

WINCHELSEA PARISH MAGAZINE

October 2025





East Meets West

The Outcry Ensemble and Pegasus Chamber Choir directed by James Henshaw will give the next Winchelsea Arts concert at St Thomas's Church on Saturday 4th October at 7.30pm.

G. Dyson - Hierusalem

P. I. Tchaikovsky - Serenade for Strings

A. Pärt - Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten

B. Britten - Advance Democracy

A. Pärt - Berliner Messe

Join us at St Thomas's Church Winchelsea for what promises to be an outstanding concert. Comprised of young, exceptionally skilled professionals poised to become the next generation of global orchestral leaders, the Outcry Ensemble brings together vibrant energy and captivating performances. They will be joined by the Pegasus Chamber Choir under the direction of Olivier nominated conductor James Henshaw, 'Everything works beautifully...confidently conducted by James Henshaw' (The Guardian).

[Book tickets online here](#) or at the door

[Click here to see the programme for this concert](#)

[Click here to see the full Season programme](#)



A big step to Community Ownership

This month saw another big step towards community ownership of the Little Shop. Now that we have established a limited company that is registered by the Financial Conduct Authority, we were able to except a cheque for £42,000 from the Little Shop Association.

The Treasurer of the Association, Ben Chishick, presented the cheque to our own Treasurer Dave Richards. The money had been kept safe by the Association, after the demise of original community shop, more than twenty years ago. It can now be put to good use.

At our initial town meeting in March this year, the steering group promised to provide more information to residents in the Autumn. That time has now come, and we would like as many residents as possible to attend a meeting on Sunday 5th October at 5pm.

During the meeting we can explain in detail what has happened so far, and what the next steps to community ownership are. There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and for you to make suggestions, after all our new community shop will belong to all of us.

As things progress, there will be further opportunities for residents to get involved, for example offering practical help or specialist skills and volunteering behind the counter. And of course, shops like ours can only survive if we have customers, so whenever you can, pop in and buy something.

The Little Shop Steering Group: Ali Casey, Glen Marks, Dave Richards, Rosemarie Roberts, Ian Rowlands



Come and hear about all the latest developments and the next steps, as we get closer to full community ownership

**Sunday 5th October
5pm in the New Hall**



Autumn Garden Outing

Tony and Sally Thorne have kindly invited Garden Society members to visit their lovely garden at *Broad Street House* in Icklesham at 3pm on Thursday 16th October.

We are hoping that the head gardener a tour, and a talk about the making of the garden.

We suggest that people travel on the 100 bus and we will arrange to ferry visitors down Broad Street to the garden which is about half a mile down the lane. There will be no charge for the visit. Sally Thorne has kindly offered to give us a cup of tea.

This should be an impressive finale to our garden visits for 2025.



Second Wednesday in Space

The talk on 8th October is by Guy Huntrods and the title of his talk is 'The Space Race: How the US beat the Russians to the Moon'. In the New Hall starting at 2.30pm.

Russia's launch of their satellite Sputnik in 1957 commenced the so called Space Race. After a succession of Russian firsts, in 1961 President Kennedy committed America to putting a man on the moon by the end of that decade with just fifteen minutes of manned space time under their belts which resulted in twelve Americans walking there between 1969 and 1972. How did both sides achieve their successes and were Russia ever in the race to put a human on the moon first?

Guy Huntrods lived in Washington DC during the late '60s when the Apollo programme was at its peak sparking an interest in the history of space flight he carries and researches to this day, an era when the US and Russia vied to outdo each other in promoting capitalism and communism.



THE NEW INN
WINCHELSEA

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

SUNDAY 12th October at 7pm

THEMES-

The Top 3

Crime & Punishment

Fictional Characters & Authors

General Knowledge

£20 per table maximum 6 people per team

BOOKING NOW

phone Paul 01797 226252, or pop into the pub.

Please book early to avoid disappointment

Proceeds to WINCHELSEA CORPORATION & MUSEUM to SUPPORT PROJECTS



Icklesham Parish Council

Grant Funding

At the Parish Council meeting on 8th September councillors agreed the following: grant £3,000 to the Rye and District Community Transport in recognition of the important service they offer to our Parishioners. Granted the annual £1,725 to the Winchelsea Beach Community Association towards the running costs of the Community Hall. Give a donation of £500 to the Hastings Area Archaeological Group for their enormous help towards the installation of the Adult Exercise Bikes and the new fence in Jubilee Field. We would not have been able to complete these projects without their extensive knowledge and help for which we are very grateful. The Parish Council also donated £100 to the Royal British Legion and £100 to the Friends of the Mary Stanford Lifeboat House, both of which are very important local charities that the Parish Council support every year.

