WINCHELSEA PARISH MAGAZINE

June 2024





A Touch of Tilling

Lorna Challand writes: When I was invited to a garden party, with nine other members of the E F Benson Society organized by the National Trust at *Lamb House* I was told it was because a special guest was invited and that the special guest was an ardent fan of the novels of E F Benson especially those about Mapp and Lucia. I was surprised but honoured and delighted when I learnt that the guest was Her Majesty, Queen Camilla.

We were asked not to tell anyone beforehand and it was very hard to keep such a secret although we all did. We were not given much advice in the beginning about protocol or the dress code but our secretary was given a hint from Giles Brandreth that "a touch of Tilling" would be acceptable, hence my search for a cloche hat.

On the day the weather was pretty dire but nothing could damp our enthusiasm as we huddled under umbrellas and the marquee the National Trust staff had erected, among friends from the Benson and Tilling Society. Giles Brandreth, Prunella Scales, who played Miss Mapp so marvellously, and her husband Timothy West were also there and, although Prunella has dementia, she seemed happy and willing to have photos taken. Later they were joined by Hayley Mills.

Suddenly we heard cheering from people outside the house and knew she had arrived. As she entered the garden through the French windows miraculously the rain stopped and the sun shone. She was greeted by a spontaneous round of applause.

We had been divided into four groups of National Trust Volunteers, the Tilling Society, the Benson Society and the staff of the National Trust. Immediately she went to the first group we could hear laughter and conversation. I was in the third group and the first person she came to.

I just about managed my curtsy when she shook hands and began chatting. She was very easy to talk to asking where I had come from, about the Benson Society and how long I had been a member. It would have been easy to go on chatting but you are very conscious of all the others waiting to have their chance. And you feel as if you are in a dream and can't quite believe this is happening,

After the Queen had finished speaking to everyone she sat in the marquee and we all gathered round to hear two readings, one from the beginning of *Miss Mapp* and one from *Mapp and Lucia* read by Timothy West and Hayley Mills respectively. Giles Brandreth also chipped in with some amusing comments and we could see that the Queen has a lovely sense of humour.

We also learnt that the King shares her love of the novels and would have liked to have joined her on the visit. At the end of the visit a replica of a poster of the visit of George the V and Queen Mary to Lamb House, when E F Benson was Mayor of Rye, was presented by the Benson Society to the National Trust. The Queen was very interested in this.

The visit ended in true Mapp and Lucia style with a rousing "Au Reservoir" to the Queen who we all agreed was delightful. It was certainly a day to remember and I was honoured to be a part of it. During her visit, the Queen met members of several local voluntary organisations. Paul Ramsey, the landlord of the New Inn, (right) was among the members of the RNLI Rye Harbour team who spoke with her.



Photos: Rye News

With royal visits in mind, this photograph recently came to light of Queen Mary in 1935 emerging on to Back Lane from a door (removed long ago) at *Cleveland House*.





D-Day 80th Anniversary

On the morning of 6th June 1944 more than 140,000 Allied troops, supported by 195,000 naval personnel from eight countries in nearly 7,000 ships and landing craft, and more than 10,000 aircraft took part in the largest combined sea, air and land invasion ever attempted (Operation Neptune).

With three Divisions of Airborne troops on their flanks and conveyed and supported by a Naval Armada, Allied troops assaulted the Atlantic Wall along a 60-mile front, landing on five separate beaches in Axis-occupied France. If for Churchill the Battle of El Alamein was "...perhaps, the end of the beginning", D-Day and the Battle of Normandy (Overlord) was justifiably, "the beginning of the end" of the Second World War, at least in western Europe.

On the evening of Thursday 6th June the Winchelsea Millennium Artefacts Society, in conjunction with the Corporation of Winchelsea will host the D-Day 80th Anniversary Reception and Beacon Lighting, with events starting at the New Hall at 7.15 pm. On display within the New Hall there will be a series of storyboards and portfolios, consisting of maps, photographs and text that aim to provide a brief account of D-Day. In addition, the displays will also include photographs and copies of documents (many not publicly seen in Winchelsea before), from private sources and the East Sussex Records Office (ESRO) relating to Winchelsea during the Second World War.

This part of the display will provide an insight into the activities of some of the British and Canadian units that were stationed in the town, where they were billeted, and the contribution they made to our safety.

There will be background on 'Winchelsea at War', including the visits of General Montgomery, who stayed for brief periods at *Greyfriars*. The display will also record the residents who bravely gave their lives in the conflict, the houses that were bombed and the families that remained. Finally, the displays will tell of the remarkable contributions made by three of Winchelsea's one-time residents to the Liberation of France.

We hope as many of you as are able will come to the Beacon lighting to commemorate this historic occasion. *Jerry Moss*

Beacon Lighting Timetable

7.15pm - Reception at the New Hall

Refreshments and wine will be available at £4 per glass including canapés. The Chairman will welcome everyone and will say a brief word on health and safety and routes to the Beacon.

7.30pm - WMAS Chairman will give a brief introduction to the Storyboard Display of the 80th Anniversary.

8.30pm - The National Anthem will be played by the Piper who will then lead the gathering to the Beacon across the field to *Flowers of the Forest* and *Lord Lovatt's Lament*

9.05pm - The Rector will begin the ceremony with a prayer

9.10pm The Mayor will read the official poem *'The International Tribute'*

9.15pm - The Beacon will be lit





Reflections from the Rectory

The church calendar always seems to be particularly busy in the first five months of the year. No sooner have we celebrated Christmas when the feast of Candlemas is upon us at the beginning of February. Depending on the date of Easter, very soon after, I'm busy preparing and leading a Lent course. Many people say to me Christmas is my busy time but Easter is much busier. It involves a series of services of different tone ranging from Maundy Thursday when the Last Supper is recalled to the joyous celebration of the resurrection of Jesus with the harrowing meditation on the Cross in between.

As I write this we have just celebrated Trinity Sunday, which falls on the Sunday following the feast of Pentecost which celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which itself is ten days after the Ascension. Just when you think things are getting less busy another celebration turns up. As if that wasn't enough, this year we celebrated Rogation Sunday too.

Rogation comes from the Latin verb *rogare* meaning to ask. It occurs six Sundays after Easter and is associated with prayer for the coming year and especially for the crops and the land. It was traditional in mediaeval times to mark Rogation by beating the bounds of the parish. This would normally mean walking around the boundaries so that there could be no dispute regarding, in which parish you resided. Bearing in mind that the poor laws were often administered by parish and quite often trusts were set up to benefit the poor in a particular parish, these boundaries could be very important. Added to that there was the superstition that it was the duty of parishioners to chase evil spirits from their own churches to bother those of their neighbours.

