

THE LYMINGE NEWSLETTER

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

May 2008

Produced by
The Lyminge Association



DON'T FORGET...The Village Clean-Up Day on Sunday 18th May starting at 9.00am at The Village Hall

All help is very welcome - help keep our Village neat and tidy.

Lyminge Heritage Questions and Answers

This month we have a summary of all the questions posed so far and a new one. If you have any answers or other local heritage questions let me know through the editor. These questions are now posted on the Lyminge Online website at www.lyminge.org.uk/forums (click on the General Chat link). Rather than contacting the editor, you can post your responses there if you wish.

- Q1** Why is the crossroads between Lyminge and Etchinghill called New Barn?
- Q2** Why does the Nailbourne flow continually in Lyminge yet at Elham, it is dry during the summer?
- Q3** How did Lyminge Football Club start and what is its history?
- Q4** Did the dilapidated gates at Yew Tree Cross have a use and is there another set?
- Q5** Did Lyminge ever have a village band?
- Q6** Why is Lyndon Hall situated so close to Canterbury Road?
- Q7** Have buzzards ever been seen in the parish?
- Q8** Who was the most notable local inhabitant?
- Q9** What is the history of the local cricket clubs?

A4 Writing about the Lyminge Online website reminds me about the gates at Yew Tree Cross. Posted in one of the forums is an explanation about the gates. Apparently, they are not in their original position and have been moved. It seems that, once they were used on a toll road that ran through Rhodes Minnis and Wheelbarrow Town.

Recently, I spoke to Alan Boughton and Bert Fagg. They remember, before the Second World War, that there were two sets of gates. The first was at the present site whilst the second set was to be found on the same road near Longage Farm. They were used as park gates to Sibton Park and apparently were closed on occasions to stop the public from passing along the road. I recall that a local legend says that the gates were present to keep the 'wild people' of the high downlands from rampaging through Lyminge! This is of course just a fable but when the gates were shut, it must have been annoying to travel from Rhodes Minnis to Lyminge or visa versa by the alternative longer routes. Perhaps this explains the origin of the myth.

At first sight, it would appear that these two explanations are contradictory but perhaps the gates were initially placed in the northern positions and then moved to Sibton Park. Questions remain, however. If the gates have been moved, where precisely were they originally located? Is the naming of the Gate Inn at Mockbeggar a clue? Certainly, the 1876 1:10560 Ordnance Survey map (www.old-maps.co.uk/) shows it had that name then. If you look eastwards along the same road, you will find a gatepost marked on the map. According to the First Edition OS map published in 1819 (Republished Cassini Historical Map 'Old Series' Sheet 179, (2006), Southampton), this area was known as Monkgate. Back on the 1876 map to the north of The Gate (near Wheelbarrow Town), you will find Sandgates. Were these the sites of the gates?

Incidentally, should the gates be preserved? I believe the parish council has considered this but the costs were thought prohibitive. It would be good to preserve our heritage but it seems it would only be possible with voluntary money. Has anybody any thoughts? That wraps it up for this month. If you have a question or know an answer, make contact through either the editor or the internet. Alistair Bailey

Out and About

A Selection of the photos received of events that have taken place in the last few weeks



A toddler, from the Tuesday Toddlers Group stands next to the beautiful flower cross outside the Methodist Church this Easter.

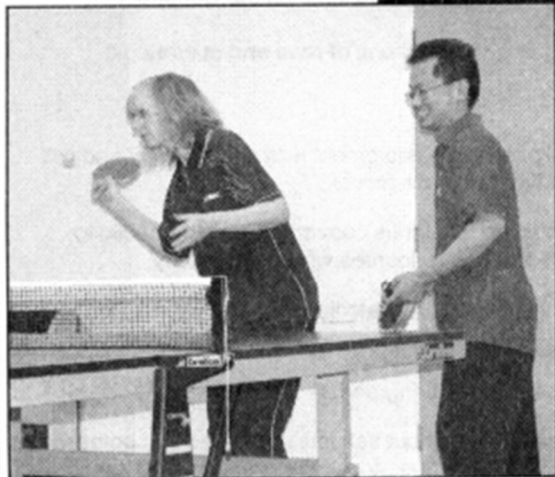


If you have any photographs of local events that could be included in the Newsletter please contact our Newshound via 01303 862328



Two views in Lyminge Forest of the sudden burst of snow that arrived over Easter

'Allo 'Allo April 2008 ~ Who will ever forget that suspender belt - complete with mousetraps !