Winchelsea and Winchelsea Beach Toilets

Having successfully fought Rother DC leasing off our toilets, the Parish Council are still waiting to hear from them having submitted expressions of interest for the toilets in Winchelsea and Winchelsea Beach together with expressions of interest for the car park and toilets in Rye Harbour which we have leased from Rother District Council since 2016. We are of course very keen to get the ball rolling with these projects after waiting years for Rother DC to hand them

over. As we all know both toilets need a lot of work doing to them before they can be fully opened to the public. The Parish Council have pressed Rother District Council to get the transfer completed as soon as possible and we will keep residents informed of progress.

Rye Harbour Car Park

Another Parish Council success is to have the rateable value of Rye Harbour Car Park decreased from £17,000 to £11,500 which has more than halved our monthly business rates bill. We are also in the process of submitting a small business rates relief claim which will hopefully mean we will no longer have to pay any business rates for the car park. This is good news as it means that more of the donations collected from the car park can go towards projects run by the Parish Council.

Vandalism in Icklesham

The Parish Council are sorry to report another vandalism incident in Icklesham. This time, somebody has very kindly spray painted their political views on the Perspex bus shelter. We have reported this incident to the police and urge anyone with any information to come forward to the Clerk. All information will be dealt with confidentially.

2025/26 Budget

The Parish Council have the first budget meeting scheduled for Monday 27th October where will be discussing the budget for the coming year. Please do contact us with any potential future projects that you would like the Parish Council to consider.

Upcoming Meetings

Monday 13th October 6.15 pm – Planning Meeting followed by Allotment Committee at Winchelsea Court Hall

Monday 27th October 6.15 pm – Planning Meeting followed by Budget Meeting at Winchelsea New Hall.

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



Winchelsea Residents' Association

Toilets at Monks Walk

Following Rother DC's decision to offer several local toilet blocks for sale, Icklesham Parish Council (IPC) requested a review of the planned sales of the Winchelsea Beach and Monks Walk toilets. IPC, with the support of WRA, argued successfully to overturn the decision and has now submitted Expressions of Interest for the freehold of premises. This may mean that IPC buys and manages the premises in future. This is a positive step forward to keeping our local toilets fully open and operational, but the process may take some time. WRA will continue to be involved and update residents as progress is made.

Traffic update

Following National Highways' meeting with our MP Helena Dillimore, district councillor Si Mc Gurk and residents at the Strand Hill site in July, the Agency confirmed its plan to introduce a no left turn/ no right turn restriction at the bottom of Strand Hill, for reasons of road safety and the

practical difficulty of alternative construction to make the junction safe. It also confirmed details of the simplified design needed. The revised 'no construction' design will be submitted to National Highways this month. We know from experience that National Highways moves at a 'steady' pace, and will keep members informed of our contact with them.

Membership database update

An accurate and up to date database is crucial in allowing us to communicate effectively and efficiently with our members. WRA committee has recently completed a full review and update of our membership database and member information. We now hold all information in a single secure database for use in future email communications to members. You can check or update your contact details by emailing ra@winchelsea.com.

Finance update

We are at the midpoint in our financial year and there are a number of members who have not yet paid their subscriptions. It is easy to forget a small amount, but we do rely on your subscriptions to support our work through the year. The amount is £10 per member. You can send your subscription to the WRA bank account as shown below.
Winchelsea Residents Association
Account no: 59667362 Sort code: 60-02-07

Annual General Meeting

WRA is holding its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 18th October, 11am in the New Hall with tea and coffee provided. We are very pleased to welcome Helena Dollimore MP to our meeting. It is an opportunity to hear more on recent WRA activity, ask questions of the committee and give your views on future priorities for the WRA and how we can help support the Town. We look forward to seeing you there.

WINCHELSEA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



WINCHELSEA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Are holding their Annual General Meeting

WINCHELSEA NEW HALL

SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER at 11am - 12.30

MP HELENA DOLLIMORE will be joining us.

(REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE)

For further information Email; RA@winchelsea.com / Website; Winchelsea.com/RA





Following sellout performances of *Ghost Stories* and *The Fall of the House Usher*, FOAM move to the historic fifteenth century Court Hall for what promises to be an intimate and highly atmospheric production.

Produced, directed and designed by Nigel Ashton and Phil Mack. The Lower Court Hall will be transformed to represent the house and grounds of Bly the magnificent estate in East Anglia where the story is set. The audience will be seated on three sides around the raised stage.

[Book tickets online here](#) Tickets will also be on sale at Church Market in October and November.

Phil and Nigel write: Rehearsals for ‘The Turn of the Screw’ are well underway and thanks to the generosity of the Mayor and Corporation we are rehearsing in the Court Hall.

