

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a forest. It features several large, moss-covered tree trunks in the foreground and midground. A dense cluster of bright green ferns is visible in the lower right, and other foliage is scattered throughout the scene, creating a lush, natural setting.

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

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August 2020



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Our Local Clubs and Organisation Contacts

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Brownies (Naphill)	Ruth Daly	01494 565571	ruth.daly3@btinternet.com
Bridge Club	Margaret Stagg	01494 530736	
Cubs - Hughenden	Beth Foster		handnhcubs@hotmail.com
Naphill	Martin Beddows		naphillcubscouts@outlook.com
Football Club - Junior	Andy Sinclair		mailto:naphillfc_cwo@yahoo.com
Senior	Harry Salter	07403 249208	
Friends of Naphill Common	Chris Miller	01494 564030	chairman@naphillcommon.org.uk
Good Companions	Pat Furness	01494 565501	
Guides (Naphill)	Toni Green	01494 562089	
Men's Club	Andrew Wasilewski	01494 562770	naphillmensclub@yahoo.co.uk
Residents Association	Gloria LeFlaive	01494 563634	glorialeflaive@msn.com
Naphill Evening W.I.	Sarah Bacon	01494 563479.	Sarah.bacon39@googemail.com.
Naphill Neighbours	Janet Judge	01494 563186	
Scouts (Naphill)	John Huddleston		naphillscouts@aol.com
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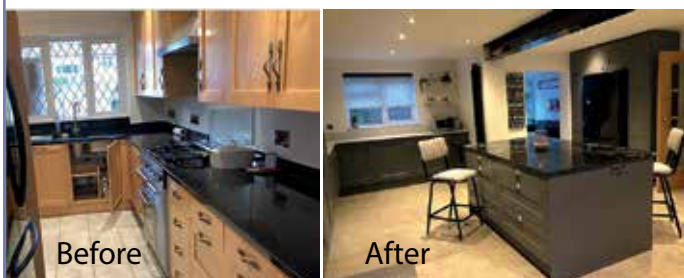
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Bookings - Tanya Stevens

Email: hallbookings@naphillvillagehall.org.uk

Tel: 07851 169275

www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk

Local Council Contact Information

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Bucks County Council	David Carroll	01494 716967	david_carroll@wycombe.gov.uk
Hughenden Parish Council Clerk	Shona Hadwen	01494 715296	clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk
Hughenden Parish Councillors	Chris Waterton	07968 268067	chris.waterton@hughendenpc.org.uk
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Bucks Council Councillor	Steve Broadbent	07471 144181	steve_broadbent@wycombe.gov.uk
Bucks Council Councillor	David Carroll	01494 716967	david_carroll@wycombe.gov.uk
Bucks Council Councillor	Audrey Jones	01494 563435	audrey_jones@wycombe.gov.uk

Helpful Contact Numbers

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Out of surgery hours		101
Breast Unit Wycombe Hospital	Breast lumps self refer	01494 526161
Stroke Support Service	Stroke sufferers, carers & family support	0300 3300 761
Shaw Clinic - Genitourinary Medicine	Genitourinary Medicine	01494 425430
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Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette Subscription Collection 2020

Due to the Covid restrictions this collection has had to be rescheduled. Our delivery team will now be making this collection when they deliver your September Gazette.

Please have three pound coins ready in an envelope marked with your name and address. Thank you for your ongoing support!

The Gazette Team

Copy Date for September Gazette 8 August

Editorial:

As we gradually ease out of lockdown this is another extended, busy edition of the Gazette with lots of news from our local shops, businesses and our community.

Although some restrictions have been lifted, sadly, NapFest has had to be cancelled for this year. The Village Hall Council are organising an August Bank Holiday fund raising weekend with virtual, fun competitions for us all to join in with from the safety of our own homes. Our village hall and our local charities have suffered great financial losses due to lockdown restrictions and so do need our support.

Please see the notice above re the rescheduled Gazette subscription collection for this year. Our magazine does depend upon your contributions and we thank you for your ongoing support.

