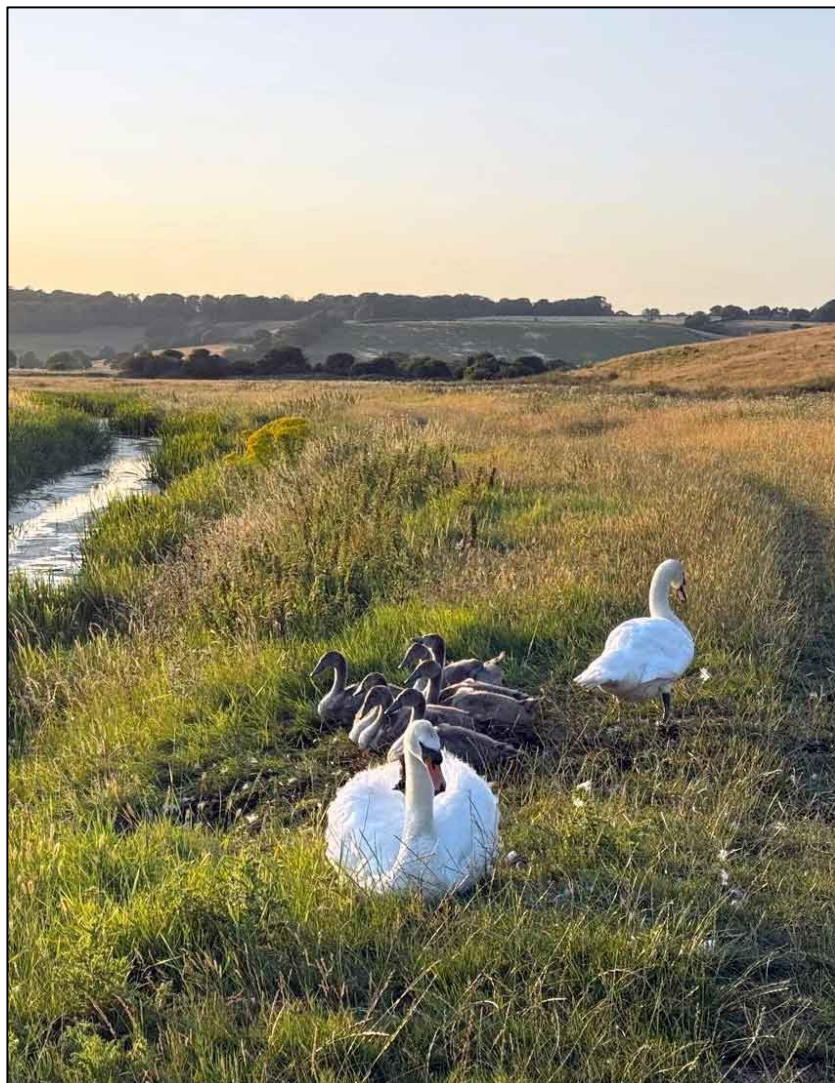


WINCHELSEA PARISH MAGAZINE

August 2026



Laura Solomons



My first summer in East Sussex...

Nathanael writes: It was this time last year I saw the advert in the *Church Times* for the post of Rector of Winchelsea, Icklesham and Pett. Sat in my Northumberland Vicarage, I had never set foot in the county of East Sussex, nor had I heard of these communities nestled between Rye and Hastings. But for some strange reason I was compelled to read on and began to ask if this call for an Incumbent was for me.

Fast forward to mid-summer this year. I have seen the beautiful landscapes of East Sussex emerge into their full glory. Taking in the views of the Brede Valley and across the sea, one could almost be on the continent! However, I don't recall reading about this summertime heat in the advert - but I am beginning to acclimatise!

As many visitors and holidaymakers also enjoy this little corner of the world, it is the perfect opportunity to reflect with gratitude on this amazing place and the privilege it is to call it 'home.'

For me, those moments of thanksgiving are times of prayer. These little and bitty prayers are not limited to Sunday, or even to being in church, but rather give space to how the heart and mind is moved at any given moment – by what we are seeing, hearing, feeling or learning.

In these warm summer months, looking out and praying with gratitude, I am reminded of this beautiful but sorely underused hymn:

1. Like a mighty river flowing,
like a flower in beauty growing,
far beyond all human knowing
is the perfect peace of God.
2. Like the hills serene and even,
like the coursing clouds of heaven,
like the heart that's been forgiven
is the perfect peace of God.
3. Like the summer breezes playing,
like the tall trees softly swaying,
like the lips of silent praying
is the perfect peace of God.
4. Like the morning sun ascended,
like the scents of evening blended,
like a friendship never ended
is the perfect peace of God.
5. Like the azure ocean swelling,
like the jewel all-excelling,
far beyond our human telling
is the perfect peace of God.

Michael Perry (1942 - 1996)

On the Sunday of the August Bank Holiday weekend, I and others will be gathering at Pett Level Beach for a service of Evening Prayer.

We will begin with this beautiful hymn and spend time celebrating the gift of God's creation and offering our prayers of thanksgiving at the end of the holiday season.

I would love you to join us for that joy-filled and informal gathering... there may be ice cream and an optional dip in the sea following the service.



Winchelsea Pétanque Challenge

During June and early July, six brave teams battled it out in a friendly yet competitive manner to become the winners of the 'Winchelsea Pétanque Challenge Cup', hosted by the *New Inn*. This event was new to Winchelsea. All teams consisted of members from our local community, most of whom had never played Pétanque before.

Needless to say, there were many days when teams were holding practice sessions, leading up to and during the competition. Winchelsea has now produced many wonderful Pétanque players. The competition was loosely designed to operate in the same way as this year's Football World Cup. Initial group qualifying rounds, followed by semi finals and then of course the much awaited final. Results were as follows:

The Boules Brothers *1st*
The Boules Crackers *2nd*
U-Bahn *3rd*
Winklepickers *4th*
The Cloud Jumpers *5th*
The New Inn Boozers *6th*

A fantastic event, with nail biting finishes, brilliant weather, lots of fun, entertainment, and great support from the community throughout the competition.

The final was held on Saturday afternoon 4th July, between *The Boules Brothers* and *The Boules Crackers*, with around forty spectators. *The Boules Brothers* won the match,

making a donation to St Michael's Hospice from their share of the winnings.

