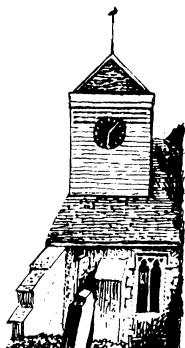


The

Parish

News



What's on and What you missed

In & around

Ninfield & Hove

June 2026

50p



St MARY's & St OSWALD's

NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



St Mary's

St Oswald's

7 th June	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
14 th June	<i>No Service</i>	11.00 Joint Parish Eucharist
21 st June	<i>No Service</i>	11.00 Parish Eucharist
28 th June	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist

Opening times for Private Prayer

St. Mary's - Tuesday to Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm Where Possible
St. Oswald's - Open daily from 9.00am - 5.00pm

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

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

PARISH NEWS

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

Dear Friends,

I have just renewed our subscription to Ancestry although I don't know why as we very rarely get to use it! It does however get me thinking about who I am and where I came from, something I touched upon in my Mothering Sunday sermon. But then I began to think: isn't there more to me than that? Who *am* I, really? Indeed, who actually are any of us?

To start with the obvious, we all have bodies – bodies by which other people recognise us. But we know that the body which we see in the mirror every morning is always changing, and will one day be no more than dust or ashes. Saint Paul told the Christians at Corinth that after death they would inhabit a spiritual body, in some way fit for life after death.

We know too that while we're alive on this earth, our bodies need sustenance, so we eat and drink. They also need regular exercise, something I am not very good at!

But we're more than bodies. We're also minds. Like our bodies, our minds change. And minds too need sustenance and exercise. So we do have to consider the question: how do we keep our minds active? How do we exercise them? We all have different ways, maybe through reading or solving puzzles.

So, body and mind. But that is still far from answering the question "Who are we?" What of our character, our qualities? What of our spirit or soul? Our soul too develops during our time on this earth. Like body and mind, it too needs regular sustenance and exercise.

As Christians, we believe that we find the sustenance for the soul in the pages of the Bible, and also in seeking God through praise and prayer. Like food for the body, this needs to be regular and planned. Our soul too needs exercise, in prayer and praise of God, and in relation to other people, especially those whom we meet day by day. And so, as we work at it under God's guidance, we become more (or sometimes alas it may be less) loving, joyful, peaceful, kind, patient, as we go through earthly life.

We are all very different in our make-up, in who we are. We may think we know other people – but we don't know them fully. We see their faces, some of their qualities, part of their souls. But there are other parts which we all try to keep hidden – but which of course are visible to God.

So who *are* you? You probably have a good idea. But would your friends say the same? And would God?

PRAYER

Father, Here we are in June – a beautiful month and a month when we remember a beautiful follower of Yours, Barnabas. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith and he encouraged Your people to remain true to You in what must have been dangerous times.

Lord, in these dangerous days, when so much seems alien and out of control, how we all need to be encouraged to be steadfast in our faith and in our lives.

How we need to remember that You are our faithful, sovereign Lord; that You never change; that in Jesus You have won the victory over sin and death. If we put our trust in Jesus, we are secure for all eternity.

Thank You for the example of Barnabas. Help us to be encouraged and to encourage others. May we enjoy June in all its beauty, knowing that nothing can separate us from You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

News from St. Mary's

Paul Abnett's organ recital was brilliant.

I hope you all enjoyed as much as I did.

We are so lucky to have such organist in our two parishes.

I hope to persuade Paul to do another recital when he's ready.

I like to thank everyone who came to listen and appreciate the music.

Catriona Owen Churchwarden.

*from the
Parish Records*

St. Mary's

9th May 2026 - Marriage of Bentley Ginnaw and Lucy Puddefoot

St. Oswald's

14th April 2026 - Funeral and burial of Ian Stephenson

News from St Oswald's

A quiet but different month at the church in April. We had the Funeral Service for Ian Stephenson from Pound Platt on the 14th April.

On the 19th April it was (Annual Parish Church Meeting) APCM where the two Churchwardens were re-elected and new members joined the PCC. Our grateful thanks, to those who retired from the PCC.

As Churchwarden, I have several comments and conversations each year, about how we should manage the church yard. These comments come from villagers and visitors. I have to remind them, that most of the jobs in and around the church are carried out by volunteers. It is why, we try to have a Spring Clean and Gardening day, to keep the building and its burial plots tidy. Our thanks to all of our cleaners, flower arrangers, mowers and gardeners.

We also thank those that open and close the church for us. The comments in our visitor's book confirm and encourage us that the building needs to be kept open. We have reported, that there have been a number of attempts to break in to the vestry, sheds and cupboards in the last 12 months. With Police advice, we are considering other safety and monitoring options.

