

The

Parish

News



*This Special Edition
Has been sponsored by
The Parish Councils of
Ninfield and Hove
April 2024*



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

St MARY's & St OSWALD's

NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



	St Mary's	St Oswald's
7th April	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
14th April	9.30 Communion Service followed by the APCM	11.00 Parish Eucharist
21st April	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
28th April	NO SERVICE	11.00 Parish Eucharist

Opening times for Private Prayer

St. Mary's - Tuesday and Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm Where Possible

St. Oswald's - Open daily from 9.00am - 5.00pm

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,

This is a strange time of year in that I am thinking about what to write about April when Easter Day is not until 31st March! Easter is without doubt the most important season in the Church year and Easter Sunday is the most special day of the year. The resurrection of Jesus Christ – the Son of God – changed the world in an unprecedented way. The timing and traditions of Easter are interesting to note.

The timing of Easter is linked to the Passover festival which celebrates the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. This feast lasts for 7 days from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April. According to Sir Isaac Newton (1643-1727), who used the Hebrew lunar calendar for his research, the resurrection is likely to have occurred on Sunday 5 April 33AD. Modern scholars continue to believe that this date could be accurate.

Yet our dates for the celebration of Easter vary according to the moon. Officially, Easter Day falls on the first Sunday after the full moon following the Spring equinox. But the precise calculations are very complicated and involve something called an “ecclesiastical full moon” which is not the same as the moon in the sky.

The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818 and will not happen again until 2285. The latest is 25 April which happened in 1943 and is next due in 2038.

The name “Easter” comes from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in “Eostur-Monath”. Eostre’s sacred animal was a hare – hence the link with the Easter bunny!

By the time you have read this you will probably have consumed all your Easter Eggs! Easter eggs are also a symbol of fertility and rebirth. They can portray the empty tomb of Jesus. Alternatively, since eggs were historically forbidden in Lent, we can easily see how decorating and eating them became a practical way of celebrating the season – particularly when coated in chocolate!

Whatever the meanings or traditions associated with Easter, the resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our Christian faith. Our greeting of “Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia” is a time-honoured proclamation of this wonderful truth. So may the risen Christ lead and guide you as we seek to follow him in our lives not only at Easter and through this Month of April but well into the future, especially as we approach Pentecost in May when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the Disciples, but more about that next month!

With every blessing. Paul

In addition, I am still looking for someone to help with the unlocking and locking of Ninfield church through the week. We have Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday covered but it would be good to be able to open the church at other times as well. Indeed, it would be good to be able to leave the church open on Sundays after the service so if someone could lock it later that would be excellent!

On another note, we now realise some of the extent of the things that our former churchwarden Phil did for Ninfield Church. I am sure there will be more that we discover! One vitally important thing is the church accounts. I have been struggling with our other churchwarden but neither of us really understands accounts! We would love to have someone to be able to do the bookkeeping for us! If you could help with either of these please give me a call on 07713242427 or email on paul.frostick@sky.com

The God who answers prayer

*There is a God who answers prayer
Who intercedes before the throne,
The Son of God who ever cares,
Do not believe you walk alone.*

*When life seems hard, no answers come
He knows the path that you now tread
Believe on Him though all seems lost
He knows about the tears you shed.*

*Hold on to Him who is your strength,
Although it seems there's no way through,
Though pain and heartache both are near,
Who holds the world holds also you.*

*There is a day when all is clear
A day when we all understand
That all our lives but marked a way
That led us to the Promised Land.*

By Megan Carter

NINFIELD SURGERY

Foodbank Thank you for your continued support with the donations to the Foodbank basket. Ninfield community managed to donate 62.91 kgs of goods to Bexhill foodbank in 2023, which is amazing, so thank you very much for all your contributions.

Community Garden Please use the community garden bench which is now fully finished and looking great.

News from St Oswald's Church

One of our churchwardens, Jack Rist, had a quadruple bi-pass operation at the end of February and is now home and recovering slowly. It will take a considerable time for him to recuperate. We wish him a speedy recovery. All residents in the Parish of St. Oswald's Church Hooe should by now have received a letter from the two Churchwardens, Jack Rist and Janet Pattison (if you haven't had a letter then please do let us know). The letter highlights a number of church related issues and asks for your views. We really, really want to know what you think so do please let us know.

NB: NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH THE PARISH COUNCIL VOTING FORM.

Mothering Sunday service was well attended and everyone present was provided with posy of fresh garden flowers.

The toilet project continues slowly and we now await the next response from the Diocese in relation to the extra information and clarification provided by our Architect.

As the summer gets closer, we will shortly be asking all our helpers to a Garden Party planning meeting - **JULY 13th for the Annual Garden Party**

But before that there is the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting (APCM) on Sunday 28th April at which all are welcome, though only those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to vote **with the exception of proposing and voting for the two churchwardens who are elected annually by the residents of the parish**

FROM THE VISITORS BOOK

26.02.24 Liz Tony, Sidley, Bexhill "Here again can't keep away"

02.03.2024 Jill Lambert, Ontario, Canada.

"A trip down memory lane- my sister and I used to sing in the choir"

The Ninfield Allotments

I'm pleased to say that all the available plots have now been filled. It's good to see the work being done in preparation for planting.

There is still quite a long waiting list so do please let me know if you no longer require your plot.

Contact Sue Thompson if you have a query on 01424-892294 or email at toadie21@btinternet.com.

APRIL Diary

		Venue	Page
March			
27 th	Messy Church	Methodist	33
30 th	Ninfield Litter Pick	Sparke	27
April			
5 th	Book Exchange	Methodist	10
6 th	Hooe Litter Pick	Red Lion	22
8 th	Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial	17
9 th	Film Matinee	Memorial	11
10 th	Christian Women's Fellowship	Methodist	27
11 th	Ninfield History Group	Methodist	29
12 th	Hooe & Ninfield Open Group	Methodist	24
13 th	Hooe Coffee Morning	St. Oswald's	23
13 th	Quiz Night	Memorial	8
17 th	Bonfire AGM & meeting	Working Men's	19
18 th	Hooe History Group	St. Oswald's	15
20 th	Breakfast Club	Memorial	16
20 th	Market	Memorial	13
25 th	Lunch Club	Methodist	10
26 th	Men's Shed	Sparke	11
27 th	Plant Market	Memorial	9

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS in Ninfield include

Memorial Hall Movement2Music Dancersize Ballroom Burlesque
 Beavers Cubs Scouts Explorers
 Ladies Badminton Pilates Yoga Cardiac Exercise
 Art Group Crafting & Knitting Junior Kickboxing
 Pickleball (coming soon)

The Methodist Hall Art Group Little Stars Dance Junior Kick
 Boxing Mark Time (for Brass instrument players)
 Yoga Pilates Friendly voices Silver Swans

Sparke Pavilion A gentle exercise walk around Ninfield

Information throughout the magazine and on contacts page 39

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:

Jackie Scarff 07725 843505 clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

Its that time of year when Ninfield Parish council are planning the Annual village meeting.

This is your invitation to come along as residents, clubs, societies, schools, churches and local businesses.

This has traditionally followed a council meeting on a weeknight in the memorial hall. This year we are planning to do something different. Following on from the success of the 'Heart of Ninfield' event last year we are planning to hold the annual meeting on Saturday 11th May 2024 at the Memorial Hall. The Meeting will be hosted by the parish council and there will be free food and drinks for the day.

