

# WINCHELSEA PARISH MAGAZINE

May 2026



Cuckoo photographed in Pannel Lane on 18th April  
by Ken Copsey of *Saffron House* in School Hill.

# Mayoring on Easter Monday

The sun was shining, the church was full, and a new Winchelsea Mayor was sworn in this Easter Monday.

Our new Mayor, David Page is not new to the role. He previously served during the pandemic, and recalled that his first Mayoring consisted of just two suitably distanced people in the Court Hall Garden. Richard Feast leaned out of his bedroom window to record the event.



Photos: KT Bruce

This year was very different, with the Lord-Lieutenant, Lord Warden, High Sheriff, Local Mayors and other dignitaries attending, together with members of the Corporation past and present, most of the town, and a few bemused visitors.

Outgoing Mayor, Peter Cosstick, presided over the first half of the ceremony and we were able to celebrate all that he and Debbie have done for and in the town over the last two years.

In his address, David welcomed his new deputy, Ian Kingham, and a new Freeman, Ian Rowlands. Two Freeman, Sue McGeown and Jerry Moss, who became Freeman last year, will now join the team of Jurats who, as trustees of the Corporation Charity, are responsible for managing its diverse activities.

The charity has three main objectives; to preserve the traditions of Winchelsea and the Cinque Ports, to maintain the buildings in its care and to manage the town's museum.

As David commented, "the mayoralty is not a one-man-band and there is lots to do."

He continued, "Every seven years we take up the Speakership of the Cinque Ports and this is one of those years. Rather remarkably, the last three Winchelsea Speakers: Freeman John Dunk, Freeman Roger Neaves and Jurat John Rodley are all here at this year's Mayoring. I shall have some hard acts to follow - but I know I can rely on their experience and support".

Having thanked the outgoing Mayor, Peter Cosstick, Deputy Mayor, Stephen King and Jurat Bernie Scott, David quipped, "The Corporation of Winchelsea is a self-perpetuating oligarchy. (That's a wonderful phrase and I was determined to get it in). Our democratic deficit is enormous.

"Love us or hate us, we are essential to the uniqueness of this special place. I commit myself to ensuring that we stay faithful to our charitable objects, and I commit myself to playing my part, with Howard's support, in the busy life of this flourishing, diverse, and very wonderful town".

More at [ryenews.org.uk](http://ryenews.org.uk)

# The Clarinet goes to Town



St Thomas'  
Church

Winchelsea TN36 4EB

**Saturday 9th May**  
**at 7.30**

Tickets online at [winchelsea-arts.org.uk](http://winchelsea-arts.org.uk)  
and at the door

**£25** (free for under 16s)

**Winchelsea**  
**Arts**

**Emma Johnson** clarinet

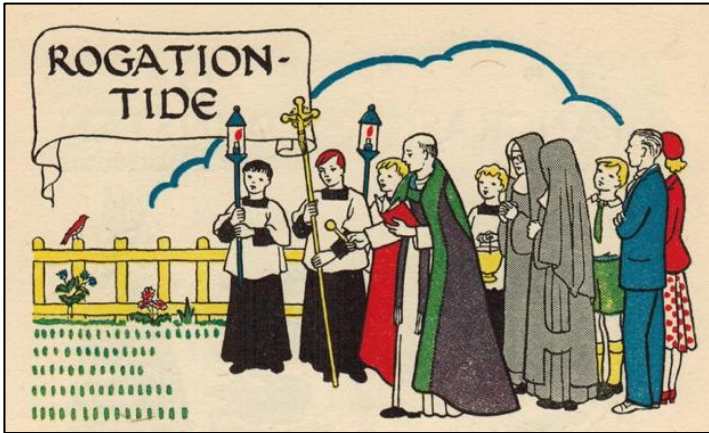
**John Lenehan** piano

**Paul Clarvis** drum kit



[winchelsea-arts.org.uk](http://winchelsea-arts.org.uk)

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



## Rogation Sunday: A Forgotten Tradition

From the Early Middle Ages, churches have celebrated the lesser-known and increasingly forgotten festival of Rogationtide. Early celebrations included the tradition of “beating the bounds” of the parish – praying for God’s blessing upon agricultural land and thus the well-being of a community.

