

The

Parish

News



News, events and stories

In & around

Ninfield & Hove

October 24

50p



St MARY's & St OSWALD's

NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



St Mary's

St Oswald's

6 th October	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
13 th October	<i>No Service</i>	10.30 Joint Parish Eucharist
20 th October	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
27 th October	NO SERVICE	11.00 Parish Eucharist

Opening times for Private Prayer

St. Mary's	-	Tuesday to 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,

By the time you read this article we will have celebrated Our Harvest Festival; once again, as a worshipping community thanking God for his generous gifts from the world around us.

As we prepare for this great season of thanksgiving, we wonder what our guiding thoughts might be this year. When it comes to the Harvest service, we know, it is not just having the traditional hymns and prayers.

Harvest celebrations go beyond what happens in the churches. If we pause for a moment, in all what we are going to celebrate and thank God for this year, we may realise there is something that needs to be taken seriously: namely our approach to God's generosity.

The book of Deuteronomy conveys to us a special message.

When the wandering people complained to Moses, despite God's continuous provisions for them, that they were better off when they were slaves in Egypt, saying they had better food to eat, to the rebellious people, God declared what was in his mind. Perhaps this is one of the most powerful messages for us from the whole of the Bible.

What is in God's mind becomes very clear as he declared through Moses to the wandering people `...I call heaven and earth as witness against you that I set before you, life and death, blessing and cursing...`[30:19a]. The choice is clear. There is good and bad, but he wants his people to choose what is good: `... therefore, choose life, that you and your descendants may live...`[30:19b].

God's offer is so unique. Moses made every effort to convince the people that God's generosity should not be taken for granted. That goes for us as well. All too often we take what God gives for granted. We are quick to moan but we are not so quick to say thank you! If we look closely, we all have much to be thankful for. I was always taught to say pleased and thank you. Our relationship to God is no different!

Paul

Prayer for October 2024

Lord,

As we move into autumn and the month of October, the normal seasonal changes are all around us, the beautiful colours, the falling leaves, the cooler days. And that is reassuring. But, so much else in our world is changing so rapidly, often in ways we don't understand. And that can be worrying.

Thank you that You never change. You are always the same, faithful, present and loving. And You tell us in Your Word, not to be anxious about anything, but to bring all things to You in prayer and to trust You. When we do this, You promise us Your Peace – a peace of heart that steadies us and helps us move forward. Thank you that whatever comes, we are secure in You, when we put our trust in Jesus.

In His name, we pray. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

St Mary's

26th July - Funeral of Don Driver

2nd August - Wedding of Christopher Brown and Rachael Staplehurst.

4th August - Baptism of Otis Benedict Alban Martin Barulis.

St Oswald's

31st August - Wedding of Pyers Jensen Lockwood
and Lucia Gelsomina Albertella

*from the
Parish Records*

**Closing date for items for the
NOVEMBER
issue of the Parish News
is SUNDAY 13th OCTOBER please send to
ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com**

News from St Oswald's

Garden Party

Thanks to the huge input from many people in the village, the profit from the day amounted to over £2,000 for the first time ever! This was a huge boost to church funds to help with increased heating, Insurance and other costs just to keep the church warm and open to all.

Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall

This was the second time the church has used the hall since the closure of the hall. It was a stupendous success with many attending from the village.

We were fortunate to welcome some younger helpers who were kept busy all afternoon serving sandwiches cakes and cream teas and over £200.00 were counted in donations. So thank you everyone who attended and helped

Toilet and Tea Station plans for north side of church

The diocese requested a report from an archeologist on the structure of the existing blocked up doorway on North wall of Church. As a result an archeologist spent four hours at the church in August resulting in some slight changes to the architect's plans. Following receipt of these plans we have now been told by the Diocese that before issuing any Faculty it is necessary to acquire planning permission. This is the exact opposite way round to our previous experience of Faculties and Planning Permissions! We will not give up and now our architect is applying for the planning permission.

Visitors to the Church

With the better weather in August, many people and families visited the church making comments about the church being welcoming, peaceful and mellow. Others remarked that it was nice to find the church open and others are recounting searches for family graves.

October Diary

		Venue	Page
7 th	Flower Group	Memorial	13
11 th	Hooe & Ninfield Open Group	Methodist	8
11 th	Club 339	Memorial	26
12 th	Flower Group Jumble Sale	Memorial	13
12 th	HVCG Coffee Morning	St Oswald's	30
14 th	Horti AGM	Memorial	9
16 th	Bonfire Society Meeting	working Men's	19
17 th	Hooe History Society	St.Oswald's	17
19 th	Monthly Market	Memorial	23
19 th	Bonfire & Fireworks	Ninfield Rec	19
21 st	Memeorial Hall AGM	Memorial	27
26 th & 27 th	Art Exhibition	Memorial	7
31 st	Secret Poets	Memorial	28

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS in Ninfield include

Memorial Hall Movement2Music Dancersize Ballroom
 Burlesque Beavers Cubs Scouts Explorers
 Pilates Yoga Cardiac Exercise Ladies Badminton
 Art Group Crafting & Knitting Junior & Teen Kickboxing

The Methodist Hall Art Group Little Stars Dance 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

Ninfield & District
Art Society

**Art
Exhibition
& Sale**

26th & 27th October

10:00am - 4:00pm

**Ninfield Memorial
Hall**

Bexhill Road Ninfield

East Sussex

TN33 9EE

Free Admission & parking

Disabled Access

Refreshments



Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 13th September in the Methodist Hall in Ninfield. Our speaker was Katie Brignall who I know has had a varied career so we had no idea what she was going to talk about.

