

# The

# Parish

# News



What's on and What you missed

In & around

Ninfield & Hooe

Aug / Sept 25

50p



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# St MARY's & St OSWALD's

## NOTICE BOARD

## CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



### St Mary's

### St Oswald's

3rd August	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
10 <sup>th</sup> August	<i>No Service</i>	11.00 Joint Family Service
17 <sup>th</sup> August	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
24 <sup>th</sup> August	NO SERVICE	11.00 Parish Eucharist
31 <sup>st</sup> August	9.30 Parish Eucharist	<i>No Service</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
14 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30 Joint Parish Eucharist	<i>No Service</i>
21 <sup>st</sup> September	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
28 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist

### HARVEST

### 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](http://www.ninfield.org.uk)*

### PARISH NEWS

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

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

Dear Friends,

I am now singing with the Friendly Voices in Ninfield which is most enjoyable and also relaxing which I believe is the whole point of it. One song we have been rehearsing is The Rose by Bett Midler. It is a beautiful song about love but two of the verses could also be about life in general, and how we live our lives and in particular how we set our priorities.

It's the heart afraid of breaking  
That never learns to dance  
It's the dream afraid of waking  
That never takes the chance

It's the one who won't be taking  
Who cannot seem to give  
And the soul, afraid of dying  
That never learns to live

Life is for living to the full and sometimes that involves taking risks. I recall quite a few occasions as a child and teenager when I certainly took a few risks, some very silly, but I learnt from them. We actually played outside, no phones or video games. The outdoor space was our playground. Sadly, we seem to want to wrap our children in cotton wool so that the phrase "the soul afraid of dying, that never seems to live" prevents us from living life to the full with all its ups and downs. How we set our priorities in life affects the quality of life we lead. For example, what gets the higher priority between work and family, or between repairing the car and taking a much-needed holiday? Sometimes we just need to let go and enjoy the precious life that God has given to us. We also need to remember that for God we are his priority. Where do we put God in our list of priorities?

I am not someone who dwells too much on the past. I believe life is happening now and that the tomorrow we dream of is being created by the way we use today. But, in saying that, there is still value in the experiences of our past. We learn from them, as I learnt in the mistakes I made in my youth, but we also cherish them, and we build our future around their influence on us. In our priorities make sure we make the most of each opportunity that comes our way. Look back occasionally but remember to not only look forward but look at where we are now otherwise we will trip up!

So enjoy this summer but remember that each minute of every day cannot be repeated, so use that time well.

Paul

**A date for your diary: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September for the Michaelmas Fayre in and around St Mary's Church.**

## Harvest at St Mary's Ninfield

This year we are trying something different at St Mary's, instead of the usual harvest service we shall be holding a Pet Service. Harvest is a time when we remember the whole of creation and pets and animals are very much part of creation. The service will be a Family Service, but you are invited to bring your animals, large or small. The large animals such as horses etc will have to remain outside but hope we will get a number of 'smaller' animals inside who will hopefully behave!! The service is on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am. The theme will be thanksgiving for the whole of creation.

We hope this new venture will see it well supported, and we look forward to seeing you there. Paul

---

## Prayer for August 2025

Heavenly Father, August – summer holidays and sunny skies. All should be well and yet, around the world all is not well! Every day, it seems, new wars begin, catastrophes occur, world politicians play power games – and people suffer. It can feel overwhelming and we want to bury our heads in the sand, rather than build sandcastles on the beach. Help us Lord, to look up; to see things with Your perspective; to remember that Jesus warned us that in this world we will have trouble. Then help us to remember that He told us to take heart, because He has overcome the world. Father, help us to savour the summer, as we put our trust in You – our strength, our hope, our ultimate and unfailing security. In Jesus name. **Amen.**

## **IMPORTANT NEWS**

Ninfield Stores & Post Office is opening on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025 and on that day we will be running some really exciting promotions.

It will be a brand-new shop with many more options and Costa Coffee in the store. All regular service from the Post Office will stay the same.

**Bimal**

## **News from St Oswald's**

Another month comes and goes with various events happening. We had a visit from the Dean of Battle and his Churchwardens at Battle and Telham. They came along to view our toilet arrangements, as at Telham there is no main water available. We also had a visit from Battle Art Group, who spent the day in the churchyard sketching and painting. The group of about 12, enjoyed the sun and the shade.

Our big event was of course the Garden Party on 5th July. Preparations and set up started on Thursday and Friday evenings. Then Saturday arrived, a bit cooler, a bit overcast, with threatened rain showers. It was all looking positive but just as the Band arrived to set up in the churchyard, the showers began. The Band moved inside as we were able to shuffle the stalls and they played to an appreciative audience.

During the band's break we welcomed "Good Company", three local young ladies who performed songs old and new. Although the weather did impact, the stalls and sideshows continued outside and with a large attendance we raised £2250. This was excellent.

We have to say thanks to the Hooe Village Band and to the players from other bands who came along to support them. Thanks also go to the singers Good Company for their entertaining set.

Our extra special thanks have to go to all the helpers, flower arrangers who made the church look beautiful, the people manning stalls on the day, cake makers, refreshment servers, BBQ cooks. Not to forget the people lifting and moving gazebos and tables before and after the day. We couldn't of managed without you all.

As an update about the toilet extension, there are more issues to face. A fuller report in the next magazine issue.

Jack & Nicki (Churchwardens)

## **News from St Mary's**

### **Michaelmas Fayre** ***Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September***

in and around St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Ninfield  
from 12 noon

Many Stalls &  
refreshments for all

---

### **A Service of Thanksgiving** **for our Pets**

**St Mary's Church**

***Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30a.m.***

***Bring your pets.***

***There will also be an act of remembrance for  
those pets who are no longer with us so bring  
a picture of them***

Unfortunately larger animals will have to remain outside!

## ***August/September Diary***

August		Venue	Page
1 <sup>st</sup>	Cafe/Book exchange	Methodist Hall	8
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Summer Singalong	St Mary's	13
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial Hall	12
8 <sup>th</sup>	Open Group	Methodist Hall	13
14 <sup>th</sup>	Ninfield History Group	Methodist Hall	20
15 <sup>th</sup>	Ninfield Stores Opens		4
16 <sup>th</sup>	Horti Summer Show	Memorial Hall	27
19 <sup>th</sup>	Food & Crafts Market	Memorial Hall	27
21 <sup>st</sup>	Hooe History Society	St Oswald's	15
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Old Fashioned Cinema	Memorial Hall	18
28 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch Club	Methodist Hall	8
29 <sup>th</sup>	Men's Sheds	Spark Pavilion	9
29 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Lounge	Tin Hut	12
30 <sup>th</sup>	HVCG Footpath Walk	Hooe	29
September			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial Hall	12
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Film Matinee	Memorial Hall	9
12 <sup>th</sup>	Open Group	Methodist Hall	13
18 <sup>th</sup>	Hooe History Society	St Oswald's	15
25 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch Club	Methodist Hall	8
26 <sup>th</sup>	Men's Shed	Methodist Hall	9
26 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Lounge	Tin Hut	12
27 <sup>th</sup>	Michaelmas Fayre	St Mary's	6
28 <sup>th</sup>	Pet Service	St Mary's	6

## **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, So 28<sup>th</sup> August & 25<sup>th</sup> September

For details, please contact Maggie on: 07985588524 or email: [maggiethcook@gmail.com](mailto:maggiethcook@gmail.com)

## **BOOK EXCHANGE AND COMMUNITY CAFÉ**

Methodist Hall 10 – 11.30 weekly on Friday.

