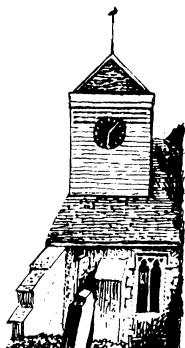


# The

# Parish

# News



What's on and What you missed

In & around

Ninfield & Hove

November 25

50p



# St MARY's & St OSWALD's



## NOTICE BOARD CHURCH SERVICE TIMES

### St Mary's

### St Oswald's

2 <sup>nd</sup> November <b>All Saints Day</b>	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
9 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00 Service for Remembrance	3.00p.m. Remembrance on the Green
11 <sup>th</sup> November	NO SERVICE	10.45 Remembrance Service
16 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	NO SERVICE	11.00 Parish Eucharist
30 <sup>th</sup> November <b>Advent Sunday</b>	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](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,

November seems to be the month for remembering.

All Souls at the beginning of the month is a chance to remember with thankfulness those whom we have loved but see no more.

And, of course, there is also our national act of Remembrance, on Remembrance Sunday. I never fail to be moved as the poppies fall down from the roof of the Royal Albert Hall during the Festival of Remembrance. That remembrance is all the more poignant in our own day as the reality of war and its human cost is once again apparent in Gaza and in Ukraine. There will be services at war memorials and in churches across the country as we remember those who died fighting to protect us and bring peace and justice to our world, and we pray for those serving in our Armed Forces today. I am just sorry I shall not be conducting the Act of Remembrance in church this year as I believed I was retiring in March this year!!

Memories, and remembering, are such central parts of our personalities and character, and in many ways make up part of who we are. Being remembered is very important to us, and the thought that we might be forgotten can be heart-breaking. I often read these verses from Isaiah to people who are feeling lost and abandoned for any reason, or who are grieving the passing of years which means that all those whom they knew and loved, and who held the memories of them as younger people, have died:

*God says, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands." (Isaiah 49:15-16a)*

For Christians, of course, the most significant act of remembering is when we come together to remember in bread and wine the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus' willing sacrifice of himself on the cross for the sake of others is, for Christian believers, the ultimate expression of the self-giving love at the heart of God, when Christ's hands were marked by the nails of the cross. "Do this in remembrance of me."

So in this season of Remembrance, as we remember with candles, poppies, or bread and wine, may we all take time to pause, reflect, and be thankful. Paul

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November we will be celebrating All Saints Day both in Ninfield at 9.30 and at Hooe at 11am.

As in previous years there will be a service of Remembrance in Hooe Church on 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45 and it will be conducted by Rev. Stephenie Prosser who will also conduct the act of Remembrance on the Green in Hooe on 9<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm.

The service at Ninfield starts in church at 10am and then processes to the Recreation Ground for an act of remembrance. That service will be conducted by the new Methodist Minister Rev Ian Couchman.

Paul

## Remembrance

In November we come to remember  
How war tore our country apart,  
From village and town and all around  
Men and boys left home and hearth.

Mothers and wives and sisters all  
Saw their brave young men go away,  
For some it meant the ultimate price  
As they gave their tomorrows for our today.

Another Man left His home above  
To rescue this world from sin,  
It cost Him His life which He freely gave  
So new life could enter in.

In this world there will always be war,  
But the time will surely be  
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God  
As the waters cover the sea.

## News from St Oswald's

On 20<sup>th</sup> September a Macmillan Coffee morning was held in the church and raised £400

On 28<sup>th</sup> September it was our Harvest Festival followed by a very enjoyable lunch. A successful time enjoyed by 30 people.. Our Harvest Gifts were 43Kg of groceries which were donated to Battle Foodbank.

Following the last report in September Parish News we have had further problems. The Curtain in the Chancel over the Priest Door has gone missing and on 29<sup>th</sup> September there was an unsuccessful attempt to break in to the Vestry, however there was some damage to the door frame.

On 9<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Sunday there is a Joint Service at St. Mary's Ninfield. 10.00a.m . No service here in the morning. There will be an Act of Remembrance on the Hooe Village Green at 3.00pm. Remembrance Day 11<sup>th</sup> November Tuesday .Service in the Church at 10.45am.

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November Hooe Village Community Group are hosting a concert in the Church.(see full details on Page 29)

Our Carol Service will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December with the Hooe Village Band. There will a bus service from the Red Lion Pub at 6.15, 6.30 and 6.45pm approx. And return after the concert. If you are attending, please use the bus or car share as the parking is limited.

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Jane Fuller and Family would like to thank everyone who supported the MacMillan Coffee Morning that was held in Hooe Church in September. The people that made cakes and savouries and donated raffle prizes and the people who generously bought them! We raised an amazing £400 for this very worthy cause.

A special thank you to Margaret Rist who helped set up the church and did copious amounts of washing up!

We hope to do it all over again next year!