Thanks to all those teams that participated, those that came to watch and support, and needless to say Paul and Debbie of the *New Inn* for hosting this brilliant and memorable event.
Peter Cosstick



The Boules Brothers - Mike, John, Martin, Richard



The Boules Crackers - Alex, Kerry, Gary

Photos by Paul Ramsey



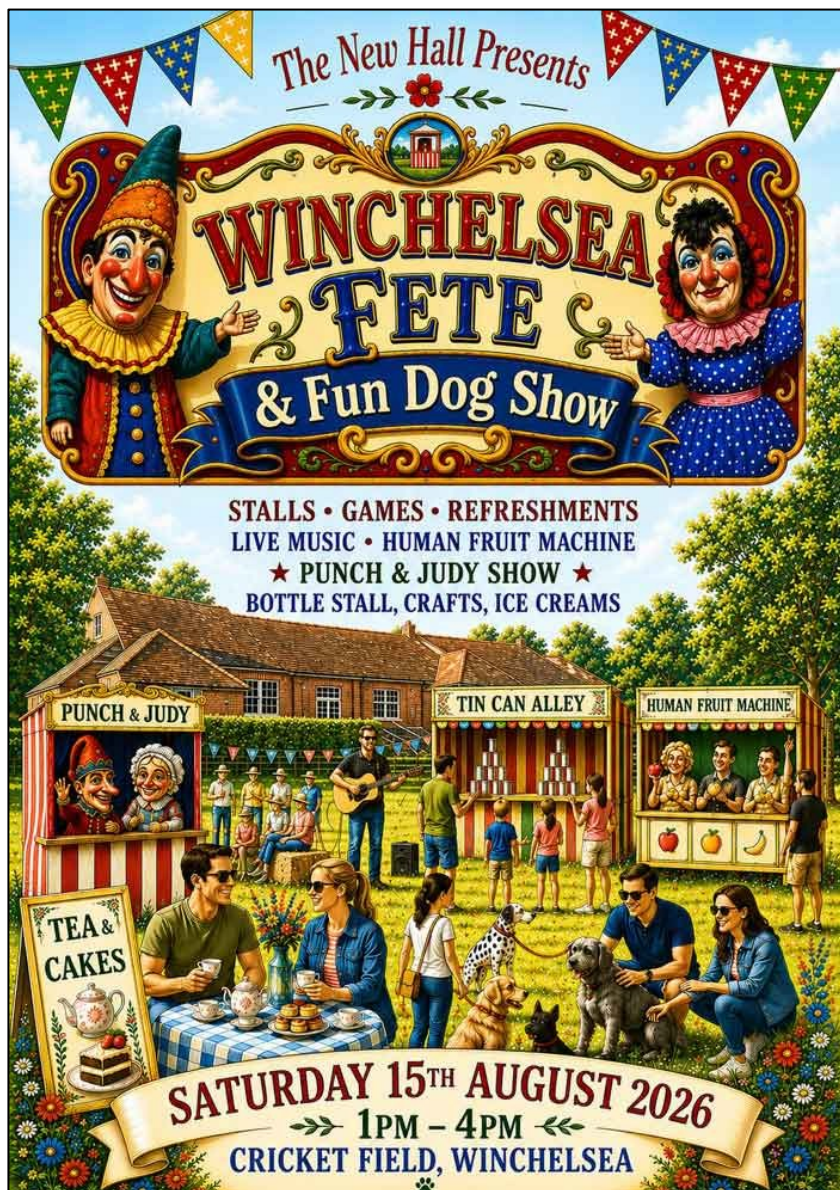
From Paul and Debbie

After seven fantastic years of running *The New Inn* and many discussions with our landlords Greene King to try and sustain a viable business (including a large rent reduction in 2025) due to the seasonality, massive energy bills, increases in wage bills and all associated costs of running the business, unfortunately - along with many 1000s of other hospitality businesses - our much loved pub, business and home has now gone on the market.

The freehold went live earlier than we expected, so we've had to rally around and let our fantastic team know the sad news.

Although this isn't the best news, nothing will happen anytime soon as the market is flooded with pubs etc. so, although there is uncertainty, we are here for the time being. If anyone would like to speak to us about the situation please feel free.

Myself, Debbie and our staff would like to thank you all - friends, neighbours and all our customers - for your continued custom during this time and the past.



★ *Enter our* ★

Fun Dog Show

Registration for entries from 1pm, show starts 2pm

CLASSES:

1. Prettiest girl
2. Handsome male
3. Cutest puppy up to 8months
4. Golden oldie 8yr+
5. Best rescue
6. Waggiest Tail
7. Best in Show

Judged by Ellie of Luna's Recipe Dog Food

🏆 Prizes & Rosettes 1st-6th places 🏆



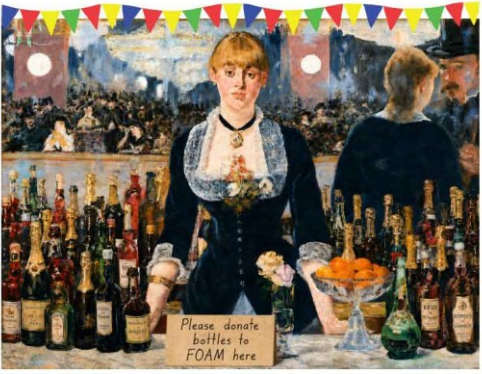
Luna's
RECIPE




Help us raise money to maintain the town's ancient buildings & gates

Winchelsea Fete August 15th

FOAM Bottle Stall



Please spare a bottle or two of your best plonk!

**Please drop your bottles off at either
Lines End or Wren Cottage**



Winchelsea Residents Association

Committee membership Our chair, Glen Marks and committee member David Dickson have stood down. Our thanks to both for their contribution. We are very pleased to welcome back Linda Bass and a new member, Julie Bartlett. The chair will be rotated between committee members until our AGM on 7th November. Do let us know if you are interested in taking the Chair. It is a modest time commitment and you have a good team alongside you.

Traffic issues

Our update is 'traffic heavy' but there are several local proposals that sit alongside the current traffic plan.

No left turn/ no right turn plan In June, we advised residents of the unexpected request from East Sussex County Council (ESCC) for the NLT/ NRT plan to go to a parish wide vote. ESCC report 12 related contacts in the past months, but do not explain why this would prompt a request for Rye Harbour, Winchelsea Beach and Icklesham residents to vote on the plan agreed with Winchelsea residents and our MP.

There is no precedent and would effectively stop any future road safety initiative in Winchelsea Town. WRA has advised ESCC its request is not reasonable. Our MP Helena Doolimore will be inviting both National Highways and ESCC to a Town meeting in the next few weeks. We will let residents know where and when as soon as possible.

As a footnote, members attending our meeting in May heard reference to Freedom of Information correspondence on the traffic plan between a resident and one or both of the agencies involved. We asked to see any new information but nothing has been received.

20 mph zones We support all efforts to encourage safer driving. We understand IPC is identifying 'hot spots' across the parish at Rye Harbour, Winchelsea Beach and Icklesham, that would benefit most from a lower speed limit. Locally, the location used by school children and parents in German Street may be part of this initiative.

Speed Watch WRA support this initiative but is not directly involved. It relies on trained volunteers able to attend over a sufficient period. A WRA committee member is already involved in developing a local group. There will be a call out for volunteers soon. The IPC website gives regular updates on traffic numbers and speed in Winchelsea. Search 'Black Cat' and click on 'Winchelsea'.

