

What's on and What you missed

In & around

Ninfield & Hooe

May 25

50p

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

	St Mary's	St Oswald's
4 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
11 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 Joint Parish Eucharist	No Service
18th May	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
25 <sup>th</sup> May	NO SERVICE	11.00 Parish Eucharist

### **Opening times for Private Prayer**

St. Mary's -Tuesday to Friday 9.00am to 3.00pm Where Possible

St. Oswald's - Open daily from 9.00am - 5.00pm

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

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

### **PARISH NEWS**

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

Dear Friends,

I remember quite a few years ago, when the children were young the effort of going on a long journey. I always knew that it would not be long before one of them said "How much further is it"! There were 4 children and eventually they would all be asking "How much further is it"! My usual answer was "Until we get there"! Mind you, I don't think I am much better now. I do not like long journeys, and it even annoys me if we have to stop for a toilet break! We once drove with a caravan in tow to the South of France. That was a slog of a journey and although we took a few days, by the time we got there I needed a couple of days to recuperate! Again, I just want to get there! The older I get I also find long haul flights demanding. Its great once we arrive, it's the getting there that's a struggle!

Life itself is often described as a journey, a journey from birth until we die! I suspect that is one journey in which we don't want to get there quickly! We recently went to Edinburgh on the train. We have done that a few times now and for a change I can sit back and relax and enjoy the scenery along the way, and some fantastic scenes there are, especially around Berwick as the train skirts the coastline. I am gradually learning to appreciate the journey itself rather than just the destination and to look around and see things I hadn't noticed before. I read somewhere recently that we should 'Slow down, look around, breathe, take in the sounds and colours. Imagine you had chosen this moment as your destination, not just a point along your journey' Most of our lives are spent doing the travelling and the arrival is only a tiny part of that journey. In a way we should do our best to enjoy every part of the adventure. Maybe we will never get to where we want to be, and wouldn't it be sad if we had not even enjoyed the ride! Our personal journey will take all sorts of twists and turns. Sometimes its two steps forward and one step back but it is still a forward motion.

After Easter the disciples found they had a new direction to take, and they were completely unsure about what they should do. Indeed, they were frightened as to what may happen to them. Ascension Day this year falls on 29<sup>th</sup> May. The time when Jesus left the disciples to return to his Father. I am sure that left them with huge questions, what would they do, where would they go, they had always relied on Jesus to make the decisions for them. Now was the start of a new journey, but they didn't need to wait long as at Pentecost they received the gift of the Holy Spirit that guided them in their new adventure and gave them a new direction and a new confidence.

So, we continue our journey of faith, we keep going and hopefully we will be rewarded. However, it's important to remember that sometimes we are not rewarded, at least not in the way we think, sometimes our struggles

and patience and optimism will be for nothing. But the journey itself, how we did it and who we did it with will always live within us. So, we live every second and we embrace the path that is laid out before us because it's our pathway and no one else's!

Paul

### The bells rang out in England

The six long years of fighting

Had such a dreadful cost

In blood and sweat and mortal threat

And countless lives were lost.

It now, at last, had ended –

In Europe's shores at least;

Our people brave feared not the grave

To slay the Nazi beast.

The lessons learned stayed with us

For eighty peaceful years.

Yet now, again, some brutal men

Are raising wartime fears.

We should be celebrating

This coming VE Day;

Yet not at ease, but on our knees

For lasting peace, we pray.

By Nigel Beeton

#### St Oswald's

Funeral of Linda Marian Bligh

18th March 2025

from the Parish Records

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

First thing to report is that the Planning application for the toilet extension has been further delayed. We are meeting our Architect on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, when we hope to get a full report as to why there is a delay and what we need to do to get back on track. The PCC see it as an important addition to the church facilities.

As we write, we are preparing Holy Week for Easter with services in St Oswald's on Good Friday and on Easter Sunday. Thank you to all those who help to decorate the church for Easter and those who made posies for Mothering Sunday.

We will be sad to see Simon and Janet Pattisson leaving the village. They have both served on the PCC and as Churchwardens, Simon was also the Captain of the Bellringers for several years. They have lived in the village since 1991 and are booked to travel to Somerset early in May. We thank them for their hard work, friendship and company and we wish them well as they move away westward to Somerset.

Reminder of the Church Garden Party on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July. There will be all the usual stalls and the Hooe Village Band is booked. We will be hoping for donations for tombola prizes, raffle, plants, etc. Also hoping for offers of help, maybe manning a stall for an hour or so, setting up on the morning and the big clear up afterwards, will be welcome.

Another sad duty is to tell you of the passing away of two of our old church members and supporters. Linda Bligh died in February and had lived in the village. Also Barry West died in March, he lived in Whydown but moved to a Nursing Home in Leatherhead to be close to his family. They were both valued members of the PCC for many years. We miss them both.

Jack Rist - Churchwarden

Editors' Comment... Our two villages are so lucky, there are many lovely people in each who get a great deal of enjoyment from organising and helping out at the many events that take place on a regular basis, weekly, monthly or annually. In a way it's their hobby and they enjoy it. Many of us are getting a bit less mobile so we could do with a bit of help to keep some groups going. Sam mentions, 'use it or lose it' that's not just keeping our bodies moving but our brains as well. Joining one of the groups, attending or helping at any of the events helps body and brain, you meet new people, make good friends, have fun, so please, help yourselves as well as helping your villages and a group, start a new hobby and maybe, enjoy life a little more!

### News from St Mary's.

You may recall a few years ago I put an article in the Parish News, slightly tongue in cheek, saying church for sale! The situation at St Mary's was getting serious in the lack of a congregation I could not see the way forward for it to continue as it is. Sadly, since that article the situation is worse with an even further decline in attendance mostly through members dying. This is not just a problem for the church, it applies to many organisations within the village and indeed nationally. It partly stems back to the pandemic when we shut our front doors for lengthy periods and did not go out. Even theatres have not returned to their pre-pandemic numbers.

The church though is not like a pub where you can say use it or lose it! The church is not a commodity, it is based around belief, a faith, and that is very personal. A while ago I spoke with the Archdeacon about this problem, and he said one way forward would be for St Mary's to become a Festival Church. That means there would only be services at Christmas, Easter etc! Whilst a possibility, in a way that is partly ignoring the real problem! I do not believe as a society we are people without any faith.

People may not believe all that the church has to offer, but I do believe that many people have a spirituality within them that does not seem to be met by what the church has to offer. So, what is the way forward. I wish I knew the answer!

