



*The Mayor and Mayoress of Hythe*  
(*Alderman Mrs. L. E. Farmer and Mrs. L. Blundell*)

*The Chairman and Members*  
*of the Hythe Venetian Fete Charity Society*  
*request the pleasure of the Company of*

**The Editor, British Paramount News Reel.**

*at the Hythe Venetian Fete*  
*on Wednesday, 12th August, 1953*

*Reception 4.15 p.m.*  
*Hotel Imperial, Hythe.*

*R. S. V. P. Mayor's Secretary.*  
*Municipal Offices, Hythe.*

X 42440

21, Ash Grove,  
Maidstone,  
Kent.

Maidstone 2769.

August 5th, 1953.

Dear *Jimmy*

HYTHE VENETIAN FETE, 1953.  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12th.

Enclosed is the programme for the Fete, together with a Press Badge which you will probably find useful for the Press Enclosure Buffet.

Should you wish to photograph or see the preparation of the boats on the previous day (Tuesday) or during the morning of Wednesday 12th inst., will you kindly contact Mr. J.C. Newman at 64-68, High Street, Hythe. (Telephone - Hythe 67454.) This address is within a few yards of the Military Canal.

The best entrance is the one at the bottom of Marine Walk Street, a turning on the right in the High Street and opposite the Town Hall.

Special facilities will be available for PRESS Cars, but should your representative be travelling by train to Sandling or Folkestone Central, Mr J.C. Newman will arrange for a car at the station, if advised before 12.30pm on the day of the Fete.

Train Service †

Charing Cross.	9.15am.	11.15am.	1.15pm.	3.15pm.	4.15pm.
Sandling.	-	12.55pm.	-	5.1pm.	-
Folkestone Central.	11.1am.	1.6pm.	2.50pm.	5.11pm.	5.35pm.

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Folkestone Cen.	7.52am.	9. Jan.	8.23pm.	8.55pm.	11. 2pm.
Sandling.			8.36pm.	9.13pm.	
Cannon Street.	9.30am.				
Charing Cross.		10.38am.	10.40pm.		
Blackfriars.				11.55pm.	
Holborn Vdt.				11.58pm.	
London Bridge.					1.19am.

Yours Sincerely,

*Arthur Newman*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1953

# THE ADMIRAL AND THE BISHOP WATCH THE CANAL BOAT PARADE

## Three barge-loads of mayors

*Evening Standard Night Reporting Corps*

**M**ore than 35,000 people were massed last night along the banks of the Royal Military Canal at the Cinque Port of Hythe, in Kent, for the town's four-hour Venetian Fete, with 28 decorated floats gliding in procession.

First in the river parade were three barges carrying the 14 mayors of surrounding boroughs and the Mayor of Windsor, all in their scarlet robes, golden chains of office, and escorted by mace-bearers with golden maces.

The Mayor of Hythe, Alderman Mrs. **LILIAN FARMER**, had two maces, a third of the normal size, dating from 1740. Said an official: "A few centuries ago all the mayors had two, then they changed them for one big one. But Hythe was too poor to afford a new one."

Admiral Sir **GEOFFREY OLIVER**, Commander-in-Chief, The Nore, came to perform the official opening ceremony. He arrived by land. He said he was "not very good at canals."

With Lady Oliver he watched from the official landing stage — nicknamed the "Mayors' Nest" for the night. "I am here looking for recruits," he said. "I hope when I show myself in odd parts of the country that people will remember we have a Navy—and perhaps join it."

Near to them sat the Suffragan Bishop of Dover, the Rt. Rev. **ALFRED ROSE**, "incognito" in a grey tweed suit. He had discarded the formality of galsters because of the hot weather.

Hythe's vicar, the Rev. **E. A. NEWMAN**, who is chairman of the Fete committee, turned part-time commentator over the public address system, and part-time "dock worker," helping the floats to come alongside and cast off when Mrs. Farmer presented the prizes.

*Mr. Stagg*



LICENSED BARS AND REFRESHMENTS TENTS

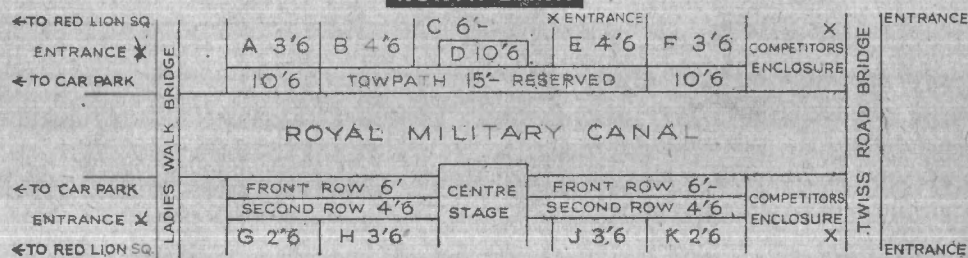
*Adequate parking facilities for cars and coaches  
Toilet facilities both Banks  
Ample standing room and admission by several entrances.*

