

# ***Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette***

*February 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

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### Editorial

A very belated Happy New Year. We start this year with another big Gazette (13 pages instead of the usual 9) so thank you for some excellent contributions.

The idea of including photographs seems to have finally taken hold and one particular photo-related article will test how observant you are as you go around your own village - you will kick yourself when you see the answers next month.

You will see later in this issue that I have committed to organising the 2003 Village Fete. I make no apology for giving some coverage to this subject in

the Gazette over the coming months in the hope that we can hold a truly great event for everyone, and importantly raise some money for our Village Hall and Playing Fields. Please get behind the 2003 Village Fete.

Lastly, February marks the end of the Gazette advertising year - next month most will have renewed their support for another year and we should have some new advertisers to replace the ones that have left. The Gazette would not exist without the support of our advertisers so please support them with your custom wherever possible.

*Matt Piercy*

### Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7--9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4--6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Each Monday (Small Hall)	8--9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	12.20--2.30pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2--4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	7.30--10.00pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2--4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8--10.00pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm

\* At RAF Astro turf

## Small ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

DRESSMAKING alterations at reasonable prices. Telephone 563667.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

HOLIDAY COTTAGE. Traditional brick and flint cottage Nr. Sheringham, North Norfolk. Sleeps 4-6. Two miles from beach in quiet village location. Telephone Amanda on 565544.

FOR CAREFULLY CARRIED OUT STRUCTURAL GARDEN WORK, WOODWORK AND SMALL BUILDINGS WORK, TEL 565526

FOR SALE - as new - used once!  
Viking BE600 Garden Vac with vac & blow attachments, 1100wts - £50. Tel 562939

Help is required in a Naphill "Bed & Breakfast" for a few hours a week. This is a flexible position (on both sides) so would fit around most domestic situations. Remuneration £6.00 an hour. Tel: 01494 563728

Nutritional Therapist - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

## Horticultural Society

Dinner & Entertainment - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, doors open 7.15pm

Tickets are now available, and cost £12.00 including a glass of wine. So if you would like to join us in the Village Hall for this ever-popular event, give me a ring. The menu will be Beef Goulash or Chicken Chasseur followed by Black Forest Roulade or Lemon & Lime Cheesecake. As always there will also be a Vegetarian alternative.

After Dinner we will be entertained by a Mime Artiste.

Members and non-members are welcome, but I *must* have final numbers by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Tickets always sell fast – so don't wait to be invited, just pick up the phone!

The following Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, we hold our AGM at 8.00pm in the Small Hall. As always, all are welcome to air their views, with absolutely no pressure to join the Committee – unless you want to of course - in which case you will be especially welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you all on March 7<sup>th</sup>

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Following on from my last report, I am pleased to confirm that the total raised by local tennis players in Widmer End LTC's 'Children In Need Tennis Marathon' amounted to over £2,700. We applaud the efforts of the organizers, who were on call virtually throughout the 32 non-stop hours of play, making this event such a success.

Unfortunately, the weather has been our most formidable opponent this winter, preventing play on the majority of sessions, including the Tinsel Tournament on the 15<sup>th</sup> December. True to form, however, the lunch went ahead, filling around 20 members with pre-Christmas sustenance and cheer.

This carefree social event followed the more serious business discussed at the club AGM, held on the previous (extremely inhospitable, wet and cold) Thursday evening of 12<sup>th</sup> December. Our out-going Chairman, Pauline Styles, expressed thanks to those members who had braved the conditions to attend. For the last time, Pauline ensured that matters were despatched with due diligence, before handing over to Helen Leek, who had 'volunteered' to take over this office. Fortunately, Pauline was persuaded to remain on the committee, thus retaining the inspiration for our culinary expertise. Sara Phillpotts, who captained our Bucks Shield Ladies Team to success over the summer season, was also persuaded to join the committee. Unfortunately, there were no takers for the Junior Organizer office so, true to form, Jan agreed (*definitely for the last time!!*) to carry out these duties yet again. Deidre Hansen was kind enough to volunteer to help out by accompanying Jan to the Junior Fixture meeting. The motion to engage the services of a professional coach for Junior club evenings was passed unanimously and we hope to be able to announce details in our 'Newsletter' which we send to all members just prior to the start of the new season.

The new season starts for our club on 1<sup>st</sup> April and we welcome new members to join us and help ensure that the club continues to flourish as part of the Naphill community. Sue Crooks (Tel: 01494 562539) continues as our Membership Secretary and will be pleased to hear from prospective tennis players of all ages.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Sec) : 01494 446083*

## Broadband for our Villages

I have finally spoken personally to BT's Head of Broadband Strategy at BT Wholesale and discussed our situation. Their problem simply lies with the cost to enable our exchange! After a long conversation I finally asked, given the current cost implications, what is the approximate registration level needed to give them a return on their investment. The answer is about 700 – 750 registrations, and clearly we could not obtain that many given the number of subscribers connected to the

exchange (that is why we don't have a registration level set).

But .... they are currently looking into a new cheaper way of upgrading small exchanges such as ours, which could half the number of registrations needed. This could put us in the 300 – 350 bracket, we are presently at about 290.

I am leaving them alone for this month (January) and will be contacting them again at the beginning of February to see how it is going. I'll let you know in the next Newsletter what the situation is. Many thanks to all of you who wrote to David Lidington our MP. My reply from him was as follows:

*"I will write to BT and contact you again when I receive a reply. As you know, access to broadband is proving difficult for people in a great many villages and small towns. I have already spoken about this in Parliament and will continue to press the Government and BT for action."*

*David Lidington*

I think we should press to raise the registration level still further, if we could get it to say 350 we will be ready for anything BT throws at us. So please do register your interest for Broadband. You can do it via your own Internet Service Provider (i.e. AOL, BT, Freeserve etc) or you can register at [www.btopenworld.com/broadband/reg10](http://www.btopenworld.com/broadband/reg10). Please remember that registering does not commit you to anything at all, you just have to fill in your name, address, Tel number etc. In the pop down menu "Which product interests you" I suggest you click on "Home 500 Plug & Go". I will explain this further in future articles. So if you have not done so yet, please register and suggest to anyone who has a 56xxxx telephone number to do the same. I asked you all to send me your email address so I can keep you better informed, to date, I now have about 40. I will keep your address confidential, I will not make it visible when I send out information to everyone & I will NOT give it to anybody (including a villager).

If you would like to read more or are interested in how things are proceeding, here are a few web sites to go and have a look at:

[www.bt.com/broadband/](http://www.bt.com/broadband/) - put your telephone number where it says: "Check Registration Levels"

[www.adslguide.org.uk/availability/btprereg.asp?order=reg](http://www.adslguide.org.uk/availability/btprereg.asp?order=reg) - Find NAPHILL. (this site is also good to read about how it all works)

[www.dsl-warehouse.co.uk/](http://www.dsl-warehouse.co.uk/) - Good for equipment info (all will be explained, don't worry)

## Names and numbers to note

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is TBA. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

[www.Broadband4Britain.com/](http://www.Broadband4Britain.com/) - General Broadband campaign site.

*Alan Jessop* : [email@alanjessop.com](mailto:email@alanjessop.com) : 563369

## Naphill Toddlers

We had a great Christmas party in December so a big thank you to the committee for organising it, and thanks to everyone who bought tickets and generally helped make it a memorable day.

If anyone left an adult denim jacket in the hall after the party give me a call as I took it home with me - 562081.

We can be found every Thursday afternoon during term time from 2.00 – 4.00pm in the Village Hall. All Parents, Grandparents and Carers are welcome to join us and we have something to suit whatever mood your toddler is in, be it letting of steam or quietly modeling some play dough.

Each session is pay-as-you-come and the nominal fee includes tea, juice and biscuits. New faces always welcome. If you have any questions please contact me.

*Sharon Piercy* : 562081

## Naphill Evening WI

On 21 November Hazel Davis, our Vice-President, presided over the meeting and the business was quickly performed in the usual efficient manner. We had an excellent talk on "A Camera in India" by Dr. Brandham, with some fascinating photography. We

saw all the aspects of India, poor and otherwise, with its wonderful temples and over a thousand year old antiquities, still in perfect condition.

On 28 November several members had an enjoyable evening at the theatre seeing Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Thanks once again to Marion for making it possible.

On 30 November the Christmas Bazaar was a great success. The Tombola was very popular, as usual, and made £165. Thanks to all the helpers in the kitchen the teas made £103.50 mulled wine and mince pies £99.22.

The Christmas Party on 12 December was a great success with delicious food from all the members, lovely presents from the bran tub, and entertainment by the Committee. A most enjoyable evening and a happy ending to Naphill year 2002. We look forward to an eventful 2003 - why not come and join us.

*Jessie Higham 562061*

## **Naphill & Walters Ash Fete**

Following the recent appeal in the Gazette for people to help organise and run the Fete, I am pleased to be able to tell you that a new committee, under the chairmanship of Matt Piercy has come forward to take on this role. Although Matt has gathered a team of new people, he will still be looking for support and advice from the old (and not so old) hands.

Having met with Matt and some of his team, I know that they are full of ideas to make this years fete bigger and better, whilst maintaining the atmosphere that we all enjoy.

They are keen to build on the successes of previous years, and to this end we should all see this as evolution *not* revolution!!.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the fete during my tenure, especially the committee members, some of whom have been involved for more years than they care to admit!

As I know from experience, the fete does not run itself, but relies on the help and support of the many villagers and organisations, so I hope that you will all, like me, continue to help with the fete in whatever way you can and give the committee the support you have always shown in the past.

*Cathryn Carter, Outgoing Chairman*

## **Village Fete 2003**

Our Village Fete has never failed to be a great event so I am not coming into the Fete Chairman's role thinking that I can improve on everything - far from it! There is a fantastic core of community minded folk that have supported the fete year in, year out so firstly thank you, and secondly, can you do it again this year please?

We have split this years organisation between a group consisting of Ian Bond, James Campanini, Graham Edwards, Alan Jessop, Ian Marchant, Chris Newman, Andy Pope and myself (gentlemen you are now committed!). We will be contacting many of the people that helped last year to enlist your help again - please say yes.

More to follow on this subject but here's to a successful Village Fete in 2003.

*Matt Piercy : 562081*

## **Readers' letters**

From David Frost : 564466

I was just about to sign up to David Leith's Naphill Apathy Group when I turned over the page (surely effort enough to disqualify me from membership!) and read Marek Pawlik's disingenuous piece about shooting on the Common. It is my understanding that the tenant of Cookshall Farm has always had the shooting rights, but not exercised them, and that the recent change is merely one of the nature of the lease. Shooting is fully compatible with the management of land for recreational or environmental purposes. Many SSSIs and nature reserves are shot over and the shooting tenants are heavily involved in habitat conservation. Equally, many shoots have footpaths and bridleways running across them and there is no conflict with other recreational use, nor will this change with the CROW Act. In the present depressed state of agriculture shooting is an important source of income to farmers and other country dwellers. There is ample evidence to show that well managed shoots enhance the conservation value of land by improving habitats for game and other wildlife. The Common needs to be properly managed but knocking shooting will not help achieve that aim.

From a Naphill Resident

The Wildlife need our help! Starved, and with little shelter they die! To a large extent, along with farmers 'we' are responsible! The constant cutting back or cutting down of hedges and trees, fanatical mowing, sweeping of leaves, may impress society but is extremely harmful with detrimental consequences for ALL Gods creatures, who also have God given rights. We share this planet, 'not own it'! Perhaps now with a little empathy and love we can share the 'left over crumbs' of compassion and analyse more carefully our impact on the environment. Instead of emptying Natures larder of Fruit, Berries and Insects, we may instead 'fill it' by gardening wisely with 'life' not 'sterility' in mind.

From Mollie Bowler

Congratulations to our brave band of workers who battled against great odds to lighten our darkness on our lovely tree once again. This years display was going to be our best ever with many more bulbs, but

they overloaded the current and fused the lights and caused a lot of trouble, but our heroes didn't give up and they overcame great difficulties to give us so much pleasure during the Christmas period.

Thank you so much for your perseverance and hard work and a very Happy New Year to you all. May God bless all your efforts (Psalm 121).

## **District & County Councillor's Report**

We are indeed fortunate to live on a hill, especially so when the recent floods hit Marlow and Bourne End. The Council had distributed over 1,000 sandbags but there was no way this action could hold back the Thames in full flood. The heavy rain in December has again filled the Chiltern aquifers to the point where localised flooding from rising spring water could again become a local problem

The entrance to Hughenden Manor is an accident 'black spot' and traffic improvements are being considered, these include an illuminated traffic island which it is hoped will slow vehicles at this dangerous junction. By the time this article is read, Coombe Lane resurfacing should have been completed over its entire length. I would like to see this quieter road surfacing extended throughout the village. This would considerably improve the sound environment for all residents who front onto Main Road

As a result of representations to senior police officers, Naphill will have a better policing service that will address some of the recent problems of vandalism and criminal damage. At the request of the police the community meeting I proposed, early in this New Year, will be postponed until the summer when we will have the chance to see how the new arrangements have worked

Extensions to London Heathrow and Luton airports will have a considerable effect on rural Buckinghamshire as flight paths are modified to accommodate new and extended runways. I am afraid that projected increased air travel will exact a price from us all with increased noise from over-flying aircraft. Within the consultation arrangements the County Council is resisting the planned runway expansion schemes

I was interested to read the concerns expressed about the temporary plastic coverings of the barns at Walters Ash. Hopefully the buildings will be fully restored before fungal damage can take place. Pheasant shooting on Naphill Common has prompted correspondence between residents, the Estate and English Nature. I am informed that licensed game shooting is in fact permitted under the proper safety legislation, in areas where the public has access

Surveyor activity on the land between Downley Road and Lacey Drive has re-opened the controversy of the

planning permission granted early in 2001. This scheme addressed the concerns and comments that had been made by the Inspector at Appeal. The District Council was minded to approve, subject to an agreement that provision should be made for affordable housing. I understand that legal difficulties prevented an immediate start but that these have now been resolved

Tree felling is very emotive and I can give due warning that the old willow trees at the bottom of Coombe Lane, near to the pumping station, are to be removed as part of an improvement plan at Spring Rising. The existing ditch will be culverted and the unsightly iron bars removed. The area will be grassed and new trees planted. The present trees were damaged in the recent storms and the trunks have been found to be diseased and dangerous

I am always available on Naphill 564152 to discuss any problems which readers might have. If I do not have the answer I will know the department that does!

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association**

### **Local Planning for December 2002 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2003**

*02/7617/FUL 8 Beech Park, Walter's Ash.* Demolition of existing single storey garage and utility. Construction of 2-storey side extension overlooking woodland, and single storey rear extension with terrace over.

*02/7634/FUL Knockhundred House, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill.* Construction of bay window and tiled covered link to car port.

*02/7640/FUL 3 Vincents Way, Naphill.* Construction of side & rear extensions, alterations to roof incorporating 3 dormers in connection with first floor accommodation.

*02/7763/CONCG. (E23/01)* Erection of single storey pre-school child welfare facility 27m long x 12-15m wide and 5.5m high in centre of domestic site complex adjacent to medical centre. Will it be open to non-service families?

*02/7817/FUL (E30/01) Bailiffs Cottage, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill.* Construction of extension to detached garage (minor revision to pp 02/6540/FUL).

*02/7838/FUL (E02/02) 2 Prospect Cottages, Downley Road, Naphill.* Erection of conservatory 4x2.7m to rear of extension.

*02/7865/FUL (Green Belt. E04/02) Hog Trough Farm, Louches Lane, Naphill.* Garage conversion to living accommodation, roof alterations & insertion of 3 side dormers in connection with 1<sup>st</sup> floor accommodation, pitched roof attached verandah and balcony to NW elevation.

02/7920/FUL (E11/02) 36 Ash Close, Walter's Ash.  
Construction of conservatory to rear.

Next Meeting. Thursday 13 February 2003.

Malcolm Leflaive : 563634

## The December and January sky in Naphill & Walters Ash

The Moon is new on February 1 and full on the 16. Capella, the bright star in Auriga is high overhead. Orion remains a majestic constellation in the southern sky every evening. This month, Venus and Mars are

morning stars whereas Jupiter and Saturn are visible during the evenings. M31, the Andromeda galaxy is about 40° above the western horizon near the square of Pegasus. Orion is majestic in the southern sky. Look for the Orion nebula below his belt.

### Microscopic Life

The last two issues of *The Gazette* were devoted to the development of intelligent life in the universe. In September 2002, reports appeared in newspapers of the possible emergence of microscopic life in our two nearest neighbours, Mars and Venus. Russian scientists have discovered a microbe on Earth that survives radiation that would kill any other form of life. Tests show that its evolution here would take longer than the Earth's lifetime and it is suggested it evolved instead on Mars and was carried here on a meteorite. No doubt this could be proved when the next Mars bound probe arrives on the planet

The other story emerged at a meeting on life in space in Austria. Spectral analysis suggests high levels of carbon monoxide in the high levels of the gas surrounding Venus but which is missing. Also found in the high levels of the Venusian atmosphere are hydrogen sulphide and sulphur dioxide which normally do not occur together. Both these phenomena could be explained by the presence of a living microbe. Such life may have evolved in the water sea shores that probably existed in the early years of the planet. When the run-away greenhouse effect took hold on the planet and the oceans evaporated, these microbes were perhaps able to survive only in the higher atmosphere. Yet again confirmation of this hypothesis may result

from the space mission planned for 2005 to examine the planet's atmosphere in detail

### Changes in life development on Earth

There was an interesting Horizon television programme on 2002 December 5 about the obliteration of 95% of all life on the Earth due to a massive meteorite from the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter that fell in Siberia 250 million years ago. The enormous reduction in life at the end of what has been called the Permian period had been known for many years but the cause was obscure. According to Horizon, it started with a 15 kilometers meteorite falling and causing a massive eruption of lava from below the Earth's crust. Over 40,000 years this caused, firstly a winter cooling effect from atmospheric dust and then to global warming caused by greenhouse gases. Many land species died during this process but sea life continued largely as before in spite of a gradual warming of the water. This warming then started to release vast quantities of methane from the sea bed causing sea life to die also and the Earth continued to warm up by a total of 10° within a total of only 80,000 years. This sounds small in total but it was enough to destroy 95% of life on the planet and delineated what is now called the end of the Permian period. Then followed 185 million years for



life to develop again from the 5% remaining species from the Permian period. This was the dinosaur period which ended when another slammer meteorite fell in the Gulf of Mexico 65 million years ago causing the demise of 60% of species. These two meteorite falls were largely the causes of the evolution of mammals.

### The Orion nebula, M42

Grant Woodruff

## Naphill Neighbours

As there is no Gazette in January, this one covers two months so Naphill Neighbours have plenty to report.

Our party in the Village Hall at the beginning of December was a huge success. 55 members and friends sat down at tables decorated with a festive theme and enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Chiltern Ash Caterers. Following the meal we were extremely well

entertained by magician David Ball who was helped with his performance by local Debbie McGee's in the audience. As well as performing amazing tricks he also gave us an insight into the Magic Circle and was using a table which once belonged to his friend Tommy Cooper.

On 17th December we took a coach trip to London. A fish and chip supper was followed by a tour of the Christmas lights on a chilly but beautifully clear evening. The guide took the coach to some unusual parts of the city, as well as the usual London sights. A very pleasant outing to get everyone in the mood in the run up to the big day.

The first meeting of the New Year was thoroughly enjoyed by members and we were pleased to welcome some gentlemen along. Mark Meltonville from Wycombe Museum talked to us on "High Wycombe - the town before chairs" and illustrated his talk with slides. He told us about the town in Roman and Saxon times and showed illustrations of how the town used to look many years ago and how it had developed being a staging post between London and Oxford.

We have a full monthly programme for the year ahead, along with visits to Leeds Castle in April, The Mill at Sonning in July, a trip on the Thames in August, a Fashion Show in September and Turners in Northampton in November.

Our next meeting is on Monday 10th February when Michael Johnson will give a talk entitled "Las Vegas - Glitter in the Desert". If you fancy joining a thriving group, please come and join us in the Village Hall at 7.45pm for the meeting starting at 8pm.



Mary Shrimpton : 562100

## Pre-school news

Since the last Gazette we have been busy organising Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Fayre, our annual Nativity and Christmas Party.

The Nativity was an adaptation of the original story and was told from the point of view of a cow in the stable which was thoroughly enjoyed by the children, parents and friends who came along. The children also had fun at their Christmas Party with Oscar the entertainer and had a visit from Father Christmas.

# Vandalism

We have an on-going problem with vandalism in our village. Most cases go un-reported to the police, and this in turn effects the level of police cover we receive. Please ensure you report ALL cases to the police on:

01494  
465888



This term our theme is Toys: puppets, old and new, cars, dolls etc and we have been bringing in toys for the interest table as well as making our own puppets etc to take home.

We welcomed some new children in January and we have enjoyed playing out in the garden in the little bit of snow we have had. There are several places still available, for more information please ring the number below.

The contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant*

## Claimed Public Footpath crossing Naphill Common.

### Parish of Hughenden.

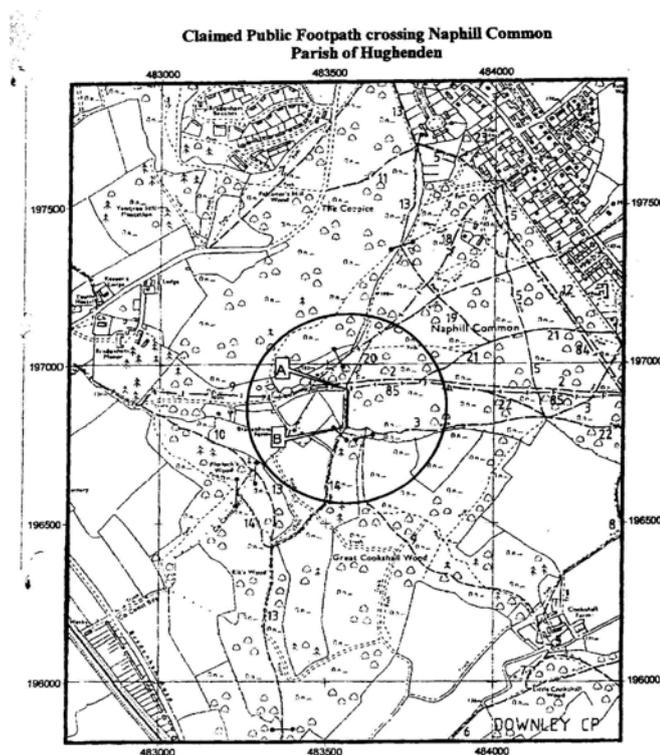
Some time ago I claimed that a section of footpath, regularly used by the inhabitants of Walters Ash and Naphill, but not shown on the Definitive Footpath Map should be declared a public footpath and entered on the Definitive Map.

Bucks County Council refused my claim on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to prove that the footpath was in fact a public footpath, notwithstanding my view that the footpath had been

used by the public without let or hindrance since Victorian times.

At the end of this article is a map showing the short length of footpath, which in fact connects footpaths No's. 14 and 20. The matter at present is on appeal to the Department for the Environment but I now need further evidence of use by the general public prior to 1961. I feel that there are many regular users who do not appreciate that the footpath that they have used for many years is not in fact a public footpath and it could be claimed that those using it are in fact trespassing.

The use prior to 1961 is important, as after this date to the present time the Dashwood Estate by statute has declared that the footpath cannot be claimed as a



public footpath by prescription (uninterrupted use for 20 years).

My telephone number is 563000 and as a matter of urgency I would like to hear from anyone who has used the footpath prior to 1961.

*J D Chamberlen, Rowan House, Stonefield Road,  
Naphill, HP14 4SP. 563000*

## Over 60's Club

This being the first publication of the year may I wish you all a happy and safe 2003. I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and were free of illnesses or accidents.

Our program for the coming season is as follows:-

**January 10th** - Maurice Saunders at the piano.

**January 24th** - Quiz or Bingo

**February 7th** - Hugh Grainger - It's not always so.

**February 21st** - Mr. John Crick - Bee Keeping.

**March 7th** - Mr. Kellaway - retired local Headmaster

**March 21st** - Our own Mr. Richard Pushman

**April 4th** - Joyce Wooster (one of the Banjoleley) talk - Lands End to John O'groats.

Hope to see you all soon, plus some new members if you can bring them!

*Stella Page : 562314*

## Naphill and Hughenden Scout Group

Would you enjoy teaching, training and helping to mould the lives of young people?

Naphill and Hughenden Scout Group has two thriving beaver colonies, an exuberant cub scout pack and an enterprising scout troop. The continuing growth in popularity of these groups offers opportunities for willing adult helpers who are prepared to devote two or three hours each week, or every other week, to assist the various leaders. This would enable the group to offer an even more diverse programme of activities and so maintain the very high standards expected within the scouting movement and that our children deserve.

The evenings may be loud and boisterous but the task is challenging, fun and a valuable contribution to our community.

If this sounds of interest call Trevor May for more information on 565101.

*Mike Pool*

## “Pot Luck” - a rediscovered piece of Bucks history.

### Naphill Village Hall March 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

A slice of Naphill's history will be revisited in March, when a play written and performed by residents of the village nearly a hundred years ago is revived and re-enacted in the Village Hall.

Back in 1910, a famous young actress named Gertrude Robins was living at Moseley Lodge with her husband, Charles Dawson. Although she was still only in her early 20s, Gertrude Robins had already begun to establish herself as a playwright as well as a performer, and while at Naphill she penned a short farce about local country life, named “Pot Luck.” That may not in itself appear particularly remarkable, but a closer look at the circumstances in which this play was first performed reveals the quite extraordinary influence this young lady had.

The list of patrons reads like a Who's Who of the great and good of Buckinghamshire and beyond:

*The Earl of Buckinghamshire, Lord Desborough, Lady Dashwood, Coningsby Disraeli* - the local squire at the

time, *G K Chesterton* - the celebrated writer and poet. (He wrote an essay about his visit to Naphill to watch the play; he was late after his hired car broke down!), *Jerome K Jerome* - of "Three Men in a Boat" fame, *John Masefield* - later to become Poet Laureate, *Arthur Lazenby Liberty* - founder of Liberty Stores, *Sir Philip Rose* - founding partner of the London law firm Norton Rose, *Walter Crane* - watercolourist and one of the best know of Victorian book illustrators (eg "Flowers from Shakespeare's Garden"), *Miss Dove* - founder of Wycombe Abbey School, *J T Grein* - theatre critic and impresario, *Clement K Shorter* - man of letters and editor of the Illustrated London News, *Frederick Whelen* - political writer and patron of the theatre, *Arnold White* - writer on social issues.

Quite why such a list of luminaries were interested in this play is not yet clear (our researches continue), but the story doesn't end there.

The play was performed by local artisans - Charles Lacey, wheelwright and undertaker, Molly Lacey, Ernest Shrimpton, Mr. Lacey's assistant and also a chair maker (and grandfather of the 60s model, Jean Shrimpton); and Arthur Smith, a road maker from North Dean. The performers called themselves "The Buckinghamshire Players" and despite the (presumably) inexperienced and certainly amateur nature of the cast, the national press turned out in force to preview the play! Miss Robins laid on a stage-coach and horses to bring them up to Naphill from High Wycombe, and notices subsequently appeared in the Daily Mirror (which published photographs of scenes from the play) the Daily Mail, the Standard, the Star, the Daily News, the Daily Chronicle, the Daily Express, the Evening News, the Observer, the Daily Sketch and the Morning Post, as well as the local press and magazines such as Vanity Fair, Queen and The Lady.

Now "The New Buckinghamshire Players" are planning to perform the play again, in Naphill Village Hall on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March. The play itself is actually quite short, and so the evening will also include a traditional Bucks meal, some entertaining local verse from Stuart King, the well-known craftsman from Holmer Green, and some old Bucks songs from Phil Bowell. Although now living in Princes Risborough, Phil's connections with Naphill are very strong. Not only did he live in the village for many years, he is a nephew of the celebrated chair maker Jack Goodchild, and a close relative of the Piercy family, who owned Moseley Lodge after our playwright, Gertrude Robins. Tickets at £12 (including the supper) are available from Marjorie Stockley on 01494 488101, and all proceeds will go, through the Speen Supporters Group, to local hospices.

## WANTED

Help with set-making and/or props for "Pot Luck."  
Anybody who would like to help please ring Marjorie Stockley on 01494 488101

Martin Stockley

## Naphill Common Committee

I would like to thank all of the village residents who took the trouble to write to English Nature and the West Wycombe Estate about the problems that we have all been experiencing on the Common. This has certainly stirred things up and I have had responses from all of these bodies as a result of these letters. Sir Edward Dashwood has flatly denied that there has been any increase in shooting on the Common in the last couple of years and he, (or his agent) are supposed to be confirming this in a letter in the February Gazette (*Editors note - no letter received*). What we now need is more proof about the extent of the shooting. We have already had one person report piles of cartridges close to the bottom of Downley Road but we need more evidence that we can present to Bucks County Council and English nature. If you see or hear shooting at any distance from Cookshall Farm or find any large quantities of cartridges anywhere on the Common then please let me know and I will collate this information. In the meantime please be careful when walking anywhere on the Common (particularly with dogs) as the guns now seem quite widespread.

Our MP David Lidington continues to be supportive in what we are trying to do on the Common and his intervention has 'woken' English Nature up the problems on the Common. We will shortly be having meetings with English Nature to keep up the pressure on them. The whole issue of the Common and its management remains a very complex issue and we are doing our utmost to get the Common improved. It is however all very slow and laborious in view of the number of public and private bodies involved so no



quick results can be promised.

In the meantime could I please ask regular Common users to keep their eyes and ears open for anything untoward happening there. Apart from the shooting,

access by road vehicles and motorcycles, dumping of rubbish, encroachment etc all remain serious problems and the more evidence that we can gather the better.

*Dr. Marek Pawlik : 563126*

## **1935 Christmas Tree Planting Photo**

Reference the 1935 photo (above) of the Christmas tree being planted included in the December/January edition of the Gazette you asked for names, the following is an article taken from The Bucks Free Press in 1935 and it explains everything...

### ***NAPHILL SHOWS ITS LOYALTY - All The Characteristics Of A Rural Community***

*Naphill was certainly not behind the large towns in the loyal and enthusiastic manner in which the inhabitants celebrated the King's Silver Jubilee.*

*The committee had endeavoured to arrange the programme in keeping with the characteristics of a rural community, and they achieved a great success.*

*Beginning with a service at Hughenden Church in the morning, every item went through without a hitch. The fancy dress parade was the first event in the afternoon programme. Headed by a kilted bugler, a procession of riders on horseback in fancy dress, and gaily decorated farm wagons laden with children, paraded the village. The fancy dresses were judged by Mrs. Knox, Mrs. Troughton and Mrs. Ernest Smith. A delightful ceremony then took place, when the May Queen was welcomed and crowned by Mrs. Disraeli. After being crowned, the May Queen and her six attendants proceeded to the main entrance gate of the playing fields, and there the Queen planted a Jubilee commemoration tree. Phyllis Smith made a beautiful May Queen, and her six attendants, Maud Abbey, Eva Gibbons, Christine Jenkinson, Betty Lawrence, Joyce Ridgley and Freda Smith, looked equally attractive.*

*Tea was then provided for every child in the village, and about 120 sat down. After tea a packet of sweets and a souvenir box of chocolates was given to each child. Maypole dancing followed and, once again, it was demonstrated how popular these old time dances are. Dainty children in simple, but charming frocks deftly skipped and danced their happy way round the Maypole, weaving fantastic patterns with their gaily coloured ribbons.*

*Further country dances followed and were much appreciated by the large crowd of onlookers, whilst the hand bal match between two teams from the village school interested a large crowd. A concert in the evening was also a big attraction and the village hall was filled to overflowing. Commencing with community singing, item followed item with an amazing change in variety. England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales were all represented in song and violin solos, and comic songs, and dancing kept the attention of the large audience.*

*During the concert there was an impressive pause, when the audience heard the King's speech. A loyal message of greeting, specially prepared by Mr. Eric Gid, the sculptor, was despatched to the King. Following the concert, refreshments were distributed to everybody, after which a display of fireworks took place and a huge bonfire was lighted.*

### **Later that evening...**

Shortly after the official jubilee bonfire had been started, two wooden buildings, the property of Mr. B Grimsdell caught fire. As these buildings stood a good distance apart and both burst into flames at the same time, it is presumed that they were fired wilfully. When the fire started Mr. Grimsdell was watching the official bonfire close by. A large crowd quickly gathered but it was soon seen that any attempt to save the building was hopeless and the Fire Brigade was not called

B Grimsdell, known as Benny, was a village character and his wooden homes were on the corner of Chapel Lane and Main Road, Naphill.

### **Old Naphill Exhibition - 2003**

Some people have asked for another "Old Naphill" exhibition. If the village would like it I could perhaps put it on again later in 2003 – I would be interested to hear any responses to this idea. If I do it the proceeds will again go to the Village Hall fund.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

## **Naphill Men's Club**

The Naphill Men's club AGM will be held in the Men's Club room to the right of the Main Hall on Tuesday 11 February 2003 at 8pm. All current members and anyone interested in joining are very welcome.

*Andrew Wilmot, Chairman : 562770*

## **Bradenham Parish Council**

The new Golden Jubilee window was dedicated in St. Botolph's at midnight mass on Christmas Eve by Rector Nigel Lacey. Just in time, - severe delays from the Oxford Diocese.

The window, widely acclaimed, is by the renowned local stained glass artist, Joseph Nuttgens of Piggott's Hill. R.A.F. High Wycombe, part of this parish, most generously contributed £200 to add to the Parish Council's £1000. The last new window in the church commemorated Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee.

James Campanini of Walters Ash volunteered to serve on the Parish Council and was co-opted at an E.G.M. on 28th October and welcomed by the Chairman at our last meeting on December 9th. The R.A.F. Have kindly "volunteered" a new representative, Wing Commander Shaun Tyrer, to sit in on our meetings. James Taylor of Bradenham continues to represent the National Trust, the major landowner.

Some members expressed considerable unease about Bucks. County Council's proposal to construct a multi-million-pound roundabout on the A4010 in Bradenham between the Red Lion and the railway. Its purpose is reportedly to reduce speed and to facilitate traffic turning north onto the A4010 from Bradenham Woods Lane. There is opposition to such a major construction on the edge of a still rustic and picturesque village and to the unwanted spread of artificial lighting over a long stretch.

Bucks. County Council is being helpful about the Parish Council's plans to improve the village pond.

The R.A.F. Reported that the new "F" block is on schedule to be completed in August.

The second edition of the Council's Bradenham Book is selling quite well and we will have covered all costs when 18 more books are sold.

The council is obtaining quotations for some maintenance of the Lych gate, which as our war memorial is our responsibility.

In view of this and other costs the council has had to raise the precept for 2003/04 to £4000 to include £1500 required to pay for any contested election in May.

*Ivor Herbert, Chairman Bradenham Parish Council*

## Village Hall Notes

Over the Christmas holidays the kitchen in the Village Hall seemed to be beset with problems. Not only were some of the lights in the kitchen fused, which forced those using the hall to work in semi darkness, but also the new cooker was still proving a challenge to light. For those of you who suffered from these problems our sincere apologies. We have been trying to get the lights sorted, and by the time that you read this I trust that they will be fine. One of the problems is trying to fit workmen around the hall bookings. Whenever the electrician tried to gain access to sort the lights over the holidays he was thwarted by being unable to work in the hall uninterrupted as there were people in using the Hall whenever he was free to do the job.

The new cooker is also much more complicated to light than the domestic ovens that we are all used to. We are writing the instructions out as clearly as we can and fixing them up on the wall near to the cooker so that everyone should be able to find them and follow them. I trust that this will be helpful.

Grateful thanks were extended to Richard Pushman. In his capacity as County Councillor he was able to give us a "Community Leadership" donation of £400 towards the Hall Improvement Fund. The plans for the Millennium extension are still progressing (not rapidly, but progressing) and thus such an influx of funds is most welcome. Again, many thanks Richard.

Despite the rotten weather the vandals have been at it again. There were reports of various acts of

vandalism around the village. None of these were very serious in themselves but were still very annoying and costly for those suffering at the hands of this anti-social minority. Should you suffer any acts of vandalism however minor against your property then please make sure that you report it to the police. If they know the scale and frequency of these attacks then we are more likely to get police action. We all need to act to get anything done.

The Piercy memorial tree is to have an official planting ceremony on the Crick at 11.00.a.m. on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Various generations and members of the Piercy family will be in attendance. All are welcome.

We now have a committee to run the summer fete - many thanks to those volunteers. If you feel that you could give some of your time to help them then please phone me (563479). The more the merrier and the easier it is for everyone.

Pam Smith is thinking of mounting another of her exhibitions of the village archives. Pam has a unique collection of village memorabilia which fills the village hall when she puts it all on display. She has collected even more items since her last display. Sorting out and running such an exhibition is a lot of work for Pam, but greatly enjoyed by everyone in the village, both newcomers, and inhabitants of long standing. As yet there is no date fixed - watch this space.

*Sarah Bacon  
Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

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## Ploughman's Lunch

At

Hughenden Village Hall.

Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup>

12 - 2.30pm

Bring & Buy  
Raffle etc

£3.00

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## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?





Answers printed next month.

*Editors note : Thanks to Pam Smith for the idea and taking the photographs. We will run a couple of photos each month for the next few months.*

## Village Hall Christmas Tree Lights

The team hope you all enjoyed the lights. The principle climber was Mike Leggett. He was assisted up the tree by Kelly Fountain from Hughenden Valley and Stephen Fountain from Widmer End. The team on the ground consisted of Gary Putnam from Holmer Green, John Harris, Ron Collins, Peter Brown, David Brown, Glenn Gavin, Richard Walmsley, Peter Davis, Andrew Leggett and myself.

Readers may recall that last year I appealed for help in finding a replacement for our timer which had broken down and was no longer manufactured. Lily Larmon volunteered the help of her son Stuart who used to live in Naphill and now lives in Whitchurch, Aylesbury. Stuart donated a domestic timer and heavy-duty contactor with instructions, so thanks to Stuart, and thanks to Lily. Thanks also to all of you who so generously donated, to those who collected money for the lights and to Hazel Vickery who donated 14 lamps. Last but not least, thanks to Marlène Mason who helped to test and repair the cable and who provided the essential mince pies and coffee.

The chief problem facing the team now is the tree. It keeps growing and seems to be growing faster than ever. Whilst the increase in height can be compensated by more cable and more lamps (and by up rating the electrical system in the Village Hall), we do have a problem with the very large branches sticking out in all directions. They make it increasingly difficult to position the lamps to give a 'good' shape. They also mask some of the lamps. We do our best! It does seem to be, nevertheless, the best Christmas tree for miles around.

*Mike Mason : 563225*

## News From Christians In The Community

Christians who are involved in the three local churches.

In spite of deciding not to sing around a darkened Naphill Christmas tree in the pouring rain, about 60 people enjoyed singing carols in the village hall followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

Also just before Christmas, adults and children from the KRASH group went carol singing around Naphill and as a result from this and the carol concert nearly £100 was raised for the TOYBOX charity. Recently a cheque was presented to the charity and we look forward to a visit soon from some Toybox gap year students telling us first hand of the work of the charity in Guatemala.

KRASH (for children aged 6-11 years) will be open only once in February due to half term - Friday 7th February 6.30 p.m. at the Naphill Evangelical Church.

TRASH (for children 11-14 years) will be on Friday 14th and 28th February - 7 pm at Church House,

A local place to get away from it all

### **"Chatterbox"**

Time: Tuesday Morning 9.15am – 12noon.

Place: Naphill Evangelical Free Church, 122 Main Road, Naphill.

We serve complimentary 'Fairtrade' fresh coffee, tea, juices and biscuits at individual tables, in comfortable surroundings. Everyone is welcome. Access for wheelchairs. Activity corners are set up for babies and children. A warm welcome awaits you.

Enquiries: Bob & Polly Semple

Tel: 01494 563304

Hughenden.

FOR THE FUTURE - A BARN DANCE - ALL AGES WELCOME - POSSIBLY MARCH 21ST

AND, HOPEFULLY THE HOLIDAY CLUB IN AUGUST

BUT ..... can we run the holiday club this year? we have the resources, we have the venue BUT what we really need are one or two people who are willing to act as lead or continuity people (musical ability would be desirable) for specific times during the four days (10 am until 3 pm)

For more details, comments or suggestions I look forward to your call.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

## St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden

I am sure that readers will know some of the light bulb jokes! For instance, how many psycho- therapists does

it take to change a light bulb? Only one, but the therapist must want to change. Again, how many Californians does it take to change a light bulb? Twenty five, one to change the bulb and twenty four to share the experience. My favourite though is one which has a little go at my own Church, and it goes like this; How many Church of England members does it take to change a light bulb? Fifty, one to change the bulb and forty nine others to demand the old bulb be put back!

It is true though, trying to change things in church can be very very difficult. But churches that refuse to accept change are seen as increasingly irrelevant and out of touch with the wider culture, and will eventually die. Now in this I am not talking about the message. The timeless message of the Christian faith is that in Jesus Christ God has come among us as a man because mankind is lost and needs to be brought back to God. At Christmas we celebrated the birth of Christ, but over the cradle is seen the shadow of the Cross. Jesus came to die, to take on the worst of human sin and suffering and death and to overcome, the resurrection is the lynch pin of the Christian faith and what makes it unique. Because of Jesus, we are offered new life, resurrection life. I passionately believe this, but I am often rather less than passionate about how so often our churches hide the message in the packaging of church custom and habit. I suspect that for many walking into a typical church service will be about as accessible as a day trip to the moon! At St Michael's we have a long way to go, but we are attempting to turn things around. For a start, (though it is a small start) we have changed times of worship, this means that what was once the family based worship which for years started at 9.30am now starts at 10.30 am. In order to do this what was once the traditional choral service beginning at 11.15 am has been simplified and now starts at 9.00am and lasts an hour, we still have a simple 8.00am said communion. Also the Church council is about to embark on a process of review as we simply ask the question, What sort of Church does Jesus want St Michael to be?. The whole process might be tantamount to the Church of England changing light bulbs, but I hope not!

*Simon Cronk  
(Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Hughtenden.)*

## **Rev. Nick Young, Minister of Naphill Methodist Church writes ...**

I hope Christmas and New Year treated you kindly! We are into another year, maybe with hopes, perhaps more anxious about developing tensions and threats to world stability. Some of the Christmas cards I received included the title given to Jesus: Prince of Peace. Is this anything more than wishful thinking? The new millennium began with such high hopes of peace and better community and international relations, but it all went wrong so quickly. So, is there any substance in

what Christians claim about Jesus - or does the lack of world peace blow the myth?

I believe Jesus' way is the way of peace but, firstly, it is not forced on us, we have freewill; secondly, we are not all very good adverts for the faith we profess; and, thirdly, Christianity cannot be sustained without a living relationship with God at the heart. To know the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is to start a ripple effect spreading outwards from ourselves and affecting others: it is to be at peace with God, to be at peace with ourselves, to be at peace with each other, to create good neighbourly relations, to build bridges to other communities, and to make a difference to world peace.

This is not a pipe dream – but it really does have to start with knowing God, who is most clearly revealed in the life of Jesus Christ. Come and get to know him better at any of your local churches.

Shalom,

*Nick*

## **Naphill Evangelical Free Church**

Shortly after the Korean War, a hungry waif wandered the darkened streets trying to find shelter from the bitter cold of winter. A night watchman noticed his plight and pointing he said, "GoMa (child), go to the house over there and say to the one who answers the gate, 'John 3:16.'" "But I do not know what John 3:16 is," replied the lad.

Nevertheless, desperation took him to the gate and brought that strange expression to his lips. He did not understand, but he whispered, "John 3:16." The lady smiled and took him into her warm home. The lad was puzzled as he thought, "I do not know what this John 3:16 is, but it sure makes a cold Korean boy warm."

Seeing his gaunt cheeks, the lady soon had him seated before a steaming bowl of soup. As he ate, the lad thought again, "I do not know what this John 3:16 is, but it sure makes a hungry Korean boy full."

After a bath, he lay there on the warm bed with tears flowing down his cheeks, "I do not know what this John 3:16 is," he thought, "but it must be the most wonderful thing in the whole world. It makes a strange lady love a lonely Korean boy."

It is unlikely that many of us, if any, will ever find ourselves in such a desperate state as the boy in the story above. This story, however, is a good illustration of how God's love and compassion reaches out to meet people in their moments of greatest need or despair. As I write this article I wonder how many times we have found ourselves in situations or personal dilemma where we've needed help desperately. Even in our normal everyday lives we can find it difficult to cope.

As individuals it seems we are constantly on the search for something – some deep fulfilment. Often we can so easily try to fill the gaps in our lives with things that are

# *Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette*

*March 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

## March 2003

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### Editorial

These pages are now surrounded by the new advertising layout that will be with us until the end of February 2004. Only 4 advertisers dropped out, meaning that I had to say 'No' to a number of prospective advertisers. It is a hard balancing act to decide how much advertising we should allow, personally I think we should not increase from where we are today but if you have an opinion I would be interested to hear it.

You will read later in this issue that BT have finally agreed to install Broadband in our villages - the many school children and adults that use the internet in our villages will see a vast improvement. This is an excellent community achievement and the result of a

well structured campaign, led by Alan Jessop, that has seen Naphill and Walters Ash jump ahead of many small towns and larger villages for this service.

Summer's coming - don't forget to adjust your clocks and watches before you go to bed on the 29th March in preparation for British Summer Time.

Lastly, you may have noticed a new tree on the Village Playing Field. I would like to say a personal thank you, on behalf of my family, to all the villagers that turned out on Saturday 8th February for the official planting of this tree to commemorate (my Grandparents) Ron and Muriel Piercy.

*Matt Piercy*

### Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2.00pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	7.30-10.00pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10.00pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm

\* At RAF Astro turf

## Small ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

DRESSMAKING alterations at reasonable prices. Telephone 563667.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

HOLIDAY COTTAGE. Traditional brick and flint cottage Nr. Sheringham, North Norfolk. Sleeps 4-6. Two miles from beach in quiet village location. Telephone Amanda on 565544.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 01494562310/07904023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

## Horticultural Society

If you have not yet booked tickets for our Annual Dinner on Friday March 7th, be quick - I might just have some left!

Tickets are £12.00 and include a free glass of wine.

Also a reminder that on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March our AGM will be held in the Small Hall at 8.00pm. We would love to see you should you be interested in coming along. The meeting usually only lasts about an hour, and we never press-gang anyone onto the Committee who does not wish to join!

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Although the weather has not improved and is, if anything, even worse than before Christmas, we are continuing to amaze local Crick walkers by filling all three courts on Tuesday mornings, battling against the elements in pursuit of completing at least one set of tennis. Unfortunately, Sunday mornings have been even more affected by the weather but plans for the new season, which begins on 1st April, are proceeding on course.

We have been successful in procuring the services of Neil James, a Registered LTA Coach, for our Junior

section on Friday evenings, beginning on Friday 4th April. The session will be split into Group 1 for beginners and less experienced players aged 7 and over, at 5.45 - 6.45pm. Group 2 will be for those approaching or having attained match play standard and will follow on from 6.45 - 7.45pm. Lisa Bennett will also be running her very popular Beginners Club session for the younger children, possibly moving it to a Saturday morning rather than Monday, although this has yet to be confirmed. Hopefully, these changes will give local would-be future Wimbledon champions a better kick-start up the tennis ladder or, at the very least, ensure that Naphill LTC will continue to flourish! Incidentally, Neil will also be available for privately-arranged coaching session for all ages, which includes senior beginners and improvers. He can be reached on 01494 816490.

Our members will soon be receiving the annual Newsletter, which lists planned activities for the year, one of which is our Easter Mixed Doubles Tournament. This is due to take place on Monday 21st April and is open to all members, including match standard juniors, in addition to any tennis-playing locals who might like to join us, at the modest cost of £5, which will include a buffet lunch. We are not looking for 'county standard' players and there will be no 'hard-sell' tactics, 'persuading' you to join the Club. If you enjoy playing the game and would like to join us for what we hope will be a pleasant social occasion complete with lunch, please come along at 10 am or ring Judy on 01494 488434 for further details.

As you may have gathered from previous reports, we are always pleased to welcome new members of all ages so, if you feel you like joining us (we give discounts for payment before 1st April!), ring our Membership Secretary, Sue Crooks on 01494 562539 for details and application form. Weather permitting, general club sessions take place on Sundays from 10am, Tuesdays from 10.15am and Thursdays from 6.30pm (starting 10th April).

*Ingrid Tomlins (Sec) : 01494 446083*

## Broadband's Coming On 30th April

WE'VE DONE IT! We are getting Broadband Internet access in our villages. This is all down to YOU, the village has come together yet again to bring something new to our community. BT Wholesale eventually set our registration level at 300, we had 295 at the time, but within a couple of days the magic level was reached, this really is a great achievement, well done to you all.

As this edition goes to press, I have just had our go live date – it's the 30<sup>th</sup> April, as long as they don't have any unexpected engineering difficulties.

Some of the Internet Service providers (ISP's) who you registered your interest with, may start emailing you soon, some may wait until the exchange is actually enabled. One important thing to remember is that you

can sign up with whichever company you like. It doesn't matter who you registered with, it's entirely YOUR decision. There are hundreds of ISPs who would like your business including BT themselves, so take time to make your decision. Start doing some research now, have a look at <http://www.adslguide.org.uk> This site will help you compare each ISP. Don't just compare them on price because support and service are also very important. I may offer some ISP suggestions in the next edition of the Gazette.

There are 3 ways to order Broadband – Plug & Go, which is when you buy the service packaged with a modem & filter. Then there is Plug & Go – Wires Only, which is where you buy the service only. Under this scheme you purchase your own filters, modem or router (the hardware). Many ISPs also offer an engineer assisted package, you'll obviously pay more for this, but you really don't need it, it's easier than you think!

So talking of money, how much will it cost you? For wires only you can find deals from around £19 up to £29 per month, always on with no telephone charges. The average seems to be around £25, you can buy the hardware yourself, often from the ISP.

