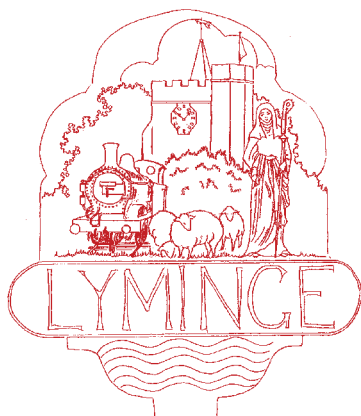




# THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

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

Produced by THE LYMINGE ASSOCIATION | [www.lyminge.org.uk](http://www.lyminge.org.uk)

From The Lyminge Association

SEPTEMBER 2026

## Garage & Table Sale

The Lyminge Association has been organising these hugely popular Garage Sales (or Garage Safaris) for many years, attracting bargain hunters from the local area and further afield.

It's the perfect opportunity to give your pre-loved items a new home while making a little extra cash. Yes, it takes a bit of sorting and deciding what you're ready to part with, but it's certainly easier than loading everything into the car for a boot fair, getting up at the crack of dawn and paying a much higher pitch fee than the modest £5 entry fee here.

So, get sorting, dig out those hidden treasures and make sure your booking form and £5 entry fee are in by 12th September at the very latest.

*Don't miss out! Clear the clutter, uncover those forgotten gems in your garage, shed or loft, and get ready to take part in what could be the biggest and best Garage Sale yet!*

**Lyminge**  
**GARAGE AND TABLE SALE**  
♥ AT LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL ♥

FOR GARAGES IN  
**LYMINGE**  
AND SURROUNDING  
VILLAGES

**SALE**

**SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OF SEPTEMBER**  
STARTING AT 9AM

**BOOKING NOW!**  
Registration forms available  
from 22nd August to  
Saturday 12th September

**CLOSING DATE**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

☕ The Coffee Cabin  
✂ Snippers & Clippers  
💻 Download from  
[www.lyminge.org.uk](http://www.lyminge.org.uk)

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

📞 **CONTACT STEVE** | **01303 86 36 00**

## WHAT HAPPENS ON THE DAY - SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

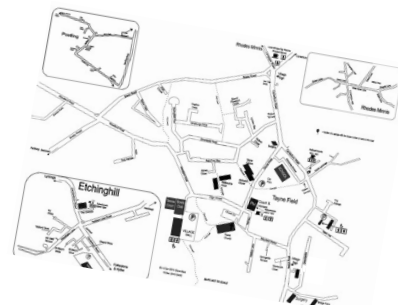
Maps of all garage locations will be available on the day and can be collected from:

- Lyminge Village Hall (Woodland Road, Lyminge, CT18 8EW)
- Snippers and Clippers (4A Station Road, Lyminge, CT18 8HP)

or downloaded from

- The Lyminge Newsletter website ([www.lyminge.org.uk](http://www.lyminge.org.uk)>newsletter)

Refreshments will be available at the village hall until 12 noon



# Margaret Saunder's Meanderings

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

## September

August has slipped seamlessly into September, the first day bringing wind, sun and showers. Clouds are fast moving and there is still plenty of warmth in the sun. As the day moves to its close, a golden aura fills the western sky and tints the soft clouds, which float past the half moon. There is just enough light to see the outline of the fields and trees and as the still warm wind sweeps across the scene, an owl hoots into the darkening space. I wait, watch and listen until blackness envelopes everything. The following morning, however, rain-filled grey clouds sweep in, emptying themselves during the day with rainwater rushing down hills and filling dips in the roads with deep pools of water. Newly sown crops will greatly benefit from this downpour.

A week into the month and the skies are blue once again with warm breezes, the temperatures climbing up through the 20s. Fluffy white flat-bottomed clouds pepper the sky in an artistic array, sending matching shadows moving across fields, and hills. Seedheads attract me once again with their pared down beauty. At the end of the day, the almost full moon rises, its benign halo of light colouring the thin layers of cloud which surround it, like delicate brush strokes across a dark canvas. The moon's light whitens the sky as it rises, its silvery beams paling the surrounding stars into insignificance.



A few days later, as the sun is about to set, the golden light from its sphere colours the western sky with a gilded glow and imbues the whole countryside with a honeyed hue. Clouds high up, form like the ridges of sand left by a retreating tide, are tinged with apricot. The Corn moon, full on this seventh day of the month, is a 'Blood Moon' lunar eclipse, but unfortunately there is cloud cover to the east and I can only catch the merest glimpse of its redness for less than a minute.

Whilst on holiday on the Roseland Peninsular in Cornwall the white wind-whipped waves roll shorewards in a ceaseless motion across a cerulean blue sea, with an almost matching but paler blue sky above. Wet sand shines in the sunlight as each successive wave breaks then pulls back. Sunken lanes, bordered by banks, are held together with moss-covered granite stones. Nearer the coast, steep lanes have been cut deep into the granite rock. They are dark and damp as the sun's rays cannot penetrate the trees' thick canopy.



The church of St Just-in-Roseland sits at the edge of a peaceful tidal creek. It's 13th century church is built on the site of a 6th century chapel. Beautiful gardens surround the church, with winding paths which pass through tall bamboo plants. A running stream flows down the rocks into the creek past the Holy Well. The path descends through gardens full of tropical plants and is lined with granite stones, on which have been carved quotations from the Bible. Inside the church it is calm and dark, as little sunlight can filter through the trees. Near the door is a facsimile of the visitor's book from 1944 in which dozens of American servicemen had signed their names. They were stationed in camps all around the area prior to the D-Day landings, for training and then subsequent embarkation for Normandy from Falmouth harbour. I imagine many prayers were said in the church for a successful operation and a safe homecoming.

Back home, hedges bearing varying shades of red hawthorn berries, line the road into Etchinghill from New Barn, providing an early feast for both native and visiting birds. Autumn is here, if only in its early stages. We have passed the equinox and gradually the days are becoming shorter and the nights longer. Mornings are fresher, the dampness of the dew eliciting earthy aromas from freshly ploughed fields. Growth on the land begins to slow down as nature prepares for the advance of Autumn and the shorter days of Winter.



# 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                                                         |
|----------------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6th September  | 10.15am | Valley Service <b>Elham</b> with Rev Gill Songer              |
| 13th September | 11.00am | <b>Lyminge</b> - Mr Richard Blackwell                         |
| 20th September | 10.15am | Valley Service at <b>Rhodes Minnis</b> - Tom Lewis            |
| 27th September | 11.00am | <b>Lyminge</b> - United Harvest Festival with Rev Gill Songer |
| 4th October    | 10.15am | <b>Lyminge</b> - Valley Service with Mrs Keeley Taylor        |

### RHODES MINNIS

| Date           | Time    | Event                                                            |
|----------------|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6th September  | 10.15am | <b>Elham</b> - Valley Service with Rev Gill Songer               |
| 13th September | 9.30am  | <b>Rhodes Minnis</b> - a Local Arrangement                       |
| 20th September | 10.15am | <b>Rhodes Minnis</b> - Valley Service with Tom Lewis             |
| 27th September | 9.30am  | <b>Rhodes Minnis</b> - Rev Adrian Roux - <b>Harvest Festival</b> |
| 4th October    | 10.15am | <b>Lyminge</b> - Valley Service with Mrs Keeley Taylor           |

## St Mary and St Ethelburga Parish Church, Lyminge

| Date           | Location                 | Time    | Event                                                    |
|----------------|--------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 6th September  | Elham                    | 10.00am | Eucharist Benefice Service (CW1) - Rev Carol Bates       |
| 13th September | Lyminge                  | 8.00am  | Said Communion (BCP) Revd Stephen Dougal                 |
| 13th September | Lyminge                  | 3.00pm  | Sung Evensong - Janet Butcher-Weisner                    |
| 20th September | Lyminge                  | 11.00am | Eucharist (CW1) - Revd Sharon Paine                      |
| 20th September | Paddlesworth             | 4.00pm  | Eucharist (BCP) - Revd Sharon Paine                      |
| 27th September | Lyminge Methodist Church | 11.00am | Combined Harvest Thanksgiving followed by a simple lunch |

