

THE

PARISH



NEWS

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

February 2021 50p



St MARY's & St OSWALD's NOTICE BOARD CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



Due to Lockdown there will be no services in either of our churches until at least the end of February.

If this changes we will try and notify everyone either by email or Facebook.

Paul is continuing to put the Sunday services on line and he will be putting an extra service on line for Ash Wednesday 17th February.

The Link is www.ninfield.org.uk

Opening times for Private Prayer

St Mary's, Ninfield is closed.

St Oswald's, Hooe is open daily 9.00am to 4.30pm.

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, reading of Banns or any other Church matter 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.

Dear Friends,

Usually during the winter season, in our communities and in our churches, we begin the preparation and waiting for Lent and eventually Easter itself. Yet things this year as last year are far from normal. Many had hoped that as we went into the New Year there would be a new beginning and things could slowly start to get back to some sort of normality. Sadly, that is not to be, at least yet! Our printed magazine not being available this month is one such example. There is an underlying theme that is interwoven in our everyday lives, which has become more significant now more than ever, and is something that is integral to our survival as humans, namely adaptability.

As humans we have an amazing capacity to adapt; this is how we have populated almost all areas of the world despite having to overcome extreme conditions. Our environment is constantly changing; creation itself is always changing.

During this last eleven months, we have all had to adjust to the enforced restrictions during this pandemic. Adapting in this way might feel new and unsettling but in all areas of our life we have to adapt as we learn and grow. We are used to it. Who remembers becoming a sibling, starting school, becoming a teenager, aunt, uncle, or parent? Sadly, many have recently had to cope with more severe circumstances such as losing jobs or livelihood, illness, loss or bereavement and our hearts go out to those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit.

It makes me wonder how some people have been successful in adapting to challenging circumstances; what helped them through this experience? An example is Joseph from the Old Testament in the Bible, the one with the coat of many colours. Another is Nelson Mandela. In both cases they were imprisoned, and both men had a deep and profound faith in God which they did not lose. They retained their grace and sense of worth. Both rose to be leaders of nations. The gift they had is special, incredibly special, but not exclusive to them.

Just before Christmas I watched a programme about a school for children with special needs where a disabled teenager was enabled to have a voice through advanced communication technology.

Teachers adapted to the needs of the children, ordinary people doing extraordinary feats; nothing short of a miracle and extremely liberating for that young man. Indeed, the teachers in Ninfield school have done a tremendous job in adapting to these new and challenging circumstances we find ourselves in.

As we return to our plans this year, everything will look quite different. Yet, let us remember our capacity to adapt as humans, that undoubtedly, we have already started to do. So, with the strength of faith, hope and love, we will find new ways of showing the love of God to those we meet.

So, peace be with you in this not so New Year and may you all stay safe and well.

Paul.

A prayer for the pandemic

Dear Father God,

You promise to hear us when we come to you in prayer, thank you! We so need Your listening ear at this time – and your help, Lord. Winter always brings challenges, but this winter is exceptional as the effects of the pandemic continue. When we are afraid, or lonely, or grieving, or in despair, help us to trust You and to know that You are with us in the middle of it all, sustaining us. You are not social-distancing, You are very, very close, full of love and compassion.

We pray for our National Health Service and ask for Your special strength and protection for all staff. Thank you for the skills You have given to scientists all over the world. Thank you for the hope which the vaccines bring. Most of all thank You for the hope which Jesus brings. This earthly life is a whisper in the light of eternity and Jesus is the key to that eternal life. Thank You, Father, for meeting all our needs in Jesus.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Message from Ninfield Surgery

We would like to thank all of our patients for their continued support in the last few months. We are continuing to offer doctor, nurse and HCA appointments, plus providing all routine and other medication, so please contact us as usual for any advice.

We would like to remind our patients to follow the government guidelines when visiting us. We can only have limited numbers of people in the surgery at one time and you will be asked if you have any symptoms, you should wear a mask, you will have your temperature checked on arrival and we do ask patients to stay 2m away from others.

As you will know from the press coverage, the Covid-19 vaccines are being rolled out. We have already vaccinated many of our patients and would ask that anyone over 80 who hasn't been offered a vaccine, to contact the surgery on 01424 892569.

All other patients will be contacted in due course and we would request that they don't contact any of the surgeries, we will contact you when it is available.

We are also pleased to say that we are shortly going to be starting a long overdue refurbishment of the waiting room. This should cause only minimal disruption to patients, but please bear with us if it is slightly noisier than usual in the waiting area.

St Oswald's Parish Church

Funeral and burial St Oswald's

Trevor Read on 23rd December 2020

*from the
Parish Records*

OUR SCHOOL

Part 1: That was the Year that was.

I write this with only one week to go until we close for Christmas and I am proud to be able to say that, in this very uncertain year, we have been open every single day. That is testament to the huge effort put in by all the staff; who have gone far more than the extra mile to ensure the doors remained open to as many children as could be accommodated.

The year started so well with the expectation of a return visit from OFSTED to establish whether we were an Outstanding School or simply Very Good. The planning underway for the Year 6 trip to Bewl Water and all the other apres SATS celebrations that help to bring the end of the final year at primary school to a memorable close. The little ones in Reception just beginning to get into the routine of 'big school'. And then we all started to learn about Coronavirus and Covid 19 and the world turned upside down.

If I take one thing from this year, it is how well, and quickly, everyone reacted to an ever changing situation. The Government announcements came thick and fast with little warning, and they came as broad brush strokes that assumed that small village schools like ours had exactly the same resourcing capabilities as large Academy chains. Learning went from face to face for everyone, to face to face for key workers children and on line for the rest; then it was face to face for some year groups and on line for the rest; then it was face to face for everyone; finally it was face to face for those who did not have to isolate and on line for the rest. And, of course, standards must not drop. Who would ever want to be a Teacher!

For all of the challenges that this year has brought, the thing that I will always remember is the smiles of the children as they returned to school after lockdown. They were actually excited to be back at school, with their friends, learning, playing and growing in a safe and happy environment. As our School's Vision Statement says: "Life in all its fullness" John 10:10

So at the end of 2020, on behalf of the Governing Body of Ninfield CE School, I would like to thank all of the staff for their dedication and commitment; all of the Parents and Guardians for supporting us all

the way; all of the villagers of Ninfield for giving a wave as they passed by the school and for all the kind words of encouragement and support. But most of all I would like to thank the children for smiling, being happy and being children, regardless of what the world throws at them.

Part 2: Lockdown 3 – The Final lockdown?

Well 2021 started so well. We all turned up on Monday 4th for some in house, socially distanced training. We left school that day ready to welcome the children back on the Wednesday. And then Boris did it again. On Monday morning schools had to open, they were a safe place to be, by Monday evening it was all change and we were back to square 1. Lockdown was back.

We were lucky, our children weren't expected back until the Wednesday so at least we had a day to get things sorted. So it was back to the discussions about who were critical workers; how could we provide the on line learning that we were now legally obliged to provide; how do we keep staff and children safe in such a small site. The Risk assessments came out, there was much head scratching and then everyone just got down to doing what they always do – making the best of what is thrown at them.

So as I write this part 2, we have up to 40 children in school, we have provided Lap Tops to as many families as we are able (don't believe what you hear on television, the one million laptops purchased and distributed by the Government never got anywhere near Ninfield!) And classes are now taking place on line when possible. Teachers are stressed, parents are stressed and it certainly doesn't feel the same as Lockdown 1.

Forest Gump made sense of it all when he proclaimed that 'Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you are going to get'. But I think at this time I am going to be positive and go with D:Ream's 'Things can only get better'.

Take care and we'll see you on the other side of Lockdown.

Ian Moffat

Editors' Note

Once again we have to send this to you electronically, probably the March one as well, but come April..... fingers crossed, you may get a paper copy again.

This month we have some good long articles for you to read while sat at home, hope you enjoy them. It would be really nice to get some feed back from you as to whether you enjoy them or if there is something else you'd like to see.

We have a couple of new advertisers this month, a gardener and a beef farmer, check them out. Many of the advertisers are still working, especially those who do not need to come into your homes, so if you have things you planning, talk to some of them now.