It appears that whilst she was a student training to be a teacher she took part in beauty parades. The idea was to make money, to supplement her student grant, so she always liked to runner up as that was usually a cash prize! A photo of one parade appeared in the local Medway paper and to her surprise she was asked to go on a visit to Northern Island by the local regiment. This was in 1975 which was at the height of the troubles. She agreed and went over to visit the soldiers at various temporary barracks. She arrived and was met by an armed patrol who accompanied her wherever she went. Helicopter rides between bases, including a two-seater helicopter when the pilot showed her how versatile it was by flying so low they jumped some fences at the local racecourse. He offered to show how the machine could fly upside down but she declined!! Her trip lasted 5 days and included everything to do with how the soldiers were coping, operating a bomb disposal machine (only a practice run) dining in the Sergeant's Mess, taking part in a concert and finishing with dinner in the Officer's Mess. The regiment gave Katie an album of photographs taken on her trip as a memento. It must have been an amazing experience. The afternoon finished with tea/coffee and the promised cake.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 11th October at 2.00p.m. in the Methodist Hall.

All are welcome.

Nicki & Heather

Editors' Comment...

Well summer seems to have disappeared, I am sure we had some nice weather but it did seem to only last a few days and then the rain came (which of course we need for the garden!) Children back at school so now the weather is now more settled. Lots of interesting articles and reports this month please continue to support your magazine.



Nicki & Carol

On a personal note I would like to thank all my friends in Ninfield and Hooe for making my birthday such a memorable occasion Nicki

Ninfield Art Group News

We have had quite a busy and successful year so far. The New Year kicked off with preparations for painting on postcards! This was an opportunity for our budding artists to create artwork at the size of a postcard, (a challenge in itself!) and then entered them into a secret auction for The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. You may have heard of Sophie's Secret Postcards Auction (sophiespostcard.com) which has been organised by St Richard's Catholic College in Bexhill in memory of a former pupil Sophia Taylor who loved art. For some of our members this was a new project and a good challenge to paint so small. This summer's secret postcard auction sold 2000 original artworks, including artwork by Thomas Taylor, renowned for his Harry Potter illustrations! Our group entered 70 individual artworks and raised over £2,000.00, which for such a small group, was a tremendous achievement! We all thoroughly enjoyed this wonderful opportunity to help raise money for such a good cause. Overall, the secret auction, which was held on eBay, raised over £100,000 for the Marsden Cancer Charity this year. Another enjoyable opportunity to raise money for charities presented itself in June with Renes Café for the Ninfield Carnival Fete. Our artists set to work on various French themes ideas and dare I say, several inspirational fallen Madonnas! based on the French 'Allo Allo' theme. Again, a lovely way to stretch our minds and paintbrushes! August has been quieter and a chance for our group to have a bit of much needed 'R&R' whilst the hall has been closed for a very smart makeover. Now we are back and up and running with our weekly Wednesday afternoon sessions and busy working towards our next major event which is our **Annual Art Exhibition** held in the Memorial Hall on 26th/27th or October from 10–4pm each day. Christmas is just around the corner, so this is a lovely opportunity to come and view and hopefully purchase a unique piece of artwork and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere with a nice cuppa and freshly homemade cakes. Admission is free so please come along and support your local artists. If you are interested in dabbling in a bit of paint or sketching or using any type of media and would like to join a weekly amateur group to paint and relax then this might be the place for you. It is very informal, and we are a very supportive group. We like to help and encourage each other, usually over a cuppa and a chat! We also have skilled artists who can advise and provide informal demonstrations. We meet in the Memorial Hall every Wednesday afternoon from 2 – 5pm. If you would like to come along and see what we do and for any further information, please contact:

