

The villages started to get into action to arrange victory celebrations:

East Kent Gazette, 16th March 1946:

VICTORY CELEBRATIONS

A public meeting was held at the Ambulance Hut, Teynham, on Friday last, to consider arrangements for the Victory celebrations on June 8th. The Vicar, the Rev. A. L. Lawler, was elected chairman, and Mr. D. J. Moor was elected hon. secretary. Three committees were set up, to be responsible for sports, refreshments, and finance respectively. After a good deal of discussion, it was agreed that the celebrations should be held at "Aymers," Lynsted. This is possible through the kindness of Mr. Comyn Ching. It was stated that efforts were being made to arrange for transport to be provided to take people from Conyer and Barrow Green, and from Lynsted.

East Kent Gazette - Saturday 25 May 1946:

Teynham and Lynsted Welcome Home and Thanksgiving Fund

GRAND GARDEN FETE

At "Aymers," Lynsted

(by kind permission of R. C. Ching, Esq)

On WHIT-MONDAY, JUNE 10th at 2.30 p.m.

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

Roundabouts, Swing Boats, Pony Rides, Bowling for Pig,
Darts, Hoop-la, Aunt Sally, Spinning Wheel, Pitching the Sheaf,
Artful Dodger, Produce Stall.

WHIST DRIVE : REFRESHMENTS : LICENSED BAR

Dancing on the Lawn – Ray Huntley's Band

ADMISSION – 1s. Children 6d.

East Kent Gazette – Saturday 25 May 1946:

TEYNHAM AND LYNSTED

Children's Party. In connection with the fete on June 1st at School Meadow, there will be a children's tea party. Lynsted children between the ages of three and 14 years, are asked to bring their own cups and spoons. Lynsted children will be admitted free to the fete.

Partner Drive. A partner whist drive held at the Y.M.C.A. Hut, Teynham, on Saturday, in aid of the Lynsted children's party, realised £2 10s. Prize-winners were: 1st, Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Barry 2nd D. Matson and Mrs. Page: consolation, Mrs. Mount and partner. A competition for a parcel of groceries was won by Mrs. Matson. In view of the small response which the whist drives have met, the Committee has decided to discontinue them. One more, however, will be held for the Lynsted Welcome Home Fund.

License Refused. – At Faversham County Petty Sessions on Thursday of last week, Mr. E. A. Branch, of the Black Lion, Lynsted, applied for two occasional licences from 2 p.m. till 11 p.m. for the Victory Day celebrations on June 8th, and a Welcome Home garden fête on June 10th. Stating that the police did not oppose the application, Superintendent E. W. Cash, of Sittingbourne, pointed out that the latest time to which the Magistrates could grant licences for such events was 10 p.m. In answer to the Mayor (Alderman Phil. Johnson). Mr. Branch said he understood the fête on Whit-Monday was being held in aid of the Lynsted Welcome Home Fund. The Mayor said an occasional licence would be granted for Victory Day from 2 p.m. till 10 p.m. but the Whit-Monday application would have to be refused.

Lynsted's own Welcome Home Fund Closing. – Lynsted's own Welcome Home Fund is to be closed. This was decided at a recent meeting of the Committee, which also agreed to abandon the proposed

August Bank Holiday fête. Mr. A. Dack (hon. secretary), who suggested June 1st as the closing date, emphasised the difficulties of making the necessary arrangements for the fête when the country people were so busy in June and July, and pointed out that, with increased transport facilities available during the summer, people would prefer to go further afield for their amusement. They hoped that the children's party on June 1st would show a small profit, and he suggested that this money be given to the Welcome Home Fund, which should then be closed, and the necessary arrangements made for the distribution of the money to the ex-Service men and women of Lynsted. Mr. Dack's suggestion was agreed to. All children below the age of 14 who have not received their tickets for the fete by June 1st should apply at Lynsted School on that date.

East Kent Gazette - 15 June 1946:

IN AID OF WELCOME HOME FUND

The organisers of the Lynsted Welcome Home Fund, who did much magnificent work throughout the winter months in aid of this deserving cause, surpassed all their previous efforts on Saturday, when they held a combined children's party and fete in the orchard adjoining Lynsted School, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Norman Taylor.

The opening ceremony was performed by Mrs Wells, the Member of Parliament for the Faversham Division. She was introduced by the Vicar of Lynsted (the Rev. L. E. A. Ehrmann).

