

The

Parish

News



What's on and What you missed

In & around

Ninfield & Hove

October 25

50p



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

St MARY's & St OSWALD's

NOTICE BOARD

CHURCH SERVICE TIMES



St Mary's

St Oswald's

5 th October	9.30 Parish Eucharist	11.00 Family Service
12 th October	<i>No Service</i>	11.00 Joint Parish Eucharist
19 th October	9.30 Family Eucharist	11.00 Parish Eucharist
26 th October	NO SERVICE	11.00 Family Service

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,

This edition may come out just before our harvest festival and the Pet service in Ninfield. The main point to stress about both services is that all are welcome! Of course, in Ninfield that includes pets although we have always welcomed dogs at services so long as they are well behaved. We shall see what happens at the Pet Service!

At a baptism service there are some important words of welcome that really say a lot of what baptism is about. It is not about something that happens to the child or adult immediately at baptism, rather it is a start on the long journey of faith. "We welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you". To my thinking the welcome we give to people in church is one of the most important things we do as part of their spiritual journey.

The church environment though is strange to some people, understandably so, as they are not used to it. A friendly welcome is important but it's what happens during the service that is also important. People need to feel they are part of it.

It is one thing to say that all are welcome at church regardless of background etc, the reality of what they find is also important!

The one thing true of all of us is that we are sinners, no-one is perfect (not even me!). I do get annoyed when someone is refused being able to get married in church because they are divorced. If we are not careful what we are saying is that God forgives but the church does not. We all deserve a second chance! In many areas of life, I am constantly being given a second chance, and I still often get it wrong.

On the subject of weddings, do you know you can now get married in any church even if you have no connection to that church. You just need to regularly attend that church in the 6 months before the wedding. It does not define regular, so I say once a month. We also welcome funerals in church for anyone who requests it. To be buried in the churchyard though you do need to live in the parish or have a close connection. This is partly because of the limited number of spaces we have left. There is also a growing number of direct cremations taking place, presumably mostly to do with cost. It is possible to have a memorial service after such cremations, and I am happy to provide this in either church.

So, all are warmly welcome at both of our churches. If you feel uneasy because you don't quite know what is going on, don't worry. We all had to start somewhere! If there is something you don't know just ask. If we don't know we know someone who does!!

I look forward to seeing you.

Paul

Dear Lord,

In this autumn season, when the harvest is gathered, we thank You for Your provision for us. We have so much, and yet we see terrible images of starving children on our televisions and smartphones and in our newspapers. Lord, prompt us to do what we can to change things, whether that is by writing a letter or email to someone with influence, or by contributing in some way to aid agencies.

Lord, we ask You to touch the hearts of those leaders of nations whose decisions cause such hunger and suffering. Soften those hard hearts, Lord. Fill them with Your compassion. May there be a new harvest of love – and a kinder world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

St Mary's

*from the
Parish Records*

Marriage of Oliver Grainge and Natasha Bird on 19th July 2025

Marriage of Timothy Gardiner and Beverley Arnold-Harman. On 19th July 2025

‘In memoriam

Jan Putland sadly passed away on 27th August aged 97 years

Mum lived in Coombe Shaw for 36 years and was the sister of Jim Simmons. She used to deliver the Parish News and worked in the shop in Manchester Road when it was there.’

Linda Strickson (Mrs)

News from St Oswald's

The main event of the summer was the Garden Party which, despite the weather, was a great success. We raised £2,300. Although the rain caused a certain disruption to the afternoon, the Villagers and friends, still turned up and supported the Church, so thank you all for coming along. We must also thank all our helpers. All those that came to set up and clear up; the helpers who manned the stalls and sideshows, both in the rain and in the dry; the ladies for the serving, cake making and the washing up; the Bellringers for the Tower Tours; the Hooe Village Band and all who helped in any small way to make the event so successful.

We can report that, Janet and Simon Pattisson are safely settling in their new home in Somerset. A small number of us were able to join them to celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary at the end of July. They should now be moved into the "Granny" annex that was being prepared for them. We wished them well. They sent their thanks to the village for the many cards and Garden Token that we had given them as a farewell gift.

In church it has been a quiet summer. We welcomed Fabian at his first communion after his Confirmation at Ashburnham on 14th July. The rest of church life continued quietly.

We have had a slight set back with progress of the Toilet extension. After seeking Planning Permission from Wealden DC and hoping for the go ahead, the news came back that the Wealden Archaeologist was concerned that there may be the foundations of a pre-existing porch on the north side of the church. He suggested that we needed a further Geo Survey to confirm this. This was another stumbling block but we were able to get the survey completed on the 18th August. The preliminary report is with our Architect who will be discussing this with Wealden DC and the Diocese.

One further unfortunate occurrence. There was evidence that there had been an attempt to break into the new shed. Later it was

apparent that the key safe had also been butchered and broken. The good news is that 'they' were unsuccessful.

We now look forward to Harvest on 28th September and then the preparations for Christmas.

There are several comments in the visitors' book about how well our church is cared for, so, many thanks to our team of cleaners and flower arrangers.

Jack & Nicki

For those of you who have an electric blanket, when did you last get it checked?

Well those that need checking, East Sussex Fire & Rescue are doing free checks during October.

Last year they tested nearly 500 blankets with around a 30% failure rate. Some of the faults could have led to serious incidents including fire, so please, take your blanket along to one of the following **free sessions** and get it checked out.

20th Oct Fire Station Hove 10.00 am or Seaford 2.00pm

21st Oct Fire Station Crowborough 10.00 am or Uckfield 2.00pm

22nd Oct Polegate Community Centre, Windsor Way 10.00 am
Morrisons Super Store, Lottbridge Rd, Eastbourne 2.00pm

23rd Oct Lewes Fire Station, North Street 10.00 am
St. Cuthman's Church, Whitehawk Brighton 2.00pm

24th Oct Bexhill Fire Station 10.00 am
Bohemia Fire Station, Hastings 2.00 pm

Editors' Comment...