On a brighter note! We have bright rainbow page surrounds this month and it is SUMMER! Home-schooling is done and our children can enjoy outdoor fun and games! I love having young neighbours, the sound of their boys playing football in the garden is music to my old ears. Good simple, healthy, noisy fun reassures me that there is LIFE beyond our house, a happy reminder that we were all young once! Enjoy your break children!

My thanks to all our contributors and to Himself for the front cover photo. Please note the early copy date for the September Gazette! We are aiming to deliver this issue earlier than usual to cover any Bank Holiday event updates for the virtual fundraising events.

Keep safe everyone and enjoy the Summer,

Sonia

Please Keep it Local

Coronavirus has had a big impact on everyone, not least those who haven't been able to work due to lockdown. Some villagers have lost jobs and others have found work has dried up.

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Naphill Village Hall & Playing Fields Council - Chairman's Report

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A zoom meeting of the committee was held on the 6 July, there were 16 members online.

Reopening of the hall was discussed and at the moment it was decided to keep the village hall closed as the use would not be possible within the current regulations on social distancing and cleaning and the actual numbers of hirers would be small due to no exercise classes or dancing classes, so making opening very costly with fewer lets and low income.

The Napfest committee has sadly agreed not to hold this years event on August bank holiday weekend. Classics on the Crick has also cancelled the event. The Fireworks committee held a meeting on the 1st. July, at the moment it looks doubtful that the fireworks will be held this year but the committee are holding another meeting mid August to decide whether to hold the event or not and that will depend on the restrictions in place at the time.

We do have some good news. We are going to hold a Scarecrow competition throughout the village. The entries will be judged at the front of the houses where they can be seen from the road/path. It is also the same format for classics on the drive where the cars will be judged on the entrants drive from the road. There will also be a virtual dog show with entries via video..

The playground is locked at the moment and although the government advice is that they can open but there

are rules that must be followed, these include the cleaning of the equipment twice weekly and this alone would cost £400. Each user of the playground would be responsible for cleaning after their children had used the playground, there would only be 2 household bubbles allowed at a time. The playground has to be inspected every 3 months by an outside contractor and it is overdue as they are trying to catch up with the backlog of inspections, due to them also being in lockdown. With this in mind we have decided not to open the playground until we are certain it is safe and all the rules can be met.

Now due to the lockdown there has been increased use of the crick but unfortunately there are a few people that do not consider the playground is closed. They have clambered over the fence and taken their children and dogs into the playground. This is completely against the rules and when this was pointed out to them their response was to swear at the person pointing out their error. We will not tolerate this behaviour and any person being abusive will be asked to leave. The car park gates have been locked as the hall is closed and it will add to the security of the hall and make sure that no meetings of cars late at night are taking place or any unwanted visitors are using the car park for dubious activities.

I hope you are all well and keeping safe.

Clive Lawrence
Village Hall Chairman



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A Point of View

We are now in the eighth month of the year which seems to have come about very quickly, presumably because of the prolonged period of the corona lockdown which has affected much of the holiday period and enforced the “stay at home” message promoted by the government. How fortunate we have been, living in such a beautiful place, with ready access to the extensive woodland on our doorstep. I was concerned that the increase in footfall would lead to an increase of littering which fortunately does not appear to have materialised. However, a recent drinking party of young men left behind several beer cans and some glass bottles. This action is totally irresponsible as broken glass bottles, hidden amongst leaves, is a serious problem to both children and dogs and can cause serious injuries. Are the culprits, who will know who they are, so uncaring that they put others in serious danger of injuries?

This past month has seen the demise of the Chiltern Woodland Project, originally formed to protect our beech-woods from the danger of fungal disease and the prospect of clear felling. Fortunately this didn't happen and our aged beech trees have not succumbed, although some oaks have not survived. A greater danger has been the grey squirrel and their activities can be seen on the ring barking of young saplings which will now never make maturity in a healthy state. The Project was thought to have served its purpose and its director John Morris was approaching retirement, having given sterling service in protecting our woodlands and his knowledge and experience has been of immense advantage to our heritage in the Chilterns area. He is maintaining his association in a consultancy operation which will be of some help.

