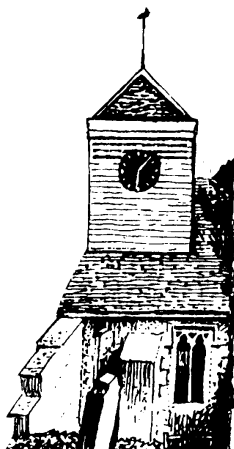


# THE

# PARISH



# NEWS

**News from the Churches,  
the clubs, groups and  
societies of  
Ninfield & Hooe**

## **July 2020**



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



## GOOD NEWS

Both our churches are allowed to open for Private Prayer  
from 13th June 2020.

The Social distancing rules should apply to all visits with hand  
sanitising or washing available.

Certain sections of the church will be closed off and all hymn books,  
bibles, service booklets and leaflets have had to be removed.

**St Mary's** will be open on Tuesdays and Fridays 10am to 4pm each  
week commencing Friday 19th June.

**St Oswald's** will be open daily during daylight hours (9am to 5pm  
approx.) from Monday 15th June.

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

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

Dear Friends,

In a way the whole world at present is experiencing a sense of loss, grief and confusion, facing an uncertain future – and, we hope, eventually a new start. We are all, in various ways, in a state of bereavement. Many have lost loved ones, health, jobs, businesses, relationships. Even us luckier ones can feel we've lost our bearings, lost the things which gave our lives meaning. Life may never be the same again, but what will our new lives look like?

In a way looking at the stories of Jesus's resurrection in the four Gospels can give us a perspective on these new situations we find ourselves in. (Even though Easter was quite a while ago now!) There is a link between the situation of Jesus's disciples then, and our situation now.

The disciples too had been bereaved, had seen all their hopes and expectations overturned – they like us had been thrown into grief and confusion. When Jesus rose again, their lives were transformed and renewed as well. As we move back towards 'normal' life, can we, like them, know a resurrection – a resurrection in our family, church and community lives? What can we learn from their experience?

When Jesus rose, his body was transformed, different in some way, and his disciples didn't always recognise him. But once a connection was made – by Jesus calling Mary by name, or in breaking bread before a meal – then they did recognise and know him, and saw that his body still bore the scars of the cross.

As our church life, indeed all aspects of our lives, begin to pick up again, we can't expect go back to exactly the way things were before. At least for some time to come, many things will be 'the same but different', and we will bear the scars from this time.

There'll be a temptation to mourn what we feel we've lost, to cling on to the past – "if only we could still do that". When Mary Magdalene met the risen Jesus in the garden, her first instinct was to embrace him – but he told her not to hold on to him. It wasn't possible for her to cling to him, for everything to be as before, because Jesus would only be around for a little while before ascending to his Father. She and the other disciples had to find a new way of relating to Jesus, the way open to us now. A better way, as Jesus can now be present with any and all of us, anywhere, any time as we celebrated at

Pentecost and then Trinity Sunday.

Over the last few months, we've been finding new ways of relating to one another, of worshipping and praying together. Frustrating as my internet connection has been over the last few months, at least we have been able to continue our worship and I have held various Zoom meetings, something I had never heard of before, yet alone organised one! And as for putting a service on Youtube; that is a totally new experience for me and I am learning all the time!

As we go forward, we must look for a new and better way, new things to put our energy and hopes into, to do and to enjoy. Regret is natural and normal, but we can't let it stop us from travelling on, knowing that Jesus walks with us.

May we all recognize his presence with us day by day. Stay safe and well and hopefully in the not too distant future we can get together again!  
Paul

### **Prayer**

Many of us, during lockdown, have enjoyed making bread; working with yeast and dough is very therapeutic!

Our Daily Bread

Give us we pray

The bread we need today

Or, Lord, at least

Provide us with some yeast!

We'll feast our eyes

To see the yeast-dough rise

No fun we lack

When we then knock it back.

Once more it proves,

Then to the oven moves

And then we haste

That nice fresh bread to taste!

By Nigel Beeton

### **St Mary's**

Interment of Ashes

Alan Edward Morris on 18th May.

*from the  
Parish Records*

## **ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, NINFIELD**

It has now been over 2 months since we had to lock the church to services and visitors and it doesn't look as we will be opening up again any time soon. Paul has managed to keep the services going via YouTube but I know many people liked to go into the church for rest and quiet contemplation.

In addition to the lack of services one of the biggest downsides to the lockdown is the devastating effect this is having on the church finances. With no services there are no collections or donations and the church open day, a good fund raiser, and weddings etc. have had to be cancelled meaning there is little or no income coming in.

