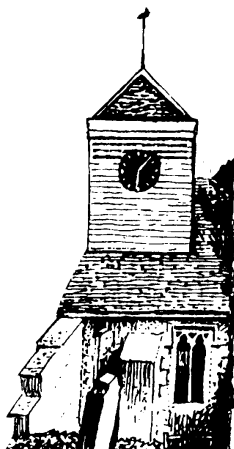


THE

PARISH



NEWS

**News from the Churches,
the clubs, groups and**

societies of

Ninfield & Hooe

PLUS A DIARY OF EVENTS

February 2020 50p



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

St MARY's & St OSWALD's NOTICE BOARD CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



Date	St. Mary's 9.30 unless stated	St. Oswald's 11.00 unless stated
2 nd Feb	Parish Eucharist	Family Service
9 th Feb	No Service	10.30 Joint Parish Eucharist
16 th Feb	Family Eucharist	Parish Eucharist
23 rd Feb	Parish Eucharist	Parish Eucharist
26 th Feb	10.00 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	No Service

All joint services will be at 10.30am

St. Mary's Open Times

Wednesday. 10 a.m. Holy Communion

Most weeks – please check the weekly sheet in Church

Monday - Thursday open at 9 am and locked 3 pm
Closed Fridays and Saturdays, after service on Sundays

St. Oswald's Open Times

9.00am to 5.00pm daily

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

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

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,

By the time you read this we will be coming to the time of year where we see hopeful signs of Spring and yet we know that Winter could still have a sting in its tail. And we may be feeling that about the future too, with uncertainty over our future relationship with Europe and the global economy, we may be trying to look forward positively and yet not sure if there might be bad news around the corner.

How do we approach life with all its uncertainties? We could take a lead from Celtic Christianity which closely followed the rhythms and seasons of natural life especially the seasonal year. Just as we know that following the harshness of Winter there follows new life of Spring, or even the daily reminder that as one day ends and night draws in, it will be followed by a new dawn and a new day. So much imagery in the Bible draws on these natural cycles of life which remind us that there is the promise of new life and that God is the author and sustainer of all life. What we see here is merely a foreshadow of the eternal life that God has in store for us.

We are also encouraged and admonished by Paul in the Bible to pray for those in authority so that we might 'lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.' (1 Timothy 2: 1-2). So let us remember, in prayer, our own politicians and people in all the services that care for our community in this island. Also let us pray for those in our neighbouring countries for cooperation and peaceful community across the UK, Ireland, Europe as negotiations take place for the next stage of Brexit, especially in relation to a trade agreement. Let us remember before God those who have no home through poverty or persecution in the British Isles and further abroad and pray for the agencies who seek to help them.

We can also remember the words of the English mystic, Julian of Norwich, 'God loved us before he made us; and his love has never diminished and never shall' and 'all shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.'

So let us look forward with confidence that God never leaves us but accompanies us through all of our life's journey (whether we are aware of God or not). And let this inspire us to encourage and support each other and have a concern for those further afield who need our support and prayers.

I pray God will bless you with His peace and awareness of His Presence.

With best wishes for this New Year (although rather late!)

Paul

The Leap Year

The calendar, one year in four
Gives February a little more
An extra day! We must be sure!
To wisely use these hours
The weather, not as bitter cold;
The garden weeds have gained no hold;
The early bulbs start to unfold
We welcome crocus flowers!

The sun bestows a little warmth
The winds turn from the bitter north
It is the time to sally forth
From winter sanctuary!
Tis early spring, season sublime
So hearken to my little rhyme –
Enjoy the little extra time
You have in February!

By Nigel Beeton

St Mary's

Baptism

5th January Noah William Richard Joynes
Briony Eve Jennifer Joynes

Funeral and burial

8th January Susan Mary Pilbeam

St Oswald's

Funeral service - Patricia Baker - 6th January 2020

Funeral service - Joan Fitzgerald - 15th January 2020

The Parish News team would like make the following correction

St. Mary's, Interment of Ashes, 23rd October Jean Shirley Greenhead
And apologise for any distress caused to family and friends.

*from the
Parish Records*

ST OSWALD'S CHURCH

invites you to a Pancake Lunch with soup
Tuesday February 25th Hooe Village Hall
Between 12.00 and 2 pm.

No tickets required..... just drop in.
Donations to St Oswald's Church please
All Welcome

We were delighted to be given an award from the Parish Council for our work on the Parish News, but it must be emphasized that the award was given not just to us but includes the team. When we were presented with the award at the Village Gala Night, Nicki thanked the contributors because without them the magazine would be a pretty poor edition.

What also should have been said was how we rely heavily on our wonderful distributors and the award definitely includes them all. Out in all weathers delivering the Parish News and also the sometime difficult task of collecting the £5 subs in January. Not that people are reluctant to pay but it often involves more than one visit if the householder is out. We thank you all.