## Ninfield Book Group

Do you enjoy reading or listening to books? Are you interested in widening your reading range and trying new authors? Would you like to chat about books and exchange your views with fellow reading enthusiasts? The idea of a book group is that everyone reads the same book and then the group meets to discuss their views in an informal and friendly way. Everyone has an input into the books chosen and the meetings are normally once a month to give everyone time to read it. We are aiming to start a new book group in the village, with meetings held on the last Monday of the month, 7.30pm at The Working Mens' Club, with the inaugural meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November. If you think you might be interested, please get in touch, even if you can't make the first date. It'd be good to get a local group up and running.

**Contact: Helen Stockton**

Phone: 07784 538965 email: [helen@writethistime.com](mailto:helen@writethistime.com)

## Editors' Comment...

*Nicki & Carol*



# ***November Diary***

		<b>Venue</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>			
29 <sup>th</sup>	Bonfire Members Night	Blacksmith's	18
31 <sup>st</sup>	Men's Shed	Sparke Pavilion	32
31 <sup>st</sup>	Ladies Lounge	Working Men's	32
<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>BONFIRE NIGHT</b>	<b>NINFIELD</b>	<b>17</b>

## **SYNOPSIS of ALAN MEAD'S TALK to CWF**

At the CWF meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> October, Alan Mead gave a presentation titled 'SUGAR'; it is such a big and interesting subject that it was hard to limit the talk to just an afternoon hour! Henry Tate was the son of a Unitarian Minister, and he maintained his Christian beliefs throughout his life. He moved from Chorley in Lancashire to Silvertown in East London, where in 1877, he had a sugar refinery built, which is still operating today. Abram Lyle also was a devout Christian and an elder of St. Michael's Presbyterian Church in Greenock. He moved from Greenock in 1882, also to Silvertown, where he also built a sugar refinery, only one mile from Henry Tate's refinery. There was fierce rivalry between the two and it is believed that they never even met; it wasn't until 1921, over 20 years after their deaths, that their descendants decided to merge the two refineries into the single company that it is today. Henry Tate's first claim to fame was his bringing the sugar cube to the UK and Abram Lyle's was his famous Golden Syrup, for which, unlike the sugar cube, there is still a growing demand today. They were both very generous men, Henry Tate in particular, became immensely rich. His broader claim to fame was his being a philanthropist; he lived modestly and like every plutocrat, he had more money than he could spend, so he gave it away. He supported non-establishment religious causes, including making a significant donation to the library of Harris Manchester College, which was founded to provide education for religious nonconformists and donated large sums of money to many charities. He donated money for new libraries, universities and medical institutions, including nurses' pension funds. He felt that there was a need for a place where works of modern art could be seen at any time of the year, he spent £150,000 to build the Tate Gallery, the two great London art galleries known today as Tate Britain and Tate Modern, and donated his personal art collection and presented it to the nation. He was made a baronet on 27 June 1898, having refused this title more than once until he was told the Royal Family would be offended if he refused it again. Alan commenced work at Tate & Lyle Sugars when he left school in 1964 and, 61 years later, he is still employed by them, albeit now only part-time. He trained as a laboratory analyst working on shift; that training included spending time carrying out every role in the refinery process operations. He progressed through many roles in the refinery for 33 years, mostly in relation to quality control, then transferred to another division of the company, for whom he travelled around the world, mostly in the tropics. The nature of his work then was very varied and it was on one of these trips in Vietnam that he met and married his wife, Hue. Alan explained how working with people of different cultures and religions opened his eyes to the differences and gave him a greater understanding of the problems the modern world is experiencing today; he also showed some amazing photographs taken on his travels, some funny and some sad.

The talk evoked many questions, wide and varied, and he has already agreed to expand the talk early next year.

## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Once again, the coffee morning held at the Ninfield Methodist Hall on the last Friday in September proved a huge success. The coffee morning is always open to any local people that would like to come. We would like to thank everyone involved from those that helped make goods to sell, cake donators, raffle donators, and those that helped serve, wash up, set up and clear on the day. It really is a team effort and was so well attended, in fact there didn't seem to be a spare space at all. I'm delighted to say I have banked £1090 in cash but also have online donations and gift aid to add to that. An incredible figure, which I have signed up to be redirected from the general Macmillan pot to our regional fund. It's great to know what we raise can be claimed for more local use.

I'd especially like to thank the Methodist hall for very kindly donating the use of the hall for free and for my core group of helpers who are such a joy to work with on these fundraisers. Thank you once again on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Care,

**Veronica Sargent**

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## Booking Clerk(s) for Ninfield Memorial Hall

Ninfield Memorial Hall are looking for a volunteer/volunteers willing to take on the role of Booking Secretary for the Memorial Hall from January 2026. Ideally, we would like two people to share the role as we have 2 distinct booking groups - regular hirers such as scouts, fitness classes etc and one-off hires such as parties, exhibitions – it would also give cover for holidays etc. We have a dedicated online booking system and booking email, which require regular monitoring (we would estimate an average of an hour a day) as the hall is busy every day of the week.