Summer Fete 15th August WRA has a stall. It is an opportunity to join the Association, comment on local issues and tell us what we could do for the Town in future. We may not compete with the Dog Show but there are prizes.

Annual General Meeting 7th November

An early reminder of our AGM. We plan to have two speakers. Jenner Sands, Clerk to IPC, will tell us about the role of IPC and how the Clerk works with parish councillors to deliver local services.

We have also invited Nick Hanna, who leads Sussex Greenways, an organisation working to improve cycling routes and rider safety. It is currently developing a Winchelsea Greenway which would allow cyclists a safe route near Tanyard Lane. WRA supports this initiative and hopes it may complement current road safety plans in the town.

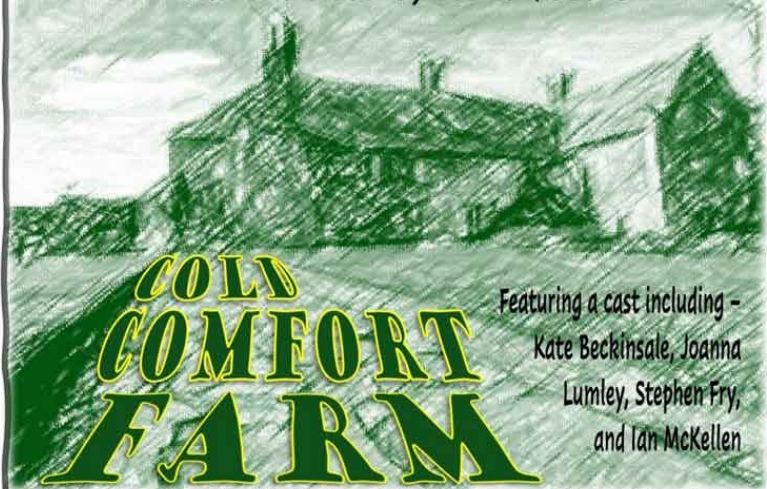
Paul Veys

Paul's death is very sad news. He was a founder member of the current WRA, an excellent Chair and a wise, kind man. He will be missed.

WINCHELSEA FILM NIGHT

In conjunction with Winchelsea New Hall

Cold Comfort Farm is a 1995 British Comedy Film
Directed by John Schlesinger based on the
Satirical Novel by Stella Gibbons



Featuring a cast including -
Kate Beckinsale, Joanna
Lumley, Stephen Fry,
and Ian McKellen

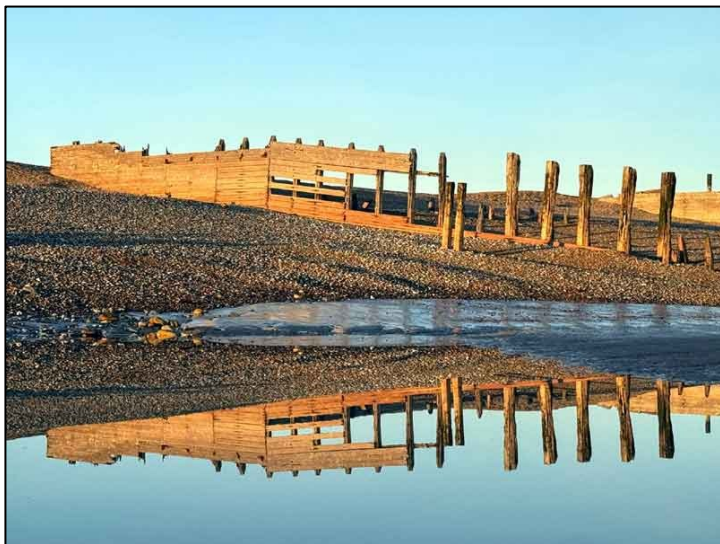
Filming locations in Winchelsea, Kent & Sussex Railway & Tenterden

SATURDAY 15th AUGUST 6.30 for 7.30 SCREENING

Admission Free

Refreshments, Pay Bar.

Come early, enjoy a drink or two.



Winchelsea Beach in August

Mothers Prayers

Tuesday 4th at 10am at *Morvah*, Sea Road.

Monthly Bingo

Wednesday 19th - with afternoon tea and raffle in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall at 3pm. Doors open at 2.30. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds will go to Winchelsea Beach Community Association.

Friends Altogether in Rother Coffee Morning

Wednesday 26th - in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall. This is totally free but donations are invited. There are information stands and speakers giving information about events and everything of interest that is happening in the area. Everybody is welcome.

No Fellowship Lunch in August

This month the team are having a break. We would like to thank everyone who usually comes to the lunches and helps us to raise money for various charities. We will be resuming on Friday 25th September.

winchelseabeach.org.uk



Wesley's Chapel

Thank you to all who came to the Chapel Anniversary on Sunday 19th July. There were more people this year than ever before and most joined in with the singing under the 'Wesley tree' before the service in the Chapel. It was a really lovely and poignant time with Rev Malcolm Peach just two days before his move back to his home country in Yorkshire.

The Open Gardens day on the 18th was also very busy with visitors seeking rest in the Chapel from their travels, and many were also interested in the Chapel and its story. Their appreciation of being able to enjoy the gardens was much in evidence.

The next Chapel event is a laid-back Coffee Morning on Saturday 15th August from 10am to 12pm. If you haven't been to one of our Coffee Mornings before, we just open the doors, serve a nice cup of tea and coffee, have a good old chat, and nibble the cakes or whatever people have brought

along to share. There's no charge, but of course we are always grateful for any donations received.

Then its Heritage Open Day on September 12th from 10am to 4pm, when people can have time to check out the Chapel's artefacts and documents, some of which will be on display for the first time. Do come to the Chapel events. You will be very welcome.

Mike Lambourne



Order of St Richard

We are delighted at the news that Pamela and David Jefferies have been awarded the Chichester Diocese 'Order of St Richard' in recognition of their service to St Thomas's Winchelsea, St Richard's Winchelsea Beach and the wider community over many years.

Pamela was Church Treasurer, and is a former Bursar of St Thomas's School. Both have been altar servers. The award will be made at a ceremony later in the year.

chichester.anglican.org/st-richard



Ride + Stride

St Thomas's Church will be participating in Ride + Stride again this year. We are planning a circular walk to St Mary's Rye via Camber Castle. In addition to walkers and cyclists, we are keen to recruit welcomers, who can offer tea, coffee and biscuits to visitors from other churches and to our own walkers and cyclists when they return.

More information to follow in the church Pew Sheets and in next month's magazine but in the meantime, save the date!