Nicki & Carol

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

Almost mid January and the Christmas tree in the Memorial Hall is just a memory, so work resumes in Church Wood and around Ninfield Village. The wood is very slippery at present, but well worth visiting to spot the first woodland flowers as they emerge. We have had a few branches down and have been busy clearing a fallen tree which was threatening part of the fence which surrounds the wood. As previously reported, we try to recycle all wood by building new fences from the chestnut we split.

In the village, we plan to clear Lower Church Path and should be delighted if local residents could join us for an hour or so to assist. Posters will be erected shortly confirming date and time, please look out for them !

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OUR SCHOOL

The Nativity performance for the 'Retirees of Ninfield Village' went down very well. We had around 30 people turn up to enjoy Christmas songs from the older children and then a great performance from the little ones. Traditional refreshments of mince pies were provided afterwards which also gave us a chance to talk to the audience and get some feedback, as this was the first time that we had done this. The feedback was very positive and the collective suggestion was that we should do it again next year and try to encourage more villagers to attend. So watch this space.

Parking is a big issue around the school and I know that it causes a lot of disruption to our near neighbours, particularly at the beginning and end of the School day. We are continually reminding our parents to park sensibly and not cause any disruption but I do need to stress that we are responsible for the children when they are in school, we are not responsible for the behaviour of their parents! If we see someone driving or parking dangerously around the school then we will report them to the police via the 101 number or Operation Crackdown and we would encourage others to do the same.

We do try to minimise the disruption by staggering the start and end of the day by running a Breakfast club in the morning and a number of after school clubs which the staff volunteer to run. We also encourage parents who live within walking distance to walk to school but recognise that is sometimes difficult for working parents or when the weather is bad. We will continue to work with the Parish council to see what else can be done to help alleviate the problem but with a school that was built in 1853, well before the advent of cars or any near neighbours, it is always going to be a compromise. Ian Moffat



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A Huge Thank You From Ninfield and Crowhurst Scouts

CHRISTMAS GRAND PRIZE DRAW

Once again, the scouts have had brilliant local support for their pre Christmas fundraising. We ran our annual grand prize draw selling tickets throughout the scout group and at the village shop and Hooe farm shop. We had a good variety of prizes including three top prizes of £50 cash, a bumper hamper and £50 Boden clothes voucher. The draw was run on Thursday 18th January and netted the group £240 profit. A huge thank you to everyone that supported.

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP SUCCESS

Ninfield and Crowhurst Scouts ran their first ever Christmas Wreath Making Workshop on December 11th in Catsfield village hall and the event was a huge success. We had 15 ladies making their own



traditional wreaths using a wide range of natural materials, pine cones, cinnamon sticks, dried fruits, baubles ribbons and more. They all looked very individual and unique. There is a

lot of talent in our area.

We enjoyed homemade cakes and coffee and a raffle (of course)! The morning was such a pleasure to arrange and we were lucky to have lots of brilliant help on hand, Thank you to all those that attended, helped, baked cakes and more. We made a total profit of £345 for our group.

Our next flower arranging morning will be on Wednesday 1st April, Catsfield Village Hall, 10.00 - 12.30, Tickets must be purchased in advance from Veronica Sargent 07714327117

£25 per person

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Interesting times! Happy New Year!. Well, Ninfield had a visit from Huw Merriman and his team to discuss the Manchester Road Planning Application, I do hope you were able to make your comments known to Wealden planners.

This came about due to Pam Doodes convincing Huw that there was something very unusual about the Application. There seems to be an unseemly urgency to bring this forward for Councillors to approve – almost at all costs. Now, Huw cannot get involved in Planning Applications, but he can be brought in where there is a question about how the Planning process is being questioned.

And that's what is being queried. The day before the Planning Meeting in December 2 Reports were downloaded to be also discussed. One is 52 pages long, ostensibly the Drainage Report. First, one has to question why this Report was added so late? Second, how can anyone reasonably be expected to read and understand in less than 24 hours, even a specialist might have difficulty. Third, within the drainage report were entirely new internal layouts, where the pavements had been removed to give a wider "shared surface" roadway, and to enable more parking places, by using tandem parking. Fourth, and this is the real question – the documentation was still out for "consultation" so Wealden planners were bringing this forward before all parties had commented on the latest information!

Now it is being brought forward -again- on 15th January, so by the time this is read, there may be more and hopefully better news, that it has been deferred again. The Councillors, many of them new to Planning were not part of those that visited back in 2015 when they all burst into laughter at the very idea of there being a possible housing site in Manchester Road, let alone for 80 "contemporary" houses squeezed into a cul de sac.

Much of the problem lies with the fact that Ninfield has somehow been grouped in the Settlement Hierarchy used to determine which places can support additional housing, as a Large Village – Type 2: Sustainable Settlement which is accessible with very good local facilities but relatively smaller than type 1 village. The range of retail outlets and businesses are more limited than larger villages, but with

access to essential facilities. Comparable to Buxted, East Hoathly, Frant, Groombridge, Hartfield, Herstmonceux, Horam, Mayfield, Rotherfield and Westham.

