WINCHELSEA PARISH MAGAZINE

November 2026



Evocation of The Fallen created at the Court Hall *by Nigel Ashton*



November: Kingdom Season

A reflection from the Rector

It is remarkable how, over the span of just a few weeks, the nights have drawn in and the morning darkness lingers – now almost consuming our morning routines. Here is a short prayer which is offered at the beginning of each new day as part of the Daily Office. It is a wonderful prayer that invites us into the dawning of the new day.

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you.

Autumn is my favourite season. I love how the light falls, the chill catches, and there is a tangible movement of creation towards rest. Something about this season allows me to breathe differently to other times of the year. This change of gear is echoed in how the church gathers for worship in the month of November.

All Saints and All Souls At the beginning of the month, we have the great Feast of All Saints and the solemnities of

All Souls. Together, the observance of these days form Allhallowtide. Both occasions invite reflection on the notion of eternal life and the heavenly home Christians believe God has prepared. In this short season, the Church looks to the Saints for wisdom and encouragement, and we each spend time reflecting on the lives of those who have gone before us and whose memory continues to inspire and comfort us.

Remembrance Sunday Progressing through November, we arrive at Remembrance Sunday - this year on 8th November. These community gatherings are not limited to one religion or denomination. As names are read, wreaths are laid and silence is kept, there is a tangible darkness in this shared lament. From this place of darkness, we must also spend time reflecting on how we commit to change – doing things differently, being people who bear light and hope, and striving for peace among all people.

Christ the King As the month draws to a close the Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King. It is an opportunity to consider the sovereignty of Jesus and reflect on the subversive nature of his kingship. This feast gives title to the Kingdom Season observed in some Christian denominations – a time of reflection, remembrance and reconciliation. The triumphant celebrations of Christ the King Sunday set us up ready to embrace the journey of anticipation and mystery that is Advent.

November is a season rich in theological meaning and, when embraced in its fullness, reveals great depth in its invitation to self-reflection, remembrance and worship. We do all this reminded of that great 'cloud of witnesses' (Hebrews 12) who accompany us through these moments of darkness, and the glory of the heavenly host whose presence remains sure and steady.

Nathanael



Confirmation

Martin and Maria Lew Gor are pictured here with the Bishop of Lewes. Alongside other candidates from the deanery, Martin was confirmed at Guestling Church on 7th October.

Church Lighting Project

Electrical works and installation of lights started in mid-October and are due for completion on 27th November. Then come final works and contractor clear up, programming and testing of the lighting system, deep cleaning and rearranging the church

On Sunday 13th December there will be a benefice Celebration Service at 11am

Access to the porch and church building remains possible when work allows. If the contractors are working, they will provide barriers that allow visitors to step into the church. The porch has all booklets, postcards and notices available. We are doing our best to open during the weekends (particularly Saturday) but the church and equipment require supervision when the doors are open – please contact Gavin if you can spare an hour to linger and welcome over the weekends in November *gav@mcfadyean.co.uk*

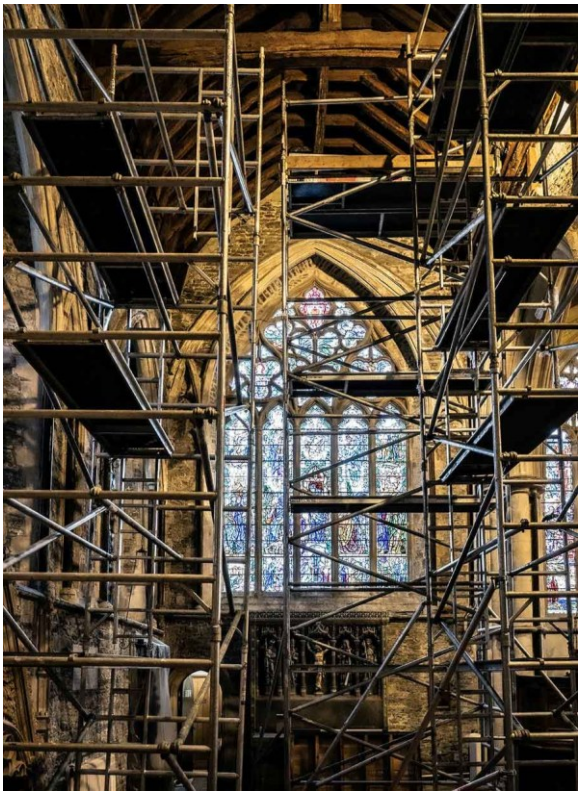
Worship continues each Sunday with the kind hospitality of the churches of Icklesham and Pett. A full schedule of

services can be picked up from the porch. We have been enjoying an informal gathering for 'Porch Prayers' followed by coffee at the Rectory on a Thursday at 10am.

