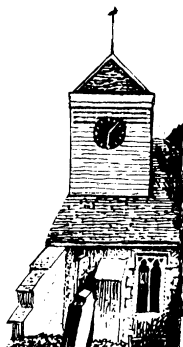


The

Parish

News



What's on and What you missed

In & around

Ninfield & Hooe

April 25 50p



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

St MARY's & St OSWALD's

NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



St Mary's

St Oswald's

6th April 9.30a.m. Parish Eucharist 11.00a.m. Family Service
Followed by the APCM

13th April 9.30a.m. Parish Eucharist 11.00a.m. Parish Eucharist
Palm Sunday

17th April 7.00p.m. Parish Eucharist *No Service*
Maundy Thursday

18th April 2.00p.m. The Final Hour 11.00a.m. Stations of the Cross
Good Friday

20st April 9.30a.m. Family Eucharist 11.00a.m. Parish Eucharist
Easter Day

27th April 9.30a.m. Parish Eucharist 11.00a.m. 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 matters should be made to The Church Wardens, details on the back page

Dear Friends,

You will be reading this letter as we approach Eastertide when the whole Church acclaim **'He is risen! He is risen indeed!'** My prayer is that is a very real experience for each of you and your loved ones. And that through that acclamation you will experience the greatest gift of all, the Love of God.

I am writing though in early March. Right now, the world seems an even more uncertain place than in the recent past and I have no way of knowing what circumstances will prevail in April. Hopefully the efforts for peace will come to fruition!

Many of you will have seen photographs of small groups of Christians continuing to meet for worship in Ukraine. You will have seen pictures of damaged buildings and of remarkable places of worship open to attack. The desperation of the people in Ukraine mirrors the anguish and hopelessness of too many people throughout the ages, not least the followers of Jesus in the days after his execution. The first disciples hid away seeking safety, just as many are doing now in Kyiv and elsewhere.

Those who have been close witnesses of war and devastation sometimes make observations which stop us in our tracks. I recall a war correspondent, Christine Lamb, who wrote 'It is in the darkest skies that you find the brightest stars'. The people she met in the extremes of her work, she was reporting, restored her faith in humanity. It is that humanity and God's relationship with it which is at the heart of the Easter story. For whatever occurred that first Easter it was the restoration of the faith and confidence of the followers of Jesus which was the miraculous outcome of those events. And it is the restoration of the faith and confidence of disciples today which continues to tell the eternal truths.

Easter is about God's gift of new life to everyone. Of course, we use symbols to help us celebrate the mystery and will do so again this year, but Easter is about much, much more than those symbols. It is about an eternal Love which goes beyond anything we can imagine. A Love which restores our confidence and enables us to continue witnessing to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. A love which excels all other gifts from God and elsewhere. It is this love which is the source of new life. In our homes, in Church, in our communities and, yes, internationally, we need to experience once more that assurance of God's eternal love for women, men, children and the whole of creation which emboldened the first disciples and then the early Church.

One of the most ancient symbols of Easter is the butterfly. They have been used as symbols of the resurrection for generations. Emerging from the darkness of the chrysalis, the caterpillar is transformed into a glorious butterfly. The challenge we face, as individuals, as Church, and in our communities is to transform ourselves into butterflies which reflect God's glory both now and into eternity.

It is we, the recipients of the greatest gift of all, God's love, who must continue our journey towards The Kingdom of God. Whatever our circumstances, whatever our means, it is our responsibility to respond to the Love of God in the same way as the first disciples as they learnt of the empty tomb and met the resurrected Christ for themselves. May God be with you in your spiritual journeying at this time. Paul

Revision of Electoral Roll.

It is that time when we need to revise the church electoral roll. If you are on it you will need to complete a new form if you wish to stay on the Electoral Roll. If you do not complete a form, you will be removed. It is to make sure that the Church Electoral Roll in both parishes is representative of the actual church membership. The forms are available in church and the new register will be presented at the church APCM which for Ninfield is after a short Morning service on 6th April and for Hooe after the morning service on 18th May. All are welcome to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Prayer for April

Living Lord Jesus, We, your Easter People of today, thank You for the Easter People of the Gospel accounts. For the women, who loved You so much that they went to the tomb, early in the morning, while it was still dark. Thank you especially for Mary, who wept, then rejoiced, then ran to tell the others, "I have seen the Lord!" Thank you for Thomas, who doubted, then devoted his life to You, his Lord and his God; for the disciples who ate breakfast on the beach with You; for Peter, who was forgiven and re-commissioned by You. Thank You for them and Your witnesses through all generations. Thank you for Your true and living written Word, proclaiming You, our true and living Lord, who lived and died and rose again to offer us forgiveness and life. Thank you, Lord that because You live, we have hope and assurance, whatever challenges the world might bring.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

Daphne Kitching

St Mary's

7th March 2025 ~ Memorial Service for
and Interment of Ashes of John Edward Jones

*from the
Parish Records*

News from St Oswald's

There is not a lot to report from St Oswald's for the last month. We are waiting for news from Wealden D.C. and the Diocese about permission to go ahead with the extension to the church. All the plans and the reports on the archaeology surveys have been submitted to Wealden and the Diocese. The Building specification we believe is ready to go out to tender, which will be handled by our Architect. The next step will be looking for Grants and fund raising for the project. The Architect will also be coming to carry out the Quinquennial Inspection of the Church sometime over the spring and summer months.

Easter is approaching with services on Good Friday 18th April at 11am and Easter Sunday the 20th April at 11am. There maybe, an Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard after the service, open for all ages.

