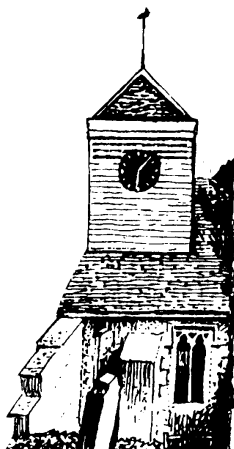


THE

PARISH



NEWS

The Church Magazine of
St Mary the Virgin, Ninfield
& St Oswald, Hooe

Aug & Sept 2017 50p



St MARY's & St OSWALD's



NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES

Date	St. Mary's	St. Oswald's
6 th Aug	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.15 Family Service
13 th August	No Service	11.15 Combined Service with St. Mary's
20 th August	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.15 Parish Eucharist
27 th Aug	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.15 Parish Eucharist
3 rd Sep	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.15 Family Service
10 th Sep	9.30 Combined Service with St. Oswald's	No Service
17 th Sep	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.15 Parish Eucharist
24 th Sep	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.15 Parish Eucharist

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

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

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

From
Paul Frostick



Dear Friends,

As I write this in early July it has certainly been a busy time for me! First there was my licensing as Priest in Charge in June, which was then followed by the celebration of my ordination in Wells Cathedral 40 years ago! That was the point I began to wear a dog collar! This was closely followed by being made President of Bexhill Rotary Club for this year (July to end June next year). Where is this thing called retirement!!

Now we come to the holiday season or at least it is for many! Hopefully the weather will improve and we will get some sort of summer! Usually as soon as the schools break up the rain starts or so it seems! Many will hopefully be able to get away for a break in the next few weeks but for some that is simply not possible. Maybe at least we can all try to take things a little easier! Again not always possible for everyone! We all however need to somehow recharge our batteries so that we can face whatever the rest of the year brings. Hopefully the rest of this year will bring better news than we have received over the past few months.

So I pray that you can enjoy whatever summer we get and can find time to 'chill out' whether its taking a good country walk, reading a book or simply relaxing in the garden. In a way that is something similar to prayer, that's also chilling out but in the presence of God. It does not necessarily involve speech, just relaxing and allowing God to be part of our life! Whatever your mode of relaxation may you find a benefit from it.

Paul Frostick. Priest in Charge.

NEWS FROM ST OSWALD'S CHURCH

We are pleased to report that the roof at St Oswald's is now repaired and the work is complete. There were no unforeseen problems. The next step is to re-decorate the interior and repair the water damage to the interior walls. Our thanks to the builders who did a fine job and were able to adapt when we needed the church for services during the week. Also a very big "Thank You," to all the villagers, both from Hooe, Ninfield and further a field, for their support. The response to our appeal for funds for the roof repair, was really exceptional. It has been heartening to know that the church obviously means a lot to the local community.

The Garden Party at St Oswald's on 1st July raised over £1700. This was a magnificent total. It was good to see so many people enjoying themselves, from the beginning at 12 noon, right through to the end at 4.30. Our grateful thanks to everyone who came along and supported the event. Special thanks to all the stallholders and their helpers for their part in contributing to the final total.

We are very grateful that there are a number of younger families that help, not forgetting the support from those of more mature years. We are particularly grateful for the help with setting up in the morning and clearing up at the end. It all seems to work seamlessly .

Further thanks to the Parish Council who again assisted us with providing extra items and stalls.

Unfortunately, due to some of the ponies going lame, Dick Carey was unable to start his sponsored Carriage Drive around some of the Bexhill Churches. He hopes to do this later in the summer

At St Oswald's, on Sunday 20th August at the 11.15 am service, we will include, a celebration of Elsie Johnson's life in the Village and in the Church. You are all very welcome to join us.

St. Oswald's Parish

Burial of the cremated remains

Iorwerth Jones on 13th July

*from the
Parish Records*

St Mary the Virgin, Ninfield

is holding a Summer Fair

Saturday 19th August

at the Reading Room and garden, Church Lane.

From 12.00 – 15.00

there will be a barbecue, stalls, refreshments and raffle.

Please come and join us'

CHURCH OPENING TIMES

For St. Mary's

Monday - Thursday

The Church will be open at 9 am and locked at 3pm

The Church will be closed on Fridays and Saturdays

and after the service on Sundays

Wednesday Service

10 a.m. Holy Communion

Some weeks there is no service –

please look at the weekly sheet in Church

Our aim is to get each issue of the Parish News to the distributors at least a week before the start of the month, so that activities happening in the first few days of the month won't be missed. We realise that this cannot always happen, as distributors do have holidays or maybe they are unwell. (Sometimes we are late getting the PN from the printers!) All the distributors do a sterling job but if you need cover or help please ring Nicki on 893 867 and she will arrange cover.