### News from The Pews

The Revd Carol Bates is leaving Kent and the last service she will conduct will be at Elham on the 6th September at 10am. See her letter to the Benefice on P4. Going forward, the Parishes will be run during Interregnum by the Churchwardens, Clergy and Lay Readers under the guidance of the Archdeacon of Ashford, Darren Miller. However, it may sometimes be necessary to change the service order at short notice if Clergy/ Lay Readers are away or are conducting Baptisms, Marriages or Funerals at other churches. Anyone wanting to book a funeral, please contact Rev Sharon Paine - 07503 290552 or email [sharonpaine10@aol.com](mailto:sharonpaine10@aol.com). For weddings and baptisms, please contact the Benefice Secretary, Alison Dale, at [beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](mailto:beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk)

For more information, please contact the Church Wardens, Lyle Arnold 07905 438357 or Mike Chinneck 01303 863911

## The Rector's Wonderings...

I wonder what image of God you hold.....?

All of us have our own particular image of God, and that image will have been affected by so many things - our parents, our church, authority figures in our lives, our coming to faith, our experiences.

Sometimes, that image can be deep down, and be very different from our expressed beliefs. So, for example, we can believe and even preach that God is loving, is in fact Love itself, and offers unconditional love, and yet we can still feel that we need to do things to earn God's love.

We think there are the right prayers, right actions, right thoughts that will earn us God's love. Somewhere in the recesses of our minds and hearts, there is a battle between our images of God - a God who is all loving but is also a taskmaster we have to please.

Jesus demonstrated with everything in him, the deep love of God. A love that reaches out - accepts and draws in, rather than excluding. Everything he did and said reflects the heart of God - a God who is always searching for the lost and confused.

Julian of Norwich recognised this in her visions: *"I saw to us he is everything that is good. He is our clothing. In his love he wraps us and holds us. He enfolds us for love and will never let us go..... everything owes its existence to the love of God"*

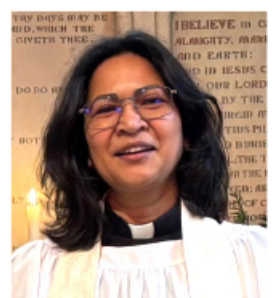
I invite you to reflect first of all on your own image of God.

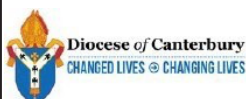
And then, to measure it up against the words of Jesus - *"if you have seen me you have seen the Father."*

### Blessing

May the peace of God reign in this place, and the love of God forever hold you. May the Spirit of God flow through your life, and the joy of God uphold you. **Amen**

Revd  
Carol  
Bates  
Rector





Rector: Revd Carol Bates  
The Vicarage  
Vicarage Lane  
Elham  
Canterbury  
CT4 6TT  
Mobile : 0777 239 4855  
Email: [revcarolbates@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolbates@gmail.com)

Sunday 2nd August 2026

Dear Friends

The following announcement was made on the above date, at all benefice churches holding services:

**Bishop Ruth Worsley is pleased to announce that the Revd Carol Bates has been appointed as a member of the Wigan Team Ministry to serve as Team Vicar and Hub leader of the parish of Wigan North West, subject to the usual checks.**

**She will be licensed to this role at a date to be confirmed in October. Revd Carol's last Sunday in the benefice is likely to be 6th September.**

After a period of ill health and a challenging season within the benefice, this decision was made after much time in prayer and reflection and is necessary for my ongoing ministry, whilst giving the benefice the opportunity for a new beginning.

While it is difficult to say goodbye, I feel a clear sense of calling to this new chapter of ministry in Wigan.

I am deeply grateful for the prayers, kindness, and support that I received from many of you during my time here and especially during my illness. It has been a privilege to serve as your Rector and I will carry many fond memories of our time together.

Benefice Clergy and Wardens will work together with the Archdeacon on interregnum arrangements over the next few weeks and this information will be shared with you in due course.

Please be assured of my prayers for your continued strength and unity in Christ during this time of change.

With every blessing,

Revd Carol Bates  
Rector of THE ELHAM VALLEY GROUP

**Benefice of THE ELHAM VALLEY GROUP**  
Serving the churches and communities of  
Acrise with Swingfield, Denton, Elham, Lyminge with Paddlesworth, Postling,  
Stanford and Wootton

## PRESENTATION BY JACQUE AVIOLET

### "THE CULTIVATION OF CHOCOLATE"



**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September**  
**The Tayne Centre, Lyminge**

**Refreshments from 7:15pm**  
**Presentation starts 7:30pm**

**Non Members very welcome - £5 entry to include refreshments**



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

4

**WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**

THE LYMINGE ART GROUP  
ARE HOSTING A

# MACMILLAN

## Coffee Morning

**THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2026**

**10.30-12.00**  
AT ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL

Cakes, biscuits, teas and coffees  
sold in aid of  
**MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**

There will be a selection of art works available to purchase (by a donation) on the day with  
**ALL PROCEEDS to Macmillan**

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

**WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT**

Anna Divers •

AGES 14+

ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

## Helping young people discover *what's possible.*

*"They've got so many ideas, but no idea how to start turning them into anything."*

*"The world of work is changing fast - a degree feels less of a guarantee now."*

I'm Anna. Drawing on over 20 years in business, I mentor young people one-to-one - building confidence, direction, and something real they can point to.

#### Explore ideas

Find the interests worth building on.

#### Build with AI

A real project they can proudly talk about.

#### Stand out

Confidence & communication for interviews.

★ Esme didn't love school, but dreamed of running her own riding school. With me, she built her first website. Read her story at [annadivers.co.uk](http://annadivers.co.uk)



**Let's start with a conversation**

**[annadivers.co.uk](http://annadivers.co.uk)**  
[hello@annadivers.co.uk](mailto:hello@annadivers.co.uk) • 07989 997139

ENHANCED DBS • NSPCC CHILD PROTECTION CERTIFIED • INSURED • LOCAL



# 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](mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com) or via methods outlined on Page 16.

## ONE-OFF EVENTS

| Day                   | Time          | Event                                         | Where       | Tel. No.    |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| 12th September        |               | Boot & Autumn Fayre                           | LW          |             |
| 13th September        | 3pm           | The Elham Duo (see P12)                       | SMCH        |             |
| 16th September        | 1pm           | Etchinghill Remembrance Poppy making (see P6) | Gate-keeper |             |
| <b>19th September</b> |               | <b>Autumn Garage Sale (P1)</b>                |             |             |
| 26th September        | 12noon        | Pétanque Competition                          | EVH         |             |
| 1st October           | 10.30am       | Macmillan Coffee Morning                      | EVH         |             |
| 3rd October           |               | Boot Fayre & End of Year Clearance Sale       | LW          |             |
| 13th October          | 10am          | Macmillan Coffee Morning                      | LL          |             |
| <b>17th October</b>   |               | <b>Neighbourhood Plan Consultation</b>        | <b>LVH</b>  |             |
| 17th October          |               | Litter Pick                                   | EVH         |             |
| 24th October          | 6.45pm        | Autumn Quiz                                   | EVH         | 07702625474 |
| 31st October          | 11am          | Coffee Morning with Cantores                  | LMC         |             |
| <b>24th November</b>  | <b>4.45pm</b> | <b>Switch on Lyminge Lights</b>               | <b>LL</b>   |             |
| 29th November         | 4pm           | Christmas tree lighting up                    | EVH         |             |
| 6th December          | 6.30pm        | ERA AGM                                       | EVH         |             |

