

The

Parish

News



News from the Churches,
Clubs, groups, societies

& residents of

Ninfield & Hove

March 2024 50p



St MARY's & St OSWALD's

NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



	St. Mary's	St. Oswald's
3 rd Mar	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
10 th Mar Mothering Sunday	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
17 th Mar	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
24 th Mar Palm Sunday	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
29 th Mar Good Friday	14,00 The Final Hour	11.00 Stations of the Cross
31 st March Easter Day	9.30 Parish Eucharist	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,

Easter is very early this year, in fact one of the earliest dates it could be. In a way it would be good to have a fixed date for Easter, the schools would certainly appreciate that! It does rather feel that we have just got over Christmas and we are now turning our attention to Easter. Mind you the supermarkets had Easter Eggs in store on Boxing Day! I do sometimes feel like 'stop the world I want to get off'! I find myself planning the rest of the year in January, even thinking about next Christmas! And so the year goes by, without taking much time to stop and think about the now and to appreciate what is happening at this present moment in time. Sadly, that rather brings me to despair! I cannot forget the things that are happening around the world at this moment in time! My mind constantly thinks about Gaza and Ukraine as well as the other problem areas of the world. I was listening to the news in the car the other day with reports of missiles landing in Gaza and in Ukraine and thinking how far away this all seems from the relative comfort of our country. However, the news in the last few days seems to suggest we are not as far removed as we might think.

I cannot even begin to imagine what it is like to know that missiles and drones are destroying your country. Would our attitude change if a missile were to hit here? Is it a case of 'out of sight out of mind'?

This may seem like doom and gloom and in a way, it is, but in all this there is also the message of Easter and that is one of hope! We certainly need hope at the moment! The disciples on Good Friday had lost all their hope, indeed all their beliefs. Their world was crashing down around them, and they saw no future. Yet all that was to change on Easter Day. Easter Day showed us all that there is hope not only in the future but hope in today if we but look for it! In all the atrocities we see daily on our screens, there are also amazing acts of humanity but sadly they do not make it into the news. I certainly pray daily for these atrocities on all sides to end and I genuinely do not know how and when it will end, but our God is a God of hope, and these atrocities are man-made and they must cause God as much pain as they cause me. That is the problem with free will. We can choose to do good or choose evil. I certainly hope and pray that good will prevail.

I hope to see many of you at our Easter Services, if only to continue to pray for peace and to recognise the hope we have in Jesus.

Paul

Opening of St Mary's Ninfield.

You may have noticed that St Mary's has not been open since Christmas. My apologies for that. Martin kindly unlocks twice a week but he has not been well and understandably has not been able to do it recently.

That brings me to a request. Is there anyone locally who could help with the unlocking and locking of the church. I know some appreciate being able to go into church for a time of quiet and it would be good to be able to help that to happen.

If you are interested, please give me a call.

Paul. 01424218126 / 07713243427

The Crossroad

The road was hard, no turning back,
The way ordained by mighty God.
'Your will, not mine' was all He said,
As humbly down that path He trod.

The crowd that cheered Him once with palms
Began to shout for Him to die,
They chose Barabbas in his stead
And with one voice cried 'Crucify!'

Between two thieves on Calvary's hill
They put to death the Prince of Life
One cried for help, the other cursed.
The first was promised Paradise.

This promise now is for us all:
Christ gave His life to set us free.
The Cross divides, it always will –
The question is: what side are we?

By Megan Carter

St Oswald's

February 4th 2024 - Interment of Ashes of Betty Green

*from the
Parish Records*

News from St Oswald's Church

It has been good to welcome some new bellringers to the Tower. They are being taught most Saturday mornings and there is the opportunity for others to join them.

Thank you to all those who have donated to the Food Bank, using the collection basket at the back of the Church. It is much appreciated.

Thanks to those who joined us on the first Saturday of February to help with the tidying up of the Churchyard. It is our hope, that more of you might be able to help us on the first Saturday each month, by giving us an hour of your time to keep on top of the jobs which keep popping up. The next Saturday will be 2nd March at 10.30am. Please bring along gardening gloves and any useful tools for trimming bushes and trees and tidying paths.

In order, to fully comply with the Disabilities Act of the early 2000's, we have moved some of the pews around to allow spaces for wheelchair users to sit in the body of the church. Special thanks, to the hastily gathered team, who helped with the heavy lifting and the re-positioning of books and tables.

A note for your diary. Our Church Garden Party will be on Saturday July 13th.

It is pleasing to note that the comments in the Visitors' Book, show people appreciate that the Church is opened every day by our volunteers.

NINFIELD SURGERY

Foodbank

Thank you for your continued support with the donations to the Foodbank basket. We are very grateful for anything you can donate.