There is a report about the Carnival further on in the Parish News but we would like to add our thanks to everyone who was involved. Brilliant - It was the best ever!!!

Nicki and Carol



NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our June meeting was well attended to hear Clive Richardson speak on the subject of The Churches of Romney Marsh.

The illustrated talk explained how local land owners built surprisingly large churches across the area. The land had been drained and the resulting ditches produced huge quantities of eels and most churches held 'eel fairs'.

There was no water or heating and lighting was provided by oil lamps. Built by local farm labourers, they contained box pews – for local families at the front and visitors at the rear of the building. Of the very few trees on the Marsh most were planted around the churches to act as shelter from the wind.

With the decline in attendance, the buildings fell into disrepair and were eventually taken over by the Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust. Of all the churches only one is no longer used for services. It was fascinating to hear the history of such interesting buildings in our local area.

Brigadier Huw Willing will be talking about the D Day Landings at our July meeting and following his fascinating presentation last year on the Battle of Hastings we are delighted to welcome him back.

We have no meeting in August and on Thursday 21st September, Helen Poole will speak on Sir John Gage: The Rise of a Tudor Courtier.

As always we meet at the Methodist Hall at 7.30 and if you would like any further information please contact Rod Ffoulkes on 893635

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O UR SCHOOL

As I write this there is just one week left of school, the sun is shining, the marquee for the carnival is being built and a nice long summer break beckons.

This is a very busy time at school as Year 6 prepare to move on to pastures new and a new batch of little people look around the school with excited, but apprehensive, parents. School life is never static and these last few weeks just highlight how quickly things can change. Not only are we losing Year 6 but some of our staff are also sadly leaving us, so any excitement over the forthcoming holiday period is inevitably tinged with some sadness.

This last term has seen a very competitive sports day, the annual trip to Bewl Water, a visit by our MP and of course the dreaded SATs. But I am pleased to say that once again our children pulled out all the stops and we have managed to outperform the national average for yet another year, and to do it in some style. Well done to everyone.

We were also pleased to hear that the planning permission for the new classrooms, to replace the old wooden huts, has finally been approved. There is still a long way to go before we are able to occupy the new space but at least one more hurdle has been overcome on the journey. This next year is going to be very difficult as we try to maintain a high standard of teaching while effectively working on a building site. We realise that this is also likely to have an impact on villagers and we will be working closely with the contractor to minimize any inconvenience caused. But at the end of all this we will have a village school that looks like a school and not a collection of old sheds, and something that no longer looks out of place next to our smart new Pavilion.

Ian Moffat

Closing date for the October issue of the Parish News is Wednesday 13th September, please also let us have future dates for the coming year so we can keep everyone informed and we can work out what space we need each month!!
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NINFIELD VILLAGE MARKET

Saturday 12th August

MEMORIAL HALL

9.30 - 12.00

In August the market will be back at the Memorial Hall and not in Blacksmith's Inn, which means more stalls for you to enjoy over a longer period, yipee!

Saturday 16th September

MEMORIAL HALL

9.30 - 12.00

Make a note in your diary as you won't get a reminder next month!

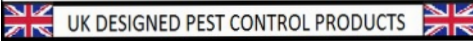
There are some great stalls at the market and it really is well worth a visit, so come along and see for yourselves.



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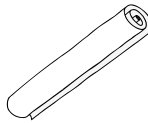
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ANY FRUIT CRUMBLE

- 400g apples, peeled, cored and cut into small pieces
- 400g stoned plums cut into chunky wedges
- 2 tbsp. sugar any type
- 300g blackberries

For the topping

- 140g plain flour
- 140g rolled oats
- 30g desiccated coconut
- 175g butter
- tsp cinnamon
- 100g demerara sugar

Method

1. First make the topping. Put everything in a bowl with a pinch of salt, then rub in the butter with your fingertips to form crumbs.

2. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/ gas 4. Tip the apples, plums and sugar into a big saucepan with 50ml water and cook, stirring, for about 5 mins, until the apples are soft and juicy. Stir in the blackberries, and tip into a baking dish. Scatter over the crumble and bake for 45-55 mins until the topping is golden and the fruit is bubbling.

p.s you can use any fruit for this recipe and I don't cook the fruit beforehand as I believe it cooks enough in the oven when baking

Enjoy

The Rev Dr Billy Graham told of a time early in his ministry when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Wanting to post a letter before the service, he asked a young boy where the post office was. When the boy had told him, Billy Graham thanked him and said, "If you'll come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to heaven."