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

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

For details contact David on 07989729123 or [dj\\_swales@hotmail.com](mailto:dj_swales@hotmail.com)

## **HEALTH WALKS**

Every Thursday. Trained local volunteers lead a gentle walk of about an hour. Meet 11.00a.m. 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 sensible footwear. For more details contact Robin 07940 324601 or [robin@plowmate.plus.com](mailto:robin@plowmate.plus.com)

## **WOMEN'S CRAFTING AND KNITTING CIRCLE**

Memorial Hall. Weekly 10.30 am – 12.30 pm. £5 per session. A well established friendly group. Phone Jane on 892428 for details

## **DARK SKIES**

I am sure that, like me, you have been enjoying the warm evenings in your garden and hopefully enjoyed the amazing Buck Moon. What have we got coming up over the next couple of months? Meteor Showers on 12th and 13th of August. The Sturgeon Moon on 9th August and Corn Moon on 7th September. We are looking at an evening meet in September, but dates are yet to be finalised.

If you would like to join our WhatsApp group, please message me on 07707 683187 or email [k.crittell@btinternet.com](mailto:k.crittell@btinternet.com)



## **MEN'S SHED**

A now established friendly group meeting at Sparke Pavilion. 10am last Friday of the month. Men putting the world to rights over free coffee. Contact Dave 01424 892883

## **FILM MATINEES**

We have a break in the summer as you will see the next regular film is on 2nd September, however, we have an extra treat for you on the afternoon of Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Look out for more details in the August Parish News!

Our usual afternoons are in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday Doors open at 1.30. Films start at 2pm. FREE entry and refreshments. Dementia friendly and subtitles. All welcome, young and not so young.

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

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: 01424892422 or email: [jackie.langley1@btinternet.com](mailto:jackie.langley1@btinternet.com)

## **FRIENDLY VOICES**

By the time you read this, we would have supported Jim at the Alzheimer's Fundraising event on 2nd August along with Good Company, Brahma Sisters and Arla-Marie. Hopefully a successful event and our first attempt at a sea shanty was not a disaster! To the end of September, we are meeting in the Church on Tuesday evening (from 7.30pm) and Thursday afternoon (from 2pm) and you are welcome to join us. We have had a number of surprise visitors through the Summer (OK – some of them were just dogs that wandered in), but others sat down to listen and joined in with the singing. So I will repeat my mantra - we are not a choir, just a group of people that get together for the fun of singing. You do not need to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing! Call me on 07707683187 or email [k.crittell@btinternet.com](mailto:k.crittell@btinternet.com)

## COUNTRY WAYS – Butterflies

Its always nice when you learn new facts about the natural world, especially when they are wonderfully positive. This counteracts the constant negatives that we are forced to try and understand. Each day I pass a stand of thistles, they are growing on a strip of land that would not be considered garden. Thus they are prime candidates for a quick trim. This never happened and they grew and flowered. Here is the unexpected positive, they gave off a fantastic scent, it was strong and surpassed many of the garden plants we grow for colour and scent. I have seen many areas covered in thistles but never thought to sniff them. Thistles in agriculture usually are not tolerated, their wind blown seeds do exactly what they are meant to – spread. Chemicals remove thistles or if in smaller quantities a trimmer. In past times, when acreages were smaller the farmer use to walk his land, carrying a tool called a thistle stubber. This was a walking stick length tool with a substantial chisel shaped blade at one end and a ball shaped handle at the other. Its purpose is to cut the thistle root below the surface of the soil. I can vividly remember one small field, not much bigger than an acre, where the thistles were left. The farmer sometimes would put a cow and calf in it. It was never used for hay. Thistles in hay meadows is not such a good thing. Picking bales of hay up when they are full of thistles is painful and thistles take longer to dry than grass. This could make for dampness in the bales. Back to the small field. The amount of colour that field had was fantastic, I'm sure an artist somewhere managed to capture this. It was not only the vivid blue of the plant itself but the amount of life it attracted!

I remember there being thousands of small tortoiseshells, covering these thistles through out the flowering periods. Then came the thistle down and the plants would again be covered, but this time with flocks of linnets and chaffinches eating the thistle down. Sadly this is just a memory in an old chap, the field and farm became a housing estate and the butterflies and birds mentioned have become very rare. I pass the stand of thistles many times a day and haven't seen a butterfly, of any type, feeding on them!

There are still butterflies of course and my daughter took a picture of a beauty on a woodland walk. Good old dad names it before the AI driven magic thing on her phone. A white Admiral and a goodly find. There are places all over the country where some species are still in high numbers, the land being perfect for them. I seem to view a decline in numbers when they are just not showing up where they use to!

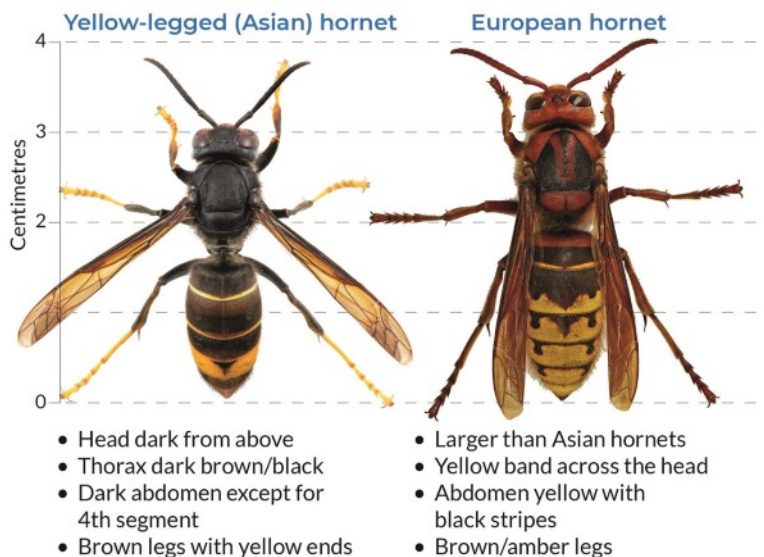
Having just read the July issue at my fathers today, I thought I would reply about the Country Ways article.

We have our own native hornet, which is large and noisy but harmless, and it is beautifully coloured. It is attracted to lights in the evening. The non native hornet, which will be on the notice by the church, is the Asian Hornet, or Yellow Legged Hornet,(YLH) which eats all pollinators. A nest of YLH will eat 11kg of insects, including honey bees. The YLH is known to hawk at beehives, to them it's like a supermarket is to us. Please let our native European Hornet go, and if you find the YLH, please keep, and report to the Non Native Species Secretariat. These are not dangerous either, but can be very defensive around their nest. If you think you see a nest, do not disturb it.

Bridget Knutson - Beekeeper.