I can hear little bells ringing all round the village, what are these filter, modem thingy's you ask??!! So, a bit of technical stuff; Broadband is normally classed as any internet connection that moves data at over 128 bits per second (bps). Your present dial-up modem is around 56bps, but the Broadband connection you'll get is 512bps! The internet data comes down your telephone line on a higher frequency than your voice calls. So to split the internet data from your voice calls, you plug a little filter (about £5) into your phone socket. This has 2 sockets in it, 1 for your phone and one to plug your new ADSL modem (or router) in. You then plug this into the USB (or network) socket of your computer switch it all on, set up a few control panels and hey presto, you're on the internet again, at ten times the speed! These new modems & routers are quite clever, they often have a mini website built into them, they give you some numbers to put into your web browser and up pops a web page from within the device. This then helps you through the whole simple set up procedure, honestly it really is simple.

I'll leave it there for now, I'll talk more about security & the difference between modems and routers in the next edition. I tend to send out more regular updates to the village via email, send me your email address if you want to receive more information.

*Alan Jessop : email@alanjessop.com : 563369*

## **Naphill Toddlers**

We now have a new Committee chaired by Suzanne Farwell. What we now need is someone to take over writing the monthly article in the Gazette - this is my last month! Anybody interested please talk to Suzanne or Claire at Toddler Group.

## **Names and numbers to note**

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is TBA. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

We can be found every Thursday afternoon during term time from 2.00 – 4.00pm in the Village Hall. All Parents, Grandparents and Carers are welcome to join us and we have something to suit whatever mood your toddler is in, be it letting off steam or quietly modeling some play dough.

Each session is pay-as-you-come and the nominal fee includes tea, juice and biscuits. New faces always welcome. If you have any questions please contact me.

*Sharon Piercy : 562081*

## **Naphill Evening WI**

Our January meeting started with the President, Betty Williams, wishing the members a happy and healthy New Year. After the usual business, final arrangements were made for the visit to Kew Gardens on 15 February, and the outing to the City of London towards the end of March.

The speaker, Mrs Mary McConnell talked about her recent trip to Sri Lanka and showed a few photographs of the places visited. Her donation was being given to support people with speech defects - most helpful for persons trying to find employment or attend an interview, yet, having difficulty expressing themselves.

During the tea/coffee break members were able to catch up with the variety of outings being offered by the BFWI. The raffle was drawn and the meeting came to a close. With many members rejoining, a good start was made to the WI New Year.

On 20 February Mr Tom Johnson will be talking about the Iain Rennie - Hospice at Home and on 20 March

Mrs Win Holden will talk about antique underwear.  
The theatre outing on 13 March is to My Fair Lady.

*Jessie Higham 562061*

## Village Covered In Snow



*Photo taken in Vincents Way by Mollie Bowler, 30th January 2003.*

## Naphill & Walters Ash School

As I write we are nearing the end of the first half of the spring term. School became a very exciting place one day this term when the world turned white and the playground became a snowball zone. Our new computer suite is now up and running, with 15 new computers, however, we await with a great deal of anticipation, the arrival of broadband, so that we can be fully functional. As we offer adult computer courses, run by Julie Schmid, this is not only a benefit to the staff and children, but also to the wider community. This term has already seen success on the netball court, with an 8-3 victory over Longwick, and a good showing at a cross country competition in Bracknell, where our girls' A team came 6<sup>th</sup> out of 22 teams. Some of our year 6 children had a brief introduction to the world of work when they took part in a thoroughly enjoyable, but exhausting, mini enterprise evening at Cressex School.

As ever, parking presents a problem, both for those who have no alternative but to drive to school, and for those who live close to the school. Two of our governors, Sheila Draper and Rachael Eden are working with our Head Teacher, Hilary Conboy, on the school's travel plan which will include safer routes to school. If anyone has any ideas to help relieve the perennial problem of the school run, we should love to hear from you.

WANSA, our Parents' Association, is once again working hard to contribute much needed funds to the school. This time the project is playground development with one of our teachers, Kate Ruskell, providing the lead on designing play areas which provide a haven for all children playing all types of game. Ideas have come from the children and include more benches, shelter for the quiet area and a wall for ballgames and handstands.

*Heidi Roberts, Chairman of Governors*

## “Pot Luck” - a rediscovered piece of Bucks history.

**Naphill Village Hall March 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**

A slice of Naphill's history will be revisited in March, when a play written and performed by residents of the village nearly a hundred years ago is revived and re-enacted in the Village Hall.

Tickets at £12 (including the supper) are available from Marjorie Stockley on 01494 488101, and all proceeds will go, through the Speen Supporters Group, to local hospices.

*Martin Stockley*

## District & County Councillor's Report

My unhappy forecast of a substantial rise in the Council Tax has come to fruition. The problem in trying to set a budget for next year and maintain our services at a rise below the average of the south-east has proved to be very difficult. The movement of the Government's grant aid from the south of the country to the north has compounded that difficulty. This year all services were asked to make efficiency savings of at least 1% resulting in cost reductions of £1.7 million. Consultation with council taxpayers indicated that the majority wanted services maintained and in some cases enhancement, these included facilities for young people.

Did you know that snow and ice clearance is mandatory on the Highways Authority, whereas precautionary salting is discretionary? About 44% of the county's highway network are salted, with every run costing over £15,000.

Government directives to provide more homes in the south-east will have a serious impact on Buckinghamshire, especially in Aylesbury Vale but it will also effect Wycombe District. Whilst many new homes will be provided on previously developed land - so called brown field sites; some will be green field, such as at Terriers Farm and Princes Risborough. On a happier note, Grange Farm at Widmer End will at long last be protected. One area that gives me cause for concern is the reliance for extra homes on what are known as “windfall sites”. These can be advantageous but often rely on ‘backland’ development and ‘in filling’ within existing gardens. Our villages have seen many instances of this form of cramming and it is not always of environmental advantage.

Congratulations to the Naphill Common Committee on drawing attention to the dumping of garden waste on the Common both at Naphill and Walters Ash. However, this still continues and many ‘dumpers’ do not see a problem in moving their garden refuse onto common land. It is however, an offence in law and the local authority will prosecute those who indulge in the practice.

District and Parish Council Elections take place on 1<sup>st</sup> May. This will be the first time that the District Ward will be known as Greater Hughenden and all voters in Naphill, Walters Ash, North Dean, Hughenden Valley, Great Kingshill and Widmer End, will vote for three names from a list of candidates.

I am always available on Naphill 564152 to discuss any problems which readers might have. If I do not have the answer I will know the department that does!

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association**

### **Local District and Parish Council Elections 1 May 2003**

Time once again, for local electors with an interest in our community and environment, to decide whether they would like to serve as District and/or Parish councillor(s) for the next four years. Unless there are more candidates than seats, there will be no elections in our local wards, local people will be denied the opportunity of taking part in the democratic process, complacency could replace accountability, and the cosy club syndrome set in. Over many years too few of us have put forward our names as candidates. Any local elector may stand for election to Wycombe District Council (1 councillor), Hughenden Parish Council (Naphill/Walters Ash ward 4 councillors) or Bradenham Parish Council (7 councillors), or encourage someone you think would serve us well to stand. Keep the hard won democratic process alive, challenge every seat and let's have an exciting election. For details of any ward boundary changes, for regulations affecting candidates, and for the election timetable, contact Wycombe District Electoral Services, now, on 01494 421223, or Fax 01494 461292, or e-mail: [icandes@wycombe.gov.uk](mailto:icandes@wycombe.gov.uk)

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April. 8pm. The Great Train Robbery, illustrated talk by Mr G. Woolley following AGM 7.30 pm. Wine and Nibbles. Naphill Village Hall.**

Mr Woolley, the Local Bobby at Brill at the time of the Great Train Robbery, gives a very entertaining first hand account. Please come and hear it. Entry (to cover costs) £1 adults, 50p children.

**Planning: 03/5022/FUL** High Trees, Laurel Drive. Construction of single storey front extension with garage and porch and 3 side dormers in connection with loft conversion. Concern with possible overlooking and not in keeping with other properties in Laurel Drive.

**New Housing Estate of 28 dwellings between Lacey Drive and Downley.**

This development, strongly opposed by local people two years ago, is now going ahead.

**Appeal against WDC refusal of retrospective application for building of stables and manege at Millfield Farm, Four Ashes in Green Belt/ Area of Outstanding Beauty.** Hughenden Valley residents have again contacted Naphill/Walters Ash, and other neighbouring organisations to support Wycombe District Council's refusal of this application at Appeal. For all details contact Rosemary Hewitt in Hughenden Valley on 562752 or Fax 07092 30 6677. Unfortunately the closing date for letters to Planning Inspectorate is 26<sup>th</sup> February 03, but if you receive the Gazette before this date or wish to write immediately anyway, the address is Planning Inspectorate, 3/04A Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN, quoting ref.

APP/K0425/A0/03/1107921. Remember to enclose 3 copies of your letter. The development is visible from Church Farm, Naphill, footpaths, and Hughenden Manor. Campaigners tell us the development took place unobserved during the Foot and Mouth epidemic, and comprises new, large, incongruous stable block and an extensive manege (hard surfaced/gravel horse exercise area) requiring excavation and remodeling of protected Chilterns chalkland. They fear this is the start of a commercial equestrian centre, will set an undesirable precedent, lead to, and encourage further creeping development in GB/AONB.

**High Wycombe Town Centre Project Phoenix.** Full information including a copy of the adopted plan is contained on the Council's web-site [www.wycombe.gov.uk](http://www.wycombe.gov.uk) and the full text of the approved Brief is available for £6 from WDC.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 8pm 13<sup>th</sup> March 03.

*Gloria Leflaive : 563634*

## **Village Fete 2003**

Preparations are well under way for this years fete - there is full page coverage on page 10 of this issue, and over the coming months we will add to this.

The organisation has been split between 8 people. To introduce the team:

Ian Bond - Display Events - 564824  
James Campanini - Chargeable Attractions - 565750  
Graham Edwards - Catering - 562587  
Alan Jessop (Vice Chairman) - Infrastructure - 563369  
Ian Marchant - Procession - 565046  
Chris Newman - Procession & IT Services - 564218  
Matt Piercy (Chairman) - Administration - 562081  
Andy Pope - Evening Event - 564576

Please contact any of the people listed above if you would like to get involved - we will obviously be very pleased to hear from you.

Lastly, we have a web site - [www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org) where you will find the latest info.

*Matt Piercy : 562081*

## Naphill Boys Football Club

Unfortunately not very much football has been played over the past few weeks as 'The Crick' has been either waterlogged or frozen. Maybe we can approach the Village Hall Council for under-soil heating and a retractable roof! When we have managed to play we've still produced some cracking results. The boys are still training every week using the excellent facilities afforded to us by Strike Command. Hopefully that can be put to use in the coming weeks and we can get along and cheer 'The Yellows'.

### Fancy A Night At The Gee-Gees?!

We're running another Race Night in the Village Hall on 4th April. First race is at 8.30pm. Tickets are £5.00 and will include a ploughman - we will also have our usual 'value bar'.

Please support your village football team.

Tickets available from June 562845, Jan 562392, Sarah 562223 or Myself 563332

*Bob Hathaway : 563332*

## The March sky in Naphill & Walters Ash

The Moon is new on 3 and full on 18 of the month. Mercury is too near the sun to see. Venus and Mars are morning stars. Jupiter and Saturn will be high in the south sky in the evenings. The Moon will be near Jupiter on 14 and Saturn on 11. Regulus, the brightest star in Leo is about 20° south east of Jupiter. Sundials (which give *apparent solar time*) are 16 minutes slower than clock time on March 1 and 1 minute faster than clock time on March 31. The open cluster, the Pleiades or the seven sisters or M45 can be seen 45° above the eastern sky in the evening (see picture below). The equinox occurs when the Sun crosses the equator and day and night are equal all over the world. This occurs on March 20 this year (and on September 23). The solstice is when the Sun reaches its greatest distance north or south of the equator. The seasons are defined as the time between a solstice and the next equinox. In 2003, the summer solstice is on June 21 and the winter solstice is on December 22. This means that the seasons have quite varied numbers of days: winter 89.0 days,

spring 92.8 days, summer 93.6 days and autumn 89.8 days.

### Tides

The gravitational effects of the Moon and to a lesser degree the Sun cause the alternative rise and fall of sea levels. Spring tides occur when the effects of the Moon and the Sun reinforce each other. The tidal ranges vary from as much as 16 metres in the Bay of Fundy near Nova Scotia to no tides at all at 20 or so areas called amphidromic points. The nearest extremes in Britain are funnel shaped landscapes such as the Severn Estuary of 13 metres and three amphidromic points in the North Sea. The Moon has a more dominant effect than the Sun and this is why high tides around our coasts are about 24 hours and 50 minutes apart (the average interval between consecutive meridian passages of the Moon). There are one or two locations around the world where the Sun has a more dominant effect than the Moon including Tahiti, where the tides are 24 hours apart. The Tahiti tides are also very small in height – only about one foot. Predicting tides is a complex task and still not fully understood. Local information is always more reliable and should be consulted when attempting to make predictions. One of the benefits of high tides is the ability to harness the flow and use the tidal rises and falls to generate electricity. This was done in 1967 at La Rance in Brittany near St Malo. A scheme planned in 1965 to cross the Severn Estuary near Weston Super Mare has not been implemented although a much smaller scheme is planned now to produce 1MW of electricity. If this scheme is successful, engineers plan one that will produce 50 MW, enough electricity to supply a town of 25,000 houses.

### Comets

In the 2002 October edition of the *Gazette* I wrote briefly about comets and in particular about comet Borrelly. Recently NASA published an article about small comets that break up when their orbits bring them near the Sun. They are sometimes called sungrazers and are very small, often no more than 10 metres across and move in clusters in parallel paths. They would have dispersed from each other had they broken up from the parent comet when last near the Sun and the conclusion is they broke up far from the Sun, a theory hitherto not thought possible. Astronomers believe there are no less than 200,000 sungrazer comets.

### The Milky Way Structure (Mar 2003)

Until recently I have described the Milky Way as a huge disc about 100,000 light years across with the Sun about 26,000 light years from its centre. Perhaps a more appropriate description might have been two huge cymbals joined face to face to reflect better the central bulge. At the American Astronomical Society's meeting on 2003 January 6, it was revealed that sophisticated new cameras known as charged-couple devices were used to reveal that the disc structure is surrounded by a vast stellar doughnut or torus of thinly spread stars. The size

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
Mar	Rises	06.50	06.50	05.12	03.27	14.32	10.46
1	Sets	17.42	15.39	13.49	11.10	06.04	03.04
Mar	Rises	06.34	08.35	05.11	03.20	14.01	10.19
8	Sets	17.55	23.55	14.04	11.01	05.35	02.37
Mar	Rises	06.18	13.59	05.06	03.33	13.30	09.52
15	Sets	18.07	05.35	14.22	10.53	05.06	02.11
Mar	Rises	06.02	None	04.59	03.02	13.01	09.25
22	Sets	18.19	07.57	14.40	10.46	04.38	01.45
Mar	Rises	05.46	05.18	04.50	02.52	12.32	08.59
29	Sets	18.31	14.42	15.00	10.39	04.10	01.19

of this doughnut shaped structure has yet to be determined (although others have suggested it is 120,000 light years wide) but is thicker than the disc it surrounds. The Sun is about 30,000 light years from its nearest edge.



Perhaps the torus is the remnants of another small galaxy that collided and merged with the Milky Way in the very distant past.

**M45, the Pleiades or Seven Sisters cluster**

*Grant Woodruff*

## Naphill Neighbours

Our February meeting proved very popular with over 50 members enjoying an illustrated talk by Mr. Michael Johnson entitled "Las Vegas - Glitter in the Dessert". We learnt that Las Vegas sits on a plateau 200ft up with a climate of 50°F in Winter. It was discovered by the Spaniards - hence its name meaning "The Meadows" in Spanish. The Mormons took over in 1876 for approx. 6-7 years before moving onto Salt Lake City, and Las Vegas began the transformation into the glittering city that it is today.

Our next meeting is on Monday 10th March when Lt. Colonel John M. C. Kimmins is coming to give us a talk on "The Queens Messengers".

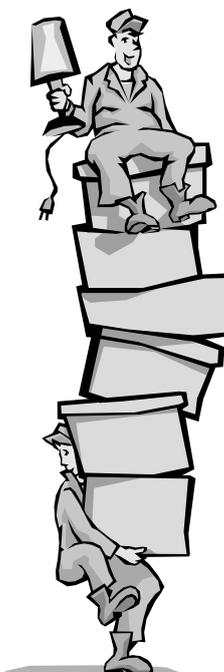
Please come and join us in the Village Hall at 7.45pm for the meeting to commence at 8pm. You will be made very welcome.

*Sheila Rolfe : 562888*

## Pre-school news

During February we continued our theme of toys and the children have enjoyed choosing and bringing in their own toys for the interest table. During March our theme is "Creatures Great and Small" - pets, farm and wild animals as well as insects.

We have been continuing our fundraising efforts and have had a card and children's book sale so thank you



**Spring Jumble  
Sale**

**Saturday 8th  
March**

**Naphill Village  
Hall**

**2.00pm**

**Organised by The  
Brownies.**



**We will be collecting items for the sale  
around the village on the morning of the  
sale, and would also welcome any items you  
wish to bring to the Village Hall**

to all parents and friends who came along. The children also collected items for a sponsored find over the half term so thank you as well to everyone who has taken part.

The Pre-school now has a page on the web in the Naphill website under the Clubs and Associations link. To view it go to <http://members.lycos.co.uk/Naphill/preschool.html>. Thank you to Andrew Wilmot for all his help with this.

For more information about pre-school the contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant*

## The Treasurer's Wafflings

Last year the Gazette annual financial statement was included in the March edition of the magazine. However, as evenings were still darkish in March, the Red Collection Boxes were not distributed until April. On balance I feel that it is better to combine the statement and the distribution of the boxes, and April is the logical time. So back to April for both.

Let me say straight away that this is not an example of apathy! I should add that the 2002 financial report will be full of good news and that despite continuing improvements in the Gazette in terms of more pages when required and, hopefully, more photographs, there

will be no increase in advertising rates and the cost to subscribers will remain at £2.50 for the ten issues during the year.

*David Leith : 562312*

## **Over 60's Club**

Hugh Grainger gave us an absorbing afternoon with anecdotes "It's not always so".

We look forward to Mr. John Crick's talk on the 21st February on Bee Keeping which might encourage some of us to keep bees and make Naphill renowned for its honey! On March 7th we have Mr. Kellaway, retired local Headmaster, to talk to us and perhaps remind us of our schooldays. The following meeting Mr. Richard Pushman will no doubt try to unruffle our feathers to meet the rise in council tax!

The daffodils are now appearing to cheer us up after the gloomy days of winter and we hope our spritelier members will enjoy the glorious walks around here.

A warm welcome awaits new members; meetings alternate Fridays at 2pm.

*Stella Page : 562314*

## **Calling All Scouts ...**

Naphill and Hughenden Scout Group is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee this year and we want as many old members as possible to come forward and help us celebrate. A varied programme of events is planned and we're particularly keen to know of any old memorabilia, photos, even videos people might have. If this sounds like you, please get in touch through the contacts below.

To help jog memories, we were the 19<sup>th</sup> High Wycombe before becoming Naphill Scouts, but you may have noticed that the name has been changed again – to Naphill and Hughenden, to reflect our geographical spread.

In fact the Group draws its members from an even wider catchment, including Speen and Lacey Green, and one way we'd like to celebrate our anniversary is to extend our operations, ideally to include an Explorer section for the over-14s, through which scouts would be able to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

This would mean more hands on deck of course, so if you'd like to know more about how to get involved in working with the younger members of our community (no previous experience required, we can provide training and support), please contact:

*Trevor May (Group Scout Leader) on 565101 OR Nick Corble (Chairman) on 481874.*

## **Naphill Common Committee**

There now appears to be some hope that remedial action will be taken on the Common before long. English nature have confirmed their intention to manage the

Common and hope to be able to secure a long-term management agreement with the west Wycombe estate. The Estate has verbally agreed to such an agreement providing that the tenant of Cookshall farm has no objections. His agreement is currently being sought.

I took English Nature on an extended tour of the Common in January and they were appalled at the conditions prevailing in some parts. In particular, the state of the Common at the end of Downley Road and the land adjacent to the track from Cookshall lane were of particular concern. We must now wait and hope that full agreement can be reached with the estate on a long term management plan.

I would like to correct some points made by David Frost in his letter in the February edition of the Gazette.

It is illegal to shoot within 50 ft of a carriageway. This includes the Cookshall lane track, Downley Road, Chapel Lane etc. Although it is legal to shoot from and across bridleways and footpaths, this must be done in such a way as to not cause a public nuisance. We have evidence of shooting close to carriageways and this is being brought to the attention of the County Council. This information comes from the County Rights of Way Office.

The 2000 Countryside Act specifically includes increased rights of public access to 5 types of terrain. Apart from moorlands and mountains Commons are one of these chosen areas. There is therefore a conflict to open up Commons to increased public access whilst allowing increased shooting activities. This information is from HMSO.

Finally, it is not true that the current tenant of Cookshall farm has held the Shooting rights for many years and that he has only recently chosen to exercise them. The tenant has only acquired shooting rights for the last three years. These rights were held by west Wycombe estate prior to this and were only infrequently exercised. This information is from Sir Edward Dashwood.

We do not necessarily wish to see the end of all shooting on the Common. We do however believe that this must be done in a considerate manner and to pose no dangers to walkers. We can already see the effects of shooting on the Common with the use of vehicles destroying large portions of the Common and in particular bridleways and paths. Such inconsiderate action cannot be tolerated and we know that it is a result of the shooting activities.

It is important that everyone in the Village should be able to benefit from the Common. If David Frost were to tell me which parents would be happy to let their children play on the Common with the amount of shooting that goes on I would be most grateful. My children used to play on the Common but I would certainly not allow any youngsters alone on the Common now. We will therefore end up with whole generations of villagers who have never used the Common, as they were not allowed to use the Common when they were young.

As usual, we appreciate any comments about the Common but hope that unlike, David Frosts' letter, they are factually correct.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

*Dr. Marek Pawlik : 563126*

## **Naphill Christmas Tree Lights**

On counting money in the collection tins, which I distributed around the stores and businesses in our village, I'm pleased to say the sum of £206.97 has been donated. This will be put towards the running costs of lighting our wonderful tree. Thank you all, whether you donated or kindly displayed the tins – and of course to the brave men who climbed the tree.

Further to my last report I now have more information on our Christmas tree. It was donated to the village by Dillwyn Knox, known as 'Dilly Knox', born 1883 – died 1943. He lived at Courns Wood House with his wife and two sons named Christopher and Oliver. He owned land on the right hand side of Clappins Lane (as you drive down) and with his sons planted several acres of woodland.

Dilly's father was an Anglican Bishop. One of his brothers, Ronald Knox was a Roman Catholic Priest, another, E.V. Knox was the Editor of "Punch". Dilly himself was a fellow of Kings College, Cambridge where he studied Greek and other languages. During the second world war, unbeknown to all, he was one of the Wise Men at Bletchley Park who were responsible for breaking the German secret codes on the Enigma machine. He died at an early age and his family said "He gave more of his life to England than he really could afford". We all owe so much to him.

Dilly came home to Courns Wood House when he was very ill with cancer and was visited by Alan Turing, one of the other men involved with him in the code breaking. News leaked out that Alan Turing was gay which at that time was a crime and big disgrace. He got tormented to the point that he was close to a breakdown and it was feared that he might disclose some of the Bletchley secrets. Sadly in the end he committed suicide.

As grateful thanks to Dilly the Government made him a C.M.G. (Companion of the Order of St Michael & St George). His sons always had their own Governess and didn't mix much with the village. In later years Oliver married and moved away. Christopher married Joan and lived at Courns Wood House. He died in 1975 aged 73 and his ashes are in a grave at Bradenham Churchyard. Oliver died in July 2002 aged 78 years.

## **PAST TIMES OF NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH**

Following my suggestion in last months Gazette I am going ahead with another old village exhibition. It will be in the Village Hall on September 20th, 11.00 - 6.00pm. Since my last exhibition I have continued to collect all sorts of history and artifacts to put on display. All proceeds will go to the Village Hall & Playing Field funds.

## **Books Required For The Fete**

We need books for this years Fete Book Stall, especially novels and children's books. Please contact Sally on 562281 or leave in the front porch of Woodside, Forge Road. Thank you.

*Sally : 562281*

## **Hughenden Parish Council**

In January the Parish Council welcomed a visit from Cllr Alan Fulford who is District Councillor for Hughenden Valley. He gave details of the work of the District Council since the change to a Cabinet system and gave information on the role he plays in the process. He informed members of the change at the next elections for the Parish, whereby it will be represented as a whole, called Greater Hughenden, and will be served by three District Councillors. These will cover the whole area, so members of the public will be able to contact all three Councillors if they require. Cllr Fulford is involved with the town centre project, Phoenix, and said that the project had taken a lot longer than anticipated. There is a possibility that people will be on site by the end of 2003, but it is not likely to be finished until 2006.

PC Alison Gaffaney also visited us at this meeting and gave the Councillors information on the coverage at the Hazlemere office at present. She stated that there are two part-timers starting at the beginning of February and Hughenden Parish should have a new Community Policeman, Tug Wilson, starting on the 17th February. Hopefully, with these additions, there will be an improvement seen in the area.

We were given information about the Council elections. Notice of Election goes out on the 19th March 2003 and the date for closure, when the forms need to be in the District Council by, is 12 noon on the 1st April 2003. The election is on the 1st May 2003 and the count of the Parishes will be on the 2nd May.

The Chairman, Cllr Gould, was delighted to present a 'long-standing service' certificate to Cllr Pushman who has served as a Parish Councillor for thirty eight years. This award was done through Wycombe District Association of Local Councils, but Cllr Pushman had not been able to attend their meeting. The Chairman congratulated Cllr Pushman for reaching such a milestone.

Our February meeting was held on 11 February. During this meeting we spent some time discussing and going through the Village Appraisal form which every household in Naphill and much of Walters Ash will receive.

I have no doubt that there will be many moans and groans, it will be a topic of conversation at dinner

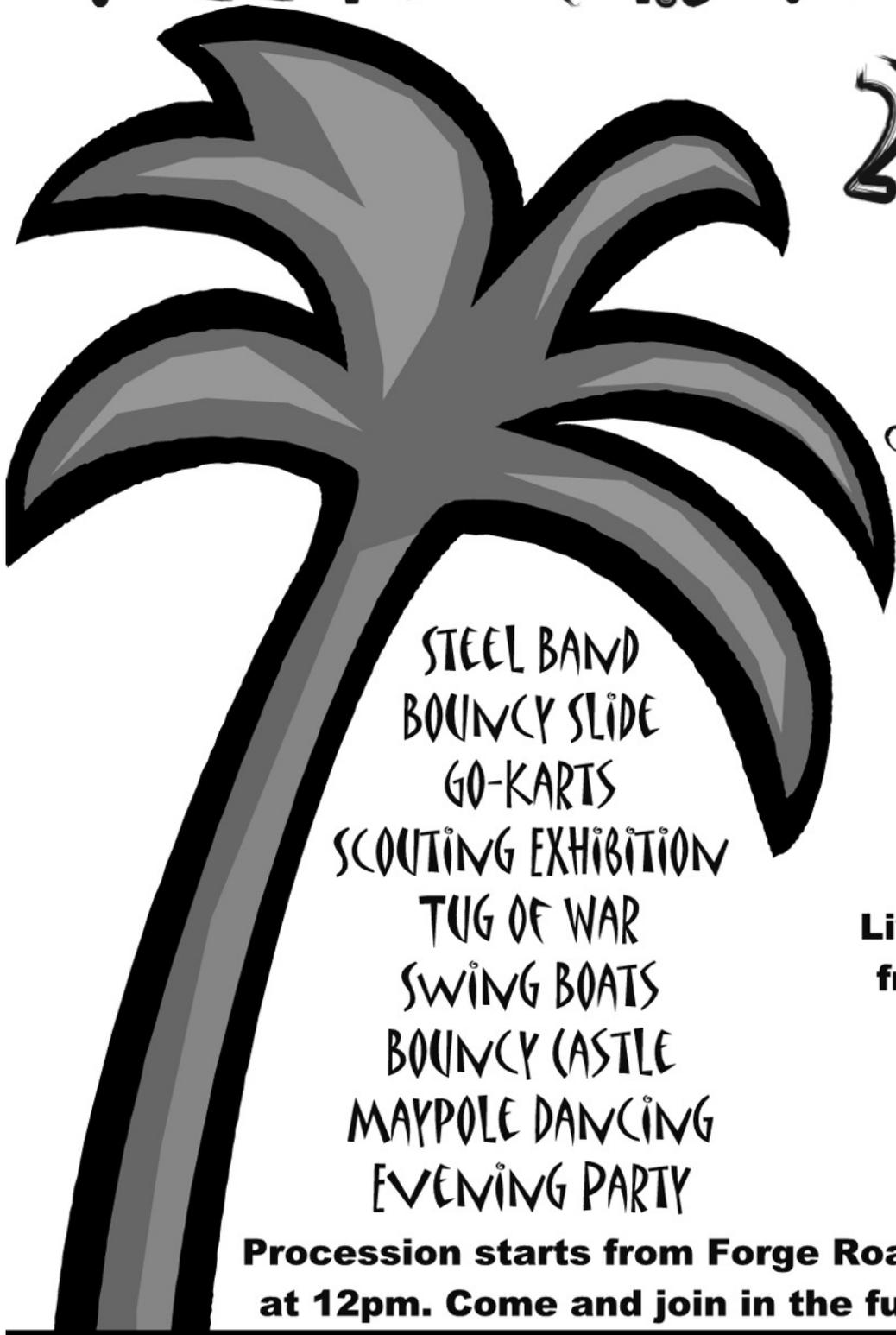
# VILLAGE CARNIVAL

# 2003



**SATURDAY  
JUNE  
7TH**

**Live broadcasts  
from Swan FM**



STEEL BAND  
BOUNCY SLIDE  
GO-KARTS  
SCOUTING EXHIBITION  
TUG OF WAR  
SWING BOATS  
BOUNCY CASTLE  
MAYPOLE DANCING  
EVENING PARTY

**Procession starts from Forge Road  
at 12pm. Come and join in the fun**

**For the latest in confirmed events  
visit our website at...**

**[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)**



parties and a source of chatter in the shops and pubs. However, this form is very important to you, your village and to your parish. YOU will be telling Bucks County Council and Wycombe District Council what you want and what you do not want in Naphill. It is a very important document so please don't throw it to one side fill it in and take it to one of the collection points.

We are very grateful that the Village Hall Committee have agreed to take on distribution. The questionnaire will be delivered during the first week of March and if you have any problems please telephone one of your Parish Councillors.

The hedge which was layered by our warden, John Moorby, on the corner of Chapel Lane has been damaged. John will be repairing this and hopefully it will all spring back to life.

Our March meeting will be held on the second Tuesday, March 11 at 8.00pm and planning will be on Thursday 13th. Please do not hesitate to telephone me with any planning worries.

*Jane Elmidoro : 01844 275478*

## Blood Donors

There will be two sessions held in the Village Hall on 14th March. The first session is 2pm - 4pm and the second 5pm - 6.45pm

New and regular donors please do your utmost to attend one of these sessions.

*Bob Davis : 563846*

## Village Hall Notes

Pam Smith has been press ganged to put on another of her wonderful Exhibitions showing the history and development of the village. She has become the village archivist and has a fantastic and unique collection of documents and photographs of village life. If you haven't yet attended one of her exhibitions then do come and see the extent of her collection and if you have been before then come and examine all those items that you didn't have time to study last time. It is going to be in the village hall on 20<sup>th</sup> September so put the date in your diary now.

The lights in the kitchen should have been sorted out by the time that you read this - fingers crossed. The electrician has been trying to get into the hall to do the work since Christmas, but the times when the hall was free and the times when he was free just did not coincide. Many apologies to those of you have been trying to do your catering by fairylights. The instructions for the cooker have now been written out and placed by the oven for all to see. We have tried to make them as clear as possible. I'm sure that you will tell us if they aren't!

For the first time since goodness knows when, we sat in the Hall at our meeting, looked up at the ceiling and

saw no damp stains on the ceiling tiles. Long may it last.

The millennium yew tree that was planted outside the Hall became a topic for discussion. It seems to have grown very little since it was planted for the millennium. "Hortico" have studied it and pronounced it healthy if somewhat slow growing, and we will keep tending it so it can greet the next century, the next millennium, and outlive us all.

The Piercy memorial tree had its official planting this month on the Crick. There was a grand turnout (even the Bucks Free Press) on a dry but chilly Saturday morning to remember the contribution of the senior Piercy's to our village. Three generations of the family joined friends and villagers to raise a glass to their memory around the tree.

Shortly you will all be receiving a questionnaire through your letter box that will form part of a "Village Appraisal". Do please take the time if you possibly can to fill it in and return it. It is our chance to let the planners and authorities know the kind of village that we would like to live in. If you have any queries about the document then contact one of your Parish Councillors who should be able to help you.

## FUND RAISING EVENTS:

Another Jazz Evening has been penciled into the calendar for May 10<sup>th</sup>.

The arrangements are well in hand for the FETE on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

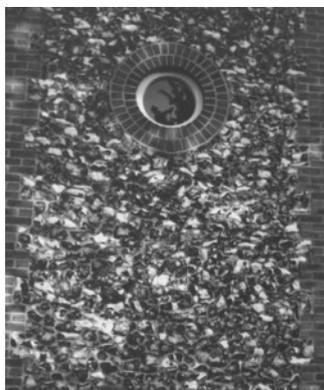
There will be a play in the Hall on 17<sup>th</sup> October.

The Christmas Fayre will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

We hope to have another Quiz next January or February.

Watch this space for further details.

*Sarah Bacon*



*Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

**Last month's answers:**



Car park barrier outside the Spar shop in Walters Ash.



Naphill House -

Until the middle of the nineteenth century all except one of the houses built in the village were for those engaged in toil - either working farmhouses or cottages for labourers and craftsmen. The exception of Naphill House in Hunt Hill Lane which has the look of a gentleman's house and which research shows was in fact built by William Moreton, gent. From the architectural evidence this was shortly before his death in 1670 when he was succeeded by his son, another William. The Moreton's were Baptists with business and family connections in London, Abingdon and Henley. The second William purchased more land to enlarge his inheritance which already included both Coombes Farm and Naphill Farm. At his death the estate was some 300 acres which was divided among his four sisters. The quarter share which included the house passed to Mary Moreton via a nephew. In 1775 this property was bought by the first John Norris to add the the manor estate, where it remained until after Connigsby Disraeli's death. Neither of these lords of the manor nor any of those in between seem to have found a residential use for the house. In the 1830's the second John Norris rented it to the parish as a poor house for £10 a year and in the 1840's it was used as a school for a time. It then became the farmhouse for Naphill Farm until the 1930's when it was leased to Christopher Broom-Smith as a residence. In 1937 he bought the house and some land from the estate and it

A local place to get away from it all

## **“Chatterbox”**

Time: Tuesday Morning 9.15am – 12noon.

Place: Naphill Evangelical Free Church, 122 Main Road, Naphill.

We serve complimentary ‘Fairtrade’ fresh coffee, tea, juices and biscuits at individual tables, in comfortable surroundings. Everyone is welcome. Access for wheelchairs. Activity corners are set up for babies and children. A warm welcome awaits you.

Enquiries: Bob & Polly Semple

Tel: 01494 563304

was finally separated from the larger holding with which it had been associated.

*Editors note : Thanks to Pam Smith for the idea and taking the photographs.*

## **News From Christians In The Community**

There was a very good turnout for the very last ‘Celebration’ on 26<sup>th</sup> January but as we felt that we need to ‘move on’ a real joint effort is going to be put into planning the joint 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday services this year (30<sup>th</sup> March, 29<sup>th</sup> June, 31<sup>st</sup> August and 30<sup>th</sup> November. The first such service will be on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March with the theme of ‘Hope For a Broken World’ – 6pm at Naphill Evangelical Church.

During February the K.R.A.S.H. children enjoyed learning about John the Baptist followed by an exploration of the floor of the Evangelical church to find the baptistry which was then uncovered so we could all have a proper look at it. Also on the last evening we talked about the 12 disciples, as usual in a fun, loud way!

The two sessions in March will see a presentation by the TOYBOX charity on 7<sup>th</sup> March during which we hope to learn how the £100 from carol singing might be spent, On the 21<sup>st</sup> March Simon will be leading us through Lent.

We have finalised details of the Barn Dance at Hughenden village hall – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Ploughman's Supper - £6 adults, £4 children - tickets from Helen 563624 or me. EVERYONE WELCOME.

As yet I haven't been overwhelmed with offers of help for the Holiday Club at the end of August, but I am confident that Jim (Long) will be able to gather enough helpers for the event!!

The next date for Christians in the Community meeting is Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 7.30 p.m. at the Naphill Methodist Chapel

P.S. Bob and Polly's coffee mornings at the Naphill Evangelical Church are gathering pace – every Tuesday from 9.30 til 12 noon – space and toys for the children, superb coffee (and tea) served.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

## **St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden**

I tentatively offer these thoughts about world events both in the knowledge that I am not an expert on the full situation in the Middle East, and also many readers will disagree with my conclusions! As I write it would seem that the Clock is ticking to the point that war will be unleashed upon Iraq. Maybe by the time this small offering is read it will be out of date as hostilities will have commenced.

Christians are divided about the legitimacy of armed conflict. Some will take an absolute pacifist line, others will seek to apply some kind of 'just war' theory. Basically, The cause should be a just one, backed by 'a legitimate authority'; there should be a confidence of a positive outcome and there should be minimal harm to non-combatants. The problem with a just war theory though is that in practice it remains just that, a theory! We all know that in truth the events leading up to war are complex and are not black and white, we know that war can escalate and it is utterly unpredictable. We also know that outcomes cannot be assured, and modern wars have taught us that warfare cannot be neatly contained so as to minimise the 'collateral' effects to non-combatants.

In the case of a just cause with Iraq, the removal of weapons of mass destruction has been cited. We all want to see this outcome in Iraq, but we must acknowledge that in the 1980's Saddam Hussein and his regime were stocked with weapons from the west, many of mass destruction, to assure the outcome of Iraq's war against Iran. Two decades later no one can really take the moral high ground without accepting some culpability.

But finally there is the matter of legitimate authority. Again, as I write the United Nations Security Council seems to be in disarray, will this mean that America, with British support will go it alone? We all know that Saddam Hussein is an evil Tyrant and it doesn't take too much to suppose that with such a vast area at his disposal weapons of mass destruction are secreted away in Iraq. However the evidence is inconclusive at the moment, and the weapons inspectors are asking for more time, whilst the Americans are saying that time has run out and this is just stalling by Saddam. However if war is engaged without the approval of the UN Security Council, the future of that body will be very questionable. Also, the outcome could be catastrophic for the region, and relationships with America and her allies would be very severely damaged. All this does not quite fit neatly into a 'just war' solution with Iraq, and as a Christian I also feel very uncomfortable that

George Bush has used the name of God in his rhetoric to justify this cause.

Whatever the rights or wrongs of such a possible action, I believe that Christians should be praying for a peaceful solution. If there is to be any kind of armed conflict it should be only as a last resort when all else that could be tried has been shown conclusively to fail. I am one of those who feel that armed conflict might be unfortunately necessary, but I do not yet believe that all has been tried before this last resort has to be used.

*Simon Cronk*

*(Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden.)*

## **Naphill Evangelical Free Church**

When I was somewhat a rebellious teenager and the horrors of the Vietnam War were very evident on our TV screens my ageing father used to say, "What is the world coming to?"

Today with the continued deterioration of moral/family values and the ever-increasing threat of another war on the horizon I suppose many of us might be asking the same sorts of questions.

The depressing news we are bombarded with from the media seems to indicate that the world is going in an ever-increasing spiral downwards and there is no hope for the future.

The Bible clearly predicts events like we see today happening especially in the last book of the Bible called Revelation. It says here that things will get even worse and that one-day all the things we know and maybe take for granted will come to an end.

However, the Bible also tells us of the hope that was given to what was and still is a rebellious and violent world a little over 2000 years ago.

Jesus and the message of the Christian gospel still gives and guarantees hope to the individual and the world. Hope that a better and secure future is available.

No matter how hard man tries they will not solve the root of the world's problems (if you have a Bible look at Romans 3: 23) and why we see it deteriorating in the way that it is. To often when man tries to bring a solution to a problem they also have other agendas in mind, like what will I get out of it?

If as individuals we would stop living in total independence and turn back to God and the safe way He desires people to live then we might see change. Jesus on the Cross outside Jerusalem gave the solution to the root problem of the whole world's problem 2000 years ago. For those who believe and acknowledge Jesus as Lord and Saviour, God has given grace & mercy, and the hope of a better and secure eternal future is guaranteed. My hope is that all of you might know the security Jesus offers to all, and then you will not have to worry what the world is coming too. Please call me if you would like to know more.

# ***Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette***

*April 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

April 2003

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Email [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

**Distribution manager:** Dave Ratcliffe, 4 Allen Drive. Tel: 563650

**Treasurer:** David Leith, Falcon's Oak, The Common. Tel: 562312

Copy date for the May issue is Tuesday 15 April 2003

## Editorial

When I took on the Editorship of the Gazette I was told we run at nine pages of copy per month. For the last three months we have run at thirteen pages (we have to increase in increments of 4 for printing purposes). This month we are up to seventeen pages so I apologise in advance to David Leith, our Treasurer!

I received a number of comments on the late delivery of the March Gazette - most people received it on or around the 3rd or 4th. Had February run to 30 or 31 days everything would have been fine! Normal service will be resumed this month.

In last month's Gazette I printed an article from Rex Leavers book to accompany a photograph of Naphill

House. Rex was always keen to acknowledge people whose work he used, something I forgot to do last month so hopefully this puts the record straight.

As I write this editorial (17th March) we seem certain to be heading into war with Iraq. It's fairly easy for us to have an opinion on this matter but otherwise be reasonably unaffected by the reality of war. It is worth remembering that the same cannot be said for the many Service Men & Women amongst our community who are being called upon to fight this war. Let's hope, for everyone's sake, we can get back to normal as quick as possible.

*Matt Piercy*

## Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2.00pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	7.30-10.00pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10.00pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm

\* At RAF Astro turf

## Small Ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

HOLIDAY COTTAGE. Traditional brick and flint cottage Nr. Sheringham, North Norfolk. Sleeps 4-6. Two miles from beach in quiet village location. Telephone Amanda on 565544.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 01494562310/07904023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins562240

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Plans for the new season are going ahead and February/March has been a busy time for 'behind the scenes' activities. This is the time when some of our intrepid committee members justify their existence by attending frantic fixture meetings (when there is always at least one club which has forgotten to send a representative) to arrange matches for the summer season. The rest are busily occupied with team selection or ensuring that the annual *Newsletter* is sent to members, reminding them, amongst other things, that subscriptions are due (with discounts available to those who pay before 1st April).

April is the first month of the tennis year but most of the senior matches do not start until the early part of May, leaving the Junior teams to set the pace for the summer season with matches at the end of the

month. As a consequence, Neil James, our Junior Coach, is due to begin his sessions on 4th April so that teams can be sorted and match tactics discussed for those of match play standard. He will, of course, also be introducing beginners and less-experienced youngsters to the intricacies of the game. This does not mean, however, that the seniors can relax as it is also the 'spring cleaning' season when members are 'asked' to sacrifice one morning's tennis (Sunday 6 April) in order to spruce up the club-house and surrounding area. Weather permitting, April also sees the first evening club sessions, starting, hopefully, on Thursday, 10th April. We are anticipating that the highlight of this month will be our Easter Mixed Tournament on Monday 21st April, when we are hoping that tennis-playing local residents will join us for a socially enjoyable game at a cost of £5 a head, which includes buffet lunch. Ring Judy on 01494 488434 or just turn up around 10 am on the morning. The emphasis will be on having a good day out and not particularly on the standard of play!!

During the month too, we are due to receive notification of our Wimbledon Ticket allocation from Bucks LTA. All paid up senior and junior club members can apply to buy these and enjoy the added bonus of admission to a universally popular event for which tickets are difficult to obtain. By the way, new club members are always welcome - just ring Sue Crooks on 01494 562539 - discounts are available to new members of all ages!

*Ingrid Tomlins (Sec) : 01494 446083*

## Naphill Evening WI

Betty Williams, our President, presided over the February meeting. The numbers were down slightly this month. We had an interesting talk about the Iain Rennie Hospice at Home, a caring group who look after terminally ill patients in their own homes. They give help also to the families at the time and much needed help and comfort in their bereavement for as long as it is needed.

By the time this goes to press some members will have enjoyed an evening at the theatre seeing "My Fair Lady".

Dates to remember: There will be a Ploughman's Lunch at Sandalwood, Stocking Lane, on Monday 7 April at 12.30 tickets £2.50. Once again we can look forward to summer rambles organised by BFWI: Princes Risborough on Wednesday 11 June at 7.00 pm and Speen on Thursday 12 June at 7.00 pm. Cost of rambles £1.50, supper £4.50.

Win Holden will be talking about antique underwear at our meeting on 21 March and Mr Credland's talk on 17 April will be about the camera and the photos they take. We are always pleased to welcome new members and visitors so do join us one evening.

*Jessie Higham 562061*

## **Naphill & Walters Ash School**

In addition to maintaining high standards in national testing and achieving notable success in sport, we also encourage our children to develop their creative side. Some of our pupils have shown a talent for poetry and have been inspired to continue to write outside school.

The following poem, written by a ten-year old girl in her leisure time, has particular relevance at the present time.

### **MY WORLD**

Where trees breathe peace and harmony,  
Is where I want to be.

Where war isn't even heard of  
And joy is always free.

Where flowers sing in chorus  
Of warm sunny days  
And everybody joins hands around the world  
And finds good in every way.

The land that I live in  
Is on the edge of war  
Where everybody steals  
And yet wants more.

Where poor people starve  
And the rich don't save  
Where murder and crime are usual,  
Is this the way we should behave?

*Sophie Johnstone, 2003*

Sophie has sent a copy of her poem to the Prime Minister, who wrote back to thank her and to say that he is always interested to hear what the young people of this country think and feel.

**MAY DAY**

## **Names and numbers to note**

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site -  
his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing  
565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson.  
For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on  
686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at  
<http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge  
565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny  
Ratcliffe 563650.

As is our custom, (weather permitting) we shall be celebrating the 1<sup>st</sup> May with a performance of Maypole dancing in the school playground at the beginning of the school day. For the past few years, the display teams have been drawn from children of seven to ten years of age who take part in a weekly club throughout the year. However, due to popular demand, we now run a second Maypole club for five and six year-old children, who will be making their display debut this year.

Parents are invited to watch and we would also welcome other members of the local community.

*Hilary Conboy, Headteacher*

## **District & County Councillor's Report**

It is hard to believe on reading the national press that the rating of Buckinghamshire in the table of the best place to live is towards the bottom of the list. Whilst I can agree that Devon could be at the top, I think most residents would rate Bucks as not being too far behind. We, in the Chilterns, live in a particularly beautiful part of the country and land shortage and house prices indicate that many others wish to join us. Such pressures have created opportunities for speculators to indulge in moneymaking schemes such as the land purchase at the bottom of Cryers Hill and the offer of plots for sale on the Internet. The District Council acted quickly and took precautions to ensure that no

fences could be erected to sub-divide the plots and that any collective use would require planning permission. The considerable environmental protection afforded to this valley should ensure that neither the speculators, nor their children, will ever realise their hopes of building on this land. With grass growth this summer, the area should revert to scrub and nature will commence the natural process of regeneration.

Potholes have been in the news again and the highway maintenance teams have been fully stretched in trying to repair them and the situation has not been helped by this winter's wet weather. Many readers have complained about the poor standards of road repairs. Apparently infilling of holes is done with cold bitumen for a temporary repair. The full repair has to wait for a general scheme to take place using hot tarmac. If you see a hole needing repair a phone call to the Bucks County Area Office, 01494 475315, should get attention.

If readers write to the Wycombe District Planning Department with comments on applications affecting their properties, it would be helpful if a copy could be sent to me. In this way I can assess whether or not the matter should be brought to the full Development Control Committee for a decision. To meet government targets for applications to be processed as quickly as possible the majority of applications are now determined by planning officers.

Trading Standards, a Department of the County Council, act as a safeguard to consumers interests and prosecute suppliers and traders who fail to meet the claims of their product or service. Consumer advice is available from 01296 383212 during normal working hours.

If any reader wishes to contact me on any local issue, please phone on 01494 564152

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Village Appraisal**

I hope that you have found the time to complete the Village Appraisal questionnaire which was delivered to all households in Naphill & much of Walter's Ash earlier this month.

Whilst the deadline for returning the forms is 31 March to enter the lucky draw, don't worry if this date has passed and you have yet to return your completed questionnaire. We shall still be collecting the forms from the local shops listed on the front of the booklet during the first week of April.

The information and comments that you have given will be invaluable in meeting the future needs of the villages within Hughenden Parish and many thanks for your time and effort.

*John Harris : Naphill Village Hall Council and Hughenden Parish Council*

## **Village Fete 2003**

Have a look at page 10 for confirmation of the fete so far - it really is starting to take shape!

**JUNK** - we want your junk to sell on the junk stall. Give us a call with anything you want to get rid of - we can collect if required.

**Evening Event** - Tickets are on sale now at £12.50 each, this includes a 2-course meal, coffee and the disco. Tickets available from Andy Pope on 564576

**HELP NEEDED** - for one day only. We need people to help set up, break down, run stalls etc. In fact we will take whatever help you can offer. Give it some thought and get in touch.

The organisation has been split between 8 people.

