL

## For Lyminge, Etchinghill and Rhodes Minnis

## **Council news**

We are pleased to share that we recently voted to take on a new consultant to help drive forward the Neighbourhood Plan. The consultant is currently reviewing our previous work and will work with the parish council to outline the immediate next steps. There will be ongoing opportunities for residents to play a part in the development of the plan. So if you would like to know more or get involved please email us. You will be able to attend workshops in person and some updates will be provided via the newsletter. If you would like more regular updates you can join our mailing list by emailing us.

We had an internal audit conducted at the beginning of April and the report from the auditor was very positive. The next steps are for the council to formally approve the paperwork from the external auditor, some of which has been done, and then send it off for review. As part of this we will post a notice of public rights whereby you can inspect the finances. The notice will be in the next edition and online.

## **Meeting dates**

Annual Parish Meeting - May 20th - 18:00 - Lyminge Village Hall

Full Council (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)- May 20th - 19:00 - Lyminge Village Hall

What's the difference? The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting held for parishioners, this is not a parish council meeting. It is an opportunity for parishioners to discuss what has gone on in the prior year.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council is a council meeting where a chairman, vice-chairman etc are elected and other statutory duties are fulfilled.

Any additional meetings will be on our noticeboards/website.

## **VE Day**

VE Day 80th Anniversary takes place on 8th May 2025. We invite you to join our celebrations in the following ways:

Joining us for our 'off the street' tea party from 3:30pm on Tayne Field.

Attending a service at St Mary's & Ethelburga Church at 5:30pm followed by bell ringing from 6:30pm.

Attending the lighting of the beacon at St Mary's & Ethelburga Church (9:00pm)

With music from the Cantores and various contributions from Lyminge Primary School.

We will need volunteers to assist with the party so please contact us if you are able to help.

We are also asking for people to come in fancy dress throughout the years (1940s to present day).

www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**



General - clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk Handyman - fred@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk Neighbourhood Plan neighbourhoodplan@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

## **Committee news:**

### **Planning & Licencing:**

LPC Comments 25/0481/FH - 76 Palm Tree Way No objection 25/0409/FH - 1 Hillview Terrace No objection

More detailed comments can be found on the FHDC Planning Portal.

### **FHDC Heritage Strategy:**

We submitted an in-depth response the FHDC's Heritage Strategy consultation which included reference to transport heritage (the old stagecoach route and the Elham Valley Railway), religious heritage (early Christianity and the Royal Kentish Camino) and landscape influences (chalk streams, trees and green spaces).

Our full response can be found on the news page of our website and will serve as a baseline for our own heritage strategy for the parish, delving much deeper into the interesting and ample heritage of the parish. Full information for the project to come.

## **Age UK Building / Lyminge Village Hall**

The Age UK building is owned by the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and is classified as a housing asset which means if all goes to plan for FHDC, it will be returned to such and will provide much needed housing in the district.

In anticipation of this, we have been looking at ways of adapting Lyminge Village Hall to utilise as more of a community asset. This would include a space for Age UK services, a permanent parish council office, classes and other services that the parish wants and needs without displacing the much needed preschool.

If you'd like to know more about our plans, please get in touch.

## **Office Hours**

We are currently trialling office hours so that residents can come and engage with us face-to-face.

Meetings at present are taking place during office hours in the meeting room at Etchinghill Village Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Tuesday: 10:00 – 13:00 (not 6th May)

Friday: 9:30 -12:30

You are welcome to drop in. However, for more in-depth or specific discussions, we would prefer that you make an appointment via email or phone 07999 403948.

The venue is wheelchair accessible.

Please remember to be kind and courteous to parish council staff while they do their best to assist you.

### **Dog Fouling**

Will dog owners please be respectful of their environment and pick up any dog fouling and place it in the bins provided. This is a particular problem on Tayne Field and around Etchinghill Village Hall.

www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk





### Thoughtful Food....

...is a group of local volunteers looking at our food, and how this impacts climate change. Our aims are to support people to produce more of their own food, and to shop locally, sourcing seasonal produce. We also run a community allotment in Lyminge and welcome new members.