There has been some progress with the Toilet extension. A team from Archaeology S.E. visited the church on 27th and 28th April. They were there to dig the Trial Trenches, to ascertain whether there were remains of an old porch on the north side of the church. The trenches were quite extensive and deep in places, up to 1.5mtr deep. Nothing of significance was found. Broken pieces of an old, large head stone with a partial inscription, (no date) were photographed and re-buried. Two large lintel like stones were lifted out and are now alongside the north wall and number of broken roof tiles were found. Outside the bricked up doorway, about 2ft down, were two areas of lime mix slabs which were thought to be the floor of a porch. The Team will be providing us with a report, which will hopefully lead to the granting of Planning permission. Zoe O'Sullivan, our planning contact at Wealden DC, has assured me, that after the report is delivered and considered, further advice and permission should follow. That will mean getting the agreement from the Diocese and the Diocesan Chancellor granting us a faculty. Jack - Churchwarden

NINFIELD VILLAGE MARKET HALL

We are very pleased to say that the Hall is continuing with it's refurbishment and improvement plans. We started in 2012, many of you will remember, with questionnaires and open meetings to find out what you would all like, there was a long list, which was added to the list from a structural survey.

We are now, 14 years later about to complete that original list with a new roof over the main hall and cottage, more insulation, new fascia boards and guttering.

The work will start on Monday 20th July and take about 6 weeks during this time the hall will mainly be closed except for regular classes after 4.00pm.

Oh, and that list, it keeps having things added! If you have ideas on improvements or events we could host, please let us know ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

Editors' Comment...

By the time you read this maybe the peculiar weather will have sorted itself out and we will have some beautiful late Spring/early Summer weather with some overnight rain for the garden!

This month we have received a couple of articles following from the results of local elections around the country. Although we encourage residents to write in and we would be lost without you, this publication does not print anything that relates to political elections or local or national political conversations. The aim is to be entertaining, to promote village life, to advertise social events that help bring residents together and support local businesses and endeavours.

We hope you feel this way too

Nicki & Carol



Monthly Diary

	Venue	Page	
MAY			
28 th	Lunch Club	Methodist Hall	16
28 th	Ninfield Annual Parish Meeting	Memorial Hall	8
29 th	Men's Shed	Sparke Pavilion	15
29 th	Ladies Lounge	Working Men's Club	22
30 th	Afternoon Tea	St. Mary's	32
JUNE			
1 st	Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial Hall	13
5 th	Book Exchange Cafe	Methodist Hall	15
8 th	Hooe Parish Council Meeting	Hooe Village Hall	12
9 th	Film Matinee	Memorial Hall	15
10 th	Dark Skies	St. Mary's Church	27
11 th	Ninfield History Group	Methodist Hall	11
12 th	Open Group	Methodist Hall	16
13/14 th	Open Gardens	Various in Hooe	29
18 th	Hooe History Society	St. Oswald's Church	11
20 th	Food & Craft Market	Memorial Hall	27
21 st	Summer Solstice	Church Wood	16
25 th	Lunch Club	Methodist Hall	16
26 th	Men's Shed	Sparke Pavilion	15
26 th	Ladies Lounge	Working Men's Club	22

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

This year the annual parish meeting will take place at Ninfield
Memorial Hall, Thursday 28th May- doors open 6pm.

Every resident who comes along will be given a raffle ticket at the door. The raffle will be drawn later in the meeting and the winner will receive a £50 voucher for the Blacksmiths- you must still be at the meeting to claim your prize. If the prize winner is no longer in the room the raffle will be redrawn.

We are hoping lots of you will come along as we are looking for ideas on how we can spend two pots on money.

The first is money received by Ninfield Parish Council, via Wealden District Council, developers who have built new houses in the village. There are some rules about what we can spend this money on but infrastructure projects as an example traffic calming measures.

The other money is also as a result of housing development and this money is specifically for adult and children's play equipment. We will be receiving more money from the house building at 20 acre field later in the year and next year.

Please come along and let us know what you think the village needs. If you are interested in becoming a councillor there will be more information, as well as information about clubs and societies in the village.

We'll have tea and coffee, a glass of wine and a light buffet.

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of the Ninfield Local History Group will be held on Thursday 11th June 2026. We will be delving into the history of Bexhill pubs with a presentation by Niall McCrae and Bob Hiscocks entitled: "From Smuggling Inn to Gastropub." Not to be missed! Niall and Bob have completed the first two parts of their trilogy on Bexhill pubs and the books make fascinating reading.

Our last meeting in April was our AGM and we have a few changes in our committee: I am delighted to welcome John Gorman to the committee where he will take on the role of Secretary taking over from Jackie Cheshire who has given many years of excellent service. Happily Jackie will remain on the committee. Stepping down from the committee is Jane Dommersen who has been our speaker coordinator for a number of years and delighted us all with an inspiring mix of talks. A job well done and thank you to both Jane and Jackie for all their hard work!

Ninfield Local History Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Methodist Hall in Church Lane, 7.30p.m. – 9.00p.m. We welcome members and non-members, so do come along if you can! The group also opens its 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 next Resource Centre morning is on Monday 27th July 2026. We also have a range of publications for sale and these can be viewed and purchased using our online store or in-person at one of our archive mornings.

You can find out more about the group, see our talks schedule, view photographs, read stories and more on our website:

www.ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk or get in touch using this email: info@ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk.

