

# The

# Parish

# News



*What's on and What you missed*

*In & around*

*Ninfield & Hove*

*May 2026*

*50p*



# St MARY's & St OSWALD's

## NOTICE BOARD

# CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



	St Mary's	St Oswald's
3rd May	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
10th May	9.30 Joint Parish Eucharist	<i>No Service</i>
17th May	9.30 Family Service	11.00 Parish Eucharist
24th May	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Joint Parish Eucharist
31st May	<i>No Service</i>	11.00 Joint 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](http://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, This month sees the season of Rogationtide, traditionally held around the sixth Sunday of Easter (10<sup>th</sup> May). The word comes from the Latin word *rogare* which means “to ask.”

Originally the Christian observance of Rogation involved an annual procession, often round the parish boundaries, asking for God’s blessing upon the crops. Rogation Sunday and the three days following, prior to Ascension Day, were times of praying for all involved in the agricultural process of a community.

The verses from Ephesians 4:7-8 are the basis for this celebration:

*“But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it is said, “When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.”*

God’s gifts are often taken for granted. Occasions like Rogation & Harvest remind us of the need to give thanks. The idea of ploughing, sowing, reaping and gathering has a link with the many parables of Jesus who would have known this process very well.

The Rogation processions – also known as beating the bounds – were a significant part of community life. The poet George Herbert gave the following good reasons to beat the bounds:

- a blessing of God for the fruits of the field;
- establishing and preserving boundaries in the case of disputes;
- encouraging fellowship between neighbours;
- giving to the poor.

Whilst life is very different today to the early seventeenth century of George Herbert’s existence, these principles remain important. Today the Church uses Rogationtide to also pray for equality amongst God’s people. Yet the words of

Galatians 3:28 remind us that “There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” So let us use this time to work together to build a more united community in both our church and society. Paul

### **PRAYER for Pentecost 2026**

Loving Father and giver of all gifts, This month we thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit which You promise to all who call on Your name, turn away from self-centred living and put their trust in Jesus.

Help us to do that, Lord. Then, when events in the world and the circumstances of our own lives are difficult to understand, we have Your Holy Spirit who brings life and power.

He is faithful and constant. He will lead us into all truth and give us the words and thoughts we need to experience Your peace in the midst of turmoil.

At this time when we remember the birth of Your church, may we open our hearts to receive Your Spirit afresh and move into each new day confident that we are yours and that in You is our true security.

In Jesus' name. Amen. By Daphne Kitching

### **St. Mary's**

Baptism of Wilfred August Akehurst on 15th March

### **St Oswald's**

Thanksgiving Service for Simon Pattisson on 19th March

Delayed burial of Deborah McDowell on 27th March

*from the  
Parish Records*

### **Parish Records Correction**

We would like to apologise to Sally Parry and her family because we put the wrong date in the Parish News.

### **St. Oswald's**

Funeral of Stephen Parry was held on Monday 19th January 2026

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

In March we were able to celebrate the life of Simon Patisson with his family, friends and villagers, He served in many ways during his lifetime. There were family stories, mentions of his days of National Service and his bell ringing and his time as Church Warden. It was good to have time with Janet and the family at the Red Lion, on a lovely spring day.

The Easter Services from Palm Sunday through to Easter Sunday were well attended. Easter Sunday we had our traditional Easter Egg Hunt, enjoyed by the children and adults alike.

As reported last month, the Annual Church meeting is approaching. On Sunday 19th April after a shortened service about 12.15, there will be elections of Churchwardens followed by elections for the PCC. There will be a report about church activities over the last 12 months and the acceptance the Churches finances for 2025.

There have been some positive communications by email this week suggesting that we may be moving forward with the archaeological stumbling block to build the toilet. We hope to share more progress and information next month.

Sadly, there is still an issue with dog mess in the churchyard. Firstly, a thank you to those dog walkers who do clear up after their dogs. It is important to remember that there are other visitors in the church and church yard. They shouldn't have to avoid the mess which sometimes is in the middle of a footpath. Please bag it and clear it up. The bin is adjacent to the church gate.

The Church Garden Party will be on Saturday 4th July starting at 12.00. Any donations for the tombola, bric-a-brac, plant stall or the raffle can be left at the back of the church or please contact one of the wardens. Hooe Village Band will be there and there will be the usual side shows and refreshments.

Jack & Nicki Churchwardens

## News from St. Mary's

I would like to thank everyone who cleaned and decorated the church for Easter.

Thank you    Catriona Owen.

There will be an organ recital by Paul Abnett on 10th May following straight after the 9.30am joint service.

There will be a Coffee morning on Saturday 23rd May 10.00 to 12 noon, at which Paul Abnett will begin by playing the organ, followed on by the Friendly Voices. This is to raise funds for the repairs and decorating of the tower.

## News from St Oswald's

Can you help?            Over the years John and Cynthia Fairclough have done a great job in the role of Treasurer and PCC Secretary to St Oswald's Hooe.

