

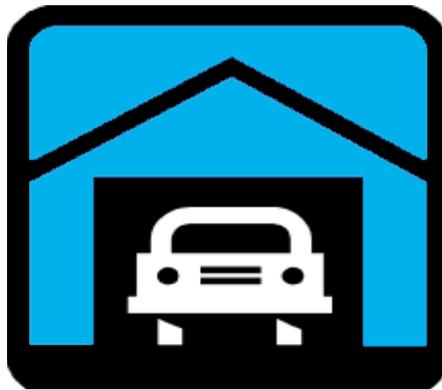
THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

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

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

From The Lyminge Association

MARCH 2026



GARAGE SALE

with TABLE SALE

at Lyminge Village Hall

SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

From Friday 20th March,
booking forms will be available from
Snippers and Clippers, The Coffee Cabin and can
also be downloaded from the internet

[www.lyminge.org.uk/garage-sale-and-table-sale-
booking-form/](http://www.lyminge.org.uk/garage-sale-and-table-sale-booking-form/)

Completed forms, plus £5, need to be returned to
Snippers and Clippers or The Coffee Cabin
by the absolute date, 3rd April

Any questions: please contact Steve on
01303 863600 or steve@guyatts.com

Margaret Saunders' Meanderings

This year's meanderings will comprise monthly observations I have made over the past year, 2025.

March

We begin March 2025 with continuing cold nights followed by clear days of sunshine and blue skies. Increasingly, daffodils are appearing as the snowdrops and crocuses begin to fade. Other bulbs begin to push up as light levels and warmth increase.

New analysis is showing that Spring is the fastest-warming season in the United Kingdom with key events that herald the start of Spring happening on average nine days earlier than twenty-five years ago. Birdsong is everywhere and at increased volume as birds search for and find a mate, preparing themselves for nest building. An early foraging bumblebee moves amongst the hellebores, disturbing the pollen which catches the rays of the low morning sun as it puffs out into the air. Folklore dictates that 'If March comes in like a lion it will go out like a lamb' but this year it came in like a lamb and also leaves like a lamb. Another saying is:

'Is't on St Joseph's day (19th) clear,
So follows a fertile year;
Is't on St Mary's (25th) bright and clear,
Fertile is said to be the year'.

2 'March winds' traditionally abound throughout the month but this year these have been largely absent.

We have experienced the officially declared warmest days of the year so far, reaching 21°C in the south-east with a run of clear blue skies over the equinox – a tantalising taster of the summer that we hope lies ahead. Primroses have burst open on banks, in woods and amongst hedgerows and the bright yellow of daffodils brings joy to the heart and soul after the dreariness of the long winter months.

The buzz of bees in flight, both bumblebee and honeybee, further emphasises that the Spring season is moving forward, as do the squabbling groups of sparrows which dash about, landing for another tussle and squabble, before racing off to a nearby venue, for a repeat performance, all the time keeping up their continuous raucous cheeping and chirruping. Birdbath bathing is suddenly the height of fashion as birds endeavour to keep fit and healthy for the nest building and breeding season which is well underway, but feeding from the bird-feeders has diminished as more natural food becomes available.

Blackthorn blossom abounds, dotting the countryside with patches of soft white, the flowers opening long before the leaves appear. Pussy, or goat willow, catkins push forth, the silver 'fur' on the male catkins giving way to yellow when ripe with pollen. In eastern Europe in the Orthodox tradition, and also in Germany, pussy willow shoots are carried on Palm Sunday as an alternative to palm branches, which do not grow that far north.

Traditionally, extracts from willows were used to relieve pain associated with a headache or toothache, and the painkiller aspirin is derived from salicin, a compound found in the bark of all Salix species. In medieval times, before aspirin tablets became a pharmacy staple in many parts of Europe, the bark was chewed to release the salicin. It is thought that 'willow' is the source of the words witch, wicked and Wiccan.

Wise women, who knew how to use plants for medicinal purposes, were often misunderstood or mistrusted and branded as witches. Willow wood burns well and makes for good charcoal as used by artists and in the past, the wood was used to make 'wattle' – a woven lattice of wooden strips which formed the framework of the walls of houses to which daub was added, filling the gaps with a sticky material usually made up of some combination of clay, animal dung, wet soil and straw.

Lambs begin to fill the fields, wobbling on spindly legs at first, but soon becoming bold, bouncing around with each other then having worn themselves out, doze in the sun. Day-long blue skies fill the last two weeks of March, although a persistent east wind keeps the temperatures low. No rain has fallen for several weeks and the ground is beginning to bake and crack. If a sheltered spot can be found, it feels more like Summer than early Spring.

As we leave March, new green leaves are emerging in hedgerows. However, the general view across the countryside is still predominantly one of late Winter with the skeletons of trees still very much visible. It will be another few weeks before they take on the full green mantle of late Spring and early Summer.





Rector's Wonderings..

The season of Lent begins with this reading from Mark's Gospel in the Bible:

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: *"You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."*

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

At his baptism Jesus realised how much he was loved by God his Father and his identity as God's beloved Son was affirmed. This was an amazing, joyful experience. But then, he immediately has 40 days of being tempted in the wilderness. This was a time of loneliness, struggle and even danger.

One thing that can challenge our joy is when we go through difficult times.

I wonder if you've ever been tempted to think that God sometimes wants bad things to happen to you?

"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

In the wilderness, Jesus had to battle with the temptation to deny this truth – the truth that he was dearly loved by God. We might also be tempted to doubt this truth when we go through wilderness times.

Then somehow, somewhere in the wilderness help comes to Jesus. The Gospel tells us, there were angels in the wilderness. Rest comes. Relief comes. I wonder what Jesus' angels looked like?

Maybe a trickle of water for his parched throat?

A rock to lay his head on?

The swirl of stars on a clear, cloudless night?

A cool breeze in the heat of the day?

I wonder what your angels look like? What have they looked like in the past?