Fiona Stedman 07761961585 or email, flstedman@gmail.com

Country Ways - September Story

There has not been anything new happening around the Church yard this summer, well at least not when I have been there. The harvests in the surrounding fields have been a bit hit and miss. The English weather has switched from quite hot to wet and cold at night. Still it all seems to be gathered in so we will have a Harvest Festival pending. I did see a Painted Lady butterfly, only one this year. They have a quite unique migration journey. This involves starting out from Africa, stopping for a quick reproduce and then their young carry on the journey. This seems a very civilised way of getting about. Unfortunately I have not seen even one Small Tortoiseshell butterfly this year. So here comes the usual old chaps monologue, 'when I was a boy'. Sadly it was not uncommon to see forty Tortoiseshell's on a buddleia, they really were everywhere. So why have they nearly all diminished? I have no answer to that, perhaps someone out there does. I would be glad to listen to that. It is a problem that needs fixing because if there has been a system of events that leads to the demise of a common species, what else are we losing? Something to ponder, we are a species and quite common. The bird life has done quite well, I have seen Blackbird fledglings along with the young of Green Woodpeckers and Robins. The Swallows shunned us this year, maybe they have changed denominations because I have seen young Swallows in other places. We do have two specific birds that in other places I have lived were quite rare. Long tailed Tits and Goldfinches breed here better than the rabbits. Their young are everywhere, shouting their heads off as young do. Perhaps they feel confident as our birds of prey are predominately Buzzards and they, from experience, find catching anything tricky. It is nearly time to cut the grasses and wild flowers we have left to go to seed. This is the Churches effort to make an improvement in the biodiversity of Church land. The Bishops are all on board with this, not to the point of opening the coffers or helping rake up the grass when cut!. I did write about needing a moth expert a month or so ago and we seem to have found one. So it is with growing confidence that I wonder if there is anyone out there with an Allen Scythe. That is a canny tool to use and cuts the grass close to the ground without compressing it with its wheels. I would use my scythe but cutting around head stones would be tricky and I have a sick note saying I shouldn't be doing that. Well as I write this the news has just reported that there has been snow in some parts of America. That is the twenty-sixth of August, so with a woosh and a splash summer could be ending. Now are we going to face the long cold of winter early or a mini heat wave now holidays are over. We could run a book on whether we are going to get a bad winter, It won't be any advantage checking the weather forecasts, I don't think they know! AT

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk / RFO: Jane Warrener 07548 528754

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

As we see autumn approach, it has been wonderful to see the allotments once again being utilised and cared for and the planters adding vibrant colour to the village.

We look forward to seeing the Village Hall come back to life now the decision has been confirmed to keep it and although it will take time, it is an exciting project in which the whole community can come together and be involved in to preserve this much-loved building for the future.

The date of the next full meeting is Monday November 11th at 7pm in the village hall.

Councillor Gayle Kirk

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Autumn has crept up on us and we are in the process of finalising our 2025 calendar and classes for 2025 Spring and Summer shows. We have our AGM on 14th October, followed by a talk by Malcom Buller on preparing daffodils for show (already preparing for March 2025!). Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30 start. You don't need to be a member to attend our meetings and we would encourage you to come along to hear about our year and plans for 2025. Kaye Crittall (k.crittall@btinternet.com) 01424 892883

From John Cheshire

NDP Update: Our referendum was a great success with around a quarter of residents coming out to vote on a really foul day. We had a vote of 91% in favour which is extremely gratifying for the Steering Group and Parish Council. The Plan will now be adopted by Wealden Council and will be an important consideration when future developments are put forward. In addition, the policies are designed to foster rural employment & businesses, protect both our heritage assets and the beautiful landscape in which our village is situated. Thank you to everyone involved!

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOPS 2024

(Raising funds for 1st Ninfield and Crowhurst Scout group)

We are very excited to be able to once again host this years classes to make traditional hand tied wreaths for Christmas with all proceeds going toward the scout group.

Ninfield Memorial Hall

Monday 2nd December 7-9.30pm

**With complimentary
mulled wine, cheese and
nibbles £32**

or

**Tuesday 3rd December
9.30-12.00**

**With complimentary tea
& cake £27**

As previously, all materials including cones, adornments and ribbons will be provided to make a beautiful, hand-woven Christmas

wreath. Just bring secateurs, gloves and any special foliage or decorations you especially wish to include. Lots of friendly help available if needed too.

We will have a little raffle on the day, some homemade goodies to buy and a lot of fun to raise much needed funds for 1st Ninfield Scouts.

**Places must be booked in advance. Please contact
Veronica Sargent: 07714 327117**

Ninfield Flower Group

It was a pleasure to see the fresh paint job in the Memorial Hall after our break in August. It was also a pleasure to welcome several visitors to our September meeting who I do hope will visit us again and maybe even become members. Annual membership is £35 and members enjoy the talents of demonstrators from around the London and south east area.

Some of us will be decorating St Mary's church for the Michaelmas Fayre at the end of September and continuing our monthly workshops at the Methodist Hall creating an arrangement using fruits and foliage from the hedgerow. We meet at 7.30 on Thursday 26th September. Come along and see what we get up to.

On October 7th Helen Hare will be paying us a return visit to present "**Days of Autumn**".

On Friday December 6th we will be getting into the festive spirit with our spectacular Christmas event. Our national demonstrator for the evening will be Ian Lloyd with "**A Cheshire Christmas**". Ian is a highly creative florist and is much sought after for wedding designs. Do have a look at his website. He was voted one of the country's top ten florists by The Independent newspaper. Tickets for the evening are £15 which includes light refreshments. There will also be two raffles; one with seasonal prizes and the other for the floral designs created by Ian. As always 6.30pm for a 7pm start. To book tickets please contact the chairman on 0796 6659 552.