Dates for your diaries.

Mothering Sunday Service 11am on 30th March

The Church will be part of the V.E. Celebrations which is set for Bank Holiday Monday 5th May. Then on V.E. Day evening, Thursday 8th May, there will be a short service of Thanksgiving on the Green and then to light the Beacon at 9.30pm.

The Church Garden Party will be on Saturday 5th July, with the usual stalls and side shows. Hooe Village Band will be playing for us during the afternoon.

If you are able to help at these events in any way, please contact the Church Warden.

Contact details: Churchwarden - Jack Rist 01424 892576.

Due to health issues Janet Pattisson is not available.

Saturday 15th March was clean up day in the church and grounds. We are so grateful for all the volunteers that turned out and made such a wonderful job of cleaning and tidying up. .



News from St Mary's

Can you help us give the church a good Spring Clean before our Easter services.

If you could spare us some time on Saturday 12th April from 9.30a.am. We would be very pleased to see you.

Catriona Owen Churchwarden.

FROM THE TOWER at St Oswald's.

The Bellringers have come up with an idea to try and get people along to have a go at ringing the Parish bells. As from the start of BRITISH SUMMER TIME the practice evening will be on a WEDNESDAY between 5.30 and 6.30pm. This is to replace the Saturday morning slot for busy people during the summer. We will be reverting when the evenings get darker heading towards Greenwich Mean Time in October. Of course the bells will be rung as much as possible on a Sunday but we are limited with numbers and only 'one' actually lives in Hooe! Hence another appeal for learners that don't want to hear the bells go silent (so to speak!) If anybody would like to have a go....

Please contact **Peter Ballard** on 01424 210980 or **Alan Pink** on 07766 258118.

Editors' Comment...

Well Spring was nice, back to cold, wind, occasional rain!! Carol has taken herself off to sunny Barbados, perhaps we should join her!

A big thank you to the distributors who have had the task of collecting the £5 subscription for the Parish News.

Luckily it is only once a year but it does give a chance to say hello to neighbours you perhaps haven't seen in a while. We couldn't manage without you

Nicki & Carol



April Diary

		Venue	Page
5 th	Heart of Ninfield	Memorial	11
8 th	Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial	20
8 th	Film Matinee	Memorial	9
8 th	Hooe Stoolball Taster Event	Hooe Rec	15
10 th	Wizard School Magic Show	Memorial	
11 th	Hooe & Ninfield Open Group	Methodist	23
12 th	Hooe Coffee Morning	St Oswald's	29
12 th	Quiz Night	Memorial	16
17 th	Ninfield Parish Council	Methodist	25
17 th	Hooe History Society	St Oswald's	26
19 th	Food & Craft Market	Memorial	16
19 th	Bonfire - Rock 'n' Roll Night	Memorial	27
26 th	Horti Spring Show	Memorial	18
27 th	Bowls Club Open Afternoon	Bowls Club	32
28 th	Hooe Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall	18

Thank you, I'd like to thank Pam and Peter Doodes for hosting my 86th birthday party and thank you to all the local villagers that attended to celebrate with us, it was very much appreciated

Many thanks, **Dick Carey**

Parish News

Views expressed in the articles in this magazine are those of the writer and not of the Parish Churches or PCC's unless it so states.

This publication is produced and distributed by Members of both Parish Churches.

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 on the 4th Thursday of each month. For details, please contact Maggie on: 07985588524 or email: maggiethecook@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. **Except Good Friday 18th April**

Community Café open on all other Friday mornings – you will be made very welcome. **Except Good Friday 18th April**

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.

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

robin@plowmate.plus.com

Men's Shed

Now an established friendly group meeting at Sparke Pavilion.

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

For more information contact Dave: 01424 892883.

Film Matinees

Memorial Hall Tuesday afternoons. Doors open at 1.30. Films start at 2.00 pm. FREE entry and refreshments. Dementia friendly and subtitles.

Films and dates for your diary for 2025 are as follows:

8 April: Billy Elliot
13 May: Grease
24 June: The Magnificent Seven
2 September: Chicago
7 October: The Ladykillers
11 November: A Hard Day's Night
9 December: Arthur Christmas

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

Dark Skies –

The end of February kept us busy with the Starcount and trying to see how many of the 7 planets we could see. For once the weather was kind to us and we had clear skies allowing us to see (although not all) of the aligned planets from the 24th through to the 28th February. Venus, Jupiter and Mars were clear as was Saturn and Mercury (for some), but Uranus managed to evade everyone. Thank you to the Working Men's Club who opened their gates at 6.30pm on Friday 28th to allow a group of us to meet and up to look at the skies. Although there was some light pollution from Eastbourne, it was a very clear night and we were able to complete a Starcount as well as planet spot. As I said, the weather has been kind to us and our first Starcount has been completed. This is counting the number of stars you can see with the naked eye within the constellation of Orion. We weren't overwhelmed with responses, but it's a start. Counts were between 11 and 15 stars which puts Ninfield in the 'Light Pollution' category according to CPRE star map (which is slightly at odds with their dark skies mapping). Look it this month for meteor showers between 22nd and 23rd April.

Bat Walk – a date for your diary.

The Bat Walk with Sussex Wildlife Trust has been booked for Thursday 15th May – probably from 8pm, but more information will be in the Village Voice and on Ninfield Community Facebook page.