Church Market will continue, held in the Court Hall from 10.30 to 12 on Saturdays 7th November and 5th December.

Christmas is coming! We are excited to organise and host a busy festive season full of services and events. The Rector looks forward to celebrating his first Christmas in Winchelsea and extends a warm welcome to all who would like to find meaning at this special time of year.

This year's Carol Service will have a very special feel as we enjoy the new lighting and pray for God's blessing upon them with a prayer written by the children of St Thomas' Primary School.



Sim Canetty-Clarke



Harvest LOAFF Supper Recipes

Mary Parker and David Dickson would like to thank everyone for their generosity in volunteering, decorating the hall, cooking, washing up donating and attending to ensure a successful benefice of Winchelsea, Winchelsea Beach, Icklesham and Pett Harvest Supper.

Not only was the evening enjoyable but £632 was raised for the Rye Food Bank. Thank you to Sue Wear who kindly ensured the perishable surplus food was distributed to the homeless, providing a nourishing and warming meal.

Harvest is a time for people of all faiths and cultures to celebrate. Eating supper together and the ritual of breaking bread moves from a gesture of hospitality to a profound, celebratory act of collective survival and spiritual gratitude.

Times of plenty provide us with the opportunity to reflect or pray, in our own chosen way, on finding more solutions to ending hunger in our local, national and global communities.

In designing the soup recipe, I am grateful to John and Sue McGeown for donating a giant pumpkin; Chef Yotam

Ottolenghi and Professor Tim Cooper, of Nottingham Trent University for inspiration; tasters Hilary Roome and Bernice Meier, and of course ChatGPT/AI!

The recipe is basically a veganised version of Ottolenghi's classic Pumpkin, Orange and Saffron soup using Cooper's LOAF principles - using ingredients that are local, organic, animal-friendly and fairly traded. I have added an additional F – farmer-friendly - and attempted to make the recipe inclusive, by adapting to as many faith or dietary requirements as possible.

In designing the vegetable cottage pie recipe, I am grateful to chef Madhur Jaffrey (classic recipe in her brilliant World Vegetarian book) and chef Eddie Scott for his fearless quest to reimagine Indian classics in his book Misarana. The tasty dish is based on Dal Dhokri , akin to the pasta of India. However we are making it a quintessentially English comfort food. I have used English Carlin Peas instead of lentils and parsley potato mash instead of Dhokri.

Many of you have asked for the recipes
Click this link to access them *David Dickson*



Harvest Supper Rector's Quiz *Natasha Robinson*

WINCHELSEA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

AGM

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER

11.30 – 13.00

WINCHELSEA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Are holding their 2026 AGM in the

WINCHELSEA NEW HALL

Saturday 7th November 11.30 – 13.00 teas / coffees from 11am

Speakers: Jenner Sands, Clerk Icklesham Parish Council
Adam Hart, Winchelsea Neighbourhood Watch

We hope you can join us

For more information / RA@winchelsea.com





The Fallen

On 3rd October FOAM presented three sold-out performances of a unique event to commemorate the men of Winchelsea who served in the First World War. The cellar of *Lines End* was transformed into a command post in the trenches of northern France in 1915, using antique uniforms and props.

The Pegasus Choir directed by Matthew Altham, with actors John Davidson, Glen Marks and Jo Marks, performed a programme of music and words from the time of the Great War, including pieces by Ravel, Elgar and Holst, as well readings from works by R C Sheriff, Sebastian Faulks and Siegfried Sassoon.

The event commenced at the Court Hall, where a tribute to the Winchelsea fallen was installed. The display (pictured on the cover of this magazine) was centred around the memorial board presented by the town to commemorate those lost in the Great War.

The reaction to the performance was overwhelming, many audience members commented on the extraordinary evocation of the conflict through the use of music, sound and drama. The sense of immersion in the conflict and the sound of battle coming from outside the cellar was astonishing.

A comment from an audience member: *Congratulations to you all on a most moving performance of 'The Fallen' today. Not many dry eyes in the place, mine included. The setting, the atmosphere and the singing, reading and acting were completely right.*

A comment from a member of the choir: *Thank you so much for the amazing production, the generous hospitality and the warm welcome from the whole community. It was such a genuine pleasure to come down to Winchelsea not only to sing but also to meet and talk with everyone and experience the beautiful setting - hope to come back soon!*

The production costs for the event were covered by donations, resulting in the box office takings of over £2,500 going to FOAM to continue the work of maintaining our wonderful medieval buildings.