We do however still have to continue to pay out regular expenses such as the Parish Share (which pays for the Priests' pay etc.), insurance, electricity, oil and maintenance of the churchyard. I had thought about cancelling the the latter but felt that it was not right to allow the churchyard to become a wilderness and therefore difficult for people to attend their relatives' graves.

This all means that at the present time the church is paying out around £1000 more per month than is coming in. Whilst we can cover this for the immediate future from our reserves this is not sustainable and we will have severe problems if something catastrophic happened to the church, Reading room or churchyard.

One such emergency occurred a couple of weeks ago when the outside tap broke and water was going everywhere. I had to switch off the water from inside the church which meant no water for flowers on the graves. I reported this on the Ninfield Facebook page and due to the kind offer from Chris Carzana and his plumber, Jason Sinclair, this has been repaired and a new tap installed. Whilst only a small problem I was very grateful for the kindness of our parishioners.

Also, I have just found out that we have a problem with some of the trees in the south churchyard which will involve felling or pollarding as they could be a danger to people who walk through the churchyard. As this is a health and safety issue this needs to be done as soon as possible and I will need to find the money from somewhere.

Hopefully we will be able to reopen the church again shortly and our finances will once again move onto a more even keel.

Phil Ringrose Churchwarden and Treasurer

## News from St Oswald's

We are still here and operating under the ever changing rules. Importantly the Government and the Diocese, have said that Churches can now be open for Private Prayer from 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020. The Social distancing rules should apply to all visits with hand sanitising or washing available. At St Oswald's we have opened the church from 15<sup>th</sup> June for Private prayer. The Church will be open during daylight hours (9am to 5pm approx) for parishioners to visit.

Other news. By the time that you are reading this, the new footpath, from the car park to the south door, should be complete. This will greatly improve the access for disabled and will be a firmer level base for the rest of us. Also we hope that we will be able to erect a 14' x10' shed in the top corner of the new car park. This has taken longer than we had hoped, but will allow us to store various items that at present rather clutter up areas of the church.

Of course, we are all patiently waiting for permission to return to our regular Sunday worship. Paul continues to provide us with a weekly service, which is appreciated by many parishioners. But to be back and able to enjoy the peace and the outlook of the church and churchyard, is what we all look forward to.

Comments have still reached us that there are many people passing through the churchyard and enjoying the nature, flowers, bees, etc.



All the hard work finished  
the lovely new path ready to receive visitors

## Editors' Note

Well all the frustration of trying to get the photos to fit alongside the articles seems to have been well worthwhile, we are glad to say, these are some of the comments received about the on line June Parish News

*Just wanted to say how good the Parish news online is!*

*A real opportunity for some lovely pictures.*

*That was lovely to read the articles from all the groups and keeping us up to date with the news.*

*The nature reserve had loads of those orchids in too!*

*I feel sure that this will open doors to new opportunities and more flexibility!*

*Well done - it shows great dedication and some hard graft too!*

*Well done - it looks good!*

*This is really good, colour pictures and everything!*

*Just to say a BIG THANK YOU .So enjoyed the read  
Loved all the colour photos*



The feed back has all been positive, with of course the one exception, that for those without internet or find reading on a screen difficult a printed copy is essential.

If you would like a copy emailed directly to you please send your details to our email address which we have now changed to

**[Ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com](mailto:Ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com)**

If you know someone who would prefer/need a printed copy please let us know so we can organise for next month, but in the meanwhile perhaps you could please print one for them.

Please, send in your photos and articles for the August issue by Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July, the articles and now photos are really appreciated by everyone, and thank you all for your continued support

*Nicki & Carol*

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## **Manchester Road,**

As most of you are aware planning permission was granted for 80 houses to be built on the land behind Sparke Gardens along Manchester Road, with access being granted to demolish 1 & 2 Sparke Gardens, planning permission, as is the norm, was granted subject to various conditions. One of which was that all highways works on Manchester Road would be done to make it safe for pedestrians, footways and cross overs at the entrance to the site, footways from Coombe Shaw to Millfield etc BEFORE any building work takes place. Then other works further away from the site such as changing the gated entrance between Millfield and the High Street, changes to the bus stop at the end of Manchester Road, etc would be later.

The developer has now applied to have variations to the agreement, which among other things would allow him to do the road works before the first house is occupied with only the site entrance made safe before any work starts.

If you feel the road safety works should be done BEFORE work starts on site to help keep all residents safer when walking, cycling, riding along Manchester Road, please go to the Wealden District Council website, look at WD/2020/0719/PO and send in your comments as soon as possible, but by 7<sup>th</sup> July at the latest.