When I was a priest in Norfolk I had 4 parishes, when I left it became 8 to one priest, it is now 12 to one priest. I had 2 villages near Cambridge, just before I left it became 3 and it is now 7! I do not know how they manage! When I eventually retire there is talk of this becoming 4 parishes! Nothing is decided but that may become a reality! The church in Ninfield has ever increasing expenses and we struggle to keep our heads above water. How much longer we can do that I do not know, as we now must paint the tower to give just one example! We do already have joint services, and this may become even more of a regular occurrence. But often congregations do not travel to another church. It is seen as a Sunday off! For the priest as well as the people, it is encouraging to be part of a larger congregation, and it also provides some spiritual uplift.

I am just presenting you with the facts. I would welcome some reaction as to the way forward. Did you attend church in the past? Have you stopped? Why? Is it that we all now lead busy lives? I am sure there are many with a spiritual hunger that is not met! Maybe give church a try, come along and help us change to be more representative of the community we find ourselves in. St Mary's has been a witness to this community for centuries and hopefully it will continue to be but to achieve that we need people!

## May Diary

		Venue I	-age
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Book Exchange	Methodist	8
5 <sup>th</sup>	VE Celebrations	Hooe Hall	11
5 <sup>th</sup>	Pram Race	Blacksmith's	25
8 <sup>th</sup>	VE Day 80 Nation Remembers	Recreation Grd	12
8 <sup>th</sup>	Ninfield Local History Group	Methodist	27
9 <sup>th</sup>	Hooe & Ninfield Open Group	Methodist	20
10 <sup>th</sup>	VE Day Exhibition/Coffee Morn	ing St. Oswald's	s 18
12 <sup>th</sup>	Flower Group	Memorial	18
12 <sup>th</sup>	Carnival Meeting	Working Men's	26
13 <sup>th</sup>	Film Matinee - Grease	Memorial	8
14 <sup>th</sup>	Christian Women's Fellowship	Methodist	33
15 <sup>th</sup>	Bat Walk	Spark Pav	9
15 <sup>th</sup>	Bonfire Meeting	Working Men's	
15 <sup>th</sup>	Hooe History Society	St. Oswald's	17
17 <sup>th</sup>	Food & Craft Market	Memorial	15
19 <sup>th</sup>	Ninfield Horti Meeting	Memorial	16
21 <sup>st</sup>	Messy Church	Methodist	33
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Lunch Club	Methodist	8
25 <sup>th</sup>	Charity Event	Working Men's	15
26 <sup>th</sup>	Dawn Walk		9
30 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Lounge	Tin Hut	25
30 <sup>th</sup>	Men's Shed	Spark Pav	9

**Ninfield Health and Wellbeing Group** aims to promote the health and wellbeing of people in the local community. Established in 2018, the NHWG is an umbrella organisation supporting a range of activities.

### **Ninfield Lunch Club**

This is proving very popular and is on the 4th Thursday of each month. For details, please contact Maggie on: 07985588524 or email: maggiethecook@gmail.com

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

Methodist Hall 10 – 11.30 weekly on Friday.

First Friday monthly: Book Exchange and chat over tea/coffee and biscuits. Donations asked for books and refreshments. A wide range of books and good company.

**Community Café** open on all other Friday mornings – you will be made very welcome.

For details contact David on 07989729123 or dj\_swales@hotmail.com

### Women's Crafting and Knitting Circle

Memorial Hall. Weekly 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. £5 per session. A well established friendly group.

### Women's Crating and Knitting Circle

Memorial Hall, Weekly 10.30-12.30 £5.00 per session A Well established friendly group

### **Film Matinees**

Memorial Hall Tuesday afternoons. Doors open at 1.30. Films start at 2pm. FREE entry and refreshments. Dementia friendly and subtitles.

Films and dates for your diary for 2025 are as follows:

13 May: Grease

24 June: The Magnificent Seven

2 September: Chicago7 October: The Ladykillers

11 November: A Hard Day's Night 9 December: Arthur Christmas

For more information or to book a place (to ensure enough cake!) contact Jackie or Rose:

01424892422 or email: jackie.langley1@ btinternet.com

### **HEALTH WALKS**

Every Thursday Trained volunteers lead a gentle walk of about an hour. Meet Spark Pavilion, off Church Lane. A few more walkers welcome. Please wear suitable footwear. Contact Robin 01424 892778 or robin@plowmate.plus.com

### **MEN'S SHED**

A now establised friendly group meeting at Spark Pavilion. 10am last Friday of the month. Men putting the world to rights over free coffee. Contact Dave 01424 892883

### **FRIENDLY VOICES**

Some advance warning. From 1st May and through the Summer months, Friendly Voices will be meeting in the Church and making the most of the fantastic acoustics. We meet on a Tuesday evening at 7.30pm and Thursday afternoon at 2pm. Please join us - either just to listen or join in with the singing (or both)! We have also been invited to join the Bonfire Societies VE Day commemoration and will be singing at 9.30pm when the beacon is lit. Song sheets will be available for everyone to join in.

Finally, we have also been invited to sing at Ninfield Church Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th June. We haven't yet finalised our set, but hope to sing some new songs as well as some you would have heard before. More information to follow.

And I will finish with my usual mantra - everyone is welcome to join us. You do not need to be a good singer - just enjoy a good sing! If you would like to know more you can email me at

k.crittell@btinternet.com or call/text 07707683187

### **DARK SKIES**

A reminder that we have our Bat Walk with Sussex Wildlife on May 15th (weather permitting of course). The plan is to meet at the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground at 8pm. We are not planning to walk over any uneven ground, but please wear suitable footwear and clothing and bring a torch. Please contact me to book on as we will need to limit places.

And the Dawn Walk is returning on Monday 26th May. This is when we get together to watch the sun come up over Ninfield. We are looking at a different route this year in order to avoid stiles, but if you feel like a (very) early start, please let me know.

You can contact me via email (k.crittell@btinternet.com) or call 07707683187 9

### Country Ways Time

I was sitting in the Church at Ninfield the other day listening to the steady tick of their old clock. There was a discernable gap between each second, so within these old walls time passed slowly. This is so unlike the outside world, no sooner have I emailed the last story over to the Parish News than the next one is due. For a chap who does not move, or think, that quickly I am always on the back foot!

The natural world moves with its own clock and things will happen in their own time. Again sitting and watching our nature respond to the changing seasons allows you to hear the gap between the seconds. But then the phone rings or I remember the doctor wants to see me and the rushing world takes over.

There is no answer to it, we all have to live in this world. I sometimes wonder what other folks think of me spending so much time just being in the small piece of land around Hooe Church. That's kind of true but I have long lost the concern of what folks think of me.