Brian Stockton, Chair, Ninfield Local History Group

Ninfield Surgery has, as many of you know, gone over to Vita Healthcare. The system for booking appointments is no longer by phone but using their online booking system. You can only fill in the form between 8.00am and 6.00pm

1. Go to www.vita.healthcare
2. Click on [contact us on line](#)
3. Click on [Collington and Ninfield Surgery](#) (this includes all 4 sites)
4. Click on [I have a health problem, if you would like an appointment, if you have a different request click on admin.](#)
5. Fill in your date of birth
6. Fill in the questions to the best of your ability, the more detail you fill in they will be better able to allocate and appointment

This system does work, we filled in the form at 8.20a.m. and received a call back at 10.00a.m.!

Help required

One of our brilliant distributors has decided he is unable to continue, so we were wondering if there was anyone willing to take on the role.

Ten times a year with one month collecting the subscriptions.

The area is around The Green in Ninfield.

Between us Carol and I deliver to our 30 distributors throughout Ninfield and Hooe plus some individual house so any help would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you. Please phone Nicki on 893867 or email to

Ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com

HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

Our speaker this month is **one of our “old favourites,” Ken Brooks with his talk, Beside the Seaside.** Coastal towns became popular in the 18th century when doctors began to recommend the health benefits of the sea air and sea water. We will take a nostalgic look at the attractions of the seaside from Victorian times to the present day. These will include the pier, bathing machines, minstrels, pierrots, paddle steamers, fashions, seaside postcards and local characters, such as Biddy the tubman. Make sure you bring your bucket and spade! We meet on Thursday, 18th June in St Oswald’s church at 7.30 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW...I thought I would dip into the archive of the Hooe smuggling gang and share a few stories with you. The first one is from a Scanned Red Lion poster showing the names of landlords. I have been unable to locate the original document to which this extract relates, despite searching for it at the Keep, so I am unable to confirm its authenticity. It does seem, however, to be fairly precise in its portrayal of events, so cannot be easily dismissed.

1751 – A quarter sessions roll dated 10th April indicates that excise officers came to the Red Lion to arrest two men known to be smugglers. A statement made by one of the riding officers, William Holland, records that the party of officers met with such resistance and intimidation from others within the Red Lion that they were forced to withdraw for fear of their lives.

The second is taken from The Lady’s Magazine in 1790.

On Monday last, about mid-day, an excise officer and a light dragoon, from Battel, on Hooe Common, fell in with seven smugglers, and nine horses laden, of which they took seven, and were escorting them to Battel; but at Ninfield Stocks they were overtaken by the smugglers, who attempted to rescue their horses and goods; and after a flying skirmish, in which one of the smugglers had his horse shot dead under him by the excise officer, they effected it, and having exchanged their dead horse for the excise-man’s living one, marched off in triumph. To prevent a pursuit, the smugglers drove the dragoon’s horse about two miles before them; when, thinking themselves safe, they hired a man to take him back again. **Of course, things did not always turn out as planned...**

Newspaper article dated 4th August 1788, Smuggling near Eastbourne. About three o’clock on Saturday morning last Messrs. Belcher, Rye and

Breden and two dragoons fell in with a body of smugglers on horseback (thirteen in number) in the parish of Hooe in this county, and obliged them to dismount, and give them possession of their horses and loading, which, on seeing the soldiers draw their broad-swords, they did without the least resistance, and left the officers to carry off their seizure in triumph. The lading was tobacco and French spirits, 45 bags of the former, and 25 casks of the latter, which were afterwards lodged in His Majesty's custom house at Eastbourne.

Peter Hayward

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Hooe Parish Councillors held their 2026 AGM on Monday 11th May. We thanked Ann Loyd for her commitment to the role of Chairman and welcomed Julian Manlow (previous Vice Chair) as our Chairman, Nina Siddall-Ward was selected as Vice Chairman. It was good to see several residents in attendance and hopefully look forward to welcoming higher numbers in future, dates for future meetings below (usually the second Monday in the month) dates changes will be notified and avoided wherever possible. All residents welcome. The committee made plans for the next meeting agenda and hope to encourage lots of continued engagement from the community.

Dates for the coming year all at 7pm in the village hall:

08/6/26; 13/7/26; No August meeting; 14/9/26; 12/10/26; 09/11/26; 14/12/26

No January meeting; 08/02/27; 08/03/27; 12/04/27; 10/05/27 AGM

Please look out for messages and information on our village noticeboards. Do not hesitate to get in touch with any of your councillors if you have any information to share, questions to ask or helpful comments to make.

NMSW

Ninfield Flower Group

How did that happen? We are nearly half way through the year!

As I write this, on May 11th, we have experienced a small shower. I very much hope that by the time you are reading this we will have had many more - dare I hope the water butts might be at least half full.

Our next meeting on June 1st was to be a demonstration with an invited demonstrator. She is, however, unable to attend and we hope to welcome her instead next year. So we are bringing forward our "Home-made" member's event which should have taken place in September.