We would like to thank everyone who took part and supported this landmark event.

Phil Mack and Nigel Ashton.

Click here for a YouTube compilation of photos





Sim Canetty-Clarke



2026 Poppy Appeal

This year's Appeal will run from Thursday 22nd October to Wednesday 11th November.

Just to confirm that donation boxes and trays containing poppy material are available at The Little Shop, The Farm Kitchen, The New Inn, the Co-op, Sutton's Shop, The Ship Inn/Jamie's Butchers, Winchelsea Sands Holiday Park and the School.

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 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. Donations can also be made by using the QR code on the trays.

A stock of gift aid envelopes is available in the Church porch for cash or cheques (made payable to RBL Poppy Appeal) and these can be placed in the Black Box, also located in the porch, or in any collection box. They can also be given to me on or before 11 November please.

We do hope for a good turnout at the New Inn Quiz night on Sunday 8 November. Please see poster details. All proceeds will go to the Appeal and many thanks to Jerry Moss for organising this.

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 give me a call on 01797 223458.

The Quiz With thanks to Jerry Moss, we again plan to hold a quiz in the New Inn. The date is Sunday 8th 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 up to 4/7 and an entry fee of £4 per person. Please book a table directly with the New Inn, or speak to Jerry.

Remembrance On Remembrance Sunday, 8 November, the Mayor will lead a wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial at 11am. Others who wish to lay wreaths are welcome to do so, and this is very much the decision of individuals. There will be no service in the church this year, as work is going on in there, but I would be very happy to receive any further donations after the ceremony. There will also be a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 11am on Wednesday 11 November, Armistice Day.

Thank you.
John Rodley - local appeal organiser.



Adam Hart, Paul Youlten and David Richards *Sim Canetty-Clarke*

1066: The Iham Vote

FOAM'S contribution to Winchelsea's festival of history was '1066: The Great Debate'.

When Edward the Confessor died in 1066 without an heir, three men felt they had a claim to the English throne: Harold, an Ango Saxon; William, a Norman, and Hardrada, a Viking. On 24th October we gave them the opportunity to state their case to the Saxon villagers of Iham.

In the afternoon, Harold (played by Paul Youlten) won the discussion. The audience liked the fact that he was a local man and had been chosen to rule by the Witan, a council of wise men. They were prepared to overlook his oath of fealty to William and his shameful treatment of Edith Swanneck.

William and Hardrada, played by Dave Richards and Adam Hart, were unable to shake of their reputation as violent rulers. The audience were unconvinced that they would benefit from Hardrada's 'Northern Powerhouse' consisting of England, Denmark and Norway, previously successful under King Canute. While William's offer of building lots of castles and churches was clearly not enough to sway the villagers.

However, it was a different story in the evening. William came back fighting, it might have been the copious quantities of Normandy Cider, cheese and macarons he provided, the black leather and studs he was wearing, or the promise to the ladies, of lots of 'Frenchmen on horses' but he took the vote by some margin.

Our imaginary debate took place on 1st September. Two weeks later, Hardrada landed in the North and took York, before being defeated and killed by Harold at the Battle of Stamford Bridge. Within days William crossed the Channel from Normandy, and after a long and bloody battle, Harold was dead and William was victorious.

The rest as they say is history. Life in Iham would be very different. England became a feudal state. In Iham, the villagers would lose many of their rights, serving their Norman Lords as serfs. It was worse in the north, where an estimated one hundred and fifty thousand people died of starvation following Norman retribution.

Ian Rowlands quizzed the claimants with additional questions from the good folk of Iham, while Chris Chappell provided the history and Glen, Mark an Phil were our front of house team. As usual with a FOAM event, the audience had lots of fun, (and perhaps learned a little bit of history) as well as contributing almost a thousand pounds, to help us maintain the towns ancient monuments and museum.

Click here to see more of Sim's pictures of the event

Coming next is FOAM Carols on Friday 18th December, and the legendary FOAM Quiz on Saturday 27th February.

Chris Chappell



1066 History Festival

Children from St Thomas's Primary School contributed to the displays at the Court Hall during October's Festival.

The final two Festival talks, on the Bayeux Tapestry, take place on Saturday 31st October in the New Hall at 11am and 2.30pm. *Click here for details*



Centenary Celebration and AGM

The New Hall will be welcoming Winchelsea residents and users of the Hall to a centenary celebration and AGM on Saturday 28th November at 4pm.

There will be a presentation of the first 100 years from the archives collated by Jerry Moss, with refreshments before the Trustees give their annual report and the committee proposed for the coming year, followed by a Q&A.