Friendly Voices – meeting on a Tuesday evening 7.30 to 8.30pm at the Methodist Hall and Thursday afternoon 2-3pm at Sparke Pavilion. As we always say, you don't have to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing and, at £1 a session, it's very good value. If you would like to know more email me on k.crittell@btinternet.com or call 07607 683187

D VE day Celebration Plan in Hooe 5th May 2025

To the Villagers of Hooe,

Plans are in place to celebrate the 80th VE day on Bank Holiday Monday the 5th May.

The Celebration will be a street party centred on the Village Hall.

There will be afternoon teas in the Village Hall. We are asking you to give us your help, if you can, with providing the refreshments. The event is proposed as a Celebration not a Fund raising event. So, we will only be trying to cover the costs and are looking forward to donations, both financial and consumable (cakes, scones, crisps etc).

Possible Events on Monday 5th May. 2-6pm

In the Village Hall:- Refreshments, a display of wartime memorabilia, (photos, medals, uniforms, stories)

Street side shows. Come along, have a go for free, possible prizes (minimal) for various age groups.

Music of the day. (Not yet finalised). Sing-a-long of War time favourites throughout the afternoon.

Bar-b-que in the evening (charge to cover costs)

Thursday 8th May actual VE Day. Lighting of the Beacon 9,30pm on the Village Green, a short service of prayer and thanksgiving, for those that played their part in the 2 World Wars.

Timings at present are fluid and may change slightly.

With your help we can make it a memorable day for us all. Come along and lend a hand on the day. If you have photos or any memorabilia that you could lend for a display please let us know or bring them along on the day.

To offer help, or make other suggestions, here are the contacts.

Jack Rist 892576

email lamlash1972@outlook.com

Ann Loyd 893449

email loyd.ann@btinternet.com

Julian 07801082218

Do come along and be involved in a Village Celebration.

Country Ways

Well the last few days have been a bit special, clear and crisp. One night the frost was so hard the snow drops actually wilted. Even getting to the Church to open up and walk the dog was a pleasant drive. Pevensey levels were hiding under a blanket of mist! Now that fine mist coupled with strong sunshine and a clear blue sky created an optical experience.

I have seen the metallic sheen on starlings before but mostly faintly and around the neck. That morning the small flock of starlings, that usually are around the Church in the morning, lit up like beacons of shining colour. Not just the necks but the whole bird and every colour of the rainbow. They made a bird of paradise seem dull and drab. It only lasted for a few seconds and the light changed and they went back to being starlings again. And the answer is 'no' for those who suspect that I have been eating too many mushrooms.

But the show went on. Out of the mist that hung over the fields behind the Church, two roe deer ran up to the lane. Three deer have been seen locally, perhaps they made the lane and one fell in a pot hole!

I was enjoying all this and it made up for so many dull, wet days. I enjoyed it so much I went round the Church yard again. This confused my dog and enraged a small wren. It proceeded to follow me around the circuit shouting abuse in my direction. For such a small bird they make a lot of noise. I hope and expect that it was keeping me, a possible predator, in sight and warning other birds of a potential danger that is creeping about. It's odd as I see the wren almost every day and it has never bothered shouting at me before. Perhaps it had a 'domestic' last night and took its frustration out on me!

The trouble with a list of positives is that a negative is likely to pop up and it surely did.

One morning there was a pile of junk food wrappers, the sort of stuff you get from a take away burger. There were drink cans as well; perhaps with the sugar rush these people could have managed to get out of the car and put their rubbish in the bin provided! It looks like the sort of rubbish dumped onto the lanes leading to Hooe. Who knows it could be the same people and car.

It does not happen that often at the Church, just the odd toffee rapper, Oh and not forgetting the pile of hard core left in the car park!

So what can be done about it? I have no idea myself. They must know that all this litter is picked up by their neighbours; that littering is against the law and it offends folks. So please, if you are reading this, earn a tick and a 'smiley face', keep a carrier bag in the car and bin the rubbish when you get home. Thanks.

AT

News, Reviews and a few old Views !

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION: After a long, but really productive meeting on the 10th March, the Committee and Helpers, have agreed that the Pram Races will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May, and will have a V.E.Day theme running alongside the event. There will be a BBQ, Tote, Raffle, Tuck Shop, Fancy Dress, lots of races for different age groups, Cash prizes, Trophies and Medals to win, and everyone is encouraged to start making their Racing Carts now!!

Also, the 90th Anniversary Celebrations for the Solstice Carnival Weekend in June have been finalised: as hoped, it'll be a two day event, with NINFIELD'S GOT TALENT finals on Friday 20th June in the Marquee, with Pizza Leonati for food, plus Ice Cream, Milkshakes, Cakes etc. (Auditions for all Acts to take place on Friday 13th June in the Memorial Hall)

The Carnival Fête on the Rec. during the day on Saturday 21st. There will be a fabulous Raffle, Tea Tent, BBQ, Crafts, Games, Dog Show, Tug of War Competition, and the most exciting news is The FLOATS PROCESSION is BACK!

On Saturday evening, in the Marquee, it's BAND NIGHT with Danger-Zone a great Covers Band playing from 8pm, plus the Bar, on site Street Food, BBQ etc. .

We will be having a stand at the HEART OF NINFIELD EVENT in the Memorial Hall on Saturday 5th April, where you'll be able to find out more about all the planned celebrations, and sign up for NGT!

Donna Powell has picked up the Procession baton, and is running hard with it!!! She will be adding her own rallying piece re Marshalls, Floats, Carnival Court etc.