Please see the Ninfield PC article for more details

## **Marlpits Lane**

Those of you have been wondering where the big lorries in Manchester Road and Coombe Lane were going, work has started on converting Bircholt Care Home into six houses. At the moment they are doing the work to the drive way, clearing it of the old stable block etc.

So please take extra care when walking in the area.

Ninfield Bonfire Society and Hooe Community Group are sad to report that due to the current situation the Michaelmas Fayre in September has been cancelled, let's all hope we can get the 2021 fayre up and running - maybe 3<sup>rd</sup> time lucky!!

## ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPICE OPEN GARDENS

As many of you know, St. Michael's organise each year for local gardens in an area to open to the public as part of their fundraising. This year a couple of gardens in Ninfield were due to open in July and as with all their other garden plans, this has had to be cancelled.

However, all is not lost, because St. Michael's send a photographer round to all the gardens about the time they were due to open and add the photos to their facebook page for everyone to see. Not quite the same as seeing the real thing, but better than nothing. Photos for Ninfield will show up on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July and will remain there after that. There is the option to make a donation in turn for viewing the virtual gardens, so hopefully this will help them to raise some much needed funds.

<http://stmichaelshospice.com/events/virtual-open-gardens>

You don't need a facebook account to open these pages, just follow the link and enjoy the tour.



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# NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

Ninfield Village Society volunteers were pleased to find out that on the 4th. June the East Sussex County Council Rights Of Way Team had removed the old footpath bridge in the centre of Church wood and replaced it with this splendid new one shown in the photograph.

The bridge is necessary to cover the continuously wet area of ground where water seeps out from the adjacent bank. There are several similar seepages in the wood, which are known as issues, and some are marked as such on OS maps. They probably occur when water in the top soil hits the impervious clay layer underneath.

Following on from their recently circulated questionnaire It is expected that Thakeham homes will soon apply to develop an estate of 70 new homes on land south of the High street which comes very close to the boundary of Church wood. Our committee believe that should an application be made and approved it will have an irreparable negative impact on both the wood and the village in general .



Recent visitors to the wood may have noticed that the baby moorhens have grown considerably.

Finally, when I was in the wood a few days ago I stopped and listened to a chorus of different bird songs, coming through the trees loud and clear, particularly noticeable on a still and quiet afternoon. Magic.! A sure way to lift the spirits.

Robin Goldsmith  
secretary/treasurer

## Life in Lockdown

Life has changed. It's very strange  
In this lockdown situation  
We must be strong , stay at home and Observe self-isolation  
Adjusting to a new routine  
Can be a trifle daunting  
But changing habits long engrained can sometimes be rewarding  
Each day I get my 'Joe Wicks fix'  
It starts the day off right  
with bunny hops and tummy curls and hamstrings stretched out tight  
Late morning finds me on my walk  
Self-disciplined insistence  
I seem to walk in zig-zag lines observing social distance  
Gareth's on at 5pm to sing before your supper  
Through do ra mi and so la te  
I sing and wheeze and splutter  
I'm saving on the washing too  
And wear my oldest clothes  
I've worn the same for three days now and no one even knows!  
I'm looking up new recipes  
And trying to be inventive  
Last night I had goats cheese with kale -I wouldn't recommend it...  
I phoned a new forgotten friend  
To check she was okay  
We chatted on around the clock and passed the time of day  
Knowing I've neglected her, I signed off with regret  
"what was your name again" she said, I don't believe we've met  
But this testing time will pass  
Through the tunnel there is light  
We'll remember many selfless souls  
Who helped us in our plight  
We're all in this together  
to help each other is our call  
And we'll show we're made of sterner stuff We're British ..... After all.

Irene Stovell 14.4.2020

## **HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY**

...And so it goes on. We, along with many others continue to feel the effects of Corona virus and in line with other clubs and organisations, remain very cautious about exactly how and when we will be able to get back to normal activities. For now, however, we have cancelled our July "outing" to St. Oswald's Church, Hooe, which was to be led by the Rev. Peter Doodes.

Hopefully, we will be in touch with the P.C.C. with a view to reinstating this event for next year. We are still considering our plans for the remainder of this year and will confirm our intentions with the next issue of Parish News.

**DID YOU KNOW**... this month, is a newspaper report that takes us back to a more carefree period in Hooe's modern history, about 90 years ago. It would almost certainly not happen in public today, but "firing the anvil" must have been quite spectacular.