**Contact:** thoughtfulfoodgroup@gmail.com or on Facebook and Instagram @thoughtfulfoodgroup

Next Thoughtful Food meeting, MONDAY 19th May 2025, 7.30PM, at the Coach & Horses Public House

### Pick-Up-A-Plant - Change of Venue

Pick-Up-A-Plant will now take place on the grassed area in front of the Methodist Church. Same date - Saturday 10th May, 10am-12noon. Come and pick up a plant, get some growing tips. We look forward to seeing you there.

Plant donations can be dropped off from 9.30am. Let's make this event as successful as ever.

### Things to do in the vegetable garden in May. Plant out, no rush

The first half of May you need to be raising plants that need warmth to thrive. The second half of May is about setting them out

to grow. There is no rush to this process, except for winter squash and beans for dry harvest. Setting them out too early can result in slug damage and weak growth. I've had much feedback along these lines.

Sow under cover: leeks, Brussels sprouts and winter squash in early May. At any time in the month, sow courgette, French and climbing beans, leaf beet, beetroot, chard, lettuce, kale, cabbage for autumn, salad onion, basil. Swede at the end of May.

Sow outside same as under cover, also main-crop potatoes by early May, carrots, and parsnips with seedbed kept moist until germinated.

After mid-month and at the end of May or early June in cold springs, sow cucumber, courgette, squash, pumpkin, sweetcorn.





### **Getting to know Permaculture**

Continuing our permaculture series, we can take a look at another key principle and how you might see it in action...

### Principle: Catch and store energy

This is a principle that in many ways we used to do well, and now perhaps less so. We can do this by harnessing the power of the sun, and using it to create a bank of resources to support ourselves.

#### In Action

There are many classic examples of doing this e.g. stockpiling wood from sustainable woodlands to keep ourselves warm, and preserving food, e.g. jams and pickles etc for the leaner winter months. These are still great permaculture-based practices. Now we can also use modern technology, like solar panels, to capture energy, and batteries or water tanks to store it.

### It's Asparagus season! Yummy......Asparagus Risotto

### Ingredients:

- 1 bunch asparagus (about 200g)
- 800ml vegetable stock
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 25g butter
- 1 small onion finely chopped
- 175g risotto rice
- 100ml white wine or vermouth (optional)
- 25g Parmesan or vegetarian alternative, finely grated

### Method:

Snap the woody ends off the asparagus stalks and tip them into a saucepan with the stock. Put on a low heat to very gently simmer. Meanwhile, cut off the tips of the asparagus, add to the stock for exactly 1 min. Scoop out with a slotted spoon and set aside. Finely slice the rest of the stalks into rounds.

Heat the oil and half the butter in a heavy, wide pan. Cook the onions gently for 5 mins until soft, stirring often. Add the chopped asparagus stalks and cook for 2 mins more. Add the rice and continously stir for a few minutes until it turns semi-transparent and makes a hissing sound.

Stir in the wine, if using – it will evaporate almost immediately. Reduce the heat to a gentle simmer. Add the stock, a ladleful at a time, stirring between each addition until it is absorbed, about 15 mins. Try the rice – it should feel just cooked with a slight bite to it. Stir in the asparagus tips and any last dregs of stock and cook for 1 or 2 mins more. Remove from the heat and top with the remaining butter and most of the Parmesan. Season generously, cover and leave for a few minutes to settle. Give the risotto a thorough stir to incorporate the butter and cheese and serve straight away with the remaining Parmesan sprinkled over it.

## Very Best Wishes from Thoughtful Food





## Small is beautiful! So, what is Britain's smallest bird?

Did you get it - all you ornithologists out there? Of course you did! It's the Goldcrest (Regulus regulus) which is reasonably common around here on the doorstep of Lyminge Forest as they are particularly associated with conifers. They are a very small greyish green bird (about 9cm long and weighing a mere 6g) with a very thin beak adapted for picking out insects among the pine needles.

