



THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

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

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

From The Lyminge Association

DECEMBER 2025



CHRISTMAS PRESENT DELIVERY

As in previous years, The Lyminge Association is happy to confirm that Santa and his willing elves will be personally delivering Christmas presents to children in their homes on the evening of Monday, 22nd December.

Presents may be left at **The Methodist Church, Church Road, Lyminge, CT18 8JA** on either **Saturday, 13th December** between 10am and 3.30pm or **Saturday, 20th December** between 10am and 3.30pm only. Sorry - no other dates or times!! A receipt will be given for each bag of presents deposited.

The parcels need to be well wrapped and CLEARLY LABELLED WITH RECIPIENT'S NAME & ADDRESS including POSTCODE.

A small charge of £2 is made per address; there is no limit to the number of presents per household, but they all need to be clearly marked with the recipient's name and address.

The Lyminge Association wishes you all a very enjoyable Christmas and hopes that the New Year proves to be full of good health and happiness.

Please note, that because of the Christmas holidays, the January edition of the newsletter will be delayed until early January 2026

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Margaret Saunders' Meanderings

The following are some of my second observations made on my meanderings in the last week of September from around St Mawes in Cornwall.

Passing by the Tudor castle of St Mawes with its round keep, I wander along a road which runs parallel with the shore. This road ends with a wooden gate which leads on to the coastal footpath to St Just. Large individual houses have been built on the landward side of the road, with commanding views of the Fal estuary known as the Carrick Roads. Little sandy bays are separated by rocks over which the sea is frothing and foaming. Just above the waterline two oyster catchers, with their distinctive jet black plumage on their heads, backs and tails and white chest underneath, dart restlessly on reddish-pink legs amongst and over the rocks. They prod and poke their bright orange-red beaks in search of mussels and cockles, emitting a high pitched squeaky chirrup-like cry every so often. It is late afternoon and gradually the blue of the sky and sea turns to platinum then gold, the sunlight shimmering a path across the estuary, in preparation for another magnificent sunset.

One bright sunny morning I walk down the hill to the harbour village of St Mawes where a harbour wall protects the street and houses on its lower level. Boats and yachts are moored in the calm waters of the haven, well protected from the gale-force westerly winds that often blow around this coast. Picturesque newly whitewashed houses line the winding road, their names indicating their history – Pilchard House with pale blue shutters, Court House, The Old Bakehouse and Old Dairy. A candyfloss-pink cottage with a thatched roof is aptly called Pink Cottage. Steep steps lead down the harbour wall onto the beach where the dark rocks envelope pebble and shell-strewn sand. A diving platform is anchored off-shore, in the deeper water away from the rocks.

Away from the water the streets climb steeply inland, with footpaths becoming flights of steps. Walls made

from granite stones hold up gardens, some of the blocks of stones laid dry, some cemented together and others constructed of long thin stones laid dry in a zig-zag pattern. Similar walls line the lanes, holding firm the field edge over the centuries, ensuring safe passage for people, animals, carts and now motorised vehicles. These walls are often obscured by moss, ivy, brambles and other plants, whose seeds have found a foothold amongst the ancient hard wearing stone. A fern hangs over the top of a wall creating a dark shadow against the white lichened stone.

Above the castle are the Lamorran House Gardens, a sub-tropical Italianate garden, with a focus on foliage. Today is hot and I am grateful for the shade that is afforded by a huge variety of tall trees. Built on a steep south-facing slope, there are corners and spaces interspersed throughout and every so often, a view opens up of the deep sapphire sea beyond, sparkling with diamonds as the sun catches the ripples. Mini waterfalls lead into ponds where statues rest amongst fronds and leaves; elegant metal bird sculptures sit on sand at the base of a palm tree; rose-shaped succulents abound in bright greens, deep reds and mixtures of the two; tree ferns quiver in the breeze, their leaves shining in the sunlight; a face-shaped fountain with green trailing foliage for hair; a stone statue of pan playing his flute; a niche in a stone wall houses a female statue whose image is reflected in the fern-fringed pool below as a firecrest flits about in an overhanging tree. On the terrace in front of the house at the top of the garden, a few tables are placed where food and drink can be enjoyed in a wonderfully peaceful setting. Today is the last day the gardens will be open this season and I am pleased that this was my choice for today's outing, a mere five minutes stroll from our holiday cottage.

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Church Services

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. Please note that times and venues may vary.

LYMINGE

Date	Time	Event
7th December	11.00am	Mrs Keeley Taylor
14th December	10.15am	Valley Service at Elham
21st December	11.00am	Rev Malcolm Peach
24th December	6.00pm	Carols by Torchlight - Rev Malcolm Peach
Christmas Day	10.00am	United Service at St Andrew's Church, Cheriton, led by the Rev. Gill Songer
Advent Course - Tuesdays from 2.30pm in Lyminge Methodist Church, Cheriton		
1st, 9th and 16th December. All are welcome!		

RHODES MINNIS

Date	Time	Event
7th December	9.30am	A local arrangement
14th December	10.15am	Valley Service at Elham Rev Gill Songer inc Holy Communion
18th December	7pm	Evening Carols with Rev Gill Songer
21st December	9.30am	Rev Malcolm Peach
25th December	9.30am	A joint service at Elham - a local arrangement
28th December	No Service	
4th January	10.30am	Circuit Covenant Service at St Andrew's Church, Cheriton

St Mary and St Ethelburga Parish Church, Lyminge

Date	Location	Time	Event
Sunday 7th December	Lyminge Paddlesworth	10.00am 4.00pm	WOW Service Evensong BCP
Sunday 14th December	Lyminge	8.00am 6.00pm	Holy Communion CW2 Evensong BCP
Saturday 20th December	Lyminge	5.00pm	Carols by Candlelight (nine lessons and carols)
Sunday 21st December	Lyminge	10.00am 4.00pm	Holy Communion CW2 Evensong BCP
Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve	Lyminge	3.00pm 11.00pm	Crib Service Midnight Communion
	Paddlesworth	11.30pm	Carols in the pub followed by walk to Church for carols mince pies and mulled wine
Sunday 28th December	Lyminge	10.00am	Family Praise Christingle

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

Postling Church Services

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 7th December	8.30am	Breakfast Service
Sunday 14th December	8.30am	Morning Service
Sunday 21st December	8.30am	Holy Communion
Monday 22nd December	7.30pm	Carol Service with the Shepway Singers
Wednesday 24th December	11.30am	Crib Service in the Church
Thursday 25th December	9.30am	Christmas Morning Service
Sunday 28th December	5.30pm	Quiet Service of Evening Prayer



Rector's Wonderings..

We come to the darkest time of the year, a month with the shortest day, and then mornings get still darker. Short days, cold nights, little light can all lead us to feeling we have nothing to look forward to.

Christmas speaks to us of hope - the light that shines in the darkness - the baby in the manger showing us that God loves us and is with us even in the darkest of times.

However, you may find yourself this Christmas, know that you are loved and share that love with everyone you meet - and laugh as much as you can. Laughter, as the saying goes, is the best medicine!

May God who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light, bless us and fill us with peace. Amen



CHINA CHINA



圣诞快乐 MERRY CHRISTMAS

OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY

(Takeaway as well)

12 noon to 7pm

Eat as much as you like and select from over 200 dishes

£40 per person and £22 per child (under 1.4m)

To book your table please call in or phone 01303 863 288 or 07539 200 804

We are closed from 26th to 29th December and re-open on 30th December

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Cake and Create

Let 2026 be a year of Creativity, Connection and Calm

Gentle drawing & watercolour

Nature-inspired crafts

Relax and connect



Step into the garden studio of Cottage Art & Design, nestled in a quiet corner of the Elham Valley, for relaxed sessions of creativity, cake and connection. No experience needed – just curiosity. Supportive guidance from a local artist and surface pattern designer.