...On Saturday afternoon Mr. F. Hayes the village blacksmith, "fired the anvil" in celebration of Lady May Cambridge's wedding to Captain Abel Smith.;

Twenty seven years ago," Mr. Hayes told a Sussex Express" representative, "I fired an anvil to celebrate another wedding. At that time I was a farrier at Aldershot, and among the many people who brought horses to be shed was a young officer of the Hussars, and it was at his wedding that I fired the anvil for them. This young officer was Prince Alexander of Teck, now Earl of Athlone, and father of Lady May Cambridge." It is seldom that a blacksmith goes to the trouble of firing the anvil; if he does the occasion is a notable one," continued Mr. Hayes. Many people in Hooe had never heard of such a thing being done, and watched the operation with much interest." Mr. Hayes explained how an anvil was fired. He said that he filled the tapering hole in the anvil with gunpowder and then plugged the opening with an oak bung and a nail. The nail was drawn out to lay a fuse, powder being sprinkled liberally around the hole. A long iron bar was taken - it is not wise to get too close - and one end was made red hot. That end was next placed beside the powder. The explosion is so violent that it lifts the anvil - which weighs three hundredweight - off the ground, and the oak bung is blown to pieces. This is the second time that Mr. Hayes has fired the anvil at Hooe, the other occasion being last Armistice Day, when the explosion signalled the two minutes' silence. There was a hunt meet at the same time and the visitors evinced much interest in the ceremony.

## Photos from Hooe of VE Day decorations



John William Newport.

It is with sadness and regret that I have to report that John Newport, a very dear friend of mine and of Hooe History Society, passed away peacefully in June. John's grandfather was John James Newport, who wrote several books about St Oswald's Church and the village of Hooe and in particular "Records of Hooe" in the early 1900's. His grandson John was so inspired by his grandfather's work that he has continued to research, gather and document the life and history of the village, creating a number of unpublished books as well as a fascinating online website. He has also been a research volunteer at Bexhill Museum for very many years. One of his finest achievements has been to transcribe the Hooe school log books, with help from his wife Maureen, from when they started in 1871 to about 1920. This was inspired by the fact that his grandfather was Headmaster there for 25 years. John was very particular about the accuracy of the information he was recording and went to great lengths to verify that it was correct. He would often get side-tracked from his subject, only to find another story about the village to investigate! John has been an inspiration to me in my own research and a great friend to the Hooe History Society. John was a lovely man with a warm, self-deprecating sense of humour and an eye to detail. He will be sadly missed by all those of us who have had the good fortune to know him.

Peter Hayward (Hooe History Society).




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**Are You Legal in 2020?**

**Did You Know?** As of January 2020 the regulations surrounding the disposal of rural sewage change. You are now NOT allowed to discharge your septic tank directly into the environment.

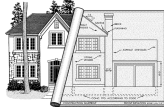
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## **NINFIELD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL**

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**SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JULY**

At the usual time

**9.30 - 12.00**

There will be a one way system in place, so entry via the main doors and exit at the side

There will only be a few stalls to allow social distancing.

So come along and get your

**Fresh bread, cakes, fruit and vegetables,  
meat, eggs & honey**

There will be also be a couple of non-food stalls  
and take-away teas and coffees

We look forward to seeing you there



The old houses that were in place down the bottom of Mill Lane .



## NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Like all other societies and organisations The Ninfield Local History Group has suspended meetings during the corona virus crisis. In April we were due to hold our AGM at which we were going to vote on moving our meeting day to the 2nd Thursday of the month. It appeared that the majority of comments received from members about this issue were in favour of the change. This will enable members and visitors to attend both Ninfield and Hooe history meetings if they wish.

I am hopeful that our September meeting will go ahead on the new date of 10th when we will welcome Barbara Atkins talking about the History of the Brede Giants.

The Archive Centre is also closed for the time being but please feel free to request information and photos via email to [ninfield\\_lhg@btinternet.com](mailto:ninfield_lhg@btinternet.com)

We are posting photos to our Facebook page too with the aim of keeping people entertained.

Here are some snippets of village history passed on by visitors to the Pavilion in the last year:

1) There used to be film shows in Ninfield run by 2 lads (Brian Croft and Colin Panter) in the green hut that stood next to the New Inn (Blacksmiths). The boys charged 6d to come in and the films were very popular often playing to a full house. Colin Panter's father was the Landlord at the pub which at that time was tied to the Page & Overton brewery in Croydon.

2) During the war a retired school teacher called Mrs Thompson ran a school from her home in Potman's Lane. There were around 9 children living in that part of the village and it was considered too dangerous for them to walk to the village school (there had been an incident where people walking on The Green had been shot at by enemy planes, there were aerial battles going on and the Doodlebugs were also passing overhead very frequently).

3) At one time there was ride-on miniature railway down at Hazards Green that children from Ninfield were able to have fun on."

