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# Hythe Civic Society NEWSLETTER

No. 224 June/July 2022



## EVENTS

### Hythe Green Wood Inauguration 18 June

Hythe Green Preservation Society will be holding a small ceremony to celebrate the new Wood on Saturday 18 June. Everyone is invited to attend and explore the new space.

Their Facebook page says:

“There will be music and poetry as well as a wishing tree. We hope to welcome local independent brewers, Dockers, to take part and the Kent Kite Flyers will be putting on a show. The Scouts and Guides will be there as will local environmental groups.

We are trying to keep a balance between free access and protection of the young trees and this will be an occasion for everyone to see how the Wood is taking shape.

The Ceremony starts at 12.00. ”



We are very pleased to see this lovely addition to The Green, and delighted that HCS has contributed £450 for three trees to be planted in the new wood.

## PROPOSAL FOR OLD ALDI SUPERMARKET SITE

The Society has voiced its concern over the proposed redesign of the old Aldi supermarket. HCS is not opposed to the redevelopment but feels the proposed design in the middle of the Town is unsuitable. The Society welcomes the principle of a mixed-use development of shops and residential but would like to see the design more in keeping with the Town’s heritage.

Since 2019 the site has been vacant after Aldi relocated its Hythe store to the out-of-town Kengate Industrial Estate.



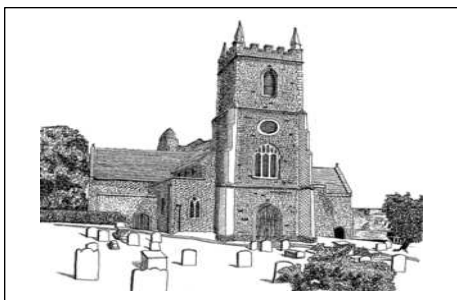
*Kentish Express 23 March 2022*

The plans have been drawn up by property developers In5 Group and their proposal, described as Town Square House, would see some existing buildings demolished and others refurbished to allow the creation of 35 homes and seven shops.

The plans would also see the existing car park off Prospect Road redesigned with 42 public spaces, 28 private spaces and 20 electric vehicle charging points. Town Square would also be redeveloped. Sam England of In5 Group said: “We believe the repurposing of the vacant large retail unit into smaller ones, combined with residential accommodation, will help sustain the town’s local economy”.

The Society is pleased that at last there is a proposal to redevelop the ex-Aldi site, but it remains concerned that insufficient time has been allowed for the Hythe public to be informed, and to make their views known to the developer, for such a sensitive site in the midst of the town’s conservation area. To read the full article go to: [www.kentishexpress.co.uk](http://www.kentishexpress.co.uk)

## NEWS FROM ST LEONARD'S CHURCH



**Friday 3 June, 7.30pm:** Primavera Chamber Ensemble: Mozart *Divertimento in B flat K137*; Brahms *Clarinet Quintet*; Dvořák *String quintet Op97 (American)* [Tickets £16 and £22 available online through the Primavera website at [www.primavera-ensemble.co.uk/concerts.html](http://www.primavera-ensemble.co.uk/concerts.html)]

**Ross Winters Memorial Concert Weekend, 11 & 12 June:** a weekend celebrating the life of musician and teacher Ross Winters (former Professor of Recorder at the Royal College of Music) including a 'Come and play' event (all welcome!) on Saturday 11th at 2.00pm and a main concert on Sunday 12th at 2.30pm featuring works for solo recorder, recorder ensemble, clarinet, piano and organ by some of the country's leading performers. [All events free of charge.]

**JAM on the Marsh 7-17 July:** St Leonard's Church will be hosting a series of world-class music events during this year's JAM on the Marsh multi-arts festival – see article opposite for details and ticket information; also [www.jamconcert.org](http://www.jamconcert.org). All concerts start at 7.00pm.

**Crypt stewards:** The crypt and ossuary are open to visitors from 1 May through until the end of September. If anyone would like to join our team of volunteer crypt stewards, please contact Brin Hughes by phone 01303 264470 or email to [brin.hughes@btinternet.com](mailto:brin.hughes@btinternet.com).