Well, there are just so many articles this month we have no space to write any more, so make a cuppa, find a cosy corner and enjoy a good read, then try and work out which events you are going to! Just look at the dairy page, overflowing!

Nicki & Carol



October Diary

Sept		Venue	Page
26 th	Macmillan coffee morning	Methodist Hall	
27 th	Michaelmas Fayre	St Mary's	
28 th	Pet Service	St Mary's	
26 th	Men's Shed	Spark Pavilion	32
26 th	Ladies Lounge	Tin Hut	25

OCTOBER

3 rd	Book Exchange/Coffee	Methodist Hall	31
4 th	Quiz Night	Memorial Hall	8
6 th	Flower Group Meet	Memorial Hall	18
7 th	Film Matinee	Memorial Hall	32
8 th	Christian Women's Fellowship	Methodist Hall	33
9 th	Ninfield History Group	Methodist Hall	27
10 th	Ninfield Hooe Open Group	Methodist Hall	20
11 th	Jumble Sale	Memorial Hall	18
11 th	Coffee Morning	St. Oswald's	29
15 th	Bonfire Meeting	Working Men's	17
16 th	Hooe History Society	St. Oswald's	15
18 th	Village Foods & Crafts Market	Memorial Hall	20
20 th	Horti AGM	Memorial Hall	13
21 st	Time Together	Methodist Hall	33
23 rd	Lunch Club	Methodist Hall	32
25 th	Open Day	Church Wood	9
25 th /26 th	Art Exhibition & Sale	Memorial Hall	8
29 th	Bonfire Members Night	Blacksmith's	18
31 st	Men's Shed	Sparke Pavilion	32
31 st	Ladies Lounge	Working Men's	32

NOVEMBER 1st

BONFIRE NIGHT

NINFIELD

**Ninfield & District Art Society's
Annual Art Exhibition and Sale
Ninfield Memorial Hall on**

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th October.

Sat 10am – 4pm Sun 10am - 3pm

Come and join us for a celebration of creativity featuring a wide array of stunning artworks by our talented local artists. From paintings, sketches, mixed media, there's something for every art lover.

Come and meet the artists, exclusive pieces for sale plus live art demonstrations.

Homemade refreshments available including a Tombola. Don't miss the opportunity to own a unique piece of art and support the local art community!

Admission is free

**For further details contact Fiona Stedman 07761961585
or email flstedman@gmail.com**

QUIZ NIGHT

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER - 7.00 for 7.30 start

Tables of 6 but if you are on your own come along and join a table. Booking essential.**

£8.50 per person to include choice of hot supper, cash or card on the day. Bring your own choice of drink and a few nibbles

****To book: email: ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com**

or 893326 and leave a message

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

The recent weather has frustrated our work in Church Wood somewhat, and the change to autumn will doubtless bring challenges as the leaves come down, rainfall increases and high winds expose some of our more vulnerable trees. We have recently identified leakage in one of our underground pipes which took several hours to locate and then fix, but overall we feel confident of Church Wood's ability to rise to the challenges of winter.

We are grateful to the dog walkers and other visitors who indicate their appreciation of what the volunteers do, but we can always use extra help to ensure the future proofing of our Local Nature Reserve.

**TO THIS END WE INVITE LOCAL RESIDENTS TO OUR
OPEN DAY ON SATURDAY 25TH OCTOBER, 10am to
12 noon,**

COME ALONG TO SEE WHAT WE DO AND
WHAT WE INTEND TO IMPROVE IN THE YEAR AHEAD.

YOUNG AT HEART PEOPLE OF ANY AGE
ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND !

WE SHALL HAVE GUIDED WALKS, TREE TRAILS,
FREE REFRESHMENTS.

We appreciate many residents have busy lives but please do come along and talk to our volunteers about whether you might be able to assist us. We usually meet Wednesday mornings but your response will help us to decide whether to introduce Saturday mornings once a month.

COUNTRY WAYS

The Bullfinch

Moving around my small garden is quite an obstacle course, the summer growth has taken over. It will get trimmed back come back end, that's autumn as a translation from Lincolnshire's back end.

I have lived and worked in the countryside all my life where things are viewed differently. The vegetables are at the allotment and here I have more interesting things to see than cultivated flowers.

My small space serves many purposes. It gives me a space where I can sit and be out of sight. There is a riot of colour, especially during the spring. Birds can nest here and not be disturbed and because the abundance of plant growth is left uncut all types of life flourishes.

We do get rats here, so not all types of life flourish. I catch dozens each year, if I don't they would invade my space which is not such a wise thing to do. So apart from rats and the odd hornet we all seem to get along quite well.

Bird feeders are a bit of an issue because they do attract rats. The only time now days I put food out for the birds in the occasional slice of bread. This I soak in water, to give it weight, and place it then on a bird table. The sparrows flock to it and it matters not if I am sitting next to it. My space is filled with birds chattering and fighting over the food. The black bird has a bit more decorum and waits by my feet for the tit bit he knows I'm holding back for him. The pigeons and doves just wait for me to go in. I don't think a list is warranted because I do get quiet a few birds here but perhaps a special mention is required.

A male bullfinch and a fledgling were on my path, the adult showing the young one where to find something nice to eat. It was wonderful to see, not just because bullfinches are not common any more but it has to be one of my favourite birds to watch. If ever there was a need to explain why I don't cut hedges in spring or summer then there it is. I would be mortified if I had destroyed its nest.