However, they now feel that the time has come to hand over the reins to someone else, which I totally understand. If you are able to help in any way, would you please contact either myself or the wardens at St Oswald's.            Paul

**Editors' Comment...**    Hope you are enjoying the sunshine and the glorious blossom everywhere, and we expect many of you are hard at work in your gardens.

The various groups are busy too, organising coffees, cakes & teas to go with all the various events lined up for May. Speaking as a member on a couple of the groups, we enjoy the planning and preparation and then hope that the event, that may have taken months of planning, is popular with all of you! So please do go along to at least one event this month, you will benefit, as will the organisers so the whole village benefits.

Talking to some people who have just moved into the village, they are amazed at how much goes on, how friendly everyone has been, so one way or another, thanks go to everyone in the village,    *Nicki & Carol*



## *May Diary*

	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>APRIL</b>		
24 <sup>th</sup> Men's Shed	Sparke Pavilion	15
24 <sup>th</sup> Ladies Lounge	Working Men's	22
25 <sup>th</sup> Quiz Night	Memorial Hall	
<b>MAY</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup> Book Exchange & Coffee Morning	Methodist Hall	15
3 <sup>rd</sup> Afternoon of Fun	Working Men's	22
8 <sup>th</sup> Hooe & Ninfield Open Group	Methodist Hall	17
9 <sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning	St. Oswald's	29
10 <sup>th</sup> Organ Recital	St. Mary's	6
11 <sup>th</sup> Ninfield Flower Group	Memorial Hall	13
12 <sup>th</sup> Film Matinee	Memorial Hall	15
14 <sup>th</sup> Ninfield Local History Group	Methodist Hall	9
16 <sup>th</sup> Foods & Crafts Market	Memorial Hall	27
18 <sup>th</sup> Ninfield Horticultural Society	Memorial Hall	17
21 <sup>st</sup> Hooe History Group	St. Oswald's	11
23 <sup>rd</sup> Coffee Morning	St. Mary's	6
25 <sup>th</sup> Dawn Walk	Ninfield	27
28 <sup>th</sup> Lunch Club	Methodist Hall	20
28 <sup>th</sup> Ninfield Annual Parish Meeting	Memorial Hall	8
29 <sup>th</sup> Men's Shed	Sparke Pavilion	15
30 <sup>th</sup> Afternoon Tea	St. Mary's	23 & 30

## 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 Black Smiths- 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 available.

## **NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

The next meeting of the Ninfield Local History Group will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026. The presentation will be a talk by Ken Brooks on the fascinating history of The America Ground in Hastings.

The group is in touch with a reputable and knowledgeable detectorist who has made a number of highly interesting finds in the Ninfield area. If you have some land which you would be happy to be “surveyed” please do get in touch with the group. Some very recent finds have been remarkable and you can learn more about these at our December meeting when Tim Dowding will be giving our talk.

The group is delighted to announce that it was successful in its bid to secure funds from the Councillor Ward Grant Scheme for the renovation and installation of a red K6 telephone box in the village.

The K6 telephone box has a strong Ninfield connection: The designer, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, is one of Ninfield’s most well-known residents. A bequest from an unmarried uncle in 1889 gave a young Scott ownership of Hollis Street Farm in Ninfield, with a life tenancy to his mother. His mother and her three sons would spend weekends and holidays at the farm. His mother encouraged Giles and his brother Adrian to become architects and took them “steeplechasing” on bicycles around the Sussex countryside. His mother lived at the farm until 1953 until she was 99 years.

Reflecting this heritage, the Gilbert Scott family have agreed that the village can use his name for roads on a new housing estate that is currently being built. Bearing in mind the relevance of the box to the village, we think it will make a wonderful landmark in the village and we look forward to seeing it standing proudly on the Green.

Ninfield Local History Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Methodist Hall in Church Lane, 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. We welcome members and non-members. The group also opens its archives each quarter at the Sparkes 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. 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](http://www.ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk) or get in touch using this email:

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

Brian Stockton, Chair, Ninfield Local History group

**I thought it was time** I wrote an article for the Parish news regarding our three open gardens we have had so far for the NGS. (The National Garden Scheme).

It is always great to know before you open your garden what great causes the money will be going to, and however, small the amount you raise your impact with all the others makes a massive difference.

We have opened for three years and so far, have raised about £2,500.00 per year. I must say a big thank you to all the local people that have helped, made cakes, and attended.

For the year 2025 The National Garden Scheme have raised and given away £3,875,596.00 yes well over 3 million pounds. The six main donations were Carers Trust £450,000, Hospice UK £450,000, Macmillan Cancer Support £450,000, Marie Curie £450,000, Parkinson's UK £450,000, and The Queen's Institute of Community Nursing £475,000. Plus, a further £1,150,596 to Gardens and Health, Support for gardeners and Community Garden Grants.