You are not expected to open and close the hall for each hirer.

Although the booking program will work on a phone, a reasonable size tablet or laptop would be preferable and easier to read.

Access to the internet is essential. Full training will be given and there will be a handover period.

Along with good computer skills, Interpersonal skills and good record keeping are essential.

For more information, please contact [ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com](mailto:ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com)

## COUNTRY WAYS - The Good the not so good and the ugly

Starting with the good. The swallows have been grouping together, feeding nonstop and awaiting the moment to fly south. How that moment is perceived is a wonderful mystery. Some have already left and maybe the remaining few are the young of a third brood and still not quite ready to make such a stupendous journey. I have seen two skeins of geese fly over the Church, grey lags and like all geese they make such a noise when flying you hear them long before you see them. Now I cannot say for sure but I have also seen what I think were the first red wings. To be honest they could not really be anything else. They were clearly from the thrush family, not fieldfares, too quiet and I haven't seen song thrushes group together in those numbers. This year has been described as a waxwing winter, there being so many berries about. I am not sure about that, maybe there are so many berries because we had the right kind of spring. I think that the birds leave areas like Norway because it has become too cold for them to stay. I can remember when we had a warm winter in Europe and the woodcock didn't show! So judging the coming winter is not so much the quantity of berries but how early our Norwegian friends come to feed on them. I term this as 'not so good' as there is possibly a positive attached to it, though you need to be an optimist to see it that way.

Some time ago there was a lot of litter left in the Church car park. Someone had eaten a takeaway there and just ditched the rubbish out of the window. Not so nice to see in the morning when opening the Church. I did mention this in the parish news and suggested that maybe having a carrier bag in the car, where rubbish can be placed, would make it easier to dispose of it. Well maybe someone heard that advice because three carrier bags of rubbish, cans and again fast food rappers, were carefully left by the side of the back lane to Sidley. Perhaps its because my writing was not clear. So well done for collecting the rubbish together, now the finishing touch please put all the rubbish in a bin. Not being an optimist I fear we are going to find an old bin full of rubbish left at the side of the road somewhere now! So a big thank you to those noble folk who spend so much time picking up the litter along our roadways. Now the ugly. There is a field, or was, on the outskirts of Sidley lost for ever. The site is now cleared ready for building, grass and trees gone for ever. All the small farms I use to work on as a boy are gone too, a massive housing estate in their place and the sight of it has haunted me for so many years. So much so I cannot go back to the land of my youth. Odd then that words now days can hurt, but actions not so much. Who remembers the old saying, 'sticks and stones my break my bones but words will never hurt me'.

## **Ninfield Flower Group**

Our October workshop will be held as usual at the Methodist Church Hall, 7.15pm. The theme for the evening's arrangement is Halloween so expect pumpkins and spider's webs along with seasonal floral arrangements. The fee for the evening is £4 and we always enjoy a cup of tea / coffee and biscuits.

On Monday November 3rd at the Memorial Hall we welcome Alison Gillott with her demonstration "Pocket full of Posies". Alison is President of the Surrey Area of Flower Arrangement Societies and has won Gold and Best in Show at RHS Chelsea.

Refreshments from 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Visitors £5.

And so to our big celebration of the year with our Christmas open meeting on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December with national demonstrator Lucy Ellis. Lucy will be travelling to us from West Wiltshire and is the winner of many prestigious awards including several gold medals from RHS Chelsea. 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Tickets are £15 to include refreshments. There will be two raffles - one for the floral arrangements and one for general prizes to include Christmas food hampers. Phone 07966 659552 to book tickets.

We look forward to welcoming you to our meetings.

**Helen Cuncliffe**  
**Chairman**

# Christmas Lunch

As many of you will know, for the last three years The Health and Wellbeing Group has organised a two course Christmas lunch, with wine and entertainment for 50 – 60 Ninfield residents. In order to keep the numbers manageable, it has been open to people over 80, those living alone or living with a disability. This free lunch has been made possible with help from the Carnival Committee, the Church, the Bonfire Society and Hastings Direct. We are arranging the lunch again on Saturday 6 th December. We know that we inevitably miss people, so if we have missed you, or you know someone that hasn't been invited before, do let me know. We want to keep the lunch free but in order to that in the future we will need to collect more funds towards it. If you fee you can donate something, either as a past or future participant, as a local business or just because you think this gift ti some mainly older Ninfield residents is worth donng then pleasecontact me on 0142892422 or email [jackie.langley1@btinternet.com](mailto:jackie.langley1@btinternet.com) All donations, large or small



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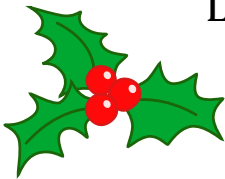
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## HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