## Report an Asian hornet sighting!

Download the **Asian Hornet Watch** app or report online



## NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP

The second week of July saw members from Ninfield and Little Common Flower Clubs enjoying an afternoon in the Bexhill garden of our husband and wife members. Yes, we have a gentleman member at Ninfield, and Stuart was delighted to show off the beautiful Gloriosa lilies he has grown in his greenhouse. Tea and delicious cakes were in abundance. A very relaxing way to spend a lovely summer afternoon.

On the evening of August 4th several of our members will be displaying their talents with our "Homegrown" evening. The theme for the arrangements is "Summer Delights" and there will be refreshments to compliment the title. 7pm start: visitors £5.

I have no inclination to wish our summer away but as this copy covers two months I have no choice!

And so to September 1st when we welcome Michelle King from Warnham Flower Club with her title "Tour de France". We will not, however, need to get on our bikes, just sit back and enjoy Michelle's lovely creations. As always we meet in the Memorial Hall from 6.30pm for refreshments for a 7pm start. Visitors £5. All arrangements are raffled at the end of the evening.

Also in September we will have tickets available for our Christmas open meeting. This year Lucy Ellis will be creating "The Colours of Christmas".

Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> is our Autumn Jumble Sale. SALEABLE items may be brought to the hall from 9.30am.

Doors open for selling at 2pm.

Helen Cunliffe Chairman

THE LADIES LOUNGE. Hopefully you know by now, we're always the last FRIDAY of the month so...25th JULY, 29th AUGUST, 26th SEPTEMBER all at the Tin Hut, 4.30- 6.30pm..(Actually...You're welcome to stay as long as you want .. the Club's evening session starts at 7pm!) AND! There might be some 'Wine Tasting ' opportunities!! We had some more new ladies join us in June, and they too had a great time meeting new people, relaxing over a drink and discovering what amazing things happen in Ninfield! 12 Call 07970650321 for information

## **.Hooe & Ninfield Open Group**

On Friday 13th July at Ninfield Methodist Hall 18 interested people, husbands included, gathered to listen to guest speaker Ken Brooks telling us about Burton St Leonards, the seaside resort for the gentry. James Burton, a London business man, instead of retiring at 67, he purchased 7,000 acres of land from Gensing Farm, (St Leonards) which included a small wooded valley leading down to the sea. Work on the plan started in early 1826. It included a house for himself (West Villa: now 57 Marina); service areas were provided, such as shops (Mercatoria) and laundering (Lavateria). The wooded valley proved too steep for house building so he made it into a private garden for access only by the residents purchasing a key. St Leonard's was what James Burton called his plan as it was becoming widespread that to escape the smells and disease in crowded cities such as London, a spell in the sunshine and sea air was cheap medicine! He also included a North Gate for the turnpike from London to access his town, with another East Gate separating it from Hastings (although both areas spread along the coast to eventually meet. Ken told us about the Queen Victoria Hotel which started life as St Leonards Hotel but the name was changed when Queen Victoria came to the throne as she had stayed there with her mother the Duchess of Kent. His 10th son, Decimus carried on with the development of St Leonards but it was gradually absorbed into Hastings.

Our next meeting is on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August at Ninfield Methodist Hall at 2.00p.m. Remember it is an open group and all are welcome. Hope to see you there. Nicki & Heather

### **SUMMER AFTERNOON SING-A-LONG**

**With**

**Ninfield Friendly Voices and Guests**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 3.00 - 5.00pm**

**St. Mary's Church, Ninfield**

**Raising funds for Alzheimer's Society**

**£5.00 donation recommended - to include tea and cake**

**Enquires to Jim 07905 699569**



Hire local portable toilets for all occasions

Please contact us for further details

**info@meridiantoilethire.com**

We conform to all Health & Safety standards

## C & C Carpets

CARPETS - VINYL - TILES Etc

SUPPLIED AND FITTED

*No Job too small*

CLIVE SCOTT 01424 893209

07939 528057



LEGAL KNOWLEDGE SOLICITORS  
YOUR CONCERNS — OUR COMMITMENT

### PROBLEM?

NEIGHBOURS? TENANT? LANDLORD?

BANK? CONTRACT? BEING PAID?

WHATEVER YOUR ISSUE, WE CAN HELP.

CALL **FIONA DUFF** IN CONFIDENCE:

**01424 893210**

fiona.duff@lkllegal.com

WWW.LEGALKNOWLEDGE.NET



*Sussex Garden Solutions*

Landscaping

Maintenance

Mowing

Restoration

Design

Planting

Fencing



07771 944 249 01424 893 505

www.sussexgardensolutions.co.uk

enquiries@sussexgardensolutions.co.uk

**Mrs. M. Keeley**

MCFHP MAFHP

*Foot Health Home Visiting Service,  
Nail Cutting, Corns, Calluses*

Tel: 01424 892120

Mobile: 07900 916942

**Barry & Co**

SOLICITORS  
WILL WRITING SERVICE

*Usual fee per Will*

£225 + VAT

Free Wills brochure available on request

**Lasting Powers of Attorney**

£470 + VAT

Tel: 01323 766370/768382

Bay Terrace Pevensey Bay East Sussex



wildly crafted

IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

Cabins & Treehouses

We work in harmony with nature to create bespoke wildly crafted eco friendly cabins & treehouses made from sustainable materials.

Perfect for self contained accommodation, home office, therapy rooms etc.

**TEL: 07725 752927**

JOHN@WILDLYCRAFTED.CO.UK

WWW.WILDLYCRAFTED.CO.UK

### Farmer's Choice Beef Box £135

A 10kg selection of Aberdeen Angus

28 day dry aged, grass fed beef.

Box with 1/3 steaks (frying & slow cook cuts) 1/3 classic roasting joints 1/3 mince.

Free local delivery within 15 miles of Hockham Farm in Boreham Street.

Availability all year round,.

**Contact Nigel 07590532829 or**

**nigel@indiefarmer.com**

## HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY (2025-08-9)

There are two talks to tell you about in this issue. The first is by Peter Doodes on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> August entitled "Hooe, certainly not the everyday story of a country village". Hooe was once described as the,

'Rip van Winkle' village, when Hooe was actually a thrive of industry and innovation. From being a close spectator of the 1066 invasion, Hooe was an arm of the Cinque Ports, a place where there were salt pans, a place hit by a Tsunami, the location of a WW1 airfield, the haunt of smugglers, and an area dominated in WW2 by Radar masts. A place where a German Bomber crash landed (the imprisoned pilot later marrying a local girl) where a German Fighter pilot was killed when his parachute failed to

open after his aircraft was shot down by Peter Townsend, where there was a leather tannery and where a sports car was manufactured and where market gardens were the major employer. In addition, Hooe

was reputed to have been visited by Royalty. Certainly not an 'everyday country village'!

The second is another of our members, Matthew Chapman on Thursday, 18 th September entitled "The Snail and the Ginger Beer: the singular case of Donoghue v Stevenson". Matthew is a Barrister in full-time practice in London Chambers. He now specialises in civil work (predominantly, cross-border and jurisdictional matters). He was called to the Bar at Gray;s Inn in 1994 and took silk in 2017. He has a

longstanding interest in legal history (dating back to his undergraduate degree and, as a postgraduate, he was a student of Professor (Emeritus) Albert Kiralfy). The Snail and the Ginger Beer was first published in 2010 and tells the intriguing story of the most famous case to date in the field of civil wrongs (torts). The book and, indeed, the accompanying talk is intended to be of interest to a lay/general, as well as a legal, audience with an interest in history.