Please come to see us at the Heart of Ninfield Event on Saturday 5th April at the Memorial Hall, or join us for a drink on Monday 7th April in the Working Men's Club, 7.15pm, at our next meeting.

In the meantime look out for all updates and information on social media, notice boards and in the press on all these fabulous #NCA90 celebrations!

SATURDAY 5th APRIL Memorial Hall This is earmarked for the 2025 Heart of Ninfield Event, where all groups, clubs and societies, along with local businesses, come together to present what they do and invite residents to join them, have a chat, partake of some lovely free lunch and get involved with all the brilliant events! Once again it will be hosted by Ninfield Parish Council, and there will be a lot of very interesting, and up to date information from them on local issues .

SATURDAY 12th APRIL- Memorial Hall. IT'S QUIZ NIGHT!!! The welcome and much acclaimed return of Ninfield's fabulous Quiz with hot supper included in the price..(yep! that'll be my Chilli and Rice again..woop!!) Teams of 6, cash prize for the winners, lots of laughs and banter.and scratching of heads! Doors open at 7pm, Quiz starts at 7.30pm, supper at half time! bring your own nibbles and drinks, there'll be a Raffle and all funds raised go towards the next building repairs..which will be The Roof!!! Look out for notice boards, posters and posts for details!

NATIONAL WEEK OF MOVEMENT AND DANCE:

Thanks to all who came and enjoyed the extended classes over the week in March, followed by the fabulous Spring Disco Night!

Dance classes continue as follows on a weekly basis

MONDAY 10am MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC Memorial Hall with coffee and refreshments afterwards till 11.30am

WEDNESDAY 6.30pm DANCERCISE Memorial Hall

THURSDAY 9.30am SILVER SWANS BALLET Methodist Hall

FRIDAY (alternates) Memorial Hall

6.30pm BALLROOM,

7.30pm BURLESQUE/SHOW DANCE. All classes are £6 pp per class.

Don't forget the Mantra...Move it or Lose it. It's SO beneficial to Dance, Exercise or Move during the week you'll feel better in mind, body and spirit!!!

A FINAL NOTE ...

Since I first mooted this thought, I've really had a lot of interest in my idea to start another lovely village group: the mirror to Men's Sheds and create the Ladies Lounge. I am hoping we can get started in the next month, and I'm waiting for confirmation on venue and preferred day/time. The Lounge would be for women, of an age, or any age, maybe 55/60 and over; who may have older parents, children with stressful lives, grandchildren, maybe bereavement plus working full time, paying bills, juggling relationship, being the centre of life's maelstrom and not talking because well, it's all '**Fine**'. Why not get together occasionally for afternoon tea, or a glass of wine and '**offload**'?! In this strange, and slightly scary world we're now living in friendships, companionship and coming together to share and talk is becoming essential... Keep in touch always.

Thanks for all help, interest, and continued support for all classes, shows, events...please come to meetings or get togethers....

CALL 07970650321 or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com

FB. NINFIELD CARNIVAL FÊTE AND EVENTS.



Potmans Lane Galleon Float

As Sami has already said I have picked up the Procession baton and am intent on bringing this event back to the community of Ninfield village in the Carnival Association's incredible 90th year.

I have very fond memories of going to Eastbourne Carnival as a child and I want to give these special memories to my children. Also, since taking up this challenge I have spoken to several people in the village and it is clear this event holds much nostalgia for many in creating great family memories.



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nigel@indiefarmer.com**

Continued from Page 13

We are also excitedly thinking about our Ninfield Carnival Court, as you read this these plans will be in full swing so please keep an eye on social media and the village noticeboards. if you are a young person looking to get involved or know a child/young person who is interested. We are hoping to present your Ninfield Carnival Court to you at the Pram Race event on Bank Holiday Monday 5th May.

Finally, this is my first shout out for the procession itself – you don't have to be a big lorry (though that would be fab), you can use a car, van, scooter or even walk it. We just want everyone to have fun and it could be a great way of promoting your business or community group and raising money for local causes. So, if you are thinking about entering the theme is '90 Years of Ninfield Carnival' which provides quite a wide scope for ideas (think events in Ninfield, events in history, 90 years etc). If you don't want to take part but have a trailer or something you would be willing to loan out to someone then that would be brilliant as there will be people that want to build a float but don't have the means to move it around. More information will follow each month as the event takes shape.

Donna Powell

Players needed for Hooe Stoolball Club!

Did you know Hooe have been playing stoolball for at least 50 years! We need new members, ladies, men & younger players to join our friendly team & to keep this village tradition alive! We play Tuesday & Thursday's starting in May & occasional Sundays for tournaments. We have a free Taster session on Tuesday 8th April on Hooe Recreation ground @ 6.15pm & would love to see some new faces!

You can find us on Facebook or for more details or information please contact -

Judy Atkinson - 07929 506534 15 Mel Dowling - 07931 524478

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 12th April

7.00 for 7.30

£8.50pp

**£8.50 inc choice of hot supper, bring your own drink
and nibbles. Tables of 6. Cash prize**

If you are on your own, come along and join a table

Booking essential

Sami 07970 650321 or Carol 893326

Email ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

Ninfield Memorial Hall

Cash or Card on the day

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 19th APRIL

9.30 - 12.30

FOOD & CRAFTS MARKET

The Pop Up Cafe will be open for

Bacon & eggs, teas & coffees, and more!

There'll be meat, cakes & pies, honey,

Fruit & veg, bread, cheese, eggs

and who knows what else,

Anne mentioned
Hot Cross Buns & Simmel
Cake for Easter!