On Saturday 12th October we will hold the second of our annual jumble sales. SALEABLE items may be brought to the Memorial Hall from 9.30am until mid-day. Doors open for selling at 2pm. Entry is 50p.

Following our recent flower festival at St Peter's, Bexhill, we have sent a donation to the Sussex Kidney Trust to support their fund-raising. The SKT was formed in 1967 by the Sussex Area of the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (to which Ninfield Flower Group is affiliated) and is run by a completely voluntary committee. All money donated goes to the purchase of vital equipment for the renal units of the Royal Sussex Hospital Brighton, Worthing and Bexhill.



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nigel@indiefarmer.com**

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.

Ninfield Lunch Club

This is proving very popular and is held on the last Thursday of each month. A two course lunch costs £10. There is only space for up to 24 people. To enquire about places/or to book, 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 wide 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 dj_swales@hotmail.com

Women's Crafting and Knitting Circle

Memorial Hall. Weekly 10.30a.m. –12.30p.m..

£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. **For more details contact**

Robin: 01424 892778 or robin@plowmate.plus.com

Men's Shed

Sparke Pavilion. 10a.m. 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. See below for films for the rest of the year.

3 S

1st October: Funny Face
5th November: The African Queen
10th December: The Greatest Showman

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

Friendly Voices -

The Friendly Voices have been invited to sing at Ninfield Church Coffee Morning on 9th November. We will have some new songs to sing (and maybe some old favourites - but still working on the set). Please come along as the acoustics in the Church are amazing. And the cakes and coffee at the Church not too shabby!

Anyone is welcome to join us on a Tuesday evening - 7.30 at the Methodist Church or Thursday afternoon - 2pm at Sparke Pavilion. We are called the Friendly Voices because that's what we are - we welcome everyone. Our usual tag line - you don't need to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing.

Dark Skies - at the time of submission for the October edition, we would not have had our Bat Walk. Please see the November edition for a report.

Hooe History Society

This month we welcome our speaker, Dr Janet Pennington, with her talk entitled "Shops and Shopping – The Small Shop Through The Ages". We take shopping for granted nowadays, using our local shops (if we still have them) and going to the supermarket. We can order on-line and have a home delivery at our convenience. How different was it for our ancestors - would we recognise a medieval shopfront in our own High Street? How many have survived? What about shop signs and shop names – how have they changed? Did Napoleon really say that the English are a 'nation of shopkeepers'? Come and discover the answers to these questions, and add your own comments and memories. Perhaps you have shop-keeping ancestors. Do bring along any family 'shops and shopping' photographs or memorabilia for display. We meet at 7.30 p.m. at St. Oswald's church, Hooe on Thursday, 17th October.

DID YOU KNOW... sadly, last month, MALCOLM BALLARD died after a short illness in hospital. He lived most of his life in Hooe and from an early age had an overwhelming passion for speed... on two wheels. He loved riding motorbikes and started his career on scrambling bikes in 1964, aged 16, riding a 250 cc Greeves machine. The Hooe Women's Institute archive in 1965 lists the following achievements:– 1st Ramsgate; 2nd Cornwall; 3rd Newbury; 2nd Crawley; 3rd Petersfield. In May 1966 the Bexhill Observer ran a piece about Malcolm (age 17) being the top junior scrambler. At that time he had won the previous 5 events he had entered, including the Ringwood Cup, a classic junior event. In 1968 he competed for the Great Britain under 21 team at an event in Belgium where they came second. Scrambling led him to the next stage of his career when in 1971, having suffered a number of injuries, he learned to ride a speedway bike at Eastbourne's winter training school. He started his career as a speedway rider in that year for Eastbourne Eagles in Division Two where he averaged 8.7 points in his first season. He also had Division One opportunities as a guest rider with Cradley Heathens, Newport Wasps, and Hackney Hawks. In 1972 he averaged almost 10 points per match at Eastbourne, doubling up in Division One with Oxford Rebels and averaging over 6 there. He won individual meetings – in June 1971, the Argus trophy at Eastbourne; in July 1972, the Second City trophy, Birmingham; and in May 1973, the Midland riders championship at Oxford. He was selected for the Young England (Div. 2) team that won a series against Sweden in 1972. New leathers were bought by a collection in

Hooe when he was picked for the Great Britain team to tour Australia the following Winter (1972-73). Sadly though, injury prevented him from going. He moved to Oxford full-time in 1973, and again averaged over 6 points per match. In 1974 he started for Poole Pirates, but departed after a few matches, and signed for Leicester Lions. He struggled to score consistently, partly due to mechanical problems and without the funding necessary to compete at this level he retired from speedway before the season ended in 1974. Sadly, I never witnessed Malcolm's exploits on the speedway track, but those who did tell me that he was an exceptional talent – fearless and so exciting to watch. They also say that he had the ability to reach the very top of the sport, but circumstances dictated otherwise. I remember hearing his bike as he practiced for hours in the field next to the recreation ground, his dedication was without question, but events beyond his control brought his short but spectacular career to a premature end. He took part in a little grass track racing in later years but was happy in his work as a motor mechanic, finding relaxation with his guitar and paints, happy in the company of his family and friends. Malcolm's was another sporting success story for this small village and he will be remembered with pleasure and admiration by his many friends, family and colleagues.

