

THE

PARISH



NEWS

News from
the Churches
the clubs, groups and
societies
of Ninfield & Hooe

April 2018

50p



St MARY's & St OSWALD's



NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES

Date	St. Mary's	St. Oswald's
1 st April Easter Day	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
8 th April	No Service	11.00 Joint Parish Eucharist
15 th April	9.30 Eucharist followed by Annual Parochial Church Meeting	11.00 Family Service
22 nd April	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
29 th April	9.30 Joint Parish Eucharist	11.00 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Any alterations or additions to these service times will be displayed on the church notice boards, the weekly sheet and can be found on the church website along with other church details ~ www.ninfield.org.uk

APPOINTMENTS All enquiries about Baptism, Marriages or reading of Banns and concerning any other Church matters should be made to The Church Wardens, details on the back page

PARISH NEWS Views expressed in the articles in this magazine are those of the writer and not of the Parish Churches or PCCs unless it so states. This publication is produced and distributed by Members of both Parish Churches.

From
Paul Frostick



As I write this the snow has just melted after what was for many a terrible few days. Luckily we managed to stay clear of the worst that many even a few miles away experienced. Even here though I found quite a few events were cancelled because of the weather. Just a little snow in this country often brings chaos. Mind you I felt for those trapped in trains overnight and those trapped on roads for hours in freezing conditions. Then there are those who are homeless for whom the conditions must have been unbearable and those who could not afford to put the heating on. Yet a few days later the temperature has risen and the snow has gone. Things are getting back to normal.

Mind you the snow is in many ways a beautiful sight and the children certainly enjoyed playing in it. The plants in the garden must have been very confused; at first believing spring was beginning and then being covered in a blanket of snow. Yet underneath the snow the daffodils and other plants were still there, still alive and waiting to burst through the now frozen soil. To me that is a wonderful analogy of the meaning of Easter. On Good Friday the disciples were devastated by the events that happened to Jesus. Their world had fallen apart, indeed they feared for their own safety. Jesus had told them in many ways what would happen but like you and I they simply forgot or did not understand. Yet 3 days later there came new hope, new joy, as they slowly discovered that far from being the end it was a new beginning. To say they must have been confused would be an understatement yet out of that confusion came a new joy and with it a new energy inspired by their experience of that first Resurrection Day. From what seemed to be the end just like the plants under the soil, came the wonders of the New Life in Jesus. That same joyful experience is there for all, we just need to look and like the disciples believe. May you all have a wonderful Easter hopefully with no more snow!

Paul Frostick

Holy Week and Easter Services at St Mary's Ninfield and St Oswald's Hooe

Palm Sunday 25th March

9.30am Procession and Eucharist Ninfield

11am Procession and Eucharist Hooe

Maundy Thursday Eucharist 7pm Ninfield

Good Friday

11am Stations of the Cross Hooe

2pm The Final Hour Ninfield

Easter Day

9.30am Parish Eucharist Ninfield

11am Parish Eucharist Hooe

Prayer for faith and freedom

Almighty God, Lord of life, we thank you for the life and death of Jesus. Most of all we thank you for His resurrection which changed the world and made it possible for us to know you as our loving, gracious Father. Lord, when we feel locked in, imprisoned by fears and circumstances, help us to remember that locked doors mean nothing to you. You can set us free. You can help us. You give strength for today and tomorrow. You give us new life as your children, through faith in Jesus. May we open our hearts to your help today; to receive from you the peace and power that we need - and then to share it.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

At St Mary's Church

Baptism

Liza Mae Vitler 18th February

*from the
Parish Records*

St Oswald's Hooe Sponsored Pony Carriage Drive

Dick Carey and his team of helpers and ponies, are planning to set off at 10.00 am on Sunday 15th April 2018 from Parish Farm, Hooe. Sunday has been chosen with the hope that there will be less traffic.

This date has been made after the postponement of last year's attempt, which was called off because of injuries to the team of ponies. It has taken sometime, for Dick and his friends, to get all the team of people and ponies together and prepare for this new date. They are setting off with the intent of visiting 15 churches in the Battle and Bexhill area. It is not possible for the Team to visit all of the churches in the area, so apologies if you are not on the list.

Here is, a very rough guide, to the route and the estimated timings. The team will need rest periods en route.