The Buckinghamshire Council is now fully operational together with its area committees, with High Wycombe being our nearest contact point for local services. I would advise readers to acquaint themselves with the council website for all detailed information from refuse collection to planning matters. Council meetings are being conducted “online” and can be viewed on the website using the Zoom App. The inability of not holding last May's elections means that the total combined district and county members are too large for all to meet in one chamber, had the elections taken place as intended the new member representation would have been one hundred and could have been accommodated in the new Aylesbury offices.

Richard Pushan

News from our MP, Hon. Rob Butler MP



This update to the Naphill and Walter's Ash community comes at a time that brings glimmers of hope for many local people thanks to the progress that has been made to slow the spread of coronavirus.

Families and friends have started to see one another again as careful adjustments have been made to the lockdown rules, first enabling limited gatherings outside, and then with changes that permit two households to meet inside.

Pubs, restaurants, hairdressers, gyms and beauty salons have now joined the high street shops that are open again, and I know from speaking to owners and staff of local firms that they are extremely pleased to be welcoming back their customers. The reopening of these sectors is a very positive step and I am sure I was not alone in being glad of a haircut!

At the time of my last update, during the height of the coronavirus crisis, I was participating in parliamentary proceedings via video link, under the “hybrid” system. This worked well as a temporary measure, but I was very pleased to get back to the House of Commons chamber, where I have had the opportunity to put several questions to ministers on behalf of my constituents. I recently asked the Prime Minister about support for the local economy and help for people needing to retrain after the coronavirus crisis. I also continue to champion small businesses in parliament and celebrate the fantastic entrepreneurship we have here in Bucks.

Despite the progress that's been made, I know that residents of Naphill and Walter's Ash will be disappointed that Napfest is not going ahead this year. This is a reminder that unfortunately coronavirus continues to impact our daily lives. But having witnessed the brilliant community spirit in our area since the start of the crisis, not least through the fantastic efforts of so many volunteers, I am confident that together we will find our way towards a “new normal”.

Rob Butler MP



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PLANNING

The following are local planning applications received by Bucks Council between 11th May 2020 and 6th July 2020 for Naphill & Walter's Ash. Any responses by NAWARA appear in full on the Bucks Planning website. The name of our Ward has now changed from Greater Hughenden to Ridgeway East Ward.

20/05986/FUL Greensleeves, Bradenham Wood Lane, W.A. HP14 4XP. Householder application for construction of a single storey detached garage. Received 17 April. Validated 19 May 2020.

20/06303/ADRC Homelands Clappins Lane & Baltic House, Stonefield Rd. HP14 4SP. Appn. For approval of details subject to condition 6 (Landscaping) of planning approval ref.16/07273/FUL. Received 29 May. Validated 03 June 2020.

20/06202/FUL 24 Main Rd. Naphill. HP14 4QB. HA for construction of part single/part two storey side and rear extensions insertion of 7 roof lights. Loft conversion and front infill garage extension. Received 19 May. Validated 20 May 2020. (NAWARA objection)

20/06250/FUL 239 Main Rd., Walter's Ash, HP14 4TH. HA for construction of single storey rear and front extensions with part rebuild of existing single storey garage conversion to create habitable accommodation and alterations to fenestrations. Received 22 May. Validated 05 June 2020

20/06632/FUL 154 Main Rd., Naphill. HP14 4RU. HA for raising og roof and roof alterations including removal of existing roof, dormer and roof terrace, construction of replacement roof with 2 x dormer windows to front, 3 x rooflights and 2 x gable ends to rear to facilitate creation of additional habitable accommodation to first floor with associated external alterations. Erection of cavity walls to existing conservatory and replacement of existing

conservatory roof with flat roof and glass roof lantern. Received 01 July. Validated 01 July 2020.