The word rogation comes from the Latin verb *rogare*, meaning ‘to ask’, reflecting the act of beseeching God in prayer for protection from calamities. As the Book of Common Prayer puts it, ‘Rogation Days precede Ascension Day (Thursday 14th May) and they are especially devoted to asked for God’s blessing on agriculture and industry.’

This year, Rogation Sunday falls on 10th May and provides an opportunity for our rural Benefice to seek God’s blessing – for our communities, residents and visitors, for businesses and charities, and for every endeavour that serves the common good.

To mark this special Sunday and embrace this endangered Christian tradition we will be embarking on a Rogation Sunday walk between our three parishes. Please see the adjoining poster for more details on this, noting that the usual service times will change on this day.

On our walk we will pray for God’s blessing on the communities of Pett, Pett Level, Icklesham, Winchelsea

Beach, and Winchelsea. As the Rector, I'm looking forward to this day of prayer and celebration, please join me for some or all of our Rogation Sunday Benefice Walk.

*Rev'd Nathanael*

# Rogation Sunday

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026



Pett



Icklesham



Winchelsea

## 10:00 - Morning Prayer

*at St Mary & St Peter, Pett*

*Walk from Pett to Icklesham*

## 12noon - Midday Prayers

*at All Saints & St Nicolas, Icklesham*

*Lunch break at Icklesham Church\**

*Walk from Icklesham to Winchelsea*

## 16:00 - Choral Evensong

*at St Thomas, Winchelsea*

\*Please bring a packed lunch. Drinks will be provided in church.

Join us to embrace this ancient tradition of offering prayers of blessings upon our communities this Rogationtide!



## Midweek Holy Communion

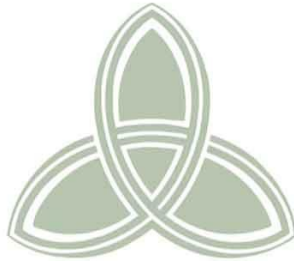
**Thursdays at 10am**  
St Thomas, Winchelsea  
*in the St Nicholas Chapel*

This weekly service will be a said service of Holy Communion using traditional language.

An opportunity to take half an hour to pause and pray, seek a moment of renewal in your week, and be blessed by God's presence in Word and Sacrament.

We will also pray for those who have requested the church's prayer on their visit to Winchelsea.

*'Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee.'*  
George Herbert



# TRINITY SUNDAY

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May

On this fifth Sunday of May, we will celebrate Trinity Sunday with a Benefice Eucharist.

**11:00 at All Saints & St Nicolas, Icklesham**

If you would like to sing with the choir on this occasion, please arrive for a rehearsal at 10am.

*Please use Community Hall car park and leave the church parking spaces for those with access needs.*



## **Dining with the Dead**

The next Literary Society meeting will take place on Friday 15th May at 7 for 7.30pm in the Court Hall and will be a Members' Evening.

The topic is "Dining with the Dead" and you are invited to name up to three writers who you would like to dine with and why? You may also bring along a reading which can be prose or poetry to support your ideas.

Both participants and listeners are very welcome at the meeting.



## The Master's Voice

An intrigued Lit. Soc. saw John Manuell open for the tag team tackling Henry James (The Master) and his work under the rubric "*Propinquity*", playing on the author's long association with Rye's *Lamb House* from which several later novels emerged although our speaker counselled aspiring James readers that the intricate style of these works represented an intimidating hurdle. He recommended "*Daisy Miller*" or the "*Aspern Papers*" for the tyro.

The life and work of the Master provided a fertile field for biographers' ploughshares with Leon Edel's "definitive" five-volume effort being labelled the "curtain raiser" for a stage which a burgeoning *Henry James industry* was to occupy in serial encores. Lyndall Gordon's "*A Private Life*" highlighting the author's celibacy and male friendships was a fork untaken on this talk's Biography Road and similarly Psychology's heavy artillery whose titles juggled concepts like Conscientiousness, Conscience and Cognition were destined to overshoot.

