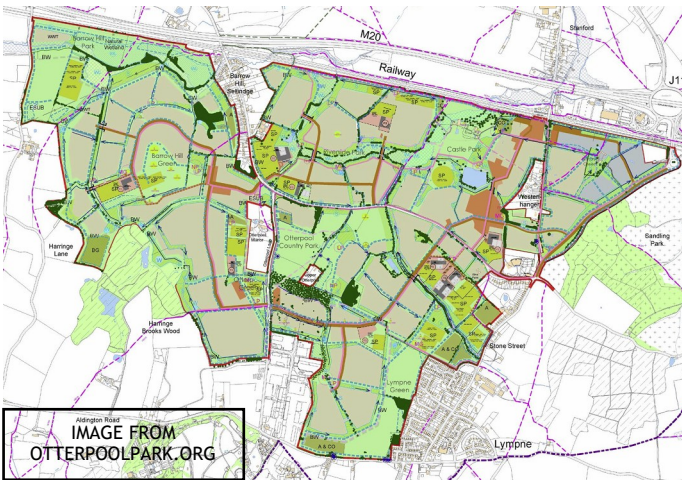




**Otterpool Park Garden Town - Latest Update**



Many of you will be aware that Otterpool Park, the proposed new garden town of up to 8,500 homes, lies close to our parish boundary. A public exhibition was held on Wednesday 24th June at Sellindge Village Hall, where Otterpool Park LLP shared the latest details on the project's progress. Planning permission was resolved by Folkestone & Hythe District Council back in April 2023, but full approval has not yet been issued. Given that more than three years have passed, the developers are now preparing to submit updated information to the Local Planning Authority later this year, reflecting changes in policy, legislation, and survey evidence since 2023. (CONT PAGE 6)

Upcoming events in

*July & August*

at Lympe Castle



Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July - Castle Book Club - 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Bring your latest read, grab a drink and find yourself a cosy spot or watch the sunset from our lovely terrace with a glass of something cold. Free entry. Socialising optional.



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Live Music at The Castle 6:30pm - 9:30pm

Get ready for a brilliant evening of live music with Lewis Ross in the Great Hall at Lympe Castle! Expect great tunes, a buzzing atmosphere, and all the charm of the castle for a fun night out with friends and family.



Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August - Music Bingo - Games start at 6:30pm

Get your dabbers out and join us for the most fun on a Friday night! £5 for 4 games, supporting Lympe Village Primary School Games start at 6:30pm



Friday 21<sup>st</sup> August - Curry and Quiz - £18 per person

Enjoy a delicious curry in a grand historic setting while testing your knowledge with a thrilling quiz. A night of great food, fun, and friendly competition awaits—don't miss out!

Book your spot now!

Bar is open from 12:00 with quizzing starting at 19:00



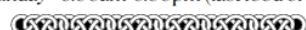
Opening Hours

The Good Knight and Castle

Monday-Sunday - 12:00pm-10:30pm (last food orders 9:00pm)

The Naughty Dog

Monday-Sunday - 8:00am-6:00pm (last food orders 5:00pm)



For more details or to book, please contact us on 01303 533533 or email [enquiries@lympnecastle.com](mailto:enquiries@lympnecastle.com)





THE SUMMER FAIR is fast approaching, get the date in your diary: Sunday 26th July. We look forward to welcoming everyone to the premier

annual summer event in Lympne.

Entertainment is booked for adults and children. Entrance is free. Food and drink will be available to purchase, or bring your own picnic.

The Dog Show is back by popular demand, be sure to get there early to register your dog.

We have room for more stalls, so please get in touch with us to book a slot: [events@lympnevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:events@lympnevillagehall.co.uk)

We could always use more volunteers, so if you'd like to help at this event, maybe with the set up or take down, or by running a stall for us, or indeed with any of the other initiatives we have going on in the village, let me know: [chair@lympnevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:chair@lympnevillagehall.co.uk)

## LYMPNE VILLAGE HALL FILM CLUB

IN THE HARRY MARGARY HALL

Films will be shown every 4<sup>th</sup> 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 **28<sup>th</sup> July:**

### **DOWNTON ABBEY— THE GRAND FINALE**

Wallow in the sumptuous spectacle that is Downton as the Crawley family bids enters the 30s and faces a family scandal.

