

**LYMPNE
NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2026**



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

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
WEDNESDAY 8TH APRIL 2026
715PM
HARRY MARGARY HALL
ALDINGTON ROAD

PLAYGROUND GRAND OPENING

MEET US IN THE PARK AFTER-SCHOOL!

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 3:30PM



Egg Hunt

Egg Hunt
Treats
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**School's out for Easter Holidays
Join us for ribbon cutting followed
by mini egg hunt, refreshments, ice
cream van, friends and FUN!**

Lymgne Village Playing Field, Aldington Road, Lymgne



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 28th April:

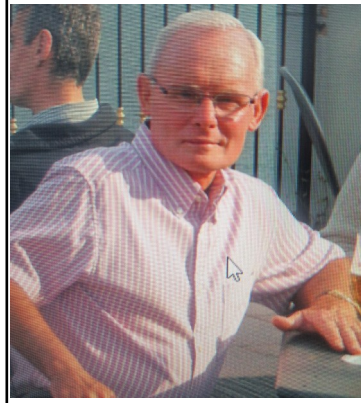
A HOLOGRAM FOR THE KING

Tom Hanks stars in this delightful film about a man who has to travel halfway across the world in order to stave off bankruptcy and do something great. A moving portrait of the power of love.

Showing on 26th May – **MILITARY WIVES** – How an amateur choir is finally able to bring joy and hope to the world.



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).



It is with great sadness to notify all friends and acquaintances in the village, that Eddie De Barr passed away suddenly at home on 28th February 26.

Eddie had lived in the village for 34 years and was instrumental in reopening the village shop along with his wife Pat and Phil Rice. After selling the shop 10 years later, Eddie still wasn't ready to retire, and he went on to work at Port Lympne zoo. Leaving the zoo in 2020, Eddie concentrated on his beloved garden and even worked on his neighbour and friends garden, Andy.

Eddie leaves behind his wife, daughter, son and loving grandchildren.

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Upcoming events in

April

at Lympne Castle



Friday 3rd to Monday 6th April – Easter Family Fun Weekend and Craft Fair

Join us for a fun packed weekend at the Castle. From magic and puppet shows to discos and games. Easter Bunny Trail, Arts & Crafts and Easter Bonnet Parade. Live music on Sunday from 6:30pm until 9:30pm Tickets £15 per child via Eventbrite.



Our 4 day Easter Craft Fair will be running alongside the Family Fun Weekend at our stables from 11am until 4pm Food and beverages will be available to purchase throughout the day.

See our What's On page for full details.

Thursday 9th April – Castle Book Club – 6:30pm-8:30pm Bring your latest read, grab a drink and find yourself a cosy spot in front of one of our roaring open fires. Free entry. Socialising optional.

Wednesday 15th April – Busy Bee Adventure Workshop – 11am – £15 per child A perfect experience for curious minds ages 5-11 Learn how the smallest creatures make the biggest difference to our World.

Thursday 16th April – Immersive Sound Bath – 6:30pm-7:30pm Join us for a deeply relaxing and meditative sound journey with singing bowls, gongs and other instruments. Use this opportunity to pause, breathe, and reconnect with yourself. £20pp

For more details or to book, please contact us on 01303 533533 or email enquiries@lympnecastle.com





St Stephen's Church Services in April

Sun 5 th April	11am Easter Communion
Sun 12 th April	11am Family Service
Sun 19 th Apr	11am Holy Communion
Sun 26 th Apr	11am Holy Communion 6pm Taizé service

Passion Play in Lypne Church at 4pm on Good Friday, 3rd April.



Next evening of **Hymn Singing for All** is in Lypne Church on Friday 10th April at 7pm.

Evening Services - NEW

About once a month

The leaders of Lypne Church recognise that on Sunday mornings many people are working, visiting family, or involved in sport. We are therefore trialling a range of evening services, held approximately once a month. These services are non-communion and use different styles of music.

A Taizé service: A quiet, reflective service using simple, repeated chants, periods of silence, and short readings or prayers. Candles, stillness and reflection rather than sermons. Accompanied by cello and piano. Sunday 26th April at 6pm

Songs of Praise: An opportunity to sing favourite hymns and songs chosen by members of the congregation, accompanied by the organ. Sunday May 31st at 6pm.