*Etchinghill Table Tennis Club in action ~ they meet every Friday evening from 8pm in Etchinghill Village Hall
More information phone 863175*



Forthcoming Village Events

We would like you to give us details of your future events for this page,
to help us all plan for our events and spread them throughout the year.

There is no charge for entries on this page.

For entries into the next issues please call **Gillian** on **863232**

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	CONTACT DETAILS	
9-May	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION COMMITTEE & BRANCH MEETING	ST. MARY'S HALL, ELHAM	864255	JOHN
10-May	LYMINGE DAY	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862928	HONOR
10-May	FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	863174	ANNE
11-May	SPRING CLEAN	AROUND THE VILLAGE	862972	JON
13-May	VILLAGE HALL AGM	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862928	HONOR
13-May	LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TALK	LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH HALL	840419	DEREK
15-May	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862184	PAM
17-May	LINDY HOP & SWING DANCE, CABARET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	863418	ROSEMARY
17-May	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
18-May	PARISH WALK	START RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL, 10 AM	862015	RICHARD
19-May	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862184	PAM
20-May	LYMINGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY VISIT	GARDEN OF MR & MRS. ENTWHISTLE	863225	PETER
21-May	RAILWAY SWING BAND, BIG BAND EVENING	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	241441	JOHN
24-May	BOOT FAIR	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB	862060	EDGAR
24-May	QUIZZICAL NIGHT	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862488	JEAN
31-May	QUIZ EVENING	LYMINGE BOWLS CLUB	862015	MARIAN
31-May	AMERICAN SUPPER AND QUIZ	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
3-Jun	LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OPENING OF THE ARCHIVE ROOM	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	840419	DEREK
3-Jun	ENTERPRISE WEEK BEGINS	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
4-Jun	LYMINGE FRIENDS	LYMINGE METHODIST PARLOUR	862427	MAVIS
7-Jun	ELHAM VALLEY SEA CADETS REUNION	ELHAM VILLAGE HALL	862791	TED
14-Jun	CALL MY BLUFF	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862928	HONOR
14-Jun	TEAPARTY FOR EVE APPEAL	ROSENEATH CERAMICS, RHODES MINNIS	862979	KATHERINE
14-Jun	FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	863174	ANNE
14-Jun	PFA SUMMER FAIR	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
15-Jun	PARISH WALK	START P.O. CAR PARK, 10 AM	862015	RICHARD
17-Jun	LYMINGE GARDEN SOCIETY VISIT	GARDEN OF DR & MRS. INGRAM AT COMPTON ASH	863225	PETER
18-Jun	RHODES MINNIS EVENING CIRCLE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862913	MARION
21-Jun	BOOT FAIR	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB	862060	EDGAR
21-22-Jun	ELHAM OPEN GARDENS	AROUND THE VILLAGE		
21-Jun	LYMINGE PRE-SCHOOL SUMMER BALL	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862580	ANNA
28-Jun	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
30-Jun	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	LYMINGE METHODIST PARLOUR	862184	PAM
7-Jul	LYMINGE FRIENDS	LYMINGE METHODIST PARLOUR	862427	MAVIS
11-Jul	ROYAL BRITISH LEGION COMMITTEE & BRANCH MEETING	ST. MARY'S HALL, ELHAM	864255	JOHN
11-Jul	WE ALL DO GOOD THINGS TOGETHER EXHIBITION	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
12-Jul	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE FETE	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	862488	JEAN

12-Jul	FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	863174	ANNE
15-Jul	LYMINGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY VISIT	PINES GARDEN AT ST. MARGARET'S BAY	863225	PETER
16-Jul	RHODES MINNIS EVENING CIRCLE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	861913	MARION
17-Jul	JUNIOR PRODUCTION TO PARENTS	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
18-Jul	JUNIOR PRODUCTION TO PARENTS	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
19-Jul	CRAFT FAYRE	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862928	HONOR
21-Jul	SPORTS DAY	LYMINGE PRIMARY SCHOOL		
26-Jul	BEETLE DRIVE	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862616	MICK
28-Jul	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	LYMINGE VILLAGE HALL	862184	PAM
August	LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY VISIT	PEENE RAILWAY MUSEUM	840419	DEREK
2-Aug	BOOT FAIR	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB	862060	EDGAR
2-Aug	FLOWER SHOW	RHODES MINNIS VILLAGE HALL	862865	DAPHNE
9-Aug	FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET	ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL	863174	ANNE
16-Aug	LYMINGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW	LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH HALL	863225	PETER
27-Aug	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	RHODES MINNIS VILAGE HALL	862184	PAM
30-Aug	BOOT FAIR	ETCHINGHILL CRICKET CLUB	862060	EDGAR

