

FOR INFORMATION ON VE DAY COMMEMORATIONS 8TH MAY
SEE LYMPNE CASTLE WEBSITE

**LYMPNE
NEWSLETTER
MAY 2025**



DELIVERED TO HOMES
IN LYMPNE,
NEWINGREEN
COURT-AT-STREET
AND
WEST HYTHE ROAD

IN THIS MONTHS ISSUE
COUNCILLOR VACANCY,
ST STEPHENS ECO WARRIORS
HEALTH AND WELLBEING
AND MUCH MORE!



DEREK COWELL HONOURED AS FREEMAN OF THE PARISH
At the Annual Parish Meeting on 14th April, Derek Cowell was conferred the title of Freeman of the Parish of Lymgne in recognition of over 12 years of dedicated service tackling litter and working closely with the Parish Council, local authority, and MP. Derek is only the second person to receive this honour, following former Parish Councillor Colin

Hunter (See picture to the right of this article showing both Freeman under the village sign). The photograph above shows Derek with his certificate and members Lymgne Parish Council during the ceremony at the Village Hall, where Derek's tireless commitment to the community was warmly celebrated. Derek was overwhelmed by the appointment and thanked everyone for their support.

Being made a Freeman of the Parish is a significant honour, often symbolising exceptional contribution and dedication to the local community. Although not permitting any historical rights, for example, we will not be seeing Derek herding sheep through the village, Freeman can be called upon in symbolic role during significant ceremonies or events.



Parish



Council



**Folkestone
Hythe &
Rural**
Primary Care Network

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

New Bereavement Support Group Begins at Lymgne Village Hall

A new bereavement support group has now begun meeting at Lymgne Village Hall, offering a welcoming and understanding space for those who have experienced loss.

The group held its first gathering on Wednesday 16th April and will continue to meet fortnightly at 3:30pm in The Old Hall on Aldington Road (CT21 4LE), with sessions planned over a 10-week period.

This compassionate initiative is supported by Pilgrims Compassionate Communities, Folkestone, Hythe and Rural NHS Primary Care Network, and Lymgne Parish Council. It is open to adults who have been bereaved—whether recently or some time ago—and who feel they might benefit from being with others who have also experienced loss. It is also a space for those who feel able to offer support to others, drawing on their own experiences.

Participants are very welcome to attend with a friend or family member, and the atmosphere is informal, supportive, and entirely confidential.

If you would like to find out more or join the group, please contact Cllr Anne Beales by email at cllr_anne.beales@lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 07595 350276.



What's on in

May

at Lymgne Castle



Castle Book Club
Wednesday 7th May
Cosy up with your favourite book in front of our roaring open fires.
Bar opens at 6pm.
Silent reading from 7pm.
No booking required

Music Bingo
Friday 16th May
4 games - £1 per game
Match the songs played to those on your bingo card and compete for fabulous prizes.
Gather your friends and family for a fantastically fun evening!

Murder Mystery Dinner
Friday 23rd May
Join us for a thrilling murder mystery evening with a delectable 3-course meal.
Dinner has never been this deadly!
£65 per person

VE Day Celebration
Thursday 8th May
Join us from 5pm to commemorate this historic date.
Entertainment throughout the evening
VE Day Beacon lighting at 9.30pm
Refreshments available

Lymgne Castle Garden Open Day
Sunday 18th May
Come and explore the beautiful gardens and landscape of Lymgne Castle.
Adults £10 Children Free
Dogs welcome
Refreshments available

Curry and Quiz Night
Friday 30th May
Enjoy a delicious curry in a grand historic setting while testing your knowledge in a thrilling quiz.
6:30pm £15 pp
(inc. curry and quiz entry)

Please contact us to book on 01303 533533 or Enquiries@LymgneCastle.com

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR- SEE PAGE 6 FOR DETAILS

St Stephen's Church in Lympne has won a Gold Eco Church Award

A national scheme to encourage a greater emphasis on environmental impact within church, churchyard and community

What was involved? The scheme looks at worship, the church building, the churchyard, resources it uses, community and lifestyle.

Who was involved? Many people including those looking after purchasing, maintenance, leading services as well as work in the churchyard. This included those who attend church on Sundays and many in the community who value the church / churchyard.

St Stephen's Churchyard

A community effort to manage the churchyard for wildlife, enjoyment & preserving the views

A team of volunteers have tackled different areas of the churchyard. Some have been restoring the flower border along the path, adding more colourful flowers throughout the year, and plants that are good for pollinators. Many people in the community donated different plants and bulbs – come and have a look!