We organised a Rogation walk this year to involve all our parishes. It was much enjoyed by all those who came. We started by gathering in Pett for the Parish Eucharist, which was very well attended and then set off to walk to Icklesham. One of our number gave fascinating insights into local history and pointed out the site where Bronze Age axes have been found as well as an Iron Age dugout canoe. We sometimes forget that we share the landscape with ghosts from the past. We crossed the boundary over the Pannel river which formerly was a waterway of some note.

Whilst at Icklesham, we made our Rogation prayers. They include blessing the crops, livestock, gardens and the local community and water and the sea and some readings, amongst them Psalm 147

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God on the harp. He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills. He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call. His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse, nor his delight in the legs of a man; the Lord delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

This was followed by a welcome trip to the *Queens Head* for sandwiches and refreshment. In the afternoon we walked to Winchelsea for Evensong, while on route the site of the ancient Icklesham harbour was pointed out. Why not join us next year?

Jonathan

Fifth Sunday for Demelza

Fifth Sunday services are an opportunity to do something slightly different for the whole Benefice to include Icklesham and Pett. On 30th June there will be a family parish Eucharist at St Thomas's with a slightly less formal order. I'm hoping that the gospel will be told by children and there will be a special collection in aid of Demelza, which supports hospice care for children and the young. It is the chosen charity of the Mayor and Mayoress, Peter and Debbie Cosstick. Further details to be confirmed.



Bible Reading at the New Inn

Our informal Bible reading will continue in June. As the first Thursday of the month is the D-Day anniversary, it will be on Thursday 13th June at 6pm in the New Inn Winchelsea. We will continue to look at the gospel according to St John. We have already looked at Chapters 1-4 and details of our next reading will be publicised. It is a very relaxed gathering and no prior knowledge is required: we always end around 7:00pm. There has been good attendance – Look at it as Book Club with a difference. All welcome. Contact Jonathan for more details or with any questions, <u>revdjonathan@btinternet.com</u> 01797 226254

Fellowship Lunch

Fellowship Lunch will be on Friday 28th June at 12.30 for 1pm in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall. Contact Mary Parker on 07927 107678 to book.



Wine Society at Charles Palmer

It is still possible to join the special Wine Society visit to Winchelsea's own Charles Palmer Vineyard on Friday 7th June from 4pm to 6pm.

charlespalmer-vineyards.co.uk/the-vineyard

We are delighted that, at this special event, the founder, Charles Palmer, will share his experiences as to how the vineyard came to be, the unique features of our local 'terroir' and how anticipating climate change has enabled still wines to be made from mature vines. This will be accompanied by tastings of the current wines. The cost is £25 per person.

If you would like to join us please contact *winchelseawinesociety@gmail.com*.



Photo: Kt Bruce

Open Gardens in June

Winchelsea Beach - Saturday 1st

for St Michael's Hospice 10.30am to 4pm Combined entry £7.50. Tickets at the gardens or from WB Community Hall

Solstice, Sea Road; White Cove, Sea Road; El Indalo, Old Harbour Farm Lane; Wenrhos, Old Harbour Farm Lane; St Valery, The Ridge; Windjammer, The Ridge; The Ship Inn, Sea Road.

stmichaelshospice.com/event/opengardensjune

Winchelsea - Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th

Saturday 11am to 5pm for the National Garden Scheme Sunday 2pm to 5pm for the Memorial Hospital Rye Combined Entry £8. Cash payments at garden gates. Card payments at the Court Hall (Sat) or New Hall (Sun).

King's Leap; Burrin House, North Street; Magazine House, Castle Street; The Rectory; Cleveland Place, Friars Road; South Mariteau (Sat only); Kent Close Communal Garden.

<u>ngs.org.uk</u>

Winchelsea Garden Society

Rose Show

Saturday 1 June in St Thomas' Church alongside the Church Market

4 classes, entries free

Class 1 Roses

Class 2 Sweet Peas

Class 3 Clematis

Class 4 Iris

All exhibits to be displayed between 9:30 and 10:30. Presentation of cups at 11:30

Maximum vase size 15 cm in diameter





Wildflower Circles in Spring

In Art the term chiaroscuro is defined as 'clear tonal contrasts which are often used to dramatic effect'. Black against white being an obvious example. Transfer this to nature and imagine sunlight piercing a woodland glade and the strong shadow play of the leaf forms. Contrast is key.

Walk through St. Thomas's Churchyard and notice how the circles of taller wildflowers and grasses are now the anthesis of the shortly mown turf, a visual play which complements both. Each is meant to be as it is, there is no doubting their differences. At the perimeter of each circle the contrast is greatest and a form of chiaroscuro occurs.

This year the effect of yellow rattle is becoming much more visible. A corona of it blooms in the SW corner of the churchyard. It is enabling a wider range of species to

establish. We have our orchid and there are many more buttercups this year (possibly assisted by the damp spring). I live in hope that one day we may find Cuckoo flower, that pale pink resident of damp waysides, has found a foot. Perhaps even Ragged Robin, which has appeared in the Rectory front circle, will decide to make its home. It will be interesting to see whether or not the seeds that we sowed in 2022 and didn't show up last year, such as field marigolds, will appear this year after the damp spring.

Later this month, I will be attending an online conference run by the Church of England's Caring for God's Acre Movement - <u>caringforgodsacre.org.uk</u> - in order to learn more about recording our various species of flowers, insects, birds etc. and which can then be added to a national database. I hope this will be good for wider community engagement. If anyone might be interested in joining in with this, contact me at the Rectory.

Let's look forward to a great summer. Shirley Meyer



Bee Orchid in an Icklesham garden. Rose-Marie Ryan



Winchelsea to Compostela

Phil Mack writes: Three tours and concerts in one afternoon. What a fantastic day, with so many people volunteering to help. The weather could not have been more glorious for this unique FOAM event. Our guests started their experience with a tour of two cellars, led by David Merrifield and Cheryl Fraser-Sampson. The second tour was led by Stuart Raine and Helen Morris and the last tour of the day was provided by John Spencer and Glen Marks.

Guests then entered *Lines End* garden for a drinks reception, the bar staff were Jo Marks, Ian Rowlands and myself. Our guests were then escorted by Jerry Moss (our safety officer for the day) into *Lines End* cellar, which was dressed by Nigel Ashton, for the Compostela concert.