Lyminge Bowls Club – 75th Anniversary

If you would like a restful afternoon watching others enjoying their sport, with refreshments on hand from bar and kitchen, then come along to Lyminge Bowls Club where there is a variety of seating in sun or shade (or indoors). All welcome. May home fixtures are as follows:-

Thursday 1 May – 2.30 pm start against Kearsney
Thursday 1 May – 6.00 pm start against Charing
Saturday 3 May – an internal club competition from 10.00 am all day
Sunday 4 May – 2.30 pm start against River (men only)
Tuesday 13 May – 2.30pm start against River (ladies only)
Saturday 17 May – 2.30 pm start against Gateway
Tuesday 20 May – 2.30pm start against Wear Bay
Sunday 25 May – 2.30 pm start against Kent Fire Service
Monday 26 May – Open Mixed Triples Competition from 9.30 am throughout the day
Tuesday 27 May – 2.30 pm start against Cheriton

Club members look forward to welcoming you – either as a spectator – or IF YOU WISH TO LEARN TO PLAY come along on Sunday mornings throughout May at 10.30. Call 863495 for details.

SANDLING PARK GARDEN

Sandling, Nr Hythe, Kent
A woodland Garden full of rhodedrons & Azaleas
Open every Wednesday and Sunday during May:
10am to 5pm
Adults £4. Children free. Car Park free.

Newington Village Hall

Hog Roast

Saturday 3rd May
5pm (Eat at 6pm)
Tickets £6 per adult
10yrs & under £5
Live music
Bring your own drinks

Refreshments.
No Dogs. Not suitable for wheelchairs.
0.5 miles east of A20 from J11 – M20

More info call:
Kirsty 01303 272056
Karen 01303 277950
Reg. charity No. 302812

In Aid of The Lord Whisky Sanctuary Fund

Registered charity Number 283483

BOOT and SPRING FAYRE

Saturday 3rd May – 12 noon – 3.30pm at

Park House Animal Sanctuary Stelling

Minnis, Nr Canterbury

Car Boots £7 – Vans £10

Tankerton Dance Academy – Stockbury

Dog Club

Live Music with the Folkestone Pipes and

Drums Plus lots of other attractions

Raffles – Stalls - Tombolas

Hot & Cold Refreshments – Ice Cream

Plenty of Parking – Admission by donation

Tel: 01303 862622

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Forthcoming Events:

Dog & Owners Fun Day – Saturday 7th

June

Boot & Summer Fayre – Saturday 26th July

Boot & Autumn Fayre – Saturday 6th

September

All held at Park House from 2 noon –

3.30pm

Lots of attractions – hot & cold  
refreshments

Plenty of parking – Admission by donation

For further details, phone 01303 862622

**MAY BEETLE DRIVE**

Come & join us at

Rhodes Minnis Village Hall

Saturday 17th May

Starts at 7.00 pm

Adults £2.00

Children 50p

Includes refreshments.

There will be a raffle

**LYMINGE GARDENERS SOCIETY**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday  
20th May when we will visit the garden of

**LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Tuesday 13th May 7.45pm

At Lyminge Methodist Church Hall

A talk on

Shopping in Lyminge

By Derek Boughton

Non-members welcome

Please note change of date

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK**

11th - 17th May

Come and join us for

**QUIZAID**

And help the world's poorest communities  
in

Lyminge Methodist Hall

on

Friday 16th May 7-30pm

**BRIDGE FARM GARDENS**

Lyminge

**OPEN DAYS**

**25th – 26th May**

(Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday)

**7th – 8th June**

(Saturday & Sunday)

Come and see our collection of Bearded Iris

**28th – 29th June**

(Saturday & Sunday)

**11.00am – 5.00pm**

Admission Adults £3.50 – Children £2.00

Teas in aid of Cancer Research UK

Field Walks Photographic Display

**Sorry NO DOGS Anne & Geoff**

**Baldock**

Telephone 01303 863625

**Age Concern Elham Rural**

**Quiz Night**

**7pm on 31st May 2008**

Lyminge Bowls Club, Woodland Road,

Lyminge

American Supper (Bring your own food +  
drink)

Mr and Mrs Entwistle at Rhodes Minnis.  
There will be a glass of wine and nibbles to finish the evening.  
Be at the library car park at 6pm for lifts as there is not a lot of room to park. Parking is on the right hand side of the lane as we approach from the village. Cost is £1.00 for members and £2 for non-members.