James was born in 1843 into a well-off Manhattan family who embraced the *Manhattan Transfer* and proved inveterate travellers. At 17, Henry had spent half his life in Europe where he had private tuition and read voraciously. Harvard turned him from the letter of the Law to a life in letters. Ever attracted to Europe, the author spent the last four decades of his life in England settling in Rye from 1897

till his death in 1916. We glimpsed the Green Parlour and a writing desk which invited you to luxuriate in words and where Henry would dictate the text of his novels to his faithful amanuensis, Theodora Bosanquet, addicted to his commas, parentheses and subordinate clauses which she transposed on her Remington typewriter. The duo was likened to a virtuoso vocalist with piano accompaniment.

James's orotund, circumlocutory style drew comment even from well-disposed fellow authors; Virginia Woolf referring to "overburdened sentences" and Edith Wharton satirising his request for directions on a Chelsea street.

The speaker's baton passed to Shirley Ormrod who put a subset of James's women under her microscope. These independent-minded, innocent young American girls were ensnared by Old World guile and duplicitous men sometimes directed by female consiglieri.

We touched the travails of spring flower Daisy Miller, undone by her unconventionally open associations with men, and the plain tomboy, Catherine Sloper, condemned to share the social shallows with sharks like the handsome reprobate, Morris Townsend, a meddlesome aunt and an overly censorious father before emerging, character forged, to the consolations of spinsterhood and charity work.

Isabel Archer, uprooted from New York state to a Europe where inherited wealth and marriage cannot prevent envelopment in the darkness cast by the long shadows of other characters' old sins, forcing on James an uneasy shift to an ambiguous ending.

Did Shirley's presentation burnish the image of American womanhood more than anything since the Beach Boys' *California Girls* burst on us in those heady Sixties' Summer Days? Unlike the Beach Boys' songsmith, Brian Wilson, at least Henry James's creativity was not fuelled by LSD!

*Bill Doherty*



*Photo: Natasha Robinson*

## **Tulip Show**

The Garden Society held its first ever Tulip Show at the church market after Easter. We had a beautiful display of many different varieties. Our new mayor, David Page, chose and presented the trophy, a lovely glass tulip vase, to Carol and John Cockcroft for their varied selection of stunning tulips.

*Sally Rhodda*

Winchelsea Garden Society

# Rose Show

Saturday 6 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 10:15 and 11:15  
Presentation of cups 11:30

Maximum vase size  
15 cm in diameter



## Winchelsea Garden Society

Wednesday 10 June  
Members car-share outing to

## Fairlight End

Pett Road, Hastings TN35 4HB  
(Park at Pett Village Hall)

Arrive 11:15 **£10** pp

Guided garden tour and free  
time for your own picnic, then  
continue to:-

## Fairlight Hall

Martineau Lane, Hastings  
TN35 5DR

Arrive: 14:00. **£12** pp

2-hour garden tour & cream tea

For further information, contact Mary  
Tidyman on 07989 693735 or  
[marytidy@hotmail.com](mailto:marytidy@hotmail.com)

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





## **Second Wednesday**

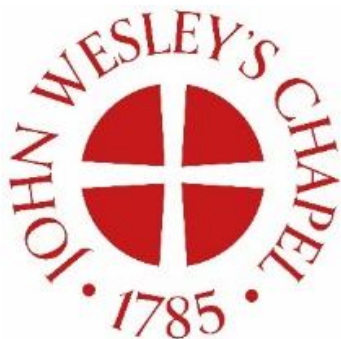
The title of May's talk is 'The Collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe: An Eyewitness Account'

Richard Thomas was a member of the British diplomatic service throughout his working life. He served in Ghana, Togo, NATO headquarters in Paris and Brussels, India, Czechoslovakia (deputy ambassador), Iceland (ambassador), Bulgaria (ambassador), and the Eastern Caribbean (high commissioner).

In his talk, Richard will describe some of the horrors of the Czechoslovak police state in hard communist times. He will go on to explain how similar conditions prevailed in Bulgaria a decade later, till they were swept away when the communist regime collapsed.

After retirement he spent six years as Chairman of Leonard Cheshire International. He and Catherine met and married in Accra, Ghana, where she was serving as an Australian diplomat. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Richard spent the first eighteen months of his life in Winchelsea, and he and Catherine lived there from 2011 to 2020. They now live in Wye, near Ashford.

13th May at 2.30pm in the New Hall.



## **John Wesley's Chapel**

Thank you to all who came to the Songs of Praise service on the Saturday after Easter. We had a lovely time and the singing was both glorious and uplifting.