Stay safe

John

# Ninfield Parish Council

<i>Parish Councillors</i>	<i>Phone</i>		<i>Phone</i>
Kaye Crittall – Chair	892883	Sam Guard	893699
Pam Doodes	892329	Peter Holland	893326
John Cheshire	892248	Jack ie Langley	892422
Paul Coleshill	893138	Kamala Willaimson	
Sheila Collins	893308		
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e-mail – <a href="mailto:clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk">clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk</a>			

This last month there have been lots of people in the village not happy with the speed of vehicles travelling through the village. We do have a speed watch group in the village but not enough volunteers to be out as often as we would like. We do know however that the more the speedwatch team is out the more difference it makes to drivers who come through the village. The message spreads and people start to drive more carefully. Sometimes it can be frustrating when you see the team out looking at the traffic in one direction and speeding cars come from the other direction. When the team go out they have to register which approved site they are going to use and which direction they will be monitoring. It would be great to have enough people on the team to get more than one group out. Speedwatch resumed Tuesday 16th June after lockdown.

If you are interested in joining please email Jackie, the clerk, [clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk) to find out more. The initial training is done on line and then we can get you out with the team.

The other thing that residents aren't happy about is parking, sometimes parking too close to a junction is causing poor visibility and other times its parking on pavements making it difficult to pass. The Highway Code tells us you must not stop or park in the following locations, except when forced to do so by stationary traffic. The ones relevant to our village are:

Near a school entrance on the yellow zig zag lines, Anywhere that would prevent access for emergency vehicles, On a bus or tram stop, or a taxi rank, Opposite or within 32 feet of a junction,

Opposite a traffic island or another parked vehicle (if it causes an obstruction), Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair and mobility vehicle users, In front of an entrance to a property, On a bend, A pedestrian crossing, including the area marked by the zig-zag lines.

During the lockdown period Wealden District Council (WDC) were not sending out letters to residents to inform them of a planning application. They have started to do this again now and many of you should get a letter regarding the Manchester Road site. The developer is looking to make changes to the legal agreement,, including asking WDC if they can start the construction works before carrying out the agreed works to the road. You can read the Parish Council response here <http://www.ninfieldpc.co.uk/community/ninfield-parish-council-15069/planning-agendas-and-minutes/> the minutes dated 24th May, like each of you, the Parish Council is only a consultee and we need resident to register their thoughts too otherwise WDC assume that you don't object. It's tempting to think that if you live the other end of the village to an application that it doesn't matter if you don't express your thoughts, but these developments affect the whole village extra traffic, demand on our school and the doctors surgery. Please help us to help our village and write to WDC, email [planning@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:planning@wealden.gov.uk) or submit your comments online.

## **OUR SCHOOL**

### **We are a school again!**

On Monday 1st June we opened our doors to our Reception children, then on the Tuesday Year 1 joined us and finally on the Wednesday, Year 6. Following Government Guidelines, we split the classes into 'Pods' of less than 15 children with a Teacher and Teaching Assistant assigned to each. These Pods exist in their own little bubble with no contact with anyone else in the school. The staff assigned to the Pods remain with them throughout the week so the risk of cross infection is minimised.

Frequent handwashing and use of sanitiser takes place throughout the day and when the children leave to go outside at lunch time, an army

an army of cleaners moves in to wipe down tables and equipment. The same army returns at the end of the day to repeat the exercise, all under the watchful eye of 'her in charge'.

It's a very strange situation but everyone seems to have taken it in their stride as if this were normal. But it is not normal, watching children play socially isolated games, not being able to sit down at a table with them, not being able to hold a morning assembly. It's not normal but at least formal education has restarted for some children.

We are only open to Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 from Monday to Thursday as we have had to allocate Friday for Teachers to be able to maintain the on line education for the children who are not yet able to return to school. We also have a class of key worker's children who are in school all 5 days.

We have also been busy trying to work out how we could possibly maintain this system when the rest of the school rejoin us in July, as per the Government's last directive. But once again we heard, through the power of television of course, that things had changed yet again and we would no longer be expected to take back the remaining children until September at the earliest. Guidelines to follow, as usual.

We are all concerned at the impact being away from school for 6 months will have on those children. If this year has been testing, next year is likely to be much worse. It is going to take a long time before things get back to normal where the only thing that we have to worry about is the next visit from OFSTED.

But for now we have a school (third) full of happy, engaged children which is a big step forward from how it was when I was writing last month's article. Lets hope by the time I am doing next months we are all in a better place.

Meanwhile I have been asked to pass on our thanks to everyone in the village who has been so supportive of the school and staff. In such difficult times even a cheery wave through the window can make a big difference to someone's day. A special thanks also to the 'Village Voice' whose kind words now adorn the staff room wall.