Ian Bond - Display Events - 564824

James Campanini - Chargeable Attractions - 565750

Graham Edwards - Catering - 562587

Alan Jessop (Vice Chairman) - Infrastructure - 563369

Ian Marchant - Procession - 565046

Chris Newman - Procession & IT Services - 564218

Matt Piercy (Chairman) - Administration - 562081

Andy Pope - Evening Event - 564576

Latest information on our web site:

**[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)**

*Matt Piercy : 562081*

## **Bradenham Parish Council**

Village pond: The working party has looked at other more suitable sites for a pond. They have found two other sites. It was reported that Bucks. County Council are prepared to spend money diverting and filtering the surface water, which feeds the present pond. Grant money from a variety of sources might also be available. The Clerk has submitted the plan to Bucks. County Council's Bonus-ball scheme.

Planning: An application for installation of 4 antennae on the existing tower, at R.A.F. High Wycombe, with an equipped cabin, cabinet and feeder gantry has been given permission.

The Chairman had written to the Queen informing her of the new Jubilee window and he read out her friendly reply.

The R.A.F reported that the 'F' block project is forecasting a 10-week delay to mid August.

A local farmer is interested in making hay on the village green. The Council felt this would be an excellent idea.

The Parish Council voiced its concern about lighting associated with the proposed roundabout at the junction Bradenham Woods Lane and A4010. They have made their views known to Bucks. County Council.

Various traffic calming ideas for Bradenham Woods Lane were discussed incl. road slowing strips, a radar gun and speed indicating devices (SID's) The Council will look into the option of borrowing/hiring some of these devices. It will require village help to man these items. The Clerk will make enquiries.

The Footpath diversion order to divert the footpath from over the railway to under the railway on National Trust land has been advertised. The period has nearly lapsed. The Council is waiting to find out if there are any objections. If no objections have been raised, Bucks. County Council will advertise this fact and once that period has passed, work on the diversion can be started.

The Local Council elections will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2003.

The next meeting, this will include the AGM and the Annual Meeting; will be held Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2003 at the Cricket Pavilion starting at 7.30pm

*Deirdre Hansen*

## **Horticultural Society**

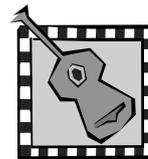
Our recent Dinner was a resounding success, with 80 plus of us enjoying a superb meal, followed by the miming talents of Jan Salmon, who entertained us with many popular songs from the musicals old and new.

Our grateful thanks go to Morreen James who did a wonderful job with the catering.

The A.G.M. was, as always, a low-key affair, although we did have 4 members of the public present (a significant increase on recent years!)

The next date for your diaries is the Plant Sale on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May, where there will be the usual high quality, low price flower/ vegetable/ herb

## **Jazz Evening**



## **Featuring the music of "The Jazz Guitar & the Latin Connection"**

**In Naphill Village Hall**

**on**

**10<sup>th</sup> May at 8.00pm**

**Tickets £8 each from Sarah Bacon  
(563479) or John Harris (562099)**

**Bring your own drink.**

plants etc. So make a note, and there will be more details next month.

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## **Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association**

**"The Great Train Robbery" Thursday 10 April, 8pm, AGM 7.30pm Naphill Village Hall.**

A highly entertaining illustrated first hand account by John Woolley, Local Bobby at Brill at the time of the notorious Bucks Great Train Robbery. Follows AGM at 7.30 pm. All residents welcome. Entry (to cover costs) £1 adults, 50p children. Wine and Nibbles. Well worth attending. Please come.

### **Planning**

*03/5553/FUL 136 Templewood, Walter's Ash. 2-storey side extension and detached double garage to front.*

*03/5580/VCDN Barns adjacent to Walter's Ash Farm, Main Road, Walter's Ash. Change of use from agricultural to B1 business use and elevational alterations, demolition of part of boundary wall to form new access (permitted), variation of time limit.*

# **Police Supplement**

## **Introducing Naphill, Hughenden, Widmer End & Kingshill Area Beat Officer**

### **PC Tug Wilson**

I would like to introduce myself to everyone living and working within the area. I have recently taken over from the previous officer PC Colin Oxberry. We are now back to four full-time and two part-time officers working from the Hazlemere office. If you need to speak to myself or another officer we are contactable on 01494 715352, I must stress that this office is not open 24 hours a day and any urgent calls should be directed via 999 or 01494 465888. You may not be aware but this area is covered by Amersham Police but all calls are taken in Aylesbury.

#### **Prioritising Calls**

I have been asked to try and explain the Thames Valley Police System of prioritising calls and which numbers you should use.

1. 999 - This should only be used in an emergency for the reporting of a crime in progress, a serious road accident or anything you believe would need an urgent police response. Other examples include burglary in progress or property being damaged.
2. **01494 465888** - Use this number for any crime that has occurred (the offenders have left the scene) or any other incident that would require a police visit that day or soon afterwards. This would be for example, a burglary that has occurred in the day, a theft of a car or a suspicious person or a car seen in the vicinity. I appreciate that sometimes you may feel that it is very urgent to you, but an officer may see this as a low priority due to ongoing incidents occurring at the time, which will take priority. High Wycombe may have as little as eight officers working, including coverage in the areas of Princes Risborough and Marlow. Amersham officers cover from the borders of London to South of Aylesbury and often are working with four officers. There are times when the Police Control Rooms are busy (for example, Friday and Saturday evenings) so if you feel it can wait, it may be worth phoning the following morning when things are quieter, this will obviously save you spending time waiting for the call to be answered.
3. **01494 715352** - Any community problems that do not involve the reporting of a crime but may

need the local officer to be aware. For example, if you wish to inform myself of any meetings or any information involving persons within the area, then this is the number you should use. We are more than willing to speak to you and advise you on the phone if we can help.

Hopefully this will help you decide on which number to use. It is difficult to know what is important and not so important, but either way do not be put off from phoning, we can soon pass it to the relevant officer or department if we feel it is most suited to them.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch Schemes**

I have been asked by the local Chairman of the Wycombe Neighbourhood Watch Association, Geoff Pegg, to mention the scheme. It appears that there are a few schemes up and running in the area, some of which have just fizzled out. From a police perspective I feel that these schemes are very important to the area. The area has a relatively low crime rate and this can so easily change if we allow it. I would encourage anyone interested in setting up or joining a scheme to contact Geoff, initially through the Police Area Office on 01494 736642. Remember you are our eyes and ears; we cannot be everywhere at once. I would be available to help set up any schemes and update any meetings of crime trends in the area.

For information, Geoff Pegg keeps a selection of anti-crime devices at very reasonable prices i.e.

- Shed alarm
- Window alarm
- Personal attack alarm
- Time Switches
- Mini safe can
- 5 lever mortise lock
- Wooden door viewer/chain
- Metal window locks
- Car pilfer proof holder for Vehicle Excise License
- Coded car label system

#### **Local Crime Problems - Security Advice**

As stated before, this area has a low crime rate, but in particular the most unusual crime has been ongoing for the past year. During the night

offenders are entering houses to steal car keys, so that the high value car parked outside can be stolen. These are often given a new identity or shipped abroad. Offenders either use a telescopic grip to get the keys via the letterbox or force entry to the door or a nearby window. The vehicles targeted have included Audi TT's, BMW's, and Mercedes. If you have a garage then try to keep the car in it, this seems simple but it is one extra door they need to enter. Place car keys in an area away from the front door, where only you would look for them. The thief will also steal any small items that are nearby i.e. Cameras and mobile phones, so try to keep them out of view as well.

Garden sheds are always vulnerable and tools stolen are often used to break into your house or your neighbour's house. Secure sheds as best you can or alternatively store tools in an interior out room or garage.

Burglary's - I am more than willing to drop in to property mark items in your house. I will mention

jewellery, as they are nearly always stored in bedside drawers, the thief will know this and it is the first place he will look. Invest in a safe or store jewellery in an area away from the bedroom. Remember a burglar is in and out of your house within five minutes or less, so he cannot afford to look everywhere as he does not want to hang around.

Photograph any valuable items and take any serial numbers, it helps should you lose them for insurance/police purposes. If you want to mark your own property get a permanent UV marker (I do have a few) and put your name, address and post code onto TV's, video players, CD players etc.

Finally, just a note to say that if you have a problem that you feel we can assist with, do not be afraid to make contact, we are more than willing to help if we can. The Hazlemere office is situated next to the Shell Garage on the Penn Road.

*PC Tug Wilson*

## **Broadband Supplement** **The Final Broadband Hurdle** **Alan Jessop**

This will probably be my last Gazette article before we finally get Broadband into our happy village's, firstly lets get some terminology over with:

**Broadband** - Tends to be any data connection with a transfer speed over 128 kilo bits per second (kbps).

**ADSL** - The Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line works by splitting your existing telephone line signal into two, one for voice and the other for data. Asymmetrical because the upload speed is different to the download. (i.e. 256kbps up & 512kbps down – which is probably what most of you will have).

**Contention Ratio** – The numbers of subscribers who share each bit in an exchange. Residential circuits tend to have a contention ratio of 50:1 and business (more expensive) 20:1. Which means 50 residents are sharing a bit of the exchange, so in theory if all 50 download something at the very same time, it could be slower than a dial-up connection. In reality this doesn't happen.

**ADSL Modem** - The easiest way to get online with prices averaging around the £60 mark. Just pop in the CD, install the drivers and plug in the modem. The majority of home users choose USB modems to get online. An ISP may do you a deal.

**Router** - A standalone device which maintains the connection to the Internet for you. Most routers have an ethernet connection to your computer and also act as a firewall (security) device. They average around the £80 mark. You can use a router to connect multiple computers in the house to the Internet. Then you can all access the web at the same time. Again an ISP may do you a deal for one.

**Micro Filter** - A small device costing around £5 that plugs into your existing telephone socket to split your telephone and data. You will need one for each telephone in the house, unless you plug just one your master socket and feed all your telephone extensions around your house from it.

**Firewall** - A hardware device or software that blocks unauthorised access to a computer via the internet.

At the moment ADSL only works up to about 5km from the exchange to your house. Our telephone exchange is situated behind the houses just to the right of the Wheel Pub in Naphill, therefore everyone with a 56xxxx number should be in range. You can run a test yourself:

*Dial 17070, select option 3,1 and 2. The system will*

*then check the length of your line and call you back with the result. This test is only a rough indicator and doesn't always work, if you have an ISDN line it wont work at all!*

Another obstacle is if you have a DACS or 'line sharing' device connected to your house. This is a device BT can put on your line (unknown by you) to give an extra telephone circuit (i.e. if they didn't have enough wires to the exchange). This device works fine for normal telephone circuits, but will not work on an ADSL circuit. I discovered I had one on my line so I got BT to remove it. If you want to see if you might have one go to: [www.bt.com/broadband](http://www.bt.com/broadband) and put in your telephone number, it should tell you if your line is suitable for ADSL (you may have to get the line sharing device removed now). If you have an ISDN or home highway telephone line, this will also have to be removed by BT before the line is converted to ADSL.

Remember you only need your existing telephone circuit to get Broadband. After our exchange is enabled & you've signed up, BT will convert your line to an ADSL circuit. Your telephone calls and Internet data will come down the single wire to your home. The 'microfilter' then splits the phone & data. So you will still get a normal telephone bill from BT for your voice calls, and you will pay about £24 per month to an ISP for your internet connection, which will be always on 24hrs per day with no other charges, and you will still be able to use the telephone while someone is on the internet. So if you presently have 2 lines for phone & internet, you could get rid of your 2<sup>nd</sup> line and save some money?

When you get Broadband please remember to think about security. There are scoundrels out there who get a lot of pleasure from trying to access your computer, its easier for them when you have an always on, always connected Broadband connection. So don't make it easy! Use a software security firewall like Norton or a hardware firewall built into a router. Also, remember to keep your virus checker up to date by updating it from its makers website. Never open attachments from unknown sources.

So which ISP do you sign up with? Most of them will be similar from the speed and general operational point of view, they will also be quite similar in cost because the market is so competitive. So, it is on service, backup & advice that will probably sway your final decision. Look at [www.adslguide.org.uk](http://www.adslguide.org.uk) to help you make your verdict. You could also use your existing ISP if

you've been happy with them over the years. Personally I am going to use a small but very reliable company called Icom. They are about the 3<sup>rd</sup> oldest ISP in the UK, they give excellent service & advice and use a well know company as their backbone called Entanet. They don't advertise like the big boys, but get their business by recommendation. They cannot really do a deal on the connection or monthly fee as BT's charges don't allow for much flexibility, but they are willing to offer a good price to villagers on the hardware. If you're interested have a look at: [www2.icom-web.com](http://www2.icom-web.com), they have set up information & an application form for village residents only at [www2.icom-web.com/Naphill](http://www2.icom-web.com/Naphill)! They offer a static IP address (no room to explain) and you will get an email address: [yourname@naphill56.com](mailto:yourname@naphill56.com) for free. For an annual £15 they will do your own domain name & 5mb web space.

Now which hardware do you buy? Nearly all the ADSL modems that connect to your computer via the USB port are very similar. They are simple to set up and can get you onto the net very quickly, but you'll probably need some sort of firewall, either hardware or software. If you require more than one computer to be connected to the internet in your house, you can purchase a router with up to four ports on the back (this is what I'm buying). Good, well known makes include D-link, Netgear, Vigor but there are many others. It is also possible to have a wireless system in your house so you can use your laptop or other computers in the kitchen, garden or garage without needing to run cables around your house, take a look around the web for advice - especially the security issues.

I have just set up a small private email forum using Yahoo Groups specifically for villagers called [info456](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/info456). My plan is to bring all the villagers together, to enable you to ask questions about any computer or broadband related problem, no matter how simple. I have discovered there is a huge thirst for computer & internet information amongst you, along with a vast amount of experience throughout our village's. You're welcome to join. It's free & secure. Find us at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/info456>

So, as we all look forward to getting Broadband in a few weeks, this will probably be my last article in the Gazette (we'll see) as I have set up the village forum to distribute information. I hope some of my articles have helped you understand Broadband just a bit better? ..... Happy Surfing.

*Alan Jessop*

563369

03/5581/LBC As above, Listed Buildings Consent.

(Continued page 9)

03/5460/FUL High Trees, Laurel Drive. (Revised plan) Construction of single storey front extension with garage and porch and 1 side dormer in connection with loft conversion.

03/5468/FUL Teheran, 242 Main Road, Naphill. New outbuilding in rear garden (retrospective).

03/5490/FUL 1 Lacey Drive, Naphill. Single storey side/rear extension and conservatory to rear.

03/5383/FUL The Firs, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill. Alterations to roof of existing 1-storey side extension and erection of conservatory to rear, demolition of existing single garage and outbuilding and erection of replacement garage/store.

03/5291/FUL 9-10 Ash Close, Walter's Ash. Demolition of single garage, removal of boundary to form new shared access drive; construction of new double/divided detached garage to serve two properties. Concern; problems with access and back garden development.

03/5295/FUL Hunts Hill Farm, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill. Formation of manege and change of use to mixed use as agricultural and equestrian use. Concerns over change of use from grazing land in Green Belt/AONB, including permanent effects of hard surfacing and land contour changes on AONB landscape, and recent growth in number of manege applications in Green Belt/AONB.

03/5297/FUL 9-10 (rear) Ash Close, Walter's Ash. Demolition of garage and outbuildings and erection of one 4-bedroom chalet style house and detached double garage. Concern: back garden development, problems with access.

### **Periodic Electoral Review of Buckinghamshire County Council**

The Boundary Committee for England has notified (one month late) residents associations and high profile community groups in Bucks, of the start of this review. Representations to the Boundary Committee are due by 7 July 2003. A copy of the Electoral Commission's Guidance and Procedural Advice can be obtained from Terry Myring, Team Leader on 020 7271 0670  
tmyring@boundarycommittee.org.uk

### **Prospective candidates for Local District and Parish Council Elections 1 May 2003.**

Reminder that for election forms, timetable, regulations, and information about possible boundary changes, prospective candidates should

contact Wycombe District Electoral Services, urgently, on 01494 421223, or Fax 01494 461292, or e-mail: icandes@wycombe.gov.uk

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 10th April 2003.  
AGM 7.30 pm and Talk 8pm

Gloria Leflaive : 563634

## **Sprinters Opens In May**

After over 4 years of project planning in partnership with Sport England, Chiltern District Council, and Wycombe Leisure Ltd, Prestwood Sports & Leisure Association are pleased to announce that the new Sprinters Sports Centre off Honor End Lane in Prestwood will open to the public in May.

Wycombe Leisure Ltd, who currently manage the Wycombe Sports Centre, the Court Garden Leisure Complex in Marlow and a number of other sporting facilities, will manage Sprinters on behalf of PS&LA.

Sprinters will offer something for everyone.....

Operating under the Lifestyles Health and Fitness Studios banner:

- A fitness studio fully equipped with the latest Stairmaster, Schwinn & Nautilus equipment.
- An Aerobics Studio
- Sunbed
- Instructor supervised fitness area
- Individual fitness programmes
- Fitness testing

As well as health & fitness facilities there will be:

- Three floodlit tennis courts
- Cricket and Football pitches
- A floodlit MUGA (Multi Use Games Area/Astroturf pitch)
- Team & fitness studio changing rooms
- A licensed Café/Bar

Sprinters will be open from 07:00 to 22:00 Monday to Friday, and from 08:30 to 18:00 on Saturdays and Sundays.

Lifestyles Membership Benefits:

- Unlimited use of the fitness studio
- Aerobics classes
- Fitness assessments

# Village Carnival

7th June

2003



Steel  
Band



Balloon Release

**Kids Zone**  
Happy Meals (with free toy)  
Entertainer - Ride on Toys  
Face Painting



Scout Diamond Jubilee  
Exhibition

Kids football tournament  
Pony rides  
Bouncy castle  
Inflatable slide  
Fun rides  
RAF Fire Engine  
RAF Police Car



RAF Display  
Dogs

Majorette display  
Dancing display  
Beer Tent  
Barbecue  
Candy Floss  
Football "skills"  
Evening party

**Tug-of war  
tournament**



Live Broadcasts  
From...

107.4 & 107.7  
swanfm

**Procession starts from Forge Road  
at 12pm. Come and join in the fun**

[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)



For the latest in  
confirmed events  
visit our website at...

- No joining fee, No admin fee, No hidden extras
- Pay monthly, annually or casually for each session attended

4 Fitness Studios for the price of one:

Membership of Lifestyles Health and Fitness Studio in Prestwood will also entitle members to free use of the fitness studio, aerobics classes, relaxation suite and swimming at the Wycombe Sports Centre, Court Garden Leisure Complex in Marlow and Hayes Lifestyles facilities.

For more information about Individual, Family or Corporate membership of Sprinters Sports Centre contact Neill Boddington, Wycombe Leisure Ltd. on 01628 405250

e-mail: sprinters@wll.co.uk, Internet: www.wll.co.uk

## Over 60's Club

Those of us who went to Monks Risborough to see the play 'The Happiest Days of Our Lives' enjoyed the evening very much and thanks to the Rotarians for laying it all on for us.

Future Program:

April 4th - Joyce Wooster, 'Lands End to John O Groats'

April 18th - Good Friday, NO MEETING.

April 25th - Doctor Bedford 'Multiple Sclerosis'

May 9th - Banjo Revivalists

May 23rd - Club Birthday Party, Swan Singers

*Stella Page : 562314*

## Brown, Jim

Mary and family would like to thank everyone who sent cards, donations and floral tributes on the sad loss of Jim. A special thank you to my friends for their help and support at this sad time.

*Mary Brown & family : 562686*

## The April sky in Naphill & Walters Ash

The Moon is new on April 1 and full on April 16. Venus rises too soon before the sun to be seen and Mars is too low in the morning horizon to be worth looking for. Jupiter and Saturn are bright stars at about 21 hours, in the south-west. Saturn is in the constellation Taurus, just north of Orion and right next to the Moon on April 7. The Moon is next to

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
Apr 1	Rises	06.39	07.02	05.46	03.47	13.20	09.48
	Sets	19.36	19.15	16.08	11.37	04.58	02.08
Apr 8	Rises	06.24	09.25	05.35	03.35	12.53	09.22
	Sets	19.49	02.09	16.28	11.31	04.30	01.43
Apr 15	Rises	06.08	18.14	05.23	03.22	12.26	08.57
	Sets	19.59	066.01	16.48	11.25	04.03	01.19
Apr 22	Rises	05.53	02.41	05.11	03.08	12.01	08.32
	Sets	20.11	09.47	17.08	11.20	13.36	00.51
Apr 29	Rises	05.39	05.23	04.58	02.53	11.36	08.07
	Sets	20.23	18.14	17.28	11.15	03.10	00.26

Jupiter on April 10 and 11. The Hyades are visible in the north-west evening sky. It is about the last chance to see Orion until October or November.

## Presentation of dates

In the UK we tend to use the "16 April 2003" format although there are variations such as 16 Apr 03 or 22.4.03 or even April 16. In the USA they always put the month before the day with month often in numerals and so we hear much of 9/11 to mean the September 11th. There is no correct way of writing dates but astronomers have adopted a convention. This is to present the year first, then the month, followed by the day of the month and if necessary by the hour, the minute and finally the second; all these following a logical order from large to small intervals of time. I try to adopt this convention in my pieces. So if the Moon hides a star (occultation) in Virgo about an hour after midnight on the April 16, astronomers would refer to it as happening on 2003 April 16, 01h, 17m, 24s, – the last three sets of figures referring to the hour, the minute and the second.

## Mercury – the unseen planet

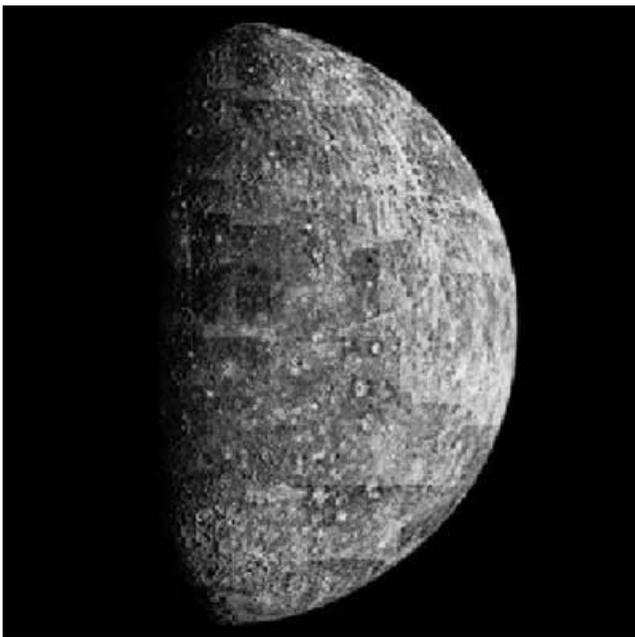
Mercury is the nearest planet to the Sun and because of this many amateur astronomers have never seen it. Mercury is quite easy to find however, from Naphill and Walters Ash every three months or so when it sets in the west soon after sunset. Find a place where the horizon is flat and low; the south-eastern end of the common next to the field that stretches to Cookshall Farm will do nicely and is the spot I choose. Its magnitude can be as high as -1.9, which is brighter than Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sometimes it twinkles because of the large amount of the Earth's atmosphere its light passes through before it reaches us. It will be possible to see Mercury in the western sky on and around April 15 about 10° (the width of an out-stretched fist) above the horizon from about 20.45. It sets at about 22.00. The Sun sets at 20.00. Fortunately the bright Moon will be

low in the eastern sky at this time and should not interfere with your viewing.

The eccentricity of Mercury's orbit is very high and this means that its distance from the Sun can vary from 46m km at perihelion to 70m km at aphelion. Occasionally it passes in front of the Sun (transit) and the next times are on 2003 May 7, 2006 November 7 and 2016 May 9. Needless to say, you need to project the image through good binoculars on to paper to see this phenomenon; do not try to see it directly as it will cause serious damage to your eyes. Transit lasts about nine hours.

Mercury orbits the Sun in 88 days and until 1965 it was thought that the same side of the planet always faces the Sun (as is the case with the Moon as it orbits the Earth). However, the true facts are quite unusual. The planet spins on its axis every 58.6 days which is exactly two thirds of 88 as a result of a resonance effect with the tidal forces of the Sun. Or put another way, its rotational period is tidally coupled with its orbital period. This means that Mercury's day is 175.8 Earth days long followed by the same number of Earth days for its night. The planet rotates three times in two of its years. As double 175.8 is very nearly one Earth year, the same side of Mercury faces us. The planet has no atmosphere and is very close to the Sun and this causes the surface temperature to vary from -183C to +427Celsius.

Mercury is 0.06 the mass of the Earth and its conjunction (when the Sun, Mercury and Earth are in a straight line) occurs every 116 days. Its orbital



velocity around the Sun averages at 50km/sec (it is slower at aphelion and faster at perihelion). With its many craters, it looks somewhat like the surface of

the Moon. It has no satellites. Spacecraft Mariner10 took the following picture mosaic in 1975.

## Mercury

*Grant Woodruff*

## Multiple Sclerosis Society

The Ploughman's Lunch held at Hughenden Village Hall raised £529. An excellent event. Thank you to all friends.

### A date for your diary

A Ploughman's Lunch will be held at Hughenden Village Hall on Wednesday 28th May - 12.00 for 12.30pm. More details in the May Gazette. All are welcome.

## Naphill Neighbours

On 10<sup>th</sup> March the very charming Lt. Colonel John McKimmins talked to us about the history of and his career in The Queens Messengers. The Queens Messengers have been proved to be in existence for 800 years and are diplomatic couriers and not James Bonds as some people think! He told us that secret papers are carried around the world for safety reasons as codes can be hacked and broken within three months. The Messengers have special passports, five each in all to guarantee safe passage through various countries. From stories he told us they most certainly earn their keep when things go wrong and sometimes have to put their lives on the line.

President Sheila Rolfe had the pleasant task of presenting Jean Ward with a plant in recognition of her hard work as our retiring Village Hall representative.

At the time of writing we still have 4 tickets available for the July trip to The Mill at Sonning for lunch followed by a play "Boys will be boys". If you would like details, please telephone Sheila on 562888.

Our next meeting is on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> April when "The story behind Pub signs" will be the talk given by Mr. Denis Jones. This will be an open meeting as many gentlemen may also be interested in what should be a fascinating subject.

*Mary Shrimpton : 471613*

## Pre-school news

Good news, our sponsored find has raised over £300 – thanks to everyone who took part.

During March our theme has been animals. Various pets have been in to visit us and the children have made many animal themed items.

In April our themes will be farm animals and Easter and the children will be taking part in an Easter Hat Parade before the end of term. After Easter ten new 2½ year olds will be joining us.

The pre-school is still looking for someone to spend 20 minutes putting out furniture before sessions – ideal for a teenager before school. If anyone is interested or knows someone who may be, please telephone for more information.

Looking forward to the summertime the pre-school is planning an adults 70's – 80's Disco, Quiz and meal which will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July so pencil the date in your diaries now. More information to follow.

The pre-school will be joining in the procession for the Village Carnival 2003 and are looking for any old sheets, tablecloths etc (do not need to be white) to decorate our float with, so if anyone has any to spare we would be very grateful for them.

INCOME	31.03.03	31.01.02	EXPENDITURE	31.03.03	31.01.02
ADVERTS	4127.50	3889.16	PRINTING	5439.17	3175.12
COLLECTIONS	2132.50	2017.50	ADMIN	205.70	85.88
DONATIONS	210.00	271.00			
INTEREST	49.15	79.38			
TOTAL	6519.15	6292.04		5644.87	6261.00
LOSS/SURPL US				874.28	31.04

The pre-school contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant*

*Editors note : Congratulations to Debbie & Ian Marchant on the birth of Rosie - 7th March 2003.*

## Balancing The Gazette's Books

This has been a lively year for the Gazette with a change of name, 2 new Editors, a new printer, changes in the format and the introduction of colour and photographs. What next we wonder? Perhaps an edition in Esperanto! In fact the only constants are Dave Ratcliffe and yours truly, the honorary (nice word isn't it) treasurer, who still struggles to make 2+2 make 4 without resorting to modern office electronic equipment but using fingers (and toes) when necessary.

The table above shows our income and expenditure. As an acute observer of financial matters you will doubtless immediately note the dramatic rise in administrative costs. However the reason for this is quite simple – automation. When Alan Lewis (of blessed memory) took over as Editor from Sheila Draper (also of blessed memory) in December 2001, he did much of the initial computer work which would otherwise have been done by the new printer and whilst this led to a substantial rise in administrative costs (computer software), it actually saved us money and combined with the new printing costs has enabled us to make a very useful profit. Cash is now available to permit further improvements to the Gazette in terms of format and the number of pages, whilst for 2003 there are no changes in charges for advertising or to our readers. Thus the annual cost of the Gazette to readers remains at £2.50 for ten issues, with the usual double issues for July/August and December/January. As usual may I ask readers to put aside their £2.50 in a safe place so that when the volunteer collector appears the money is readily available.

I may add that the usual orderly Gazette financial scene was disturbed in February 2003 when I received a rude (unsigned!) letter from the 'Retail banking' section of the bank accusing me of going into the red without permission with the current account and imposing a financial penalty. As I was an innocent party I naturally and swiftly demanded an explanation and investigation, as a result of which the bank cancelled the financial penalty and apologised for its mistake. However it is extraordinary how difficult it is for large organisations to purge themselves of consequential errors and sure enough in due course the bank followed up later with a further but separate financial penalty. I am now demanding a further apology and some financial recompense for my having to waste time querying their mistakes! I will let you know the outcome of this episode as doubtless some of you have experienced similar problems.

Meantime the advertising cheques are flowing in nicely and the red boxes will begin to circulate in April.

*David Leith : 562312*

## Speed For Charity

To raise money for good causes I have arranged for a charity "Beat The Gatso" event to take place in Naphill. This early morning speed extravaganza will start at 5.00am on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, taking

advantage of the early daylight, and will finish by 7.00am. Needless to say, with safety in mind, Main Road will be closed for the duration of this event.

The idea is to reach the magic speed of 175mph and beat our very own speed camera on Main Road (something recently demonstrated on BBC's Top Gear) – at this speed the camera cannot detect the vehicle. Drivers will collect sponsorship for each successful run during the 2-hour period.

Despite the slightly 'unofficial' nature of this event I have received good support from local high performance motoring clubs who are sending along all kinds of motoring exotica including Ferrari's, Porsche's, Aston Martin's, motorcycles etc

If this event is successful I hope we can repeat it annually and over the coming years create something to rival the Goodwood Festival Of Speed. Please line the route on the day and show your support for our brave drivers.

*Dan G E Rous.*

## **Hughenden Parish Council**

The Parish Council met on 11th March. We were pleased to learn that our new community policeman P.C. Tug Wilson has already started his duties in the parish.

On 8th March we were very privileged to be present and witness the consecration of land at our burial ground on Four Ashes Road. Unfortunately, neither the Bishop of Buckingham or Oxford could attend but we were very honoured that Bishop Peter Knott, retired from Norfolk, was able to take the ceremony for us. He has now returned to Beaconsfield where many years ago he was Rector at St. Marys.

The Parish Council were very alarmed at the "pegging-out" of plots on the field at the bottom of Cryers Hill. Even though we all know that it is ANOB and planning permission will not be given, residents throughout the parish were worried with what was happening. Residents, Parish councillors and District councillors moved very quickly and at a meeting held on February 19th the Council's Development Committee authorised the issue of a Direction made under Article 4 on the Town and Country Planning Order. This means that the owners will not be able to do anything on it.

We received information from Bucks County Council that there is a tarmac company from Slough called J.K McNicholas. They are not reputable and have been ripping people off in Aylesbury. Please do not use them.

Our next meeting will be on April 8th Planning meetings 3rd and 24th April and please do not forget to telephone me if you have any worries about plans in Naphill.

***Jane Elmidoro : 01844 275478***

## **Readers Letters**

From John D Taylor : 562413

While shooting on the Common has rightly worried walkers, it obviously hasn't deterred thieves – or has it? Left in the undergrowth just beyond my back garden was a little treasure trove. Leaning up against a tree was an old mountain bike and nearby a motor mower and grass trimmer.

Perhaps whoever was carrying them got frightened by the sound of gunshots and scarpered. The police didn't seem overly interested in my find. But if you've recently lost or had stolen any of the three items then contact me on 01494-562413. If you can supply an exact description then they are yours.

From a Naphill Resident

I am still anxious to have some answers on the question of shooting on the common. Very worrying how Dashwoods are allowed to ignore the upkeep of the Common and allow such things as licensing for shooting and a nine foot tarmac road to happen.

What a shame Dashwoods are not more forthcoming. I am still suspicious of a hidden Agenda.

I do hope Dr Pawlik's stoic work is being recognised. I am writing to you in the hopes that Richard Pushman may be able to print some consoling answers in the Gazette.

I have had an extensive answer to my letter in December, from English Nature, but it still leaves these questions unanswered. I am always pushed for time as I work full time, but these issues are very much alive and on my mind, as, I expect, they are with many other local people.

From Barbara Clark : 562528

Thank you to everyone who turned out at our recent Brownie Jumble Sale. We made our biggest profit ever!

I have just had two keys handed in at Brownies that were apparently found at the Jumble Sale. They can be claimed from me Naphill 562528.

## **Dr Mitchell and Partners – Hughenden Valley Surgery.**

In order to try and achieve Government targets on availability of appointments to see a GP the practice has introduced a new appointment booking system. This has been developed in line with a wider national programme to try and offer patients more appointments that can be booked on the same day or within 48 hours of requesting one.

To ensure that enough appointments can be made available it has been necessary to restrict the number of doctor appointments that can be booked in advance and to book routine appointments no more than a week ahead. This approach will help prevent the current level of wasted appointments from patients who book a long way ahead and then fail to attend.

This new approach cannot guarantee that routine appointments will always be available with the doctor of patient choice on the day of their choice but the Receptionists will do their best to help. The Receptionists will ensure that anyone who needs to see a doctor urgently will be able to do so. However, it may not be the doctor of the patient's choice.

As patients already know both surgeries are always very busy – particularly the telephones early in the day. If patients need a routine appointment, want to know their test results or if the Practice has received a letter they should telephone after 11.00am if at all possible. Remember the surgery is closed between 12.30am and 1.30pm for all but emergencies.

Please be patient and polite to the Receptionists – they will do their best to help but if the surgery is very busy they cannot perform miracles. The practice will be regularly monitoring and reviewing the situation and where appropriate revising the system to try and match the patient demand for appointments to those available.

There have already been changes made to try and address the teething problems experienced so far. To help the practice offer a good service please remember that a GP's time is precious and should not be wasted with problems that could be dealt with by a Practice Nurse, another healthcare professional such as a Health Visitor or with over the counter medication. If patients are in doubt about the need to see a doctor the NHS Direct service on 0845 4647 is available for advice.

*Barbara Renouf: 563275*

## **Village Hall Notes**

Two new faces were welcomed to this month's meeting. Norma Clarke was joining us as the representative of Naphill Neighbours. Norma is well known to us all in the village and it was good to welcome her onto the committee. Alan Jessop was with us as the vice chairman of the Village Fete committee. Alan will be known to you as the man who has brought us Broadband and we hope that he can use the energies that he brought to bear on that successful campaign to our fete.

As I write this I have my copy of the Village Appraisal questionnaire by my side as the next job to do. By the time that you read this you should have completed yours and returned it. This exercise is our chance to inform the local council of our needs and aspirations as a community so I hope that we have a good response. The initial results will be presented at the May meeting of the Village Hall Council on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00 p.m.. (We always get a bit out of kilter with the May Bank Holiday) Do come along and see the issues that have been highlighted.

Hughenden Parish Council has taken over the responsibility for the maintenance of the equipment in the Play Area. The Parish Warden will do a weekly safety inspection and the Parish Council will arrange and fund the Annual Inspection. This will not only ensure that the equipment continues to be kept in good condition but also that we continue to comply with our insurance requirements.

For those of you needing to use the kitchen you will have noticed that the lights are finally fixed. We did have a new shelf delivered for the oven but it was the wrong size and has had to be returned! Let's hope next month that I have no need to mention that ..... oven.

### **FUND RAISING EVENTS:**

The fete on the 7<sup>th</sup> June. All sorts of exciting things are planned. Make sure that you have the date in your diary.

The Jazz evening on the 10<sup>th</sup> May. Tickets are available from Sarah Bacon (563479) or John Harris (562099) .

Historical Exhibition on 20<sup>th</sup> September

Play "Table Manners" on 17<sup>th</sup> October

Christmas Fayre on 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Our next meeting will be our AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Our monthly meeting will start at 7.30 p.m. followed by the AGM at 8.30 p.m. Do come along

if you can and hear what goes on, and join us in a glass of wine afterwards.

*Sarah Bacon  
Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

*Sally : 562281*

## Books Required For The Fete

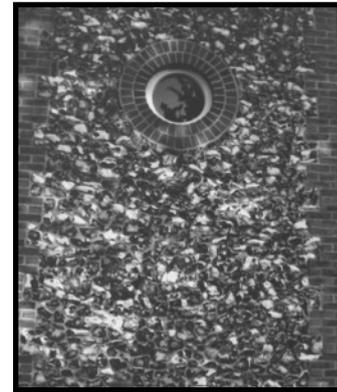
We need books for this years Fete Book Stall,



especially novels and children's books. Please contact Sally on 562281 or leave in the front porch of Woodside, Forge Road. Thank you.



## Are you Observant?



Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

### Last month's answers:

Bottom of Forge Road. Path onto Common and Heysham.

Window in the middle block of Firs Flats, Main Road, Walters Ash.

*Editors note : Thanks to Pam Smith for the idea and taking the photographs.*

## News From Christians In The Community

Hopefully by now, you will have bought your Barn Dance tickets – judging by previous years, this will be a very enjoyable event for all ages. There may be a few tickets left – try phoning Helen Seys-Llewellyn on 563624 or me. The Barn Dance is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Hughenden Village Hall and everyone is welcome.

The profit from this event will go towards funding this year's Holiday Club for children aged between 6 and 11 years at Naphill Village Hall from Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August. This year's theme will be 'Groundbreakers' – based on the theme on a building construction site through which various Bible characters are introduced. As in previous years the whole event will follow through the theme – so the registration area will be the 'site entrance', there will be site corners and a foreman's yard and the children will be the 'builders'! Adults will be labourers, surveyors and foremen and women!!

Children's booking forms will be available in May and at the Naphill Village Fete.

Dates for the KRASH children's group at the Naphill Evangelical Church are Fridays 4th April, 2nd and 16th May, 13th and 27th June and 11th July – 6.30 til 8 p.m.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

## **St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden**

My contribution to last months Gazette concerned the possible impending conflict with Iraq and I gave a personal view about the legitimacy of such an action at this time. I stand by what I wrote, however I realise that in the Parish live many RAF personnel and their families. Some RAF personnel will be with British forces in the Gulf. Whatever we believe about the rights or wrongs of military action against Iraq at this time, should armed conflict take place then these service men and women and their families will need our prayers and support.

The threat of war of course is nothing new. Jesus once commented about wars and rumours of wars, and our world continues to be a troubled place. One of the questions asked about the Christian faith is that if as Christians claim, Jesus lived and died and was then resurrected, what difference does it make as the world continues to go its own confused and often very evil way? One of the illustrations used to explain this has to do with human conflict and war. On 6 June 1944 the allies secured a beach head in Normandy. The war against Germany continued until the Spring of the next year with fierce German counter attacks until final victory in Europe was won. But with hindsight it can be said that with the Normandy invasion the ultimate victory of the allies in Europe was assured.

This illustration is helpful to see what happened on Good Friday and Easter.. On Good Friday Jesus hung dying on the Cross, a Roman instrument of torture and execution. But his death hides another reality, God was taking upon himself the forces of evil in the world, it's sin and suffering and death. If the Cross were the end of the story we could say so what? But the extraordinary body of evidence that we see compiled in the New Testament points us to something else happening, Jesus resurrected from the dead. The Cross and the resurrection was God's D day into a fallen world. The enemy action continues, a counter attack against the forces of good, but ultimate victory is assured. The question we need to ask though is which side are we on?

*Simon Cronk*

*(Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden.)*

A local place to get away from it all

## **“Chatterbox”**

Time: Tuesday Morning 9.15am – 12noon.

Place: Naphill Evangelical Free Church, 122 Main Road, Naphill.

We serve complimentary ‘Fairtrade’ fresh coffee, tea, juices and biscuits at individual tables, in comfortable surroundings. Everyone is welcome. Access for wheelchairs. Activity corners are set up for babies and children. A warm welcome awaits you.

Enquiries: Bob & Polly Semple

Tel: 01494 563304

## **Rev. Nick Young, Minister of Naphill Methodist Church writes...**

We don't know how things will develop this month with regard to the Iraq situation. Whilst the Iraqi leader is clearly an ongoing threat to the security of the world I am supportive of the anti-war position. Those of you old enough to have memories of the Second World War must remember just how terrible war is. I'm not sure George Bush and Tony Blair appreciate the horrors, or the greater threat to the stability of the world that would result...

The Bible, in the Letter to the Ephesians (ch.6), says this: “For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” It goes on to describe the appropriate weapons for this battle: truth, righteousness, the gospel of peace, faith, salvation, “and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God”.

The use of physical force has to be permitted for certain short term measures, for the Police, as for a United Nations task force, but I believe this is never a long term solution. As a general rule violence begets more violence. To sort out the world's problems properly is going to take a much more imaginative solution – and get to grips with issues of justice to poorer countries and oppressed minorities. Pray for justice and peace. They go together.

This month includes Easter. It focuses our thoughts on how God tackled the brokenness of the world. It was not to let it continue in its destructive, dysfunctional way. Neither was it to tackle violence with more violence. The sacrificial love demonstrated in Jesus' death on the cross

# *Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette*

*May 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

May 2003

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**Distribution manager:** Dave Ratcliffe, 4 Allen Drive. Tel: 563650

**Treasurer:** David Leith, Falcon's Oak, The Common. Tel: 562312

Copy date for the June issue is Thursday 15 May 2003

## Editorial

You may be receiving this Gazette late (again). Cut off date for copy was the usual 15th - I then allow myself three days for compiling everything. By the 18th we were into the Easter break so the printer did not receive it until the 23rd and he needed at least a week to print everything. Holidays permitting we will get back to normal next month.

Hopefully you completed the Village Appraisal that was delivered to every household last month. If you would like to follow this up, the Annual Parish Meeting takes place in Naphill Village Hall on 20th May at 7.45pm and is very much a public meeting. This is a genuine opportunity to make yourself heard on one of

those local points or issues that you have been moaning about!

There is nothing more gratifying than the realisation that people actually read your print. In last month's Gazette an April 1st joke article was submitted regarding a forthcoming charity speeding event in the village - this prompted a number of concerned residents to get in touch. Needless to say the event did not take place (although one or two comments were supportive!), and Mr Dan G E Rous will not appear in the pages of this publication again.

*Matt Piercy*

## Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2.00pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	7.30-10.00pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10.00pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm

\* At RAF Astro turf

## Small Ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

DRESSMAKING alterations at reasonable prices. Telephone 563667.

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 01494562310/07904023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins562240

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

The unusually dry and sunny weather of the last few weeks seems to have inspired several new members to dust off the cobwebs from their tennis racquets and join us on Tuesday mornings. We hope they will enjoy playing tennis with us and becoming part of the club. Neil James, our new Junior Coach, started his sessions on 4th April, when around 20 local youngsters turned up to take advantage of our reformatted Junior Club evening. Our Beginners Club is due to start on Saturday, 28th April between 10-11 am, when Lisa Bennett will be introducing tennis to the under 7's.

Hopefully, the good weather will continue for our next social event, which is the Easter Mixed Doubles Tournament on Monday, 21st April when

we are hoping tennis-playing locals will join us for a day's social tennis at the modest cost of £5 including lunch. This is closely followed by our main fund raising event on the 2nd May when we are organising a Chicago Bridge Evening in the Village Hall, starting at 7.15 (for 7.30) pm. The cost is £32 per table including light refreshments - bring your own table and/or cloth, if possible. Like our tennis standard, all abilities are sought and welcomed!! Although we were lucky enough to obtain lottery help in refurbishing our courts, we also have to maintain them and ensure that funds are constantly available for their upkeep. As we are only a small, local club, we try to keep subscriptions to a minimum and rely on fund-raising to fill the coffers for future maintenance and to subsidise our Junior Section. It is our aim to help youngsters realise that there is more to gain from learning to take part in a sport such as tennis or football rather than idling their time away damaging the properties on which these activities take place!

Although the Juniors start playing matches during April, May to July is the season when the match-playing members of the Senior Section have to approach their game in a more serious and constructive way. We wish them luck and hope they have a successful year!

Watch this space for the results (only if good)! Remember though, new members of all abilities and ages are welcome so do give our Membership Secretary a ring (Sue Crooks 01494 562539) if you feel you would like to come and join us.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Sec) : 01494 446083*

## Naphill Evening WI

After Betty Williams, our president, welcomed members and visitors, she quickly went through some brief business matters and then introduced Win Holden our speaker for the meeting on 20th March.

Win once co-owned Fumbles in Great Missenden, a glorious shop selling antique clothes and accessories from Christening gowns to hats, evening dresses, underwear and uniforms. We listened as she unfolded the story of underwear, particularly knickers! We learnt that ladies didn't wear them until the advent of the crinoline dress in the 1800's, and then in the form of 'split drawers'. We discussed camisoles, corsets and bras, it was a

thoroughly enjoyable and often hilarious talk with everyone joining in with anecdotes.

Joan Latham won the competition of an unusual 1930's button.

On 17th April we will have a talk on 'The Camera & the Photos they Produce' and on 15th May Mrs B Owen will talk about 'No Time on Your Hands'. We are a happy bunch so ladies come and join us on the 3rd Thursday at 7.45pm in Naphill Village Hall.

*Pauline Flynn : 488510*

## County Councillor's Report

The month of May will see the results of both District and Parish Council Elections. Naphill & Walters Ash representatives on the Parish Council were returned unopposed and congratulations to Ian Bond, John Harris, Matt Piercy and Peggy Waterston, on being elected to Hughenden Parish Council

Those of us who enjoy walking on Naphill Common will despair at the increasing amount of garden waste that is being dumped near to access points and paths. Those who are dumping fail to realise that they are committing a criminal offence and that they will be prosecuted where the offender can be identified. It is no excuse to claim that vegetation will rot down and not be seen after a time. More and more piles of discarded plants, hedge and tree prunings are becoming increasingly visible and despoiling the natural appearance of the woodland.

Naphill & Walters Ash are soon to be reviewed in respect of speed limits and traffic calming. This is part of the County Council's speed limit review of the whole county. This is being undertaken in specified areas, Naphill & Walters Ash are in Area 5. Area 4, which includes Hughenden Valley and Great Kingshill, will start in May. The completion of the survey will be completed by March 2006. This will be an opportunity to revise existing signage and get some uniformity to the present pattern of speed limits that exist in our communities. One interesting point for our villages to decide is whether there should be 30 or 40 m.p.h. throughout the length of Main Road, rather than the present changes at Greenwoods and the tennis court entrance

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## Names and numbers to note

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

## Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place in Naphill Village Hall on Tuesday, 20th May at 7.45 pm.

This is open to all public and is the one opportunity each year that the Chairman and Clerk can be called upon to answer questions re the past year and accounts.

It is not the same as the Parish Council's own AGM where the Chairman and committees are elected.

Please feel free to attend.

## Second Hand Emporium

As John Mills said many times in Noel Cowards 1944 film 'This Happy Breed', "What a ruddy cheek". That is 'ow I and my co-directors feel when our 'igh class establishment is called a 'junk stall'. I'll 'ave you know that we only sell quality gear what 'as been given to us by the generous folk of Naphill and its environs.

So, please take no notice of the 'J' word and search your cupboards, attics and sheds for items you wish to dispose of. Last year we made just a few pounds short of a thousand, the year before just over a thousand. Don't let the side down, start searching and telephone

562081      565563      563846      PLEASE.

## Village Fete 2003

During the next few weeks we will be distributing this years fete programme to every household in Naphill and Walters Ash.

**After Fete Evening Dance** (8.00 - midnight) - Tickets are on sale now at £12.50 each and are selling well. Ticket price includes a 2-course meal, coffee and the disco. Tickets available from Andy Pope on 564576

We need people to help set up, break down, run stalls etc. In fact we will take whatever help you can offer.

The organisation has been split between 8 people.

Ian Bond - Display Events - 564824

James Campanini - Chargeable Attractions - 565750

Graham Edwards - Catering - 562587

Alan Jessop (Vice Chairman) - Infrastructure - 563369

Ian Marchant - Procession - 565046

Chris Newman - Procession & IT Services - 564218

Matt Piercy (Chairman) - Administration - 562081

Andy Pope - Evening Event - 564576

Latest information on our web site:

[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)

*Matt Piercy : 562081*

## Horticultural Society

### Plant Sale

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May

Naphill Village Hall Car Park

9.30 – 11.00am

After all the fabulous weather we have had recently, now is the time to be thinking about filling those pots and containers, or gaps you have created in the borders. The Plant Sale is the perfect place to buy high quality, low cost summer bedding, vegetables, herbs, and all manner of garden plants. They are all from local growers and at very reasonable prices, and all set to make your garden flourish this summer. Do come along and have a look - there are always some unusual plants available along with the favourites.

Should you be interested in having a stall to sell plants of your own, you can book one through me at a cost of just £5.00.

This is also the time to be thinking ahead to our Summer and Autumn shows, and the schedules for these can be picked up at the Plant Sale, or from the Post Office, myself or Don Turner. Go on, have a look through – there must be something you could enter!

Membership subscriptions are also due now, and the cost remains at just £1.00 per person. Again you can pay at the Plant Sale or via any of the Committee members.

Looking ahead, we have organized a trip to Wisley Gardens on Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup>, leaving the Village Hall at 9.30am, and departing Wisley at 4.00pm. The cost will be just £7.00 per person.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you wish to join us - the trip is open to members and non-members. It should be a great day out, with a variety of gardens and glasshouses to see, especially as Wisley celebrates its centenary this year.