We are not opening our garden this year so that we and the helpers can have a rest. However, we will be visiting other Open Gardens as it is so interesting to see what others have done.  
David Constable, Hooe

## HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

**Our speaker this month is Gary Newport, with his talk, Journey into Space. In this non-academic talk, Gary tells us of some of the strange noises and happenings that have been found in recent research from outer space. At this time when NASA is looking to explore in space once again, this is probably an appropriate topic of conversation. We meet on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May in St Oswald's church at 7.30 p.m.**

DID YOU KNOW...I have dipped into Mum's letters to Dad at the end of WW2, to try and indicate how difficult things were following the conflict. The first was written, I believe, just after VE-Day, when Mum was in the WAAF billeted at Bamburgh, Northumberland...  
... It is a miserable day – not a bit exciting, in fact I had the whole morning in bed, just managed to crawl out for lunch an hour ago. The news yesterday morning came rather sudden – the first we had heard was when we were called for breakfast – no one was in the least bit thrilled about it at the time, we were all half awake at that time – and only half an hour later really came too, to learn that the war was over. I hope you had a good celebration Andy – you were down where the fun was, but I missed you such a lot, here it was deadly, no different from any other day.

The watch on early duty went off the air at 1 o'clock in the morning, and are off until 2 o'clock Friday, you can well imagine the crowd that flocked for passes to be signed – when the word got round that personnel could have two days, fortunately several got away by dinner time – but later Miss Mac said that a signal had come through to say that operators must stand by – so that put finish to passes. We were having a party on camp, inviting the soldiers from Ross Links in the evening, but after Betty and I had gathered here it was cancelled by the Sergeants etc. because they hadn't any beer.

*(The next two items were written in March 1946 from the Tallies, Hooe and were in preparation for my parents' upcoming wedding)*

...Drink – yes we went to see about that – and the chappie is expecting some in next week, and has told us to go in on Tuesday next, and we shall be sure of getting some. But when Don came home to tea – he had seen another<sub>1</sub> fellow, and has ordered some

Port, Gin and Sherry, which will be delivered next Tuesday sometime. So that's another thing off my mind. All that is left is the photographer, and cars, and minor things around here. Anyway I feel so much happier about things. Darling – I had to laugh this morning. The papers for extra ration from the food office came along. They allow us 4 pints milk, 4 ozs tea, 12 ozs sugar, 12 ozs marg(arine) 12 ozs cheese. Still I guess it's better than a smack in the eye, and will help a little bit.

... Decorations for the cake we succeeded in getting – in fact everything went off well. The Bexhill Observer Office, remember me telling you the fellow was coming down to see us about a report. He hadn't come so I went to see about it, and have a form to fill in, and we may have a photographer out to the church. They have taken particulars, and wanted to know if you were in the service – it seems to me for service people they are more likely to come, so I told them you had been in the service and had recently been demobbed, so if you read about it you'll know who spun the yarn. I do so want a decent photo at the church – and Mum is keen to have one. Tomorrow Mum and I are going to Hailsham for to get my emergency ration cards for two weeks. It's a trot over to that place, right out of the way, still it will get it over.

Peter Hayward

## **HOOE PARISH COUNCIL**

Email: [clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk) Website: [www.hooe-pc.gov.uk](http://www.hooe-pc.gov.uk)

Hooe Parish Council is seeking expressions of interest from any person who would wish to rent approximately 1.7 acres of grazing land located in the Parish of Hooe near Battle.

The parcel of land is in poor condition and would need some improvements made by the person wishing to use it for grazing, in particular the boundary treatment, to ensure that the animals did not escape, as well as the entrance gate.

To request an expression of interest please contact:

Clerk to Hooe Parish Council:

by email, [clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk)

# Ninfield Flower Group

Our April demonstration with Duncan Grant was full of interest as he told us of some of the historical influences in Rottingdean, including bringing along a beautiful model of a smock mill to enhance his first arrangement, a tribute to Beacon Mill. We welcomed several visitors, including one lady actually from Ninfield, and two of our visitors won arrangements in the raffle - as did I, which is always a bonus.

The last week of April will see several of our members off on holiday to Devon with members of Bexhill Allotment Society and Little Common Flower Club. The quiet delights of Sidmouth and the luxury of the Victoria Hotel await us. Our second visit, to which we are so looking forward.

In May we have a member from Flower Arranging & Design Sussex coming to lead a workshop for us. This does not preclude visitors as I'm sure we can muster enough items for anyone coming along to join in. Or you may just want to come and watch. That's at Ninfield Memorial Hall from 7pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May

As the flowers in your garden continue to give wonderful variety and colour you may wish to leave them in situ, but if you would like some ideas on how to arrange them do come along to one of our demonstrations and learn a little more.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

**NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEMORIAL HALL**

**THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MAY**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**WHISKERWATCH  
PET SITTING**

Local animal-loving pet sitter available to do pop-in visits, longer stays as required and overnight / holiday stays in pet's own home. Enhanced DBS and fully insured. (Known as Helen from Evri ).  
Sit, stay and play! 07865 663 675



**MERIDIAN  
TOILET HIRE**  
.com  
01424 892123

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

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 £160

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**

**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 12 May and is**

**‘The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society’.**

**If you haven’t seen it, don’t be put off by the strange title. It is a lovely film. 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](mailto:jackie.langley1@btinternet.com)

### **Book Exchange and Community Café**

Methodist Hall 10-1130 on Friday.