A nice leg of roast
Lamb for Easter lunch?

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

By the time you read this we would have had our Spring Show (results will be in the May magazine) as well as our first meeting of the year. Next in the calendar is our very popular Plant Market at the Memorial Hall on the morning of Saturday 26th April. Our market is only as good as the donations we receive, but part of the fun is that you never know what's going to be on the benches. Roses, shrubs, various herbaceous plants, vegetable seedlings, pots and gardening tools – we have them all. As well as tea and home-made cakes for you to refresh yourself (before buying more plants)!

And for any children that were not at the Planting Up day at Ninfield School in March, there will be pots, compost and seeds for you to plant up.

Doors open at 9am, but we can accept donations from 8am.

Kaye Crittell (k.crittell@btinternet.com) 01424 892883

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk / RFO: Jane Warrener Tel: 07548 528754

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

The Parish Council are getting ideas together to commemorate VE Day on 8th May and look forward to the village coming together to celebrate the end of the war and remember the sacrifice made by so many.

The next Full Council meeting is to take place on Monday 28th April 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Councillor Gayle Kirk
Hooe Parish Council

Worms Eye View

It is a lovely sunny day at the beginning of March, but it is too cold to stay out of doors for too long, so I have sat down near the window and can enjoy the view, keeping warm at the same time. Being so bright I can look across the marsh and a couple of hills and can see Hailsham very clearly, well the tops of some houses and the Church Tower.

Thinking of Hailsham in the past before I was married and being a Saturday as I write these notes, I would have been playing Hockey with the Hailsham Ladies Club. I wonder do they still have a club. I did enjoy my time playing with the team. It came to an end when I left school and starting working for the Eastbourne Public Libraries, and rarely had a Saturday afternoon free from work. Saturdays were always busy days at the library. However, when I started to be picked up after work it was very handy to go to the pictures or to go dancing at the Pier Ballroom. The Pier had a lovely ballroom back in those days, a super floor and excellent band and I soon forgot how tired my legs were from working. Whilst thinking about long ago days I have just remembered the fire. It was a day very similar to this day, sunny and looking warm, as I was walking down across the fields at lunchtime with a hot drink and sandwich for Peter, when I suddenly realised that there was a huge cloud of smoke going up over Eastbourne. We stood there and watched in horror and wondered where it exactly was. I thought the Bandstand, Peter thought it was the Railway Station. Well it was the Pier, the old Ballroom to be precise. No more the magnificent Ballroom but I still have all my memories from those times.

Back to my wonderful view, from here I can see the marshes, the downs and the sea. I wonder what William the Conqueror thought about it in 1066, but perhaps more to the point what the people who lived here in those times, think about William!

Anne

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

Ninfield Flower Group

So the “dull, grey days” of my last entry have changed dramatically into bright, sunshiny, fairly warm days, which this early in the year is such a joy. My small garden is a delight of camellias in various shades of pink and red, whilst my neighbour’s garden is all of a froth of white blossom. Our first demonstrator of the year was also a delight. Driving down from Camberley, Jennifer Thompson brought many positive comments from our members, and those who were lucky enough to win one of her arrangements were very pleased with the quality and variety of the flowers. Our first Thursday evening workshop of the year had the title “curls and swirls” and those attending certainly rose to the challenge. In March our title will be “March madness” - make of that what you will in flowers and accessories, and in April we will create “petite” arrangements. These miniature arrangements must be no more than 10cms wide and perfectly proportioned. April 8th is our next demonstration with Sue Flight. She, and we, are hoping that “Spring is in the Air”. Refreshments from 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Visitors £5.

If you came along to our Jumble Sale on March 8th, either to donate items for sale or to buy, thank you for your support. We had a very busy and successful afternoon. I also have to say a huge thank you to some members of the Bonfire Society for again coming along towards the end of the afternoon to help us clear up. It’s like the cavalry arriving as most of us, being of a certain age, are getting a little weary after such a full-on day! Our next Jumble Sale will be on Saturday 11th October. Twice a year we are invited along to the Methodist church hall to help at their Messy church afternoons. At the end of November we helped the children make an Advent candle decoration and by the time you read this, posies for Mothering Sunday will have been lovingly created and taken home for the special day. I look forward to welcoming you to one of our demonstrations.

Helen Cunliffe

Chairman NFG

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Village House names

Like the origin of surnames, there is often a history behind the names given to houses. Farms often stayed in the same family, or relatives for generations, but when tenants moved, often the farm would be named for the new tenants, as well as still being known to long time residents or farm workers by the previous name, long afterwards. That could be confusing to outsiders, but easily resolved if you lived in the village!

House names also could be named after the resident family, and retained long after the original family had moved on, often needing a delve into the house deeds to see if they held the clue. Other house names may come from the obvious, Mill View, Downs View, South View etc, or for some obvious nearby landmark, Church View, Hill Top Lake Side as examples. Others might be less obvious, named for places where they had originated, or the occupiers had lived, married or had extensive connection with, such as annual holidays there, and perhaps a hint of retirement for say, Dunromin?. Those are much more knotty to unravel, with the “personal” connection being lost in the mists of time. Significant events, such as Coronations or battles such as Rorkes Drift may be easy enough, but Maralinga? (an Australian desert area, the site of British nuclear tests!). And why is there sometimes a reference to “cat”? It may be a corruption from the Viking “Gat” or street, so 3 Cat corner could simply be where 3 ways meet, as at the far end of Marl pits. It can be a fascinating journey into the past to discover the original name of your house, and what other names it may have had and, perhaps, even why!