Evening Praise: Led by a band and featuring a range of songs, particularly those suited to band-led worship. Sunday 21st June at 6pm.



Looking After Graves in the Churchyard

We have had two requests for help in looking after graves and memorial stones, by a family who find it difficult to get to the churchyard.

The Eco team are now able to help provide this service in one of two ways. The basic service will keep the edges tidy and not overgrown, tend any existing flowers and remove dead plants. A more extensive service will ensure flowers or plants are on the grave or stone for most of the year. If you'd like more information on this please email lypnechurch@gmail.com or speak to one on the eco-team, often in the churchyard on a Saturday morning.

Badgers Bridge in the Churchyard

The eco team have worked with Badgers Bridge Nursery to create an area of the churchyard for the children to plant and maintain. We have recycled two of the large pots that were used to transport the Olive trees for the castle to create low level planters,

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, LYMPNE **EASTER COFFEE MORNING**



SATURDAY 18 APRIL 2026

10.30am - 12.30pm

- Join us to celebrate Easter over coffee, cake & savoury bakes
- Take a break from your walk (Well-behaved dogs welcome)
- Catch up with old friends and new

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

on the former car carrying airline resident at Lymgne from 1948 to 1954. Paul's talk entitled **The Silver City Story** will look at the airline operating from Lymgne and Lydd airports.

Our meetings start at 7.30pm at Lymgne Church. Doors open 6.30pm. Admission £3. Refreshments available.

This month, we look at Lymgne Airfield's role at the time of D-Day in June 1944.

The Three D-Day Squadrons at Lymgne

By John Simpson

Since 1941 Lymgne had been supporting the push to take the war back across the Channel. This intensified from 1942 and with nuisance raids. escort sorties to bomber aircraft through to supporting the Dieppe raid of 1942. During 1943 and 1944 *Ramrod* and *Rhubarb* raids were a favourite way to attack mainland Europe. A *Ramrod* raid was an offensive operation where a small number of bombers would be escorted by large numbers of fighters to entice German fighters to be drawn into dogfighting. A *Rhubarb* was a raid for targets of opportunity by day or night. It was obvious that Lymgne would play its part in the build up and execution of D-Day when this came.

On the 17th May three squadrons arrived for the build up to D-Day. All three were equipped with the Spitfire IX and were immediately busy escorting bombers over western Europe and shipping convoys. They were 33 Squadron, formed at Filton, Bristol on 16th January 1916, 74 Squadron formed at Northolt, Middlesex on 1st July 1917 and 127 formed in February 1918. In the lead up to D-Day 74 Squadron's Spitfires were attacking Axis rail yards and escorting bombers attacking V1 launch sites, which would be employed sending the flying bombs over south east England from 13th June.

On the 5th of June Lymgne was very busy with signals being received all the time. The next day would be busier still for the three squadrons, a day that would go down in history.

On the day itself 74 Squadron were on convoy patrol from Dover to the Isle of Wight with twelve aircraft. The same day sixteen aircraft were on patrol protecting CANNYMEDE (code name) off Dungeness and eight would be on convoy escort work protecting SHARK, its code name. For 33 Squadron, their eleven Spitfires were sent to cover glider formations to the eastern beach area, This was probably Sword Beach to the west of Ouistreham. For the Spitfires of 127 Squadron, six were on convoy patrols over CANNYMEDE, and four more were scrambled over a convoy over Dover. Eighteen aircraft were continuously on patrol over SHARK. The tension and excitement was recorded as 'terrific' this day as everybody now knew D-Day was here.

All three squadrons were under the control of the 2nd Tactical Air Force (TAF) and all part of Air Defence Great Britain (ADGB) whose officials were constantly visiting Lymgne at this time. All three squadrons would leave Lymgne and move on to Tangmere on the 3rd of July as the Battle of Normandy raged on.