David Harris
Treasurer
Winchelsea PCC



Ride + Stride

SPONSORED EVENT

helping to preserve Sussex Churches

Saturday, September 12, 2026



WINCHELSEA ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION

**Free Admission
Works of Art for Sale
Grand Raffle**

**THE COURT HALL
WINCHELSEA**

**August 29, 2026
10.00am - 5.30pm
&**

**August 30, 2026
10.00am - 5.30pm
&**

**August 31, 2026
10.00am - 3.45pm**



Bank Holiday Art

The 28th Winchelsea Art Exhibition will be open in the Lower Court Hall from Saturday 29th August until Monday 31st.

This year like every year we hope to bring you a feast of creativity with the breadth and scope of exhibits from our very loyal and sought after artists, and we will welcome a number of new exhibitors, professionals among them. New photographers will be included and special craft work too.

You will see from the photograph a panel from last years in which the subject matter is so diverse. This year there seems to be a strong emphasis on abstract works which are very exciting. We also can look forward to seeing an increase to seven pieces from last year's five of the St Thomas's school children's work, aged between 5- 11. Parents will have first choice until 10.30am so enthusiastic visitor purchasers will have to be patient.

We again have a rich selection of special raffle prizes. One very special one which I am sure all of us would welcome winning. Small clue? No! I don't think so. But your support will help our fundraising for the maintenance of the three town's Millennium Artefacts. *Geraldine l'Anson*



John Josiah

Winchelsea Cricket

Winchelsea Cricket Club have had a good run this July winning two of their three games - against East Sutton and Crowhurst. We lost to Wittersham in a nail biting finish that went to the last three balls of the last over.

Many thanks to John Josiah, our fixtures coordinator, James Jury, captain, and to the team for keeping the long standing tradition of Winchelsea cricket alive.

The next home game is against Beckley on
Sunday 16th August at 2pm

August Food Bank Collection

Cam will be making his August collection for Rye Food Bank on Tuesday 18th between 10am and 1pm. He is always on the lookout for new donors and can be contacted on 01797 226414

**Winchelsea
Garden Society**

Summer Show

- Flowers
- Floral Art
- Vegetables
- Fruit
- Handicrafts

Free admission

**The New Hall
Winchelsea
TN36 4AA**

**2:00 pm Saturday
29 August 2026**





Icklesham Parish Council

Concerns Over Toilet Transfers Although Rother District Council approved the transfer of the freeholds for the public toilets in Winchelsea and Winchelsea Beach in September 2025, the legal process has still yet to be completed as the Parish Council is still awaiting the necessary documentation from Rother District Council's Legal Department.

To avoid further delays, the Parish Council has agreed to obtain a licence from Rother District Council that will allow essential repairs to be carried out before the legal transfer is finalised. The aim is to ensure the facilities are ready to reopen as soon as ownership is formally transferred. We wanted them open this summer and it is mid-July already.

1

Save the Land at Rye Harbour Campaign

At the Full Council meeting on 13th July, the Chair provided an update on the Parish Council's campaign to protect the land at Rye Harbour beach, raising concerns about what it describes as the continued neglect of the site by Natural England and wanton destruction of our beautiful beach. The Council first wrote to the Secretary of State in December outlining its concerns but, despite repeated requests for an answer no response has been received.

In an effort to raise awareness, the Chair recently met with the editor of *Rye News* and Councillor Daniel Bradley at the Mary Stanford Lifeboat House to highlight the Parish Council's concerns about the rapidly disappearing beach. *Rye News* has since published an article on the issue, and the Council hopes the increased publicity will encourage the Secretary of State to engage with the community.

Rye Harbour Flagpole The Parish Council has approved refurbishment works to the Rye Harbour flagpole, recognising it as an important community asset. The Council remains committed to maintaining public facilities and ensuring taxpayers' assets are maintained.

Laurel Lane Fingerpost The Parish Council has agreed to replace the white fingerpost that was removed from the Laurel Lane, Workhouse Lane junction. Hopefully this will be in situ soon.

Upcoming Meetings

Monday 10th August – Planning Meeting 6.15pm followed by Allotment Committee meeting at Winchelsea Court Hall.

Monday 24th August – Planning Meeting 6.15 pm at Winchelsea Court 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



Doucette

The town seal themed decoration on the Doucette enjoyed by participants in the first Winchelsea GastroProm on 26th July.

[Click here](#) for the full write-up in *Rye News*.



Piers Lane at Winchelsea Arts

Sunday 6th September at 4pm at St Thomas's Church

Piers Lane, the internationally renowned pianist praised by *The Times* for his impeccable refinement and unforced brilliance, will perform a programme that includes many well-known works of the piano repertoire, including Debussy's *Clair de Lune*.

Known for his assured command of virtuosic works and his stylistic breadth, Lane brings clarity, precision and expressive strength to each score. This recital promises an outstanding evening of distinguished pianism and deeply informed musicianship.

J.S. Bach - Toccata in C minor, BWV 911

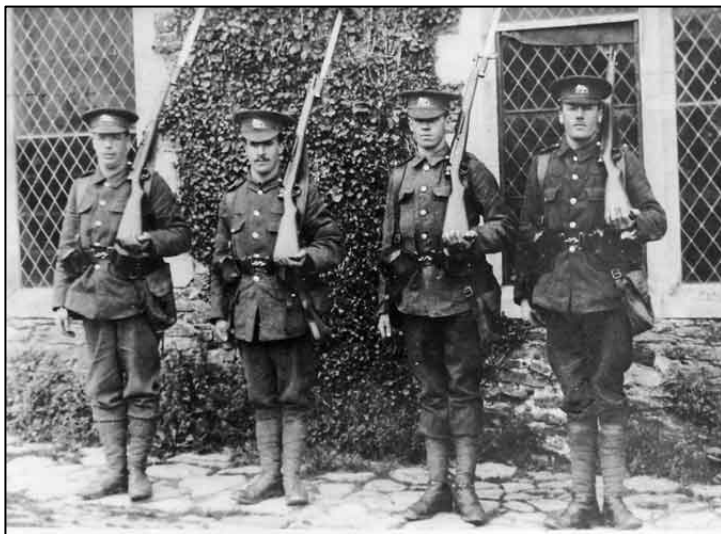
C. Debussy - Suite Bergamasque

F. Chopin - Mazurka in C# minor, Op.50 No.3 and Ballade in G minor, Op.23

F. Schubert - Impromptu in Gb, D899 No.3 and Sonata in D major, D850

Tickets £25 from winchelsea-arts.org.uk

[Click here](#) to see the full 2026-7 Season programme



‘The Fallen’ and ‘The Great Debate’

We have some really exciting news to share with you about two incredible events FOAM will be staging in October. If you are a FOAM member, you will already have had an opportunity to purchase tickets, from 3rd August, they will go on sale to everyone.