6 week course, every Wednesday evening 6.30pm - 9.00pm,
7th January - 11th February

Or
6 week course, every Thursday morning 10.00am - 12.30pm
8th January - Thursday 12th February

For more information and to book visit:

www.cottageartanddesign.com/artclasses
Limited Spaces

Looking for a thoughtful Christmas or birthday present?
Why not book a

one-off creative workshop for you and a group of friends?

Call Claire for more information: 07738 580813



LYMINGE BOWLS CLUB
WOODLAND ROAD
ENTRANCE NEXT TO THE TENNIS COURT

Cake & Coffee

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER
10AM TO 2PM



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS,
PRESENTS AND CARDS
FOR SALE

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 pbarnes20@icloud.com or via methods outlined on Page 6.

ONE-OFF EVENTS

Day	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
01 Dec - 5 Jan		Mount Pleasant Close Christmas Lights		
5th Dec	7pm	Christmas Concert	LPC	
6th Dec	10am	Cake and Coffee	LBC	
6th Dec	9am	Children's Toys & Clothes Boot Fair	EVH	
6th Dec	7pm	The BIG FAT CHRISTMAS Quiz	EVH	07514758936
07 Dec	7pm	ERA AGM	EVH	07544 670363
13 Dec	10am	Lyminge Winter Arts & Crafts Fair	LVH	
13th Dec	6pm	Cantores Christmas Concert	LPC	
17th Dec	11.30am	Carols - Singing For All	LMC	
20th Dec	3pm	Haywardians Christmas Concert	LMC	
22th Dec	4pm start	Christmas Present Delivery		
24th Dec	3pm	Nativity and Blessing of The Crib	LPC	
24th Dec	6pm	Christmas Carols	LMC	

MONTHLY EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
1st Mon	10am	Stroke Support Group	C&H	07903 150099
2nd Mon	7pm	Parish Council Meeting	LVH	07999 403948
3rd Mon	10am	Stroke Support Group	C&H	07715 221705
3rd Mon	7pm	Etchinghill Cinema Club	EVH	07544 670363
1st Tues	2pm	RBL, Elham Valley Branch	SMCHE	07734 383691
1st Tues	2pm	Railway Readers 1	LL	0300 0413 131
1st Tues ³	7.30pm	LHS Talk/Event	TC	863879
2nd Tues	2.30pm	Library Reading Group	LL	0300 0413 131
3rd Tues ²	7.30pm	Gardeners' Society	TC	07703 149008
Last Tues	10.30pm	Lyminge Poetry Group	LL	0300 0413 131
1st Wed	10.30am	Lyminge Friends	TC	07904157897
4th Wed	2.30pm	RM Circle	RVH	864256
Last Wed	7.30pm	Quiz Night	C&H	01303 3901011
2nd Sat	10am	Postling Church, Coffee Morning	PC	863536
2nd Sat	10am	Ethelburga Quilters	EVH	
4th Sun	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH	

WEEKLY EVENTS

Day	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
Mon	10am	Bridge Club	LBC	863177
Mon	10.30am	Lyminge Larks (Singing)	LMC	07951 572920
Mon	10.30am	Chromatic Greys Art Class	EVH	07783 575802
Mon	5.15pm	Pilates	EVH	07951 698008
Mon	6.30pm	Ballroom/Latin/Salsa Dancing	TC	07966 751991
Mon	6.30pm	Judo Club	LVH	07369 225021
Mon	7pm	Pilates	EVH	07951 698008
Mon	7pm	Yoga	RMV	07977 503897
Tues	9.30am	Tai Chi Qigong	EVH	07402 203239
Tues	10am	Lyminge Baby & Toddler Group	TC	07870 405567
Tues	11.45am	Pilates	EVH	07834 839801
Tues	1pm	Seated Yoga	TC	
Tues	1.45pm	Pickleball	EVH	862696
Tues	6pm	Board Games Night	CC	
Tues	6.45pm	Short Mat Bowls	LVH	863842
Tues	7pm	Bridge Club	EVH	07790 160476
Wed	10am	Pilates	TC	07825 109670
Wed	10am	Baby/Toddler Group	EVH	07817 777975
Wed	11.30am	Singing for all (term time only)	TC/LMC	269602
Wed	7.15pm	Cantores Dominicae Choir	LVH	07778 333339
Thurs	10am	Lyminge Morning Art Group	EVH	01303 211364
Thurs	10.15am	Baby Rhyme Time	LL	0300 0413 131
Thurs	2pm	Lyminge Afternoon Art Group	TC	07870 494644
Thurs	5pm	Pilates	TC	07951 698008
Thurs	6.15pm	Pilates	TC	07951 698008
Thurs	7pm	Short Mat Bowls	LVH	863842
Thurs	7.30pm	Ballroom and Latin Dancing	EVH	07967 979610
Fri	9.15am	Nikki Barratt Art Group	EVH	07871 494644
Fri	10.15am	Talk Time	LL	0300 0413 131
Fri	6pm	Junior Cricket Training Sessions	SPCC	07869 283195
Fri	7pm	Table Tennis	EVH	

¹ In term time only

³ Except Jan, Feb, and trip in Aug

⁵ Not held in August

² Except Jan and Feb

⁴ Except Aug and Dec

^{**} Every three months

C&H: Coach & Horses; **CC:** Coffee Cabin **EGC:** Etchinghill Golf Club; **ERA:** Etchinghill Residents' Association;
ES: Elham Square; **EVH:** Etchinghill Village Hall; **ELVH:** Elham Village Hall; **EVL:** 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; **MP:** Meriden Park **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; **SMCH:** St Mary's Church Hall, Elham;
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

LYMINGE COMMUNITY HUB

Further to our update in the November issue of The Lyminge Newsletter, we agreed the date of Tuesday, 11th November for our meeting with Councillor Jim Martin, Leader of Folkestone & Hythe District Council and his officers. Five members of the Lyminge Community Hub committee attended the meeting and we were pleased that Councillor Tania Gauder, Senior Caseworker for Sojan Joseph MP, Christopher Hespe, Kent County Councillor for the Elham Valley and Shaun Pottage, Chair of Lyminge Parish Council, were all in attendance.

6 Gillian Heywood, Chair of Lyminge Community Hub, gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining our proposals for creating a village hub using the ground floor of the Jubilee Building at Everist Court. As detailed in our November update, this would provide us with sufficient space to have a commercial kitchen in which we could prepare breakfasts, light lunches and refreshments throughout the day from Monday to Friday, create a thrift shop and still have a good sized meeting room for local clubs and other groups to meet in and, hopefully, a monthly repair café.

During the discussions which followed, Councillor Martin emphasised again the need for social housing in the form of one-bedroom flats so that he can release some larger houses for families. We pointed out that whilst we fully appreciate the need for more social housing, Lyminge already has a good level of social housing provision for single people and that not everyone wants to

move to a rural location, where social isolation is much more prevalent than in urban areas.