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
1st March	11.00am	Mrs Keeley Taylor
8th March	10.15am	Valley Service led by Rev Malcolm Peach (incl. Holy Communion)
15th March	11.00am	Rev Gill Songer
22nd March	11.00am	Local arrangement
29th March	11.00am	Mr Richard Blackwell

Lent Course: Every Tuesday: 2-3pm All are welcome!

A cuppa soup, roll and tea/coffee from 12.30pm before the Lent meetings at 2pm.

RHODES MINNIS

Date	Time	Event
1st March	9.30am	Mrs Val Redding
8th March	10.15am	Valley Service at Lyminge Rev Malcolm Peach incl Holy Communion
15th March	9.30am	Rev Gill Songer
22nd March	9.30am	Rev Malcolm Peach
29th March	9.30am	Local Arrangement
5th April	10.15am	Valley Service at Elham Rev Malcolm Peach incl Holy Communion

St Mary and St Ethelburga Parish Church, Lyminge

Date	Location	Time	Event
Sunday 1st March	Lyminge Paddlesworth	10.00am	WOW Service
		6.00pm	Evensong BCP
Sunday 8th March	Lyminge	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP
		6.00pm	Choral Evensong BCP
Sunday 15th March Mothering Sunday	Lyminge Paddlesworth	10.00am	Holy Communion CW1
		6.00pm	Evensong BCP
Sunday 22nd March	Paddlesworth Lyminge	8.00am	Holy Communion
		10.00am	Family Praise - with Pancakes
Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday	Postling	10.00am	Benefice Eucharist

A big Thank You to all those who attended or contributed to the successful Family Praise Lent Lunch and Pancake Party in the church on Sunday 21st February. A good time was had by all and the money raised will go to Water Aid.

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

Maybe it's the friend who meets you for coffee, and you actually have a good laugh together. Or someone bringing a meal, or flowers. A doctor giving the right medication and support. A partner or friend taking you out for the day. Or a beautiful walk by the beach or in the woods.

It's in those things we find the seeds of joy, a reminder that we too are loved by God.

Over Lent (40 days before Easter) take time to give thanks for your 'angels'.

Prayer: Loving God, we bring before you those we know who are going through wilderness times. Surround them by your goodness, mercy and love. Keep them from running into danger. Strengthen them with the joy of the Lord. Amen.

Revd Carol Bates

LYMINGE COMMUNITY HUB

On 1st February, an article entitled 'Former AGE UK building Everist Court in Station Road, Lyminge, to be turned back into social housing' by Daniel Esson, Local Democracy Reporter, was published on Kent Online News.

The committee members of The Lyminge Community Hub C.I.C. (Community Interest Company) were upset about the fact that Councillor Jim Martin, Leader of Folkestone & Hythe District Council, has not only refused to consider their request to have the use of the ground floor only of the building to accommodate a much-needed community centre for the residents of Lyminge and the surrounding villages, but he has also failed to acknowledge the importance of having a community centre where folk can go to meet friends, have some refreshments, and take part in some activities. These facilities are particularly important for people who live alone and who might not see anyone from one day to the next. Social isolation is an important issue affecting many people, especially the elderly.

Ironically, Councillor James Butcher, Green Party Councillor at Folkestone & Hythe District Council, invited our Chair, Gillian Heywood, to speak about social isolation at the last meeting of the North Downs Forum in Elham. Councillor Stephen Schoffham also attended the meeting. It was encouraging to see that at least two of our local councillors acknowledge the importance of addressing this key issue affecting members of our local communities.

The Lyminge Community Hub (LCH) committee members responded to the article in Kent Online News pointing out the following:

- Everist Court in Lyminge, originally the offices of the Elham Rural District Council, has been in part a community centre for 49 years.
- In 1974 when the District Council had no further use for the building, it was empty for three

years while it was converted to a community centre and three flats for single elderly people.

- The community centre thrived, expanded and soon occupied the whole building.
- As the only community hub north of the M20 and throughout the Elham Valley, it was a popular venue not only for people of all ages from Lyminge, but also residents from the surrounding rural areas. It had a thriving café, a popular charity shop and large and small rooms for hire, all very necessary in this rural area where social isolation is on the increase, so much so that it is now impacting on the health services.

On Monday, 16th February, Kent Online News arranged for a photograph to be taken outside the Jubilee building in Everist Court, which included local residents from Lyminge and Etchinghill who are all concerned and upset about the loss of a community hub. This was followed by an interview with one of their reporters, Alex Keir, who noted the concerns of those present with regard to this important loss of facilities.



The Lyminge Community Hub (LCH) aims to replace the community hub we lost when Age UK left the area suddenly last year. This facility is particularly vital as there are 79 properties in Lyminge and Etchinghill for residents aged 55 and over. With the loss of our community hub, there is nowhere else available in these two villages, where those residents can meet and make friends. The loss of Age

UK has indeed increased the level of social isolation.

The LCH could create a thriving Community Hub using the ground floor only.

If a second floor were to be built with a mansard roof, a further 2 flats could be created giving a total of 5 with 3 flats on the first floor, and the ground floor could still be a community facility. The forthcoming application by Folkestone & Hythe District Council to turn this building into 5 sheltered flats only will need to be met with strong opposition if we are to retain a community use here.

When the Planning Application for Change of Use from Community to Housing is lodged, there will be three weeks in which to write comments. We are asking as many people as possible to write in objection to the loss of a community facility in this rural area.

We have organised a further public meeting to discuss the proposals being put forward by Folkestone & Hythe District Council for the

Jubilee Building in Everist Court to be converted solely into flats, thus preventing us from having a much-needed Community Hub for Lyminge, Etchinghill and the surround villages. This meeting will take place at the Lyminge Methodist Church on Thursday, 5th March starting at 7pm. We look forward to welcoming as many local residents as possible at the meeting.