The atmosphere of this 800 year old building is palpable and is helping us to bring the extraordinary play off the page and into theatrical life. The sense of history in the hall seems to make it easier for the cast to summon the spirit of James’s extraordinary novella and particularly the ghosts of Peter Quint and Miss Jessel.

Previous Lines End Theatre Company productions have all sold out before opening night so please book soon to witness a unique and chilling theatrical performance in an iconic venue



William Wilder as Miles



News from the Mayor

As always, a lot of work is still going on behind the scenes in respect of projects, fund raising events, and ensuring the Museum is open six days a week thanks to our volunteers. The Museum will close for winter on 31st October.

During the past couple of months, we were looking at options to finish the ground area by what is known as the West Gable Wall, and suddenly out of the blue two very kind and generous residents of Winchelsea, offered to donate a wonderful old feeding trough that had been converted into a planter.

The trough was extremely heavy. Following a lot of thought and planning, on Saturday 30th August, the planter was successfully moved to its new resting place, which looks great and looks as though it had always been there. I am sure residents and visitors will appreciate this new feature. The whole operation took just over thirty minutes!

My grateful thanks go out to Jane and Neil Eastell who kindly donated the trough. In addition, I would like to thank Geoff Goldfinch and his team who were instrumental in safely moving it and donated their time and resources with volunteers providing extra safety controls. I also wish to thank the Winchelsea Garden Society who purchased the plants and expertly planted up the trough for everyone to

enjoy for years to come. The Garden Society have also agreed to help the Corporation with the planting of the trough in 2026 and the Town Well. This was very much a small community project and shows what a wonderful place we live in.



Corporation Fund Raising Events in October

(please see separate articles in this magazine). Both events are taking bookings now.

Sunday 12th October at 7pm.
New Inn, Charity Pub Quiz

Friday 24th and Saturday 25th October
‘Tales from the Court Hall’

All my very best and as always thank you for your support.
Peter Cosstick

TALES FROM THE COURT HALL



An atmospheric event featuring strange, macabre, sinister, & amusing true tales from the Court Hall

Friday 24th & Saturday 25th October

Doors open 6.45 p.m.

Limited places- Booking essential

Tickets £15 (includes a free drink on arrival)

To book tickets contact Peter Cosstick

petercosstick@btinternet.com or phone 01797 229087

This event is unsuitable for children

All proceeds to Winchelsea Corporation Charity no: 1192506

peterrcosstick@btinternet.com



First Wednesday Coffee Morning

on 1st October in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall from 10.30 to 12. All are welcome. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes available and good company. Proceeds for Hall funds

Autumn Dance

on Saturday 4th October with "Something Else" and fish and chip supper in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall from 7.30 till 10.30. Tickets available from Mary Parker on 07927 107678

Mothers' Prayers

Mothers' Prayers will be on Tuesday 7th October at 10am at *Wee Five*, Sea Road at 10am.

Fellowship Lunch

Fellowship Lunch will be on Friday 31st October at 12.30 for 1pm in Winchelsea Beach Village Hall. Please contact Mary to book a place and bring cash for your charitable donation.



Wesley's Chapel

The Heritage Open Day in September proved a great success, although we had no 'Ride and Striders' appear this year. However a good number of 'heritage' people came throughout the morning and I think we learnt as much from them as the picked up from us, so it was well worth while taking part in the Open Days hosted by the National Trust.

In the afternoon we were treated to a veritable feast of entertainment which included several first-time performances at the Chapel and a packed audience; some having to climb the narrow stairway up into the gallery.

Next up is a historic Harvest Thanksgiving celebration on Saturday 11th October. We shall be assembling at around 10.30am for tea and coffee before the service which starts at 11. This will include anecdotes and personal memories of harvest from the past together with hymns and songs not so familiar these days. The service is going to be led by Maggie Woods – Co-Chair of Methodist Women in Britain 2024/25 and there will be a collection taken in support of this year's *All We Can Harvest Appeal*.

Then on 1st November we shall have an All Saints Day celebration. This will be a first for the Chapel since Methodists are generally not big on historic saints, so it should be very interesting. *Mike Lambourne*



Book request

Stock has been flying off the table recently: tribute to the quality of the books that you have donated. The bookstall provides a steady stream of income to church funds.

If you have any hardback fiction or non-fiction you could let us have to sell, we'd be very grateful.