- 10.00 am Parish Farm Hooe Start
- 10.30 am St Mark's Little Common
 - Little Common Methodist Church
 - St Martha's Little Common
- 11.15 am St Augustine's Cooden Drive
- 11.30 am Sackville Road Methodist Church
 - St Barnabas Sea Road
 - St Mary Magdalene Sea Road
 - Beaulah Baptist Buckhurst Road
- 12.15 pm St Peter's Old Town
- 12.40 pm Sidley Baptist Church
- 13.00 pm All Saints Sidley
- 13.15 pm Our Lady of the Rosary Southlands Road Sidley
- 14.00 pm St Lawrence Catsfield
- 14.30 pm St Mary's Ninfield
- 15.00 pm St Oswald's Hooe

If you would like to sponsor or support the event please contact either of the churchwardens, Jack Rist 01424 892576 or Simon Pattisson 01424 845087. Or you can sign up on one of the various forms to be found in the shop of Ninfield and Hooe.

ST OSWALD'S CHURCH

PLEASE CAN YOU SPARE AN HOUR
TO HELP WITH ST OSWALD'S CHURCH
AND GARDEN SPRING CLEAN?

SATURDAY APRIL 14th 2018

FROM 10AM ONWARDS

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NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 7th APRIL

7.30 pm

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PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND GLASSES

Ninfield Parish Council

The Parish Meeting will be on

Thursday 5th April

The Methodist Hall,

Ninfield residents are invited to attend

Hooe Parish Council

The next parish meeting will be on

Monday 21st May

Hooe Village Hall

Hooe residents are invited to attend.

The Great British Spring Clean

PLEASE JOIN US

SATURDAY 21st APRIL


10.00

Red Lion Car Park

Following the Clean Up we meet back
at the Red Lion Car Park

Teams will be allocated areas and equipment will be
supplied, however if you have high viz vests and gloves
please bring them with you

THE PARISH NEWS

TIn the space of two weeks we've seen all kinds of weather, ice, snow, evil east winds, all of which went to crush the lovely yellow daffodils which had dared to show their dancing heads, then almost as soon, that had gone, the winds turned and the sun came out, and that really did make everyone feel better. It was very noticeable as walking through the village, lots of people smiled and said hello, rather than being huddled in coats, scarves and gloves, dashing around to get home to the warm. There was a definite feeling of optimism. So enjoy the start of spring, have a peaceful Easter, with not too many eggs! 

Sorry if deliveries have been a bit out of sequence and the timings for entries a bit different, unusual circumstances this month., Hopefully normal service will resume next month!

Nicki and Carol

HOOE HISTORY GROUP

Thursday 19th April "Antique Maps" a talk by Mike Willis. 7.30pm. All welcome. Refreshments available.

Peter Hayward's talk on Motor bikes, Marathons and Muscle was well attended with many of the Russells Green tug-o'-war team coming along for a bit of a reunion and to be reminded of their quite amazing achievements in the late 1960's when they became champions of England in their sport.

By the time you read this John Dowling will have given his talk in March, "Bodgers and Badgers", which refers to how a campaign saved a much-loved, but threatened, local beauty spot (the Highwoods) for the enjoyment of the entire community. He also talks about some of its history as well as the local flora and fauna. John is a wonderful, passionate speaker and always gives us a wonderful evening.

Our future talk on Thursday 19th April will be by Mike Willis, who will be bringing his knowledge and expertise on "Antique Maps" along to us. There is so much historical information that can be found in old maps and they have existed in this area for hundreds of years with various degrees of accuracy. Mike has spent a lot of time researching this subject and is sure to give us a fascinating evening.

Photo competition – For those Hooe villagers who are not aware, we are running a photographic competition to obtain photos of the village to create a 2019 calendar. The theme is "Hooe at its best during the changing seasons". Full terms and conditions are on the website at hooehistory.wordpress.com They can be modern photos or older, but they do need to follow the theme. Entries to be sent to Pam Doodles at Catslide, Hooe before 31st August 2018.



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NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 14th APRIL

9.30 - 12.00

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Enjoy coffee, cake and a natter at The Pop Up Cafe

And remember 19th May, 16th June, 21st July

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O UR SCHOOL

We have recently had to ask a number of older children to leave the school grounds when they were found riding their bikes around the playground at the end of the school day. These same children were also heard shouting obscenities on the Rec quite obviously directed towards the staff. We do not put up with this sort of behaviour from present pupils so it is disappointing when we find past pupils acting like this and we will take appropriate action if it continues.

As I write this submission we still don't know whether or not we have been successful in getting East Sussex County Council to reverse their decision to withdraw the funding for our new classrooms. There has been plenty of activity, much of it championed by our local MP Huw Merriman, to get everyone to see sense but so far progress has been slow. The one good thing to come out of this is the tremendous support that we have received from all parts of the community, so thank you to everyone.

Hopefully next month I'll be back to writing about our achievements and we'll all be focussing on the education of the children rather than some leaky old huts which have seen better days.