The Book Exchange Café will be on Friday 1 May 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](mailto: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. 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: 07940324601 or [robin@plowmate.plus.com](mailto: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.

## **NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

As usual the residents of Ninfield and the surrounding area didn't disappoint and we had a lovely display at our Spring Show on the 28th. There were certainly last minute nerves with hail on Wednesday and rain on Friday which knocked out the magnolias and battered a few camellia blooms, but we still had tulips, daffodils and pot plants. Sylvia Perry wowed us all with her amaryllis (best exhibit in the pot plant section) and the domestic judge had six nettle and lemon cakes to judge as well as cheese biscuits and Cornish pasties and beautifully decorated sponges. Life was made difficult for the photography judge with the high quality of entries and interpretation of the titles and our handicraft section highlighted again what talented people we have in the village – a beautiful turned bowl, embroidery, patchwork and even some iron work. The children from Muddy Boots entered the bulbs they had grown (even though some of them had already flowered) and also gave us a lovely poem.

Class winners on the day were: Ivan Luck, Diana Pilbeam, Ray Noble, Kaye Crittall, Robin Goldsmith, Victoria Filsell, Paula Smith, Tracey Dixon, Nicky Walker, Marion Davies, Sami Guard, Jan Wood, Sylvia Perry, Barry Chaseley, Helen Cunliffe, Carol Holland, David Rutland, Bonnie Johnson, Jack Hoerton, Sarah Garrett, Claire Middlemiss, Deb Sweetman, Gary Pharo, Leif and Renee.

Cup Winners were: Maurice Cornford Memorial Cup (most points, flowers) – Nicky Walker, Society Shield for best exhibit (flowers) – Ivan Luck, Doug March Trophy (most first prize in narcissi classes) – Robin Goldsmith, Society Award for most points (pot plants) – Nicky Walker, Vi Simmonds Shield (best exhibit pot plants) – Sylvia Perry, Perpetual Challenge Cup (most points, Floral Art) – Helen Cunliffe, Best Exhibit (Floral Art) – Helen Cunliffe, Ted Ive Shield (most points, photography) – Ray Noble, Handicraft Cup – Sarah Garrett,

Cookery Award – Gary Pharo, Maurice Cornford Cup (most points ages 5-7) – Bonnie Johnson,

Gold Medal winner (most points age 8-12) – Jack Horton, pre-school 1-2 years – Leif, pre-school 3-4 years – Renee

Thankyou to everyone that entered and made it such a successful show again. Also thanks to the committee, stewards and tea team. The hard work was worth it!

Our next event will be Monday 18th May - a talk from Dr Mick Lynn on Gardening for Wildlife. We meet in the Memorial Hall, doors open at 6.30 for a 7pm start. Entry of free for members, £1 for non-members.

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

We met on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2.00p.m. in the Methodist Hall, Ninfield. Our speaker was Claire Nicolson and the subject was 'Pastures and Performances speak'. Claire is a farmer married to Anne Bourner's son Peter. Claire is also a classically trained musician who now plays mainly guitar but did start out learning violin and piano. She was brought up in the countryside which started her love of animals, she even went to agricultural college. Her love of music pulled her away from farming for many years and she seems to have been backing singer or musician for every band going, travelling the world. She even took part in the Millenium concert at the Brandenburg Gate. She decided it was time to go solo with her guitar and performed many gigs and produced an album of her own work. As well as all the music she still has time to help run the farm. She finished with a couple of her own songs. A fun afternoon.

Our next meeting is 8<sup>th</sup> May same time, same place. Not sure what is happening yet, so watch this space.

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

Rev Thomas Fuller, born 17 Dec 1754 in Heathfield, died 9 Dec 1832 (aged 77) in Hooe. His replacement was the Rev George Haygarth, from Ditchling, where he had been Curate since 1815. He had married and they had 2 children, George Burton Haygarth who become a physician and a daughter Margaret Elizabeth Haygarth. The Rev George Haygarth died in 1840. In January 1844 his daughter, Margaret Elizabeth married George Rain(e)y in Wivelsfield.

George Rainy was an influential figure, having inherited plantations in Guiana near the capital Demerara (white sugar is common but brown? – demarera!)