Peter Hayward

VACANCY

Ninfield Memorial Hall has a vacancy

for an additional Booking Clerk to work with Carol

The booking system is on line so would suit someone with a computer who is at home. At busy times you might do an hour or so a day, but there are days when there is nothing.

Check emails, confirm bookings, issue receipts, answer queries

Training will be given, but sadly no pay, we are all volunteers helping the community.

Email ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com or 893326

Ninfield Bonfire Society's Bonfire and Fireworks Display –

Saturday 19th October

Help keep the bonfire spirit alive in Ninfield by becoming a member of the Ninfield Bonfire Society! If you do, then join us at **Membership Night – ‘Badge Night’** at The Kings Arms, Ninfield, TN33 9JB, on **Friday, 4th October from 6.00pm**. We'll have live music from the fantastic band **Groove UK**, so come down, enjoy the grooves, have a dance, and sign up or renew your membership!

Membership Fees:

£10 per Adult

£5 per Child

£25 per Family (2 Adults & 2 Children)

It's not just about supporting this tradition, but also about joining a community with a passion for bringing people together. Don't miss your chance to be part of this vibrant event and help continue this amazing tradition. Sign up or renew on the night. Join us at our **monthly meeting on 16th October, 7.30pm** at the **Ninfield Working Men's Club**. This will be our last meeting before our big event on Saturday 19th so please come along to find out what help is needed on the day. If you haven't joined by then this will be the last day to join as a member to be able to be part of our procession. Whether you're a seasoned member or a curious newcomer, your ideas and enthusiasm are always welcome.

Our Annual Bonfire and Firework Event will take place on **Saturday, 19th October** at **Ninfield Recreational Ground**. The night will be filled with excitement, featuring a **torch-lit procession, bonfire, effigy, and a spectacular firework display**—all offered as a free event for our entire community.

The evening will start with all Bonfire Societies mustering in Church lane at 7pm where they will collect their torches ready for the torch-lit procession to start at 7:30 pm. The procession will travel through the village, past landmarks like the Blacksmiths Inn, before heading up Manchester Road, Coombe Lane, and back along the High Street to the Recreation Ground.

Please note that **road closures** will be in effect during this time for the safety of the participants and the public. We kindly ask for your patience as we process through the village. Once everyone is back on the field, we will proceed with the traditional Bonfire Chant and then the bonfire will be lit, followed by our spectacular firework display. There will be food and drinks available for purchase and our members will be collecting donations to help fund local charities.

Support Our Community Event This is our biggest event of the year, marking the culmination of months of fundraising and dedicated efforts by our team to bring this memorable celebration to life. We are incredibly grateful for the **local support** we've received at our fund raisers throughout the year, which has made this event possible. Thank you for a part of this cherished tradition and for continuing to support **Ninfield Bonfire Society!**

We would like to say a **very big thank you** to our amazing sponsors—**Haffenden Roofing, Skinners Sheds, and Athelas Plants**—for their continued sponsorship. Your contributions make such a difference to our community, and we truly appreciate everything you do to help us keep the bonfire tradition alive.

A big thank you also goes to all our wonderful supporters: **Four Seasons Holistic Veterinary Care, Wealden Drainage, Co-Op, Wealden Lottery, Little Stars School of Dance, Coleman's ABC, Meridian Marquees, Top Plant, Brewers, Parker & Sons, The Carnival Committee, Parish Council and The Working Mens Club.** Your support plays a vital role in making our events possible, and we truly appreciate all you do for the community!

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

We look forward to celebrating with you!

Stay connected - Follow us on Facebook – Instagram, or visit www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk for all the latest updates and news.

*Remember, Remember the 5th of November
Let's keep the flames of tradition burning bright!*

JOHN BIGNELL Garage Doors

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'The Bells of St Oswald's' desperately need to have a happy band of Bellringers to keep them going. We are down to a Sunday band that is less than the number of bells available to be rung and sounds a bit sad when in fact it should be a joyous sound of calling people to church as well as celebrations and at the farewell of loved ones. We are so lucky to have these bells in our village church and although learning to ring can take a variable amount of time, it will be a skill that gives you a passport to join in with a lot of welcoming bands all over the country. A very good way to meet people, no age limit but size maybe, engage with fellow university students ... through to a retirement hobby that can be as encompassing as you want...and all free! If you are interested to keep the tradition of Bellringing alive at St Oswald's, please come along to a practice on a Saturday starting at 9.30 for a chat and 'taking hold'. Please call one of these numbers before you come. We hope to meet you... and show you the ropes.

Carole Ballard 07773849056

Alan Pink 07766258118.

LADIES BADMINTON and TABLE TENNIS

Monday afternoons from 1.30 - 3.30 there is Ladies Badminton and now, a new addition, table tennis. No need to book, just turn up and say hello, you will be most welcome. It's all very informal, no leagues or competition, just fun and friendship with exercise.