For 33 Squadron, transfer to France followed in October and re-equipping with Hawker Tempests in December. 74 Squadron moved to Sommervieu in France during August supporting the Allied advance through France, Belgium and the Netherlands in a fighter/bomber role. 127 moved to France in August supporting ground forces through France, Belgium and on into Germany.

Lymgne had played its part in the biggest sea and airborne invasion in history, a small cog in a massive machine, the like of which will never be seen again.

**FOR INFO -Contact: John Simpson on
07508 708725 or email:
johnsimpson43@btinternet.com**



KENT GARDENER April brings an expectation of better weather to colour and refresh the gardens. Spring bulbs have given their all, the flowers are fading so deadhead and give them a feed which restores energy to the bulbs ready for next year's display. Reinvigorate a clump of daffodils that did not flower well by digging up and replanting in smaller groups at a depth of three times the size of the bulb. Sow hardy annuals where they are to flower as the soils warms up. Make small successional sowings of hardy vegetables so there is not a glut to be use up later.

Even a small garden can produce a tasty crop of vegetables in borders or pots, e.g. dwarf beans, round carrots or salads. Have a look at the back of the packet for smaller varieties. Prick out seedlings into individual pots once the first true leaves have emerged taking care to hold them by a leaf not the stalk and grow on in a bright, warm space remembering to turn them regularly, if on a windowsill, so they don't become leggy. House plants may need more water as the weather warms and possibly a little larger pot. A liquid feed once a month will reward you with a flourishing plant. Turn out the compost bin and use the well-rotted material as a garden mulch before the soil dries out and return the rest to rot down. Continue feeding the birds but avoid whole nuts (in a feeder is fine) and large pieces of bread as chicks can choke on them. Fresh water is essential but ensure the containers are clean. Happy gardening.

Age and Roman Coins at the Portable Antiquities Scheme

Dr Sam Moorhead calls the three excavation sites where Roman coins were found *Supra Lemanem*, that is, above the Roman fort, aka *Portus Lemanis*. Excavations have revealed a wealth of coins allowing us to gain insight into the lives and activity of Lympe's Romans. He acknowledges **Wendy Cookson**, who used the 'Reece periods system' to identify and analyse patterns of activity from coins found in the early 1970s. Her work shows that Lympe was most active in the late Roman period and demonstrates how coins can reveal broader economic and military trends. **Richard Reece** developed the Reece periods system, and it is widely used across Britain today. It allows for groups of coins to be placed chronologically into specific date ranges rather than by exact year or emperor. They were numbered 1–21 and cover Roman Britain from the 1st century to the early 5th century. The Reece periods help us to interpret coin distributions meaningfully by placing a collection within a clear timeline of activity and decline. Dr Moorhead has since extended this framework to 23 periods. The full list can be found on the **Portable Antiquities Scheme** website. Dr Moorhead suggests that the *Supra Lemanem* sites were likely civilian or semi-military settlements, possibly supporting *Portus Lemanis* below with supplies and items for trade. Grain supply is a possibility, although there is no firm evidence for this.

Early finds include a coin of Vespasian (AD 69–79), along with other Flavian coins of around AD 86 and two very worn silver *denarii*, indicating long-term circulation rather than intensive early activity. Coins of Trajan (AD 98–117), Marcus Aurelius (AD 161–180), and Commodus (AD 180–192) point to some continued activity into the 2nd century. These are represented largely by low-value bronze *asses*, including types depicting Britannia and Neptune. From the mid-3rd century, there is a marked increase in coin loss, particularly from the period AD 253–274. Radiate coins, identifiable by the emperor's spiky, sunray crown, are dominant; these were mass-produced, low-value coins (e.g. under Gallienus) circulating in high volumes. A significant proportion, including coins of Valerian (AD 253–260), reflects the wider monetary instability of the Central Empire during this period. The concentration and scattered distribution of these coins, especially the large numbers from AD 260–296 found in Field I, suggest relatively intense but short-lived activity. This pattern is consistent with activity that is often associated with military supply or industrial processes rather than settlement.