Several of our members will be sharing their talents with a choice of two themes, either "Hello June" or "From the Shed". It will be a fun and enjoyable evening with drinks & nibbles for a summer evening. Do come along and join us. Visitors £5.

Later in the month, Wednesday June 24th from 2.30pm, we invite you to join us for a cream tea in the lovely garden of Stuart & Hazel Wood, de Wilp, Collington Lane East, Bexhill. TN39 3RJ.

Entrance £5. There will also be a raffle and sale of greetings cards and possibly plants. Come along and bring your friends. You will be most welcome.

Helen Cunliffe



Emma Blackburn

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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.

Film Matinees

Our next film is on Tuesday 9 June and is the classic musical 'Calamity Jane'. This 1953 film is inspired by a real-life 19th century sharpshooter and features famous songs like 'Secret Love', 'Deadwood Stage' and 'The Black Hills of Dakota'.

Films are held in Ninfield Memorial Hall. Screening and refreshments are free and films are dementia friendly and have subtitles. Doors open at 1.30 pm for the screening at 2 pm. Do come and join us for a friendly and relaxed afternoon. To ensure enough cake, please book a place by contacting Jackie or Rose on 01424 892422 or email Jackie jackie.langley1@btinternet.com

Book Exchange and Community Café

Methodist Hall 10-11.30 on Friday.

The Book Exchange Café will be on Friday 5 June with the community café open every other Friday morning. Donations asked for books and refreshments. There is a wide range of books and good company. You will be made to feel very welcome if you'd like to join us. Contact David on 07989729 or dj_swales@hotmail.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.

Health Walks

Every Thursday. Trained local volunteers lead a gentle walk of about an hour. These walks are now part of 'The Ramblers' and are known as Ramblers Wellbeing Walks, ,Ninfield. Brief details can be found on ramblers.org.uk. Meet 11 am at Sparke Pavilion at Ninfield Recreation ground near the main entrance off Church Lane. A few more walkers welcome. Please wear suitable footwear.

Contact Robin: 07940 324601 or robin@plowmate.plus.com

Women's Crafting and Knitting Circle

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

Lunch Club

The next lunch club will meet on Thursday 25 June. If you would like a place, contact Sam White on 07484 847933.

Summer Solstice

We're hoping to organise some lovely Family events on Sunday 21st June, in our beautiful Church Woods...Maybe a Teddy Bears Picnic in the afternoon? And – how about some Music, Fizz, Food and Fun in the evening. All details, once agreed, will be widely advertised on social media, notice boards and by word of mouth! In the meantime – SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 8th May 2.00p.m. in the Methodist Hall, Ninfield. Our speaker was unable to attend so we had a nostalgic afternoon. Peter Hayward kindly came along and shared photos from his archives of Hooe School. Starting in the late 1800's up to the 1950's where some faces were recognised. The rest of the afternoon we talked about the changes to the villages, amazing at the amount of shops, it is a pity they have had to close. Marie talked about NATS, the Ninfield Amateur theatre group which she ran over 20 years. She did all the choreography and chose the songs to fit. Her photo albums showed the variety of shows/pantomimes that she produced. A different afternoon than usual but I think it was enjoyed by all.

Our next meeting is 12th June same time, same place. We will be having a talk by Fiona Bower who will tell us about the work of Canine Partners, accompanied by her dog Mr. Wiz.

Look forward to seeing you there and visitors are always welcome.

Nicki & Heather

Ninfield Parish Council are asking...

Could YOU become our next councillor?

Help shape your community, you get to meet lots of people and make a real difference.

The Parish Council is looking for friendly, thoughtful people who care about the local area. You don't need to need to be a politician – Parish Councils are apolitical. You don't need to be an expert, just someone who wants to help represent their community.

We currently have two councillor vacancies.

So what does a councillor do.... Listen to residents and bring forward idea to improve life in the village.

Help decide how money is spent on local services and projects.

Support community spaces like the sports pavilion, recreation ground and the children's play areas.

Generally help plan for the future of the village.

Becoming a councillor you will make a visible difference, meet people and be part of a team, and give something back to your community.

Anyone who is at least 18 years old, registered to vote in the village or have lived, worked or owned a property here for at least 12 months before an election.

You must be a British or citizen of the Commonwealth. You may be eligible as a citizen of the European Union, you would just need to check about EU citizens voting and candidacy rights in local election.

If you are interested please contact the clerk –

clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk or any of the other councillors – their contact details can be found on our website.

POPINJAY SHOOT - St Oswald's Church



On Saturday, 28th March 2026 the sun shone warm in an azure sky. The wind, though with a chill, was slight: a perfect setting for another 'first' from the Medieval Society as its local members gathered with those of the Medieval Society Bowmen to revive the ancient sport of popinjay.

Amid rolling Sussex pasture, the Medieval Society revived this ancient sport at a beautiful church. We are immensely grateful to Hooe Parish Council

and to the police for their enthusiastic support, which has made the revival possible. Originating in Classical times, when ships' masts were used, by the Middle Ages, in Britain the sport had evolved to shoot at targets suspended from church towers. At Kilwinning, Scotland the tradition has been kept, but in England it was lost – until now.