DID YOU KNOW...following on from last month when we read the recollections of Brian Pont during the war, here is the last snippet that gives us a little taste of what life was like during the last war. Brian recalls one particular episode that he witnessed as a pupil at Hooe school. It must have been about 1942 as he was to leave to go to Bexhill Grammar school the following year. There was a column of Churchill tanks running along the Top Road in the direction of Eastbourne, which seemed to him to go on all day. The tanks did not travel nose-to-tail and neither did they all avoid presenting an easy target for an airborne attack, returning to the road then three stay

on the road. Occasionally, when ordered to, they rode through hedges into the fields in order to try to at had passed. This tank convoy was preceded by a troop of soldiers, also marching past, in small groups of about 20–30 men, with gaps in between. This too was to avoid presenting an easy large target for enemy aircraft. These men were

probably Scots, as they were all wearing kilts. It is only speculation, but Brian thinks it is possible that some of these may have been part of the force that took part in the ill-fated Dieppe Raid that took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 1942. Although extremely valuable lessons were learned in the Raid on Dieppe, a steep price was paid. Over 6,050 infantry, predominantly Canadian, supported by 27 Churchill tanks, British troops, Commandos and American Rangers were put ashore from a naval force under the protection of RAF fighters. Of the 4,963 Canadians who embarked for the operation, only 2,210 returned to England, and many of these were wounded. There were 3,367 casualties in all, including 1,946 prisoners of war; 916 Canadians lost their lives. It was intended to test the German defences and gain information as to the feasibility of an invasion from the sea, but it was completed at heavy cost in terms of lives lost. It did, however, help in a big way the planning the D Day invasion that was to follow

Peter Hayward

## **6<sup>th</sup> August Anniversary**

81 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> June, the Allies mounted the largest seaborne invasion the world had seen. 4 years almost to the month that we had been kicked out of Europe at Dunkirk, we were back. The euphoria that swept the Country was dampened within a week when a strange sight and noise appeared in the skies over Southern England. Strange “robot planes” that seemed to be on fire and a noise like a motorcycle were starting to fly overhead, heading towards London. These were tiny aircraft, smaller than the Me109, but faster, at 400mph and at heights between 3 and 4,000 feet. This made it hard to spot except from behind when the flames from the pulse jet could be seen. But at 400 mph, that’s more that 6 miles a minute, or a mile every 10 seconds. London is less than 60 miles from the South Coast, so that’s a flight time of just 10 minutes! Not a lot of time to intercept and down the V-1. To counter it, aircraft such as the Tempest MkV with the most powerful aero engine, the Napier Sabre of some 2,400hp were stationed near the coast over the border in Kent on the marshes was chosen, although everyone lived in tents.



On 6<sup>th</sup> August 1944, 2 Tempests took off from Newchurch at 12.20 on patrol between Hastings and Beachy Head. F/Sgt Don Mackerras, RAAF in JN759 coded [JF@F](#) (a Series 1 having the rear section of a Typhoon fuselage, so the wing spar bolts protruded slightly and with the long barrelled Hispano 20mm cannon) spotted a V-1 over Bexhill and gave chase, according to the other Tempest pilot, P/O Dryland. He then spotted a V-1 further west so didn't see anything further.

What appears to have happened is that Don realised that firing on the V-1 could bring it down over either Hooe or Ninfield, or that missed bullets would then hit the villages and decided to wing tip the V-1 away from the villages beneath it. In doing so, he lost control and crash landed near Luxford House. Unfortunately, he died in his aircraft as it burst into flames and cannon shells set off by the heat fired across the road. At the time of his death, he was the highest scoring Australian pilot against the V-1 in just 11 weeks of the V-1 campaign.

How do I know all this? Partly my own research and also from contact with the Mackerras family. They brought Don's logbook with them when I met them in Ninfield recently. Like many families they knew little about the circumstances of Don's death, how and where etc, so we were able to swap information.

Now I can't claim that Don "saved the village" as I can't locate a V-1 crash for 6<sup>th</sup> August in the village. One came down just short of Church Wood, but that was on 1<sup>st</sup> August just after the burial of Hugh Tait, who had been electrocuted when he and other boys tried to stop a runaway barrage balloon that had drifted over the Rec. There was another, in Hurst Wood which so damaged the Memorial Hall roof that the centre roof lights were replaced, even though the War Reparation payments didn't come through until the mid 1950's. But I don't know when that came down, but fits plausibly with it being tipped away from the village in one direction, whilst Don's plane crashed in the other direction, one east the other west of the village.

Kevin Regan

## **QUIZ NIGHT**

### **NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL**

**SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER      7.00 FOR 7.30 START**

**£8.50 TO INCLUDE LIGHT SUPPER**

**TO BOOK: EMAIL [ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.co.uk](mailto:ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.co.uk)**

**or leave a message for Carol 893326**

# OLD FASHIONED



# CINEMA

FREE ENTRY

SUITABLE FOR ALL THE  
FAMILY YOUNG AND OLD

SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

DOORS OPEN 1.30 FOR 2PM START

**NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY** are very pleased to announce that we will be putting on an old fashioned cinema show in the Memorial hall on Saturday afternoon 23rd of August. A nostalgic trip back in time to the 1950's and 1960's suitable for all the family. We hope to recreate the experience of what going to the pictures was like then, complete with a guest projectionist with reel to reel projectors. Doors open at 1:30 and for 2.00 start with supporting short films before the interval when various refreshments will be available to buy including ice creams from the lady with the tray, just like it used to be, only a Different Lady ! Following the interval the feature film, Walt Disney's 1960 version of "Kidnapped" by R L. Stevenson, will be shown. Entry is FREE. Voluntary donations may be given towards society funds. Children (under 13) accompanied by an adult, are especially welcomed

# **Hello from the Ninfield Bonfire Society!**

We're always on the lookout for new faces to help keep our fiery traditions alive. Whether you've just moved to the village or have been part of the fun for years, we'd love for you to get involved! We meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Ninfield Working Men's Club (Tin Hut), TN33 9EE. It's a relaxed and friendly group – feel free to pop in, say hello, and find out what we're all about.

**Where to Find Us in August:** We've got an exciting opportunity to raise funds – and we need your help! Join us at Hooe's Classic Car Show, hosted by Hooe's Old Motor Club, on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at Hooe Recreation Ground. We've been invited to marshal the cars as they enter the event – and in return, we'll receive a generous donation from Hooe Motor Club. Love classic vehicles and motorcycles from before the 1980s? This is your chance to get up close while helping a great cause. If you can spare a couple of hours, please message or email us – thank you!

**Torch Making** Keep an eye out for dates and details of our torch-making sessions. Come along and learn how we craft our traditional flaming torches – then see your handiwork lit during our Bonfire Night procession!

**Where to Find Us in September:** Ninfield Village Market, Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> September – Ninfield Memorial Hall. Visit our stall for:

Tombola; NBS merchandise (including our much-loved T-shirts!); Friendly chats about what we do; Opportunities to join the Society and support this fantastic local tradition

Michaelmas Fundraiser at St Mary's Church Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 12:00noon– 4:30pm St Mary the Virgin Church, Church Lane, Ninfield, Join us for a charming English country fair, co-hosted with Ninfield Carnival. This fundraiser supports St Mary's Church, Ninfield Bonfire Society and Ninfield Carnival.