As we said in the last issue, no one will be collecting your annual fee until spring, so please don't worry.

We hope all of you are keeping safe and looking after yourselves and your families, we'll soon all have our vaccines and start to get back to a semblance of normality, sadly we just need to be patient!

Nicki & Carol



Village Society

Volunteers planted a Christmas tree at the end of Church lane 9th December 2020.

This replaces the dead cherry tree and is in remembrance of Percy Simmons.

Quinn's Carpentry

Bespoke carpentry to suit your needs

Tom Quinn

*Carpenter and Joiner,
20 years experience*



07515 907210 tomquinn1984@gmail.com

Experienced

HANDYMAN

**Painting, Plumbing, Gardening,
House Maintenance etc.**

Phone RICHARD

01424 272136 /

07980 933766

All jobs considered

Free Estimates

C & C Carpets

CARPETS - VINYL - TILES Etc

SUPPLIED AND FITTED

No Job too small

CLIVE SCOTT ☎01424 893209

BRIAN WICKENS

PAINTERS & DECORATORS

Qualified Tradesman

Free Estimates No VAT

Home: 01424 224328

Mobile: 07803 095061



Hire local portable toilets for all occasions

Please contact us for further details

info@meridiantoilethire.com

We conform to all Health & Safety standards



☎ 01424 892257

info@haffendenroofing.co.uk

www.haffendenroofing.co.uk

Gentle Sole Foot Therapy

Foot Care in Your Own Home

- including routine Diabetic foot and nail care

Julia Stickells

Foot Health Practitioner

SAC Dip FHP-, SAC Dip-F-IPP, MRFHP

Mob: 07512 118650

Web: gentlesole1066.co.uk

Email: gentlesole1066@gmail.com



**EAST SUSSEX
OSTEOPATHS**
TREATING THE WIDER FAMILY

Registered with the General Osteopathic
Council and the Institute of Osteopathy,

East Sussex Osteopaths offer clinic

appointments in Dallington & Heathfield.

To book an appointment, 07762 576 492

www.eastsussex-osteopaths.co.uk

Calls for complementary advice also welcome

Ninfield Parish Council

Clerk Jackie Scarff

07725 843505

e-mail – clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

At the December Parish Council meeting following receipt of the residents votes the councillors resolved to petition Wealden District Council for a Local Government Boundary review. There is a strict process for this which will begin now that Wealden have received the petition. As we hear more we will keep you updated.

The Parish Council are looking at doing some work in the children's playground. The safety surfacing around the equipment needs replacing and we are getting quotes . Obviously the pandemic makes this more tricky but company's are still working and as the playground is outside representatives can visit in a Covid safe way.

Lots of people are asking questions about the covid vaccines and the latest information we have is as follows.

Vaccination process in East Sussex

The NHS is working to ensure that all East Sussex residents who are eligible for a vaccination will be offered one as quickly as possible.

This is following the same priority list for vaccinations as in other parts of the country, which is focusing on the following by midFebruary:

1. residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
2. those 80 years of age & over and frontline health & social care workers
3. those 75 years of age and over
4. those 70 years of age & over and Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals.

The latest list of East Sussex vaccination sites is available [here](#).

There are a number of ways in which the vaccination is being rolled out to our communities: · A GP-led vaccination service where those in the first priority groups living in our local community will receive their vaccination. This involves local GP practices working together to provide the vaccination to their collective patients at one location. This means that you may not receive the vaccination at your local GP; you may be required to travel to a different location nearby.

· Hospital hubs – local hospitals across the country have begun giving the vaccine to people over 80 who are attending for a planned appointment and frontline health and care staff. You will only receive your vaccination in this way if you have an appointment at your hospital.

- Roving service – the vaccine will be taken into care homes and into people’s own homes if they cannot attend a vaccination site. This is being stepped up over the coming weeks as more supplies of the vaccines become available.

- Large vaccination centres – each county will have one large vaccination centre which will be able to give the vaccine to large numbers of people. The large vaccination centres that will service your area will be at the Brighton Centre and this is likely to be up and running at the end of the month.

Over 70s to begin receiving vaccination invitations This week (W/C 18/1/2021) the government has announced that once vaccination services have vaccinated the majority of people in the first two priority cohorts recommended by the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) - residents and staff in care homes for older people, those aged 80 and over and frontline health and care staff, they now have the flexibility to offer vaccinations to the next two cohorts – those aged 70 and over and clinically extremely vulnerable people. This will keep up the pace of the vaccine roll-out, ensure that no vaccination appointments are unused and prevent wastage. In Sussex, people aged over 80, care home residents and staff, and health and care workers remain the priority and good progress continues to be made.

Latest position on GP led vaccination services for East Sussex residents

These are the two areas that affect Ninfield Residents

Rother district For patients in the district a vaccination service went live last week at:

Bexhill: Sidley Medical Practice, for patients at:

- Collington Surgery, Little Common Surgery, Pebham Surgery and Sidley Medical Practice

Etchingam Village Hall (goes live 20 January), for patients at:

- Fairfield Surgery, Ferry Road Health Centre, Martins Oak Surgery, Northiam Surgery, Oldwood Surgery, Rye Medical Centre, and Sedlescombe and Westfield Surgeries.

The GP led vaccination service at Etchingam Village Hall will be a partnership between Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust and the GP practices listed above. Preparations at Etchingam Village Hall are being finalised this week with the aim that the first vaccines will begin to

be administered at the start of next week, (25.01.2021) subject to a confirmed vaccine delivery date.

The GP practice teams are identifying patients eligible at this stage, starting with the over 80s, with appointments booked in the coming days.

In a statement the teams have said 'We recognise that at the current time, with one site at Etchingham, some people will have to travel further than others to get their vaccination depending on where they live in the local area. We would like reassure everyone that there are discussions about further locations in the area and how the vaccination can be transported and offered from GP practices. This is a fast moving programme and over the coming weeks, there may be the option to provide the vaccine from more sites across our communities very soon. You can find information about community and non-emergency transport on the East Sussex County Council website, or call the community hub on 01273 099956.'

Under the Govt Covid rules it is allowable for people to drive someone to have their vaccine even if they are not in the same house hold. There is advice available for this on the Govt website. Its recommended that windows are open in the car for ventilation and masks are worn.

Come and Meet the Fiddlefaddlers!

Find us on YouTube!

If you have little ones aged 2-5 years, why not join Scatty Hattie, Mushty, Kushty and Flobblehead at Fuddlers End Farm...!!

Lots of songs, dances, counting, colours, painting, animals.. have some Lockdown fun and gentle learning... We'd love to see you!!



SMILE LINES

Disperse them

A young clergyman, fresh out of training, thought it would help him better understand the harsh realities his future congregations faced if he first took a job as a policeman for several months. He passed the physical examination; then came the oral exam to test his ability to act quickly and wisely in an emergency. Among other questions he was asked, "What would you do to disperse a frenzied crowd?"

He thought for a moment and then said, "I would pass an offering plate." He got the job.

Fall down

One way to find out if you're old is to fall in front of a group of people. If they laugh, you're young. If they panic and start running toward you, you're old.

DANCE CLASSES 'MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC'

For the Older & Still Active Person
Every Mondays 10.00 am

LADIES DANCERISE

Every Wednesday evening 6.30 pm

'BURLESQUE!'

Fortnightly, Friday evenings 7.00 pm

All classes at the MEMORIAL HALL

Fully Qualified Professional Teacher

Call : SAMANTHA GUARD A.I.S.T.D.Hons.
01424 893699 or 07970 650321

Sussex Wildlife Control

For a fast, friendly and discreet service

Ants
Bed Bugs
Bird Control
Carpet Beetles
Cockroaches
Fleas
Fly Control
Mice
Moths
Rats
Rabbits
Squirrels
Wasps
Moles & More

Call Now

07505 864 063

Domestic and commercial
pest control

SAME DAY
DENTURE REPAIRS

FROM £20
CALL OR TEXT
07894726610



GDC REGISTERED
TECHNICIAN



HOPE COTTAGE FARM SHOP & TEAROOM

Hooe Road, Ninfield, TN33 9EL, 01424 892342

Breakfasts served all day
Lunches, specials, High Teas, cakes,
desserts
Roasts on a Sunday

Hampers, Gift Ideas & Vouchers

Mon to Sat 9am-5.00pm ~ Sun 10am-4pm

Dr. Peter Green 1924 - 2020

Peter Green was born 4th September 1924 in Wembley, where his father managed an engineering works nearby. The family had strong religious faith. His father had strong ethical principles with respect to business dealings, and when cash flow was poor, he would ensure that his workforce was paid on time, sometimes foregoing taking a salary himself.