Following on from the spring blossom I have countless buddleia plants which gives endless flowering heads. They smell and look nice but it is the butterflies they attract which makes them so desirable. For

the last few years there were hardly any butterflies about, but this year they are covered. Shan't bother you with a list but there are reds, oranges and browns flitting all over the place. Pride of place this year goes again to a moth. The humming bird moth, it looks and flies just like a humming bird, has again spent some time here. So I have scent, colour, interest and movement, not bad for a few plants.

There is a project going on and that is I've left a wasp nest to get on with it. Its right in the way by the back door but I am manfully carrying on ignoring it. We are working on the theory of, if you leave me alone then I shan't bother you. So far its working and I expect it will until the nest dies off come back end. September wasps are a pain in the posterior, they get drunk on fermented apples and have a desire to stink someone before they die off. The queen will over winter.

They to have their place in the great scheme of things! AT

HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk Website: www.hooe-pc.gov.uk

Hooe Parish Council are pleased to welcome Kaye Crittall and Nina Siddall-Ward as Councillors, both were co-opted onto the Council at the September meeting.

Speedwatch is an initiative managed by Sussex Police and run by volunteers to monitor, report and ultimately slow the traffic passing through our Sussex towns and villagers. The Parish Council is keen to re-establish a group in Hooe, full training is available, if you would like to be part of a Speedwatch group in our village please contact Councillor Julian Manlow (cllr.manlow@hooe-pc.gov.uk) or our Clerk for further details.

The table tennis evening in the village hall continues to be well attended, if you would like to give-it-a-go just turn up on a Wednesday evening. A new session has started in the hall, a 50-minute Pilates/Yoga fusion class for all levels and abilities. No need to book just turn up on a Wednesday afternoon at 1.00pm,

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Thank you to everyone that attended and entered our Summer Show on the 16th August (it seems so long ago now).

This year we added a new category – the Junior Parish Product Award. There were 4 entries from children between 4 and 12 who displayed 2 of 3 different edible items from their garden (even some of the more experienced gardeners may have struggled with this one). The winner was Elliott Horton, with Jack Horton 2nd and Maya Maskell and Ninfield School joint 3rd. We plan to make this an annual class and hope to have even more entries next year.

It wasn't just the children's classes where we had increased entries – 5 adults decided to enter the class to display a collection of 3 distinct kinds of vegetables, 3 of each plus a vase of garden flowers. I am sure that I was not the only one on the day before the show panicking to try and find 3 x 3 good quality vegetables all of a similar size.

The judge was tough (but fair) with the Dahlia exhibits and we novice exhibitors learnt a lot in readiness for next year, but I think that everyone was in agreement that Ray Nobles beautiful large white dahlias deserved their award for best exhibit.

The Flower and Vegetable judge was very complimentary on the quality, quantity and diversity of our exhibits and we there was a wonderful quote from his wife 'this is the best show I have seen ever'. Not bad for our little village.

Winners on the day were: Bryan Fryer, David Linch, David Walker, Jackie Langley, Ivan Luckc, Lynn Linch, Carol Holland, Kaye Crittell, Jacqui Rutland, Ray Noble, Andrew Smith, Maureen Chaseley, Derek Parkes, Brian Gurr, Paula Smith, Sally Parry, Nicky Walker, David Rutland, Sami Guard, Robin Goldsmith, Helen Stockton, Gary Pharo, Anne Welford, Gillian Cornwall, Carolyn Band, Jack Horton, Alice Filsell, Hannah Schlotter, Arlo Bates, Alana Bates, Elliott Smith, Elliott Horton, Maya Maskell.

Award Winners were: Perpetual Silver Trophy (most points Vegetable classes) – David Walker, Harold Morris Shield (winner class 1) – Bryan Fryer, Perpetual Silver Triphy (winner class 2) – Bryan Fryer, Gordon Cornford Memorial Cup (most points – onion classes) – Brian Fryer, Banksian Medal – Ivan Luck, Parish Produce Award (class 34) – David

Walker, JB Sparke Memorial Cup (most points – Dahlia classes) – Derek Parkes, National Dahlia Society Silver Medal Certificate – Ray Noble, Perpetual Challenge Cup (most points flower classes) – Nicky Walker, Gladiolus Certificate (best exhibit) – Nicky Walker, Eileen Cornford Cup (most points pot plant classes) – Nicky Walker, Perpetual Silver Challenge Cup (most points domestic classes) Gary Pharo, Joan and Malcolm Moss Memorial Cup (best exhibit) – Anne Welford, Jam & Chutney cup (most points) Carolyn Band & Nicky Walker, Ted Ive Shield (most points photography classes) – Ray Noble, Silver Challenge Cup (winner Junior Parish Product Award) – Elliott Horton, Ted Ive Shield for most points (photography) over Spring and Summer Show – Ray Noble, Somerville-Cown shield for children (most points over Spring and Summer Show) Alana and Arlo Bates

We have our AGM on 20th October, 7pm at the Memorial Hall. Along with a report on the year, there will be information on our new scheme with Thompson & Morgan and a talk from Barry Chaseley on Bees and Beekeeping. As I always say, you do not need to be a member to come to our meetings – we welcome everyone.

Dark Skies

As the evenings start to draw in, we have had some wonderful starry skies over Ninfield and August was warm enough to sit out in the garden until late to enjoy the sky, but what a disappointment on 7th September. There were some poor souls wandering around trying to catch sight of the Blood Moon, but we were all thwarted by cloud cover. The next full moon is a Hunters Moon on 7th October and there will be a supermoon on 5th November to look out for. If you would like to join our WhatsApp group, please message me on 07707 683187 or email k.crittell@btinternet.com

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HOOE HISTORY SOCIETY

Our speaker this month is David Clarke with his talk on The Ogre of Brede. In the 16th century, it was said that a giant prowled the streets of Brede looking for children to eat for supper. It may have been a cautionary tale but that is to discount the legends borne out of religious strife that surround the village, of smugglers, a matchless Madonna, a biblical misprint, body snatchers and that rather macabre tale of the Sussex Cannibal. We meet, as usual, in St Oswald's church on Thursday, 16th October 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW...I am going to acknowledge the incredible work of the British Newspaper Archive in this month's issue. It is a constantly evolving subscription website which uploads images of very many newspapers for us to see and transcribe. For me this is a valuable tool when carrying out my research as many of the articles written in the 20th century appear to be factual and really quite accurate.