Ninfield has a surprisingly rich set of artistic and cultural associations.



James T. A. Osborne: Probably the strongest artistic connection to Ninfield itself. Osborne (1907–1979) was born in Ninfield and became an important British wildlife artist, engraver and printmaker. He studied at the Royal College of Art, became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers, and helped found the Society of Wildlife Artists. Much of his early inspiration came from the countryside around his family living at Ingrams Farm in Ninfield. Born: 1907, Ninfield, Died: 1979, Thurrock, Essex, Prix de Rome Scholarship (1930); Fellow, Royal Society of Painter-Etchers and Engravers (1957). In 1964, Osborne helped establish the Society of Wildlife Artists with peers Eric Ennion, Robert Gillmor, Eileen Soper, and Keith Shackleton.

Basil Ede: (12 February 1931 – 29 September 2016) was a noted wildlife artist renowned for his detailed and lifelike paintings of birds. Celebrated as one of Britain's leading avian illustrators, his work combined artistic finesse with ornithological accuracy and gained international recognition, including royal patronage. Born: 12 February 1931, Surrey, Died: 29 September 2016, Ninfield, East Sussex. *Birds of Town and Village* (1963)



Charity Wakefield: The actress, known for television dramas including *Sense & Sensibility*, *Wolf Hall*, *The Great*, *Doctor Who*, has strong links with Ninfield. Born in 1980 in Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and raised in Ninfield, East Sussex, she trained at the Oxford School of Drama. Wakefield is recognized for her versatility in both period dramas and contemporary roles on British and American screens.



Don Cockell, who famously fought Rocky Marciano for the world heavyweight title in 1955, built a home in Standard Hill Close

Full name: Donald John Cockell. Born: Sept 22, 1928, Balham. Died: Jul 18, 1983 Tooting, Height/Reach: 180 cm / 180 cm

Professional record: 81 fights; 66 wins (38 KOs), 14 losses, 1 draw. Occupation after boxing: Blacksmith and haulage business owner in Ninfield, East Sussex.



Jimmy Broadbent: The modern online personality and racing commentator is specifically identified as being from Ninfield, but was born June 13, 1991, in Hastings. He is a British sim-racer, content creator, and professional racing driver. Rising from YouTube fame as a relatable gaming enthusiast, he has

become one of the world's most recognized figures in sim racing and a bridge between virtual and real-world motorsport.

Spike Milligan: Though not a Ninfield resident, Milligan had East Sussex connections and referenced Ninfield in a 1956 episode of The Goon Show called "The Nadger Plague."

Sir Giles Gilbert Scott: The celebrated architect of Liverpool Cathedral and the iconic red K2 telephone box and his mother inherited Hollis Street Farm.

Kevin Regan

Lunch Club

The next lunch club will meet on Thursday 28 May then 25th June at Ninfield Methodist Hall.

If you would like a place, contact Sam on 07484 847933.

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News & Reviews etc!

Hopefully you'll be reading this edition before the end of May, which will be really fabulous, as there are TWO events right at the end of this glorious month for you to enjoy! Please have a look, and come and join us!

Have you had a lovely month?! The weather has been a bit up and down...especially temperatures wise...but consider...I always say, give thanks for May, it's beautiful, balmy, benign. A long month of sunshine and lengthening evenings; time for gardens, for gatherings...and Wine!!

The Summer may start on the first day of June, but the Solstice is soon on it's way. Then each day will get shorter, one minute by one, so be thankful for Marvellous MAY!!! Tra la!!!

LADIES LOUNGE: FRIDAY 29th MAY Last month at the Working Men's Club was the first year Anniversary of our lovely, lively Ladies gathering! It's was great to celebrate, and enjoy some Cake...!!.. and each other's company!! All ladies , all ages are welcome; it's a fabulous afternoon for chatter, laughter, support and friendship- and an opportunity to switch off and relax with like minded, marvellous women!! Next Lounge is Friday 26th June, 4.30pm...Put the date in your diaries and tell all your neighbours and friends!

AFTERNOON TEA! SATURDAY 30th MAY! At St Mary's Church 3pm -5pm Everyone welcome!! Please come and join us for the first of (hopefully!) regular monthly gatherings, for ALL residents to come and have a lovely catch up over afternoon tea, a gossip with friends and neighbours, an opportunity for some information gathering, a chance to catch up with forthcoming events and to get to know what is going on with local groups, clubs and societies! AND...to really appreciate and enjoy our beautiful Beacon, the Centre of of our Village, the stunning, historical St Mary's Church! Call me on 07970650321 or Jackie Langley 01424 892422 for more information, and if you'd like to 'Bake a Cake' it would be VERY much appreciated!

FINGERS CROSSED!: Please see the HWBG column within the magazine and you'll see that we are hoping to create some Summer Solstice family fun on Sunday 21st June. Two lovely ideas, in the creating stage, just waiting for logistics, permissions and a green light...please keep an eye on notice boards, socials and conversations round the village ...and keep those fingers crossed!