Our speaker this month is Dr David Alderton with his talk, "Gypsum Mining in Sussex". David is a retired university lecturer in geology, who tells us, "Since moving to East Sussex I have also become interested in local history, so research into the history of the local gypsum mines was a natural project for me. Gypsum is a mineral that has a widespread occurrence and a fascinating array of important and everyday uses. The discovery of large deposits of gypsum in the Mountfield area more than 150 years ago (a result of scientific serendipity) led to a long and continuous period of mining and processing; yet the secluded location means that few people will be familiar with the operations. This talk will illustrate the background to the deposit's discovery and outline the history of the mining through its various phases, from the late 1800s up to the present day". We meet, as usual, in St Oswald's church on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW... This month, when we remember those who lost their lives in wartime, I will shine a light on a family that has lived in Hooe for several generations and have contributed so much to our village. Jane Vitler brought me a newspaper cutting from the Bexhill Chronicle of June 1916 which her grandmother had kept...

FIVE FOR THE KING - PROUD RECORD OF A HOOE MOTHER.



Our portraits this week are of a very well-known and esteemed Hooe family. They show Mrs. Ellen Vitler, of Hall's Cross Farm, and her five sons, who are serving with the Forces. The family have been in Hooe for very many years, engaged in farm work. Mrs. Vitler was married about 40 years ago to Mr. George Vitler, who was a native of Hooe, having been born in the village. He also lived for a short time in Little Common, of which village Mrs. Vitler was a native. She has three other sons besides those serving their country, one of whom is in Australia and is serving in the police force there, in which capacity he has been acting for three years. The other two are at home and are engaged on farm work. Mrs. Vitler is now a widow her husband having died two years ago. 15

CHARLES VITLER, 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards, the eldest son, is at present serving abroad, where he has been since the commencement of the war. He has been in the army for about nine years.

ARTHUR VITLER, H.M. Destroyer "Kangaroo". Mrs. Vitler's second son, Arthur, is serving in the Navy. He was in the Navy previous to the war, and has been serving for 13 years. He has been in action, and has had some exciting experiences.

FRANK. VITLER, Gunner of the Royal Field Artillery, is serving abroad, where he has been since last September.

HORACE VITLER, Canadian Forces, is also in the army and is serving in the Canadian contingent. He went out to Canada about two years ago, and joined up last September. He is not yet on foreign service, but is training in England. Private ROBERT VITLER, Royal Fusiliers is in training. He enlisted during last March. Sadly, only three of Ellen's sons came home after the war. Horace died in the battle of Courcellette in September 1916 and Robert died in October 1917 of wounds, probably received in the Battle of Poelcapelle. It was meant to be the war to end all wars, but here we are over 100 years later and still we see conflict in so many places around the world. I shudder to think what the next 100 years may bring...

**Peter Hayward**

# **Ninfield Bonfire Society – November News**

## ***Bonfire & Fireworks Display – Saturday 1st November***

Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Night takes place on

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November at Ninfield Recreation Ground.

This free community event promises an evening of excitement with a torch-lit procession, the lighting of the bonfire and effigy and a spectacular firework display to finish the night.

The evening begins with visiting Bonfire Societies mustering in Church Lane at 7:00pm, collecting their torches ready for the procession to start at 7:30pm. The route passes through the village – including the Blacksmiths Inn, Manchester Road, Coombe Lane, and High Street – before returning to the recreation ground. Once there, the traditional Bonfire Chant will be delivered before the fire is lit and the fireworks begin. Food vendors will be on site, and donations collected on the night will go towards supporting local charities and future village events. Please note that road closures will be in place from 6:15pm to 10:00pm, and for everyone's safety, we ask you to follow directions from our marshals throughout the evening. Thank you for your patience and support.

### **Other Ninfield Bonfire Events in November**

Ninfield Village Market – Saturday 15th November

9:30am–12:30pm, Ninfield Memorial Hall (TN33 9EE)

Visit our Bonfire Society Tombola and have a chat with us about what we do. You can also find out how to become a member or browse our merchandise. The market will also feature local produce, crafts, plants, cakes, vintage treasures and more – a great morning out for all.

Monthly Meeting – Wednesday 19th November

7:30pm at Ninfield Working Men's Club (TN339EE)

Whether you're a long-standing member or brand new, your support and ideas are always welcome.

The Bonfire and Fireworks Night continues to be an important community event made possible through the dedication of our volunteers, visiting societies, and the generous support of local businesses and residents.

We're grateful to everyone who helps keep this tradition going safely and successfully each year.

## **A Massive Thank You to Our Main and Supporter Sponsors for 2025/2026**

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### **Also Supporting Us A very big thank you to:**

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Thank you for supporting Ninfield Bonfire Society – we look forward to celebrating with you on Saturday 1st November.