Contact Howard Norton 01797 226524
howard@ryeview.net

Cleaner wanted for St Thomas's

Our contractor is no longer able to provide us with a cleaner. If you know of a person who would be interested in taking on cleaning the church, in the first instance, please contact Mary Parker parkermary848@gmail.com



Looking for a Caretaker

St Thomas' Primary School are looking for a caretaker - premises manager to work part-time (20 hours per week).
[Click here for full information](#)





James Baldwin

What it means to be an American

The Lit. Soc. “*masses huddled*” in the Court Hall, some even possibly “*yearning to breathe free*”, after accepting the invitation to discover what it means to be an American. Here enlightenment was to come from the youthful, award-winning author, Tomiwa Owolade, rather than “*a mighty woman with a torch*” and his review of a selection from the works of James Baldwin (1924-87) instead of the “*imprisoned lightning of the torch’s flame*”.

Born in Harlem to an unwed mother, Baldwin acquired a stepfather in early childhood, a fire and brimstone Pentecostal minister, and the teenage Baldwin’s own brief preaching career permitted the absorption of the cultural and linguistic features from the King James Version evident in his later literary output.

By 1947 he had found the racism of the Yankees of the North-Eastern United States sufficiently disturbing to prompt a move to Paris where he spent the following decade.

This period saw the publication of some landmark works. “*Go Tell It on the Mountain*”, a semi-autobiographical text with a title plucked from an old Negro spiritual which explored themes of religious influences, sexuality and familial discord. Tomiwa encountered the Baldwin oeuvre via “*Giovanni’s Room*” where the characters’ divisions arose from differences in sexuality; the post-pubertal Baldwin had

found himself sexually attracted to men and the eponymous room represented a private space where sexuality had free rein, independent of the wider public.

Owolade's own Baldwin favourite is the short story "*Sonny's Blues*", another product of the fertile 50s recounting a persistently fractured fraternal relationship slowly mended by one brother's admiration for his sibling's virtuosity as a jazz pianist.

Returning to the States in 1957, Baldwin immersed himself in the African American Civil Rights campaign and remained there throughout the 1960s, appearing in numerous documentaries cataloguing Black grievances and championing the cause in head-to-head debates with the likes of William F. Buckley. Despite his prominence, manifest ability and efforts for the cause, James was denied the opportunity to speak publicly on the Great March to Washington D.C. as his homosexuality sat uneasily with some elements of the broad movement.

Memorably, Eldridge Cleaver, whose own colourful biographical cruise was then berthed in that harbour of hypermasculinity and gun barrel politics that was the Black Panthers, publicly denounced Baldwin's sexuality as "*a racial death-wish*".

Pulling the threads of his talk together and stepping back to view "*the long arc*" of Baldwin's literary career, our speaker found greater merit in his subject's later non-fiction which saw him "*striving for truth in human experience*" thus earning a place in a broader, American humanist tradition personified by fellow literary expatriate Henry James; a welcome graduation from the class of "*angry self-righteous activists*".

Paradoxically, Baldwin had more in common with other Americans, black or white, than with the ethnic minorities of his various foreign billets and Tomiwa could detect "*a kernel of optimism*" about the USA in Baldwin's sunset years. Had our committed émigré's recurrent foreign forays planted a seed of slow-burn patriotism?

Bill Doherty



Erstwhile residents of Winchelsea
Henry Irving and Ellen Terry as Hamlet and Ophelia.

Hamlet Prince of Denmark

Nigel Ashton and Phil Marck write: We are absolutely delighted that the casting for next April's Winchelsea production of *Hamlet* is complete. We have assembled an extraordinarily talented company led by Carl Batchelor as the doomed prince. There is a mixture of professional and highly experienced local actors in the cast and rehearsals begin in earnest in January.

We've been asked what is going to be our take on Hamlet?

The production will be focused on the words; for us the play is fundamentally a family drama, we aim to tell the story clearly and without a concept. Carl will lead us with what we know will be a fiercely intelligent, athletic and deeply tragic portrayal of the doomed prince.

The cut of the text we are using was created by playwright Steve Gooch and has been widely used in professional theatre productions. He has edited much of the canon and removed the most obscure Jacobean language, he focuses on the essential drama of the writing. We're confident that this version will satisfy audiences new to the bard and aficionados.

We are immensely fortunate in having professional lighting designer Graham Large creating the lighting for the production. Gavin McFadyean has thankfully agreed to stage manage the production with his usual calm professionalism and great good humour.

Phil will be designing a bespoke sound plot for the show to underscore the dialogue and to use music and sound to establish atmosphere and location.