Ian Moffat

Closing date for items for the next issue of the Parish News
FRIDAY 13th APRIL, ninfieldnews@btconnect.com

NINFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A car that appeared to have been abandoned was on the footpath near to the Memorial Hall in a very inconvenient spot. If you notice a vehicle which appears to have been abandoned (or dumped) you can look up this web site <https://www.check-mot.service.gov.uk/> and check if it is taxed and has a current MOT. If it has neither then it is probably worth reporting it to the police by dialling 101 or email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk.

Whilst on the subject of inconvenient parking might I ask you all to discourage visitors or contractors from parking on the footpath, it can make it very difficult for pedestrians. Often they may have to walk into the road or onto a very muddy grass verge to pass. It is even worse if you use a disabled buggy or have a push chair, and very dangerous to have to go into the road especially when one considers the quite excessive speed of some drivers through our village.

There have been a few incidents in the village this last month, as you may have seen in the paper one lady had an attempt to snatch her phone, very unpleasant for the lady concerned. Other items include a smashed car window and the theft of a tow bar and wheel.

So although generally Ninfield is a very crime free village it can be affected and we need to be aware.

For further information about Neighbourhood Watch you can contact me on ken.ffoulkes@which.net or phone 893635

Hooe Village Hall Fundraising Coffee Morning

The Village Hall, 10.30am

Coffee, bacon butties & conversation

Cakes, raffle, bric a brac

2nd Saturday of the Month

14th April, 12th May, 9th June

A good opportunity to meet up with friends and neighbours

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY

N will be holding it's AGM on Wednesday 18th April, 8.00pm at the Working Men's Club and we would like to invite you to come and join us.

Our plans for the Proms and Gig are progressing well with lots of interest from bands wanting to come and play. The Eastbourne Concert Orchestra has increased it's string section so will be bigger and better. Having listened to all of your feed back last year we are improving the sound system this year, moving a few things around so everything will sound really good this year.

Tickets will be on sale at the Village Stores from 1st April, adults £12.00 children £6.00 aged 5 - 15 inclusive.

Follow us on www.facebook.com/ninfieldmusicfestival/ or our website ninfieldbonfire.co.uk

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

N At our February meeting Geoff Hutchinson gave a talk on the pioneer of television John Logie Baird. Born in Scotland in 1888, Baird was an engineer and innovator. As with so many inventors he did not keep regular notes of his progress, everything was in his head.

He had an interest in photography and, as early as 1913, had dreams of sending pictures by telephone. With very little money he developed a mechanical system and gave the first public demonstration of moving silhouette images in Selfridges department store in 1925. By 1928 he was able to demonstrate the first colour transmission and went on to show the first 3D television.

Baird died in Bexhill in June 1946 in a building that has been replaced by modern flats. Baird Court, at the end of Station Road has a blue plaque commemorating this great inventor.

Our next meeting on Thursday 19th April will be the AGM. Following this short, formal part of the evening we shall welcome Carol Holland speaking about The History of Marriage Since Henry VIII.

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NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP

Monday 9th April, commencing at 7.30 we shall welcome Sue Thompson to the Memorial Hall with her demonstration titled "Up the Garden Path". We welcome non-members to this evening at a charge of £5.00 which includes refreshments. All flower arrangements demonstrated are raffled at the end of the evening.

Wednesday 2nd May, in the Memorial Hall, commencing at 7.30. We shall welcome back the well known radio and TV personality Mr Jim Buttress. His talk this time will be "The Royal Parks and Gardens. Tickets will be £5.00 to include refreshments. Tickets are available now from Mrs Helen Cunliffe on 01424 844916. A very popular evening so book soon.

Forthcoming events;

Monday - 14th May - Workshop

Monday 4th June - Demonstration by Nina Tucknott

"Come Fly With Me"

Should you wish any further information regarding any of our events, please telephone Jennifer on 01424 892878 or email:

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We have two events in April. On Monday 16th at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall, we have our final evening meeting of this season. Our speaker is Stuart Sutton who will be talking about his role as Wildlife Ranger with the Forestry Commission. Stuart is new to us but comes well recommended! Please come and enjoy the evening.

On Saturday 21st, we have our Annual Plant Sale and Coffee Morning in the Memorial Hall. We are open for sales from 9 till 11 am, and regular visitors will know that we have an excellent range of locally grown plants at good prices. You can enjoy coffee and cake while you choose your purchases. Those of you who have plants to donate for sale will be welcome from 8.30 am.

Any questions to Rose, please (01424 892422 or email: rose.franks1@btinternet.com)

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D EVELOPING IDEAS FOR NINFIELD

The Methodist Hall was buzzing at the free Coffee and Danish morning on 17th February. At one point we counted 42 people in the hall, and as there was a lot of coming and going the overall number was probably in excess of this.