Showing on **25<sup>th</sup> August: Amazing Grace** – the dramatic story of William Wilberforce and his fight to end slavery



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).

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

FROM ANNE BEALES

Lots of positive news to report. A grant has been made to ensure the Wellbeing Garden, which replaces the old playground, will be a place where people can sit and enjoy the peace and calm sounds of trees and the smells associated with a garden.

We now have 5 volunteer drivers and 1 person who can drive the KCC community minibus. So, attendance at activities, such as the fantastic lunch club and days out is available to people with mobility problems (don't or can't use the local bus service). If you need a lift, let Anne know (mobile number below). If you want to attend the lunch club, email Margaret (email address below).

We are always on the lookout for more volunteer drivers and volunteers to help with activities. If you want to volunteer, contact me, Anne Beales 07595 350276 or, for the lunch club, Margaret, email: [lympne.lunchclub@gmail.com](mailto:lympne.lunchclub@gmail.com).

Following my request in last month's green sheet, we now have a volunteer, Mark, who is hoping to set up a Repair Workshop (yep, like you see on TV, but just for the residents of Lympne). To start this initiative off, do you have any tools or equipment you no longer use which you'd be prepared to donate? More importantly, do you have any skills and the free time to develop this workshop? For this please contact Phil (Chair of Lympne Village Hall), email: [chair@lympnevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:chair@lympnevillagehall.co.uk).

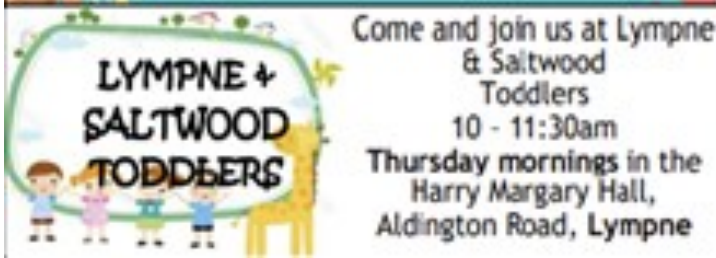
Don't forget our Digital Champion will be in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of every month from 3pm to 5pm to help you with any issues you are having with technology.

Lastly, if you have any free time on Saturday 25th or Sunday 26th July, and want to help with the Summer Fair, please let the Chair of the Village Hall know, email as above.

July 2026

Sunday July 5th	11am Holy Communion
Sunday July 12th	11am Family Service
Sunday July 19th	11am Morning Prayer
Sunday July 26th	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](mailto:christineclover@lympneandsaltwoodchurches.uk)



## LYMPNE FELLOWSHIP

Once again, we thoroughly enjoyed a convivial afternoon at the Red Lion in Hythe for our annual summer lunch in July. Secluded in the back dining room, we could disturb no-one as we chatted and worked our way through our mouth-watering choices from the menu. Our thanks go to the very friendly and helpful staff and to Pam Clark for organising this event.

Lympne Fellowship normally meets at 1.15pm in the Harry Margary Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month (next one 9 July), with a programme of interesting and informative talks and activities.

For further information about our group, please contact **Jill Page** on **07846 819693**.

# Saturday Lunch



In place of our usual Coffee Morning

**Saturday, 11th July**

**11:30am - 1pm**

Well Behaved dogs welcome

Join us for a simple lunch and friendly chat. £5/person  
 Includes ham or cheese salad roll, cake or fruit pie, hot or cold drink



St Stephen's Church,  
 Castle Close, Lympne



## KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE THIS SUMMER

Kent Trading Standards is reminding residents to stay alert to rogue traders and doorstep callers, particularly during the summer months when more people are at home and carrying out repairs or improvements. Criminals often target households they believe may be vulnerable, offering unnecessary, poor-quality or over-priced work – especially for locksmith services, garden jobs, roofing, or driveway cleaning.