## 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                | Gatekeeper |               |
| 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 | LPC   | 07734 383691 |
| 1st Tues              | 2pm     | Railway Readers 1        | LL    | 03000413 131 |
| 1st Tues <sup>3</sup> | 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 <sup>2</sup> | 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   |              |

<sup>1</sup> In term time only    <sup>2</sup> Except Jan and Feb    <sup>3</sup> Except Jan, Feb, and trip in Aug    <sup>4</sup> Except Aug and Dec    <sup>5</sup> 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



## The Coach and Horses

Join us at The Coach and Horses this September

|       |                                                                        |                                                                                   |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 05/09 | Karaoke and disco night                                                |  |
| 09/09 | Bingo                                                                  |  |
| 11/09 | Thai night with Boo                                                    |  |
| 13/09 | Live music with G & T                                                  |  |
| 16/09 | Quiz night                                                             |  |
| 18/09 | Happy hour 5pm-7pm<br><small>selected beers ciders and spirits</small> |  |
| 19/09 | Andy Mack live Music                                                   |  |
| 23/09 | Music bingo                                                            |  |
| 25/09 | Thai night with Boo                                                    |  |
| 30/09 | Pauline Mason Clairvoyant                                              |  |

Food served till the evening

Please see our Facebook page for further details  
or call 01303 901403



## Etchinghill Remembrance

### Making a Sea of Poppies

Following our previous advert, we're delighted to have received interest from people wishing to knit or crochet poppies to help decorate the village for **Remembrance Sunday**.

To get everyone together, we've arranged a **knit and crochet afternoon** at **The Gatekeeper pub, Etchinghill**, on **Wednesday 16th September from 1pm**. Everyone is welcome, and there's no need to book. However, if you're planning to come along, please contact Denise so we have an idea of numbers.

**Don't forget to bring your needles or hooks and some yarn!**

And don't worry if you're not sure how to get started – **help will be on hand if you need it.**

We hope you can join us and help create a **sea of poppies** for Etchinghill this **Remembrance Sunday!**

**Denise: 07929 031567**






## POSTLING GLASSBLOWING

### A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

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

Please contact us for further information

Martine: 07722 589910

Paul: 07951 628173

Inst.@postlingglassblowing

FB. Postling Glassblowing

G. Postling Glassblowing



JULY 2026 ARTICLE
KENT.GOV.UK/TSCHECKED

## KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE AND SECURE

HELPING YOU FIND SAFE LOCKSMITHS & HOME SECURITY EXPERTS





We are enjoying longer, lighter evenings out of the house and you might also be planning holidays. So now is a good time to think about your **home security**.

**Criminals often target homes they believe are vulnerable.** This can include overcharging for emergency locksmith services, carrying out unnecessary work, or installing poor-quality security equipment that leaves your property at risk.

**How Trading Standards Checked helps**  
Our directory makes it simple to find a safe, local locksmiths and security specialists. All businesses in our scheme are the **only ones checked by Kent Trading Standards**.

We check many aspects of the business such as licenses, accreditations, insurance and commitment to fair trading. This **gives you confidence when booking work**, especially in rural areas where unsolicited visits are more common.



### SIMPLE WAYS TO STAY SAFE:

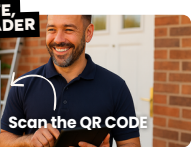
- Never agree to work at your door.
- Take time to compare traders, especially in emergencies.
- Always get 3 written quotes.
- Be cautious of pressure selling.
- Check reviews and previous work.
- Find a safe local trader, visit [kent.gov.uk/tschecked](http://kent.gov.uk/tschecked) or call 03000 416438.
- Report suspicious activity to Kent Police on 101.

**If you feel threatened, call 999.**

FIND A SAFE, LOCAL TRADER



Scan the QR CODE



Trading Standards Checked is Kent County Council's safe trader scheme for home improvement work. To find out more:

Visit [kent.gov.uk/tschecked](http://kent.gov.uk/tschecked) or call 03000 416438



# Etchinghill update

## - September 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 Association

**FILM NIGHT – ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL – MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER – DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR A 7.30 START – 'SONG SUNG BLUE' 2025 (12)** Run time: 2hr 13mins.

Based on an incredible true story. Mike (Hugh Jackman) and Claire (Kate Hudson) are two down-on-their-luck musicians who prove that it's never too late to find love and follow your dreams. They form a joyous **NEIL DIAMOND TRIBUTE BAND** called Lightning and Thunder, rising from a humble garage to dive bar gigs to unexpected hometown stardom. When tragedy strikes, their love for each other and passion for music gives them the strength to overcome hardships, rediscover hope and inspire everyone around them.

**Entry fee is only £6pp (cash only please) and includes a glass of wine, tea or coffee with biscuits on arrival and entry into a raffle. New members are welcome, simply register and pay on the night, there's no need to book.**

ERA are pleased to learn that there has been significant interest in our poppy knitting and crocheting project **LET'S MAKE A SEA OF POPPIES'**. Our volunteer Denise is leading on this activity and following her full page advert in the August Newsletter, her updated information including contact details, can be found on **the adjoining page 6**. Denise has arranged a meeting on 16th September and welcomes beginners and those with more experience.

**ERA FUN AUTUMN QUIZ – SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER – 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 (maximum 6 persons) or to make a raffle donation, contact Victoria on 07702 625474 or email vickie.couper@icloud.com. **Please book your table soon to secure your place.**



### ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL (Charity 302736)

Chairman: John White  
f Etchinghill Village Hall Kent  
**Bookings:**

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

**ANNUAL SINGLES PETANQUE COMPETITION** – takes place at Etchinghill Village Hall on Saturday 26th September. 12pm sign in for a 12.30pm start. £5 per player. Trophies for the finalists plus the winners name engraved on the prestigious Community Shield. Don't miss out. You don't want to wait until next year!

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

## Lyminge Newsletter

### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

**Copy deadline for next edition - 18 September 2026**

Please email your copy to the editor at [pbarnes20@icloud.com](mailto: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.

Please make cheques payable to **'The Lyminge Association'**. If you do not have email, please phone the editor - 07808775302.

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](mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com)**

## ETCHINGHILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION Film Night

**MONDAY 21st September**

**"Song, Sung Blue' 2005"**  
12 - Run Time: 2hrs 13mins

Etchinghill Village Hall - 7 for 7.30pm  
Entrance Fee £6pp

Open to new and existing members  
Free Refreshments and Raffle



[www.etchinghill.info](http://www.etchinghill.info)

# District Councillors' updates

## September 2026



**Folkestone Racecourse** – Since this emergency measure was introduced for overspill parking from Eurotunnel, it appears that it has not yet been actioned. This is, of course, a good thing, and, although there is no cost to FHDC, it will be interesting to know the cost to general taxation!

**National Planning Reform** - The government is introducing a national scheme of delegation for Planning & Licensing Committees to standardize how planning functions are allocated between officers and committees. Applications are categorized into two tiers:

- Tier A: Applications that must always be delegated to officers, such as minor developments and certain reserved matters approvals. These will not be considered by committees.
- Tier B: Applications that are delegated to officers by default but can be referred to a committee if the Chief Planning Officer and Committee Chair agree.