When I was younger the land I worked on was vast, thousands of acres. But I was there from dawn to dusk and covered a lot of land in that time. Therefore I was able to watch it intimately. Time has shrunk my horizons.

If I were to travel from one place to another looking for natural beauties, then it feels like a rush. Yes I would see more things but the days would vanish in a flash.

The long awaited hair tidy up has begun. The beard is now short and a hair cut booked. Yes you have to book a hair cut now. It did not seem long ago that you turned up sat on a bench and waited your turn. This created a good space for a chat, time always goes quicker when nattering with some one. There seems to be a contradiction here, some times you want time to zip by. It was the same as the doctors, turn up and then sit and wait. The conversations were not as good but preplanning the trip meant a book or paper could be read.

The Church yard is now looking very tidy thanks to all the help offered on our tidy up day. Thanks to a lot of help from the farm, space was made so the large ditch could be cleaned out. I always get a bit jumpy when chain saws and heavy machinates are used, so often in Lincolnshire it equalled wild life devastation. But we have a plan, moderately cunning. Our wildlife areas were not affected so hopefully we can watch the change from green to colour as the wild flowers bloom.

Nesting is well underway with so many birds flitting around with their beaks stuffed with nesting material. I shall again, sensitively, look to see how many nests I can find at home. I should imagine there will be some lined with grey hair. I left a large ball of beard outside and it is already diminishing.

Time then to sit quietly and watch this spring unfold, we are after all a quarter of the way to Christmas!!!

AT

# VE day Celebration on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May from 2.00pm at the Village Hall come along and let us Celebrate Together.

Proposed festivities on 5<sup>th</sup> May. At the Village Hall, Hooe from 2.00pm. Teas and refreshments at the hall. We are hoping that you will come along and share. We are not running a money-making event. We would be grateful if you could help us by bringing along your items to bolster our afternoon tea refreshments to share. There will be a pot for donations to cover costs. This is a celebration for the Village, please come along and take part.

There will be a B-B-Q, for which there will be a modest charge again to cover the cost.

There will be side shows, to show off your skills. All the games will be for children from toddler age to the gracefully retired.

Bowling for a Pig. (not a real pig, but a small fun prize).

Splat the Rat (another game of speedy skill).

The Ladder Game (explanation on the day).

Fishing for Ducks (to be confirmed) mainly for the Little Ones.

Great hopes for a Musical Surprise.

And a "Knees Up" and sing song of the songs of the 1940's and earlier.

### This is an event for the Village to recall the Celebrations of 1945.

Later in the week, VE Day proper, on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm a short Service on the Village Green to remember those who fought in the two World Wars, after which the Village Beacon will be lit.

Then, on Saturday, at 10.30am, the Hooe Village Community Group Coffee morning in the Church will end the week's celebrations of Victory in Europe.

**It's Your Celebration come and Celebrate Together** with conversation, laughter and memories old and new.

Please, if you can offer to help in any way, contact Jack Rist 892576 (Bringing snacks, manning a side show, washing up, singing a song, and others!)

### NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY NEWS

We're always looking for new people to get involved and help keep our traditions alive. We meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Ninfield Working Men's Club (Tin Hut) TN33 9EE. Whether you're new to the village or have been part of the bonfire fun for years, feel free to drop in, say hello, and find out more about what we do.

### **VE DAY 80 – A Nation Remembers**

Thursday 8th May 2025 - This year marks 80 years of peace since the end of WWII in Europe – a time to honour the past, celebrate unity, and reflect on our shared resilience.

To commemorate this important milestone, Ninfield Bonfire Society will be lighting Ninfield's Beacon on the Recreation Ground as part of the nationwide Lamp Lights of Peace tribute.

In the morning, Ninfield's Tommy military figure will be erected, and a VE Day 80 flag, kindly donated by Ninfield Parish Council, will be flown.

From 7pm to 9pm, The Blacksmiths Inn will be serving cones of Fish and **Chips**, available to enjoy at the Pub or on the Recreation Ground.

At 9.30pm, we invite everyone to join us as we light the Beacon and a Lantern - A Lamp Light of Peace for the Animals That Served. As the flames rise, **Kaye and the Friendly Voices** will perform "I Vow to Thee, My Country", adding a beautiful and poignant note to the evening.

Let us come together to remember the sacrifices made, and to celebrate the peace and community we share today.

We'll also have a stall at the Ninfield Village Market on **Saturday**, **17th May**. Stop by for a chat, learn how you can get involved, and explore our merchandise. We'll also be running a tombola, so come along and try your luck!

### Looking Ahead to 2025

As we plan for another spectacular Bonfire Night on Saturday 1st November, we need your help to keep this beloved Sussex tradition alive by helping to organise the procession, bonfire, effigy, and fireworks. This requires time, effort, and funding. Here's how you can support us:

- Become a Member: Membership is open to all and gives you the chance to join our procession and others across Sussex. Your involvement can range from helping with fundraising and making torches to simply collecting donations on the night.
- **Volunteer Your Time**: Join us at events or help with preparations.

Sponsor Our Event: If you're a local business, consider sponsoring
us to support this free event for the community. Contact Sarah at
ninfieldbonfire@gmail.com or on 07809684488 for more details.

This is your bonfire, and your participation makes all the difference.

### **Stay Connected**

Find us on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, and at <u>www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk</u>. Keep up with the latest news, event details, and ways to get involved.

Save the date – Don't forget to mark your calendars for our NBS Torch-lit Procession, Bonfire, Effigy and Fireworks Display will be held on

Saturday, 1st November 2025.

Remember, Remember the 5th of November!

### NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

Our AGM at the beginning of March was well attended and, business having been completed, we were given an informative talk on fine scale modelling of model railway track and associated buildings by local resident Bob Cummings.

The next event was the annual Litterpick at the end of March, to coincide with The National Spring Clean, and we were greeted by a fine day for a change. Thirteen volunteers set off round the village armed with gloves, tools and waste sacks but it was noticeable that most found the amount of litter was down on previous years. Hopefully this bodes well for the village and principal routes in the coming months.

After several months of dealing with excess water, we now find Church Wood's pathways dry and solid so we are recommencing our application of wood chipping and we have completed the installation of replacement fencing to the south side of the Wood. Particularly worthy of note is that we have been joined by additional volunteers who attend each Wednesday morning so we are able to split into groups and attend to numerous tasks simultaneously. Unfortunately this has had to include repairs to picnic seating as a result of vandalism and the retrieval of logs and debris thrown into the ponds.

Visitors to Church Wood will have noticed the emergence of spring flowers with colour emerging everywhere and the moorhen are in evidence at Robins Pond. Do come and have a look!