Now, Ninfield residents can see how ludicrous this is. What “very good local facilities” do we have? Retail outlets? OK, Our village shop and Post Office is excellent, but to serve another 140 or so homes? Two pubs, yes, they’d love extra trade, but the Kings Arms is usually packed anyway. Access to essential facilities? No convenient bus service, certainly not to help commuters get back and forth to the local train stations! What else, ah yes, a Reading Room, so that is counted as a library!!

We need to have Ninfield reclassified where it properly should be, a Local Settlement with Unsustainable Settlement, such as Bells Yew Green, Boreham Street, Chelwood Common, Cross-in-Hand, Danehill, Five Ash Down, Five Ashes, Framfield, Halland, Hellingly, Isfield, Lower Horsebridge, Magham Down, Maresfield, Mark Cross, Maynards Green, Pevensy, Windmill Hill, Berwick Station, all assessed as a Settlement with accessibility by public transport with local to very limited facilities.

The proof “however” will be in the result. Ninfield has always been regarded by Wealden as a “problem” we have a strong Parish Council and some very knowledgeable people who are prepared to stand up to Wealden using logically and carefully constructed arguments. We do accept that Ninfield should have additional housing, but smaller, starter or retirement places, not overpowering large urban estates that simply cram as many houses into a plot as can be squeezed in.

So, watch this space!

Kevin Regan

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY

Invite you to a ‘Vintage Ages Night’

A fun evening of games including

Shove ha’penny, bagatelle pinball, ringing the bull, rings, shut the box and more!

Saturday 29th February from 7.30pm

Entry £5.00 -highest combined score wins

WORKING MEN’S CLUB

HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

As expected, Anne Bourner (your "Worms Eye" correspondent) spoke to us at length in January about her experiences during a lifetime growing up in the Heathfield area and later settling in Hooe, with a talk entitled "Sussex born and bred". Anne has spent a lifetime in and around the farming community and this, her third talk to us, was another wonderful trip down memory lane.

Our February speaker (20th Feb at 7.30 in the village hall) will be a new face to us. Ray Shayler will visit us with his talk on Bodiam Castle. Many of us have probably visited this lovely structure but what do we know about its history? We look forward to finding out.

On Thursday 19th March we welcome the return of Ken Brookes with his talk "Hastings in Wartime". Ken is one of those speakers we love to invite back. His previous talks on local fossils and beside the seaside were both superb and we look forward to more of the same.

For DID YOU KNOW this month I continue with the second and final part of the story of The Tanyard House -

FROM A COTTAGE TO A MANSION - Hooe and Leather, from a newspaper article dated 14th July 1928, by hearing about some of the men from Hooe and Ninfield who worked there...

Then there was Ben Markwick, mate to the dryer, and his chums were Alf and Charlie Vitler, whose wages average 15s. to 16s. per week (today 75p to 80p) - in those days a princely salary. Then Alfred Pocock, of Hooe, whose descendants are still amongst the villagers, and Amos Russell, the happy vanman. There was Richard Pocock, better known as Dick, whose job was that of "(hair) dresser", he who saw the hides were cleaned of the hair, which hair was later sold to the plasterer to mix with the plaster to make it "hang" better. Charlie Baker had a long walk to work, as he lived at Catsfield, but as a "flesher" (he who cleaned the Hides) he saw that the "head" part made many a good dinner for himself and his family, using the flesh he cunningly abstracted from the head of the animals which came to him. George Winborn, too, as a flesher, looked well after the "ear buds", a source of many a good meal when surrounded by a paste and boiled in a pot - now called steak and kidney pudding. When George gave up his job Alfred Vitler, the dryers mate took his place. In the matter of the most essential part, that of "barkman" Harry Crouch kept the pits well supplied, and old George Munn was a champion as "grinder". As "flawyers" all took a hand when necessary. Fred Elphick, in charge of the carts, fetched the hides in from the various farms, and taken altogether, a happier lot of work men hardly existed, but, as the 90 year old veteran added: "When the Tanyard stopped, Hooe stopped."

In the year 1816, a fire occurred at the Ninfield works, and although the damage was made good to some extent, the place never seems to have recovered its prosperity, and tanning operations ceased about 1886. In 1924 the tanpits were finally destroyed. The last owner of the farm as a tanning yard was Mr. Gideon Noakes, who was also the owner of the Battle Tannery, which is still working. (1928)

One elderly man, wrote Admiral Chambers (in about 1928) said he had known both Ninfield and Battle tanneries 60 years ago. "Yon pile of bricks," pointing to a spot, "was the cottage where I was born, and many a night I have heard explosions at the Powder Mills." (These mills were situated close to the Farthing Pond at Battle Abbey.) It should be added that this old fellow and many others were hand in glove with the smugglers, and the piles of "bark" were quite convenient spots to hide the "kegs" of Hollands and brandy.