All Ninfield's societies, clubs, schools and churches are invited to set up a table at the hall show casing what they have to offer. Residents will be able to find out more and join clubs and societies if they would like to. The Parish council will be there to answer questions – ask you some questions and give updates on some priority projects in the village.

This year we are also inviting resident of Ninfield who run businesses to come along and make their business know to the residents.

Look out for posters and banners advertising the event and please come along.

Other news. As you will be aware the parish council are running an exciting project to update the children's playground. The red tape involved is frustrating, but we are bound by Govt procurement rules when spending more than £30,000 (inc VAT). This means that we have had to write a detailed tender document which has had to be advertised on the Govt contracts finder website. It is also on the parish council website. The clerk has had quite a lot of interest from playground equipment companies, all of whom have been and visited the playground and spent time (around 90mins per visit) with the clerk ensuring that they understand the tender document and what is required.

The tenders are all being delivered to the clerk confidentially and will be opened in a closed session of the March parish council meeting. This has to be closed as the quotes sent to us have to remain confidential until the cllrs have chosen which design they feel fits the criteria and all companies have been informed of the results. Depending on how many we receive it may be that one is chosen, it may be that two or three are shortlisted and invited to come and present their ideas or it may be that if the cllrs don't feel that anything fits what we want that they are all rejected. We have put together a scoring criterion to evaluate what comes in and you will notice that it is not simply done by price.

The council have been involved in two planning appeal hearings in the last couple of weeks. This happens when a planning application is refused by the district council and the applicant then appeals against the decision. The appeal is heard by a government planning inspector. Very often the appeals are all done by exchanges of paper but the last two have been held at hearing. This gives us an opportunity to be involved and give information to the inspector. The first was for 13 houses in Potmans Lane. After hearing all the evidence the inspector decided to allow that planning application. The second one was for the site behind the houses on The Green with proposed access on the Catsfield Road. The hearing lasted the whole day and the inspector visited the site and other places in the village to assess the impact. We are now waiting for the decision from the inspector.

The parish council has a highways, verges and safety committee. We have been discussing traffic calming ideas for parts of the village and are keen to know what residents think. We have had some ideas put forward but will be collecting more on 11th May.

Our discussions have included ideas to protect some of the verges around the village particularly as some get damaged due to cars parking on them. There are also lots of places around the village where people park on the pavements. This makes it difficult for those walking around the village particularly for parents pushing buggies, with young children who want to walk as well as anyone using mobility walking devices or mobility scooters. Please be considerate and leave the pavements for pedestrians.

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL'S

ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT

DOORS OPEN 7.00 FOR 7.30

TABLES OF 6

£8.00 pp includes SUPPER & QUIZ

Bring your own nibbles and drink

Book your place

Ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.co.uk

With Carol 01424 893326 or Sami 07970650321

On your own? No worry, come along and join a table

Ninfield Horticultural Society

By the time you read this, we would have held our Spring Show. Hopefully, the rain stopped for long enough for the flowers to come out and we had a lovely display. There will be an overview and list of winners in the next edition of the parish news.

Our first Coffee Morning was well received and we saw some new faces plus some old friends. There was not much discussion on horticulture, just lots of catching up and sharing of ideas with more free seeds taken up. Everyone agreed that it should be repeated. Our next event is the famous Plant Market (and Coffee Morning) is on Saturday 27th April at the Memorial Hall. Doors Open at 9am and, as well as a range of plants, there will be delicious cakes and savouries. Come early for your first purchase of plants, then take time out for coffee and cake in readiness to return and buy more plants! We never know what plants will be on the tables as all are donations - but that's part of the fun. Plant donations can be accepted from 8am.

Early notification that our meeting on 20th May will be a talk on Preparing for the Summer Show. The speaker is a national judge of flowers and vegetables and very knowledgeable. It's certainly worth coming along and picking up some tips.

Finally, a call out for helpers. We really need help with setting up on the Friday night before our Shows (we only need an hour of your time to help set up tables) and stewards to accompany judges on the day of the show. Stewarding is a great way of finding out what the judges are looking for when showing. If you are interested in helping out or would like to know more, please email me on k.crittell@btinternet.com or call 07707683187

Editors comments We'd like to thank our two Parish Councils for sponsoring this special edition so that a copy can reach every house in both villages, a first opportunity for some new residents to see what goes on and what all the different clubs, groups and societies, not to mention events have on offer.

We'd also like to thank all those who helped with this issue, adding the flyers and helping to deliver the nearly 1000 copies to, hopefully, every house in Hooe and Ninfield

If you would like a copy delivered each month to your door please email ninfieldnooenews@gmail.com or leave a message on 893326
Nicki & Carol



Ninfield Health and Wellbeing Group aims to promote the health and wellbeing of people in the local community. Established in 2018, the NHWG is an umbrella organisation supporting a range of activities.

The Group is pleased to announce the following new and very welcome addition to its activities:

Ninfield Lunch Club

Maggie (Evans) is going to run a monthly lunch club for Ninfield and Hooe residents. This will be at the Methodist Church Hall on the 4th Thursday of the month – starting on Thursday 25th April. Arrive 12 for 12.30. There are places for twenty people and the cost is £8.95 for a two course freshly cooked meal. The menu for the first lunch is Roast Pork followed by Lime and Mango trifle. (A vegetarian option will be available if booked).

In the first instance the club will meet for three months to see if it is viable. (25 April, 23 May and 27 June). To book your place, please contact Maggie on: 07985588524 or email: maggiethcook@gmail.com

Book Exchange and Community Café

Methodist Hall 10 – 11.30 weekly on Friday.

First Friday monthly: Book Exchange and chat over tea/coffee and biscuits. Donations asked for books and refreshments. A good range of books and good company.

Community Café open on all other Friday mornings – you will be made very welcome.

For further details contact David on 07989729123 or email dj_swales@hotmail.com

Women's Crafting and Knitting Circle

Memorial Hall. Weekly 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. £5 per session. A well established friendly group.

For more information contact Jane on 01424 892428.

Health Walks

Every Thursday. Trained local volunteers lead a gentle walk of about an hour. Meet 11am at Sparke Pavilion at Ninfield Recreation ground near the main entrance off Church Lane. A few more walkers welcome. Part of the East Sussex Health Walks scheme. Please wear suitable footwear. Contact Robin for more details: 01424 892778 or robin@plowmate.plus.com

Men's Shed

Sparke Pavilion. 10 am last Friday of the month. Men putting the world to rights over free coffee.

For more information contact Dave: 01424 892883.

Film Matinees

Memorial Hall Tuesday afternoons. Doors open at 1.30. Films start at 2 pm. FREE entry and refreshments. Dementia friendly and subtitles. It was good to see so many people for our first film of 2024 and we look forward to seeing even more for our next film on 9 April which is the classic musical: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers.

The rest of the programme for the year is listed in the leaflet enclosed with this edition of the Parish Magazine.