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In May

The Moon is new on May 1 and 31; it is full on 16. Venus and Mars are morning stars; Jupiter and Saturn are evening stars with the constellation Gemini between the two. The trouble for those wishing to observe this month is that the sky never really gets dark as we are near the longest day; this is particularly true in the middle of the month because of the full Moon. I hope you saw Mercury last month. I went to my usual observing spot on the footpath to Cookshall Farm and there was the planet quite bright on the western horizon an hour or so after sunset. Mercury transits the Sun on May 7, passing in front of the north-western corner of the disk. It starts at about 06.13 (BST) and leaves the disk at 11.32 BST. The usual careful warning about only looking indirectly at the Sun or through a safe solar filter applies for otherwise you could seriously damage your eyes. There is also a partial eclipse of the Sun on May 31 at sunrise and a total lunar eclipse early morning on May 16 between 04.17 and 05.09 (BST); the Moon sets at 05.19 so the eclipse will be in the west.

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
May 1	Rises	05.35	05.48	04.54	02.49	11.29	08.00
	Sets	20.26	20.33	17.34	11.14	03.02	00.19
May 8	Rises	05.23	10.15	04.42	02.33	11.05	07.36
	Sets	20.38	02.35	17.54	11.08	02.36	23.55
May 15	Rises	05.11	20.11	04.29	02.17	10.42	07.11
	Sets	20.48	04.56	18.15	11.02	02.10	23.32
May 22	Rises	05.02	02.30	04.18	02.00	10.19	06.47
	Sets	20.59	11.16	18.36	10.56	01.45	23.08
May 29	Rises	04.54	04.11	04.08	01.42	09.57	06.23
	Sets	21.08	19.33	18.57	10.48	01.19	22.44

Cont...

### Asteroid Annefrank

Below is an image of the main belt asteroid Annefrank taken only 3300 km away by the inner Earth objects space explorer, Stardust on 2002 November 8. This flyby was used as an engineering test of the ground and spacecraft operations that will be implemented at the primary



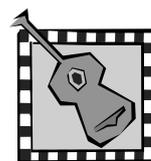
scientific target, Comet Wild 2 (pronounced "Vilt" 2) in 2004 January. The asteroid is 6 kilometres across.

*Comet Annefrank photographed by NASA's Stardust*

### Dog Days

Summer is defined as the period between the summer solstice (normally on June 21) and the autumnal equinox (normally on September 22). We have all observed over the years that these three months often produce quite cool weather. Better definitions of the warmest period of the year in the northern hemisphere are the six weeks surrounding the heliacal rising of the Dog Star or Sirius in the constellation Canis Major. This is when Sirius appears in the dawn sky, after having previously been too close to the Sun to be visible.

## Jazz Evening



## Featuring the music of "The Jazz Guitar & the Latin Connection"

In Naphill Village Hall

on

10<sup>th</sup> May at 8.00pm

Tickets £8 each from Sarah Bacon  
(563479) or John Harris (562099)

Bring your own drink.

A generally accepted period is from July 3 to August 15.

### Asteroid on collision course

During March and April 2002, newspapers decided to have a go at the suggestion that an asteroid is on a collision course with the Earth on 16 March, 2880. This asteroid is about 1 kilometre in size and certainly if it hit us, it would cause catastrophic damage to our planet. Searches with optical telescopes followed up with radar telescopes can give unparalleled accuracy, states NASA. We already know a great deal about the asteroid as it was discovered in 1950 and is sometimes known as 1950 DA. We need not worry too much though, because the accuracy is affected by gaps in knowledge of physical details, such as shape, size, mass, how it spins, how it reflects light and radiates heat into space that could subtly alter its course over the centuries. Therefore, we may know a lot about its orbit, but there are many relevant characteristics that will change its orbital location in 880 years. All these variables could make the chance 1950 DA hitting us as infinitesimal. As Steven Chesley (Jet Propulsion

Laboratory) states: “The impact risk is not the story here, because we can say unequivocally that it’s not going to hit earth.” The real story, he says, is how having such a precise orbit has allowed dynamicists to push the realm of impact prediction so far in the future.

### **Other Earth Hitting Objects**

What about other wayward objects hitting the Earth that could cause catastrophic damage to the planet? As with 1950 DA, how certain are we that one or more of them will hit us? A survey conducted by NASA shows that about 2,225 ‘Near-Earth Objects’ with sizes ranging from 10 metres to 30 kilometres have been detected but with no precise information about their orbits. In addition, the total number of objects a kilometre in diameter or more is now estimated to be between 900 and 1230 and it is expected to take until 2008 to detect 90% of them. Most of these objects come from the asteroid belt, which is strongly influenced by the massive planet Jupiter. Readers may remember the Shoemaker-Levy comet that crashed into Jupiter in the summer of 1994. Because of the vast gravitational effect of Jupiter, straying objects often come under the influence of the planet, causing them to miss the Earth. So we can hope for the best.

### **Age of the Universe**

In the article in the 2002 July article, I said the latest value for the age of the universe was about 14 billion years. Recently a probe providing an image of the universe when it was only 380,000 years old suggests the age is 13.7 billion years old with a margin of error of only 1%.. The image produced gives tiny temperature variations in the extremely cold cosmic microwave background. Several other morsels of information have emerged including the surprise that the first stars started burning only 200 million years after the big bang. The universe contains only 4% of atoms, 23% cold dark matter (unseen particles widely believed to exist) and 73% dark energy (of which we know nothing at all). Astronomers have also refined the value of the Hubble constant to 71 km/sec/Mpc.

*Grant Woodruff*

### **Naphill Toddlers Group**

The Toddlers Group recently held their Easter Party that included an Easter Egg hunt. Not surprisingly, the searching was very successful and there were lots of chocolate faces!

Our new term starts on 8th May with sessions every Thursday from 2-4pm in the Naphill Village Hall. Babies can be included as well as toddlers, as we have toys to suit this range of ages. New members are always welcome. We operate a pay-as-you-come policy that includes juice and biscuits for the children, tea and biscuits for the adults and the use of all play equipment (including by adults!). Grandparents and Carers are equally welcome to come along. If the recent good weather continues we will soon be able to make use of the secure, fenced garden to provide outside play opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact committee members Suzanne Farwell (562147) or Clare Bray (530019). See you Thursday.

*Suzanne Farwell : 562147*

### **Naphill Neighbours**

Our outing to Leeds Castle during April was a huge success with 53 people thoroughly enjoying themselves despite the snow flakes that started off the day.

We now look forward to our next outing on the 17th July when we visit the Mill at Sonning to see “Boys Will Be Boys”. This outing is now fully booked.

Our April meeting was an illustrated talk on “The story behind Pub Signs”. After a few hilarious moments during which our speaker and a male guest struggled with the equipment, we learnt that there are 65,000+ pubs in England at the moment, and that these signs reflect the history of our country going back to Roman times. Ale was brewed and drunk by the Saxons, very often served hot and spiced, and it wasn’t until the reign of Richard II that beer, using hops, began to be brewed.

Our next meeting is on Monday 12th May, when Mrs Dineen will be demonstrating “The Old Cooking of Buckinghamshire”.

Do come and join us.

*Sheila Rolfe : 562888*

### **Pot Luck**

**A slice of old Naphill raises £1,700 for hospices.**

Audiences at Naphill Village Hall were treated to an evening of pure Buckinghamshire from The

# Village Carnival

7th June

2003



Steel  
Band



Balloon Release

**Kids Zone**  
Happy Meals (with free toy)  
Entertainer - Ride on Toys  
Face Painting



Scout Diamond Jubilee  
Exhibition

Kids football tournament  
Pony rides  
Bouncy castle  
Inflatable slide  
Fun rides  
RAF Fire Engine  
RAF Police Car



Majorette display  
Dancing display  
Beer Tent  
Barbecue  
Candy Floss  
Football "skills"  
Evening party

**Tug-of war  
tournament**



Live Broadcasts  
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107.4 & 107.7  
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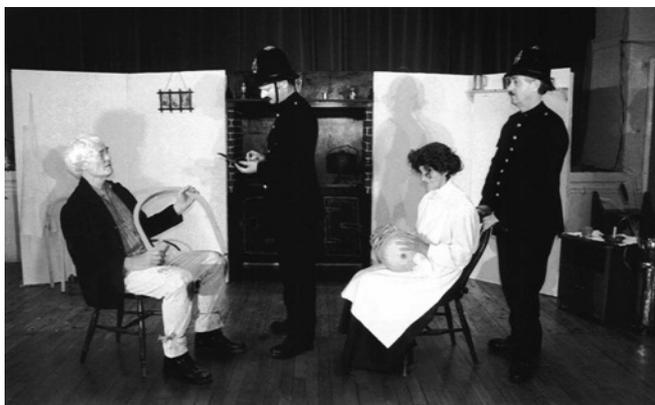
**Procession starts from Forge Road  
at 12pm. Come and join in the fun**



For the latest in  
confirmed events  
visit our website at...

[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)

New Buckinghamshire Players and friends in March. The event was entitled "Pot Luck" after the short farce of that name written nearly 100 years ago in Naphill by the enigmatic Gertrude Robins, a young and famous actress who was living in Moseley Lodge at the time. When performed in 1910 by local villagers, the play attracted the patronage of such as G K Chesterton, John Masefield and Jerome K Jerome and was previewed by almost all the national press. This time, there was not quite the same exalted attention, but nevertheless local interest was such that the performers had to extend the run to three nights from the original two. Also on offer were some wonderfully whimsical poems from Stuart King, delivered with humour and feeling in his native Holmer Green accent, and a selection of little heard old Bucks folk-songs from Phil Howell who also told how, years before, he had acted in plays in the Village Hall. The play itself told a lighthearted tale of poaching and pompous policemen and was well received, while in between these various entertainments a Bucks meal of Bacon Badger and Cherry Pie was delivered to the tables. The verdict from everyone seemed to be that it had been a truly enjoyable



evening. The event was staged in aid of the Speen Supporters Group, which helps local charities, and it is very gratifying to report that as a result over £1,700 was raised for five local hospices.



## Pre-school news

Last term finished with the children's Easter Hat Parade where the children wore the hats which they decorated and sang Easter songs on stage. We also went into the garden for egg and spoon and egg rolling races. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event a success.

Our themes for May are shapes and colour.

Dates to remember, 7<sup>th</sup> May – CKO Children's Clothes Party to raise funds for pre-school and 20<sup>th</sup> May - the photographer will be coming. Looking forward to June and the Village Carnival - thank you for the sheets donated to decorate our float

The pre-school contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant*

## Broadband



The actual ADSL hardware has been fitted into our exchange, it was completed on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April (ahead of schedule I believe). Unfortunately BT were reluctant to bring forward our go live date from the 30<sup>th</sup> April.

*Our little building all the fuss has been about!*

I'm sure many of you have now selected your broadband service provider and signed up. The service provider will apply to BT wholesale to have your line transferred to a digital ADSL line. A BT engineer will then go to the exchange above and rewire your line through the new equipment and hey presto you've got Broadband. The ISP will contact you as to the actual date your line will

be enabled. You will need to have previously got your ADSL modem/router and microfilter.

If you would still like to join our village help group, then look us up at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/info456>

If you have tried to join the group and have had problems, or you would like to ask any other questions, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

*Alan Jessop : 563369 : email@alanjessop.com*

## **An Unbalanced Treasurer**

I was not expecting to leap into print this month in connection with basic financial matters but hawk-eyed financial experts may have noticed that there was a £3000 discrepancy in advertising printing costs for 2001 in the balance table in the April Gazette. In fact the printing costs for 2001 should have been £6,175.12 and not £3,175.12. All then makes sense. I had hoped that I would be inundated with telephone calls about this discrepancy but only two came, one from Alan Lewis, the recently retired Editor who has a keen eye for such matters and one from the lively Mr Brown, whom I salute for his diligent appraisal of the balance sheet.

Last month I mentioned problems with the Gazette bank which had failed to action a transfer between accounts with the result that I was accused of going 'into the red'. All is now resolved with a further apology from the bank and all penalty charges cancelled. I am now asking for a dinner on the bank to compensate for the time I have had to waste in sorting this out! We shall see.

This seems to be my month for financial frustration. My quarterly electricity bill arrived this week and to my amazement I was faced with a bill for £1,500! It transpired that a change of meter had not been properly recorded and my actual bill is a tenth of the initial bill. The worst aspect of this episode was trying to make contact by telephone when the menu of numbers to call does not seem relevant, so in despair you give a deliberately stupid answer to the automated voice and one earns contact at last with a real and efficient person. How the old and hard of hearing cope, I do not know.

*David Leith : 562312*

## **Multiple Sclerosis Society**

A Ploughman's lunch will be held at:

Hughenden Village Hall

on

Wednesday 28th May

12.00 for 12.30pm

£3.50

Including Bring & Buy, Raffle etc.

All are welcome

*Marge Sawney*

## **Hughenden Parish Council**

The Parish Council met on Tuesday 8th April. We unfortunately did not have any Police consultation this month.

The Clerk, Lynne Turner, updated us on the future Parish elections. We were notified that there will be no election in the Parish as there were only the correct number of candidates for the seats available in three of the wards. Great Kingshill and Hughenden Valley wards remain the same. Widmer End has only one candidate. This means that there will be three vacancies which may be filled by co-option directly from the May meeting.

Richard Pushman, Sarah Bacon and myself are leaving Hughenden Parish Council. John Harris has remained on the council for Naphill and will be joined by three new Councillors.

Let me take this opportunity of wishing all the new councillors along with John Harris, good luck for the future and a big thank you to Richard Pushman and Sarah Bacon for their dedication and work on the Parish Council.

As for myself, it is with deep regret that I leave the Parish Council. However, as I now live in Loosley Row I have been nominated as a Councillor on Lacey Green Parish Council which I am looking forward to joining.

However, Parish Council work continues, the next full council meeting will be on Tuesday May 13th at 8.00 pm.

*Jane Elmidoro : 01844 275478*

## **Readers Letters**

From David Frost

Before Marek Pawlik corrects points made by other contributors he should check his facts.

Contrary to his assertion it is not, per se, illegal to shoot within 50 feet of the centre of the highway, although it can be if someone is injured or endangered. (Highways Act 1980 s161) Marek has swallowed a popular misconception.

The CROW Act increases public access to certain types of land including commons but it is not the intention of the Act to curtail shooting. It is up to the users of land to exercise their rights in a way which will be equitable to all. Shooting is an important source of income in the countryside and takes place relatively infrequently and only in winter. The shoot employs people who live in the village. The Naphill Common Committee should be looking for ways to make things work, not creating difficulties.

It may be true that the tenancy of the Common has changed in the last three years but "In practice the same person who has been the Estate's tenant for almost twenty years and always had the right to shoot over the Common has taken this tenancy and so I do not believe there has been any change in use whatsoever". (Sir Edward Dashwood, pers comm.). This is in clear contradiction of Marek's assertion.

Finally it should be remembered that the common is private land over which certain other individuals have defined rights. It is not in the ownership of the self appointed Naphill Common Committee nor do they have any rights over it, other than as members of the general public. It may surprise the committee to hear that game shooting is one of the safest activities in the country with a much lower injury rate than soccer and other popular games. Village organisations should be promoting the interests of the residents not peddling their own prejudices.

## **Village Hall Notes**

This month's we had a quick meeting as all the business had to be concluded in an hour before the start of the AGM. It focused our minds and we got everything done in record time.

The new beat policeman Tug Wilson has come up to the hall and looked round to advise us on security. He agreed with us that locking the gates to the car park at night was prudent. We will therefore continue to lock the gates nightly, thanks to the good services of Mr. Ratcliffe (many

thanks) and we apologise if this causes any inconvenience.

The Village Appraisals have now been returned and are being scrutinised. Thanks to all those of you who took the time to fill them in. We had about a 25% return which was in line with the other parishes and higher than expected.

The play area has been suffering from groups of teenagers using it as a meeting place in the evenings. One of the springy toys has again been damaged and is due to be removed for repairs. A new notice will be put up to remind people that the playground is only for the use of children under 12 years of age.

A decorator has been contacted to redecorate the main hall and it is hoped that the work will be carried out in the summer holidays when the pre-school does not need daily use of the hall. Finding a space in the diary when the hall is free is getting difficult – I'm pleased to say.

The next fund raising event will be the Jazz Evening on the 10<sup>th</sup> May. Do please phone for your tickets (563479) if you came to the last one you know what a treat you are in for and if you didn't then speak to someone that did!

Plans are well under way for the Fete on 7<sup>th</sup> June. As you know we have a new committee. Cathryn Carter who has been the chairman of the fete committee for the past few years has been helping them and handing over the reins. Only she knows what a job it is. She created some great village days with beautiful weather. Enjoy the day this year Catherine, but make sure you come along and spend your money!

We have our June meeting on the Monday before the fete, the 2<sup>nd</sup> June. We have agreed to have our litter blitz around the Hall and the Crick at 7.30 on this evening. If you can come along and help you would be most welcome. Just bring your Marigolds.

Our AGM followed the traditional pattern. The Chairman reported on the year and the Treasurer presented the accounts. These were accepted. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Letting Secretary were voted back into office unopposed. The Village Reps. are Marion Lawrence, Daisy Leek, Graham Wagner, and Valerie Pushman, and we have two vacancies. The Chairman and Vice Chairman elections are next meeting. The evening was rounded off with drinks and nibbles to celebrate another good year for the committee.

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

## Glis glis

Maybe the rest of Naphill knows about edible dormice or glis glis, in which case pass on to another article - or am I the last to find out? [That's usually the case with gossip!] We had one in our house recently – no, we didn't eat it, although the Romans considered them a great delicacy and bred them in France for this purpose.

These small mammals are not native to Great Britain, but were introduced to Tring Park by Walter Rothschild in 1902 and they have now



established themselves in the surrounding countryside in Herts. and Bucks. It was our milkman, Ian Kelloway, who alerted us to their existence; a web search revealed 700+ references to them, so I was pretty unknowledgeable!

They look like a cross between a baby grey squirrel and a chipmunk – quite cute - with a 15 –16 cm body and a bushy tail which is almost as long – 13cm. They have large black eyes and weigh about 120 grams – about the same as a pot of yoghurt.

They hibernate for about seven months from October to May (I'd like to do the same in winter) and sometimes choose to live in the roof space of houses or outbuildings rather than their more usual nesting places in tree holes.. It is when they come into local houses that people become aware of them. They can apparently get through gaps the size of a 50p piece! Like all rodents their teeth

grow continually, so they need need to keep them ground down and sharp – electricity cables are good for chewing. Obviously they need to eat - ours foraged in the fruit bowl, until we got wise to that!

The glis-glis is a protected species and a special licence is required to trap or kill them. However don't tell Disney about them; they are perfect for characterisation and merchandising and I'm planning the film script now!!

*Sheila Draper: 563670*

## Books Required For The Fete

We need books for this years Fete Book Stall, especially novels and children's books. Please contact Sally on 562281 or leave in the front porch of Woodside, Forge Road. Thank you.

*Sally : 562281*

## December 1976 Naphill Gazette

On the front cover of the above *Gazette* was a photo taken at dusk of our Village Hall tree with lights ablaze.

For over two years our village was privileged to enjoy photos taken by Mr Austin Cook who lived with his wife Daphne in The Glebe at Naphill.

You will have the chance to see these older copies of the *Gazette* at my exhibition, to be held at the Village Hall on September 20th.

After many years if living in Spain, Daphne and Austin are now back with us living in Ash Close, Walters Ash. A belated welcome back to you both and thank you for those wonderful photos.

*Pam Smith : 563364*





## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in

The Sign at the end of the cinder footpath leading



Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

Last month's answers:

The Black Lion Public House.

to the common (opposite Moseley Lodge).

Although the Firs Flat photo (below) was given as an answer last month, the following article was missing:

### **Window in the middle block of Firs Flats, Main Road, Walters Ash.**

Firs Flats were built on the site of one of Walters Ash's oldest cottages - Firs Cottage.

The first deeds found are from 1772 when a deed was drawn up between Mr John Janes, Yeoman of Hitchenden, Hughenden, on a lease to a Mrs Sarah Pitkin, Spinster of Aylesbury. On the lease it mentions the property was on Naphill Common.

One of the last owners of Firs Cottage was a very prominent family of the village, Major & Mrs Harold Oakshott. You will see a plaque for them in the Village Hall. Mrs Oakshott was a local magistrate. They had three children, two boys and one girl. One son, Alan, was a Wing Commander in the RAF and in a discussion at the Air Ministry he made a remark which ultimately led to the current site for Bomber Command being chosen. Read more about this in "The History of the Royal Air Force" at the Old Naphill exhibition in the Village Hall on 28th September. During the last war Wing Commander Alan Oakshott was killed in operations over the Baltic. His name is on our village war memorial.

There will be pictures of Firs Cottage on show at the Old Naphill exhibition. It was a delightful old cottage but sadly was sold to a builder who built on each side of it. There was then a mysterious fire that destroyed the cottage and it ended up being demolished. Another village treasure lost.

*Editors note : Thanks to Pam Smith for the idea and taking the photographs.*

## **News From Christians In The Community**

Planning for the children's Holiday Club in the Naphill Village Hall for the end of August is now well underway. Application forms will be available soon via the KRASH club, the churches and also on our stall on Fete Day. If you would like a form directly from me just phone.

Our joint service 'Hope for a Broken World' was well attended with the congregation enjoying thought provoking drama, psalms and poetry. The next joint service will be on Sunday 29th June at 5.00pm on the grass triangle outside Hughenden church. Bring your picnic, your chairs and enjoy the Salvation Army band bringing you 'Songs of Praise in the Park'.

KRASH Children's Club meets on the 2nd and the 26th May in the Naphill Evangelical Church from 6.30pm - 8.00pm.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

**Rev. Nick Young, Minister of Naphill Methodist Church writes...**

A local place to get away from it all

### **"Chatterbox"**

Time: Tuesday Morning 9.15am – 12noon.

Place: Naphill Evangelical Free Church, 122 Main Road, Naphill.

We serve complimentary 'Fairtrade' fresh coffee, tea, juices and biscuits at individual tables, in comfortable surroundings. Everyone is welcome. Access for wheelchairs. Activity corners are set up for babies and children. A warm welcome awaits you.

Enquiries: Bob & Polly Semple

Tel: 01494 563304

I don't go much for navel gazing, but this is a year when Methodists are celebrating the tercentenary of the birth of the man who started the movement. John Wesley was an Anglican priest who often stopped in High Wycombe on his journeys between London and Bristol. He had various friends here, including Hannah Ball, who may have been born in Naphill and whose grave can be found in Stokenchurch churchyard. She began a Sunday school class in High Wycombe before Robert Raikes of Gloucester, who normally gets the credit for founding the Sunday school movement.

John Wesley, an Oxford graduate and don, and his younger brother Charles (another Oxford graduate and one of the greatest and most prolific hymn writers ever) had spiritual experiences in May 1738 which led to a renewal movement in the Church of England. They had already acquired the nickname "Methodists" because of their systematic approach to their studies at Oxford as well as their religious practices. It was never their intention that Methodism should separate from the Church of England, but a few years after their deaths there were tensions which resulted in a new Christian denomination. Now Anglicans and Methodists work more closely than ever as Christians seek to break down the historic divisions in the church.

If you wish to share in our local celebration of John Wesley's tercentenary you are most welcome to join us at Wycombe Abbey School on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm. It will focus on John Wesley's most distinctive teaching and include singing some of Charles Wesley's greatest hymns, as well as a couple of modern ones. More information from our church leaders.

# *Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette*

*June 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

June 2003

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Copy date for the July issue is Sunday 15 June 2003

## Editorial

The county of Buckinghamshire contains around 200,000 households, 475,000 permanent residents and at its widest point spans approximately 80 miles. On the 15th May Richard Pushman was elected as the Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council, having previously served as Chairman of Wycombe District Council and Chairman of Hughenden Parish Council for many years - I would be surprised if anyone else can make that claim. It is also worth noting that during the recent District elections Richard retained his seat with the highest personal vote count within the District. All these achievements are hard to come by and as residents of Naphill and Walters Ash

we should enjoy the fact that we are being represented so well at this level. I wish him all the best.

June 7th is fete day, hence the different picture on the front cover this month in keeping with the Hawaiian theme. If you have a theory on how to influence the weather now is the time to use it. Weather permitting it should be a great day for everyone.

See you on June 7th.

*Matt Piercy*

## Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2.00pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	8.00-10.00pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10.00pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm

\* At RAF Astro turf

## Small Ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 01494562310/07904023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins562240

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

As most of us will be aware, the weather continues to be generous, leaving us few excuses for not turning up for club sessions. It has been a busy and productive time with three of our annual events having successfully taken place. The tournament on Easter Monday was very much enjoyed by those who played and those who just turned up for the delicious lunch. In spite of the adverse weather forecast (which proved to be wrong) and the fact that no local non-member tennis players were brave enough to join us, Judy 'manfully' organised the day so that all of us played to the best of our ability. The winners were our immediate past Men's Captain, Ian Catchpole and our immediate past Chairman, Pauline Styles. Just reward for services rendered!

The weather was not so kind, however, for the annual Golf Day on 2nd May, when early wind and rain threatened to adversely affect play. However, Naphill LTC members are a resilient lot and battled with the elements to complete the course, (one even coping with a 'rock' in one eye impairing his vision). The eventual winners were our much-respected President

Ian Leek and our past Treasurer Lesley Cropper. Played on the same evening, our Chicago Bridge Drive, was very well supported by local players of all standards. Our thanks are due to Richard and Asa Graham for their brilliant, organizational skills in setting out the method of play and to Jan Curtis who not only thought up the idea but was also inspirational in making sure that it was a success. Thanks are also due to our valiant non-bridge playing member who 'skivvied' in the kitchen, catered for the interval and cleared up afterwards.

I am pleased to report that, as a result of these fund-raising efforts, our court maintenance fund is well on course this year. In this connection, we would also like to thank the Naphill Village Hall Committee for their generous grant. Our club has again undertaken to run the Bouncy Castle at this year's Naphill Fete on the 7th June. In addition, we are hoping to be able to challenge all-comers by running a 'Fastest Serve' contest and have our Junior Coach Neil James available to demonstrate his coaching skills. Why not make a point of coming along to see us on the day to find out just how hard those professionals at Wimbledon really hit the ball in comparison to the average club player?

In conclusion, I am also very pleased to report that our Ladies Bucks Shield Team has made a good start to their season by winning their first match against the David Lloyd 2 team. It is always heartening to begin well and we wish them another successful season. Our next social event is on Tea 'n Tennis at 2pm on Bank Holiday Monday - all welcome. We still have vacancies for new members of all ages and abilities - Contact Sue Crooks on 01494 562539 for details.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063*

## Naphill Evening WI

Hazel Davies, our Vice-President, opened the meeting on April 17th by announcing that we would sing Jerusalem unaccompanied. This raised a few chuckles but considering the numbers were down it was not too bad.

Hazel mentioned the Puddings Evening on May 8th at Ginny Ratcliffe's home when the resolutions would be discussed and voted on and puddings devoured. The cheese and wine lunch at Jenny Price's was a great success, the food was delicious and we raised money for WI funds. The business was concluded and the speaker, Mr J Credland, was introduced.

What a surprise - he brought the camera to life! He called it the "Black Magic Box" and really made us feel it was magic. He also introduced some humour to the talk and showed us ways of making exciting

photographs using several small snaps to make one picture. He had some glass negatives from many years ago which he had been able to develop. To round off the evening he took a photograph of the group and promised to send it for our scrap book. His enthusiasm was infectious.

At the end of the evening the bursary was drawn and this was won by Juliet Shortall. The evening finished with a cup of tea and hot cross buns.

Dates to remember: Speen walk on 12th June at 7 pm; Mrs B Owen's talk "No Time on Your Hands" on 15th May and our 20th Birthday Party on 19th June.. We always meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.45 and new members are very welcome.

*Jessie Higham 562061*

## District & County Councillor's Report

Most readers of this report will be aware of the Wycombe District Council Election held on May 1st. The Greater Hughenden Ward elected three councillors to serve for the next four years, David Carroll and Alan Fulford and myself. At the present time committee representation is being worked out but I can report that I will be continuing as a member of the Development Control Committee for the coming year. Alan Fulford has stood down from his cabinet position and David Carroll takes up the portfolio for housing. So Naphill & Walters Ash residents will now have a choice as to who they wish to approach with their constituency problems, as indeed will Hughenden Valley, North Dean, Great Kingshill & Widmer End

I am hoping that a meeting can be set up with the Village Hall Council and the county youth adviser to work towards a solution of the youth disaffection, which in turn leads to anti social behaviour and mindless vandalism. There are several good schemes operating throughout the county with volunteers offering young people a worthwhile outlet for their undoubted energies

Readers and motorists who have been pleased with the quieter road surface on Coombe Hill Lane, will be pleased to learn that a similar surface is to be extended throughout Main Road. I am reliably informed that this should be finished during the present financial year. Whilst canvassing for the recent election, several residents fronting onto Coombe Lane remarked on the lessening of traffic noise from the new surface. I am sure that those living on Main Road will welcome this

Weather folklore in Naphill has always associated the clear noise of the railway at Bradenham with the

## Names and numbers to note

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

probable onset of rain. There has also been the recent intrusion of the hooter/siren of trains approaching the footpath, which crosses over the track. This resulted from a safety recommendation to all drivers. Bradenham Parish Council has achieved a diversion of the path from across the track to a nearby tunnel. This will take place later in the year. It will remove the need for a warning signal from every passing train so that we can all sleep undisturbed in our beds! Whilst speaking of trains, passengers that normally use Saunderton Halt will be aware of the new time-tabling which significantly reduces the number of trains stopping there. I understand that a passenger user group has been formed to seek a review of this situation.

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## Village Fete 2003

So, here we go - June 7th!

Hopefully you have been visited by someone trying to sell tickets for the Grand Draw at the fete. Please dig deep, the program that accompanies the tickets is free.

**After Fete Evening Dance** (8.00 - midnight) - Tickets are selling fast at £12.50 each and we only have a few left (this is not a sales pitch, we have sold roughly 80 tickets already!). Ticket price includes a 2-course meal, coffee and the disco. Tickets available from Andy Pope on 564576

We need people to run stalls on fete day - can you help?

The organisation has been split between 8 people.

Ian Bond - Display Events - 564824

James Campanini - Chargeable Attractions - 565750

Graham Edwards - Catering - 562587

Alan Jessop (Vice Chairman) - Infrastructure - 563369

Ian Marchant - Procession - 565046

Chris Newman - Procession & IT Services - 564218

Matt Piercy (Chairman) - Administration - 562081

Andy Pope - Evening Event - 564576

Latest information on our web site:

[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)

*Matt Piercy : 562081*

## Horticultural Society

Firstly, a reminder that we have organised a trip to Wisley Gardens on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June. The Gardens should be particularly good this year as Wisley celebrates its centenary. The cost will be £7 per person. The coach will leave the Village Hall at 9.30am, and return from Wisley at approximately 4pm. If you would like to join us on this trip please let me know -you do not have to be a member of the Horticultural Society to enjoy this day out.

Secondly, our Summer Show takes place on July 5<sup>th</sup> this year. The schedules are available from Don Turner, the Post Office or myself. There are classes that I am sure many of you could enter, including Photography (the photographs do not need to be mounted or framed, so it is very easy) and Novice classes for those who have never had a go at entering our shows before. There are also classes for the youngsters, so why not encourage yours to have a go? This is a village show, very informal, and great fun, so have a browse through the schedule and see if you can enter.

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In June

Sunset on June 25 is the latest of the year and sunrise on 17 is the earliest. The summer solstice is on 21. The Moon is full on 14 and new on 29. Saturn is too low in the sky near the Sun to see this month but Jupiter will be its normal bright self in the western sky in the evenings. Mars is south to southwest during the mornings before sunrise. Although the sky never gets really dark at this time of the year, it should be possible to see Venus right next to Mercury on June 1 in the morning eastern horizon although the Sun rising will

make it difficult. The Andromeda galaxy is beginning to appear in the north-western sky late in the evening. It is not possible to see as much detail as given in the picture below without a powerful telescope

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
June	Rise	04.51	05.24	04.04	01.34	09.48	06.13
1	Set	21.11	22.57	19.06	10.45	01.09	22.34
June	Rise	04.47	13.20	03.56	01.16	09.27	05.49
8	Set	21.18	02.12	19.27	10.36	00.40	22.20
June	Rise	04.44	23.09	03.52	00.54	09.06	05.25
15	Set	21.23	05.10	19.47	10.26	00.15	21.47
June	Rise	04.45	01.39	03.50	00.34	08.46	05.02
22	Set	21.25	13.52	20.06	10.14	23.50	21.23
June	Rise	04.48	04.02	03.52	00.14	08.25	04.38
29	Set	21.25	21.47	20.22	10.00	23.25	21.00

## Shortest and longest days

In the December issues of the *Gazette*, I invariably refer to the earliest sunset to be on December 13 and the latest sunrise to be on January 30 – a range of 17 days (also sometimes known as the halcyon days). Why do not both these events occur on the shortest day, December 21 or 22? It is mainly because the Earth orbits the Sun in an ellipse and not a circle. It is also because the Earth is nearest the Sun on January 3 (perihelion – when they are 147million kms apart) and not on the shortest day. Another factor, at perihelion, the Earth travels slightly faster in its orbit. Also the Earth is tilting on its axis by 23½°. The net result of all these factors is the odd lack of symmetry around the shortest day. This asymmetry is also reflected in the dates when we put forward our clocks to achieve British summer time. The clocks go back only eight weeks before the shortest day and go forward 14 weeks after the shortest day. To a certain extent, this asymmetry is repeated around the longest day in June. But in the summer, when the Earth is travelling in its orbit at its slowest and is furthest from the Sun (152 million kms), the effect is less pronounced. The Sun rises at its earliest on June 17 and sets at its latest on June 25 – a range of eight days.

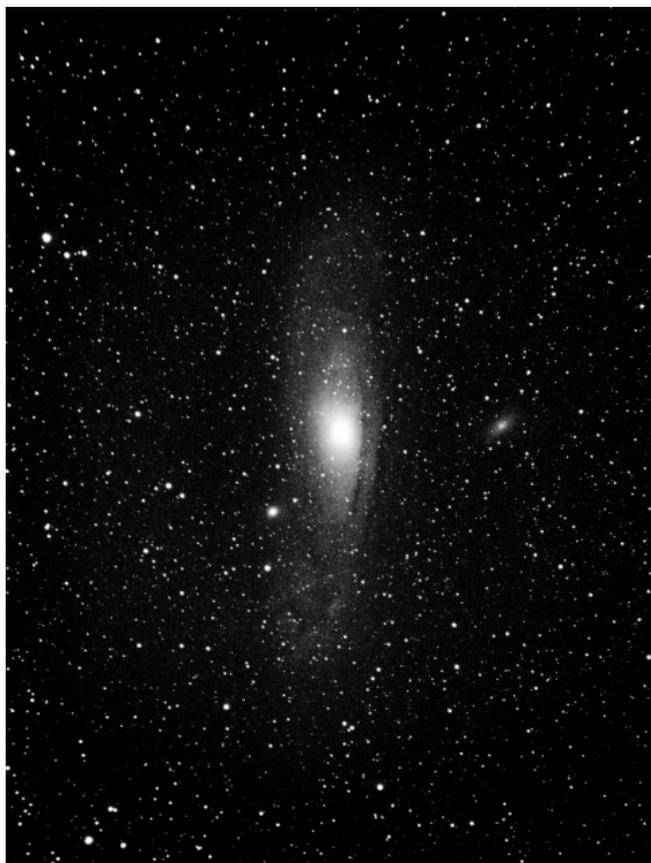
## Mars

Space Odyssey, the artificial satellite orbiting Mars has discovered vast quantities of water about a metre below the surface of parts of the planet. It is known that water had been on the surface but the conventional theory has been that it all vaporized over the millennia since its formation 4200 million years ago. Now we know that dirty water exists in vast quantities surrounding the south pole. If one were able to heat a bucket full of this water rich soil, half of it would be water. This will be essential for future space travellers, not only for the water we need to drink but also to enable the hydrogen to be

extracted for the fuel for the spacecraft on its return journey. So once again Mars has surprised scientists

### Planets and their satellites

Mercury and Venus, the two planets nearest the Sun have no satellites. Earth has one, the Moon. Mars has two tiny satellites, Phobos and Deimos. Then comes the first giant planet, Jupiter and originally in 1609, Galileo Galilei discovered four (Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto) with the use of his new telescope. Jupiter's number has now increased to 60 (April 2003) – more than Saturn (10 major satellites). The largest orbiting Saturn is Titan – not to be confused with Triton orbiting Neptune. The total count for Saturn by end of April 2003 was 31.. By December 2000 Uranus had 17 counted and by 2003 January, Neptune had 11. Pluto has one – Charon, which was discovered in 1978. The numbers for the giant planets are for ever growing with the arrival of probes sent from Earth to orbit them.



*M31, the Andromeda Galaxy*

*Grant Woodruff*

## Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

### Planning

03/5777/VCDN Paul's Fish & Chips, 127 Main Road, Naphill. Variation of Condition One attached to 02/5312/VCDN (lunchtime opening Mon to Sat between 1200 to 1400) originally approved under 96/7279/FUL.

03/5796/FUL 9 Battingswood Gardens, Naphill. Extension to existing single garage, front porch, rear lobby to garage & single storey rear extension.

03/5890/FUL Poplars, Louches Lane, Naphill. Erection of summerhouse in rear garden (retro).

03/5895/FUL Dashwood, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill. Close off existing site access to Burnhams from Dashwood. Create new site access to Burnhams off Hunts Hill Lane.

03/5969/FUL 2 Bayley Gardens, Naphill. Single storey conservatory to side.

03/5995/FUL Terry Sharley Domestics, 133 Main Road, Naphill. Demolition of 133 Main Road and construction of 2 pairs of semi-detached 2- bedroom houses. Objection to these 4 dwellings on grounds of loss of retail outlets in a village with a growing population and increasing housing density. Objection also on grounds of increased traffic at a road junction, and increased parking on Main Road.

03/6000/FUL Kamerun, 139 Main Road, Naphill. Two-storey side extension and new porch.

03/6083/FUL 1 Brackenwood, Naphill. Two storey rear extension and 1<sup>st</sup> floor accommodation over existing garage.

03/06104 /OUT Business Units, Church Lane, off Hunts Hill Lane, (Scheme 2) demolition of existing buildings, and erection of 5 terraced cottages and 2 detached houses. 03/06104 (Scheme 1) demolition of existing buildings, and erection of 4 detached dwellings. Objection to both on policy grounds, as the proposed development is in a prominent Chilterns Green Belt/AONB site. Similar schemes by the same owner failed in 1990 and 1998 because they were contrary to same policies.

**Light Pollution:** Light pollution has been a recurring concern in the countryside and has now been taken up at a high level with calls for legislation to bring it within planning control. Around Naphill and Walters Ash carelessly tilted security lights and other forms of illumination invade the peaceful countryside and blaze out the ancient night sky. Even the relatively strong telescopes of local amateur astronomers are now unable to cut through the orange glow to reach the stars.

**Dumping and unauthorised felling on Naphill Common:** Several people have complained about dumping of brushwood, felled trees, branches and garden waste on Naphill Common. A single individual is thought to be mainly responsible over time for the dumping between Chapel Lane and Ash Close. Unauthorised felling described as “savage” is known to have taken place adjacent to a house in the Coppice. Recently photographs of large dumps off Downley Road were sent to Residents Association and Naphill Common Committee, with a request for action. As Naphill Common is part of the Dashwood Estate unauthorised felling and burning are not permitted, so English Nature’s advice is being sought. Their response will be conveyed to all those concerned.

Date of next meeting Thursday June 12th 2003.

*Gloria Leflaive 01494 56 3634*

## **Naphill Toddlers Group**

The Naphill Toddlers Group are holding a Toddlers Summer Party on July 10th that includes a Teddy Bear’s picnic, bouncy castle and Summer punch for the adults. Tickets are £2.50 each and available at Toddler Group meetings and from committee members

Our weekly meetings are held on Thursday’s from 2-4pm at the village hall. Babies can come as well as toddlers as we have toys to suit this range of ages. New faces are always welcome to join us for a chat over tea and biscuits while the children have juice and let off steam. Please note there is no meeting on 29th May, half term week. For more information please call Suzanne Farwell (562147) or Clare Bray (530019)

*Suzanne Farwell : 562147*

## **Naphill Neighbours**

A history of cooking in Bucks, along with a demonstration by Mrs J Dineen, was enjoyed by a large number of Naphill Neighbours at our May meeting. We learnt about all kinds of recipes and sampled the results of Mrs Dineen’s cooking. A beautiful Bacon Badger was produced and we were told that this was also known as a Clanger or Dumpling, depending on the area where you lived. It is doubtful if this would be recommended as part of today’s healthy eating lifestyle!

Naphill Neighbours will be running the cake and home-made produce stall at the Fete and we would very much welcome any donations. Please bring your cakes, jams, etc., to the stall from 10 a.m. onwards on the day.

The time of our meetings has been wrongly published in the Gazette. Meetings start at 8 pm, so please come along from 7.45 pm onwards.

We were delighted to welcome 3 new members at our May meeting. Our numbers are growing all the time and we always hope to see new faces – do come along and join us.

Flower Summer Surprise by Mrs Annette Fox is the title of the meeting on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> June.

*Mary Shrimpton : 471613*

## **Pre-school news**

During May we have been exploring shapes and colour and during June we will be concentrating on gardens.

The children are looking forward to the Village Carnival and dressing up to go on the float for the procession. Also the children due to go to school in September will be visiting Naphill & Walters Ash School.

Some parents attended a ‘Fun with Letters’ talk held by Buckinghamshire Education Authority.

Pre-school is organising a Disco/Quiz with evening meal on July 5th in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome, and it should be a fun evening. For more information or tickets please contact Helen•Campanini on 565750.

The pre-school contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant : 565046*

## **Naphill Common Committee**

At the risk of boring the Gazette readers, I felt that I must reply to David Frost’s letter in the May edition. He has made a number of serious and unfounded allegations about the Committee and its work, which I cannot accept without comment. He should realise that the Committee is an elected organisation with the full paraphernalia of such an organisation i.e. annual public meetings, election of officers, regular reporting, constitution etc etc. Above all, we were formed at the behest of English Nature, the body with ultimate responsibility for the Common. We respond to any villager about the state and use of the Common. Therefore, we will consider his views but will point out that his is the sole voice that has been heard in support of the shooting on the Common. Conversely, we have had over 40 contacts by villagers in recent months expressing their concern about the shooting and I leave it to him to decide what the majority viewpoint is. I stress that we are not

# Village Carnival

7th June

2003

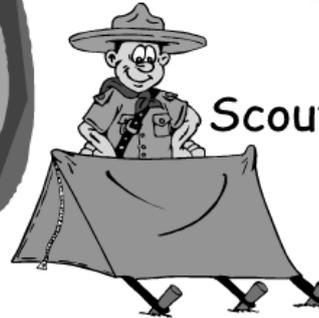


Steel  
Band



Balloon Release

**Kids Zone**  
Happy Meals (with free toy)  
Entertainer - Ride on Toys  
Face Painting



Scout Diamond Jubilee  
Exhibition

Kids football tournament  
Pony rides  
Bouncy castle  
Inflatable slide  
Fun rides  
RAF Fire Engine  
RAF Police Car



Majorette display  
Dancing display  
Beer Tent  
Barbecue  
Candy Floss  
Football "skills"  
Evening party

**Tug-of war  
tournament**



Live Broadcasts  
From...

107.4 & 107.7  
swanfm

**Procession starts from Forge Road  
at 12pm. Come and join in the fun**



For the latest in  
confirmed events  
visit our website at...

[www.villagefete.org](http://www.villagefete.org)

a self appointed group pedaling our personal points of view but work with villagers, English Nature and all of the other organisations involved to find the best course of action for the Common's future in the interests of the majority of the villagers. Finally, if Sir Edward Dashwood has given him different information to that that he gave to me then I leave it up to the readers to decide on what his motives were in doing so.

Shooting, (despite the close season) continues to be a problem. Guns are heard at all hours of the day and night but we have not yet traced who is responsible for this.

*(Editors note : this correspondence is now closed)*

The dumping of rubbish is again of concern with two large piles of hedge and tree cuttings being thrown on the Common at the eastern end near to the end of Downley Road. One of these was left by a builder who has refused to remove it. We are currently working with English Nature to remove these piles. On another part of the Common, at the northwestern corner a resident has taken it on himself to start wholesale cutting back of trees on the Common away from his boundary. English Nature is considering taking legal action for damage to an SSSI.

We hope that in the future, action will be taken against those damaging the Common whether it is by dumping of rubbish, unlawful damage to habitat or damage caused by vehicles.

The negotiations between English Nature and the West Wycombe estate continue but as these are now at the "legalities" stage progress is painfully slow.

*Dr Marek Pawlik : 563126*

## **Lacey Green Windmill**

I am pleased to say that Lacey Green Windmill will be opening to the public again in 2003. We will be open from 2.30 pm to 5.30pm on Sundays from 4th May to 28th September, and also on Bank Holiday Mondays 5th May, 26th May and 25th August. National Mills Day is on Sunday 11th May when we hope to have the sails turning (weather permitting).

Admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children to see the oldest Smock Mill in the country. We are 2 miles from Princess Risborough, the mill is situated behind 'The Whip', please park in Pink Road.

We introduced some new displays last year showing the history and restoration of the mill, as well as various artefacts associated with milling and rural life. Please contact me for any other details required.

*Betty Hardy : 01844 343560*

## **Best Neighbour Award**

Every year at the village fete an award is made to the villages 'Best Neighbour'. If you know someone that lives in Naphill or Walters Ash and is worthy of this award please let me know along with your reason for nominating them. Please call Matt on 562081, email [matthew\\_piercy@lycos.co.uk](mailto:matthew_piercy@lycos.co.uk) or by hand to 300 Main Road.

The award will be presented at 3.00pm on June 7th at the Fete.

## **Second Hand Emporium**

Do not forget to visit the emporium for your bargain, we will have something for you in all our departments, you name it, we will have it.

Look for our special offers - two for the price of three, buy one get another twice the price, 50% discount for anyone born 30th February and many more.

Please remember we still require items for the stall, we aim to make this year the biggest and best ever, just say to yourself "it's got to go" and ring me on 563846 or bring it down on the morning of the fete. Every penny we take will help to maintain and improve the Village Hall.

Many thanks to all those who have donated, see you on the 7th.

*Bob Davis : 563846*

## **Chairman's report, Bradenham Parish Council, for the Annual meeting**

- All members at the recent election were unopposed and returned to the Parish Council.
- It has decided to re-juvenate the village pond. The PC appointed a "pond committee" to co-ordinate this project. BCC have allocated £5k to improve the drainage of the surface water on Bradenham Woods Lane, which feeds the pond.
- Cllr Alistair Roach left the area and resigned at the Sept. meeting.
- 2 new councillors, Richard Langridge and James Campanini were welcomed to the PC and also a new RAF representative Shaun Tyrer. Mr. James Taylor has been filling the position of National Trust representative replacing Alistair Roach.
- The issues with central railways are on going.

- Traffic calming on the Bradenham stretch of the A4010 is an on going issue. A roundabout is proposed in the local plan and the National Trust is closely involved with Bucks. County Council in the whole process. The PC/ Chairman have entered into correspondence with BCC
- Through Cllr. Roach, the PC was able to have its worries regarding tree felling by the NT in Bradenham taken into consideration.
- The RAF reported that 'F' block is on schedule for completion later this year.
- The window in the church to celebrate the Queens golden jubilee was dedicated and blessed on 24/12/02 during mass. The chairman wrote to the Queen to inform her
- The footpath diversion on Manor farm, which will take the path under the railway rather than over it, was submitted to Bucks. County Council. The order has just been confirmed.
- Parish Boundary proposals, enlarging the Parish to include all of Walter's Ash were not accepted by Wycombe District Council. The PC restated its feelings on the matter and it has been decided that the District Council will look at the issue again after the may'03 election.
- Finances:
  - Income £2593
  - Expenditure £3320
  - A full copy of the financial report can be obtained from the Clerk. (Tel: 562254)

Meeting closed 20.10

*Ivor Herbert, Chairman Bradenham Parish Council*

## Readers Letters

From Vivienne Pountney

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL

What a way to remember a bank holiday! Falling in the kitchen and literally breaking my neck. I have been very very lucky. Although it will be a long time before I'll be swimming, cycling and running again, I can at least walk, albeit for a very short distance before I tire.

It is now May 15th, twelve days after the accident. Our friends and neighbours have been fantastic, with so many cards, flowers, phone calls, emotional support, visits and offers of help. Our two daughters Hannah and Bethany have been looked after by lots of different friends, which gave Nigel a chance to visit me in the trauma unit at the John Radcliffe, and do the household chores. We would like to thank all

those people very much for all their help and best wishes. We would NOT have managed without them

Kind regards

Viv Pountney

P.S. You may see me wandering around, I'm the one with the very attractive head gear!!!

From an Anonymous Resident

Dear Sir,

It is nonsense for David Frost to say that the sport of shooting has a lower injury rate than soccer and other popular games. I, together with my family and friends, have witnessed the reverse.

Yours sincerely

Peter Rabbit

*Editors note: I deliberated for some time before deciding to print that letter but decided a little humour wouldn't go amiss!*

## Village Hall Notes

Tug Wilson, our local beat bobby, was able to attend our last meeting and so we started the proceedings by having a discussion with him about the vandalism we had been suffering around the Village Hall. Tug was sympathetic to our problems and had been involved in "sorting some of them out". He emphasised that Naphill was on the whole a pleasant and law abiding community but agreed that we did have a problem with the youths that congregated around the Hall in the evenings. He discussed matters fully with us and reiterated the need to report every incident to the police so that they have a realistic idea of the scale of our problems. Should you see anything that should be reported, or are a victim of any criminal activity, then do please notify the police. The numbers are 999 for emergencies, 465888 for the Thames Valley Police out of office hours, and 715352 for our local Hazlemere Police Office. Tug is hoping to attend our July meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> July so if you have anything that you would like to bring to his attention either let me know, (563479) or come along to the meeting. To reduce the attraction of the car park to the youth we are looking into the possibility of filling in the veranda to the Sports Pavilion and closing up any gaps to the front boundary of the Hall so there is no vehicular access to the car park when the gates are locked.