Thanks to all who helped make the morning a success. Lots of ideas were shared and there were some offers to take things forward too. Ideas were as follows: Hub in the pub, a singing group, a sewing + group, a 'men's shed', transport for evening events, a dog walking service, litter picking and litter picking running groups, a dementia forum and dementia friendly film screenings, chair based exercise, a mini library in the Pavilion, a cycle path round the Rec. for kids, a path for mums for the school from the Kings Arms, teenagers meeting elders and walking cricket.

Out of those people who expressed an interest in developing ideas or who offered help to run an activity, areas of specific interest were – a community library, a dog walking service, litter picking and running BBQ's. If you have an interest in being involved in developing any of the ideas, please let me know. Even a small amount of your time could make a big difference. By the time you read this we will have met and decided what to do next. Activities like the sewing + morning will hopefully have started and the singing group should be on its way. Dementia friendly film screenings have started and there are plans to have more and for everyone, hopefully in the Memorial Hall with its loop system and with subtitles for those of us who need them.

Some of you who completed the 'expressions of interest forms' will have been contacted directly but please continue to look out for more information on social media, in Sami's column in the local paper and of course the Parish News.

Jackie Langley, Ninfield Parish Council.

Hooe Village Hall

Hooe Village Hall is regularly booked for family and children's parties, especially at this time of year when holding events outside can be hit and miss. Some people seem to return year after year as the hall is an ideal size to accommodate noisy excited children at a party. Why not check it out? Barbara Strevett would be happy to talk to you and to show you the hall. .01424 892067

NINFIELD CARNIVAL ASSOC. UPDATES!

'Over 60's Afternoon Tea and Cabaret' - It's only a month away, as this will be held on Saturday 12th May, in the Memorial Hall! Personal Invitations are being prepared, and will be delivered to all residents over 60, over the first two weeks of this month, so the committee really hopes that there will be a full take up!! On the day itself, Doors will open from 1.30pm and there will be Sherry, Pimms Punch and Prosecco on arrival! Afternoon Tea consisting of Sandwiches, Savouries and Cakes, and of course Tea, Coffee and Juices, will be accompanied by Cabaret- music, songs, comedy sketches, lots of laughter and some audience participation - and performed once again by 'Deja Revue', the Brighton -based, professional theatre company who have adopted Ninfield over the last 20 years! Rehearsal for the Cabaret are already under way...and as usual much laughter abounds while putting the new show together! And, while we hope that everyone enjoys the entertainment, we know that the absolute best part of the whole afternoon, is the sound of people getting together for a natter and a catch up!

The Summer Event - Ninfield Carnival 13th & 14th July 2018.

Please put that date in your diary now. Again, time flies and the event is only 3 months away!! The Carnival will have the usual family feel and coming together, with a mix of Traditional events and all the 'up to date' stuff!, but nothing is completely finalised. Masterchef will make a welcome return, as it was extremely popular, so start practicing those signature dishes! As the date coincides with both Wimbledon and the World Cup, as well as the Commonwealth Games, Rugby and Winter Olympics being in this year; there will definitely be a 'Sporting' theme.... So 'World of Sport' it is!

There are still a range of options for the Friday 13th evening; the decision will be announced next month. The Saturday Night Band has been booked and we're delighted to announce that very popular outfit 'The Chandeliers' will be taking the stage. We are currently discussing the exact layout and key events and would welcome people to come and help us shape The Ninfield Carnival, 2018.

Contact Sami Guard 07970650321 or Helen Rawlinson 07736660742 for more info.

Email Sami – samanthaguard@btinternet.com or Carnival Secretary, Helen, at heleniumhc@hotmail.com if you have any ideas, questions or comments

Or see you at the next meeting: Wednesday 11th April 8.30pm at the Tin Hut...it would be fantastic to have your input!



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I'VE BEEN THINKING AGAIN – BY MM

A couple of years ago (ahem!!) I remember a radio programme where a man was asked for his opinion each week and whatever the subject he would reply 'I think the answer lies in the soil'. On the subject of gardening, I would agree. Feeding, manuring, mulching and watering are the secrets. Feed the soil, not the plants. Good soil has to give good results. I have two compost bays and a plastic bin and they make gorgeous compost for mulching the beds. I still manage to fill the wheelie bin to the brim with roots and seeding weeds!