Our first event, *The Fallen* will be on Saturday 3rd October, when the cellar of *Lines End* will be transformed into a command post in the trenches of northern France in 1915. The Pegasus Choir (one of London’s leading chamber choirs) and town actors will present a programme of music and words from the Great War including work by Elgar, Holst and Gurney, with readings from RC Sheriff, Sebastian Faulks and Siegfried Sassoon.

Our second event, on Saturday 24th October, is FOAM’s contribution, to Winchelsea’s Festival of History, a programme of events to celebrate the arrival of the Bayeux Tapestry.

When Edward the Confessor, died in, he left three main contenders for the English throne: his brother-in-law, the Saxon, Harold Godwinson, a Viking, Harald Hardrada king of Norway, and a Norman, William the Duke of Normandy. But which had the best claim to the crown and who would

have made a better king of England? Imagine if all three could step out of history and argue their case. Who would you support and what questions would you ask them?

Adam Hart will be our Norwegian thunderbolt of the North, Paul Youlten as Harold will be trying to avoid an arrow in the eye and David Richards will be using some Gallic charm to persuade us that William was actually rather nice!

Hosted by Ian Rowlands in the format of a modern TV election debate, our audience having listened to the arguments, asked questions, and fuelled by Normandy inspired food & drink will decide who they would like to make their King, the Saxon, the Viking, or the Norman.

We are indebted to Nigel Ashton, who will be working with Phil Mack on 'The Fallen' and Chris Chappell on the 'Great Debate'.

There will be three performances of *The Fallen* at *Lines End* Cellar on 3rd October and two opportunities to take part in the *Great Debate* on October 24th at the Court Hall.

Because of the limited capacity of both venues, we anticipate that tickets will be in great demand, in fact there aren't many left.

You can find out more information and book tickets for *The Fallen* - £25 each - [by clicking here](#).

And you can find more information and book tickets for *The Great Debate* - £15 each - [by clicking here](#)

As usual all profits will be used to maintain the Court Hall, three Medieval Gates, the Town Well and support the Museum. There will be an opportunity to donate to the British Legion at the end of each performance of *The Fallen*.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Phil Mack or Chris Chappell, or any other committee member.

The
WINCHELSEA
✠ **1066** ✠
HISTORY FESTIVAL

✠
The 960th Anniversary of
the Norman Conquest



Brought to you by the
WINCHELSEA AND AREA
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WAAHS)

Charity No. 1143524

&
WINCHELSEA CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)

✠
A PROGRAMME OF EVENTS IN THE NEW HALL
ON 10TH, 24TH AND 31ST OF OCTOBER 2026

✠
ONLINE BOOKING ESSENTIAL –
USE THE QR CODES

[Click here for posters of individual events and to read more details](#)

Winchelsea 1066 History Festival

14th October marks the 960th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings, arguably the most significant day in English history. The resultant Norman Conquest ended nearly 500 years of Anglo-Saxon rule, shifting England's political, cultural and linguistic ties away from Scandinavia and towards continental Europe.

To commemorate the anniversary, the Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS), the Winchelsea & Area Archaeological & Historical Society (WAAHS), Friends of the Ancient Monuments (FOAM), St Thomas' Primary School, and Andrew Scott have come together to present the Winchelsea 1066 Festival, a unique programme of talks, debate, walks and exhibitions celebrating the people, places and events of 1066.

With the Bayeux Tapestry on display from 10th September at the British Museum and preparations already underway in Normandy for the 2027 'Millennium' (or 'Willennium') celebrating the thousandth anniversary of the birth of William the Conqueror, there has never been a better time to revisit this remarkable period of history.

Festival Events

Saturday 10th October at The New Hall at 2 for 2.30pm

The Site of the Norman Landing and the Subsequent Battle

Two eminent local historical researchers, Stephen Gray MSc and Jonathan Starkey MA, who have both published numerous historical articles, will debate the differing claims. Where did William actually land, and where was the battle actually fought? [Click here to book](#)

Saturday 24th October at the New Hall at 10.30 for 11am

What Was the English Landscape Like When the Normans Invaded?

Dr Michael Bintley (University of Southampton) explores England's landscape in 1066 using archaeology, literature and the Bayeux Tapestry.

[Click here to book](#)

Saturday 24th October at the Lower Court Hall

The Great Debate What if Harold Godwinson, Harald Hardrada and William of Normandy could each make their case to become King of England? Presented by FOAM in the

style of a modern televised election debate, complete with audience questions, Norman refreshments and a vote to decide the winner. [Click here to book](#)

Saturday 31st October at the New Hall at 10.30 for 11am

A Tale Told: A Bard's View of the Bayeux Tapestry

Kathleen Tyson presents a fascinating new interpretation of the Bayeux Tapestry, suggesting it may originally have been intended to accompany the performance of a travelling bard.

[Click here to book](#)

Saturday 31st October at the New Hall at 2 for 2.30pm

The Bayeux Tapestry Through the Ages:

Embroidering, Restoration and Conservation

Dr Alexandra Makin, a member of the Scientific Committee for Research for the Bayeux Tapestry, explores how the tapestry was created, preserved and studied today.

[Click here to book](#)

Walk the 1066 Route Andrew Scott's illustrated guide to the Icklesham–Rye section of the 31-mile 1066 Country Walk will be available soon from winchelsea.com

Display Boards in The Lower Court Hall

An exhibition in the Lower Court Hall, related to the Norman Conquest produced and curated by Andrew Scott.

Young People's Exhibition

Children from St Thomas' Primary School have created artwork inspired by the Norman Conquest. Their work will be exhibited within Winchelsea during the festival.

Winchelsea Conservation Society (WCS)

Winchelsea and Area Archaeological and Historical Society (WAAHS),

[Click here for posters of the events and to read more detail](#)



New Launch Vehicle urgently needed

BBC Sussex News has reported that the Pett Level Independent Rescue Boat (PLIRB) is urgently trying to raise £30,000 to replace its launch vehicle:

“The tractor, which transports lifeboats to and from the water, is suffering severe mechanical failure and becoming increasingly difficult to repair. Jo O'Hara, the charity's administrative operator, said they were "facing a real risk of not having a reliable and safe vehicle" to launch the lifeboat service. "This is a critical priority for us, particularly as we are in the summer season and there has been an increase in calls," she added.

‘She added the charity could not transfer money from its protected new lifeboat fund to pay for the tractor, which would cost about £30,000 for a second-hand vehicle. "We have looked at applying for grants but they normally take several months for any response," said O'Hara. "We can't wait that long”.

bbc.co.uk/news

plirb.org



Icklesham Roman Road

Between Sunday 12th and Friday 17th July, members of the WAAHS, together with local volunteers, continued their investigation of the Roman road at Icklesham. Working under the guidance of professional archaeologist Cameron Ross, the team successfully excavated a third section.