LINE DANCE CLASSES- are a HIT, there's a great national outpouring of love for the Country Music genre at the moment and we in Ninfield are just adding to the excitement!!! We're having SO much FUN! A few spaces are still available- All classes are at the Memorial Hall; fortnightly on Tuesdays- 2.30-3.30 pm and Fridays 6.30-7.30pm, all classes £7 pp/per class. Everyone is welcome, Ladies, Gents, youngsters, it's purely for Fun-but of course you can don the Stetsons, Rhinestones and Cowboy Boots if you want to! Beginners are very welcome, Yawhee

MOVEMENT & DANCE: VERY IMPORTANT UPDATE!!

All Dance classes will continue, running as follows on a weekly basis-but, due, unfortunately, to significantly increased Hall hire tariffs for some classes, I have had to revise session costs, so please see any changes below. New advertising will also follow on social media and notice boards.

Also- **PLEASE NOTE** The Memorial Hall 6 week closure for roof and cladding renewals from 20th July, will mean the MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC class on Monday mornings will have to move to another venue for the duration. THE TUESDAY class will start later, at 4pm, after the workmen are clear: the WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY EVENING CLASSES will remain in their original Halls at their usual times!!! All participants will have full details of new venues; any new members, those wishing to start a class, please Call me on 07970650321 for full information.

MONDAY 10am - MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC Memorial Hall, £6 per class
.....

Please Note-

TUESDAYS (Alternates) LINE DANCING Memorial Hall 2.30-3.30pm

WEDNESDAY 6.30pm DANCERCISE Memorial Hall

THURSDAY 9.30am SILVERY SWANS BALLET Methodist Hall

FRIDAY (alternates) Memorial Hall 6.30pm BALLROOM, 7.30pm

BURLESQUE/SHOW DANCE. LINE DANCE- 6.30 - 7.30pm

(alternates)

ALL these classes are NOW £7 pp per class.

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

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Ninfield Bonfire Society

Music, Membership and Moving Plans Forward

Bonfire season may still feel a little way off, but for Ninfield Bonfire Society there is always plenty happening behind the scenes. Our traditional Sussex Bonfire night is one spectacular evening in the village, but the planning, fundraising, safety work and organising all happen months in advance. From management plans and insurance to volunteer roles, fireworks, torches, music events and community support, there is a lot more to bonfire than one night in October.

This year, we are very excited to be bringing live music back to the village with Ninfield Music Night on Saturday 11th July 2026 at Ninfield Memorial Hall. Many villagers will remember the much-loved Ninfield Music Festival and while this will be a smaller evening event, we hope it will bring back some of that same community spirit. We have a fantastic line-up planned, with popular rock band Cushty headlining the evening, alongside Diamond Project 1066, Ellie Valentine and her band, and Paul Huggett. There will also be food, a bonfire bar and a great village atmosphere.

For children and families, we have added something extra during the afternoon - a Silent Disco from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. It should be great fun and a lovely way for younger families to be part of the day too.

Following our recent Annual General Meeting, we would like to thank everyone who came along and those who have already stepped forward to help. We are, however, still looking to fill three important committee roles: Health and Safety, Treasurer and Vice Chair.

These roles are essential in helping us keep Ninfield's traditional bonfire celebrations safe, organised and running each year. You do not need previous committee experience - just a willingness to help, be part of the team and support a village tradition that means a great deal to many people. We will also be at Ninfield Village Market on Saturday 20th June, so please do come and say hello. We will have information about the Society, merchandise to browse and tombola if you would like to try your luck. It is always a lovely chance to chat with residents and share a little more about what goes into keeping bonfire alive in Ninfield.

Plans are also well underway for this year's Ninfield Bonfire Night on Saturday 24th October 2026. The procession, bonfire, effigy and fireworks all take time, teamwork and funding, and we remain hugely grateful for the support we receive from the village.

If you enjoyed last year's bonfire, why not consider becoming a member? Membership helps support the Society and plays a part in keeping this long-standing Sussex tradition going for future years.

Membership details can be found at:

www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk/membership

We would also be very pleased to hear from any local businesses who may be interested in sponsoring the Society or supporting our events. For more information, please email ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com or call Sarah on 07809 684488.

You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram, or visit:

www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk

Ninfield Carnival and Sports Association are pleased to announce that, following a unanimous vote, Donna Powell has taken on the role of Chair of the committee.

We would like to thank Sami Hughes-Guard for the time, energy and dedication she has given to Carnival over the past 20 years. Her commitment has played a huge part in keeping Carnival going and supporting community events in the village, and we are very grateful for everything she has contributed.

As we now begin a new and exciting chapter, we wanted to share a little bit about Donna. Donna has lived in Ninfield for just over four years and absolutely loves the village and our incredible association. She has three children and is passionate about bringing family-orientated events to the village and encouraging the whole community to get involved. Donna has some exciting ideas, but in order to make them a reality, she will need helpers. If you can spare a few hours a year, plus a few more on event days, we'd love to hear from you.