Expect: Lovely stalls; Homemade cakes; refreshing Pimm's; BBQ, games; music; Birds of prey from 1066 Falconry; Bunnies and ferrets to meet; Scrumptious afternoon teas in the garden. Donations of cupcakes and cakes are very welcome! This is a fun-filled event for all ages, celebrating community spirit and tradition. We hope to see you there!

The Big Event on the Bonfire Calendar - We're already planning our big Bonfire Nigt celebration on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2025 – and we need

Your support to make it happen! Here's how you can get involved: Become a Member. Open to all! March in torchlit processions (ours and others across Sussex), help with fundraising, make torches, collect donations, and be part of an amazing community. Volunteer Your Time. Lend a hand at events or behind the scenes – every bit helps. Sponsor the Event. Local businesses – support this beloved village tradition and help us keep it free for the community.

Contact; Sarah at: [ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com) or 07809 684488

Don't miss a thing – find us online: [www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk](http://www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk)

## **Remember, Remember the 5th of November**

### **NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

Are you curious about the past? Me too. Remember there's a thriving local history group on your doorstep! Ninfield Local History Group meets each month at the Methodist Hall in Church Lane, on the second Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. –9:00 p.m. We also open our archives each quarter at the Sparke Pavilion so that you can view photographs and documents relating to the village and the surrounding area, talk to a local expert and share your stories. Our July meeting this year featured an enthralling presentation by Brigadier High Willing who described the ill-fated operation Market Garden or the battle of Arnhem in September 1944. It was a bold plan by the Allies, building on the rapid advance of allied troops following D-day, to try to end the war by Christmas 1944. The largest airborne landing in military history, ultimately it was a battle in which everything that could go wrong, did go wrong, and the Rhine would not be crossed until March 1945.

For our next meeting on Thursday 14 August 2025, we will turn our attention to matters more local and the evening will feature a talk by Rob Slater on the history of Westham. This meeting will be followed by our annual outing in September comprising a guided tour of historic Westham. Our archivist, John Cheshire, is running a free researching family history course on Tuesday mornings starting 7 October 2025 in the Pavilion. Not to be missed! If you are interested, please do get in touch as places are limited. You can find out more about the group, view photographs, read stories and see our full schedule on our website:

[www.ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk) or get in touch:

[info@ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk](mailto:info@ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk).

Brian Stockton, Chair, Ninfield Local History group

## JOHN BIGNELL Garage Doors

Automation / Repairs / New Doors

**01424 210522**  
**07970 230961**

johnbignell@btconnect.com

## THE BLACKSMITHS INN

A family run gastro pub serving  
locally sourced, home cooked food  
with weekly fish & game specials.

**Tapas Thursday from 5:30pm £15.50**

**Sunday Roasts 12-4pm £16.95**

**Senior meals - £14.00**

**Takeaways £14.00**

**To book 893875**

**P&S**  
Plumbing & Heating

**Boiler Installation & Servicing**  
including landlord gas safety certificates


**General Plumbing & Heating Services**

**Underfloor Heating**

**Kitchen & Bathroom Installations**

 Gas Safety Certificate

 Gas Boiler Servicing

 Oil Boiler Servicing

*Honest, Professional & Affordable*  
**01424 892933**

info@pandsplumbing.co.uk | www.pandsplumbing.co.uk

## Bargain Carpets & Floors

Carpets and Vinyl Flooring supplied and fitted  
Same choice as any shop but at up to half  
price



We can move your furniture  
and take away your old flooring

For free home sample viewing and estimates  
Please call Stuart or Lisa 01424 855882 /  
07734 659834

**Checkatrade**

www.bargainfloors.co.uk

## DANCE CLASSES 'MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC'

For the Older & Still Active Person  
Every Mondays 10.00 am

## LADIES DANCERCISE

Every Wednesday evening 6.30 pm

## 'BALLROOM/BURLESQUE!'

Fortnightly alternate Fridays 7.00 pm

All classes at the MEMORIAL HALL

Fully Qualified Professional Teacher

Call : SAMANTHA GUARD A.I.S.T.D.Hons.  
01424 893699 or 07970 650321

**Clifford**



**Upholstery**

Professional upholsterer with over 25 year  
experience in modern and traditional upholstery  
methods.

Re-upholstery & recovering, Cushion making  
Bespoke furniture, Repairs & Modifications

Headboards & plywood curtain pelmets

Upholstery tuition 07943 008 739

paul@cliffordupholstery.co.uk

for a quote or to discuss your requirements.

## SUSSEX SECRETARIES



**DO YOU NEED HELP  
FOR YOUR BUSINESS  
OR IN YOUR HOME?**

**Call us to discuss  
how we can help**

**01424 892463 07940 886123**

# ASTBURY

**Windows, Doors  
& Conservatories**

Tel: 01424 893820

Mobile: 07740 877422

Email: [info@astburywindows.com](mailto:info@astburywindows.com)

[www.astburywindows.com](http://www.astburywindows.com)

Closing date for items for the

## **OCTOBER**

Issue of the Parish News

Is **SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER** please send to

ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com

### **Worms Eye View**

I am hoping that by the time you read these notes, the weather will have improved, and we will have had some real summer. It is very windy again today, not cold, thank goodness, but so rough I find it is difficult to stand upright. Perhaps you are alright, and I realise that I am a bit exposed here, high up from the marsh with a few trees around the house. However, whatever the weather, I still love it here and certainly do not want to move.

Thank goodness the hay has been made well and stored away safely. It is always a relief to see the hay baked and know that we have for the winter when it arrives. At the moment, the animals are out in the fields and marshes and thoroughly enjoying themselves. Of course, they can be time-wasters. after checking them every day, it is nice to just stand and watch them, and I'm sure they enjoy showing off.

I am finding that we are getting much more traffic on our little roads these days. When I think back to when we moved to Hooe, forty-five years ago, I was quite happy and safe, to cycle up to Hooe village shop and post office once a week. Also, it was great to have the mobile library make a stop in the village, and it was well used. Of course, it was also good to catch up with each other and exchange any news.

It is nice that we now have a good show of library books at our monthly coffee mornings, it is well used, plus the jigsaw puzzles, which are well used during the winter months. Do come and have a browse if you haven't been before. I will be pleased to see you.