Community Garden

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

Editors comments We'd like to thank the various groups and societies who make regular contributions to the News that have kindly made donations to the Parish News. With the rising costs this helps us keep the cost to our readers as low as we can. We'd also thank all of you have renewed your subscription to continue for another year and if you have not yet done so, you will probably have an envelope or a note from whoever delivers to you shortly
Nicki & Carol



Ninfield Horticultural Society

March isn't just a busy time in the garden (assuming the rain stops!) but also for the Horti Society as we have two events in March.

On Monday 18th March, the Head Gardener from Fairlight Hall will be telling us all about a year at Fairlight Hall. Our meeting is in the Memorial Hall and doors open at 7.30pm. You do not need to be a member to attend, but there will be a small entrance for non-members.

And then on Saturday 23rd March we will have our Spring Show. Whatever the weather throws at us, we always have a great display of flowers plus baking and crafts.

Schedules are available from the Village Stores or contact me and I can email out a copy. I always say this, but even if you don't enter (although I would encourage you to enter as there are so many diverse classes) just come along to see the displays and sample some lovely cakes. Doors open at 2.30. If you would like to enter, but have never shown before, please contact me and we can give you some hints and tips.
k.crittell@btinternet.com

THE NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

will be opening the archives on Monday 26th February between 10am and 12 noon, then very last Monday of the month. Come along and see our collection of photos and documents at Sparke Pavilion. If you have stories to tell about growing up in the village we would love to hear them. Related to that we are starting up our oral history project again. So, if you are 60 plus and grew up here we would like to hear from you. We like to get 3 or 4 people together over tea and biscuits to talk about school days, family life, village characters etc. If you would like to take part please call john on 07989 373336.

Our programme of talks continues on the 2nd Thursday of every month and on March 14th we have John Gorman leading a discussion on the Background to the Battle of Hastings.

On 11th April we have our AGM and there will be a slide show of photos from our collection.

We welcome new members and if you join now for £10, your membership will run through until end of March 2025. Membership gives discounted entry to meetings (just £1 instead of £4 for non-members).

Please call or see our website for further details (search Ninfield Local History Group).

February Diary

	Venue	Page
February		
26 th	Ninfield History Archive	Sparke 6
26 th	Hooe Parish Council	Village Hall
March		
1 st	Ninfield Book Exchange	Methodist 10
2 nd	St.Oswald's clean up	St. Oswald's 5
4 th	Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial 13
5 th	Film Matinee	Memorial 11
8 th	Hooe & Ninfield Open Group	Methodist 17
9 th	Jumble Sale	Memorial 29
9 th	Hooe Coffee Morning	St. Oswald's 22
11 th	Hooe Parish Council	Village Hall 12
11 th	Carnival Meeting	Working Men's 20
13 th	Christian Women's Fellowship	Methodist 33
13 th	Village Society AGM	Methodist 32
14 th	Ninfield History Meeting	Methodist 6
16 th	Breakfast Club	Memorial 16
16 th	Village Market	Memorial 8
18 th	Ninfield Horti Meet	Memorial 6
20 th	Ninfield Bonfire Meet	Working Men's 31
21 st	Hooe History Group	St. Oswald's 15
23 rd	Spring Show	Memorial 6
25 th	Ninfield History Archive	Sparke 6
27 th	Messy Church	Methodist 33
30 th	Ninfield Litter Pick	Sparke 13

If you are planning an event please remember to let us know and we'll be happy to add it to our busy calendar.

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

at The Memorial Hall

Mondays	10.00 Movement to Music *	1.30 Ladies Badminton
Tuesdays	6.00 Cubs	
Wednesdays	9.15 Pilates* 10.15 Yoga *	2.00 Art Group*
	6.45 Dancersize*	
Thursdays	5.00 Beavers	7.00 Scouts
Fridays	9.30 Cardiac Exercise*	10.30 Pilates*
	10.30 Crafting & Knitting*	5.00 Junior Kickboxing
Alternate Fridays	6.45 Ballroom & Burlesque * / Explorers	

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

at The Methodist Hall

Mondays	9.30 Art Group*	12.45 Little Stars Dance*
	5.30 Junior Kick Boxing*	7.00 Mark Time*
Tuesdays	9.30 Yoga* 11.30 Pilates*	7.30 Friendly voices*
Thursdays	9.30 Silver Swans*	
Saturday	8.45 - 11.45 Little Stars Dance*	

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

at Sparke Pavilion

Thursdays	11.00 A gentle exercise walk around Ninfield
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* These events need to be booked, see contacts on page 35

'Mark Time' on Monday evenings is for anyone who plays a brass instrument, if you are interested, pop along and say 'hello'

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 16th MARCH

9.30 - 12.00

VILLAGE MARKET!

4 new stalls who started last month proved very popular were

**Hand-made chocolates: Samosas & Baklavas:
Cakes & pastries: Flavoured cinnamon buns & brownies**

We had some, they were soo tasty!!

Ninfield Health and Wellbeing Group

aims to promote the health and well-being of people in the local community. Established in 2018, NHWG is an umbrella organisation supporting a range of activities.