Their name comes from a distinctive black and yellow stripe on its head (with an orange centre in the males). Interestingly, this month we have had a

number of reports around the village of the Goldcrest's rarer cousin, the Firecrest (Regulus ignicapillus). It could be argued that this too is our smallest bird as they are a similar length but have been recorded at a whole gram heavier and slightly bigger wingspan than their tiny cousin. The RSPB website describes them as "a tiny restless jewel of a bird" so if you can catch a glimpse, you are in for a treat.

Whereas the Goldcrest is resident all year round across most of the UK, with a breeding population in the hundreds of thousands, the more elusive Firecrest prefers a warmer climate and has only around two thousand breeding pairs in the South. Although Lyminge Forest has always been known as a hot spot for them, they now seem to be expanding their breeding range here in the last few decades. Coincidently the

Kent Wildlife Trust also featured them in their social media this April echoing our thoughts that this increase in sightings in Lyminge and across Kent could be linked to climate change.

So, how to spot the difference: The RSPB says the Firecrest is "...brighter and cleaner looking, with a green back, white belly, bronze collar and black and white eye-stripe." The yellow and black stripe on their heads is much bolder and the orange centre on the males is really bright. We recommend using the RSPB website to listen to the calls which are very similar.



Do let us know if you think you've seen one. Recording the changes in species distribution is a really important way to monitor the long-term impacts of climate change.



## Solar Together Kent

Over a quarter of greenhouse gas emissions in Kent and Medway come from energy use in our homes. While insulation and other measures can help reduce our energy demand, upgrades such as solar panels can help protect us from fluctuating energy prices and reduce emissions. This is especially important for properties with high electricity consumption, for example from heat pumps or charging electric vehicles.



### Group buying scheme for solar panels and battery storage

Solar Together Kent is a solar panel and battery storage group-purchase initiative, brought to you by iChoosr. It enables householders and small businesses to install solar panels on their properties at competitive prices. Solar panels can help you save money on energy bills, as well as reduce your long-term carbon footprint. You can also choose to install battery storage, to store excess solar energy for later use, reducing dependence on the grid.

Homeowners, landlords or small businesses in Kent can register for a free quote for up to 25 solar PV panels. If you already have solar panels installed, you can apply for battery storage to maximise the benefits.

#### **How Solar Together works**

- · Register for free and without obligation. The process is quick and simple.
- · Review your personal recommendation at a competitive price, from a pre-vetted installer.
- Decide whether you would like an in-person roof survey based on your personal recommendation. You can contact the <u>Solar Together helpdesk</u> if you have any questions.
- · Agree an installation date with the installer if your property is suitable for the technology you want.
- · Generate your own renewable electricity with your new Solar PV system!

### Get in touch

If you have any questions about new or existing installations you can call Solar Together for free on 0800 014 8851, Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm, or contact the <u>Solar Together Kent helpdesk</u>.

## **Community Hall Details**



### Large hall with stage, new kitchen and flexible hire

Excellent parking facilities, disabled access, proximity to playgrounds and playing fields. Beautiful countryside location.

#### Capacity:

200 people dancing / audience seating, 100 with tables Small rooms available for up to 50 seated

Find out how we can help you with your next event:

**BOOK ONLINE: lymingevillagehall.org.uk** EMAIL: admin@lymingevillagehall.org.uk INFO: 07547 545 601

Full pricing can be found on our website.

Guideline prices:

Main Hall hire: £88.40 (Fri / Sat evenings)

£47.60 (Sat / Sun morning or afternoon)

Find us on Facebook Registered charity 28145

### **VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH, LYMINGE** AND TAYNE CENTRE HALL HIRE



Church Seating Max 150 £22 per hour Clayson Hall (with Stage) Seating Max150 £16.50 per hour Rigden Room Seating Max 35 £11 per hour Wesley Room Seating Max 15 £11 per hour

All rooms have use of kitchen, toilets and disabled toilet. With the exception of Wesley room, all rooms are disabled-friendly and accessible.