*Anne*



## NINFIELD CARNIVAL - Queen Esme & 2 of the Floats



# SJFeist

& Co Limited

HEATING & PLUMBING ENGINEERS

Aga/Rayburn Approved  
Oil & Gas Boilers Serviced  
£100 off New Boiler Installation or  
£15 off a service with this advert  
**CALL: 01424 754247**  
Email: [info@sjfeistandco.co.uk](mailto:info@sjfeistandco.co.uk)



Building the future and restoring the past since 1929  
NEW BUILDS - ALTERATIONS & CONVERSIONS  
RESTORATIONS - EXTENSIONS - GROUND WORKS  
BATHROOMS & KITCHENS - GARAGES - ROOFING SERVICES  
- SURVEYING - LISTED PROPERTIES - COMMERCIAL  
**01424 892933**  
[Info@parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk](mailto:Info@parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk)  
[www.parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk](http://www.parkerandsonconstruction.co.uk)

## BRIAN WICKENS

PAINTERS & DECORATORS

Qualified Tradesman Free  
Estimates No VAT Home:  
**01424 224328 Mobile:**  
**07803 095061**



**01424 892257**  
[info@haffendenroofing.co.uk](mailto:info@haffendenroofing.co.uk)  
[www.haffendenroofing.co.uk](http://www.haffendenroofing.co.uk)



DGS  
Ground  
Maintenance

Our Services  
including, but not  
limited to:

- ✓ Mowing and Strimming
- ✓ Hedge Cutting
- ✓ Weed Control
- ✓ Garden Clearance
- ✓ Light Demolition
- ✓ Fencing

## Gardening Services



CONTACT US



Phone Number:  
**07772211700**



Email:  
[dgsgroundmaintenance@gmail.com](mailto:dgsgroundmaintenance@gmail.com)



Website:  
[dgsgroundmaintenance.odoo.com](http://dgsgroundmaintenance.odoo.com)



## Contemporary & Traditional PEBBLESTONE KITCHENS

*Fully fitted or supply only*  
*Quality kitchens - affordable prices Est.*  
1987

Gavin Holden

**01424 844522**

25 Cooden Sea Road, Little Common



## NINFIELD



Lower Street

Fully Licensed

Convenience Store

News & Magazines

Daily Deliveries Fresh Fruit / Veg & Bread  
DVLA, Banking & Currency

**892281 ninfieldstore@gmail.com**

Your Local AVON Representative  
Ask me for a brochure OR  
See me at the Village Market OR  
Shop online:  
[www.Shopwithmyrep/avon/ANGELADAWESSHOP](http://www.Shopwithmyrep/avon/ANGELADAWESSHOP)  
Join my team:  
<https://arp.avon.com/prp/UK/en/ANGELADAWES>



## More news, views and reviews...

**CARNIVAL WEEKEND**..Never before have we had to add the words 'Extreme Heat' to our risk assessments! Friday saw a beautiful early evening start for Ninfield's Got Talent, with an full audience and right in front of the stage, respected Judges from the Entertainment industry Lindsay Kutner, Revolution Talent Agency (London) and West End/Film Actors Karl Moffat & Ashley Knight. I had the pleasure to host and compere the Show. Singers/Dancers/acrobats /Comedy and a wonderful Dog Act, Tina and Kip who melted everyone's hearts. The winner of the £100 first prize was Freddie Morris, aged 9, who wrote his own material, and did a 4 minute Stand-up Comedy routine,.so funny and so professional! Second place was fabulous Musical theatre singer Tiffany Bayliss £50 prize; Local young singer Arla-Marie who treated everyone to a strong rendition of 'Memory' from Cats, £25 prize. After the show, Phil Golding ramped up the Disco and his family treated us to a lovely LED light show on the Rec as the sun went down: how fab to fly with twinkling wings! It was the perfect way to see in the Summer Solstice.

Saturday dawned bright, hot and with a gentle breeze, the Rec started to fill up with Crafts stalls, Games, Tea Tent and Fairground rides; the excitement built as the re-invited Floats Procession formed up in Lower Street. 90 year old Esme Goldsmith, our wonderful Ninfield Carnival Queen looked beautiful in her long gown, her 9 Princes and Princesses were beautifully dressed with flowers to hold; their Float was covered in greenery, flowers, streamers & balloons, heading the Procession behind Jonathan Cheese's Show Wagon. Other Floats included The Village Society-Robin Goldsmith, Muddy Boots, Ninfield Bonfire Society, Headstart School, Ninfield & Crowhurst Scouts, The Spitfire, Keeleys Mad Hatter's Tea Party, Hastings Old Town.

The Dog Show had caused some concern, criticism etc. so the Carnival Committee followed all veterinary advice, had extra gazebos with big baths of water, cold wet towels, cooling mats and waited to see if the dogs arrive. After seeing very few dogs on site, it was agreed to not have the competition. All dogs there were introduced to the crowd and given a 90th Anniversary Rosette.

The Energy Assault Course/ & Tug of War were cancelled, but the half hour performance from the Dymond Dance School in Bexhill. all different age groups, gave full out performances and were brilliant.

The BBQ was constant and very hot work for Kelvin, Lidja and Adam, the Bar rota and Tea Tent Helpers were also on the go all afternoon

Saturday evening and we were all in the DOGHOUSE! -The Band for the evening! A great 80s Rock covers band who had stepped in last minute as the advertised group, Danger-Zone had cancelled due to illness. Food wagons over the weekend were thoroughly enjoyed- Pizza Leonati on Friday and MoMo Nepalese Street food on Saturday, plus Milkshakes & Ice Creams and Anne's Welford's yummy Cakes.

On Sunday morning the breakdown commenced, but the full English Breakfast cooked for 20 volunteers helped keep the energy up!

**Ninfield Carnival & Sports Association** would like to give huge thanks to our amazing headline Sponsors, James Parker-Parker & Sons Building, Surveying & Construction, Lee Astbury Windows, Pebblestone Kitchens, Sean Kirk Fencing, Steve Rose Fencing, Westcott, plus Other Anonymous donors. Grateful Thanks also to Ben White & Jason Taylor Meridian Marquees, David Isaacs, French's Skips, Carnival Court Flowers, Colemans's, and ALL Raffle Prize contributors,& donators.

Professional and personal thanks to John Black and Phil Golding who provided amazing technical support, and high spec Sound and Lights for all aspects of the events. Also to Donna Powell who made the Procession her baby, to recreate and reinvent, and to bring back to Ninfield; its a lot of work, and time consuming, but she did it! SO well done!! The BBQ was constant and very hot work for Kelvin, Lidja and Adam, the Bar rota and Tea Tent Helpers were also on the go all afternoon. Everyone who volunteers, and helps to make the two day event so successful and smooth running- too many to name here but ALL invaluable and so much appreciated, THANK YOU!

My personal thanks go to the Carnival Committee, a small but mighty force who just continue to make things happen! And my even more personal thanks go to Robin Fookes, who has been a stalwart, hard working, committed and very enthusiastic Carnival member for nearly 30 years! With me for my 20 years and as my Vice Chairman, his contribution to Ninfield Village events and his support to me is invaluable, and his humour is... unparalleled!!

### **Ninfield's Bake-Off Competition**

Savoury Winner	Troy
Sweet Winner	Kaye Crittall

If you'd like to join the Carnival Committee please get in touch, come to a meeting or email [samanthaguard@btinternet.com](mailto:samanthaguard@btinternet.com), [ninfieldcarnival@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldcarnival@gmail.com) or call 07970650321.

### **THE NEXT VILLAGE EVENT - THE MICHAELMAS FAYRE**

Saturday September 27th, from Midday - 4.30pm, set in and outside St Mary's Church in Church Lane. Crafts, Stalls, Falconry, Bunnies, Tea Garden, Pimms, Music, Games. See posters for all details and social media updates.

## **NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

We had a lovely (although very hot) Summer visit on 30<sup>th</sup> June to Brightling Down Farm. A beautiful location and garden. The woodland walk was very welcome and more than a few of us were tempted to paddle across the stream rather than use the stepping stones!