### **NEWINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

Registered Charity Number 302812

#### **QUIZ NIGHT**

Friday 23rd May

7.30pm for 8.00pm start

£2.00 per person, teams of up to 6

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Contact Kirsty on 01303 272056 for further details

### **ETCHINGHILL VILLAGE HALL**

Registered Charity No 302736 (1947)

#### **? A Quizzical Night ?**

at Etchinghill Village Hall  
on

Saturday 24th May 008

7.30pm

Come along and Join us this time!

An Evening of Fun and Frivolity  
Raffle

Prize for winning team

Teams of up to 6 people, but please come along and make up a team!

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

Entry £3 per person

Children welcome id accompanied by adults

Contact 862488 for further information

An Etchinghill fund raising event – come along and support your Village Hall

### **SELLINDGE MUSIC FESTIVAL**

7th & 8th June

at

Hope Farm, Gibbons Brook, Swan Lane,  
Sellindge

Featuring five stages of music  
Mark Morris of the Bluetones will be

Teams up to 6 or come and make up a team

There are prizes for the winners and a

Booby! There will also be a raffle

Tickets £3.50 per person

Buy your tickets at the Day Centre, or  
call Marian on 862015

to book your table or for more information

### **LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Tuesday 3rd June 7.45pm

at

Lyminge Village Hall

A special event to celebrate the opening of  
the archive room

### **RAILWAY SWING BAND CHARITY**

#### **CONCERT**

Wed 4th June

Back by popular demand. The Elham Valley

Lions' Charity Concert featuring the

Railway Swing Band is on Wed. 4th June at

Elham Village Hall 7 for 7.30 pm.

Admission prices held again at £10. Please note that this year there will not be a bar, so please bring your own refreshments. There is nothing like live music and this really is a big band, with two dozen members fronted by very talented singers. Tickets available from 01303 862837.

### **Stowting Country Fair Saturday 21st June**

12 noon ~ 5 pm

Hill House, Stowting Hill, Stowting, ~TN25  
6BE

(6 miles north of Hythe, just off Stone  
Street)

A traditional country fair in the Kent  
countryside

Fun Dog Show ~Terrier Racing ~ Duck  
Dog Demonstration

Birds of Prey display team ~ Sheep Dog  
Demonstration

East Kent Hounds & Wye Beagle Parade ~  
East Kent Morris ~ Live Music

Beer & Pimms Tents ~ Hog Roast & BBQ ~  
Craft Stalls ~ Face Painting

Bouncy Castle & lots of Fair Games for the  
kids.

headlining the Festival with Rory McLeod  
leading a strong folk rosta  
BBC Introducing Stage and open stage in  
the bar

Folk and World Music tent

A Main Stage

A Dance tent

There will be an array of market stall  
holders and various other entertainment on  
offer.

Day tickets are £20.00

Weekend tickets £40.00 which includes  
camping

Children under 12 are free

Anyone interested in demonstrating rural  
crafts are invited to contact the organisers  
on 01304 828990 or visit the website

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

Profits shared between the Pilgrims Hospice  
and

Musicians Benevolent funds

### **Science and Religion – Friends or Foes??**

a discussion to be led by John Polkinghorne  
Friday June 13th, 7.45 to 9.30 pm, Elham  
Village Hall

The Revd Dr John Polkinghorne, KBE,  
FRS, is a former President of Queens'  
College Cambridge and Professor of  
Mathematical Physics at the University of  
Cambridge. He was ordained in 1981 and  
has since spoken and written much about  
faith and science. John Polkinghorne was  
Vicar of Blean from 1984 to 86 and is well  
known to many people in Kent.

**Come and share your views**

**ALL ARE INVITED**

‘The FAQs of Life’: discussions arranged  
by

St Mary’s Elham, to

help us consider Frequently Asked

Questions that

consider Frequently Asked Questions that  
concern many

**LYMINGE PARISH CHURCH – SERVICES FOR  
MAY 2008**

~A Great Day out for all the family, in  
idyllic surroundings~  
you won’t be bored.....you won’t be  
disappointed....

you won’t want to leave !!!!

Free Car park ~ Disabled car parking.

Sponsored by Jackson Fine Fencing

### **Don’t miss The Rude Mechanical Theatre Co’s 2008 visit to Lyminge!**

#### **NOAH**

#### **BABEL’S ARK**

A comedy thriller version of the Noah’s  
Ark story set in Bermondsey in 1922

Sunday 20th July

at 7.30pm on Tayne Field

Hilarious, poetic and provocative!