Stay connected:

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, or visit our new website for updates:  
[www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk](http://www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk)

Remember, remember the 5th of November – let's keep the flames of tradition



**NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL**  
**SATURDAY 15<sup>h</sup> NOVEMBER**  
**FOODS & CRAFTS MARKET**

**9.30 - 12.30**

**Come along and buy your lovely local meat from Helen,  
fruit & veg, bread & cheese from Sarah**

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

**And who knows what else might be there for you to taste!**

**If you are looking for that little present for someone.**

**Maybe just to say 'thank you' or a birthday, maybe start  
Christmas early! take a look at some of the lovely crafts,  
many locally made.**

**Pop in for tea or coffee and a bite to eat**

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

We met on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October in the Ninfield Methodist Hall. Our guest speaker Fabian who has been researching one of Hooe's historic properties, he gave a very interesting talk which could have lasted much longer, such was the wealth of historic information he has unearthed. Newspaper articles, Census Returns and auction details showing the development and owners and occupiers of the house since the 16th Century. It was astonishing that a reasonably modest house could have so many occupants at any one time, families with 10 or more children somehow all living there, plus lodgers in some cases! It just shows that with dedication and determination just how much information could be available about the past occupiers of your own house in Hooe, Ninfield or elsewhere if you have the time to dig into it. Tea, coffee and cake (again!) followed with thanks to Fabian for taking time in his busy life to come and talk to us.

Our next meeting is on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November at Ninfield Methodist Hall at 2.00p.m. Remember it is an open group and all are welcome. Hope to see you there.      Nicki & Heather

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## Worms Eye View

Unfortunately, our lovely Worms Eye lady is not able to write her article in this month's edition. She had a fall, an operation and is now recovering at a lovely Home in Eastbourne with lots of physio and exercise to get her safely back home. She escaped the home last Saturday and was taken home by her daughters to spend a couple of hours with all her family to celebrate her 92 birthday! We pass on our congratulations. Also I have been reliably informed that 'normal service' will resume next month. We wish her well.

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### Driving History

The trend of left-hand driving predates the automobile by centuries—all the way back to the medieval age of knights, swords, and constant warring. Since 70–90 percent of the world's population favour using their right hands, during the times of King Arthur, soldiers and weapon-bearing citizens would prefer walking on the left side of the road so that their strong right hand would be free to pull out their swords in case danger arose. In addition, since they kept their sword sheath to their left, they would avoid hitting people with it as they walked past. This trend never went away, and when driving finally came about, the left side continued to be the natural preference. Then how did right-hand driving come about? It is thought to have originated during the French revolution, as Napoleon Bonaparte was left handed and so he would order his troops to stay on the right side of the road so as to have his left hand free for attack. Not very helpful as most of his Army would be right handed! Overtime, this preference was adopted in France and spread throughout their conquered territories; however, Britain and Japan, for example, have always driven on the left-hand side. Standard design for vehicles in countries that require driving on the left-hand side is to have the driver's seat located on the right side of the vehicle, and vice versa for countries where you drive on the right-hand side. Most American cars produced before 1910 were RHD. In 1908, Henry Ford standardised the Model T as LHD in RHT America, arguing that with RHD and RHT, the passenger was obliged to "get out on the street side and walk around the car" and that with steering from the left, the driver "is able to see even the wheels of the other car and easily avoids danger." By 1915, other manufacturers followed Ford's lead, due to the popularity of the Model T. Left-hand traffic and right-hand traffic are the practices, and are fundamental to traffic flow, and are often called the rule of the road. The terms right- and left-hand drive refer to the position of the driver and the steering wheel in

the vehicle and are the reverse of the terms right- and left-hand traffic. The rule also includes where on the road a vehicle is to be driven, if there is room for more than one vehicle in one direction, and the side on which the vehicle in the rear overtakes the one in the front. For example, a driver in an LHT country would typically overtake on the right of the vehicle being overtaken. RHT is used in 165 countries and territories, mainly in the Americas, Continental Europe, most of Africa and mainland Asia (except South Asia and Thailand), while 75 countries use LHT, which account for about a sixth of the world's land area, a quarter of its roads, and about a third of its population. In 1919, 104 of the world's territories were LHT and an equal number were RHT. Between 1919 and 1986, 34 of the LHT territories switched to RHT. While many of the countries using LHT were part of the British Empire, others such as Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Bhutan, Macau, Thailand, Mozambique and Suriname were not. All of the countries that were part of the French Colonial Empire adopted RHT. In LHT, traffic keeps left and cars usually have the steering wheel on the right (RHD: right-hand drive) and roundabouts circulate clockwise. RHT is the opposite: traffic keeps right, the driver usually sits on the left side of the car (LHD: left-hand drive), and roundabouts circulate counterclockwise. However, shipping is RHT, regardless of location. Boats are traditionally piloted from the starboard side (and not the port side like RHT road traffic vehicles) to facilitate priority to the right. That's because starboard was the STEERboard, so you tied up in dock on the PORT side, so as not to damage the steering oar. Horses are traditionally mounted from the left, and led from the left, with the reins in the right hand. So people walking horses would walk on the right to keep animals separated,

**KR**

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## **More news, views and reviews...**

### **THE LADIES LOUNGE.**

Hopefully you know by now, we're always the last FRIDAY of the month, and all gatherings are at the Tin Hut, (aka The Working Men's Club!) 4.30- 6.30pm..