The big event is our Summer Show on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August. I saw a few of our members wandering around the Carnival taking photo's and am expecting record breaking entries for class 93 (Ninfield Carnival – 90 years).

Despite the hot weather, it's been a good year for the garden, although moles in both my garden and allotment have played havoc – especially when they dig up my, potentially, prize onions. As well as encouraging adults to enter – we have such a wide variety of classes – we would like to encourage younger entries to have a go at the Junior Parish Product Box class: 2 each of any edible plant grown in your garden. This can be anything at all – fruit, vegetables, herbs. They just need to be edible. Wouldn't it be lovely to have a display from our young gardeners.

All entries need to be with me by end of day Wednesday 13th August  
k.crittell@btinternet.com

### **NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL**

**SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**FOODS & CRAFTS MARKET**

**9.30 - 12.30**

**Come along and buy your meat, fruit and veg,  
bread, cakes, honey, jams and chutneys**

**If you are looking for that little present for someone,  
take a look at some of the lovely crafts, many locally made. Pop  
in for tea or coffee and a bite to eat**

**No August Market**

## C.S. RENEWABLES

part of CS Testing Electrical Contractors



### solar panels • EV chargers

trusted family-run local installers

FREE  
BESPOKE  
QUOTE

**07495432386**

[www.csrenewables.co.uk](http://www.csrenewables.co.uk)

[solar@csrenewables.co.uk](mailto:solar@csrenewables.co.uk)

## H. LONGLEY PLUMBING & HEATING



- General Plumbing
- Natural Gas, LPG & Oil
- Boiler Servicing
- Breakdowns
- Central Heating Installations & Repairs
- Unvented Cylinders
- Landlord Certificates

Contact us on 07747 85043 or via email  
[hlongleyplumbingandheating@gmail.com](mailto:hlongleyplumbingandheating@gmail.com)



Simon Anderson      The Cuckoos Nest Hooe  
Professional Affordable Service  
[helpinghandhandyman76@gmail.com](mailto:helpinghandhandyman76@gmail.com)

## ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING SERVICES

### PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL DRAWINGS

- Extensions
- Alterations
- New Builds
- Loft Conversions
- Renovations
- Change of Use
- Technical Construction Drawings
- Party Wall Surveying

### TOWN PLANNING

- Pre-Application Advice
- Permitted Development Advice
- Submission of Planning Applications
- Supporting Statements

### INTERIOR DESIGN

- Space Audits
- Lighting Design
- Full Space Design
- Colour Design



Chartered Building Consultancy



Contact us for a quote or free consultation:  
M: 07969 729569 T: 01903 237704

[enquiries@rubiconcbc.com](mailto:enquiries@rubiconcbc.com) | [www.rubiconcbc.com](http://www.rubiconcbc.com)



## HOPE COTTAGE FARM SHOP & TEAROOM

Hooe Road Ninfield, TN33 9EL, 01424 892342

Breakfasts served all day  
Lunches, specials, High Teas,  
cakes,

desserts

Roasts on a Sunday

**Hampers, Gift Ideas & Vouchers**

**Daily 10.00am - 4.00pm**

## Woodside Acupuncture & Massage Clinic Now open in Ninfield

University trained acupuncturist  
Angela Wallis has over 14 years  
experience treating problems including  
Back, neck, knee, shoulder pain,  
Poor sleep and low energy levels  
Stress, anxiety and depression

01323 819157

[www.woodsideacupuncture.co.uk](http://www.woodsideacupuncture.co.uk)

## Quinn's Carpentry

Bespoke carpentry to suit your needs

Tom Quinn  
Carpenter and Joiner  
20 years experience



07515 907210 [tomquinn1984@gmail.com](mailto:tomquinn1984@gmail.com)



20+ years experience in Plastering  
Tacking Coving Screeding Rendering  
For a professional and friendly service  
in all aspects of plastering

Call 07776095159

[Bourneplastering@gmx.co.uk](mailto:Bourneplastering@gmx.co.uk)

# Hooe Village Community Group

**Contact us:**      **Website:**  
**hooevillagecommunitygroup.co.uk**  
**Facebook:** Hooe Village Community Group  
**Email:**      hooevcg@gmail.com

Chairman: Pam Doodes  
Treasurer: Jenny 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



## Our forthcoming events:

August 30<sup>th</sup> : Footpath walk, and village Treasure Hunt followed by Coffee and Cake at Elizabethan Cottage. We are still finalising the plans so keep an eye on our website or phone Gary 893007 or Peter 892329 nearer the date for further details. We will also circulate detail in a Friends round robin email.

October 11<sup>th</sup> : Coffee Morning. Owen from The Powdermill Trust for Nature Conservation, who look after The Bogs, our very own Nature Reserve, will be providing a display and be on hand to answer our questions about their work.

November 8<sup>th</sup> : Coffee Morning – Made in Hooe items for sale

December 13<sup>th</sup> : Coffee Morning – Christmas Theme

## Future programme

HVCG Might seem quiet during the summer months, but we are like ducks – serene on the surface but working frantically out of sight! There are several ideas in the pipeline, some of ours and others resulting from suggestions we have received.

**5<sup>th</sup> July St Oswald's Annual Garden Party:** The weather wasn't the best, but it didn't stop everyone having a great time! HVCG was pleased to be able to assist in set up etc. and beavered away happily wherever we were needed during the event. Huge thanks are due to Jack, Margaret and their Team for staging such a welcoming, enjoyable and financially successful community event.

**The Red Lion** - Is it really 11 years since Leigh and family arrived at The Red Lion? A village pub is a special community meeting place in a small village, but only if the atmosphere created by the publican is warm and welcoming. We are truly grateful to Leigh and family for creating a very special place for us all to meet over a period which has passed far too quickly. We thank them for all they have done for the village and wish them good health and happiness, as they move on.

**Now one for the Ladies** .....We have been asked to put out a request for your Bras! ...Gwen, who is a member of a local lady's group, collects bras for the breast cancer charity Bras Against Cancer and has asked if HVCG could raise awareness and perhaps accept any donated garments. Obviously, we are very happy to show support! Your unwanted bras are accepted and welcome in any condition – new or very used, any colour, any style. The only stipulation is that they are clean! Every item received is mended/recycled/repurposed by a group of volunteers and all proceeds go to Bras Against Cancer. How about it? Do you have any old garments lurking in your undies draw? If so, and you are willing to donate, please bring them to any coffee morning or drop them into The Doodles at Catslide. Gwen will be delighted!

**Hooe Stoolball** are playing at home There is still time to catch a match or two before the end of the season

29<sup>th</sup> July Ninfield mixed at 7.00pm at Hooe

5<sup>th</sup> August Catsfield mixed at 7.00pm at Hooe

14<sup>th</sup> August Pett Mixed at 7.00pm at Hooe

See you at The Rec where we can enjoy great games of Stoolball and admire the brilliant HVCG shirts! If you are interested in joining the club, there will be folk at the Rec who will be very happy to talk to you

**Parish News** As Carol and Nicki take a well-earned rest next month from producing our monthly Parish News we reflect on the enormity of their task! Badgering folk who habitually submit late copy, setting everything and arrange printing and distribution. Carol and Nicki - Please don't think we take you for granted – we are full of admiration and hugely grateful.