Ian Moffat

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## The Hidden History of God's Providence House

With many in the village being shielded and staying isolated due to the pandemic caused by the corona virus, it may be time to reflect on one property in Ninfield that seems to have a link to the other Great Plague that devastated much of Europe in the mid 17th Century. "God's Providence House" was a name given to Standard Hill Farm House from the text on a plaque above the frontage: "God's Providence is my inheritance". Similar texts are on houses in Newport, on the Isle of Wight, and also in Chester.

Those were believed to be houses where none of the occupants caught the plague, when it swept through every other household. Nice, god fearing people, it would seem, living there. That's reinforced by a second plaque quoting the first line of Psalm 127 "Except the Lord build the house, they Labouré in vain that build it." Coupled with the first inscription, it can be read as "Without the good favour of the Lord, the house will not prosper"

A sentiment probably in keeping with the very moral tone of the Puritans. Not only that but the third plaque seems to tell you that these Christian people built the house with God's providence and by being God fearing the house will prosper and not fall into decay: "Here we have 1659 our abidance" simply asserts that the house dates from 1659.

Standard Hill Farmhouse is Grade II\* Listed, stands on the crest of Standard Hill, reputed to be close to where William of Normandy landed by Boreham Bridge and, on the first hill he climbed, he planted his flag, so all his men could gather for further orders. It is an Impressive house with many interesting features. Dated 1659 but refaced with red mathematical tiles about 1790. The main portion has 3 windows and 3 gables. At the east end is a recessed portion, probably added in the C18, possibly in conjunction with the mathematical tile refacing of the main house, of one window and one gable. Mathematical tiles were laid in a partly overlapping pattern, similar to roof shingles. Their lower section - the part intended to be visible when the tiling was complete - was thicker; so the upper section would slide under the overlapping tile above and would therefore be hidden. In the top corner was a hole for a nail to be inserted. They would then be hung on a lath of wood, and the lower sections would be moulded together with an infill of lime mortar to form a flat surface.

The interlocking visible surfaces would then resemble either header bond or stretcher bond brickwork. Mathematical tiles had several advantages over brick: they were cheaper, easier to lay than bricks (as skilled workmen were not needed), and were more resistant to the weathering effects of wind, rain and sea-spray, making them particularly useful in coastal locations. So, that's nice, a lovely house with an interesting history with a strong Christian ethic reflecting those stern Puritan values.

In fact, it could be argued that Ninfield still has Puritans in its midst, notably when the supporters of the Ninfield Bonfire Society parade round the village!

To be continued.....

Kevin Regan



## 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 Jackie Scarff 07548 528754

It has been noticeable that there are fewer vehicles on the roads through Hooe but the speed of these vehicles has increased dramatically. So now it is even more dangerous to walk or cycle, so take extra care.

The Parish Council is inviting volunteers to come forward, train up and join the Speedwatch Team which will start up again just as soon as circumstances allow. Already in the past week we have welcomed a new volunteer. Chris, who has no finished his on-line training and is ready to help make a difference to the quality of life of residents. Cllr. Gary Durman is leading on this initiative for the Parish Council, he is sitting by his phone awaiting your call. So please, pick up the phone and dial 01424 893007 to either hear more or volunteer. The on-line training is not too arduous and can be completed in the comfort of your own home.

With so many events being cancelled and the Village Hall closed the Parish council is turning to electronic communication to keep people informed. The Hooe Open Gardens weekend was a virtual event and photos can be found on the Open Gardens website [www.hooe-open-gardens.com](http://www.hooe-open-gardens.com) worth taking a look. It is also good to keep up to date with the Hooe History Society news on [www.hooehistory-wordpress.com](http://www.hooehistory-wordpress.com). There is also the Hooe Community Update Twitter account and on Facebook The Hooe Community Group.

The Parish Council is grateful to Jenny for producing a fine model of a Spitfire for VE Day to go with the Tommy she produced the year before. These will be an annual attraction from now on. the village was awash with Sussex Day Flags to celebrate Sussex Day on 16 th June, this has been encouraged by Dick Carey, charman of the Parish Council. For the first time in fifty years the Hooe Motor Show is not being held. This popular event actively supported by the Parish Council who last year provided the refreshments with Hooe community Group.



The Parish Council is grateful to all residents who volunteered to help local people when the virus struck. Almost a quarter of households came forward, the number amazed us all.