Spookily, this month, OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup> will have a HALLOWEEN THEME!

We will be decorating the Tin Hut accordingly and Marj, as our Grand Witch, has agreed to Judge the Children's Fancy Dress competition, before they head off for their Annual Halloween Trick or Treat Trail.

This is how the Afternoon will go...

"The Witchy Coven" will assemble from 4.15pm. and get ready to greet 'small , spooky, children types' at 4.30pm!! Grand Witch Marj will judge their Fancy Dress Competition at 4.45pm - Then Prizes and Possibly some Dancing with Vampire Sami..5 pm, the Ghostly Lolipop Lady will lead the small people away and off on their Trick or Treat Trail. Hope you're happy to join in the fun. dressing-up is NOT compulsory but a sense of humour is absolutely essential!! A wonderfully Witchy Ladies Lounge!

The lovely Club ladies will be behind The Bar for whatever you'd like to drink, including light refreshments! It's your Lounge, your time...

Don't forget to pass the word to friends who couldn't make it last time, Ladies, you're ALL welcome; the NOVEMBER date is FRIDAY 28th,

See you then, if not before! Call me 07970650321 for more information

### **NEW! LINE DANCE CLASS!**

Purely for Fun.. NO Stetsons or Cowboy Boots...Yet! There'll be Classes at the Memorial Hall on Tuesdays 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30-3.30pm and

Fridays 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> November 6.30-7.30pm. Beginners welcome, as are those who 'haven't done it for years!' Each class is £6, with refreshments INCLUDED. Please contact me for more information and to register your interest, day and time!. It's great fun, good exercise and VERY fashionable at the moment!! 07970 650321 Yeeha!!

### **EARLY HEADS UP! REMEMBRANCE DAY**

Sunday 9th November Service at St Mary's Church, then the Act of Remembrance at Tommy on the Rec. Then process to the Memorial Hall for refreshments, Cakes, and a short performance to mark the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2: songs, letters and the Drum ceremony.

As we promised after the wonderful event in 2018, to mark the end of the first world war; David Swales and I are putting this extra bit together for anyone and everyone to attend, to mark a special Commemoration.

See notices, posts and columns for all further details.

## **NINFIELD CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION!**

Just to let you know that the AGM in October saw a committee of 8 people elected, with Donna Powell and I co-Chairing, Emma Kehoe Vice Chair, Kaye Crittall Treasurer, Catriona Smith Secretary. Association for Carers received £1100 charity donation: and several Village groups have been invited to bid for funding for their upcoming projects. The Summer event will be the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> /27<sup>th</sup> June 2026. And the next Carnival meeting will be on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November, at the Working Men's Club, 7.15pm, with everyone welcome to join in and start creating the fun for 2026!

### **XMAS DISCO NIGHT!**

A date for your diary! Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December, Ninfield Memorial Hall, doors and BAR open at 7pm, music from 7.30pm. The Disco in September was lower key, due to lack of advertising!, but still had a great crowd, all having a fabulous evening; and after all the Summer events and madness, a good old Bop was necessary, to shimmy and shake the cares and stresses away! The Xmas Disco will have all the usual Fun and Sparkle, lots of great tunes, memorable routines, Prosecco et al flowing, and lots of laughs and banter! And..SOME SURPRISES IN STORE!! A great, feel good festive night out, on your doorstep, so, put that date down NOW!!!

### **MOVEMENT & DANCE:**

Dance classes continue, running as follows on a weekly basis  
MONDAY 10am - MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC Memorial Hall, with coffee and refreshments afterwards till 11.30am  
WEDNESDAY 6.30pm DANCERCISE Memorial Hall  
THURSDAY 9.30am SILVER SWANS BALLET Methodist Hall  
FRIDAY (alternates) Memorial Hall 6.30pm BALLROOM,  
7.30pm BURLESQUE/SHOW DANCE.

All classes are £6 pp per class.

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

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.

## **NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

The Pevensey History Festival has come and gone and included such delights as talks on the Hawkhurst gang and historical graffiti, an opportunity to spend the night in the Court House cells and local tours. It's an annual event, so worth looking out for more information next year. In our own programme of talks, we have just heard a very timely talk on Sussex Ghosts and Legends by Rob Slater and on 13 November we will welcome Sarah Nathaniel to talk to us about the Commonwealth War Graves. Our next Resource Centre morning, when we open our archives, will be on Monday 24 November, 10:00-12:00 at the Sparke Pavilion. Hope to see you there! Ninfield Local History Group meets each month at the Methodist Hall in Church Lane, on the second Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. We open our archives each quarter at the Sparke Pavilion so that you can view photographs and documents relating to the village and the surrounding area, talk to a local expert and share your stories. 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: [info@ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk](mailto:info@ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk).