At the time Peter was too young to understand what a depression meant. All he actually remembered being told was that there was no work for people and they had no money to buy food. "I remember going over to Harrow with my mother and father to help in 'soup kitchen' run by Harrow Friends filling plates of a queue of people with very thick stew!!



After primary school he went to Mercers School in Holborn, evacuated to Horsham from 1939-1941. His interest in Mission seems to have started very early. Mercers school archive records that he had been the Form Mission Secretary in Holborn from 1936 onwards.

The turning point in his life occurred during the summer holiday of 1941, the family were staying with friends outside London. Peter recalled that he was listening to a broad cast programme on the wireless on 1st June entitled 'Healing for Body and Soul- Medical Mission Work' by W J Stuart who was the President of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society (EMMS) who challenged the listener to hear the need for the gospel to be spread and how the EMMS was fulfilling this plan, by taking trainee doctors and in parallel with their medical studies trained them for Mission service.

The talk ended '*... It is not an easy profession ; it is a hard vocation , it demands enthusiasm and devotion, It yields neither titles, distinctions nor wealth; it offers many hardships and disappointments ; but it offers also many joys and satisfaction of all that is highest in our nature . One thing I am assured- that if you choose to work in the medical mission field, when you come to the to the end of your life's work and are turning over the pages of the past you will know that it has been indeed worthwhile, that the years have been well spent, and that had you to begin again, that you would make no other choice....'*

As a result of this broadcast Peter believed God was calling him to Medical Missionary service overseas.

His interest in mission work at School continued, with new vigour on his return to London from Horsham in 1941 until he left the school in July 1943, where he had excelled both academically and in sport and leadership. Leaving as Head boy, Captain of the Football and Cricket teams and with a scholarship which enabled

him to go to Edinburgh University to study medicine, graduating with a MB ChB degree in medicine and surgery in 1948. During his undergraduate days he was a volunteer at the EMMS Dispensary in the Cowgate slums providing medical aid to those who couldn't afford it [in the days before the NHS] He graduated just after the formation of the NHS, first working at Mildmay Mission Hospital before going out to serve in the EMMS Hospital in Nazareth in 1950. Returning to UK in 51 when he married [Hope] a nurse he had met at Mildmay Mission Hospital who had followed him out to Nazareth, a partnership that was to last 67 years. After a year doing his GP training at Lingfield, Surrey, during which a son was born he was soon off abroad again

In January 1953, they travelled to Gaza where they worked at the Christian hospital before taking over responsibility for the CMS hospital in Hebron. His second son was born at the EMMS hospital in Damascus, the border with Israel preventing them from using the nearer hospital in Nazareth. The Suez Crisis on 1956, truncated their stay in Palestine.

On returning to the UK, an opportunity to serve in a mission hospital in Kenya arose and for the next 17 years he ran hospital and medical services in various parts of Kenya with Hope, his wife, running nurses' training school to provide high quality nursing to support the medical work. His daughter was born in Kaimosi . After 4 years and a change of Mission society to the Church of Scotland saw the family move to Tumutumu for the next 6 years, and then being seconded to the Kenya Government for 7 years as Medical Officer of Health [only doctor] for the whole of Samburu District which covered 11,000 square miles, amongst a nomadic tribe in conditions ,which, even in those days, were considered primitive [no electricity, mains water etc], and in addition to the routine medical work managed feeding centres during a famine, and a mass immunization programme when there was an outbreak of Cholera across Northern Kenya .

Returning to the UK, his missionary and medical zeal did not diminish, balancing between Consultant of Accident and Emergency at the Royal Free Hospital with being Secretary of the Medical Missionary Association, which amongst other activities actively promoted young doctors in training to serve overseas.

'Retiring' at 65, they moved down to Hooe in East Sussex, where before long his medical experience was being called upon by the local GP practice in Ninfield where he continued to work part time until he was 80.

He continued to play an active role in the local church, and when he had to move into a Care Home in 2020 just before lockdown, set about forming a church within the home providing spiritual hope and encouragement to residents and staff within the home .

He lived a life that reflected his strapline ' Sent to Serve'

'... and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick...' Luke 9:2

HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY (February 2021)

A happy New Year to all our readers and supporters. As we enter 2021 with a mixture of trepidation over the high incidence of Covid-19 and relief at the roll-out of vaccines we would all be wise to continue following sensible procedures, at least in the short term, to limit the contact we have with others, as we all need to remain vigilant to the ever present danger that this virus threatens. With this in mind and in accordance with government guidelines Hooe History Society has no plans yet to resume meetings although we will continue to monitor the situation as it develops. It is now a year since we held our last meeting, but hopefully our next one may not be too far away...

DID YOU KNOW... this month has just a very tenuous connection to Hooe. I can remember singing a song whilst at Hooe school about the characteristics of different woods when burning, so I have found the poem on which it is based. It is called "The Firewood Poem", written by Lady Celia Congreve, published in the Times: March 2nd 1930. As I am writing this with a hard frost outside, it seems quite appropriate...

These hardwoods burn well and slowly,
Ash, beech, hawthorn, oak and holly.
Softwoods flare up quick and fine,
Birch, fir, hazel, larch and pine.
Elm and willow you'll regret,
Chestnut green and sycamore wet.

Beechwood fires are bright and clear,
If the logs are kept a year.
Chestnut's only good, they say,
If for long 'tis laid away.
But Ash new or Ash old,
Is fit for a queen with crown of gold.

Birch and fir logs burn too fast,
Blaze up bright and do not last.
It is by the Irish said,
Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread.
Elm wood burns like churchyard mould,
E'en the very flames are cold.
But Ash green or Ash brown,
Is fit for a queen with golden crown.

Poplar gives a bitter smoke,
 Fills your eyes and makes you choke.
 Apple wood will scent your room,
 With an incense like perfume.
 Oaken logs if dry and old,
 Keep away the winter's cold.
 But Ash wet or Ash dry,
 A king shall warm his slippers by.

Oak logs will warm you well,
 That are old and dry.
 Logs of pine will sweetly smell,
 But the sparks will fly.
 Birch logs will burn too fast,
 Chestnut scarce at all sir.
 Hawthorn logs are good to last,
 That are cut well in the fall sir.

Holly logs will burn like wax,
 You could burn them green.
 Elm logs burn like smouldering flax,
 With no flame to be seen.
 Beech logs for winter time,
 Yew logs as well sir.
 Green elder logs it is a crime,
 For any man to sell sir.

Pear logs and apple logs,
 They will scent your room.
 And cherry logs across the dogs,
 They smell like flowers of broom.
 But Ash logs smooth and grey,
 Buy them green or old, sir.
 And buy up all that come your way,
 They're worth their weight in gold sir.

Logs to Burn, Logs to burn, Logs to burn,
 Logs to save the coal a turn.
 Here's a word to make you wise,
 When you hear the woodman's cries.
 Never heed his usual tale,
 That he has good logs for sale.
 But read these lines and really learn,
 The proper kind of logs to burn.

Book Exchange:



It was good to see both old and new customers and friends at our December sessions. I hope people managed to stock up on reading material especially now that we are in lockdown once again!

Sadly, there will be no more Book Exchange sessions whilst the current restrictions are in place. We hope to start up again later in the Spring.

David Swales



SUSSEX GARDENS SOLUTIONS

Landscaping	Design
Maintenance	Planting
Mowing	Fencing
Restoration	

07771 944 249 01424 893 505

www.sussexgardensolutions.co.uk

enquiries@sussexgardensolutions.co.uk

Farmer's Choice Beef Box - £110

A 10kg selection of Aberdeen Angus
 28 day dry aged, grass fed beef.

Box contains 1/3 steaks (frying & slow cook cuts), 1/3 classic roasting joints, 1/3 mince.