Volunteers have cut the hedging along the edge of the churchyard to maintain the view across the marsh and to France. Also removed all the plastic from two old compost bins and built a new compost bin from recycled pallets. Following inspiration from a visit to Langdale Ecogarden we have been using waste plant material from the churchyard to form



edging.

We have created new flower beds and wildflower areas with butterfly /bee friendly plants and added wildflower seeds to an earth mound.

Where the grass has been left un-mown for several years there is a stunning display of daffodils and primroses. We plan to increase the area left un-mown for much of the year to increase the number and variety of wild flowers.

We have been documenting some of the birds, bees, insects and flowers seen at

various times of the year – very much helped by members of our community such as Nick and Phil who have shared photos and knowledge.

Can I Help? Yes! If you like Gardening; pruning, weeding, planting or DIY then we work in the churchyard most

Saturdays, late morning when the weather is pleasant.

We would like to add more roses to the churchyard- especially varieties that are bee friendly, so if you want to donate any roses, they would be appreciated! Also bedding plants/ perennials. We are aware sometimes people want to donate a larger item – and we plan to get a few orientation or display boards – speak to Rachel if you are interested.



LYMPNE VILLAGE HALL FILM CLUB

IN THE HARRY MARGARY HALL

Films will be shown every **4th Tuesday of the month** (not December).

MAKE A DATE IN YOUR DIARY FOR THIS POPULAR VILLAGE EVENT. ALL PROFITS GO TO THE VILLAGE HALL FUND.



7.15 for a 7.30 start



FREE MEMBERSHIP

Entrance fee of £5.00 includes refreshments and lucky draw ticket.

Showing on **27th May:**

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

Danny Boyle's Rags to Riches story of an orphan from Mumbai on a popular quiz show. A feel-good movie!

Showing on **24th June: The Light Between Oceans**

A heart-rending story of the power of love and how far people will go to defend it. A moral dilemma which will tug at the heartstrings.



We reserve the right to show a substitute film should the need arise or to refuse admission. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult (ID will be requested).



St Stephen's Church

Services May

Sunday 4 May 11am Holy Communion
 Sunday 11 May 11am Hooba Family Service
 Sunday 18 May 11am Holy Communion
 Sunday 25 May 11am Holy Communion

Sunday Club (ages 3-10)
 Meet 10-11am Lads' club Saltwood
 Contact Christine Clover:
 Call 0300 030 1662 or text 07379 877846
christineclover@lympneandsaltwoodchurches.uk

1st Sunday of the Month, 9:45am, Lads' Club
BUBBLE CHURCH

LYMPNE + SALTWOOD TODDLERS
 Come and join us at Lympne & Saltwood Toddlers
 10 - 11:30am
 Thursday mornings in the Harry Margary Hall, Aldington Road, Lympne

Date for Diaries

Creative Arts Day

Saturday

July 12th

10:30am – 4pm

Lympne Church



ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, LYMPNE
EASTER COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 17th MAY 2025
10.30am - 12.30pm

Join us for coffee, cake & savoury bakes
 Catch up with old friends and new
 Take a break from that walk
 (Well-behaved dogs welcome)

Proceeds to maintenance of the church plus a donation to this month's nominated charity:
HOME FARM TRUST



Lympne Village Hall News
 Stalls are selling well for the Summer Fayre, if you're thinking about running one, do let our Booking Clerk know, so that we can get you booked in.

During the Easter Break we have been carrying out various maintenance tasks, including updates to the electrics in the Main Hall. Also, we took the opportunity to take some final measurements for the installation of acoustic tiles to improve the sound in the Harry Margary Hall and make it easier for everyone to hear. That work will be completed in the Summer Break.

We still have an opportunity for a tech-savvy volunteer to become our Secretary. We use some clever AI to generate minutes, which cuts down on the workload. Contact chair@lympnevillagehall.co.uk if you are interested.

SELLINDGE BOWLS CLUB SWAN LANE, SELLINDGE COME AND JOIN US IF YOU ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

We're a small, friendly club with a season from April to late September. We meet for roll-ups on Tuesday afternoons and Friday evenings, but members can use the green anytime during the week.

Coaching is available on the four Sundays in May from 10am to noon. We can lend you bowls—just bring smooth-soled sports shoes.

We also play in league and friendly matches, and some members compete in county events.

As part of the Sellindge Sport and Social Club, we join in the Annual Fun Day—this year on Saturday, 24th May. Come try bowling and meet some members and coaches.

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Commission, who will talk about the work of the CWGC including the graves in Lympe Churchyard. Our meetings start at 7.30pm at Lympe Church. Doors open 6.30pm. Admission £3

Following the January feature, we look at another incident when an aeroplane flying from Lympe that had to ditch in the English Channel in 1954.