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.
6th March	7pm	Film: 'The King'	LPC	
28th March		Litter Pick	EVH	
11th April		GARAGE SALE		863600
11th April	10am	Model Railway Exhibition	ELVH	07743704547
24th April	7.30pm	'The Undecided'	LVH	
25th April		Spring Fayre	LW	
25th April	6pm	Spring Quiz	EVH	
16th May	7pm	SPRING QUIZ	LVH	
13th June		Dog & Owners Fun day	LW	
11th July		Boot & Summer Fayre (including motorbike food run)	LW	
8th August		Boot & Late Summer Fayre	LW	
12th September		Boot & Autumn Fayre	LW	

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	07783575802
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	07977503897
Tues	9.30am	Tai Chi Qigong	EVH	07402203239
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	LMC	07813 071867
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	07951698008
Thurs	6.15pm	Pilates	TC	07951698008
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	SPCC	07869 283195
Fri	7pm	Table Tennis	EVH	

MONTHLY EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Where	Tel. No.
1st Mon	10am	Stroke Support Group	C&H	07903150099
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	03000413 131
1st Tues ³	7.30pm	LHS Talk/Event	TC	863879
2nd Tues	10am	Coffee Morning	LMC	863049
2nd Tues	2.30pm	Library Reading Group	LL	03000413 131
3rd Tues ²	7.30pm	Gardeners' Society	TC	07703149008
4th Tues	10am	Coffee Morning	LMC	863049
Last Tues	10.15am	Lyminge Poetry Group	LL	03000413 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	013033901011
2nd Sat	10am	Postling Coffee Morning	PC	863536
2nd Sat	10am	Ethelburga Quilters	EVH	
4th Sun	9.30am	Farmers' Market	LVH	

¹ 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; **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 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 10:00am and Noon
at The Coach & Horses,
Lyminge*

**Our next meetings will be on
2nd and 16th March**

New faces very welcome

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
TELEPHONE FRAN ON 07846 177 409 OR HEATHER ON 07427 664 084



POSTLING GLASSBLOWING

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Paul: 07951 628173

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LYMINGE SPRING GARAGE SALE - 11 APRIL 2026

The first in the village for 10 years . . .

ELHAM



Model Railway Exhibition

14 layouts
+ trade support

Open 10am-4pm

**Saturday 11th
April 2026** Elham Village Hall,
High Street, Elham,
nr Folkestone CT4 6SX

Adults £6, Kids £1 (5-16), Families £12 (2+3), u-5s free

Presented by East Kent Model Railway Society (Whitstable) in conjunction with
Elham Valley Model Railway Club.

Model of Elham Valley Railway image from the Stephen Cupik Collection.

Elham Valley Line



Heritage Centre

Join us again for 2026
From 21st March there is a FULL
programme of events awaiting you

EASTER BUNNY HUNT
over the Easter Holiday
4-6th April



Open every weekend and Bank Holiday
from 10am to 4pm from the 21st March
until the end of November. Special Events
throughout the year. Follow us on:

www.elhamvalleylinetrust.org and/or
www.facebook.com/ElhamValleyLineTrust.
Official for more details.

Etchinghill update

- March 2026

ETCHINGHILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (ERA)

For enquiries: Chairman: Victoria Couper-Samways - 07702 625474
email: vickie.couper@icloud.com Website: www.etchinghill.info
f Etchinghill Residents

The Etchinghill Residents Association (ERA) is pleased to welcome Ron Barnatt onto the committee. We still have one vacancy, so if you are interested in joining, please make enquiries via Victoria Couper-Samways on 07702 625474

FILM NIGHT

**Etchinghill Village Hall
Monday 16th March**

Doors Open 7 - 7.30pm Start

'Captain Corelli's Mandolin' 2001

(15) Run time: 2hr 04mins. Starring Nicolas Cage, Penelope Cruz and John Hurt. Set on the Greek Island of Kefalonia, it tells of the Italian invasion in 1941 and continues until 1953 with a romantic thread running through it. Entry fee is £6pp and includes a glass of wine,

tea or coffee with biscuits on arrival and entry into a free raffle. New members are welcome, simply register and pay on the night there's no need to book.

Etchinghill Litter Pick Saturday 28th March

The Spring litter pick will start at 10am (subject to weather) and volunteers should meet in the village hall car park to collect their high viz jackets and rubbish sacks etc. Please bring your own gloves. The collection usually takes around 1-2 hours. All help will be gratefully accepted.

Our first ever **Psychic and Artisan Fayre** will take place at the village hall on a **Saturday 28th March. Doors open at 11am.**



ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL (Charity 302736)

Chairman: John White
f Etchinghill Village Hall Kent

Bookings:

Anna Allan 07514 758936
Email: d.allan142@btinternet.com

ERA Fun Spring Quiz Saturday 25th April Etchinghill Village Hall

Doors open at 6.45pm for a 7pm start. Entry fee is only £5pp – no charge for under 18's or full time students. To reserve a table (6 persons max) please contact Victoria on 07702 625474.

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



A Lyminge based -
Bluthner 1934 Baby Grand Piano
is available to a good home.

For more information please contact
James Hargreaves
James.Hargreaves@lshtm.ac.uk
or 07986 233098

Cody's Dog Tales

Dog Walking/Pet Services

About Us

We are a passionate pet care service dedicated to the happiness and health of your beloved companions. Fully insured pet care catering to all your pet needs in Lyminge and surrounding areas! From dog walks to quick drop-ins for cats, pups, and small animals. We treat your family like our own. We specialize in late afternoon and evening dog walks and pet drop-ins during the week, with flexible appointment slots available over the weekend.

Our Services

- Group Walks.
- Solo Walks.
- Pop-in service.