George Rainy (6 June 1790 – 9 June 1863) was a Scottish merchant, slave owner and land owner. In the early 1800s, Rainy became involved in sugar plantations in the Caribbean which were worked by African slaves in Demerara in Guiana. Due to extensive family connections he eventually became a full partner in Sandbach, Tinne & Company, a Scottish-run company which dealt in trade in the same field and was prominent in British Guiana, to the extent that the men who ran it were called the "Rothschilds of Demerara" on account of their wealth and influence. After the abolition of the Atlantic slave trade in the British Empire in the 1830s, Rainy became involved in the Highland Clearances. Using monies from the payout to former slave-owners following the Slavery Abolition Act 1833, he purchased the islands of Raasay, Rona and Fladda from Clan MacLeod in 1846: he removed from the land twelve townships of ninety-four Gaelic Highlander families to make way for sheep farming, causing mass depopulation and displacement on the islands.

George Rainy was born to Rev. George Rainy (1734–1810), a Presbyterian Church of Scotland minister in Creich, Sutherland, Scotland and his wife Ann Robertson. His grandfather had been John Rennie, a farmer in Turriff, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. Among George's siblings were Margaret Rainy (1774–1844), who married to Charles Parker (1771–1828), from a Scottish family in the Colony of Virginia and a major player in Sandbach, Tinne & Company, which ran sugarcane plantations in Demerara, Guiana.

In addition to this, there was a brother Gilbert Rainy (1782–1808) who had gone to Berbice, Guiana to engage in the same trade. The Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 didn't just bring an end to chattel slavery, it also compensated Britain's 46,000 slave owners for the loss of their "property". As Guyana's plantations were mostly involved in sugar-making, and sugar boilers commanded a compensation figure of £100 compared with that of £18 for an unskilled field worker, the Baillies and other plantation owners were heavily compensated for their estates in Guyana.

Rainy owned 2,793 slaves in Guiana and received a £146,295 payment at the time (worth £14 million in 2020). Some claim that Rainy received the largest payout of all the slave owners. Consequently, Rainey and other Scottish families such as the Baillies received compensation for the slaves they freed, which they invested in a Monopoly board of estates across the Highlands, ensuring that they and their descendants would become one of the largest landed proprietors in the north of Scotland, largely thanks to the profits of slavery. John Gladstone, a British landowner and politician, is a notable example of how slave owners were compensated after the abolition of slavery in the British Empire. Gladstone owned vast sugar plantations in Jamaica and Demerara (now Guyana). He was also president of the West India Association, an influential organization representing the interests of British West Indian planters. Gladstone's claim was the largest of all those made to the Slave Compensation Commission. He owned 2,508 slaves in British Guyana and Jamaica and received a payment of £106,769 (equivalent to about £14,500,000 in 2023). Gladstone's claims were spread over several plantations, significantly increasing the total value of his compensation.

George Rainy was married three times; firstly to Margaret Jessie Louisa Darroch, the daughter of Lieutenant General Duncan Darroch, 2nd Baron of Gourock from the Glengarry Fencibles. She died without issue in 1840. After this, Rainy took **Elizabeth Haygarth** as his second wife, the daughter of the late Rev. George Haygarth of Hooe, but she died in 1856. The couple did have a child together, Rainy's one and only son, George Haygarth Rainy (1845–1872), who died in his 20s without issue. Thirdly, Rainy married

**Isabella Rudkin**, the widow of the Rev. George Hingston. No issue came from this marriage.

The Infant Lyra: Isabella "Issie" Rudkin (born c.1821/3 – 1888) was an Anglo-Irish child musical prodigy known as "The Infant Lyra." She played the harp. Rudkin was born in Dublin, and was the daughter of Henry Rudkin JP and Arabella Sackville (née Cotter). In 1824, when Franz Liszt toured in Britain as a twelve year old, Rudkin upstaged him on a Manchester stage. By the time that Rudkin was 6 years old she had earned over £30,000. She was invited to perform for Princess Victoria of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld, the Duchess of Kent, and her five-year-old daughter (the future Queen Victoria) in December 1824 at Kensington Palace.

Plantations in Guiana: George Rainy followed his brother, Gilbert Rainy, into the sugar trade in Guiana. He became associated with the Scottish-dominated, Liverpool-based company Sandbach, Tinne & Company. This company had been founded in 1790 when his uncle George Robertson, who had been trading in Grenada and his future brother-in-law Charles Parker joined with Samuel Sandbach and the Demerara merchant James McInroy (1759–1825) to create what was originally known as McInroy, Sandbach & Company. This business had been described as the "Rothschilds of Demerara" in the 1820s.

Sandbach, Tinne & Company (Tinne were a Dutch family). Another family was the Berthon family, one commanded HMS Cossack when she was sunk in 1941 and a Berthon married into the Sparke family, a branch being active in Hooe and Ninfield. British Guiana is famous among philatelists for its early postage stamps, some of them considered to be among the rarest, most expensive stamps in the world. These include the unique British Guiana 1c magenta from 1856, which sold in 1980 for close to USD1 million. KR.

### **Lunch Club**

The next lunch club will meet on Thursday 28 May at Ninfield Methodist Hall. If you would like a place, contact Sam on 07484 847933.