**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. Just email or chat to one of us.

**HVCG enjoying working together for the good of everyone**

Wow, wow, wow, we have brought Ninfield Carnival Procession back after six years! I had no idea how big this procession was and how much it meant to our village until I watched the video put together by Brian Stockton from our village History Group (if you haven't seen it do visit the website [ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk](http://ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk)). I suddenly felt a huge weight of responsibility but also pride on what I was hoping to bring back a couple of days before the procession.

The morning of Saturday 21st June 2025 arrived and it was all stations go! The Carnival Court float needed to be finished and the marshalls needed a safety briefing amongst many other things. As I drove past Lower Street at 11am when the road closure went on I could see no floats and felt a sudden small panic of 'what if no one comes' but the amazing floats did come and everyone had an amazing time and hopefully we raised some money along the procession route for our chosen village charity – Association of Carers.

There are so many people to thank that I sadly can't personally name everyone but there was all those on our beautiful Carnival Court and our kind sponsor who bought all the children's outfits; our selfless marshalls who gave up their time and unfortunately did encounter some resistance; those that made donations and lent trailers; our judges and lastly thank you to all those that built and bought floats to the procession, who towed trailers, those on foot – you made this procession and I cannot say thank you enough (if I have forgotten anyone I am very sorry).

So, the winners of the various groups were as follows:

### **ADULT FLOAT**

- 1st Ninfield Bonfire Society
- 2nd Tea Party
- 3rd Ninfield Village Society

### **CHILD FLOAT**

- 1st Ninfield Carnival Court
- 2nd Ninfield & Crowhurst Scout Group
- 3rd Headstart School

### **WALKING FLOATS**

- 1st Muddy Boots
- 2nd Spitfire Girls
- 3rd Hastings Old Town Carnival Court

Brian Stockton has kindly made a video from the day including the procession which will be available to watch on the History Group website, likely available by the time you are reading this article (see above).

In concluding, I really hope it has given people an idea of what the procession is all about and maybe next year we can make it a bit longer and a bit louder with a bit more music (fingers crossed), maybe we can get a dance group or two and some Twirlers. It would be great to get on board some creative talent from within the village who may not want to be part of the procession but would be happy building and decorating items/sets/props for floats. Maybe we can get a bit of gentle competition between the streets, i.e. Manchester Road, Hunters Moon Place etc a bit like the old days I am told where Potmans Lane went all out to win! The Carnival Procession is back and I hope it is back for a good many years to come. I already have a couple of ideas for next year's theme as well!!!

Happy Carnival wishes, **Donna Powell**

## Bonfire Society Float





## **NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH**

**Minister: Reverend Philip Wagstaff**

**Tel: 01424 550427**

**email: [office@hbrmethodists.org.uk](mailto:office@hbrmethodists.org.uk)**

**website: [hbrmethodists.org.uk](http://hbrmethodists.org.uk)**

### Sunday Services for August 2025:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 10.30 am Café Worship for all the family ....with our local team  
10<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Family Worship & Communion with Revd. Cynthia Park  
17<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Worship & Praise Family Service with David Hanson  
24<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am Worship & Praise Family Service with Revd. Tricia Williams  
31<sup>st</sup> 10.30 am Worship & Praise Family Service with Steve Wise

.....

### Sunday Services for September 2025

7<sup>th</sup> Sep 10.30 am Café Worship with local Team

14<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> Sep - all services at 10.30 am - Details to be announced

### Events for August 2025:

- 1<sup>st</sup> 10.00 -11.30am Book exchange & Cafe in Hall.  
Fridays 10.00-11.30am Community Café

### Events for September 2025:

- 5<sup>th</sup> 10.00-11.30am Book exchange & Café in Hall  
Fridays 10.00-11.30am Community Café  
10<sup>th</sup> 2.30 – 4.00pm Christian Womens Fellowship  
24<sup>th</sup> 3.15 - 5.15pm Messy Church

We hope that you all enjoy our summer season & we invite you to join us for any of our services and activities as shown.

With effect from September 1<sup>st</sup> the Reverend Ian Couchman will be appointed as our new Minister as he moves, with his wife Pam, to our Circuit area. He is replacing Reverend Philip Wagstaff, who is retiring.

Ian will also be our circuit's Superintendent minister. Some of us have already met him but he will be getting to know us all at Ninfield during September and October. We wish him a happy move and a blessed ministry.

In July we were able to thank Philip for all his support and wish him and Catherine a very Happy retirement as they move to Devon. They will be greatly missed.

Very best wishes from us all at Ninfield Methodist Church.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Ruth chapters 3 and 4

Naomi and Ruth had returned to Bethlehem as widows. Ruth had worked during the harvest in the fields of Boaz, a near relative.

Naomi told her daughter-in-law Ruth

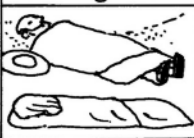
You need someone to marry and look after you. I have a plan

I will do all you ask of me.

So Ruth went to where the grain was threshed. Boaz was on guard that night...

but she stayed out of his sight until he was asleep.

Then she uncovered his feet and lay down by them.



At midnight, Boaz woke, and was shocked to find her there.

As my relative who must look after me, will you marry me?

You have a closer relative; I will ask him tomorrow. If he will not marry you, I will do so gladly. Lie down now, and sleep.

Just before dawn, Ruth returned to Naomi.

All we can do now is wait.

Boaz went to the meeting place, and waited for the relative to pass.



Naomi wants to sell the land she inherited from her husband, and as nearest relative, you get first refusal.



I want to buy the land.

Then you must marry Ruth as the land must be inherited by her son

In that case, I don't want to buy it.

Then I will buy the land and marry Ruth.

So Boaz married Ruth and they had a son.



My life is no longer bitter!

and he was an ancestor of King David!

# 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:** Kaye Crittall, 892883

**NINFIELD LADIES BADMINTON GROUP:** Rita Proctor 07879 024736

**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 07940 324601

**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 :** Peter Ballard 01424 210980 or 07891479554

**HOOE HISTORY GROUP:** Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

**HOOE & NINFIELD OPEN GROUP:** Heather Sinden 893422

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

**HOOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS:** Jane Warrener: 07548 528754

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

**1066 RINGERS** (Hand Belleplates) Carole Ballard 01424 210980

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

# **PARISH WHO'S WHO**

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

## **PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD**

*Churchwarden:* Mrs Catriona Mary Owen  
After 4.00pm 225421

*Secretary:*

*Treasurer:*

## **PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD'S, HOOE**

*Churchwarden:* Mr Jack Rist 892576

*Churchwarden:* Mrs Nicki Murphy 893867

*Secretary:* Mr John Fairclough

# **USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES**

**THE PARISH NEWS** Email [ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com)

## **NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to the Council:

Jackie Scarff 07725 843505 [clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk)

## **HOOE PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to the Council:

Jackie Scarff: 07725 843505 [clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk)

## **MEMORIAL HALL**

Booking Secretary: EMAIL [ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com)

## **HOOE VILLAGE HALL**

Bookings Jackie Scarff [clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk)

## **METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

Booking Secretary: Mr David Swales 07989 729123

**C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL** 892486

**DOCTORS** The Surgery, High Street, Ninfield 892569

**NINFIELD STORES**, Lower Street, Ninfield 892281