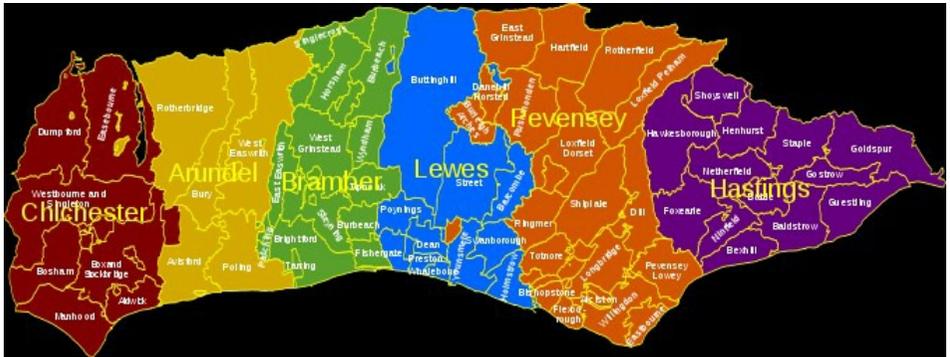
Free local delivery within 15 miles
 of Hockham Farm in Boreham Street.

Availability all year round,.

Contact Nigel 07590532829 or
nigel@indiefarmer.com
 to reserve your box.

SUSSEX RAPES

The origin of the word “Rape” in this context is not known. It possibly refers to “rope” where a “Moot” or meeting place of family heads would be divided off from the women and children. They were in existence at least in Saxon times, Many strongholds were built throughout England, during the Danish invasions, with districts assigned to their support, the 'Burghal Hidge' assigns a stated number of hides, each located in a single district, to each “burgh” or borough.



A “hide” was an ancient term for the size of land required for a family to live off their land. A “hundred” referred to the number of families that could form a community, possibly even that they could provide 100 armed men to act as soldiers when needed to defend their homes.

It was a rough and ready time, men and women worked the land as soon as they were able, even young children put to scaring away birds and other animals that would otherwise deprive the families of the food to last them through the entire year. And most had strong muscles and knew the rudiments of fighting, often with improvised weapons from farm implements.

From the map, it seems as if each Rape gathered together some ten or more Hundreds, thus providing a fighting force of about 1,000 men. It may well be that the Rape took its title from the place that was most easy to defend, having some fortification, say on a hilltop. Hastings probably had something akin to a “castle” before 1066, possibly defending the port which was close to where Bulverhythe is now, and Pevensey had fortifications from Roman times.

Sussex was divided into six north-south divisions, called Rapes. In Kent, somewhat similar divisions, there of great antiquity, were called Lathes. Sussex, (South Saxons) Kent, Essex (East Saxons) Wessex (West Saxons)

and East Anglia (the Angles, the South Folk and the North Folk) had been separate kingdoms from the fifth century to the eighth, and at times underkings had ruled portions of the territories of the kings of Sussex and Kent. The heartland of the South Saxon kingdom was in the Lewes-Pevensy area, as evidenced by almost all the fifth century cemeteries are concentrated in this area.

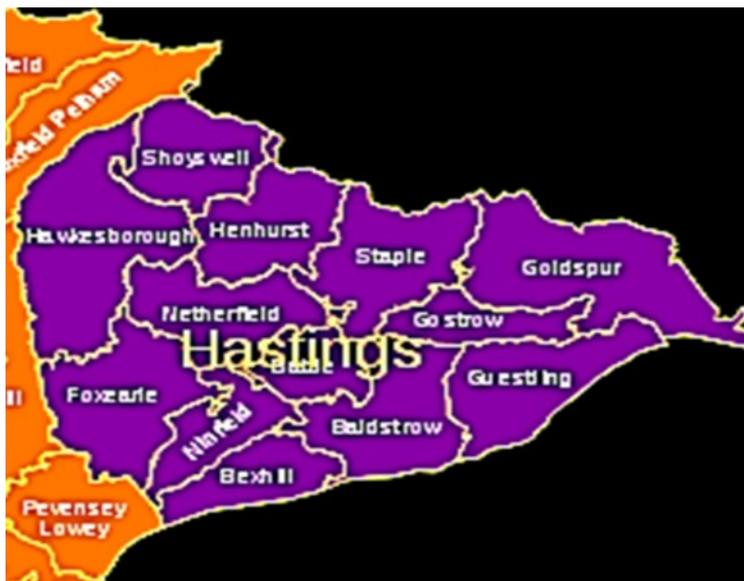
The Rapes were named from fortified centres, and by 1086, probably by 1067, each had been placed under a Norman relative or a trusted friend of the King William, each of whom held all the land in the Rape, the Count of Eu the Hastings Rape, which included Rye, sited in 1086 at the 'New Borough'. Earl Roger held the Chichester and Arundel Rapes, William of Braose held Bramber Rape, William of Warenne the Lewes Rape, and the Count of Mortain the Pevensey Rape.

That there were earlier land divisions is evidenced by the fact that Rape boundaries cut through the middle of hundreds, and hundred boundaries cut through villages. One of the most obvious is that the large town of Lewes is bisected, showing that the Rape boundary existed before the town. The names, borders and numbers of the internal divisions of Sussex have been repeatedly adjusted over time. When you focus just on the Hastings Rape, it extended from Rye in the east to Bexhill, Ninfield, Foxearle (Ashburnham) in the west.

Names such as Goldspur, Gostrow, Baldslow, Staple, Shoyswell, Hawkesborough and Henfield may no longer be familiar, but Battle, Bexhill, Guestling, Netherfield and Ninfield still are in existence and that neither Netherfield or Ninfield have been absorbed into Battle or Bexhill (at least not yet) is a tribute to the community spirit evident in small rural villages.

It is evident how these 6 divisions still influence boundaries today. The 3 western ones almost exactly reflect West Sussex, Pevensey closely resembles Wealden and Hastings forms Rother.

There may be some truth that the Count of Eu was given the territory of Hooe as a form of Norman pun, on the similarity of pronunciation! The Hundred of Ninfield therefore predates the Conquest, and included the settlements of Hooe and Catsfield. Foxearle may have disappeared completely, but appears to have very similar boundaries as Ashburnham.



That seems to repudiate the idea that the Earls of Ashburnham predate the Conquest, but I suppose the Earls of Foxearle may have been an awkward title, and the Ash Burn seems a sensible name for the watercourse that separates Ninfield from Boreham.

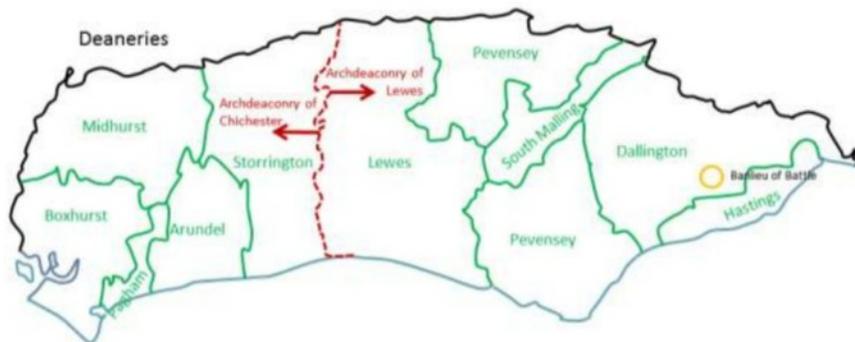
From the Hundreds, Parishes were formed, and subdivided as the population in each grew. The Lords of the Manor sold off parts and acquired others, as circumstances changed, marriage alliances formed and children were given sufficient land to raise their noble families.

Life for ordinary families changed little, there was little movement between classes, but legacies and favourable opportunities that the lucky few could grasp allowed a middle class of traders to prosper, forming the backbone of many villages today.

William, Count of Eu (Rape of Hastings, from the ecclesiastical boundary of the deanery of Dallington to the Kent-Sussex border, but not including the banlieu, lowey or sometime Rape of Battle, given by William to the abbey of St Martin at Battle, without compensation to local Norman land holders)

Ep/II. The area of the ARCHDEACONRY of LEWES was the rest of the county until the creation of the Archdeaconry of Hastings in 1912. The changes in the Archdeaconry are referred to under the Diocese and Archdeaconry of Chichester (Ep/I above). The four Rural Deaneries until the mid-19th century were those of Dallington, Hastings, Lewes and Pevensey; there are now nine.