Contact Us

07780001890
codysdogtales@hotmail.com
www.codysdogtales.co.uk

Instagram/Facebook/TikTok
(Cody's Dog Tales)

District Councillors' update

– March 2026



The Sports Trust is organising a Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) pop-up shop at the Three Hills Sports Park, where local service providers connect with the community in an easily accessible setting. While children take part in fun and safe activities, parents and carers have the opportunity to speak directly with providers and gain valuable information about available support. This approach helps expand our outreach, decrease stigma, and improve referrals for family support. Activities start w/c 13 April and for further information email r.haden@thesportstrust.org

Proposals for Local Government Re-organisation in Kent & Medway are now out for Consultation – This statutory consultation seeks views on the proposals that the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has received following the Secretary of State's invitation to councils in Kent and Medway to submit proposals for unitary local government for Kent and Medway. Folkestone & Hythe District Council put forward Model 3a as the preference for our District. This consultation can be accessed at [Proposals for local government reorganisation in Kent and Medway - GOV.UK](#). The deadline for responses is 11.59pm on Thursday 26 March 2026. Once the consultation closes, the civil servants and ministers will consider everyone's responses alongside the evidence that has been presented to them. A decision on which option ministers have chosen is likely to be announced in the summer.

Otterpool Park – The Leader reported at the full Council Meeting on 28 January that Otterpool Park is at a critical stage: the meetings, discussions and communications with Homes England are intense and much is being discussed. He confirmed that Homes England are resourcing the project intensively and at a high level.

Road of Remembrance – I understand that KCC intend to finally commence the repair works to the Road of Remembrance and the cliff above it. The road has been closed for two years. As the District Council, we have no responsibility or obligation with regard to the works, but have agreed to make a small contribution.

My Community Voice - is a messaging service that helps Kent and Medway residents, businesses, and community groups to keep in touch with their local policing teams. The service sends updates about your local area directly from the police officers themselves.

I was able to attend the March meeting of the Parish Council as the Planning & Licensing Committee was cancelled. It was good to give a verbal report to the meeting rather than just a written one.

My Community Voice - It is more than just a messaging service; it allows you to reply to the alerts sent to, share information and tell us about the issues affecting you. **Please do not contact neighbourhood officers to report crime.** Following feedback, dog fouling, antisocial behaviour and noise nuisance will be priorities for the next three months. If it's not an emergency, the easiest way to contact us is online. Your report will be sent direct

to our control room where it will be reviewed by the same team who answer our calls - Home Page - My Community Voice Kent

Kent County Council is proposing an order on speed restrictions in Postling. The effect of the order would be to reduce the 30MPH speed limit and introduce a 20MPH speed limit zone on the following lengths of roads in Postling - CUCKOO LANE – From its junction with The Street for a distance of 140 metres in a south easterly direction. PILGRIMS WAY – From its junction with The Street and Staple Lane for a distance of 130 metres in a north westerly direction. STAPLE LANE - From its junction with The Street to its eastern property boundary with The Granary. THE STREET - For its entire length. Representations supporting or objecting to the proposed Order can be made via KCC website at www.kent.gov.uk/highwaysconsultations

Contact: jennyhollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Concerted lobbying by F&HDC Green Councillors and local MP, Sojan Joseph, has resulted in Network Rail securing the Barking Goods Yards resulting as an intermodal hub allowing the transfer of freight and goods from both lorries and the National Rail Network on to European gauge wagons which will allow freight to move seamlessly into mainland Europe. This intermodal hub has the potential to remove 140,000 lorries per year from the M20 and is a significant move in reducing traffic on the M20.

Councillors will be considering funding proposals to help re-open Folkestone Sports Centre pool and make much-needed improvements to the council-owned Hythe Pool. A one-off £2.4million grant to help The Sports Trust to refurbish the Folkestone pool, changing rooms and pool plant machinery is being considered. Once this work is carried out, attention could then turn to Hythe Pool.

Work on a key aspect of the £20m project regenerating Folkestone town centre has begun. A new "green heart" is replacing the former Folkestone bus station at Bouverie Square with a more inviting space being created, including an area for play. The work is part of the Folkestone – A Brighter Future programme. This is being largely funded by central government after the district council successfully bid for a share of what was known as Levelling Up investment.

The search is on for volunteers who go that extra mile in dedicating their time and skills for others in the district. Nominations are open for the Folkestone & Hythe Excellence in Volunteering Awards run on behalf of the council by Kent Coast Volunteering. Awards will be presented in June and the deadline for nominations is Friday 17 April.

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

Fifth Trust update



You may have noticed that the Vineyard Garden Centre has been having some work completed recently. We have been installing vital, accessible pathways throughout the site, as well as tidying up spaces for the upcoming Spring season. With more revamp plans to come in the next couple of months, we are excited to share the ongoing progress with you and create a wonderful space for you to visit and enjoy. In the meantime, we are open seven days a week for your winter garden needs, alongside the Vineyard Café.

Some dates for your diary:

Mother's Day at the café - 15th March. Join us for a delicious afternoon tea accompanied by musical entertainment. £30pp, to book call 01227 831266 or email: cafe@fifthtrust.co.uk

Easter Hunt at the garden centre - 3rd - 12th April.

THE TOWER THEATRE FOLKESTONE



<p>Mr Sleepybum's DREAM MACHINE A Rolf Cassidy Show Sat 7 February - 11am & 2pm</p>	<p>Agatha Christie The Mirror CRACK'D A New Adaptation by Rachel Wagstaff Thursday 12th - Sunday 15th March (Performances on Saturday & Sunday) Seats From £16.00</p>	<p>TRAINING BOARD MAN Sat 7 March - 7.30pm</p>
<p>HAPPY BOY Fri 13 February - 7.30pm</p>	<p>Tony Stockwell psychic medium Mon 16 March - 7.30pm</p>	<p>Flamenco Express Fri 20 March - 7.30pm</p>
<p>THE ULTIMATE BUBBLE SHOW Mon 16 February - 1pm & 3pm</p>	<p>Chicken Man Wed 18 February - 11am & 2pm</p>	<p>SERIOUSLY COLLINS Sat 21 March - 7.30pm</p>
<p>FOREVER CLAPTON Fri 27 February - 7.30pm</p>	<p>NO 10 STEPS by Michael Frayn 14th - 16th May</p>	<p>RHINSTONE COWBOY Sat 28 March - 7.30pm</p>