For more information or to book a place (to ensure enough cake!) contact Jackie or Rose: 01424892422 or email: jackie.langley1@btinternet.com

Dark Skies - We have had some amazing skies so far this year. Unfortunately it's either been too cold or too wet to really appreciate them and we had to cancel our February meeting. Two future dates for your diary: Thursday 20th June is the Summer Solstice (we will also be stargazing on 22nd June at the Carnival) and Monday 27th May if you would like to join us for the Dawn Walk. We would also like your help with planning a Bat Walk. Bats will be coming out of hibernation from the end of March/early April and we would like to know if you have any sightings. If you do see bats or saw them last year in the village, can you please email me? k.crittell@btinternet.com thank you

Friendly Voices - not a choir but a group of people that come together just for the fun of singing. Our repertoire is slowly increasing - honestly, we really will try anything once! If you would like to join us, we meet on a Tuesday evening at the Methodist Hall - 7.30-8.30 and Thursday afternoon at Sparke Pavilion - 2 to 3pm. Cost is £1 a session and for that you get to exercise your vocal chords and chuckle muscles. You don't need to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing

SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE

**NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL
SATURDAY 15th JUNE**

To book a table 01424 892428

£10 in advance £20 on the day (if still available)

Seller 12.45 till 4.30pm Buyers 2.00pm - 4.00pm

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk / RFO: Jane Warrener 07548 528754

Email: clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk Website: www.hooe-pc.gov.uk

THE FUTURE OF HOOE VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall Project Committee met on the 12th February 2024 and agreed to hold a Community Consultation to obtain the preferences of the local community on whether to keep and refurbish the village hall or sell it.

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken to research the village hall options to inform the decisions taken by the Parish Council on the 12th February 2024. All the reports and supporting documents are available to read on the Parish Council's website at www.hooe-pc.gov.uk/village-hall-project

At the last meeting the council rejected an option to build a new village hall on the recreation grounds, thereby leaving two remaining options; to refurbish the village hall by means of a long-term plan of incremental improvements to keep the village hall open for public use and to promote the potential longer-term use by the community; or sell the village hall due to the declining use and save the taxpayers the cost of keep the village hall in good repair. As both options have long-term financial implications for the taxpayers of Hooe, the consultation is needed.

The Community Consultation is to take place between the 8th April and 30th April 2024 and every household in Hooe will receive a consultation pack and voting form through the post asking for their preferences. Each person residing at the address who is eligible to vote and is on the electoral register may vote. The Parish Council will provide a pre-paid envelope for the forms to be returned to the Clerk by the 30th April 2024.

The consultation will be widely advertised in various locations in and around the village and the council recommend you take part.

There will be a Village Hall Project Committee meeting on Wednesday 8th May 2024 at 7pm in the village hall where all the pre-paid envelopes will be opened, and the voting result will be declared. Hooe Parish Council intends to discuss the response to the Community Consultation at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 29th May at 7pm whereby residents can add any final point of views.

The Community Consultation is not binding on the Parish Council, but the weight of response and views of the community will inform the final decision that will be made by the following Village Hall Project Committee meeting on Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 7pm in the village hall.

The next general Full Council meeting is to be held on Monday 8th April 2024 at 7pm in the village hall with a councillor's surgery starting at 6:45pm.
Jane Warrener - Clerk to Hooe Parish Council

Worms Eye View

It has been a very nice day, have been able to get the washing dry outside on the line, which is a bonus, after all the wet and windy days in February.

Looking back in our diary of 2004, I note that on March 6th, Peter Snr wrote, "A day to work in the garden,, the soil works well, got early potatoes planted also onion sets and planted a row of broad beans. Anne planted a new shrub Montague Japonica in the shrubbery then we found an ewe with a new born lamb had got into a ditch, we managed to recover them OK" Life was and remains never dull on the farm.

I flicked on through the diary which Peter wrote in every evening, ever since we were married so I have a book shelf full of the diaries he wrote and those which I have continued to write after his passing. I came across the entry documenting the enormous earthquake in 2004 in the Indian Ocean which caused the Tsunami which affected areas from the East Coast of Africa to the shores of Australia, taking the lives of 125,000 people!

Looking forward to the present day we have just started calving, three cows have delivered so far, 2 girls and 1 boy, all healthy and looking good. I wonder if I shall still be around to see these "girls" have calves themselves. Now it is sad that "April showers bring forth May flowers". The weather can be very changeable during April and May and so with it comes winter conditions of being wreathed in sunshine one minute and heavy rain showers the next. Remember that the blackthorn will blossom before the May bush and it gets colder during this time "Oh to be in England now that Aprils here ".

Enjoy the spring with lovely flowers and the birds singing and thoughts of warmer times arriving.

Anne

**NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL
SATURDAY 20th APRIL
9.30 - 12.00**

VILLAGE MARKET!

**More new stalls started last month proved very popular were
African Curry Spices; Local Wild Herbs: to add to the
Cakes & pastries: Flavoured cinnamon buns & brownies**

We had some, they were soo tasty!!



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HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

2024-04

Our speaker this month is Rukshana Master with her talk, Tales from the British Raj. An entertaining and light hearted view of the British Raj through the eyes of a Parsi lady of the Victorian era (her great great grandmother) and how it contributed to the emancipation of women in India and how she met King Edward VII and the Pope in an era of male dominance. This fully illustrated talk promises to show the Raj in a refreshingly different light, with snippets of hitherto undisclosed history. This will take place on Thursday 18th April at 7.30 p.m. in St. Oswald's Church.

DID YOU KNOW... Before the Education Act of 1902, Hooe School was the only place in the village that was suitable for many of the local parish events and meetings. The size of the schoolrooms and the fact that benches were available for use would have been what made the building so suitable. However, with the passing of the Act, the building could now only be used for public elementary education and for local government purposes. Subsequently, in about 1904, a "Parish Room Committee" was set up to raise funds for a new building that could be used for meetings and other events. Also, Mrs. Weston (Castlehurst) Mrs. Brand (Grove) Mrs Dodson (Post Office) and Mrs. Lemmon (Holmes) formed the Ladies Working Party to raise funds for the project.

Lord Brassey (later Viscount Hythe) offered to pay a sum towards the cost of the building and in 1907 the Parish Council was asked for a plot of land on which to build it. This was forthcoming although the Council was told that it could not be given as a gift – there would have to be a payment made and this was agreed at £15. As a small matter of interest, an article in the Bexhill Observer, dated 11th November 1933, claimed that the site chosen for the Village Hall, had originally been where Hooe stocks had stood, until, that is, an offender who had spent many hours there because of drunkenness got his revenge by setting them on fire – they were never re-built!

Finally, on 23rd November 1912, the new Parish Room was opened by Lady Idina Hythe. The building was owned by three trustees – Viscount Hythe, the Vicar of Hooe, and the Chairman of the Hooe Parish Council for the time being and governed by a committee of sixteen residents in the locality. It was noteworthy that eight years had passed since the Ladies Working Party had started to collect subscriptions towards the building fund, and it says much for their tenacity and determination that they stuck to their guns throughout that period. Most of the money came through bazaars, concerts, and similar functions. The building had cost £300, of which £295 10s. had been subscribed. Lord Hythe gave £100, the trustees provided a similar sum, and £95 10s. had been collected by the ladies. There was just £4 10s

.outstanding.

In 1929, as Viscount Hythe had died and the Vicar being also the Chairman of the Parish Council, was the only Trustee of the Village Hall, it was decided to pass the ownership of the Hall over to the Parish Council. Finally, at the meeting held on March 27th, 1930 (members present Councillors C. A. Weeks (Chairman), C. Carter, S. Dodson, F. Hayes.) Councillor Dodson moved, Councillor Carter seconded, and the Council resolved, "That this Parish Council accept the gift of the Hooe Village Hall for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish from the reputed Trustees thereof; and that the Chairman insure that the conveyance is legally executed".