It would be fantastic if the community would join in the celebration!



SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

10.30AM TO 3PM



WINCHELSEA CHRISTMAS FAIR

GRAND RAFFLE, TOMBOLA, REFRESHMENTS

COME CHOOSE YOUR FESTIVE GIFTS!

LOCAL ARTISANS - BASKETS, BAGS, CASHMERE, CERAMICS, WINE, CHOCOLATE, FORAGED FOOD, CAKES, PRESERVES, BULB BOWLS, JEWELLERY, FINE ART, PRINTS, CARDS, TEXTILES, PERFUMES OILS & SOAPS, CANDLES, WALKING STICKS, BOOKS AND MORE





ENTRY £1

Under 16s Free

WINCHELSEA NEW HALL
TN36 4AA

Registered Charity no. 235174

Christmas Fair

On Saturday 21st November, from 10.30am to 3pm, Winchelsea's annual Christmas Fair will be showcasing 26 local craftspeople, artisans and artists.

Specially decorated, the New Hall will be filled with wonderful handmade gifts, art and products. Come and choose gifts and foods. St Michael's Hospice will be bringing their Christmas cards. Refreshments will be available.

We also have our wonderful Grand Christmas Raffle in aid of Rye Food Bank and the New Hall with exceptional prizes generously donated by local businesses and individuals. The Raffle will be drawn by the Mayor at the Christmas Fair at 3pm.

Top prizes include, a "2 Out On The Town" package; Guided Bird Walk for Six; Wine & Cheese Tasting for Two at Charles Palmer; a "Spoil Yourself" Package..... and many more prizes besides.

Tickets will be available in advance at the Little Shop (weekends only). Or contact Hilary for tickets:*roome12hilary@gmail.com* 07923451431. Thank you for your support!

Donations wanted for the Tombola
It would be great if you could help us by donating Tombola prizes, such as wine, spirits, beer, chocolates (please check dates), Christmas gift sets (e.g. toiletries) and Seasonal foods (biscuits, puddings, preserves, sweets and treats)

Please contact us to arrange collection or drop off:
Up to November 9th please contact John & Sue McGeown 07796 272720 *johnhmcgeown@gmail.com*
From 10th November contact Jeremy and Caroline Naylor 07976 838514 *cenaylor@gmail.com*

Winchelsea
Garden Society

Graham Spencer

Gardens that have inspired me

A new talk from Graham about his favourite gardens both at home and abroad

The New Hall
Winchelsea 2:30 pm
Saturday 14 November 2026

Admission **£5**





Second Wednesday

The subject of November's talk is *The Chevalière d'Eon and the tradition of women who passed as men*

The Chevalier d'Eon (1728-1810) was a French diplomat, soldier, author, spy blackmailer and fencer who lived the second half of his long life as a woman. By and large, d'Eon was accepted in society as female: historian Dr Stephen Brogan will be discussing why this is plausible.

11th November at 2.30pm in the New Hall
Doors open from 2.15pm

Members free - Visitors £5 - Homemade tea £2 -
Annual membership fee £15

2ndWeds@gmail.com



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has volunteered to decorate a window for this year's Winchelsea Advent Windows Trail. It is always a delight to see our town transformed by this much-loved Christmas tradition, bringing light, warmth and festive cheer to the winter evenings.

From 1st to 17th December, a new window will be illuminated each day at 4.30pm till 9pm. On 18th December, all the remaining windows, through to Christmas Eve, will light up, completing our festive trail.

This year, all proceeds will be donated to our chosen charity, St Michael's Hospice, so by taking part, you will be helping to support a very worthy cause. Trail maps will be available to purchase from the shop from the end of November.

Any additional Christmas decorations in windows around the town are always very welcome, helping to make Winchelsea sparkle and creating a wonderful festive atmosphere for residents and visitors alike. Thank you all for helping to make Christmas in Winchelsea so special.

Caroline Naylor



Ride & Stride

Several people from Winchelsea took part in Ride & Stride on Saturday 12th September to raise funds for both the Sussex Historic Churches Trust and St Thomas's Church.

We are delighted that the total raised was £1,525 including Gift Aid, more than last year! The Trust will receive £762.50 and the balance will be added to church funds.

Many thanks to everyone who sponsored walkers and cyclists, everyone who walked and cycled and everyone who welcomed visitors to St Thomas's from other local churches.

Patient Participation Group

The Rye Medical Centre Patient Participation Group AGM will take place at 6pm on Monday 16th November at the Hub on Rye Hill.

