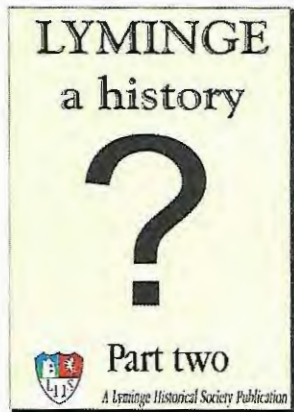




Lyminge Historical Society

Newsletter - September 2011

40th Anniversary Edition



You will all be aware of part 1 of our recent publication;

'Lyminge a history'.

The editor is currently compiling parts 2 and 3 of this epic and would appreciate local historical remembrances, stories, articles, etc.

Also we would like to incorporate photographs, facsimile paintings, maps and illustrations of local characters, places and events.

Whilst we prefer to keep it within the parish we are not adverse to a little border raiding given the flexible nature of boundaries over the centuries.

So look in the attic, dig out those albums and diaries and give the editor a call on 01303 862972.



Other happenings during the year have to some degree obscured the fact that this is our 40th Anniversary. Well, we would like to assure you that the Committee has not forgotten it and we do have a number of events and actions that will mark it.

Firstly as a present from the Society, to itself, we have purchased our own portable Video and Audio equipment. This lends the Society a degree of independence we have not had previously and also enables us to present film evenings at the monthly meetings in the future. Sometimes we will also be able to better prepare our speakers' presentations before the event and hopefully avoid the recent troubles of cutting off part of the presentation images.

Secondly, on the 22nd October we have a special film show. We will be showing "*Raising a Riot*" a 1955 film shot in and around the Elham Valley. See the events listing for more details. Given the recent troubles in the metropolitan districts members will probably be relieved to hear that the film title refers to the problems caused by children when mother is away from home and not to mob violence.

Thirdly, a week later on 29th October, we invite all our members and their partners (family members included) to a commemorative lunch at Lyminge Village Hall at 1:00pm.

The format of the lunch is a 'Bring and Share', contact John Carr on 862972 to co-ordinate your offerings so that we do not end up with a 100 plates of sausage rolls and no salad! At the bottom of page three there is a tear off slip. Please fill it in and deliver it at one of the meetings or phone John and he'll provide details.

I am sure some of our members will have memories that go back as far as the inaugural meeting whilst the rest of us being relative new comers will have our own remembrance of attending the society for our first time.

We would like to record some or all of these memories at the Social with a brief 'Show and Tell' session. Please bring along any pictures or documents, newspapers, artefacts and tell us their story. If you'd prefer it just write a caption and lay it/them out in a display table.

HAPPY 40th ANNIVERSARY LHS



Derek

It is with great pleasure that we hear Derek is recovering well from his recent illness.

Derek has contributed so much to the Society and also to the research of our local history that he has been sorely missed.

We hope that he will, sooner better than later, be well enough to return to entertaining and informing us on local characters, businesses and events of the Elham Valley's past. We wish him well and hope he will remain our President for many years to come.

For those interested, not least Derek I imagine, the picture comes from 1983

The Queen's Jubilee 2012

We are supporting other organisations throughout the parish during the lead up to the Jubilee celebrations, by supplying information and copies of documents and pictures from the archive. But we want to do something in particular, and so we propose to finance the production and display of an historical map detailing the various locations around the parish of historical interest. At this time the archaeological digs are still in process so we will not commission the map until a more suitable time. However, we will dedicate the map to the Queen in celebration of her reign. If members have further suggestions with which we could additionally commemorate the Jubilee within 2012 year please let one of the committee members know.

End of year and the AGM

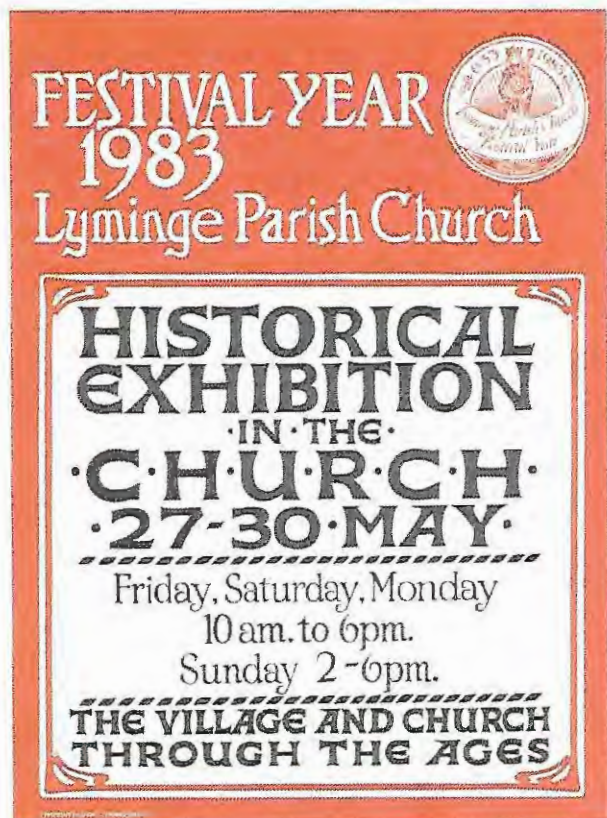
As part of our review the committee has altered some of the scheduled tasks, changing the accounting year-end date and the AGM's date.