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# NINFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB CHARITY EVENT

Raising money for Cancer Research - St. Michael's Hospice - Mind

### **SUNDAY 25 MAY FROM 12 NOON**

BAR HOG ROAST

**BAND - SPIFFING EGGS** 

RAFFLE BRIC-A-BRAC STALL

**GRAND RAFFLE - 1 PRIZE** 

1 WEEK HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION CORAL BAY, CYPRUS

3.00pm Head Shave - Mark & Roy!

The club is open Monday, Friday, Saturday evenings and Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Holding a meat raffle at 2.30 every Sunday.

3 May at 8pm we have a singer - Stevie B please come and join us.

### NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 9.30 - 12.30

### FOODS & CRAFTS MARKET

The Pop Up Cafe - open for Bacon & eggs, teas & coffees, and more!

There'll be your meat, cakes & pies, honey, fruit and veg, bread, cheese, eggs, plants, gifts and who knows what else,

### NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Thank you to everyone that exhibited at and attended our Spring Show on 22nd March (it seems so long ago now). The photographs this year were exceptional – a 65% increase on the number of entries and the quality made it very hard for the judge and Harriet Hare was a talking point. An especial thanks to the children at Ninfield Primary School, who gave us a wonderful display of painted pebbles (2 metres of table space) which had everyone talking and struggling to choose a favourite. The poor judges had a really difficult job. We then had a further 2 metres of space with posters to celebrate the Carnivals 90th year – all of which will also be on display on Carnival day.

#### Award winners were

Flower and Shrubs: Maurice Cornford Memorial Cup for most points – Ivan Luck, Society Shield for Best Exhibit – Ivan Luck, Dog March Trophy for most points in the narcissi classes – Ivan Luck, Pot Plants: Most points – Nicky Walker, Best Exhibit – Nicky Walker. Floral Art: Most points – Helen Cunliffe, Best Exhibit – Jacqui Rutland, Photography: Most points – Ron Noble, Childrens Classes (age 5-7) Gold – Arlo Bates, Silver – Alan Bates, Bronze – Hugo Jabbitt-Stephenson, Handicrafts: Most points – Marion Davis, Cookery: Most points – Gary Pharo, Special Award for the youngest exhibitor in the adult classes (at only 5 years old!) – Hugo Jabbitt-Stephenson.

Class winners on the day were: Ivan Luck, Ray Noble, Diana Pilbeam, Nicky Walker, Jackie Langley, Beryl Harmer, Sami Guard, Kaye Crittell, Tracey Dixon, Jacqui Rutland, Helen Stockton, Robin Goldsmith, Amelia Bates, Alana Bates, Arlo Bates, Marion Davis, Sarah Garrett, Gary Pharo.

Our next meeting will be May 19th at the Memorial Hall when Matt Brewer will be returning to give us a talk on Marwood Gardens. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. You do not need to be a member to attend our meetings, just turn up on the night.

Kaye Crittell (k.crittell@btinternet.com) 01424 892883

### **Hooe History Society**

Our speaker on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May will be Jan Meek, who is returning with a talk entitled "Journey to the North Pole". In her words, Ten years after racing across the Atlantic Ocean with my son Daniel, I set off on my second adventure with him: crossing another ocean on foot, this time a frozen ocean. Mother and son accepted the challenge to race 400 miles across the Arctic Ocean, from Resolute Bay to the Magnetic North Pole. We went back to the gym needing more training and new skills for this trek. We set off on an appropriate date: the first day of April 2007. I relate the trials and tribulations of experiencing the worst weather conditions for 40 years, with the lowest temperature -67. As ever we were a great team. We had many adventures and were subsequently awarded two more Guinness World Records.

DID YOU KNOW... In this month when we remember the end of World War 2, here are a few edited recollections of Ross Clifton. Ross remembers that as a 10 year old he was living at Eaton's Farm which is situated slightly below and opposite Broad Green Farm in Green Lane. Harold and Doug Packham (father of Hugh Packham) owned and operated Broad Green Farm. Ross was great friends with Brian Pont, who lived a little further up the hill, at Sunnybank and they spent a lot of time together.

There was an anti-aircraft battery with 11 gun placements and a searchlight in a flat field behind Broad Green Farm. It was manned by a ground based division of the RAF using British personnel. There were between 8-10 men per gun and they all lived under canvas all year round. The officers were billeted in Broad Green Farm house, which was unoccupied as the Packhams lived on another farm, opposite the entrance to Crouch Lane, Ninfield.

Ross and Brian used to spend a lot of time with the soldiers, sometimes eating with them and helping to dismantle and clean the guns. The food was better and more generous than the villagers were able to obtain and the soldiers were happy to share it with the two boys. They also encouraged the boys to help break down the guns in order to clean and oil the individual parts then put them back together again. Ross remembers that it was as much as he could do to lift some of them — they were so very heavy.

He was often woken at night to the sound of these guns sending tracer bullets into the sky over the houses. They seemed to him to be only just above the roof, but they were obviously aiming much higher than that. He also remembers that they could pick up spent bullets (presumably f

rom overhead dogfights) and take them apart in order to use the cordite charge inside to create their own explosive fireworks!

He also remembers when the doodlebugs started coming over. Firstly it was the V1's. They flew at about 2000 feet, could be seen and heard from the ground and the youngsters were fascinated by these incredible new flying machines. He recalls that one came down and exploded in the direction of Holmes Farm (Whydown) and they clearly felt the blast of the explosion at Eaton's Farm – it lifted the lino in their kitchen and violently flapped the fabric of his dad's trousers. This was at a distance of probably about a mile away over a hill, which demonstrated the destructive power of these terrifying missiles, which fell to ground only when they ran out of fuel, so you were safe all the time you could hear them.

The V2's which followed were more sophisticated in that they were able to fly higher so were more difficult to see and hear from the ground. Both Dick (Carey) and Ross recalled seeing these "flying bombs" being approached by aeroplanes who tilted them with their wing tips, altering their course away from London (where most of them were aimed) to hopefully fall on less densely populated areas. This was quite a delicate operation as the aeroplane wings were not overly strong and of course, the pilots were messing with delicate, highly explosive devices, which was not for the faint hearted.

Full text of this and other wartime pictures and accounts can be seen in a small exhibition at the HVCG coffee morning in Hooe Church on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Peter Hayward.