All patients registered at Rye Medical Centre are invited to attend and the group is looking for nominations for the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Anyone who would like to get involved in the group is welcome to email the secretary at *ryemcppg@gmail.com*

Ben Chishick

WINCHELSEA FILM NIGHT

In conjunction with Winchelsea New Hall

Tea with Mussolini



DIRECTOR
FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI

SCREENWRITER
JOHN MORTIMER,
FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI

CHER JUDI DENCH JOAN PLOWRIGHT MAGGIE SMITH LILY TOMLIN

SATURDAY 21st NOVEMBER 6.30 for 7.30 SCREENING

Admission Free

Refreshments, Pay Bar.

Come early, enjoy a drink or two.



Laura Solomons

Winchelsea Beach in November

Mothers Prayers
Tuesday 3rd at *Solstice*, Sea Road at 10am.

Monthly Bingo
Wednesday 18th - with afternoon tea in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall at 3pm. Doors open at 2.30. All welcome.

Fellowship Lunch
Fellowship Lunch will be at 12.30 for 1pm in Winchelsea Beach Community Hall on Friday 27th. To book a place please call Mary on 07927 107678. There is no charge for the meal but a donation to charity would be very welcome.

Christmas Craft Fair
Sunday 29th November in the Community Hall from 10.30 to 2.30.

winchelseabeach.org.uk



John Wesley's Chapel

The picture shows the rearranged Chapel for the Heritage Open Day in September. The new displays were of great interest and may well reappear at the Garden Open Days in the summer of 2027.

The next event at the Chapel is on Saturday 14th November when we shall be Remembering the Fallen, particularly those from the town. It is not a service as such, but it will be a time of recognition, remembrance and reflection, with words, music and prayer. We meet at 10.30am for tea and coffee before the time of remembrance at 11.

And then the last event of the year is a concert of Christmas Music and Carols with Hastings Bach Choir under the direction of Stephen Page on Saturday 5th December, meeting at 10.30am for teas, coffees and seasonal refreshments before the concert at 11.

Looking forward to the new year, skipping the worst of the winter in January, we hope, we are expecting a visit from the President of the Methodist Church UK, Revd Mark Slaney. Details will follow, but the current thinking is that he will be visiting the Chapel on Tuesday 16th February sometime in the morning, maybe conducting a service, maybe using the Wesley pulpit.



Christmas Oratorio

On Thursday 17th December 2026 at 7.30pm, Ensemble OrQuesta, directed by Marcio da Silva, will perform J S Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* at St Thomas's

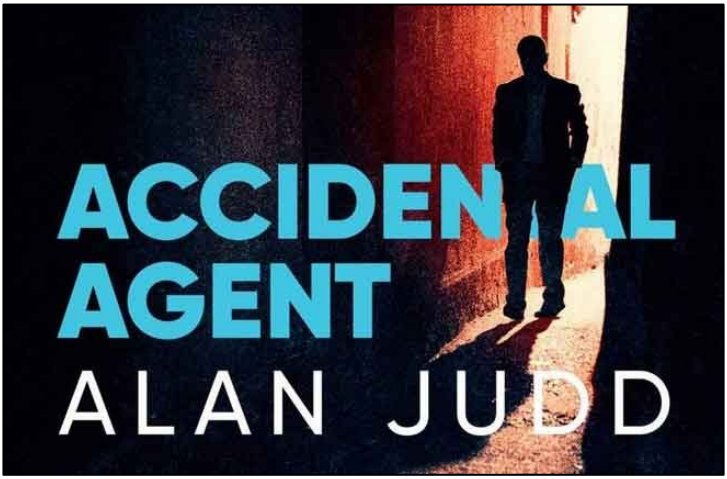
Once again, the church will be specially decorated by Nigel Ashton for this candlelit performance. The music was first presented in Leipzig in 1734 across the festive season.

At its première the work was performed over six separate services, each cantata marking a different moment in the Christmas story. Long cherished by audiences for its jubilant choruses and expressive arias, this performance promises an uplifting start to the Christmas celebrations.