The accounts year-end is now at the end of August, giving the Treasurer three months to have the accounts prepared and audited. We have also moved the AGM to December; thus we round off the last talk and the AGM at the actual year end. This makes more logical sense and helps in the overall planning process.

Your membership will therefore be extended by one month, this year. Henceforth, your membership will therefore run from January to December.

Our first talk in 2012 will take place in March and we are also planning to have the full year's event timetable printed for you by December's meeting.

We always welcome suggestions from the membership regarding visits and monthly meeting events. Now we have the facility we can include DVD film shows as part of the monthly event schedule. So, if you have professional or amateur films that would be of interest to the membership please let the events secretary or a committee member know.



From the archive - strangely the same year as Derek's picture

LHS 2011 Events

- 6 Sep *Talk: John Grimwood on Hellfire Corner. The Talk will start at 7:45pm in the Tayne Centre with refreshments available afterwards.*
- 20 Sep *Members visit to Chatham Historic Dockyard*
- 30 Sep *Talk: Gabor Thomas on the Recent Lyminge Digs in the Tayne Centre (Methodist Hall) Entry by donation - starts at 7:00pm with refreshments. Everyone welcome.*
- 4 Oct *Talk: Chris McCooey entitled Kent's Heroes - Brave, Resourceful and True. The Talk will start at 7:45pm in the Tayne Centre (Methodist Hall) with refreshments available afterwards.*
- 22 Oct *A 40 Anniversary special showing of the film Raising a Riot, the 1956 movie starring Kenneth More, that was filmed in and around the Elham Valley. Starting at 4pm with refreshments in the Tayne Centre, the duration of the film is 90 minutes. Free Entry to Members and their Guests*
- 29 Oct *A 40 Anniversary Members and Guests Event: An afternoon 'Bring and Share' Social in Lyminge Village Hall starting at 1:00pm. John Carr will be coordinating the Bring and Share and the Society will supply the liquid refreshments. (Please fill in the tear-off form on page 3). Free Entry to Members and their Guests*
- 1 Nov *Talk: Derek Boughton entitled My Family and Other Oddities. The Talk will start at 7:45pm in the Tayne Centre (Methodist Hall) with refreshments available afterwards.*
- 6 Dec *LHS AGM followed by a talk: Geoff Hutchinson on William Pitt the Younger and the Martello Towers. Refreshments available*

Two other local events with an historical flavour that may be of interest to our Members

- 11 Oct *Tayne Centre Fundraiser: Talk by local celebrity Derek Boughton, entitled Lyminge through the Lens - Village Shopping Over 100 Years. The evening starts with refreshments at 7.15pm in the Tayne Centre (Methodist Hall). Entry: £3.00 - including free tea or coffee.*

Contact Mike Foxon for further details: 862073

- 8 Nov *Tayne Centre Fundraiser: Talk by Melanie Gibson-Barton entitled Walking in Flanders Fields - Today's View 100 Years On. The evening starts with refreshments at 7.15pm in the Tayne Centre (Methodist Hall). Entry: £3.00 - including free tea or coffee.*

Contact Mike Foxon for further details: 862073

Chairman's Report

During 2011 your committee has put in a lot of work to ensure that the Society continues to grow, to inform, educate and entertain. We have managed to fill a full talks' programme thanks to Marian Chubb's tenacious endeavours, and she has also found time to organise three visits to locations outside Lyminge and in October to put on two 40th anniversary celebrations. We have also organised and will host in the Tayne Centre a talk by Dr Gabor Thomas on the recent archaeological digs in the parish.

All this, whilst during the year, we suffered the resignations of three main committee members. Derek Boughton as we have seen has had to reduce the amount of tasks he can undertake and whilst remaining the President of the Society has retired as chairman. Adrian Willcox resigned as Treasurer in April and this was followed in May by Rosemary Piddock resigning as Minute Secretary.

We have been fortunate in gaining support and further help from Mike Foxon who stepped in as acting Treasurer and Vanessa Carr who has agreed to act as Minute Secretary for the rest of the year. I have taken on the role of acting Chairman until we organise re-elections at the AGM in December.

In May the committee regrouped and we spent time in reviewing the internal procedures of the Society including the revision of the constitution. At the June EGM John and Rosemary Piddock made additional inclusions for the constitution which have been included in the revised version of the constitution – see the reverse of this report. It is intended to ratify this version at the AGM.

Amongst other revisions we have undertaken, are the adoption of a new stock control system. Daphne Andrews has agreed to undertake this task with Richard Chubb helping with the distribution. Mike Foxon having reviewed the accounts has developed a new system which will enable us to more readily understand the costs and income the Society receives. Part of this review enabled us to identify funds with which we have been able to buy our own portable visual audio equipment which gives us more autonomy.