LADIES PRE-LOVED FASHION EVENT

Saturday 1st February, 6.30-9.30

Ninfield Memorial Hall

Enjoy a fun evening browsing the rails for fab bargains and try for size. Watch Karen and Toby, two scout leaders having their sponsored hair cut All In aid of 1st Ninfield and Crowhurst Scout Group and Ninfield Memorial Hall Fund

Refreshments, raffle and lots of bargains at charity shop prices or less.

SCOUTS ARE COLLECTING NOW

In order to run our successful clothes collections and sales to benefit our group and the hall fund.

If possible, please bag and label ladies clothing and accessories separately.

We CAN ACCEPT: Good quality clean adult and children's clothing, paired shoes, Hats, Belts, Handbags, Soft Toys, Bedding, (not duvets or pillows) Curtains and Towels.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT: work /school uniform, duvets/pillows, BRIC a Brac Donations by the end of January

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NINFIELD CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION Latest News!

At our meeting on the 15th January- we talked about the Easter Raffle that the Committee are organising, and which will be drawn at the Spring Fair, Red Lion, Hooe on Sunday 19th April. Kaye will be doing some searching for Prizes, ably assisted by new member Maggie, and tickets will be on sale from the middle of February.- usual price- 50p each, £2.50 a book!

We also discussed the format for the new Solstice Weekend event, and it was decided to really push the 20's theme with a proper Afternoon Tea, and tables that can be booked in advance- a la Savoy or Ritz, and with or without Fizzy ! The Tea Tent on demand will still be operating as normal, and the Bar will have extra 20's style drinks and cocktails to offer! We are also looking at Swing Bands for the evening Entertainment, so will have news of a booking next month!

Now, we would love to ask ALL Village groups and societies to have a stall, stand or game on the Rec, to come and have fun, and really make the day a local, friendly, family, fun-filled fete so please get in touch!!

The next Carnival Committee Meeting is Wednesday 12th February, 8.15pm in the Working Men's Club- We've welcomed back lovely members Catriona and Rachel-after a few years off!-and everyone is excited to create this new Summer Village event! Do get in touch - call Sami Guard 893699, 07970650321 or Robin Fookes 07970184858 or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com Thank you!!

'Early Bird Coffee Mornings'

at Sparke Pavilion, 8.30-9.30am!!

Just right for Mums and Dads having dropped your youngsters at School!!

See flyers and posters!

This is the first of some informal get togethers to meet members of Carnival Association and Ninfield Bonfire Society and find out about Village Events for 2020

starting on **Monday 10th February**- so why not pop in,

Put your ideas into the mix over Tea, Coffee and Cake!

Everyone Welcome!

Call - Sami Guard on 893699 or 07970650321

or - Emma Telford – 07812375158 - for more info

HOOE OPEN GROUP

Edna Wallis, who started the Hooe Open Group (HOGS) 13 years ago, from what remained of the Hooe WI (after it was decided to disband in 1986) has stepped down as the Social Organiser as from Friday 10th January 2020.

Since its inception the ladies club has progressed under her supervision as Social Organiser, she has attracted new membership, not just from Hooe Village, but from a wider area. The present membership is around 35.

The wide range of social activities, orchestrated by Edna, have included not just monthly meeting at Hooe Village Hall, at which speakers have been engaged to entertain as well as inform the members, but also organising outside events such as lunches and afternoon teas at venues like Ashburnham Place, Hilliers Garden Centre, Lime Cross Nursery and Cooden Beach Golf Club.

Over the years that Edna has run the club, a number of local dignitaries, including MP's and County Executives have dropped into the Club to introduce themselves to the membership. The Club has always been a supporter of local charities and each year donate at least £300. This year we gave to Bexhill Care in the Community, Friends of Bexhill Hospital and repairs to St Oswald's Church roof.

Edna hopes to continue to attend meetings on an ad hoc basis and give support if she is able.

All members of HOGS would like to thank Edna for her hard work over the years and hope that she will be able to attend meetings in the future.

Heather Sinden along with other volunteers is taking on Edna's mantle. Decisions will need to be made as to how the club will go forward, but we will continue to meet on the second Friday in the month. Our next meeting will be on 14th February 2020 at 2.00p.m. (please note the change of time). We have a speaker arranged.

If you have any queries or ideas for the future of the club please ring Heather on 01424 893422

HOOE COFFEE MORNING AND BOOK EXCHANGE

Saturday 8th February The Village Hall, 10.00 - 12.00

Please do drop in a say hello, we'd love to see you.