There are simple steps you can take to protect yourself. Never agree to work offered on the doorstep, even if the trader seems friendly or claims the job is urgent. Always take time to compare prices and get **three written quotes** from reputable businesses. Check reviews, ask neighbours for recommendations, and avoid anyone who pressures you to make a quick decision.

Kent Trading Standards runs a vetted trader scheme to help residents find reliable, checked professionals. You can search for approved locksmiths and other trades at [kent.gov.uk/tschecked](http://kent.gov.uk/tschecked) or call **03000 416438** for advice.

If you see suspicious activity, report it to **101**. If you ever feel threatened or unsafe, call **999** immediately.

**FIND A SAFE, LOCAL TRADER**



Scan the QR CODE



will be hosted by John Simpson who will be looking at the local Home Guard and their connections with Lymgne Airfield. In November we welcome Rachel Cornish who will be looking at the natural world and its comparisons in flight with man made aircraft.

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

*This time we look at another accident at Lymgne in 1944.*

## A Tiger Moth Brings Down a Spitfire

by John Simpson



On 11<sup>th</sup> July 1944, 41 Squadron arrived at Lymgne flying the MK XII Spitfire, the first of only two squadrons to use this Rolls Royce Griffon engined mark of this iconic warbird. They had been heavily involved in support of the build up, during and beyond D-Day. They were very quickly combatting the V1 menace from Lymgne. Tragedy struck on the 17<sup>th</sup> July as Flight Sergeant Roger Lee Short took off from Lymgne in his 41 Squadron Spitfire XII MB877 only to collide with the Squadron's own Tiger Moth II DE575 in the hands of Flight Sergeant Clifford Oddy. The collision took place one mile north of the airfield. Both pilots were killed, and both were only 21 years of age.

The subsequent inquiry found that the Tiger Moth was flying too low which it did not have the authority to do so. It had flown across the path of the Spitfire which was taking off in formation with other 41 Squadron Spitfires. The Tiger Moth crashed to the ground near Lymgne Castle.

Roger Lee Short was the son of Henry Mallett and Elizabeth Short. He was married to Dorothy Ellen Short of South Ruislip, Middlesex. He is buried at Hawkinge cemetery, Plot O, Grave 80. The grave today is not obvious owing to the poor condition of most in this plot. A positive location could not be ascertained when I visited. Clifford Oddy was the son of Clifford and Catherine Oddy of Armley, Leeds, West Yorkshire. He was married to Elsie Oddy of Headingley, Leeds. He is buried at Armley cemetery.

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



**KENT GARDENER**-Gardens are looking lovely now, very colourful and green, though it is difficult to predict the weather July and what it will bring. Already we have had one hot, dry spell so perhaps we should prepare for another. Curled or drooping leaves and petals are a sign of stress and so is powdery mildew. If possible water early morning, at the roots, drenching not sprinkling the plant. The cooler temperature limits evaporation so watering everyday may not be necessary. Second best would be to water in the late evening but this will bring out the slugs, so beware. Peat free compost dries quickly at the surface but may still be wet underneath so use a stick to see if the deeper compost is damp.

Standing plants on saucers to catch run off and grouping together in shade helps, especially if holidays are beckoning. Water retaining granules help to lock in moisture in pots and hanging baskets. Don't water lawns, grass will recover quickly after rain. Greenhouses need shading and spraying the floor will slightly reduce the temperature. If it rains heavily remove the saucers and place the pots on feet or bricks! Do check containers with lots of foliage as rain runs off and not always into the pot. Deadhead and feed annuals and perennials to keep the flowers coming, especially sweet peas and runner beans. Once plants have set seed their work is done so they are spent. Cut back hardy geraniums, feed and water and they will have a fresh flush of leaves and maybe flowers later. Please remember to leave out fresh water for wildlife, it is important for the garden. Happy gardening.

