



Christmas Newsletter 2014

Have a Merry Christmas

Greetings to you all.

As this is the last Newsletter I will draft I would like to thank you for your support and wish you all the best for the festive season and the coming year. In this report I have not gone over our manifold achievements of this year; I have, I hope, already kept you all informed during the year. I've therefore limited it to outlining the situation with the ongoing projects and our future plans.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Display Board.

You will probably have seen that the long promised commemorative display board has been erected and we are in the process of having facsimiles of the two maps that will form the main display, printed. We are also awaiting the header board text which dedicates the board.

2015 Programme

From the new programme card you'll see that Katharine has arranged a fine selection of talks and two very interesting trips for next year. Whilst the First World War centenary continues in the forefront of commemoration we have endeavoured to offer a diverse range of talks from the Romans through the 18th and 19th centuries right up to Lyminge's own archaeological digs. I hope you enjoy the variety. I would like to offer my personal thanks to Katharine for her help in many ways during my period as Chairman.

After tonight's meeting those wishing to go on the trips next year are asked to talk to Katharine about details of payment and assembly.

Vacancies on the Committee

We have not received any nominations for the posts of Chairman or Vice Chairman. So I hope you will help in whatever way you can to support the Committee.

Help at Meetings

If you are able, the Committee would appreciate assistance in setting up the hall before and putting away the equipment after meetings. You can do this by arriving a little early in the evening (around 7:00pm) and staying on to put the seating onto the stage and put the tables away.

The Future of the Society

During 2015 two new innovations will take place within the Society. The Family History Group will take on a more developed role and make it available to the



LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Society to undertake more general research into historical topics. To clarify this change they will adopt the name, *Lyminge Family and Local History Research Group (LFLHRG)*.

If you are interested in joining in or just want assistance in unveiling your own family's past please contact Mike Foxon for more information – 01303 862073.

Following the success of the archaeological digs a local group is setting itself up to assist in smaller digs in the coming years. So, if you want to be in at the beginning and join just let Jackie Hall know on 01303 862898 and she will let you know what is going to happen.

If you have an idea on how the Society can expand its remit please write or talk to any of the Committee members. The Society's email address is

lymingehistoricalsociety@gmail.com or you can phone us on 07759 260 816.



Treasurer's Report

Copies of the annual accounts have been circulated and you will see that whilst we are not a wealthy Society we are solvent and have a sufficient reserve to ensure that with good housekeeping we will have sufficient funds to deal with all future known expenses and have enough to support small local ventures. Richard has husbanded our funds and offered me superb support, guidance and also managed to curb my more extravagant ideas. It is true to say that without his boundless energy and enthusiasm many of our achievements would still be at the planning stage and I will be forever in his debt for the help he has given me.

Book Sales

In Richard's report you will see that we are currently holding quite high book stocks. It is the nature of book publishing that some volumes sell well and quickly whilst others have a steady sale. Volumes 3 & 4 fall into this latter category.

I must record my gratitude to Daphne for keeping a vigilant eye on the stocks and also for helping sort out my frequent muddles.

Next year we plan to produce only one volume in contrast with our publishing two parts of the history volumes as well as two guides this year.

The increase in production costs and our adoption of the use of colour, within the latest volume, means that we have had to increase the selling price to £6. It should be noted that even without colour the rise in print costs would have meant a rise in the selling price. The other volumes will remain at £5.00 for books and £2 for guides whilst current stocks last.

It is also worth noting that the money received from the sales of books is used to pay for the production of the next volume(s) and also to fund our extra-curricular activities.

LYMINGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership & Visitor Fees

Once more I am pleased to announce that we are holding the 2015 membership fee at £10.00 per member per year and also the visitor entrance fee is to stay at £4.00. Members' and visitors' fees are used exclusively to pay for the talks and to cover any additional costs associated with the running of the Society – excluding the cost of production of the books and guides and those other projects mentioned above.

Committee Members – a thank you

I would also like to thank Rosemary for her unstinting cheerfulness and great help in running the Society. It is no easy task to run the administration especially when you have someone like me constantly changing things. She has also helped keep me on a straight path.

Marian has always been there to monitor my more wayward ideas and helped in proofing my letters and notices.

Jane & John Buss have supported the Committee and participated in providing talks, support roles and also the much needed refreshments at our meetings.

Ian is always on hand to help and advise.

My thanks go to all of them all and also of course Vanessa who shepherds me through life, to Duncan for his taking on the role of Editor, to the *Lyminge Family History and Research Group*, to Katharine's Ladies and last but by no means least Derek. Without them the Society would have ceased to function long ago.

My Role in the Future

In resigning as Chairman I do not intend to abandon the Society. It is my intention, whilst the Society requires my services, to help Katharine finish the cataloguing of the archive and put (where possible) copies of the archive holdings on the internet as a research resource for both local people and those more remote. We have already been able to help in the researches of a Phd Student into the Elham Valley Workhouse that was at Etchinghill.

I will continue to assist technically in the production of future publications and until someone else comes forward I will also continue to maintain the Society's Website.

I will at some point, probably later next year and only if required, volunteer to be co-opted onto the Committee as a non-executive member.



John Carr – Chairman 2014