Book Exchange & 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 & Knitting Circle

Memorial Hall Committee Room. Weekly 10.30 am – 12.30 am. £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 11 am at Sparke Pavilion at Ninfield recreation ground near the main entrance off Church Lane. A few more walkers would be welcome!

FREE and friendly. Dogs on short leads 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. 10am last Friday of the month. Men putting the world to rights over free coffee.

For more information contact Dave: 01424 892883

Dark Skies - although there have been some fantastic skies in January, it's really just been too cold and/or wet to get outside much. As we have said previously, there is no formal monthly meeting as everything is weather dependant. The next main event is a Super Moon on Friday 9th February, but please look out on the Community Page for postings or contact me on k.crittell@btinternet.com and I can add you to the Dark Skies WhatsApp Group

Film Matinees 2024

Memorial Hall: Tuesday afternoons: Doors open 1.30. Films start at 2 pm, FREE entry and refreshments. Dementia friendly and subtitles.

We had a very successful 2023 season and hope you will join us for the 2024 selection below.

5 March: Kind Hearts and Coronets

(you will read this before 5 March – you can book a place up to and including the morning of 5th).

9 April: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers

14 May: The Graduate

25 June: Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again (the sequel to Mamma Mia)

3 September: Blazing Saddles

1 October: Funny Face

5 November: the African Queen

10 December: the Greatest Showman.

For more information or to book a place (to ensure enough cake!), contact Jackie or Rose :01424 892422

jackie.langley1@btinternet.com

Friendly Voices - back after the Christmas break and with a list of new songs to try out! Hopefully, you would have seen our performances at the Home Made Fayre and Christmas Market and saw for yourself how much we enjoy ourselves (maybe you even joined in on the 12 Days of Christmas - Ninfield version?) We meet Tuesday evenings at the Methodist Hall from 7.30pm and Thursday afternoon at Sparke Pavilion from 2pm. At the risk of repeating myself, we are not a choir, but a group of people that come together to sing and have fun. Anyone is welcome to come along to either (or both) sessions and at £1 a session, it's good value for money as well as being good for your health.

SECOND HAND CLOTHES SALE

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATRDAY 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.pm

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 meeting met on the 12th February 2024 to consider the future of the Hooe Village Hall. There was a good turn out by the local community who had an opportunity to voice their views.

A decision was made not to build a new village hall on the Hooe recreation ground as the Village Hall Project Committee did not consider a business case could be proven, and therefore would be unlikely to finance the project.

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken to research the village hall options that informed 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 on <https://www.hooe-pc.gov.uk/village-hall-project/>

The findings of the reports identified two options to either 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. The second option is to sell the village hall due to the declining use and further funding required to keep the village hall in good repair.

The Village Hall Project Committee has decided to hold a Community Consultation to obtain the opinions of the local community. The next meeting of the Village Hall Project Committee is to take place on Monday 11th March 2024 at 7pm in the village hall to discuss the process moving forward.

The intention is to hold the Community Consultation by the end of April 2024 and the details of the community consultation will be advertised widely.

The full details of the next stage will be reported in the next month's Parish News and other places. All residents are welcome to attend the Village Hall Project Committee meeting on the 11th March 2024 with any questions regarding the community consultation process.

The next general Full Council meeting is to be held on Monday 8th April 2024 at 7pm in the village hall.

Jane Warrener - Clerk to Hooe Parish Council

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP

Club members are looking forward with anticipation to our first demonstration of the year on Monday March 4th with Elloise Hasler-Stott, a young and inspiring florist who is not only a Chelsea gold medal winner but was also voted Young Florist of the Year in 2018. Her title is "A Spring Walk", and it will be a delight to join her.

Visitors are welcome for a charge of £5. Refreshments are served from 6.30 and the demonstration starts at 7pm, as always in the Memorial Hall.

April 1st being a bank holiday we meet on Monday 8th and welcome back Duncan Grant, a man who always has some quirky and interesting floral ideas to offer.

Saturday March 9th is our Jumble Sale and we welcome **saleable** items from 9.30am. We are unable to accept upholstered items, unless they still carry their original fire-proof label, or children's car seats. Selling commences at 2pm, entry 50p.

For further information about NFG see our website: ninfieldflowergroup.uk
or contact 0796 6659 552

NINFIELD'S VILLAGE LITTER PICK

ORGANISED BY

THE VILLAGE SOCIETY

STARTING AT

10.00AM

SPARKE PAVILION

SATURDAY 30th MARCH

Litter picks and sacks provided, just bring gloves

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HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

welcomes Jan Meek on Thursday 21st March with her talk entitled "101 Atlantic Nights". Jan worked with icons like Sammy Davis Jr and Roger Moore in the film business. After 5 years in Saudi Arabia with the U.S. Geological Survey she returned to UK and ran several businesses, finding time in between to become the first female Chair of Chipping Norton Chamber of Commerce, Town Mayor and non-exec director of Heart of England TEC. In the 90's, after the death of her husband, adventure became her way of life. In 1994 she cycled round China, 1997 rowed, with her son, 3044 miles across the Atlantic in a 23 ft. rowing boat (the subject of her talk) 2007 raced 40 miles to the Magnetic North Pole, 2008 trekked to the Geographic Pole, earning 4 Guinness World Records, 2014 trekked to Kilimanjaro and Everest Basecamp to gain altitude experience in preparation for her planned expedition to the South Pole which will result in a 5th Guinness world record. We meet at 7.30 p.m. in St. Oswald's church.