I have written this to indicate the reason why the Village Hall was built and the great efforts that the people of this village went to in order to get it built. Sadly, there are those within (and outside of) our community who, whether through ignorance, self-interest or possibly even malice, are minded to demolish the Hall and sell the plot of land. I hope that when the consultation document organised on behalf of the Parish Council arrives through parishioners' letter boxes, all those who wish to make their views known will take a few minutes to complete and return this questionnaire. I hope that there are many who, like me, believe that the Village Hall is part of the environment and heritage of our village and as such Parish Councillors should remember they are temporary custodians of this office and have a duty to promote and maintain village amenities, not destroy them. They need to follow the example set by those who had the dream and determination to build this hall 120 years ago and recognise the words of the Parish Councillors who accepted the gift of the Village Hall in 1930 "...for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish".

BREAKFAST CLUB SPECIAL

SATURDAY 20th APRIL

8.30 - 9.30

Full English £6.50 per person.

**Come & enjoy breakfast in the Memorial Hall 'Cafe'
before the market starts,
booking recommended.**

**Email ninfieldmemorialhall.co.uk or 893326
leave a message , name and how many!**



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NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP

We enjoyed a superb demonstration in March from Ellouise Hasler-Stott. Beautiful flowers, clever designs and lots of hints and tips on how we might tweak our own arrangements and keep them looking lovelier for longer. We also welcomed some new members and several visitors.

We all worked hard at our jumble sale which was very successful and a huge thank you to several members of Ninfield Bonfire Society who came along at the end to help us clear up and put away the tables and chairs. Your assistance was greatly appreciated.

The Flower Group mainly meets on the first Monday of the month (bank holidays mean we sometimes have to change this) and our Christmas meeting is always on the first Friday of December. We meet in the Memorial Hall, where there is ample car parking for the evening. Meetings start with refreshments at 6.30pm and the demonstration follows at 7pm. Raffle tickets are available to purchase and at the end of the evening tickets are drawn for all the arrangements created. It is always a thrill when one's number is called out and there is a lovely arrangement to take home.

We are always delighted to welcome visitors and new members and our membership fee at present is £35 a year. As we are affiliated to NAFAS (the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies) we pay an affiliation fee to them and also to the Sussex Area of NAFAS who arrange various workshops, members days and training throughout the year.

We have a sales table at most of our meetings where various flower arranging sundries may be purchased.

Some of our members enjoy their own workshop evenings on the fourth Thursday of most months. These take place at the Methodist Church Hall at 7.30. We arrange to a given title and experienced assistance is always on hand for advice if necessary.

Our programme for the rest of the year is as follows.....

April 8th Duncan Ward takes us on "A Trip to Brighton", followed on May 13th by Helga Cukure. The demonstrator for our June 3rd meeting has still to be confirmed as our booked demonstrator has had to withdraw owing to illness. Also in June we are joining forces with St Peter's Church in Bexhill to present "Jubilate" which is the title of the flower festival to be held from Friday 28th - Sunday 30th. More information on this event will follow next month.

On July 1st we can sit back and relax as we enjoy the talents of Barbara Caldecourt. Barbara has been training florists and teaching floral leisure courses for the last 25 years, so she knows a thing or two about the presentation of flowers and plant material.

Our August meetings have evolved into a "Homegrown" event and on the 5th our meeting will be presented by several of our very talented members. "Now for Something completely different" is the title of Claire Bryant's demonstration on September 2nd so do come along to see what she has in store for us.

A title to fit the season, on October 7th Helen Hare complements the "Days of Autumn".

November will be a workshop evening and then for our December extravaganza on Friday 6th we are very pleased to be welcoming Ian Lloyd with "A Cheshire Christmas". You can see more information about him and some of his stunning designs online. Tickets for this event will be available in September.

The club will be hosting a stand at the Open House, Heart of Ninfield event at the Memorial Hall on May 11th.

Come and say hello and find out even more about Ninfield Flower Group.

Ninfield Bonfire Society – Latest News

Ninfield Bonfire Society has been an active part of the Sussex bonfire tradition, since 2009. Along with many other towns and villages in Sussex, we are members of Sussex Bonco and we are working hard to promote and to honour this tradition, stemming from 1605. We are a not-for-profit organisation which is driven by volunteers who dedicate their time to fundraise and organise the annual Grand Firework Display in the village. This event is free to attend for the families and residents in our community and the surrounding areas.

Not only will we have our regular monthly meeting on Wednesday

17th April but it will also be our AGM. If you have some time to spare and you would like to join the committee then please come along. As always we welcome everyone to our meetings. All ideas are valued and we would love to hear your thoughts. The AGM starts at 7.30pm followed by our general meeting. It will be held at the Ninfield Working Men's club and it would be great to see some new faces.

Ninfield Village Market will be held on Saturday 20th April and we will be having a stall. Come and see us, have a cuppa, bacon sandwich and a chat about what we do and if you like, join as a member! Try your luck on our tombola or if you need any NBS clothing, then we sell a range of merchandise at the market.

Our next fundraising event is the '**Pram, Kart and Hobby Horse races**' which is a joint event with the Ninfield Carnival Fete & Events Society. It will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 6th May at the Blacksmiths Inn. The Easter Holidays are a perfect time to get building. All carts must be home-made with 4 wheels, somewhere for the passenger to sit, and a way for someone to push. That's it! The rest is up to your imagination. There is also a Hobby Horse race for those who want to take on a smaller project. Happy building! There will be food and drinks available, raffle, games and a chance to try your luck on betting on the races!

We would like to say a very big thank you to Rother Police who recently presented us with a £500 cheque from the Police Property Act Fund (PPAF). This money has been used to clad a secure sea

container which will house our vital equipment for community fundraising events. We would also like to say thank you to Gary Keeley for his time on cladding the sea container.

Date for the diary: NBS are 'kicking off' the Ninfield Carnival weekend with our **Local and Live Band night** on Friday 21st June. It's £5 entry and there will be a BBQ and Bar so come along with friends and family, sit back, relax and enjoy listening to local musicians play some amazing live music.

So we're looking towards this year's big event and if you've enjoyed bonfire night, last year in the village, then why not support Ninfield Bonfire by joining as a member? You can join in during any part of the bonfire year, from helping with one of the fundraising events, to making torches or brushwood faggots for the bonfire. As a member you'll also get to join our own torch- lit procession as well as others around Sussex that we attend as a society.

If you are a local business and would like to become a sponsor then please contact us at ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com or Sarah on 07809684488.

NBS Torch-lit Procession, Bonfire, Effigy and Fireworks Display will be held on Saturday, 19th October 2024

Find us on Facebook - Instagram - www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk.

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY

We are a small group of amateur artists who meet every Wednesday afternoon between 14.00 – 17.00 at the Memorial Hall to paint.

It is very informal, everyone uses whatever paint medium they prefer to capture anything they like, landscapes, animals, flowers, cars, buildings etc. We have a couple of skilled artists who advise if anyone gets stuck on a particular problem otherwise we are left to our own devices.

During the sessions tea, coffee and biscuits are available and the opportunity to mingle, talk painting or any other subjects.

We hold an annual exhibition once a year where our paintings are on display and can be sold to the visitors, we also have an annual Christmas meal at the Blacksmiths.

There is a joining fee and a charge for each attendance during the year.

Novices and experts are welcome but don't expect lessons, the principal theme of this club is to come along paint, relax and enjoy yourself.