Next up is a Coffee Morning on Saturday 16th May from 10am to 12pm with an option to do a treasure hunt (or two) around town. You can of course choose to just sit and have a chat or get up and out exploring Winchelsea, hopefully in glorious sunshine. Both of the hunts require only modest exercise, with one a little longer than the other. There is no real treasure and there are no prizes for taking part, just the opportunity to get out and about and have a bit of fun spotting things which may be of interest.

The Chapel will be open for both of the Gardens Days on 20th June and 18th July, when visitors are welcomed to pop in and have a look at the Wesley memorabilia and artefacts around the Chapel, while nothing else is going on.

On Saturday 27th June, we've got another new event in the form of a Creative Fun Day when people can demonstrate their creative side through their artistic, writing, or photographic skills, the results of which we hope to display ready for the Chapel Anniversary on Sunday 19th July.

Everyone is invited to come to any of the Chapel services and events. You will be very welcome. *Mike Lambourne*



WINCHELSEA FILM NIGHT

In conjunction with Winchelsea New Hall

THE GHOST WITH THE MOST

Michael Keaton

Winona Ryder

Geena Davis

Alec Baldwin

Jeffrey Jones

Directed by Tim Burton



BEETLEJUICE

*'The Name in Laughter from the Hereafter'*

SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> May 6.30 for 7.30 SCREENING

Admission Free  
Refreshments, Pay Bar.  
Come early, enjoy a drink or two.



*Delane Shingadia*

## **Winchelsea Beach in May**

### **Mothers' Prayers**

Mothers Prayers will be on Tuesday 5th May at 10am at *El Indalo*, Old Harbour Farm Lane Winchelsea Beach. For more information contact Mary Parker, 07927 107678.

### **Bingo for St Michael's Hospice**

Wednesday 20th May. Bingo and afternoon tea at the Community Hall at 3pm in support of St Michael's Hospice.

### **Fellowship Lunch 29th May**

Fellowship lunch will be on Friday 29th May 12.30 for 1pm in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall. All welcome but please inform Mary Parker on 07927 107678 if you plan to attend. We will be supporting Rye family Support Work. In April we raised £132 for Hastings Seaview Project..

[winchelseabeach.org.uk](http://winchelseabeach.org.uk)

# **WINCHELSEA** **PETANQUE CHALLENGE**



**TEAMS LIMITED TO 5 PLAYERS**

**TEAM ENTRY £25.00**

**CASH PRIZE FOR FINALISTS**

**REGISTER YOUR TEAM BY 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY**

**COMPETITION RUNS BETWEEN JUNE & JULY**

**FREE PRACTICE ROUNDS AVAILABLE**

**CONTACT PAUL AT THE NEW INN FOR  
REGISTRATION, ENQUIRIES & BOOK  
PRACTICE ROUNDS**

**NEW INN TEL: 01797 226252**

# News from The New Inn

## **Winchelsea Pétanque Charity Challenge**

During June and early July, we will be hosting a 'Winchelsea Pétanque Challenge' competition. The winners of the competition will not only receive the accolade of becoming 'Pétanque Champions', but also a pot of money for which they may wish to donate to a nominated charity/good cause of their choice.

If you wish to take part but never played before, don't worry...all will be explained with ample time for your team to practice leading up to and during the competition. Teams are limited to 5 people per team (includes a reserve). Entry to the competition is £25 per team. These funds form the prize money of which the winning team will receive 75% and the 'runner up' 25%. You will need a team name and register your team members by Saturday 23rd May.

The draw for the opening rounds will be announced in the New Inn at 6.00 p.m. Sunday 31st May. Plays offs will take place during June commencing 8th June. The grand final will be held on Sunday 5th July. Please register your team with us at the New Inn. For more information, please contact Paul at the New Inn 01797 226252