I find for pots it is best to mix half each of multi-purpose compost and John Innes No 3. Seeds need the fine seed composts, but if they are big brutes like broad or runner beans, they are fine in multi-purpose. Beans and sweet peas need deeper pots to allow for their long roots. Cardboard loo roll centres propped up in a seed tray are good for this and can be planted out as they are. The cardboard roll just rots away and the roots are not disturbed on planting.

Apparently, soaking seeds in tea helps to break through the hard shells of sweet peas and the like, due to the tannin (No milk or sugar!) I wonder if it would soften gardener's hands. Also, camomile tea is not just a calming brew for when you find molehills all over your lawn. It is said to have anti-fungal properties which protect seeds and cuttings on watering. A little diluted milk is supposed to work well too. Adding to a watering can some milk, vegetable or pasta cooking water gives plants valuable nutrients – so don't strain it down the sink! Lastly, a banana buried at the roots of a new rose provides a rich source of food as it rots down.

Don't blame me if your plants all keel over, I haven't tried these tips yet!

An apology from the editor in last month's article, the word toxophilists managed to get changed to toxicologists (perhaps poison arrows were used!!) Sorry.

Ninfield Parish Council

Parish Councillors

Phone

Kaye Crittall – Chair	892883
Sam Guard – Vice Chair/ Chair of Planning Committee	893699
Pam Doodles	892329
Peter Holland	893326
John Cheshire	892248
Jackie Langley	892422
Paul Coleshill	893138

Clerk Jackie Scarff

07725 843505

e-mail – ninfieldpc@btinternet.com

At the Parish Council meeting this month we were joined by lots of parents following the news that ESCC had withdrawn the funding for the school project.

There have been more meetings since that news but the Parish Council were not able to give parents an update as ESCC had made further demands to change terms that had been agreed and legally signed in the Heads of Terms August 17. The Parish Council are continuing to work with the county council to try and get the project re instated.

Sam Guarded chaired the bi annual ‘Strengthening Local Relationships’ meeting with ES Highways representatives and our County Councillor. This meeting is chance for the village to discuss topics like parking and speeding in the village. Whilst these are difficult subject to resolve this meeting ensure we keep searching for improvements. As many of the topics discussed also affect our neighbouring villages it was suggested that we combine the September meeting with the other villages, this idea will be trialled.

Speeding is something that is discussed at every meeting, one of the things that we can do to help is to be visibly using our ‘speed indication device’ (SID) we need help from volunteers to do this and full training is given. Please please consider volunteering some time to help us. The data we collect will help evidence our claims and of course while people are on the streets using the device it does slow the traffic. If you can spare some time for this please contact the clerk as it is something we would like to do in the coming months.

The next meeting will be Thursday 5th April at 7.15pm in the Methodist Hall.

Please also save the date on your calendar for the Annual Village meeting on Wednesday 16th May at the Memorial Hall.

Bacon and Mushroom Pasta

- 400g penne (or other tube shape) pasta
 - 250g pack chestnut or button mushrooms, wiped clean
 - 8 rashers streaky bacon
 - 4 tbsp pesto (fresh from the chiller cabinet if possible)
 - 200ml carton 50% fat crème fraîche
 - handful basil leaves
1. Cook the pasta in boiling water in a large non-stick saucepan according to pack instructions. Meanwhile, slice the mushrooms and snip the bacon into bite-size pieces with scissors or a sharp knife.
 2. Reserve a few drops of the cooking water in a cup or bowl, then drain the pasta and set aside. Fry the bacon and mushrooms in the same pan until golden, about 5 mins. Keep the heat high so the mushrooms fry in the bacon fat, rather than sweat.
 3. Tip the pasta and reserved water back into the pan and stir over the heat for 1 min. Take the pan off the heat, spoon in the pesto and crème fraîche and most of the basil and stir to combine. Sprinkle with the remaining basil to serve.

I would serve with fresh chunky bread. Enjoy!

C HRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our April meeting will be a lovely 'in-house' treat. Peter Doodles is preparing a music afternoon which, no doubt, will be delightful and lots of fun.

Please join us, second Wednesday of the month, 2.30 - 4ish at the Ninfield Methodist Hall. All welcome.

HISTORY OF THE MEMORIAL HALL - PART 2

H That helped to establish that village lore fitted with the facts. Result! But I couldn't leave it there, I had to know why had it been built? So, began my trawling through records of the Volunteer movement. During the Napoleonic Wars, Britain's armies were all overseas, Europe, America, Canada, India and Africa, everywhere but England and there was a very grave threat that should a French/Spanish fleet beat the Royal Navy and gain control of the English Channel, invasion could happen. The militia was formed, ordinary citizens, but banding together to defend their homes and the shores of England. One obvious monument to those times were the Martello Towers, a chain of small forts built almost on the tide line, with one heavy gun that with the adjacent Towers could cover all the likely invasion beaches. Once built, the threat went away, and after Trafalgar, the Royal Navy ruled the oceans of the world.