Following the AGM in April, we had to elect the Chairman, and Vice Chairman at our May meeting. As there was not a great rush to fill these positions I agreed to stay on as Chairman for another year and we persuaded Don Turner to become our Vice Chairman, thanks Don for "volunteering". We also

co-opted Tim Ratcliffe onto the council as a village rep. Tim lives next door to the hall and has been brilliant in locking the gates each evening. Many thanks for this Tim and welcome to our meetings.

Very shortly work is due to start on replacing the old battered kissing gate opposite the Post Office and laying a new path from there to the Hall. The new gate may look a little stark in comparison to the old one. We can't paint it for about six months as it has to oxidise. When we can, that should tone it down a little, and the path should be a lot smarter and more even than the existing one.

We also hope to get the large hall redecorated during the summer holidays. A decorator has been sorted, now all we have to do is agree on a colour scheme!

There has been a problem with people using the hall making tea in the kettles. This results in heavily stained kettles. If you are using the hall then please could you make sure that you use the tea pots. Thanks.

The next fundraising event will be the FETE on 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE. Please start praying for decent weather now and make sure that you are free on the day either to help or to come and support the event. It is one of our major events of the year raising much needed funds to maintain and improve the facilities at the Hall. Do come along and make it a village day to remember.

The next meeting will be preceded by our annual litter blitz. If you are willing to help us to tidy up the grounds around the Hall and the Crick then do please come along and join us at 7.30 on 2<sup>nd</sup>. June with your rubber gloves!

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

## **Where Are They Now?**

As you will probably know by now the Scouts are celebrating their Diamond Jubilee this year and we are keen to get in touch with previous leaders so we can invite them to some of the various events we have lined up during the year. A number of names have cropped up where we've lost touch and wondered if anyone has an address for them. They are:

Nigel Adams

Allison Baker

Kate Brocklehurst

David Bruck

Gill Clark

Monica Davis

Sue Dover

Alison Gill

Margaret Hunter

Phil Moss

Christine Nicholls

Dave Prescott

Peter Sorrell

Philip Vicary

Janet Williams

Geoff Woodward

If anyone has a current address for any of these people could they get in touch with me?

See you at the Fete!

*Nick Corble, Scout Chairman : 01494 481874*

## **Books Required For The Fete**

We need books for this years Fete Book Stall, especially novels and children's books. Please contact Sally on 562281 or leave in the front porch of Woodside, Forge Road. Thank you.

*Sally Woodbridge : 562281*

## **Computer Training Course at Naphill & Walter's Ash School.**

Are you new to Word Processing and Database, or self-taught and want to improve your skills?

Have you always wanted to use a computer, but thought it too difficult?

As part of our commitment to work closer with the community Naphill and Walters' Ash School together with Amersham and Wycombe College, are intending to run a Level 1 Word Processing and Database computer course on Thursday evenings from 7pm commencing in September 03 at the school.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information or if you wish to enrol, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 03.

Don't be nervous, take a step forward in I.C.T and bring a friend.

*Julie Schmid, I.C.T. Lecture and Technician*

## Art Exhibition

at Naphill Methodist Church

on Saturday June 28th from 10.00am to 4.pm

and Sunday June 29th from 2.pm to 4.30pm

The Art Exhibition is from the members of the art class who meet every Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30pm, one member of the class thought it would be a good idea to send the money we make to a charity so here is the name: "STREET CHILDREN AID PRO DEO" [ FOR GOD ].

There will be an entrance fee [yet to be decided] Tea and Coffee on sale.

Please email me [phil.parslow@virgin.net](mailto:phil.parslow@virgin.net) for more information

*Phil Parslow*

## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?



Answers printed next month.

## Last month's answers:



**Footpath sign and stile just after Louches Lane turn on Hunts Hill Lane. Path leads to Hughenden Manor.**



## Free Cottages, end of Forge Road.

Back in the late 1800's and early 1900's this was the home of Mr E Baldwin, Engineer & Blacksmith. Unfortunately the adjacent Forge has now gone although parts of it have been re-erected at the Open Air Museum at Chalfont.

Bert Tilbury (deceased), who lived at Haysham, told me that when he was a boy living round the corner

in Jubilee Cottages he used to take his goat on a lead to the Forge and the men working there used to pretend to shoe it for him. Because he used to watch horses being shod Bert was so interested when I told him that the Forge was being re-erected so I arranged to take him to Chalfont for the day - a fascinating day out for him.

Back to Mr Baldwin. I am lucky to have his old accounting book which dates back to 1887. He was very forward looking and used a very detailed inking system in keeping copies (no carbon in those days). A quote from 20th October 1889:

*Dear Sir*

*My price for one light galvanised cistern to hold 150 gallons with one tap fitted - £2.5.6p.*

*To do strong - £2.15.6p*

*Cast iron spouting with 2 coats of paint - +7p per foot.*

*Your order will much oblige.*

*Yours obediently*

*E Baldwin*

*P.S. Galvanised goods have gone up 10%*

The ledger is in rather a fragile state as it spent many years laying in the Forge, damp and dusty. It will be on show at my exhibition on September 20th.

The Forge was always busy, employing many men servicing Steam Rollers used for road making, Threshing Machines for ploughing and other industrial work. Mr Baldwin would have been a very important person in the village in those days.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

## **News From Christians In The Community**

### **(Members of the three local churches)**

A new prayer initiative starts on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May - the PRAYER SAFARI starts at 7.30 p.m. at Judith Camplisson's house, 9 South Maudlin, off Fryers Garden, Hughenden Valley. At 8.10 p.m. we set off to arrive at Gladys Tyler's house at 17 Main Road (next to Costcutters), Naphill for an 8.15 start. At 8.45 p.m. we leave for Jim and Ann Longs', 18 Grimms Meadow for an 8.50 p.m. start. Light refreshments are available at each 'stop' and you can choose to go to just one venue or two or all three! If you need a lift, just give me a call.

Application forms for the Children's Holiday Club are now available at K.R.A.S.H, in the Churches and at the Naphill Fete.

We will be running a stall again at the Naphill Fete and would be grateful of any donations of sweets (preferably NOT chocolate) ready priced if possible (it's mostly children who buy them) or alternatively have you any plants, cuttings, seedlings that we could sell. Donations please to Audrey Tucker or myself. Also on Fete Day look out for the K.R.A.S.H. children on a 'float'.

Plans are in hand for a Family Fun Day and Barbeque on the Naphill Playing Fields on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July - everyone welcome - more details next month.

Next Christians in the Community meeting will be on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30 pm in the Naphill Evangelical Church.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

## **Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden**

I have permission to tell the following story from the man concerned although no names will be mentioned. This gentleman, who has not been at all well, was walking slowly to a local shop. Crossing a busy main road, he misjudged the kerb and fell flat on his face, bruising himself badly as he did so. He found that he was unable to get up and so lay on the ground with half of his body sticking out into the main road. Shortly after this someone stopped their car and came to his aid and got him off the road. The alarm raised in the shop another local person saw to it that the gentleman got home safely and that a doctor was promptly called to check him over. A story of an accident and good neighbours with a happy ending? Well yes, except something else happened. As this man lay in the road unable to move, several cars drove past narrowly missing him as they did so, and simply drove on. I believe that when assistance did arrive, someone blocked the road with their car for a short time in order to protect the man as he was helped to safety, but someone in another car, who saw what was going on impatiently started beeping their horn

The man concerned was very forgiving, after all, those people might have had good reason to drive on, or were simply trying not to cause an accident. He might have been right, though sadly I suspect it was people in a hurry eager to get on. If this were true, then it is of course a sad indictment about how unfeeling we can all be, how easy it is to pass by, giving good excuses to ourselves as we do so. But nothing is new. Jesus told a story of another man, a Jew who is robbed and left for dead on a remote highway in bandit country, two other Jews hurry by to go and do their religious duties in the Temple, but a third man stops to give the man aid. The third man

turns out to be a Samaritan, the sting in the tale is that the Samaritans were the natural enemies of the Jews. This is not just a story about putting ourselves out for others it is actually a story about someone putting himself out for another who was his natural enemy. A modern day parallel might be about an Israeli beaten up and left for dead on the roadside who is helped by a Palestinian. It doesn't have to be an enemy though, bothering to stop to give assistance at any time can be costly, because we have to get involved and that can be inconvenient to us. It is very easy to become hardened and pass on by, and I am sure in some way or other we have all done just that. But what struck me about this story was that it had such a local flavour, taking place as it did on the main road to Prestwood, the sort of place that one does not see men in obvious need sprawled face down in the road every day! It was a tale of both good and bad neighbours, but what would any of us have done if we had been on that road on that particular day?

*Simon Cronk  
(Vicar of St Michael and Al Angels, Hughenden)*

## **Rev. Nick Young, Minister of Naphill Methodist Church writes...**

What a divided world we live in. There are various attempts in the Bible to understand what is going on in the world where the writers saw division and conflict. A beautiful world somehow soured is usually explained in terms of people trying to "play God". One such story is the Tower of Babel. People were trying to build a high tower to reach up to God, not to worship him but to usurp his position of authority over the world. The story describes God confounding them by making them speak different languages so that they didn't understand each other and became divided.

That was in the Old Testament. The New Testament describes God's remedies to what divides and destroys. The antidote to this linguistic division is found in the event of Pentecost, a festival Christians celebrate seven weeks after Easter (June 8<sup>th</sup> this year). There the moving of God's Spirit caused people from different places to hear and understand the preaching of the good news (=gospel) of Jesus, overcoming the language barriers. It is part of the Holy Spirit's work to break down barriers and unite people. How the world needs that.

These may be old stories, but they describe today's world and convey truths which we need desperately to take on board. Your local churches are always delighted to welcome you and explore these matters further with you.

Shalom,

*Nick : 562860*

A local place to get away from it all

## ***"Chatterbox"***

Time: Tuesday Morning 9.15am – 12noon.

Place: Naphill Evangelical Free Church, 122 Main Road, Naphill.

We serve complimentary 'Fairtrade' fresh coffee, tea, juices and biscuits at individual tables, in comfortable surroundings. Everyone is welcome. Access for wheelchairs. Activity corners are set up for babies and children. A warm welcome awaits you.

Enquiries: Bob & Polly Semple

Tel: 01494 563304

## **Naphill Evangelical Free Church**

Someone once told the following story: A man fell into a pit and could not get out. A subjective person came along and said, "I feel for you, down there." An objective person came along and said, "It's logical that someone would fall down there." A self righteous person said, "Only bad people fall into a pit." A mathematician calculated how he fell into the pit. A news reporter wanted the exclusive story on his experience. A man from the Inland Revenue asked if he was paying taxes on the pit. A self-pitying person said, "You haven't seen anything until you've seen my pit!" A charismatic said, "Just confess that you're not in a pit." An optimist said, "Things could be worse." A pessimist said, "Things will get worse." Jesus seeing the man took him by the hand and lifted him out of the pit.

God cares for and loves this world that is why He sent His Son Jesus.

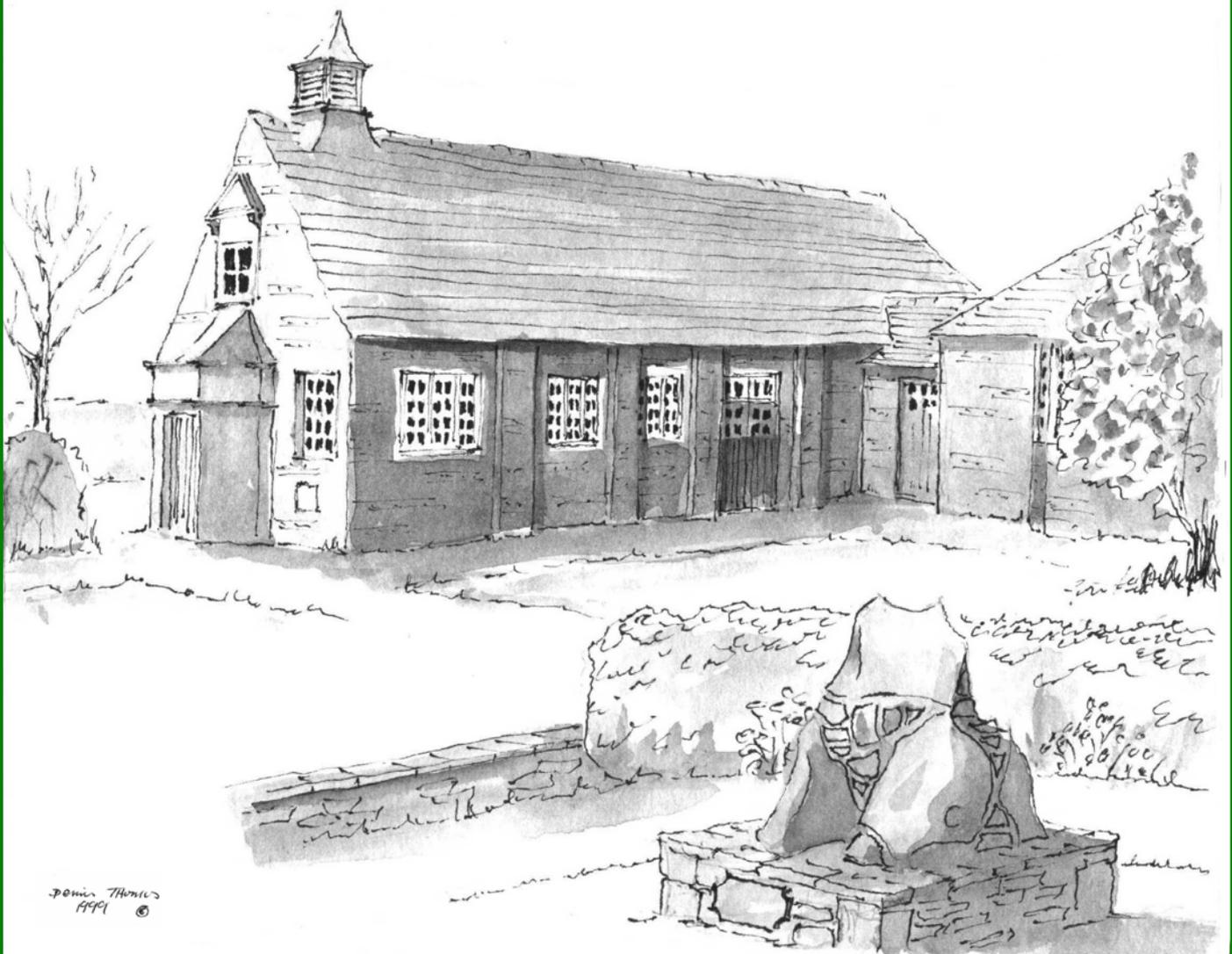
The Church is not about buildings but about people, people who have come or are coming to know about the limitless love of God and have been taken out of the pit. The church is the instrument or hand that God extends to people to lift them out of their own particular pit, all people have to do is take hold of that hand.

May you know God's love reaching out to you.

*Bob Semple : 563304*

# *Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette*

*July & August 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

July & August 2003

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**Distribution manager:** Dave Ratcliffe, 4 Allen Drive. Tel: 563650

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Copy date for the September issue is Friday 15 August 2003

## Editorial

There are no 'First Time' contributors in the Gazette this month, which means it is the same people and organisations doing the writing. I imagine this is perfectly normal amongst publications of this type, and we do have some good writers amongst the regulars, but I would like to encourage others to join in from time to time, it doesn't have to be a regular column! How about local kids? With the exception of the occasional article from the school we rarely feature anything written by children. Humour always goes down well, whether written by adults or children. Give it some thought.

I'm writing this on the 17th June in the midst of a sustained (4 days is sustained) sunny period - the longest day is in 4 days time. Like most other people the Gazette takes a summer break in August so the next issue will be with you in September.

Have a great summer break.

*Matt Piercy*

## Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	8-10pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm
Tennis Club Sessions	Every Sunday	10am onwards
	Every Tuesday	10.15am onwards
	Thursday (summer only)	6.30pm onwards

\* At RAF Astroturf

## Small Ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 01494562310/07904023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins 562240

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

True to form, now that the tennis season is in full swing, the weather has taken a turn for the worse and matches at Junior and Senior levels have been affected. Our Mixed 1 team has, however, managed to play and win 4 matches. The rest of the teams are experiencing mixed fortunes but it is early days yet and, hopefully, results will take a turn for the better in the latter part of the season.

Our Tea n' Tennis challenge inviting non-member tennis-playing locals to join us on 29th May was not taken up but, in spite of this, club members enjoyed both good food and games in pleasant weather conditions, which were contrary to forecaster's expectations. As usual, the tea consisted of many mouth-watering confections conjured up by our culinary experts and thanks are due to Maddy for once again being our mainstay organizer of such events.

Similar adverse conditions were forecast for the day of the Naphill & Walters Ash Fete on the 7th June which, fortunately, were not totally accurate. Both the start and end of the day were grey and wet but there was a delightful sunny window in the middle, which produced a very successful and well-attended event. As usual, the Club's responsibility was to look after the Bouncy Castle which saw a steady stream of

youngsters eager to persuade their parents to dig into their pockets for the requisite 50p so that they could practice their jumping and bouncing skills. It was reported that takings exceeded £100, which seems to show that a vast amount of energy had been expended, perhaps consoling empty-pocketed parents hoping for a quiet evening.

As part of the local scene and to encourage interest in tennis, the Club also decided to run a 'Fastest Serve Competition'. Well over 40 people of all ages and abilities took up the challenge to have the speed of their serving abilities measured by a speed gun, in a similar fashion to that now commonly used at major Grand Slam tournaments. 'SportsScene' of Beaconsfield' very generously supplied all the necessary equipment, which included racquets and technical expertise. Margaret Stevens, whose family own this establishment, well known to all local tennis fraternity, stayed throughout the afternoon to help run the event for us. The winning lady was club member Lucy Hrdlickova with a score of 96. Charlie Craven won the U.15 group with a score of 75 but, without doubt, the star of the day was Adam Toone, who won the U.13 group with a score of 105, which was only 5 less than the Men's winner, Simon Morris, who managed a creditable 110.

We would like to congratulate all the winners and hope those who took part enjoyed the experience. Perhaps it will help us appreciate how much faster the professionals actually serve as compared to local club players! Our thanks are also due to our Chairman, Helen Leek and Junior Organizer, Jan Curtis, who thought up the competition. If you feel like testing out the speed of Naphill Club members' serves (no gun!), why not come along to one of our club sessions and try us out? We play club sessions at 10 on Sunday mornings, 6.30 on Thursday evenings, and 10.15 on Tuesday mornings or give our Membership Secretary - Sue Crooks a ring on 01494 562639. (We also have a page on the Naphill Web site under Clubs & Associations, which gives more information, if required).

*Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063*

## Naphill Evening WI

In May we listened to Mrs Owen give a very amusing talk about "No Time on your Hands". Giving us ideas on how to save time or not, as the case may be, such as collecting all the items to go upstairs at the bottom and then watching as the family clamber over it all to get up the stairs!

Another tip was to answer the door with a hat on and then if you like the person visiting you can tell them you've just got in and if you don't like them say "Oh what a pity I was just on my way out!"

Another good trick is to lay the table well before your dinner guests arrive then they feel secure in the knowledge that food is on its way when really you may be miles behind, then you just give them lots to drink and they won't care!

She had the novel idea of colour coordinating her four daughters and their belongings to save endless arguments. She ended up giving us the advice "Don't put it down, put it away" A very funny talk with lots of good ideas.

In June we celebrate our 20th Birthday and in July we will hear a talk on "The Role of the Magistrate" Ladies do come and join us.

*Pauline Flynn : 01494 488510*

## **District & County Councillor's Report**

Have readers ever wondered why traffic moves more slowly through Prestwood than along Main Road Naphill? The simple answer is car parking. In Prestwood, drivers park in the road forming a chicane where through traffic has to stop and allow oncoming traffic to pass. In Naphill cars park on footpaths, which is very convenient for fast driving through the village but not so convenient for pedestrians or those pushing wheelchairs or buggies. Why is this particular situation peculiar to Naphill? You do not see it in Lacey Green or any of the nearby villages. Passing through the village last week there were four vehicles parked full square on the footpath, denying pedestrians their right to pass. The police claim that manpower shortages prevent their taking action. However, blocking adequate footpath access is a highways offence and steps are being taken to ensure successful prosecution of offenders. If pedestrians do find that they are prevented from clear access to the path, please phone the police and record the matter together with the vehicle's registration number. The statistics provided will promote some action being taken to prevent this nuisance.

I am more concerned for the long-term implications of Naphill and Walters Ash being used as a fast road link for traffic avoiding the A4010 and the congestion at West Wycombe. This will become more likely when improvements to junctions at Woodway and Bradenham are implemented in the years to come. If we continue to allow fast through traffic by parking off the road then we shall only have ourselves to blame.

My Chairmanship of the County Council has introduced me to the large voluntary sector within the County and reminded me of how much we depend on the help and work of unpaid volunteers to support the services which we take for granted. Without the help of these unsung heroes many essential services could not operate either locally or on the wider front.

## **Names and numbers to note**

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

Contrary to public belief there is no particular legislation as to the time and operation of bonfires other than safety considerations and nuisance to neighbours. It really is a case of good neighbourliness and this must be the first approach. A continuing nuisance, or the burning of trade waste, is another matter and the District Council's Environment Section may well be able to advise and help.

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Horticultural Society**

### **It's Show Time!**

**Naphill Village Hall**

**2pm**

**Saturday July 5th**

Our Annual Summer Show takes place on Saturday July 5th and is your chance to show off what you can grow in your garden or allotment. We have had perfect growing conditions recently, so no excuses – pick up a schedule and have a look through – there must be something you can enter.

If gardening is not really your thing then what about handcrafts, photography, cookery or flower arranging – we've got it all!

We would especially like to see some entries in the children's section – so why not encourage yours to have a go?

Schedules are available from Don Turner, the Post Office or myself.

If you prefer to just come along and have a look, the doors open at 2pm and the ever-popular auction of donated exhibits will take place at 4pm. There is also a sales table so if you have any contributions to this please let Don know on 562645.

Remember, this is a village show, and has been designed to be informal so that anyone can enter.

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In July & August

The Moon is full on July 13 and August 12; it is new on July 29 and August 27. Venus is a daytime star and cannot be seen unless you know precisely where to look. Mars is an evening star. Jupiter is also an evening star but will not be seen in August as it sets at about sunset. Saturn is a morning star. The Perseid meteor shower should be at its best on the nights of August 11 and 12 with 'shooting stars' moving with a radiant in the northeast every two minutes or so. There is an interesting open cluster in Orphiuchus 40° above the southwest by south horizon slightly northwest of the 3<sup>rd</sup>-magnitude star Beta Orphiuchi. Through binoculars you will be able to see about a dozen 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> magnitude stars.

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
July 1	Rises	04.49	05.56	03.54	00.08	08.20	04.32
	Sets	21.24	23.12	20.26	09.55	23.18	20.53
July 8	Rises	04.55	15.16	04.01	23.46	08.00	04.08
	Sets	21.21	01.04	20.37	09.38	22.54	20.29
July 15	Rises	05.02	22.55	04.13	23.24	07.41	03.45
	Sets	21.15	06.27	20.45	09.18	22.29	20.05
July 22	Rises	05.11	00.39	04.28	23.01	07.22	03.21
	Sets	21.07	15.06	20.48	08.54	22.04	19.41
July 29	Rises	05.21	04.54	04.47	22.36	07.03	02.58
	Sets	20.57	21.43	20.47	08.27	21.40	19.17
Aug 1	Rises	05.2	08.56	04.55	22.26	06.55	02.47
	Sets	20.53	22.41	20.46	08.15	21.29	19.07
Aug 8	Rises	05.37	18.36	05.16	21.59	06.36	02.24
	Sets	20.40	None	20.40	07.42	21.05	18.42
Aug 15	Rises	05.47	22.03	05.38	21.31	06.17	02.00
	Sets	20.27	09.18	20.32	07.07	20.40	18.18
Aug 22	Rises	05.58	00.33	06.01	21.01	05.58	01.36
	Sets	20.13	17.27	20.22	06.30	20.16	17.53
Aug 29	Rises	06.10	18.01	06.23	20.29	05.39	01.11
	Sets	19.56	21.02	20.56	05.52	19.51	17.28

### Stars

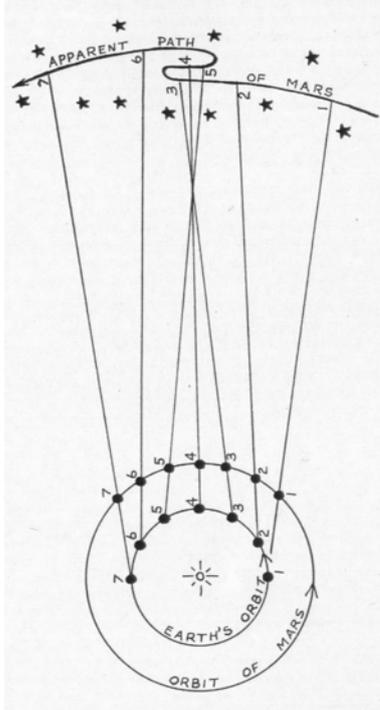
There were 48 constellations when they were published in AD 150 by the Greek astronomer Ptolemy. There are now 88 of them and they remain convenient guides to the location of stars and other celestial objects. For several thousand years, some of the stars have been given names and we have all heard of the few of them that are the brightest in the sky. The brightest, Sirius,

also known as the Dog star as it is located in the constellation Canis Major is a fine example. Other bright stars include Canopus, Rigel, Betelgeuse, Polaris and Aldebaran. Some stars have two names, such as Alpheratz or Sirrah, the brightest star in Andromeda. Some of the named stars have names of Greek or Roman origin but many of them are Arabic. There are several hundreds of star names of which about 150 are the best known. Nowadays astronomers use star names very sparingly and refer instead to their Bayer labeling (introduced in 1603) which is the brightest, second brightest etc in each constellation such as a Andromeda and b Andromeda, referred to as Alpha Andromeda and Beta Andromeda.

A star's apparent brightness is proportional to the amount of radiation received by a measuring instrument (an eye or a photoelectric photometer). Ptolemy's star catalogue of AD 150, naked eye stars were grouped into six grades of brightness or *magnitude*. The brightest were classed as 1st magnitude and faintest stars that could just be seen as 6th magnitude. With the introduction of telescopes in 1609, the system was extended to 7, 8 and so on. With the instrumental method of measuring stars it worked out that each division by Ptolemy of one category of magnitude was equivalent to the brightness ratio decreasing by 2.5. The interval of five magnitudes was nearly 100 and so astronomers changed it to be exactly 100. Some stars are now brighter than magnitude 1 and for these the scale is extended backwards to zero then to negative magnitudes. The magnitudes of the named stars given above are Canopus -0.62, Rigel 0.18, Betelgeuse 0.45, Aldebaran 0.87, Alpheratz 2.02 and Polaris 2.02 (a 2nd magnitude star although it varies a bit). Sirius is -1.44 (there are only four stars with negative magnitude and by comparison, Venus is -4.7 and Mars is -2.9 at their brightest).

### Retrograde motion

All our planets in the solar system orbit the Sun in an easterly direction, and can be seen in a more easterly point with respect to the background of stars on successive nights. At times of opposition, when a planet is directly opposite the Sun, it seems to perform a backwards loop in the sky. This movement was incomprehensible to astronomers before the sixteenth or seventeenth centuries, but once it was accepted that the Earth was not the centre of the solar system the solution became clear. It is purely an example of changed perspective of a planet with respect to the stars when the planet is nearest to the Earth. The best way of explaining this phenomenon is to follow the diagram below. These double loops, in the case of Mars, can take five or six months to complete.



*Grant Woodruff*

## Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

### Planning

*03/6104/OUT* Business Units, Church Lane, Naphill. Outline Application for demolition of existing buildings and erection of 5 terraced cottages and two detached houses (Scheme 2) Major objections to breach of Green Belt and AONB policies.

*03/6105/OUT* Business Units, Church Lane, Naphill. Outline Application for the demolition of existing buildings and erection of four detached dwellings (Scheme 1) Major objections to breach of Green Belt and AONB policies.

*03/6219/FUL* 78 Main Road, Naphill. First floor rear extension. *03/6225/FUL* The Miles, Clappins Lane, Naphill. Erection of pitched roof to existing double garage.

*03/6263/FUL* Clarendon Cottage 11 The Orchard, Naphill. Single storey rear extension.

*03/6303/FUL* Cherrycroft, Louches Lane, Naphill. Formation of new access on to Cherrycroft Drive. Closure of existing access on to Louches Lane. Erection of new boundary fences. Appears some existing hedge would be removed.

*03/6384/FUL* Tarn Hows, 275 Main Road, Naphill. Two storey side and rear extension.

**Archery Range and large "Club Hut" in field opposite Strike Command in Green Belt/AONB.** Permission has been given for a limited number of years. This entire application and permission has raised many questions, not least being the inaccuracies

in the description of the application site, the fact that adjoining landowners were not notified, horses are grazed in adjacent fields and permission was given before all the relevant information requested by the District Council was received. We are asking WDC for clarification.

**Inter-Village Quiz.** The next round will take place later this year in Holmer Green. We need a team of four. Will anyone who would like to represent Naphill/Walters Ash please ring 563634.

**Tree Preservation Order.** Following the felling of Pines in Downley Road a TPO to protect the remaining six is now in place.

Next Meeting: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 03

*Gloria Leflaive : 563634*

## Naphill Neighbours

Mrs Annette Fox put our creative skills to the test when she demonstrated how to make a floral table decoration at our June meeting. We were all supplied with a pot, oasis, scissors, flowers and greenery and went to work. Annette was ably supported by Katy from Floreat in Naphill and they both examined our work and put us right where we were wrong. The evening was hugely enjoyed by over 40 members in a Village Hall beautifully scented by the flowers. We all went home feeling very pleased with our efforts and clutching the pretty little decorations we had made.

Very many thanks to all who supported our Cake Stall at the fete by providing and buying the wonderful selection we had to offer. Thanks also to those who purchased raffle tickets for our beautifully decorated Hawaiian theme cake and hamper.

Our grateful thanks to John Mulry for loaning us a vehicle which we were able to use as a float. This was put to very good use by Pam Smith and her merry band of helpers who decorated and manned our entry.

There are a few places available for our river trip from Henley to Wargrave and back on Monday 11th August. We leave Naphill at 11am giving everyone time to either have a picnic lunch by the river or visit a restaurant in Henley.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 14th July – the subject entitled 'Cottage China' by Rita Beck

*Mary Shrimpton : 471613*

## Pre-school news

The children had fun making fish and sea creatures to decorate the float for the Village Carnival and had an exciting ride on the float during the procession. The pre-school won the Best Float Award (Juniors) and we would like to thank everyone, all the children, parents (mums and dads) and pre-school staff, who helped to make the float decorations and who helped putting together and dismantling the float on the day and helped with the Kids Zone.

Our main fundraising event for this year is a 70's & 80's disco & quiz with evening meal which is on Saturday 5th July at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, so if



anyone is available and fancies a night out please come and join in the fun. Tickets are £10 and are available from Helen on 01494 565750.

Other dates to remember are our Sports Day on 7th July so we hope the lovely weather stays with us for that and also 13th July when we are having a beach party with an entertainer for the children.

On the last day of term we will be having a Teddy Bears Picnic and will say goodbye to all the children who will be going up to school in September. Thank you to Mo and all the staff for looking after the children so well - I'm sure that they have enjoyed being at pre-school so much they do not want to leave.

The children are looking forward to using a CD-ROM received through Tesco's Computers for Schools vouchers but unfortunately we do not have a hard drive so if anyone has an old one which they no longer need we would be very grateful for it.

As the summer holidays approach and as some of the children move on to "big school" the pre-school committee sadly will be meeting for the last time and a new committee will be needed in September. I would like to thank all the committee for their time and hard work over the last year and a really big thank you to Helen Campanini for her excellent job as chair! Thank you.

The pre-school contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant : 565046*

## **Naphill Common Committee**

This year has seen a large increase in damage being done to and on the Common, Unfortunately, the majority of this is being done by residents and not by outsiders. I would like to use this month's contribution to clearly state the legal protection that is given to the Common in the hope that the guilty parties read this and desist from further abuse of the Common.

The Common although owned by the West Wycombe Estate is a designated SSSI i.e. Site of Special Scientific Interest. As such, nobody (and that includes the landowner) can undertake anything that changes the appearance or nature of the Common without prior permission from English Nature. Such protection is not given lightly and the Common has had this protection since the introduction of SSSI and the scope and extent of the designation on Naphill Common was extended in 1978.

This means that you may not for instance dump rubbish on the Common, mow grass, cut down trees and undergrowth or take vehicles onto the Common. These have all taken place (and continue to do so) on the Common this year. Properties that are on the edge of the Common have the same rights as exist between any two neighbouring properties; i.e. if trees or vegetation from your neighbours is growing across the boundary, you are entitled to cut this down but no further than the boundary itself. You must then offer the timber/vegetation to your neighbour, as they remain his property. If he declines to take possession of them then it is your responsibility to dispose of the material and you may not just dump it on your neighbours land.

So, if the Common encroaches on your property you may cut down the offending material only as far as the boundary and not an inch further. You must then contact the West Wycombe estate and offer them the material. If, as is very likely they decline to do this then you must dispose of it properly and not just leave it dumped on the Common.

You may not extend the size of your garden by mowing areas of the Common in front (or behind) your house or in any way change the outlook of the Common because you happen to want a manicured "golf course" outlook in front of your house as you do not like a natural Chilterns Woodland.

By the way, if you are one of the offenders, ignorance is no excuse in the eyes of the law. Therefore, putting in a plea that you did not know what the law was will not be viewed very favourably in the event of legal action being taken against you.

Please, please show the Common the respect that it deserves!

*Dr Marek Pawlik : 563126*

# Villagers Support Fete In Style!



The sun shone, the whole community joined in and everyone seemed to be smiling! We sold out of burgers and sausages (1000 of them), ice creams (350 of them), sold all the drink for the day and the evening in 2 hours (had to buy some more), 100 coconuts on the Coconut Shy weren't enough and so on.... Every attraction and stall had queues all afternoon and the kind folk that offered to help ended up exhausted and sun burnt. Perhaps the greatest compliment was the fact that people did not want to leave – we literally had to throw people off the crick at 5.30. The evening event, attended by over 100 people, quickly took us to midnight and judging by the bar takings alcohol provided a welcome respite from the sun burn. It was a great day!



The primary objective of the 2003 fete committee was to give the village a day to remember – if we achieved that then the money would follow. I am pleased to report that along the way we raised a considerable sum, over £9,000 to be precise. By the time final counting takes place and everything that has been promised comes in we will top £10,000 – that is an all time record by some considerable



margin. All funds raised will go towards the much needed Village Hall extension to provide, amongst other things, disabled facilities.

The Good Neighbour Award was awarded to Jean Lawrence-Mann in recognition of her many years service to the church, pre-school, elderly and general assistance to those who need it. A well deserved award if ever there was one. The Tug-of-war tournament was won by 'The Templers', a new team this year made up of the folk that recently moved into the (ex-RAF) houses at Templewood. They trounced us all - do you realise you have to come back next year to defend your title?

A big thank you to the many local people and businesses that donated prizes and sponsorship. You may not be aware but most of the expensive attractions, such as Steel Band, Go-karts, Surf Simulator etc were paid for by local sponsorship – without their help we could not afford to have attractions like that at our village fete.



I am in awe of the dedicated band of fete helpers that assist year in, year out. You need to see first hand how hard they work to believe it. There is no point in me trying to mention them all here because I am bound to offend by missing someone but you know who you are and we owe you a debt of gratitude.

Lastly, before we consign the 2003 fete to history, on behalf of the 2003 Fete Committee I would like to sincerely thank all the villagers from Naphill and Walters Ash – the fete could not and would not have been the success it was without you. If you have any suggestions that may improve things for future years please let us know.



Thanks again for your support.

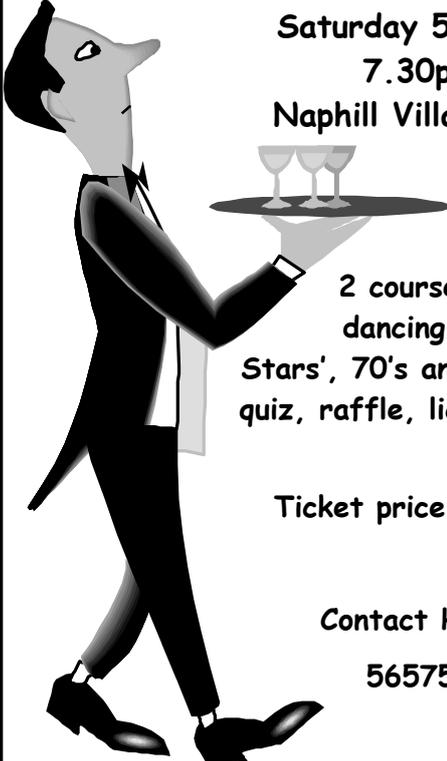
*Matt Piercy, Alan Jessop, Andy Pope, Chris Newman, Graham Edwards, Ian Bond, Ian Marchant & James Campanini.*  
2003 Fete Committee



*Photo's courtesy of Sarah Prior Photography, Trevor May and James Campanini.*

**Summer Party**

Saturday 5th July  
7.30pm  
Naphill Village Hall



2 course buffet,  
dancing to 'Bright  
Stars', 70's and 80's pop  
quiz, raffle, licensed bar

Ticket price £10.00

Contact Helen  
565750

Organised by Naphill  
Pre-school

## Second Hand Emporium

What a day! Beautiful weather, plenty of customers and a wonderful result – one thousand pounds and twelve pence.

As far as my job went it was a doddle. Matt and his colleagues did all the collecting and brought it all to the stall in the morning. Excellent service, many thanks.

Thanks also for the very able help on the stall, gents first, John B, John H, Mike, Reg and Ronnie. The ladies, Marion and her granddaughter Vicky, Rosemary, Trish and the two heroines of the day, Pauline with her leg still in plaster and Trish's 'mum' Tilly, an octogenarian with the energy of a thirty year old.

My final thanks go to all those that gave items, how you find them year after year beats me.

I can only reiterate, it was an incredible day.

*Bob Davis : 563846*

## Bradenham Parish Council

The Cricket Club are requesting permission to position a seat in memory of Cyril Stocks like the one placed

for Mr. Austin. The matter was referred to the National Trust.

The NT had received many complaints about the netting erected along the hedge by the cricket club. They have asked the cricket club to remove the fence.

Railway issues: A new timetable has started for Chiltern Railways services to Saunderton. This will mean a reduction in the service. Patronage of the station has gone up substantially in the last year. The Parish Council will make a representation covering the excellent service from Saunderton and emphasising that it will lose customers by reducing the service. The Parish Council will also write to Network Rail asking them if they intend to continue the clearance of the banks along the valley. The council deplores the clearing of these areas of wildlife/habitat.

From the Local Area Committee it was reported that the design fees for the proposed roundabout at the Red Lion are listed in this year's budget for Bucks. County Council highways department.

Quality Parish status was discussed. Bradenham is still not able to apply for Quality Parish status; the first barrier is that it meets less than six times p.a.

The Parish Council decided it would like to borrow a speed-indicating device after the summer holidays.

The Footpath diversion order to divert the footpath from over the railway to under the railway on National Trust land has been granted. Diversion work by the National Trust should be completed by July.

The next meeting of the Council to be held Monday 7th July at 7.30pm in the Cricket pavilion.

*Deirdre Hansen, Clerk to Bradenham Parish Council*

## "Below Stairs" Gathers Momentum

In May last year at the New Elgiva Theatre in Chesham, at least six Naphillians were involved – either on stage or off – in the première of *Below Stairs*, a new musical comedy with music by the then editor of the *Gazette*, Alan Lewis. The show was extremely well received, with the *Bucks Examiner* saying "With luck and push, *Below Stairs* deserves to go forward, hopefully to national recognition". Well, that hasn't yet happened but I can report that the musical was staged in Spain in April by an ex-pat group, the Jávea Players, and again with superb reviews. Typical were "... a timeless piece of musical theatre that certainly deserves a wider audience and if some kind entrepreneur or impresario wants a sure-fire hit, they need look no further" and "Trevor Pilling, who wrote the book, and Alan Lewis, who composed the music, have provided a wondrously woven tapestry peopled with believable characters, full of humour, human tenderness, and a number of very enjoyable songs". More recently, selections from the show provided part

of a three-day music festival in the town square of Jávea itself.

But that is not the end of the story, for the show is already in rehearsal by a south London group based in Catford for a production in November. And in two years' time, another amateur operatic company in Glossop, Derbyshire, will be following suit. Meanwhile, a handful of other groups are looking at the possibilities.

For Alan, working on the show provided very useful therapy following a major operation in 1999. Indeed, this is still the case as he is now concentrating on promoting the musical while recovering from further surgery in May. Ideally, he and his co-writer would like to find the "kind entrepreneur or impresario" referred to in the Spanish review, but he likens that search to finding a needle in a haystack, adding that any reader who knows where the needle is should give him a ring on 564512.

## Christian Aid Collection

Thank you very much to all those who collected for and contributed to our annual house-to-house collection in May in Naphill and Walters Ash. The sum raised this year was £850 – a little down on last year but still a very worthwhile sum which will help those most in need.

Next year I am looking for someone to take on the role of organiser as I am stepping down. It is not a life sentence! – you can do it for one year only if you wish.

Please telephone me for further details. Many thanks.

Helen Seys Llewellyn : 563624

## Readers Letters

### Letter from John Bullock

Dear Matt,

Hearty congratulations to you and your marvellous fete committee!

We have now been in the village for over 30 years, and – believe me, yours this year was the very best ever – more stalls, more entertainment, more things for children, more books, more items on the second hand emporium.....more floats, more participation.....need I go on? It was a smashing success in every way.

Among the many most enjoyable items – for me – was the Steel Band : the lads were excellent.

One possible 'snag' however!.....You and yours have now set such a standard that from now on you'll find that the locals will expect even better things in the years to come – but I suspect that they will get it.

In closing may I add my personal congratulations to good old Bob Davis and his fete stall partner Trish Bowen, and to Sally and Eleanor who set a new record on the book stall – beating that held by Bill Latham and I as "Bylls & Moone", by many pounds. Well done ladies!

All the best. Strongly in support in my 84<sup>th</sup> year.

John Bullock

### Letter from Eileen Dobson

Recycle your used Inkjet Cartridges and Laser Toners and benefit a charity and the environment

I am collecting empty Inkjet Cartridges and Laser Toners for the benefit of the Multiple Sclerosis Trust. Empty cartridges are worth from 25p to £9 each to this Multiple Sclerosis charity. Home printer colour inkjet cartridges have the greatest value. Each one also uses more than one and a half pints of oil to manufacture so there is an environmental benefit as well .

Only HP, Lexmark and Cannon Inkjet Cartridges are accepted and Laser Toners should have the original cartridge packaging. Please leave your empties on the side doorstep at 123 Main Road, we are close to the Fish and Chip Shop.

Thank you for helping.

Eileen Dobson  
Dacre  
123 Main Road  
Naphill  
Buckinghamshire  
HP14 4SA

## Village Hall Notes

We preceded this month's meeting with our annual litter blitz around the environs of the Hall and the Crick. It is not the best of jobs, but many hands make light work and we managed to make quite an improvement between us. Many thanks to those of you who came along and did your bit.

We have a few new members. Tim Ratcliffe is our new village rep, Bob Semple is now able to join us as the representative for the Evangelical Free church and Ian Bond will be the new representative for Hughenden Parish Council. Welcome to you all, and thanks in advance for your services to the village.

You will have seen our posh new path and kissing gate from the entrance opposite the Post Office up to the Hall. A great improvement. We plan to paint the gate later in the Autumn to help it to blend in a little better, apparently it needs six months before we can paint it.

We had to reiterate the need for people to clear up the hall before they leave it at night after a booking. It can be the last straw when you are tired after organising a function, but the Hall is so well used that it could well be needed early the following day, and the incoming hirer is expecting to find it ready for their use. Barbara will add a note to this effect on the booking form so that we get no further misunderstandings.

As I write this we are all still glowing from the success of the Fete. My shoulders are certainly still glowing - one of the perils of being a redhead! It was a wonderful Village occasion and many congratulations to all those involved. It provided a great day out for local families as well as raising significant funds for the redevelopment of the Hall. Let's just hope that we are as lucky with the weather next year.

Life now starts to go into holiday mode. We keep our fingers crossed that the vandals don't give too hard a time over the summer. Our next fund raising events resume in September with Pam Smith's historical exhibition on the 20th September.

We then have the play "Table Manners" on the 17th October, the fireworks on 1st November, and the Christmas Fayre on 22nd November.

Let's hope that the weather goes into holiday mode too!

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

## Multiple Sclerosis Society

I am running in the Flora Light Challenge for women – a 5K fun run in Hyde Park on September 14<sup>th</sup> – to raise money for the High Wycombe branch of the MS Society. I will be running with my Daughter and my 6 year old Granddaughter whose other Grandma has MS. If you would like to sponsor me please phone.

Thank you

*Doreen Burge : 565430*

**The Ploughman's Lunch** held at Hughenden Village Hall on May 28<sup>th</sup> raised £283. Thank you to all friends who gave their support.

*Marge Sawney*

## Computer Training Course at Naphill & Walter's Ash School.

Are you new to Word Processing and Database, or self-taught and want to improve your skills?

Have you always wanted to use a computer, but thought it too difficult?

As part of our commitment to work closer with the community Naphill and Walters' Ash School together with Amersham and Wycombe College, are intending to run a Level 1 Word Processing and Database computer course on Thursday evenings from 7pm commencing in September 03 at the school.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information or if you wish to enrol, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 by Friday 5th September 03.

Don't be nervous, take a step forward in I.C.T and bring a friend.

*Julie Schmid, I.C.T. Lecture and Technician*

## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed in next edition.





**HC  
Walters Ash Place  
1855**

The cottages now known as ‘Ash Cottages’ were all built at different stages. Does anyone know what the HC (on the front stone) was? Perhaps the builders initial?

The Hussey, Charges, Wilson and Munger families have all lived in these cottages. After the second world war the population of the High Wycombe area had increased and housing shortages were acute, so in April 1944 a group of local businessmen met at the Friends Meeting House in London Road, High Wycombe, and formed the Buckinghamshire Housing Association Ltd. The Chairman was William J Winter Taylor, the Father of the recent Chairman, Charles Winter Taylor, who served 1990-1999. They resolved to assist the improvement of housing conditions and to provide well planned homes in town and the country district.

Generally rents were on a par with those charged by the local authority and attention was focused on preserving the amenities of the countryside and ancient buildings. Five months on from the original meeting in 1944 the Association purchased its first properties – seven tenanted cottages (Ash Cottages) in Naphill for £725 with a 3-5% mortgage from the Cooperative Permanent Building Society. Today too of the cottages are still inhabited by the original families, the Mungers and Wilsons, now in their third generation. The cottages have always been kept in a good state and remain a credit to Walters Ash.

Note: part of this information is taken from Ivor Beeks book on Memories of High Wycombe.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

**Last month’s answers:**



**The old entrance gate (still in the hedge) to Old Fir Cottage, Walters Ash.**

**Over 60’s Club**

On May 23rd we had our Birthday Party and were entertained by “The Swan Singers”. It was well attended and a good time was had by all.

Friday 6th June we had a quiz which turned out to be good fun.

June 20th – RAF Pache

July 4th – TBA

July 18th – Mr Kelloway

New members always welcome.

*Norah Cockroft : 564270*



## News From Christians In The Community

### (Members of the three local churches)

Bookings for the Holiday Club in the Naphill Village Hall are now being taken and application forms are now available from the local churches and schools or phone me.

On the 27th June KRASH will say our 'good byes' to Nick and on the 11th July we finish the term with a specially written drama for the children to which family and friends are invited at 7.30pm.

The joint service will be Songs of Praise in the Park (Hughenden) on the 29th June at 5pm – bring your picnic, your chairs and sing with the Salvation Army Band.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

P.S. Wasn't the Fete wonderful – lovely weather, lots of people, lots of money!!

### Rev. Nick Young, Minister of Naphill Methodist Church writes...

If someone asks me where I come from I'm not immediately sure how to answer the question. Is it an enquiry about human reproduction? Does it mean where do I live now? Perhaps an enquiry about my geographical roots? I don't really have geographical roots. Our branch of Youngs comes from eastern Scotland, but I've never lived there and I don't really relate to that part of the UK. After Easter I went with my mother to explore some of her Lancashire background. Seeing family gravestones was quite moving, but I've always moved around and never really put down roots.

I'm about to leave High Wycombe after nine years, the longest I've ever been in one place. I shall miss many of the friends I've made here but am only going 50 km (to Bicester), so don't feel I'll lose touch completely. On another level, I am not moving away from where I belong, because I know my life comes from God, and it is Jesus who reconciles me to God. So my family is the people of God, who are everywhere. I shall feel at home in Bicester, as I have here.

Do you know where you really belong? Have you discovered what really makes you tick? Do you have that inner peace that you are acceptable and lovable? You may not look to "organised religion" but you can turn to God wherever you are. It may give you a new insight into where you come from!

Shalom,

*Nick : 562860*

## Naphill Evangelical Free Church

### THE AUTHOR OF LIFE

Take a £10 note from your pocket and examine the back of it. The older notes depict the image of that great writer of fiction, Charles Dickens. Appropriately enough, his likeness was more recently usurped by the sombre looking features of an even greater writer of fiction: Charles Darwin.

They say that the most convincing lies are those that contain a grain of truth. In this respect, Charles Darwin's magnificent fable 'The Origin of Species' must rank as one of the greatest pieces of imaginary story-telling of all time in that, it has convinced so many of us that it is not fanciful fiction but 'scientific' truth. By slipping in a few observable natural phenomena such as the adaptation of species to their environment, Darwin skillfully wove a fantastic tale of the 'evolution' of species from simple (yet unaccountable) origins and thence from one species into another by means of mutations since proven to be scientifically impossible. Nevertheless, despite the complete absence of all the 'in between' species necessary to prove his hypothesis, millions have believed the story and so rejected the account of creation already given concerning the real 'Author of Life' Jesus Christ.