The Jubilee Building (also referred to as Jubilee House) is located at Everist Court in Lyminge. The building was formerly used as a community day centre by Age UK, but it has been listed as an asset of community value since 17 June 2025 following a successful nomination by the Lyminge Community Hub, Community Interest Company (C.I.C.). If a planning application is put forward by the Council to change the whole building into flats, there would need to be a change of use from Community to Housing and this is something we will need to oppose if we are to secure use of the ground floor for our Community Hub. If deemed necessary, we would organise a further public meeting and would be looking to the residents of Lyminge for your support in objecting to this change of use.

Proposals for the possible installation of a Mansard roof on the Jubilee building were also discussed, as this would create provision for a third floor to the building and space for two additional apartments thus providing a total of five, which Councillor Martin is hoping to achieve. If this option works, it would mean that the Council would secure additional single-person accommodation and the residents of Lyminge and the surrounding villages would have a much-needed social space for all ages once again using the ground floor of the building.



Carols

Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Wednesday 17th December

11.30am - 12.30pm

Lyminge Methodist Church

Church Road, CT18 8JA

Old Newspapers

We'd love to hear from anyone in the village who has old newspapers to recycle. Our three guinea pigs would be very grateful. I'm willing to collect.

Jenny - 07564130569



Lyminge Newsletter

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Copy deadline for next edition - 18 December 2026

Please email your copy to the editor at 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 £10 per month or £100 per year.

Personal and charity adverts and articles from £5 per month, or £50.00 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.

For further details call Peter Barnes (editor) on 07808 775302 or email pbarnes20@icloud.com



Etchinghill update

– December 2025

ETCHINGHILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (ERA)

Chairman: David McCombe - 07939 076617

Email: dmccombe1@gmail.com

Website: www.etchinghill.info

f Etchinghill Residents

FILM NIGHT - ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL – THERE IS NO FILM IN DECEMBER.

Our next screening is on Monday 19th January – *'The Salt Path' 2024 (12a)*

ERA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER – ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL 7PM – DOORS OPEN 6.45 PM.

After the brief formalities, where you can vote for the committee members of your choice going into 2026, you will have the opportunity to air your views, help make a difference and shape the future of our community during the Open Forum. This year, for personal reasons, the current chair, David McCombe and our treasurer, Geraldine McCombe, will not be standing for re-election. Please ensure you support the AGM to enable our long-standing and successful organisation (est 1982), which does such good work around the hamlet, to continue operating.

REMEMBRANCE WEEK 2025 –

Thank you to all of our volunteers and our band of knitters and crocheters for the beautiful display at the junction of Teddars Leas and Canterbury Road and for the one in the memorial garden at the Village Hall.

Finally, best wishes for a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year to all our lovely residents!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: CHILDREN'S & BABY BOOT FAIR:

Saturday 6th December. Doors open to the public at 9am. Contact the Village Hall to book your table.

THE BIG FAT CHRISTMAS QUIZ

will be held at Etchinghill Village Hall on Saturday 6th December 7pm. Decorated hall, crackers and mince pies included. If you enjoy Christmas, you will enjoy this event. Teams of up to 6, £5pp with prizes for the winning team. Bring your favourite nibbles and drinks. If you're lucky there might be a few tables left so ring and find out!

The hall is CLOSED Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

"We would like to thank all of those that use our Hall and wish them a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year"

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS – WEDNESDAY 24TH – 4PM AT THE GATEKEEPER Come and join us at The Gatekeeper, with kind permission of the proprietors Helen and Eric, to sing some of your favourite carols from 4pm to 4.45pm. This will take place in the garden unless the weather is very inclement (in which case we will move indoors). Please contact The Gatekeeper directly on 01303 864345 if you wish to book a table. See you there!

News contact: Karen Hickman – 07521 372477, email: kdickman@me.com

ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL (Charity 302736)

Chairman: John White

f Etchinghill Village Hall Kent

Bookings: Anna Allan 07514 758936

Email: d.allan142@btinternet.com

Roger Joyce has been co-opted to the Parish Council representing Etchinghill.

Road News: The eagle eyed amongst you may have spotted the new KCC salt bin at the top of Westfield Lane and the white markings in the roads that give hope for some much needed repairs. The call for traffic calming measures to slow traffic passing through the hamlet is still ongoing as we are still experiencing a lot of speeding.



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Childrens Toys and Clothes Indoor Bootfair

Do you need to declutter and make space before Christmas? Come and sell your old toys and childrens clothes with us.

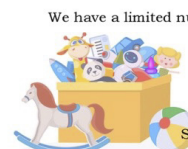
Saturday 6th December 2025

Tables are available for £7 (£10 for businesses)

We have a limited number of tables available so book with us today to avoid disappointment

Phone :07514 758936

At Etchinghill Village hall
St Mary's Drive Etchinghill CT18 8NQ



District Councillors' update

– December 2025



Otterpool Park – The District Council has, subject to no 'call in', agreed further collaboration with Homes England. From the outputs of the work to date a critical next step is to secure full planning approval for Otterpool Park. It is proposed that the Council and Homes England enter into a further period of formal joint working to December 2026 through a Planning Agreement which will be focused on securing the outline consent and enabling the early delivery of new homes. The Heads of Terms (HoT) which will form the basis for the detailed drafting / negotiation of the Planning Agreement can be found here <https://folkestone-hythe.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?id=3408>. The agreement will cover the period up to the grant of outline planning approval and completion of related work.

Folca (previously Debenhams) The freehold of the c.26,963 square foot space, known as Folca 1, is for sale with marketing agents Avison Young. Sited in a prime town centre location, the building could be suitable for a variety of uses – subject to planning permission. Folca 1 is currently detached from Folca 2 (the Art Deco section of the building) on the first and second floors. The connection between the two on the ground and basement levels will be separated by the Council early next year prior to sale.

Folkestone Library – Creative Folkestone has recently announced a plan to work in Partnership with KCC and the Community. It is well known that the Central Library building is in need of extensive maintenance and repairs. Creative Folkestone said "a Significant capital investment will be required to realise the vision we have set out. The proposal to Kent County Council is to work together and apply for central government funding that will enable this important community asset to be brought back to life."

Bus shelters along Middelburg Square - the new Folkestone Bus Station, has recently been installed. The temporary shelters have been sourced to protect passengers from the elements over the coming months. A delay in the supply chain has meant contractor Bauer Media Outdoor (BMO) is unable to install the permanent shelters until early 2026.

Remembrance Day – it was good to see so many services being held across our Ward for Remembrance Sunday. I attended All Saints Stanford with the service starting outside by the Memorial in quite warm and dry weather. It is good to be reminded of those who lost their lives in our Villages and eighty years after the end of the Second World War – 'We will remember them'.

Local Government Reorganisation – At an Extraordinary full Council on 19 November the decision was to recommend to Cabinet that Model 3a was the preferred model for FHDC. This was ratified by Cabinet District and will now be put forward by the Leader to Government on 28 November 2025. Model 3a keeps East Kent together ie Folkestone & Hythe, Dover, Canterbury, Ashford and Thanet.

Thanks – it is the time of the year when I would like to say 'thank you' to – Peter Barnes, who diligently every month puts this magazine together, to the Parish Councillors, the Village Hall Committee, the Tayne Centre, Lyminge Association, Lyminge Church and all the volunteers and leaders of various other groups in the Village who give so much time to the Village and its community. May I wish you all and all local residents a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Contact: jennyhollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

At the Extraordinary Full Council meeting last week it was agreed that F&HDC will put forward option 3a to the Government for LGR. This will divide Kent into three Unitary Authorities and combine F&HDC with Ashford, Dover, Canterbury, and Thanet. It will be the Government who make the final decision as to how Kent will be split. It is expected there will be public consultation on the recommended option(s) for Kent in spring 2026.