INDOOR GAMES AFTERNOONS

Come and join us from 2 – 4 in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 18th February for a free relaxed afternoon of indoor games including old favourites like skittles, shove halfpenny and snakes and ladders. Tea and cake are provided. If you can't make this one, the games afternoons are on the third Tuesday each month. For further information ring Jackie on 01424 892422.

MUSICAL MATINEE

Advance notice. This time it is the classic film 'The Wizard of Oz'. The next free dementia and hearing loss friendly film is in the Memorial Hall on Friday 6 March starting at 2 pm. Doors open at 1.30. Tea and cake will be provided and there will be a raffle.

Again this is a relaxed afternoon among friendly people, so if you haven't been before, do try it. In order that we know how many to cater for, please book in by calling Rose or Jackie on 01424 892422 or email jackie.langley1@btinternet.com.

NINFIELD HEALTH WALKS

Free, friendly, gentle walks lasting about one hour on 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month, starting at 11am. from Sparke Pavilion, Church Lane, No need to book just turn up.

Thursday 6th & 20th February

For more information please contact: Robin Goldsmith 01424 892778

MEN'S SHEDS

will meet at Sparke Pavilion at 11am on Monday 24th Feb, Want to know more? Contact Dave Crittell on 01424 892883.

Ninfield Parish Council

Council Meeting

Thursday 30th January

The Methodist Hall,

Ninfield residents are invited to attend

Hooe Parish Council

Council Meeting

Monday 16th March

The Village Hall

Hooe residents are invited to attend.

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL have agreed that having a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) in place would be a useful way for our community to keep more control of how our Parish develops over the next 20 years. This is now underway and a Steering Group has been formed to guide the process. The group has agreed a Terms of Reference and will be appointing a professional consultant to assist us.

We welcome input from all residents of the Parish and will be consulting with them at every stage along the way.

The first objectives will be to engage with community groups, businesses, employers, healthcare and education providers etc. We are also looking at the green spaces around the Parish with a view to protect and enhance these. If you would like more information please email johnkcheshire@btinternet.com

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP

Fun and Friendship with Flowers

This busy and active group meets in the Memorial Hall on the first Monday of each month, from 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Following our AGM in January when we discussed plans for the coming year, we will welcome members and visitors for a workshop evening on February 3rd. We are asking participants to create an arrangement of their choice in a "square-round".

Don't know what a square-round is - check out "square-round floral dishes" on the internet. One can be bought on our sales table for less than 50pence and can be reused multiple times. Bring flowers, foliage, floral foam (which can also be bought at the club), scissors and a rubbish bag and you're set to go. Entrance for visitors is £5.

If you would prefer to sit back and enjoy a demonstration then our March 2nd meeting is the one for you. Nina Tucknott will delight us with her designs with the title "Colour me beautiful". As always after a demonstration the arrangements are raffled so you could be one of the lucky winners.

On Saturday March 7th we hold the first of our twice yearly jumble sales. Doors open at 2pm, entrance 50p. If you have any unwanted, saleable items please bring them along on the morning of the 7th from 9.30am.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our events, do please contact Jennifer on 01424 892878 or email on ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

BOOK EXCHANGE CAFÉ

Thank you for supporting the **Book Exchange Café** last year. We have raised funds for the following charities: Crisis at Christmas, Cancer Research UK, a local Cancer Appeal, The Book Trust, Action for Children & Snowflake (winter homeless support in Hastings). In addition, funds have been used to support a number of other Health & Well-being activities taking place in our village.

We are continuing the **Book Exchange Café** in 2020 on the first Friday of each month from 10-12 in the Methodist Church Hall. Our next session is on 7th February followed by 6th March and 3rd April. Donations of books are welcome. For further information please contact David Swales dj_swales@hotmail.com or 01424 892248.

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The History Group's talk for February is about the Jack and Jill windmills by Paul Barber on Thursday 20th, 7.30pm at the Methodist Hall, Church Road. All welcome.
A reminder that the Archive Centre at the Pavilion is open Monday mornings, 10am – 12 with volunteers available to help with local history enquiries.

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Worms Eye View

I recently read that Sussex is no longer notorious for its Mud! It was asked in 1751 “why is it that the oxen, swine, women and all animals are so long legged in Sussex”? The conclusion was that it came about from the difficulty of pulling the legs out of so much mud, by the stretch of the ankle that the muscles get stretched and the legs lengthen. Perhaps I should measure myself and see if I am taller since the awful rain and consequent mud we have had to endure in December 2019.

On happier things, my bird table continues to give me and any visitors enjoyment as we watch and try to count how many birds can feed at the same time My highest count was twenty five, which was made up by sparrows, robins and tits. And then to top it all the beautiful male pheasant appeared, he had been a regular visitor and does not disturb the small birds which the magpies and crows do. And then another male pheasant, a little nervously I thought, but he settled down and the two of them were quite amicable, and at the other side of the edge, I counted five females waiting patiently to be accompanied back to the farm buildings.