Between AD 275 and 296, the continuing monetary instability led to a scarcity of higher-value coinage, a pattern that appears to extend into the early 4th century. A small but significant group of coins links the site to Carausius in Britain, including a coin of Carausius (AD 286–293), together with coins of Allectus (AD 293–296). These belong to a group of officially produced British coins and this kind of evidence supports the interpretation of the site as part of a wider system of coastal control and supply operating into the late 3rd century, rather than representing purely local activity. Overall, the scattered distribution, large volume, and uneven spread of predominantly low-value coins indicate episodes of short-term activity rather than long-term settlement. A smaller number of later coins, including Constantine the Great, Valentinian I and Theodosius I, represent the final phases of activity at the site.

Dr Moorhead has concluded that the structure found in Field II was built either before or contemporaneously with *Portus Lemanis*. [a fort constructed to protect it?]. He suggests that *Supra Lemanem* appears to be a significant site in late Roman Kent, alongside Canterbury and Richborough.

Acknowledgements and thanks to: Wendy Cookson, Barry Cunliffe, Simon Read, Simon Elliott – author of the *Pirate King* (about Carausius), Richard Taylor, Andy Ward, Malcolm Lyne, David Holman and William Hurley.

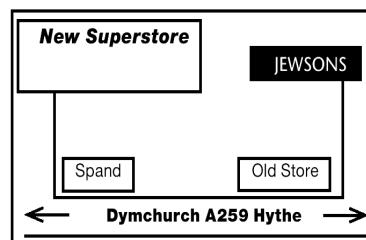
Next meeting: 7.30 pm on 16th April 2026 at the Harry Margary Hall, Lympe. AGM followed by a talk by Andy Linklater. If you would like to become a member of SHAL please email our Chair Rosemary Stutchbury at rosemary@stutchbury.myzen.co.uk

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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

Cllr. Peter Murphy

Claire Yates

Michael Potter

Judith East

Michael McAuley

James Sinclair

Correspondence should be sent to the Parish Clerk **Jeff Lawrence**
29 Honeywood Close Lympne

Tel: 01303 883 228

e-mail:

clerk@lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk

WEBSITE

www.lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk

And find us on Facebook

Lympne Fellowship

We had a really enjoyable meeting in March, when Ali Chambers gave an illustrated talk about **The Tear Fund** and its work to help communities pull together in choosing and carrying out improvements through their local churches. We saw on screen some of these projects in action, in which people really were working together and taking pride in local achievements, demonstrating charitable giving at its best. Ali also told us about her visit to Rwanda and how the war-torn country of years ago had set about reinstating an environment of peace and hope.

Our next meeting will take the form of a special visit to **Harringe Nursery**, where we shall be given a tour and a demonstration. There is a coffee shop and an opportunity for purchases if anyone wishes to take home some garden goodies!

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**.

REFUSE COLLECTION DATES

APRIL 2026

Recycling (Purple Lid/Black Box) and Food Waste will be collected on: Tuesday 14th and 28th

Non-Recyclables (Green Lid) and Food Waste will be collected on: Tuesday 10th and 24th.

Garden Waste Collections 3rd and 17th

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS CONTACT DETAILS

KCC Councillor Peter Osborne

Peter.Osborne@kent.gov.uk

District Councillors

John Wing

john.wing@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

Jeremy Speakman

jeremy.speakman@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk



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Contact Margaret
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Transport available, if necessary,
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Lympne Annual Parish Meeting 7.15pm Wednesday 8th April 2026 Harry Margary Hall

An agenda will be posted on the notice boards and the parish website
nearer the time.

Purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting

All Parish and Town Councils in England and Wales are required by law
to hold an Annual Parish Meeting each year.

This is not a Parish Council meeting.

The meeting provides an opportunity for electors of the Parish to speak,
raise matters they consider important, and highlight issues affecting the
community. It is also a chance to hear from the Parish Council, other
elected representatives, and hopefully others working within our
community.

Who can attend? Anyone may attend, but only registered electors of
Lympne Parish may speak and vote.

Can I ask questions or make suggestions? Yes—absolutely, and it is
very much encouraged.

Questions are often answered by the Parish Council Chair, but anyone
present may respond. Electors may make suggestions or comment on
anything relevant to the people of Lympne. This is the main purpose of
the meeting. **ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**