



The Committee

LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2012

Welcome to the 2012 Season

2011 was a busy year for the Society. We have consolidated our experience from former years and hopefully have come up with a winning combination of talks and visits.

Membership and Income

Last year we had around 80 subscription members and many visitors. The revenue generated by their subscriptions and entrance money was sufficient to cover the Society's speakers' expenses and the hall hire.

Sales of our publications, which are proving very popular, are providing a useful income which we are using to finance future publications and provide additional facilities for the Society.

Last year the surplus was put towards buying our own audio visual equipment and improving our storage within the Tayne Centre.

The Future of the Society

We are interested in adopting new projects and increasing our knowledge of the history of the area. However, to achieve anything further we will need more help from our members and volunteers to help us run events and projects.

We would like to set up a further sub-group in addition to the Family History Group. We believe, given the recent digs and important finds, we should have a Local Archaeological Group. We also think there is scope for a Local History Group covering the ground between Family History and Archaeology. For these groups to exist there will have to be Group Co-ordinators and regular support from members. If you would like to participate in either or both of these groups please let me or another committee member know.

Your Committee

There are currently two vacancies on the committee. Firstly the treasurer's office. This is being looked after by Richard but he is a busy man and would like someone to take over from him. We have an up to date set of accounts and have organised them so that the tasks can be undertaken with minimum effort. Usually the job requires between 2 - 4 hours work a month.

We also have vacancies in the role of Vice-Chair and we would like a volunteer to take over the technical role of looking after to our audio visual equipment.

2012 Events

On the back page you will find an exciting line up of talks and trips for this year. If there is a specific subject on which you would like to hear a talk, or a special place to which you'd like us to organise a visit let Marian know and she'll put it on the agenda for discussion. We can't promise a result but we can promise to consider any feasible suggestions.

John Carr - March 2012

Other Committee & Group Members:

Rosemary Selman - Minutes Secretary

Katharine Barber - Co-opted Member

Derek Boughton - Life Prseident

Mike Foxon - Family History Group

Co-ordinator

Committee Vacancies:

Vice - Chairperson

Technical Co-ordinator

Contact John Carr on 01303 862972



John Carr



Richard Chubb



Marian Chubb



Daphne Andrews



Ian Andrews

Archaeological Lyminge - an update

Following the previous excavations in Lyminge we inquired about future developments and we received the following quote from Reading University:

*“Dr Thomas is fully committed to kicking off the **BiG DiG** on Tayne Field in July 2012 and is eagerly awaiting the results of a funding application expected in April.”*

We wish him the best of luck and, in the event that his application is successful, will announce details on the excavation in the May meeting.

The BiG DiG (2012-2014)

We also gleaned the following from the University's web site.

The intention [of the BiG DiG], is to mount a further 3-year campaign of excavation on Lyminge village green (Tayne Field) 2012-14 with funding from the AHRC (decision expected April 2012). This phase of research will also complete a ground-penetrating radar survey within and without the footprint of the parish church of St Mary and St Ethelburga to help re-interpret the core buildings of the monastic complex as initially brought to light by mid-19th-century antiquarian investigations in the churchyard (Thomas 2005). * Arts and Humanities Research Council*



Dr Gabor Thomas
Reading University



Proposed future dig sites on Tayne field

Video Films and DVDs

Thanks to the generosity of members Steve and Ann Sparkes the Society is now able to convert VHS tapes to DVDs.

This will enable us to take in local historical film thereby holding a permanent record of the film in our archive. If you have old family video films on tape and would like to donate a copy of the film(s) to the Society we will gladly convert them onto DVD. As a sign of our gratitude we will provide you with a copy of the DVD for your own use and the original tapes will be returned to you.

We are specifically looking for film of the local area but this does not have to be limited to Lyminge parish .

We also have a limited capacity for editing the films and splicing them together. We can likewise do this for films that are currently on DVD, small DVC tapes or already digitised AND we may also be able to help you edit, organise and bring together related sequences.

In order to comply with copyright law you must be the owner of the content of the videos and we will ask you to agree to the Lyminge Historical Society using the film and its images in the Society's presentations, exhibitions and publications. Contact John on 862972 or talk to me at a meeting.

Lyminge Historical Society forthcoming Trips

The following trips have been organised by Marian for 2012. Entry fees are indicated against each event and are per person.

Charing Tour: Tuesday 12th June 2012 starting at 2pm

A Guided Tour of Charing - will include a visit to the 13th Century Church and the Courtyard of the Archbishop's Palace followed by a perambulation of the medieval High Street. Guided by the Charing and District Local History Society, the tour takes approximately 2 hours.

Refreshments will be laid on in the Church Barn and include scones, cream, jam etc. Fees in advance please: £5.50 per person - due at our April meeting. We require a minimum of twenty people in order to confirm the tour.

Chart Gunpowder Mills: Tuesday 7th August 2012 - starting at 2pm

A visit to the 18th century Chart Gunpowder Mills at Faversham; the oldest of their kind in the world. Their powder was used in the battles of Trafalgar and Waterloo. Chart Mills were part of the Home Works, Faversham's first gunpowder factory and one of the first in Britain. It was probably established circa 1560 but they were rebuilt when the Government took control some 200 years later. Following the closure of Chart Mills in the 1930s it fell into disrepair and was almost lost until *The Faversham Society* stepped in and rescued it, opening to the public in April 1969. It is now one of the very few fully restored gunpowder mills in the country and is fully working. Entry is by donation - suggest a minimum £2.50 per person. Chart Mills is situated off Stonebridge Way, Faversham with pedestrian access sign posted from South Road.