Tickets for this Winchelsea Arts concert cost £30 and are available online at *winchelsea-arts.org.uk*



roome12hilary@gmail.com



The Origins of MI6 in Life and Fiction

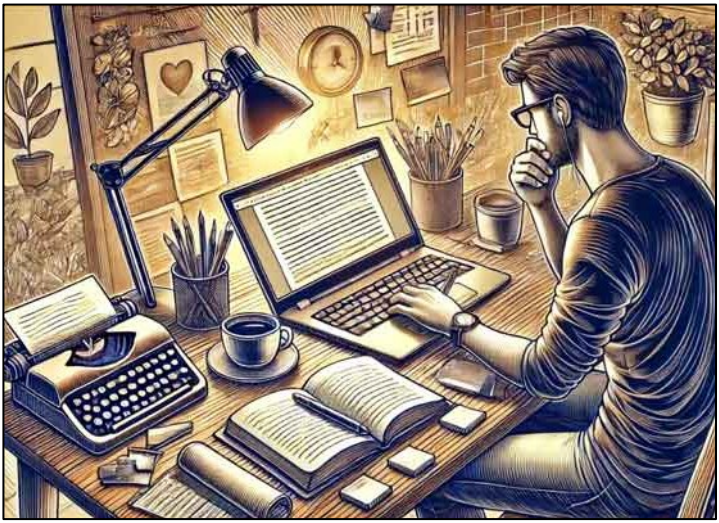
The next speaker at Literary Society will be Alan Judd, giving a talk on Friday 20th November at 7 for 7.30pm in the Court Hall. Admission £5 for visitors.

Alan Judd has written two biographies and eighteen novels, three of which have been filmed. He has won the Guardian Fiction award, the Heinemann award and the Royal Society of Literature's Winifred Holtby award.

About half of his novels are spy novels, comprising the Charles Thoroughgood series and the more recent Whitehall Court series featuring a young woman joining MI6 in the First World War.

He is the authorised biographer of Mansfield Cumming, founder of MI6, and is also biographer of Winchelsea author, Ford Madox Ford. He has been a regular columnist for the Telegraph, the Spectator and the Oldie, is an Honorary Fellow of Keble College, Oxford, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

The talk is titled: "The Origins of MI6 in Life & Fiction" and it will describe the founding and early years of MI5 and MI6 in 1909 along with a parallel history of the evolution of spy fiction, showing how each influenced the other. It will end by considering whether there is still a degree of cross-fertilisation - or not?



“Write, Publish and Survive!”
A Grub Street Odyssey

Those Lit. Soc. members nursing subliminal authoritarian tendencies (and the wannabe published writers!) found themselves in the Court Hall, seduced by the string of imperatives comprising the title of Tim Bartholomew’s talk.

There, the evening’s exuberantly engaging speaker confidently commanded the floor, poised to launch a picaresque literary autobiography invested in a cloud of hard-won life lessons. Like many literary figures the genesis of his creative impulse was a response to the trauma imposed by the private educational system although unusually, his trauma was sustained while a teacher rather than a pupil.

He harnessed the energy of his emotional turmoil to write an apocalyptic first novel – *Lessons in Humiliation*. Embarking on a cathartic cure and possibly inspired by D. H. Lawrence - “I like to write when I feel spiteful; it’s like having a good sneeze.” – our speaker penned his *Slave to Beauty* trilogy consisting of *Body Language, Love Knot* and *Casting Couch* which featured the guileless innamorati, Andrew and Bryony, condemned to contend with a cynical, exploitative world.

Tim's Canadian publishers, *Deep Desire Press*, were wildly enthused by this epic but the sales figures remained stubbornly insulated from such unhinged sensibility. Surviving this gallant but materially futile *Erotic Charge* into the *Valley of Financial Dearth*, our literary aspirant initially tried raising the level of his technical virtuosity, exchanging his French Horn for a writing course; without any obvious, immediate dividend.

That goddess who haunted his dreams, his Muse, lured him into the musical sphere where a quasi-autobiographical account of orchestral life *"Conduct Inappropriate*", incorporating the conceit of Tim as both hero and anti-hero of the piece, was nixed by his agent whose own disillusion with the life of letters was driving her orderly retreat.

Persistence triumphed when our speaker finally got the break that was not his neck as a happy concatenation of favourable circumstances saw the publication of *Angel in Tobago*. His intimate knowledge of the island's topography, fauna and flora and his mastery of the local patois gave the book a previously elusive authentic essence which captivated the natives and saw Tim interviewed on serious local TV programmes in deep discussion on cultural appropriation – eat your heart out, Melvyn Bragg!

This redemptive episode aside, the literary world was a hard (and rare) dollar but Bartholomew, whose Thespian gifts shone throughout the entertaining delivery of his address, drew the second string to his bow starring in various TV features and commercials.

Following an amusing account of the frustration of trying, in one advert, to lift a succession of sleeping babies into the *"Simba Position"* (call a *"Lion King"* fan for explanation) without them bursting into tears, the audience rejoiced when the planets of advertising's commercial cosmos finally aligned to gift Tim his *"Pride Rock"* moment as the recipient of a £20,000 cheque while Special Effects delivered a thundering "Kerching!"