### Ninfield Flower Group

In May we meet on the second Monday of the month, 12<sup>th</sup>, because of the bank holiday. This will be a workshop evening and we are trying something a little different. We call it a "swap-shop" and all those participating must bring along everything required to create an arrangement - flowers, foliage, container, floral foam or none, etc. It can be conventional or a bit off the wall! Numbered tickets will be drawn to decide who goes where and completes which arrangement. This is not a competition just a bit of a challenge and I hope a lot of fun. Do come along if you would like to have a go - and make sure you bring the necessary components.

Be ready to start at 7pm and refreshments will be served during the evening. June 2nd is still an evening to be arranged, but I have no doubt it will be. 6.30pm refreshments and the demonstration will start at 7pm.

We are looking forward to taking part in the Carnival again this year,

especially as it is celebrating its 90th birthday. We have lots of ideas for our competition and will have about 12 arrangements for you to guess the event and from which decade. Let's hope for a lovely summer day.

Whilst the sunshine is again glorious this afternoon I do hope that by the time you read this we will have had some of the wet stuff. Water butts are running dry.

Happy flower arranging.

### Worm's Eye View

It is April 1<sup>st</sup> and I wonder what strange things will happen today, it being known as All Fool's Day.

However, I am still thinking of the lovely weekend just gone having been Mother's Day and with all the celebrations. On Saturday I was told to be ready to go out in the afternoon. Where are we going, I wondered? Could it be to football? I knew Brighton were playing at home. I should explain here. I have been a fan of Brighton since my school days. My Dad used to take me occasionally over to Hove to watch a match, played in a large open field in those days. I always enjoyed going with him. Then boyfriend/future husband also took me sometimes, a bit difficult because he was usually playing himself for Heathfield Hotspurs but I enjoyed watching them as well. Then a gap from going as once married we were always milking and so no more watching football until we moved to Hooe. Life in Hooe has been very good and once more we could have a trip to watch Brighton playing. By this time our son also enjoyed playing and watching football so we had a larger TV set to make watching the matches that much easier! So, yes, we did go to Brighton and watched the match against Nottingham Forest. Well, it finished a draw but being a FA Cup game extra time had to be played with Notts Forest the winners Ah, well I enjoyed it anyway.

Sunday was another lovely day, a good service at church followed by a super dinner. Altogether a memorable weekend.

### .Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 11th April in the Methodist Hall in Ninfield.

We had invited Steve Squirrel to give us a talk on a subject of his choice. It turned out to be about the Celts who lived in Europe and England from about 750BC until AD43. The end of the Bronze Age through the Iron age until the Roman invasion of Britian. They lived in round houses and their life was farming for food, clothes and trade. Their tribe was divided into clans and apart from trading food they enjoyed fighting and would capture other clan members and use them as slaves. They made their own tools and spears for fighting. The more senior members of the clan would also carry a sword. They wore tunic type clothes but unusually for that time wore trousers. Jewellery was worn by all and necklets would be made of wire for the lower members of the clan, then maybe iron and those of high status would possible wear gold. Children were all fostered out to other members of the clan until the girls were 14 and boys 17 when they returned to their family. Men and women had equal status in marriage, they each had to bring an equal dowry and if one partner died the other inherited. Steve bought some items with him, a copy of a Celtic Sword and a necklet (gold) but also some genuine brooches and a coin. It was a very interesting talk and we learned a lot about a people who do not have a lot written about them but their history found out over the years through research and archaeology.

Next month we meet on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May in the Methodist Hall at 2.00p.m. when we have invited Philip Elms back to give us a talk on a local subject. Don't forget it is an Open Group so all are welcome. Nicki & Heather

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**Anniversaries:** We all have them, birthdays, weddings, car tax, insurances or other important dates which crop up each year. But Ninfield is heading towards some significant ones in the next 12 months.

Obviously, the first, and Nationally, is VE Day, May 8<sup>th</sup> when the Allies finally forced the Nazi machine to surrender unconditionally. No doubt at this moment there are hundreds of WW2 buffs getting 1940's era vehicles ready for an outing, some of which no doubt will be seen locally. There will probably be an increase in the number of Spitfire flights around Beachy Head and probably other vintage aircraft too. But the cost was high, battles being fought on land, sea and air with heavy casualties not only in the Armed Services but civilians in all walks of life.

Then, in August will be V-J Day when the War against Japan also came to an end, with only the most shocking bombing destroying the invincible belief the Japanese had for their Emperor and their dream of Asian domination over the Pacific. But the atom bomb not only took away Japan's aim to fight to the last man, and inflict huge casualties on the Allied forces in doing so, but also ushered in the new Atomic age, where the threat of mutual destruction would bring Peace and Stability. For me, 15th August would also be my parents 80th wedding anniversary, unfortunately, they're no longer here to share it.

Well, it seems to have, to a point, between the main elements of WW2, but Korea, Israel and the Arab Nations, many African Nations, Vietnam and currently Ukraine where RasPutin seems unable to consider returning any captured territory, no matter how much Trump blusters. How we would have preferred Trump to have had that blazing row with Putin rather than Zelenskyy.

But back to Ninfield. Some of you will remember the research I did into the Memorial Hall roots. It was Jim Hoad (no longer with us) who always maintained that the Hall was built from left over material for the construction of Thomas Brassey, the famed railway builder, and his mock French chateau, Normanhurst Court, in Catsfield. Somewhere he had been told that his name was of Norman origin, de Brecey, and so he tried to buy Battle Abbey and failing that, land nearby. As it so happened, the huge land portfolio of the Palmer-Acland-Fuller estates came onto the market. John Palmer Acland (1756-1823), married Elizabeth Fuller, daughter of Rev. Henry Fuller of Parkgate, Catsfield in 1781, and was succeeded by his only surviving son, Sir Peregrine Palmer Palmer-Acland (1789-1871), 2nd bt. in 1823. Sir Peregrine took the additional surname Fuller on inheriting the Sussex estates of his mother's family in 1834 and

1835. All the Sussex lands were subsequently sold in 1842 and 1864-65. Normanhusrt was built on the Parkgate estate, which commenced in 1864. My problem was that Jim's story was that the Hall was badly damaged by heavy snow which caused the walls to bulge due to the weight of snow. But I couldn't find any records of severe winters from when the Brasseys occupied Normanhurst Court in 1870. It wasn't until I considered that the structure might have been completed BEFORE 1870 and that's when I discovered that on 11<sup>th</sup> January 1866 the Sussex countryside was blanketed in a heavy snowstorm with drifts up to eighteen feet deep, that the story made sense.