If you are interested please contact Fiona Stedman 01424 892418

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Hooe Village Community Group

Contact us:

Website:

hooevillagecommunitygroup.co.uk

Facebook: Hooe Village Community Group

Email: hooevcg@gmail.com

Chairman: Gary Durman

Treasurer: Peter Cosham

Secretary: Sally Durman

If you would like to receive news
and regular updates about our
forthcoming events
please email us your contact details

HVCG exists to
Encourage, Promote and Support
Village activities and charitable works



Welcome to our new Chairman and Secretary

We thank the outgoing Chairman of HVCG, Chris Bloor for his work during the past year and welcome Gary Durman into the role.

Elaine Bloor did a grand job whilst Secretary, thank you – now it is Sally's turn!

Annual Community Litter Pick – Saturday 6th April

All arrangements are in place for our Community Litter Pick on Saturday 6th April. We will be meeting in The Red Lion Car Park at 9.45am ready for 10.00am start. We have a limited number of High Viz jackets and gloves, so if you have your own, we would be grateful if you could bring them along. We have sufficient litter picks and sacks supplied by Wealden District Council. This event has now been held for several years – we are quite organised and so we will explain the simple, effective rules and regs before we set off at 10.00am.

Do please come and join us. In the past this activity has not only been fun and very competitive, after a couple of hours of litter picking the village is, once again, a litter free zone of which we can all be proud. This year perhaps we will beat the record of 23 volunteers.

Oh – AND I nearly forgot – it is now traditional that, following our litter pick we linger at the Red Lion, an extremely pleasant social interlude!

Events

Our next Coffee Morning is on Saturday 13th April. As usual this will be in St Oswald's Church starting at 10.30am. By then the countryside should be beautiful – we may even be able to enjoy our coffee outside in the sunshine. As usual there will be delicious home-made refreshments on offer, an ever-expanding Community Library and Jigsaw exchange and exciting raffle. Robert Pilbeam stores our books for us – just because we don't thank you Robert, doesn't mean we don't appreciate you.

Hooe Open Gardens - June 15th/June 16th

Gary and Robert are busy carrying out the risk assessments on those gardens which will be open. Others are planning literature, refreshments, car parking, advertising and more, A huge amount of work is involved in preparation, the result, hopefully, will be a repeat of the very successful previous events, It is not too late to offer your garden, Gary is the chap to speak to, in person or on 01424 893007. If you would like to help with the event, please get in touch.

Charitable Donations this month



Bexhill Talking newspaper was founded in 1977. It provides weekly, free high-quality recordings of news and magazine for the blind and visually impaired living in Bexhill and the neighbouring area. This is run completely by volunteers with no wage or salary paid and is funded

entirely by donations.

Having known someone locally who enjoyed and valued this service it was a pleasure to donate £250.00 to help keep it in a position to continue to bring such joy to those who in need of its services.

End of Year

As we come to the end of our financial year, we are happy to report that this year we have been able to donate a total of £2225.00 to a variety of good causes. Further details are available on request. We would like to thank all who have supported us throughout the year.

... Dick Carey



And finally - we enjoyed meeting together for an evening to celebrate Dick's significant birthday! It was great fun and the stories of old Hooe were fascinating. Who would have thought that Dick, now known for all the good he does and has done for many years for the village, was once a schoolboy misbehaving on the school bus with another resident who shall remain nameless!

Happy Birthday Dick!

Hooe Village Community Group, enjoying working together for the good of everyone.

Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 8th March 2024 at the Methodist Hall in Ninfield. Our speaker was Philip Elms, a former journalist, who gave us a variety of talks about the history of Little Common. Many well known and respected people have connections with the village, from Stirling Moss seen around in his open topped jaguar, Mr. Singer of the Sewing machine family and even John Logie Baird spent some time with a villager to discuss colour television. There were Italian Prisoners of War stationed near by and they were used as labourers on the local farms. One lady farmer left her baby in the pram outside in the fresh air and when she came out later the baby had gone. She heard laughter and then saw the Italian men had the baby and were playing with her. They missed their own children from home. A friendship developed and the farmer and the Italian men meant to keep in touch. Before they left however, they gave the farmer a cigarette case as a memory and we were shown this by the baby of the family. (now grown up, of course!) we enjoyed Philip's talk so much we have asked him to come back later in the year. He has written many books and these were on display. The afternoon finished as usual with tea/coffee and biscuits.

We meet the second Friday of the month at 2p.m. so our next meeting is 12th April when we will be entertained by the 1066 Bell Plate Ringers – see you there.

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CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP.

The first meeting of CWF was held in January 2006, when we decided to 'give it a year'! All was going well but it was difficult keeping fellowship going throughout Lockdown. We somehow managed and once again we are back to full strength. Over the last few months CWF have again had speakers that uplifted our monthly meetings, David Swales spoke about Michaelham Priory and Alan Tipping told us about his life as a gamekeeper. One of our members gave us a very interesting account of her ancestry, the difficult to trace mystery of her grandmother, who had given her baby to the Foundling Hospital, where her name was changed!

In February the Methodist Minister, Rev Crawford Logan delighted us with a talk that contained music, history of the Salvation Army, in which he and his wife's calling spent many years....and ...hats.

Crawford had with him a bag (think of Mary Poppins) into which he would delve, firstly to show his top hat in which he was 'reluctantly' encouraged to pose as a fashion model, when he was a hard up student. 'Reluctant'... until the modelling fee of £300 per day was mentioned! The money was put to good use for an organisation in Africa that had just lost its church!

We heard about William Booth, who started as a Methodist, but chose to go where his calling needed him most, rather than where he was instructed. One of these places was in the Mile End road area of London where there was a lot of poverty, lack of good housing, and even water to bathe in. William and some of his colleagues founded a mission in an old circus tent, mended the holes, erected it in a field and in it administered to the needy, physically as well as spiritually. The building in which we meet, The Methodist Hall in Ninfield has a plaque to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone by Catherine Booth, Williams wife. Together they founded the Salvation Army, which brought hope to many poor people. Their preaching was of abstinence and this was often very unpopular. In the early days, bonnets for lady members were introduced as a way to counteract the rotten fruit and veg, stones and contents of chamber pots that were thrown at them. In 1889, a lady in Hastings became the first martyred salvationist, she was in Ore and a gang of men threw things at her, she fell to the ground and they kicked her to death. Her name was Susanna Beaty, and is well remembered by the USA salvationists although not well known in England. Out of Crawford's bag came several historical bonnets, which our own Ninfield Salvation Army member, Diana, modelled. He also had an accordion with him and explained how many music hall songs were taken on and changed i.e. 'Champagne Charlie is me name' became 'Bless his name, he set me free'. Brass bands became a feature of the street preachers to drown out the heckling, someone reported to Winston Churchill about this trend, but all he said was "Why should the devil have all the best tunes!"

Thank you Crawford for your very entertaining visit to us, now with a better knowledge of your present Methodist work and the historical trials of The Salvation Army.

We are welcoming Katie Edworthy of Fostering in March and Maggie Carpenter to our meeting on 10th April, who will be talking about her Journey as an Artist. Our monthly meetings are held in the Methodist Church Hall the second Wednesday of the month, starting at 2.30pm. Everybody welcome!

NINFIELD'S VILLAGE LITTER PICK

ORGANISED BY

THE VILLAGE SOCIETY

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NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

Many of you will know that over the last 12 months we have slowly changed our booking system to an online one, this means that anyone wanting to book the hall can go to our website www.ninfieldmemorialhall.co.uk then from the calendar page check what's available, click on the plus sign on your chosen date and complete the booking details. Once we receive the booking we check it through and send a confirmation, then nearer the time we send an invoice for payment, and if you don't use the Internet to do bookings etc you can

email ninfieldhallbookings@gmail.com or

post to Ninfield Memorial Hall, Bexhill Road, Ninfield TN33 9EE

Continued from last month

As it's just over 100 years ago, I looked at the 1921 census for Ninfield to see how many family names have lasted the course.