A £5m investment has been agreed for F&HDC to purchase 20 more properties to be used for homeless households in the district. Using council-owned properties as temporary accommodation reduces the reliance on private, nightly-let temporary accommodation and is more cost-effective in the long term.

Temporary bus shelters have been installed in Middelburg Square, Folkestone. Due to supply chain delays, the contractors are unable to install the permanent shelters until next year. Work creating the rain gardens element of the project is underway. The gardens will collect run-off water and filter pollutants to water vegetation and provide a natural habitat for wildlife as well as reusing rainwater to water surrounding plants.

A joint approach to bringing the library in Grace Hill, Folkestone, back into use as a multi-use centre is being made by Creative Folkestone and Sunflower House. They have announced that they propose working together to secure central government funding. The vision is to create a multi-use space as a library alongside new areas for education, creative industries and community events in a repaired and restored building that Kent County Council put up for sale in the summer.

Finally, if you have not already done so, please can I encourage you to sign up for My Community Voice. It is an email service run by Kent Police and regularly sends out updates such as current fraud alerts.

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

See P14 for County Councillor's Summary Report from Chris Hesp

Fifth Trust update



Don't miss the Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 6th December from 10am to 3pm at Elham Valley Vineyard. There will be a superb selection of gifts including Christmas cards, wrapping paper and gift tags, to homemade jams, chutneys, ceramics, and woodwork, lovingly crafted by our talented students with learning disabilities. Don't miss delicious hot food served from our barbecue, scrumptious mince pies, and warming mulled wine. You can also sample a range of elegant Elham Valley Vineyard wines and purchase Christmas trees and wreaths at the Vineyard Garden Centre. We'll also be running our Big Give campaign during the fair. All donations made to us will be DOUBLED, so it's a great time to make a huge impact.

If you miss the fair, the Gift Shack in the garden centre will be open in December. Happy Christmas!

The BIG FAT CHRISTMAS QUIZ



Saturday 6th December 7pm

ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL

Max 6 per table, £5 per person

Price includes cake, crackers and a quiz.

Prizes for the winning team. Plus raffle.

Bring your own refreshments.

Phone 07514 758936 to book a table

**THE FUN WAY TO GET YOUR
CHRISTMAS STARTED.**

Any profits will go to the Etchinghill Village Hall. Charity no 302732

This Newsletter can be viewed online and in colour at www.lyminge.org.uk/newsletter



Autumn Meditation Course BOOKING NOW

8 sessions from Saturday 4 October 2025

(1 per week)

1.30pm - 4pm

Location: Harry Margary Hall

Lympne Village

CT21 4LE

Learn some new skills to support your
health and wellbeing

Contact Ellen for more information or to book

Call: 07740 857109

Email: ejgarrard2712@gmail.com

Visit: www.ellengarrard.co.uk

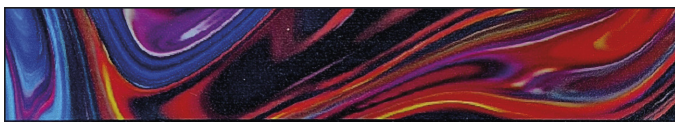


St. Mary & St. Ethelburga Lyminge Nativity & Blessing of the Crib



Come and be part of
the Christmas Story,
with dressing up clothes provided.
Meet the shepherds and their animals

3pm Christmas Eve
A fun family service for all.



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- Weight Loss Clinic
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- NHS Flu & Covid Vaccinations
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- Pharmacy First Service
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to the local community of
Lyminge, Elham, Etchinghill,
Postling, Hythe, Rhodes
Minnis, Stelling Minnis and
the surrounding areas.

Ask a member of staff
to learn more

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EMAIL:
lymingeinformed@gmail.com

Or come in to the store:
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Folkestone CT18 8HQ



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Musical Director & Conductor: Malcolm Munro

Your Favourite Carols,
Christmas Music &
Lyminge Handbells

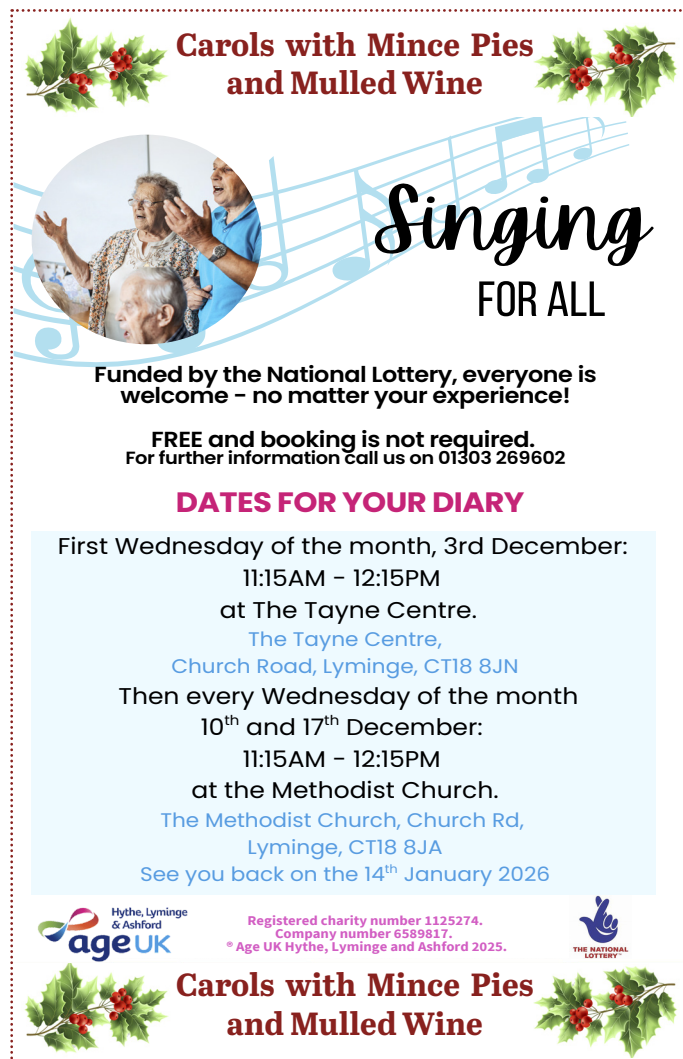
Merry Christmas!
CONCERT
Saturday
13th December 2025
6.00pm - 7.00pm

St Mary & St Ethelburga Church
Church Road, Lyminge

Tickets £8 - children free
Available on the door

the fifth trust

Charity No: 1067409



**Carols with Mince Pies
and Mulled Wine**

**Singing
FOR ALL**

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, 3rd December:
11:15AM - 12:15PM
at The Tayne Centre.
The Tayne Centre,
Church Road, Lyminge, CT18 8JN

Then every Wednesday of the month
10th and 17th December:
11:15AM - 12:15PM
at the Methodist Church.
The Methodist Church, Church Rd,
Lyminge, CT18 8JA
See you back on the 14th January 2026

Hythe, Lyminge
& Ashford
ageUK

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

**Carols with Mince Pies
and Mulled Wine**

THE NATIONAL
LOTTERY

11



This Christmas will be FEE-FI-FO-FUN!