The excavation produced several significant finds, including two Roman horseshoes embedded within the road surface itself, together with a Roman pottery sherd recovered from the partially excavated roadside ditch, a characteristic feature of Roman roads. These discoveries provide further valuable evidence for the construction and use of this important route.

WAAHS plans to excavate a fourth section of the Roman road before the Rye and District Country Show on Saturday 22nd August. The exact excavation dates will be announced shortly.

The Society warmly welcomes all WAAHS members and new volunteers to take part in the excavation. No previous archaeological experience is necessary. Any help for a day or for the entire dig would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to join the excavation or be added to the contact list for this and future archaeological activities, please contact Grace O'Neil grace.oneill@yahoo.co.uk.



Temporary Lighting

The high-level 'bus station' lights at St Thomas's were taken down this month and replaced with temporary LED floodlights preliminary to the installation of a completely new system.

Later in the autumn the building will be largely closed for six to eight weeks, with the new lights ready to switch on in good time for Christmas.



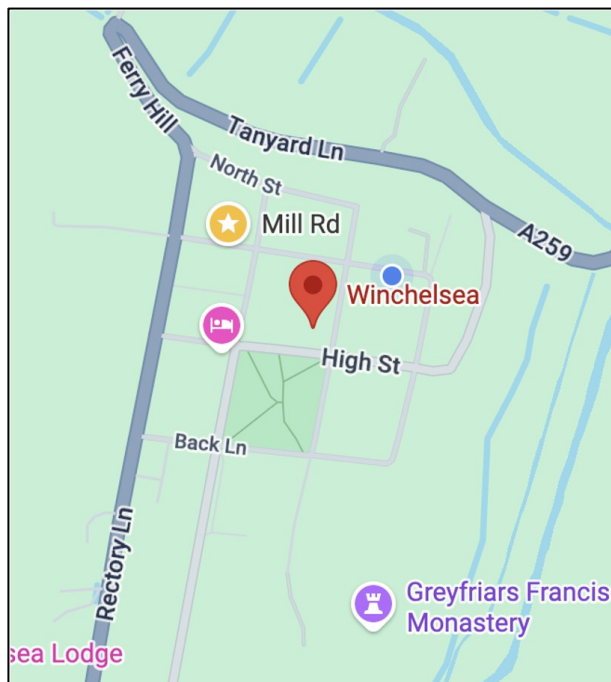
Christmas Windows 2026?

Debbie Beverley writes: Firstly, can I thank everyone who has hosted a Christmas window over the last two years and upheld this long-standing tradition. Your support has been fantastic and given so much pleasure to both residents and visitors to the town. In addition, we have also raised a good amount of money for Demelza Children's Hospice Charity.

I would also like to thank the other members of the team, Richard Plumb, Julian Cloke, Graham Large and Lyn Davidson for all their support and enthusiasm in getting the town to look so beautiful for Christmas.

This year, I am standing down from co ordinating Christmas Windows and therefore looking for new volunteers for 2026. If this is something that Winchelsea wishes to continue, then a new team will need to be formed.

If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to email me on deborahmbeverley@btinternet.com
Sincere thanks for all your support!



New Neighbourhood Watch

Adam Hart writes: When I recently renewed my house insurance, I was asked whether I belonged to a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. If I did, I would qualify for a small discount on my premium.

Although many of us already benefit from alerts from the excellent Winchelsea Watch WhatsApp group, I discovered that Winchelsea did not actually have a formally registered Neighbourhood Watch scheme, so I have established a scheme and would like to invite everyone in Winchelsea to join.

The map above sets out the broad area covered. If you live outside this area but would like to be covered by the scheme, please let me know and I can extend the area.

It's very straightforward. Simply visit ourwatch.org.uk enter your postcode and register. You should then be invited to join Winchelsea Neighbourhood Watch (Registration No. 000187067).

Membership brings a range of benefits, including access to crime prevention advice, security updates and, in some cases, insurance discounts. More importantly, it helps strengthen the community network that has already proved so valuable through the Winchelsea Watch WhatsApp group which has been renamed Winchelsea Neighbourhood Watch.

Whether or not you choose to register formally, I encourage anyone who is not already a member of the WhatsApp group to join – you can do so [using this link](#). We'll continue to share timely information and alerts from Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue, Trading Standards and other trusted organisations, helping to keep Winchelsea a safe place for us all.

Many thanks for your support.

Adam Hart

Winchelsea Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

CALLING ALL JAM-MAKERS



THE CHURCH IS LOOKING FOR
DONATIONS OF HOMEMADE
JAMS, CHUTNEYS & PRESERVES
FOR THE SUMMER FETE

Labelled jars can be left on the Rectory doorstep
or collection can be arranged. Thank you.



Harvest Supper and Quiz



The Benefice of Winchelsea, Winchelsea Beach,
Icklesham and Pett is delighted to invite you to
the **2026 Harvest Supper and Rector's Harvest Quiz.**



Friday 9th October



7pm for 7.30pm



Winchelsea New Hall



Three course supper



Bar open throughout

Proceeds will be donated to the Rye Food Bank.
There will also be an opportunity to donate
non-perishable food items to this important
local charity.

If you would like to help with catering
for this event, please contact
David Dickson **+44 7758 962824**

**Book here
via QR code**



**or in person
from
Mary Parker**



[Click here to book online](#)

Contact Mary Parker on 07927 107678 or email
parkermary848@gmail.com for offline bookings



Community Speed Watch

A few of us in Winchelsea are very keen to re-establish the Community Speed Watch. We want to recruit volunteers to be trained and join the group.

We are seeking at least ten volunteers who will then form groups of four to carry out Speed Watches at different times of the week which are most suitable for them. A larger team means that we are not reliant on a few individuals to carry out this life saving activity on every occasion it is put into action. Thank you to those who have already pledged their support.

On the morning of Saturday 11th July you may have seen a few High-Vis Jackets and a hand-held speed camera monitoring the speed of cars on Monk Walk.

We are extremely grateful to PCSO Chloe Cameron who was demonstrating to a few of us how to safely use the Speed Camera to monitor vehicle speed. We are also grateful to Peter Costick who played a major role in the Speed Watch before Covid for his valuable guidance and introducing us to Bob Kenwood the Senior District Admin Officer for the Sussex Police Community Speed Watch.

What is a Community Speed Watch?

Community Speed Watch (CSW) is a national initiative where, in partnership with the police, members of

communities use detection devices to monitor and record vehicles that exceed set speed limits. Recorded data is then passed to the local police authority for appropriate action. The volunteers receive full training and report drivers exceeding the speed limit to the police with the aim of educating drivers to slow down.

If the data proves a driver is ignoring repeated warnings police can prosecute them. The aim is to:

- reduce death and injury on the roads
- improve the quality of life for local communities
- reduce the speed of vehicles to the speed limit
- increase public awareness of inappropriate speed

Community Speed Watch does not result in prosecution itself. However, if a persistent speeding driver is identified through the scheme, police can use this evidence to take action against them if required.