Splendidly entertained by such an amusing, stylish and resilient speaker, it only remained for the Lit. Soc. audience to relocate to the New Inn to celebrate his survival!

Bill Doherty



John Broadwell's 'Edmund of Winchelsea' Novels

Neil Tidmarsh writes: Now the clocks have gone back and the nights are drawing in, do you fancy curling up with a good book these dark evenings? If so, may I recommend John Broadwell's series of historical novels set in the early thirteenth century and featuring Edmund of Winchelsea, "an ordinary sailor holding his own against tyrannical kings, arrogant lords, brutal knights, greedy merchants, ruthless pirates, evil sorcerers and of course the cruel sea"?

The first two books in the series – 'The Prince's Ring' and 'The King's Silver' – are available now (Amazon – paperback and e-book) and the third – 'The Lionheart's Castle' – will be published next summer. The series follows Edmund as the Cinque Ports are plunged into the front line of war between England and France by the disasters of Bad King John's reign, from the loss of Normandy in 1204 to the Battle of Sandwich in 1217.

So set sail this autumn for an exciting and dangerous voyage through storms, shipwrecks, pirate attacks and bloody sea battles as Edmund of Winchelsea (perhaps not so ordinary after all) navigates a course round the hazardous demands of violent times.

(Full disclosure – John Broadwell is a pen-name I use when writing historical fiction. Happy reading!)

Winchelsea
Neighbourhood Watch Group

Come and meet our new

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

Winchelsea Neighbourhood Watch Group, supported by Winchelsea Residents Association, invites all Winchelsea residents to meet our new PCSO,

Daryl Holter



SATURDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER 2026

9.00am

Winchelsea New Hall

Daryl will speak about policing and community matters of particular interest to Winchelsea, followed by an opportunity for residents to ask questions and raise issues.

Have a question or something you would like Daryl to address?

Please email your questions in advance and RSVP for the meeting, to

WinchelseaNeighbourhoodWatch@gmail.com

by 22 November 2027



Safer Communities • Stronger Together



St Michael's Hospice

Join much-loved actor, author and screenwriter Greg Wise as he shares his new book *Grief Talking: Tales of Loss and Learning*, exploring how we might navigate the chaos that is grief. From the sudden death of a close friend in his twenties to the emotional aftermath of his sister's death from cancer and the pain of infertility.

Wise offers solace and understanding through his own moving stories of many types of loss and invites a rethink of the ordinarily suppressive culture of mourning. He explores how curiosity, vulnerability and creativity can help us build connection, compassion, and a healthy relationship with grief that might ultimately guide us back to happiness. Come along to the Kino-teatr 43-49 Norman Road, St Leonards on Sea, on 7th December at 6.3pm – 8pm.

The venue is accessible for wheelchair users and equipped with an Audio Induction Loop System. This event forms part of National Grief Awareness Week 2026, and is in aid of St Michael's Hospice. Find out more at *stmichaelshospice.com/event/an-evening-with-greg-wise* or call 01424 456396.

Lights of Love Who will you remember this winter at the annual St Michael's Hospice Lights of Love events? Lights of Love is a chance to dedicate a star to someone you miss this winter. Plus, you can join with others at one of the

services, which all offer spaces to pause, reflect and remember.

Sunday 29th November 3.15pm, Hastings Crematorium, The Ridge, Hastings TN34 2AE

Thursday 3rd December 6pm, St Michael's Hospice, 25 Upper Maze Hill, St Leonards-on-Sea, TN38 0LB

Saturday 5th December 3.30pm, St Michael's Hospice

Sunday 6th December 3.15pm, St Mary's Church, Rye

Dedicate your star today at
stmichaelshospice.com/lightsoflove
or by calling 01424 456396.

Rye Food Bank Donations

Cam writes I will be making the next Food Bank doorstep collection on behalf of the Rye and Winchelsea Rotary Club on Tuesday 17th November between 10am and 1pm.

For the last 6 years I have collected on either 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 answer phone 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*



Five Villages Home Association Icklesham

Five Villages Home Association is looking to recruit new members to join our Board. We are seeking professional, committed and proactive individuals who are willing to contribute their knowledge, skills and experience to help shape the future of our organisation and support the wellbeing of our residents.

We are particularly interested in people who: take a proactive and positive approach to their responsibilities; are willing to take an active interest in the organisation and its future development; are committed to promoting the wellbeing, dignity, independence and quality of life of our residents; are able to work constructively with fellow Board members, staff and residents; can listen to different views and contribute thoughtfully to discussions and decision-making; are honest, reliable and able to act with integrity and in the best interests of Five Villages.