The reforms set a maximum size for planning committees, currently proposed at 13 members, to balance political representation. The Planning & Licensing Committee at FHDC is currently 12 Members but going into a Unitary Council covering three current Councils, could prove extremely difficult since both Ashford and Swale have more than 13 Members on their Planning Committee. I am waiting for a District Councillor Briefing on the new regulations to learn more. Further information can be found at [Planning Committees and the National Scheme of Delegation of Planning Functions: Guidance for local planning authorities in England - GOV.UK](#)

**Local Government Re-organisation** – now that we know that the model decided for the Unitary for our area will be made up of FHDC, Dover and Swale, - now called 'Mid Kent', the Overview & Scrutiny Committee have received an update on the current situation – see Minutes [Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 28th July, 2026, 6.00 pm | Folkestone & Hythe District Council](#) There are a lot of questions to be asked on how the Unitary will work, e.g. where the main Office will be, who will be the Chief Executive, how will a Cabinet and Leader be decided, where services will run from, how the democratic system will operate, etc.

**Ward Budget** – I still have some funding available for small grants (up to £500). Please do contact me if this is of interest to your organisation, as I am keen to support local groups.

**HGV Parking** – I have recently been looking into the current situation and questioning what enforcement has been undertaken. I was told that inspections take place mainly at weekends – I have

asked that these also be implemented for weekday evenings when the parking seems to be more prevalent, particularly around J11 and the Otterpool layby.

Contact: [jennyhollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:jennyhollingsbee@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

**Folkestone's coastal park** has been officially opened. The £750,000 refurbishment of the south east's largest free adventure playground is offering more play challenges and inclusive elements. The investment has been funded by the council, including the use of developer levies paid to support community infrastructure. Smaller play areas around the district are also in line for upgrades. The £670,000 of play area work is being partly funded by the council's own budget for capital projects and is part of the council's Corporate Plan commitment to invest in local communities.

**Waste crews** have been busy keeping the district's coastline looking beautiful as it is enjoyed during this summer's hot weather. Visitors are being urged by the council's #LoveYourBeach campaign to leave rubbish in the bins provided, including the special summer high compactor rubbish units and bulk bins.

**Kingsnorth Gardens**, Lower Leas Coastal Park, Radnor Park and the Royal Military Canal have all been recognised with the Green Flag Award for 2026/27. The international quality mark is awarded to parks and green spaces which display the highest environmental standards, are beautifully maintained and have excellent visitor facilities. The parks are maintained by the council's grounds team whose members also planted up a beautiful carpet bed on The Leas in Folkestone.

**The council has been awarded the Regulator of Social Housing's highest consumer standards rating, C1**, becoming the first council in Kent to achieve the distinction and one of just 13% of councils nationwide to hold the top grade.

Contact: [Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk](mailto:Elaine.Martin@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk)

## Need Funds for your Charity or Organisation?

Then contact the Chair or Treasurer of the Lyminge Association for further help and information.

**Heather Dunford:**

**T 07427 664084 E [heather.dunford@gmail.com](mailto:heather.dunford@gmail.com)**

**Janet Fry:**

**T 01303 863177 E [janet@rhodesminnis.org.uk](mailto:janet@rhodesminnis.org.uk)**



## 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 each month  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays  
between 10:00am and Noon  
at The Coach & Horses, Lyminge***

**September dates  
7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September**

***New faces very welcome  
(please ring to check for any  
change of venue)***

**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](mailto:LYMINGESTROKESOCIAL@GMAIL.COM)  
TELEPHONE: FRAN ON 07846 177 409  
OR HEATHER ON 07427 664 084**

## 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.



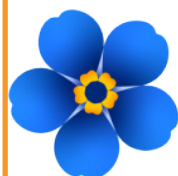
For more details please contact:  
**Age UK Hythe, Lyminge & Ashford**  
**01303 269602**

[www.ageuk.org.uk/hythelymingeashford/](http://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.

**This Newsletter can be viewed online and in colour at [www.lyminge.org.uk/newsletter](http://www.lyminge.org.uk/newsletter)**

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## DEMENTIA FRIENDSHIP GROUP

With grateful thanks to Darren, the new landlord of the Coach and Horses in Lyminge, a new **Friendship Group** for people living with dementia and their carers is starting.

The group will meet on the **second Tuesday of each month, 10.30am–12 noon, at the Coach and Horses**. It will offer gentle activities for those living with dementia, while giving carers an opportunity to meet, share experiences and support one another.

If there is sufficient interest, the meetings may become more frequent. **Free transport may also be available on request.**

**Dates:**

**Tuesday 13 October**

**Tuesday 10 November**

**Tuesday 8 December**

There is **no charge to attend**, although we hope guests will support the pub by enjoying a hot drink and biscuits for around **£2.20**. Lunch will also be available afterwards.

For more information or to book your place, please contact **Susan on 07734 383691**.



## THE TOWER THEATRE FOLKESTONE



**Fri 23 October - 7:30pm**



**Sat 24 October - 7:30pm**



**Fri 25th, Sat 26th Sept. and Fri 2nd, Sat 3rd Oct.  
(2.30 matinees on Saturdays)**  
Tower Theatre, North Road, Shorncliffe, Folkestone CT20 3HL



**Sat 31 October - 7:30pm**

For full details of all our forthcoming shows and to book tickets, please scan the QR code, call the Box Office on 01303 223925 or visit [towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk](http://towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk)

The Tower Theatre, North Road, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3HL

Registered Charity 1180504



Editor: [pbarnes20@icloud.com](mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com) | Tel: 07808 775302

**Hythe, Lydinge & Ashford ageUK**

**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 for 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](mailto:dementialead@ageukhla.org.uk)

**Dementia & Me**

| DAY       | Event                         | Location                                                                                  | Time                                                    |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| MONDAY    | Cinema – Dementia Friendly    | The Ashford Cinema, Elwick Place, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1AE – showing <i>Coyote vs Acme</i> | Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 11:00am – End Of Film |
|           | Memory Café                   | Three Hills Sports Park, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, CT19 5JU                              | Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September, 10:00am – 12:00pm    |
| TUESDAY   | Calehill Memory Café          | 1st Charing Scout Headquarters, Pett Lane, Charing, TN27 0DL                              | Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September, 11:00am – 1:00pm     |
|           | Social Evening* (with a meal) | The Royal Norfolk Hotel, 7 Sandgate High Street, Sandgate, CT20 3BD                       | Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> September, 5:30pm – 7:30pm      |
|           | Memory Café                   | Stade Court Hotel, Stade Street, West Parade, Hythe, CT21 6DT                             | Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September, 1:30pm – 3:30pm     |
|           | Social Evening* (with a meal) | The New Chimneys, Loudon Way, Ashford, TN23 3JJ                                           | Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September, 5:30pm – 7:30pm     |
| WEDNESDAY | Winkies*                      | Skuba Bar Old Bistro, 2 Langhorne Gardens, Folkestone, CT20 2EA                           | Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September, 10:30am – 12:00pm  |
|           | Dementia Chorus               | Hythe Cricket and Squash Club, Ladies Walk, Hythe, CT21 6AX                               | Weekly 2:00pm – 3:30pm                                  |
|           | Dementia Chorus               | Age UK Ashford, Farrow Court, Stanhope Road, Ashford, TN23 5RF                            | Weekly, 10:30am – 12:00pm                               |
|           |                               |                                                                                           |                                                         |
| THURSDAY  | Carer's Support Circle        | Age UK Ashford, Farrow Court, Stanhope Road, Ashford, TN23 5RF                            | Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September, 10:30am – 12:00pm   |
|           | Memory Café                   | Etchinghill Golf Club, Canterbury Road, Etchinghill, Folkestone, CT18 8FA                 | Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September, 1:30pm – 3:30pm    |
|           | Hythe Walking Group           | Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD                                | Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> September, 10:00am – 11:00am  |
|           | *Young at Heart group*        | Ashford Library, Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, TN23 1AS                             | Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September, 10:30am – 12:30pm  |
| FRIDAY    | Drop-In Clinic                | Hamstreet Surgery, Ruckinge Road, Hamstreet, Ashford TN26 2NJ                             | Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September, 12:00pm – 2:00pm      |
|           | Ashford Walking Group         | Harper's Café, Victoria Park, Jemmett Road, Ashford, TN23 4AD                             | Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> September, 10:00am – 11:00am    |
|           | Memory Café                   | Age UK Ashford, Farrow Court, Stanhope Road, Ashford, TN23 5RF                            | Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September, 1:30pm – 3:30pm      |

\*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](mailto:demo@ageukhla.org.uk)

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

## Information & Advice: Drop In Sessions

Every Second Monday of the month

Drop In Sessions are open from 10AM - 1PM

**Lydinge Library, 7-9 Station Rd, Lydinge, 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

Hythe, Lydinge & Ashford **ageUK**

Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. © Age UK Hythe, Lydinge and Ashford 2025.