In declaring the fete open Mrs Wells said she was very happy to see such an earnest desire on the part of the Lynsted people to give their Servicemen and women a real welcome home, and she felt sure that the hard times some of them had endured would be forgotten when they realised how much their efforts were appreciated.

Mrs Wells was warmly thanked for her services by the Vicar, and was presented with a bouquet by little Rosemary Stanley.

Immediately after the opening ceremony the children, who numbered about 120, were given free rides on the numerous swings and roundabouts, which had been provided for them by the committee. Such an opportunity was too good to be missed, and the youngsters had the time of their lives.

The arrival of the famous Dagenham Girl Pipers in the middle of the afternoon attracted a great deal of attention, and they gave their customary highly skilled display, which was thoroughly enjoyed by a large crowd.

Bumper Tea

Shortly afterwards the children were "rounded up" for a bumper tea, and it is no exaggeration to say that the meal which had been prepared for them would have done credit to the organisers even in pre-war days. That such an achievement was possible under present conditions speaks volumes for the generosity of the Lynsted mothers, who readily contributed what they could in the way of fats and other precious commodities that are in such short supply to-day. In addition to the free tea for the kiddies, teas were on sale to the general public and were in great demand, the caterers being kept very busy until a late hour. An unexpected teatime visitor was the Dean of Canterbury (Dr Hewlett Johnson), who was much impressed by the excellent "spread" provided for the children.

Tea was followed by a first-class entertainment by the talented pupils of Mrs D. M. Carter's School of Dancing. Their fine performance was greatly appreciated, and the committee are indebted to Mrs Carter for her generosity in putting on such an attractive show.

When the fun was at its height the attendance must have been in the neighbourhood of 700 people, and there was something to cater for all tastes. A number of well-stocked stalls and entertaining side-shows had been arranged, which with the various competitions attracted a generous measure of support. Those in charge of the stalls and side-shows were as follows:-

Spinning wheel, Mr J. Wood and Mr Seagars; competition stall, Mrs Bunting; nail in plank, Mr D. Seagars; darts, Mr R. Bunting; hoop-la, Mr Boorman; bowling for pig, Mr E. Seagars; refreshment stall, Mrs Mitchell and Ken Day; hidden treasure, Mrs Roberts; bottle shies, Mr T. Marsh; penny on square, Mr Philpott.

Competition winners

Following is a list of the winners of the competitions:-

Tea service, Mrs Baker, 9, Station Row, Teynham; bottle of rum, Mr B. Smith, Whents Farm; bottle of ginger brandy, Mr E. Gambell, 19 Station Road, Teynham; bottle of gin, Mr Button, 69 Borden Lane, Sittingbourne; iced cake, Miss K. Apps, Lynsted; cocoanut, Mrs F. Bunting; bowling for pig, Mr J. Woods (who very kindly returned the pig and afterwards sold it himself for £1 10s. for the benefit of the Fund).

One of the biggest attractions of the afternoon was a baby show, for which there were some very fine entries. The judging was kindly carried out by Dr. T. I. Jardine, and the results were as follows:-

Class 1 (up to 12 months).- 1st, Sheila Carey; 2nd, Baby Woodfine; 3rd, Margaret Wyles.

Class 2 (1 to 2 years).- 1st, Anthony Neaves; 2nd, Mervyn Caress; 3rd Bryan Apps.

Class 3 (over 2 years).- 1st, Barbara Longhurst; 2nd, Roger Carpenter; 3rd, Desiree Cork.

There was no entry fee, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes of 10s., 7s., and 5s. respectively, were awarded in each class. Consolation prizes were awarded to Patricia Mowbray and Heather Beagley.

Ankle Competition

Another very popular event was an ankle competition – for ladies, of course! Mr W. Warner bravely undertook the delicate task of judging, and carried out his duties in a most admirable fashion. After much careful study he announced the winners as follows:- 1st (10s.), Mrs Moseley; 2nd (7s.), Mrs Taylor; 3rd (5s.), Mrs Beagley.

Mr L. Newby's radio van supplied music during the afternoon, and also rendered good service in connection with loud-speaker announcements.

In the evening the school play-ground was floodlit for dancing, which was enjoyed by a large company until nearly midnight to the music of Ray Huntley's dance band. The weather, although not at its best, remained fine, and enabled the whole of the organised programme to be carried through without a hitch.