You can still see the repairs to this day, the internal bracing struts pulling the walls inwards and the added external brick buttresses that aren't keyed into the walls. So 2026 will be the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cinque Ports Artillery Volunteers Drill Shed, as it was first known. That also makes it the OLDEST CPAV Drill Shed in the Country! The front section was a cottage occupied by the CPAV Drill Sergeant and his family. It was built on land donated by the Brasseys at Ingrams farm, so that his son, also Thomas could have his own CPAV unit. Young Thomas had just won the seat of Portsmouth, before a general Election saw him lose it 2 weeks later (a parliamentary record for the shortest tenure of any seat that still stands today!

Another anniversary will be for the Methodist Church, where the Foundation stone was laid in 1871 by Catherine Booth (nee Mumford) the wife of William Booth. (I'm still wondering how a foundation stone came to be laid 10 feet high on the wall, she must have been a very tall lady!). It was known as the Christian Mission, especially in the East End of London, but quickly spread and subsequently evolved into the Salvation Army. So that will be 155 years old!

K.R.

### A gracious rival

Some modern politicians might take a lesson in graciousness from Edward Campbell, the great British statesman of the 1930s.

Once when Campbell was opposing Thackeray for a seat in Parliament, the two contenders, in the course of their campaigning, met and engaged in friendly conversation.

On taking leave of his rival, Thackeray remarked: "May the best man win!" "Oh no," Campbell replied, "I hope not – I want to win!"



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### News, Views, Reviews and some insteresting Stuff!

### Firstly!...The LADIES LOUNGE.

Since I first mooted this thought.

I've really had a LOT of interest in this! By the time you read this, hopefully you will have seen the posters, or even attended the launch of The Lounge. on Friday 25th April, at the Tin Hut, (a.k.a the Working Men's Club!) Bexhill Road, 430-630pm. The Lounge is for women, of an age, or any age, maybe 55/60 and over, no boundaries; who may have older parents, children with stressful lives, grandchildren, maybe bereavement..plus working full time, paying bills, juggling relationship...being the centre of life's maelstrom...and not talking... because, well, it's all 'Fine'. So, Why don't we get together occasionally for afternoon tea, or a glass of wine...and just 'offload'...?! I'm so grateful to the Tin Hut Committee, who are granting the space once a month, on the last Friday, with tea/coffee and the Bar available. Bring cash or card, and a £1 coin for the Pot - to go towards Club costs and their Charities. In this strange, and slightly scary world we're now living in...friendships, companionship and coming together to share and talk is becoming essential... Keep in touch...always.

The next Ladies Lounge will be Friday 30th May, 4.30 - 6.30pm. Tin Hut. Call 07970650321, email samanthaguard@btinternet.com.

### NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION: Update!!!

THE PRAM RACES will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May, and will have a V.E.Day theme running alongside the event. There will be a BBQ, Tote, Raffle, Tuck Shop, Fancy Dress, lots of races for different age groups, Cash prizes, Trophies and Medals to win, and everyone is encouraged to finish making their Racing Carts now!! Look out for all Race details on socials and posters.

The 90th Anniversary Celebrations Solstice Carnival Weekend June 20th and 21st.

NINFIELD'S GOT TALENT finals on Friday 20th June in the Marquee, with a Bar and Pizza Leonati for food, plus Ice Cream, Milkshakes, Cakes etc. (Auditions for all Acts to take place on Friday 13th June in the Memorial Hall) Enter by emailing ninfieldcarnival@gmail.com or call me on 07970650321 -ALL AGES WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ENTER!! Cash Prizes!!!

THE CARNIVAL FÊTE on the Rec. during the day on Saturday 21st June There will be a fabulous Raffle, Tea Tent, BBQ, Crafts, Games, Dog Show. Tug of War Competition, some new surprises, and, the most exciting news is The FLOATS PROCESSION is BACK! Please contact Donna Powell to register a Float for the procession- either Walking or Motorised! Call Donna on 07812670435 or email ninfieldcarnival@gmail.com Donna is also the  $26\,$ 

liaison officer for the Marshalls, so if you can volunteer some time on June 21st between 11.30am and 1pm please get in touch!

We're delighted that we will have our Ninfield Carnival Court, on a Float, leading the Procession, with representatives from all age groups. Please look out for the notices and posts re application to be considered. We're asking kids from Muddy Boots, and the school, as well as youngsters who live in Ninfield but don't attend these establishments, to apply as Princes/Princesses, and the age range is 2–11yrs. Children will be asked to "Write a note to Esme" as to why they want to be part of the Carnival Court and post it at Donna's house, Moons Hill Farm, opposite the Blacksmiths Inn. There is another surprise here, you may have heard rumours already!- but it won't be revealed until a full feature next month!!! On Saturday 21st, from 7pm in the Marquee, it's BAND NIGHT with Danger-Zone- a great Covers band playing from 8pm, plus the Bar, on site Nepalese Street food, plus BBQ etc. A fantastic way to close a celebratory, Anniversary Carnival!

### We do NEED YOUR HELP!.

We're pushing the boat out, so to speak, this year! So we would REALLY appreciate any Sponsorship donations to help towards added costs, plus any Raffle Prizes, Bottles for the Tombola, Cakes for the Tea Tent, and of course MAN POWER! To help set up on Thursday 19th afternoon, and Friday, plus run some games, marshal, and support on the Saturday, have breakfast on the Sunday and clear, take it all down!!

ANY help is so much appreciated and will ensure a fabulous, family friendly, fun, memory making 90th Anniversary Ninfield Village Carnival Event.

THANK YOU!!!!!

All contact details at the end of the column! Next meeting Monday 12th May, 7.15pm, Working Men's Club, Everyone welcome!

### **HEART OF NINFIELD EVENT, REVIEW!**

Saturday 5th April, Memorial Hall, 10-4pm. A successful day, well attended despite the fabulous weather outside! Some new faces came, and got involved with various groups and societies, and folk were generally enjoying the food, refreshments, and the atmosphere. There were quite a few suggestions in answer to question "What do you want to see in the Village, what do you think is missing..?" Some answers were interesting, some hilarious, some, of course, quite radical!!... "A large car park"..., "a parade of shops".. "A Waitrose"... and "a Costa Café".. these possibly were all somewhat ambitious...we're a Village, and we're staying that way!!!

QUIZ NIGHT, REVIEW! It was FULLY BOOKED!! 17 tables of 6, all competitive quizzers, all ready for a fun evening with brains buzzing, lots of banter and enjoying hot supper, snacks and drinks. The Chillis had been bubbling overnight, the Raffle was much appreciated...and The History Gurus won!!!

It's a hoot of an evening...!!