The boy replied, "I don't think I'll be there... You don't even know your way to the post office."

NINFIELD CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION At time of writing, it's less than 36 hours since the Carnival ended...in fact, the last bits of clearing up are still taking place, and there has been little time to sit down and take a breath, let alone evaluate the proceedings! But, deadlines must be met...including this one for the Parish Mag double issue, and I've got to get a report of some sort in quick!!...

So, the word of mouth, so far, has been fantastic with lots of lovely comments saying what a brilliant day Saturday 15th July was; with so much on the recreation ground, for so many people to enjoy. The whole Carnival Committee was hard at it from the time the Marquees went up, and huge thanks are due to them all; Tracey for being the most organised, calm Treasurer ever...Government, take note!!.. Helen, Secretary, and sorting out all the Craft stalls, Stella and Lesley in the very busy Tea Tent , Poppy on the new Masterchef stand - and also HUGE thanks to our local M.P, Huw Merriman for judging this inaugural event - 27 sumptuous entries and he was feeling quite 'Stuffed' by the end of the tasting! Then there was fabulous, unflappable Trudy on the Raffle stand all day, mostly on her own; Chris and James building things then running the Market and Coconut shy, Clive and Lynda sorting the Floats procession, Judging and Carnival Court; Lee and Dan, plus team, on the BBQ, Ian and Teams behind the Bar, Ernie and Chas on gate / parking...and of course, it wouldn't be Ninfield Carnival without the ubiquitous Robin Fookes, on the microphone, behind the Bar, in the Arena, on the go for 72 hours with about 9 hours sleep in total- which was in a sleeping bag behind the Bar as overnight security! - a Star as always, appreciated by me and, hopefully, many others!

I must mention the very kind sponsorship from James Parker, Parker & Sons Builders - a past Carnival Chairman, James knows exactly what goes into making the event happen, and has supported us regularly, for which much grateful thanks. Also, many thanks are due to Colin and James Haffenden and Barrie Johnson for their invaluable donations; and, too, the many donators of Raffle Prizes and Cakes for the Tea Tent...without all this generous support and goodwill, The Carnival wouldn't be the enjoyable Village event it is...Thank you!

There has been a call for more young people to get involved with the running of this brilliant event...that maybe it's time for 'the Old Folk' to move on, and let it be rebranded and refreshed. It's YOUR Village, and the Committee always wants to create things that are enjoyed by all. So, if you would like to find out more, come to the next meeting of the Carnival Committee on Wednesday 13th September, 8.30pm at the Working Men's Club, then the A.G.M on the 11th October. Look forward to seeing there...! Thank you Sami Guard (Chairman).

NINFIELD OPEN GARDENS

ON BEHALF OF

ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPICE

The owners of the five gardens that opened their gates to over 200 people spent most of the day chatting to people about plants and layout of the gardens, those that visited Bedale had an unexpected pleasure of finding an art gallery in the garden with many lovely paintings on display, many up for sale. At The Laurels they were surprised to see pigmy goats and bantam hens along side a pond full of koi carp in many colours.

The weather was not as kind as it could have been but the tea and plant stalls were busy and in total we raised £1644.00 for the Hospice which is great.

Watch out for next year because I have heard on the grapevine that at least two other gardens could be open, but we may lose one. Let's wait and see.

Thank you to all of you in the village who supported this event and the one at Little Acre which was the following day.

You are all invited!

On Wednesday 2nd August to join the new owners of Hope Cottage Farm Shop for a cup of tea/coffee and a slice to cake, served in the corral, to hear what they have planned and for them to listen to ideas and comments you may have. From then on they will again be open on Tuesdays along with the rest of the week. See you there!

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Is there any interest in forming a Computer Club?

There are many Silver Surfers in our villages, but equally some that have no knowledge, interest or are unsure of the technology. Emails are now replacing hand written letters; many businesses and services are now entirely computerised and we all know the joy of trying to phone those marvellously misnamed help-lines!

For those who want to keep in touch with family and friends home and abroad there is Skype and similar programs. Perhaps you might want to learn how to get the best out of your computer, how to safeguard against hacking, stopping Spam or having your details stolen?

If you are interested, why don't we get together, share our different skills, pass them on and all learn more in a friendly non-pressure way. Maybe someone with above average computer knowledge is out there and happy to pass their skills on to others.