Ep/VII. THE ARCHDEACONRY OF HASTINGS was created by Order in Council, 24 June 1912, and was to 'comprise and consist of the Rural Deaneries of Pevensey I, Pevensey II, Hastings I, Hastings II and Dallington and the parishes of Frant, Tidebrook and Wadhurst'. The area now comprises seven rural deaneries.



From the map above, the boundaries of the Rural Deanery of Dallington can be seen to share a similar boundary to that of Ninfield, extending to Hooe but NOT Pevensey Sluice, being the Waller Haven estuary. The Waller Haven and Ash Burn may therefore be some of the oldest land boundaries in Sussex, dating back to the area held by the Haestingas.

Indeed, it might well define the territory of the people of Hastings from the South Saxons of Pevensey. It is recorded that when the Saxons invaded, they captured the fortress of Pevensey and put to death all within, thus exterminating the local population in favour of their own Saxon clans. There is a certain logic, the Saxons holding the foreshore and the lower lands of Wartling and Pevensey, as Foxearle Hundred; the “Hastingas” holding the high ground from the Standard Hill ridge towards Hastings.

In fact the first “split” away from the Hastings/Battle/Bexhill area appears to be during the establishment of the Poor Law Unions, when Ninfield and Hooe came under the Hailsham Poor Law Union. These Poor Law unions then developed in Town or Rural Councils, and Ninfield and Hooe appear to have been retained, rather than be attached to the close larger towns of Bexhill, Battle and Hastings as previously. Even the parliamentary constituencies in which Ninfield was included were originally Hastings, then Battle and Bexhill, and before that the Cinque Ports held sway, even to including the “Honour and Liberty of the Sluice” at the mouth of the Waller Haven.

So, Ninfield has traditionally for centuries been linked and associated as part of the Hastings and eastern parts of Sussex, not Hailsham or Wealden, except for the last 120 or so years.

Now all one needs to establish is how the Deanery of Dallington came to hold so much territory!! One aspect is that the boundary of the Dallington Deanery included Netherfield and thus abutted directly against the Lowey or Banlieu of Battle, a Royal Peculiar held directly of the monarch, until 1824.

population density that the more inland larger heavily forested zones, but they both include low lying wetlands which may account for this.

Population density is calculated as number of. households x4 divided by area in km².

Hundreds visually ranked for value, size etc. by colour below:

Highest	High		Mid	Low		Lowest	
Modern Name	Domesday Name	TRE Hidage	No. of Households	Population density in no. /km ²	Value (to nearest £)	Area Km ²	Notes
Ninfield	Nerefelle	16.5 Of which 12 held by Harold Godwinson	100	13	38	32	71 households at Hooe. Ninfield and Catsfield small but both had churches. Good farmland.

It is therefore of historical record that Ninfield and Hooe have had more connection to the Rape of Hastings than Pevensy.

With respect to the Lords of the Rape these seem to be grouped roughly in three phases:

The first encompasses the post-1066 founding House of Eu, from the appointment of Robert d'Eu in 1070 to Countess Alix d'Eu who voluntarily forfeited the Rape in 1243. Robert was one of the chief counsellors of William, and had fought alongside William at the Battle of Mortemer in 1054. He was summoned to the Council of Lillebonne, when William asked his vassals for assistance to invade England and Eu contributed sixty ships towards William's invasion fleet. And not only did he fight at the Battle of Hastings, but he was a constant supporter of William throughout his subjugation of England. So the Rape of Hastings was in safe hands.

Then there is a second phase where the Rape of Hastings becomes entwined with the Earldom of Richmond and the two 'Honours' are used as 'bargaining chips' between England and Brittany, until the Dukedom of Brittany has the Rape taken away and permanently forfeits its right to it.

Finally the Rape starts to be granted as a result of favours to a monarch and passes through a number of hands, including a couple of Pelhams (of buckle fame, subsequent to the story from 1356 at the Battle of Poitiers

when a local knight Sir John Pelham together with Sir Roger de la Warr captured Jean the King of France, and because of this that Sir John was given the King's belt buckle), ending up at the finish of the period of interest (i.e.1538) in the hands of the Hastings family, who have their roots in the Midlands and no real connection to the area at all.

One other puzzle is that the Hundred of Foxearle was replaced by Ashburnham, and that if you look closely there is a small protrusion south which extends into Ninfield Hundred.

When there was a revision of the Ashburnham Parish boundary in 1888, this "finger was absorbed into Ninfield and comprised Compass Lane, most of Marlpits with the exception of Beechwood, where a churchwarden for Ashburnham lived and who refused to be added to Ninfield, and that finger of land is still evident today from the "reservoir" at Cookstown Close, the south side of the High Street all along to the twitten by Jubilee Cottage, back down Manchester Road. The rear gardens in the High Street overlooking the sea still follow the old Ashburnham Parish boundary.



One could argue that the recent Survey in Ninfield to change the boundary from Wealden to Rother only restores the status quo back to its original boundaries, but that separates us from Hooe and Herstmonceux which have similar ties eastwards. The situation now is complicated by politics; both Hooe and Herstmonceux have Councillors in senior posts in Wealden and are therefore unlikely to support a move of their Parish boundaries from Wealden to Rother.

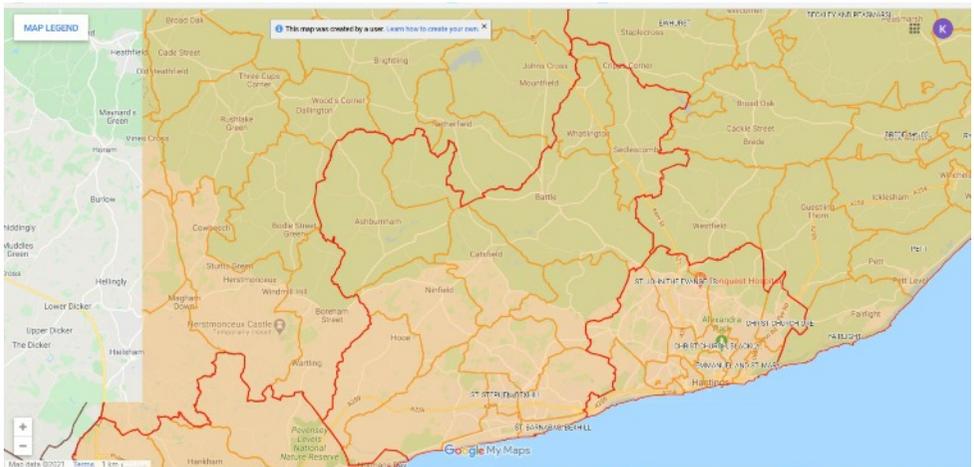
But Hastings and Pevensey Rapes could have pre-existed as they were little changed except for enlargement of Pevensey, and Hastings may have been completely unaltered except a few outlying manors. It is tempting to think that this may represent at least in part the semi-autonomous Hæstingas

area, known since at least the eighth century. This may also be why these two Rapes remained for some centuries with some Kentish local legal structures with Lathe (not Rape) courts to settle local matters, although these courts became more and more anomalous as they gradually fell between the Hundred Courts and the Justices' Petty and Quarter Sessions.

There are many instances of strange isolated “pockets” of land being attached to areas far away from them, mainly as a result of land inheritance by one family intermarrying with another, and sometimes difficult to tease out why it happened.

Much of it is shrouded in history, which makes the study of the area so interesting, it blends Saxon; Norman; Church, State and powerful noble families into a heady mixture that resolving makes a worthwhile challenge. You Learn Something New Every Day, or that day has been wasted!

There's usually a story, but finding it is the challenge! Kevin Regan



Wow, thanks Kevin, a lot of work, but a good read, has anyone got a challenge for Kevin? A historical nugget that needs investigating?

Closing date for items for the **MARCH** edition of the Parish News is **SATURDAY 13th FEBRUARY** please send to ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com

A Senior's version of facebook

For those of my generation who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists:

I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom.