Great mime! Great music!

Physical theatre at its very best.

Tickets from Lyminge Hardware

or ring 01323-50-12-60 or buy online at

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

and read more about the play & this popular  
company

“Simply beautiful!” Independent on Sunday  
“Such a good time!” The Times

#### **W.I. COACH TRIP**

Tuesday 19th August

To Michelham Priory

Nr Hailsham

Gardens and Water Mill

Licensed Restaurant

£15.

Leave Etchinghill 9.15am – Lyminge

9.30am

Phone Stella Samuels on 01303 862363

#### **RHODES MINNIS**

#### **METHODIST CHURCH**

This small Chapel in beautiful



**Sunday 4th      8.00am Holy Communion**  
**10.30am 'WOW' World of Worship**

Monday 5th      7.30pm Praying the Bible  
Tuesday 6th      7.30pm Praying with icons  
Wednesday 7th   7.30pm Taize Prayer  
Thursday 8th      2.00pm Pram service  
                         7.30pm Celtic Prayer  
Friday 9th        7.30pm Health and Healing Prayer

**Sunday 11th    10.30am Holy Communion**  
**[Pentecost]**

Wednesday 14th 7.00pm Holy Communion  
                         7.30pm Open House  
                         9.15pm Wednesday Silence

**Sunday 18th    10.30am Holy Communion**

Wednesday 21st 7.00pm Holy Communion  
                         7.30pm Open House  
                         9.15pm Wednesday Silence

**Sunday 25th    8.00am Holy Communion**  
**10.30am Holy Communion**  
**6.30pm Sunday Silence**

Wednesday 28th 7.00pm Holy Communion  
                         7.30pm Open House  
                         9.15pm Wednesday Silence

#### **PRAYER WEEK – 4th – 11th May.**

During the week there will be an opportunity to experience different types of prayer – each evening from Monday to Friday at 7.30pm in the church.

#### **SUNDAY AFTERNOON TEA in Nailbourne Court – 4th May**

Our Sunday afternoon teas continue to be held on the first Sunday of the month in the lounge at Nailbourne Court from 3.00 to 5.00pm. If you would like to come, but need a lift, please contact Vanessa at The Rectory.

#### **PRAM SERVICE – Thursday 8th May**

On every 2nd Thursday of the month at 2pm in Lyminge Church.

A short pre-school friendly service followed by refreshments

#### **COFFEE MORNING – 12th May**

Coffee mornings continue to be held on the second Monday of each month from 10.00am to 11.30am in Wentworth Close lounge. Do join us as we meet with the residents of Wentworth Close for coffee and a chat.

#### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT LUNCH – 15th May**

The lunches continue on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The meal will comprise of two courses followed by coffee, at a cost of £6.50 per head. Transport can be

countryside surroundings holds  
a weekly Sunday Service  
normally at 9.30am

Followed by coffee and biscuits  
A warm welcome is extended to  
any visitors

#### **The Preachers for May are:**

May 4 - Rev. Ian Hamilton  
(Holy Communion)  
May 11 - Mr. Tim James  
May 18 - Mr. Peter Ellis  
May 25 - Mrs. Val Redding (all  
age service)  
June 1 - Mr. Dudley Shipton

#### **LYMINGE METHODIST CHURCH**

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

#### **Preachers for May are:**

4th May – Rev Ian Hamilton  
11th May – Pentecost – Mrs  
Chris Bence  
18th May – Trinity – Rev. John  
Lines (inc. Holy communion)  
25th May – Mr Ian Couchman  
1st June – Mr Dudley Shipton

#### **Monday Fellowship**

2.30 – 3.30pm (NOT Bank  
Holidays)  
12th May - Rev. Robin Blount  
2nd June – Mrs Sue Chitty will  
talk about Age Concern  
For Baptisms, Weddings or  
Funerals, please contact the  
Minister, Rev Barry Armson,  
on 01303 266281

#### **POP – INN**

Every Wednesday 2.30 – 4pm  
at Methodist Church  
Free coffee, tea and biscuits

arranged for those who need it. All welcome. Please let Vanessa know if you would like to book a place.