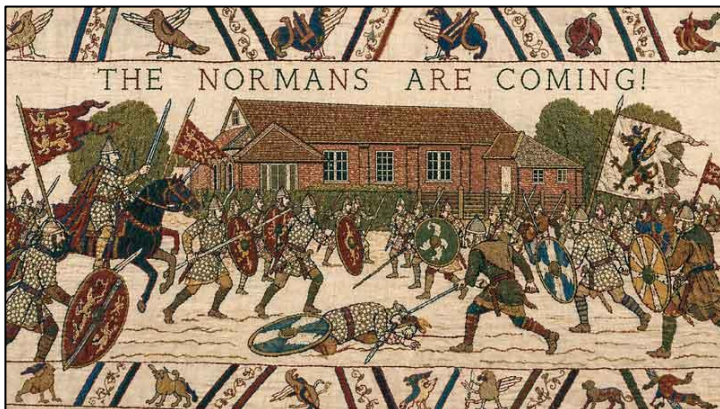
## **Pizza Nights**

Following on from our article in last month's Parish Magazine, we are pleased to announce the return of 'Pizza Nights' during May (Eat in or Take Away). To gauge demand, we are going to trial this on Friday evenings between 5.00 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on 17th, 24th and 31st May. You can pre order pizzas by calling us on 226252. Your constructive feedback is always welcome to help us understand the future need.

## **Charity Pub Quiz**

The recent Charity pub quiz for the Nature Reserve raised over £440. A great evening and as always thank you for all your support.

*Paul, Debbie and Team*



## **The Normans are Coming!**

### **A festival of history in Winchelsea this October**

For the first time since it was made, the Bayeux Tapestry is returning to England and, to celebrate its arrival, three of the town's societies, (WAAHS, WCS & FOAM) are working together to create a rich programme of related events this October.

On the afternoon of **Saturday 10th October**, WAAHS have invited Stephen Gray, an archaeologist and trustee at Battle Museum, and Jonathan Starkey author of 'The Battle of Hastings at Sedlescombe', for a lively debate on the possible sites of the Norman landing and subsequent battle, - with a retired High Court Judge as moderator!.

On the morning of **Saturday 24th October**, WAAHS have invited Dr Michael Bintley, associate Professor of Medieval English literature at the University of Southampton, who will describe what the countryside of England was like at the eve of the Conquest.

On the evening of **Saturday 24th October**, FOAM will provide a light-hearted political debate between the three men who fought for the English Crown: the Viking Harald Hardrada, the Saxon Harold Goodwin and the Norman William. Rather than take part in a bloody battle, our audience will be able to decide, who they feel would make the best ruler of England.

On the morning of **Saturday 31st October**, Kathleen Tyson, who has transcribed and translated the earliest

account of the Norman Conquest, will be giving a talk on behalf of WAAHS.

On the afternoon of **Saturday 31st October**, it is the turn of the WCA to host a talk. This one is by Alexandra Martin, author of a fascinating book on the politics of Saxon embroidery, she will be looking it detail at the Bayeux Tapestry.

There will also be a special designed guide, to be used when following the 1066 Country Walk, between Icklesham and Rye, and information boards at some of the events.

Through these events we hope to discover more about what happened here in East Sussex almost a thousand years ago, and how as a result England was never quite the same again.

We will be sharing more details and how you can book tickets in the coming months.

*Winchelsea & Area Archaeological & Historical Society (WAAHS)*

*Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS)*

*The Friends of the Ancient Monuments and Museum (FOAM)*



# **Bank Holiday Monday May 25th**

## **Special free event for New Residents**

(and those residents who have yet to join FOAM)



If you have recently moved to Winchelsea, FOAM would like to invite you to a special tour of the town at 2pm on Monday May 25th. It will be an opportunity to find out a little more about our wonderful town's history, its buildings, and medieval cellars, from our knowledgeable guides. And to discover how our charity and its 170 members help maintain some of them.

The tour will last about an hour and a half and include a visit to the Court Hall and a couple of Winchelsea's unique medieval wine cellars. It's absolutely free, but if you haven't already joined FOAM, there is a good chance that Mark our membership secretary will try to enrol you!

If you would like to book a place, please contact Chris Chappell [at [chrishwinchelsea@icloud.com](mailto:chrishwinchelsea@icloud.com)] or any other member of the FOAM committee. And if you aren't new but have simply never quite got round to joining FOAM, you are also very welcome to come along.

FOAM, the Friends of the Ancient Monuments and Museum, work with Winchelsea Corporation to raise money each year to keep the Court Hall, our three medieval gates and the Town Well in good shape as well as contributing to improvements to the museum.