20/06397/FUL 20 Ash Close. WA. HP14 4TR. HA for demolition of existing garage and conservatory, construction of two storey side and rear extension and fenestration alterations. Received 10 June. Validated 29 June 2020.

20/06302/FUL 17 Ash Close. WA HP14 4TR. HA for construction of single storey side extension following demolition of existing garage and porch in-fill. Received 29 May. Validated 30 June 2020.

Permitted. 20/05779/VCDN. Beverley House, Downley Road, Naphill. HP14 4P. **20/05862/FUL 40 Main Road, Naphill. HP14 4QB.** **20/06303/ADRC Homelands Clappins Lane & Baltic House, Stonefield Rd. HP14 4SP** Awaiting **Decision 19/08031/FUL Clappins Lane Field.** Application for 67 houses in this AONB (formerly Green Belt) 5.6 acre field has not yet been decided. Dandara, the developers, are submitting an amended plan at beginning of August, making a few changes to layout.

The Residents Association is welcoming new members to its Working Group which seeks to defend the interests of the residents of Naphill and Walter's Ash in several ways including helping the vulnerable, safeguarding the environment both inside and outside the village boundaries, and providing a channel for information on matters affecting our village life. If you would like to join the Working Group please ring 07954 812302 or email glorialeflaive@msn.com. Roles as deputies to Chairperson, Treasurer, Planning Member and Secretary would be open to new members.

Gloria Leflaive 563634

Parking - Message from Hughenden Neighbourhood Action Group

Dear Residents,

We have received a number of complaints regarding the parking in Naphill and Walter's Ash and would like to remind residents of the law and their responsibilities in relation to this issue.

Vehicles that are causing an obstruction can be issued with a fixed penalty ticket and in some cases removed.

An obstruction occurs when a vehicle is parked as follows:

- Sufficiently on the pavement, preventing a pedestrian with a wheelchair or pushchair from using the pavement. Blocking a driveway, preventing another vehicle from exiting.
- Two vehicles parked opposite each other preventing other vehicles from using the road.

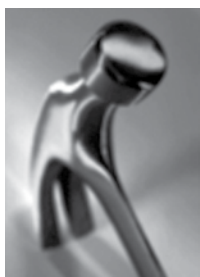
- Too close to a junction and obstructing movement and visibility onto a main road.
- Obstructing, parking or partially parking on a dropped kerb.

Please note – Yellow lines apply to pavement – not just the road.

We would also request that if you have a drive or parking space at your property please park your car there as this would help with the parking issues.

If you would like to speak to someone about the issue please contact your local council or speak to a member of Princes Risborough Neighbourhood Police team who will direct you. to the appropriate person.

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Friends of Naphill Common

We have heard from Wessex Woodland Management – the company contracted by the owners to carry out the felling on Naphill Common – that the third phase of felling will not start this autumn as originally intended. It seems that people with trees affected by the ash dieback disease need to have their trees felled while the timber is still in saleable condition, and this has given Wessex Woodland Management so much work that they cannot complete our felling until next year.

We have been informed by the West Wycombe Estate (who own most of the Common) that they are trialling a new type of humane squirrel control. These are black and orange units installed a few feet above the ground. Grey squirrels are very destructive, both to young trees and birds' nests, and have few natural predators (as there are, sadly, no longer pine martens in the Chilterns), so their numbers must be controlled by humans. For more information, including pictures of the traps, see: <https://goodnaturetraps.co.uk/humane-squirrel-traps/>

Numbering trees is a surprisingly difficult activity. Several years back, when we surveyed the trees on the Common, we numbered some of the significant specimens using small, round aluminium discs, as is the usual practice. We nailed them at about eight feet from the ground and kept a record of these numbered trees, see: <http://naphillcommon.org.uk/mapTable%20trees.html>

Many of the discs disappeared over time. It seems likely that the grey squirrels ate them, leaving only fragments and the nails. Recently new aluminium discs have started to appear on some of the trees but with different numbers. Enquiries are being made but, at the time of writing we do not know who is doing this or why. If you have any information please let us know.