I give them pictures of my family, my dog, and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day.

I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up" and tell them I like them. And it works just like Facebook.

And, I already have four people following me:

two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

Seen on a birthday card:

Forget about the past,
You can't change it.
Forget about the future,
You can't predict it.
Forget about the present,
I didn't buy you one

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

As you will be aware, we are now closed for a while, but if you do have plans for the future, we are accepting bookings, so take a look at our diary on the website www.ninfieldmemorialhall.co.uk then contact our booking clerk, preferable by email ninfieldmemorialhall.co.uk

Like all of us, Issie is a volunteer and has set aside Tuesday and/or Thursday afternoons to work on bookings, so please be patient, we will get back to you

PARKER & SON

BUILDING, ROOFING & SURVEYING

Building the future and restoring the past since 1929
NEW BUILDS - ALTERATIONS & CONVERSIONS
RESTORATIONS - EXTENSIONS - GROUND WORKS
BATHROOMS & KITCHENS - GARAGES - ROOFING SERVICES
- SURVEYING- LISTED PROPERTIES - COMMERCIAL
01424 892933

Info@parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk
www.parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk



Are You Legal in 2020?

Did You Know? As of January 2020 the regulations surrounding the disposal of rural sewage change. You are now NOT allowed to discharge your septic tank directly into the environment.

For further information and advice contact the experts:
Email: info@sussexwaterdrainage.com Tel: 01435 830220

Sussex Water & Drainage

ELM ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

New building ~ Conversions
Extensions ~ Garages
Drawings prepared & submitted to
Local Authority for Planning and/or
Building Regulation approval

Pete Holland
01424 893326
07879 898772



FULLERS ROOFING (Sussex) Ltd

Well Established Ninfield Firm
All types of roofing & building works
Proud Member of Check A Trade.com
01424 810417 or 07812194145

Find us at
www.fullersroofing.co.uk
Email: info@fullersroofing.co.uk

ASTBURY

Windows, Doors
& Conservatories

Tel: 01424 893820
Mobile: 07740 877422

Email: info@astburywindows.com
www.astburywindows.com

Mrs. M. Keeley
M.C.HP. M.A.F.HP

*Foot Health Home Visiting Service,
Nail Cutting, Corns, Calluses*

Tel: 01424 892120

JBN BUILDING

Restore-Build-Maintain

All aspects of building work undertaken, covering all trades.
Free estimates and friendly advice.

Call John **07725752927**

Email: info@jbnbuilding.co.uk www.jbnbuilding.co.uk
Established and based in East Sussex since 2009.

Hydra

Window Cleaning



James Parris hydracleaning@mail.com

07515460008 hydracleaning.co.uk



Sunset over Church Wood, towards Pevensey levels to Beachy Head. 12.Dec.2020



Autumn brings a bumper crop of crab apples in Church Wood.

JOHN BIGNELL

Garage Doors

Automation / Repairs / New Doors

01424 210522

johnbignell@btconnect.com

2 Course Lunch

£9.75

Inclusive of Coffee

The Richmond Luncheon Club

Serving every Monday

Please call us for more details

Advance Orders essential

01424 212836

The Richmond Restaurant

The Northern Hotel

Sea Road, Bexhill on Sea - TN40 1JN

BLACKSMITHS INN

To book 893875
Weekly Specials

TAKE-AWAY MENU

Pie, chips & peas

Burger & Chips

Fish, chips & mushy peas

Veg lasagne & garlic bread

All £10. Tues/sat 12-3, 6-9

Roast dinners Sundays 12-6 £10

Desserts Banoffee/Apple pie £3.50

TABLE TENNIS

THURSDAY EVENINGS

7.15 - 8.30

ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

GET ACTIVE

Just turn up

£4

BATTLE SPORTS CENTRE

P&S
Plumbing & Heating

Gas Boiler Servicing
from £60+VAT

Oil Boiler Servicing
from £80+VAT

Gas Safety Certificate
from £49.50+VAT

Boiler Installation & Servicing

Including landlord gas safety certificates

General Plumbing & Heating Services

Underfloor Heating

Kitchen & Bathroom Installations

Honest, Professional & Affordable



01424 892933



info@pandsplumbing.co.uk | www.pandsplumbing.co.uk

Clifford



Upholstery

Professional upholsterer with over 25 year experience in modern and traditional upholstery methods.

Re-upholstery & recovering, Cushion making
Bespoke furniture, Repairs & Modifications
Headboards & plywood curtain pelmets

Upholstery tuition

07943 008 739 /

paul@cliffordupholstery.co.uk

for a quote or to discuss your requirements.

SUSSEX SECRETARIES

**DO YOU NEED HELP
FOR YOUR BUSINESS
OR IN YOUR HOME?**

**Call us to discuss
how we can help**

01424 892463 07940 886123

www.sussexsecretaries.co.uk



EMMA TELFORD

Mobile Hairdresser

**All hairdressing services in your
own home.**

**Please phone for an appointment
or with any enquiries**

07812 375158

Message from Sami.

Hello! Is there anybody there..?!!

It feels a bit like that at present;- the old Panto line of "let's all hold hands and contact the living..." during the Ghost-Gag, seems quite apt, as we all hunker down in our own quiet domains, and wait for the 'Bogey-Man' to hopefully pass us by; with the inevitable near misses as we venture out, and then the refrain as we're told it's Lockdown time no 3 - " Well, we'll have to do it again then won't we...Woo!" ...Oh dear! I think I'm pining a bit too much for the Christmas festivities, and the much needed Pantomime season, which, of course, we were supposed to have enjoyed right here on our doorstep this time. With the January gloom, the dreich and drear of the damp weather, the restrictions being tightened, and the light of the Vaccine being at the distant end of this scary year long tunnel - it's hardly surprising that the reasons to be cheerful are not 1,2,or 3!!

Every Monday lunchtime I sit down to write the Ninfield and Hooe Village Voice Column for the Observer, and for the last 9 months or so, it has really been a struggle to find any new News!, and, add to that the frustration of continually writing the word 'Cancelled', well, you can imagine, my 'Pollyanna' hat has slipped somewhat! But! - with all positive strands gathered together, and fingers and toes tightly crossed- I have put some dates into the 2021 Memorial Hall diary, for rescheduling shows that were postponed in 2020.

So, more in hope than in certainty - 'An Evening with..Sami- Unguarded, Gossip & Giggles...' Show and light Supper, with Bar -is booked for Saturday 22nd May 2021 - with a back-up date of Saturday 28th August - in case Covid restrictions cause the May date to be cancelled - again!

The Gala Night - is booked for Saturday 13th November - and, with it being the 100yr anniversary of the Memorial Hall, it's going to be a bobby-dazzler of an evening - Cabaret with Deja Revue, Fish and Chip supper, Bar - Lots of surprises, all the usual awards, and dancing of course! Not to be missed - so put the date on your calendar now - in heavy pencil!

Pantomime! Oh yes it is! Well...hopefully! Again - all depending on how things go during the year, and if the necessary funds can be raised to

put it on- but with luck, and as long as my writing brain kicks in again- there will be performances of the Panto from 28th December through to 31st inclusive, with a Village New Year's Eve party after the last show. If anyone is interested in being part of the production, backstage, onstage or front of house, please contact me...it would be great to get the ball rolling in a gentle way while we all have some time on our hands!

Anyway, there's a start! With reference to any Carnival ideas - well, at time of writing, January 14th, it's all too precarious to think of doing anything huge, or to even decide which date, but the Committee will have a Zoom meeting at some point at the end of February, when things may be a little clearer and make a decision one way or the other - we're pretty good at getting things on at short notice, and already there are some loose ideas for something to get the Village together, if allowed! Crikey when we ARE able to have a party...what an event that will be!

All my Dance classes are on hold obviously - nothing Live in the Hall - but do please look for Dancercise 4 You! on Facebook, and join me there - and I'll let you know when we can restart in the flesh so to speak!

So, keep smiling - look after yourselves, and each other, and keep safe and well..!

Please call or text, 893699, 07970650321 or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com



Coco and Bramble
awaiting their tea?