Please contact me on 01424 893867 and we'll see what transpires. Kevin

Also on that note, I was asked the other day if there was anyone in the village who could repair or give professional advise on computers, if you know of someone could they contact the Parish News and perhaps place an advert for others to find.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Annual Summer Show is on Saturday 19th August in the Memorial Hall. Please support your local show – by entering at least one class and by coming to enjoy the wonderful, colourful exhibits from 2.30 pm. Schedules with entry details are still available from the Village Stores or from Rose (892422). New entrants welcome. This is a friendly event, with tea and lovely homemade cakes. Do come!

Having opened our garden who arrived but the organiser of the Horticultural Shows! She saw our veg patch and I think we were chivvied into entering at least one of the classes, so if we have to do it then I challenge all of you who grow veg or flowers, make jams, chutneys or cakes to put your heads over the parapet and join me on the judges table!! See you there! Join in the fun!

Our neighbouring Village

Catsfield: It is unlikely the true derivation of its name will ever be known as the early Britons, Romans and Saxons left few written records. One theory is the village takes its name from a church that was built in Catsfield by St. Chad of Lichfield, or his brother St. Cedd who was active in the South East, hence Caedsfeld or Chaddesfield. The earliest written record of Catsfield (as Cedessille) is contained in the Domesday Book of 1086. St Chad is possibly closer in etymology than Cedd. (St) Chads Field?

It's a pity that this is so little known: There were originally 2 manor lands; Catsfield and Catsfield Levett (derived from the Lyvett/Livet/Lyveth family from Normandy), who came over with the Conqueror. The significance is that one descendant, William Levett (ca. 1495-1554) was an Oxford-educated country rector who was a pivotal figure in the use of the blast furnace to manufacture iron.

With the patronage of the English Crown, blast furnaces in Sussex under Levett's ownership cast the first iron muzzle-loader cannons in England in 1543, a development which enabled England to ultimately reconfigure the global balance-of-power by becoming an ascendant naval force. By perfecting the technology of the blast furnace, which pumped high velocity air from bellows powered by water wheels, and by casting cannons in one entire piece vertically, Parson Levett set in motion events that would make England the envy of the world's powers for its cutting-edge armaments, changing the balance of global power. Henry VIII's reign was good for Parson Levett's business. While charged by the church with praying for peace, the Sussex parson's business thrived on the prospects of war. By casting vertically, the slag and impurities rose to the surface around the muzzle and could thus be easily filed off, proving far superior than cannon cast in several pieces.

This alone is of significant importance, but there is more..... Cannons require gunpowder and shot. Gunpowder making was an arcane science, requiring 75 parts of charcoal to 15 parts saltpetre and 10 parts sulphur. Charcoal was readily available, with huge areas in Sussex as woodland and forest; saltpetre could be made from waste animal products especially urine, so there was an outlet for its use rather than a stinking midden in the farmyard and human privies (Strange how the highest rank of advisers to the Queen should be her Privy Council, conjures up a weird vision of them all closeted together!). Sulphur however, is rather less readily found, but fortunately that's where another local family, the Browne's of Battle Abbey now appear. Sir Anthony Browne had taken over the role of King's standard bearer to Henry VIII and that closeness had enabled them to purchase Battle Abbey at the Dissolution of the Monasteries. William the Conqueror had endowed the Abbey with land 3 miles across (the League). When the monks, who had initially prepared the

Abbey foundations near a stream were rebuked by a furious William when he revisited the battle site 4 years later in 1070, to find they had disobeyed his instructions to build it on the hill where the battle had been fought and the high altar to be the spot where Harold had been killed. That is the best proof that Battle Abbey marks the site, as when the monks complained that they had started building close to streams so they had fish for Fridays, he then gave them rich farmland and orchards to compensate. In the grounds was found gypsum, which has sulphur constituents. So, in Sussex we had cannon makers and the raw ingredients for gunpowder. With the Browne family having close ties to Henry VIII it would have been an easy matter to obtain a Royal Licence for the making of gunpowder. The importance of this is that the earliest KNOWN licence for Battle gunpowder is dated 1679, too late for the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Thus the link to Guy Fawkes and battle is tenuous, but now there is a definite link between Parson Levett casting superb cannon in the mid 1550's and the Browne family occupying Battle Abbey.

The connection is provable, as at his death nearly 20 years later, in the Reverend William Levett's will. The voluminous document, in which Levett named Anthony Browne, 1st Viscount Montagu as executor, demonstrates the riches that accrued to the entrepreneurs of the coming Iron Age.

The significance may be far reaching, as if Battle Abbey was producing gunpowder BEFORE 1605, then it is possible that the barrels found under the Houses of Parliament COULD have come from Battle. Furthermore, the Browne family were related to the Lord Montacute who was named as one of the main ringleaders of the Gunpowder Plot.