My pleasure from pheasants does not end there, because a lone black bird arrived a day or two later. It walked like a pheasant and held its head in the same way, but black? Out came the bird book and I was re-assured to see there are black pheasants, so there, we can learn something new each day.

February 2nd is known either as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary or Candlemass. It used to be the day that country folk put away their winter candles as nights were getting lighter also new ones were taken to Church and blessed for the coming year.

We can also look forward to Snowdrops blooming around this time; they are often called Fair Maids of February.

I cannot end without reminding you for February 14th, Valentines Day. With one thing and another, enjoy February.

Anne

We just wanted to extend our thanks to the Carnival Team, despite the weather meaning the Carol Singing was cancelled, the Committee very kindly found some funds to cover their promise of helping out Oli with his recovery.

So a big thanks to them from all the Cruse family

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Dick Carey	Chairman	01424 892051	
Pam Dodes	892329	Robert Pilbeam	844365
Peter Hayward	893522	Gary Durman	893007
Jo Dix	892905	Ross Clifton	893206

Parish Clerk Jacky Scarff 07725 843505

At the January meeting the councillors were required to sign off the precept for next year, which after carefully assessing the budget remain the same as last year.

There was a discussion about the plans for the village hall. Pam reminded everyone that the project to update the hall started back in the summer of 2012. The hall needed a lot of work doing to it to bring it up to the condition that was fit for the village. There were a number of options to be considered. The current village Hall was really too small and in considering whether to build a new one on the current site, a new one on the recreation ground or refurbish and extend the current one it was clear that it was a big provers for the village to undertake.

Since then a piece of land next to the hall was gifted to the parish council to help with the project. A survey was sent out to all residents and the parish council received a whopping 83% returned. Councillors have been researching where there are possible avenues for funding as well as starting their own fundraising With a small group baking, organising and setting up monthly coffee morning. Over the last two years these mornings have grown in popularity and £2500 has been raised. All the hours that have been volunteers over the time have been logged as they can also be used in match funding bids.

One important element to a new Hall is having some parking facilities. This would be needed before any planning permission is likely to be given and these councillors Have been exploring options.

The councillors have agreed in principle this evening that the plan will be to provide a village Hall at the current site and will now work up more detailed plans for the project. These details will be shared with all residents following which it's envisaged that the parish council will be able to apply for both planning permission and grant funding.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 16th March at 7pm in the village hall and we look forward to seeing you there.

NINFIELD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

FRIDAY FILM NIGHT 2020

31st January, 7.00 pm for 7.30

£5
No booking
required

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28th February, 7.00pm for 7.30

YESTERDAY Cert 12A

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Ninfield Methodist Church Anniversary in 2021!

Ninfield Methodist Church will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary in 2021. The foundation stone for the original building was laid on 6th July 1871 by Catherine Booth, wife of William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army. After a period of time as a Christian Mission Hall it became a Methodist Church in 1907.

Over the years our small church has been an important part of the lives of many villagers through church attendance, Sunday School, the Wesley Guild and a wide variety of other activities and events. To this day the church continues to be a focal point for our community with a growing congregation and well-attended Messy Church. It is also used by several groups and societies for their meetings.

To help us celebrate this special anniversary in 2021 we would like your help to record memories of your connection with the church. These will be included in an oral history booklet "Telling Our Story". We also hope to mount an exhibition of artefacts, certificates, photographs, Sunday School memorabilia, and any other appropriate items. Please let us know if you have things we can borrow.

We will publish a full programme of anniversary events later this year but, in the meantime, if you can help with information or contribute in any way please contact David Swales, by email dj_swales@hotmail.com or 01424 892248.

Paul Burson, Maureen Wood & David Swales, Church Stewards.

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Our first meeting of 2020 is on Monday 17th February at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall. We welcome back Dr Mick Lynn who will be telling us all about Plants and Crime. Everyone welcome. Raffle and refreshments as usual. If you haven't got your schedule yet, there will be some at this meeting so that you can start planning what to sow and grow for this year's Shows. Do come!

Ninfield Parish Council

<i>Parish Councillors</i>	<i>Phone</i>		<i>Phone</i>
Kaye Crittall – Chair	892883	Sam Guard –	893699
Pam Doodles	892329	Peter Holland	893326
John Cheshire	892248	Jackie Langley	892422
Paul Coleshill	893138	Kamala Willaimson	
Sheila Collins	893308		
Clerk Jackie Scarff		07725 843505	
e-mail – ninfieldpc@btinternet.com			

In the December meeting there was a discussion during the public questions part of the meeting regarding about parking around the village, particularly parking on the verges. Residents were unhappy where verges had been damaged, Wealden is the only district in East Sussex that chose not to decriminalise parking which means it is harder to do anything about it. The police will come out though where parking is dangerous and this includes parking on pavements so as not to allow wheelchairs, mobility scooters, buggy's etc past. This subject probably warrants more discussion as we progress with our Neighbourhood Development Plan.