I originally looked up the exploits of the Russells Green tug-o-war team in Bexhill library and thought I had covered them fairly comprehensively. Recently, however, this website has started to upload many more articles on this brilliant team, so I am constantly adding to the archive. I now have newspaper reports from as far afield as Somerset, to Reading and Peterborough as well as local events in Sussex and Surrey. There was even a write up in the London Evening News about the team training at Akehurst Farm with a picture of them pulling a concrete block up the oak tree! Slowly, there is a more complete picture emerging of the team that started out in the late 1950's and which initially struggled against the more established sides – West Sussex Police, Outwood (Staffs) Bosley (Cheshire) New Haw and Woodham, Croydon (both London) and Broadmoor staff (Berkshire) – before turning the corner in the early 1960's and beating them all, becoming national champions at various weight categories. One article that I had originally missed in the Bexhill Observer that I found especially pleasing is worth repeating. Entitled Russells Green celebrate, it is an end of season function in the village hall in December 1964.

“As an expression of the team's thanks to all those who have assisted them to achieve their most successful season to date, and one in which they became champions of England in their sport, Russells Green tug o' war team arranged a dinner at Hooe Village Hall last Saturday to which all were

invited. At the dinner the club president (Mr. C. King) in praising the team's "reasonable success" in climbing to the top of the ladder, expressed the hope that they would achieve "greater success still in the seasons to come." The food was prepared at the adjacent Red Lion Inn and the cost was met by the team in gratitude for the assistance they have received from many sides during the year. Liquid refreshment was at the expense of the president.

Proposing a toast to the helpers on behalf of the club, Mr. King said it would be invidious to mention the names of any of the ladies who had given up their time and labour for the club, but he would like sincerely to thank them as a whole. "I do not know where this club would be without them," he added. "I would like also to thank Mr. Wilfred Barton for his provision of a meeting place at the Red Lion and for accommodating our various trophies and cups, and also Mr. H. B. Unicombe and Mr. Lewis for their splendid efforts on behalf of the club".

The club chairman (Mr. Jack Walters) who helped to form the original club and who formerly pulled on many occasions as anchor man for the team, said how glad he was that all the guests were able to be present. Mr. Walters made reference to the visit recently of a Southern Television camera team to Russells Green and to the subsequent feature televised on Wednesday of last week, on the club's exploits. 'This is a speech of very few words but I would like to wish the team a very successful season next year,' he added".

Peter Hayward

Friendly Voices

From 7th October, we will return to meeting in the Methodist Hall on a Tuesday evening (from 7.30pm). We plan to continue to meet in the Church on Thursday afternoon (2pm). We like to keep the door open when we are in the Church as it does encourage people to walk in, but it will depend on how cold it gets as it's very difficult to sing in full voice if shivering at the same time!

From October, we start on our Christmas set (we already have two bookings for December at Association for Carer Café's) and you are welcome to join us and sing along. We are not a choir, just a group of people that get together for the fun of singing. You do not need to be a good singer, just enjoy a good sing! Call me on 07707683187 or email k.crittell@btinternet.com or just turn up at one of our sessions.

Ninfield Bonfire Society – October News

Bonfire & Fireworks Display – Saturday 1st November

We're delighted to confirm that our **Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Night** will take place on **Saturday 1st November** at Ninfield Recreation Ground.

This free community event promises an evening of excitement with a **torch-lit procession**, a **bonfire**, the **effigy**, and a **spectacular fireworks display**.

The evening begins with visiting Bonfire Societies mustering in **Church Lane at 7:15pm**, collecting their torches ready for the **procession to start at 7:30pm**. The route will pass through the village – including the Blacksmiths Inn, Manchester Road, Coombe Lane, and back along the High Street to the Recreation Ground.

Once on the field, the traditional **Bonfire Chant** will be called, the bonfire lit, and the fireworks will follow. **Food and drink stalls** will be available, and donations collected on the night will go towards supporting local charities.

Important: Road closures will be in place during the procession for everyone's safety. Please follow the advice of our marshals and police, who are there to keep you safe. Thank you in advance for your patience and support.

October Events Leading Up to Bonfire Night

- **Monthly Meeting – Wednesday 15th October**
7:30pm at Ninfield Working Men's Club
Our final meeting before the big night – come along to hear how you can help. Whether you're a long-standing member or brand new, your support and ideas are always welcome.
- **Ninfield Village Market – Saturday 18th October**
9:30am–12:30pm, Ninfield Memorial Hall (TN33 9EE)
Visit our **Bonfire Society Tombola** and have a chat with us about what we do. You can also find out how to become a member or browse our merchandise. The market will also be full of local produce, crafts, plants, cakes, vintage treasures and more – a great morning out for all.

- **Membership Night & Grand Raffle – Wednesday 29th October**

From 5pm at The Blacksmiths Inn

Join us to **sign up or renew your membership** before the big event. Membership fees are:

- Adults – £10
- Children – £5
- Family (2 adults + 2 children) – £25

Membership Night will also feature our **Grand Raffle**, with a top prize of **£250 cash**, plus hampers, vouchers and many more prizes.