That could mean that, unlike all the other Bonfire Societies in Sussex, Kent and elsewhere, there is a direct provable link to actual date of Guy Fawkes Night, and not, as with other Bonfire Societies, which are only linked to the Protestant Martyrs burnt at the stake by Bloody Mary in the late 1580's. Kevin Regan

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

July's meeting which fell as always on the second Wednesday of the month, took a break from its usual Methodist Hall venue and went outside! And not a meeting either, we had a public Afternoon Tea in aid of St Michael's Hospice and the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance at Little Acre, which raised over £425.16 including generous donations.

Thanks to all that came, helped and contributed. Our September gathering will be back in the hall. Hope to welcome you there



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The July meeting again saw some new faces at the meeting which was really good to see including some young village residents who are going to be playing a 9 a side football league and were hoping for a grant from the Parish council towards their kit. After being asked lots of questions the councillors agreed that the council would purchase tops for the team with a cap on the value and that the shirts publicised Ninfield. The footballers are required as part of the grant to give regular updates on their progress to the Parish council and also the Village Voice and Parish News.

There is now broadband in Sparkes Pavilion which has been partly funded by a WDC grant secured by the History Society and the Parish Council are working on a usage policy.

ESCC have now passed the planning application for the school building project and the project team are working on the details needed.

The Parish Council do not meet in August, although invariably we have to hold planning meetings which will be advertised in the usual way.

The next full council meeting will be Thursday 7th September, followed by 5th October.

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Refreshments ,Plants, Crafts, Tombola, Raffle and other stalls.
Do please come and enjoy the wonderful flower arrangements.

Monday 4th September commencing at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall we shall welcome Susan Shaw with her demonstration entitled “ITS MAGIC”, non-members are welcome at a small charge of £4.00 this includes refreshments. All flowers demonstrated are raffled at the end of the evening.

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NAG Over the Summer from the Chair

As I write (mid July), Wealden District Council have no published plan for our village or the district as a whole. Perhaps by the time the next Parish Magazine comes out they will have. Breath holding is not advised. We had the preliminary documents for a plan issued (300+ pages) which were withdrawn last year.

We had a glimpse of a plan at the start of 2017, but it was not “complete” i.e. it did not have the necessary evidence to justify its housing numbers so was not put forward for approval by the WDC.

We wait in hope if not expectation.

Last year planning applications were being judged – not on a local plan but on National Planning Guidelines. As interpreted by Wealden planning officers, these national guidelines “presume” consent for any significant development in almost any site.

What does this mean for Ninfield?

The Glimpsed (or peep-show?) plan, had a planning boundary, which did not extend south of Manchester road but included the Ingrams 55 houses. In that “plan” the 20 acre field is within the new boundary with potential for 80+ houses. The “windfall” i.e. not counted in the total (13 at Potmans lane, 3 at Moons Hill lane, and 3 other individual houses) are all outside the “boundary”. In July we are awaiting planning decision on 4 more at Potmans lane and 85 at Manchester road, all outside the “boundary”.

So thats 159 officially “sanctioned” and 89 more “requested” by developers.

Wealdens legitimate worries about Nitrogen from an increase in car journeys hitting the Ashdown Forest will not save us from these 159. Nor from development granted “outside” the (as yet imaginary) boundary; the plan doesn't yet exist.

With Ingrams site, Stephen Parry is spearheading a series of wildlife enforcement complaints. All Wealden enforcement resources are stretched so conditions from national guidelines or the Wealden planning committees are monitored taking developers on trust.

Next meeting: The Reading Room, 7.30 pm **Monday September 25th** Please NOTE: NOT THE 18TH. That date, agreed in July is unavailable. **Paul Coleshill** 20

HOOE HISTORY GROUP -Our June speaker was Paul Lendon who spoke passionately on the subject of Sussex Day. This is a fairly modern celebration of our county - its history, people, places, environment and much more. Paul is in the forefront of promoting Sussex Day and as a former member of Rother District Council is pleased with the progress he is making in the local area in encouraging more participation.

Our date for this talk was no coincidence, as the following day, 16th June, was indeed Sussex Day and Hooe Parish Council chose this for the unveiling of our new village sign on the “village green” at the top of the common. The sign was unveiled by Anne Bourner and those who attended were treated to a celebration barbecue and pimms.

We are grateful to our July speaker, Ian Everest, who has stepped in at short notice to talk on the subject “Shepherds of the South Downs – their lives and times”. Ian visited us last year and gave us one of our most interesting talks, about agriculture in the early 19th century, in which he showed video footage of a Sussex farm which now forms part of the National Archive. We are not expecting video footage this time, but looked forward to another interesting evening.