It's always worth a look at your property deeds, to establish when it was built, any changes as well as the number, and the names, of different owners before you. You might find some interesting links! Less complicated, some house names are descriptive of the house, Three Chimneys or Grey Tiles. Others are using foreign languages, often meaning “welcome” or “nice view” etc in that language, such as haere mai or “come here, come in” or Spes Bona, Morfa (a marshy area around Swansea, where the stadium now is) Bon Idea etc.

Sometimes residents have combined parts of their own, or their children's, names to make the house name, some are fairly easy to work out, others not so easy unless let into the secret. Another version is to spell the names etc backwards. Other names can have more than one possible origin, such as Houblon, either the first governor of the Bank of England (what would he be doing in Ninfield?) or the scientific name for hops. Certainly less difficult for a nameplate than humulus lupulus! Similarly, was “platt” a flat piece of land or by a footbridge, or simply the surname of the earlier occupants or builder. A Star Trek fan might have used Ankari, but what connection lizard like humanoids^{??} have with Ninfield is conjecture 12 It depends whether they were fans of USS Voyager or Equinox!

Then there are house names connected to Park, which originally was the hunting grounds for a large estate, often split in two, for the Great Park and the Little Park. Another house name which evokes more interest is the strangely named Quiddleswell Mount (or more simply known as The Mount) which seems a local corruption of, known as the home of the painter Alfred Robert Hayward. Quite what was the origin of that name is unclear, perhaps a “picky” or fastidious person, such as a quibbler?

As an aside, there is also an Arthur Charles Hayward, a wood carver with the same parents but not shown in the Census returns (probably as being privately educated he would have been recorded at his public school). Arthur was also talented, as a wood carver, and he carved the font top in St Oswald’s Church. He was also a casualty, serving with the Canadian Army when he was killed in April 1915. His name is on the WW1 Memorial plaque and also a brass plate in the Church. Well, I hope this had sparked an interest in finding out more about your own house.

Kevin Regan

Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 14th March in the Methodist Hall in Ninfield.

We had a very enjoyable talk by Jonathan Ramsden who is the Education Officer for Cats Protection. He gave us an overview of the charity which was founded in 1927 and have helped and rehomed over two million cats and kittens. They have been great campaigners for cat welfare, after the Second World war there were many cats that survived the blitz so they championed neutering to control cat numbers. They also championed microchipping for all cats and eventually this recently became law. All cats and kittens who come to the centres are neutered, microchipped and vetted before they are found new homes. They offer a Lifeline which they offer foster care for cats that might be involved in a domestic abuse situation. Also a Cat Guardian service which you can join so that you know your animal will be cared for if you are unable to continue to care for your cat due to illness or death. They look after over 100,000 cats and kittens a year, so as you can imagine they are always looking for volunteers to help in their shops or raising money or maybe getting involved in fostering.

Next month we meet on Friday 11th April in the Methodist Hall at 2.00p.m. when we have invited Steve Squirrell back to give us a talk on a subject of his choice.

Don’t forget it is an Open Group so all are welcome.

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Ninfield Parish Council

The Council is looking for a cleaner on a self-employed basis to clean the sports pavilion. The person would need to be available on a Monday morning for approximately 2 hours.

Jobs required include

To ensure the pavilion is clean and tidy after the weekend of sports use:

All toilets, basin and equipment to have a thorough clean and wiped over with anti-bacteria spray. All rooms to be hoovered and moped where necessary. Kitchen to be cleaned, all surfaces to be wiped down with antibac. All bins wiped over or washed inside and out if necessary. Report any breakages to the clerk. Bins should be left empty, if not reported to the clerk.

If you are interested please email the clerk with an expression of interest no later than 5pm on Friday 25th April.
clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

You have probably noticed that the finger posts are slowly being taken away, they are all being refurbished, the first two are already have been done and are back looking fantastic.

The grounds maintenance around the village has started and will be done in accordance with the details on the website.

The Parish Council meets on the third Thursday of the month throughout the year with the exception of January and August when there is no meeting.

Next meeting 6.30 p.m. 17th April in the Methodist Hall.

Jackie Scarff

Proper Officer & RFO to Ninfield Parish Council

Email: clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

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Please note I work 18 hours per week and hours are different each week to take account of work each week.

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HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

Our speaker on Thursday 17th April will be myself, Peter Hayward, with a talk on the Hooe Common Smuggling gang. This is look at the Hooe smuggling gang through the newspapers, books, anecdotes and one particular trial transcription. I will try to shed light on how they operated and how long they existed by piecing together what is written down and join it all together to form an overall picture, including the events that eventually brought about the end of smuggling activities. I will explain why I believe the Hooe gang was a significant local operator in this clandestine activity. We meet at 7.30 p.m. in St. Oswald's Church as normal.