Only in Ninfield can you have... A Café, A Village Market, A Wildlife Bat Walk, A Michaelmas Fayre, A Film, A Band Night, A Disco Night, A Race Night, Various themed Social gatherings, A Spectacular Bonfire & Fireworks Night, and a Gala Night with Show, Supper, Awards & Charity presentations...all in the space of about 10 weeks!!! This Village is incredible, the organisers, volunteers and helpers are tireless and amazing and, even though there's a fair bit of work to get it all up and running, the reward is to see local residents and families of all ages enjoying these things right on their doorstep. Last week, Veronica Sargent hosted a Macmillan Coffee morning in the Methodist Hall. The place was packed; the atmosphere amazing, and they raised an astounding £870, so far!!! So brilliant, congratulations to everyone who helped, and to those who came to support the cause.

The 1st Ninfield and Crowhurst Scout Group are raising funds for the youngsters to go to Flanders. They're holding a Race Night in the Memorial Hall, on Saturday October 5th, do go and have some fun, while raising money for the life changing trip that's planned for the young people. We're very proud of our Village...and it's supportive friends in the surrounding areas; keep on keeping on Ninfield, and Thank you! **Sami**

Ninfield Flower Group

will hold a

Jumble Sale

At Ninfield Memorial Hall

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On

Saturday October 12th

Entrance 50p

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MONTHLY MARKET

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FIRSTLY - THANK YOU!!!!

For supporting Ninfield Carnival & Sports Association, and Ninfield Bonfire Society, at the August Bank Holiday Monday **PRAM RACES** . The weather was kind-the event went really well...but the entries were unfortunately down on May last year. Everyone who came had a great time and funds were raised for both societies, local causes, and Aching Arms UK. Huge thanks to Jon and Georgia at the Blacksmiths Inn for opening up; hopefully it was worthwhile! And thanks as always to Lee Astbury and Dan Sowden, aided by Lidja, who superbly manned the BBQ! The Races will be back in May '25, but it's definitely one to rethink for next year!!!

MICHAELMAS FAYRE: Saturday 28th September! If you have managed to see the Magazine just before the event! Please do come along to support the Carnival and Bonfire Societies.

Important Heads Up!!!

It'll be Ninfield Carnival & Sports Association 90th Anniversary next year, 2025, and we'd love your input by looking through your family photos and seeing if you have pictures from Carnivals through the last 9 decades!!! I have the original book of Minutes, with fascinating reports from meetings, starting in 1934 when the first Fête and procession were agreed. Amongst other ideas for next year, we would like to reinvent the Carnival Floats Procession as part of the Celebrations. It will need a separate team to put it all together, so if you'd be interested in helping with this, please get in touch!

Date to Remember!

Carnival and Sports Association AGM Wednesday 9th October, 8pm start, at Sparke Pavilion, food and drinks supplied!! We'd love you to come and join us for a drink, some supper and a natter- bring some ideas, or just come and have some fun!

GALA NIGHT!!!!

Saturday 23rd November, Memorial Hall, Doors and Bar open 7pm, Carriages at midnight. Fish & Chips Supper, Cabaret Revue Show with Déjà Revue-and a special guest! The Village Awards & Charity Presentations, Grand Raffle, Bar, Dancing. Get your tickets NOW- only £20 per head to include supper!! Please buy tickets and book your food choice with Lynda at the Village Stores in Lower Street or please call me to book on 07970650321 or Email samanthaguard@btinternet.com 26

FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY!

A Friday night special! **'Club 339'**- A Disco Night for Adults!

Purely for those who still yearn for a good old Bop in a Club; who long for those mirror ball moments on the dance floor; and who have been devotees of the Kitchen Disco while listening to all those favourite 70s, 80s and 90s classics on the radio....

This is YOUR evening.! Friday October 11th, doors open at 7pm, full out dance fun from 7.30-10.15pm then a 'slow down' til finish at 10.30pm.

ONLY £5 per person - nibbles and refreshments also available, bring cash!

From Chaka Khan to Chic via Chesney...

From Northern Soul, to Saturday Night Fever via the ChaCha Slide....

There'll also be chances to learn a few old routines from the Discoteque Days -remember 'Ladies Night', 'Pink Cadillac', ??! You may even get to 'row' home - 'Oops, upside...'?!

But the whole Idea is for you to come in, get down, have fun and lose yourself in the music and lights of the soundtrack to your life! It's YOUR night!

Dress...? To dance...!! Comfy shoes, no stilettos!

Dance Classes!!!

The fabulous Monday morning class, Movement 2 Music, 10am, for the older but still active person...!.. continues to gain support and we have 20 fantastic members who enjoy the exercise, and then coffee and biscuits and a chat afterwards. There are still a few more spaces to fill so Please get in touch and come and join us! Look out for notices and posts for extra details, or call me!!

Dancercise Class every Wednesday evening, 6.30pm- we'd LOVE some more people to come and join us, call me for details, and look out for Advertisements!!