## JOHN BIGNELL Garage Doors

Automation / Repairs / New Doors

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

johnbignell@btconnect.com

## 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

★ Trustpilot



/07734 659834

www.bargainfloors.co.uk

## 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

## DANCE CLASSES

### 'MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC'

Mondays 10.00am for the older & active

### LINE DANCING

Alternate Tuesdays 2.30 pm

### LADIES DANCERCISE

Every Wednesday evening 6.30 pm

### 'BALLROOM/BURLESQUE!'

Fortnightly alternate Fridays 7.00 pm

All classes at the MEMORIAL HALL

Call : SAMANTHA GUARD A.I.S.T.D.Hons.

**01424 893699 or 07970 650321**



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

**General Plumbing & Heating Services**

**Underfloor Heating**

**Kitchen & Bathroom Installations**

Honest, Professional & Affordable

**01424 892933**

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

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)

## **News and Reviews!**

**LADIES LOUNGE:** I do hope to see you at our Ladies Lounge gathering at the end of APRIL which is FRIDAY 24th, from 4.30pm, at the Working Men's Club! Its a special one this month..it's our FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY!!! Come and enjoy some lovely relaxed, supportive, fun company with fabulous women! The Bar will be open, the open fire (if cold outside)roaring and welcoming, and snacks and cake available! There's shoulders to cry on, jokes to be laughed at and support to be treasured. Huge thanks go again to Debby, Belinda and the Committee of the WMC for their wonderful ongoing support. Next date FRIDAY 29th MAY

**BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND FUN!** Sunday 3rd May, at Ninfield Working Men's Club, an Afternoon full of fun, with BBQ, Huge Meat Raffle at 2.30pm, Live Music and LINE DANCING with me from 3.15pm...EVERYONE welcome! Come and join us! And if you want a quick lesson before the weekend.....?! See below!

**LINE DANCE CLASSES-** are a HIT!!! 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 £6 pp/per class. Everyone is welcome, Ladies, Gents, youngsters, it's purely for Fun-but of course you can don the Stetsons and Cowboy Boots if you want to! Beginners are very welcome, as are those who 'haven't done it for years!'

It's very good exercise and VERY fashionable at the moment!!  
Yeeeha!!

## **MOVEMENT & DANCE:**

Dance classes continue in 2026, running as follows on a weekly basis

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

**TUESDAY** (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 classes are £6 pp per class.

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

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](mailto:samanthaguard@btinternet.com)**

FB. NINFIELD CARNIVAL FÊTE AND EVENTS. (This page will continue!)

## **AN AFTERNOON TEA IN MAY !!**

To reiterate the piece that Jackie has put in the Health & Wellbeing section ! The Health and Wellbeing Group would love to invite everyone to come together for an Afternoon Tea, with Cake, in our beautiful St Mary's Church, on Saturday 30th May, from 3pm - 5pm. Hopefully 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 .

Call me 07970650321 or Jackie@Bangley 01424 892422

# 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)



**PARKER & SON**  
BUILDING, ROOFING & SURVEYING

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)



- 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)



AAS AAI

PAWS Therapy dog certified

Certified Puppy dog Trainer

Dog 1<sup>st</sup> Aid qualified

Contact Jolande on

☎ 07749 970215

[caninecalmandconfidence@outlook.com](mailto:caninecalmandconfidence@outlook.com)



🐾 Puppy support- before puppy arrives and during the first months

🐾 Dog behaviour workshops- how your dog is communicating with you

🐾 Therapy dog

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>



## NINFIELD



Lower Street  
Fully Licensed  
Convenience Store  
News & Magazines  
Daily Deliveries Fresh Fruit / Veg & Bread  
DVLA, Banking & Currency  
892281 [ninfieldstore@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldstore@gmail.com)

## Ninfield Bonfire Society – May News

Bonfire season may feel a long way off, but for Ninfield Bonfire Society the work never really stops. Bonfire is, of course, about one spectacular night in the village - but what many people do not always see is the months of work behind the scenes that make it possible. From fundraising and event planning to safety, logistics and community support, bonfire is very much a year-round effort, and one that depends on volunteers, goodwill and village spirit.

This year, we are especially excited to be bringing a new summer event to the village calendar.

**Ninfield Music Night** will take place on **Saturday 11th July 2026 at Ninfield Memorial Hall**. Many villagers will remember the much-loved Ninfield Music Festival, so we're delighted to be hosting an evening that celebrates live music and community once again. The evening will feature **local live music, food, a bonfire bar** and a great village atmosphere, with the popular rock band **Cushty** headlining the event. More details will be announced soon, but for now, please do save the date as we hope it will be a fantastic village night out.

Following our recent **Annual General Meeting**, we would like to thank everyone who came along and those who have already stepped forward to take on committee roles. We are, however, still looking to fill three important positions: **Health and Safety, Treasurer and Vice Chair**. These roles are essential in helping us organise Ninfield's traditional bonfire celebrations safely and successfully each year.