Pegasus Choir performed a truly magical concert of music connected to the medieval pilgrimage, with Tom Ashmore and Nigel Aston reading from '*The Cockle Shell Pilgrim*' the story of Robert Sutton, whose miraculously preserved body was found during building work at Worcester cathedral, he was still dressed in his pilgrim robe. The concert finished with a very moving account from our rector, Jonathan Meyer, of his own arrival at the tomb of St James at Compostela. FOAM would like to record our thanks to Peter Hatch, the chair of the Pegasus choir, for arranging their visit and accommodation.

Following the last concert, dinner was hosted in *Lines End* garden for the choir and our very generous hosts, who provided accommodation: Charlotte Beecroft, Eric Rowe, Nick Shiren, Martin Donnelly, John and Annie Spencer, Glen & Jo Marks and Lorna Challand, with a Spanish themed dinner cooked by David Dickinson and pilgrim pudding by Peter Hatch



A huge number of people volunteered to make this a very special day, the event raised \pounds 2,007 - for the Court Hall repairs, a magnificent achievement.

I'd like to personally thank everyone who helped, this was a community event and many people were meeting for the first time. It's a great privilege to chair an organisation that brings our extraordinary town together.

Thank you! Phil - Chair FOAM

Winchelsea Garden Society

Coach outing to

Town Place & Clinton Lodge

Wednesday 19 June

Departing at 9 am from German Street & returning around 4:30 pm Subsidised travel and entries for members

£25

Bring a picnic lunch to eat in the gardens at Town Place. Tea and coffee available at Clinton Lodge

Please book and pay Judith Payne by cash or cheque at Castle Cottage, Castle Street, Winchelsea TN36 4EL For further information please

contact Shirley Meyer on

shirleymeyer@btinternet.com



shirleymeyer@btinternet.com



Conservation Society Visit to Dover

There is a Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS) trip to Dover arranged for Friday 14th June, to visit both the Maison Dieu (above) and the Grand Shaft Staircase. The 29-seat coach will depart from outside the Town Well at 9am and tickets are £20 per person. Please contact Judith Payne for tickets - 01797 224861.

The Maison Dieu, also known as the Hospital of St Mary and Domus Dei is a Grade 1 listed medieval building, which forms the oldest part of Dover Town Hall. The Grand Shaft Staircase, which is a unique triple helix staircase was built between 1806 and 1809 as a quick means of communication and movement between the barracks on the Western Heights and the town below, in the event of an invasion by French troops during the Napoleonic Wars.

Chairman of Dover Council, Gordon Cowan, has confirmed that there will be no charge for our visit to Maison Dieu and the Grand Shaft as we will be his guests (thanks to efforts of WCS Committee Member and former Winchelsea Mayor David Merrifield). There is also the highly recommended option of refreshments at Wheelers Fish and Chips Restaurant. A table for 20 has been provisionally reserved. *mpwrestaurants.co.uk/our-brands/wheelers-fish-andchips/dover*



Cross-dressing and Espionage

Dr Stephen Brogan is the speaker at Literary Society on Friday 21st June. His topic is 'Writing about a Self-Mythologiser: The Chevalier d'Eon: Cross-dressing and Espionage in Eighteenth Century London'

Dr Brogan is Research Fellow at Birkbeck College, University of London and History Tutor at the Mary Ward Centre, London. The Chevalier d'Eon (1728-1810) was a French soldier, diplomat, and spy who lived the first half of his life as a man, and the second half as a woman.

D'Eon wrote a lengthy autobiography that shines light on his or her transformation, whilst also containing a lot of fiction. This talk will unpack many of the intriguing aspects of d'Eon's life and his or her account of it, and will be accompanied by a slide show of some very compelling images.

7 for 7.30 at the Court Hall. Members free, non-members $\pounds 5$



Late May Morris

East Surrey Morris Men, Greensleeves Morris and Black Swan Border Morris descended on Winchelsea - the final call on their late-May Bank Holiday tour.

The East Surrey group were formed in 1926 and have been coming to Winchelsea for over fifty years. As always, they started in Castle Street, outside the old Castle Inn as tradition requires, and then moved on to the New Inn for refreshment and a second whirl of dancing.





Christmas Windows winding down

After several years of successful fundraising for good causes and encouraging the residents of this town to decorate their windows and gardens at Christmas, the current committee have, by a simple majority, decided that they wish to close down the group in its current form.

They will, therefore, be calling an Extraordinary General Meeting on Wednesday 31st July in the Court Hall at 7pm, to dissolve the group. All members (those who have participated in the event) are eligible to attend.

The meeting is for this sole purpose and also to agree the charitable causes to which the remaining funds will be donated.

The Committee: Chris Chappell, Ali Casey, Shirley Meyer, Graham Large.



Winchelsea New Hall

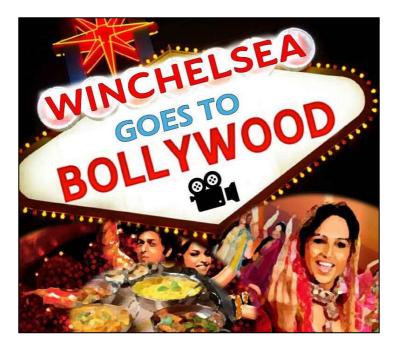
During May the committee heard from National Highways about a mature sycamore just south of the entrance to the hall. They advised us that action needs to be taken as they reported extensive dead bark and die back and damage around the areas where it has been cut back in the past.

We have liaised with a number of arborists and it appears that the tree is hollow at the top of the trunk and spongy behind the peeling bark. Sadly, it urgently needs to come down. Our contractor is liaising with Rother District Council regarding the TPO (Tree Protection Order) to ensure we are compliant with conservation. Hopefully we will not have to shut the road to fell the tree. We will be planting a new sapling in its place.

100 Club

The winner of the 100 Club prize in May is number 29. Congratulations! The \pounds 100 should be in your bank account by now. Enjoy!

Rob, Graham, Sergio, Rosemarie and Ali New Hall Management Committee



Bollywood Raffle

We know that perhaps due to other commitments you aren't able to join in the fun and colour when *Winchelsea Goes To Bollywood* on 8th June.

But you can support the event (proceeds to the New Hall toilets refurbishment) by buying some Grand Bollywood Raffle tickets.

<u>Click here to see a list</u> of the many fantastic Indian-themed prizes to be won and get in touch with any of us organisers before the draw. Tickets are $\pounds 1$ each: please buy generously and increase your chances of winning a wonderful prize. Cash or bank transfer preferred, but payment by credit card is also possible.

Good luck - and thank you for your support!

Hilary Roome 07923 451431 <u>roome12hilary@gmail.com</u> David Dickson, Delane Shingadia, Jane Archutowska. Rosemarie Roberts or Ali Casey should also be able to assist.