Contact Tel: 07716521405

## **Lyminge Library Opening Times**

Monday 10am - 2pm 10am - 1pm, 2pm-5pm Tuesday Wednesday 10am - 2pm Thursday 10am - 1pm, 2pm - 5pm Friday 10am - 2pm Saturday 9am - 1pm

Tel: 03000413131 lymingelibrary@kent.gov.uk

### ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL HIRE FEES

The next time you are thinking of holding a function why not try Etchinghill Village Hall, which holds the highest Hallmark accreditation level (Hallmark 3), with its excellent facilities, including ample parking space.

The standard hire charge for the main hall and kitchen are:

ANY DAY OF THE WEEK ANY TIME £15 PER HOUR No winter supplements. No extra charges. Ideal for family parties and get togethers.

The use of a separate Committee Room is also available. For all bookings or enquiries please contact:

The Duty Manager on 07514 758936

### **Rhodes Minnis Village Hall**

Charity No.800345

Rhodes Minnis Village Hall is located 2kms (11/4miles) from Lyminge and just off Longage Hill and Whitehorse Lane in Chapel Lane.

The hall, which holds Hallmark accreditation, is ideal for children's parties, band practice, quizzes, meetings, wedding receptions, fundraising events and much more. It has a fully equipped kitchen.

**Rates** 

Mon to Fri £18 per session £48 all day

Sat & Sun £23 per session

£33 for evening session and £69 all day

Sessions

AM session 08.30 - 12.30 PM session 13.30 - 17.30 Evening session 18.00 - 23.45

Separate rates for Bank Holidays and New Year and special rates for regular users.

For all bookings and enquiries please contact:

Mick & Dorothy Athow: 01303 862616

e-mail: booking-rmvh@outlook.com

The Lyminge Newsletter can be viewed online at www.lyminge.org.uk/newsletter/

## The Lyminge Association We're here to support and develop our community!!

Contacts:

Chair: Peter Barnes 01303 863737 or Janet Fry 01303 863177 Treasurer:

> 07808775302 pbarnes20@icloud.com janet@rhodesminnis.org.uk

Minutes Sec: Heather Dunford

**Committee Members:** 

Marian Chubb, Richard Chubb, Stephen Guyatt, Gillian Heywood, Robin Mackonochie, Derek Smith, Penny Stephens, Adrian Willcox (deputy chair), Bernie Wood, Martin Wood

Newsletter: As for Peter Barnes above.

Please contact the Chair or Treasurer if you need any financial support for your charity.

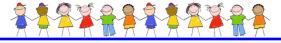
Editor: pbarnes20@icloud.com Tel: 01303 863737



## **Etchinghill**

10.15-11.30am every Wednesday at Etchinghill Village Hall £2.50 per child

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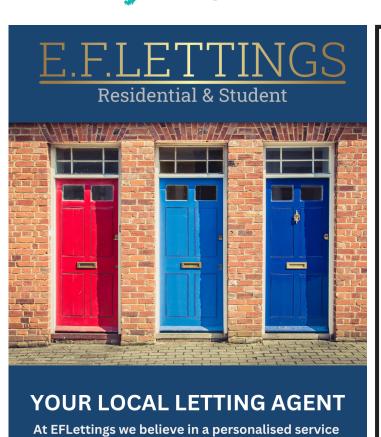
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# The Lyminge Association Garage Sale

Saturday 12 April 2025



The Lyminge Association would like to say a big 'THANK YOU' to everyone who took part in the Spring Garage Sale with over 50 outlets in many shapes and forms, including some tables at the village hall. It was a great success with the lovely sunny day resulting in a big turnout. A big thank you too to 'Snippers and Clippers' and 'The Coffee Cabin' for handling the bookings and distribution of maps on the day.