Another Drop in the Ocean - The Auster That Went to Hastings

by John Simpson



AFTER CRASHING IN THE SEA OFF THE BEACH AT HASTINGS: A SINGLE-SEATER AIRCRAFT WITH THE PILOT SEATED ON THE WING, AND RESCUERS SWIMMING NEAR. A single-seater aircraft from Lympe airfield crashed into the sea near the beach at Hastings on July 2. The pilot, a qualified commercial pilot, climbed on to a wing and was rescued by the combined efforts of three men. One swam out fully dressed; the others followed with a line and lifebelt.

On the 3rd July 1954 Michael Macey from Sutton Valence near Maidstone took off from Lympe in Auster V - G-ANIT, and flew towards Hastings. His destination was Pebsham Aerodrome, located between Bexhill and St. Leonards just north of the A259 and now disused. He was flying along parallel with the coast at 70mph when the engine cut out. It would not restart so he made for a stretch of sea near to the pier where no one was swimming, to put it down on the water. He made a skilful landing at 30mph, and jettisoned the door in the process, but sustained injuries to his hand and head. He managed to scramble out of the aeroplane and crouched on top of it.

An RAF navigator from RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire was on holiday and came to his rescue. Flight Lieutenant Frank Cattle, together with Jack Jones another holidaymaker from Upper Norwood, and Ivor Bevis, a bathing attendant from Hastings all went to Michael's aid. A line was attached to the tail,

but it started to sink with the tailplane still above the water. He scrambled clear and swam towards the beach. He was taken by *St. John Ambulance* to the *Royal East Sussex Hospital* where he was treated for his injuries including a couple of stitches in his head wound.

Later the Auster was pulled up the beach, but the engine had to be recovered separately. It was declared damaged beyond repair and written off. The cause of the ditching was found to be a loose banjo union causing loss of fuel. Macey was an experienced commercial pilot and had owned the aeroplane since the 20th April. It had been an RAF serving aircraft with 1952 Flight, 663 Squadron for two years from 1952, albeit it was first civil registered as G-ANIT in December 1953.

DO YOU REMEMBER SILVER CITY AIRWAYS AT LYMPNE?

I AM COLLECTING ANECDOTAL STORIES AND MEMORIES, HOWEVER SHORT, OF SILVER CITY AT LYMPNE AIRFIELD 1948 - 54 FOR MY NEW BOOK. PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU CAN HELP.

Contact: John Simpson on 07508 708725 or email:

johnsimpson43@btinternet.com

OPEN GARDEN

Five Farthings, Aldington Road, CT21 4LH
Sunday 29th June.....2pm till...4pm.
Entrance....£4..to include tea/coffee and cake.

All proceeds going to:-
Lympe Over 50's Lunch Club.

Anyone interested in joining our friendly group
Please contact Margaret...phone no.
01303 269557
email...lympnelunchclub@gmail.com



As an important part of our community the head teacher at lympe school Melenie Nash invites you to take a look at the school newsletter

at the following web address

The link to weekly newsletters is <https://www.lympne.kent.sch.uk/News/Newsletters-31082018152119/>

WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

NEWS—Firstly, we would like to sincerely thank all those who volunteered – and trained – to become facilitators of the Grief and Loss Group. Your commitment is invaluable. Our thanks also extend to everyone who contributed to the production of the following resources:

Developing Wellbeing Through Partnerships Report We are pleased to announce the completion of our report, Developing Wellbeing Through Partnerships. We encourage everyone to read it at www.lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Guide to Activities in Lympne We supported the publication of the Guide to Activities in Lympne, which highlights events and opportunities both in and around the village halls, the church, and other venues. Special thanks go to the Village Hall Committee for their hard work in producing this guide.

Partnership Presentation A PowerPoint presentation has also been created to showcase our work to potential partners, funders, and the Parish Council.

What's Next?

Our next major project will be setting up a **Women's Health Group** – keep an eye out for adverts and announcements!

We will also be setting our priorities for the coming months at future Partnership meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for May 15th at 4:00 PM at County Members.