John Wesley's Chapel

At the open day on 11th May we were blessed with a really lovely sunny day, the doors were open from 10 in the morning, but the highlight of the day was at 3pm when Stephen Page presented a varied programme of familiar and lesser known pieces which delighted the 40 or so present. All of Stephen's concerts have been in support of the Christian Aid charity, and a tremendous total of £353 has been sent to them. Thank you to all who came and gave so generously.

On Saturday 15th June the Chapel will be open from 11am to 5pm to coincide with the NGS Open Gardens Day. This time our 'artist-in-residence' is expected to start work on improving the 8 feet by 4 feet board painting of Wesley preaching to the townspeople under the historic Ash tree, with a view to hanging it in a prominent position rather than being tucked up high above the lobby.

Then on Sunday 14th July the Chapel will be celebrating its Anniversary, 239 years since it was built in 1785. We meet at 2.30pm for hymn singing under the Wesley tree, opposite the New Inn, hopefully in more glorious sunshine, before the service at 3pm in the Chapel which will be led by Rev David and Christine Freeland. Please feel free to join us or pop in for any of the Chapel events. We will be delighted to see you.

winchelseachapel.org



Icklesham Parish Council

Future Meetings

10th June 6.15pm – Planning Committee followed by Open Spaces Committee at Winchelsea Court Hall 24th June 6.15pm – Planning Committee followed by Allotments Committee at Winchelsea Court Hall

The Parish Council held their Annual Parish Council meeting at Rye Harbour Village Hall on Monday 13th May. Councillor Mrs Jacqui Stanford was elected Chair for the Council year and Councillor David Smedley was elected Vice Chair.

The Committee Memberships were renewed and the Council's policies were reviewed. The Parish Council also agreed to use reserve funds to pay off two outstanding public works loans to save money on interest payments.

Rother District Council Local Plan

Rother District Council are consulting on the new Local Plan for 2020-2040. This is a very important document as it will guide development and land use in our district over the period 2020 – 2040. The Parish Council would urge all residents to take part in the consultation which closes on 23rd July. The Parish Council have organised a presentation from Rother's Planning Policy Manager at our Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for 31st May so please come along and ask any questions you may have.

The Annual Parish Meeting

has been organised for Friday 31st May 7.00 pm at Icklesham Memorial Hall.

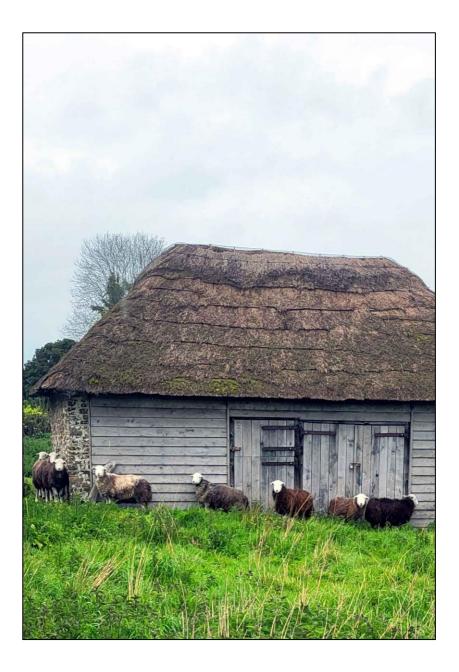
On the agenda is:-

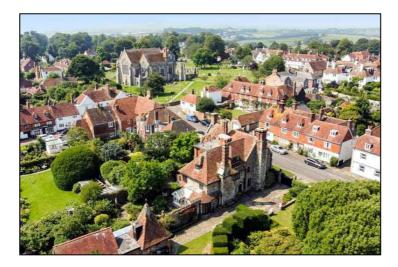
- Brief Chair's Report on this year's achievements.
- Presentation from Rother District Council on the new Local Plan who will answer any questions you may have.
- Presentation from Winchelsea Museum
- Community Awards Scheme where the Council present awards to residents and organisations that have gone above and beyond for the local community.

Followed by light refreshments at the end of the meeting. We really hope to see you there, it is a chance to catch up with Councillors.

IPC are here to represent you and welcome your views on any matter. Please contact the Clerk to send your views and requests to the Council at *clerk@icklesham-pc.gov.uk* or write to PO Box 148, Winchelsea,TN31 9FP 07714 169901

icklesham-pc.gov.uk





The Winchelsea 2025 Book

Our 'street champions' were busy in May contacting their neighbours and distributing the questionnaires that will shape the text of the 2025 book - our snapshot of the town 25 years on from the millennium.

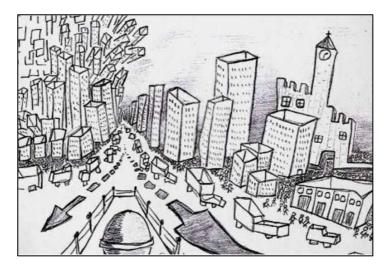
If you live in the electoral ward of Winchelsea, you should already have received a questionnaire. This is a plea to return it in the next few days if you haven't already.

One or two streets haven't been contacted yet but we hope to call on you soon. It's been quite a logistical feat to go round to everybody but we'll get there in the end.

During June we plan to get photographs of as many of you as possible in front of your houses, so watch out for a message to say when Jonathan Murphy is planning to do this.

Then there's editing, catching up with everything we've missed, and finally the production of the book for you to buy. It's been really encouraging to see how large a number of residents have responded positively to this venture.

Winchelsea Book Team: Jennifer Sutherland, Gillian Alexander, Chris Chappell, David Merrifield, Jerry Moss, Jonathan Murphy, David Page.



Word Soup

Natasha Robinson writes: What do Leonardo da Vinci and Muhammad Ali have in common?...no?...how about Albert Einstein and Marilyn Monroe?...they are all famous dyslexics.

This month's Second Wednesday talk will be given by Mick Bean, also a dyslexic. You may have already met him, as he regularly attends SWS. While chatting over tea one day, he told me that not only didn't he know his own age, but had no idea what number house he has ever lived at. This is on the extreme end of the scale and involves numbers quite obviously, but dyslexia is more commonly associated with letters, making reading, writing and spelling anything from challenging to impossible.

Previously called 'word blindness', it is thought to affect about ten in every hundred of the population and is classed as a learning difficulty. It is a neurological difference and nothing to do with intelligence. Students are now given 25% extra time in exams, as it's not the knowledge that is lacking, just the speed at which they can process the question and deliver the answer.