# **FOAM**



## Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs have been flagged up regularly on Winchelsea Community WhatsApp recently. Undoubtedly some of them come from the cohort of 30 that Philip Merricks distributed to gardeners round the town last month.

He collects them each Spring, under license, from Elmley Nature Reserve in North Kent where they would otherwise be gobbling up the eggs of Lapwings and other ground-nesting birds. The main predators gobbling up hedgehogs are badgers. Sadly, the more badgers, the fewer hedgehogs.

The young one in the picture wolfed down a moving-in meal within minutes of arriving at Kent Close.

[elmleynaturereserve.co.uk](http://elmleynaturereserve.co.uk)

**WINCHELSEA NEW HALL**  
**GRAND**  
**CENTENARY**  
**BALL**  
**SATURDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2026**  
**7pm for 7.30pm**

Please Join us to Celebrate 100 years of  
**WINCHELSEA NEW HALL**  
**Live Music & Dancing**  
The Joe Thompson Trio with Sally Creedon  
**Welcome Drink**  
Sponsored by Charles Palmer Vineyards  
**Cocktails / Canapes / Day bar**  
**1920's / Black & White / Dress to Impress**

Tickets £35 via [winchelsea.com/new-hall/new-hall-centenary](http://winchelsea.com/new-hall/new-hall-centenary)  
or [newhall@winchelsea.com](mailto:newhall@winchelsea.com)  
or Rosemarie Roberts 07941 458628

# Winchelsea New Hall

## **100 Club**

The winning number for the 100 Club for April is 69.  
Congratulations to the winner of the £100 prize!

## **Grant Success**

We have received a grant from the Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Fund for renewing the south fire escape door and fanlights. When it's done users of the Hall will be able to lock the door open for ventilation on those hot summer days!

## **New Hall Grand Centenary Ball**

Tickets have now gone on sale for the New Hall's Centenary Ball on June 27th. Please see the poster for more information. You can buy tickets online or call Rosemarie.

*New Hall Management Committee*

*Rob Mortimer, John McGeown, Sergio Rebecchi,  
Mary Tidyman, Rosemarie Roberts and Ali Casey*





## **The Friends of Winchelsea Church**

60th Anniversary AGM  
Saturday 9th May at 11am  
St Thomas' Church

All members are warmly invited to attend to find out more  
about plans for 2026-27

A glass of wine will be offered on arrival

*Registered Charity Number 249108*





Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS)



**Annual General Meeting (AGM)  
& Talk by Anthony Pierce**



**Title: 40 years of farming  
Romney Sheep  
& Observations on their  
environmental impact upon the  
pastures and waterways of Romney Marsh**



Lower Court Hall  
30th May  
2026  
11.00 hours  
Teas from 10.30



**£5 Entry or  
Free to WCS Members**



# THANK YOU

*From the PCC of St Thomas, Winchelsea*

In the March edition of the Parish Magazine the PCC made an appeal asking for donations and community support for the maintenance of the St Thomas' churchyard over the coming months.

Thank you for the generosity you have shown in the kind donations we have received over these last six weeks. We are delighted that the churchyard can remain open, accessible and beautiful for our community and visitors.

The PCC would like to note particular thanks to Icklesham Parish Council and Winchelsea Garden Society for their ongoing support and generous contributions to our appeal this year.



# WINCHELSEA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

MEMBERS  
MEETING

SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY

11.00am - 12.30

**WINCHELSEA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**Are holding a members meeting in the  
WINCHELSEA NEW HALL**

*Simon McGurk will be joining us to speak about Local Government issues*

SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> May 11.00am - 12.30. / tea & coffee 10.30

*2025-26 subscriptions due / New members welcome*

For more information / [RA@winchelsea.com](mailto:RA@winchelsea.com)