The Parish Council is not meeting at present but Councillors are still actively responding to planning applications, complaints about potholes, dog dirt etc. and still walking the pavements and checking the stiles are in good order. So, business as usual apart from the meeting in the village hall. Should you have any questions, complaints or compliments please do not hesitate to contact any Councillor

Pam Doodes

Vice Chair Hooe Parish council

Wealden District councillor

### **CHICKEN TRAYBAKE**

Chicken thighs

New Potatoes

Carrots

Lemon (optional)

Chicken stock cube (I use Stock Pots)

½ glass white wine

¾ glass of water

Mixed herbs (fresh or dried)

Salt/Pepper

Half or quarter the potatoes (depending on size), cut carrots to the same size.

Quarter the lemon (if using)

Lay all ingredients in a tin. (I use a large roasting tin) with the wine, water, stock cube and herbs. Season well. Mix it all up and make sure the chicken is skin side up.

Oven 180°C. after ½ hour, stir round and baste the chicken. I usually find it takes about an hour to cook but I would imagine it depends on the oven. If you turn up the oven to 200°C for the last 10 minutes it crisps up the skin.

Serve out. I thicken the juice with Bisto granules to make a sauce.

Enjoy

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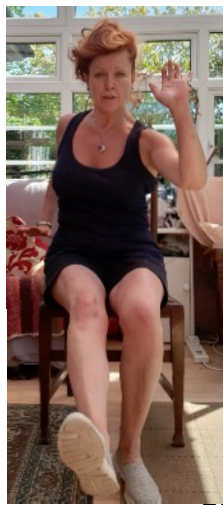
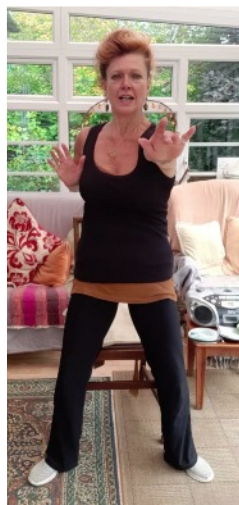
## Message from Sami!

**MOVEMENT 2 MUSIC CLASSES** - for the Older but Still Active Person!- will hopefully restart at the Memorial Hall on Monday 27th July! 10 am - 11 am - with spaced chairs, no refreshments and hand sanitizer on arrival...! Please look out for posters and announcements, but it is hoped that the Government Guidelines by then will allow us to get going again!

**LADIES DANCERCISE CLASSES:** will follow on the Tuesday, 28th, at an earlier time than usual - 7pm. and on Friday, 7th August ,  
**BURLESQUE!!** 7pm.

If you'd like to start moving a bit before these classes restart, don't forget that every week there are LIVE streamed classes on Facebook- at the Dancercise 4 You Group. Just search and find me...!! Ask to join, give me a reference as to how you know me, and I'll let you into the ever-growing Club! At present we have 77 members...from all over the world- New Zealand, Australia and Rhodes!- as well as here in the Village and in the wider County! The classes are great fun, and, even if the members are doing the exercises in their own homes, there's still a fun feeling of camaraderie with messages being put up to say Hi, and jolly feedback afterwards!

So, please keep in touch! Call me on 893699, or 07970650321 or email [samanthaguard@btinternet.com](mailto:samanthaguard@btinternet.com) Thanks!



## NINFIELD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

It is sad to tell you that the Pre School that has been resident in the Cottage for many years has closed its doors. Many village children have spent happy times there and went off to Ninfield Primary School with a good grounding.

Sadly their final year did not go to plan! Covid 19 stopped all that, as it stopped so many other things. They had planned to close at the end of July but finished rather abruptly in March when advised to by the Government along with all other schools and nurseries.

They said a final farewell to all their final students in the car park at the end of May, when parents collected the personal belongings of their children.

We are sorry to see them go, it was always good to hear the children laughing when you walked by, but rest assured, we will continue to hear that laughter from September onwards with a new group taking over ..... But more of that next month.

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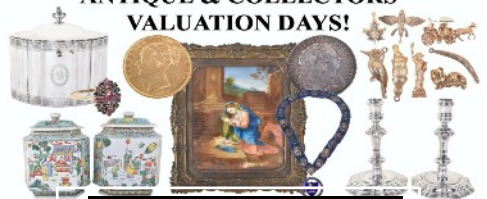
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## **Worms Eye View**

It's most unusual for me and my fellow worms but I would like to have rain, quite a lot of rain really. The ground is so hard to wriggle around in. Seriously although it is lovely and warm, I am writing these notes at the end of May, the ground does need a good soaking. We are getting short of feeding grass for the animals and it will be a light silage and hay crop for next winter.