Dyslexics are very often extremely creative. They express themselves in a different language. Many actors, artists, designers, musicians, scientists and mathematicians are dyslexic. They can also be extremely detailed and organised, in ordered to function in day to day life. The actor Susan Hampshire, would learn the entire script for instance, unsure of where her co- star's lines ended and hers began, making her a unique asset to directors. Conversely, da Vinci famously wrote in his own mirrored shorthand for secrecy. Jamie Oliver is another example of someone who has created a distinctive way of communicating his passion and knowledge.

Are you a list writer? Do you organise your thoughts or your day on paper, in order to separate them from everything else that's happening in your head. Do you read paragraphs several times before absorbing their meaning; unless it's white words on a black background, which somehow sink in faster. Are you a scrupulous contract reader? Are you the one who corrects press releases because you are so meticulous? Do you double and triple check your spelling, because you can see that a word is wrong, even if you're not sure why? Can you still not tell your left from your right? For me, the answer to all these questions is 'yes'.

I didn't learn to read till I was ten and didn't open a book till I was twenty. My English spelling has always been dodgy and my French appalling. When I studied Italian at school, my mother hoped that at last I'd be able to write something accurately; you've never seen so many double letters where they shouldn't be, which apart from looking ridiculous, also changes the meaning of the word.

The irony is that I now write a lot. It take me an inordinately long time to do so though. When I write these columns for instance, I must re-read, correct and finesse them ten, twenty times, maybe more, before I'm happy to press send. This is why they are always so late David, sorry.

So come over to the New Hall on Wednesday 12th, to find out how Mick has coped throughout his life and career in education. You may have similar issues and found your own coping mechanisms that you can share. He wants the talk to be as interactive as possible, answering questions and sharing anecdotes.

12th June at 2.30pm in the New Hall. Annual membership £15. Visitors £5. Homemade tea £2

2ndWeds@gmail.com



Poor Things

"'*Poor Things*' is a steampunk – retro futurist Victorian freakout and macabre black-comic horror" opined *The Guardian* sending connoisseurs of word salads rushing to the local cinema in search of meaning. The film is set in late Victorian London where brilliant, unregulated medical scientists flourish in an ethical vacuum and pursue hypotheses to extravagant extremes.

Godwin Baxter – medical doctor, anatomist, university lecturer and creator of hybrid animals – galvanised the fresh cadaver of a young female suicide to resurrect her, with the brain of the foetus she was carrying transposed to her cranium, creating his adopted daughter, Bella.

She is essentially an adult woman with a rapidly maturing infant's brain who addresses Godwin, her creator, as "God". Responding to Bella's questions about her parents, Godwin fabricates a story that they had died on a voyage of scientific exploration, martyrs to empirical investigation. Bella absorbs this as her mission statement and develops a detached, inquiring attitude to life's challenges.

Like Frankenstein's monster, Bella can next be dispatched on a sequence of picaresque adventures. Initial ignorance of social conventions allows candid comments about others while a libido unrestrained by Victorian social norms encourages an adventurous sexuality. She elopes on a Mediterranean cruise with the family solicitor, the serial seducer Duncan Wedderburn, whom she soon sexually and mentally exhausts. The theme of the voyage is discovery, of the world and herself; she reads philosophy voraciously and gets a crash course on the realities of life from her cynical fellow passenger, Astley. Cast ashore penniless in France with the increasingly deranged Wedderburn, the cooly practical Bella accepts employment in a Parisian bordello, (shades of Luis Buñuel's *Belle de Jour*), although unlike Buñuel's protagonist Bella observes the eccentricities of her clientele with equanimity.

Following forays into socialism and lesbianism courtesy of a fellow sex worker and first female influence, Bella finally graduates from the University of Life when summoned to the dying Godwin's bedside in London. Now a calm, resourceful, educated and attractive woman, Bella competently deals with the ensuing crises, including being reclaimed by the husband compared to whom suicide had seemed a preferable alternative and whose DNA now resides rent free in her new brain.

Visually the film is sumptuous. Opening sequences in Godwin's home and laboratory are shot in monochrome but ventures into the world are portrayed in vibrant colour. Costume design won an Oscar and the set is both futuristic and Victorian. As Bella, Emma Stone won the best actress award at both Oscars and Baftas and fine supporting performances came from Mark Ruffalo as Wedderburn and Willem Dafoe as Godwin.

Like a trumpet blast, the film drew armies of culture warriors to the battlefield being described variously as "a feminist masterpiece", "an offensive male sexual fantasy" and more starkly "filth". Benign non-combatants empathised with Stone's admission that filming the scene where she devoured 60 Portuguese custard tarts had not been "a piece of cake". To explain the title requires recourse to the novel on which it is based where the mature, worldly Bella concludes that so many of the men in her life were "poor things", perhaps vindicating those who identified feminism in the directorial Muse.

Bill Doherty



Aurora Borealis over Winchelsea

photographed by Ian Rowlands on 10th May



What's in the box?

On a chilly damp May Monday morning, the dedicated and enthusiastic Moth Team of Winchelsea came to the Smith's garden at the *Mill House* to see what species had been collected in its specially lit trap, put in place the evening before by Steve and Katie Train.

Steve had nobly returned at dawn to switch off the light and cover the box with a rug to keep all inside safe. For Sandra and Jennifer, whose only previous experience of moths was holes in their favourite woolly jumpers, it was a revelation to see the variety and beauty of these insects.

Early in the season there were seven species that appeared such as the furry and aptly named *White Ermine* and the slightly prehensile looking *Poplar Grey*, along with the *Sharp Angled Peacock* and *Blood Vein*. All were carefully researched and recorded by the team with each species photographed by Jim.

To add to the haul and interest a dozy wasp and several beautiful but apparently destructive cockchafers had decided to join the moths in their cosy egg box-lined home for the night. It was a most enjoyable and unique start to the working week and our thanks go to Shirley and her very dedicated team of enthusiasts for establishing this monthly research. *Sandra and Jennifer Smith.*



Open the Book

The Rector and members of the congregation of St Thomas's church have been going to our primary school to help the children dramatize Bible stories.

Head teacher, Carol Gardiner, reports, 'Open the Book has been well received by the children at St Thomas', they have engaged with the stories presented and enjoyed seeing their friends taking part. Children have found the acting out of Bible stories 'more interesting than just hearing them' and some have found it 'relaxing'.

Children taking part have said that they, 'Enjoy the acting and feel lucky to be included' 'Like wearing the clothes and doing the actions' and 'Enjoyed working with Mr Meyer and different people from the community'

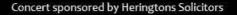


A Handful of Hedgehogs

Several gardeners in Winchelsea took delivery of hedgehogs in May, courtesy of Philip Merricks.