Christmas Flowers



Ninfield Methodist Church 150 th Anniversary

Our plans to celebrate this special occasion have had to be scaled back due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, we still hope to produce a booklet telling our story from 1871 – 2021.

The foundation stone for the original building was laid on 6th July 1871 by Catherine Booth, wife of William Booth, Salvation Army founder and know as a Christian Million Hall, then a Methodist Church from 1907



Over the years our small church has been an important part of the lives of many villagers through church attendance, Sunday School, the Wesley Guild and a wide variety of other activities and events. More recently we have run Messy Church and Messy Active Teens sessions and hosted the popular monthly Book Exchange.

To help us celebrate this special anniversary we would welcome memories of your connection with the church. We would be grateful for any information, photos, certificates, artefacts, etc.. If you can help, please contact David Swales, by email

dj_swales@hotmail.com or 01424

892248 as soon as possible but no

later than 1st March. Thank you.

For starters, do you recognise anyone in this Palm Sunday photo and the year?



SJFeist

& Co Limited

HEATING & PLUMBING ENGINEERS

Aga/Rayburn Approved
Oil & Gas Boilers Serviced
£100 off New Boiler Installation or
£15 off a service with this advert
CALL: 01424 754247
Email: info@sjfeistandco.co.uk

Tony Farnham

Electrical Services

Domestic & Commercial

Tel: 01424 893140

Mob: 07966 156463



The Forge Garage Hooe

Peter Baker Auto Repairs

☎ 01424 892296

MOT testing ~ servicing ~ repairs.

MPW Electrical Service

All types of electrical work
considered

Mike Waghorne

Belle Vue

Standard Hill Close

Ninfield

01424 892663 07703 470042

Mikewaghorne1@gmail.com

FITNESS PILATES Conditioning & Toning

Mon 11.00, Thurs 9.15 & 10.30 £6.00p/c

NINFIELD METHODIST HALL

All levels welcome.

Bring a Fitness Mat and Water.

Spaces limited to book

07944 409443

Pearl Cheeseman

a Fully Qualified Fitness Instructor

Contemporary & Traditional

PEBBLESTONE

KITCHENS

Fully fitted or supply only

Quality kitchens - affordable prices

Est. 1987

Gavin Holden

☎ **01424 844522**

25 Cooden Sea Road, Little Common

A.P.S.

Tree Surgery. Fencing. Landscaping

Fully Insured & Qualified

24 Hour Call Out

Andy Stephenson

Proprietor

01424 223708

07920 118276

Email: andy@apstreesurgeryfencing.co.uk

www.apstreesurgeryfencing.co.uk



NINFIELD

Lower Street

Fully Licensed

Convenience Stores

News & Magazines

Daily Deliveries Fresh Fruit / Veg & Bread

DVLA, Banking & Currency

892281 post@ninfield.com



EASY CHOCOLATE FUDGE CAKE

- 150ml sunflower oil, plus extra for the tin
- 175g self-raising flour
- 2 tbsp cocoa powder
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 150g caster sugar
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 150ml semi-skimmed milk

For the icing

- 100g unsalted butter
- 225g icing sugar
- 40g cocoa powder
- 2½ tbsp milk (a little more if needed)

Method

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4.

Oil and line the base of two 18cm sandwich tins.

Sieve the flour, cocoa powder and bicarbonate of soda into a bowl. Add the caster sugar and mix well.

Make a well in the centre and add the golden syrup, eggs, sunflower oil and milk. Beat well with an electric whisk until smooth. Pour the mixture into the two tins and bake for 25-30 mins until risen and firm to the touch.

Remove from oven, leave to cool for 10 mins before turning out onto a cooling rack.

To make the icing, beat the unsalted butter in a bowl until soft. Gradually sieve and beat in the icing sugar and cocoa powder, then add enough of the milk to make the icing fluffy and spreadable.

Sandwich the two cakes together with the butter icing and cover the sides and the top of the cake with more icing.



LEGAL KNOWLEDGE SOLICITORS
YOUR CONCERNS - OUR COMMITMENT

IS YOUR HOME YOUR CASTLE?
HAVE YOU GOT SOME GOOD PLANS?
BOUNDARY OR NEIGHBOURS AN ISSUE?
PERHAPS A CONFIDENTIAL CHAT WITH
AN EXPERIENCED SOLICITOR ADVOCATE
IS JUST WHAT YOU NEED!
CALL **FIONA DUFF** on **01424 893210**
fiona.duff@lkllegal.com
WWW.LEGALKNOWLEDGE.NET

WILL WRITING SERVICE

Usual fee £145 + VAT
Request a Free Wills Brochure
Lasting Powers of Attorney
from £235 + VAT
01323 460395
Probate Advice
Probate & Estate Administration
01323 768382
BARRY & CO SOLICITORS
Bay Terrace, Pevensey Bay
info@barryandco.org

Woodside Acupuncture & Massage Clinic
Now open in Ninfield

University trained acupuncturist
Angela Wallis has over 10 years
experience treating problems including
Back, neck, knee, shoulder pain,
Poor sleep and low energy levels
Stress, anxiety and depression
01323 819157
www.woodsideacupuncture.co.uk

ALAN HARMER



WANTED

07854 826357
Slipdiscrecords@hotmail.com
VINYL RECORDS 1960'S TO
DATE
ANY QUANTITY BOUGHT.
COMPACT DISCS & MUSIC
CASSETTES ALSO REQUIRED.
WE ALSO BUY MUSICAL
INSTRUMENTS, WORKING OR
BROKEN.
IF IT HAS A MUSICAL
CONNECTION,
WE ARE INTERESTED!!

CHAMPION FENCING
FENCING DECKING & SHEDS

mickchampionfencing@gmail.com
TEL: 01424893418
MOB: 07973778308

Sarahjane Prince Cert. Ed. MSMA.MAR.

Appointments in Dallington and Heathfield
Sports Massage Zone fact Lift
Aromatherapy Swedish Massage
Reflexology Fertility & Delivery Reflexology
07762576495
eastsussexmassage@yahoo.co.uk
www.eastsussexmassage.co.uk

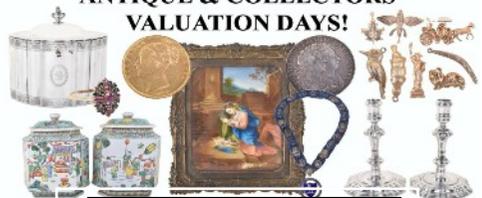
Windmill Drive 

Convenience Store, Post Office & Café
1-3 Windmill Drive, Bexhill, TN39 4DG
DVLA Services, Banking Services, Foreign Currency,
Lottery, Stationery & Gifts, Fully Licensed, Photocopies,
Photo Identification Services, Passport Photos, ATM,
Seasonal Plants, Daily Needs, Slushies'



01424.214.253
windmilldrivepo@gmail.com

**ANTIQUE & COLLECTORS
VALUATION DAYS!**



**Every Other Monday from 13th April
At Reid Hall in Boreham Street .**



Please contact us directly for more information,
Tel: 01233510650 Email: enquiries@candtauctions.co.uk
www.candtauctions.co.uk



Worms Eye View

I cannot believe my ears, as I have just heard this morning (28 th December) that a cuckoo has been singing! It has been mild I know but a cuckoo singing and it isn't All Fools Day either.

But actually I do remember that it was believed that cuckoos changed into hawks in the autumn, so as to survive the winter in Britain, now I wonder?

Thinking of birds, there has been quite a few wild geese down on the marshes and what a lovely sight they are. When deciding to move on, they fly in a lovely V shape and make their honking calls. This pattern is called a Skein. I hadn't realised that the geese in flight is a skein rather than a gaggle. They are referred to as a gaggle when they are on the ground in a group and then their cackling serves to warn of the approach of strangers: I looked up in my bird book to see how the leader is chosen and apparently it is the oldest fit male who leads the way. When it becomes too much for him, the next oldest male takes over the lead in the skein, and so it continues throughout the flight, the lead bird changing from time to time to maximise efficiency.