On 17th August we have our annual “outing” – a departure from our monthly talks as farming and holidays reduce our numbers quite considerably. We are visiting the Turkey Road brickworks as a follow up to manager Steve Chapman’s recent fascinating talk on brickmaking in Bexhill. Numbers are limited and all places are currently taken for this much anticipated excursion, but names can be given on a wait list in case of cancellations.

OLDER AND ACTIVE

A fun based gentle exercise class for the over 60’s to help
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Methodist Hall 10-11 a.m – 3 sessions per month

Come and give it a try, meet local people, have a coffee.

Restart Monday 18th September.

I've been thinking again – M.M.

Aren't they lovely, the old flower names, such as Snap-Dragon, Marigold, Love-in-the-Mist? Sadly, some seed catalogues don't even give the common name now.

My grandfather had only a fraction of today's plants available to him. He grew Chrysanthus, Dahlias, Golden Rod, Montbretia and a few annuals plus geraniums (Oh, alright Pelargoniums!!) Every Chrysanth and Dahlia had a supporting cane topped with a flower pot so earwigs could hide and be easily caught. He never used chemicals, he had a rainwater tank in which he put horse manure collected from the lane, so he could feed and water together!

Most people grew their own vegetables and if they had only had a small garden they would have an allotment. My father had one and we used to go to it as a family. My sister and I never helped with the allotment, we found something far more interesting to occupy us. We were drinking from a thermos flask when we noticed a newt. On clearing the undergrowth from a bank beside us we found a sunken bath full of rainwater and teeming with pond life. The provide hours of entertainment, fishing for what we could find. We always returned the little critters to their home, of course!!

So many allotments have been lost, both our villages are lucky to have them. They are great fun! Apparently, their value is being remembered and they are coming back into fashion. There is such a camaraderie amongst the holders of plots. Why don't you "give one a go"?

It would be good to hear from someone who has an allotment, so we could all read about their experiences. Do you still stop for a breather and a flask of tea? What grows well for you?

Saying that, I'm so glad I don't have an allotment. Each year seed catalogues offer a greater variety. Each year I vow to sow less. Each year I break my vow. I dread to think how many seeds I would buy if I had an allotment!!



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HOOE OPEN GROUP The ladies of the Hooe Open Group met together last Friday afternoon at Hooe Village Hall. As usual it was a gathering of lively ladies, who enjoy each other's company.

The Club Organiser, Edna Wallis welcomed two new member to the Club, introducing them to the attending members.

Paul Lendon was welcomed to the Club as their guest speaker. Paul is a well-known personality and is a popular as well as being an interesting speaker, able to speak on a number of wide ranging topics.

The topic Paul chose was his long career as a telephone engineer, firstly with the Post Office and later with British Telecom (BT). He reviewed the history of telephonic communication from its invention by Alexander Graham Bell to the present day.

The first telephone to be installed in Bexhill was in The Manor (demolished in the 1950's).

Paul brought with him examples of telephone history, including a section of long distance cabling and many photographs and prints, depicting the development of telecommunication, as well as a 1950' Handset.

As is usual the members enjoyed tea and biscuits, which went along with lots of lively, chatter.

The Hooe Open Group is a very sociable gathering of ladies who enjoy each other's company, and would welcome anyone who would like to join them.

If you are interested, just drop in to Hooe Village Hall (Opposite the Red Lion Pub) at 2.30 on the second Friday of each month. Except August, when the Club has an away event, this year it is a strawberry tea outing to Hillier's Garden Centre.

The September meeting will be on Friday 8th see you there!

Ninfield Parish Council

The Parish Meeting will be on

Thursday 7th September

The Methodist Hall,

Ninfield residents are invited to attend

Hooe Parish Council

The next parish meeting will be on

Monday 18th September

Hooe Village Hall

Hooe residents are invited to attend.

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WORM'S EYE VIEW

I learned recently that the hardest working creature is the earthworm and that it is calculated that an acre of agricultural land contains about 50,000 earthworms. Another fact was that they belong to a group of worms with the title Bristle-worms. That seemed strange, I had never thought of them with bristles, but as they say we live and learn. I found out that although they look & feel smooth, they in fact do have rows of fine hook –like bristles which project very slightly above the skin of the worm. These bristles, if you can call them that, provide a very effective aid to the locomotion of the worm & enable the worm to obtain a secure grip on the surface of the ground over which it is travelling. We know of course they bury & recycle organic matter as well as consuming large quantities of earth depositing “earth casts” on the surface. In fact they really are a very important factor in the health of our soil, by helping to aerate it. But just fancy all those worms working away without us really noticing them.