SEATS BOOKABLE (PLEASE SEE PLAN)

SEATING PLAN

NOT TO SCALE

**NORTH BANK**



**SOUTH BANK**

Advance Booking Office open from 4th August at

MESSRS. F. W. BUTLER, 86, HIGH STREET, HYPHE, KENT.

10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each weekday. (except Saturday 10 a.m to 12 noon)

*Applications by post accepted beforehand if accompanied by remittance*

Gates open 3.30 p.m. Coach parties are advised to be in their seats by 5.30 p.m.

Fete and Parades of Tableaux 6.30 p.m.

*Further particulars from The Secretary, Venetian Fete, Hythe, Kent. Phone 67463*

To celebrate the Coronation . . . .

**A REVIVAL OF HYPHE CRICKET WEEK**

Monday, August 10th to Saturday, August 15th on the Hythe Cricket Ground

CORONATION TABLEAUX — HISTORICAL PAGEANT — MILITARY

BANDS — MILITARY DISPLAYS — ATHLETIC SPORTS MEETING

FLOWER SHOW — CRICKET — FUN OF THE FAIR

**A WEEK OF FESTIVITIES**

Information from Hon. Sec., Hythe Cricket Week, W. J. Bailey, 86, High Street, Hythe.  
Tel. 66608

*F. J. Parsons (Kent Newspapers) Ltd.,  
Printers, 84, High Street, Hythe.*

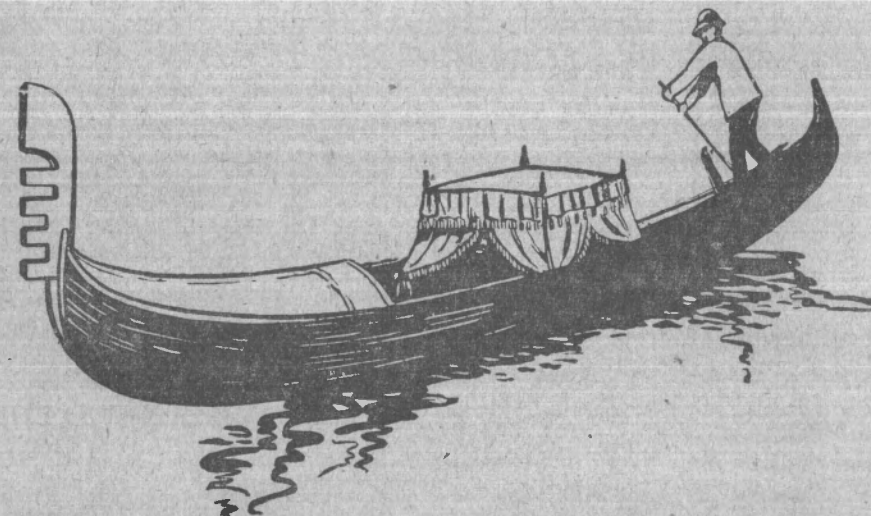
*British Paramount*



**HYPHE VENETIAN FETE**

*(During Cricket Week)*

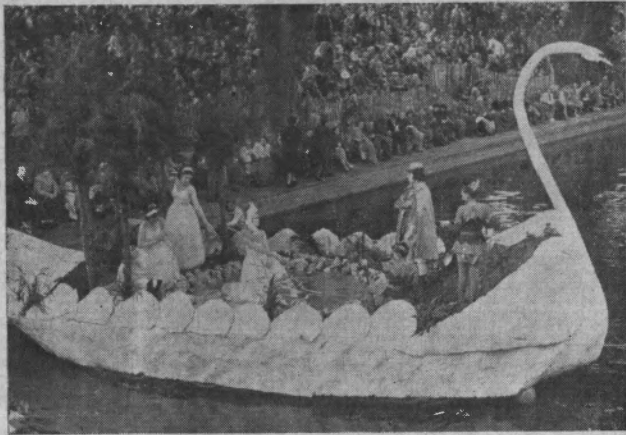
**CORONATION YEAR**



*On Hythe's beautiful inland waterway*



**WEDNESDAY, 12th AUGUST, 1953.**



Large numbers of water-borne tableaux depicting varied subjects are constructed by local people in their leisure hours, in secret corners of the town, each jealously guarded until they float on the water on the day for which they were made. The predominant theme is colour, beauty and humour. Commercial advertising is, very wisely, barred. These delightful tableaux, to the accompaniment of music, pass back and forth along Hythe's beautiful waterway, from late afternoon to well

after darkness falls. The tree-clothed banks of the water-way afford a natural grand-stand and everyone is assured of seeing everything that happens. Many happy hours are enjoyed as the panorama changes from time to time.