Support Our Community Tradition

Bonfire Night is the highlight of our year, made possible by the incredible support we receive through Sponsorship, Fundraising and Community spirit. Every raffle ticket, tombola spin, and donation helps us keep this tradition alive for future generations.

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

Stay connected:

Follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram**, or visit our new website for updates: www.ninfieldbonfire.co.uk

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

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP

JUMBLE SALE

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

Bexhill Road, TN33 9EE

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11th

2.00pm

Entrance 50p

Ninfield Flower Group

Our September demonstrator, Michelle King, brought us stories and music from France, where she lived for several years, along with beautiful flowers which she arranged with great artistry. It was a delightful couple of hours made all the more so for me as, for the first time in a very long time, I won my favourite design in the raffle which I am very much enjoying at home.

By the time you read this several members will have arranged flowers in St Mary's church for the village Michaelmas Fair and to celebrate harvest.

On October 6th we have a workshop, the title for which is inspired by the evocative words of John Keats "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness". This will be a very informal evening and visitors are welcome to come and watch or to bring everything they need to create an arrangement. Help is always available. 6.45pm for a 7pm start at the Memorial Hall. Refreshments and raffle.

Saturday October 11th is our Autumn Jumble Sale.

Saleable items may be brought to the Memorial Hall from 9.30am. Doors open for selling from 2pm. Entrance 50p. Refreshments available.

On Monday November 3rd we welcome Alison Gillott with her demonstration "Pocket full of Posies". Alison is President of the Surrey Area of Flower Arrangement Societies and has won Gold and Best in Show at RHS Chelsea. 6.30pm refreshments for a 7pm start. Visitors £5.

And so to our big celebration of the year with our Christmas open meeting on Friday 5th December. 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Tickets are £15 to include refreshments. There will be two raffles - one for the floral arrangements and one for general prizes to include Christmas food hampers. Phone 07966659552 to book tickets.

You are assured of a warm welcome to our club evenings. We look forward to your visit.

Helen Cunliffe Chairman

NINFIELD MEMORIAL HALL
SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER
FOODS & CRAFTS MARKET

9.30 - 12.30

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

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

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

If you are looking for that little present for someone.

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

Pop in for tea or coffee and a bite to eat

.Hooe & Ninfield Open Group

We met on Friday 12th September in the Ninfield Methodist Hall. Unfortunately, there was a mix up over the date our speaker was available so we decided to do a general knowledge quiz (not again I hear you cry!). Despite the moaning everyone joined in and a lot of laughter followed. We had teams of four and one of three. Much to their surprise the team of three won! Very impressive.

To make up for the lack of speaker (again!) we had cake instead of biscuits and the usual cup of tea or coffee. It was a fun afternoon!

Our next meeting is on Friday 10th October at Ninfield Methodist Hall at 2.00p.m. Remember it is an open group and all are welcome. Hope to see you there.

Nicki & Heather

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Worms Eye View

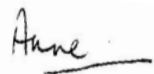
Sunshine and showers is the weather forecast for today: this seems to be very much the same everyday. Still I did manage to get all the washing dry outside this week, which is always lovely. The smell of outside dried clothes always makes me feel happy.

Everywhere looks much greener now after the much appreciated rain. I don't often want it to rain but I certainly have wished for it this year. It was lovely to have great weather for the school holiday which meant a few visits to the seaside for some. I was lucky to be taken into Eastbourne a few times this year with visits to the pier and my favourite fresh fish shop. I am always pleased to find it still open and that I am able to get my whelks. Apparently I inherited my love of a good whelk from my mother, who when she was expecting me went into Eastbourne and among other things purchased a bag of whelks which she completely devoured on the bus ride home to Horam. We know this because the bus conductor was a friend of my father, and who coincidentally some years later became my lovely brother-in-law, told him what had happened. Dad also found the evidence of the shells tied up and hidden in the bottom of the dustbin! Gosh, even writing about whelks makes my mouth water !!

Now we are officially into autumn, I suppose it will soon be time to make the Christmas cakes and puddings. It always seems a bit early to me but when I think back I remember both my Mother and my Grandmother making them in October, and I have to say they were always delicious. Mine do not taste as good, they must have had a secret ingredient that I did not see and they didn't tell me about it either. However I shall still continue with my now very old recipes of both cake and pudding, both of which always disappear quickly.

As I am writing this my eye has just caught sight of a photo of young Peter and myself at Brighton & Hove Albion football, which reminds me, I have been promised a trip to the football in October to celebrate my birthday as I still enjoy watching the football from the stands.

See you there!



Anne our famous 'Worms Eye' lady is in hospital after a fall and a broken hip. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Ninfield & District Art Group News

Where has this year gone! We had such a busy year last year that we decided to take things slower, quieten the pace and catch our breaths. Although this did not prevent us going on a trip to Ashburnham place. Unfortunately, the weather was not in our favour for en plein air painting, but the flowers and scenery were lovely for photo opportunities, giving our artists plenty of inspiration, plus some nice cakes and coffee in the Orangery helped tremendously! We held stands at the 'Heart of Ninfield' and at the Carnival. Both events provided opportunities for people to come and chat and has brought much interest and budding new members.

After the summer holidays, we are now busy getting ready for our forthcoming Art Exhibition on 25th and 26th October in the Memorial Hall. This has always been a big event and we enjoy putting together a good show!! We always look forward to meeting all who come along to support us. There will be many lovely paintings to view and hopefully buy. Some of our group will also have cards on sale, either originals or printed from their painting designs. Christmas is just around the corner, so this is a great opportunity to come and view and hopefully get some ideas for presents. There will be plenty to see, plus a tombola and refreshments available with many homemade cakes for all to enjoy. So come along for a view and have a nice cuppa at the same time!

This year we are pleased to welcome three new members as we meet at the hall every Wednesday afternoon from 1.30 to 4.30pm.