DID YOU KNOW.... About Hooe's Curved Apollo Seat? By the mid-1800s, the Navy was moving away from wooden sailing ships to steam ironclads, mainly for two reasons - wooden ships stood no chance against the new shells that were replacing the old cannonballs and suitable wood for ship-building was becoming more difficult to find. New methods of ship construction were needed and out of this came the 'ironclads', which were still made from wood, but were better protected by thick plates of armour,

secured to the sides of the vessels.

With this change, ship-breaking companies saw a great opportunity — hard woods, such as oak, teak, and mahogany had been used in wooden ship construction and there was a market for such material.

One such company

was the "Castles' Ship Breaking Company Ltd.", which among other items produced what we today, would call garden furniture. In 1920, H.M.S. Apollo, built in 1891, was scrapped and bought by Castles' and from wood on this ship that the Hooe Curved Apollo Seat was made and set up in what was



originally known as "Junction Garden" but, in 1938, had become George V's Silver Jubilee garden. The cost of the seat in 1938 was the princely sum of £12-0s-0d, including carriage from London by train!

Sir Henry White-Smith C.B.E. (more about him in a future issue of Parish News) helped, financially, with many projects, including the improvement to "Junction Gardens" so as to present a more impressive entrance to the village from Ninfield, where the Curved "Apollo" Seat was to go. The idea of a public seat in this position had first been raised in May 1928. There followed a series of about 30 letters between the Parish Council, the Department of Health (Whitehall) East Sussex County Council and Hailsham Rural District Council before the seat was finally installed in August 1938, two years after the death of George V in whose honour the seat was endorsed. The "symmetrical entrance" to the Silver Jubilee Garden, built in the summer of 1938, can be seen in the accompanying photograph taken in 1965 — complete with the Apollo Seat, which eventually rotted beyond repair and had to be removed.

BREAKFAST CLUB SPECIAL

SATURDAY 16th MARCH

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 leave a message on 893326
with name and how many!**



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Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 9th January 2024 at the Methodist Hall in Ninfield. We had a very interesting talk by Steve Squirrell about unusual armaments that were designed and used by the Home Guard. Weird guns that were very inaccurate, sticky bombs that were supposed to stick on the outside of a tank but sometimes got stuck on the uniform of the thrower with disastrous consequences. Not many others were too successful until the grenade was designed. Most Home Guard units were given a box of glass grenades for use, luckily they were not needed so at the end of the war these were buried but no records were kept of their location! One box was found in Eastbourne when they were excavating the ground for new houses!

Our numbers were up this month with 4 new people joining us, hopefully they enjoyed themselves and will return next month. The speaker then will be Philip Elms who is going to talk about Lockdown in Little Common.

We meet the second Friday of the month at 2p.m. so our next meeting is 8th March – see you there.

Heather & Nicki

SAMI'S NEWS & REVUES

Ninfield Memorial Hall - Updates!

At time of writing, pre Magazine Valentine's Day deadline!, we're getting ready for a new Breakfast Club on Saturday 17th February, from 8.30am, serving a Full English Breakfast for £6 per person. Chef Jeff will be in the kitchen, and this will run BEFORE the Market opens; it's a trial idea, and we're hoping to run it every 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. Maybe the History Group could do an exhibition and 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 - Saturday 16th March -Call me on 07970650321 or email ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

For information...Jeff , Kaye and I have all trained and passed the Level 2 Food Safety for Catering Award, and the certificates will be in the Hall; so you will be pleased to know that all extra efforts are being made to keep the running of the Hall, kitchen-wise, up to the highest standards!! What a palaver! But needs must in this day and age!

From February, the Memorial Hall committee are inviting residents to attend the 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

Memorial Hall Event Dates for the diary-

April 13th (Saturday) the Annual Quiz at the Hall with Supper, this was really popular last year, so note the date and start organising your team of 6!

May 11th (Saturday) will be the Heart of Ninfield event at the Hall, co presented with Ninfield Parish Council, and where all groups, societies and clubs and 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 ninfieldmemorialhall.co.uk 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: We had a fantastic meeting on the 12th of February - and, although there are only 7 of us on the Committee- the Secret Seven!, we do have a laugh while getting an awful lot done!