In all you can see it has been a busy summer.

Appeal

Now I come to the appeal. In 2006 a new Society committee was formed and we have now served five years. Given this year's changes I feel the time must come when we will suffer further retirements. To ensure continuity and fill the currently vacant posts we need new committee members. We understand that most peoples' lives are already busy but we do need help and when you want help always ask a busy person.

The three current vacancies are Treasurer, Minute Secretary and the Chair. These will, as previously mentioned, be open for elections at the AGM along with the other committee posts which are Events Secretary and Vice-Chair. I am hopeful that the current co-opted members Chris Blanch, Richard Chubb, Daphne Andrews, Ian Andrews and Barbara Collins Newing will still serve on the committee but this of course cannot be guaranteed and we are happy to co-opt other members.

So, can I appeal to you to consider and put yourself forward for one of the Society's Office posts or to become a co-opted member to help us put forward an ambitious and exciting plan? We are a friendly and informal group and usually hold a committee meeting once a month and put on at least one event a month with the exceptions of January and February.

For the future we would like to expand the activities of the Society. We already have an active Family History Group ably led by Mike Foxon and Rosemary Piddock. We would also like to attract more members from the lower age groups and expand out to incorporate a dedicated Archaeological Group. Given the major finds from the recent Reading University digs it seems only natural that we should field a group of members who are interested in developing and helping build up the archaeological profile of the parish. For the younger members we would like to develop activities which will excite and satisfy their research and historical needs.

I hope you had a good summer, have enjoyed the Society's outings and I hope to see you at the film show at 4pm on 22nd October in the Tayne Centre and our 40th Anniversary Social 'Bring & Share' on 29th October in the Lyminge Village Hall.

Yours

John L Carr (acting chairman).

LHS 40th Anniversary Social Gathering

Attendance YES/NO

Bring and Share Contribution Slip

Name: _____ Tel: _____

There will be _____ members and family in our group. We will be contributing the following towards the meal:

LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (DRAFT) CONSTITUTION 2011

For ratification in December 2011

1. Its name shall be The Lyminge Historical Society
2. Its objectives shall be the study of history concerning Lyminge parish and the local area and to organise talks, events and visits relating to the historical interests of the Society's membership
3. The Society shall pursue the above aims under the guidance of Officers and a Committee will be elected annually by members during the AGM, or, if required, at an EGM. Members shall also appoint an Honorary Auditor for the ensuing year
4. The Officers shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Events Secretary and Minutes Secretary. The Committee shall have powers to co-opt additional members in furtherance of the aims of the Society, who will report to the Committee as appropriate
5. The affairs of the Society and any property belonging to the Society shall be under the control of the Committee
6. Membership is open to all who are interested in local history, in accordance with the aims expressed in Clause 2
7. The subscription shall be decided annually at the AGM Subscriptions shall be due from 1 January each year
8. Monies received by the Society shall be paid by the Treasurer into the Society's bank account and any other depositories that the Committee shall deem fit
9. Monies drawn on the Society's bank account shall be by the following methods:
Cheques drawn on the account of the Society shall be signed by any two of three nominated signatories
Counter signatories, unless specifically agreed by a motion carried by two-thirds of the eligible voting members present at the AGM or an EGM, cannot be related or be in a partnership of any form
A signatory cannot authorise payments to him or herself
Cash withdrawals shall be supported by documentation approved by the Committee
10. Five committee members will make a quorum at a Committee meeting, of whom at least two must be Officers. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority and in the event of a tie the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote
11. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of December and at least 21 days notice of the date shall be given to members
Notice of motions for inclusion on the agenda - including any motions to amend the constitution - shall be in the hands of the Minute Secretary 21 days prior to the meeting
If there are motions to amend the constitution these changes will be distributed to all eligible voting members at least 14 days prior to the meeting in printed form or if requested by a member by email
At the AGM the Chairman or Chairwoman shall present a report on the activities of the Society since the previous AGM.
At the AGM the Treasurer shall present the independently examined accounts of the Society for the year ended. Printed summaries of the accounts will be made available to members at the meeting
12. Extraordinary General Meetings may be called by the Committee or by a written request to the Chairman from 10 members. EGM's are to be called within one month from the date of receipt by the Chairman of a valid request
13. Decisions on all motions at General Meetings will be made by a simple majority vote of members present. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote if any vote taken results in a tie
14. The Society may be dissolved only at a General Meeting by a resolution of the Society passed by not less than two-thirds of those members present being eligible to vote. At least 21days notice of such a meeting shall be given to all members of the Society who have provided contact details.
As a process of the dissolution the Treasurer will arrange for any assets of the Society remaining after the Society's liabilities have been met, to be transferred to the Lyminge Association being the umbrella organisation which provides the Society's remit.

Amended Constitution approved at the AGM of the Society on 6th December 2011

Signed:..... (on behalf of the Society)