**Jack
and the
Beanstalk**

Steve Hawkins as
Dame Trot

Michelle Hartley as
Fairy Moonbeam

Chris Willcox as
Fleshereep

Ava Wright as
Jill

Hannah Ridley as
Jack

Jack Willcox as
Silly Billy

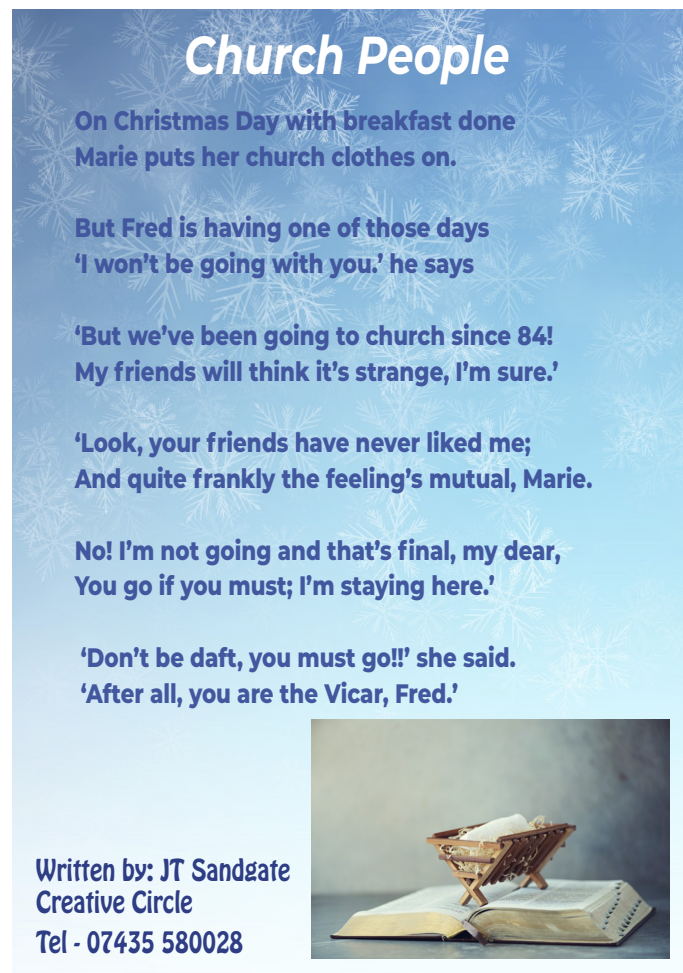
12 - 28
December

The Tower Theatre
North Road
Folkestone CT20 3HL

01303 223925
www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk

AFHODS
THE FOLKSTONE THEATRE TRUST
& DRAMATIC SOCIETY LTD

Written by Peter Denyer
Script provided by PantoScripts, NODA



Church People

On Christmas Day with breakfast done
Marie puts her church clothes on.

But Fred is having one of those days
'I won't be going with you.' he says

'But we've been going to church since 84!
My friends will think it's strange, I'm sure.'

'Look, your friends have never liked me;
And quite frankly the feeling's mutual, Marie.

No! I'm not going and that's final, my dear,
You go if you must; I'm staying here.'

'Don't be daft, you must go!!' she said.
'After all, you are the Vicar, Fred.'

Written by: JT Sandgate
Creative Circle
Tel - 07435 580028



MARTINI BEARS PRESENTS

Lyminge Winter Arts & Crafts Fair

A curated show and bazaar for handmade products

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13TH 2025
10 AM TO 3 PM
LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL



Free Parking
Free Entry
Refreshments available
WOODLAND ROAD LYMINGE CT18 8EW

MUSIC ON A FRIDAY

...are holding a

Christmas Concert

5th December at 7pm
at LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH

Mince Pies And Mulled Wine
Donations To Charity

Local Village Taxi

For all your travel arrangements

Contact Richard
07970 12 12 12



12

This Newsletter can be viewed in colour
at www.lyminge.org.uk/newsletter



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Tuesday 16th December

(Members Only)

AGM – 20th January at
The Tayne Centre
(more details next month)

For more information about the Gardeners' Society
please email lymingegardeners@gmail.com
or call Anne on 07703 14900

LYMINGE AND ELHAM VALLEY STROKE SUPPORT

Have you or
someone you
know been
affected by 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
10am and 12 noon at The Coach & Horses, Lyminge

New faces very welcome

DECEMBER DATES

1st December

Christmas Lunch at The Vineyard

(pre-bookings only)

15th December

**Social Group at
The Coach & Horses**

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 07846 177409 or Heather 07427 664084

Neighbourhood Plan

The Lyminge Parish Council is putting together a Neighbourhood Plan to present to Folkestone and Hythe District Council (FHDC) early in 2026. Among a myriad of other things to be documented e.g. local green spaces (see P20), properties (e.g. parish church, library, coach house, Lollipop House, etc.), objects of historical interest (Coffee Cabin, demarcation stones, letter boxes, etc.) are being listed as being of heritage or non-heritage interest.

This documentation involves photographing the properties concerned. The Council would be grateful if there was no objection to this taking place. However, should you have any concerns, please write to the clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk outlining your concerns.

The community as a whole will have the opportunity to review the full document before being submitted to FHDC.



Counselling, Supervision and Mindfulness

**Supporting you with
anxiety, depression,
stress bereavement and loss,
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Hythe area**

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Email: ejgarrard2712@gmail.com

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Hythe Aqua Swimming Club has vacancies for potential competitive swimmers Level 7 and above.

Join a Club with a nationally accredited swim programme.

Lessons/Coaching sessions are held on

Tuesday & Thursday evenings at Hythe Pool.

We also welcome adult length swimmers to our Adult training on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9.00pm

To book your place

Email hytheaqua@btinternet.com or check out our website
www.hytheaqua.org.uk or Facebook

**This Newsletter can be viewed in colour
at www.lyminge.org.uk/newsletter**

MOUNT PLEASANT CLOSE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

**Once again we will
be dressing our
houses to raise
money for charity.
The Christmas
lights will be on
from 1st December**

**None of this would
be possible without
the generosity and
continued support
of the village.**

**So, thank you very
much in advance.**

The charities
we are supporting
this year are:

**The British Heart Foundation,
MS Society, Cancer Research UK,
Prostate Cancer,
Pilgrims Hospice Ashford and
Maya Nash in Hythe.**

Last year we raised over
£4,000 and we hope
to repeat that again
this year.

Answers to Quiz on Back Page

1. Eight maids a-milking
2. The Christmas cracker
3. Bing Crosby's White Christmas
4. St Stephen's. The first Christian martyr
5. That of his former partner, Jacob Marley
6. Silent Night. In 1818 at Oberndorf in Austria
7. It's A Wonderful Life
8. Figgy pudding
9. Dirty Den Watts gave divorce papers to his wife Angie. Played by Leslie Grantham and Anita Dobson
10. Eartha Kitt
11. Bob Cratchit
12. Mexico
13. Mulled wine
14. Spider
15. Four calling birds
16. Christmas Eve (the fire should be kept burning until 12th night)
17. Italy
18. The Holly and the Ivy
19. North America
20. Ebenezer

Monthly Summary from Chris Hespe, Kent County Councillor for Elham Valley

Kent County Council (KCC) is proposing a single **Unitary Council** with three Area Assemblies to streamline local government, aiming for significant cost savings and minimal disruption to essential services. The proposal balances strategic oversight with local involvement and will be submitted to central government by 28 November 2025, with final decisions expected by early summer 2026 and implementation in early 2028.

Alongside this, KCC has outlined its three-year strategic objectives in the **'Reforming Kent'** <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/kent-strategic-statement> statement focusing on residents' well-being, environmental protection, and business support.