*We hope you can join us*



## 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 <a href="mailto:hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com">hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com</a>
Mondays 15.00-15.50	Zumba Gold With Daisy	Suitable for all. Contact Daisy at <a href="mailto:fitnessbythesea@outlook.com">fitnessbythesea@outlook.com</a>
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
Thursdays 09.30-10.30	Scottish Dancing	A fun, friendly class, suitable for beginners. Contact <a href="mailto:maddycoelho@hotmail.com">maddycoelho@hotmail.com</a>
Thursdays 10.45-11.45	Pilates with Celia	Suitable for all ages and abilities. Contact Celia on <a href="mailto:kingcelia54@gmail.com">kingcelia54@gmail.com</a>
Thursdays 18.00-19.00	Rother Fitness	Contact Rachel <a href="mailto:rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com">rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com</a>
Thursdays 19.00-20.00	Rother Fitness Step Class	Contact Rachel <a href="mailto:rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com">rotherfitnessgroup@outlook.com</a>
Fridays 09.30-10.15	Pilates with Hannah	All welcome. Contact Hannah on 07936 151529 or email <a href="mailto:hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com">hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com</a>
Fridays 10.45-11.45	Move It or Lose It with L Rae	Fun exercise class for all abilities. Contact Lisa 07939 323937

\*\*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 via WhatsApp



## **Rye Food Bank**

*Cam writes:* I will be making the May Food Bank doorstep collection on behalf of the Rye and Winchelsea Rotary Club on Tuesday 19th between 10 am and 1 pm.

For the last six years I have collected on the 3rd or 4th Tuesday of each month and delivered these donations the following day to the Food Bank in Rye, for distribution to needy local families.

I am always looking for new donors and would be grateful if within the town you would tell your neighbours

My telephone number is 01797 226414, which has an answerphone facility. Please help the Food Bank if you can.

*Donald Cameron Clarke  
Old Malt House  
Winchelsea*

For further details about Rye Food Bank and how to make a donation go to [ryefoodbank.com](http://ryefoodbank.com)



## St Michael's Hospice

### **Tickets for St Michael's Hospice's Open Gardens**

Discover a vibrant season of gardens across Hastings and Rother in aid of St Michael's Hospice. Running from May to August, you can explore a variety of private gardens, community spaces, wildlife-friendly plots, coastal gardens, and creative planting styles. Their summer-long programme has something for everyone.

Visit [stmichaelshospice.com/opengardens](http://stmichaelshospice.com/opengardens) to get ahead of the crowds by booking your ticket today and download the free Open Gardens Guide to find everything you need to know to help plan your visit.

### **St Michael's Hospice Wellbeing Programme.**

At St Michael's Hospice, they have a Wellbeing Programme which offers a range of therapeutic activity groups, one-to-one sessions and telephone support for people living with an advanced, progressive illness in Hastings and Rother, and their carers. The groups have been designed to empower and enable. They're led by the Hospice Wellbeing Assistants and qualified clinicians from the Rehabilitation, Social Work and Spiritual Support Teams. All the groups are held at the Hospice. Visit [stmichaelshospice.com/services](http://stmichaelshospice.com/services) to find how their referral system.



Friends Altogether in Rother

## QUIZ NIGHT

READY FOR A FUN NIGHT OUT?

Get a team of up to 6 players together for an evening of laughter, good company and amazing facts

**Friday 22nd May | Doors open 7:00PM**  
**The Tudor Room at The Mermaid Inn, Rye**  
**Quiz starts at 7:30PM**

Tickets £5 per player | Please bring your own snacks |  
Licensed bar | Raffle

To reserve a table either email Jan Crook, Community  
Coordinator of FAiR at [jan@fair.org.uk](mailto:jan@fair.org.uk) or call her on  
07386 853349