### MOVEMENT & DANCE:

Dance classes continue as follows on a weekly basis

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

WEDNESDAY 6.30pm DANCERCISE Memorial Hall

THURSDAY 9.30am SILVER SWANS BALLET Methodist Hall

FRIDAY (alternates) Memorial Hall

6.30pm BALLROOM,

7.30pm BURLESQUE/SHOW DANCE.

All classes are £6 pp per class.

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

Thanks for all help, interest, and continued support for all classes, shows, events...please come to meetings or get togethers....

CALL 07970650321 or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com

FB. NINFIELD CARNIVAL FÊTE AND EVENTS.

### NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The programme for the Ninfield Local History Group for the next few months is as follows:

On Thursday 8th May we welcome Melanie Barton-Gibson who will be talking about Suffragettes and Suffragists. Then on Thursday 12th June there is a talk entitled Warrior Women of 1066 by Caroline Little. The July meeting on Thursday 10th will be a talk on the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Arnhem given by Brigadier Hugh Willing. All our meetings are in the Methodist Hall, Church Lane, Ninfield, starting promptly at 7.30pm.

Subscriptions are due now for existing members (a very reasonable £10 for the year), we welcome new members too and you can join at any of our meetings or online via our website - search Ninfield Local History Group. Membership offers a big discount on entry to meetings as well as a bi-monthly newsletter.

Don't forget that we open the archives on the last Monday of every month from 10am to 12 noon. Come and browse our collection of photos, maps and documents".

# Closing date for items for the JUNE issue of the Parish News Is TUESDAY 13TH MAY please send to ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com



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### **Hooe Village Community Group**

Contact us: Website:

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Email: hooevcg@gmail.com

Chairman: Gary Durman Treasurer: Peter Cosham Secretary: Sally Durman

If you would like to receive news and regular updates about our forthcoming events please email us your contact details

HVCG exists to Encourage, Promote and Support Village activities and charitable works



Events coming up:

10th May: Coffee Morning (see below)

14th June: Coffee Morning

**9**<sup>th</sup> August: Footpath walk and village Treasure Hunt for those who do not wish to walk, culminating with coffee and cakes at the Durman's – full details later

# 10<sup>th</sup> May: V.E. Day Anniversary themed Coffee Morning at St Oswald's Hooe.

The Hooe History Society Display of War Time Memorabilia is growing fast and will, I am sure delight residents and bring back many war time memories. We are grateful to Peter H, Heather and Maureen for all their work in getting this together.

Do bring any appropriate photos, stories, uniform, equipment you may have, all is welcome. We are sure Peter, in particular will be thrilled to receive material, and no doubt will ask to scan and record before he hands it back. A wonderful way to populate the HHS records.

This Display is in addition to all the usual attractions of the Coffee Mornings – home made cakes, free to use book and jigsaw library and great conversation!

### Gruffalo

Have you seen the Gruffalo in the village? HVCG is delighted to be sponsoring Friends of Sussex Hospices (FSH) Annual Gruffalo event this year. Gruffalo will be at Framfield Grange on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May but until

then he is expected to roam around our area. He may be in disguise – but he is certainly here! Look out for him....... Would you like to volunteer at this Gruffalo fun event? FSH is looking for helpers and HVCG would love to take a contingency up to not only help out but enjoy a super day out. We have posted plenty of leaflets and posters around for you to see, but if you would like further information, or would like to volunteer please contact the Doodes, 01424 892329.

**April Coffee Morning** Over 60 people attended our Easter Theme morning, the whole church was buzzing with cheerful chatter of not only adults but also children. We organised Easter themed games for the children who seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. All received prizes which added to

their enjoyment

The other highlight of the morning was the cheque presentation to the Ladies of the Hooe Stool Ball Club. Their Captain, Judy and Linda both turned up wearing the new Club Shirts, which our donation to the club had helped to fund. They have both missed an opportunity – both were wonderful models walking along the aisle (or was it a Catwalk?)



### **Community Litter pick**

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who joined our annual litter pick. It is always heartening when so many residents help to clean up our village. The photos say it all – such a lot of litter collected in 2 hours. This year, instead of motorists getting cross and sounding their horns at us, a number stopped to thank us for our work. That was so pleasing. What isn't so pleasing is the fact within an hour we noticed litter was already being thrown from moving cars.

Everyone, too many to mention individually, helped to make this such a successful morning, so appreciated by residents. However, I hope you don't mind me singling out Neil and Co. The pickers filled the bags and left them on the verge, Neil drove around and collected them all. So much easier for us than lugging heavy bags back to the centre of the village.

### **Bird and Bat Boxes**



You may recall that last month we reported that the Herstmonceux Men's Shed had made a total of 6 bird and bat boxes for us in return for a small donation. A day or two after we collected them, we met Owen, the senior volunteer at The Powdermill Trust for Nature Conservation, at The Bogs, Hooe's very own nature reserve, and they were quickly and efficiently installed in time for use this season. Fingers crossed they will soon be inhabited. At our coffee morning in October Owen will be attending with a display

which will illustrate some of the work the volunteers carry out at The Bogs and will be pleased to answer our questions.

### **Myanmar Earthquake Appeal**

HVCG has donated £400 to this appeal, an amount which has been increased by those who popped donations into our Appeal Box in April. The final figure will be reported next month. If you wish donate, please contact us.

### A Special Birthday

Birthday Greetings to Joan, who celebrated a very special birthday in April! Joan is always '*there*' always ready to give a helping hand – washing up, rolling up tablecloths, brushing floor, anything! Every village needs a Joan!

### A sad farewell

We cannot let Simon and Janet leave the village without publicly recognising how much they have contributed to community life. Such a hard-working couple, always full of fun. We thank them and will miss them hugely. Hopefully this is not a final Goodbye, We do hope they will visit now and then.

### Keep in touch

Our 'Friends of Hooe Village Community Group' list of members is growing fast. By becoming a Friend, you will receive regular email updates about our activities, our news and share views. It won't cost you anything but will help you keep in touch. We have application forms at our events or just contact us!

### A helping hand

A call out for anyone in the village with special skills willing to help out if/when required. In the past we have always kept a list of volunteers but sadly that seems to have fallen by the wayside. Any skill from any trade to helping with a stubborn computer problem, changing a light bulb putting a bin out. Offers gratefully received.

### **Carnival Procession Update**

**Carnival Court** By the time you are reading this article I am hoping that we will have recruited and introduced you to your Ninfield Carnival Court. The Court has been opened up to all children in the village aged between two and 11 years old so I am hoping that we will have had a good response. Your Ninfield Carnival Court is hopefully being presented to you at the Pram Race on Monday 5th May.