# STUDYING HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY IN LYMPNE (SHAL)

## Talk and Presentation by Wendy Fraser: Roman Amphitheatres

Roman stone amphitheatres, with their circular or oval shape and tiered seating, are immediately recognizable. Maps of the Roman Empire show over 200 of them, including in Britain, North Africa, Italy and France, but it is likely there are more as yet undiscovered. In Italy alone there are 99 and in France 35. Often they became part of fortified towns. The first recorded Roman Games were held in wooden amphitheatres at religious festivals and funeral rites, c. 264 BC, possibly used as a way of maintaining social and political control. These early structures were later constructed in stone with underground passages called hypogea where there were animal cages, prisoners' cells and storage areas. There were also vomitoria - not places to vomit, as the name might suggest, but passages designed so that crowds could exit quickly, the word meaning "disgorge" or "spew forth". And there were velaria, great linen awnings for shade, operated like sails with ropes and pulleys.

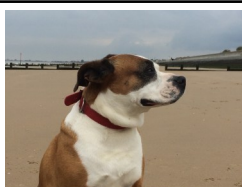
The earliest surviving Roman stone amphitheatre is at Pompeii, dating from c. 70 BC, that could seat 20,000 people; it was preserved beneath volcanic ash and pumice when Vesuvius erupted in AD 79. The arena would have been filled with sawdust to absorb blood! One of the best known, and the largest amphitheatre ever built, measuring approximately 188 by 156 metres, is the Colosseum in Rome where tiered seating had areas for women, slaves, citizens, soldiers, important officials and Senators. It could hold around 50,000 spectators who could exit in 15 minutes if needed. It was partially destroyed by earthquakes and stone robbing.

According to the philosopher Seneca, a typical day's programme began with specialist fighters called *bestiarii* who pitted themselves against wild animals. Some of these creatures, including rhinos (one appears on a coin dated AD 84) were transported for the Games from Africa by ox cart and boat across the Red Sea and many would have perished on the journey. Some historians estimate that a million animals died in the arenas too. At midday came the public executions of criminals, Christians, slaves and prisoners of war followed by gladiatorial combat in the afternoon.

Gladiators, deriving from *gladius* (sword), were highly trained to become athletes, drawn from the lowest classes of society including slaves who could gain freedom by becoming celebrated fighters. There were also a few women. They trained for a year at the *Ludus Magnus* gladiatorial school built by Emperor Vespasian until they were ready for their first combat in the arena; they ate a vegetarian diet. Among the best-known classes of gladiator were the *provocatores*, Thracians (*Thraeces*), *Samnites* and *Secutores*. A gravestone of a fighter called Flamma was found in Palermo, Sicily and it records him as having competed in 34 gladiatorial combats. He had twenty-one wins, nine draws and only four losses. He refused his freedom four times, and one can only assume he loved the sport. Combatants were not usually killed as trained gladiators were valuable. Whether the famous thumbs up or thumbs down gesture, often used in Hollywood films, was used in the way we imagine to decide a fighter's fate remains uncertain.

In Verona, Italy, excavations beginning in 1874 revealed one of the best preserved amphitheatres in the world, dating from AD 30 to 42. It has hosted productions of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* and continues to stage opera to this day. In Arles, France, where the Romans arrived in 123 BC, an amphitheatre, inspired by the Colosseum, was constructed in AD 90 for 20,000 people. It had an oval arena, terraces, arcades and was on two levels. A race of bulls was held there in 1830 to celebrate France taking Algiers. Today in the summer it is used for bull fights, plays and concerts. Other well-known amphitheatre sites include one in Caerleon, Wales, constructed for 6,000 people in AD 90. It is the best preserved in Britain and was excavated in 1909. The amphitheatre at Tarragona, Spain, built in 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD, held around 15,000 spectators and is one of UNESCO's World Heritage sites. Construction of El Djem in Tunisia, for 35,000 spectators, began c. AD 238 for gladiator shows and small chariot races. Amphitheatres have inspired artists over the centuries. Van Gogh painted the Arles arena in 1888; Turner sketched Roman ruins on his Italian travels. Hubert Robert and Giovanni Paolo Panini made these great monuments to the past their lives' work. Roman amphitheatres have given way to venues like the O2 and Wembley Stadium, to fill our enduring human desire to gather together for entertainment.