## Winchelsea Church and Town Calendar May 2026

Saturday 2nd	Church Market at St Thomas's - 10.30 till 12
<b>Sunday 3rd</b>	<b>8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level</b> <b>11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea</b>
Monday 4th	<i>Bank Holiday</i>
Tuesday 5th	Mothers' Prayers - 10am
Saturday 9th	Friends of Winchelsea Church AGM - St Thomas's - 11am Winchelsea Arts Concert - St Thomas's - 7.30pm
<b>Sunday 10th</b>	Rogation Sunday Walk <b>10am: Morning Prayer at Pett</b> <b>12 noon: Midday Prayers at Icklesham</b> <b>4pm: Choral Evensong at Winchelsea</b>
Wednesday 13th	Second Wednesday Society - New Hall - 2.30pm
Friday 15th	Literary Society - Court Hall - 7pm for 7.30
Saturday 16th	Coffee Morning and Treasure Hunt - Wesley's Chapel - 10am till 12 Residents Association General Meeting - New Hall - 10.30 for 11am Film Night - New Hall - 6.30 for 7.30pm
<b>Sunday 17th</b>	<b>9am: Parish Eucharist at Pett</b> <b>11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea</b>
Saturday 23rd	WAAHS talk - New Hall - 10.30 for 11am
<b>Sunday 24th</b> <i>Pentecost - Whit Sunday</i>	<b>9.15am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham</b> <b>11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea</b>
Monday 25th	FOAM New Residents' Walk
Friday 29th	Fellowship Lunch - WB Community Hall - 12.30 for 1pm
Saturday 30th	Conservation Society AGM and talk - Court Hall - 10.30 for 11am
<b>Sunday 31st</b> <i>Trinity Sunday</i>	<b>11am: Benefice Eucharist at Icklesham</b> <b>4pm: Farewell Evensong for Bishop Martin at Rye</b>
Sat 6th June	Church Market and Garden Society Rose Show - 10.30 till 12
<b>Sun 7th June</b>	<b>8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level</b> <b>11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea</b>

### Further ahead

Sat 20th June	Winchelsea Open Gardens for St Michael's Hospice
Sat 27th June	New Hall Centenary Ball
Sun 5th July	St Thomas's Church Patronal Festival Service
Sat 18th July	Winchelsea Open Gardens for National Garden Scheme

Please send copy for the June Magazine  
to [ryeview@gmail.com](mailto:ryeview@gmail.com)  
as soon as you have it to hand but, in any case,  
**before Thursday 28th May**



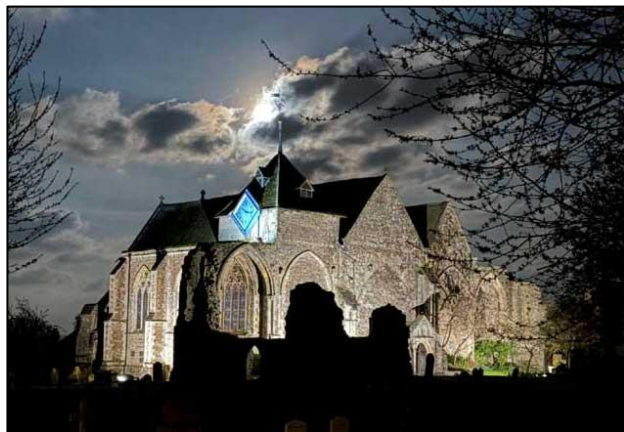
White Wisteria *Rosie Ryan*

For Winchelsea Beach information go to  
[winchelseabeach.org.uk](http://winchelseabeach.org.uk)

For Winchelsea information go to  
[winchelsea.com](http://winchelsea.com)

For more information about the Church go to  
[winchelsea-icklesham-churches.org.uk](http://winchelsea-icklesham-churches.org.uk)

For weekly news from the local area go to  
[ryenews.org.uk](http://ryenews.org.uk)



*Sue McGeown*

## **Benefice of Winchelsea Icklesham and Pett**

### **Rector**

The Revd Nathanael Hayler  
The Rectory, St Thomas Street, Winchelsea TN36 4EB  
01797 308531 [rector.wip@gmail.com](mailto:rector.wip@gmail.com)  
WhatsApp/SMS 07941 602349  
The Rector's day off is Friday

### **Winchelsea Churchwardens**

Celia King  
Stargazer, Morlais Place TN36 4LG  
01797 227858 [kingcelia54@gmail.com](mailto:kingcelia54@gmail.com)  
Gavin McFadyean  
7 Barrack Square TN36 4EG  
07867 748511 [gavin@mcfadyean.co.uk](mailto:gavin@mcfadyean.co.uk)

### **Winchelsea PCC Secretary**

Mary Parker  
07927 107678 [parkermary848@gmail.com](mailto:parkermary848@gmail.com)

### **St Thomas' Primary School**

*Headteacher* Dale Saxby  
Friars Road TN36 4ED 01797 226479  
[office@st-thomas-winchelsea.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-thomas-winchelsea.e-sussex.sch.uk)

### **Parish Magazine**

*Editor* David Page  
4 Kent Close TN36 4EX  
01797 226524 [ryeview@gmail.com](mailto:ryeview@gmail.com)