***For more information on any of the above please contact the Rectory and speak to Vanessa (862432)***

ALL welcome – if you are collecting children from school or just passing

**L.E.T.  
Methodists and Anglicans  
working together**

### **The Garage Sale Safari**

The Garage Sale Safari on 5th April was a huge success. Thank goodness we didn't have the snow which fell on the following day! We know we had many visitors to the village – many of which visited the village hall for refreshments – the delicious smell of bacon rolls welcoming them in!

We are aware of at least two “unofficial” sales, but it is difficult to know what to do about these cheats. The £5.00 that everyone else pays as an entry fee goes towards the advertising and printing costs; the Lyminge Association makes very little from the process. The benefits that bone fide Garages gain include the ability to advertise their highlights on the village website and to have an entry on the official map. Each official sale also has an up-to-date certificate and we urge visitors not to visit garage sales that do not display the certificate. If you know that a garage near you is “unofficial” – tell people!

#### **The Autumn Garage Sale Safari and Charity Table Top Sale is on Sunday 14**

**September** – don't forget, the sooner you enter, the sooner your details appear on the website. Booking starts on Tuesday 1st July. This time we had to turn away a number of potential entrants because they left it too late. The cut off date is always one week before the sale so that we can get the map printed. If you know of a charity which would be glad of a couple of tables in the village hall on the day, please contact Liz Coleman on 863197.

**[www.Lyminge.org.uk](http://www.Lyminge.org.uk)**

The recent Garage Sale Safari encouraged many more people to visit the website so that they could look at the list of garage “highlights”. If you have time, have a good browse around the site and you will be surprised at what you find, ranging from message boards, back copies of the Newsletter, extended articles from the Newsletter – and even a currency converter. If you are interested in local genealogy there is a very well frequented message board where you can request information on your ancestors.

### **ETCHINGHILL W.I.**

Barbara Syrett welcomed members to April's meeting.

A group of members attended the A.G.M. at the Leas Cliff Hall in March, a day not to be forgotten which finished with a very inspiring speech given by Simon Weston regarding his life experiences. A truly amazing person.

A pub lunch is planned at the end of April and a visit to Farthinglow Farm at the beginning of May for a cream tea.

Janet Hooles was presented with the Joan Boucher cup for a short story she had written.

Next month's Resolution meeting to be discussed for a Ban on Bottom Trawling (fishing) and The Inappropriate imprisonment of the Mentally ill. There would also be a Bring and Buy sale and homemade cake.

A birthday posy was presented to Molly Ingles.

With the business of the afternoon completed, Chris Barkaway, Family Butcher, gave a very interesting talk about the meat trade with a demonstration of various cuts of meat. Tea was then served by the hostesses, Muriel Childs, Pat Kent, and Marilyn Norton.

On Tuesday 20th May at 2.30pm we will hold our Resolutions Meeting.

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

### **RHODES MINNIS EVENING CIRCLE**

The Rev. Vanessa Ashman was our speaker on the 16th April. She took us on a journey through the Holy Land where her tour party visited last year. Despite unsettled weather they visited many holy sites on which churches have since been built. It was sometimes an emotional journey, and wedding vows and baptisms were renewed. By the end of the evening we too felt we had been on a visit to the Holy Land.

The competition - a photograph or picture of a church - was won by Connie Burren, with Veronica Mosley 2nd, Diane Potter 3rd and Daphne Andrews 4th. Our next meeting at Rhodes Minnis Village Hall at 7.30pm

on Wednesday 21st May when we have our A.G.M. Everyone is very welcome but, if you haven't already done so, please let me know if you would like to join in our fish and chip supper.

Marion Hoare 01303 862913

### **LYMINGE FRIENDS**

Once again a very successful April meeting was held. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th May 10.am to 12 noon in the Methodist Parlour when Mr David Godden will be joining us with a talk on his travel experiences. A warm welcome is extended to all.

### **ETCHINGHILL UPDATE**

#### **Farmers'/Craft Market**

With over 20 stalls to choose from there must be something for you! See you on 10th May. Contact Anne on 863174 for details

#### **Residents' Association**

As the ERA is not able to become amalgamated with the Etchinghill Village Hall there will be an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association to elect a committee and outline their aims and roles for the future. This will be held on 18th May starting at 19.30 just prior to the Village Hall EGM at 20.00 so be at the village hall to vote for your representatives

Your contact is David on 863918

#### **Village Hall**

Well I hope you have noticed how clean the hall is looking. A merry band of volunteers came on Monday 14th April and swept, washed, repaired, weeded and generally added to the already good standard of cleaning that you are able to enjoy at the hall. To the sound of 60's music and idle chatter the day went very quickly. Thanks go to all stalwarts that attended on the day