Kaye Crittall

DID YOU KNOW... I have finally managed to access and transcribe the 1921 census for Hooe and thought it would be nice to try and paint a picture of how the village appeared back then, by looking at the numbers involved. There were 460 local inhabitants and 14 visitors living in 113 properties. The male population was 259 (55%) and the female 215 (45%); there were 89 children listed as full time at school and 49 were under school age, which means that 29% of the village population were listed as children. The average age of the village population was 30 years and a few months There were 48 working on their own account (self-employed) of which 15 classed themselves as "Employers". Twelve of these were farmers, the working farms being Court Lodge, New Lodge, The Grove, Olives, School Farm, Sandhill, Longdown, Akehurst, Holmes and Oldbury. The other three employers were Horace Taylor (builder & decorator) at Box Cottage, Samuel Dodson (grocer & draper) at Hooe Post Office and George Sargent (butcher & farmer) at New Lodge Farm. When we take out all of the children, invalids, pensioners and visitors (81) from the total male population we are left with 178 adult males in work. Of these, 115 were employed in agriculture (farming, market gardening) – that is to say 65% of the working male population. Some of the other trades listed in the working population were Blacksmith (1) Brickmaker, Butcher (4) Builders (6) Carpenter (2) Gardener, Chauffeur, Coach Painter, Collector of Rates and agerTaxes, Dressmaker, Engineer, Barman, Laundry & Needlework, Innkeeper, Secretary, Monotype Operator, Convalescent Home Maness (Oldbury) Motor Driver, Netter & Woollen Rug maker, Post girl, Roadman, Sawyer, School Teacher, Sewers man (4) (on Pevensy Marsh) Shepherd, Stock Dealer and Wheelwright (1). One very sad fact to emerge was that the previous Hooe School head teacher, John James Newport, who had been removed from this position the year before, was now working as a supply teacher in St

Marylebone, North-West London, whilst his wife, her mother and six children remained living in Caritas Villa, Hooe. It must have been a difficult time for him and his family, as at 54 years of age he still needed to work but the family roots were firmly in the village, as we know that he returned some time later. Hooe appears to have been a thriving community at this time, just two years after the end of the Great War. It was a comparatively young population, with a thriving school, ten working farms, two public houses, a flourishing general store / post office, good employment opportunities...and my mum was just 3 months old.

Peter Hayward.

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY NEWS

We're always looking for new people to get involved and help keep our traditions alive. We meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Ninfield Working Mens Club (Tin Hut) TN33 9EE. Whether you're new to the village or have been part of the bonfire fun for years, feel free to drop in, say hello, and find out more about what we do. We'll also have a stall at the Ninfield Village Market on Saturday 19th April. Stop by for a chat, learn how you can get involved and explore our merchandise. We'll also be running a tombola, so come along and try your luck!

Shake, Rattle & Roll Fundraiser – A Rock ‘n’ Roll Night!

;Get ready to dust off your dancing shoes and step back in time for a Rock ‘n’ Roll Night! The evening kicks off with a Rock ‘n’ Roll Disco to get everyone warmed up - perfect for families! Then, enjoy live music from the brilliant Glen Dean and The Allstars for a night to remember! There will be dancing, a fully stocked Bonfire bar, delicious food, and fun games - all in the name of good times and community spirit. So grab your friends, embrace the 1950s vibe, and let's make it a night to remember!

Date: Saturday 26th April - Location: Ninfield Memorial Hall, TN33 9EE

Tickets: £6.00 Adults/ £3.00 (Ages 11+) | Free (under 11)

Bonfire Members get their first drink FREE. Any special requirements please contact Sarah on 07809 684488/ ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com.

Don't miss out - come along and let the good times roll!

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Hooe Village Community Group

Contact us:

Website:

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Email: hooevcg@gmail.com

Chairman: Gary Durman

Treasurer: Peter Cosham

Secretary: Sally Durman

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

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



Events coming up:

5th April: Community Clean-up 10.00 start at The Red Lion Car Park

If you are reading this after 5th April – sorry you have missed it! But you can read all about it next month!! It would be wonderful if this event was unnecessary! Over the years we have picked an average of 24 bags of litter a year – so to date that is approximately 192 bags! That is not counting those filled during the year by volunteers or those items picked too large and heavy to be put into bags!

12th April: **Easter themed Coffee Morning** at St Oswald's Church, Hooe. *Easter Bonnets welcomed!*

10th May: **V.E. Day Anniversary themed Coffee Morning** at St Oswald's Church, Hooe.

We are delighted the Hooe History Society has agreed to provide a Display of War Time Memorabilia at this coffee morning. However, their records for this period of history are sparse, so this is where we all come in!! If you have any appropriate photos, stories, uniforms, equipment etc which would be of general interest could you please share them? You could either bring them to the coffee morning on 10th May or better still contact Peter Hayward, Hooe History

Society (peterhayward1@hotmail.co.uk 01424 893422 or Pam Doodes pamdoodles@hotmail.com 01424 892329 beforehand. We are sure Peter will be thrilled to receive appropriate material, and no doubt will ask to scan and record before he hands it back. A wonderful way to populate the HHS records. We look forward to an interesting morning and hopefully we will learn a little more about Hooe in war time through artifacts and memories.

Dick Carey's birthday bash

Thank you to all who attended Dick's birthday bash! It was a great evening which brought village people together to share happy memories. If you would like to hear about Dick's antics with his school friends whilst travelling to school on the 'bus, just ask! It makes interesting listening! Dick and his friends have a huge amount of knowledge about the history of the village, we could learn a lot by listening to their informed memories.

March Coffee Morning

We were blessed with a wonderful sunny day for our March Coffee Morning – it was so warm and spring like we wondered if anyone would come, thinking everyone would be in their gardens. We needn't have worried as very soon after we opened, the church was packed with smiling folk, loud chatter and laughter. Thank you one and all for your support. Some folk decided to make the most of the weather and walk, others came by car and filled the car park!