Kent County Council Libraries

## GARAGE SALE - 19TH SEPTEMBER

## Your Local Pharmacy



- NHS & Private Prescriptions
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- Weight Loss Clinic
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- Private Prescriber Available
- Emergency Medication Supply
- NHS Flu & Covid Vaccinations
- Free Blood Pressure Checks
- Pharmacy First Service
- ONE YOU Stop Smoking Provider



Delivering prescriptions to the local community of Lydinge, 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:  
[lydingeinformed@gmail.com](mailto:lydingeinformed@gmail.com)

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



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- Serving Canterbury, Folkestone & Hythe

 [jaynesteadmanphysiotherapy.co.uk](http://jaynesteadmanphysiotherapy.co.uk)  
 07903 866 590  
 [jayne@steadmanphysio.co.uk](mailto:jayne@steadmanphysio.co.uk)  
 The Barn, Stelling Minnis, Canterbury, CT4 6BB



## 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](mailto:acac.class@outlook.com)

## GARAGE SALE - 19TH SEPTEMBER

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# WANTED!

A good hearted person  
to be a  
**PART TIME  
GARDENER**  
and  
**HANDYMAN**  
in Lyminge.

This would suit a  
retired person  
who lives in  
the village.

If you are interested  
please send a message by  
**SMS or WhatsApp** to  
**07814006612**



## Help make Coffee Morning special

You're invited!

Join us for the cause, the chatter or the tasty treats.

Your generosity will help raise vital funds so that Macmillan can continue to support people with cancer, whoever and wherever they are.

When: Tuesday 13th October 10am -1pm

Where: Lyminge Library, Station Road, CT18 8HS



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (263073), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (656). Also operating in Northern Ireland. MAC20401, CH Invite Poster Photography

Editor: [pbarnes20@icloud.com](mailto:pbarnes20@icloud.com) | Tel: 07808 775302

**ST MARY'S CHURCH ELHAM**  
*present*  
**THE ELHAM DUO**  
 Kokila Gillett-Khan - violin  
 Helen Crayford - piano  
**Sunday 13th September 2026**  
**3pm**



**A beautiful early autumn programme featuring Debussy, Lili Boulanger and Ravel alongside George Gershwin**

Tickets £15 on the door. Under 16's free  
 Refreshments will be available

Supported by  


## Fifth Trust update



[www.fifthtrust.co.uk](http://www.fifthtrust.co.uk)

One of the things that makes The Fifth Trust and Elham Valley Vineyard so special is the incredible support we receive from the local community. Recently we were delighted to welcome the team from **MattressNextDay** (based in Whitstable) to the vineyard. The visit was a great opportunity to celebrate our partnership and included the presentation of an incredible £2,396.

Their visit was a great example of what can happen when local businesses share their time, skills and enthusiasm with a good cause. They are far from alone. Last year corporate volunteers contributed an incredible 600 hours of their time to caring for the vineyard. From helping with essential seasonal tasks to getting stuck into practical jobs, their teams rolled up their sleeves and experienced first-hand the work that goes into caring for our vines.

## GARAGE SALE - 19TH SEPTEMBER

### Antiquarian Books Wanted

[no paperbacks or annuals please]

Call Jonathan on  
 07545 043065  
 or email  
[louis88books@gmail.com](mailto:louis88books@gmail.com)

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[lucy@chalkandoakflowers.com](mailto:lucy@chalkandoakflowers.com)



# KJB GARDEN SERVICES

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Maintenance**



**01303 862181 or 07704 989 402**  
**Over 35 years experience**

# Cantores

Musical Director: Malcolm Munro  
Accompanist: John Mitchell

## Coffee Concert

**Saturday  
31 October 2026  
at 11am  
Lyminge Methodist  
Church**

Cakes & Coffee  
served from  
10am

Tickets £10  
Children no charge  
Cash on the door

## LYMINGE ASSOCIATION GARAGE SALE - 19TH SEPTEMBER

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# Londis

**LYMINGE**  
*Convenient store*

**OUR SERVICES**

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- Spirit, Beer & tobacco
- Paypoint
- Payzone

**PARCEL SERVICE**

- Royal Mail
- DPD
- UPS
- Relay

11-13 Station Road, Lyminge, Folkestone. CT18 8HS

Find us on Facebook  
**Londis Lyminge**



## Lyminge Historical Society

Our next meeting will be at 7.30pm  
Tuesday 1st September 2026  
The Tayne Centre, Church Road, Lyminge CT18 8JA

**A History of the Granville Hotel,  
St Margaret's Bay**  
**Speaker: Wendy Fraser**



**Members Free**  
New members and visitors are always welcome  
Visitors: £5 Payable on the door  
All our publications are on sale at our meetings,  
at Lyminge Library and at Lyminge Village Store.



## ELHAM VALLEY CAT SITTING

*Professional cat care in your cat's own home*

- Fully Insured
- DBS Checked
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- Medication Given
- Litter Tray Cleaning
- Playtime & Cuddles
- Regular Updates

No stressful catteries – just loving care while you're away.

**DOG WALKING** | **HOUSE SITTING**  
ALSO AVAILABLE

**Kelly** | **07762 413269**  
Call • Text • WhatsApp

*Trusted local pet care throughout the Elham Valley*

### FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Our monthly meetings for 2026 will continue with:

6th October: The Hazards of the Journey: Pilgrimage and Travel in the Middle Ages - Imogen Corrigan  
3rd November: Goodwin Sands: The Shippe Swallower - John Buss  
1st December: Mystery and make-believe: a miscellany of things you (probably) never knew about Lyminge Parish Church - Rob Baldwin

## LYMINGE COMMUNITY HUB CIC

Folkestone & Hythe District Council (FHDC) have finally submitted a Planning Application to convert Everist Court to housing. This needs a change of Planning Use from Community to Housing.

Both the District Local Plan and National Planning Guidelines state that a community use building should only be changed if:

- a) There is no further community use for it
- b) There is another building which can be used or
- c) It is turned to part community and part something else.

LCH's plan is to use the ground floor as a community hub with housing above.

We have also suggested to FHDC that there could be a lightweight Mansard roof extension, thus creating further flats.

This would replace some of the services provided by

AgeUK for 49 years and create a thriving community hub to serve the whole community.

Both the Parish Council and the Lyminge Community Hub have objected to the Planning Application on the above grounds.

It would help, if you haven't already written in, if further objections are made as soon as possible to FHDC Planning, case number 26/1203/FH.

All comments which are received before a decision is made will be considered - the latest decision date is 29/9/26.

Alternatively, please write to the Chief Planning officer, FHDC, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone CT20 2QY Quoting 26/1203/FH

**Thank you all for your support.**

**Lyminge Community Hub Committee**



**There are only approximately 200 pure chalk streams in the entire world and the Nailbourne is one of them.**

With increasing awareness of the importance of rivers and streams to us all, and the particular fragility of pure chalk stream habitats, the

Friends of the Nailbourne is a recently established initiative by, and for, the communities through which the Nailbourne flows. It aims to protect, raise awareness and celebrate this globally rare ecosystem, from its source in Lyminge to where the stream joins the Little Stour near Littlebourne.