Ernest Angel's family came from Salisbury; James Maiden Broughton from Thorpe, Lincolnshire; the Carey family were long lived for the time, Ann Carey born 1836; George 1839 and Mary 1841 from Dover. The Catt family also had a large number, 14 in all, Mary Ann being born in Rushlake Green in 1864. 9 members of the Cornford family; Isaac born 1875 from Mayfield. 8 in the Cramp family, John the eldest born 1872 in Battle. 8 Darby's, John senior born Staffordshire, sons John and Thomas from Ellistown, Leicestershire and Lydia from Mayo, Ireland. 12 members in the Deeprise family, all local or from adjacent villages. 10 in the Divall family, George (1861) from Lewes, Clara born 1862 from Cambridge. There was the Dutoit family, Charles and Lina both born in Switzerland but 2 year old Raymond was born London. 8 members of the Elphick family; the Foords only had 6, all locals; we even had a Frisby, from Northampton; and 4 year old Leslie Goodridge, born Lisbon, must have been with grandparents as no parents listed.

The Haffendens managed 6 members, Alfred born 1893 in Rye and Mallie (Mollie?) born 1896 in Ashford were the eldest. The Harmer family mustered 13 members, Robert J the eldest born 1843 in faraway Ashburnham; 9 in the Harwood family, Walter born 1861 in Brighton being the patriarch. The Hoad family had 7 members, headed by Elizabeth and John, both born in 1870's, she was born in Ninfield. The Hutchinsons also had 7, Annie Laura born 1879 in Peasmarsh and Horace Frank born 1882 from Crowhurst were the eldest. Alice Kearns born 1887 in America and son Edward J, born 1916 in Folkestone were recent arrivals. 8 Lades, Thomas Vince appears the eldest born 1871 in Catsfield.

Jane McDowall-Stockley had been born in India in 1854, she died in 1934 at Suffolk House, Brassey Rd, Bexhill. Another foreign born was Helene Maria Adrienne Michel from France born 1895. The Mitchell family mustered 16 members, Henry A being the patriarch born Ninfield in 1867 with 1 year old Kathleen M born in Folkestone. They were outdone by the Morris family of 20, Mary born 1838 being the eldest, from Bexhill. The Munns beat them, with 21 members with Annie b 1853 the eldest.

The Oakley family were well travelled, Cleopatra from Port Said, Egypt (naturally!) and Edward A born 1878 in Syros, Greece. 10 year old daughter Phyllis, and 4 year old Vera both born in Cape Town. The Packhams managed 10, with Naomi b 1842 in Hellingly the eldest. Intriguingly, there

was a Pierrepont family headed by Thomas and his wife, Clara and daughter. He seems unrelated to Tom Pierrepont, of similar age who was the official hangman, married to Elizabeth! The Ponts fell 2 short of the Munns with 19 members, with Luke from Catsfield b 1864 the patriarch. The Ridels, with 8 and Joseph A (the headmaster, b 1855 in London were another well known family. The Roberts also mustered 8 members, James the eldest b 1864 in Warbleton.

23 members of the Sargent family with George b 1847 in Hooe and Harriett from Oxfordshire b 1844 being the eldest. 11 members formed the Seymour's, with William Walter b 1881 in Eastbourne the eldest.

I don't have access to the original pages of the 1921 Census, so Neville Simmon b 1873 in Hooe and his family of wife Kathleen, daughters Irene May and Ester Eileen, might be related or mistranscriptions for the 9 members of the Simmons family, headed by Harriet b 1856 in Wartling. 14 members with the surname Smith were in the village, the eldest b 1857 was Alfred, from Jarvis Brook. 10 members of the Sutton family were recorded, the elder being Ambrose, b 1846 birthplace not recorded. 7 Watsons, eldest being Charles b 1837 in Whatlington. There were 10 Whitmarshes, not counting Ethel Whitmarsh which may be another mistranscription. Eldest of those was Frederick b 1862 in Ninfield.

It might spur some of you to check your own Family Trees. Enjoy! K R

THE NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

was formed over 12 years ago with the aim of increasing awareness of the history of the village and the surrounding area. We meet on the second Thursday of every month in the Methodist Hall at 7.30pm and there is an interesting program of talks scheduled for 2024.

* On 11th April we have our AGM and the short business meeting will be followed by a slide show of photos from our archives.

* Then on 9th May there will be a talk on Scotney Castle by Helen Davis, a staff member at this historic building.

* On 13th June we have a talk on the origin of Sussex Village Names by Simon Mansfield.

We will be at the Heart of Ninfield event and we have a website (ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk) and we are also in Instagram ([ninfield.history](https://www.instagram.com/ninfield.history)). Our archive of documents, maps and photographs are open to the public on the last Monday of every month between 10am and 12noon in the Pavilion of the Recreation Ground.

We look forward to seeing you!



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OPEN CHURCH

Now here is a strange tale, not the event that happened but my reaction to it. So as the saying goes, 'don't talk about politics or religion', I shall ignore.

It won't be politics because judging the length of a story to be printed is hard if one word in three will be blacked out. That of course leaves!

The service had finished and the Vicar was talking to a couple of folks who were waiting to have some ashes interred. I did not know the people involved so saw this a good opportunity to nip out for a smoke. To my surprise there were three other people waiting outside in the damp. One man came up to me and asked if the service had finished? I mentioned that it had and would they all like to come inside the church, scrounge a coffee and warm up. The strange reply left me pondering for quite a while, "is it alright if we do"?

I almost said, this is St Oswald's and we would not turn anybody away. That would have been most pompous so I simply said that it would be fine. I could not say that for all Churches I have gone to. Back in Lincolnshire I think it is still legal to through turnips at strangers. And after nearly forty years of living there I still had to duck from the odd root veg.

No, I think St Oswald's is defiantly inclusive and diverse souls pop up from time to time to seek us out. I still miss talking to Alan who ended up here after WALKING all the way from Yorkshire. He pitched his tent in an out of the way spot and proved to be a good chap to have around. I miss the morning greeting 'na then are you reet', and the discussions around chips and gravy. I mean how can a civilised society eat chips with out gravy!

So back to the Church and its welcome open door. Each morning I open the door to the Church and its not locked until evening. I know that people do visit and some come and leave messages on the prayer tree's paper leaves. I think I would be correct in saying if anyone wished to talk one of the congregation they would be more than willing to listen.

I don't think you can still claim sanctuary in a Church any more, the law will not stop at a Church door nowadays. But there is nothing to stop you seeking help and strength within its walls. People have been doing that for thousands of years!

AT

**Closing date for items for the
MAY
issue of the Parish News
Is SATURDAY 13th APRIL please send to
ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com**

NEWS, REVIEWS, REVUES, IDEAS AND STUFF!!!

The new Breakfast Club, from 8.30am right before the Saturday Markets open, serving a Full English Breakfast for £6.50 per person - trialled extremely well in February, and is running again in March. Chef Jeff, Sous Chef Sami, Cash or Card Kaye and Keep Calm Carol, plus helpers, are proving a formidable team, the feedback was great and it's expected that the covers will increase each month, so Booking is advisable, but if you just turn up, you're bound to be accommodated!!