Hopefully the Container on the Rec will be clad by early March, and then planted with fabulous trailing plants and shrubs to make it 'disappear'. The weather has been so against us, but fingers crossed things are now underway. 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! The 'blueprint' below is updated a little and has some new announcements in it... but there is one thing that we're keeping under wraps for a little while longer - to go along with the Paris / French theme; so mums the word, but look out for clues! - It's already getting quite exciting!

2024- Dates for your Diary...

1 - Pram, Kart & Hobby Horse Races - Bank Holiday Monday May 6th - we're still awaiting permission for the use of the car park at the Blacksmiths Inn again- so keep watching this space - but hopefully there will be the same format as last year's Coronation races, with even more entries, so please start thinking about making your Karts and Prams, and Hobby Horses!

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 already being discussed! Of course things are subject to change, but this is the blueprint for now - The Theme will be Paris - to include the Olympics!

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 Attrix. The BBQ running throughout, plus the Café-Tea Tent, Ninfield Bake Off, Bottle Tombola, Raffle, Crafts Stalls, Games, Coconut Shy, China Smash, Welly Wanging, and...

UPDATE! - we're hoping to have the Queens Archery and Axe throwers on site, plus The Falconry, and maybe even LLama walking - fingers crossed!!

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 hopefully be another Battle of the Bands type of Music event, run by the Bonfire society. Look out for their updates elsewhere in the Magazine!

Michaelmas Fayre - again- a long way off yet, but proposed to be on Saturday 21st September, 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 11th MARCH 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...?

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 Night?

How about seeing a recent blockbuster Film?

Would you like a Bar?

Fancy Supper beforehand?

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

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Let us know what you think...what you'd like ...call me on 07970650321 email samanthaguard@btinternet.com or contact ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.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

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Hooe Village Community Group

Contact us:

Website:

hooevillagecommunitygroup.co.uk

Facebook: Hooe Village Community Group

Email: hooevcg@gmail.com

Chairman: Chris Bloor

Treasurer: Peter Cosham

Secretary: Elaine Bloor

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forthcoming events
please email us your contact details

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Events

Our next Coffee Morning is on Saturday 9th March As usual this will be in St Oswald's Church starting at 10.30am.

Our first coffee morning was held in February 2018 as a trial run to find out if there was any interest! Looking around a crowded church at the coffee morning last month, some 6 years later, we all agreed coffee mornings are a success, more and more Hooe residents are attending regularly. The bakers like to think that it is the home-made cakes that is the attraction, the librarians are sure it is the free community library and jigsaw exchange and not to forget the food and drink prizes in the raffle!! The real reason for success is the atmosphere created by all the friendly folk who come to enjoy themselves! Long may it continue.

Annual Community Litter Pick – Saturday 6th April

We do hope you will be able to join us for the Annual Community Litter Pick on Saturday April 6th. Not only do many hands make light work, but it's also much more fun when there is a crowd working together. As those who have helped in the past know, it all gets very competitive! Folk boast about the number of bags they have filled with rubbish and the unusual things they have collected. Whilst the banter is always light-hearted, the upsetting fact behind it all is that none of this would be necessary if people did not drop litter, stopped throwing bottles, fast food containers etc from their vehicles,

and dumping large items such as mattresses, fridges and tyres in country lanes which, with a little effort, could be disposed of legally at a Council site.

Please meet with us on Saturday 6th April at 9.45 for a 10.00 kick off in the Red Lion Car Park (Thankyou Leigh) where we meet up afterwards at approximately 12.30. We organise a runner to collect filled bags from the verges so there is no heavy carrying. Even so it is not unusual for the majority of the Team to retire to the Red Lion afterwards with the excuse they need to recharge. We also have warning boards and simple but effective rules to ensure our safety.

In the past Wealden District Council has supplied us with several litter picks, High Viz jackets and gloves (which we now count out and in to keep our supply!). Bags have been obtained from them this year. Arrangements have been made for the spoils to be collected on Monday 8th.

Saturday 13th April – Coffee morning More details next month

Hooe Open Gardens - June 15th/June 16th

Gary Durman, who leads on our Open Garden weekend, tells me he is pleased with the responses he has received so far to his request for people to contact him about opening their gardens this year. If you have yet to speak to him or would like more information he is at the end of the 'phone (01424 893007), or he can often be seen out and about around the village and now and again you might bump into him at The Red Lion PH! In the past there has been a wide variety of gardens open, Cottage, Formal, Kitchen, Wild, we love the diverse nature, there is something for everyone to enjoy, and perhaps pick up some tips. If you are unsure about opening your garden but would like to help with the event, please get in touch.

Charitable Donations this month

Kent and Sussex Air Ambulance

Those of you who were at the talk given by Colin, a volunteer for the KSS Air Ambulance Service, at the Hooe History Society were delighted to meet up with him again at the February Coffee Morning. This time there was no presentation, just interesting individual conversation, and exchange of experiences. Thank you, Colin, for all you do for KSS.