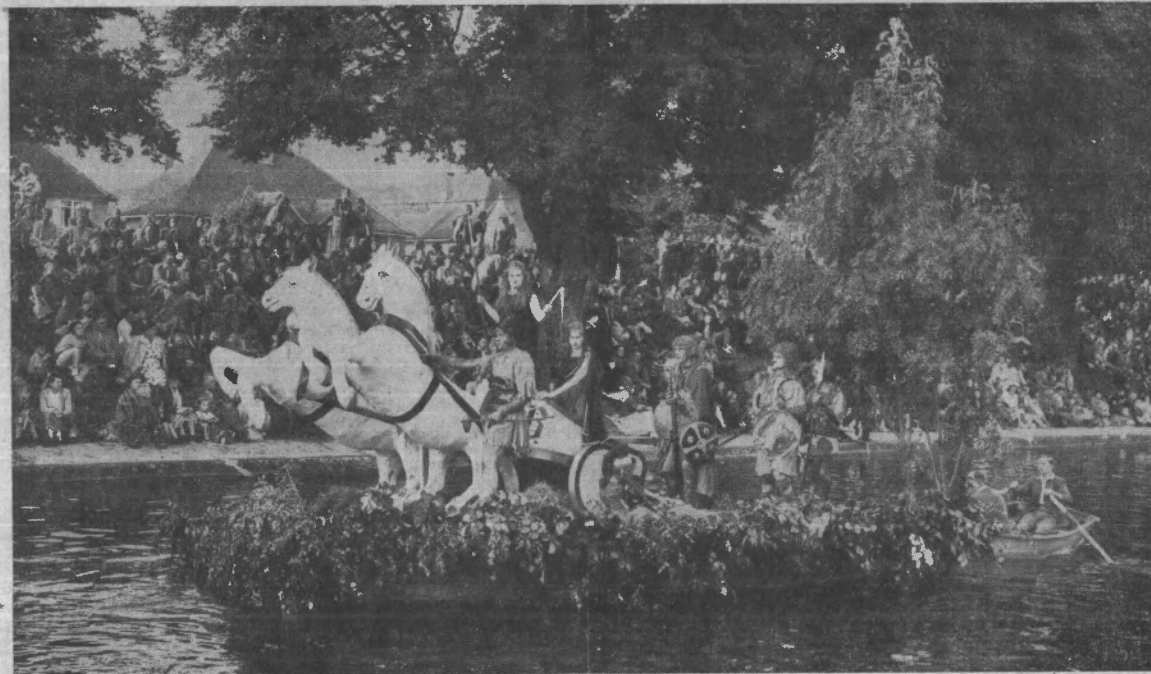
It is recalled that this attractive waterway was originally constructed as a defence measure when Napoleon's armies, in the early 19th century threatened to invade us. No scene is less warlike than this lovely stretch of water when transformed into fairy-



### This lovely water carnival is unique

AS its name suggests it is an event reminiscent of the beauty of Venice at the height of its gaiety. Visions of exquisitely decorated gondolas and music floating over its famous canals come readily to mind; but it is not so easy to visualise such a scene in England. Who, in Hythe, first had the odd idea of linking this small Cinque Port with world renowned Venice will possibly never be known. But whoever it was, he sowed a seed, that through the happy coincidence of a stretch of tree-fringed water and ingenuity of Hythe's People, has germinated and grown into a "hardy annual" of amazing beauty — the "Hythe Venetian Fete." This has culminated in it being broadcast, televised and freely reported in the national newspapers and other well known publications.

Complete enjoyment and appreciation will, however, be assured only by a personal visit to the Venetian Fete.



land by myriads of coloured lights among the tree-clad slopes mingling with the illuminations of the tableaux. It creates a never-to-be-forgotten picture.

The Hythe Venetian Fete is a spectacle which should be seen at least once in a lifetime. It provides an ideal whole or half day outing for members of Club, Social or Works organisations. Residents and holiday makers in London and the Home Counties visit the Fete in increasing numbers as travel facilities by British Railways and main Coach Operators are excellent.

*Hythe welcomes you at  
all times —*

*especially on*

***VENETIAN FETE DAY!***