As you may know, there are three species of newt in this country. The smooth newt and palmate newt are both quite common, but the great crested newt is rarer and declining fast. It is an endangered species and protected by law. Its numbers and distribution are measured each year. Two of FONC's members are licenced recorders. Each year they set (harmless) traps in a selection of our ponds to see which species are present.

In the past, great crested newts have been found in Pickup's Pond and samples of water taken from one other pond have also been found to contain great

crested newt DNA. This year's survey was rather late because of Covid-19 preventing cooperative work. The result was rather disturbing. Traps were placed in three ponds, but no great crested newts were found in any of them. Of course, failure to trap any does not prove they are not there. However, what was more worrying was that no newts of any species were captured in Pickup's Pond and Daisy Pond, which is most unusual, while Dew Pond produced an abundance of palmate newts. More positively, palmate newts have also been seen in Willow Pond and most of the ponds have plenty of tadpoles.

Although newts leave the water in mid-summer and move out into the surrounding grass and undergrowth until the following spring, it seems unlikely that they had left at the time of the survey. A more serious possibility is that they no longer frequent these two ponds. While out of the water, newts have several enemies including mowers, cars, dogs, some birds and perhaps cats, but the other possibility is that the ponds have become polluted. One of the sources of pollution are dogs. If dogs have been treated with flea powders and then go into the ponds, they can introduce insecticide into the water, killing the small invertebrates that the newts rely on for food. If you are a dog owner, please try to keep your pet out of the ponds.

Chris Miller – Chairman



High Wycombe U3A

The High Wycombe U3A extends a warm welcome to people living in our area to experience, perhaps for the first time, their local U3A.

We invite you to see and listen on Zoom to our Guest Speakers:

Tuesday 13th August 10 am Ms Swosti

Ms Swosti will be talking live from Kathmandu, Nepal. She will be showing and discussing pictures of Nepali Contemporary Art.

Wednesday 26th August 2.15pm Jeff Rozelaar.

Jeff will be discussing the life of Disraeli, former PM (of Hughenden Manor).

Please email: hw.u3a.membership@gmail.com for your invitation. Why not give it a try?

Paul Gilliam

Hughenden Valley What' Going On? Gardening Club



The Hughenden Valley What's Going On? Gardening Club is a local Facebook page with the idea of sharing and recycling at its heart. Over lockdown many of us had the time to spend in our gardens but not necessarily the means to go forward with our ideas - whether it was because we were self-isolating or our local garden centre had closed. Green bins remained unemptied, pennies were being saved and yet Spring had finally arrived in the garden, there was time on our hands

I felt the need to become more involved with growing my own food when it became difficult at the beginning of lockdown to find the usual fruit and vegetables we all take for granted in our supermarkets. BUT I had no

raised beds, no seeds and little experience of growing vegetables. By putting out a request on Facebook, I instantly had free pallets with which to make my beds and from there it spawned: courgette plants were swapped for cucumbers, plastic plant pots were recycled by a neighbour for growing on and I finally gave away two water butts that had been taking up space on the driveway for far too long! So began an offshoot from Hughenden Valley - What's Going On? A dedicated, local page for all things to do with the garden

One of the most valuable things to come from the club is the experience and advice that local gardeners have - someone who knows the lay of the land and what will and will not work locally, who can tell you what's chomping at your nasturtiums or living in your compost heap! My hopes are that in the Spring of next year some of the group can meet for a seed/plant swap and that we can form links with the Hughenden Allotment and Garden Association (HAGA). For now Hughenden Valley - What's Going On? Gardening Group has over 60 members and is growing. Please feel free to join us on Facebook or consider setting up a group for your own local community.

Sarah Mustapha

Hughenden Community Shop News



The shop is delighted to announce that the outside cafe facility has been expanded and now includes a covered area. The cafe is once more open, all social distancing and hygiene rules are in place and they look forward to welcoming us all to the cafe and the shop!

Wycombe Photographic Society

It is August so it must be SUMMER!! and in the present situation it looks like we may be able to spend time with a limited number of people. Fingers crossed the sun will put his hat on and come on out to play....