If you are interested in dabbling in a bit of paint or sketching or using any type of media and would like to join a weekly amateur group to paint and relax then this might be the place for you. It is a very informal and supportive group and we like to help and encourage each other, usually over a cuppa and a chat! If you would like to come along and see what we do and for any further information, please contact Fiona Stedman 07761961585 or email, flstedman@gmail.com

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.THE LADIES LOUNGE.

Hopefully you know by now, we're always the last FRIDAY of the month, so 26th SEPTEMBER if you've got your October edition early! All gatherings are at the Tin Hut, (aka The Working Men's Club!) 4.30 - 6.30pm.(Actually... You're welcome to stay as long as you want .. the Club's evening session starts at 7pm!) We've had some more new ladies join us in July and August

SEPTEMBER 26th - HARVEST THEME - bring something for the table to share/swap/exchange.

OCTOBER- 31st!! - HALLOWEEN THEME! A wonderful Witchy Ladies Lounge.watch out for updates nearer the time!! It's your Lounge, your time...

THE NEXT VILLAGE EVENT -

THE MICHAELMAS FAYRE - SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27th, from Midday - 4.30pm , set in and around St Mary's Church and Church Lane.
DOG SHOW at 2pm. in the Gardens of SUNNYSIDE.

Crafts Stalls, Harvest Hampers Raffle, Falconry, Bunnies, Tea Garden, Pimms, Music, Entertainment, Games. See posters for all details, and social media updates. Hosted by Carnival Association, Bonfire Society & St Mary's Church.

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION

THE AGM - MONDAY 13th OCTOBER - SPARKE PAVILION

7.15pm Cheese & Wine, Election of Officers, Dates for 2026 Events, Charity Donations. If you'd like to join the Carnival Committee please get in touch, come to the meeting or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com, ninfieldcarnival@gmail.com or call 07970 650321.

EARLY HEADS UP! REMEMBRANCE DAY Sunday 9th November

Service at Tommy on the Rec. Then process to the Memorial Hall for refreshments, Cakes, and a short performance to mark the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2: songs, letters and the Drum ceremony.As we promised after the wonderful event in 2018, to mark the end of the first world war; David Swales and I are putting this together for anyone and everyone to attend, to mark a special Commemoration.

See notices, posts and columns ²⁶ for all further details.

WORKING MEN'S CLUB; 80 YEARS!

Watch out for details about the forthcoming celebrations, to be held on Friday 14th November at the Tin Hut..I can promise, it will be a Night to Remember!!!Call me for further information, or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com

XMAS DISCO NIGHT! A date for your diary!

Friday 12th December, Ninfield Memorial Hall, doors and BAR open at 7pm, music from 7 30pm. The Disco in September was lower key, due to lack of advertising!, but still had a great crowd, all having a fabulous evening; and after all the Summer events and madness, a good old Bop was necessary, to shimmy and shake the cares and stresses away! The Xmas Disco will have all the usual Fun and Sparkle, lots of great tunes, memorable routines, Prosecco et al flowing, and lots of laughs and banter! And..SOME SURPRISES IN STORE!! A great, feel good festive night out, on your doorstep, so, put that date down NOW!!!

MOVEMENT & DANCE:

Dance classes continue, running as follows on a weekly basis

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

WEDNESDAY 6.30pm DANCERCISE Memorial Hall

THURSDAY 9.30am SILVER SWANS BALLET Methodist Hall

FRIDAY (alternates) Memorial Hall

6.30pm BALLROOM,

7.30pm BURLESQUE/SHOW DANCE.

All classes are £6 pp per class. 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

At our last meeting on 14 August 2025, we were treated to a talk by Rob Slater on the history of Pevensey. It was a timely presentation as it aligned nicely with the Pevensey History Festival organised by Rob and which featured many interesting talks, tours and events. This meeting was followed by our annual outing in September comprising a guided tour of historic Pevensey. In his final starring role, Rob will be talking to us on 9 October when he will be talking about "Sussex Ghosts and Legends". Not to be missed!

This area is awash with history and none more significant than the invasion of Britain by Duke William of Normandy some 959 years ago. Many consider it the most pivotal moment in British history and perhaps you have been enthralled by the BBC's current epic historical drama covering the period, King and Conqueror, the story of the fight for the English crown. These dramas are gripping to watch but inevitably we are drawn into the issue of historical accuracy. Trying to compress a period of over 20 years into eight 50 minutes episodes is a challenge and liberties are taken. Perhaps we can excuse some events happening out of order, or characters dying in places and times which are not authentic. But there is a scene in episode four which will undoubtedly shock you. It is the demise of one of the most significant characters in the story, Emma of Normandy, Edward the Confessor's mother. Now Emma was the daughter of Richard I of Normandy, and she became Queen Consort to Aethelred the Unready (Edward's father) and then King Cnut. She is the only woman to have married two English kings. So, she was at some point invested in all three warring factions and was considered a formidable political operator. But ultimately, once Edward is on the throne, he takes away her wealth, her lands are removed from her, and she is sent to Winchester into retirement where she lives the remainder of her days. But the scene in the drama? As historian Tom Licence, says, "... beating to death Emma, with a crown? No, no. Just no."

Ninfield Local History Group meets each month at the Methodist Hall in Church Lane, on the second Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. We also open our archives each quarter at the Sparkes Pavilion so that you can view photographs and documents relating to the village and the surrounding area, talk to a local expert and share your stories.