For full details of all our forthcoming shows and to book tickets, please visit towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk or call the Box Office on 01303 223925

The Tower Theatre, North Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3HL
Registered Charity 1180504



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



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Contact Megan: 07917 060459
Call now or visit our website

Email: megan@bestbehaviourschoolfordogs.co.uk
www.bestbehaviourschoolfordogs.co.uk



ELHAM VALLEY BRANCH

warmly invites you to a talk by

Mr. Chris Anderson

Bowel Cancer Screening Nurse Practitioner

Tuesday 3rd March 2026

2.00pm

in Lyminge Parish Church

Free NHS testing kits will be distributed

**Free entry, hot drinks and cake,
friendly camaraderie**

EVERYONE WELCOME



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

Wednesday 4th March
11:30AM - 12:30PM
at The Tayne Centre.
Church Road, Lyminge, CT18 8JN

Wednesday 11th, 18th and 25th March
11:30AM - 12:30PM
at the Methodist Church.
Church Rd, Lyminge, CT18 8JA

Hythe, Lyminge & Ashford
ageUK

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



Spring Party

Saturday, 28th March 2026
7pm - 11pm



**Hythe Community Support Hub,
Sanford House, Stade St, Hythe
CT21 6BD**

Bring your own drinks

Delicious Buffet

Mini Quiz and Raffle

Join us for an evening of fun, music, food, and dancing as we welcome in the Spring!

Hythe, Lyminge & Ashford
ageUK

Tickets: £15 per person
Booking essential.
Please call 01303 269602 to book

Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. © Age UK Hythe, Lyminge and Ashford 2026.

LYMINGE SPRING GARAGE SALE - 11 APRIL 2026

Your Local Pharmacy



- NHS & Private Prescriptions
- Travel and Speciality Vaccination Clinic
- Weight Loss Clinic
- FREE Delivery Available
- Private Prescriber Available
- Emergency Medication Supply
- NHS Flu & Covid Vaccinations
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- Pharmacy First Service
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Delivering prescriptions 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

Contact us at
TEL: 01303 862425
EMAIL: lymingeinformed@gmail.com

Or come in to the store:
21 Station Road, Lyminge
Folkestone CT18 8HQ




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The Tayne Centre Lyminge



DANCE MOTION

A simple, follow-along dance-based fitness class at a lower intensity.

Enjoy easy-to-follow routines set to feel-good hits from the 60s through the 80s.

Perfect for moving, smiling, and staying active at a gentler pace - no experience necessary!

Armchair-a-cise

A gentle, full-body workout done entirely from a seated position.

This low-impact class is perfect for all abilities and focuses on strength, mobility, and overall wellbeing.

if you would like to join a class at the Tayne Centre

Friday mornings

10:15- 11:15 -
DanceMotion £6.50

11.30 -12:15 -
Armchair-a-cise £6.00

contact us on
acac.class@outlook.com

THE UNDECIDED - LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL - FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

11

A TALK BY STEPHEN HARMAN "ARTS AND CRAFTS GARDENS"

Tuesday 17th March
The Tayne Centre, Lyminge
Refreshments from 7:15pm
Talk starts 7:30pm
VISITORS VERY WELCOME



SPRING SHOW and PLANT SALE

Saturday 28th March
at The Tayne Centre, Lyminge

Staging 8:30am – 10:30am
Plant Sales, Doors Open for Show
and Refreshments from 12:30pm
Presentation of Cups 3:30pm

Show Schedules will be available at
The Library and will be emailed to
members



Further details from John and Sara Packer on 01303 862816 or email:
lymingegardeners@gmail.com

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

The Lyminge Association

has great pleasure in welcoming on stage



Lyminge Village Hall 7.30pm, Friday 24th April

Cost £7.50 per ticket
Bring your own food and drink

More details next month

SPRING SHOW



AT



Rhodes Minnis Village Hall

21st March at 2:30 pm

Raffle

Refreshments

Free Entrance



Tel. 01303862616- <https://rmvh.org.uk/>

Or Schedules at Lyminge Library



A Special Relationship

Vintage cabaret music from America's golden years



Helen Crayford
piano

Penelope Turner
mezzo soprano

Gershwin | Weill | Britten

Sunday April 19, 2026 at 3pm

St Mary the Virgin Church

Vicarage Lane, Elham
Canterbury, CT4 6TT

Tickets on the door: Adults £15 | Under 18s free

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LYMINGE SPRING GARAGE SALE - 11 APRIL 2026



Free Children Craft Club



Saturdays 10.30-11.30am
Lyminge Library
Children to be accompanied by an adult

Free Baby Rhyme Time



Thursdays 10.15-10.45am
Lyminge Library
For babies and pre-school children

Lyminge Village Film Night

'KING RICHARD'

starring Will Smith
'18' rating

An uplifting, inspiring film based on a true story of an extraordinary family with unconditional belief to achieve their goals and dreams.

No booking required, just turn up
Lyminge Parish Church
Friday 6th March 2026

Doors open 6pm for meet and mingle

Film commences at **7pm**

Free entry, bring your own nibbles and drinks.

ALL WELCOME



Counselling, Supervision and Mindfulness

Supporting you with anxiety, depression, stress bereavement and loss, relationships, trauma...