I suspect The Gazette Editor would refuse to print this article if I used a four letter word but here is one that twelve months ago most people had always associated with people and things dashing here there and everywhere..... ZOOM.

Did you realise that if you analyse a zoom call then:

- Removal of kids from the room 10%
- Removal of cat from keyboard 7%
- OMG did I take a shower 25%
- Move the camera higher for a better picture of one's self 10%
- Wondering if your neck always looked like that 13%
- Checking out everyone else's house 10%
- Relief at seeing another human being 23%
- Actual Zoom call 2%

Enough of Zoom.... I wish.....

In the middle of all the chaos we actually held our Annual Projected Images Competition using, what else, Zoom and everyone really enjoyed the exercise.

Please go to our web site to see the winning entries. There are some absolutely stunning photos.

One of the good things to come out of the current situation is that Photography Clubs are inviting guest speakers from overseas to talk at meetings using Zoom.

For full details of what is going on at Wycombe Photographic Society please look at our website – www.wycombephotosociety.org.uk

If you see something on our programme that interests you then please contact us and an invitation to attend the Zoom Session will be sent to you.

David Greenwood

Membership Secretary
Wycombe Photographic Society



Photograph courtesy Paul Goby


**Summer Flowers
by
Karen Elliott**


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Hughenden Parish Council

Staff Changes

After almost 4 years in the role of Parish Clerk to Hughenden Parish Council, Shona Hadwen is leaving and relocating back to Scotland.

Melinda Woof will be joining as Parish Clerk on 23rd July. Mel has been the deputy chief officer of the Bucks Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils and will bring a wealth of experience to her new role.

Also joining the Parish Council at the end of July is David Freebody who comes on board as the newly appointed Groundsperson. This new role is designed to provide a greater depth to the level of services provided to residents since the Parish Council took on additional services from Buckinghamshire Council.

New Councillors

At its recent Council meeting on 14th July, two residents were co-opted to represent the Naphill & Walters Ash Ward. Peggy Ewart and Peter Williams who both have previous experience on the Parish Council are keen to make a difference to the Naphill & Walters Ash Ward.

The Council is now on its summer recess and will not meet again until 8th September.

Bradenham Parish Council

The parish council has been functioning during the lockdown although we are meeting on Zoom and have had to be inventive. We still can't meet in person. Due to new regulations coming in we have had to decide to get a new website which will be accessibility compliant. We have always had a free website, put together by one of our councillors, but now we have had to take the expensive step to buy a new website.

It should all be up and running by September. It will again mean changes of email addresses.

Due to the pandemic we have set up online banking, being so small we had stuck to cheques for a long time but many of the controls needed for online banking were already in use.

We are sorry to tell you that the Bradenham Fete planned for 12th September has been cancelled for 2020, but Olivia Wooster is keen to plan it for 2021.

Our next meeting will be Monday 7th September 2020 @ 7.00pm, details on location to follow.

Deirdre Hansen,
clerk to the Council,
clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com



Kop Hill Climb

kophillclimb.org.uk

Kop Hill Climb Keeps The Spirit Alive With Charity Appeal And New Format

In light of the ongoing impact of Covid-19, the Kop Hill Climb Committee has regretfully taken the decision that the event, as we know it, is no longer possible to deliver this year. However, it is working on an alternative non-visitor format which brings the event to you. Much detail still needs to be agreed, including permissions from some external safety authorities; you can find the latest updates on our website at www.kophillclimb.org.uk and across our social media.

Meanwhile, KHC is launching an important appeal to support its charities who now need us more than ever. If you have fond memories of enjoying the many fabulous cars and bikes riding the hill and wish to support us during this difficult year, please go to our donation page <https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/khcappeal> administered by 'Heart of Bucks', our parent charity. Another way you can support the KHC charities is to buy a copy of our commemorative full colour magazine which is available by post. Simply go to our website, select "shop" at the top right of the toolbar and follow the instructions. Every copy sold goes toward this great cause.