My challenge to Charles Darwin is this: Since you arrogantly presume to provide an account of the creation of life contrary to that already provided in the Holy Scriptures by the only person who was actually there at the time, (Almighty God) I expect you to convince me of your version of events by validating your authorship in the same way that He did. Therefore, would you please do the following:

- 1) Actually *create* life yourself.
- 2) Come to Earth having stated *in advance* the place of your birth and the ancestral line that you will be descended from.
- 3) State *in advance* the manner and place of your death and your subsequent resurrection in 3 days.
- 4) During your earthly life, make the blind see, the lame walk, cure lepers, raise the dead...
- 5) Die and be buried.
- 6) *Raise yourself from the dead*, just as you predicted and *prove it* by showing yourself to many witnesses over a period of 40 days thereafter.

After this time, *ascend visibly into heaven* in front of reliable witnesses.

As far as I am aware, Mr Darwin has thus far successfully completed only item '5' of the above list of proofs. I await with interest his fulfillment of the rest. In the meantime, I hope he will forgive me if I

continue to entrust my *origins*, my *present life* and my *future resurrection* to the safe hands of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the only Author of Life worthy of the name.

For those who still require straightforward *scientific* evidence concerning the demonstrable inconsistencies of evolutionary claims, I recommend two talks scheduled for the evening of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July at Sir William Ramsay School, Rose Avenue, Hazlemere. The international speaker is Philip Bell, a former scientist from the global 'Answers In Genesis' organisation ([www.AnswersInGenesis.org](http://www.AnswersInGenesis.org)). Times are 7 – 8pm 'Cavemen Missing Links & The Bible.' Then 8.30 – 9.30pm 'Walking with The Dinosaurs?' Admission is free to all humans but 'Missing Links' will require proof of identity!

**Loius Chryssaphes N.E.F.C**

If you have any questions regarding the Christian faith or God please think about coming to our "**Any Questions**" discussion group that usually takes place on Thursdays between 10.30 am and 12 noon. Those asking the questions set the agenda on what is

#### **CHATTERBOX**

Please note that during most of August Chatterbox will not be open due to summer break and holiday club.

#### **PARENTING AND MARRIAGE COURSES**

We realise it is still a long way away yet but starting in the New Year we are planning to start running **Parenting** and/or **Marriage** courses based on the programmes run by Care for the Family. Based on Christian principles these courses are suitable for everyone whether they have a strong religious faith or not and everyone is welcome. If you are interested in any of these two courses, each of which has five sessions or you would like more information, please contact Bob or Polly: 563304

discussed. Contact Bob or Polly for details: 563304

May you know God's peace and blessing

*Bob Semple : 563304*

## **Speen Festival 2003**

This September features the return of the extremely popular SPEEN FESTIVAL, the "big" festival in the "little" village. A live broadcast of the BBC Radio 4 "Any Questions?" will be one of the highlights of a ten day series of events in the Marquee on the Playing Field or in the Village Hall.

The Festival, which is the brainchild of husband and wife team Martin and Marjorie Stockley, will run between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> September and the first time it ran in 2001, it was a sell out! Once again the aim will

be to provide a first rate showcase for the wealth of talent and creativity we find in the Chilterns and to bring villagers together for a celebration of music, art, theatre and much, much more.

An original musical will start the fun, "The Pied Piper of Speen", with words, songs, staging, costumes and direction all done by local people. But this fairy story will have a twist in its tail and you'll have to come and see to find out! Alongside the "Pied Piper", the first weekend also sees Speen's own "antiques road show" where you can browse among the stalls, buy and sell, get your treasures valued and watch experts restoring old furniture. In addition, for the artistic ones amongst you, paintings, photographs and crafts will be on display for two days in the Village Hall "Art Exhibition".

Family entertainment continues apace during week two with "wildlife watch" an illustrated talk on our local natural history plus a swashbuckling children's show "Pirates" which runs at the weekend. Jazz lovers are well catered for with the return of the "Martin Hart Quintet". This year Martin, a professional jazz drummer, who lives in Speen, will present another of his fascinating explorations of the lives and music of the jazz "greats" and the all time favourite, Cole Porter, will be this September's treat. His fabulous shows such as 'Anything Goes', 'High Society', 'Kiss Me Kate' are known to us all.

Jonathan Dimpleby is scheduled to chair the Friday night live broadcast of "Any Questions?" and this will be a superb opportunity for the Chilterns to hear leading politicians' views on the burning issues of the day. And finally, the Festival will finish on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September with a magnificent "Finale Concert". The kaleidoscope of music includes the Speen Choir, a brass ensemble, the Rubbra String Quartet, old Bucks folk songs, barbershop, the harp, a violin virtuoso and much else besides. And if you feel this can't be bettered, a three-course supper is included too!

The Speen Festival runs from September 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> with events either in the Marquee on the Playing Field or the Speen Village Hall.

Visit [www.SpeenBucks.org](http://www.SpeenBucks.org) for more details or phone Martin or Marjorie Stockley on 01494 488101.

Tickets will be available from July and extra booking forms will be found in SPEEN STORES.

# *Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette*

*September 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

September 2003

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Copy date for the October issue is Monday 15th September 2003

## Editorial

Welcome to the September *Gazette*.

In recent months I have received a number of anonymous letters, put forward for inclusion in the *Gazette*. On the whole these letters have not made print which is a shame as their content is often of interest, albeit slightly controversial! Most readers appreciate a well written article or a heartfelt response to a subject from a previous issue - especially when the writer is prepared to 'speak out'. Sadly, it is when people choose to 'speak out' that they are also likely to go under cover. Please keep the letters coming and please put

your name to them, that way you can be sure they will be printed and everyone will benefit from your point of view. If you happen to have a view that we should be printing anonymous letters I would be interested to hear from you (including name and number of course).

I apologise to anyone who put a *Gazette* article through my door after the 8th August - it is not included in this issue as I am compiling it whilst on holiday. Email contributions are all included as usual and all missing pieces will feature in October.

*Matt Piercy*

## Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	8.00-10pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm
Tennis Club Sessions	Every Sunday	10am onwards
	Every Tuesday	10.15am onwards
	Thursday (summer only)	6.30pm onwards

\* At RAF Astroturf

## Small Ads

TO LET. Six-berth mobile home at Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. Lovely position overlooking nature reserve and Poole harbour. Close to beach. Telephone 562169.

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 01494562310/07904023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins 562240

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Well, in common with most of us, once again the weather is the main talking-point governing our lives. However, at the moment, it is not the bad but the very good weather which is affecting our play. In a convoluted way, what I am trying to say is that it is almost too sunny and hot for many of us to venture on to the courts, for fear of sunburn and dehydration! It is now the peak of the holiday season for families and most of our competitive summer season matches have been played. As parents have very kindly taken over the running of the junior teams and are away at present, no up-to-date Junior results are available. Our Ladies Bucks Shield team is doing well and has lost only one match. Their last match, however, was not without its drama as the result, after normal time, was a tie and, therefore, destined to go to a 'shoot-out'. This year, the Bucks LTA has decided matches had to be decisive and the result should be decided by tie-

breaks fought out between each pair playing their opposite number. On this occasion Naphill triumphed 2-1 and came out as winners! Well done 'girls'!! Mixed matches continued to reflect positively for the first team and 'could do better' for the second team, although some of our more competent juniors have turned out creditable performances for the latter team and, hopefully, gained valuable experience playing at this level.

Since the success of the Fete on the 7th June, we have received quite a number of enquiries from local residents regarding membership and are pleased to report positive responses in some, but not all, instances. We are hoping that those who have joined recently will be able to come along to meet 'the regulars' at our Tea 'n Tennis afternoon on August Bank Holiday Monday, 25th August. All clubs rely on the input of new members to perpetuate and maintain a club in a village such as ours. The grant from the National Lottery for court resurfacing in the 1990's and the efforts of, particularly, then local residents Mike and Jan Curtis to raise funds for the clubhouse in the 1980's, means that we can offer an adequate level of facilities to play a sport locally, which can be enjoyed by the young and 'not so young' at a moderate cost. We are not a fiercely competitive club but are also not without ambition and would like to welcome new members who feel they too would like to improve by regularly playing socially at club sessions with like-minded individuals. After all, we all had to start somewhere! We run a Veteran Ladies team in the winter season and also hire an indoor court at Cressex once a fortnight, which is available to all members (at an extra cost). So, just because, evenings and weather close in, it does not mean that tennis stops. We still play on Sunday and Tuesdays mornings and even run a Tinsel Tournament at Christmas time! For enquiries and details - please contact our Membership Secretary - Sue Crooks on 562539 or the undersigned.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063*

## Naphill Evening WI

We celebrated our twentieth birthday at our June meeting and had decided that we wouldn't have a speaker so that we could have a good old natter! The food provided by the members just seems to get better and better. Jessie provided a large bottle of whisky and we all had a go at rolling £1 coins to see who got

the nearest. Sue Glenister won, which was quite fitting as it was her birthday, mind she also won a raffle prize which I thought was pushing it a bit. Then the president and a few members told a few jokes and the party reluctantly ended at about 11pm.

The money we had raised at the meeting went towards decorating the float for the fete. Congratulations to Juliet and her team for winning and to Richard Webb for providing the transport. Also special thanks to the team in the kitchen and Jenny's team on the tombola. We would especially like to thank the Fete Committee for putting on such a fantastic day. Well done one and all for your hard work and enthusiasm, it was great working with you.

In July we had our croquet evening at Valerie's with different games and supper raising over £100 and also in July we heard Pam Kem talking to us about the "Role of the Magistrate" a really interesting talk which raised lots of questions. We are having a walk in August. Next meeting is on September 18th at 7.45pm. Come and join us ladies.

*Pauline Flynn : 01494 488510*

## **District & County Councillor's Report**

With the holiday period just finishing the council year is about to start again with many issues still to be resolved, the extra housing provision is but one of them. The Government's requirement for extra housing in the south-east is now reflected in the county council's new draft Structure Plan which will soon be presented for public consultation. With the County about to lose its strategic planning powers, under new government legislation to plan on a regional basis, this will be the last county structure plan to have some effect on our futures.

Extra housing will be provided in a much enlarged Aylesbury with Milton Keynes expanding in the south to bring pressure on the north of the Aylesbury Vale. The County Council will be insisting on an adequate infrastructure being in place before development takes place. The next 20 years will see some significant changes to our landscape. Fortunately, south Bucks including Wycombe remains protected by the Green Belt and the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

## **Names and numbers to note**

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

There will be great changes to the appearance of High Wycombe Town Centre over the next five years with the news that Chiltern University is to relocate on the old Compair site and that Tesco will acquire the vacated College land. This coupled with the development of the Phoenix Centre to provide better shopping facilities and a new library and leisure complex, will help to revive the fortunes of our nearest town. I hope that we take this opportunity to plan in the broadest sense, to improve not only the shopping facility but also the road infrastructure.

Wycombe Museum is well worth a visit, and although the school holidays are almost over, it is open from Monday to Saturday from 10.00 am to 5.00pm and Sundays from 2.00 to 5.00pm. A special event until 14th September is the history of local cricket amongst many other features of interest.

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Horticultural Society**

**Autumn Show**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

**Naphill Village Hall, 2pm**

This is your big chance to show off what you have been nurturing in your gardens and allotments this

year. We would love to see as many of you as possible at this village event, and would certainly welcome more exhibitors, *particularly children* So if you are looking for something to do towards the end of the school holidays why not have a go at one of the classes (under 12's only): -

- A picture of a flower drawn by computer
- A garden on a plate (Not more than 20cm across)

Schedules are available from Don Turner, the Post Office or myself.

If you prefer to just come along and admire the exhibits, the doors open at 2pm, giving you time to look around and have some refreshments before the ever popular auction of donated exhibits takes place at 4pm.

Also, an advanced notice of our annual Cheese & Wine evening, which is on Friday 7th November, when Mike Watts will be talking about the Chelsea Physic Garden. This is always a sell out evening, so put the date in your diaries and I will have more details next month.

*Cathryn Carter: 563233*

## Naphill Over 60's Club

Many thanks to Richard & Valerie Pushman for entertaining us in their lovely garden. The weather was kind to us and we enjoyed it. Thanks also to Valerie's helpers who waited on us with sandwiches, cakes and cups of tea.

We were lucky to have the RAF Padre on 20th June - he was very interesting about all the places he had been to.

The next meeting on 5th September will be in the Evangelical Church, NOT the Village Hall.

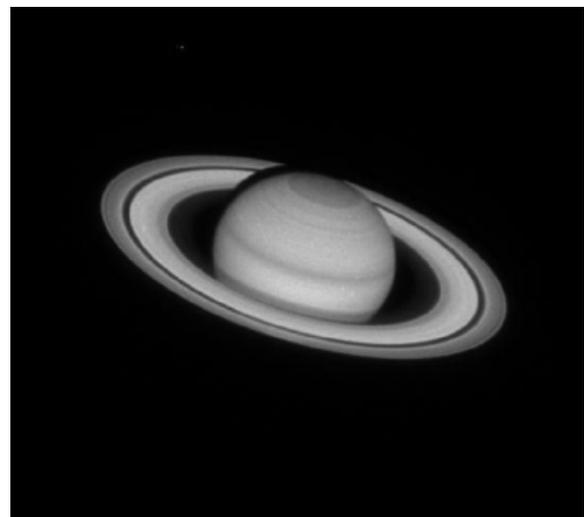
*Norah Cockroft : 564270*

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In September

Venus will be setting in the west only a few minutes after the Sun and will probably be impossible to see. Mars rises in the east just after the Sun sets; towards the end of the month Mars is about 20° above the horizon and its magnitude is -2.2 (it was also at its nearest to Earth on August 27 in the last 5000 years at 55.758m km; the next time it comes closer to Earth is in 2366).

Jupiter rises just before the Sun rises. Saturn is a normal morning star and will be seen 50° above the south west sky before the Sun rises. A picture is given of Saturn as it now appears in the sky. The Moon is new on 26 and full on 10 when it is also sometimes known as the harvest Moon. Mercury is visible in the mornings at the end of the month in the eastern morning sky at about 5h 15m. Autumn starts on 23.

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
Sep	Rises	06.15	12.16	06.33	20.16	05.31	01.01
1	Sets	19.51	21.52	20.05	05.36	19.40	17.13
Sep	Rises	06.26	18.23	06.55	19.43	05.12	03.33
8	Sets	19.35	03.05	19.52	04.59	19.16	16.52
Sep	Rises	06.37	21.03	07.17	19.10	04.54	00.08
15	Sets	19.19	11.46	19.38	04.26	18.51	16.26
Sep	Rises	06.48	01.25	07.40	18.38	04.34	23.42
22	Sets	19.03	18.11	19.24	18.44	18.26	16.00
Sep	Rises	07.00	11.26	08.02	18.06	04.15	23.17
29	Sets	18.46	20.17	19.10	03.29	18.01	15.34



*Saturn*

### Time

For some years I have been giving the times of sunrise and sunset in the table at the beginning of each month's article and it seems about time that I defined what these terms mean. Sunrise and sunset are the times when the upper limb of the Sun lies on the horizon, the effect of refraction by the Earth's atmosphere being taken into account. This refraction gives a slightly longer duration of daytime than there should be theoretically. Twilight is the period in the evening after sunset and the period in the morning before sunrise when the sky is not completely dark because of the scattering of sunlight in the atmosphere. Civil twilight begins and ends when the centre of the Sun is 6° below the horizon. Nautical twilight begins and ends when the centre of the Sun is 12° below the horizon. Astronomical twilight begins and ends when the centre of the Sun is 18° below the

horizon, so that in a clear sky 6th-magnitude stars are just visible overhead. In Naphill and Walter's Ash, astronomical twilight is never reached between the end of May and the middle of July because the Sun never sets more than 18° below the horizon during those seven weeks.

### Neptune's Discovery

The discovery of the planet Neptune in 1846 September by the Frenchman Urbain Le Verrier has always been an issue in France because of the later claims of mathematician John Couch Adams that he had done similar work completed in 1845 September but had failed to obtain approval from British astronomers who simply ignored him. The approach from both these men after noticing perturbations in the orbit of Uranus was to calculate where another body must be orbiting the Sun at an even further distance. Without computers the work involved must have been horrendous. Eventually a compromise was proposed by England's Astronomy Royal, George Airy, whereby both Le Verrier and Adams were given equal credit for the discovery. In spite of protests from Le Verrier this is how the matter has stood for over 150 years. In 1998 a London University astronomer Nick Kollertrom at last managed to find the papers and discovered that Airy's account was very selective and omitted somewhat scurrilous evidence about the inadequacy of Adams' work. For example, using Adams' predictions, Cambridge University Observatory wasted six weeks during the summer of 1846 trying to find the new planet. At the end of this year it is hoped all the relevant documents will be published and we will be able to judge whether Airy's consensus was justified. [Neptune has a mean magnitude of +7.8, it is 30 times the Earth's distance from the Sun, it appears as a blue/green disc in telescopes of moderate aperture; it has eleven satellites (as of 2003 Jan 14), it rotates every 16 hours, it is the fourth largest planet after Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus but the third most massive; Neptune's year is nearly 165 years and its escape velocity is 23.5 km/s compared with Earth's 11.19 km/s.]

*Grant Woodruff*

### Balloon Race

You may remember that we had a "Balloon Race" stall at this year's fete with prizes awarded to the owner of the balloon that had traveled the farthest by July 8th.

Four runners-up made it to Norfolk but the winning balloon made it all the way to Denmark, obviously assisted by the aeronautical skills of the RAF Scouts who kindly manned the stall on the day.

*Matt Piercy : 562081*



### Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

#### Planning to July 7th:

- 03/6506/FUL 6 Brackenwood, Naphill. Construction of two storey rear extension (amendment to 99/07536/FUL drainage arrangements).
- 03/6546/FUL Wynwood, 165 Main Road, Naphill. Construction of part single storey, part two storey rear extension and front porch.
- 03/6560/VCDN Hedgehogs, 9 The Orchard, Main Road, Naphill. Variation of condition 01 (Time Limit) under p/p98/06371/VCDN to allow construction of two-storey rear extension and side entrance lobby without complying with that condition
- 03/6658/CONCG RAF High Wycombe. Variation of condition under p/p98/06371/CONCG to allow retention of Blocks A & B for a temporary period of 12 months following occupation of F Block
- 03/6699/FUL Demolition of 133 Main Road and construction of one pair of semi-detached 2-bedroom houses and one 3-bedroom detached house. Concerns over loss of retail outlet, traffic hazards, lack of parking spaces.

**Date for your diary, November 15th 2003.** Annual candlelit diner dance at Naphill Village Hall.

*Gloria Leflaive : 563634*

### Naphill Neighbours

The speaker for our July meeting had to be rearranged and Mr Len Baker a volunteer worker from the Chiltern Open Air Museum was kind enough to come along at short notice. With the aid of slides we were shown all the rescued historic buildings which make up the museum. One which I personally recognised very quickly was the old Toll House which used to stand by the Cricket Ground in London Road, High Wycombe. Schools are regular visitors to the Museum where they have a comprehensive day out offering educational programmes tied to the National Curriculum and for which Awards for Excellence have been won. Regular special events take place throughout the year and hands on activities are arranged for children during the holidays.

40 members and friends recently enjoyed a visit to The Mill at Sonning where lunch was followed by theatre. "Boys will be boys" was the title of the comedy written by Simon Williams, who also acted in the show along with his daughter.

During August members and friends will also have taken a river trip from Henley to Wargrave and back. If the weather is as good as at the time of writing, it will be a scorcher!

Our September meeting on Monday 8th will be to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Club. We hope all members will be able to attend for what should be a very enjoyable event.

On Saturday, 11th October at 1.45pm we are holding a Fashion Show by 'Just Trading' in the Village Hall. Tickets are available from Committee Members price £3 or at the door on the day. Please come along and enjoy a pleasant afternoon where clothes are modeled and you will have the opportunity to purchase excellent quality clothing.

*Mary Shrimpton : 471613*

## **Speen Festival 2003**

Come to Speen Antiques Day on Sunday 7th September.

In the marquee on the playing field

Open all day from 10 o'clock, refreshments available, admission free

Come to

- Have your antiques appraised

- Buy or sell antiques and collectables
- Watch demonstrations of restoration
- Enter competitions on antiques for adults and children
- Buy or sell at the auction at 3:30
- Visit the Art Exhibition in the Village Hall

There are also tickets left for

The matinee performance of The 'Pied Piper of Speen' on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>

The children's theatre show 'Pirates' on Saturday 13th

Ring for tickets on 01494 488637

## **Naphill Toddlers**

The Naphill Toddlers Group starts the new Autumn term on Thursday 11th September. It will be good to see the 'regular' parents and children after the summer break and catch up on news. We also expect to welcome newcomers to the group from babies to up to 5 years. The autumn term will be a good time to come along to our weekly sessions and events, which will include a craft session around Halloween and our not-to-be-missed Christmas party (apologies for mentioning the 'C' word this early).

Toddlers meet every Thursday during term time from 2-4pm and provide an opportunity for parents to meet-up and for the children to socialize and let-off-steam with our play equipment. Why not drop-in and give us a try?

*Suzanne Farwell : 562 147*

## **Readers Letters**

*Letter from Doreen Burge*

Multiple Sclerosis Society

I am running in the Flora Light Challenge for Women - a 5K fun run in Hyde Park on September 14th. - to raise money for the High Wycombe branch of the MS Society. I will be running with my 6-year old Granddaughter whose other Grandma has MS. If you would like to sponsor me please phone 565430. Thank you

*Found Budgerigar*

# PAST TIMES and TREASURES EXHIBITION

of  
**NAPHILL and WALTERS ASH**

To be held on

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> 2003**

from 11am – 6pm

**AT NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL**

**Entry: Adults £2 (includes refreshment) Children 20p**

**FOR VILLAGE HALL FUNDS**

We have caught an escapee budgie which we would dearly love to return to it's owner. If you are missing this little lost sole please contact 563691 and we will return it ASAP. Kate Walker.

## **Village Hall Notes**

As I write this at the start of August it seems a long time since our July meeting. The sun is shining, maybe a bit too efficiently, the sky is blue and the summer holidays are well under way.

We have had a couple of problems with the users of the hall that need mentioning. Firstly the chairs have been stacked in such a way that they have been blocking the fire doors. When you use the Hall could you make sure that the chairs are stacked away from the fire doors for obvious reasons. Secondly we are still having problems with people making tea in the kettles which are consequently getting very stained and needing replacing much too regularly. Please could you make sure that when you are making tea in the Hall that the kettles are only used for boiling the water and the teapots for making the tea. Thank you.

The next major job to be carried out is the redecoration of the main hall. This is due to be done during the first week in September before the pre school go back. This job is overdue and can I make a plea that when it is done that we all try to maintain it by not using anything on the walls that will mark such as the dreaded blutack or sellotape.

The next major event is Pam's *Historical Exhibition on the 20th September*. There should be full details on posters around the village but do make a note of the date and be there. Her collection of village memorabilia grows and grows and is fascinating.

We had an excellent response to the Village Appraisal forms that were circulated earlier this year. It is taking longer than originally expected to analyse all the data and the results are expected to be circulated in a couple of months time. Thanks to all those of you who took the time to complete and return the form.

### **Diary dates:**

17th October - Play in the Village Hall

8th November - Fireworks (note the change of date)

22nd November - Christmas Fayre

Make a note of these events now and do support them if you can.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

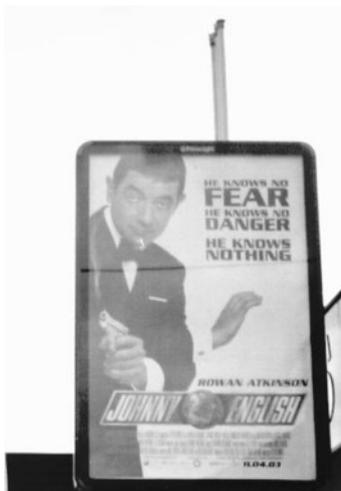
*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

**Last month's answers:**



This film advert (above) outside the Walters Ash Service Station was of Johnny English. As you may know the start of the film was shot at Hughenden Churchyard where a dummy grave was dug and an explosion took place. I was able to take this photo (below) of the film crew doing the preparation work for the filming before it was closed off.



This doorway is from the Lamp House (formerly The Manse), next to Christopher Close. Previous owner Emma Grace gave land from her garden, between The Manse and The Mission Hall, for the use of the Temperance Movement on December 27th 1882. In 1883 the site was officially opened as a new Coffee & Reading Room and a foundation stone was laid stating that Mrs Grace had kindly given the site along with £20. Later the Coffee Rooms were used by the village as a Village Hall where the local band would practice and important meetings took place to raise money for the present Village Hall.

The Manse then became family home to Rev. Alfred George Free who became Pastor to Naphill Mission Hall. He continued the ministry for 34 years.

The original foundation stone (as previously mentioned) is now incorporated into the front wall of the modern house that replaced the coffee rooms. The new mission hall was rebuilt in 1968/9 and known as Naphill Free Evangelical Church.

Much more information on this at my exhibition in the Village Hall on September 20th.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

## **News From Christians In The Community**

### **(Members of the three local churches)**

The next joint service supported by the three local churches will be on Sunday 31st August, 6pm at the Naphill Methodist Church. The theme will be a follow-on from the children's Holiday Club titled 'Groundbreakers' which finished on Friday 29th. Everyone is welcome to this service whether or not you are a member of a church.

KRASH (Kids Really Are Special Here) resumes on Friday 5th September at 6.30pm in the Naphill Evangelical Church.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

## **Rev. Nick Young, Minister of Naphill Methodist Church writes...**

This is my last contribution to the Gazette as I am about to take up a new appointment in Bicester. I have had nine years here and very much enjoyed being a part of the community. Covering several villages in my work, and living in Hughenden Valley, means I haven't been on the spot or present for all village occasions, but certain things stand out in my memory: village fetes and carol services are just two. A highlight of the millennium was the way local communities produced something lasting and memorable: for Naphill and Walters Ash, as for Hughenden Valley, it was a local history book. Stokenchurch produced a book in 1992. The three books were all approached very differently, but all are excellent publications, and their authors deserve every credit, in our case, Rex Leaver.

The working relationship and growing together of the three churches in the parish has also been a highlight of my time here. This has included Alpha courses, the Celebrations at the school and village hall, and continues with, amongst other things, the children's holiday club in August, from which were spawned KRASH and TRASH, for children and young teens. It all comes under our banner of "Christians in the Community", and you will find details of ongoing activities elsewhere in the Gazette.

I have enjoyed working with Charles Overton and Gregory Hargrove, and their successors, Simon Cronk and Bob Semple. They have been good friends and supportive colleagues, and I shall miss their fellowship. My successor is to be the Rev. Janice Pettipher, who comes to us from Cambridge with her husband and two sons. Please pray for them as they begin a new stage in their lives.

I am grateful for the many friends I have made here, and the several families I have shared with at important times of their lives, some sad and some happy; but to be allowed close to people at critical times is one of the privileges of Christian ministry. May you know God's love, peace and blessing in the years ahead.

Shalom,

*Nick : 562860*

A local place to get away from it all

### **"Chatterbox"**

Time: Tuesday Morning 9.15am – 12noon.

Place: Naphill Evangelical Free Church, 122 Main Road, Naphill.

We serve complimentary 'Fairtrade' fresh coffee, tea, juices and biscuits at individual tables, in comfortable surroundings. Everyone is welcome. Access for wheelchairs. Activity corners are set up for babies and children. A warm welcome awaits you.

Enquiries: Bob & Polly Semple

Tel: 01494 563304

# ***Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette***

*October 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

## October 2003

**Editor:** Matthew Piercy, 300 Main Road, HP14 4TH. Tel: 562081

Email [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

**Distribution manager:** Dave Ratcliffe, 4 Allen Drive. Tel: 563650

**Treasurer:** David Leith, Falcon's Oak, The Common. Tel: 562312

Copy date for the November issue is Wednesday 15th October 2003

### Editorial

Bit of a shock to wake up last Sunday morning and find that someone had tried to break into my garage - thankfully on this occasion nothing was stolen but considerable damage was done during the attempt with a crow-bar and bolt-croppers. The Men's Club has been broken into twice in the last month, suffering both stolen cash and vandalism. Add to that the general shenanigans that go on in the evenings outside the Village Hall and you begin to feel we might justify more police attention. The reason we get such little police attention is because we are considered 'low

risk', - there are very few reported crimes from Naphill & Walters Ash. We can change this if we all ensure we report every incident of crime to the police.

On a very positive note I had an email from Alan Lewis (my predecessor as Editor of the Gazette) informing me of his very speedy recovery from illness - great news.

Don't forget to change your clocks - British Summertime finishes on Sunday, 26th October.

*Matt Piercy*

### Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	8.00-10pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm
Tennis Club Sessions	Every Sunday	10am onwards
	Every Tuesday	10.15am onwards
	Thursday (summer only)	6.30pm onwards

\* At RAF Astroturf

## Small Ads

CARAVAN. A lovely six-berth on a superb site at Highcliff, near Christchurch, Dorset, available for rent. 10 minutes walk to the beach, lots to do locally. Tel Jill on 07762 750962 or Sally on 562281

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 562310 / 07904 023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins 562240

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

ARALIAS TO YUCCAS! Autumn promotion of specimen shrubs in 10 litre pots from my nursery site, supplied and planted for instant garden impact! Tel G C Travers HND Am Hort on 01494 563367

DRESSMAKING ALTERATIONS, at reasonable prices. Telephone 563667

THEATRE TICKETS. 2 tickets for HMS Pinafore at The Swan, 7.30pm Saturday 11th October. £35 for the 2, were £24.50 each. Tel. 565018.

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

I am pleased to report that over the summer season Naphill LTC enjoyed some success in the local leagues with our Mixed First Team by winning 6 out of their 7 matches, topping their division. Our Bucks Shield Ladies Team was triumphant against Stoney Stratford in their last match and also ended up with 6 wins from 7 matches. Unfortunately, they were pipped at the post for top spot in their division by Stoney Stratford, who notched up just one more single rubber over the whole season. Our team will, however, be promoted for the second year in succession, which in itself is no mean feat! Congratulations to all members who played and contributed to these successes. At the other end of the scale, our Mixed Second Team's results were rather more modest with only one win, whilst our Aylesbury Men's Team managed 2 wins and 1 draw. Our Aylesbury Ladies Team again did pretty well, managing 3 wins, 2 draws and 1 loss, and finished third in their division. During the summer holidays, our Junior members have been busy trying to complete their summer fixtures and playing off rounds of their tournaments. Hopefully, these will be up to date before their attentions turn to their winter activities - mostly football, of course.

Although not included in 'forthcoming events' on our calendar at the beginning of our tennis year, the impromptu Tea 'n Tennis on a typical (for this year at least) sunny August Bank Holiday Monday was singularly successful. Several new members joined in with the old regulars, making it a busy and enjoyable occasion for all. It goes without saying, the table groaned with its usual array of delicious offerings which all disappeared without trace, assisting the players to maintain a very agreeable standard of tennis until at least supper-time.

We must now turn our attention to what is usually the inclement part of the year when long nights and short days preclude an outdoor club evening. To compensate for this omission, the club hires a court on alternate Wednesdays from 9-10.30 pm at the Bucks LTA Indoor Tennis Centre at Cressex. Members are eligible to pre-book this at a total cost of £25.50 for the 1½ hr session. There is a list of dates on the notice-board in the Clubhouse; just put your name against the chosen date and remember to settle up with Maddy, who has volunteered to take on responsibility for this. Normal club sessions on Tuesday and Sunday mornings, however, continue to take place throughout the winter months - weather permitting (new members always welcome!).

A more mundane but necessary business due soon is our Annual General Meeting which, according to our constitution, must be held before the end of the calendar year. We usually plan to hold this in the Clubhouse and, with the help of our single-minded Chairman, aim to keep it as brief as possible so that we can all adjourn to celebrate another year's passing at the local hostelry! Nominations from new members to join the committee are very welcome as new ideas and fresh faces should ensure continuation of a tennis facility in the local community. Date and time should appear in next month's edition.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063*

## Naphill Neighbours

The 40th anniversary of the club was celebrated on Monday, 8th September by over 40 members in the Village Hall. Our speaker was ex Roly Poly Thea McIntyre who related her experiences as a variety artist with ENSA during the second World War. She and her sister traveled all over the country with touring groups to entertain the troops. She recounted many amusing incidents and among her memoirs has two pairs of wartime nylons, one pair still in it's packet! After her talk we had a singalong of several wartime musical favourites. Bucks Fizz and nibbles were served along with a slice of our beautifully decorated celebration cake.

Please don't forget our Fashion Show on Saturday, 11th October at 1.45 p.m. Tickets price £3 will be available at the door.

Our next outing will be to Turners in Northampton on Tuesday, 18th November. This should be a very enjoyable day out where, among other attractions, an Olde Thyme Music Hall is performed. Tickets are available at £22 for members and £25 for guests, this includes lunch and tea.

Monday, 13th October will be the AGM followed by a talk on the Highlights of China by Margaret Deakin.

*Mary Shrimpton : 471613*

## District & County Councillor's Report

Anti-social behaviour is the new terminology for hooliganism and vandalism but it does also cover the wider problems of noise and nuisance. Unfortunately it appears that these are on the increase in our communities and new laws are being implemented to try and control their proliferation. For the purpose of a survey, September 10th was designated by the Home Office as an average day, when local authorities were asked to report all cases of anti-social behaviour in their areas. I did report one for Walters Ash, an act of vandalism on a garden wall and a smashed window at the garage. Would all readers please report any cases, whenever they occur, to the Community Safety Team at 01494 421117 or to the police. It is only when statistical evidence recognises we have a problem, that action will be taken.

The recent application for further development at Templewood has prompted me to remind planning officers that the Government's Directive for density does not necessarily apply to villages, especially when it is so out of keeping with adjoining properties. Whilst recognising that homes have to be built to meet Government targets it should not mean that we destroy the environment of those that live nearby. Having said that I would point out that the Planning Inspectors do not always agree with the local member when applications come to Appeal!

Piles of dumped grass and hedge cuttings appear at regular positions outside the gates of several households that back or front Naphill Common. If they are not the culprits perhaps they might see who is doing it and report it to the litter warden on 01494 421440.

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Tin Foil Collection**

Did you know that you can donate your tin foil and at the same time raise much needed funds for the charity 'Action For Blind People'?

Local collectors are:

Dave Wainman, 135 Cedar Avenue, Hazlemere : 01494 716726

David Hughes, 16 Whitepit Lane, Flackwell Heath : 01628 522022

*IS Page*

## **Horticultural Society**

### **Cheese & Wine Evening**

**Friday, November 7th**

**Naphill Village Hall**

**7.00 for 7.45pm**

**Tickets £7.00**

### **Wine & Soft Drinks Bar**

Tickets are now available for our annual Cheese and Wine evening, which is always a popular event, and this year takes place on Friday November 7th in the Village Hall.

The evening will start with an illustrated talk by Mike Watts of the Chelsea Physic Garden, starting at 7.45pm prompt.

## **Names and numbers to note**

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

Mike is a volunteer guide at the Physic Garden as well as a lecturer for the National Trust.

For those of you who do not know the Chelsea Physic Garden it was first cultivated during the reign of Charles II at the inspiration of the Royal Society of Apothecaries to enable their apprentices to recognise, and understand the medicinal uses of plants. This promises to be a most interesting and informative talk.

We will then tuck into the now famous buffet of cheese, pâté, salad etc.

Tickets are £7.00 and include a glass of wine. Numbers are limited, and tickets always sell quickly for this event; so do book early (it also helps on the catering front if we have final numbers a week beforehand).

Secondly, very many thanks to all of you who took part in our recent Autumn Show. Whether you were an exhibitor, a viewer, or a buyer at the auction you helped to make it a great success, and our best show for a good many years.

*Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233*

## **Ruby Blackwell, nee Ring**

Ruby, one of the gems of old Naphill village life, died peacefully on August 4th aged 90.

Ruby first came to Naphill as a young lady to assist her father who at the time was Landlord at The Wheel public house. Previously Ruby had been a Dancing Teacher in London.

Ruby fell in love with Ted Blackwell and subsequently they were married. Ted was a skilled cabinet maker and worked for some years at Mines & West, Downley. He also had a workshop at his home where he produced many works of art, miniature furniture etc. - a number of which can be seen at Wycombe Museum.

Ruby settled well into village life. At one time she worked for the Post Office delivering mail on her bicycle. Later she worked as a school helper and spent many happy years caring for and helping children. Ruby was also a very active member of the W.I.

Music and dancing were obviously an important factor in her life. As a neighbour Ruby was a cheerful, thoughtful person and was certainly well loved.

A thanksgiving Memorial Service will be held in the Naphill Methodist Church on Friday, 10th October at 3.00pm. All are welcome.

*Jean Lawrence-Mann : 563916*

## Some Humour

One has, of course, to respond to the Editor's cri-de-coeur for some sort of input preferably humorous, to the October Gazette. What form should it take, I wondered? Some more 'Birds of Naphill'? Why not? For starters Sarah Bacon is a nice gull! Perhaps a development of Aunt Gavina's Crystal Ball sequence examining where Naphill might be in 2025. The answer to this is all too simple - gridlocked! Maybe a stiff dose of apathy which could certainly be induced by the current tropical weather. How about a simple joke which would have to be topical? Ah, yes! Why did the Naphill chicken cross the road? Answer, because there were cars parked on the pavement on its side of the road!

As I sit in the garden enduring the strong, indeed almost violent September sunshine, nature is at hand to provide inspiration. The bees are busy collecting nectar (not from Sainsbury's) but to my surprise, from Lobelia flowers which are small and clearly difficult to rob of their sweetness. Have you ever thought what life would be like as a worker bee? Well here are some statistics based on careful observation of a group of bees attracted by the Lobelias in 2 hanging baskets and 4 Black-eyed Susans on the patio. The average bee took 5 seconds to collect its nectar from a flower and a further 5 seconds to manoeuvre its way to the next flower, thus dealing with 6 flowers a minute or 360 flowers an hour. With no trade union to protect their interests, the average bee works at least a 12 hour day dealing with about 4320 flowers a day. The season lasts for about six months without any holidays and so our hard working bee tackles about 800,000 flowers during the season. Question, can there be anything more boring than the working life of a bee?

Wasps are of interest too. You hardly see them from April until the beginning of September except when the Queens are looking for their residences. Then suddenly the Queen Wasp exits from her sweet kitchen leaving the workers (the lads) to fend for themselves and overnight become pests and a positive nuisance as they attack fruit on trees and the pot of jam on the table. Then we soon forget the good work they have done in the garden polishing off bugs during the summer.

I am writing this having damaged my back. I don't know how this came about but my wife blames golf. I hope that she is wrong (wives often are as you know) because although I play just once a week, I should dearly miss the thrill of a long straight drive, the elegance of a lofted iron shot and the luscious curve of a putt across a sloping green. Tiddlywinks and crib are poor substitutes.

Of course there is always politics. After all I am honest and can face facts. When the dust settles it is surprising how few



**Guides &  
Brownies  
Jumble Sale**

**Saturday 4th  
October**

**Naphill  
Village Hall**

**2.00pm**

**We will be collecting items for the sale  
around the village on the morning of the  
sale, and would also welcome any items you  
wish to bring to the Village Hall**

professional politicians, in retrospect, can meet these two comparatively simple requirements. I have often wondered why. I can at least look forward to the publication of my book, 'The Naphill Conspiracy' (Muckmillan and Co., £18.99 in hard back and £14.99 in paper back) The book is a distillation of many years experience of living in the local area and is an epic of political polemics and prejudices, religious machinations, sexual aberrations, financial improper priorities and family fallibilities. In other words a pretty routine novel by today's standards but the use of language is quite exceptional: it is written in Esperanto, the language of the future.

Now for a dash of Sloane's Liniment on the base of the spine. Scarcely romantic but when the spinal column is out of kilter ones priorities require drastic revision. Such is life.

*David Leith*

PS Good News! I hear that the United Nations Inspectors have found no Weapons of Mass Seduction in the Naphill and Walters Ash area. At least I think that is what I heard.

## Multiple Sclerosis Society

Ploughman's Lunch and Mini Bazaar.

Raffle, tombola, cakes, books etc.

Hughenden Village Hall

1st November 2003

Doors open midday, lunch at 12.30pm.

Tickets £3.50.

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In October

The Orionid meteor shower should provide on average a sighting every two minutes during the early morning of 23 in the east. British Summer time ends on 26; put back your clocks one hour. The moon is new on the 25 and full on 10 If you missed Mercury at the end of September, it still may be visible for a day or so in the east just before sunrise. Venus sets shortly after the Sun and may be difficult to see. Mars rises soon after dark and will be a good evening star. Jupiter rises in the morning and will be a good star to observe; Saturn will also be good in the mornings.

### Distance of Mars

During the last week or so in 2003 August, there were numerous articles in the press about how far Mars was from Earth. One article quoted the Italian astronomer Aldo Vutagliano, that the distance of 34,649,589 miles away on August 27 was the furthest for 59,620 years. Another astronomer, the Belgian Jean Meeus states the last time the two planets were so close was about 73,000 years ago. Another interesting statistic is that they approach closer in the year 2287. Even more interesting, according to Meuus, is that they continue to approach closer once in a while until around the year 25000 when they will be about 33,592,000 miles apart. This will be the minimum over a period of 2 million years. During the 2003 approach, the Mars magnitude was -2.9 and it could well be over -3.0 on these future occasions.

### Scale of the Universe

Light takes about 8 minutes and 20 seconds to travel from the Sun to the Earth and it does it by moving at 300,000 kilometres per second. The furthest naked eye planet is Saturn and is 80 light minutes away. Pluto, our furthest planet is nearly 70 light hours away and the furthest edges of the Solar System are about one light year away from the Sun. The nearest star is 4 light years from us (or 20,000 times our distance from the Sun), a typical separation between the stars. The Milky Way galaxy is a spiral galaxy, like two huge cymbals joined face to face, about 100,000 light years across with the Sun about 26,000 light years from its centre. It contains about 200 billion stars varying in size from about one tenth the mass of the Sun to 100 times greater. Surrounding the central bulge are about 140 globular clusters each containing up to a million stars. The Solar System orbits the Milky Way about once every 500 million years.

If we consider a scale of 30,000 times the separation between the stars we then can see a collection of galaxies. Some of them are spirals like our Milky Way, others are elliptical in shape and yet others are irregular. The two satellite galaxies to the Milky Way, the Small and Large Magellanic Clouds are

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
Oct 1	Rises	07.03	14.19	08.09	17.58	0410	23.09
	Sets	18.41	21.28	19.06	03.22	17.54	15.27
Oct 8	Rises	07.15	18.17	08.31	17.28	03.50	22.43
	Sets	18.25	04.45	18.53	03.01	17.29	15.00
Oct 15	Rises	07.27	20.21	08.54	16.59	03.30	22.16
	Sets	18.10	13.04	18.42	02.43	17.04	14.33
Oct 22	Rises	07.39	03.02	08.18	16.31	03.10	21.49
	Sets	17.54	17.12	18.31	02.28	16.39	14.06
Oct 29	Rises	0651	12.19	08.41	15.05	01.49	20.22
	Sets	16.4	19.1	17.2	01.1	15.1	
		2	3	3	5	4	12.3
							9

**CHARITY WINE TASTING EVENING**  
 in aid of the Iain Rennie Hospice At Home  
Registered Charity 297847  
 at  
 The Village Hall  
 Naphill  
 from 8.00pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2003

The Iain Rennie Hospice At Home, in association with BP, will present the range of wines and champagnes which you can taste and sponsor home by the bottle as part of this year's Beaujolais Champagne Challenge.

RSVP **Maureen Smyth**  
 Tel: 01494 562011



**Tickets £1.00**

irregulars. This local collection of galaxies, or the Local Group, consists of about 35 galaxies of which the largest are the Andromeda galaxy and the Milky Way. But do not think we have come to the end; the next step is a cluster of galaxies which typically are a few hundreds times the size of our own galaxy. These clusters can contain thousands of galaxies. Then come giant clusters or super clusters. And in the universe as a whole there are billions of galaxies each with up to 100 billion or more stars. The furthest away galaxies to be seen through the most modern telescopes are over 12 billion light years away

*Ideas from 2000, Royal Astronomical Society.*

### Age of Universe

The obvious next question is 'how old is the universe?' Recently a probe providing an image of the universe when it was only 380,000 years old suggests the age is 13.7 billion years old with a margin of error of only 1%. The image given by the probe gives tiny temperature variations in the extremely cold cosmic microwave background. Several other morsels of information have emerged including the surprise that the first stars started burning only 200 million years after the big bang. The universe contains only 4% of atoms, 23% cold dark matter (unseen particles widely believed to exist) and 73% dark energy (of which we know nothing at all). Astronomers have also refined the value of the Hubble constant to 71 km/sec/Mpc.

*Grant Woodruff*

## Naphill Common Committee

Following my contribution in July's Gazette I have received a number of telephone calls asking me to detail exactly what residents are allowed to do on the Common and what is forbidden. I will therefore use this contribution to specify in detail the law and how it applies to the Common.

The Common (in its entirety) is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is covered by Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended. The reasons for this designation together with the restrictions that apply to such designated land are given in document SU89.8/PS/SC dated 26th October 1988 from the Nature Conservancy Council (now English Nature). I will now quote verbatim, three paragraphs of the Schedule of operations likely to damage a SSSI and therefore illegal.

Paragraph 7 – Dumping, spreading or discharge of any materials.

Paragraph 11 -The destruction, displacement, removal or cutting of any plant or plant remains, including tree, shrub, herb, hedge, dead or decaying wood, moss, lichen, fungus, leaf mould and turf.

Paragraph 12 - The introduction of or changes in tree or woodland management including afforestation, planting, clear and selective felling, thinning, coppicing, modification of the stand or underwood, changes in species composition, cessation of management.

These restrictions fundamentally forbid anyone to do anything on the Common other than walk and enjoy the view. It should also be noted that, in principle at least, you are only allowed to walk on footpaths and bridleways. Wider access than this has been enjoyed for many years and it is not currently the intention of either the Estate or English Nature to restrict such wider access. However, should abuse of the Common continue then there is a real danger that access will be restricted. The few remaining Commoners have additional rights to these but these rights are restricted to only these Commoners.

I hope that this is a clear description of how the law stands in relation to the Common and that awareness of it will lead to a cessation of the problems that we have recently found on the Common.

The AGM of the Common Committee will take place in October. I hope to be able to have a representative of English Nature at the meeting to update the village on the new plans for the management of the Common. The time, date and location of this public meeting will be announced later.

*Dr Marek Pawlik : 563126*

## **Brownie Help Needed**

I am at present without another uniformed Brownie Guider to help with running the Pack. This makes things pretty difficult at times. My previous leader has left due to work commitments so I am asking if there is anyone out there who feels that they would like to come along and be involved on a permanent basis. It may be someone who has already had experience of Guiding and is keen to continue with what is essentially the best activity going. It may also be someone who has never done anything like this before and would be willing to train.

Brownies really is the most brilliant fun and a thoroughly enjoyable activity. We have a full complement of non-uniform helpers but we are desperate to have a new uniformed Guider. My telephone number is 01494 562528 if there is anyone interested. Come and give us a try - you won't be disappointed!!!!

*Barbara Clarke : 562528*

## **Are you Observant?**

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

**Saturday  
8 November**

**Fire lit 6.30pm**

**Display 7pm**

**BBQ from 6pm  
run by Sports Club**

**Mulled wine**

**Soup**

**Pavilion bar  
run by Mens Club**

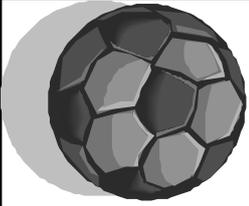


**Tickets available from Costcutters,  
Paul's fish-and-chips, Country Stores,  
Risborough News or phone 562770**

**In advance  
£3 adults, £1.50 children**

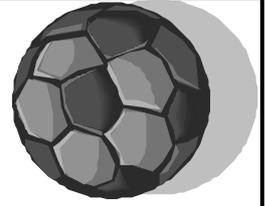
**On the night  
£4 adults, £2 children**

**Under-5s FREE**



# Naphill Boys F.C.

## Dates For Your Diary



### Racenight

October 10th, Village Hall

Starters Orders 8.30pm

Tickets £5 To Include Ploughman's

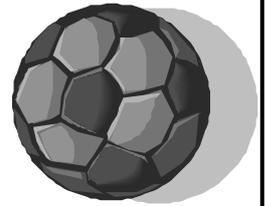
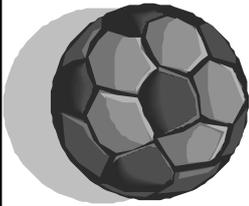
### Christmas Dance

with the Legendary Les Payne Band

December 13<sup>th</sup>, Village Hall

Tickets £10 To Include Light Supper

Tickets For Both Events Available From  
Bob 563332 June 562845 Jan 562392



Answers printed next month.

#### Last month's answers:

This entrance is to Four Winds, Downley Road.

The Seat, dedicated to the Briston family who lived in Prospect Cottages for many generations, on the pond area, bottom of Downley Road on the edge of the common.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

#### Harvest Supper

St. Botolph's, Bradenham

Friday, October 10th at 7.30pm

Would you like to help celebrate the harvest, enjoy good food and company, and raise funds for renewing the church's soft furnishings?

Supper will be served in the church, re-establishing an ancient tradition. We shall be providing a beef casserole, with jacket potatoes, carrots and beans for the main course. This will be followed by apple and blackberry crumble and custard, and coffee.

Tickets are £10 each, including a glass of wine or fruit juice. Please ring Valerie Pushman (564152) or Peggy Waterston (565969) for tickets and further information.

We look forward to seeing you.

#### Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

##### Planning

03/6736/FUL Dashwood & Burnhams, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill. Close off existing site access to Burnhams from



Dashwood and creation of new site access to Burnhams from Hunts Hill Lane.



03/6952/OUT Rear of Cresta Rise, Chapel Lane, Naphill.



Outline application for erection of a 3 to 4 bedroom house and garage.