Unfortunately, there were a few people who may have thought the event was free and so failed to pay to take part. This is not only disappointing, but lets the rest of the village down. It is hoped this won't be the case next time (*Autumn Garage Sale - 14 September 2025*).

### **RMVH Spring Show Held on 22nd March 2025**

It has been another difficult growing year for gardeners, beginning with so much rain, followed by a very long, dry, cold spell.

Entries for the Flower Section were well up on last year, although exhibitors were a little down. The prize giving in the afternoon, was very well attended, it was a lovely social occasion.

Please give us your support on 2nd August 2025 when we will be holding our Summer Show. For more information, booking-rmvh@outlook.com

### **CUP WINNERS**

**Spicer Cup** – Most Points Overall – Dorothy Athow

Leppard Cup – Most Points in Flower Section - Gerry Newman

Godden Cup – Most Points for Photographs - Gerry Newman/Dorothy Athow

Hopkins Trophy – Most Points in Domestic Section – Keri Browning/Dorothy Athow

**Rhodes Minnis Trophy** – Most Points in Floral Art – Carol Lambert

lan Andrews Cup - for 3 Hyacinths - Sara Packer

Seathwaite Tray - Best Exhibit in Show (Floral Art "Celebrating Easter") - Carol Lambert



## Etchinghill Neighbours and Trustees rallied round to install a Stage in the Village Hall

The project was achievable now that the new extension has been completed allowing the stage area to be utilised as a stage for the first time since the Hall was built over twenty years ago. Without the community support the project would have taken a few more months to complete. So, a big thank you to all those that gave up their time.

Thanks also to Anna for the fantastic support of tea and cake

### When I'm Gone

'Darling!' I said to my wife Jane.
'When I'm gone, will you marry again?'
She replied. 'I'd give it some thought You said yourself life is too short.'
'Regarding your new husband pet.
Will he live here in our maisonette?'
It makes sense to stay here I guess So the answer to that is probably yes.'

'And what about our new water-bed?
Will he be sleeping on that?' I said.
Jane replied. 'Of course my dear Don't forget you won't be here.'
'So he'll have my wife, flat, and my bed.
Will he be using my golf clubs?' I said.
'Oh no!' she replied. 'He's left handed Jim.
Your golf clubs will be no use to him.'

Written by: JT Sandgate Creative Circle Tel - 07435580028 Do you have any photos of local events or groups in action? If so, can you please forward them along with a few words to <a href="mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com">pbarnes20@icloud.com</a>

### LYMINGE THEN AND NOW

Our monthly look at how Lyminge has changed over the years, with thanks to Lyminge Historical Society.





We are returning this month to another photograph provided to us by former resident Paul Sampson, taken by his father around 1959.

As with so many views we have looked at previously, the growth of trees is one of the most notable changes. But trees aside, over most of the area we are viewing, at first sight, the passage of some 65 years seems to have made very little difference. Most of the houses visible are older than 1959.

Then on closer inspection, we can see that in 1959, the bungalows that now line Woodland Road from the corner with the High Street had yet to be built so the field known as Court Close came right up to the road. Turning our gaze further to the south (or left), the area around the Village Hall looked very different. The Bowls Club had yet to build its clubhouse, and although out of the picture, the Village Hall itself was not yet built either. Court Lodge Green, often known as 'The Bumpy Field', was also called the Knolls, which means much the same thing. In 1959, there was a small pond at the bottom of this field close to the road. This is an ancient pond, depicted on the earliest map of Lyminge dating to 1685, and it is probably much older than this. It was probably the vital source of water needed to support the metalworking that we know, from archaeological excavations, was carried on here a thousand years ago, before the Norman Conquest. Now of course the pond has been greatly expanded to provide better management of water run-off from the road and at the same time a better habitat for wildlife. Court Lodge Green itself, registered as a Village Green, is now actively managed to encourage bio-diversity on this edge of the village that is open to the countryside.