Performances will take place on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 22nd to 25th April 2026

Provisional cast list

Hamlet...Carl Batchelor
King Claudius...Thomas Probert
Horatio...Sam Woodhams
Queen Gertrude...Jane Brooman
Ghost of Hamlet's father...Brian Leonard
Ophelia...Charlotte England / Prim Phillipson
Polonius...Glenn Marks
Laertes....Ed Street
Voltemand... Jo Marks
Grave diggers...John Davidson and Jo Marks
The Players...John Davidson, Michael Wilson, Nicola Dealtry, William Wilder Norton, Audrey Laurent
Rosencrantz....Toby Goddard
Guildenstern...Jordan Phillips
Priest...Michael Wilson
Marcellus... David Richards
Bernardo...John Davidson
Osric...Venetia Saunders

Other roles will be played by members of the Company...
Nat Tally, Ann Martini, Lynn Davidson, David Richards,
Venetia Saunders and Sarah Lee Glasier.



WINCHELSEA FILM NIGHT

In conjunction with Winchelsea New Hall



A 1990 British fantasy drama film by Anthony Minghella, starring Juliet Stevenson and Alan Rickman as a couple reunited by a ghost.

The film explores themes of grief, love, and memory.

SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER 6.30 for 7.30 SCREENING
Admission Free
Refreshments, Pay Bar.
Come early, enjoy a drink or two.



Three talks on archaeology and history

Join the Winchelsea and Area Archaeological and Historical Society (WAAHS) for the second in a series of archaeological and historical talks in the New Hall. All talks are free to WAAHS members, £5 for non-members, or simply join WAAHS and partake of additional activities (more to follow).

On Saturday 18th October at 2.30pm Archaeologist and Heritage professional Blake Galloway (above) will discuss the Culver Archaeological Project (CAP), a long-term archaeological exploration of the historic landscape of the Sussex Ouse Valley centred on a 1st to 4th Century Romano-British settlement near Lewes. After starting as a student volunteer in 2020 Blake is now a supervisor at the site, works with English Heritage as a Volunteer and Community Engagement Manager for the East of England and is also a stadium announcer for Ipswich Town FC at Portman Road.

Blake's talk will cover how the settlement was discovered and what has been found before moving on to a comparison with the recently uncovered Roman Road in Icklesham (Brede Valley), including the implications of the Icklesham road and some ideas for future exploration. Questions and answers will follow.

The next in our series of talks, on Saturday 29th November is a joint WAAHS and Winchelsea Conservation Society

(WCS) presentation titled, "The Medieval English Traveller: from Winchelsea to Beyond" by Professor Anthony Bale.

Professor Bale is the eighth Professor of Medieval and Renaissance English Literature at the University of Cambridge and was formerly Professor of Medieval Studies and Dean of Arts at Birkbeck, University of London. He studied at the Universities of Oxford, York and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Professor Bale has written extensively on Medieval Christian-Jewish relations and was awarded the Beatrice White Prize for 'Feeling Persecuted: Christians, Jews and Images of Violence in the Middle Ages'.

Other publications include new editions of Sir John Mandeville's 'The Book of Marvels and Travels' and 'The Book of Margery Kempe'. His most recent book, 'A Travel Guide to the Middle Ages: The World Through Medieval Eyes' will be on sale at the talk via an arrangement with Waterstones in Rye.



The final talk of 2025 at the New Hall will be on Saturday 6th December. Next year is the 960th Anniversary of the Battle of Hastings and 2027 is the millennium since the birth of King William (Duke of Normandy). With this Norman theme in mind, Stephen Gray will be discussing the military logistics of the Norman amphibious invasion of 1066. More details to follow in the November edition of the Parish Magazine.



Jonathan Murphy



Brian Leonard

2025 Poppy Appeal

This year's Appeal will run from Thursday 23rd October to Tuesday 11th November. We are grateful to our supporters in Winchelsea and Winchelsea Beach, who have again agreed to host donation tins and trays containing a variety of products. These will be available from the start of the Appeal at The Little Shop, The New Inn, Winchelsea Lodge, The Farm Kitchen, the Co-op, Sutton's Shop, The Ship Inn/Jamie's Butchers and the School. Purchases can also be made directly and on-line via poppystore.org.uk.

As ever, donations will be gratefully accepted by the Royal British Legion (RBL) with gift aid being much appreciated. Donations can also be made electronically via QR codes on the trays or by BACS to the RBL Poppy Appeal, Sort Code 30-11-75, Account Number 01937121 at any time. It would be appreciated if the payment reference SFF24 could be used, for any donations made during the Appeal period, as that will credit the gift to the Winchelsea area. However, this is not essential.

It is planned that a stock of gift aid envelopes will be available at the back of the Church for cash or cheques (made payable to RBL Poppy Appeal) and these should be placed in the Black Box in the Church, or in any box at the above locations, on or before 11th November.

If you have any difficulty in getting hold of any remembrance material you need, in making a donation, or have any questions about this year's appeal, please call John Rodley on 01797 223458.