By the time you read these notes, I am confident that many restrictions to our lives will have been lifted. I have been lucky to have the fields to walk and do the lookering and without the noise of the traffic it has made the bird songs much louder and lovely to listen to. I have had a new bird song to add to the usual list. It was one evening when I was putting my gardening things away that I became conscious of what sounded like rapid knocking. I stood quite still and then there it was again and I thought it must be one of the woodpeckers that come in and feed from the bird table. But no, the next day I mentioned it to son. He smiled and bought out his phone, switched it on and there was this rapid trilling. I was quickly informed that it was a night jar, who feeds at night on flying insects, especially moths. Well we live and learn.

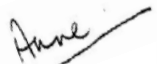
This reminds me of another new piece of knowledge. Whilst doing my daily looker, the route of which changes as the animals are moved, I came across a large circle of white fluff under one hanging tree. I picked a leaf and a ball of fluff, brought them home and got my book out and soon discovered it was a Goat Willow. Strange name for a tree I thought, but to quote, it is of great importance to wildlife, especially Moth Caterpillars.

Two other delights to report, the first spotted whilst crossing one of the dykes, was the sight of dozens of tadpoles with quite long tails, swimming round and round. If I had had a jar I would have caught a few and watched them grow, as I used to when I was a young girl.

Finally the next day I was trying to weed in the garden when out of the corner of my eye I noticed a slow movement to one side of the weeds, and out popped a large toad. It stared at me as if asking, why I had disturbed him, so I carefully picked him up and put him among long grass that I do not cut and hope that he will settle again. It was lovely to see and now I want to see the Hedgehogs again. They have been missing for some time, but I must say I see plenty of Rabbits and Foxes.

Life is never dull despite my restricted isolation.

Enjoy the summer and our lovely environment.



# Ninfield Methodist Church

## *Messy Church News: June 2020*

How are you all? Have any of you gone back to school yet? If not, how are you getting on learning at home? We are all having to get used to a different way of life which can be difficult at times. However, it is good to know that we have family and friends around to care for us and whom we can care for.

We miss seeing you a **Messy Church**, however, a reminder that there are lots of home activities on the **Messy Church** website. There is something posted for every week throughout June. It is easy to find just google **Messy Church at home ideas**

The session material for 8<sup>th</sup> June is about 'Money' and the bible story of a tax collector called Zacchaeus (pronounced Zack-ee-us). You may like to try some of the activities at home. We're also sending you a picture to colour in.

The session material for 15<sup>th</sup> June is 'Fathers' Day. The activities lead to that special day, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June. These occasions remind us of the importance of families and the love that is shared within them.

Fathers' Day is also a reminder of God, our Father, who also cares for us and loves us. Jesus taught his disciples a prayer which we still use today. Why not say this together as a family?

If you google the song Abba (meaning 'daddy') Father you will be able to join in the singing!

Best wishes from the **Messy Church** team

### **Prayer**

Our Father in heaven  
Hallowed be thy name  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us our daily bread  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who have sinned against us  
and lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil  
for yours is the kingdom  
the power and the glory  
for ever and ever, **Amen**

Abba, Father, let me be

Yours and yours alone.

May my will for ever be

Ever more your own.

Never let my heart grow cold,

Never let me go.

Abba, Father, let me be

Yours and yours alone



# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
1 Samuel 24

God chose Saul to be the King of Israel, but Saul chose to disobey Him. God said that the next king would not be Saul's son.

Saul didn't know that God had chosen David to be the next king.



David was very successful as a fighter and very popular.



David had to go on the run and hide.



One day, Saul and his army were in En-Gedi. Saul needed to pee, so he went into a sheep fold built next to a cave...

David and his men were hiding at the back of the cave!



David crept over and cut a piece off Saul's robe.



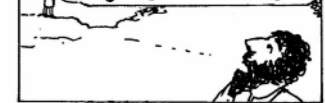
Then David felt bad.



David waited until Saul was far enough away then he shouted to him.



Your majesty, I could have killed you today, but I knew it was wrong. I want to prove to you I'm not trying to harm you.



David, you are better than me. I would have killed you but you were kind.



Now I know you will be the next king, but please look after my family.

David promised, and Saul and his army went home.





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**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

**HOOE BELL RINGERS :** Simon Pattisson 845087

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

**HOOE LINE DANCE GROUP:** Heather Sinden 893422

**HOOE OPEN GROUP:** Heather Sinden 893422

**HOOE SPORTS CLUB** Chairman: Tim Bryant, 2 Saddlers Cottage, Hooe

**HOOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS:** Gary Durman, 893007

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** Pam Doodles, Catslide, Hooe 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,  
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## PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

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*Secretary:* Mrs Ann Ringrose

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