I am often told by my family I am stubborn, so I just remind them that I am Sussex born & bred, so of course I am stubborn, & proud to be so, which leads me to quote a poem which I read recently on Sussex Day I have since been asked to write it down for you:

Some folks come to Sussex
They rackons as they knows
A darn sight better what to do
Than silly folks like me & you
Could possibly suppose.
But them as comes to Sussex
They mustn't push or shove,
For Sussex will be Sussex
And Sussex won't be Druv!

I hope you like it, I do.

P.S. I wonder how long it took to count all those worms?

Hooe Parish Council

Dick Carey	Chairman	01424 892051
Revd Peter Doodes	Vice Chairman	01424 892329
Barbara Strevett		01424 892067
Peter Hayward		01424 892009
Pam Doodes		01424 892329
Robert Pilbeam		01424 844365
Peter Watson		01424 892107

Parish Clerk Sally Durman 01424 893007

The Chairman, Dick Carey, welcomed 28 members of the community to the Extraordinary Meeting which was held on Monday 3rd July.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide a progress report concerning the proposed building of a new Village Hall next to the Recreation Ground. Councillor Pam Doodes gave a brief history of the Village Hall Project and the importance of the land kindly gifted to the parish by Mrs Avery. All was proceeding well until the Wealden Local Plan had to be put on hold due to nitrogen levels at Ashdown Forest and the Pevensy Levels. The outcome of this is that no Planning Applications are being granted permission to build. So, at present, the Parish Council can go no further with the Planning Application for a new Village Hall.

Bernard Baker, the Architect, attended the meeting. He discussed the draft plans that had been prepared and suggested that these should be displayed so that people could view them and share ideas and thoughts about the way forward. This led to much discussion.

Residents were invited to discuss their thoughts and ideas in a forum. It was emphasized by the Chairman that this will be a community project which will suit the needs of those living in Hooe. There was much lively and useful information shared, which will a good basis for the next stage of planning a new Village Hall.

It was decided that fundraising should begin and several people showed an interest in forming a fund-raising committee. If you would like to be involved please contact Sally Durman, The Parish Clerk, and similarly if you have any thoughts you would like to contribute concerning a new hall. Sally can be contacted at hooepc2@btinternet.com or 893007.

We look forward to some enjoyable fund raising events in the not too distant future.

At our next meeting September 18th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, we will be welcoming Mr Dale Poore from East Sussex Highways who will be discussing roads in the village and answering any queries that members of the community may have.

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

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

Sunday Services for August / September 2017:

Aug 6th 10.30am. Café Worship with breakfast

Aug 13 10.30am. Service of Worship & Praise with Rev. Clive Redknapp

Aug 20 10.30am. Service of Worship & Praise with Mrs. Topsy Brice

Aug 27 10.30am Service of Worship & Communion with Rev. Tricia Williams

Sep 4 10.30 am. Café Worship

Sep 11 10.30 am. Service of Worship & Praise

Sep 18 10.30 am. Service of Worship & Praise

Sep 25 10.30 am. Service of Worship & Praise

Events for September 2017:

Sep 16 am Church Away-day to Michelham Priory

Sep 27 3.30-5.30 Messy Church

News: We hope that you will enjoy the August 'holiday' time; do come along to any of our services if you are free.

All of our groups will re-start in September, dates to be announced, and we will also look forward to a Church Family Away-day (all welcome) when we will visit Michelham Priory. David & Jean will be organising some fun activities for young people so please ensure you book your place!

You may have noticed on your wanderings around the village a number of painted stones. They are a gift to the village, painted by, and from some people who want to say they are happy and proud to be part of the community, who think we have a lovely village, and that the folk here are good neighbours. They are known as 'Mandala Stones'. Feel free to take one home if you wish – or leave it for others to enjoy and wonder about....

Mandala means "circle" and represents wholeness. On the underside of each stone is a word to extend our hope for love and peace in our personal lives, in our families, community and the world. Peace be with you, keep watching – there will be more!

.....
Church Hall Bookings: David Swales 892248

CHILDREN'S PAGE



MOSES

Have you seen the Disney film, 'The Prince of Egypt'? It tells a story from the Bible about Moses whose mother and sister left him in a basket on the bank of the River Nile. Pharaoh's sister found him and a little Hebrew boy was brought up as an Egyptian prince.