There was also discussion about the zebra crossing at the Blacksmiths. Residents are concerned after several instances of traffic not stopping. We discussed some safety measures that may help and this will be further discussed by the Parish Council after investigating the Highway requirements.

After receiving planning approval for the siting of the telephone box it was agreed that the project will push ahead in the new year. At the carnival in the summer the Parish Council were asking for ideas as to what it could be used for once moved. There were some ideas put forward and its not too late to make suggestions if you have any.

Parish Council received a recommendation from the finance committee for the budget for the next financial year. The budget was accepted and precept agreed. The effect of the agreed precept would mean 1 penny per week increase for a band D property.

The next meeting will be a week earlier on **Thursday 30th January** 2020 at 7.15pm. Followed by Thursday 5th March. We look forward to seeing you there.

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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
1 Samuel 2:11-17, 22-25, 3:1-21

As soon as he was old enough to leave his parents, Samuel went to live at God's temple in Shiloh, with the priest, Eli...

Eli's sons were also priests, but they helped themselves to what people had brought to give to God.



Eli talked to them about it. They ignored him.



But Samuel did all the work he was given well.

One night, after everyone had gone to bed, Samuel heard someone calling him.



He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him.



No, I didn't call you

It happened again.



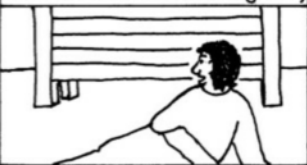
I didn't call. Go back to bed.

The third time, Eli knew it must be God calling Samuel.



You must say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

God called Samuel again,



and Samuel answered as he had been told.

I told Eli his sons had done bad things, but he has not stopped them. Now, even being sorry will not make up for what has happened.



The next morning, Eli demanded to be told what God had said.



Samuel was afraid, but he told him.

He is God. He will deal with us as is right.



God continued to talk to Samuel. He became known throughout Israel.



NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

Minister: Reverend Patricia M. Williams BA (Hons)
15 Holmesdale Road, Bexhill TN39 3QE.. Tel: 01424 733137;
email: revpwilliams@yahoo.co.uk

Church Hall Bookings: David Swales 892248

Sunday Services for February 2020:

- 2nd 10.30 am Café Worship, with breakfast.**
9th 10.30 am Service of Worship & Communion with Rev. Cynthia Park
16th 10.30 am Service of Worship & Praise with Edward Collins
23rd 10.30 am Service of Worship & Praise
1st Mar 10.30 am Café Worship, with breakfast

Events for February 2020:

- 7th 10.00-12noon Book Exchange cafe**
12th 2.30pm Christian Womens Fellowship
26th 3.30-5.30pm Messy Church – ‘Breaking Bread...’

We thank everyone who helped, in so many ways, to enable us to celebrate Christmas 2019 in an amazing & joyful way. Each Christmas service brought around 40 people to our Church. Our Christmas-eve collection of £130 was given to the Snowflake Night Shelter charity in Hastings.

We were pleased to be able to send 28 filled shoeboxes to people in Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania & Serbia in December. Simon Rooksby from Computers for Charities in Hailsham organised this delivery & drove the van. Thanks to Simon for his amazing act of love & faith.

We then enjoyed our Annual Covenant Service, with St. Mary's & St. Oswald's on January 12th. This was a lovely shared occasion, & a Methodist tradition. All-together we renewed our promise to serve God.

Our regular events are now up & running & the hall continues to be used by many local groups. Thanks to Brian Wickens who painted & decorated the Hall over the Christmas holiday so that it all looks fresh & clean.

Messy Church in February will celebrate the theme of 'Breaking Bread' as a memory of the life of Jesus.

We look forward to seeing you at our Church.

COMING UP OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS,

so make notes in your diary, full details of all of these events will be advertised later. Please, all groups, let us know your plans asap!

Fir 6th Mar - Musical Matinee

Sat 7th Mar - Jumble Sale

Sat 28th Mar - Horticultural Spring Show
- St. Mary's Quiz night

Wed 1st April - Spring Flower Arranging

Sat 4th April - Memorial Hall Quiz Night
- Star Gazing

Sat 11th April - Horticultural Plant Sale

Sun 19th Apr - Ninfield Bonfire's & Hooe's Spring Special

Sat 20th Jun - Carnival's Summer Solstice Event

Sun 21st Jun - Carnival Sports Event

Sat 4th Jul - St. Oswald's Garden Party

Sat 11th Jul - St, Mary's Open Day and BBQ .

Fri 24th & Sat 25th Jul Ninfield Music Festival

Sat 15th Aug - Horticultural Summer Show

Sun 5^h Sep - Michaelmas Fayre

Sat/Sun 24/25th Oct - Art Exhibition

Sat 25th Nov - Home made fayre

Sun 20th Dec - Carnival's Winter Solstice Event

don't forget to send your information in early to get advertising. Ninfieldnews@btconnect.com and of course to ensure other groups don't book something that might conflict with yours!