*Marshalls* We have had a really positive response to our appeal to marshalls for the event but ideally could do with another four or five to cover illnesses etc. If you can spare an hour or so on the evening of Friday 20th June for a safety briefing and then a couple of hours on Saturday 21st June between 11am and 130pm we would love your help. You would need to wear a high vis vest (supplied) and keep road closures in place to ensure the safe running of the event. A thank you burger and drink will be given at the end. If you can help please email the Ninfield Carnival inbox.

**Float Entries** Finally, the last job will be to recruit floats for the event, just a reminder you don't have to have a big lorry, you can use a car, van, scooter or even walk. We would just love for people to get involved and if you can to dress up. The theme is 90 years of Ninfield Carnival which provides quite a wide scope for ideas (think events in Ninfield, events in history, 90 years etc). Once the application form has been finalised we will update social media and village noticeboards.

In concluding it is very heart warming how much this procession means to villagers and the comments people are sharing with me about how it has crossed generations and how pleased people are that it is coming back, it is a real privilege to be bringing the carnival procession back so thank you to everyone who has already volunteered or said they are entering a float.

Donna Powell

### Genesis and politicians

A surgeon, an architect and a politician were arguing as to whose profession was the oldest. Said the surgeon: "Eve was made from Adam's rib, and that surely was a surgical operation."

"Maybe," said the architect, "but prior to that, order was created out of chaos, and that was an architectural job."

"But you forget," interrupted the politician, "somebody had created the chaos first!"

### NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH

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### Sunday Services for May 2025:

4 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Café Worship for all the family with Drina Hampson
11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Family Praise Service & Communion with Revd. Neville Barnett
18 <sup>th</sup>	3.00 pm	United Service at St. Leonards Methodist Church (see below)
25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Family Praise Service with Steve Wise

### **Events for May 2025:**

Fridays 10.00-11.30am		Community Café including:	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00-11.30am	Book exchange in Hall	
14 th	2.30 - 4.00pm	Christian Women's Fellowship	
21st	3.15 - 5.30pm	Messy Church	

We start May with our popular Café-style worship. This means that our service includes a coffee & croissant breakfast & time for food, friendship, worship & praise.

We are pleased that every Sunday our service includes activities for children. Sometimes young people will stay in Church but at other times they move into our hall for their own teaching.

Tim Fudge, our new Community Worker, is meeting lots of people and groups and we are pleased that he is developing new links & helping with our Sunday worship on two Sundays a month. Tim plays a guitar & has been working alongside David with our music. He will also be assisting our team with Messy Church at the end of May.

Please note that we will be joining our Circuit churches for a United Service at St. Leonards Methodist Church on Sunday 18 May @ 3.00pm so there will not be a service at our Church on this morning. Anyone however is welcome to come along. St. Leonards Church address is: Bohemia Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6RA

As always we have so much to give thanks to God .....Please remember & pray for all that we are doing to share the love of God in our community. It's exciting!

It can be read in the Bible in John chapter 5 verses 1-18

## A short story from the Bible

Jesus was in Jerusalem for a festival, and he visited the pool of Bethesda. People said that an angel sometimes made the water ripple.

Sick people waited for the water to ripple, because they thought that the first person in would be healed.



Jesus went up to a man who had been sick for 38 years.



(ive got no-one to put me in the pool, so I can never get in first [ ]

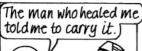




He was healed! The A man picked up his mat and walked around. But it was the Sabbath. God had given the law that the Sabbath day was a rest day (Ex20:8-11)... but to make sure it was kept, the Tewish leaders had made up rules, and then more rules so that anything that even might be work was banned.

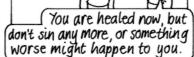
The Jewish leaders saw the healed man.

It's the Sabbath!
Tou can't carry
a mat, that's 'work'!



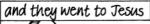


Later, Jesus found the man in the temple.



Now the man knew who Jesus Was...

he went straight back to the Jewish leaders to tell them.





Not only does he disobey our Sabbath rules, but he says he is equal to God!



so I keep on working as well (we definitely have to kill him

# **Directory of Groups & Clubs**

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Sarah Seymour 07809684488

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

**NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:** 

Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD CRAFTING & KNITTING: Jane Dommersen 862428

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY: Fiona Stedman 01424 892418

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

**NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY:** 

Show Organiser: Kaye Crittell, Stepping Stones, Lower Street, 892883

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Membership Sec. •Corinne Gibbons •892612 corinnemgibbons@gmail.com

**NINFIELD MUDDY BOOTS Early Childhood Centre** 

Sunshine Room 01424 892 037. Snowdrop Cottage 01424 892 600.

NINFIELD STOOLBALL Emma Kehoe 07565 010647

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Sue Thompson 892294
NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Robin Goldsmith 892778

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Group Scout Leader Glen Harrison gharrisonninfieldscountsgsl@gmail.com

Explorer Scout Leader: Josh.explorers@gmail.com

Scout Leader: Elaine Gausden ninfieldscouts@gmail.com
Cub Scout leader: Tracey Harrison tracey.harrison67@gmail.com

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

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

WORKING MEN'S CLUB: Brian Welford 213549 nik.sec.nwmc@outlook.com

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

**DARK SKIES GROUP** Kaye Crittell 892883

THE FRIENDLY VOICES Kaye Crittell 892883

PILATES & YOGA Susan Trimmer 07977 872284
LITTLE STARS DANCE Kirstv Mills 07875 235398

**HOOE BELL RINGERS**: Peter Ballard 01424 210980 or 07891479554

**HOOE HISTORY GROUP:** Chairman Heather Sinden 893422 **HOOE & NINFIELD OPEN GROUP:** Heather Sinden 893422

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

HOOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Jane Warrener: 07548 528754

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Pam Doodes, Catslide, Hooe 892329

1066 RINGERS (Hand Belleplates) Carole Ballard 01424 210980

STOOLBALL: Hooe 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: Mrs Catriona Mary Owen

After 4.00pm 225421

Secretary: Mrs Ann Ringrose

Treasurer:

### PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD, HOOE

Churchwardens: Mr Jack Rist ☎892576

Mrs Janet Pattisson ☎845087

Secretary: Mr John Fairclough

### **USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES**

THE PARISH NEWS Email ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com 893326
NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk•to•the•Council:

Jackie Scarff • 07725 • 843505 • clerk@ninfieldpc.co.uk

### **HOOE PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk to the Council:

Jane Warrener: 07548 528754 clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

**MEMORIAL HALL** 

Booking Secretary: EMAIL ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

**HOOE VILLAGE HALL** 

Bookings Jane Warrener: 07548 528754 clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Booking•Secretary:•Mr•David•Swales• 07989 729123

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