In person or online
Hythe area

Contact Ellen for more information or to book

Call: 07740 857109

Email: ejgarrard2712@gmail.com

Visit: www.ellengarrard.co.uk



THE UNDECIDED - LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL - FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

GROSSELFINGER
CELLO STORM
ENTRANCE £10

SUNDAY - 8 | MAR - 3PM
CANTERBURY - EN
St Mary the Virgin Elham

Supported by
5 Seconds Move



Lyminge Historical Society

Our next meeting will be on

TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2026 at 7.30pm

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



THE DEFENCE OF KENT SINCE 1900

Speaker: Andrew Richardson

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

All our publications are on sale at our meetings at
Lyminge Library and at Lyminge Village Store

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings for 2026 will continue with:

7th April

Gina Costin
American Civil War Veteran
in Folkestone

5th May

Cressida Williams
Magna Carta and
Canterbury

2nd June

Bob Ogley
Doodlebugs and
Rockets



*From Christopher Hespe,
Kent County Councillor
for Elham Valley and Deputy
Cabinet Member for Finance
and Cross-Cabinet Activity*

KCC Budget

On 12 February KCC approved its budget for 2026/27. The budget setting followed the largest consultation response in KCCs history. The highlights of the budget are as follows:

- Net spend of £1.64 billion
- No service cuts to core services
- Increased spending capacity for Adult Social Care of 11%, Children's Services of 7.7% and Growth, Environment and Transport of 5.2%
- No additional borrowings
- Net increase in reserves
- Debt will continue to reduce
- Continued funding for discretionary and community facilities e.g. no closure of libraries (previous administration was considering closing 34 libraries), country parks, cultural services, school crossing staff and community wardens.
- Council Tax rise of 3.99% (this is the first year in past 13 when KCC hasn't charged the maximum amount).

Local Government re-organisation

The government consultation on the five options for local government structures is underway and will end on 26 March 2026. Residents are encouraged to submit their views online via gov.org or Kent.gov.uk or at libraries.

Kent County Council's Option 1A is for a single Unitary authority with three Area Assemblies. This structure provides the strategic overview of Kent, would stand up for the history and heritage of the County, provide economies of scale and not face the difficulties and significant costs of disaggregating people-based services.

The Area Assemblies would manage place-based and facility services. KCCs option is more than £440 million less expensive than some other options put forward to government, and with the government not having suggested that costs of reorganisation would be met by it, this is believed to be the option that would save Community Taxpayers the most money, whilst being both locally focused and strategic. We should hear the government's decision in July 2026.

Chris Hespe

Greenhouse

Free but you will need to dismantle and remove it.

Aluminium 6' x 8'.

Old but in good condition other than a couple of cracked panes.

Contact Heather on 07427 664084 or email heather.dunford@gmail.com

THE ROADS

Many of the road surfaces are not up to the standard that we would like to see. This is a national problem this year. There has been under-investment in Kent roads for too many years, primarily due to insufficient grant from central government. However, KCC has committed a record investment of £67 million for road repairs this financial year and has a new contractor appointed from April (Ringway).

Potholes tend to be worse in winter and salting the roads causes more to appear (although salting reduces death, injury and accidents on the roads, so a balance has to be struck). Electric vehicles are heavier than internal combustion engine cars, and this is having a growing impact on road surfaces, too. The filling of potholes in the winter tends to concentrate on the 'emergency' ones, as different temperature of road and filling tarmac can lead to new repairs not lasting well and having to be repaired again soon after.

Antiquarian Books Wanted

[no paperbacks or annuals please]

Call Jonathan on
07545 043065

or email
louis88books@gmail.com

Louis88Books



Lyminge Friends

Our meeting on **Wednesday, 4th March** is our first speaker of the year and the topic is:

“The Forensic Investigation of Homicide”
– *Speaker David Tadd*, a renowned Forensic Expert who worked for the Metropolitan Police for 40 years and headed Scotland Yard’s Forensic Investigators in charge of over 900 officers. David was also responsible for tracking down the Brighton bomber.

Our talk on Wednesday, 1st April is:
“The Bookseller’s Tale” and the speaker is *Martin Latham*.

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 10.30am to 12.00pm
unless stated otherwise.

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

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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.

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.



Lyminge Newsletter

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Copy deadline for next edition - 18 March 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



THE UNDECIDED - LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL - FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

THE KING'S ARMS

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR COUNTRY PUB...

QUIZ NIGHTS

JOIN US ON THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH FOR A QUIZ NIGHT FULL OF TRIVIA, THEMED ROUNDS AND PRIZES! TEAMS OF UP TO 6 PEOPLE

MUSIC

SATURDAYS

JOIN US EVERY SATURDAY 4-6PM FOR LIVE MUSIC! BRING YOUR FRIENDS, ENJOY THE MUSIC AND MAKE SATURDAY AFTERNOONS YOUR NEW FAVOURITE TIME OF THE WEEK!

KITCHEN OPENING HOURS

Our Winter Menu -	<u>Friday & Saturday -</u>	Golden Years Menu (65+)
<u>Monday - Thursday</u>	Lunch 12-3pm	Monday - Friday
Lunch 12-3pm	Dinner 5.30-9pm	12-3pm
Dinner 5.30-8.30pm	<u>Sunday</u>	BAR MENU
	Lunch 12-6pm	MONDAY - SATURDAY
		12-5PM

FOR RESERVATIONS & ENQUIRIES PLEASE CALL US ON 01303 840242

Email: info@thekingsarmselham.com
Address: The Square, St Mary's Rd, Elham
Canterbury, 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 30th March**, at The Coach & Horses.



This month's shout out for a local food hero goes to Ed Kyrke-Smith aka the Rebel Farmer.

Get talking to Ed in the pub and he will blow your mind. All the principles of permaculture we featured on this page throughout last year are Ed's life blood. Rebel Farmer was founded nearly 10 years ago as a response to a food system that has become too distant from the land and the people it feeds. Keeping production small, local and honest reduces the environmental impact of farming while rebuilding a closer relationship between grower and consumer, creating a more resilient and future proof way of producing food.