Closing date for items for the **MARCH** edition
of the Parish News is **Thursday 13th February** please send to
ninfieldnews@btconnect.com

DIARY DATES FOR OUR TWO VILLAGES

Weekly Events

Mondays	Hooe - Senlac Bells Ninfield - Archive Centre. Movement2Music. Pilates, Badminton,
Tuesdays	Hooe - Hooe Band, Stoolball Ninfield - <i>Cubs</i> ; Dancercise, Bowls Club, Fusion Yoga
Wednesdays	Hooe - Line Dancing Ninfield - Village Society, Art Group, Fusion Yoga,
Thursdays	Ninfield - <i>Toddlers</i> , Pilates, <i>Beavers</i> , <i>Scouts</i> , Bowls Ninfield Health Walks 6 th & 20 th Feb
Fridays	Ninfield - Crafting, Strength Class Alternate Fridays, Jo's Jammies & Burlesque <i>In italics = term time only</i>

January

Thu 30 th	Ninfield Parish Council	P25
Fri 31 st	Film Friday	P24

February

Sat 1 st	Ladies Pre-loved Fashion Event	P13
Mon 3 rd	Flower Group	P18
Fri 7 th	Ninfield Book Exchange	P19
Sat 8 th	Hooe Coffee morning and Book exchange	P16
Mon 10 th	Earlybird Coffee Morning	P15
Wed 12 th	CWF Meeting	P28
	Carnival Meet	P15
Fri 14 th	HOGS	P16
Sat 15 th	Ninfield Village Market	P23
Mon 17 th	Ninfield Horticultural Society	P24
Tue 18 th	Indoor Games afternoon	P17
Thu 20 th	Hooe History Group	P12
	Ninfield History Group	P19
Mon 24 th	Men's Shed	P17
Tue 25 th	Pancake Lunch	P 4
Wed 26 th	Messy Church	P28
Fri 28 th	Film Night - Yesterday	P23
Sat 29 th	Vintage Games Evening	P11

Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD ACTION GROUP Paul Coleshill 893138

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Secretary Carol Holland 893326

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

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:

Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD CRAFTING & KNITTING: Jane Dommersen 862428

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY:

Secretary Jennie Harmer 892357 jennieharmer@aol.co.uk

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:

Show Organiser: Rose Franks, Little Gates, Potmans Lane, 892422

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Membership Sec. Corinne Gibbons 892612 corinnemgibbons@gmail.com

NINFIELD PLAYGROUP & TODDLERS

Preschool: Liz Walker, 7 Thorne Crescent, Bexhill, TN39 5JH

Toddlers: Stacey Boarer, 07967436479

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Phil Ringrose 892792

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Robin Goldsmith 892778

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Group Scout Leader: Martin Gausden martin.gausdengslninfield@hotmail.co.uk

Explorer Scout Leader: John Hornby 07783471115

Scout Leader: Glen Harrison 07936552785 ninfieldscouts@gmail.com

Cub Scout leader: Tracey Harrison 07970 359724 ninfieldcubs@gmail.com

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

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

NINFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB: Julia Hurrell 07508 080608

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

HOE BELL RINGERS : Simon Pattisson 845087

HOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOE LINE DANCE GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

HOE OPEN GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

HOE SPORTS CLUB Chairman: Tim Bryant, 2 Saddlers Cottage, Hoe

HOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Sally Durman, 893007

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Pam Doodles, Catslide, Hoe 892329

SENLAC BELLS Conductor Alan Collings 893313

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

PARISH WHO'S WHO

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

PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

Churchwardens: Mr Phil Ringrose ☎ 892792
Mrs Catriona Mary Owen ☎ 225421

Secretary: Mrs Ann Ringrose

Treasurer: Mr Phil Ringrose

PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD, HOOE

Churchwardens: Mr Jack Rist ☎892576
Mrs Janet Pattisson ☎845087

Secretary: Mr John Fairclough

Treasurer: Mrs Cynthia Fairclough

USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES

THE PARISH NEWS Email ninfieldnews@btconnect.com (893326

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Jackie Scarff (07725 843505 ninfieldpc@btinternet.com

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council Jackie Scarff (07775 25843505 hooepc2@btinternet.com

READING ROOM

Booking Enquiries: Anne Ringrose (892792 email ringrosep@aol.com

MEMORIAL HALL

Booking Secretary: Jane Dommersen 892428 07984 721504
ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

HOOE VILLAGE HALL

Booking Secretary: Mrs Sally Durman, 1 Elizabethan Cottages, Hooe (893007

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Booking Secretary: Mr David Swales (892248

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Mr. Chris Brown, Church Lane, Ninfield (892486

DOCTORS The Surgery, High Street, Ninfield (892569

NINFIELD STORES, Lower Street, Ninfield (892281