The Quiz With thanks to Jerry Moss and the New Inn Team, a Quiz Night will be held on Sunday 9th November at 6.30pm for a 7pm start, with proceeds going to the Appeal. It will be great to again have your support of this initiative. The format is as for other similar events, namely tables of 6 and an entry fee of £20 per table, booked and paid at the New Inn. We know that some of last year's questions were too easy, so Jerry will be adjusting things this year!

CHARITY PUB QUIZ



Sunday 9th November 2024

Winchelsea New Inn

6:30 pm for 7 pm start

Teams & Cost

Max 6 people per table

£20 PER TABLE

(Reserve at the New Inn beforehand)





Underground News from FOAM

This month our final cellar tours for 2025 will be taking place. Our cellar tours are one of our most important ways of raising funds, so that we can maintain the town's ancient monuments and support the museum.

Since our first tour back in April there have been 24 FOAM cellar tours this year. 17 open to the public on a Saturday morning and 7 by private groups. Once again, all our public tours sold out this year, with more than 500 visitors entering the cellars. Led by our fantastic team of tour guides and helpers, we have raised more than £6,000 for FOAM.

The visitors who come, also bring much needed revenue to the shop, café and pub, and often visit the church and museum. In fact, when booking a cellar tour online, visitors can now also book a ticket to the Museum.

Our team also ran a number of other tours, these included two free tours for new residents, providing an opportunity to find out about the work FOAM does, and we also ran a special 'family friendly' cellar tour, which raised £204 for 'Demelza' the children's charity.

Finally, each year we run six tours as part of the Rye Arts Festival in September. These tours are separate from our normal FOAM activities, so this year our guides generously

agreed that the £1,300 raised, could be used to help the transition of the Little Shop from a private business to a community run organisation.

We thank our fantastic tour guides, David Merrifield, Jerry Moss, Stuart Raine, John Spencer, Chris Chappell, Sue McGeown, Glen Marks and Helen Morris, together with all those that helped them, and of course our wonderful cellar owners.

We would also like to thank Nigel Ashton, who decorated the Lines End cellar, as a smugglers den, it looked absolutely fantastic, and I know for lots of our visitors it was one of the highlights of the tour.

Without all of you, none of this would be possible.

FOAM is already planning our tours for next year, so if you would like to lend a hand, we would love to hear from you. We particularly need more people to support our tour guides, a second person is invaluable on larger tours to ensure visitors enter and exit the cellars safely. If you think you can help, please email us at cellar@winchelsea.com

The FOAM Committee

*Chris Chappell, Mark Harris, Phil Mack, Glen Marks
and Ian Rowlands*





Update from the New Hall

100 Club The winning number for the 100 Club for September was 38. Congratulations to the winner of the £100 prize!

New Hall AGM After you have been to the Church Market, please come along on Saturday 4th October at 12 noon for the New Hall AGM to hear about how we have done over the last 12 months and to tell you more about our centenary event on June 27th 2026. Please hold the date.

Also, we will be asking for ideas from you all for a new logo for the New Hall to better reflect the lovely, versatile and well-equipped hall that we have. Hope to see you on the 4th!

New Hall Management Committee: Rob Mortimer, John McGeown, Sergio Rebecchi, Mary Tidyman, Rosemarie Roberts and Ali Casey



**SATURDAY
15TH
NOVEMBER**

10.30AM TO 3PM



WINCHELSEA CHRISTMAS FAIR

GRAND RAFFLE, TOMBOLA, REFRESHMENTS

LOCAL ARTISANS - ARTISTS, JEWELRY,
TOYS, CERAMICS, SCULPTURE, ART
PRINTS, BULB BOWLS, BASKETS, CARDS,
CHOCOLATE, WINE, FUNGI KITS,
CANDLES, COSMETICS, CASHMERE,
WALKING STICKS, BAGS, AND MORE



ENTRY £1

Under 16s Free

**WINCHELSEA NEW HALL
TN36 4AA**

Registered Charity no. 235174



Christmas Windows 2025

We're delighted to announce that the long standing tradition for Winchelsea to decorate and illuminate it's windows for Christmas will continue for 2025.