Ed practises No Dig gardening as championed by Charles Dowding. We have mentioned this a lot before on the Thoughtful Food page and at our events; to recap, it involves covering the earth with cardboard and then a layer of organic material around 6cm deep. No dig gardening avoids disturbing the soil, instead mimicking natural ecosystem processes to build fertility. It encourages beneficial soil microbes to create a healthy, productive structure without digging, tilling, or turning which would result in loss of carbon from the soil. Rebel Farmer manages to sequester an impressive 10 tons of carbon into the soil annually. As well as the market garden arm of his business Ed is a tree surgeon who aims to make every cut, every prune and decision regarding tree work mindful of the long-term health of the ecosystem. The tree surgery produces a lot of the organic matter Ed uses on the

farm. Woody material is good for encouraging beetles that eat slug eggs before breaking down into soil. Compost mounds pop up all over the farm along with live compost mounds for growing specific crops, squash, pumpkins, courgettes, potatoes and yacon, a root crop from the Andes.

Walking around the farm you are aware of the symbiotic ebb and flow of crops that are allowed to grow in harmony, nurturing each other. Crops are grown for flavour and nutritional value, crops like chard and purslane, that contain nearly all the vitamins a human needs. Open a little door at the end of the barn and you are in an Aladdin's cave of micro- greens. With a small amount of heat and light, 75grms of these wonder-crops give as many nutrients as a kilo of veg and are ready to harvest in days. Rebel Farmer produce has a reputation and



managed impressive yields. Part of this field is given over to glamping where you could just chill under the stars or you could learn from the knowledge and commitment that goes into this farm. Events are held in a poly-tunnel around a beautiful table made from a single piece of oak.

And there is more to Ed Kyrke-Smith. He is passionate about changing food systems, about changing attitudes and that this needs systematic change. He believes there needs to be reciprocity between the landscape, humans and non-humans. As well as giving talks locally, including soon at the Tayne Centre, Ed has been working with Alice Kirtley from the Folkestone and Hythe district food network on a bioregional mapping project using floating asset mapping. This aims to bring together all organisations within East Kent who are involved in food in whatever way. This would include Thoughtful Food and the community allotment. It is hoped that by bringing all these organisations together to learn, nurture and support each other we can create a food system that breaks the current corporate mould. More information on this will come later in the year.

To find out more about Rebel Farmer, where to buy produce, book tree work or a glamping retreat go to:

<https://www.rebelfarmer.co.uk/>

For more information about no dig gardening <https://charlesdowding.co.uk/>



is sought out by chefs, restaurants and customers at local farmer's markets (you can find a list on the website link at the bottom of this article).

In one field Ed grows heritage wheat. The grain is cleaned and stone-milled locally using vintage equipment to keep food miles low and nutrient levels high. Some of the seed has been sold onto a local farmer who



Lyminge Parish encompasses the villages of Lyminge, Etchinghill and part of Rhodes Minnis and lies within the Kent Downs National Landscape.



Who is Katy Clatworthy

HELLO! I'M PLEASSED TO INTRODUCE MYSELF AS ONE OF YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

I've lived in the parish all my life, so it means a lot to be able to give something back to the community that has always been home to me.

When I'm not working, you'll usually find me outdoors with my family. I love spending time outside, whether that's walking the dog, being around our horses, or just enjoying the countryside that makes our parish such a great place to live. Growing up here has given me a real appreciation for our open spaces and the strong sense of community that comes with village life.

For my day job, I work in Human Resources. My role is very people-focused and involves listening, problem-solving, and helping to find fair, practical solutions; skills that I hope will be useful in my work as a parish councillor. I'm keen to listen to residents, understand different views, support the team in fulfilling our duties as an employer and help make decisions that benefit the whole community.

I'm proud to have completed two marathons. While I'm not especially fast, I enjoy the challenge and the sense of achievement that comes from sticking with something and seeing it through, even when it gets tough. It's taught me a lot about perseverance and commitment, which I think are important qualities in community roles too.

I'm really looking forward to getting involved, learning more, and working alongside fellow councillors and residents. Please feel free to stop and say hello if you see me out and about. I'm always happy to have a chat and hear your thoughts.



If you would like to get in touch please email:

clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk
debbie.capon@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk
neighbourhoodplan@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk

BUILDING UP STEAM FOR ELHAM'S EXPRESS EVENT

Hundreds if not thousands of hours of meticulous work are spent on building highly detailed model railways and some great examples will be on display at the Elham Model Railway Exhibition on Saturday 11 April at the village hall. Elham Valley Model Railway Club has joined forces with Whitstable based East Kent Model Railway Society to hold the event, the first to be held in the village for 10 years. Filling much of the village hall's smaller hall, the Peggy Pike Room, will be EVMRC's 15 feet x 8 feet layout which depicts the village's station and nearby line as it looked nearly 100 years ago.

Elham's exhibition is designed to appeal to families as well as enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels – some will feature traditional steam outlines while others are just as likely to include more modern diesel and electric styles of rolling stock. Sophisticated electronics enable them to be controlled by tablet or smartphone. Exhibits are coming from across the county and belong either to clubs or individual enthusiasts.

EKMRS Chairman Nick Evans, who has helped marshal the exhibits for the occasion, said: "We look forward to welcoming visitors from far and near to what promises to be an exciting attraction for the village."

Alongside the 14 layouts expected for the event, eight traders will be offering a wide selection of pre-loved and nearly new models, accessories and spare parts, some of them elusive. Light refreshments will be provided by volunteers from Pilgrims Hospice who will also be running a tombola.

The exhibition will be open between 10am and 4pm on Saturday 11 April 2026. Adult admission is £6, children under five are free, children aged 5-16 £1 and families (2+3) £12.

Further information from EKMRS Chairman Nick Evans on 07743 704547 or nickevanscomms@sky.com See P6 for poster of event.



COFFEE MORNING WITH SOJAN JOSEPH MP

Sojan Joseph MP for Ashford, Hawkinge and the Villages is hosting a coffee morning. This is an opportunity to come along, meet your MP and discuss matters within the constituency. If you would like to come along, please scan the QR code above or contact the office below.