Being a Board member is a voluntary position, but it is an important and rewarding opportunity to make a real difference. If you have the experience, enthusiasm and commitment to help Five Villages move forward, we would love to hear from you.

Please call 01424 814876 for further information.

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*
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
Wednesdays 18.30-19.30	Ballroom and Latin Dancing	Beginners/Refreshers. Build confidence, learn the basics
Wednesdays 19.30-20.15	Line Dancing	Great fun, easy to learn!
Wednesdays 20.15-21.00	Salsa/Bachata	Feel the rhythm, share the joy! For all Weds dance classes contact Alex Wingate 07828 158412
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*

**The hall has Table Tennis, Badminton and Pickleball equipment which 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

Christmas

at St Thomas, Winchelsea

Saturday 19th December at 7pm

Carols by Candlelight

with the Blessing of Lights

followed by seasonal refreshments
from The Friends of Winchelsea Church

Christmas Eve

4pm Family Crib Service

Retelling the Christmas Story

11:30pm Midnight Mass

The first celebration of Christmas

Christmas Day

11am Holy Communion

Celebrating the Birth of Jesus Christ

Winchelsea Church and Town Calendar

November 2026

Sat 31st Oct	1066 History Festival Talks - New Hall - 10.30 for 11 and 2 for 2.30
Sunday 1st *All Saints*	**8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level** **10am: Benefice Eucharist at Icklesham** *Services at Winchelsea resume on 13th December*
Tuesday 3rd	Mothers' Prayers
Saturday 7th	Church Market - 10.30 till 12 at the Court Hall Residents' Association AGM - New Hall - 11.30am till 1pm
Sunday 8th *Remembrance Sunday*	**10am: Mattins and Act of Remembrance at Pett** **10.45am: Act of Remembrance at Icklesham Memorial Hall** **11am: Act of Remembrance at Winchelsea War Memorial** *Services at Winchelsea Church resume on 13th December* Charity Quiz - New Inn - 6.30 for 7
Wednesday 11th	Armistice Day Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial - 11am Second Wednesday Society - New Hall - 2.30pm
Friday 13th	Wine Society Meeting
Saturday 14th	Remembrance Event at Wesley's Chapel - 10.30am Garden Society Talk - New Hall - 2.30pm
Sunday 15th	**10am: Benefice Eucharist at Pett** *Services at Winchelsea resume on 13th December*
Friday 20th	Literary Society - New Hall - 7pm for 7.30
Saturday 21st	Winchelsea Christmas Fair - New Hall - 10.30 till 3 Film Night - New Hall - 6.30pm for 7.30
Sunday 22nd *Christ the King*	**10am: Benefice Eucharist at Icklesham** *Services at Winchelsea resume on 13th December*
Friday 27th	Fellowship Lunch - W B Community Hall - 12.30 for 1pm
Saturday 28th	Neighbourhood Watch Group PCSO meeting - New Hall - 9am New Hall Centenary Celebration and AGM - 4pm
Sunday 29th *Advent Sunday*	**10am: Benefice Eucharist at Icklesham** *Services at Winchelsea resume on 13th December*
Saturday 5th	Church Market - 10.30 till 12 at the Court Hall Concert of Christmas Music - Wesley's Chapel - 10.30am for 11
Sun 6th Dec	**8.30am: Holy Communion (BCP) at Pett Level** **10am: Benefice Eucharist at Icklesham**

Further ahead

Thurs 17th Dec	Winchelsea Arts Concert
Fri 18th Dec	FOAM Carols in the Court Hall
Sat 19th Dec	Carols by Candlelight at Winchelsea

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

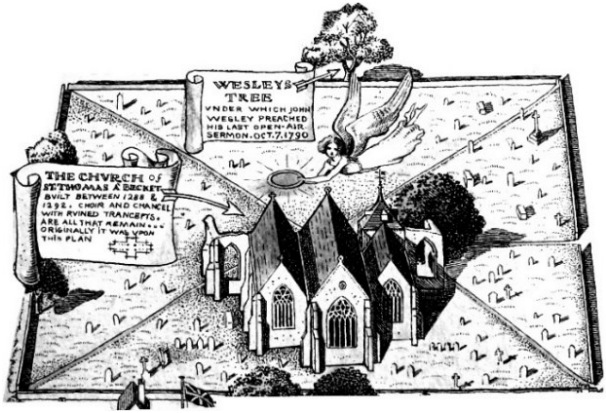


For Winchelsea Beach information go to
winchelseabeach.org.uk

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

Celia King
Stargazer, Morlais Place TN36 4LG
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 *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

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