Additional priorities include developing an Energy Strategy sensitive to the environment amid growing solar farm proposals, and advocating for the return of international rail services to Kent.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM THE LYMINGE ASSOCIATION

In Aid Of
Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary
Registered Charity Number: 283483

Season's Greetings from Lord Whisky Animal Sanctuary and Vet Clinic.

As we approach the festive season, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our friends and supporters. Your kindness and generosity help us care for a wide range of animals, and without your support, our work would not be possible.

This Christmas, we kindly ask for your continued support. Please consider making a donation to our appeal, which will benefit both the Sanctuary and our low-income vet clinic. Our clinic cares for an average of 34 animals each day, providing essential medical treatment to those in need.

Every donation, no matter the size, makes a meaningful difference. Your generosity ensures that we can continue our vital work throughout the year.

For more information or to donate please email us:
lord.whisky@btinternet.com or call us on 01303 862622

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year!



Lyminge Friends

Lyminge Friends would like to thank everyone for their support this year, we have gone from strength to strength. We wish you all a very happy festive season and we look forward to our 2026 programme.

There is no meeting in January so our next meeting is on **Wednesday, 4th February** which will be our AGM followed by the postponed talk on **FRAUD AND SCAMS** by KENT POLICE.

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 07904 157897. All meetings are held in The Methodist Church, Church Road, Lyminge from 10.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. unless stated otherwise.



For Sale



Two Bedroom Shared Ownership House Available at St. Mary's Close, Etchinghill

70% share for £199,500
Monthly Charge of £70.58



This property comprises of kitchen, living room, two bedrooms and bathroom. It also benefits from a garden and parking.

Local connection criteria applies.

Please contact English Rural on 020 7820 7930 option 2 or email allocations@englishrural.org.uk to arrange a viewing and to apply. Alternatively, you can visit our website. www.englishrural.org.uk

Application Deadline 15th December 2025

Be an active part of your community - join The Lyminge Association

15



Dementia Services

We run free social events to support people living with dementia, helping them stay confident and independent. Everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa, a chat, and friendly company. We also provide free information and advice, as well as charged cognitive sessions and day care. To talk to us about dementia support, please contact our Dementia Services Team Leader on 01303 269602 or email dementialead@ageukhla.org.uk



MONDAY	*Young at Heart Memory Café	The Pheasant, Trinity Road, Ashford, TN25 4BY Brickfields, Cherry Garden Lane, Folkestone, CT19 4AP	Monday 1 st December, 12:30pm - 2:30pm Monday 22 nd December, 10:00am - 12:00pm
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TUESDAY	*Social Evening Memory Café	The Royal Norfolk Hotel, 7 Sandgate High Street, Sandgate, CT20 3BD Stade Court Hotel, Stade Street, West Parade, Hythe, CT21 6DT	Tuesday 9 th December, 5:30pm - 7:30pm Tuesday 16 th December, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
	*Social Evening	The New Chimneys, Loudon Way, Ashford, TN23 3JJ	Tuesday 16 th December, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY	*Wonkies Dementia Chorus	Skuba Bar Old Bistro, 2 Langhorne Gardens, Folkestone, CT20 2EA Hythe Cricket and Squash Club, Ladies Walk, Hythe, CT21 6AX	Wednesday 3 rd December, 10:30am - 12:00pm Weekly, 2:00pm - 3:30pm *not on 31st December*
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THURSDAY	Carer's Support Circle Memory Café	Age UK Ashford, Farrow Court, Stanhope Road, Ashford, TN23 5RF Etchinghill Golf Club, Canterbury Road, Etchinghill, Folkestone, CT18 8FA	Thursday 4 th December, 10:30am - 12:00pm Thursday 11 th December, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
	Hythe Walking Group	Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD	Thursday 18 th December, 10:00am - 11:00am

FRIDAY	Drop-In Clinic Ashford Walking Group Memory Café Lunch Club	Ivy Court Surgery, Recreation Ground Road, Tenterden, TN30 6RB Harper's Café, Victoria Park, Jemmett Road, Ashford, TN23 4AD Age UK Ashford, Farrow Court, Stanhope Road, Ashford, TN23 5RF Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD *booking essential	Friday 5 th December, 12:00pm - 2:00pm Friday 12 th December, 10:00am - 11:00am No December Meeting No December Meeting
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*For those diagnosed with Dementia at an early age

To find out about any of the above activities or events please contact Lauren Povey on: 07379 646426, alternatively email: demo@ageukhla.org.uk

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

Community Meals

Our Home Meal Delivery Service brings you a freshly cooked hot meal and dessert, delivered straight to your door — hot, tasty, and ready to eat. We're here for you 365 days a year, making sure you never have to worry about missing a meal. In addition to your main meal, a Tea-Time Bag is also available, providing a light and convenient option for later in the day.



Fun, friendship, and activities for everyone

At Age UK Hythe, our Day Services are all about bringing people together to enjoy stimulating, engaging and enjoyable activities in a welcoming and supportive environment. We offer a wide range of activities to suit every interest, from singing, art and painting, to cooking sessions and craft projects. For those who enjoy being active, we also provide opportunities for gentle physical activities such as New Age Curling and chair-based exercises.



Dementia Day Care Services

Our Dementia Day Care service provides a warm, supportive environment where people living with dementia can enjoy stimulating activities, companionship, and care tailored to their needs. From music, art, and gentle physical activities to reminiscence sessions and sensory experiences, our programmes are designed to help maintain skills, build confidence, and create moments of joy. Families can feel reassured knowing their loved one is supported by our experienced team.



For more details please contact:
Age UK Hythe, Lyminge & Ashford
01303 269602

www.ageuk.org.uk/hythelymingeashford/

Age UK Hythe: The Community Support Hub, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD.
Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. © Age UK Hythe, Lyminge and Ashford 2025.

Editor: pbarnes20@icloud.com | Tel: 07808 775302



Lyminge Historical Society

TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 7.30pm

At the Tayne Centre, Church Road, Lyminge CT18 8JA

We present **John Buss**
'Jane Austen in Kent'

The talk will be preceded by the Annual General Meeting



Godmersham Park, home of Jane's brother Edward

Members Free. Visitors: £5 Payable on the door
New members and visitors are always welcome
2026 Annual Subscription of £12 may be paid at the meeting
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

The Society will take its normal winter break in January and February.

Our monthly meetings will resume with:

3 March 2026: The defence of Kent since 1900 – Dr Andrew Richardson
7 April 2026: An American Civil War veteran in Folkestone – Gina Costin

Christmas Goose

Local produce from
Longland Farm, Elham

Premium Quality & Welfare
Environmentally Caring

2-Star Great Taste Award 2025
Small 4-5kg • Medium 5-6kg
Large 6-7kg
£20/kg

07825 181870
hello@longlandfarm.co.uk
£20 deposit payable
Collection 23 Dec

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS



THE KINGS ARMS What's On!



Golden Years Menu (65+)

Mon-Fri 12-3pm

1 course £14 - 2 course £17 - 3 course £19



Our New Autumn Menu is Here!

Seasonal Favourites with a twist



Happy Hour

20% off drinks

Mon-Thurs 4-6pm



Live Music Saturdays

Every Saturday 4-6pm

Quiz Night

Every 2nd Monday of the month



Christmas at The Kings

Book now for Christmas Day -
SELLING FAST!