As Moses grew older he became more and more angry at the way the Hebrew slaves were treated. Moses ran away to the land of Midian where he settled down. But God called to him – and kept on calling. For every excuse that Moses had, God had an answer (Exodus, chapter 4). Finally, Moses went to Pharaoh but it wasn't until awful things happened that Pharaoh listened and agreed to let the Hebrew slaves go free.

Pharaohs were all powerful in Egypt, but Moses was following a much greater power. The Pharaohs of Egypt left dead monuments of stone but Moses brought together a whole living people, God's people.

TOO MANY GODS

The ancient Egyptians had a different god for just about everything. Can you tell which of these were worshipped in the time of the Pharaohs and which ones I have made up? GEB - the god of the earth, shown in art as a man with a goose on his head.

KHARPET a goddess of the homes, especially floors. She is shown wearing a feathered hat.

HATHOR was the goddess of love and joy and shown as a cow.

PHYLM the god of artists and craftsmen. He is shown in pictures with 2 pairs of arms. Small figures of this god are often found in boxes called khameeras.

TAWARET was a goddess who protected women during pregnancy and childbirth. She is shown as having the head of a hippopotamus with the arms and legs of a lion, the back and tail of a crocodile, and the front of a pregnant woman.

THOTH the god of writing and knowledge. Shown in art as a baboon.

Answers: I made up Kharpet and Phylm. Well, you put carpet on the floor and film in cameras (say them aloud), don't you?

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER DIARY FOR OUR TWO VILLAGES

Aug	2 nd Hope Cottage open day	P12
	12 th Village Market	P 8
	17 th Hooe History Group Outing	P21
	19 th St. Mary's Summer Fair	P 5
	19 th Horticultural Society Summer Show	P14
	26 th , 27 th , 28 th , Flower Festival	P19
	13 th CLOSING DATE FOR OCTOBER ITEMS	P 7
Sep	7 th Ninfield Parish Council Meeting	P18
	8 th Hooe Open Group	P24
	13 th Carnival Meeting	P12
	16 th Village Market	P 8
	18 th Hooe Parish Council Meeting	P27
	21 st Ninfield Local History Group	P 6
	Hooe History Group Meeting	P21
	23 rd September Song	P 8
	25 th NAG Meting	P20
Oct	21 st Bonfire Night	
Nov	25 th Home Made Fayre	

Anyone have any more dates for this page?

Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD ACTION GROUP Paul Coleshill 893138
NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Secretary Carol Holland 893326
NINFIELD BOWLS CLUB:

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

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:
Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY:
Secretary Jennie Harmer 892357 jennieharmer@aol.co.uk

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com
NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:

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

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP
Membership Sec. Corinne Gibbons 892612 corinnemgibbons@gmail.com

NINFIELD PLAYGROUP & TODDLERS
Preschool: Liz Walker, 7 Thorne Crescent, Bexhill, TN39 5JH
Toddlers: Stacey Boarer, 07967436479

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Phil Ringrose 892792
NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Hon. Sec. Lynn Denton 892347

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP
Group Scout Leader: Martin Gausden martin.gausdengsninfield@hotmail.co.uk
Explorer Scout Leader: Adam Shoesmith 07970 228906
Scout Leader: Mrs Elaine Gausden 07798 654614 ninfieldscouts@gmail.com
Cub Scout leader: Mrs Tracey Harrison 07970 359724 ninfieldcubs@gmail.com
Beaver Scout Leader Mrs Sandra Creasey 07908 558721
ninfieldkaa@googlemail.com
Group Chairman: Mrs Rachel Feeley rachel.feeley1@gmail.com

NINFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB: Julia Hurrell 07508 080608
DANCE & DRAMA CLUB: Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

HOOE BELL RINGERS : Simon Pattisson 845087
HOOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE LINE DANCE GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422
HOOE OPEN GROUP: Edna Wallis 842591
HOOE SPORTS CLUB Chairman: Tim Bryant, 2 Saddlers Cottage, Hooe

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Pam Doodles, Catslide, Hooe 892329
SENLAC BELLS Conductor Alan Collings 893313

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

PARISH WHO'S WHO

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

PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

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

PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD, HOOE

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

USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES

THE PARISH NEWS

Email ninfieldnews@btconnect.com ☎ 893326

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

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

READING ROOM

Booking Enquiries: Ann Martyr ☎ 892593 email harebeating3@gmail.com

MEMORIAL HALL

To book phone Jane Dommersen ☎ 07393 494502 ja.dommersen@outlook.com

HOOE VILLAGE HALL

Booking Secretary: Mrs. B Strevett, Fullers, Hooe ☎ 892067

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Booking Secretary: Mr David Swales ☎ 892248

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

DOCTORS The Surgery, Ninfield ☎ 892569