In order to monitor water quality, we are joining the Our Stour citizen science initiative run by the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership. To assess the health of watercourses such as the Stour and its tributaries including the Nailbourne, the presence or absence of freshwater invertebrates is an excellent indicator.

The Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership are therefore kindly providing **riverfly survey** training for us this November. This will mean we can have trained and equipped **riverfly monitor** volunteers regularly collecting water quality data along the Nailbourne.

Alongside this, to increase awareness and to celebrate our globally rare chalk stream we would like to gather images and information on the history and folklore of the Nailbourne – as a winterbourne it also has a rich series of legends associated with it. Such information will help to shape events and exhibition material in the coming year.

If you live in any of the communities along the Nailbourne and are interested in joining the Group, in becoming a volunteer **riverfly monitor**, or have knowledge of the history and local legends associated with the Nailbourne, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact [friendsofthenailbourne@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthenailbourne@gmail.com) for further information.

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the books  
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[kent.gov.uk/homelibraryservice](http://kent.gov.uk/homelibraryservice)



**Kent Libraries**

**GARAGE  
SALE**

**Saturday 19th September**



# Lyminge Friends

Our next Social Meeting will be on **Wednesday, 2nd September** when **Veronica King** will be giving a talk on **"The Life of a Female Private Investigator Part 2"**. Many of you will remember enjoying Part 1 of Veronica's talk last year, she is an accomplished and entertaining speaker, who will share her stories of over 37 years experience dealing with **"The Good, The Bad and The Ugly"**.

Our last speaker of the year is **Pete Warren** with a talk entitled **"Flying – A Life in the Cockpit"**. Pete joined the RAF at the age of 20 and flew for the next 45 years, including the Buccaneer and the Hawker Hunter. He now instructs on the B777/787. He is still fascinated by flying.

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

We are a friendly social group and welcome new members and visitors so just drop into a meeting, or if you'd like to talk to one of us first, please call 07904 157897.

*All meetings are held in:  
The Methodist Church, Church Road, Lyminge  
from 10.30am to 12noon unless stated otherwise.*



*Last month, Lyminge Friends held their annual Summer Lunch in Lyminge Parish Church which was enjoyed by everyone.*

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

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[www.kingdom-interiors.co.uk](http://www.kingdom-interiors.co.uk)



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 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June

11:30AM – 12:30PM

at the Methodist Church.

[Church Rd, Lyminge, CT18 8JA](#)

Wednesday 3rd June and 1<sup>st</sup> July

[In the Tayne Centre](#)

We then break returning

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September



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





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**mark-hawes@hotmail.com**



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9.30 - 12.30

## LYMINGE ARTISAN & FARMERS MARKET

**28 June**  
**26 July**  
**23 Aug.**  
**27 Sep.**  
**25 Oct.**  
**22 Nov.**

LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL  
WOODLAND ROAD CT18 8EW

## LYMINGE ASSOCIATION GARAGE SALE - 19TH SEPTEMBER

# THE KING'S ARMS

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR COUNTRY PUB...

## 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!

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WEBSITE  
TO FIND  
OUT MORE!

## QUIZ NIGHTS

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

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Email: [info@thekingsarmselham.com](mailto: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](mailto:thoughtfulfoodgroup@gmail.com) f t i @thoughtfulfoodgroup

Next **Thoughtful Food** meeting, **Monday 28th September at The Coach & Horses**



Sadly we will not be holding Surplus Saturday this September which is a great loss to us. The recent weather means that yields have been very unpredictable and many crops have already been collected, eaten, put into freezers or turned into preserves. If you do have any surplus, please leave in a visible spot for people to help themselves. And be on the lookout for surplus that is put out. A marrow was recently spotted on the front wall of the Methodist Church! There are other organisations (listed below) that would welcome any surplus produce.

[www.rainbow-centre.org/](http://www.rainbow-centre.org/)

[www.salvationarmy.org.uk/](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/)

[folkestonecommunityfridge.com/](http://folkestonecommunityfridge.com/)

[www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/pantry-listings/hythe-pantry-kent/](http://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/pantry-listings/hythe-pantry-kent/)

Over the 10yrs I have been growing here in Lyminge, there has been a significant, and in many ways drastic, change to the weather. I never thought I would think the greenhouse would be inhospitable to tomatoes but I have watched them literally curl away from the heat into little balls. I have watched climbing beans turn their leaves away from the sun and only recover when the cooler night time came! So we must 'gird our loins' as they say and face up to the challenges of the 'new future' in gardening. Over the next few months I will try to give guidelines and suggestions as to how we may adapt our practices in manageable and sustainable ways.

This month I will be concentrating on WATER. If you would like to contribute ideas then please contact me on [lymingegardeners@gmail.com](mailto:lymingegardeners@gmail.com).

I keep a record of the max and min temperature and the rainfall each day. Below is the rainfall record over the past few years for April - July. This is only a very rough estimate and I am not a scientist or expert! What we are

seeing doesn't really need evidence - we are getting all or nothing. So - how do we cope with this?

|               | 2023       | 2024       | 2025       | 2026       |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>April</b>  | 97         | 47         | 33         | 6          |
| <b>May</b>    | 16         | 43         | 61         | 27         |
| <b>June</b>   | 17         | 22         | 36         | 105        |
| <b>July</b>   | 105        | 46         | 109        | 0          |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>235</b> | <b>158</b> | <b>239</b> | <b>138</b> |

## WATER COLLECTING and STORING

It might seem obvious and you may think - oh here we go again, someone banging on about the obvious but, look around your gutter system on the house / garage / shed greenhouse etc. Place a water butt on every downpipe. If you've only got one downpipe maybe add more? It is well worth the initial investment. You can also 'daisy chain' as many as you have space for. Forget aesthetics - you need to collect it! Kits can be bought in garden centres.



Above is system installed at the Tayne Centre allotments. Pop down and take a look.

Here is my system, below. You are welcome to come and take a look.



If you have space - find the biggest containers possible: IBCs (Intermediate Bulk Container, 1000l),

open feed troughs, dustbins etc. Be ready for when that rain eventually comes. You may need to invest in a pump to move water from containers to hose systems. I'm now thinking of a borehole!

## Next month – SOIL and PLANTS

Here is a seasonal recipe to make good use of your produce:

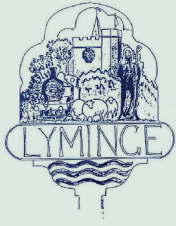
## COURGETTE AND RICE FILO PIE

- 500g courgettes, coarsely grated
- 75g long-grain white rice
- ½ medium red onion, finely chopped
- 75g hard goat's cheese or mature Cheddar, grated
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- A handful of dill, chopped
- A good handful of flat-leaf parsley, chopped
- 250g ready-made filo pastry
- 75g unsalted butter, melted
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preheat the oven to 190°C/Gas Mark 5. Mix the courgettes, rice, onion, cheese, eggs, olive oil and chopped herbs together in a large bowl. Season with plenty of salt and pepper.

Take a sheet of filo pastry, brush with a little melted butter and use it to line a smallish oven-proof dish, about 1.5 litre capacity, placing the pastry butter side down. Let any excess hang over at the ends. Add another buttered sheet on top and continue until you've used all but one sheet of the pastry.

Tip the filling into the pastry-lined dish. Fold over the pastry ends to enclose the filling, dabbing with a little more melted butter to keep the pastry together. Take the remaining sheet of pastry, crumple it lightly in your hands to give a nicely textured finish and place on top of the pie, tucking in the edges around the side. Dab a little more butter over the surface and bake for 45 minutes until golden. Serve hot or warm.



# LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL

*For Lyminge, Etchinghill and Rhodes Minnis*

## Councillor of the month

### INTRODUCING PETER BARNES

I was born and brought up in Bristol and graduated as a scientist. My early career took me to the University of York, where I worked on a Medical Research Council-funded human health project. After six years, I moved to Kent to join Pfizer Central Research, continuing in a similar field before moving into Internal Communications. After a varied and rewarding career, I took early retirement in 2003.

A constant throughout my life has been Scouting. I joined the Boy Scouts (as they were known then) in my youth, and the

movement has remained an important part of my life ever since. In 1985, I led a district team in Thanet before becoming County Commissioner for Kent Scouts. I later served as Chief Commissioner for the Scout Association in South East England and British Scouts Overseas, a role I held until 2008.

Within the local community, I have been actively involved with The Lyminge Association for many years, serving as Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary. For more than 12 years, I have also edited the Association's monthly newsletter, helping it evolve into the valued publication it is today. To me, the newsletter is the cement that helps bind together the many and varied organisations that make up our community.

I have also chaired the Patient Participation Group at Church Road Surgery for eight years, helping to provide feedback on local healthcare services and ensuring important information reaches patients.

I believe that effective councillors earn respect through trust, integrity and a genuine commitment to serving others. They need to be approachable, empathetic and aware of both community needs and future opportunities, while working to ensure that the organisations they represent are never let down. I hope that over the years I have developed many of these qualities.

If you see me around the village, please do stop and say hello.



The following meetings all take place at  
**LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL**

**FULL COUNCIL** Tuesday 15 September 19.00

**Please note all planning meetings will now be held at Lyminge Village Hall. Any additional meetings will be on our noticeboards/website.**

**Welcome to our  
new councillors:**

Peter Barnes  
Alan Croucher  
Hayley Lloyd  
Yvonne Freeman

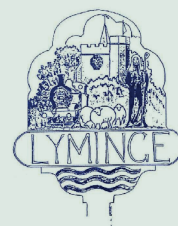
**Chairman of Lyminge  
Parish Council:**  
Roger Joyce

Councillor contact details  
are available on our website

[www.lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07999 403948



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



# Lyminge Parish Council

**SINCE LYMINGE PARISH COUNCIL TOOK ON THE MANAGEMENT OF LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL, OUR AIM HAS BEEN SIMPLE: TO ENSURE THIS MUCH-LOVED COMMUNITY BUILDING IS WELL MAINTAINED, SAFE, AND FIT FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.**

Many improvements take place behind the scenes and often go unnoticed, but they are essential to keeping the hall running smoothly and safely.

Over the past few months, we have:

- Replaced two fire doors to improve safety and meet current standards.
- Repaired and serviced the CCTV system, ensuring it is fully operational.
- Identified sections of guttering that require replacement and are planning these works as part of our ongoing maintenance programme.
- Restored hot water to the gent's toilets after it had been unavailable for more than a year.

During the pre-school summer holiday at the end of August, we scheduled two significant pieces of work. The entire electrical installation underwent a full inspection and service,

helping to ensure everything remains safe and compliant. At the same time, the hall received a comprehensive two-day deep clean. This was a major undertaking and one that was long overdue, as the hall had not had a full deep clean for a considerable time.

These improvements are part of a wider programme of maintenance and investment. As funds allow, we will continue to address both essential repairs and general improvements throughout the building. Our priority is to protect this valuable community asset and ensure it remains a welcoming, safe and well-maintained venue for the many groups, organisations and residents who use it.

While there is still more to do, every improvement brings us another step closer to ensuring the Village Hall meets the high standard our community deserves. We appreciate the continued support and patience of our hall users while these works are carried out and look forward to sharing further updates as more projects are completed.

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## WHAT WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH

**Bench in Lyminge near main road and library restored and painted.**

**Bench in Well Field painted.**

**Guttering at Lyminge Village Hall cleared of debris.**



**If you would like to get in touch please email:**

[clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[debbie.capon@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.capon@lymingeparishcouncil.gov.uk)



# Swifts: From the Congo to Kent and Back Again

## “Swifts: From the Congo to Kent and Back Again”

This is a talk organised as part of the Canterbury Festival, to be held on Monday 19th October at 5.45pm at the Augustine Hall in Canterbury. Tickets are now on sale using the link below.

In this talk, Edward Mayer, founder of Swift Conservation, will explain his remarkable journey to protect the UK's Common Swift.

From childhood fascination to working with the RSPB, Edward will share how citizen action, architecture and collaboration can transform urban habitats for these extraordinary birds.

Discover the challenges Swifts face, the innovative solutions that safeguard their nesting sites, and how local communities across Britain and Europe are making a difference, including here in Kent.



See <https://canterburyfestival.co.uk/whats-on/swifts-from-the-congo-to-kent-and-back-again/>

## Swifts in Lyminge

Several pairs of swifts nest each year in Lyminge. This year the Parish Council funded the installation of some nest boxes designed for swifts, which hopefully will provide opportunities for additional pairs to nest locally. We will monitor these nest boxes over the next few years to see if and when they get used.

### Swifts facts from the RSPB

Swifts migrate to the UK from Africa each year, and only spend a few months with us while they raise their chicks. Swifts begin arriving from late April, with most arriving in May. They then head back to Africa from early August onwards.

Swifts are incredible birds, and one of our greatest long-distance athletes. They've undertaken a crazy journey to get here, one of

the longest migration journeys in the world. Swifts fly around 22,000 km (or 14,000 miles) every year.



Swifts are superb flyers. Sleeping, eating, bathing and even mating on the wing (while flying), Swifts rarely touch the ground. They are also the fastest birds in level flight, with an impressive top speed of 69mph. Swifts are plain sooty brown, with a white throat, but in flight against the sky they appear black. They have curved wings and a forked tail. Swifts are summer visitors, breeding across the UK, but are most numerous in the south and east. Spending their winters in Africa, Swifts migrate more than 6,000 miles twice a year, stopping off to refuel in places like Portugal and France along the way.

Sadly, Swift numbers are plummeting, and they're now on the UK's Red List of Birds of Conservation Concern. For every ten Swifts zooming across our skies in 1995, there were only about three by 2022.





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Let's keep our village and surrounding areas clean, safe and welcoming for everyone.  
THANK YOU!

## Cantores Summer Singing

Wednesday 22 July for 4 weeks (weather permitting)

7.15 – 8.30pm

THE PENT, POSTLING CT21 4EY



The cost will be £5.00 to non-members who are more than welcome.

Members of Cantores don't have to pay.

Do come and join us for an informal evening and meet members of the choir.

We are a friendly group and John Mitchell, our talented accompanist will lead the music.

Please reply by email to [cantorescommittee@gmail.com](mailto:cantorescommittee@gmail.com) if you wish to take part.

Music will be emailed beforehand

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Contact us to book your appointment today!

[www.AKHealthcare.org.uk](http://www.AKHealthcare.org.uk)

07904311554

Or scan the QR code below:





# 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:** Sally Robinson [E sallyrocks.1955@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sallyrocks.1955@yahoo.co.uk)

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

**Committee Members:** Peter Barnes (deputy chair), Martine Prengerdaast, Marian Chubb, Richard Chubb, Stephen Guyatt, Gillian Heywood, Dennis Huntley, Derek Smith, Penny Stephens, Bernie Wood, Martin Wood

**Newsletter:** Peter Barnes 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.**

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# Community Hall Details

## LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL

REGISTERED CHARITY.281465



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**EMAIL:** [admin@lymingevillagehall.org.uk](mailto:admin@lymingevillagehall.org.uk)  
**INFO:** 07547 545601

Full pricing can be found on our website. Guideline prices:  
Main Hall hire: £88.40 (Fri/Sat evenings)  
£47.60 (Sat/Sun morning or afternoon)

Find us on Facebook

## VALLEY METHODIST CHURCH, LYMINGE AND TAYNE CENTRE

|                                      |         |                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Church Seating                       | Max 150 | £22 per hour    |
| Clayson Hall<br>(with Stage) Seating | Max 150 | £16.50 per hour |
| Rigden Room Seating                  | Max 35  | £11 per hour    |
| Wesley Room Seating                  | Max 15  | £11 per hour    |

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



**Contact: 07716 521405 or [taynecentre@outlook.com](mailto:taynecentre@outlook.com)**

### Lyminge Library Opening Times

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

**Tel: 03000413131 [lymingelibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:lymingelibrary@kent.gov.uk)**

## ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL

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

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

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

The use of a separate Committee Room is also available.