Then came the age of steam, and suddenly ships were no longer subject to the vagaries of the wind, and from French ports an invasion fleet could land an Army on our shores within a few hours. That revived the need for volunteer citizens to defend our shores again and this gave rise to the huge Volunteer Army for Home Defence. Thousands of men took up rifle training, the squires and gentlefolk formed the Yeomanry cavalry and mainly on the coast, Artillery Volunteers were formed.

And that's why the Memorial Hall was built, as a Victorian Drill Shed (the correct terminology of the times) for the Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers. But why Ninfield? And that brings us all the way back to 1066 and Pevensey! That's where a series of Martello Towers were and the strategy was that the local rifle volunteers would fight from the Towers and then "positioning" batteries, stationed a little distance inland, would then be able to bring additional mobile artillery cannons to support the forces holding the invaders on the beaches. Ninfield was ideally placed to be such a positioning battery. But what was the connection to the Brasseys? Well, Thomas Brassey, the Victorian great railway contractor, who built railways all over the world, was intrigued to learn that his family had roots going back to the Conquest, and thus chose to make his great stately home close to where it all began, close to Battle. He even researched his family Coat of Arms and found that a small village in Normandy was called Brecy, with a mallard as its emblem.

Having amassed an enormous fortune, Thomas Brassey wanted his children to make good marriages and become part of the established English aristocracy. His eldest son, also Thomas (who rose to become the first Earl Brassey) had been born in February 1836. In June 1865 he had won the seat of Devonport to become its MP (for the shortest period, losing it the following month in the General Election). So, without a constituency, he had time on his hands. He had already been commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers in Hastings in 1861 and it seems likely that the Drill Shed was built specifically to allow him to be promoted to Captain with his own unit under command at Ninfield. It was the bad weather that winter that delayed things, the damage to the walls and roof meant that repairs delayed the use of the Hall from February (his 30th birthday, until April 1866 when the records show the Ninfield battery was established.

In May 1966, there was an enormous banking collapse, with the failure of the Overend, Gurney Bank, so after May 1866, money would have been too scarce to allow for such gestures as his own building. Now comes the interesting bit – the Heritage aspect. 1865/66 makes OUR Hall the OLDEST Artillery Drill Shed still surviving. Historic England have a 90-page brochure about Victorian Drill Sheds and there are only about 6 older that still remain, but all were as Infantry Depots, not artillery. Kevin Regan

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HOOE OPEN GROUP

The Hooe Open Group held their monthly meeting on Friday 9th March at Hooe Village Hall. In spite of the rather wet day the turnout was unexpectedly large. The ladies were rewarded by a demonstration by Juliet Hammond, who is a qualified teacher in the Art of Yoga; from her Studio at Windmill Drive, Bexhill. Juliet instructed the members in movements that could be accomplished by the least mobile members of the Club. Her method is to achieve a state of Kalmar by nice and easy and relaxing movements, with some members nodding off, with heads bent low. After everyone come back from what had been a very interesting and worthwhile experience, tea was taken, after which the traditional raffle took place, with a selection of prizes. Everyone agreed that it was an afternoon not to be missed. If you would be interested in joining a group of lively ladies, who would welcome you as a member, come along to Hooe Village Hall (opposite to the Red Lion) the gathering starts a 2.30pm every second Friday of the month, except August, when the Club has an "Away Day".

For further information contact Edna Wallis on 01424 842591 or davidawallis@aol.com

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Worms Eye View

How lovely to celebrate Easter Day on April 1st. In one sense it is the beginning of a New Year. Actually of course it is the start of the financial year, but on a better note, the name April means to open and signifies new life among wild creatures and the opening of buds and flowers. It is said that if it thunders on April 1st we will have a good crop of hay & corn, so I shall be listening.

There are several days to celebrate in April. Cuckoo Day is April 14th when that famous bird is supposed to arrive on our shores. I always hope to hear its call early, but I don't think it likes the marshland as much as our woodland and I certainly do not seem to hear it as early as we did in Heathfield where we were surrounded by woodland. Having said that I would not want to go back there, it is wonderful to see so far from here, even the sea shimmering not too far away.

Most country folk welcome the cuckoo because they herald the end of winter, usually. Some people still turn their money over in their pockets or handbags, when they hear the first cuckoo, because they think it will bring them good fortune and make a wish at the same time. The cuckoo really doesn't stay that long here. There's a well-known verse that goes:

"In April, come he will. In May he sings all day. In June he changes tune. In July away he'll fly. In August, away he must, if he's heard in September it's a thing to remember, and heard in October, it means you're not sober!

