## LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## A Merry Christmas to all our Members and Visitors

2012 has been a busy year, which means it has also been a gratifying one. The Society has gone from strength to strength, we are maintaining our membership subscription and we have had a successful talks' season and three enjoyable and informative visits.

A hard act to follow but we are not daunted. In fact we have two projects on the go as I write.

## The LHS's Queen's Diamond Jubilee Commemoration.

The first is to bring forward and expand our planned contribution to the parish's celebrations and commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We are planning to provide maps and guides around the parish highlighting the locations and findings of the many archaeological sites we are lucky to have. However, as the current round of digging will not cease until 2014 and it will probably be 2015 before we can design and deploy any signage, we thought it would be a good idea to do something extra at this time.

## Thomas Hogben's 1760 Map of Lyminge

Until recently a 1760 map of Lyminge, drawn and annotated by the noted 18<sup>th</sup> century local surveyor and cartographer Thomas Hogben, was in the possession of Bill Cameron, once a partner in the firm of Finn Kelsey Estate agents. On his retirement Bill left Lyminge and moved to Battle.

Now in his late eighties Bill has kindly donated the map to Lyminge, in the charge of the Parish Council. A condition of Bill's donation is that the map should not be sold and should be put on permanent display for the benefit of the parishioners.

As the map is itself a valuable asset and as also it would not survive long exposed to daylight, the Council asked the Historical Society to have it reproduced. This we have done as an additional commemoration for the Queen's Jubilee.

It has been decided that the only viable location for its display is the area around the shops as there is already a modern map there.

We are ordering an additional frame and tenders have gone out this week to a local manufacturer and to the makers of the existing Ordnance Survey Map frame. Once we have the frame and the required permissions from Shepway District Council, the replica will go on display. There will be an official unveiling of the map as soon as it is ready. We will keep you informed of progress.



The second project is one that you will see advertised in this month's Lyminge Newsletter.



Many moons ago in 2008, and thanks to the generosity of the Village Hall Management Committee we returned the Society's archives to Lyminge and housed them in a single location. You may remember we had a grand opening and celebration.

However, subsequent legal constraints on access mean we can only access the repository during the evenings or in the daytime in the school holidays. This has proved frustrating on more than one occasion and so we have looked for a remedy.

We have also, for some time wanted to launch the Society on the internet. We are more and more reliant on the sale of our publications to keep the membership fees down and to maintain the quality of the Society's monthly talks and presentations.

An opportunity has presented itself whereby we have available to us the services of an experience website developer and author. So, we are now in the process of creating the website and putting the LHS on the global map.

The basic content of the website will be relatively simple to produce and put online. It will comprise the normal fundamental information like who are we, where are we, and when do we meet. We will also publish the current programme and these newsletters plus contact details etc.

The fun starts when we come to put the archive online. For this we are going to want your help. You do not have to have any knowledge of computers or websites. What we want is to recruit members to look through the content of the archive files and fill out forms to help identify the files' topics and contents.

Similarly, we want people to sit over a cup of tea and look through printed copies of the pictures, again filling out a form for each one so we can put the information and a copy of the pictures on the website.

For those members of the Society who have lived in the area for a long time and specifically the senior members we would like you to help clarify the situation when things don't seem right or when we just don't know. We hope that your experience will be able to put us on the correct path.