Please contact David Dickson on 07758 962824 if you are interested. I will be at the Church Markets in August and September, The Fete and other Winchelsea Events please do not hesitate to stop and have a chat to find out more. Look for the High Viz jacket.

Volunteers receive training, and neighbourhood policing team staff will support them. Much more information can be found at communityspeedwatch.org

Thank you for taking the time to read this article and please consider volunteering for the Winchelsea Community Speed Watch.

David Dickson, Richard Plumb, Peter Cosstick



20 is Plenty

We are extremely grateful to Councillor Chris Chappell for raising awareness about this campaign over many years in Winchelsea. Chris has now ensured it is an active agenda item on the Icklesham Parish Council and they now fully support a 20 mph speed limit for many roads in the local area. We are initially campaigning for a 20mph speed limit which is much needed given there is an entrance to the primary school in a 40mph zone. Our aim is to work with and support IPC, complimenting their work.

20's Plenty for Us is a not-for-profit organisation that was formed in 2007 and recently incorporated as *20's Plenty for Us CIC*. It campaigns for a speed limit of 20mph on streets where people and motor vehicles mix to help communities to make their streets, towns and villages better places to be.

The group does not represent a particular sector of society or mode of transport. Supporters include children, adults and the elderly. They drive cars, vans and HGVs; they cycle; they walk or scoot; some even ride horses.

Much more information [can be found here](#).

We will keep you informed about our next steps. We will be circulating a petition in September which we hope all residents, users of the town and school parents and carers will sign. This will then be used to demonstrate clear support of the Town and its users to the IPC and Local / National Government.

David Dickson, Richard Plumb



Open Gardens

The heatwave abated just a bit, so conditions were ideal for the Winchelsea's big Open Garden weekend. The town tripled its resident population as well over 900 visitors came on Saturday 18th to enjoy the eleven gardens that were on display for the National Garden Scheme.

Particular attractions were *Periteau House and Cleveland House*, two large gardens that had been the mainstay of the opening for many years, re-worked by new owners and on view again after a break. Since the first Winchelsea opening in 1980, fifty different gardens have been part of the scheme, testimony to the role gardening plays in the life of the town.

The day raised a record £10,200 for charity, including £750 for Friary Gardeners. They are now based in Hastings but started out at *Greyfriars*, offering horticultural training and greater independence to adults with a wide spectrum of learning difficulties in the Hastings and Rother area.

The gardens opened again on Sunday afternoon in support of the Friends of the Memorial Hospital in Rye, adding another £1,100 to the sum raised over the weekend. If the June opening for St Michael's Hospice is included, over £15,000 has been donated by visitors to Winchelsea's gardens this year.





Paul Veys 1960-2026

Paul died on 18th July, having been diagnosed with cancer a year ago, shortly after he retired. He and Cathy have been part of the life of Winchelsea from the 1990s and Paul was one of the original WRA team. His funeral will take place at St Thomas's on Tuesday 11th August at 12.30pm.

A colleague from Great Ormond Street Hospital writes, 'Paul was one of the true pioneers of paediatric blood and marrow transplantation, and his impact on the lives of children and their families has been extraordinary. Through his clinical expertise, scientific vision, and unwavering commitment to improving outcomes, he helped transform the care of countless patients at Great Ormond Street Hospital and across the world.

'Those of us who had the privilege of working alongside him will remember not only his remarkable achievements, but also his generosity as a mentor, his calm and inspiring leadership, and his compassion for children and families facing the most challenging circumstances. Beyond his immense professional legacy, Paul will be remembered as a kind, thoughtful, and deeply respected colleague who inspired so many of us.'

Our hearts go out to Cathy and to their family.



Tessa Potts 1941-2026

Tessa died on 27th July. She was an essential and much-loved part of church and town life, first coming to Winchelsea as a girl in 1948, and returning in the 1980s when her husband, Harry, retired. She lived in Friars Road, moving to Bartholomew Court in Rye a decade ago but continuing her Winchelsea involvement to the end.

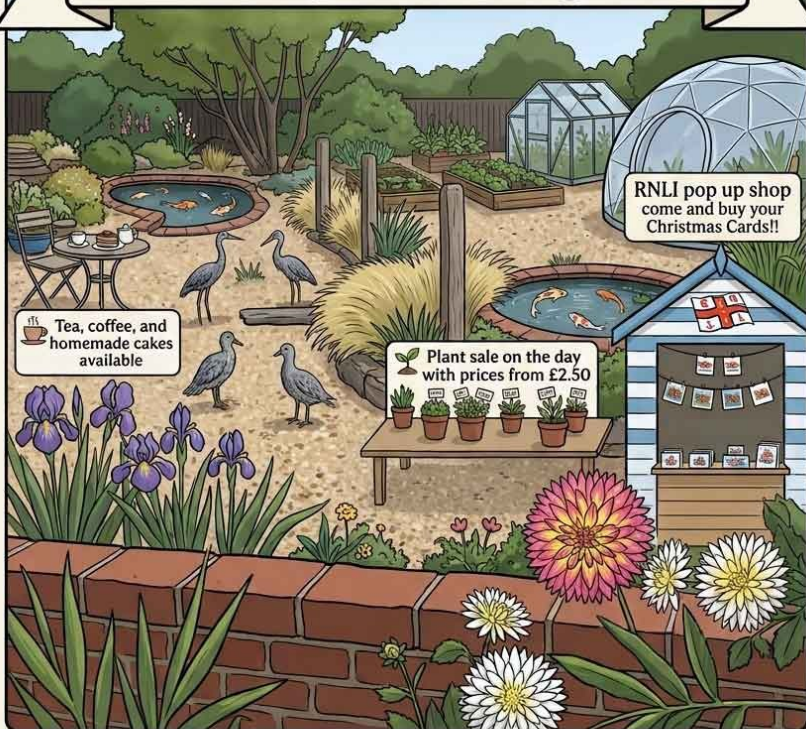
She was sacristan at St Thomas's and served on the church council and deanery synod. Her contribution to the church was recognised by the diocese when she was admitted to the Order of St Richard at a ceremony in Chichester Cathedral in 2022 (pictured with Bishop Martin above).

Tessa was always involved in fundraising for charity at a local and wider level: she was a notable advocate for the cause of the handicapped survivors of the Ceausescu regime in Romania. She was also a great supporter of the Memorial Hospital in Rye and her Second Wednesday raffle was legendary.

RNLI Open Garden



Sunday, 23rd August



Tea, coffee, and
homemade cakes
available

Plant sale on the day
with prices from £2.50

RNLI pop up shop
come and buy your
Christmas Cards!!

Windjammer, The Ridge, Winchelsea Beach, TN36 4LU

Open
10:30 until 16:00



Entrance £3
children free

Bring your friends, family, and an appetite for cake
all in support of the incredible work of the RNLI!