Another well-known date in April is the 23rd St George's Day, Our Patron Saint. Actually in 1960, the Pope reduced his position as a saint and abolished his feast day as his existence cannot be proved, even if he did fight dragons. However he is still our national patron saint. Farmers call St George's Day a borrowing day, because around this time they can assess the potential of their crops and so bargain with bank managers etc. for loans based on that value.

Enjoy April with longer warmer days with all the birds' songs, not just the cuckoo, and the lovely flowers around,

Anne

TOXICOLOGY AND TOXOPHILY

The ancient Greeks had a word " toxikon" which described a bow to shoot poisoned arrows. From this word the names of 2 sciences have emerged .

Toxophily - "The Study of the Bow as in bow and arrows" and Toxicology , "The Study of the Effects of Chemicals on Man and the Environment".

Few people have heard of a toxicologist and even fewer have any idea what a toxicologist does.

I have been a toxicologist for over 50 years and over this period of time have spent my career investigating the safety of chemicals and devising ways to ensure that the useful properties of chemicals can be harnessed to the benefit and not detriment of man.

Over the years I have worked on the safety of food additives, the classification and labelling of chemical substances and preparations, detergents, petroleum products, smoking materials, household cleaning products, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and more recently the safety of chemicals in toys.

The origins of my profession were brought home to me on first business visit to Japan. My business card was translated into Japanese but when presented, I received, not the usual smile, but a curious double look. After 3 days I discovered what was wrong with my business card, The Japanese translation of My Title " Consultant Toxicologist" read, quite simply " Expert Poisoner". Alan Collings

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Dick Carey	Chairman	01424 892051
Revd Peter Doodes	Vice Chairman	01424 892329
Pam Doodes	892329	Robert Pilbeam 844365
Peter Hayward	892009	Chris Bloor 843661
Gary Durman	893007	

Parish Clerk Sally Durman 893007

Sorry there is no report this month other than to say the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM will be held on Monday 21st May and in the May edition will be the report of the March 19th Meeting.

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Reverend Patricia M. Williams BA (Hons)
15 Holmesdale Road, Bexhill TN39 3QE.. Tel: 01424 733137;
email: revpmwilliams@yahoo.co.uk

Sunday Services for April 2018:

1 st	10.30 am	EASTER SUNDAY 'All age' Easter Praise with Revd. Derek Brice, + Easter Breakfast & 'EGG HUNT' from 9.30 am.
8 th	10.30 am	Service of Worship & Praise with John Troughton
15 th	10.30 am	Service of Worship & Praise with Revd. Tricia Williams
22 nd	10.30 am	Service of Worship & Praise with Jennifer Winnington
29 th	10.30 am	Service of Worship & Praise with Revd. Neville Barnett
6 th May	10.30 am	Family Café Worship, with breakfast.

Events for April 2018:

11 th	2.30pm	Christian Womens Fellowship
11 th	5.00 – 7.00pm	Messy Active Teens
25 th	3.30 – 5.30pm	Messy Church – 'Thy Kingdom come'

'A Very Happy Easter' to you all.

We look forward to Easter Sunday & invite you to celebrate with us. This year we are having a family Easter Breakfast, in our hall, from 9.30am including an EASTER EGG HUNT. The 'All age' celebration that follows will focus on the Easter Theme of Good News, New Beginnings & New Life. We invite you to come and celebrate this special Christian season with us & reflect on the joy & hope that this message about Jesus brings to us all.

We are pleased to be joining with St. Mary's on Good Friday at 2.00pm for their service of reflection.

Messy Church in April will have activities & celebrations on the theme 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Please note that the Methodist Circuit publishes a local magazine 'Spotlight' with news from all the churches. www.hbrmethodists.org.uk/ The Christchurch / Bexhill, & Ninfield Churches issue a monthly Newsletter (available on request). www.christchurchmethodist.org.uk/

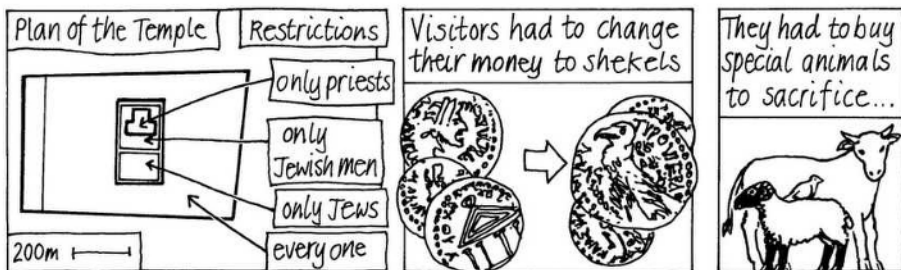
Church Hall Bookings: David Swales 892248

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mt 21:12-16, Mk 11:15-18, Lk 19:45-48

When Jesus reached Jerusalem he went to the Temple, built as a place where everyone could worship God, but with restrictions...