For all bookings or enquiries please contact:

**The Duty Manager on 07514 758936**

## RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL

CHARITY NO.800345

Rhodes Minnis Village Hall is located 2kms (1¼miles) from Lyminge and just off Longage Hill and Whitehorse Lane in Chapel Lane.

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

### Rates

|            |                                                               |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon to Fri | £18 per session<br>£48 all day                                |
| Sat & Sun  | £23 per session<br>£33 for evening session and<br>£69 all day |

### Sessions

|                                                                                    |               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| AM session                                                                         | 08.30 - 12.30 |
| PM session                                                                         | 13.30 - 17.30 |
| Evening session                                                                    | 18.00 - 23.45 |
| Separate rates for Bank Holidays and New Year and special rates for regular users. |               |

**For all bookings and enquiries please contact:**

Mick & Dorothy Athow: 01303 862616  
Email: [booking-rmvh@outlook.com](mailto:booking-rmvh@outlook.com)





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## Etchinghill Baby & Toddler GROUP

10.15-11.30am every Wednesday

(term time only)

at Etchinghill Village Hall

£3 per child

Come along to Etchinghill's Parent and Toddler group welcoming all pre-school children. We have plenty of toys and snacks for the little ones, and there is always tea, coffee and cakes for the adults.

For further information call Ruth on 07817 777975, or look at Parent and Child Etchinghill Facebook page.



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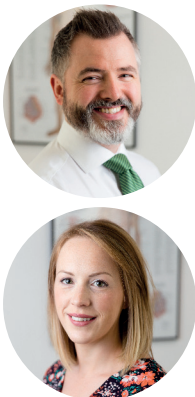
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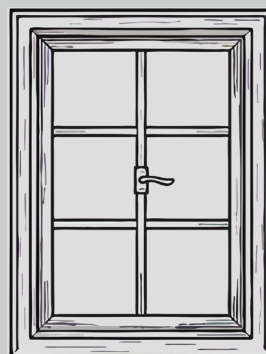
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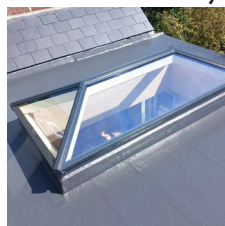
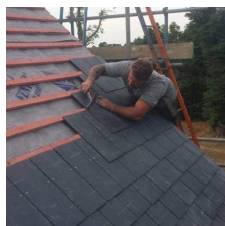
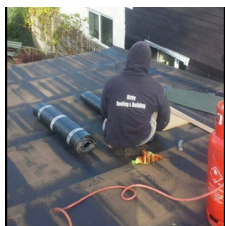
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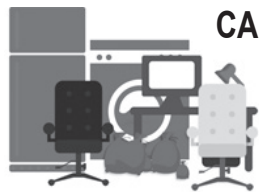
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## LYMINGE THEN AND NOW

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



The picture on the left shows the dining hall of the old workhouse in Etchinghill, on the site of what is now Meriden Park. The site was redeveloped as housing in the 1990s, and the picture on the right shows roughly the same view as it is today.

In the 18th Century, the poor of the parish were cared for within the parish. In Lyminge, there were a few houses where old people lived together communally, with their rents paid by the ratepayers, while others had a spare room in a house with a family, for which the rent was paid. This arrangement not only provided care for the elderly person but also extra income for the householder.

Provision for the poor changed with new legislation in 1834 that created poor law unions of parishes. The Elham Union was created in 1835, initially of 18



local parishes but a year later increased to include Folkestone and Hythe. This new institution needed new premises, which were built at Etchinghill. The new workhouse, as it was commonly called, was built economically using recycled bricks.

A newspaper report of 1902 describes the premises as sound but quite spartan. The menu served in the communal dining hall changed daily but was the same each week: on Sunday, for example, residents could look forward to bread, margarine and coffee for breakfast, and the same for supper with tea substituted for coffee. Dinner in the middle of the day comprised 16 oz (454g) of suet pudding for men and 14 oz (397g) of meat pudding and vegetables for women. In a time before state pensions, the workhouse did at least provide regular meals, medical care and a bed to sleep in.

“The secret of getting ahead is getting started.” — Mark Twain

“Action is the foundational key to all success.” — Pablo Picasso



### CYCLING TO PARIS

Ninety-two cyclists set off from Blackheath in South East London on Wednesday 22nd July, stopping off for refreshments at Etchinghill Village Hall before continuing to Paris, France. Half of the cyclists had reached Etchinghill by 2pm with the remainder arriving during the following hour.

The weather was cloudy and dry which is ideal for serious cycling.



## THE WISHING WELL

As many villagers will have seen, the roof of the recently renovated listed building, **The Wishing Well on Well Road, Lyminge**, was recently damaged by a delivery vehicle.

The vehicle was quickly identified by a passing motorist, and it was subsequently established that the driver had reported the incident to his company on returning to the depot. The company has therefore referred the matter to its insurers, who will cover the cost of the necessary repairs.

It is also worth recording that three local roofing businesses generously offered to carry out the repair at no cost. This was an extremely kind gesture.

Our thanks to everyone involved in identifying the vehicle, clearing up and helping to resolve the incident.



## Acrise Summer Festival

The Acrise Summer Festival was held at St Martin's church grounds on Saturday, 1st August. For the first time in months the heavens opened and it rained torrentially for the half hour that **Lyminge Church Choir** were "on stage". However, they calmly completed their set despite the microphones being switched off midway through to avoid electrocution as everyone and everything got soaked.



## So long, farewell...



I'm sure all the patrons from Lyminge and the surrounding area will want to join us in wishing **Eric and Nicky** all the very best as they move on from **The Coffee Cabin**.

Over the past five years, they have earned a great deal of respect and affection from people from all walks of life, while supporting and contributing to many village events and activities.

They will leave the premises on **30th September** for a well-earned rest before looking for new opportunities to keep themselves busy and active. Thankfully, they reassure us that they will be remaining in the area!

**Good luck to you both, Eric and Nicky, and thank you for all you have done for the Coffee Cabin and the wider community. You will certainly be missed.**

We can then look forward to welcoming the new local owners, **Darren and Gemma Best**, and we'll tell you more about them in future editions of the newsletter.

## Volunteer Poppy Appeal Organiser Wanted – Elham Valley

A volunteer is urgently sought to take over the role of **Poppy Appeal Organiser for the Elham Valley**, with immediate effect.

Due to a change in personal circumstances, I am sadly resigning from the role, which I have found extremely rewarding and satisfying.

This is a **year-round role**, although it is particularly busy during October and November. The main duties are to:

- distribute poppies, Remembrance products and collecting tins throughout **Postling, Etchinghill, Rhodes Minnis, Lyminge, Elham and Hawkinge**;
- supply businesses, schools and local volunteers who undertake house-to-house collections; and
- take responsibility for counting and banking the money collected.

The area normally raises **around £18,000 each year\*\***. Without a volunteer to take on the role, the Poppy Appeal could lose this very significant contribution.

If you feel you might be able to help, or would simply like to find out more about what the role involves, please get in touch. **You do not need to commit before having a chat about it.**

**Susan Foster**

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