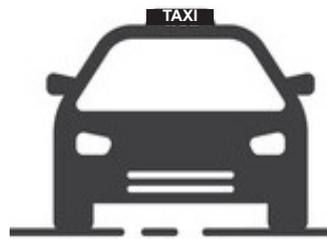
🌐 www.sojanjosephmp.com

☎ Telephone: 01233 515107

✉ Email: sojan.joseph.mp@parliament.uk

Promoted by Sojan Joseph on behalf of Sojan Joseph at Regus, The Panorama, Park Street, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DF

Local Village Taxi
For all your travel arrangements
Contact Richard
07970 12 12 12



LORD WHISKY ANIMAL SANCTUARY FUND

CHARITY NUMBER: 283483

**Spring Boot Fayre - Saturday 25th April 2026
8:00am - 4:00pm**

Join us for our first event of the year - our much-loved Spring Boot Fayre, packed with entertainment for all ages!

Enjoy a fantastic day out featuring:

- Canterbury Pipe Band
- Traditional Punch & Judy
- Classic Cars
- And much more!

We pride ourselves on creating enjoyable community events for everyone, so bring family and friends along for a great day. Get Involved!

We are always looking for volunteers and entertainers to help make our events even more special. If you would like to take part, please contact us:

📞 01303 862622 ✉ lord.whisky@btinternet.com





Neighbourhood Plan: Biodiversity and Wildlife

For this policy that is currently being developed for the Neighbourhood Plan we need to create a list of the natural features of the landscape that are particularly important in the area. Based on previous community consultations we have the following draft list. If you have any comments or suggestions about this draft list please feel free to send any thoughts to tony.king@lymingeparishcouncil.org.uk.

Chalk streams

- Nailbourne
- East Brook

Woodlands

- Lyminge Forest
- Various privately-owned woodlands designated as ancient woodland
- Harry's Wood
- Other non-designated woodlands

Grasslands

- Great Shuttlesfield Down SSSI
- Tolsford Hill
- Fields between Etchinghill village hall and Tolsford Hill
- Brady Banks
- Grasslands near Skeete
- Top fields between Brady Banks and Lyminge
- Lyminge Court Lodge Green
- North Lyminge Water Meadow
- Longage Hill fields
- Rhodes Minnis Recreation Ground

Mixed habitats

- Lyminge churchyard
- Well Field and Tayne Field

Hedgerows and other linear habitats with trees

- Old railway line
- Ethelburga Grove
- Tree-lined bridleway going south from the top of Court Lodge Green

Hedge along the footpath going south-west from the top of Court Lodge Green

Road verges or small green spaces with important biodiversity value

- New Barn corner and Sandling Road verge
- Green spaces within the Silverlands residential complex

Old walls

- Wall around Lyminge church
- Well field wall

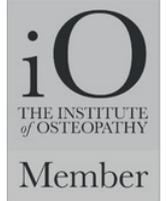
We have also created a draft list of priority species that are known to occur in the Parish, and that should be considered during decision-making within the Parish. The draft list includes:

- Hedgehog
- Various bats
- Swift
- Skylark
- Yellowhammer
- House Sparrow
- Firecrest
- Barn Owl
- Common Lizard
- Ruderal Bumblebee
- Red Bartsia Bee
- White-bellied Mining Bee
- Four-banded Weevil-wasp
- Dingy Skipper
- Small Heath
- Wall butterfly
- White Admiral
- Various orchids

Swift & Owl Nest Box Sites in the Parish - please give us your ideas

The Parish Council has funded the purchase of a selection of nest boxes to be placed in the area. As discussed in more detail in last month's newsletter, please use this link or QR code to let us know where you think would be good locations in the Parish for placing nest boxes for swifts, barn owls, or tawny owls: <https://forms.gle/JbQczmtTiuA3ZrgH7>





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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), Martine Alyson, 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)

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Email: booking-rmvh@outlook.com



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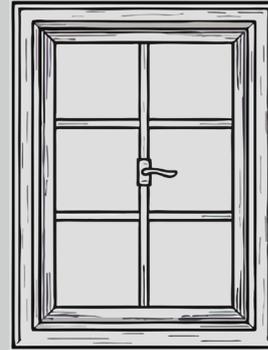
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LYMINGE THEN AND NOW

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



The photograph on the left dates to around 1890 and shows a party in very smart clothes gathered together, perhaps for a picnic. This is not quite so odd as it might seem to us today because the field they are in was not yet part of the church yard and the burials we can see in the picture on the right had still to take place.

The churchyard marked by the boundary wall immediately around the parish church was used intensively for burials for hundreds of years and by the middle of the 19th Century, it had long been the case that digging any grave disturbed human bones as most of the burials were unmarked. It was agreed that this should not carry on, so part of the field to the west of the church, the part bordering the footpath between

Church Lane and Court Lodge Green, was incorporated into the churchyard in 1855. Burials started here almost immediately. The furthest north west corner was allocated for those who died in the workhouse at Etchinghill.

This field was known as Abbots Green, preserving a memory perhaps, that before the Norman Conquest, it was the heart of the monastic community that certainly existed here by 700 AD and possibly had its origins in the Christian household of Queen Ethelburga who retired to the royal estate at Lyminge, probably in the late 630s. Burial began in the area in the foreground of the pictures above after the First World War when, as we saw in December's *Then and Now*, the parish War Memorial was placed here too.



Lyminge Friends Monthly Get-Together in February

"Kent Police gave a very interesting and informative talk to Lyminge Friends on Frauds and Scams and how to protect yourself."

Next meeting:

Wednesday, 4th March is our first speaker of the year and the topic is:

"The Forensic Investigation of Homicide" – Speaker David Tadd. See P15

LYMINGE SPRING GARAGE SALE - SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

'THE UNDECIDED' - LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL - FRIDAY 24TH APRIL

You may have seen enough rain. However, here are a few photographs reflecting some of the flooding in the area.



Lyminge Cricket Pitch



Lyminge Cricket Pitch

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Ponds at bottom of Woodland Road



The Nailbourne close to North Lyminge Lane