Mr C. Ruck, Mr R. Ruck, and Miss M. Ruck did duty as gate stewards at one entrance, and Mr A. Pilcher at the other. They were kept very busy indeed for long periods, the gate money amounting to nearly £25.

The lady members of the committee who, together with their numerous helpers, did such fine work in preparing and serving teas and refreshments, were Mrs E. Broad, Mrs C. Ruck and Miss L. Pilcher. The gentlemen on the committee were busily engaged in a variety of ways, and special mention should be made of the fine work accomplished by Mr H. Marsh and the indefatigable hon secretary, Mr A. Dack.

The committee would like to extend their grateful thanks to all those who helped in any way to make the event such a great success, both financially and socially.

At a meeting of the committee held on Wednesday evening, when the method of distributing the Welcome Home Fund was discussed, it was announced that the fete realised the magnificent sum of £138 7s. 3d.

East Kent Gazette - 22nd June 1946 (Continued)

Peace Celebrations

The Committee of the Teynham and Lynsted Peace Celebrations thank Mr. L. R. C. Ching and Mr F. C. Brice for allowing the event to be held in such ideal surroundings. Thanks are also due to all those who contributed gifts, either in money or kind, to make the occasion such a success. The sweets given for the children will be distributed at the Schools. The lucky number programme was No. 251, and the holder should apply to the Hon. Secretary (Mr D. J. Moor) before June 30th. At the conclusion of the adults' sports the prizes were presented by Mrs L. R. C. Ching, and among others present were Mr Percy French and Mr F. W. Dalton, chairman of the Teynham and Lynsted Parish Councils respectively, who sponsored the celebrations.

Welcome Home Fete

Among the many helpers at the fete held at Aymers, Lynsted, on Whit-Monday, in aid of the Teynham and Lynsted Welcome Home Fund, were the following: Mr G. Macey (spinning wheel), Mrs Roberts (hidden treasure), Mrs A. Pilcher and Mrs Dixon (produce stall), Mrs Lawler and helpers (hoop-la), Mr T. George and helpers (penny on square), Mr Trigg, Mr Carpenter, and helpers (bowling for pigs). Mr W. T. Wood and Mr A. Manser (pitching the sheaf), Mr Maurice Huntley (coconut shies), Mr Waters and Mr Malcolm Huntley (pony rides), Mrs G. Macey, Mrs A. Wigg, and helpers (refreshments). Valuable assistance in connection with the children's sports was rendered by Messrs A. T. Gates, P. Sykes, A. Wigg, and members of the Committee. Competition winners were as follows: Mrs A. Pilcher's bowl of fruit, Mr F. Sherwood; hidden treasure, Mr F. R. Bunting; bowling for pigs, Mr Ruck and Mr Austin. The results of the competitions for a bottle of whisky, some pullets, and the sealed number will be published in a later issue. A whist drive and snooker tournament, organised by Mr and Mrs L. R. C. Ching, proved a great success. The prizes for the children's sports were presented by Mrs Ching, and the competition prizes by H.H. Princess Andrew of Russia who was accompanied by H.H. Prince Andrew. The thanks of the Committee are extended to Mr Ching and Mr Brice for kindly allowing the use of their grounds and for their very ready assistance, and to all who gave their help in making the fete so successful.

East Kent Gazette – 20th July 1946

REVIVAL OF (CONYER) REGATTA

For the first time for 25 years, a regatta is to be held at Conyer in August. This will be the finale to the programme arranged by the Teynham and Lynsted Welcome Home Fund, and it is hoped it will be the most successful event of the season. The Regatta Sub-committee has held three meetings recently, the last on Tuesday evening, and the programme for the afternoon, which is August 17th, has been drawn up. Starting at 2.30 (about 45 minutes before high water) the first event will be a sailing dinghy race for all boats, 14ft. and under; and there will be a sculling race; swimming for men, women and boys; and also an open 440 yards swimming race. There will be other attractions such as a race for dinghies with outboard motors, greasy pole, pillow fighting, and a swimming race for dogs. After the regatta a fete is being held at Messrs. Eastwood's sports ground, adjoining the creek, and there with all the attractions well-known to people who have visited Teynham fetes will be in operation. Dancing will complete the day's entertainment.

Once again the weather was against the organisers. Due to gales, the regatta took place a week later than planned in September.