A couple of the comments we received following the event:

'....It is also the case that it's a lot of hard work from you all. Every month the tables are filled with tempting cakes and savouries, which I fully appreciate don't arrive as if by magic! So huge thanks to such an awesome team! And all your kind efforts on behalf of us all give such real pleasure to the very special community of Hooe. A big THANK YOU to you all!'

'We so enjoy the friendship and comfort of these wonderful coffee mornings and all the scrumptious homemade cakes; sausage rolls and yummy cheese scones'

Keep in touch

Our 'Friends of Hooe Village Community Group' list of members is growing fast. By becoming a Friend, you will receive regular email updates about our activities, our news and share views. It won't cost you anything but will help you keep in touch. We have application forms at our events or just contact us!



Furthermore if you have news you would like to share with residents please let us know – we will include your news when possible

Herstmonceux Men's shed come up with the goods

Photo Peter Cosham

Owen, who leads the volunteers who look after our very own Nature Reserve, known locally as 'The Bogs', suggested he would like us to consider donating 2 x Bat and 2 x Bird Boxes for placing at The Bogs. A grand idea, so we set to and approached Herstmonceux Men's Shed to ask if they would make them for us, and they were delighted to agree. The photo shows a group of the gents receiving our donation for their work. (now and in the future!) BTW - Following this we enjoyed coffee with them – Jenny particularly enjoyed the welcomed drink.

Donations

Further details from The Bogs and news about Hooe Stoolball Club next month! Something to look forward to!

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



NINFIELD BOWLS CLUB OPEN AFTERNOON

Sunday 27th April – From 2.30pm

Would you like to play lawn bowls?

Why not come to our open afternoon and give it a try

Bowls supplied - Just wear flat shoes.

Coaching available.

**We are a very friendly, encouraging club situated on
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**We have a busy calendar of fun club days
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Ali Evans 07840 717303

Val Smith – 01424 843436

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

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email: office@hbrmethodists.org.uk

website: hbrmethodists.org.uk

Sunday Services for April 2025:

- 6th 10.30 am Café Worship for all the family with Revd. Philip Wagstaff
- 13th 10.30 am PALM SUNDAY Family Worship
- 18th 2.00 pm GOOD FRIDAY Reflection at St. Mary's Church
- 20th 10.30 am EASTER DAY Family Praise Service with Revd. Philip Wagstaff
- 27th 10.30 am Family Praise Service with Revd. Catherine Wagstaff

Events for April 2025:

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 Tuesday

Wishing you all a Very Happy Easter.

I really like this time of the year. We have been enjoying some lovely sun, daffodils are in full bloom and primroses are already smiling at us from the banks & hedgerows. We have been fascinated by all the miniature snowdrops which are a delight when they appear. We wonder if you are also 'lamb-watching' like us! We are now in the season of Lent but are waiting for Easter. What a celebration that 'God is with us – He is risen indeed – Hallelujah'. As you will see above we have a varied programme of services & activities so we invite you to come along. On Palm Sunday our local team will lead the service and I feel sure that Jesus, Palm branches and the Donkey will feature in our thoughts.

On Easter Day our minister will lead worship which will include communion and an Easter Egg Hunt for all young people, and us older-ones as well. Who will be the first to eat their chocolate? Time Together Tuesday takes place for families on April 22nd We also look forward to Reverend Philip's wife, who is also a Methodist minister, leading our Service on April 27th Please remember & pray for all that we are doing to share the love of God in our community. It's exciting!

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Lk 22:1-13, Mt 26:14-19, Mk 14:10-16

It was just before Passover, when Jews celebrate God rescuing them from Egypt. Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem.

The Chief Priests were plotting



How can we get rid of Jesus?
He always has crowds around him.

Jesus' disciple Judas came to them...



I could help you.

We'd be happy to pay you



How much?

30 silver coins



30 silver coins happened to be the same amount that had to be paid as compensation to the owner if a slave was killed Ex. 31:32



I'll let you know when Jesus is alone.

Meanwhile, Peter and John asked Jesus...



Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?

Go into the city and follow the man carrying a water jar to his home

They did, and asked the house owner



Our teacher wants to know where he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples

The room is upstairs on the roof, ready to use



Peter and John got the meal ready



That evening, Jesus and his 12 disciples went to the room to eat the Passover meal.



Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Sarah Seymour 07809684488

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

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:

Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD CRAFTING & KNITTING: Jane Dommersen 862428

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY: Fiona Stedman 01424 892418

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:

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

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

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

NINFIELD MUDDY BOOTS - Early Childhood Centre

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

NINFIELD STOOLBALL: Emma Kehoe 07565 010647

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Sue Thompson 892294

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Robin Goldsmith 892778

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP:

Group Scout Leader Glen Harrison gharrisonninfieldscoutsgsl@gmail.com

Explorer Scout Leader: Josh.explorers@gmail.com

Scout Leader: Elaine Gausden ninfieldscouts@gmail.com

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

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

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

WORKING MEN'S CLUB: Brian Welford 213549 nik.sec.nwmc@outlook.com

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

DARK SKIES GROUP Kaye Crittall 892883

THE FRIENDLY VOICES Kaye Crittall 892883

PILATES & YOGA Susan Trimmer 07977 872284

LITTLE STARS DANCE Kirsty Mills 07875 235398

HOOE BELL RINGERS : Simon Pattisson 845087

HOOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman - Heather Sinden 893422

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PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

Churchwardens: Mrs Catriona Mary Owen
After 4.00pm 225421

Secretary: Mrs Ann Ringrose

Treasurer:

PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD, HOOE

Churchwardens: Mr Jack Rist ☎892576
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