**101 High Street / Open Door Project:** Renovation and fitting out of the property is nearing completion with the Open Door project soon to get under way. If you would like to become involved in any way as a volunteer, or are just interested to find out more, please email [101opendoorproject@gmail.com](mailto:101opendoorproject@gmail.com)



*VOCES8 at Jam on the Marsh*

## JAM on the Marsh is back 7 – 17 July

JAM on the Marsh invites you to get up close to world-class events, including music, theatre, sculpture, art and poetry. Six events will be held at St Leonard's Church, Hythe starting at 7pm.

**8<sup>th</sup> July:** the Fibonacci Quartet, leaders from the Oslo Philharmonic and Anna Tilbrook perform Shostakovich's *Piano Quintet in G minor* and Mendelssohn's *Octet in E-flat Major*.

**9 July:** As one of the most popular vocal ensembles in the world, VOCES8 will delight the audience with its sheer joy of singing.

**11 July:** Ashford Youth Jazz Orchestra takes toe-tapping to a new level.

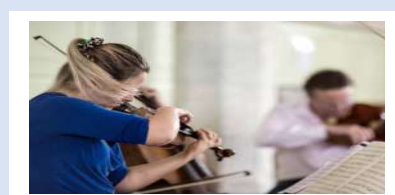
**14 July:** Lucy Crowe and James Gilchrist, two of the UK's finest singers, perform Walton's extraordinary *Façade*, setting poems by Edith Sitwell, and Walton's "A Song for the Lord Mayor's Table".

**16 July:** the stunning Holst Singers, Onyx Brass, Simon Hogan (organ) and Rebecca Afonwy-Jones (mezzo), conducted by Nicholas Cleobury, perform one of JAM's most exciting commissions, *The Fifth Continent* by celebrated composer Paul Patterson.

**7-17 July:** Angela C Smith's stunning stone sculptures will be on display daily.

The festival also includes Changeling Theatre's open-air production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, virtuosic clarinetist Michael Collins with the London Mozart Players, the London Tango Quintet and a Marsh Churches Mosaics Trail.

See [www.jamconcert.org](http://www.jamconcert.org) for info and tickets.



## ARCHIVE CORNER

### Digitisation Project

During 2021, we took the first step in our digitisation project with the conversion to digital format of 'REMEMBER HYTHE', one of the most popular, but out-of-print publications available from the Society. Compiled, drawn and designed by the late Rufus Segar (1932-2015 - a renowned illustrator in his time) 'Remember Hythe' remains a fabulous detailed artistic representation of the history of Hythe's High Street between 1902 and 1992.

At very modest cost (£50) to the Society, this excellent booklet was digitised in full and is available to download from our website by following this link:

[http://www.hythecivicsociety.org/publications/online%20books/Remember%20Hythe.%20R.%20Segar%20\(smaller\).pdf](http://www.hythecivicsociety.org/publications/online%20books/Remember%20Hythe.%20R.%20Segar%20(smaller).pdf)

Other out of print publications will follow. Meanwhile, a large quantity of the Society's photographic material has been scanned. We are very fortunate to be working in partnership on this project with the Kent Photo Archive, a small voluntary group (of two people) specialising in the scanning of old Kent photographs. The KPA website currently contains some 24,000 scanned images covering all parts of Kent. Their website is:

<https://kentphotoarchive.org.uk/>

Soon the KPA will have scanned about 3,000 images from the Society's archive and later this year we hope to be able to display this collection on our website and a selection on the KPA site. Included in these scans is a very large number of negatives bequeathed in the late 1990s from the late Jack Adam's collection – Jack was a professional photographer who had a shop in the High Street for many years. These images cover a vast range of subjects across Hythe, showing many buildings and features no longer present as well as the progress of construction of a number of current buildings.