GALA NIGHT!!!!

Saturday 23rd November, Memorial Hall, Doors and Bar open 7pm, Carriages at midnight. Fish & Chips Supper, Cabaret Revue Show with Déjà Revue-and a special guest! The Village Awards & Charity Presentations, Grand Raffle, Bar, Dancing. Get your tickets NOW- only £20 per head to include supper!! Please buy tickets and book your food choice with Lynda at the Village Stores in Lower Street or please call me to book on 07970650321 or Email samanthaguard@btinternet.com

Memorial Hall : The next meeting is on Monday 21st October at 6.30pm, and Residents are invited to attend. Normally this would be the AGM, but we have changed our Annual accounting from October-October to January-December , so this October meeting will be a Financial Report and discussion on future financial requirements: Plus the need for new people to join the committee, or become 'Friends of..' in order for the Hall to survive and thrive.

We need an extra Bookings Secretary to liaise with Carol and share the work load, and also someone who is keen to take on the Chairman role. At the AGM, which will be in January 2025, I intend to take a step back; I will have done two and a half years as Chair, as well as some few years as Vice Chair before that, and in total nearly 25 years on the Committee: but I will remain on the committee as a trustee, and will continue to be active, because basically I love our Hall!! I'd love someone to come forward and see what's going on, with a view to taking things forward. We have fantastic officers who do a huge amount of work, which is getting more technical as time goes on! If you're interested in helping share the load, then please do come and get involved with the workings of the Hall, have your say, and present your ideas.

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

REMEMBRANCE DAY Sunday 10th November.

There will be a Ninfield Remembrance Service and gathering to commemorate DDay, and other important anniversary dates relevant to the two World Wars. At time of writing this article, a meeting is arranged for 26th September for Paul Frostick, the Scouts and myself to come up with a suitable event, to also include the youngest Squirrel members and those who are taking a commemorative trip to Flanders. look out for notices on boards, in the Shop and on Social media for all information on the event.

Secret poets in Ninfield!

Poetry is one of those Marmite literary genres. Some people have bad memories from school of being made to memorise poems and recite them, or of struggling to understand what they meant. Other people have very firm ideas of what a poem is or is not, shunning modern versions with no consistent rhyme pattern or punctuation.

I've got to be honest, poetry is one of my favourite forms of writing. I love the fact that it uses language concisely and, at its best, has many different meanings as it exploits that lovely facility of words to say more than one thing depending on their context. I love the art of it; the sheer beauty, and the closer you look the better it becomes. Many are familiar with the opening line of John Keats *Ode to Autumn*:

“Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness” but it is worth looking beyond the evocative description of autumn. My favourite verse or stanza is the final one:

“Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?

Think not of them, - thou hast thy music too,
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing, and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

The regret at the passage of time and the gentle sadness of the sense of mortality that pervades these words is given added poignancy when you consider that Keats died at just twenty-five years old. He was beginning to show symptoms of tuberculosis, the disease that had killed his brother, George, signs he would have recognised and known the import of. I'm not sure that prose could have captured all of this so beautifully.

Whilst I am happy to discuss poetry, and share my own, I've noticed, over the years, that others can be a bit coy about their poetry writing. Often, when people come on other courses, they eventually confess that they like to dabble in a bit of poetry writing on the quiet. One of my café writers, when we were discussing the idea of holding a poetry writing course locally, suggested the name, 'Secret Poets', as she felt that was what a lot of us are!

So, we've got a 'Secret Poets' short poetry writing course planned for Ninfield Memorial Hall, starting on 31st October for five sessions, 2-4pm, £95. It will look at what poetry is, different types of poetry including modern forms, the use of rhyme and rhythm together with the particular ways language can be used to give poetry its effects. No-one will be forced to memorise anything, and we'll all have an enjoyable time trying our hand at different types of poetry and improving our skills. If you'd like to join us, the details are on my website www.writethistime.com, or you can contact me by phone 07784538965 or email helen@writethistime.com. I won't

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Contact us:

Website:

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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
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forthcoming events
please email us your contact details

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



Coffee Mornings

Well – now the summer is becoming a memory, our monthly coffee mornings return! As usual they will be held at St Oswald's Church at 10.30am. We will again be serving homemade refreshments, offer a free to use book and jigsaw library and will run a superb raffle.

Here are the dates:

12th October: with Guest Kieran Mullan MP

It seems such a long time since we all gathered over coffee and cake! Our newly elected MP, Kieran Mullan, is delighted to accept our invitation to the coffee morning and so, unless something turns up unexpectedly outside of his control, he will be with us on 12th. We know he is anxious to meet as many people as possible and hear their stories and concerns. If his plans change, we will notify all on our email list and place a note on the website.

We are looking forward to seeing you all and exchanging news and views after an eventful couple of months.

9th November: We are trying to find a professional person/organisation to attend to give demonstrations for the use of our publicly available village defibrillators. So far, we have drawn a blank – any helpful suggestions would be gratefully received!

14th December: A Christmas theme!