You can find out more about the group, see our talks schedule, view photographs, read stories and more on our website:

www.ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk or get in touch:

info@ninfieldlocalhistorygroup.org.uk

Brian Stockton, Chair, Ninfield Local History Group

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Hooe Village Community Group

Contact us: **Website:**
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Email: hooevcg@gmail.com

Chairman: Pam Doodes
Treasurer: Jenny Cosham
Secretary: Sally Durman

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

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



Our forthcoming events:

October 11th: Coffee Morning. Owen from The Powdermill Trust for Nature Conservation, who look after The Bogs, our very own Nature Reserve, will be providing a display and be on hand to answer our questions about their work. We are really looking forward to welcoming Owen

November 8th: Coffee Morning – Made in Hooe items for sale. Dick has made a variety of fabulous items which he will be offering for sale. He will be generously donating all profits to a local cause to be advised. Watch this space

November 22nd An evening of Good Company
We are all looking forward to an evening of Good Company on hope you will be able to join us! Our very own Hooe resident, Amanda, and her Group will entertain us and during the interval we will be serving a light supper. Tickets will be £10.00 which will include a soft drink, alcoholic beverages will be available in return for a donation. To assist with catering we are asking for folk to please book in advance. Tickets available from 1st October, and we recommend you reserve your place promptly to avoid disappointment. Our sincere thanks go to 'Good Company' for their generosity by waiving their fee, such a wonderful offer. We are also extremely grateful to the Church family for allowing us to use the church and car park. As usual, the proceeds from this event will be going to charity

Footpath Walk - postponed We had such a wonderful summer! Sadly, the weather let us down for the two Hooe outside events planned. Despite the weather the Church Garden Party was a huge success, socially and financially. The British Spirit prevailed and everyone adapted, dodging the showers and had enormous fun. Not so lucky with our planned Footpath walk and tea in the garden. The weather turned, the forecast was bleak, wet and windy, so reluctantly we decided, no alternative, postpone the event until the Spring. Obviously, if anyone is interested in joining a walking group before then please contact us. HVCG is keen to ensure our parish footpaths are kept clear for the benefit of everyone. You may recall Gary took responsibility for all footpaths in days gone by when he was a Parish Councillor, regularly reporting to each Parish Council meeting. That was such a useful service.

Congratulation to Nina..... a newly co-opted member of Hooe Parish Council. It is difficult to believe Nina has only lived in the village for a few years, she is already a part of the furniture, a valued member of the community! We are so pleased she put herself forward to the Parish Council, she will be a huge asset using her vast experience and common sense for the good of Hooe residents. Perhaps the extra time needed to devote to parish work will keep her away from the Pub Quiz, which will give others a chance to shine!!

Wishing our very own Librarian a speedy recovery. We hope that our own very special librarian Anne will be up and about, ready to take the helm at our free to use book and jigsaw Library at the October Coffee morning. We send our love to Anne and, by the way, 11th October just happens to be her birthday!

Bras against cancer Have you ever opened your front door only to find bags of Bras on the doorstep?! We have, several times! Huge thanks to all who have donated Bras to this charity, -either in person or anonymously, your generosity is very much appreciated. We will be accepting donations until our November coffee morning when we will hand over all your donations to the charity. Thank you for your support So, still a little time left to sort out your undies drawer. Your unwanted bras are accepted and welcomed in any condition – new or very used, any colour, any style. The only stipulation is that they are clean! Every item received is mended/recycled/repurposed by a group of volunteers and all proceeds go to Bras Against Cancer.

Wealden Talking News HVCG sent a donation to Wealden Talking News last year. WTN is going from strength to strength, and has just celebrated their 50th anniversary. At the anniversary tea party, held for volunteers and donors, we were asked to convey thanks to everyone who has helped keep the service running. So, a big thank you to you all. If you know of any blind or partially sighted person who would enjoy a weekly audio newspaper, please do not hesitate to make contact. The service they offer is completely free.

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. Just email or chat to one of us.**

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

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

Book Exchange and Community Café

Methodist Hall 10 – 11.30 weekly on Fridays.

The Book Exchange is held monthly on the first Friday of the month, come along for a chat over tea/coffee and biscuits. Donations asked for books and refreshments. There's a wide range of books and good company.

Community Café open every Friday morning – you will be made very welcome if you'd like further details contact

David on 07989729123 or dj_swales@hotmail.com

Health Walks

Every Thursday. Trained local volunteers lead a gentle walk of about an hour. Meet 11am at Sparke Pavilion, Ninfield Recreation ground near the main entrance off Church Lane. A few more walkers welcome. Part of the East Sussex Health Walks scheme.

Women's Crafting and Knitting Circle

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

Men's Shed Now an established friendly group meeting at Sparke Pavilion. 10 am last Friday of the month. Men putting the world to rights over free coffee. For more information contact Dave: 01424 892883.

Film Matinees Doors open at 1.30 at Ninfield Memorial Hall. Films start at 2 pm. FREE entry and refreshments. Film shows are dementia friendly with subtitles. All welcome, young and not so young. Films and dates for your diary for 2025 are on the following Tuesday afternoons. 7th October: The Ladykillers,

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

For more information or to book a place (to ensure enough cake! Contact Jackie or Rose: 01424 892422 or email: jackie.langley1@btinternet.com

Ladies Lounge - Sami Guard started the "Ladies Lounge" a few months ago, a very welcome event which we are pleased to include under the Health and Wellbeing umbrella. This takes place on the last Friday of the month from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm at Ninfield Working Men's Club (The Tin Hut). It is for Ladies of all ages to meet, relax, have a drink, (alcoholic or otherwise!), nibbles, cakes and enjoy the chance of having a chat about anything and everything in a convivial atmosphere. A donation only of £1 to the Tin Hut's Charity, plus very reasonable drinks prices! Contact Sami for more details 07970650321 or email samanthaguard@btinternet.com

Lunch Club

We are pleased to say that, although sadly Maggie is no longer running this popular event, it is continuing with a new person at the helm. The October lunch will be on Thursday 23rd. If you would like a place, contact Maggie as before on 01424 893361 or email at maggiethcook@gmail.com