He writes: 'As we keep badgers out of our nature reserve at Elmley, our hedgehogs are doing rather well. Which means that we have to live trap quite a number of them to protect the eggs in the nests of our ground nesting birds such as lapwing, redshank and avocet'.

elmleynaturereserve.co.uk



London Handel Players





Alexander Chance countertenor

Handel and Vivaldi

Saturday 6th July at 7.30pm

Winchelsea Arts

St Thomas' Church Winchelsea TN36 4EB



Tickets online at winchelsea-arts.org.uk and at the door

> **£24** free for under 18s



winchelsea-arts.org.uk

Click here to see the full programme for the 24-25 Season



Winchelsea Corporation News

Mayor Peter Cosstick writes: It seems ages ago since the Mayoring ceremony on 1st April, soon be Christmas Every two months, I will provide a brief Corporation update, together with plans in the pipeline.

Court Hall and Museum

As some of you are aware, the external repairs to the west end gable of the Court Hall is by far our largest project for some years. At the time of writing, we are hoping that consent will be granted by Rother District Council soon, with a view to commencing work during July. Once we have the go ahead, we will be holding a 'pop up/pop in' weekend event in the Court Hall for you to see the plans and ask questions. This will be a joint venture between the Corporation and FOAM. We are so grateful to FOAM for all the financial support and their enormous fund raising efforts. This event will also provide an opportunity for you to find out more about the Corporation and FOAM, and understand why we exist, and what we do.

Our other key projects for 2024, include the renovation of the Court Hall entrance doors, which we hope will commence late September, subject to the usual permissions. We are also bringing our plans forward to clear vegetation from all three town gates (Strand, Pipewell, and the New Gate) which we be conducted by specialist contactors over the next few weeks. In addition members of the Corporation will be involved in a general tidy up of the gates and town well.

Wi-Fi is now available in both the Court Hall and Museum. The Museum now opens six days a week (Tuesday to Sunday) until the end of October.

We have also obtained a limited number of DVDs of *'The Cinque Ports'* presented by David Starkey. These are exclusive to Winchelsea and on are now on sale in the museum at $\pounds 9$. The documentary lasts 40 minutes, and gives a brilliant insight into the history of the Cinque Ports.

Demelza Childrens Charity

is Debbie's chosen charity. Currently the Quiz Night in the New Inn, and Morris Dancing have raised a tad under £350, with more to be donated from the Morris Dancers for this worthy charity. Brilliant. fun events. We will continue to raise funds for Demelza throughout my term in office. Thank you to all those that helped out and provided amazing homemade cakes and sandwiches for the Morris Dancers.

Other Corporation Fundraising Events

There is a lot planned, and more details to follow, confirmed dates are:

- Saturday evening 27th July 'A night at the races' (New Hall)
- Saturday afternoon 17th August 'Winchelsea and the Cinque Ports' (New Hall)

• Saturday evening 23rd November 'A Murder Mystery Evening (New Hall)

Full details and tickets will be available as each event approaches.

We are looking forward to the lighting of the beacon on Thursday 6th June, and the Winchelsea Art Exhibition August Bank Holiday weekend, all thanks to the Millenium Artefacts Society.



Confederation of the Cinque Ports

The confederation came together this year at Sandwich. We were all delighted to be informed that his majesty the King had appointed Sir George Zambellas as the new Lord Warden and Admiral of the Cinque Ports. During this meeting Speakership of the Cinque Ports was officially transferred from Dover to Sandwich. In 2025 it will transfer to Hastings, and in 2026 it will come to Winchelsea.

Thank you

In closing, I would like to thank everyone that gives up their time, money and energy to make our Town and community a wonderful place to live. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to know more about Winchelsea Corporation - <u>winchelsea.tc@btinternet.com</u>. My next update will be in August.



Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports

Admiral Sir George Zambellas GCB, DSC, ADC, DL, has been appointed Lord Warden and Admiral of the Cinque Ports in succession to Lord Boyce who died in 2022. Sir George is a former First Sea Lord and Chief of the Naval staff.

The office of Lord Warden and Admiral, now ceremonial in nature, was once one of the most powerful in England. It was a vital link between the Crown and ports on the South-East coast which provided a fleet to serve successive Kings for 500 years before the foundation of the Royal Navy.

Recent holders of the office have included Sir Winston Churchill (1941-1965) and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother (1978-2002). Sir George is only the third Admiral to have held the office during its 800 year history.





Winchelsea Cricket Club

The name Wheeler has been synonymous with Winchelsea cricket for many years, and the start of the 2024 season has seen the current Wheeler triumvirate (Will, Phil and Simon) in splendid form. Results have gone against the team, however.

An extraordinary game at Tenterden saw 500 runs in an afternoon, with Winchelsea eventually beaten by 5 wickets despite having posted a total of 249. A stubborn Beckley Park side clung on for a draw despite being outplayed at Winchelsea by the home side. Ashburnham arrived here bristling with confidence but were fortunate to survive a fighting comeback by the home side (Will Wheeler 92 not out) and scraped a 3-run victory in a limited-overs game.

On paper, no success, but an encouraging start to the season in all departments. Hoorah! June sees away games at Catsfield and Northiam and home games against Lydd and the popular Authors XI (note - this is a Friday fixture).

June Fixtures

Sunday 2nd - home - Winchelsea v Lydd 2pm start Sunday 9th - away - Catsfield v Winchelsea 2pm start Sunday 23rd - away - Northiam v Winchelsea 2.pm start Friday 28th - home - Winchelsea v Authors Xl 1.30pm start



All Local Life is Here

Natasha Robinson writes: According to the latest figures, 81% of Brits trust their local newspaper more than the Nationals. This chimes with the fact that when asked, the majority of people are concerned with personal and local issues, rather than the dog whistle politics that grab the media headlines. This explains why our Parish Magazine is so popular. It gives us the information we need to plan our month in Winchelsea. But for anyone planning on travelling out of Winchelsea, we are equally well served. In a dwindling market, we have a thriving local newspaper, *Rye News*.

When I mention that I write for *Rye News*, I'm often met with blank faces. If I suggest that local events could be promoted or highlighted in *RN*, I'm viewed with suspicion, or worse, complete uninterest. Some notable exceptions are the Mayoring Ceremony, the 'Celebrating Creation Festival' at St Thomas' last May, the National Open Garden Scheme, the Millennium Artefacts Society summer art exhibition and of course the Second Wednesday Society.

So what is Rye News and why should you read it? Well first of all it's an online newspaper, like our Parish Magazine. It covers Rye and the surrounding area, is entirely run by volunteers and this year is celebrating its 10th anniversary. We get about 80,000 page views per month, which means just under a million a year. The contributors are a happy collection of people who are all dedicated to the promotion and success of our neighbourhood, led by journalist James Stewart, "*Rye News* is focussed on the main news and events of the week and telling the stories of the people who live, work and visit here".