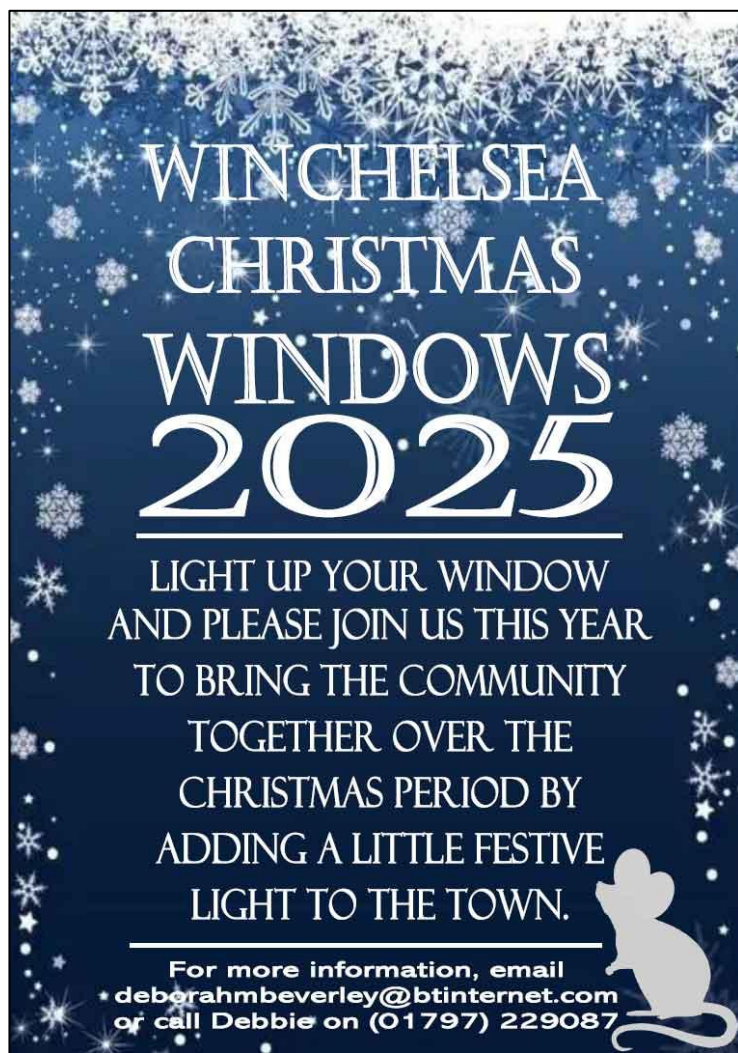
Last year we had 30 properties creating some wonderful windows which were enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. This year we are hoping for even more participants.

This year's theme is Christmas Carols and songs, Christmas films or pantomimes. We are planning for 'switch on' to be Saturday 13th December 4.30pm to 8.30pm and every evening up to and including 31st December.

Please give some thought to joining in this year's event. All you need is a window, some lights and a bit of creativity. The Christmas Windows team will be at the Church Market on Saturday 4th October. Please come and have a chat or you can contact me directly on 01797 229087 or deborahmbeverley@btinternet.com

All proceeds from the sale of this year's map will be donated to Demelza Children's Charity.

*The Christmas Windows Team
Debbie, Lyn, Richard, Julian and Graham*



WINCHELSEA
CHRISTMAS
WINDOWS
2025

LIGHT UP YOUR WINDOW
AND PLEASE JOIN US THIS YEAR
TO BRING THE COMMUNITY
TOGETHER OVER THE
CHRISTMAS PERIOD BY
ADDING A LITTLE FESTIVE
LIGHT TO THE TOWN.

For more information, email
deborahmbeverley@btinternet.com
or call Debbie on (01797) 229087





on Saturday 29th November at 7pm at St Thomas' Church
featuring past and current members of the Jette Parker
artists programme of the Royal Ballet & Opera

soprano Marianna Hovannisian, *mezzo* Kseniia Nikolaieva
tenor Ryan Vaughan Davies, *baritone* Grisha Martirosyan,
piano Oliver Gooch

The cost per ticket is £55 which includes one raffle ticket,
a programme and drinks prior to the performance and in the
interval. All proceeds will go towards the development fund
of the Rye Lawn Tennis Club which has CASC status and
which is open to all.

To purchase tickets please contact
sharon.massey@ryelawntennischub.org.uk
07912 268552.

For more information visit
ryelawntennischub.org.uk

What's On Weekly At Winchelsea New Hall

Mondays 09.30-10.15	Pilates with Hannah	Suitable for all. Contact Hannah on 07936 151529 or email hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com
Mondays 15.00-15.50	Zumba Gold	Suitable for all. Contact Daisy at fitnessbythesea@outlook.com
Mondays 16.00-17.00	Pilates with Celia	Suitable for all ages and abilities. Contact Celia on kingcelia54@gmail.com
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
Tuesdays 18.00-20.00	Rother Fitness	Contact Rachel at rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com
Wednesdays 18.00-19.00	Rother Fitness	Contact Rachel at rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com
Thursdays 09.30-10.30	Scottish Dancing	A fun, friendly class, suitable for beginners. Contact maddycoelho@hotmail.com
Thursdays 18.00-19.00	Rother Fitness	Contact Rachel rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com
Fridays 09.30-10.15	Pilates with Hannah	All welcome. Contact Hannah on 07936 151529 or email hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com