Hooe Open Gardens – a final word on the 2024 event

Thank you to all who have contacted us to tell us how much the Open Gardens weekend was appreciated! There was a huge amount of work involved planning and organising the event – but much enjoyment too, otherwise, why do it?! The relaxed atmosphere during the weekend, happy people and the appreciative comments received following the event makes everything worthwhile

We are pleased to report the event raised a staggering £1885.78 for good causes.

Our next Open Gardens will be in June 2026. It is never too early to start thinking about opening about YOUR garden in 2 years' time!

. So – thank you for your support. Cheers!



Thank you too for.....

..... sending in your suggestions as to the type of future events you would like us to arrange for us all to enjoy, to give us an opportunity to meet as a community and to enable us to continue to raise money for local good causes. Please keep the suggestions coming. AND – if you would like to get more involved, please let us know, our contact details are at the top of this report. We would also encourage you to submit suggestions of your favourite worthwhile charities/organisations for us to consider supporting.

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

Worms Eye View

Surprises surprise its raining! It is Bank Holiday Saturday and must be disappointing for so many people who look forward to visits to the beach etc.

I have just dipped into our diary from 2004 and it says that the weather is showery, nothing changes does it.

I also noted that the Olympic Games which were held in Athens in that year had just finished with China top of the medals table and GB came tenth with thirty medals. The games held in Paris for 2024 have just finished and we increased our haul of medals to an impressive 65 in total and in seventh place. Roll on the next games in Los Angeles in 2028.

Farming wise it is harvesting time and we have been carting straw bales from Wartling, it took thirty trips, but all went well with fine weather and not much traffic on the narrow hilly road. I obviously just sit back and count in the loads from my window as I no longer drive, leaving that part of the job to Peter Jnr.

It is very good straw which I'm sure the animals will enjoy bedding down on in the cold winter months.

Thinking back to the road from Wartling in the past I remember bringing mother-in-law from Heathfield to stay with us, it was her first visit here after we had moved from Heathfield and as we travelled down Jacobs Ladder and round the marsh at the bottom, she looked very worried and said she had no idea we were living in the wilds, so different from our previous farm at Heathfield. Well she did get used to coming here and realised how much we enjoyed it and have done ever since we moved. Heathfield has grown out of recognition and despite the increase in through traffic, Hooe is still a lovely village and I am sure and hope that it will remain so for our future generations.

Anne

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
Minister: Reverend Crawford J. Logan
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email: office@hbrmethodists.org.uk
Website: hbrmethodists.org.uk

Sunday Services for October 2024:

- 6th 10.30 am HARVEST Festival Parade Praise with Ninfield Scouts & Alan Hurrell
- 13th 10.30 am Family Service of Worship & Communion with Revd. Crawford Logan
- 20th 10.30 am Worship & Praise Service with Dawn Novis
- 27th 10.30 am Worship & Praise Service with John Troughton

Events for October 2024:

- 2nd 3.30-5.30pm Messy Church 'Fair Shares for All'
- Fridays 10.00-11.30am Community Café including
- 4th 10.00-11.30am Book Exchange in Hall
- 9th 2.30 – 4.00pm Christian Womens Fellowship
- 22nd 2.15 – 4.30pm Time Together Tuesdays

We look forward & invite you to celebrate our Harvest Festival services with us in October. We start with our Messy Church on Wednesday October 2nd when our theme will be 'Fair Shares for All.' We will have loads of activities for young people, songs & food and as Messy Church is for all ages anyone can come along.

Then on Sunday October 6th we have another Harvest celebration together with the Ninfield Scouts so this is always special. Alan Hurrell, with help from young people, will lead this Family event. Any gifts of tins of food etc. will be given to the Bexhill Foodbank.

We are also excited that later in October we will welcome a new Community Outreach Worker to our Church. Tim will help our Church to reach out into the Community & be working with us for 18 hours each week. We hope he will be able to develop some more Family & Children activities & link into the families in our new Housing areas. We look forward to you meeting him in due course sharing ideas.

Time Together Tuesdays is a time for mums to chat, relax, share & support each other before school pick-up & this is scheduled for October 22nd.

Please remember pray for all that we are doing to share the love of God in our community.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Mk 5:1-17, Lk 8:26-39, Mt 8:28-34

In Gerasa was a man filled with demons
He tore off any clothes or chains put
on him, and he lived in the graveyard.



Jesus and his disciples
arrived and the man ran to him.

What do you want
with me, Jesus?



What is your name?



Legion, for there
are many of us.

There were some pigs near by



Let us go into the pigs.

Go!



The demons
left the man and
went into the pigs.

The pigs stampeded
over the cliff into
the sea and drowned.



The pigherds ran to tell
everyone near by.



They came to see ...



...and were terrified.

They begged Jesus



Please! Leave! Now!

But the man begged Jesus ...



Can I come with you?

But Jesus said



Go home and tell
everyone what happened.

So he did.



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 Crittell, 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 Crittell 892883

THE FRIENDLY VOICES Kaye Crittell 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

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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 07989 729123

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