**Brian Stockton, Chair, Ninfield Local History Group**

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## **NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

We do not meet in November, but our December Christmas meeting will be Monday 8th December in the Memorial Hall. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. We do not have a speaker at this meeting - it is a social event with nibbles. Please bring along a plate of food (we welcome anything from a bag of crisps to Christmas cake!) and your brain for our Christmas brain teasers.

A gentle reminder that annual membership was due for renewal from 1st October. If you have not yet renewed or would like to join us as a new member, then please contact me on 07707 683187 or [k.crittell@btinternet.com](mailto:k.crittell@btinternet.com) for payment information.

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# Hooe Village Community Group

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Chairman: Pam Doodes  
Treasurer: Jenny Cosham  
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## Our forthcoming events:

**November 8th** : Coffee Morning, Book and Jigsaw Library. In addition to the usual attractions Dick will be displaying a variety of stunning items he has crafted and will be offering them for sale! They will make fabulous Christmas presents; I am sure people will be fighting over them!! Dick is so skilled and is generously donating all profits to a local cause, details later.

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>** An evening of 'Good Company' at St Oswald's Church. Have YOU reserved your tickets ? This is proving to be a popular event, tickets are being snapped up fast! Hooe resident, Amanda and her Group have planned a varied and entertaining musical programme so there will be something to suit all tastes. Tickets, at £10.00 include the entertainment, a light supper and a soft drink. Alcoholic drinks will be available in return for a donation.

To assist with catering it would be helpful to have an idea of the number of people to expect, so, if possible, please book in advance. Please contact the Doodes 01424 892329 [pamdoodles@hotmail.com](mailto:pamdoodles@hotmail.com) to book or for further information. Please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements. Our sincere thanks go to 'Good Company' for their generosity by waiving their fee, such a wonderful offer. We are also extremely grateful to the Church family for allowing us to use the church and car park. As usual, the proceeds from this event will be going to charity

**December 13<sup>th</sup>** Coffee Morning. The Christmas Theme is being repeated this year by popular demand! Festive food, Festive Raffle Prizes and more!

## **2026 Programme**

We are enjoying putting our 2026 programme of events together. As usual we ask that you let us know if there are any events you would like us to stage. Although all the dates have not yet been agreed, so far, our Programme includes:

- Coffee Morning
- Community Litter pick
- Footpath Walks and coffee and cake.
- The hugely popular bi-annual OPEN GARDENS weekend.

What have we all been up to?

### **October 11<sup>th</sup> Coffee Morning.**

We all gathered again in October for our monthly coffee morning. The atmosphere was, as usual, brilliant and the noise level seems to increase every time we meet. There is nothing better than hearing folk enjoying themselves. Our thanks are due to Owen and Ivan, volunteers with the Powdermill Trust, who arrived with a very interesting display of photographs taken at The Bogs, Hooe's very own Nature Reserve and other interesting artifacts. They were generous with their time and happily answered our questions. Sadly, Anne was unable to man our library this month, but her daughters, Sarah and Rachel, stepped in and took control! I know Anne was concerned there would be no library, so everyone was grateful to the girls. They also brought the jigsaws with them, a real bonus!

### **Bras against cancer**

Gwen was hugely grateful to receive the 42 Bras you have donated so far to this worthy charity. The group will now be beavering away to mend, recycle, repurpose them – and all the profits from sales will be donated to help Breast Cancer Charities. We are continuing to collect until our November Coffee morning so feel free to drop them in at Catslide.

### **Keep in touch**

Our 'Friends of Hooe Village Community Group' list of members is growing fast. By becoming a Friend, you will receive regular email updates about our activities, our news and share views.

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

**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.

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

Methodist Hall 10 – 11.30 weekly on Fridays. First  
Friday monthly - Book Exchange and chat over tea/coffee and biscuits.  
Donations asked for books and refreshments. There's a wide range of books and good company. Community Café open every Friday morning – you will be made very welcome if you'd like further details contact David on 07989729123 or dj\_swales@hotmail.com

### **Health Walks**

Every Thursday. Trained local volunteers lead a gentle walk of about an hour. Meet 11am at Sparke Pavilion, Ninfield Recreation ground near the main entrance off Church Lane. A few more walkers welcome. Part of the East Sussex Health Walks scheme. Please wear suitable footwear. For more details contact Robin: 07940324601 or robin@plowmate.plus.com

### **Women's Crafting and Knitting Circle**

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

**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.

**Lunch Club** We are pleased to say that, although sadly Maggie is no longer running this popular event, it is continuing with Sam White at the helm. The November lunch will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>. If you would like a place, contact Sam on 07484 847933.