Joining the committee is a great way to support a much-loved village tradition, meet new people and play a real part in keeping the Sussex bonfire spirit alive in Ninfield. You do not need to have done it before - just an interest in helping and being part of the team. If you would like to know more about any of the roles, please get in touch at [ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com) or call **Sarah** on **07809 684488**.

We'll also be at the **Ninfield Village Market** this month, **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May** so please do come and say hello. We'll have information

about the Society, merchandise available to browse, and tombola if you'd like to try your luck. It's always a lovely chance to have a chat with residents and share a little more about what we do throughout the year.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to help with **car park marshalling** at the **Herstmonceux Medieval Heritage Weekend**, taking place on **2nd, 3rd and 4th May 2026** at Herstmonceux Castle. The event is expected to attract around **1,000 visitors each day**, and in return for our help, the organisers will be making a generous donation to Ninfield Bonfire Society.

We need **3–4 volunteers per day**, and this is something we've supported before at events such as the Hooe Car Show, where those involved really enjoyed being part of it. **Free camping** is available if needed, along with toilet and shower facilities, and volunteers will also be able to enjoy the festival when not on shift, with a bar open in the evenings. If you can help for one or more days, please email **ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com** with your name and availability. Please note that **children cannot take part in the parking management** for this event.

As plans continue for another memorable **Ninfield Bonfire** on **Saturday 24th October 2026**, we remain hugely grateful for the support of our community. Organising the procession, bonfire, effigy and fireworks takes time, teamwork and funding, and every bit of support helps.

If you enjoyed our traditional Sussex Bonfire event, why not consider becoming a member? Membership details can be found at:

[www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk/membership](http://www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk/membership)

We are also always pleased to hear from **local businesses** who may be interested in sponsoring the Society and supporting this long-standing village tradition.

For the latest updates, please follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram**, or visit:

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

## **NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL**

**SATURDAY 16TH MAY**

**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**

**Every month there is something different along side the regular stalls, another thing that is different each month is the number of new faces we see, we seem to just grow and grow.**

**The other unusual thing is that after 10 years of yellow signs in the village there are still residents who don't know we're here!  
So please spread the word!**

## **DARK SKIES**

Contact for Dark Skies is usually through a WhatsApp group, but we met in April to discuss possible events for this year to raise awareness of the skies above our village.

The annual Dawn Walk will take place on 25th May, so if you fancy an early start (around 4/4.15am) to watch the sun come up, please email [k.crittell@btinternet.com](mailto:k.crittell@btinternet.com) or call me on 07707683187.

We are also planning our usual meet up to watch the sun go down on the Solstice. Again, contact me if you are interested.

But the main event is planned for October - it is very much in the early stages at the moment, but please pencil in Friday 9th October. If you would like to join the group, please email me [k.crittell@btinternet.com](mailto:k.crittell@btinternet.com) or call on 07707 683187

## 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 Hoee  
Professional Affordable Service  
[helpinghandhandyman76@gmail.com](mailto:helpinghandhandyman76@gmail.com)

## ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING SERVICES

### PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL DRAWINGS

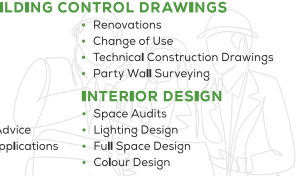
- Extensions
- Alterations
- New Builds
- Loft Conversions
- Renovations
- Change of Use
- Technical Construction Drawings
- Party Wall Surveying

### 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



## RUBICON

Chartered Building Consultancy



Contact us for a quote or free consultation:  
M: 07969 729569 I: 01303 237704

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



## HOPE COTTAGE FARM SHOP & TEAROOM

Hoee Road Ninfield, TN33 9EL, 01424 322463

All day breakfast  
Lunches & Specials  
Sunday Roast.

See Facebook for Special Events  
Open 10am– 4pm Closed Tuesday.

## Woodside Acupuncture & Massage Clinic Now open in Ninfield

University trained acupuncturist  
Angela Wallis has over 18 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](http://hooevillagecommunitygroup.co.uk)  
**Facebook:** Hooe Village Community Group  
**Email:** [hooevcg@gmail.com](mailto: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

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Coffee Morning:** All the usual attractions. Let's hope the weather is kind which will enable us to enjoy coffee and conversation outside in the fresh air.

**June 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Open Gardens weekend:** Hooe gardens are starting to look amazing – our gardeners are working their socks off to create stunning displays for us all to enjoy. When we first decided to stage Hooe Open Gardens weekend we didn't realise how competitive the gardeners would all become! However, they do understand this is a fun event, not a competition, The idea is to share and enjoy a wide variety of interesting garden plans and design. It is impossible to have a favourite, they are all so individual, beautiful and interesting. We appreciate the many hours of work that goes into their creation.