Please email us at ninfieldcarnival@gmail.com

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 20TH JUNE

FOODS & CRAFTS MARKET

9.30 - 12.30

local meat from Helen,

fruit & veg, bread & cheese from Sarah

**Cakes & bakes from Anne & Jo, Fern's delicious honey,
Linda's amazing jams & chutneys**

Locally made chocolate, baklava & samosa,

lovely locally made crafts and more!

Pop in for tea or coffee and a bite to eat

DARK SKIES

The Dark Skies group have just booked James Duncan from Sussex Wildlife to deliver a Birdsong walk on 10th June.

Final details are still being agreed, but it will probably start from Ninfield Church and include a short talk before the walk to help identify the birdsong heard.

There will probably be tea & coffee (assuming I get my act together) before the walk and we would expect it to last 2-2.5 hours.

Cost is expected to be £7 - all of which will go to cover the cost of the talk.

Kaye Crittall

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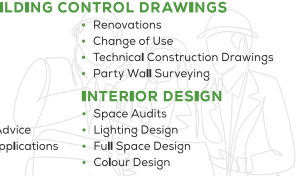
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Hooe Village Community Group

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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



June 13th/14th Open Gardens weekend: The Open Garden weekend is almost upon us! Our gardeners are working all hours to ensure they put on the very best show. At the time of writing many are bemoaning the lack of rain. Let's hope it doesn't decide to come on 13th/14th June!

We are hugely grateful to Athelas for sponsoring our event again this year. This is a fun event, not a competition. The gardens are all different but beautiful in their own right! At each garden your favourite will change..... This is a 2-day event. For just £5.00 one can spend a whole day visiting all the gardens on show and sharing ideas. Tickets available at car parks, the gardens and the Flag Green.

The entry ticket will include a map showing all garden locations and other useful information.

Car Parking available and signposted.

Homemade refreshments served both days in the garden of No 1 Elizabethan Cottages. On Saturday from 10.30am – Our Monthly Coffee Morning with a difference!

Marquee 'Made in Hooe' on the Flag Green.

Please visit our website: www.hooe-open-gardens.com

More information regarding the gardens etc available from Gary, and refreshment and baking information please contact Sally. Both can be reached on 01424 893007.

We are looking forward to seeing you and enjoying your company!

Our Free to Use Community Library and Jigsaw Exchange

Every coffee morning our Community Library and Jigsaw Exchange is available for anyone and everyone to use. The number of books and jigsaws borrowed is not limited. Some regulars take as many as 8 books to read which almost lasts them until the next coffee morning!

Without Anne, who was the brains behind the idea and who has run it from Day 1, and her daughter, Rachel who was willingly roped in to help, we may not even have this popular crowd pulling attraction. Anne has professional experience running libraries, her knowledge and enthusiasm and Rachel's determination shine through!



Isn't it easy to take folk for granted? We have always been grateful to Anne and Rachel so at our May coffee morning we thought it time that we told them. We were delighted to be able to present flowers to Anne and a bottle of wine to Rachel as a token of our gratitude. This facility is hugely popular, so grateful thanks to both ladies from not only HVCG but all who enjoy the books and jigsaws.



Chairman Vice Chairman Hooe Parish Council

We couldn't let the moment pass without Congratulating Julian and Nina on their election as Chairman and Vice Chairman of Hooe Parish Council. We are thrilled and wish them every success. We look forward to working together.

Whenever HVCG holds an event, we can guarantee Julian and his wife Kathy will be there ready to get stuck in! Their support and help is amazing and much appreciated – from moving furniture and baking cakes to chatting with everyone and radiating cheerfulness. Nina has certainly made her mark on village life the few years she has lived here. Her energy, friendly nature and academic background is a perfect mix for excelling in a community position!! We are delighted that she has made the time in her busy life to devote to the Parish Council. Welcome Nina!

Future Events

As usual, HVCG is delighted to be able to assist with the St Oswald's Garden Party on 4th July. This is always a wonderful event not to be missed – it is enjoyed by all, .

In addition to our Coffee Mornings there are plans afoot for more HVCG events after the summer. More details as plans are finalised.

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

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

David Walker has been very busy and organised a summer visit for the society to Camberlot Hall, Upper Dicker on 22nd June.

Cost will be £14 to include entrance to the garden plus tea & cake.

If you are interested please call David on 014124 892058 or dwalker_oxford@hotmail.co.uk.

Then catch up with us on the 13th July at our Coffee Morning in the Memorial Hall. Enjoy June!

Kaye Crittall

Not really the fight time of year for this but

And the Lord said to Noah: 'Where is the ark which I have commanded you to build?' And Noah said unto the Lord: 'Verily I have had three carpenters off ill. The gopher wood supplier hath let me down--yea even though the gopher wood hath been on order for nigh upon twelve months.'

And God said unto Noah; 'I want the ark finished even after seven days and seven nights.' And Noah said; 'It will be so'

And it was not so.

And the Lord said; 'What seemeth to be the trouble this time?'