We have now received confirmation from the Charity Commission advising the Management Committee what changes can be made to the Constitution. It is therefore intended to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting on the 18th May at 20.00 after the ERA meeting to report on those changes together with other issues the new committee were charged with investigating

at the AGM in October

### **Lindy Hop**

Did you find out what a Lindy Hop is? Do you now go to the Lindy hop sessions every Monday evening at the Village Hall? If you haven't booked your ticket for the Lindy Hop evening on the 17th May you will have to wait as the tickets are all sold out! A list of names are being taken to notify of any returns for the evening so still contact Keith or Rosemary on 863418

### **Village Fete**

Whether you can 'bash a rat' or 'hook a duck', 'find the treasure' or 'putt for a fiver' be sure to be at the Village fete which will be held at the hall and on the amenity land on 12th July. Is it in your diary so that you don't miss it!? The Village Hall Social Events Committee is working towards providing a good day out with games, stalls, refreshments and music from 12.00 to 15.30 on the day

Contact Jean on 862488 if would you like to organise a stall or game

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

South Kent Police have issued a warning following reports of bogus carpet salesmen who show you carpet samples and after negotiating a price, take you to your bank for the money, then leave you with a rolled up carpet of poor quality and drive off. The moral is not to buy at the door.

Speak to Judith if you have any concerns on 862498

### **Dates for forthcoming events**

10th May, 14th June, 12th July @ 10.00 – 12.30pm Farmers/Craft Market

17th May Lindy Hop

18th May @ 19.30 Residents' Association Extraordinary General Meeting

18th May @ 20.00 Etchinghill Village Hall Extraordinary General Meeting

12th July Village Fete

### **Speed Watch**

Teams of volunteers have started to man sites at various locations in the Parish. To date, two miscreant drivers have had their vehicle particulars sent to the police. The sight of the teams wearing high visibility jackets is proving to be the hoped for deterrent.

More volunteers are required to undertake Speed Watch. Please contact Geoff Baldock Tel 863625, or email [baldock@rditmail.co.uk](mailto:baldock@rditmail.co.uk)

### **SPEEDWATCH SCHEME**

Lyminge Parish Council wishes to respond to the concerns raised by Mr Baldwin in the April Newsletter. The new initiative is deemed to be a very positive one. Please note the following details that resulted in the decision to go ahead with the Speedwatch scheme.

- Public consultation has been carried out in the form of the Parish Questionnaire and subsequent Parish Plan. This is an excerpt from the publication.  
*8.2 Traffic - The information available suggested reporting of those vehicles speeding through the parish should be carried out by the appropriate traffic speeding officials at more regular intervals in order to tackle the problem in a more meaningful way.*  
**Recommendation 2:** *The Parish Council to consider speed-monitoring systems with the police and other parish councils to establish if a cost-sharing arrangement is possible and if more traffic monitoring can be carried out in the Elham Valley.*

- In addition to this the parish council and community warden continue to receive concerns from parishioners and many reports of speeding vehicles throughout the parish.
- Following consultation with the police, the council is advised that there is insufficient funding for the police to carry out regular monitoring. The police fully support the Speedwatch scheme as a proactive speed calming measure at local level.
- The council has considered a variety of alternative speed-calming measures. Many options are not conducive to being used in a rural location. The most effective method would be the installation of permanent illuminated speed awareness signs, but these would prove extremely expensive to install at every location where speeding occurs and would not be in keeping with the rural street scene.
- Many nearby parishes are experiencing similar problems. Also it is unlikely that each parish would be able to generate enough volunteers to set up monitoring on a weekly/daily basis. Considering these points, the equipment has been jointly purchased by Lyminge, Stelling Minnis and Elham councils. The equipment will be utilised by each council one month at a time.
- Lyminge Parish Council has been successful in obtaining grant funding contributions from Cllr Susan Carey and 'Action with Communities in Rural Kent'. Gratitude is expressed to both of these funding bodies for their support. These grants coupled with the shared purchase of the equipment between three councils, results in total expenditure from the parish budget of approximately £60. As the scheme is highly recommended by the police and has the complete approval and support of the Community Warden and Kent County Councillor, this would appear to be a good value solution to an ongoing problem.
- The Speedwatch equipment has no camera facility built into it. The Speed Indicator Device monitors traffic and displays the speed on an illuminated panel if a vehicle is exceeding the limit. This will have a similar effect to the permanent versions, without being a fixed part of the street scene. Being fully portable, it can be used in a variety of different locations where residents have expressed concern.
- Speedwatch is being implemented as an initiative to create greater awareness and to encourage all road users to travel within the speed limits. The purpose of the scheme is not to 'catch people out'. It is hoped that it will create a safer parish environment for all.