Rye News is also totally apolitical and independent. Leading up to the recent Council Elections, we published each of the four nominated candidates' views on the job. Equally, Sally-Ann Hart, Helena Dollimore and Guy Harris all write regularly for us and you can send in a comment on anything that they say, or any other article for that matter.

In fact anyone can write a piece for *RN*. We don't need Shakespearean prose, just the desire to share your interest in something local. We have a Deputy Editor, Juliet Duff and Sub-Editors who will format your words into an article ready to publish. Yes we cover our fair share of potholes, landslips and Council meetings, but also all manner of local news, Royal visits, exhibitions, concerts, museums, hospitality updates, tennis club and cricket match info, photos of the recent spectacular Northern Lights and who could forget the Wrestlers of Winchelsea Beach. The latter were also the stars of *RyeCast*, our local podcast, also made by James Stewart <u>ryecast.org</u> And if you haven't listened to it yet, it's a wonderful collection of conversations with the extraordinary people who live and work in our little part of the world.

Rye News comes out every Friday. You can find it at <u>ryenews.org.uk</u> or if you sign up to the alert, you'll receive it straight into your inbox. As *RN* is weekly, all breaking news, as well as daily updates are on Instagram *@newsrye* or X *@ryeInews*. We have several reoccurring hashtags that highlight local life on our Instagram Stories *#thingstodoinrye #mayplanning #shopshuffle* all designed to promote upcoming events. We are also on Facebook and Threads.

Please consider sharing your knowledge and interests. If it means something to you, then the chances are that your neighbours will be interested too. You don't have to be a regular contributor, an occasional writer is just as welcome. Or if you don't want to write, but just want to know what's happening locally, remember your first port of call should be *Rye News* because #ryenewsmynews



Patronal Festival Service

The preacher at this year's Patronal Festival Service will be Canon Christopher Irving. He is a former Principal of the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, and Canon Librarian and Director of Education at Canterbury Cathedral, and more recently looked after the parishes of Ewhurst Green and Bodiam.

The Mayor and Corporation will join the congregation at St Thomas's for this special service at 11am on Sunday 7th July

Fortune

Ruskin's vision of Fortune was nothing like Shakespeare's: no wheel, where characters rise and fall as it turns inexorably until coming full circle - no, his Fortune-figure carried three items: a club, a key, and a nail: all very practical...

A club, to threaten or defend keeping King, country, homestead safe, repelling enemies - showing manhood's mettle, or mace of knightly prowess...or negatively, a thug's lead pipe in a sock!

A key, to let you in, or out, unlock a mystery - guard a treasure - an open sesame to ancient knowledge, or mythology or a code to crack Enigma, win a war, dismantle human DNA?

A nail, to mend a fence, build a house, secure a floorboard keep a wooden ship afloat; morph into a rivet for a bridge, or later, the Titanic - not least, of course, to crucify... to our Good Fortune.

Richard Ormrod



Rye Food Bank

Martin Owen, still standing in for Cam, will be doing the next monthly doorstep collection from those of you who are regular donors on the morning of Tuesday 18th June.

If you'd like to be added to the list of donors, please let Martin know by email <u>mojowen@outlook.com</u> or phone 01797 226968.

Thanks to Nathan

Can writes: A couple of lines about a young resident in our Town called Nathan runs the Little Shop in the High Street in Winchelsea. When Thelma went into the Little Shop to get some paracetamol for me, as I was in terrible discomfort after a physiotherapy session in Tunbridge Wells - (yes I run out of pain-killers), Nathan too, unfortunately, had run out of them as well, which were part of the re-supply expected the next day. Without any further ado, he rushed upstairs and came rushing back clasping his own partly used pack of paracetamol capsules and gave them to Thelma free of charge and saved my day. - that is what I call a real Christian - it certainly made me sit up and pen these few grateful lines of appreciation.



ryehospital.org.uk/event



St Michael's Hospice

Open Gardens

Whether it's a quirky 1980s summer house, a koi pond or a bed of tropical plants that you're interested in, there's something for everyone at St Michael's Hospice Open Gardens this summer. Taking place all over Hastings and Rother, private garden owners are opening their gates for all ages to enjoy. Maybe you would like to spend some time soaking up the peace and tranquillity, or maybe you have children who love to explore the outdoors and learn about wildlife? Whatever your motivation, it's the perfect opportunity to enjoy the sunshine whilst supporting your local Hospice. Open gardens run until 23rd July, for more information visit

stmichaelshospice.com/event/opengardensjune or call 01424 456396 for more information.

Moonlight and Memories Early Bird

Shine bright for St Michael's Hospice at the Moonlight and Memories Walk on Saturday 14th September. Get together under the stars with family and friends to walk the 10km route along St Leonards seafront in memory of those you love. After the walk, illuminate the Hospice gardens with lanterns as a dedication and take time to remember and reflect. A limited number of early bird tickets are available now at just £15. Visit stmichaelshospice.com/moonlight or call 01424 456396 for more information.

Shop with us

Need a new summer wardrobe? Maybe you've got a holiday coming up, or want to refresh some of your outfits? Maybe you need a good book to get stuck into over those long summer evenings over a nice cold drink? Or perhaps you've set yourself a challenge to shop more sustainably this year? Whatever you need, why not pop into a St Michael's Hospice Retail shop? There are seven across Hastings and Rother to discover, all with bargains to be found. To find the location of a shop near you, visit stmichaelshospice.com/retail

To learn more, please visit <u>stmichaelshospice.com/newsroom</u>. If you have any comments or questions, please email <u>info@stmichaelshospice.com</u>





PLIRB News - June

We were delighted to attend the wedding of our long-serving and much-loved Sarah Harris as she tied the knot with Owen Davies. We wish them both every future happiness.

We supported the fantastic Strandliners team with their annual collection of rubbish from the beach (above) - thank you to their team for their amazing effort to keep our shoreline beautiful.

We have recently been involved in several serious, multiagency incidents to which we have swiftly responded with professionalism, experience and diligence. Working alongside Coastguard units, police and CG helicopters, ambulance, drones, RNLI and specialist teams. The shouts have included assisting in the recovery of a missing elderly man from Fairlight cliffs at 1am and leading the safe recovery of two extremely vulnerable adults with injuries from the wreck at Camber.

Maintaining our launch time of under 20 minutes, regardless of the late hour, we are immensely proud of our team for their total commitment to be on call 24/7. We also self-tasked in response to a local call for a missing dog, launching to search the shoreline.