Also - on Market days, the meeting room upstairs is free, and the Hall Committee are asking if any group or society would like to use the space for a 'surgery' or 'drop in' type of event - free of charge. With all the footfall going through the Hall, hopefully people will get involved upstairs. For instance, the History Group could do a 'who do you think you are?' type of session? Or the Horti could do a seed/plant exchange, with advice and tuition? Lots of interesting ideas spring to mind, it's a great catchment- and it could be a really useful session for someone!

Next Breakfast and Market - 20th April - Call me on 07970650321 or email ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

The Memorial Hall committee are inviting residents to attend their meetings to hear the latest news and updates, and ask any questions. The first 15 minutes will be set aside purely for this purpose. This addition to Memorial Hall meetings will happen quarterly, to include the AGM in October. Please do come and get involved with the workings of the Hall, have your say, and present your ideas. Next open meeting for residents will be Monday 29th April, 6.30pm at the Hall.

Memorial Hall Event Dates for the diary-

April 13th (Saturday) will see the Annual Quiz at the Hall with Supper, which will be Chilli and Rice, vegetarian/vegan options available. Please bring your own nibbles and drinks! There will also be a Raffle! This was really popular last year, so start organising your team of 6, it costs £8 Per person, to include Supper and the Quiz, and don't worry if you can't get a table together, just book for yourselves and you can join up with others! Call Carol on 893326, Me on 07970650321 or email ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

May 11th (Saturday) will be the Heart of Ninfield event at the Hall, co presented and sponsored by Ninfield Parish Council, and where all groups, societies and clubs are represented with stalls, stands, competitions and displays. There will be a Café throughout the day with lunches and refreshments, and again, this was REALLY popular last year, so please add the date to your calendar!

Hall bookings are already up on last year at this time, so any event ideas, or meetings that you want to do, please go to ninfieldmemorialhallbooking@gmail.com and get them in the diary!

There is a lot going on in the Ninfield Village Memorial Hall - it's the Hall for all residents to use, and everyone is welcome to come and join meetings, and get involved in events. Please call me on 07970650321 or email ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com for any further information.

Ninfield Carnival Association:

The timber cladding on the Container on the Rec was finished by early March, and it will be planted with fabulous trailing plants and shrubs to make it 'disappear'. The weather has been so against us, but fingers crossed things are now completed!

Lots of things have now been confirmed for the Solstice Saturday in June - The Village Carnival Fete on the 22nd - and we would love people to get involved right now, by storing any 'spare' Bottles for the Tombola, making a batch of sausage rolls, or some cakes and freezing them, and getting fancy dress ideas on the go!

Main Events -

1 - Pram, Kart & Hobby Horse Races - Bank Holiday Monday May 6th; a joint event with Ninfield Bonfire Society - we have permission to use the Blacksmiths Inn car park again!! Many thanks to Jon- who has agreed to open the Pub for drinks, and put a Band on in the Pub after the Races, to keep the jollities going through the afternoon. We will have the same format as last year's Coronation races, with even more entries hopefully, so please start thinking about making your Karts and Prams, and Hobby Horses! There will be a Carnival/Bonfire BBQ, a Raffle, Lucky Dip, Cash prizes and Trophies.

2- Ninfield Village Carnival Fête - Now - Listen very carefully, I shall say this only once...!..

Saturday 22nd JUNE! -yes, Solstice Saturday, and LOTS of ideas are being discussed and agreed! Of course things are subject to change, but this is the blueprint for now - The Theme will be Paris - to include the Olympics! And!! As an extra 'Gallic' nod, with a bit of Comedy attached, we'd like to you to come and say 'Allo' in the 'Café René Tea Tent' which will be decorated, with fancy dress, music, maybe some 'singing'... definitely there'll be lots of lovely food and a lot of fun!

UPDATE! The main Charity will be Canine Partners, who have been with us before, and will have a stand through the day, and the lovely dogs and their handlers will demonstrate all their fantastic skills in the Arena. There will be music during the day with our entertaining local Band Geri & the Attrib. The BBQ running throughout, plus the Ninfield Bake Off, Bottle Tombola, Raffle

Crafts Stalls, Games, Coconut Shy, China Smash, Welly Wanging, Children's Activities, Jane Walsh's Clay/Pottery creations and...
CONFIRMED! The Queens Archery and Axe throwers will be on site, plus The Falconry.

In the evening the Parisian theme will continue, Café style, with live music from Brahma Sistaz - Yay!!! And there will be cheese platters, Boules matches, and small sports games. When the sun starts to set, there will be Solstice stargazing to end the event.

On the Friday evening beforehand, 21st June, there will be a Live Music event, run by the Bonfire society. Look out for all their updates elsewhere in the Magazine!

Michaelmas Fayre - again- a long way off yet, but confirmed to be Saturday 28th September (due to Market clashes) at St Mary's Church, and in Church Lane- in the same sort of format as last year!

So there's a lot already to get going, and organise, and we would WELCOME any NEW members - even if you don't want to come to meetings, please let us know if you can help at the events i.e Marshalling, making cakes, helping at the Tea Tent, setting up Gazebos, collecting Bottles for the Tombola - all bits of help are so much appreciated!

NEXT CARNIVAL MEETING - MONDAY 15th APRIL 7.30pm at the Working Men's Club , come and join us for a drink and have fun creating the events for the year!

ENTERTAINMENT!!!

Now....what do you fancy doing on a Friday night...?

Since last month I've had a lovely email from Dave Knight, with some great ideas including a Victorian Music Hall evening...just like the Good Old Days show on TV. Well... I've literally just done one of these shows, last month in London, for Jan Hunt (of Crackerjack fame!). It's a fabulous evening of entertainment, and I'm costing it out to see if it would be viable.

Any other ideas?!

Would you like to go to the Theatre and see a Show, or Cabaret?

Go to a Music night, see a Band?

What about a 70's/80's Disco Evening?

How about seeing a recent blockbuster Film? Would you like a Bar?

Fancy Supper beforehand?

FRIDAY NIGHT IS....?!?.....NIGHT AT NINFIELD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

Let us know what you think...what you'd like ...call me on 07970650321

email samanthaguard@btinternet.com or contact
ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

Now ..the next project that is underway, and will hopefully be being done after Easter, is....drum roll...the moving of the Red Telephone Box up to it's place on the Recreation Ground - AT LAST!! This will need a few volunteers to help cut back the undergrowth round in Potmans Lane, and then to clear, clean and paint it, bringing it back to it's original condition! Please ..??!!
Then...what shall we put in it?! Answers by email please!
samanthaguard@btinternet.com

Thanks so much to everyone for their interest and support for local events, dance classes and entertainment - please contact me 07970650321, samanthaguard@btinternet.com
www.samantha-hughes-guard Facebook Sami Hughes-Guard
FB Ninfield Carnival Events.

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

Since last month's column we have endeavoured to continue meeting in Church Wood each Wednesday morning but, as visitors will know, the conditions are quite treacherous and glutinous mud has rendered our efforts almost impossible.