APRIL DATES FOR OUR TWO VILLAGES

April

5 th Ninfield Parish Council	P19
7 th Quiz Night, Memorial Hall	P 6
14 th Coffee Morning Hooe	P11
11 th Christian Women's Fellowship	P20
14 th St. Oswald's Spring Clean	P 6
14 th Village Market	P 9
14 th Coffee Morning, Hooe	P11
15 th Sponsored pony carriage drive	P 5
16 th Horticultural Society	P13
18 th Ninfield Bonfire AGM	P12
19 th Ninfield Local History Group	P12
19 th Hooe History Group	P8
21 st Annual Plant Sale	P13
21 st Hooe Spring Clean	P7

Anyone have any more dates for this page?

2nd May Ninfield Flower Group
 12th May Over 60's Afternoon Tea
 30th June St Oswald's Garden Party
 13th/14th July Ninfield Carnival
 21st July St. Mary's Church Fete and Open Church
 27th/28th July Ninfield Proms & Gig
 29th/30th September Art Exhibition
 20th October Bonfire Night
 25th November Home Made Fayre

Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD ACTION GROUP Paul Coleshill 893138

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Secretary Carol Holland 893326

NINFIELD BOWLS CLUB:

Hon Secretary: Mrs Val Smith, 300 Turkey Road, Bexhill 843436

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:

Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY:

Secretary Jennie Harmer 892357 jennieharmer@aol.co.uk

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:

Show Organiser: Rose Franks, Little Gates, Potmans Lane, 892422

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Membership Sec. Corinne Gibbons 892612 corinnemgibbons@gmail.com

NINFIELD PLAYGROUP & TODDLERS

Preschool: Liz Walker, 7 Thorne Crescent, Bexhill, TN39 5JH

Toddlers: Stacey Boarer, 07967436479

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Phil Ringrose 892792

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Hon. Sec. Lynn Denton 892347

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Group Scout Leader: Martin Gausden martin.gausdengsninfield@hotmail.co.uk

Explorer Scout Leader: John Hornby 07783471115

Scout Leader: Glen Harrison 07936552785 ninfieldscouts@gmail.com

Cub Scout leader: Tracey Harrison 07970 359724 ninfieldcubs@gmail.com

Beaver Scout Leader Sandra Creasey 07908 558721 ninfieldkaa@goolemail.com

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

NINFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB: Julia Hurrell 07508 080608

DANCE & DRAMA CLUB: Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

HOOE BELL RINGERS : Simon Pattisson 845087

HOOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE LINE DANCE GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE OPEN GROUP: Edna Wallis 842591

HOOE SPORTS CLUB Chairman: Tim Bryant, 2 Saddlers Cottage, Hooe

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Pam Doodes, Catslide, Hooe 892329

SENLAC BELLS Conductor Alan Collings 893313

STOOLBALL: Fixture Sec. Linda Smith, Holmes Farm, Whydown 845163

PARISH WHO'S WHO

PRIEST IN CHARGE OF NINFIELD AND HOOE Rev Paul Frostick,
18 The Ridings, Bexhill on Sea. East Sussex. TN39 5HU. 01424 218126.

PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

Churchwardens: Mr Phil Ringrose ☎ 892792
Mrs Catriona Mary Owen ☎ 225421
Secretary: Mrs Ann Ringrose
Treasurer: Mr Phil Ringrose

PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD, HOOE

Churchwardens: Mr Jack Rist ☎ 892576
Mr Simon Pattisson ☎ 845087
Secretary: Mr John Fairclough
Treasurer: Mrs Cynthia Fairclough

USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES

THE PARISH NEWS

Email ninfieldnews@btconnect.com ☎ 893326

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Jackie Scarff ☎ 07725843505 email ninfieldpc@btinternet.com

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Sally Durman ☎ 893007 email hooepc2@btinternet.com

READING ROOM

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MEMORIAL HALL

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HOOE VILLAGE HALL

Booking Secretary: Mrs Sally Durman, 1 Elizabethan Cottages, Hooe ☎ 893007

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Booking Secretary: Mr David Swales ☎ 892248

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mr. Chris Brown, Church Lane, Ninfield ☎ 892486

DOCTORS The Surgery, High Street, Ninfield ☎ 892569

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