We are delighted that our planning application for the development of the boathouse has been approved. As a

growing team we are receiving more taskings and desperately need to improve our base footprint and facilities. The next step is to invite tenders for the construction work, and, more importantly, to begin the hefty task of raising the funds to achieve our goals. Please do contact us if you have ideas for fundraising or would like to be considered for the tender process.

The Pett Slip Buoys are going from strength to strength and sounding brilliant. Now with 13 singers in the group, they have a busy schedule, appearing at the White Rock in June and lots of festivals and events over the summer. Every penny they raise through singing is going towards our fundraising efforts for a new rescue boat which we will need in about three years. If you have an event or think they would be a good addition to a venue, please contact us.



Annual Open Day – Sunday 25th August

Our biggest fundraising event is only a few months away! Tickets for the Grand Raffle are available at the Royal Oak, Pett Butchers, any crew member or contact us for details. Top prizes include a super inflatable kayak package

Thank you for your amazing support. <u>www.plirb.com</u> <u>plirbrescue@gmail.com</u> 01424 812457 Proud to serve. Proud to be PLIRB.

What's On Weekly At Winchelsea New Hall

9.30- 0.15	Pilates with Hannah	Suitable for all. Contact Hannah on 07936 151529 or email <u>hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com</u>
Mondays 15.00- 15.50	Zumba Gold NEW CLASS from 24th June	Suitable for all. Contact Daisy at fitnessbythesea@outlook.com
Vondays 16.00- 17.00	Pilates with Celia	Suitable for all ages and abilities. Contact Celia on <u>kingcelia54@gmail.com</u>
Гuesdays 10.00- 11.00	Yoga with Natasha	Suitable for everyone from beginners to experienced. Contact Natasha on 07946 399211 or email <u>nn@natashanandiniyogini.com</u>
Tuesdays 14.00- 15.30	Tune In Winchelsea	Fun singing group run by local tenor Gary Marriot. All ages and abilities welcome. Contact Rosemarie on 07941 458628 or email <u>rosier096@icloud.com</u>
Thursdays)9.30- 10.30	Scottish Dancing	A fun, friendly class, suitable for beginners. Contact Maddy at <u>maddycoelho@hotmail.com</u>
Fridays 09.30- 10.15	Pilates with Hannah	All welcome. Contact Hannah on 07936 151529 or email hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com
Fridays 10.45- 11.45	Strictly Fitsteps	Fun exercise class. Learn the dances on 'Strictly' without a partner. Contact Amanda on 07768 095184 or at <u>amanda@beacroft.net</u>

**The hall has table tennis and badminton equipment and can be booked on an ad hoc basis for £2 per person per hour - contact Rosemarie on 07941 458628 or at rosiero96@icloud.com for details

Winchelsea Church and Town Calendar June 2024

Fri 31st May	Annual Parish Meeting - Icklesham Memorial Hall - 7pm	
Saturday 1st	Church Market at St Thomas's with Garden Society Rose Show - 10.30am till 12 Winchelsea Beach Hospice Garden Opening Barn Dance - WB Community Hall - 7.30pm	
Sunday 2nd	8am: BCP Holy Communion at Winchelsea 9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Pett 11am: Parish Eucharist and Baptism at Winchelsea Winchelsea Cricket Club home match - 2pm	
Tuesday 4th	Mothers' Prayers - Solstice, Sea Road - 10am	
Thursday 6th	D Day Anniversary Beacon lighting	
Friday 7th	Wine Society visit to Charls Palmer Vineyard	
Saturday 8th	Conservation Society AGM - Court Hall - 9.30am Winchelsea Goes to Bollywood - New Hall - 6.30 for 7.30pm	
Sunday 9th	8.30am: BCP Holy Communion at Pett Level 9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea	
Wednesday 12th	Second Wednesday Society - New Hall - 2.30pm	
Friday 14th	Conservation Society trip to Dover	
Saturday 15th	Winchlesea NGS Open Gardens - 11am to 5pm	
Sunday 16th	9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Pett 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea Winchlesea Gardens open for Memorial Hospital - 2pm to 5	
Wednesday 19th	Garden Society outing	
Friday 21st	Literary Society - Court Hall - 7pm for 7.30	
Sunday 23rd	9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea	
Friday 28th	Fellowship Lunch - WB Community Hall - 12.30 for 1pm Winchelsea Cricket Club home match - 1.30pm	
Sunday 30th	11am: Combined Benefice Eucharist at Winchelsea	
Sat 6th July	Church Market at St Thomas's - 10.30 till 12 Winchelsea Arts Concert - St Thomas's - 7.30pm	
Sun 7th July	8am: BCP Holy Communion at Winchelsea 9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Pett 11am: Patronal Festival Eucharist at Winchelsea	

Further ahead

Thurs 1st Aug	Open Air Theatre
Sat 10th Aug	Winchelsea Summer Fete
Sat 24 - Mon 26 Aug	Millennium Artefacts Art Exhibition
Sat 24th Aug	Garden Society Summer Show



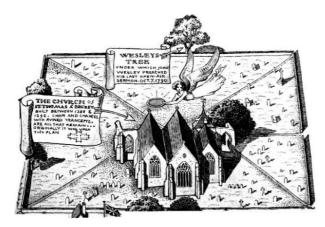
Please send copy for the July Magazine to <u>ryeview@gmail.com</u> before Sunday 30th June

For Winchelsea Beach information go to winchelseabeachcommunityassociation.co.uk

> For Winchelsea information go to <u>winchelsea.com</u>

For more information about the Church go to winchelsea-icklesham-churches.org.uk

For weekly news from the local area go to <u>ryenews.org.uk</u>



Rector of Winchelsea and Icklesham and Priest in Charge of Pett

The Revd Jonathan Meyer The Rectory, St Thomas Street, Winchelsea TN36 4EB 01797 226254 <u>revdjonathan@btinternet.com</u> The Rector's day off is Monday

Churchwardens

Celia King Stargazer, Morlais Place TN36 4LG 01797 227858 <u>kingcelia54@gmail.com</u>

Nigel Ashton Winchelsea Cottage, High Street TN36 4EA 01797 222023 <u>nigelmarkashton@gmail.com</u>

St Thomas' Primary School

Headteacher Carol Gardiner Friars Road TN36 4ED 01797 226479 office@st-thomas-winchelsea.e-sussex.sch.uk

Friends of Winchelsea Church

Chairman Ben Chishick Tower Cottage, Barrack Square TN36 4EA 01797 226653 <u>towercottage@btinternet.com</u>

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