2020 was certainly a year that produced huge numbers of nuts and was known as a mast year. The term 'mast' comes from the Old English word maste and refers to the huge numbers of nuts lying on the ground in forests providing a bonus of nutritious food for humans and animals. It was and still is a commoner's right to drive their pigs into the forest and take advantage of this free crop. This practice was known as pannage. It is rarely carried out these days but does still continue in the New Forest where it is called "common of mast". When we lived in Heathfield, we did turn our pigs into the wood and they loved scrummaging. Although we do not generally use acorns for human consumption these days, gone is the time we used them to make 'coffee', thank goodness. However creatures like squirrels, deer and jays make good use of this harvest and love feeding on them which in doing so spreads the acorn and this in turn helps new trees to grow from the scattered nuts. It is thought that Jays can catch up to 5000 acorns in a season, working up to 10 hours per day and these nuts provide feed for the birds and also provide new young oak trees in due course.

We now await anxiously to see what 2021 will bring. Hopefully the Coronavirus will be overcome with the vaccinations in full swing now. I am having mine the last day of December and so we look forward with hope and give thanks for all the help we are having

Anne

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk Jackie Scarff 07548 528754

Email hooepc2@btinternet.com

Hooe Parish Council is taking advantage of being able to meet by Zoom, regularly once a month for short sharp meetings. So please be comforted that all is being kept up to date. The village is in good hands! Please make a note that meetings are forward scheduled for the second Monday in the month, starting at 7.00pm. As usual, residents are very welcome to attend. Just email our Clerk, Jackie, to request the Zoom link, she will be very happy to send it to you. If Zoom is new to you please ask for assistance logging on. Whilst we are all quite competent now we all had various levels of difficulty at first!

I know that many enjoyed the Carols around the Village before Christmas, hastily arranged by our Parish Council Chairman, Dick Carey and Church Warden, Jack Rist. Sadly the open air carols planned to be held at The Red Lion Car Park on the Sunday before Christmas had to be cancelled for the reasons of which we are all aware. So Dick and Jack travelled around the village using Dick's van and loud speaker system playing carols to ensure the spirit of Christmas was heard by us all. We are all very grateful to them. Who knows – this was so well received they may even be planning another musical interval for us all to enjoy!

Sadly the Parish Council has made the difficult decision to keep the village hall closed until further notice. This decision will be reviewed regularly and just as soon as possible it will be reopened ready to welcome all the Clubs and Societies who have been unable to meet there during the past months of this crisis. All regular users will be kept informed of the present and changing situation. The hall may be closed but the planning of the proposed new village hall is still continuing. A very positive 'pre-planning' application meeting was held on 21 st December with a Wealden Planning Officer who gave us a great deal of guidance and information which we are now considering. We are very grateful to a resident who has offered to draw up plans which will be acceptable to accompany the planning application. Please be reassured the Parish Council will not proceed to the application stage without consulting residents. This hall will be an extremely useful community asset for the village and as such must meet our requirements and aspirations.

You will be pleased to know that a productive meeting has recently been held with the Drainage Engineer contracted to ESCC to discuss

flooding on Top Road. Three particular locations were identified to be requiring emergency work. Since the December meeting the council has received two further communications from East Sussex which give confidence that, this time, something will be done to rectify the situation. The Parish Council has emphasised the need for speed as, with the severe winter weather surface water can quickly change into dangerous icy conditions, an extreme hazard for all users.

One always likes to leave on a good news story! I am delighted to be able to report that, all things being equal, our Hooe Open Garden Event WILL take place this summer, at a date in June or July to be announced – so watch this space. The Group has indicated their excitement and are already planning and discussing the work they will need to bring their gardens back to the standard they achieved last year. As you are aware our 2020 event did not take place but photographs of the gardens were taken around the planned date and these were incorporated into a fine calendar, copies of which have been sent far and wide across the country and beyond. If you would like to open your garden in 2021 or would like to get involved with the Group please do not hesitate to contact Gary Durman, the Hooe Open Garden Group Chairman, who would be delighted to hear from you.

The Parish Council's final message is – Keep safe, Keep well and Keep in touch. We look forward to the time we are all able to meet up again.

Pam Doodes
Vice Chairman Hooe Parish Council

st michael's hospice

The Open Gardens programme is being prepared for later this year having been cancelled in 2020. Ninfield is again on the list with currently two gardens due to open. Elm Cottage which has parking and will host their tea tent, plant and other stalls, as well as, Bedale, Church Lane, so.... Will you think about opening your garden as well to help raise funds for the Hospice? Yes? Just contact Laura Sully, Community Fundraiser, 01424 445177 extension 6041 or email opengardens@stmichaelshospice.com

Ninfield Methodist Church

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

'A Happy and peace-filled New Year to you all.' We were sad that we closed again in early December, in order to maximise Covid safety, and this is continuing throughout January and February '21. We miss seeing everyone at our usual activities but remember you in our prayers.

Every week our Methodist Circuit streams a Sunday service via Zoom. Please contact Paul (892192) if you would like connection details.

In December we were really pleased that we sent 45 Shoeboxes filled with gifts to families-in-need in Budapest, Romania, and Serbia. Simon, from Hailsham successfully completed a 4000 mile journey. He experienced severe weather conditions on the way but everyone was pleased with the gifts and he got home 'safe and sound' albeit physically and emotionally tired. Thank-you Simon and everyone locally who donated the presents.

Have you made any New Year's Resolutions? Quite often these turn out to be a list of 'do nots' and sometimes they are not kept!

In January we were about to start the year with a Covenant Service at St. Mary's when we are reminded of God's promises to us and our promises to Him (but we were unable to get-together) . Instead of 'do not' try to think of what you can 'do'. The founder of the Methodist Church, John Wesley, put it like this...

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

Amazing guidance! If we try and follow this example we will show love and care to those we meet and speak to every day. A promise worth keeping!

The New Year is a time for looking forward ... however, things are still difficult . For many of us this will mean being at home and not being able to meet and see family and friends. We hope we can all keep safe and be in touch by phone, letter, email and social media. We look forward to the vaccinations....

(encouraging to hear that they have already started for some Ninfield residents) and the new opportunities that 2021 will bring.

Take care and may the peace and love of God be with us all.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Josh 13:8-20:48
1Sam 31:1-5, 2Sam 2:4-24, 3:12, 17-27, 4, 5:1-5

When the Jews reached the place that God had promised them, each tribe was given land to live in. But they were surrounded by enemies.



King Saul and two of his sons died fighting the Philistines.



David was made king of the southern tribe of Judah.



But Saul's army commander, Abner, took Saul's last son, Ishbosheth, north and made him king of the rest of Israel.



Joab was David's commander. The two armies fought and Abner killed Joab's brother.



Ishbosheth was a poor king and Abner decided to join David.



Abner persuaded all of the northern tribes to have David as king.



Abner came for a secret meeting with David.



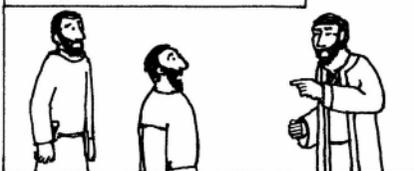
So Joab tricked Abner into another meeting and killed him.



Then two men sneaked into Ishbosheth's house and killed him as he had a nap.



They expected a reward from David but he was very angry because they had murdered Ishbosheth.



So David became king over all of Israel.



Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD ACTION GROUP Paul Coleshill 893138

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Secretary Carol Holland 893326

NINFIELD BOWLS CLUB: Secretary: Mrs Val Smith, Bexhill 843436

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:

Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD CRAFTING & KNITTING: Jane Dommersen 862428

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:

Toddlers:

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Phil Ringrose 892792

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Robin Goldsmith 892778

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@googlemail.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 Patisson 845087

HOOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE LINE DANCE GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE OPEN GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

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

HOOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Gary Durman, 893007

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
Mrs Janet Pattisson ☎845087

Secretary: Mr John Fairclough

Treasurer: Mrs Cynthia Fairclough

USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES

THE PARISH NEWS Email ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com (893326

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Jackie Scarff (07725 843505 clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Jackie Scarff (07548 528754 hooepc2@btinternet.com

READING ROOM

Booking Enquiries: Anne Ringrose (892792 email ringrosep@aol.com

MEMORIAL HALL

Booking Secretary: ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

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

NINFIELD STORES, Lower Street, Ninfield (892281