03/6982/FUL 132/133 Templewood, Walters Ash. Construction of two-storey front extension, single storey rear extensions and alterations to both properties including garage to 133 and parking. Objection as inappropriate development, out of scale with present housing.

03/6986/FUL. Rear of 132-135 Templewood, Walters Ash. Construction of 5 x 3 bed roomed houses, and 6 x 2 bed roomed houses, garaging and parking on old playground. Strong objection to urban sprawl.

03/7062/FUL Land adjacent to Stoneleigh, Coombe Lane, Naphill. Erection of 1x 2 bedroom detached. Green Belt status being checked.

03/7074/VCDN 127 Main Rd, Naphill. Variation of condition 1 of PP03/5777/VCDN to allow permanent use within permitted opening hours. NAWARA prefers retention of hours being worked at present Tuesday to Saturday, taking into account the traffic problems which may arise when adjacent land and shops are replaced with housing.

03/7102/FUL 17 Ash Close, Walters Ash. Construction of conservatory to rear.

03/7103/ADV Land adjacent to Timber Edge, Forge Road, Naphill Display of non-illuminated free standing single sided house name sign (stating house names along The Common off Forge Road).

03/7129/FUL Demolition of existing 'fire damaged' dwelling and erection of 1 no x 4 bed roomed replacement dwelling and detached garage. % increase to be verified.

03/7272/FUL Moseley Cottage, Stocking Lane, Naphill. Construction of single storey rear extension.

03/7277/FUL land at front of No 11 and rear of 9-10 Ash Close, Walters Ash. Concern over future implications of back garden development.

03/7297/CONCG Site 1 RAF High Wycombe, Main Rd. Installation of air conditioning units and erection of temporary office and storage accommodation at Site No. 1.

03/5995/FUL Terry Sharley Domestics, 133 Main Road, Naphill. Demolition and replacement by housing has been permitted.

**Candlelit Dinner Dance. Saturday 15 November, Naphill Village Hall.** Once again the popular Late Edition Band will be entertaining us during the evening and Morreen Catering, well known for high quality cuisine will provide our dinner. Menu not decided but possibly Beef Curry, Chicken Chasseur and Vegetarian Moussaka, French bread, salads and rice. Dessert: Apple and Apricot pie with custard, Lemon Meringue Roulade and White Chocolate Cheese Cake. Coffee. Due to rise in all the costs price of a ticket will be £17 available from Joyce 562703, Carole 563508, Daisy 562602, Gloria 563634. Do join us for this popular yearly event.

Next meeting Thursday 9th October.

*Gloria Leflaive : 563634*

## **The Magic Of Musicals**

### **LACEY GREEN SINGERS**

#### **AT LACEY GREEN MILLENNIUM HALL**

#### **SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER 2003 AT 7.30PM**

#### **MUSICAL DIRECTOR: KATHY KAYE**

**Come and hear all your old favourites from shows past and present**

Glass of wine included in ticket price of £5. For pre-booking please ring 01494 563728

## **Hughenden Parish Council**

### **Road Safety Working Party**

As you may know, I became a Parish Councillor at the May 2003 local elections. I am enjoying the role, find the responsibilities very interesting, and am on a steep learning curve!

One of the committees with which I am involved is the working party which looks at road safety throughout the parish, making recommendations and helping to prioritise the work required.

I would appreciate information and views from residents in Naphill and Walter's Ash so that I can take these to the next meeting of the working party in November. I am, of course, aware of continuing concerns about speeding bikes and cars in Main Road but would be pleased to hear opinions and ideas. The working party also considers such aspects of safety as the condition of pavements.

Please ring me, or send an email if you prefer, about any road safety matters you would like brought to the attention of the Working Party. I would be pleased to hear from you about these, or any other Parish Council matters.

## **Naphill and Walters Ash School**

The latest building development at school has been the complete refurbishment of the Lower School girls' toilets in a fetching shade of Eau-de-Nil. (The boys' were done last year – in blue!)

The school managed to access a grant for this by bidding for "Seed Challenge Funding", which has to be matched with contributions from the school. In our case this is mostly provided by donations from the Walters Ash and Naphill School Association (WANSA) topped up with funds from the school's delegated budget.

Over the past few years we have undertaken a number of building improvement projects and, as usual, have a number more in the pipeline. Never a dull moment here!

The grandest future project is the provision of a centrally situated library, which at an initial estimate is likely to cost around £70,000. Whilst we are, of course, pursuing the possibility of full funding from the LEA, we are starting to raise our own funds as a contingency measure. Watch this space.

Quote of the month from the 11+ year: "We have to do these tests to see if we will go to grammar or apprehensive school!"

*Hilary Conboy, Headteacher*

## **Christmas Fayre**

**Saturday 29th November at 2.00pm**

**in Naphill Village Hall**

This is **the** Christmas Fayre, with something for everyone – games, gifts, and attractions for the whole family – all at amazing value. Many of the stalls will be run by the Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts themselves – a real team effort.

On **Saturday 29th November** you will be able to:

- Buy your last minute Christmas gifts
- Indulge in the always popular cake stall
- Chance your luck on the tombolas
- Play games and competitions
- Hunt through the bric-a-brac
- Enjoy the various refreshments.

Please come along and support this event, where all the proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Scout and Guide Headquarters Building – a facility used and enjoyed by many village children.

Also, we are expecting a special guest at the Fayre .....

See you there?

*Linda Foster : 563586*

## **Pre-school News**

The Autumn term has started and 6 new children have joined us who are settling in well. Our theme this term is fairy stories starting with The Gingerbread Man.

We have been making the most of the nice sunny weather while we still have it and have been playing outside.

The Pre-school AGM was in September where we said thank you and goodbye to some of the old committee and welcomed the new committee who we look forward to working with.

The pre-school contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

*Debbie Marchant*

## **Naphill Toddlers**

Naphill Toddlers is a friendly parent-run community group which meets every Thursday, from 2-4pm during term time, at the Village Hall. Being there gives very young children the opportunity to make friends and parents the chance to socialize over a cup of coffee. There's no need to bring toys as we have play equipment for babies through to pre-school children.

As well as the regular meetings we have two events planned for the Autumn; a Halloween party with themed craft table and on 9th October our photographer will be making their annual visit. This will be a great opportunity to have your child photographed in time for lovely Christmas presents for family and friends. Toddlers can also be photographed with an older school-age child provided a specific time is booked in advance. If you would like to come to either event please call and reserve your place.

*Suzanne Farwell : 562147 & Clare Bray : 530019*

## **Naphill and Hughenden Scout Group**

Scouting in all its forms resumed after the summer break with a bang with an all-sections camp at Green Park near Wendover. Despite dire predictions the weather remained fine and an excellent camp was held, the highlight of which was a reunion of ex-leaders around the campfire on the Saturday night.

We were also delighted to welcome the children from Chernobyl Lifeline for a cookout and singsong at Speen just before the schools broke up. Scouts, parents and as well as some guides and brownies entertained the children and a special mention must go to Barry Reading and Julia Cothey, Simba and Akela respectively, for not only their planning but also their spirited singing! This followed a sponsored hike and sleep out for the Chernobyl children a couple of weeks before on one of the hottest days of the year!

Meanwhile, we are pleased to report that the Group goes from strength to strength in this its Diamond Jubilee year. An Explorer section for the 14-17 year age group has been established in partnership with the RAF section. The section meets on Friday nights and is embarking on a challenging programme which should help some achieve their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Also, by the time you read this we hope to be in a position to confirm that a cub pack will be re-established in Hughenden. This is excellent news and fully vindicates our decision to change our name last year. With a fair wind this will start after the half term and anyone wanting further details should get in touch with either of those mentioned below. Finally, we are delighted to welcome Trevor Nichols as our new Group Scout Leader and at the same time thank his predecessor Trevor May for his contribution over the years.

Nick Corble (Chairman) 01494 481874  
Trevor Nichols (GSL) 01494 565322

## Table Manners

We are delighted to welcome back The Ubiquitous Touring Theatre Company who will be performing the comedy, Table Manners by Alan Ayckbourn on Friday 17 October at 7.45 pm in the Village Hall.

You may recall the Company's performances of A Christmas Carol and The Killing Game which were enjoyed tremendously by those who attended. It is a pleasure for Naphill to host their latest production.

Tickets are £7.50 each and can be reserved by telephoning me.

John Harris : 562099

## Readers Letters

### Regarding our traffic problems...

Dear Sir

In the July edition of the Gazette, Richard Pushman has again made the ridiculous suggestion that traffic flow along the Main Road should be controlled by residents parking their own vehicles along the road. It is quite frankly absurd that our County, District and erstwhile parish Councillor should make this suggestion in view of the policies of these three authorities which have done nothing to help alleviate this problem. Planning policy over the last 20 years has allowed the continual development of both of our villages and also all of the other villages and towns to the west and northwest of us. These policies have never taken into account the need for additional infrastructure, such as roads and transport. As a result the volume of traffic has steadily increased as these new developments lead to traffic which has to get through High Wycombe for access to the motorways and other commuter routes. It is hardly surprising that both the volume and speed of traffic on our Main road has increased steadily as this is a consequence of these policies. Even in our villages, infill development is continually permitted. It is also worth noting that such development never allows for sufficient off-road parking and so we are faced with additional traffic as well as side roads (such as Louches Lane and Ash Close becoming dangerous as cars are always parked close to junctions in an attempt to avoid having to park on the Main Road. So, the local authorities have caused the problem to occur and have done nothing to resolve it. All that we have had is a set of pointless white lines painted down the side of the road which has actually resulted in an increase in traffic speed (particularly at night) as the white lines facilitate speeding. Anyone who has left a car on the main road (particularly at night) has suffered as a minimum, a damaged wing mirror and frequently bodywork scratching or more severe damage. Richard Pushman wants the village residents to suffer damage on their cars to make up for the lack of action taken by the authorities of which he is a member. We all know that the traffic is a problem and that something should be done about it. But, until I see Richard Pushman's car permanently parked outside his house on the Main road I will not be parking mine or encouraging anyone else to do so!

Dr Marek Pawlik

*Editors note - the above letter was actually received last month and omitted in error.*

### Reference last months article.

Dear Editor,

I was interested to read in September's Gazette about the ground given for the building of the Coffee Room. My Father, the late A.G. Parslow, was one of the Trustees of the Coffee Room and also bandmaster of the Naphill band that practiced there every Friday night.

I have a book recording the minutes of the trustees meetings, the Coffee Room was sold to the Rev. Jones, the Minister at the Mission Hall, for £150, and the money distributed £50 to the new hall, £50 to the Methodist Church, £45 to the Mission Hall and £5 towards children's school sports.

This was published in the Bucks Free Press on Friday November 23rd, 1934. I thought you might perhaps be interested - I also wonder how much money it would be sold for today!!

Yours sincerely

H Clark (Mrs)

## Village Hall Notes

It was good to see everyone back after the summer break. The Hall had a quieter than usual summer with less vandalism than we have suffered in recent years. Apparently the youths responsible have moved on somewhere else so our gain is someone else's loss - but it was nice for us to have a bit of a breather and not to have to spend out on unnecessary repairs.

The Council were very saddened by the resignation of Bob Davis from the Village Hall Council. Bob is a wonderful servant to the village. He works unstintingly for the Football Club, keeping the changing rooms clean every week. Not everyone's choice of job! He has been instrumental in the setting up and running of the football club that has given so many of our youngsters the chance of getting involved in regular games of football. He has worked, through the football club, in raising significant sums of money for both the sports pavilion and the Village Hall, and always has the needs of the Village close to his heart. Thanks Bob for all you have done and continue to do for our community. You will be sorely missed on the Village Hall Council.

The notice is back by the play area stating that the equipment should only be used by children under 12 years of age. It is designed for use by children and we cannot guarantee its safety if it is used by adults. Please could you help us by complying with this.

We are still having problems with the kettles and teapots. One of the regular users of the Hall continues to make tea in the kettles thus staining them and tainting them. We have done all that we can to make it clear, and are getting fed up with having to replace the kettles - any ideas on how we can make it clearer? The other moan is that chairs are being stacked across the fire exit at the front entrance. Please stack them so that they don't block the fire exit.

The main hall is now newly painted. The colour is not very different to the previous colour but it does look a lot fresher and cleaner. The curtains are still down as I write as we are trying to get them cleaned before we re-hang them. Please help us to keep it nice by refraining from using the dreaded blutack - it does leave a grease mark that we can not wipe off. Thanks.

We have the first meeting to plan the Christmas Fayre soon. It would be good to have some fresh blood on the committee. If you could give up a little of your time then please phone me on 563479.

**Dates for your diary:**

**Play (Table Manners) - tickets from John Harris 562099 - 17th October**

**Fireworks - 8th November**

**Christmas Fayre - 22nd November**

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council*

## Village Hall Needs

Alan Jessop hopes to fit in the near future a sound system in the Village Hall. Would any villager have gathering dust in their loft or garage; a front loading CD player, a front loading cassette player, an amplifier and possibly even a 8 channel audio mixer they could either donate or sell?

*Alan Jessop : 563369 : email@alanjessop.com*

## News From Christians In The Community (Members of the three local churches)

The Holiday Club in the village hall at the end of August was a great success! The youngest person there was three years old and the oldest was Stella Page (in her 90's – she was a guest for the 'finale'). Over 40 children mostly aged between 5 and 12 years enjoyed a variety of arts and crafts, singing, outside games, drama presentations and more – all based around a building theme called 'groundbreakers'. One of the memorable events of the week was a group from the Salvation Army leading the children in the art of playing the timbrals (tambourine). One of the funniest moments was of two of our helpers (men) who did an impromptu demonstration with their timbrals!

Undoubtedly the success of such an event was the support of so many willing helpers from the village and the local churches. We were also fortunate to have some young helpers and their skills with the computer presentations and music were invaluable.

There may still be some local people humming the 'groundbreakers' theme song and if anyone mentions the word 'breaking new ground' don't be too surprised if feet stamping and hand clapping follows!

The same sort of theme will be followed through at K.R.A.S.H. this term – 'making a difference' – learning about Moses and the 10 Commandments, finding out about the child in Guatemala that we are sponsoring, and hearing about the needs of street children in Romania and what 'harvest gifts' we can give them. K.R.A.S.H. meets on Fridays the 3rd and 17th October at 6.30 pm in the Naphill Evangelical Church.

The next event we are planning is a Harvest Barn Dance on Saturday 4th October at Hughenden Village Hall – this is a family event starting at 7 pm – tickets available from Helen Seys Llewellyn on 563624.

Recently 'Christians in the Community' were honoured to be nominated for the Community Awards event at the Town Hall. It was great to be in the company of 55 other nominated charities and the eventual winners were worthy recipients of the awards.

*Norma Clarke*

*'Christians in the Community' Coordinator : 563116*

## Naphill Methodist Church

Hi! I am the new Methodist Minister and have moved into Hughenden Valley with my husband and two sons. I have pastoral responsibility for four rural Methodist churches: Naphill, Sunnybank in Downley, Stokenchurch and Lane End. This is my first appointment; so I will probably take a while to find my feet and, as you can imagine, I am attached to at least five different communities and need to familiarize myself with all of them.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who has given us such a warm welcome into the area. We moved into the Manse on the 19th August and were overwhelmed with just how wonderful everyone has been. What particularly surprised us was that it was not only the members of my churches, but people in the community as well. My two sons were lucky enough to attend the Holiday Play Scheme run by Christians in the Community in the Naphill Village Hall and it was amazing to see how many people pulled together to make it into a resounding success.

I immediately felt the sense of community and caring that had gone into its planning and felt as if I had made instant friends. I am looking forward to keeping up those new relationships and meeting lots more people as I work out what God has called me to do here.

I know I have a lot to do but I will never be too busy to have a quick chat. If you see a strange woman in a 'dog-collar' it is probably me, so please say hello and introduce yourself. My telephone number is given at the end of this letter and I will always be happy to try and help anyone who feels they need to call.

God Bless

*Janice Petipher : 562860*

## St Michael and All Angels, Hughenden

(Some of the readers of the Church Parish magazine will have read this already. For some reason it seemed to resonate with quite a few people, so I thought I would submit it to the Naphill & Walters Ash Gazette)

'How is life?' 'Oh, you know, busy'. It is the standard response to a question about how we are. Why is this? Busyness or the appearance of being always busy seems to have become deeply embedded in our culture. People are working longer hours, they are filling what precious leisure time they have with more and more 'lifestyle activities', our children are growing up with the belief that being frantically on the go is the norm, as they rush from one activity to the next. We feel that we have to be constantly busy, and we believe that not always being busy is the admission of an unproductive life. But is constant busyness productive? A few years ago I remember reading the statement, 'beware the barrenness of a busy life'. If we are always on the go, always off to the next thing, filling our lives with constant activity is this actually an escape from the fear that if we stop still we will be faced with a void in ourselves?

I have been a Christian for twenty three years, but only recently I came across a small detail in the Bible that I have never thought of before. After some of the Psalms is the word Selah. It is a little word and so is easily skipped over. Basically Selah means 'Stop and think about it'. It is a deeply

profound challenge, ‘Before you rush off to the next thing, stop and think about what you have just read, what is it saying to you?’ What a great principle to embed in our lives, ‘Now stop and think about it’. When I was a Vicar in the Forest of Dean, we lived quite high up with views over the town to Wales, and we used to get the most extraordinary sunsets. Especially on my baptism visits, I used to ask parents whether they had ever stopped and looked at one of these sunsets, and if so, what did this say to them about creation, and the possibility that behind it all there was a creator? Some would see the point and become quite animated, others would look at me as if I had gone soft in the head (I probably am), after all what good to anyone was a sunset? But we live in a world which is filled with opportunity to ‘stop and think about it’ and as we do we might catch a faint hint, a whisper, of eternity. Sadly, some seem to be so obsessed with getting on to the next thing, with being ‘busy busy busy’ that ‘stopping and thinking about it’ will always be viewed as an unproductive waste of our time. But we are not machines, units of productivity, we are human beings, fearfully and wonderfully made, and within us, damaged and broken as we are by human failing and sin, there still lies the capacity to reflect the image of God. Is our increasingly busy culture, with more and more opportunities to fill our time with more and more activity actually making us barren to this truth? Perhaps we should try and slow down a little and teach our children to do the same, to look for those opportunities when they come to ‘stop and think about it’ as we ponder the true meaning and purpose of our lives - Selah.

*Simon Cronk*

## Naphill Evangelical Free Church

### READ THE SMALL PRINT!

Have you ever had the unpleasant experience of owning something terribly valuable, only to have it break or go wrong? That’s usually the first time you bother to read the ‘guarantee’ and certainly the first time you discover all the loopholes in the small print.

When an item is especially delicate or intricately crafted, it may be sealed by the manufacturer in sterile conditions, so as to prevent any harmful contaminants from entering the fragile inner mechanism. If the seal is broken in a non-sterile environment, the resultant contamination can seriously impair or even destroy such mechanisms. For this reason, the manufacturer places a warning over the seal to caution you that, any unauthorised breaking of the seal will render the guarantee null and void.

Your inner mechanism, or *soul*, is even more fragile and exquisite than this. It was painstakingly fashioned by the loving hands of the greatest of all master craftsmen: God Himself. He actually used *Himself* as the blueprint. So pure and delicate are its inner workings that the slightest contamination or impurity will utterly destroy your soul. For this reason, God placed a seal upon it and wrote His own warning over that seal. He gave a personal guarantee as to the unsurpassed quality of His creation but warned us not to contaminate it in any way. And WE HAVE ALL BROKEN THAT SEAL.

The result? We have invalidated the ETERNAL lifetime guarantee that came with our once-perfect soul and have

utterly destroyed it. We have ravished our virginal soul with sin. Moreover, as with bodily virginity, it is impossible to regain the purity that has been lost. Only your maker can repair something as delicate and exquisite as your soul, by cleansing it of all impurities.

What then can we do? Gloomily, we read the terms of the lifetime guarantee, expecting the usual loopholes and double talk. But God is not like man. He doesn’t look for a way out. He looks for *a way in*. For you and me... To Heaven.

He actually promises to cleanse and renew our soul for us, even though we wilfully and carelessly ruined it ourselves.

**You can read** ‘the small print’ for yourself in your Bible. Here it is with a straightforward explanation:

- 1) **God created man in His own image**. Genesis – Chapter 1, Verse 27. (Your new soul was delivered to you *absolutely perfect and free from any defect in manufacture or design*).
- 2) **All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**. Romans – Chapter 3, Verse 23. (*We have all broken the manufacturer’s seal and so have contaminated our soul by wilfully or carelessly introducing a destructive, corrosive substance called ‘sin’. Our soul is now permanently impaired and has utterly lost its original purity and perfection*).
- 3) **The wages of sin is death**. Romans – Chapter 6, Verse 23. (The consequences of this impurity are catastrophic and fatal to our soul: *Eternal death* instead of eternal life).
- 4) **But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord**. Romans – Chapter 6, Verse 23. (It can be repaired! But our lifetime guarantee is a *gift* from our gracious God. We don’t have any statutory right to demand the repair of our soul, nor can even our best efforts ever hope to rectify the damage we have caused. *Only JESUS the SON OF GOD* can make our existing soul perfect again by cleansing it of all contamination Himself. This He did, willingly and lovingly, by taking all of our sin with him to the cross. There it died along with Him before His subsequent resurrection, minus our sin. Think of it as *‘Urgent recall to manufacturer for essential decontamination and purification’*).

**Nor is there salvation in any other, there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved**. Acts – Chapter 4, Verse 12. (*All other promises of repair are false and misleading. If the offer isn’t backed by the name: JESUS, the SON OF GOD, it isn’t even worth the paper it’s written on. If you value your very soul, beware of imitations!*).

But don’t take my word for it. Read (*and gratefully accept*\*) the Lord’s ETERNAL lifetime guarantee in His own words. It’s in The Bible: The only document where ‘the small print’ is actually the Good News!

**\* *It’s Eternal Life! Don’t just Believe it... Receive it!***  
~ *Louis Chrystophes*

If you would like to know more or talk about any subject that concerns you please give us a call or drop by the church and we would be happy to help you if we can. Please note our regular weekly activities are all running again after the summer break. All at the church unless stated.

Daily pray: 06:30 – 07:15

Chatterbox: Tuesday: 09:30 – 12:00

Home Fellowship group: 20:00 (Members homes)

Any Questions: Thursday 10:00 – 11:30 (Discussion Group)

Women's Group: Friday 12:30 – 14:30 (Members homes)

May you know the love, grace and peace of God.

*Bob Semple : 563304*

# ***Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette***

*November 2003*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

## November 2003

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### Editorial

When I wrote in the Gazette Editorial last month about some recent crimes in our village I was not anticipating a deluge of emails and phone calls in response, but that is exactly what I got. The subject certainly struck a chord.

Since many of these incidents do get brought to the attention of the Gazette I will start keeping a record of everything that happen - if you keep me informed I will add it to the record.

Based on the fact that knowledge is everything I hope that the community will be able to use this record to good effect,

for example in time we may be able to make justifiable requests to the police, backed up with real information rather than generalisations.

As an experiment I will publish a monthly summary and will hold on to the detailed information should anyone wish to see it. By producing a 'summary' I hope to avoid 'glorifying the crime for the reading pleasure of the perpetrators.

Would be interested to hear if anyone has an opinion on this.

*Matt Piercy*

### Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	8.00-10pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm
Tennis Club Sessions	Every Sunday	10am onwards
	Every Tuesday	10.15am onwards
	Thursday (summer only)	6.30pm onwards

\* At RAF Astroturf

## Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service.  
Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request.  
Telephone Sally on 562281.

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season.  
562310 / 07904 023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional.  
References available. Ron Collins 562240

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS.  
Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

ARALIAS TO YUCCAS! Autumn promotion of specimen shrubs in 10 litre pots from my nursery site, supplied and planted for instant garden impact! Tel G C Travers HND Am Hort on 01494 563367

DRESSMAKING ALTERATIONS, at reasonable prices. Telephone 563667

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Following on my report in last month's Gazette, unfortunately there are still one or two outstanding matches in our Junior Tournaments. Hopefully, now the school holidays are well and truly out of the way, these can be played off during the half-term holiday so that the finals can be held to decide the winners and runners-up in the U13 and U17 groups. All being well weather-wise and to avoid winter activities such as football etc, we are proposing to hold a Finals event on Friday 31st at 1pm. All available members, friends and families are encouraged to come along to cheer on their prospective champions!

With hindsight, it would appear that this year's format of the juniors organizing themselves to play off earlier rounds of their tournaments during the summer holiday period has not been entirely successful. Perhaps we should consider reverting to playing all rounds on a single day at the start of the summer holidays? This, of course, guarantees results at the end of the day, although, on the other hand, it is rather hard on those who cannot attend because of holiday plans. It is this type of issue that we like to address at our Annual General Meeting which, this year, is due to be held in the Clubhouse at 8 pm on Thursday, 4th December. Sadly, in common with most events of this type,

attendance is often not a very high priority for most members, which is a shame because, unless the committee is aware of members' views, it can easily make the wrong decisions.

A further problem we are experiencing with our Junior section is that, unless a 'volunteer' can be found to represent them on the Club committee, it could mean the withdrawal of Naphill teams from the junior leagues. Jan Curtis has soldiered on against the odds for many years in charge of this task but, since she no longer lives in the area and, like the rest of the committee, has no members of her family involved in this section, she has finally thrown in the towel. We are very grateful to the 'Mums' who took on responsibility for individual teams this year but their experiences with match fixtures show that there is an urgent requirement for someone, with a direct connection to Junior members, to co-ordinate matters on the Club's behalf in the Junior leagues. Like their senior counterparts, junior members enjoy measuring their progress and ability in matches against other clubs and it would be a shame if this was no longer possible.

As reported in the September edition, the club has enjoyed a successful year with an increase in membership and even promotion of two teams in the local leagues. We are hoping that new members will come to the AGM to suggest how we can take the Club even further forward and perhaps join to committee to suggest fresh approaches to old problems! Don't forget the date - Thursday, 4th December at 8 pm in the Clubhouse! Notices and agendas will follow but this is an early warning so that club members can set aside this date in order to plan for continued success next year.

Another less serious event is our Tinsel Tournament which is due to take place on Sunday 21st December but more of this in next month's Gazette.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063*

## Naphill Neighbours

Monday, 13th October was Naphill Neighbours Annual General Meeting. After 5 years in the position of Secretary, Jean Perfect resigned and we would like to thank her very much for her hard work over these years. Hazel Vickery has kindly taken on the post of Secretary, otherwise the officers and committee remain the same with the welcome addition of Carol Armitage.

Following the AGM a most interesting talk on the Highlights of China was given by Margaret Deakin. She gave us a brief history of the inventions and Dynasties of China up to the rise of Communism and the Cultural Revolution. Following this talk we were taken on a tour of the cities and villages of the country with the aid of photographic slides taken by Margaret and her husband. This also included photographs of a Yangtse River Cruise which showed the construction of the Three Gorges Dam. Margaret is shortly travelling

back to China where she is anxious to see how work on the Dam has progressed.

Christmas is not too far away so will any members who wish to reserve a seat at the Christmas Dinner in the Village Hall on Monday, 8th December, please phone Sheila Rolfe on 562888. After dinner entertainment will be provided by the Haddenham Hand Bell Ringers.

Our next meeting on Monday, 10th November is entitled "Egg decorating in the Faberge style" by Mrs. S. Eastgate. New members are always welcome to join us. We have an excellent programme and outings lined up for 2004. We look forward to seeing you.

*Mary Shrimpton : 471613*

## **District & County Councillor's Report**

Having suffered a computer virus over the past few days these notes must be short because of time constraint. Like all technology, it is supposed to improve over time but I am not so sure that it does. Take fireworks for instance, they used to comprise low key modest sparklers and their like. Their use was confined to the days approaching November 5th. Mostly they were decorative although some pranksters used to let off fairly modest bangers and an occasional noisy rocket. However, time has improved manufacturing techniques and now we have massive rockets combined with explosions which can be heard over several miles. Naphill will be well aware of the Saturday night events in West Wycombe Park as an example, although in fairness they are completed by 10.30 pm.

A more sinister development has occurred with these "explosives" getting into the hands of young people bent on causing mischief and during two nights in October it sounded as if World War 3 had started with explosions after midnight reminiscent of the bombs during the "blitz". What these hooligans did not realise was that their "fun" caused untold distress to children, the elderly and family pets and sleepless nights for the rest of us. We are now sure that the culprits were teenagers who appear to have acquired explosive fireworks intended for restricted professional use. If any reader is aware of the source, or the perpetrators of this nuisance please inform the police on HW 465888.

I do not normally comment on planning matters but two recent applications in Walters Ash caused a lot of concern to many people. The District Council's Planning Department has turned down the proposed large-scale housing development on the Parking and play areas of what was previously RAF Templewood. Similarly the proposed dwelling in the rear garden of two houses in Ash Close has been rejected.

By the end of November the new road surfacing along Main Road should be completed. This quieter material should reduce road noise to a more acceptable level and

## **Names and numbers to note**

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :  
<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service:* Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

I am sure will be appreciated by many of those residing along its length.

*Richard Pushman : 564152*

## **Remembrance Day, Sunday 9th November**

A Service of Remembrance will be held at Naphill Village Hall on 9th November at 2.45 pm. This will be followed by wreath laying at the memorial stone. All are welcome.

RP

## **Horticultural Society**

If you have not yet booked tickets for our Cheese and Wine evening on November 7th, give me a call as soon as possible – I may just have a few tickets left, but hurry they have been selling fast!

The evening will start with an illustrated talk by Mike Watts of the Chelsea Physic Garden. Mike is a lecturer for the National Trust and also a volunteer guide for the Physic Garden so should be very informative.

Please note that the talk will start at 7.45pm prompt, so don't be late!

This will be followed by the usual spectacular buffet of cheese, pâté, salad etc.

The ticket price of £7.00 includes a glass of wine or fruit juice.

Also, we are running a scheme this winter to enable you to order seeds at a greatly reduced price through Marshall's. If you would be interested in placing an

order, let me know and I can let you have a catalogue and order form.

*Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233*

## Books Needed...

We need books for the Christmas Fayre on November 22nd, "newish", please! For Village Hall funds.

Please phone or leave at Woodside, Forge Road.

Thankyou

*Sally : 562281*

## Much Voodoo About Something

During a routine litter patrol on the Common this week, I picked up a couple of discarded plastic bottles of Pepsi Cola. You may well think that there is nothing unusual about this but they did mark the 5000th pick up since 1980 on a 250 yard stretch of the Common. Quite a pile of rubbish in its way and one wonders how many items have been dumped over the whole area during the period.

On my way home, to my surprise and dismay I discovered that 2 large pieces of concrete and one smaller piece had been dumped on the Common near the huge Oak tree at the end of Forge Road. They were obviously the remnants of a pre-war concrete washing line post and are so large and heavy that, at the very least, a light van would have been needed to convey them plus a couple of strong handlers. Undoubtedly very hernia provoking items.

This episode is quite despicable and it would seem that there is very little answer to it. As it happens I do have a response albeit in a revengeful mode. When serving in the Royal Air Force in Africa, I became interested in aspects of Voodoo which is, of course, absolute nonsense - or is it? The locals there certainly did not think so.

Anyway I felt that I would react to this desecration of the Common by unleashing a simple Voodoo act against the spoilers of the Common. Fortuitously, my cat had killed a mouse and so I took some of the cat's blood and rubbed it on a concrete post, and then, in the SVAR dialect of the Mashona language uttered the curse 'Mjunbo Dubawi Namboko'. This means in essence, 'May your flesh creep at night until you redeem yourself'. From my experience of the effects of Voodoo, I strongly recommend that whoever left the concrete on the Common removes it forthwith.

*David Leith*

## Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

Last Friday we were entertained by Mr Weaver on the ups and downs of "Turning". He had some lovely items that he had made, and we were able to purchase for Christmas presents etc.

17th October - Jackie Wrattan (an old favourite)

24th October - Quiz or Bingo

*Norah Cockroft : 564270*

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In October

The Moon is new on 23 and full on 9. As in October, Venus sets about an hour later than the Sun and so will be quite difficult to see. Mars is high in the southern evening sky. Saturn with its rings rises mid-evening this month and is particularly bright. Jupiter, the largest of the Sun's planets is even brighter but rises several hours earlier. The Andromeda galaxy is overhead. There is a magnificent double cluster accessible to binocular users between Cassiopeia and Perseus. They are also known as NGC 884 and 869 or the sword handle of Perseus; their magnitudes are 4.3 and 4.4.

### North Pole

The British Met Office is publishing research this year showing that the ice at the north pole will have vanished within 75 years. Already the area covered by ice has shrunk by 20% since the 1950s and the average thickness by 40% since 1970. The implications of this prediction will be far reaching and will enable ships to reach the Far East from Europe by way of the Arctic Sea. It could also change weather patterns in northern areas of the planet resulting in larger rainfall. The cause is said to be the greenhouse effect of greater amounts of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Fortunately the sea level will not change as the existing ice in the arctic is floating on the sea. There will be other environmental changes such as the effect on wildlife including polar bears. If these climate changes also affect the south

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
Nov	Rises	06.57	14.35	08.50	14.54	01.40	20.10
1	Sets	16.36	23.59	17.20	01.10	15.03	12.27
Nov	Rises	07.09	16.16	09.12	14.29	01.19	19.42
8	Sets	16.24	06.20	17.16	01.00	14.37	11.59
Nov	Rises	07.21	21.01	09.32	13.41	00.57	19.13
15	Sets	16.13	13.14	17.15	00.45	14.12	11.31
Nov	Rises	07.33	05.15	09.49	13.41	00.35	18.44
22	Sets	16.05	15.18	17.19	00.45	13.46	11.02
Nov	Rises	07.44	13.02	10.02	13.18	00.12	18.14
29	Sets	15.58	22.03	17.27	00.38	13.20	10.33

pole, we could have a very different position as the ice there is mostly sitting on the Antarctic Continent. The rising sea level resulting from this melting ice could be disastrous, flooding many countries.

### Planet Data

Many years ago, astronomers created a distance-measuring unit for use within the solar system. It is called the Astronomical Unit (AU) and defined as the mean distance of the centre of the Earth from the centre of the Sun. Readers may be interested in a number of different statistics of the planets and they are given below. To convert AUs to kilometres, multiply by 150 million. Siderial period means orbital period relative to the stars; synodic period is relative to

conjunction (when the planet is on the far side of the Sun) or opposition (planet is opposite the Sun in the sky). Mass is the quantity of matter.

The equator diameter figures for Jupiter and Saturn are 142984 and 120536 respectively. The maxima magnitudes for the nine planets are Mercury -1.9, Venus -4.7, Mars -2.8, Jupiter -2.6, Saturn -0.3, Uranus 5.6, Neptune 7.7 and Pluto 13.9.

*Grant Woodruff*

## Multiple Sclerosis Society

### Flora Light 5K Challenge for Women

I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me in this years run. Thanks to your generosity I have raised over £600 for the local branch of the M.S.Society. As you know I did the run with my six year old

	Mean distance from Sun AUs	Minimum distance from Sun AUs	Maximum distance from Sun AUs	Sid-erial period or years	Mean Syn-odic period. days
Mercury	0.387	0.307	0.476	88.0d	116
Venus	0.723	0.718	0.728	225d	584
Earth	1.000	0.983	1.017	365d	-
Mars	1.524	1.381	1.666	687d	780
Jupiter	5.203	4.952	5.455	11.9y	399
Satum	9.537	9.021	10.05	29.4y	378
Uranus	19.19	18.29	20.10	84.0y	370
Neptune	30.07	29.81	30.33	165y	367
Pluto	39.48	29.66	49.31	248y	367

	Mean orbital velocity km/s	Equat or diam eter (km)	Mass with Earth as 1.0	Sur-face grav-ity	Esc ape velocity km/s
Mercury	47.87	4879	0.06	0.378	4.30
Venus	35.02	12104	0.82	0.907	10.4
Earth	29.79	12756	1.00	1.000	11.2
Mars	24.13	6794	0.11	0.377	5.03
Jupiter	13.07	see	318	2.364	59.5
Satum	9.67	below	95.2	0.916	35.5
Uranus	6.84	51118	14.5	0.889	21.3
Neptune	5.48	49528	17.2	1.125	23.5
Pluto	4.75	2302	.003	0.067	1.1

Grandaughter. We held hands all the way round and despite the heat and lack of shade managed to complete it!

Thankyou again for your generosity.

*Doreen Burge*

## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?



Answers printed next month.

**Last month's answers:**



It's the offices of J. Smith & Sons (Walters Ash) Ltd, and has been since approximately 1934.

Long before that time John B, 1861, and his older brother Frederick B, 1842, who were stone cutters from a long line of stone cutting families in Piggots Common, left the family home and came to Walters Ash where the large stones were. John married and set up a business with his wife Julia - they had four sons and two daughters, eventually living and basing the business offices in the farm and house now owned by the RAF (used as the Sergeants Mess). There is a reference to John in Charlie Lacey's book - in 1902 Charlie provided an estimate to John Smith for a new tip cart body, new shaft and supplied two ladders, all for £8.

John died at an early age, most likely from the common stone cutters disease and it appears that brother Frederick stepped in to help Julia with her young family.

In 1928 Charlie Lacey did more work for the business which was then called J Smith & Sons. As we know the sons expanded the business and they won contracts to build almost all of the roads in the area. By 1934 they



had moved from the farm to the present location, with yard, where they still trade today.

This photo is of the play area at 'The Wheel' Public House, opposite Naphill Village Hall.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

## **Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association**

### **Annual Dinner Dance 15th November**

Yes, it's the last chance to book for this most popular Naphill festivity. Tickets are already in short supply, and no wonder, for such an enjoyable evening out! Dancing again to the celebrated Late Edition live band. Dinner by the excellent Morreen Catering. Delicious Main Course options are Beef Curry, Pork in Cider, or Braised Leeks in White Wine with Crunchy Cheese Topping. With Rice, Mixed Salad, and French Bread. Scrumptious choice of Desserts is Lemon Meringue Roulade, Fresh Cream Chocolate Torte, or Apple and Apricot Pie with Custard. Coffee to follow. Open to all local residents. Village Hall and Bar open 7.30pm. Dinner 8.15pm prompt. Raffle. Dancing to midnight. Great value for money at only £17. Don't miss it!

# **Saturday 8 November**

**Fire lit 6.30pm**

**Display 7pm**

**BBQ from 6pm  
run by Sports Club**

**Mulled wine**

**Soup**

**Pavilion bar  
run by Mens Club**



**Tickets available from Costcutters,  
Paul's fish-and-chips, Country Stores,  
Risborough News or phone 562770**

**In advance  
£3 adults, £1.50 children**

**On the night  
£4 adults, £2 children**

**Under-5s FREE**

**Please note: NO sparklers allowed**

# Christmas Fayre

**Saturday 22 November in the Village Hall**

Santa's grotto

Refreshments

Mulled wine

Craft stalls

Games

Tombola



**Doors open 1 o'clock**

**Santa arrives 1.15pm**

Proceeds towards upkeep of Village



Tickets from Joyce 562703 Carole 563508 or Daisy 562602.

## Planning

03/7399/FUL Lyndale, Downley Road, Naphill.  
Conservatory to rear.

03/7444/FUL Moseley Hill Farm, 210 Main Road,  
Naphill. Block of 3 stables.

03/7455/FUL 7 Cherry Croft Drive, Naphill.  
Conservatory to rear.

03/7457/CONCG Officers' Mess, RAF High Wycombe,  
Main Road, Walter's Ash. Officers' Mess replacement  
kitchens.

## Late Night Firework Disturbances

Several times in October, residents' peace was shattered by numerous explosions or loud bangs even at midnight or later, some thought to come from the rear of Ash Close, and also Battings Wood Gardens. Residents described the noise as like firearms or heavy detonators rather than normal fireworks, and apparently malicious, given the loudness of the noise so late at night. Thanks are due to residents who succeeded in getting through to the police on 10th October and gave chase to the hooligans responsible. In case of a recurrence, please phone the police on this

number 01753 506000 quoting police ref no 118101003.

There is a tendency to let off fireworks at any time in winter, not just the 5th November. People planning celebrations are asked to think about distress to pets and livestock.

*Malcolm Leflaive : 563634*

## Bradenham Parish Council

The proposed roundabout at the junction Bradenham Woods Lane and A4010 was discussed. The Chairman summarised the proposal. Lighting is the Council's main objection. The Parish Council thanked Bucks. County Council for coming to the Parish Council on 02/09/03 and discussing this proposal on site. The present scheme might be acceptable, even welcome, provided there was no light pollution by using photoelectric cells (studs). The Parish Council does want more consultation on the detail in the scheme. Traffic calming for the village should be part of the scheme. It was agreed that is a 2-staged issue; there are long term and short term issues. Improving safety in the village is vital. The RAF representative was asked to canvass RAF opinion on their feelings for improving safety at the junction with A4010.

The Parish Council discussed increasing the Conservation Area in the village, but the other parts of

the village are already AONB and Green Belt, which have even tighter Planning Controls.

Village pond, update: The National Trust has provided much labour to clear the pond. Some foliage has to be removed. No clay left in the bottom of the pond. Several consultants have recommended that the pond will need a lining. The Parish Council is looking in to grants to fund this project. The installation of a clay bottom must wait until the filter from the road was in place. Bucks. County Council is to do this shortly.

Railway issues: There has been a big meeting at The British Legion in Princes Risborough against the railway proposals. It was mentioned that Central Railway is not yet a "dead duck".

The Police have arrested a local burglar, who may have committed some crimes in the Parish. He has so far admitted to 25. The burglary rate has dropped away, since he has been on remand. Council was very gratified with the arrest and thanked the police.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held Monday 8th December 2003 7.00pm at the Cricket pavilion.

**Clerk:** Deirdre Hansen

Riva, Naphill Common, Naphill, High Wycombe HP14 4SZ : 562254 : deirdre@marycourt.f9.co.uk

#### **Members of Bradenham Parish Council:**

Ivor Herbert, Chairman	The Old Rectory, Bradenham HP14 4HD	Tel: 01494-563310
Rosemary Gilchrist, Vice-chairman	Ashbumham Cottage, Ashbumham Drive, Walter's Ash HP14 4UD	Tel: 01494-565627
James Campanini	16 Beech Park, Walter's Ash HP14 4XL	Tel: 01494-565750
Gerald David	Bradenham Hill Farm, Bradenham HP14 4HE	Tel: 01494-563009
Richard Langridge	The Old Cottage Bradenham Bucks. HP14 4HD	Tel: 01494-563969
Peter Skegg	7 Beech Park, Walter's Ash HP14 4XL	Tel: 01494-562029
Andrew Stubbings	Manor Farm, Bradenham, High Wycombe HP14 4HF	Tel: 01494- 562157
<i>R.A.F. Rep. Squadron Leader Rob Cook</i>	<i>Royal Air Force, High Wycombe Building 30 OCS5 HP14 4UE</i>	<i>Tel: 01494-461461 ext. 6603</i>

*Deirdre Hansen : 562254*

## **The Millennium Extension**

Those with a good memory may remember that long, long ago the Village Hall Council decided, in their wisdom, that we should commemorate the Millennium Year with a new extension. This would include a toilet and improved access for the disabled, the replacement of the present Ladies toilets, which would become a store (after suitable renovations!) and a more spacious entrance lobby.

To raise the money, many fund-raising events were organised by the Council and village associations. All

of which were generously supported by the great and the good and we finished up with about £10,000. The next step was to go, cap in hand, to the Community Fund, which distributes money raised by the Lottery. Without going through all the tribulations on the way, most of which were not associated with the Fund, I have to tell you that we were successful in our bid. We still have a way to go but we really are on our way and it should now be only a question of time before we have our Millennium Extension.

After such a long period with nothing to say it's nice to have something to tell you and we will keep you informed from time to time about our progress.

*Don Turner 562645*

## **Old Village Exhibition**

I now appreciate how early some of our television announcers have to leave their beds to appear on our TV screens.

To set up my exhibition I had to start the day at 4.00am. It would have been so convenient to have done the setting up the evening before or even done the event over two days but as those villains keep breaking into the hall (which they did even the week before), this was out of the question.

I do hope those who came to the exhibition enjoyed it. I am pleased to say it raised £455 for the Village Hall finds. Thankyou for the many complimentary letters of appreciation.

It was so pleasing to see folk meeting up who had not seen each other for years, even meeting cousins who had recently traced each other through family lines.

My thanks go to the many who gave me help. Clive Lawrence and John Harris who gave me help with tables the night before. Clive Lawrence, Michael Clark and Trevor Hussey for their great help at the end of the day. The family of Barbara Clarke who manned the raffle & sales table. The WI ladies who did the refreshments. Ted Chapman and Sarah Bacon who gave up their Saturday to take money on the door. Louise Goodchild, Dennis Brown, Nancy & Trevor Hussey who were stewards. Wg. Com. John Bullock for his display of farm implements - and apologies to anyone else not mentioned who helped me put on the exhibition.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

## **Naphill and Walters Ash School**

Having achieved the Activemark Gold Award for excellence in sports provision, we are aiming at gaining Artsmark this year. This award recognises good practice in a range of arts – Art and Design, Music, Drama and Dance - both within the curriculum and in extra-curricular activities. You might think that a school that provides such a wide range of sporting activities would find it hard to promote the arts as well, but we manage it



## **FORCES CHARITIES WORKING TOGETHER**

For some years now The Royal British Legion and SSAFA/Forces Help have been working together to alleviate problems amongst Service and ex-Servicemen and women and their dependants, which includes widows of ex-Servicemen. Anybody who has spent time in the Armed Forces is eligible for assistance as are their families, meaning that around a quarter of the population could be eligible .

Both charities have branches covering the whole of the United Kingdom with a network of trained, volunteer Caseworkers who are able to react quickly wherever there is need. At the present time their workload is increasing with our Armed Forces on operations in such places as Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Sierra Leone and elsewhere. These deployments put immense pressure on Service families and inevitably we are seeing a significant rise in marital breakdowns. Although both charities look after those who are still in the Forces, most of their work is amongst ex Servicemen and Women and their families and dependants. Much help is given to the veterans of World War II and those who were called up for National Service, most of whom are now elderly, with many not in the best of health. The aim of both Charities is to ensure that these people spend their remaining years with dignity and free from stress.

Cases are referred by Social Services, Citizens Advice Bureaux, Service Benevolent Funds, Doctors and by friends or relatives. Immediately either Charity hears of a case, they send one of their trained Careworkers to visit the person in their own home to assess the assistance required and to ensure that they are receiving their entitled State Benefits. In some cases there will be no need for extra financial assistance but, where there is, they will approach relevant Charities, both Service and Civilian, all of which rely heavily on the Caseworker's judgment to ensure that their funds only go to those who are genuinely in need. In the past year they have helped people to obtain electric wheelchairs and stairlifts, provided furniture, personal computers and kitchen equipment, contributed to removal expenses, arranged respite care and holidays and provided companionship, advice and financial support. All this assistance is given in the strictest confidence.

At this time of year, when we remember those who have died in war, please give generously to the Poppy Appeal, which supports much of this welfare work. In addition to much needed funds both Charities would appreciate some of your time either as a Fundraiser or a Caseworker. As a Caseworker you will receive excellent training and, although you are not paid, your expenses will be reimbursed generously. Caseworkers can choose how many cases to take on depending on their other commitments and the work is most satisfying and rewarding. You do not need to have been connected with the Services in any way; anybody who has a sympathetic nature and enjoys helping others would normally make an excellent Caseworker. Finally you can help by notifying either Charity of anyone who might need their help.

To find out more about the important work done by these Charities please contact either Craig Treeby, The Royal British Legion's County Field Officer, on 01844 216961 or Victor Heron, Branch Secretary for SSAFA-Forces Help, on 01844 218349.

**PLEASE HELP THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH TO HELP US**

somehow, mainly because of the enthusiasm of the teachers. Unfortunately, Tag Rugby *does* run concurrently with choir – so we might possibly be accused of failing to give pupils of Welsh extraction equal opportunities!

Right from the Reception Class we ensure that the arts are part of a broad and balanced curriculum, with lunchtime Art and Dance clubs open to Year 1 onwards.

We also host a Drama club on Wednesdays after school and bring Drama and Music groups into school – the next one being *The Nutcracker* in early November.

When possible, we like to harness the talents of our parents, and there will be an opportunity for all musicians to support the school choir and music groups at our annual carol evening in December. This year, having outgrown the school hall and not quite filling the RAF sports hall, we have booked the Village Hall for the evening of Tuesday 16 December. More news on how to volunteer nearer the time.

Saturday 15 November sees the annual WANSA Christmas Craft Fair at the school. This is the ideal opportunity to buy unusual gifts, with a special selection of gift packs put together by children for children to buy. I am reliably informed that Father Christmas was so impressed with his new and improved Grotto that he will be visiting us again.

The School Council is at the forefront of raising money for charities and will decide where to send the £168 we raised at our Harvest Thanksgiving food sale. Next event will be Children in Need, when we are planning to make Pudsey Badges and biscuits.

***Quote of the Month – in response to a science investigation on decay.***

“To stop apples going brown you can eat them (with ice-cream or cream if you prefer).”

*Hilary Conboy, Headteacher*

## **Naphill Cum Bradenham Conservatives**

This year's Quiz Night will take place on Friday December 5th in the Evangelical Hall, starting at 7.30pm. A fish or chicken and chip supper is included in the ticket price of £10. Please bring your own drinks. All welcome.

Tickets from Valerie : 564152 or Peggy : 565969

## **Christmas Fayre**

**Saturday 29th November at 2.00pm**

**in Naphill Village Hall**

This is **the** Christmas Fayre, with something for everyone – games, gifts, and attractions for the whole family – all at amazing value. Many of the stalls will be run by the Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts themselves – a real team effort.

On **Saturday 29th November** you will be able to:

- Buy your last minute Christmas gifts
- Indulge in the always popular cake stall
- Chance your luck on the tombolas
- Play games and competitions
- Hunt through the bric-a-brac
- Enjoy the various refreshments.

Please come along and support this event, where all the proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Scout and Guide Headquarters Building – a facility used and enjoyed by many village children.

Also, we are expecting a special guest at the Fayre .....!