We have been delighted to receive a large number of late C19th/early C20th glass plate negatives donated by David Horton, descendant of Benjamin Bassett Horton, and Benjamin William Horton (grandfather and keen photographer) – the family home being Cold Harbour, Blackhouse Hill, which is the subject of a number of the plates.

It will take time to catalogue all the images and design a suitable display format for our website, but when ready Society members and others will have access to a wealth of local historical material.

## THE SHELTERS ON THE SEAFRONT



1929 Aerial photo

These magnificent shelters (centre of the photo) were built in an oriental style on Marine Parade in 1896. They were linked to South Road by a small circular ornamental garden.



Early 1900's photo

As building along the seafront continued, these were demolished in the 1950s and replaced with the current building and a run of brick beach shelters to either side. Later, on the open ground behind, the swimming pool was built.



1930's photo

We assume they had fallen into bad repair for such lovely buildings to be taken down. We'd love to hear from you if you remember the shelters or hearing anyone in your family talk about them. You can contact us via [enquiries@hythecivicsociety.org](mailto:enquiries@hythecivicsociety.org) or call Kim Murton at 07564 616433

Calling everyone who enjoys the summer floral displays in the High Street...Hythe in Bloom needs your help...

If you have a car and a few hours to spare over the course of one week, please volunteer to be a waterer. It is not an onerous task but is hugely satisfying and you will be invited to the Society's Christmas helpers' party as a thank you.

Please call Sally on 01303 266118, who will be delighted to hear from you.

**WISHING YOU ALL A LOVELY  
SUMMER  
WE WILL BE BACK IN SEPTEMBER  
WITH OUR AUTUMN EDITION**

We intend sending more emails to our Members throughout the year, with news and information on Civic matters. This will enable us to send out our Newsletter four times a year.

If you do not have access to email we hope that you will ask a neighbour or friend who is an HCS member to print it for you. Our Facebook page is also a good source of information, but again if you do not have access to the internet you might ask another member to keep you informed.



Registered Charity No 283177

**COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Crispin Davies

Secretary: Mrs Mary Hunter  
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Treasurer & Membership:  
Alan Joyce

Newsletter Editors: Jill Ayling and  
Kim Murton

Newsletter Distribution:  
Michael Tubman (01303 267373)

**Patron:**

Admiral of the Fleet The Lord Boyce  
KG GCB OBE DL

## PLANNING

### RECENT GOVERNMENT PLANNING PROPOSALS

In the recent Queen's Speech at the commencement of the new parliamentary session there was brief mention of changes in the planning system. In the days following there were many pages of detail which is impossible to precis for the newsletter. There is some information on the HCS Facebook page (are you a member of the HCS Facebook group?) and there is even more detail on the "Planning" page of the HCS website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-and-regeneration-further-information/levelling-up-and-regeneration-further-information>

### OTTERPOOL PARK

A major planning application has been submitted to FHDC by the developer (Otterpool Park LLP) and is now on public consultation until 24 June 2022.

HCS will be asking all its email members (have you given your email address to HCS so you can be included?) for their views in early June but you should make your own views known to FHDC as well.

The development, which will be 50% green space, takes inspiration from the local landscape, culture and heritage of the area. Plans include up to 8,500 new homes, with community facilities and infrastructure such as schools, healthcare, parks and sports facilities. It will be one of the largest new communities in the country and is expected to deliver more than 9,000 jobs over 25 to 30 years.

<https://www.folkestone-hythe.gov.uk/otterpoolpark/planningapplication/updated/2022>

### NATIONAL CIVIC DAY EVENT 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

HCS will have a small display at the Quarterhouse Tontine Street on National Civic Day which is being promoted by Civic Voice.

The event is being organised by the New Folkestone Society, partly to publicise their re-establishment but also to draw together all other local Societies with similar interests; to enable them to advertise their activities and with a view to improving lines of communication.

It will be open to all members of the public from 11am until 4pm and aims to highlight the rich history of Folkestone and the surrounding area, to find out about local societies, and to enable people to have their say on the future of the District.