**The hall has Table Tennis, Badminton and Pickleball equipment and can be booked on an ad hoc basis for £2 per person per hour (£1 for under 16's) – contact Rosemarie on 07941 458628 or WhatsApp



Rye Food Bank

Cam writes: I am writing to advise you that the next Winchelsea doorstep Food Bank collection on behalf of Rye and Winchelsea Rotary Club, will be on Tuesday 21st October between 10am and 1pm. I have been the town collector for the last 5 years, commencing just before COVID struck, collecting on the third Tuesday of every month. These donations I deliver personally to the Food Bank the following day for distribution to local needy families.

I am always looking for new donors and would be grateful if you would spread the word in the town and tell your neighbours. My telephone number is 01797 226414.

Please help the Food Bank if you are able in these uncertain times.

Many thanks for your enduring support.
Kind regards, *Cam Clarke, Old Malt House, Winchelsea.*

For further details about Rye Food Bank and how to make a donation go to ryefoodbank.com

Winchelsea Church and Town Calendar

October 2025

Saturday 4th	Church Market at St Thomas's - 10.30 till 12 New Hall AGM - 12 noon Autumn Dance - W B Community Hall - 7.30pm Winchelsea Arts Concert - St Thomas's - 7.30pm
Sunday 5th	<i>No early Communion at Pett Level today</i> 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea <i>with the Bishop of Chichester</i> Community Shop Town Meeting - New Hall - 5pm
Tuesday 7th	Mothers' Prayers -10am
Wednesday 8th	Second Wednesday Society - New Hall - 2.30pm
Saturday 11th	Harvest Thanksgiving - Wesley's Chapel - 10.30 for 11am
Sunday 12th	9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea Charity Pub Quiz - New Inn - 7pm
Thursday 16th	Garden Society Icklesham Visit
Friday 17th	Literary Society - Court Hall - 7pm for 7.30
Saturday 18th	Residents' Association AGM - New Hall - 11am to 12.30 Archaeological Society talk - New Hall - 2pm for 2.30pm Film Night - New Hall - 6.30pm for 7.30
Sunday 19th	11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
Fri 24th & Sat 25th	Tales from the Court Hall - 6.45pm
Sunday 26th	9.30am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
Friday 31st	Fellowship Lunch - WB Community Hall - 12.30 for 1pm
Sat 1st Nov	Church Market at St Thomas's - 10.30 till 12
Sun 2nd Nov <i>All Saints</i>	8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea

Further ahead

Sun 9th Nov	Remembrance Sunday Service
Sat 15th Nov	Christmas Fair

Please send copy for the November Magazine
to ryeview@gmail.com
as soon as you have it to hand but, in any case,
before **Tuesday 28th October**

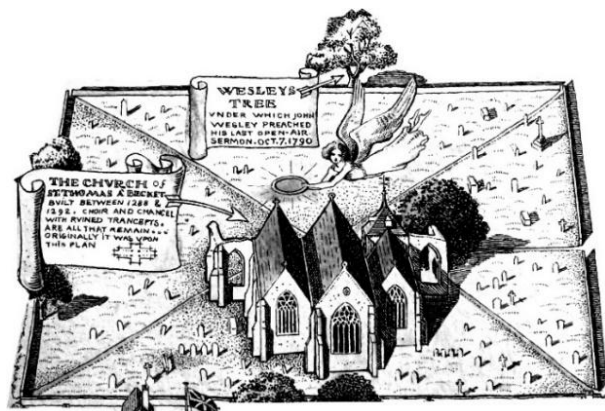


For Winchelsea Beach information go to
winchelseabeachcommunityassociation.co.uk

For Winchelsea information go to
winchelsea.com

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

For weekly news from the local area go to
ryenews.org.uk



Parishes of Winchelsea Icklesham and Pett

While we await the announcement of a new rector, please contact the PCC Secretary, Mary Parker, with any enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals. For all other matters, please contact the Churchwardens.

Churchwardens

Celia King

Stargazer, Morlais Place TN36 4LG

01797 227858 kingcelia54@gmail.com

John Rodley

The Stone House, Barrack Square TN36 4EG

01797 223458 johnrodley@btinternet.com

PCC Secretary

Mary Parker

07927 107678 parkermary848@gmail.com

St Thomas' Primary School

Headteacher Dale Saxby

Friars Road TN36 4ED 01797 226479

office@st-thomas-winchelsea.e-sussex.sch.uk

Parish Magazine

Editor David Page

4 Kent Close TN36 4EX

01797 226524 ryeview@gmail.com