There are no pre-booked refreshments included on this trip but the Society will obtain details of some of Faversham's many eateries for members, nearer the time.

Dover Castle: Tuesday 11th September 2012

This year our full day outing will be to Dover Castle - a place on our doorstep that some of us have never visited! Situated above the White Cliffs of Dover this magnificent castle has guarded our shores from invasion for 20 centuries. With restaurants, shops and cleverly designed exhibits, this is a great way to spend the day. While there you can choose to immerse yourself in *Operation Dynamo: Rescue from Dunkirk*, complete with dramatic projections of swooping Spitfires and real film footage or explore the darkly atmospheric *Secret Wartime Tunnels* or enjoy a colourful contrast with the richly-furnished *Great Tower*, where you can discover medieval life at King Henry II's court.

Entry: **English Heritage Members - Free**, non-English Heritage members - Adults £16.50, Children £9.90, Concessions £14.90. Group Booking is a possibility but depends on the number of non-English Heritage members going. If there are at least 11 visitors paying together we should be able to obtain a 15% discount. If this is the case, the Society will require payment in advance and will make the booking arrangements. Nearer the time the Society will help organise car shares.

Non-Lyminge Historical Society Members

Member's family and long term partners are welcome to accompany Society members on any of the trips at the same rate as the LHS member. If there are spare places or capacity on any of the trips non-LHS members are welcome, in these cases the Society will need to levy a £3.00 surcharge per trip per non-member.

General Notes

Members will be well aware of the rising costs of transport. Vehicle fuel prices seem to rise weekly and therefore it seems sensible to share the driving and cars. If you are offered a lift by another member please accept it but also please remember to offer to share in the fuel costs in some manner. As I write the current price of petrol and diesel is £1.38 and £1.48 per litre respectively - approximately £6.90 & £7.40 per gallon. These are expected to rise again in April.

We are looking to find ways of lightening these costs which will help us return to using coach trips.

If you have any ideas or contacts which could help with this please let Marian know. Currently to hire a large coach costs over £500 per day and a smaller version around £350.

Have your say

If you have any comments on how the Society is run, ideas for the future, news that would interest the membership or other information you wish to publicise why not send a note to me at Korf House opposite the Food and Wine Store and I will see if I can include it in the next Newsletter.

LHS Newsletter, Korf House, Canterbury Road, Lyminge CT18 8HU or email:
jon@serenitas.co.uk

WHAT'S ON ?

Out and about the Area?

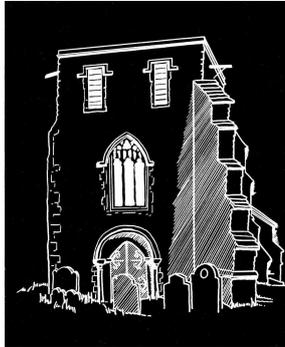
Recalling Brabourne's Church Son et Lumière of 1961

The Reverend Ray Sheekey discovered on his arrival at Brabourne in 1961, that £6000 was needed for repairs to the church. Inspired by the concept of Son et Lumière, Ray skilfully masterminded a production which told the history of Brabourne Church in sound and light.

A talk on Saturday, 10th March at 6.30pm in Brabourne Church recalls how this production came together: the writing of the script, the involvement of the village and the acquisition of essential technologies. Alive in local memory, the event delivered everything it promised!

Tickets £6, including a drink and nibbles

Dr. K. Embleton-Smith
Orchard Cottage
The Street
East Brabourne
Ashford
Kent



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*Would you like to Sponsor and
Advertise in the LHS Newsletters?
If so please contact:
John Carr on 01303 862972*

Lyminge Historical Society

THE TAYNE CENTRE

on Tuesday, 3rd April at 7.45pm.

An ILLUSTRATED TALK by

Christopher Sparey-Green

on

**Bigbury Camp and the Blean,
Canterbury.**

New members and visitors are welcome.

Refreshments will be served.

Lyminge Historical Society

Programme 2012

Date	Speaker - Subject
Mar 6 th	John Buss - Evacuees
Apr 3 rd	Christopher Sparey- Green - Recent research into the environs of Canterbury at Bigbury Camp and the Blean.
May 1 st	James Gibson-Medieval plays and players in Kent.
Jun 12 th	Charing Tour *
Jul 3 rd	Dr Lesley Hardy - Folkestone - A Town Unearthed
Aug 7 th	Faversham Gunpowder Mills Tour *
Sep 4 th	Rod LeGear Underground Kent
Sep 11 th	Trip Dover Castle (all day)*
Oct 2 nd	Gillian Ellen The story of the Medway Queen Paddle Steamer
Nov 6 th	Dr Ann Kneif - The history of the Kentish seaside resorts until the First World War
Dec 4 th	Derek Boughton - AGM & Talk - topic to be confirmed

* Lunch, Tea, Dinner or other refreshments
are not included in the cost of any visits,

Elham Historical Society

at Elham Village Hall, 7.30 for 8pm

20th April AGM

26th April Guided Tour of Canterbury Cathedral

11th May The Swing Riots - Derek Boughton

4th June Diamond Jubilee Exhibition -
Methodist Church Hall

Helping other Members

If you are able to offer other members lifts
when we visit local historical sites please let
Rosemary know and she will add you to our
Helpful Members list.

We will only call upon members on the list
when we arrange a local trip or when an
opportunity arises for our members to join
with another society on a local trip.

Thank you for considering being a Helpful