NINFIELD METHODIST CHURCH
Minister: Reverend Ian Couchman
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website: hbrmethodists.org.uk

Sunday Services for October 2025:

5 th	10.30 am	HARVEST Festival Parade Celebration with Ninfield Scouts & Reverend Ian Pruden
12 th	10.30 am	Family Worship & Communion with Revd. Neville Barnett
19 th	10.30 am	Worship & Praise Family Service with Dawn Novis
26 th	3.30 pm	Circuit United Service @ Calvert Methodist Church, Hastings

Events for October 2025:

2 nd	Thursdays weekly: After-school Club 3.15-5.00pm (Term-time only – see below)	
3 rd	10.00-11.30am	Book exchange & Café in Hall
	Fridays 10.00-11.30am	Community Café
8 th	2.30 – 4.00pm	Christian Women's Fellowship
21 st	2.15 – 4.30pm	Time Together Tuesdays

We look forward to our Harvest Festival Celebration service on October 5th with the Ninfield Scouts and the Reverend Ian Pruden who was our minister 11 years ago. Should be a great occasion.

Please note that on October 26th we will unite with all the other Methodist churches in our area for a service at 3.30pm at Calvert Methodist Church, Mount Pleasant Road, Hastings, TN34 3SP. Everyone is welcome
Any young people ages 7-11 years are welcome to come along to our new After-school club on Thursdays weekly as shown above. Tim our Community Worker is organising this & the programme will include music & dance, games, competitions, toast & drinks. Register on the day or contact: tim.fudge@hbrmethodists.org.uk

Time Together Tuesdays for younger families will be on October 21st in our Hall.

Very best wishes from us all at Ninfield Methodist Church.

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Judges 6:36 - 7:8, 16-22

God had told Gideon he would drive the Midianite invaders out of His country. 32000 men had come to fight with Gideon.

Gideon asked God for proof.



God did as Gideon had asked.



Could you show me again, but with the wool dry and the ground wet?



God said

The army is too big. They will think that they beat the Midianites, not Me.



So Gideon sent home all who were afraid - 22000 of them



There were still too many, so Gideon told them to drink from the spring.



300 scooped up water to drink, and the rest were sent home.



Each man was given a jar with a lit torch in it and a horn.



That night they surrounded the Midianite camp.



At the signal, they blew the trumpets, smashed the jars and shouted a war cry



The Midianites were so shocked they attacked each other, and then ran



The Israelites won without having to do any fighting.

Directory of Groups & Clubs

NINFIELD BONFIRE SOCIETY Sarah Seymour 07809684488

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

NINFIELD CARNIVAL & SPORTS ASSOCIATION:

Samantha Guard, 893699 or 07970 650321

NINFIELD CRAFTING & KNITTING: Jane Dommersen 892428

NINFIELD AND DISTRICT ART SOCIETY: Fiona Stedman 01424 892418

NINFIELD FLOWER GROUP Jennifer Collett 892878 ninfieldflowers@gmail.com

NINFIELD HEALTH & WELLBEING GROUP Jackie Langley 892422

NINFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Kaye Crittall, 892883

NINFIELD LADIES BADMINTON GROUP: Rita Proctor 07879 024736

NINFIELD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

. •Corinne Gibbons •892612 corinnemgibbons@gmail.com

NINFIELD MUDDY BOOTS Early Childhood Centre

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

NINFIELD STOOLBALL Emma Kehoe 07565 010647

NINFIELD VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Sue Thompson 892294

NINFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY: Robin Goldsmith 0 7 9 4 0 3 2 4 6 0 1

1st NINFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Group Scout Leader Glen Harrison gharrisonninfeldscoutsgsl@gmail.com

Explorer Scout Leader: Josh.explorers@gmail.com

Scout Leader: Elaine Gausden ninfieldscouts@gmail.com

Cub Scout leader: Tracey Harrison tracey.harrison67@gmail.com

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

Group Chairman: Rosemary Cooper

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

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

DARK SKIES GROUP Kaye Crittall 892883

THE FRIENDLY VOICES Kaye Crittall 892883

PILATES & YOGA Susan Trimmer 07977 872284

LITTLE STARS DANCE Kirsty Mills 07875 235398

HOOE BELL RINGERS : Peter Ballard 01424 210980 or 07891479554

HOOE HISTORY GROUP: Chairman Heather Sinden 893422

HOOE & NINFIELD OPEN GROUP: Heather Sinden 893422

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

HOOE STOOLBALL: Linda Smith, Holmes Farm, Whydown 845163

HOOE VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS: Jane Warrener: 07548 528754

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

1066 RINGERS (Hand Belleplates) 35 Carole Ballard 01424 210980

PARISH WHO'S WHO

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

PARISH CHURCH of St. MARY the VIRGIN, NINFIELD

Churchwarden: Mrs Catriona Mary Owen
After 4.00pm 225421

Secretary:

Treasurer:

PARISH CHURCH of St. OSWALD'S, HOOE

Churchwarden: Mr Jack Rist 892576

Churchwarden: Mrs Nicki Murphy 893867

Secretary: Mr John Fairclough

USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE VILLAGES

THE PARISH NEWS Email ninfieldhooenews@gmail.com

NINFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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HOOE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:

Jackie Scarff: 07725 843505 clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

MEMORIAL HALL

Booking Secretary: EMAIL ninfieldmemorialhall@gmail.com

HOOE VILLAGE HALL

Bookings Jackie Scarff clerk@hooe-pc.gov.uk

METHODIST CHURCH HALL

Booking Secretary: Mr David Swales 07989 729123

C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL 892486

DOCTORS The Surgery, High Street, Ninfield 892569

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