We were delighted to donate the £125 proceeds from our raffle to KSS and adding this total to the money which was donated directly to Colin during the morning, the total donation was £209.00 to this worthy cause.



Parish News

In answer to a general request by the volunteer editors of the Parish News we were happy to donate the sum of £50 to help future proof the magazine. I am sure other regular contributors will also have made their own donation. The price charged for each copy, 0.50p, is good value, designed to ensure as many households as possible take it regularly, but it doesn't comfortably cover the ever-rising cost of printing and production.



End of Year Report

As the Copy Date for the Parish News is before our AGM, we are unable to give you a full end of year financial overview this month. The plan is to let you see it next month.

And finally.....Did you spot the report about us in The Sussex Express? If not, you can read it on our website on the news page.

We are grateful to Susan King, a Senior Reporter on the Sussex Express, for her interest and support.

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

The Ninfield Allotments

I'm pleased to say that all the available plots have now been filled. It's good to see that a great deal of clearing and preparation has been carried out on many of the plots in preparation for early planting.

The annual rents will be due on 1st March. I would be grateful if plot holders would put payment of £10 for a full plot and £5 for a half plot, in an envelope marked with name, address, phone number and email address and put it through my letter box on or around 1st March. I think all the plot holders know where I live, if not, ring me on 01424-892294 or email at toadie21@btinternet.com.

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

Many thanks Sue Thompson

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POT HOLES

This will have to be a little story of why I didn't get to walk my dog around the Church, for three weeks.

On Boxing Day afternoon, whilst driving from Ninfield to Hooe, I went into a pothole. It destroyed my rear wheel and broke the sub frame, axle thing!

Now it is possible to miss potholes, you can remember where they all are, avoid all puddles because they can hide the abyss, or swerve to miss them. The last one doesn't work if there are on coming cars. Well it all went wrong in every way and luckily no one was hurt or another car damaged.

Everyone said claim from the council, this plan was put into operation. My son in law took the pictures and did the on line stuff. I may not be able to do much on a computer and don't have a camera, but I can see snares in the hedge bottom. So I'm not holding my breath when it comes to a claim.

The local garage got me going again and we are back to walks around the church. This is where the story goes from, hardly interesting to down right subversive.

I paid the bill for the repairs and then gave the government money, VAT. The government will then make the garage pay income tax on the money I gave them, I think that's how it works.. So potholes are a money making venture for the government.

Snare ahead, potholes need to be reported before a claim can be made. Now if I have a strong black coffee, two home rolls and a good following wind I can probably think of dozens of potholes close to Hooe and all of them getting worse. These are encouraged to be reported on line. Even if I had the time, I don't have that ability. I could phone but being a registered old bloke there is only so much time I have left. I don't feel like sitting listening to weird music, even if the phone signal were to last that long. There is something rotten about sitting waiting on the phone to be answered and then have the signal just cut out after half an hour. Its either start the process again or a glass of brandy!

I have heard statistics of the staggering amount of cars being damaged country wide, that equates to a lot of VAT on repair bills!

There are two potholes near me that have been filled, they were huge and cut off half the road. A month or so on and the potholes are starting to re-emerge. I have fillings in my teeth that are thirty years old so you would think the road repairs would last longer. That is unless you are waiting a year or so when an old twit and his dog will fall into it, again. That's more VAT; you would think that they would give out medals for contributions to the state. Three pothole repairs and you could get a silver medal, six pothole repairs and you get a gold medal and a voucher for one hour free parking!

FAMILIES

Whilst it is possible to trace some family names back as far as Domesday for Ninfield, the best details only became available from 1841 and the first country wide Census. This showed that there were 12 pages of Names, 25 to a page so totalling some 300 souls in Ninfield, Hooe Common and Russells Green. But those people were crammed into only a few houses, many in multi occupancy with several families.

Most of those would have been farm labourers, but it wasn't until later Census returns that more details were shown, such ages, where born, relationships and any infirmities.

The Census Returns were carried out every 10 years and the latest available is the 1921 Census as information is withheld for 100 years.

But with a War looming, in 1939 the Government organised an extra Registration in order that sufficient supplies of items such as gas masks, ration books and the number of occupants in a building for example were known for rescue work etc.

It also recorded when people had volunteered as ambulance drivers, Air Raid Wardens, and Special Constables etc, all to enable speedy rescue and maintain civil order in the face of heavy bombing, which was feared to be devastating. Among the precautions were Anderson shelters, curved corrugated iron shelters which were intended to be half buried in gardens away from falling debris and covered over to protect from shrapnel penetration and blast damage.

So, it is possible to compare the family Names of those in Ninfield from 1841 to those in 1939, almost 100 years apart. But those would only be from the male line, so daughters marrying would be harder to trace, and even the same surname doesn't mean they are descended from the same family. Add in variations in spelling, which compounded with the lower levels of literacy, the combination of local dialects and the variations that the enumerators themselves could spell or mis spell their names and go uncorrected if those giving the names couldn't read, then surnames like Vitler and Vidler could all be branches of one family – or several!