## Friendly Voices

From 7th October, we returned to meeting in the Methodist Hall on a Tuesday evening (from 7.30pm). We have also moved our Thursday afternoon (2-3pm) back to Sparke Pavilion. We are in full swing with Christmas songs and carols and all are welcome to join us. We are not a choir, just a group of people that get together for the fun of singing. You do not need to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing! Call me on 07707683187 or email [k.crittell@btinternet.com](mailto:k.crittell@btinternet.com) or just turn up at one of our sessions.

atmosphere. A donation only of £1 to the Tin Hut's Charity, plus very reasonable drinks prices! Contact Sami for more details 07970650321 or email [samanthaguard@btinternet.com](mailto:samanthaguard@btinternet.com).

**Film Matinees** Doors open at 1.30 at Ninfield Memorial Hall. Films start at 2 pm. FREE entry and refreshments. Film shows are dementia friendly with subtitles. All welcome, young & not so young. Films and dates for your diary are on the following Tuesday afternoons..

11<sup>th</sup> November: A Hard Day's. 9<sup>th</sup> December: Arthur Christmas

*For those into forward planning the 2026 films will be on the second Tuesday of the month in March, April, May, June, September, October, November and December.*

For more information or to book a place (to ensure enough cake!) Contact Rose or Jackie 01424 892422 [jackie.langley1@internet.com](mailto:jackie.langley1@internet.com)

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## FRIENDLY VOICES

From 7th October, we returned to meeting in the Methodist Hall on Tuesday evenings (from 7.30pm). We have also moved our Thursday afternoons (2-3pm) back to Sparke Pavilion. We are in full swing with Christmas songs and carols and all are welcome to join us. We are not a choir, just a group of people that get together for the fun of singing. You do not need to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing!

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**NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH**

**Minister: Reverend Ian Couchman**

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**Sunday Services for November 2025:**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.30am Café Worship with Revd. Ian Couchman  
9<sup>th</sup> 10.00am REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY (see below)  
16<sup>th</sup> 10.30am Worship and Praise Family Service with Jill Sayers  
23<sup>rd</sup> 10.30am Worship & Praise Family Service with Christine Thacker  
30<sup>th</sup> 10.30 am ADVENT SUNDAY Worship and Communion with Revd. Ian Couchman

**Events for November 2025:**

- 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursdays weekly: After-school Club 3.15-5.00pm  
(Term-time only – see below)  
7<sup>th</sup> 10.00-11.30am Book exchange & Café in Hall & Fridays 10.00-11.30am  
Community Café  
12<sup>th</sup> 2.30 – 4.00pm Christian Womens Fellowship  
26<sup>th</sup> 3.15 – 5.15pm MESSY CHURCH .... ‘Lighting the Way’

We look forward to welcoming our new minister the Reverend Ian Couchman to our Café Worship on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Do come along and meet him.

Then on Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup> we will have a village United Remembrance Service. The service will start at St. Mary's at 10.00am, then a Parade will leave St. Mary's in readiness for the 11 o'clock silence on the Village Green. Do come along and support this special time together. Reverend Ian Couchman will be leading this service. Refreshments are then being served in the Memorial Hall.

Any young people ages 7-11 years are welcome to come along to our new After-school club on Thursdays weekly as shown above. Tim our Community Worker is organising this, the programme will include music, dance, games, competitions, toast and drinks. Register on the day or contact: [tim.fudge@hbrmethodists.org.uk](mailto:tim.fudge@hbrmethodists.org.uk)

We will once again be organising a Christmas Shoebox appeal for gifts to Romania, Bulgaria. More details will be sent out via the school and posters. Please support if you can. Messy Church at the end of November will focus on ‘Lighting the Way.’

Very best wishes from us all at Ninfield Methodist Church.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Matthew 7:7-11, Luke 11:5-13

To teach about praying, and God's good gifts, Jesus told this story - 'If you have a visitor arrive in the middle of the night..!'

Oh no! I have no bread to feed him! I am so ashamed! What can I do?.. I know!



'You would go round to a friend's house.'



I really, really need some bread for a visitor.



I need that bread!



Jesus concluded...

So keep on asking and it will be given, seeking and you will find, knocking and it will be opened... And parents, if your hungry child asks for bread,



'..would you give them a stone?'



'And if they asked for a fish...'



'..would you give them a snake?'



'Or if they asked for an egg...'



'you'd give a scorpion?'



If you, who aren't perfect parents, give good gifts to your children, then don't you think that gifts from your perfect Father, God, will be even better?



# 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 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

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

**1066 RINGERS** (Hand Belleplates) <sup>35</sup> 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: David Swales 07989 729123

**C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL** 892486

**DOCTORS** The Surgery, HighStreet, Ninfield 892569

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