However, as referred to in my last column, we are hopeful of achieving a better surface to the main pathways by utilising woodchippings as a top dressing and, to his end, we have secured Grant Aid from Wealden District Council as a result of the government "Levelling Up' agenda. Our Treasurer, Robin Goldsmith, has invested many hours in our presentation to Wealden and we have now been able to purchase a commercial-quality wood chipping machine which will enable us to recycle those parts of fallen trees which until now have just made a bonfire ! Our Society has to match the contribution from Wealden and we are now hoping the wet weather will abate and we shall be able to show significant progress in the Wood.
In the meantime I should just like to repeat that

**THE VILLAGE LITTER PICK IS ON
SATURDAY 30th MARCH
STARTING FROM THE PAVILION ON THE RECREATION GROUND
AT 10.00 am.**

Accompanied children and all adults are all most welcome so come and meet our team, collect a bag and have a pleasant hour or so walking the village footpaths.

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Reverend Crawford J. Logan
18 Woodlands, Bexhill TN39 4RJ. Tel: 01424 845109
email: revcjlogan@hotmail.co.uk
website: hbrmethodists.org.uk

March 31st 10.30 am EASTER SUNDAY Family Praise with Revd. Tricia Williams + Communion, Easter Egg Hunt & Refreshments

Sunday Services for April 2024:

- 7th 10.30 am Café Worship & Breakfast with David Hanson
14th 10.30 am Worship & Praise service with John Troughton
21st 10.30 am Worship, Praise & Communion with Revd. Crawford Logan
28th 10.30 am All-age 'Songs of Praise' Worship Celebrations

Events for April 2024:

- Fridays 10.00-11.30am Community Café including
5th 10.00-11.30am Book exchange in Hall
10th 2.30 – 4.00pm Christian Womens Fellowship

During March we enjoyed a lovely Café Church Worship for 'all-ages'. 23 came along & we wrote our prayers: 'We give thanks for the gleams of new life & colour in our world. God of the snowdrops, daffodils & sunrise we thank-you for signs of hope & light that give us encouragement & joy. We pray for Peace, Forgiveness, Happiness, Contentment. People will a discover a path to Jesus, Help for our parents, Faith Hope & Love. Amen.

Then on Mothering Sunday flower / posies were given to everyone present & Julie Todd led our service. We enjoyed a lovely celebration singing songs: 'Love is something if you give it away'; 'Now Thank we all our God' and more. Such a happy & thoughtful occasion & we now look forward to Easter Praise.

We hope you will all enjoy (or 'have enjoyed') a Very Happy Easter & it will help us all to experience God's Love in all its fullness. It is an amazing celebration.

We invite you to any of our services or events in April. Every week our worship is suitable for all ages & we feel sure you will find a very warm welcome.

'To God be the Glory, great things He has done.....'



NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH in Church Lane is a growing family church. We have weekly Sunday morning **All-Age Worship** at 10.30am followed by refreshments and time to talk.

On the first Sunday monthly, we have **Café Worship** which includes breakfast!

You can be assured of a warm welcome at any of our services (details opposite). Come and see for yourself!

As a **community church**, an important aspect of

our work is outreach. A key part of this is **Messy Church**. These **all-age sessions** take place every other month usually on the last Wednesday from 3.30-5.30pm. These sessions include craft activities, celebration/worship time and family-teatime.



The next Messy Church is on Wednesday 22nd May from 3.30-5.30pm. For more information contact David dj_swales@hotmail.com



Our **church hall** is a popular venue for numerous clubs and societies including a weekly **Community Café** on Fridays 10-11.30am and a monthly Wednesday afternoon **Christian Fellowship** meeting. You will find details of all these events elsewhere in Parish News.

The hall is available for private hire at a cost of £7ph. For further information contact David, the dj_swales@hotmail.com

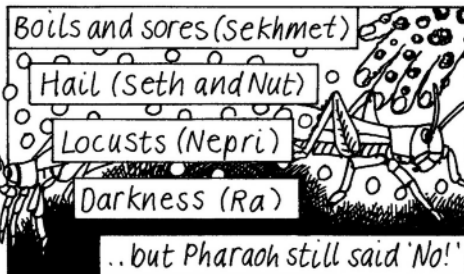
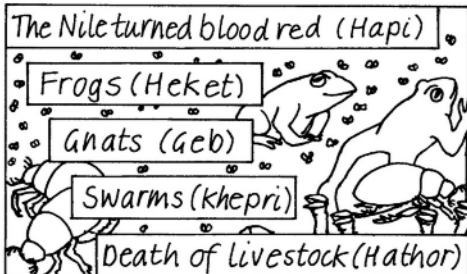
Lettings & Safeguarding Officer

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Exodus 7:14-10:29, 12:21-23, 29-33, 14:5-29

God told Pharaoh to let the Hebrew slaves leave Egypt, but he refused. God then showed his power over Egypt (and its gods)...



God told the Hebrews to prepare to leave, and each family to kill and cook a lamb. He told them..



Mark your house door with the lamb's blood.



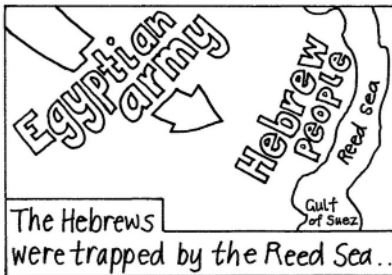
That night, in each un-marked house, the eldest son died.



The Hebrews left Egypt...



but Pharaoh followed with his army.



God made a cloud to hide them from the Egyptians..



and sent a wind. By morning the sea bed was dry and they walked across..



Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Sarah Seymour 07809684488

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: Fiona Stedman 01424 892418

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:

Show Organiser: Kaye Crittall, Stepping Stones, Lower Street, 892883

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Membership Sec. •Corinne Gibbons •892612 corinnemgibbons@gmail.com

NINFIELD MUDDY BOOTS Early Childhood Centre

Sunshine Room 01424 892 037. Snowdrop Cottage 01424 892 600.

NINFIELD STOOLBALL Emma Kehoe 07565 010647

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Sue Thompson 892294

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Robin Goldsmith 892778

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Group Scout Leader Glen Harrison gharrisonninfIELDScountsgsl@gmail.com

Explorer Scout Leader: Josh.explorers@gmail.com

Scout Leader: Elaine Gausden ninfieldscouts@gmail.com

Cub Scout leader: Tracey Harrison tracey.harrison67@gmail.com

Beaver Scout Leader Sandra Creasey• 07908 558721 ninfieldkaa@googlemail.com

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

NINFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB: Robert Slater 07740 828715

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

DARK SKIES GROUP Kaye Crittall 892883

THE FRIENDLY VOICES Kaye Crittall 892883

PILATES & YOGA Susan Trimmer 07977 872284

LITTLE STARS DANCE Kirsty Mills 07875 235398

HOOE BELL RINGERS : Simon Pattisson 845087

HOOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE & NINFIELD OPEN GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE SPORTS CLUB Jay Skinner-Swain jay19942009@hotmail.co.uk or 07713 950161

HOOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Jane Warrener: 07548 528754

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

1066 RINGERS (Hand Belleplates) Carole Ballard 01424 210980

STOOLBALL: Hooe 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: Mrs Catriona Mary Owen
After 4.00pm 225421

Secretary: Mrs Ann Ringrose

Treasurer:

PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD, HOOE

Churchwardens: Mr Jack Rist ☎892576
Mrs Janet Pattison ☎845087

Secretary: Mr John 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:

Jane Warrener: 07548 528754 clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

MEMORIAL HALL

Booking Secretary: EMAIL ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

HOOE VILLAGE HALL

Bookings Jane Warrener: 07548 528754 clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Booking Secretary: Mr David Swales 892248

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL 892486

DOCTORS The Surgery, High Street, Ninfield 892569

NINFIELD STORES, Lower Street, Ninfield 892281