No doubt many of the "older" Ninfield families know their own Family Trees and can make better links.

The big surprise for me was looking at the addresses, not just the surnames, and I can only assume that many have been renamed since 1939, or rebuilt, in the last 85 years.

What is also surprising is that there were no more than 150 houses throughout Ninfield and Hooe, with the greatest density being in Ninfield Green and Lower Street, but most homes had a very large number of occupants, not all the same surname, so a lot of "multi-occupancy" sharing went on.

So, as this year progresses, I'll try and look at comparisons between 1841 and 1939 to see if any surnames continue (although they may not be related 100 years apart) and also looking at whether any house names survive and perhaps their origin.

We're practically another 100 years on from 1939, so it will be interesting to see what changes occur when someone compares 2021 etc with what was in the village before.

In the meantime, why not look out a copy of the Deeds for your own homes and see what you can find that is of interest and let me know.

Kevin Regan

Worms Eye View

I have just been reading a fiction book of the evacuees taken from London into unknown (to them) town. Memories have flooded back to me of the time we had three evacuees billeted with us in Hailsham in late 1939. I had gone with my mother to the centre in town where they were taken after travelling down south from London. The room was full of people, the children and their teachers, town folk, us and the organisers trying to sort out who should go with whom., They tried to keep families together, not an easy task, others would be hosts like my mother who had offered to have two. It all seemed a bit noisy and a muddle but gradually the room began to empty but we still hadn't been allocated any children. It was difficult and the helpers begged my mother to have three, two girls and a boy. She agreed and we were introduced to Jimmy 15, Violet 13 and Iris 8. They got their luggage and we set off for our house, which had three bedroom and four people living there already, m Mum and Dad, my grandmother and me. Well after a bit of sorting I moved in with Mum and Dad, Grandmother had my very small bedroom and the three visitors had Gran's bedroom: there was a scurry around to get more

beds. I was excited to have three play mates who were very nice and friendly

The next day, I went off to school as usual whilst Mum took the visitors to the local hall which had been set up as three classrooms which they attended every day, but we had great times together after school playing in the garden, helping to clean out the hens plus collecting their eggs, also seeing the rabbits in the hutches at the bottom of the garden, some Does' for breeding and the babies fed up to help our food rationing. After three weeks the evacuees Mother and Aunt came down to visit and were pleased to see how well we were all doing. We saw them off on the train and the kept in touch with their children and my Mum and Dad.

Now unfortunately it had not been a good idea to evacuate the children or anyone else down to this part of the country: we were right on the flight paths by not only our aircraft but by the flight paths of the Germans and it was certainly feared that there would be an invasion here, so after Easter 1940 all the children were move to Wales, where it was deemed to be safer. I was very sad, despite having my bedroom back again. It was soon announced that my school and any voluntary pupils were to be evacuated as well. Actually not many of us did go and air raid shelters were built at school and we had table shelters delivered to all homes.

Mum, Gran and I slept in one, it quite comfortably and Dad had also gone to work in a munitions factory in Guilford. My what a lot of memories of theses times.

Anne

Ninfield Flower Group

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NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY

We meet regularly on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm, at the **Working Men's club**. New and old members are very welcome to pop in and say hello.

NBS will hold a stall at the **Ninfield Village Market** on Saturday 16th March. Come and see us and have a chat about what we do and if you like, join as a member! We run a tombola and if you need some NBS clothing, we sell a range of merchandise.

We are now part of the **Wealden Community lottery**. You can help us raise funds for our Bonfire night by playing the lottery each week and be in with a chance of winning £25,000. There are other prizes to be had, so please sign up, have a look and support us to put on the firework extravaganza each year

. www.wealdencommunitylottery.co.uk/support/ninfield-bonfire-society

Ninfield Bonfire Society have also been selected for the second year running to receive funding from the **Co-op Local Community fund**. We've received the first year's funding. If you already support us though being a co-op member, can you please re nominate us using the link below. Your old nomination no longer stands! If you haven't already - why not become a Co-op member (costs a pound) and every time you use the co-op you'll be supporting us (and you'll get a bit of money off at the same time), win-win! 😊 <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/79794>

We've also registered Ninfield Bonfire Society with **Easyfundraising** which means over 6,000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you use Easyfundraising to shop with them. These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ninfieldbonfiresociety

Looking towards this year's event, we will need to raise necessary funds to keep this Sussex Tradition going. The torch- lit procession, bonfire, effigy and fireworks display all takes money and volunteer time to organise.