And Noah said unto the Lord; 'My subcontractor hath gone bankrupt. The pitch which Thou commandest me to put on the outside and on the inside of the ark hath not arrived. The plumber hath gone on strike. Shem, my son who helped me on the ark side of the business, hath formed a pop group with his brothers Ham and Japheth. Lord I am undone.

And the Lord grew angry and said: 'And what about the unicorns and the fowls of the air by sevens?'

And Noah wrung his hands and wept, saying; 'Lord unicorns are a discontinued line; thou canst not get them for love nor money.

And it hath just been told unto me that the fowls of the air are only sold in half dozens. Lord, Lord, Thou knowest how it is.'

And the Lord in His wisdom said; 'Noah, my son, I know.

Why else dost thou think I have caused a flood to descend upon the earth?'

Afternoon Tea

The Health and Wellbeing Group invite you to come together for an Afternoon Tea, with Cake, in our beautiful St Mary's Church on Saturday 30 May from 3 – 5 pm. We hope this will be the launch of regular get togethers for chat, information, fun, entertainment and the chance to catch up with friends, neighbours and Ninfield Groups, clubs and societies. Look out for more information on social media and Sami's column in the Bexhill Observer or contact Samantha Guard on 893699 or 07970 650321 or Jackie Langley on 892422.

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
Minister: Reverend Ian Couchman
Tel: 01424 550427
email: office@hbrmethodists.org.uk
website: hbrmethodists.org.uk

Sunday Services for June 2026:

- 7th 10.30am Cafe Family Church with Breakfast
14th 10.30am Family Worship & Communion with Reverend Ian Couchman
21st 10.30am Worship & Praise Family Service with Reverend Jonathan Todd
28th 10.30am Worship & Praise Family Service with Dawn Novis

Events for June 2026:

- 5th 10.00 - 11.30am Book Exchange & Café in Hall &
Fridays 10.00 -11.30am Community Café
19th 2.00 - 4.00pm Church Meeting
24th 3.15 - 5.15pm Messy Church

Every Sunday we continue to organise Junior Church which means that any young people who come along for our service at 10.30am can move into our Hall for their own activities, after a short combined time together in Church. This is working well so do come along and join us. Parents can either stay in Church or move into Hall. On the first Sunday in June we will also have our monthly Café church.

We look forward to Messy Church on the 24th Anyone is welcome but activities are geared towards young people ages 5-11years. We always finish with a celebration/worship time and then buffet tea. Great fun is had by all.

Our Church meeting in June is open to all who are interested in our Church and the various activities. The meeting gives us an opportunity to report back & discuss any new ideas. Our minister will oversee the meeting.

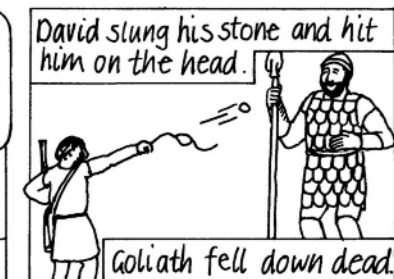
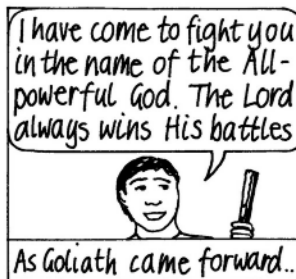
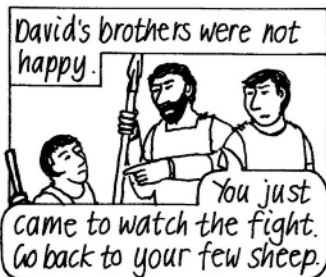
Please continue to remember & pray for all that we are doing to share the love of God in our community.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 17:1-50

The Philistine and Israelite armies
faced each other. For 40 days, the gigantic
Philistine champion, Goliath, taunted them..



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 892428

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY: Fiona Stedman 01424 892418

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

NINFIELD HEALTH & WELLBEING GROUP Jackie Langley 892422

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Kaye Crittall, 892883

NINFIELD LADIES BADMINTON GROUP: Rita Proctor 07879 024736

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

. •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 0 7 9 4 0 3 2 4 6 0 1

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Group Scout Leader Glen Harrison gharrisonninfieldscountsgsl@gmail.com

Explorer Scout Leader: Josh.explorers@gmail.com

Scout Leader: Elaine Gausden ninfieldscouts@gmail.com

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

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

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

WORKING MENS CLUB Debby Potheary 07814530783WMC_Secretary@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

HOE BELL RINGERS : Peter Ballard 01424 210980 or 07891479554

HOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOE & NINFIELD OPEN GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

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

HOE STOOLBALL: Linda Smith, Holmes Farm, Whydown 845163

HOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Jackie Scarff 07548 528754

1066 RINGERS (Hand Belleplates) Carole Ballard 01424 210980

PARISH WHO'S WHO

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PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

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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

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:

Jackie Scarff 07548 528754 - clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:

Jackie Scarff: 07548 528754 - clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

MEMORIAL HALL

Booking Secretary: EMAIL ninfieldhallbookings@gmail.com

HOOE VILLAGE HALL

Bookings - Jackie Scarff 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

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