See you there?

*Linda Foster : 563586*

## **Pre-school News**

We are now over half way through our First term this school year and our new committee is up and running, smoothly so far.

We have a busy run of activities in the run up to Christmas. For starters our first fund raising event which is a formative fun party at one of our committee members houses, where 10% of all money taken goes to Pre School.

The photographer is in on the 5th November.

That is followed by a coffee morning on the 12th November which is an ideal time for parents to talk to members of staff and other parents without being rushed, with the added bonus of a cup of coffee and a slice of home made cake.

Our Committee members are busy preparing the Christmas Grotto which is an annual event, organised by the Village Hall to raise funds for it's up-keep. It is a pre school tradition to organise this for the Village Hall Christmas Fayre, the date this year will be 22nd November.

Pre School's nativity play will be held on 5th December. This is a must see and it scores very high on the cute scale!

The Term is brought to an end with the Christmas Party which is always enjoyed by the children.

Every one at Pre-School would like to wish one of our members of Staff, Mandy a very speedy recovery after the serious operation she underwent a couple of weeks ago. We all look forward to her return to Pre-School, hopefully sometime in January.

The Pre-School contact numbers are 01494 564037(am) or 01494 565359(pm)

*Sharon Piercy : 562081*

## Naphill Toddlers

Toddlers have recently had a successful Autumn / Halloween themed meeting where we made wriggly spiders! At another meeting our photographer attended – so we now have some of our Christmas presents covered!

We are now planning our very best event of the year – the Christmas Party – to be held on 4th December. This is always very popular and is open to any parent / carer with an under-5 in the community. We will have an entertainer, party food and a visit from Father Christmas who will give each child a present. Tickets are £5 for a child over 12 months or £8 for two. The party always sells-out so please book early.

Our regular sessions are on Thursdays from 2-4pm at the Village Hall. We always welcome newcomers to our group that includes all ages up to 5 years.

Bring your toddlers to make new friends and let off steam with our play equipment. For information or tickets call Suzanne or Clare on the numbers below.

*Suzanne Farwell : 562147, Clare Bray : 530019*

## Naphill Evening WI

It was good to see so many at our September meeting. The speaker was The Rev. Julie Cartwright who is Chaplain at Wycombe Hospital. She started by setting us 10 questions about the NHS and we were all surprised at how little we knew about the organisation. Chaplains were employed by the NHS from its conception in 1948 and there are several hundred employed throughout the country. The South Bucks NHS Trust employs 5000 staff and the Chaplain spends a lot of her time with staff. The Rev. Cartwright reminded us that it is 'our hospital' and we could use the Chapel at any time.

Doreen Burge was congratulated on taking part in the Flora Light Run in Hyde Park with her 6 year old granddaughter. Doreen has now raised over £600 for the MS Society.

During October there is a theatre trip to London to see Bombay Dreams and the Annual Meeting is on the 16th. Members were asked to make nominations for the Committee.

On 20th November the speaker will be Major T Tatham and his talk is on the Chelsea Pensioners. We meet in the village hall on the third Thursday of the month and would be very pleased to welcome visitors and new members.

*Betty Williams : 563366*

## Readers Letters

### Wine Tasting - Thanks.

I would like to thank all the people who supported the wine tasting evening held on Friday 3rd October in aid

of The Iain Rennie Hospice at Home. It was a most enjoyable evening and raised a total of £703.75.

The wine and champagne will be delivered late November when you will be contacted regarding it's collection.

Maureen Smyth.

### Nuisance Problems

Dear Sir

I feel I must write in response to your last editorial, regarding the continuing vandalism problem with the village hall and general local 'trouble'.

My husband and I moved into a house in Templewood earlier this summer. We moved from High Wycombe, feeling that the beautiful village of Walter's Ash would be a safe and quiet environment in which to raise our young family. We have been made welcome by local people and love our new house. However, we have been extremely dismayed by the trouble that we have several nights a week that comes from 'Oscars', the bar on the RAF site. In fact, we have seen more anti-social behaviour in 3 months here, than we saw in 3 years in High Wycombe.

Our problem is not with the noise coming from inside 'Oscars', but the trouble that spills out onto the Main Road. There have been incidents of vomiting and urinating in hedges, many beer bottles thrown in local gardens, gangs of teenagers (some would appear to be under-age drinking) congregating, looking for trouble (recent overheard mobile telephone conversation encouraging further company to look for a fight). Not to mention the fights, screeching cars and inebriated teenage girls screaming and dodging the cars on the road, often until the early hours of the morning. Need I go on?

We realise that the majority of the trouble appears to come from local teenagers, using this bar as a meeting place, and not the service men and women that are based here. However, why are non-service personnel allowed to use this facility? We have spoken with our local community policeman, Tug Wilson, who was very helpful. He has told us to report every incident and is looking at ways that the police can help. We have also spoken with Mr Richard Pushman, who has contacted the C.O. at the base to report the problem. The official response has been that they can take no responsibility for the behaviour outside their bar. We find this totally unacceptable.

We understand that these are on-going problems, but feel that they need to be addressed and somebody has to take some sort of responsibility as the right to respect for private and family life is enshrined in European and UK law and cannot be ignored.

It would be helpful if other readers would report incidents to the police and, if possible, to yourself, so that a detailed record of complaints can be kept.

Kind regards

Disgruntled local resident!

## Village Hall Notes

Well, after what seems like years and years of waiting we have finally received our grant that means that we can proceed with the plans for the Village Hall extension. Time was starting to get a little tight as by law we have to ensure that the hall is totally accessible to the disabled by next September. We can now get builders sorted and hopefully get the work started as soon as possible. Many, many thanks to Don Turner for all his work in submitting the myriad forms for the grant and for pursuing them to this conclusion.

Alan Jessop attended our October meeting and submitted his plans for a new sound system, incorporating a hearing loop (a legal requirement by next year), in the Hall. He is able to build and install a sound system which can play music from tape or C.D., amplify using a mike, and have a hearing loop so that the members of the community that have to rely on a hearing aid can follow all Village Hall events. Our thanks go to Alan for doing this work for us and saving us a significant amount of money.

The vandals have been back since I wrote last month, and caused a substantial amount of damage around the Hall and the Village. It was decided at our meeting that there should be a space in the Gazette and on the website where people could log any problems that they had experienced. We would then have evidence of the scale of our problems to pass on to the police. Do please make use of this facility so that we can record enough to make the police sit up and take some action.

The hall curtains have now been returned clean and re-fire proofed. By the time you read this they should also have been rehung - not an easy job with several sets of curtains that look the same size but aren't quite!

Our next fund raising Village event is the FIREWORKS on 8<sup>th</sup> November.

Then we have the CHRISTMAS FAYRE on 22nd November.

Please come along and support these events. Nor only will you have a good time but the Hall will benefit from the fund raising.

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council :  
563479*

## News From Christians In The Community (Members of the three local churches)

In the last issue we read about the success of the Holiday Club which was held in Naphill Village Hall. This was the seventh such event and we are now considering what we should do for 2004.

The Harvest Barn Dance on 4th October in Hughenden Village Hall was a great success. About 80 people attended. Thankyou to Ray Smith for so humorously 'calling' for us. We were able to donate about £95 to his nominated charity, PAT Dogs, and in addition donate £113 to TOYBOX charity. What is TOYBOX? This is an Amersham based charity that provides homes and schooling for the street children in Guatemala (KRASH are sponsoring a child through TOYBOX).

We are still continuing with our 'sick visiting', so if you know of someone who would welcome a visit please contact Aurey Tucker (563331).

KRASH - Kids Really Are Special Here - has resumed. This term we are looking at people who made a difference. Do your youngsters come to KRASH? If not why not give it a try? Ring Norma Clarke (563116). Meeting on 14th and 18th November, 6.30pm at N.E.F.C.

For your diary:

27th November, Pray & Safari - contact Audrey (563331)

30th November, United Service - 4.30pm Naphill Evangelical Church

21st December, Christmas Carols - 3.45pm Naphill Village Hall

7th February 2004, Quiz Night - Naphill Village Hall

*Norman Pulley : 563470*

## Naphill Evangelical Free Church

### 'SUN-SEEKER' OR 'SON-SEEKER'?

Have you started planning next year's Summer holiday yet? Here's how to plan the perfect trip:

- 1) Pick a faraway destination that you know absolutely nothing about.
- 2) Make no attempt whatsoever to find out about it.
- 3) Talk to other people who've never been there and plan your trip according to their perceptions of it.
- 4) Regardless of the destination, turn up in whatever clothing you happen to be wearing at the time.
- 5) Don't bother to obtain a visa for travel.
- 6) Don't bother to book any accommodation for your stay.

Know anyone who travels abroad like that? Yes you do. Every year, from this country alone, thousands upon thousands of people set off on a self-imposed mystery tour, from which they will never return.

From childhood, these people knew that they would have to make that journey one day. But they never bothered to plan or prepare for it, even though the trip would last an eternity. Yet in their lifetime they spent countless weeks or months each year planning for an

annual holiday that would last just 2 or 3 weeks. How sad and tragic is that?

Our journey into the afterlife is not meant to be a terrifying trip into the unknown. But if you fail to prepare for it, then it will become the worst nightmare imaginable. No one in his or her right mind would board an aircraft and set off on holiday having followed points 1 – 6 above. Neither then should you even contemplate the folly of stepping into eternity without equipping yourself sensibly for that journey.

But can you really prepare for such a trip? Yes you can, just as you would plan for any trip abroad. As there is no substitute for personal knowledge and experience of any given destination, you should find out about the place from someone who's been there! In this case, since we are talking about death, we have to find someone who's been on that journey AND COME BACK AGAIN. And since we are going to rely on what they tell us, we must be sure that they are trustworthy and true. TALK TO JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD. He died and rose from the dead and, just as He raised Lazarus from the dead He promises to do the same for you and for everyone who trusts in His name (**John 11:25**). The place you will be travelling to is HIS FATHER'S KINGDOM but you can't just turn up there and hope for the best any more than such an attitude would permit your entry into any foreign land on Earth.

You need suitable clothing... which JESUS HIMSELF WILL FREELY CLOTHE YOU in (**Isaiah 61:10**). You need a visa... Your name must be written in 'The Book of Life' (**Revelation 20:15**) And you need to book your stay with Jesus because then JESUS HIMSELF WILL PREPARE YOUR ACCOMMODATION FOR YOU (**John 14:1-2**).

Why would He do all that? Because He loves you. So much so that HE BOUGHT YOU A FIRST-CLASS, ONE-WAY TICKET TO PARADISE and paid for it with His own life. Go to any travel agent on Earth who brazenly advertises 'Paradise Tours.' Ask them to pay for your ticket, provide suitable clothing for you, and personally prepare free accommodation forever. They'll probably tell you to, 'Go to Hell.'

If it all sounds too good to be true, consider this... Funds permitting, most parents try to take their children on at least one trip abroad, hoping that it will bring them joy and happiness. They don't charge their children for the privilege, do they? Why not? Because they love them and they couldn't afford it anyway. Neither does your Father in Heaven ask you to contribute anything toward your trip to paradise. Because He loves you even more than that. All He asks is that you look to His son, who went through so much suffering to make it possible for you to go. An eternity in paradise costs a King's ransom – quite literally. Jesus, The King of Kings, paid that ransom upon the cross of Calvary so that we, who could never have afforded it, could go and experience eternal joy and

happiness with God... in the most fantastic holiday destination imaginable (**1Corinthians 2:9**).

Don't put it off any longer. None of us knows *when* we will set off on that final journey so *now* is the time to make our preparations (**Luke 12:19-20**).

Is it too much for us to say, "Sorry?" To say, "Thank You?" To take Jesus by the hand and say, "Because of You, I'm not afraid anymore... I'm really looking forward to the journey."

~ **Louis Chryssaphes**

If you would like to know more, talk or respond about this or any subject that concerns you please give us a call or drop by the church and we would be happy to help you.

Please note we do have an "open house" informal group available, usually Wednesday 10.00 – 11.30am that everyone is welcome to come and ask there questions.

May you know the love, grace and peace of God

*Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com*

# *Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette*

*December 2003 & January 2004*



# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

December 2003 & January 2004

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**Treasurer:** David Leith, Falcon's Oak, The Common. Tel: 562312

Copy date for the February issue is Thursday 15th January 2004

## Editorial

Crime looked set to catch on in Naphill and Walters Ash - this was confirmed in my mind when I returned from a weekend away to find that 2 armed robbers had been arrested on my drive way!

Since then I am pleased to say things seem to have calmed down, with only one attempted break in brought to the attention of the *Gazette* the idea of publishing a monthly article on the subject hardly seems worth it. Hopefully this is a sign that we can go back to enjoying our tranquil surroundings.

This month, for the first time in a while, we have had to increase production of the *Gazette* to accommodate new

subscribers at Templewood, Walters Ash and Lacey Drive, Naphill.

Along those same lines, as we approach the end of another year I would like to thank David Leith (Treasurer), Dave Ratcliffe (Distribution Manager) and the 27 people who generously give up their time every month to deliver the *Gazette*. Your on-going efforts are greatly appreciated.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Matt Piercy*

## Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

Aerobics/body conditioning	Each Wednesday	8-9pm
Art group	Each Thursday (Small Hall)	7-9pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Monday	4.45-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Tuesday	3.30-7.30pm
Fraser Morgan Dance Classes	Each Wednesday	4-6.15pm
Ballet (Pam Sheen)	Each Wednesday	6.15-7.45pm
Evening W.I.	Third Thursday in month	7.45pm
EXTEND gentle exercise class	Each Monday	2-3.30pm
Horticultural Society Committee	Occasional Mondays (Small Hall)	8-9pm
Line dancing	Each Tuesday	8-9pm
Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in month	1 for 1.15-2pm
Men's Club	Monday to Friday	7.30pm
Mobile library	Each Thursday	10.10-11.10am
Mother and Toddler	Each Thursday (Term-time)	2-4pm
Naphill Boys FC training sessions	U14s every Wednesday*	6-7.30pm
	U16s every Wednesday*	6.30-8pm
	U18s every Wednesday*	7.30-9pm
	U6s-U12s every Saturday	9.30-11am
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday in month	8.00-10pm
Over Sixties' Club	Alternate Fridays	2-4pm
Pre-school	Each weekday (Term-time)	9.15am-12.30pm
Residents' Association	Second Thursday in month	8pm
Village Hall Council	First Monday in month	8-10pm
Yoga: stretch, tone and relax	Each Tuesday	1.30-2.45pm
Tennis Club Sessions	Every Sunday	10am onwards
	Every Tuesday	10.15am onwards
	Thursday (summer only)	6.30pm onwards

\* At RAF Astroturf

## Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service.  
Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request.  
Telephone Sally on 562281.

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 562310 / 07904 023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

GOING ON HOLIDAY? Have your garden maintained and home security checked, pets catered for. Odd jobs also undertaken by early retired professional. References available. Ron Collins562240

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

JOHN BISHOP GARDEN MACHINERY, sales, service, and hire of all mowers, garden tractors, strimmers, chainsaws, etc. Free collection and delivery, 01494 563513. Access, Visa etc.

WANTED – Mothers Help – Experienced person required (qualifications preferred), initially for 2 afternoons a week, may increase. Naphill area essential. Suitable candidates contact Jo 07831 651869

## Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

It's hard to believe that yet another year is coming to an end. However, when we see the leaves piling up around the edges of the courts (apart from being rather a nuisance), they remind us that winter is well on its way and planning for the next season needs our attention. We are, therefore, hoping that as many members as possible will attend our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 4th December, to air their opinions and propose the way forward.

During the October half-term holiday week, Jan and Maddy cajoled the Juniors into finishing their tournament and the finals were eventually played on Friday, 26th October. Jan reports as follows: "the Boys Under 13 Final was between Adam Toone (holder) and Elliott Poulter. Adam won by two sets to love, both boys playing excellent tennis for their age. Both are being encouraged to come along to Senior club morning to gain experience - and hopefully play in the teams next season. In the Boys

Senior Cup, the final was between Jack Boddy (holder) and Adam Toone. Jack won two sets to love. Jack's experience proved too much for Adam, who had already played a hard game. We hope to see Jack at club mornings too - and definitely hope he will be available to represent the club at senior level next season. My thanks to Maddy and Judy for their help - calling the lines and the parents for their support. It was also nice to see Neil, the Junior Coach, giving his support. Jan and Maddy have also managed to organize three additional Junior coaching sessions to replace those which were cancelled due to rain.

Our next co-operative social event is the Tinsel Tournament, which is held every year on a club morning near Christmas - this year on Sunday 21st December. Participants are encouraged to don appropriate Christmas gear (perhaps a bit of tinsel wrapped round the racquet or one of those red & white bobble hats - red noses can be the result of cosmetic decoration, the weather or whatever!). Normal club play is followed by the usual high quality lunch provided by members, perhaps accompanied by a few tots of mulled wine to ward off the chill factor. Adverse weather conditions do not dampen the occasion as we just enjoy the lunch without the tennis! It gives us all a chance to exchange seasonal greetings with each other before going our separate ways to celebrate the day itself. Details are on the clubhouse notice-board and members are encouraged to add their names to the list.

On behalf of Naphill LTC, may I take this opportunity to wish all the other clubs, organizations and residents of Naphill & Walters Ash a very merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year! We would also like to thank Matt Piercy and team for all the time and effort they expended to produce the Gazette during the year.

*Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063*

## Naphill Neighbours

Over 40 members attended the November meeting and thoroughly enjoyed Mrs. Eastgate's talk on "Egg decorating in the Faberge style". All types of eggs are used, e.g. Ostrich, Turkey, Duck, Quail, etc., and examples were passed around the room. The eggs on display were stunning and the patience and skill used in the decoration was remarkable. Mrs Eastgate showed us some of the tools of the trade and believe it or not strands of spaghetti softened in the mouth were a useful addition. This was a fascinating talk and no doubt many were contemplating taking up the art.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas Dinner in the Village Hall on Monday 8th December, which will be followed by The Haddenham Hand Bell Ringers.

Our first meeting in the New Year on Monday, 12th January will have a local theme when Teresa Jones gives a talk entitled "Behind the Scenes at Wycombe Swan". Come along and join us for the New Year.

Wishing everyone a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Mary Shrimpton : 471613

## District & County Councillor's Report

Quick access to helpful information is an important requirement of many residents.

BUCKSANSWERPOINT on telephone number 0845 330 1856 will provide an out-of-hours telephone service to Buckinghamshire residents regarding all council services. This is a pilot scheme launched in June and is already attracting around 300 calls per week. If it continues to be a successful service it could become a permanent feature.

I now have an amended Greater Hughenden Ward Fact File based on the 2001 Census. This is the new District ward, which includes Naphill & Walters Ash, Hughenden Valley and North Dean, and Great Kingshill with Widmer End and to which were elected three District Councillors last May. They were David Carroll, Alan Fulford and myself. This ward has a total population of 8,506 persons living in 3,282 households. What will surprise readers is the fact that the population in this area has decreased by almost 7% since 1991, whilst Wycombe District as a whole has increased by 2.66 % in the same period. The biggest change has been the reduction in the numbers of the age group 20-29. One suggested reason is the high cost of housing in the area. The census contains some interesting facts regarding household details and access to different forms of transport and I will quote from it from time to time.

The new quiet road surfacing on Main Road has received wide acclaim and certainly road surface noise is much reduced. I will press for the remainder of Main Road to be completed in the new financial year. I have also suggested that the edge white lining is not replaced until a further speed review is undertaken. There is a perception that the absence of the side lining has led to a reduction in traffic speed. It is thought also that it may discourage cars from parking on the pathways. I am happy to receive readers' comments on these points.

New firework legislation is to be introduced in the New Year, which should prevent a repeat of the many disturbances of these last months. Legitimate firework displays under the supervision of responsible adults will not be effected but sales to underage buyers will be prevented and there will be tighter controls on retailers.

## Names and numbers to note

*The Gazette's* e-mail is [nwagazette@lycos.co.uk](mailto:nwagazette@lycos.co.uk)

*Naphill Website* is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is [aewilmot@lycos.co.uk](mailto:aewilmot@lycos.co.uk)

*Village Hall* bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail [Naphill@lycos.co.uk](mailto:Naphill@lycos.co.uk)

*Local Community Beat Officer* is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

*Crime Reduction Officer* is Steve Kirby on 686111

*Naphill and Walter's Ash School* has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

*Prescription Collection Service*: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

I recently had the privilege of hosting a reception at Judges Lodgings, Aylesbury, for sportsmen and sportswomen throughout the county of Buckinghamshire. It was encouraging to see several representatives from Naphill & Walters Ash attending and we should all feel proud of their sporting achievements.

With the festive season almost upon us may I take this opportunity of wishing all readers a very Happy Christmas and successful New Year.

Richard Pushman : 564152

## 2003 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Many thanks to everyone throughout Naphill and Walters Ash for contributing to this year's Poppy Appeal. I have passed £1,502.07 to the High Wycombe branch of the Royal British Legion.

I would especially like to thank the many individuals who gave up their time to take the collection boxes around. If anyone feels that they could help with collecting next year, please give me a ring on 564152. The collection period is the two weeks prior to Remembrance Day.

We had a well-attended Remembrance Service in the Naphill Village Hall conducted by the Rev. Stanley Jones, RAF Padre. The collection at this service was over £200 (included in the above amount).

*Valerie Pushman : 564152*

## Remembrance Day Service

The service was very well attended by boys and girls from the Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and we have reason to be proud of the young people of our village.

Villagers themselves were somewhat smaller in number than might have been hoped but all in all it was a good turnout.

*Pauline Pool*

## Horticultural Society



Once again our recent Cheese & Wine evening was a great success. The talk by Mike Watts on the Chelsea Physic Garden was fascinating, and most informative. I now know it was Sir Hans Sloane who introduced my two favourite medicines (quinine for the gin & tonic and cocoa for chocolate!).

As always our thanks go to Joyce Thorpe for putting on another excellent cheese, pâté and salad buffet. Most of you will know by now that this was the last that Joyce will do as she and Alan are moving from the village.

Should any of our members be interested in visiting Wisley gardens, the Society has a Garden Entry card, which allows entry at a reduced rate for two people. If you wish to borrow the card, please let me know.

Our next event is the annual dinner on Friday 7th March 2004. Details later.

If you have not yet returned your seed order to me, please can you do so by December 5th at the latest, so I can send off the order.

Finally, thank you for all your support over the past year, and we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a fruitful New Year.

*Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233*

## National Children's Homes

On behalf on N.C.H. many thanks to all the much appreciated collectors and donors. Naphill village -

£760.77, Walters Ash - £355.37. In access N.C.H. Will be able to claim the 28 pence in the pound from the Inland Revenue thanks to individuals who kindly filled in the necessary slip with their gift - this should amount to a further £37.94.

Your gift will help some of the UK's most vulnerable children. For any further details of the N.C.H. Please contact me.

*Jean Lawrence-Mann : 563916*

## Riding For The Disabled

The High Wycombe Group of Riding for the Disabled currently has a few spaces in their Friday afternoon sessions for any disabled person who would like to experience riding a horse - with some assistance of course! We are at Shana Riding Stables every Friday in term time, from about 2pm until 3.30pm - and have about 5 riders in each of 2 consecutive groups. Anyone who is interested should initially contact our Instructor, Jane Allen - Tel 01494 863893 - who will be able to give more detailed information.

There are a few restrictions, depending on the size of horses available each week, for example - Jane will be able to chat to anyone interested, No previous experience is required!!

We have been riding at these stables for about 8 years or more, and also have other sessions there for a variety of children who come from local schools on other days.

I cannot let such an opportunity slip by without also saying that we are always glad to welcome any new helpers to our sessions - sometimes 3 people per horse are required to enable a person to enjoy a ride - as well as the instructor!!

Our Group Organiser is Mrs Gloria Holmes Tel - 01494 488420.

*Eleanor Evans, Treasurer : 562954*

## Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

We had a lovely afternoon with Mr Jackie Wrattar. Unfortunately he is retiring and so sadly we had to say our farewells.

Mr Ray Smith gave us a talk with slides about the Hearing Dogs Organisation which was very interesting.

We look forward to Jean Hall on November 16th "Outlines For Pleasure".

New members always welcome.

*Norah Cockroft : 564270*

## The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In December & January

Sunset will be at its earliest on December 13 and sunrise will be at its latest on 30 and the shortest day on 22 The Moon is new on December 23 and January 21; it is full on December 8 and January 7. The Gemini meteor shower should be at its brightest on December 13 and 14 in the east with an expected 75 hourly rate of hits. The large galaxy in Andromeda (M31) is overhead and Orion is prominent in the south in the evenings. Look for the so-called Alpha Persei Association. Go between Alpha and Beta Persei (the famous variable star Algol) and then concentrate on the 4° from Alpha and you will be able to see over two dozen stars brighter than 7th magnitude.

		Sun	Moon	Venus	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn
Dec	Rises	07.47	13.35	10.05	13.11	00.05	18.06
1	Sets	15.57	None	17.31	00.37	13.12	10.25
Dec	Rises	07.56	15.24	10.12	12.48	23.38	17.36
8	Sets	15.54	07.43	17.45	00.32	12.46	09.56
Dec	Rises	08.03	22.40	10.15	12.26	23.13	17.06
15	Sets	15.53	12.23	18.02	00.28	12.19	09.26
Dec	Rises	08.08	07.16	10.13	12.04	22.47	16.36
22	Sets	15.56	14.42	18.23	00.24	11.53	08.57
Dec	Rises	08.10	11.54	10.07	11.42	22.20	16.05
29	Sets	16.01	23.35	18.44	00.20	11.26	08.27
Jan	Rises	08.10	12.30	10.04	11.33	22.09	15.52
1	Sets	16.04	01.58	18.54	00.19	11.14	08.15
Jan	Rises	08.08	16.41	09.54	11.12	21.41	15.22
8	Sets	16.12	09.17	19.17	00.16	10.47	07.45
Jan	Rises	08.03	00.26	09.42	10.51	21.12	14.52
15	Sets	16.22	11.25	19.39	00.14	10.19	07.15
Jan	Rises	07.56	08.59	09.29	10.30	20.43	14.22
22	Sets	16.34	17.05	20.02	00.12	09.51	06.46
Jan	Rises	07.46	10.50	09.14	10.10	20.12	13.52
29	Sets	16.46	00.55	20.23	00.12	09.23	06.17

## Spectroscopy

As long ago as 1666, Newton passed a ray of light through a prism to find that white light splits into all colours of the rainbow. Newton found that light is a complicated series of wave motions with red at the longest wavelength (or lowest frequency) and violet at

the shortest (highest frequency). The eye can detect about an octave with ultra violet and infra red outside the eye range. Below the infra red frequency come radio waves and the very high frequencies above ultra violet come x-rays and gamma rays. Examining spectra emitted from a hot solid (like an electric light bulb filament) or a high-pressure gas (like the bright solar surface) will yield the familiar rainbow but a low-pressure gas (like a layer of gas further from the centre of the Sun) will yield a spectrum of coloured lines. Sodium (one of the elements of common salt) produces two prominent yellow lines together with a series of many other bright coloured lines. Each element or compound produces its unique characteristic combination of coloured lines. If hot sodium is placed between the high pressure luminous source and the prism or spectroscope, the characteristic two yellow lines become dark. What is happening is the sodium at the specific frequencies absorbs the light from the bright source.

This attribute enables astronomers determine the chemistry of stars and led to their classification. After some refinement, there are now seven main spectral types ranging through very hot blue O type, through B, A, F, G, K, and finally the red stars M. The most common mnemonic to remember them is 'O be a fine girl kiss me' The Sun is a G type star. Other examples: Rigel in Orion is a B star, Sirius is an A star, Polaris is an F star and Arcturus is an orange K star.

The well-known Doppler effect for sound (change in pitch of a fast motor bike, for example, when passing by) also works for coloured light. The changed frequency causes approaching objects to experience a blue shift of the spectral lines and receding objects cause a red shift, enabling astrophysicists to measure the motion as well as the chemical composition of the object under consideration.

*Grant Woodruff*

## Naphill Cum Bradenham Conservatives

This year's Quiz Night will take place on Friday December 5th in the Evangelical Hall, starting at 7.30pm. A fish or chicken and chip supper is included in the ticket price of £10. Please bring your own drinks. All welcome.

Tickets from Valerie : 564152 or Peggy : 565969

## Blood Donors

The one gift that does not cost you a penny, but will be very much appreciated by someone.

There are two sessions in December - Friday the 5th and Friday the 19th.

The times are 2pm to 3.55pm and 4.45pm to 6.45pm  
At the Village Hall, Naphill.

BRING A FRIEND

*Bob Davis : 563846*

## Computer Training Course at Naphill & Walter's Ash School.

Would you like to improve your computer skills and achieve a qualification without taking any exams?

As part of our commitment to work closer with the community Naphill and Walters Ash School together with Amersham and Wycombe College, are intending to run a Level 2 Word Processing and Excel Spreadsheet computer course from 8th January 2004 at the school.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information or if you are interested in enrolling, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 by 15th December 2003.

*Julie Schmid, I.T. Lecturer : 565439*

## Multiple Sclerosis Society

Thank you to all who supported our recent Bazaar and Ploughman's Lunch - a total of £958.00 was raised. All this money benefits members in the local area.

*Jean Goodman*

## Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

**Last month's answers:**



Main Road, Walters Ash. Large Fir Tree after which



it is assumed Fir Cottage and the Fir Tree Flats were named.

Doorway to 'The Wheel' Public House. Over the



years owned by several local families, including the Free family and the Day family.

*Pam Smith : 563364*

## Village Christmas Tree



# Naphill Boys F.C.



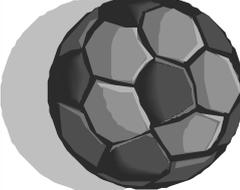
## Christmas Dance with the Legendary Les Payne Band

Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup>, Village Hall

8.00 'til Late

Tickets £10 To Include Supper

Licensed Bar



**Tickets Available From**  
**Bob 563332 Jan 562392**  
**Vanessa 565228 Helen 565929**



By the time this article appears in the Gazette the Christmas tree outside the village hall will - weather permitting - have been dressed with its lights by Mike Mason and his team of volunteers. The tree will be lit somewhat earlier than usual as there is a Christmas Fayre on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November in the Village Hall and it was thought appropriate for the tree to be lit for the occasion.

This is the 28<sup>th</sup> year Mike Mason has been associated with lighting the tree. He spent the first 15 years climbing to the top of the tree and pulling the cables up from the ground and for the last 13 years has been responsible for organising the team of volunteers and storing and checking the 250 metres of cable along with 250 light bulbs - a not inconsiderable task.

Following Mike's retirement from tree climbing the job was taken on by Mick Leggett who has performed for the last 12 years and has been a member of the team for the last 28. Having been a member of the ground crew - with feet firmly planted at that level - I have to say that to be at the top of the tree in the middle of winter when it is damp, cold and there is a northerly wind is not a position to be envied, particularly when you have to remain there for anything up to 3 or more hours!!! Can you imagine what he feels like when he comes

down? The whole exercise, of course, has to be repeated when the lights come down!

Because the tree is growing - its girth is increasing not its height - an additional 50 metres of cable is being added this year which will provide for another 50 bulbs making 300 in total (it is interesting to note that it was only 4 years ago that an extra 50 metres of cable was added). The additional cable along with bulb fittings etc. will cost £250 and the electricity consumed from the 22 November until Twelfth Night will amount to a further £150. The funding for the lights is met mainly from contributions villagers make in the various collecting boxes that are located in shops and pubs within the village. Might I suggest that every household makes a real effort to contribute this year - a £1 donation would more than meet the cost incurred and help towards replacing the cable, bulbs and fittings as and when necessary. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

With best wishes for a very merry Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year to you all.

*Ron Collins, Ground Crew*

### Fireworks Display

The fireworks evening went extremely well this year with only one firework going astray towards the spectators. Our first aider, Norma Clarke, was on

hand to help. The weather was fine all day so it allowed the set-up to go ahead smoothly as well as the event itself. We have made comparisons with 2 years ago (as last year it rained !) and the numbers were probably a little down on 2001 but not by a lot. This is probably due to the fact that some people will have gone to other displays on 1st November. The people I have spoken to have all said that the display itself was the best ever and I tend to agree. We spent about £2,100 on fireworks this year which compares with £1,900 in 2002 and £1,830 in 2001. Along with an enjoyable evening we also made some money for the Village Hall.

Thanks to all those who supported the event and special thanks to all those who helped in the setting up and running of the event.

*Andrew Wilmot, Chairman - Naphill Firework Committee*

P.S. If anyone can lend us a large trailer for a day next year we would be very grateful. Call me on 562770

## **Naphill and Walters Ash School**

Mrs Banks, Year 4 Teacher, has managed to turn the whole school into a production line for Children in Need, manufacturing over 2800 Pudsey Bear badges at lunchtimes and during art and design lessons. Parent and staff out workers have also helped by sewing on safety pins at home.

The whole school observed two minutes' silence at 11am on 11 November. The occasion meant all the more to the pupils since so many of their parents have been involved in active service in Iraq, the Balkans and elsewhere.

Children throughout the school have been working on poetry and this is just one of the elements of the creative curriculum that we shall be highlighting in our submission for Artsmark. In particular, teachers have been working with children on extended metaphor and imagery as in the following works.

### FIREWORK

Its leaps and roars in the sky,  
Waving and swaying its dark smoke tail  
Spraying ash saliva over its crowded territory.  
Raking the sky with its colourful claws,  
Hunting its night sky prey  
Shaking its beautiful mane.  
Then it pauses  
Lets out one almighty roar  
And dies.

*Oliver Treen, Year 5 (Aged 10)*

### AUTUMN

The lovely orange leaves floated over the homes of grown ups.

The golden yellow bird flew over the naked trees.

The bristly leaves went up and down over the trees,

A palace of trees standing like giants

The bony fingers tickling the blue sky.

The wiggling hands scared the girls and boys.

The orange leaves like fired ochre;

The orange leaves like the winter sun

The grumpy apple-white gate.

*Phoebe Ballard, Year 2 (Aged 7)*

### CHANGES

Autumn embraces the future impact,

Colours change as the fleets of cold begin their invasions,

Birds quietly discussing the matter of winter

As wildlife prepare for their long winter sleep.

The trees gather together in the woods for the upcoming of winter

Bound for their long rest.

The sun steadily beginning to hibernate

While the grey bulging clouds commence their arrival.

*Forrest Bibeau, Year 6 (Aged 11)*

Quote of the month....

This month from a member of staff, included in the school's successful review for Investor in People status, a quote that sums up the school philosophy.

"I've never been faced with someone saying you can't do that now".

*Hilary Conboy, Headteacher*

## **Best Kept Village Competition**

Further to the recent press release publicising the outcome of the Best Kept Village competition, the judges commented as follows on Naphill and Walters Ash:

*"The little children's playground and the three tennis courts are very good and excellent facilities for the village to have. The soft surface of the play area might soon need relaying.*

*The areas around the pubs and shops were tidy and well looked after. We thought that the wild pond is an attractive feature.*

*The hall is large and obviously has good facilities for the village to use and has good parking but there is broken glass, litter and some elderly graffiti on its walls. We also thought that, if the money can be found, the playing field surface would greatly benefit from additional care.*

*We anticipated being invited to look at Naphill Common which we understand to be a very special area of Buckinghamshire and one of scientific interest. This comment, however, is not reflected in the marks allocated. "*

The high mark awarded by the judges qualifies Naphill and Walters Ash for a Certificate of Merit.

*Hughenden Parish Council*

## **Macmillan Cancer Relief**

Money Raising at the Reflexology Room, 33 Vincents Way, Naphill on 16th October 2003.

I would like to thank everyone who came along and gave so generously - it was fun and productive - amount raised was £88.80

Thanks to the Walters Ash paper shop for the free advert.

Hope we can meet again next year and raise even more for this vital charity.

*Margot Woolner : 562027*

## **Pre-school News**

The Term is nearly drawing to a close. We have had a busy run since the new committee were formed back in September.

The children are busy rehearsing for their end of year nativity play which will be held on the 5th December.

This half terms interest table has been based on a nursery rhyme theme. The children have been making spiders and Humpty Dumpty pictures and generally being very creative.

We would like to welcome back Mandy who has returned to work sooner than anticipated, so a big thank you to Mandy and we continue to wish her well on her road to recovery.

Pre School, this term will be ending with a traditional Christmas party, which everyone is really looking forward to.

The Pre-School contact numbers are 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm)

*Sharon Piercy : 562081*

## **Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association**

**Annual Dinner Dance 15th November**

Photo courtesy of Ian Desborough

## **Readers Letters**

*Thank You Bob.....*

*.....For Your Long, Faithful And Most Profitable Years.*

I was sad to hear recently that, after his many years of faithful, hardworking service to the Community, good old Bob Davis has not only resigned from the Village Hall Council, but – as he told me – he will no



longer be collecting for, and then running, his huge fund raising stall "The Second Hand Emporium" at the Fete : shame!

For those of your readers who may not know, Bob has, for many years been "Mr Football", "Mr Quiz Night", "Mr Blood Donor" as well as the "Captain Of The Emporium". I would hazard a guess (which no doubt someone will challenge) that down the years his activities have probably raised something like £20,000 (YES, TWENTY THOUSAND POUNDS!). Last fete I know that his stall alone raised some £1,100. No one to my knowledge has raised more for the Hall.

Perhaps, therefore, next time the Village Hall Council meets, the Members could express the appreciation and thanks of the whole village. I sincerely hope so.

John Bullock.

*Editors note : As a member of the Village Hall Council I can confirm that a letter of 'Appreciation' was sent to Bob shortly after he resigned from the Council. Further much deserved acknowledgements were printed in the Village Hall report in the October Gazette. Very recently, I am pleased to say that Bob has been invited to a Reception, hosted by the Chairman of Hughenden Parish Council, as a result of his well deserved nomination by all 4 of the Members from Naphill & Walters Ash.*

## *Nuisance Problems*

I was extremely concerned to read in November's Gazette of the problems being experienced by "Disgruntled local resident" in connection with the OSCARs Club at RAF High Wycombe.

My purpose in writing is not to offer a denial of the problem, or to suggest that none of those responsible are Service personnel, (even if they are in a small minority). Instead, I write to correct what I believe to be a serious inaccuracy in the letter and to offer as

much information as possible on the measures we have put in place in an attempt to minimise the impact of OSCARs Club on the local area.

The inaccuracy I refer to is the reported 'official response' that 'they (we) can take no responsibility for the behaviour outside their (our) bar'. I am not aware of the source of this alleged response, but I would wish to assure our neighbours that this is completely incorrect and was not provided by this office.

We take continued great pride in our acceptance as friends and good neighbours of the people of Naphill, Walters Ash, Bradenham and Lacey Green. More widely, having been awarded the Freedom of High Wycombe some 30 years ago, we also play a full part in the civic life of the Town. Wrongly or rightly (and I very much hope, rightly), we do not see ourselves as a lodger but as an integral and equal part of the community. As such, any action by a member or members of our team that would threaten this standing is always taken extremely seriously.

The steps we are taking to address the current issues are as follows:

1. Membership rules are being strictly adhered to. The Club is open only to Service personnel and their dependants, MOD Civil Servants, and Contractors working for the Station. We have increased our monitoring of the use of the Club and anyone not entitled to enter will be (and is being) turned away.
2. Opening hours have been reviewed and, until further notice, the Club will no longer be open on Sunday evenings.
3. People leaving the Club are not allowed to take unfinished drinks (in glasses or bottles) with them. This is being enforced by staff on the door.
4. A letter is being sent to every member of staff living on the Station, highlighting the issue to them and seeking their support.

I hope these measures will help to reduce any noise nuisance that might have been caused by people using OSCARs. If not, however, we will not hesitate to review the position again.

Yours sincerely

Wing Commander S J Spence, RAF Station  
Commander

*Editors note : There is a certain amount of verification I should have done regarding reported 'Official Responses' printed last month in the letter to which Wing Commander Spence refers. Hopefully printing the above letter puts the record straight.*

Excellent Work!

Dear Sir,

I do hope the Council and local residents are congratulating the company and their team of men who laid our new road. What craftsmen they are. The whole superb job was completed with very little inconvenience to motorists and residents, and is a work of art.

Well done lads – if only everyone in the country worked as well as you.

I Perry

### Well Done Don

When, a few days ago, I heard about the grant of £50,000 (Fifty Thousand Pounds!) which is being made to the Village Hall Fund, I immediately rang up John Harris, the long serving 'Honourable Treasurer' to congratulate him. "Not me, John" said he "it's all down to the long, detailed and strenuous efforts of Don Turner, give him a shout - 'tis he who has done it all."

When I did so, Don in his usual modest, self-effacing way, made very light of it..... "just one of those things one does, John" said he "but thanks for your call, much appreciated".

Your readers will now know "Who do'ed it"!

John Bullock

### **Village Hall Notes**

The Parish Council has taken over the responsibility for the play area. They have topped up the play bark and have removed one of the springy toys which was deemed unsafe. Replacing it will be their decision. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parish Council for taking over the financing of the play area for us.

With the return of the rains you will have noticed the return of the water stains on the ceiling tiles. Goodness knows what the answer is to the problem. We have had all sorts of theories. Anyway we will continue to seek professional advice and see if we can resolve the situation. In the meantime it seems a false economy to keep replacing the stained tiles so we are not planning to replace them at present.

The vandals have been able to drive their cars through the gap in the wall at the front of the hall. This gives them access to the car park when the gates are locked and thus to the Crick. We therefore plan to install a collapsible post in the middle of this entrance to block car access. We are also looking into blocking off the ends of the verandah in front of the sports pavilion. The skate boarders use the front of the pavilion to perfect their tricks and are becoming quite a hazard,

thus we would like to sort this before there is a nasty accident.

I write this article after the fireworks, indeed I think the fire is still burning as I write. Another good evening, greatly enjoyed by all those who attended. Many thanks to those who worked so hard all day Saturday and Sunday morning to put on such a wonderful show and to help to raise what looks like a tidy sum towards the upkeep of the hall.

The next event is the Christmas Fayre on the 22nd November. If you receive your Gazette before it, do please make sure you come along, join in the fun and pick up a few bits and bobs towards your Christmas shopping.

We then have a break until February when we have planned a quiz on the 27th. It will be organised in teams of four so get together with friends, make up a table and start brushing up your general knowledge.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for you and your family in 2004.

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council  
: 563479*

## **News From Christians In The Community**

### **(Members of the three local churches)**

Friday 28th November – KRASH – Kids Really Are Special Here – team from the Salvation Army visiting (bring your tambourines!)

Sunday 30th November – United service – 4.30pm Naphill Evangelical Church – a relaxed, informal service themed ‘Light in the Darkness’ – everyone welcome

Friday 12th December – KRASH – Christmas activities.

Friday 19th December – KRASH carol singing in Downley Road and Vincents Way – collecting for the Toybox Charity.

Sunday 21st December – Christmas Carols by Candlelight in Naphill Village Hall from 4.00 ‘til 5.00pm everyone welcome, bring your visiting family and friends. Mulled wine, coffee and mince pies.

The final accounts and reports for the Holiday Club 2003 have been submitted and this year’s team have recommended that there is a completely new approach for next year. The Club will still be strongly supported by a total of 55 volunteers of all ages but will need a new organiser/coordinator. This is an ideal opportunity for someone else to take on the planning of such a rewarding activity and various people will be approached with the view to continuing such a successful children’s club.

*Norma Clarke : 563116*

## **Naphill Evangelical Free Church**

### THE UNOPENED GIFT

As a small child, I have never forgotten a game of ‘pass the parcel’ that I played while at another child’s birthday party. The ‘parcel’ in question was simply enormous and quite magnificently wrapped. On this occasion, we were told that *the entire parcel* would be unwrapped by the child who won it. As it got passed from one child to another, we all hung onto it a little longer than the rules permitted, each of us reluctant to let it out of our arms lest the music stop before it came back to us. Round and round it went until suddenly, the music ceased and I realised that everyone was staring at *me* because, to my amazement and delight, the parcel was in my hands! A grown-up told me that the prize was mine and that I should unwrap it. I had never held anything quite so splendid before and all eyes were on me as I peeled off the outer wrapping... and more wrapping... and yet more wrapping... and still more wrapping to reveal... an apple. Everyone pointed and laughed, while I made my way to a quiet corner and cried.

About 25 years later I held a small, informal party of my own in the half-furnished, half-decorated flat that I had just purchased in West London. The year was 1987 and, since I was born in 1957, the gathering was meant to mark the occasion of my 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. Some friends and acquaintances called round bearing some drink to celebrate and a small assortment of modest gifts which I set aside to be opened once everyone was there. Last to arrive was my closest friend. When I opened the front door, he said “Happy birthday” and pushed a wine bottle wrapped in crumpled brown paper into my hand. To my surprise and (hopefully) concealed disappointment, I realised that he had not brought a birthday present. I thanked him for the wine and put it on the kitchen counter, not even bothering to unwrap it.

Before my guests, I then opened the gifts that they had brought. It’s difficult to choose presents for people we don’t know as well as we ought to and, all too frequently, the gift reflects the tastes and lifestyle of the giver rather than the actual wants and needs of the recipient. So I acted out the familiar ritual of, “Oh thank you very much” and “I’ve always wanted one of these” all the while suspecting that most of them would end up gathering dust in the back of a cupboard somewhere.

The celebration soon ended and my guests left. Last thing at night, I ventured into the kitchen and noticed the bottle of wine on the counter. I unwrapped it, intending to put it in the fridge if it was white and in my small wine rack if it was red. When I looked at the label, I realised with a mixture of shock, wonder and

# Christmas Carols By Candlelight

Sunday 21st December

Naphill Village Hall

4.00 - 5.00pm



Mulled wine,  
coffee and  
mince pies

dismay that what I held in my hand was a bottle of 1957 vintage Chateau Latour. I had received the finest and most expensive gift of all in the plainest and most unpretentious of wrappings. My dearest friend had gone to the trouble and expense of seeking out a precious gift that I would be bound to treasure and I had neither recognised its worth nor given him the thanks and appreciation that such a gesture deserved. And his humility in saying nothing when all the other gifts were being opened made me feel even more ashamed of the unworthy thoughts that had greeted his 'empty handed' arrival. So I phoned him at once to apologise for my thoughtlessness and did my best to show the genuine appreciation that I belatedly felt.

Why am I telling you all this? Because Christmas is fast approaching. Soon, millions of presents will once again be exchanged in that competitive spirit of 'pass the parcel' that so undermines the true meaning of the occasion. And as children and grown-ups alike tear open their carefully wrapped gifts with a mixture of disappointment and delight (genuine or otherwise) I know that the majority of households in this land will do as I did. They will leave the most precious gift of all unopened and unrecognised. He was presented to us in the most modest and unassuming way imaginable. He arrived on our doorstep as a fragile infant, wrapped in straw and housed in a stable on the outskirts of an inconsequential town. And that is how

and where most of us have left Him – a pearl without price, untouched and unrecognised, while we open each other's trivial gifts and give thanks. And this year, like last year and the year before that... our Heavenly Father will look on as my friend did, bearing in silence the solitude and grief of being overlooked for the most precious and heartfelt gift of all: His Son.

Happy Birthday Lord.

~ *Louis Chryssaphes*

If you have any questions or would like to speak to anyone regarding the Christian message or any other matter then please give me a call or contact me by e-mail, I would love to speak with you.

Please do not leave the most precious of gifts unopened this year.

I hope you know true peace and blessing this Christmas.

*Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com*

## St Michael & All Angels, Hughenden

For many Christmas is a bad time of year, for most it is over stressful, and for some it is a painful reminder of loved one's now gone. However there is another side to it all, a side which of course is what it is really

all about, and yet one which so many miss. Christmas is a time of wonder. It is a wonder which can't be trivialized, packaged and marketed. It is the hope for those who find themselves alone, who grieve, who find life just too much. It is a wonder that cannot be obtained by an overdraft or by excess of drink and food, and it can be with us all year, long after the last tired looking piece of decoration has been taken down and the post Christmas sales are over. This wonder is the wonder of God's love seen in the birth of a child, it is the knowledge that God has shared in the vulnerability of human life. This wonder is a most magnificent statement to us that God has come among us, a light shining in a dark place, at Christmas we can truly say to ourselves, 'we are not alone'.

This year once again at the Parish Church we shall of course be celebrating this wonder, with Christingle and crib services for the children and lessons and carols sung in a candlelit church, itself a setting of wonder. Please do come and join us or go to one of the other Churches as together we celebrate the God's gift to us of Jesus Christ and share in that wonder for yourself.

#### St Michael and All Angels Christmas services.

14 Dec 3.30pm Christingle Service

21 Dec 6.00pm Candlelit Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

24 Dec 3.00pm Crib Service

24 Dec 11.15pm Midnight Communion

25 Dec 8.00am Holy Communion (said)

9.00am Choral Mattins with Communion

10.30am Family Communion

5.00pm Carols by Candlelight

*Simon Cronk - Vicar of St Michael and All Angels*

## **Naphill Methodist Church**

Well, the Christmas lights are now switched on in High Wycombe town centre, heralding that the manic, busy preparations for the festive season have begun in earnest. It was wonderful to see the streets full of excited people but, I couldn't help noticing that many of them seemed more interested in seeing Frank Bruno than poor old Santa and his reindeer.

Christmas is an exciting and happy time for many, especially as families and friends are reunited to share gifts, food and stories. Sadly, there will also be many people who will be completely alone, with no gifts, little food and no-one to listen to their stories. Many of them will be our own neighbours, people we know about but have not had the time or energy to reach out to.

In Mark 12: 28 – 31; Jesus is asked "Which commandment is the first of all?" and Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength'. The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'. There is no other commandment greater than these."

This Christmas, as we remember the birth of Christ; I challenge you to remember Jesus' words and to reach out to one lonely neighbour and invite them to spend Christmas Day with you. It doesn't cost much to lay one extra place at your table and to eat one less slice of turkey; but the love you would be showing to that one person would be incalculable.

I wish you all peace and joy and love this Christmas. Do not forget to take 'time-out' and rest for yourselves so that you can begin 2004 refreshed and ready to experience all it may bring.

*Janice Petipher : 562860*