Festive Set Menu

2 courses £21.95 - 3 courses £25.95

Mon-Fri 12-3pm / Mon-Thurs 5-8:30pm

From 24th November to 19th December



01303 840242



info@thekingsarmselham.com



The Kings Arms, Elham,
CT4 6TJ

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.

✉ thoughtfulfoodgroup@gmail.com f @thoughtfulfoodgroup

Next **Thoughtful Food** meeting, **7.30pm MONDAY 26th January**, at The Coach & Horses.



Christmas without Plastic...

If your family still carry on the tradition of Christmas stockings, try filling them with sustainable gifts. Grandparents love things their grandchildren have made for them, a salt dough tree decoration, a drawing or painting. Gardeners love small gifts like dibbers, seed labels, a ball of twine. Seeds are very well received and also make great fillers for children's stockings.

<https://ecobravo.co.uk/products/reusable-produce-bags> These would be the perfect gift to encourage less use of plastic for shopping and storage.

Everyone would like a little sweet something, dried fruit, nuts or seeds. For children, there are many companies providing inexpensive craft kits and eco-friendly products as an alternative to the collection of more bits of plastic.

https://thecuriouscaterpillar.co.uk/collections/eco-stocking-fillers?srltid=AfmBOopfRh-XKfgJCtcfS0fLWYei7hsaFNwCw_SphUp1Lq18FmtAIJOR

Paper chains fit in nicely and the whole family can get involved with making. No need for plastic. And don't forget the tangerine!



Pruning Workshops

Phil Wilson our local apple expert is offering FREE pruning workshops in January. Phil worked at Brogdale in the 1990s, evaluating field trials. He is still associated with the National Fruit Collection, but his own apple tree collection right here in Lyminge has to be seen to be believed.

'Introduction to Pruning' Saturdays 10 and 17 January 09.00 to 12.00,

FREE - the details for the free course

- The background to, demo pruning, and features of interest in the orchard.
- Questions answered.
- Numbers limited to about six, **first come first served**.
- Wear warm outdoor clothing.
- At **Ethelburga House, High Street, Lyminge** (identified by Stone pine in front garden and box hedge on roadside boundary). **CT18 8EN** gets you to within about 10m.
- Come up the drive to the right of the house and enter the gate to the rear.
- Contact Phil Wilson at philip@pwarb.com

OK, Let's Talk Sprouts

This recipe gives a zesty twist to these earthy vegetables.

- 1.2kg brussel sprouts trimmed and halved
- Fresh ginger grated to make 2 tbsp ginger
- 2 oranges, zested and juiced
- 100g butter
- 2 tbsp soy sauce

Step 1

Bring a large pan of water to a simmer and add a big pinch of salt. Add the sprouts and blanch for 3-4 minutes until they're bright green and tender, but still have bite. Drain well. Mash the ginger, orange zest, and butter with plenty of seasoning. Tip into a frying pan and let it melt for a minute.

Step 2

Add the sprouts and toss to coat in the butter. Fry for 5-10 minutes until the edges are starting to turn golden brown. Add the orange juice and soy and simmer until the sauce coats the sprouts.

Getting to Know Permaculture

The last in this series of looking at permaculture principles, we're finishing with looking at the value of Edges.

Principle: Use edges and value the marginal This principle comes from ecology, and the recognition that the richest ecosystems are at the edge, where two habitats meet. You can maximise this by

designing to create longer edges between two areas. This is also true away from the physical environment- the most productive discussions and ideas can come from that junction between different ways of thinking.

In Action A simple example might be designing a garden pond. By creating wavy edges, there is more surface area at the edge of the water where it meets the land, creating more opportunities for wildlife.

All at Thoughtful Food wish you all a Merry Christmas and our best wishes for the New Year.

LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL

For Lyminge, Etchinghill and Rhodes Minnis

The following meetings all take place at: Lyminge Village Hall

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

2 December - 18.30

FINANCE AND ADMIN -

2 December - 19.30

PLANNING AND LICENCING -

2 December - 20.15

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS -

9 December - 17.30

FULL COUNCIL -

16 December - 19.00

Please note all Planning Meetings will now be held at Lyminge Village Hall.

Any additional meetings will be on our noticeboards/website

WHOSE WHO

Chairman of Lyminge Parish Council:

Shaun Pottage

Committee chairs:

NHP: Cllr Sue Baldwin

Planning and Licensing:

Cllr Emily Arnold

Community Engagement and Events:

Cllr Sarah Fagg

Finance and Administration:

Cllr Sandra Harrison

Councillor contact details on our website.

www.lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

mobile: 07999 403948



Looking Ahead to 2026 – With Your Help!

Over the past few months, we've been working hard to rebuild relationships and strengthen communication, and your input is an important part of that. As we enjoy the festive season, we're also starting to think about the year ahead and how we can continue strengthening our wonderful parish.

So, we would love your ideas for 2026! What would you like to see more of in Lyminge, Etchinghill and Rhodes Minnis?

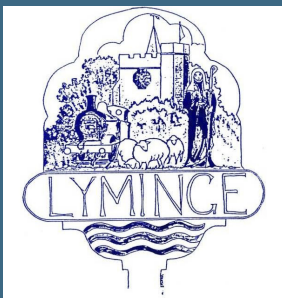
Whether it's community events, environmental improvements, activities for different age groups, or suggestions for village facilities, we are keen to hear your thoughts.

While we can't promise that everything will be possible, we can promise that every idea will be read and considered as we plan for the coming year. Your input really helps us ensure that the Parish Council continues moving in a positive direction and reflects what matters to our community.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and good wishes for 2026 from us all.



clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk



LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL

For Lyminge, Etchinghill and Rhodes Minnis



Who is Shaun Pottage?

I have lived in Rhodes Minnis with my wife and family since 2013, having moved to the area to take up a new job as a director at the Port of Dover. My children attended local high schools in Folkestone and Canterbury and are now both studying at university.

I am a Chartered Accountant and have worked in industry leading a variety of companies at Board level for almost 30 years. I am now “semi retired” and so have the time to get more involved in community activities.

I joined the Parish Council in April this year and was elected Chair in May. Since then, I have met many new people in the community with a common aim of maintaining and improving our villages and environment. I hope we can continue this in the future and make a real positive impact for the benefit of the Parish.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH:

Tree stumps removed in Mount Pleasant

Latch on Church Gate Fixed

Additional Leaf Sweep Mount Pleasant

Parish Council approved a new bench in Mount Pleasant

www.lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk.

debbie.capon@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk

mob: 07999 403948

Handyman: fred@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

neighbourhoodplan@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk



The Neighbourhood Plan: - Local Green Spaces Consultation

Below is a summary of the information about potential Local Green Spaces, gathered at the various Neighbourhood Plan community meetings that have been held across the Parish.

Would you please have a look; we need you to help us to gather facts about the mentioned localities e.g. owners of land, any wildlife, why is it special to you and the community. Also please let us know if any areas have been missed and could be added to this list. We are also looking for photographs to illustrate the green spaces and views in the area. Please



send feedback to the Parish Council (barbara.winham@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk) or through a Google form using the QR Code alongside or on this link: <https://forms.gle/PGSJLKuWwV3UDjaJ8>

Please note that a "Local Green Space" in this context is a special designation that applies to certain green spaces within a community that safeguards them against inappropriate development, effectively bringing them up to the same level as Green Belt in planning terms. To be designated, the space in question needs to meet strict criteria as set out in national policy. Potential green spaces need to be truly and "demonstrably" special to the community under at least one of five specific categories.