- Entry price stays the same - 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
- Car Parking available and signposted

- Home made refreshments served both days in the garden of No 1 Elizabethan Cottages. On Saturday from 10.30am – Our Monthly Coffee Moring with a difference!
- Marquee ‘Made in Hooe’ on the Flag Green. This will include a History Society Display

Please visit our website: [www.hooe-open-gardens.com](http://www.hooe-open-gardens.com)

If you would like more information about the event, or are tempted to open YOUR garden please contact Gary 01424 893007

If you feel like would like volunteering to bake or help with the refreshments, please contact Sally 01424 893007. She will be delighted to hear from you. Sally is organising a Rota of helpers and will try very hard to find a special place for YOU!

### **Community Clean Up 21<sup>st</sup> March - A HUGE THANK YOU**



Some of the collection.  
Thankfully Wealden DC came on the Monday morning and took everything away

With grateful thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who turned out to help with the Community Litter Pick. We were able to Clean Up Hooe in just 2 hours of hard work!

We reported the collection of 25+ empty half bottles of vodka and 2 sets of number plates to the police. Within an hour the police were on the doorstep to pick up the number plates.

In response to their request the Doodles’ spent most of Sunday morning extracting the vodka bottles from the bags of rubbish. Some of the collection. Thankfully Wealden DC came on the Monday morning and took everything away



Our MP, Kieran Mullan, pictured here picking litter with Amanda wrote in his newsletter

*“It was fantastic to see so many people turning out with the Hooe Community Group litter pick to help keep their village looking its best. Their dedication is inspiring and it was a pleasure to join them”*

Thank you for getting stuck in,  
Kieran, much appreciated

It never ceases to amaze us that those mindless people, who discard unwanted items from their cars, and obviously drink Vodka as they travel through the countryside, never give a thought to who clears up after them. It doesn't just magically disappear.

### **Donation to St Oswald's Church**

Last month we were pleased to donate £250 to St Oswald's Church, the Churchwardens were delighted! Not as thrilled as us, it is so pleasing to have a welcoming venue available in which to hold our monthly coffee mornings. The numbers of folk enjoying the morning keeps growing, now we are nearing 60 most months.

### **Hooe History Society**

HVCG has been asked by Hooe History Society if we could rack our brains and help them solve an ongoing problem. This successful Society has researched and been gifted a huge number of photographs, maps, documentation and other items of Hooe Historic Interest, the archive keeps growing! Safe storage is the problem – and accessibility for public view. We are stuck for a solution – does anyone have any bright ideas?



**This month we have:**

**Two Useful Chaps of the Month!**

**Peter and Grant**

**always smiling at every  
Coffee Morning.....**

**spreading a little sunshine**

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

## **FRIENDLY VOICES**

Summer is here (honest) and we have moved to St Mary's Church for our weekly sessions. Tuesday evenings 7.30-8.30pm and Thursday afternoon 2-3pm. Anyone is welcome to join us or just come in and listen.

On Saturday 23rd May we will be singing at the Church Coffee Morning, but bring your so' westers and boots as there will be a 'sea' theme this time around, including sea shanties for you to sing a long to. It will be different!!!

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

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

3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30 am	'Paddington' Café Church (see below)
	3.30 pm	Circuit service @ Calvert Methodist Church, Hastings
10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Family Worship with Reverend Cynthia Park
17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Family Worship & Communion with Reverend Ian Couchman
24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Pentecost / Whit Sunday Family Church
31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Worship & Praise Family Service with Steve Wise

### Events for May 2026:

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

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May we are having a special Cafe Church based on 'Paddington' at 10.30 am at our Church. This will be child friendly and includes continental breakfast ..... We will finish by 11:30. We look forward to seeing you and your bear!

Every Sunday we also now 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 & join us. Parents can either stay in Church or move into Hall.

We look forward to WhitSunday or Pentecost at the end of May. It is a major festival of the Church's year when Christians recall how God's Holy Spirit was given to the disciples after Jesus' ascension, empowering them to begin the work of making disciples of all nations. It has also come to be known as 'the birthday of the Church'. The Holy Spirit is of course with us today.

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

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Samuel 8:1 - 10:1, 17-24

Samuel had been a good leader of Israel  
but he was now old. The leaders of the  
twelve tribes came to talk to him...

We want a king like all  
the other countries



God told Samuel

It's not you they are  
rejecting but Me.



If you have a king, he will  
take your sons to be his  
army and your daughters to  
work in his palace.



He will take the best of  
your land, your crops  
and your animals



We still want a king.

Samuel sent them home.



I was  
hoping he would choose me..

Saul and his servant were  
looking for some donkeys  
that had run off.



They decided to ask  
Samuel to ask God  
where the donkeys were



God told Samuel that  
Saul was to be the  
king



Samuel called everyone to a  
meeting and told them that  
God had chosen a king.



God told them that Saul  
was to be their king...



but Saul was hiding.

He's behind the luggage.



and they found Saul.

The people cheered!



Long live the King!

# 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@goolemail.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 STOOLBALL:** Linda Smith, Holmes Farm, Whydown 845163

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

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

# 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