The Council hopes this additional information deals with the concerns. Please contact the Council directly if any further information is required, or if you are interested in becoming involved in the scheme.

Clerk : 01303 862184

### **ETCHINGHILL 30mph SIGNAGE**

Following a meeting with an engineer from Kent Highway Services, the following improvements have been suggested.

1. Unfortunately, Canterbury road is too narrow to allow white gates to be placed at the commencement of the restricted area. It is hoped that thick white posts be placed instead.
2. The 30mph roundels are to be raised to a height to minimise them being obscured by foliage. The roundel adjacent to the cricket field is to be replaced in its original position and at the correct height.
3. 30 mph signs are to be painted on the road at the commencement of the restricted area.

### **Mrs Audrey Kirk**

The family of Audrey Kirk would like to thank the many friends who kindly sent letters, cards and messages at the time of their bereavement. We were also so pleased to see so many who were able to attend the Thanksgiving service at the Church and afterwards at Sibton Park Cricket Club.

### **Announcement in memory of Freda McDougall.**

We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to all those who supported Freda and ourselves throughout her illness. Thank you to everyone who sent cards and gave monies in memory of mum. We would like you to know that so far over £1,800 has been raised and has been split equally between The Pilgrims Hospice and St Martin's Church, Acrise.  
Tim, Clare, George and Harry McDougall

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS**

Kent Police is working with the construction, farming, insurance, security and transport industries, as well as the public, to reduce the theft of heavy machinery.

It is part of a major drive to stop specialist gangs stealing the valuable equipment from building sites, farms and lay-bys.

Officers are giving crime prevention help and advice to major local authorities and the industries such as encouraging them to security mark their machinery. They also want people to be extra vigilant and report anything suspicious, like mechanical diggers being moved in the middle of the night. People should call the police on 999 if a crime is in progress or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 in all other cases.

Heavy machinery includes excavators, forklift trucks, grass cutters, tractors, generators, cement mixers and road breakers. A single piece of equipment can cost as much as £300,000 which is why theft is increasing nationally as gangs target what they see as a lucrative source of cash.

As well as loss and disruption to the industry, the theft of heavy machinery can have a significant impact on the lives of the wider community.

Inspector Roscoe Walford said: 'Roadworks last longer when machinery is stolen causing traffic delays and diversions. This affects people taking their children to school, shoppers, commuters and people generally going about their daily lives.

'People find it harder to get builders and other tradesmen to do work for them because insurance companies demand high premiums or won't insure businesses because of the increasing number of claims they make.

'If businesses cannot get insurance, people can lose their jobs.'

Kent Police officers, and their national colleagues, are about to begin a series of concerted crime prevention and enforcement activity to disrupt the gangs that steal heavy machinery including:

- Visiting building sites and farms to offer crime prevention advice. For instance, the obvious removal of stickers can indicate attempts to conceal identity and origin of stolen machinery
- Providing crime prevention messages about machinery security via the Kent Community Messaging system such as marking machinery with U/V pens
- Advice to make machinery distinctive with paint and lots of livery stickers as a disincentive to steal

- Using security devices such as datatag, a transponder fitted to the vehicle with a unique reference number relating to that item of machinery. Alternatively, satellite tracker technology can be used to find the stolen machine
- Using an ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) approved marking scheme called CESAR (Construction Equipment Security and Registration). Details are available on the Construction Equipment Association website [www.coneq.org.uk](http://www.coneq.org.uk)
- Late night cargo checks of all large vehicles along targeted sections of road and at strategic locations
- Additional police checks at the Channel Tunnel

It is believed that stolen machinery is being shipped to Europe where equipment is in short supply and will be used on large building projects within the UK in the lead up to the Olympics.

Inspector Walford said: 'The messages are simple. We want the industries concerned and the public to work with us to prevent crime and we will provide the expertise and resources where necessary.

'In addition, if you belong to a gang that steals heavy machinery we are watching you and will do everything possible to bring you before the courts.

'At the very least we can disrupt criminal activity and at best we can bring people to justice.'

Heavy machinery owners, contractors and hirers can obtain advice about security measures by contacting Julie Argent, Crime Reduction Project Manager on 01622 653205 or their local police station and ask to speak to their Crime Reduction Officer.