We have made a start at assigning these categories to each of the sites on the current list, using the first letter of the category we think for which they are demonstrably special - R: Recreational Value; H: Historic Value; W: Wildlife Value; T: Tranquillity Value; B: Beauty Value.

ETCHINGHILL	
St Mary's Field	R, H
Green Space around Village Hall	R, H, T, B
Meriden Park Green Space	R, T
Harry's Wood	W, R?, T
Former Cricket Pitch	? - Remove?
Etchinghill Golf Course	R
Green Space (top Tedders Leas)	?

LYMINGE	
Court Lodge Green (Bumpy Field)	W, H, R, T, B
Tayne Field	H, R, B, W?
Well Field	W, R, H, B
Lyminge Churchyard	H, T, W, B
Jubilee Field	R
Sibton Park Cricket Ground	R, B?
Mount Pleasant Green Space	R, T
Ethelburga Drive Green Space	R, T
Palm Tree Way Green Space	R, T
Green space by Age UK / Greenbanks / Station Rd	R, T, H?
Ethelburga Grove	R, W, H
Rectory Field (at end of Rectory Lane)	R, W?- maybe remove?
Water Meadow Field (North Lyminge Lane)	R, W?- maybe remove?
Lyminge West Top Field (on way to Brady Hill)	R, B, W?
Brady Hill	W, R, B
Field opp Sibton Park	R, B, W?
Woods (Top of Brady Road)	W – but no access
Allotments (Methodist Church)	R

RHODES MINNIS	
Recreation Ground / Village Green	R, T, H, W?
Allotment Field	H
Allotments	R
West Wood (Lyminge Forest)	R, W, T, B, H?



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The Lyminge Association

We're here to support and develop our community!

CONTACTS:

Chair:

Heather Dunford 07427 664084 [E heather.dunford@gmail.com](mailto:heather.dunford@gmail.com)

Minutes Secretary:

Peter Barnes 01303 863737 or 07808 775302 [E pbarnes20@icloud.com](mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com)

Treasurer:

Janet Fry 01303 863177 [E janet@rhodesminnis.org.uk](mailto:janet@rhodesminnis.org.uk)

Committee Members:

Peter Barnes (deputy chair), Marian Chubb, Richard Chubb, Stephen Guyatt, Gillian Heywood, Dennis Huntley, Robin Mackonochie, Derek Smith, Penny Stephens, Bernie Wood, Martin Wood

Newsletter:

Peter Barnes 01303 863737 or 07808 775302 [E pbarnes20@icloud.com](mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com)

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

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Lyminge Library Opening Times

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CHARITY NO. 800345

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Mick & Dorothy Athow: 01303 86261
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10.15-11.30am every Wednesday
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Rates for Advertising in the Lyminge Newsletter

In the mists of time (2012??), we increased the charges to advertisers using the classified ad space in the Lyminge Newsletter for businesses from £9 to £9.50 per month or £95 per annum and from £1.50 to £3 (£30pa) for charities.

With time and the increasing requests for larger advertising, these charges have changed in line with these charges. However, more recently, we have seen an increase in our circulation list from 1650 copies to 1750 to include the new Pentland Homes estate and requests for further copies from China China.

In addition, we have absorbed any increased printing costs over the years, particularly when we switched to a commercial printer and yet we maintained our margins, continuing to support grant requests, donations and funding individual events. (See P 6). This year our revenue for the newsletter fell slightly from £12470 to £11463 (-8%).

The Lyminge Association committee has therefore accepted the recommendation that our fees increase by 4% (approx). The new rates per month from 1st November are as follows:

		Charities	Businesses
190 x 105mm	Half front page	£45	£50
190 x 270mm	Whole internal page	£25	£50
190 x 130mm	Half page	£12.50	£25
90 x 125mm	Quarter page	£7.50	£15
90 x 38mm	Classified Ads	£5	£10

Rates for an annual advert are calculated using the monthly rate, times ten (two months free). E.g. for a quarter page business ad, one month costs £15; the annual cost £150.

We regret having to make these increases but undoubtedly we remain exceptionally competitive.

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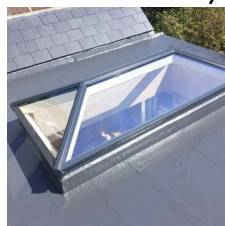
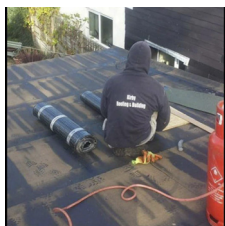
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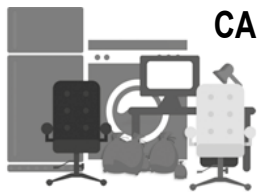
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LYMINGE THEN AND NOW

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

Although the picture on the left shows a close-up and the picture on the right a longer view that reveals more of the upper storey and house next door, these both show Korf House, which stands on Canterbury Road opposite the Coffee Cabin. The picture on the left was taken in 1977 when it was still operating as a shop.

The pair of houses now known as Korf House and Dorset House were built around the beginning of the 20th Century. It seems quite likely they were both bought by a widow, Louisa Goringe, who by 1911 was living in Korf House with her two daughters Ethel and Florence, both dressmakers. They had moved there from Corfe Castle in Dorset, which probably explains the names of the two houses. Ethel later married Percy Gordon, a tailor who owned Gordon Brothers tailors in Folkestone. They lived in Church Road in Lyminge. This



was a time when Lyminge was full of businesses. The Gordon family also ran a butchers in Aberdeen House, opposite Korf House at the end of North Lyminge Lane, as well as a greengrocery in Station Road.

In 1911, Albert Collins, a boot-maker was living next door to the Goringe's in Dorset House. We know his father Barnett Collins, aged just 12 in 1851, was at that time learning the trade of boot-maker as apprentice to his cousin in Northampton, a town still well known for shoe manufacturing. Barnett later moved to Cheriton and



ran a business there for many years. His son Albert learned his father's trade but moved to Lyminge, operating first from Dorset House, but by 1921 he was in Korf House. His son Roy took over the business after the Second World War. The picture above shows Roy outside his shop, when he was still selling shoes and offering shoe repairs. By this time, it appears he had ceased to make and sell shoes himself, another once-vital trade that used to be widespread but which has now virtually disappeared from our towns and villages.



Remembrance Sunday 2025

Christmas Quiz

1. What did my true love send to me on the eighth day of Christmas?
2. What did Tom Smith invent in 1847?
3. What is the best selling Christmas song of all time?
4. Whose feast day is on Boxing Day?
5. Whose ghost appears first to Scrooge in A Christmas Carol?
6. Which well-loved Christmas carol was first performed to guitar accompaniment because the church organ was broken?
7. Which Christmas film starring James Stewart was produced in 1946?
8. According to We Wish You A Merry Christmas, what do we all love?
9. The highest ever rating episode of Eastenders was aired on Christmas Day 1986. What happened?
10. Which American singer is famous for singing Santa Baby?
11. In the Muppet Christmas Carol, which character was played by Kermit the frog?
12. From which country do poinsettias originate?
13. In Scandinavia, what is 'Glog'?
14. In the Ukraine, what is hidden in the Christmas tree and brings the finder good luck, a spider, a red button or fig?
15. What did my true love give to me on the fourth day of Christmas?
16. When is it traditional to light a Yule log?
17. Panettone is traditionally eaten in which European country at Christmas?
18. What is the name of the carol about Christmas Evergreen plants?
19. From which continent do turkeys originate: North America, Australia or Europe?
20. What is Scrooge's first name?

Answers on P14

Merry Christmas