We can't wait to see you there!





Who will you walk for?

In September 2025, Helen and Mark joined the Moonlight Walk for the first time with their family, walking in memory of their brother Dave, who had been cared for at St Michael's Hospice just five months earlier.

About the event Mark said, "It was surprising how many people that we knew have been through something similar and had lost loved ones, and were taking part too. We were all there together (12 of us) and it reminds you that it's just part of life." Helen added, "The atmosphere was lovely... the Memory Wall was really emotional but a lovely way to end the walk."

This special event under the light of the full moon brings hundreds of people together each year, to remember loved ones and support the vital services the Hospice provides to the community of Hastings and Rother.

Walk to celebrate life. Walk to remember someone special. Walk to support local hospice care. Sign up to Moonlight Walk 2026 today. Visit stmichaelshospice.com/moonlight or call 1424 456396 to secure your place.

What's On Weekly At Winchelsea New Hall

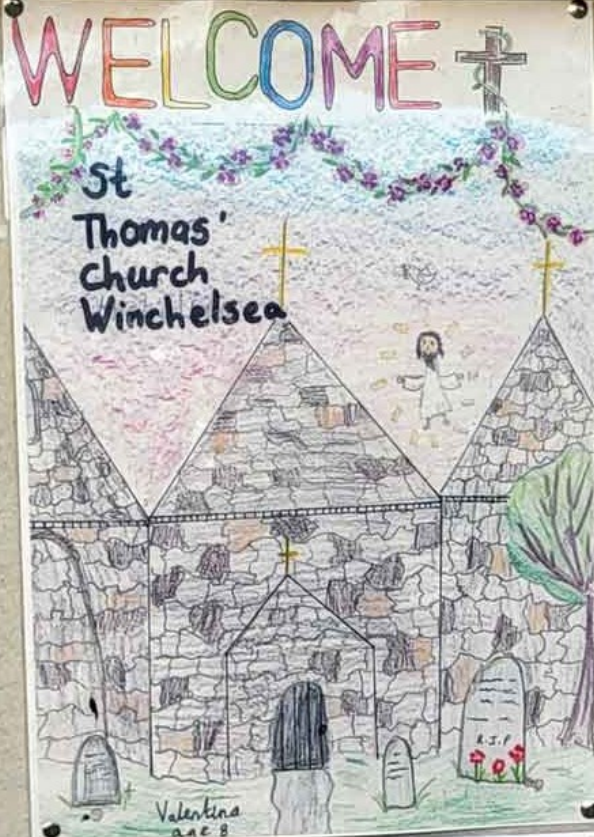
Mondays 09.30-10.15	Pilates with Hannah	Suitable for all. Contact Hannah on 07936 151529 or email hannahpilateshastings@gmail.com
Mondays 15.00-15.50	Zumba Gold With Daisy	Suitable for all. Contact Daisy at fitnessbythesea@outlook.com
Tuesdays 14.00-15.30	Tune In Winchelsea	Fun singing group run by local tenor Gary Marriot. All ages and abilities welcome. Contact Rosemarie on 07941 458628
Thursdays 09.30-10.30	Scottish Dancing	A fun, friendly class, suitable for beginners. Contact maddycoelho@hotmail.com
Thursdays 10.45-11.45	Pilates with Celia	Suitable for all ages and abilities. Contact Celia on kingcelia54@gmail.com
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	Move It or Lose It with L Rae	Fun and friendly exercise class suitable for all abilities. Contact Lisa on 07939 323937 or email lisarae.brough@moveitorloseit.co.uk

NB: Some classes close during July/August

**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

New Hall 100 Club

The winning number for the 100 Club for July is 10.
Congratulations to the winner of the £100 prize!



This poster was designed as part of a summer initiative with St Thomas' Primary School to celebrate our Patronal Festival 2026.

This poster was selected as 'stand out' among dozens of submissions. Well done to Valentina, age 8, for her excellent Welcome Poster!

Winchelsea Church and Town Calendar

August 2026

Saturday 1st	Church Market - 10.30 till 12
Sunday 2nd	8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
Tuesday 4th	Mothers' Prayers - 10am
Sunday 9th	9.15am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea
Tuesday 11th	Funeral of Paul Veys - St Thomas's - 12.30
Saturday 15th	Winchelsea Fete - 1pm to 4pm Coffee Morning at Wesley's Chapel - 10am to 12pm Film Night - New Hall - 6.30 for 7.30pm
Sunday 16th	9.15am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea Winchelsea Cricket Club play Beckley at home - 2pm
Saturday 22nd	Rye and District Country Show
Sunday 23rd	9.15am: Parish Eucharist at Icklesham 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea RNLI Open Garden - Winchelsea Beach - 10.30am to 4pm
Saturday 29th	Winchelsea Art Exhibition - Court Hall 10am to 5.30pm Garden Society Summer Show - New Hall - 2pm
Sunday 30th	11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea 4pm: Evening Prayer on the Beach at Pett Level Winchelsea Art Exhibition - Court Hall 10am to 5.30pm
Monday 31st	Winchelsea Art Exhibition - Court Hall 10am to 3.45pm
Sat 5th Sept	Church Market - 10.30 till 12
Sun 6th Sept	8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level 11am: Parish Eucharist at Winchelsea Winchelsea Arts Concert - St Thomas's - 4pm

Please send copy for the September Magazine
to ryeview@gmail.com
as soon as you have it to hand but, in any case
before Thursday 27th August



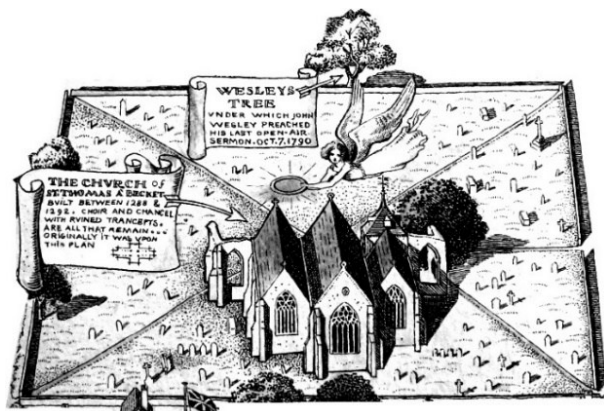
Gavin McFadyean

For Winchelsea Beach information go to
winchelseabeach.org.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



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
 WhatsApp/SMS 07941 602349
 The Rector's day off is Friday

Winchelsea Churchwardens

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 01797 227858 kingcelia54@gmail.com
 Gavin McFadyean
 7 Barrack Square TN36 4EG
 07867 748511 gavin@mcfadyean.co.uk

Winchelsea PCC Secretary

Mary Parker
 07927 107678 parkermmary848@gmail.com

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