Finally, we will soon be recruiting volunteers again! If you are interested in getting involved, please contact: Cllr Anne Beales e.beales@lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk ☎ 07595 350 276

All documents and information can be found using the QUICK LINKS at www.lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk



Kent Gardener

Now we are in May the expectation is of a warm and sunny summer. However no two years are the same, last year I was writing the ground was too wet to work, this year it is too dry! But the gardens don't mind the weather and are as lush as ever. The garden centres are tempting but can be expensive. Look out for bigger plants that can be divided into 2 or 3 pieces each with growing points and roots. Plant up individually and they soon fill the space. Where there is a gap a packet of seed sown into the warm soil will soon germinate and give colour for months. Marigolds, Californian poppies or nasturtiums are good, and cosmos will flower into the autumn. Annual climbers can be started off on a warm windowsill, plant out at the end of May against a sunny fence, through a bush or up a tripod made of canes. A few French or runner beans can be grown this way, provide a meal and look decorative. Reuse compost that has only been used for a few weeks for seedlings as a mulch in the garden. This is usually clean but just check for nasties. The black birds and robins usually have great time foraging in loose soil and compost. Remember peat free compost needs careful watering as it can quickly look dry on the surface but still be wet underneath. To test, feel beneath the surface compost or check the weight of the pot if small enough to lift. Feed as soon as flowering or fruiting starts as there can be less nutrients in peat free. Happy gardening.

Lympne Fellowship—We were delighted to welcome Christopher Hare with his talk “40 Years Without A Proper Job” (Working in Entertainment). As Stage Manager within a number of theatres, Chris met a wide variety of people from the world of entertainment. His main focus was on comedians, including Spike Milligan, Tommy Cooper and Norman Wisdom to name but a very few. He told us that Spike Milligan had the answer to those cold callers who often start with “How are you (or we) today?” His response “Are you a doctor?” “No” “Then why should I bother telling you?”.

Another anecdote was Tommy Cooper in a Moroccan market, when he decided to buy a fez. The man gave it to him, saying “Jus like that”. When Tommy asked why he had said that, the man said every English person says it when they buy one. He had never heard of or seen Tommy Cooper. Norman Wisdom stood in the line-up at a Royal Variety Performance when the Duke of Edinburgh walked in and headed straight for his favourite comedian. They chatted until a fanfare sounded. “What's that?” said Norman. “The Queen” said the Duke. “Doesn't she play well” said Norman. A very entertaining afternoon.

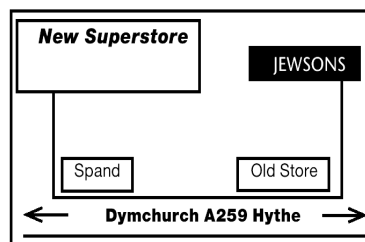
Lympne Fellowship normally meets at 1.15pm in the Harry Margary Hall on the 2nd Thursday of the month, with a programme of interesting and informative talks and activities. For further information about our group, please contact **Jill Page** on **07846 819693**.

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LYMPNEPARISH COUNCIL

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any queries regarding local issues, or any other matters you wish to raise, you can contact Lympne Parish Councillors

Current Members

Chair Mike Boor

Vice Chair Anne Beales

Claire Yates

Michael Potter

Judith East

Michael McAuley

Correspondence should be sent to the Parish Clerk

Jeff Lawrence

29 Honeywood Close Lympne

Tel: 01303 883 228

e-mail: clerk@

lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk

PLANNING MATTERS

Due to issues with space available planning applications are not published in the newsletter.

All planning matters are published with the agenda which can be found on the village notice boards or on line at

www.lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings



Parish

Council

Vacancy for Parish Councillor Invitation to Apply

The Parish Council is seeking to fill a vacancy for a Councillor by way of co-option under the Local Government Act 1972.

This is an excellent opportunity for any eligible member of the community to become directly involved in shaping the future of our village. Being a Parish Councillor is a rewarding and fulfilling role, offering the chance to represent local residents, influence decisions that affect our area, and work alongside others who are committed to maintaining and improving our community.

To be eligible for co-option, candidates must meet at least one of the following criteria:

Be registered as a local government elector for the parish; or

Have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish for the last 12 months; or

Have had their principal or only place of work within the parish for the last 12 months; or

Have resided in the parish, or within three miles of it, for the last 12 months.

Additionally, candidates must be aged 18 years or over, and must not be disqualified from standing (for example, due to certain criminal convictions or bankruptcy restrictions).

If you are passionate about our community and would like to be considered for co-option to the Parish Council, we warmly encourage you to apply.

Applications must be received by 20th May 2025

For further information, or to express your interest, please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk.

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REFUSE COLLECTION DATES

MAY 2025

Recycling (Purple Lid/Black
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collected on: Tuesday 13th and
27th

Non-Recyclables (Green Lid)
and Food Waste will be
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20th

Garden Waste Collections 13th and
27th

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LYMPNE OVER 50s LUNCH CLUB

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