**Next meeting: There will be no meeting this month as SHAL is busy digging! but on July 21<sup>st</sup> we have a talk by Phyllis Brown on the Canterbury Cathedral Miracle Windows. If you would like to become a member of SHAL please email our Chair Rosemary Stutchbury at [r.stutchbury1@gmail.com](mailto:r.stutchbury1@gmail.com)**



### A Resident Requested Reminder About Dog Fouling

A local resident has asked us to share a friendly reminder about keeping an eye on our dogs when out walking. They've noticed several recent occasions on both

the playing field and the airfield (Private Land) where dogs have pooped without their owners realising, often simply because people are chatting or looking the other way. It happens easily, but it does leave an unpleasant surprise for other walkers and dog owners who use these shared spaces.

There's also a belief that it doesn't matter on the airfield because sheep sometimes graze there, but dog waste can still be harmful to livestock. A quick glance back now and then really helps keep our village areas clean, safe and enjoyable for everyone.



### Kent Downs National Landscape

**Help shape the countryside you love**  
Residents across Lympne are invited to share their views on the future of the Kent Downs National Landscape as consultation opens on a new five-year Management Plan. The plan sets out how this much-loved landscape home to the North Downs Way will be cared for, enhanced and enjoyed, guiding priorities for nature recovery, farming, climate action, access and tourism. Shaped by feedback from more than 1,200 people, the draft plan now seeks further public input. Covering almost a quarter of Kent, the Kent Downs is one of the county's most valued landscapes. Have your say at: [www.kent.gov.uk/kentdowns](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kentdowns)

## LYMPNEPARISH COUNCIL

### CONTACT DETAILS

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

#### Current Members

**Chair Mike Boor**

**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 Lymgne**

**Tel: 01303 883 228**

**e-mail:**

**clerk@lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk**

**WEBSITE**

**www.lympneparishcouncil.gov.uk**

And find us on Facebook

(FROM PAGE 1)

Importantly, the core vision has not changed – the site boundary, the number of homes proposed, and the fundamental design principles all remain the same. The updates are largely technical, aimed at streamlining the application and accelerating delivery. The first 300 homes are planned for the Hillhurst Green area, north-east of the site near Westenhanger Station, with the developer aiming to begin delivery by 2028/29.

For Lymgne residents, it is worth noting that Lymgne Green remains one of the seven character areas within the masterplan, meaning this development will continue to shape our surrounding landscape for many years to come.

The Local Planning Authority will be inviting public comment once the updated information is formally submitted. This is your opportunity to have your say on what is being built on your doorstep – please do engage when that consultation opens.

For full details, visit [www.otterpoolpark.org](http://www.otterpoolpark.org)

### REFUSE COLLECTION DATES

JULY 2026

**Recycling (Purple Lid/Black Box) and Food Waste will be collected on: Tuesday 7th and 21st**

**Non-Recyclables (Green Lid) and Food Waste will be collected on: Tuesday 14th and 28th**

**Garden Waste Collections 7th and 21st**

*Please do not put the lid on the Black Box—use the food waste container or a heavy object.*

### 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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**LYMPNE OVER 50s LUNCH CLUB**  
Join our friendly social group for a chat over a hot meal, dessert and tea or coffee with fun activities, bingo or quizzes.  
Taking place at the Harry Margary Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month Cost £8.50. Booking the meal is essential at least the day before.  
Contact Margaret on 01303 269557.  
Transport available, if necessary, within Lypne Village



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UNDER 5  
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