It is a free event for the local Community. So if you've enjoyed bonfire night last year in the village, then why not support Ninfield Bonfire by joining as a member? As a member you need only put in as much time as you can spare, any help is much appreciated. You can join in with any part of the bonfire year, from helping with one of fundraising events, to making torches or brushwood faggots for the bonfire, or even just walking with a collection

bucket. You also get to join our own torch- lit procession as well as others around Sussex that we attend as a society. Join online or come to one of our meetings or Village Market stall to pay your membership.

If you are a local business and would like to become a sponsor of the Ninfield Bonfire Society 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

Remember, Remember the 5th of November

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

Further to last month's update, we are still focusing on Church Wood as there are more trees requiring attention following the storms pre-Christmas. Visitors will notice that we stack the fallen trees cut to useful lengths for future projects and timber not suited to prolonged exposure to water is cut into logs. It is amazing the amount of "spoil" that each tree generates, the branches and twigs at upper levels which appear insignificant from the ground but which make an enormous pile once down. Some of this we leave for the birds and insects to populate and some we burn. However, we are now working on a major project which should enable us to use even the smallest timber for the benefit of visitors to Church Wood.

Hopefully we shall be able to confirm details at our
**AGM on Wednesday 13th March, 7pm
at the Methodist Hall in Church Lane.**

At this point I should like to recount a little tale. I was due to retire and a chance meeting on the very day I retired lead to me attending the Society's AGM a couple of weeks later. I was made most welcome and then began my time attending Wednesday mornings in Church Wood. Nearly eleven years later I still look forward to each Wednesday, working and enjoying the company of like- minded men [and one lady], learning more about trees and the countryside than my previous sixty years had taught me.

I should like to extend an invitation to all the newcomers to the village to come along to our AGM or our Litterpick on the 30th March. There will be no obligation just the opportunity to meet with a team of individuals who value the village and its environs.

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

Sunday Services for March 2024:

3 rd	10.30 am	Cafe Worship Breakfast
10 th	10.30 am	MOTHERING SUNDAY Family Praise with Julie Todd
17 th	10.30 am	Worship & Praise service with Charmaine Hill
24 th	10.30 am	PALM SUNDAY Worship with Revd. Crawford Logan
31 st	10.30 am	EASTER SUNDAY Family Praise with Revd. Tricia Williams

Events for March 2024:

Fridays	10.00 - 11.30am	Community Café including
1 st	10.00 - 11.30am	Book exchange in Hall
13 th	2.30 – 4.00pm	Christian Women's Fellowship
27 th	3.30 – 5.30pm	Messy Church 'Spring into Easter'

We will enjoy a 'packed' programme of services during March, Lent & Easter. This is in addition to all the other activities in our Hall which include Community Coffee Time, Book café, Art, Exercise, History, Band, Children's Dance & more. Anyone is welcome to come along.

Café Worship: Get's our services going on March 3rd .

A very happy time together, nice food, singing & worship to God.

Mothering Sunday: Great to celebrate this special day to 'give thanks'.

Julie Todd will lead our worship & praise.

Palm Sunday: We remember Jesus' procession into Jerusalem with all the excitement & emotions. Our minister the Reverend Crawford Logan will guide us through the journey.

Messy Church: 'Spring into Easter' is our theme as we reflect, with our young people, on the wonderful Easter story.

Easter: Firstly we will join at St. Mary's on Good Friday at 2.00pm for a Good Friday reflection; & then on EASTER SUNDAY @ 10.30 am we will celebrate this amazing day with a Family Praise service. This will include Communion + an Easter Egg Hunt + Refreshments. We are pleased that Reverend Tricia Williams will lead our service.

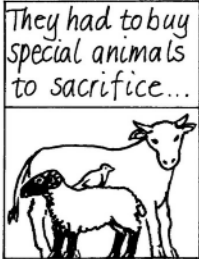
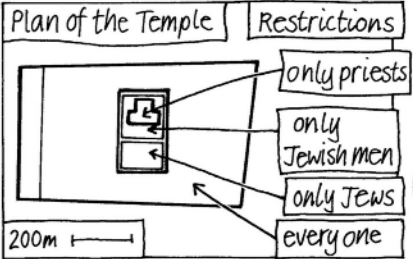
So much to enjoy!!! 'The Best of all is God is with us.'

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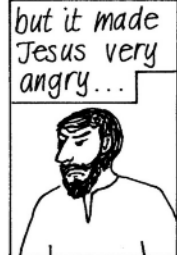
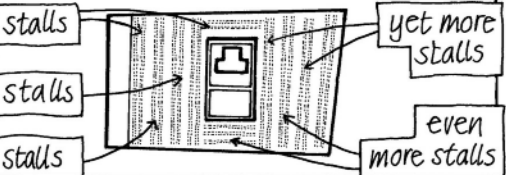
A short story from the Bible

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

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



and the stalls filled the only place that non-Jews could come to worship God



so he drove them out



This should be a place of prayer but you have made it into a den of thieves *

* Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11



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 gharrisonninfieldscoutsgsl@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

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MEMORIAL HALL

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METHODIST CHURCH HALL

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