With our grateful thanks for your support.

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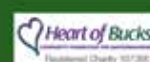


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Growing Your Own



Spring and summer fruit can be a delight. After the winter months, when we cannot have home-grown fresh fruit, the new growing year is eagerly awaited. For me, the first fruit is forced rhubarb. In February when the first buds appear I place a large black bucket over each crown with a heavy brick on top. The bricks stop the buckets being blown away during strong winds. After a few weeks, the first crop – wonderfully pale pink delicate rhubarb stalks. From then on it is a race to crop the rhubarb before their vigour throws off the buckets, bricks and all, and daylight converts them to ordinary rhubarb, not as tasty as forced rhubarb.

Then come the strawberries. I put fleece over the plants in February to bring forward the crop from 4th July, the usual date in the past for me, to 25th May this year. We had a large bowlful nearly every day until late June. By then the large black tayberries were ready. The canes, once the plants are three years old, can grow 20 feet in a season and I drape them over my gooseberry bushes at a height of about 5 feet. The total length of my tayberry plants is about 35 feet and the crop is huge. The tayberries fruit only on the previous year's canes so one of the winter jobs is to take out the old canes. Black tayberries are also a firm favourite for freezing and bottling for the winter.

Whilst the tayberries are in full swing the raspberries ripen. My "Glen Magna" summer-fruiting raspberries can grow 9 feet high and, like the tayberries, fruit on last year's new canes. My plants are now past their best so I shall have to remove them at the end of the season and buy new canes. One has to purchase new stock of some soft fruit every few years since the crops dwindle, possibly owing to a virus. I renewed my strawberries two years ago. As well as raspberries we had a few very welcome cherries from a small cherry tree in the garden. I had to net the tree to stop birds taking the crop. I also netted the three blueberry bushes growing

in ericaceous compost in large pots in the garden. When the soft fruit have finished we shall have the top fruit to look forward to. Fruit blossom did not suffer from frost damage this year and the plums, eating apples, cooking apples, apricots, flat peaches and pears are looking good, as is an excellent crop of figs. I store some eating and cooking apples and they keep until the end of February when wrapped individually in newspaper and stored in boxes in the garage. Pears are bottled in red wine and stored in Kilner jars – great on a winter's night!

Good gardening!

Mike Mason

Zoe is Running for The Pepper Foundation



Zoe, aged 10, is raising money for The Pepper Foundation by running a mile each day in July. If you see her running through Naphill & Walter's Ash then please give her a wave!

The Pepper Foundation is a small charity raising money to fund children's hospice at home nursing care in the local area and supports families in Naphill and Walter's Ash.

To sponsor Zoe then please visit www.givey.com/zoesmile

Thank you!

Jo Sharp



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From Our Wye Correspondent

The housing market has suddenly burst into life, particularly with the Chancellors stamp duty holiday announced last week. I have more houses for sale than at any time in the recent past and I am grateful to those in the village who have entrusted their sale to their local agent. Our offices in Wycombe and Hazlemere are seeing a dramatic increase in those applicants viewing but I have not seen such a marked rise in the villages probably due to the higher price bracket up here. My main concern in relation to the overall increase in transactions countrywide is whether solicitors will be able to cope with the increased workload particularly as the end of the stamp duty holiday comes to a close in March.

Now on to some doggy news. As many of you know Daisy's Dinners started after our little dog passed away a couple of years ago and we have not felt it right to have a new addition because of our work commitments. However when we heard about Teddy (see picture) we had to help. Teddy was rescued 14 years ago in Cyprus after being found in a dustbin as a puppy. His rescuer bought him back to the UK where he no doubt had a wonderful life with a loving owner. Sadly that owner passed away recently and Teddy found himself at the Oxford Animal Sanctuary. He was miserable and not eating, craving company. Enter my eldest daughter

who had volunteered to foster a dog. I now know there were a lot of discussions going on behind my back on a WhatsApp group that I was not a member of. My wife mentioned it to me on Sunday morning and rather stupidly I said are you going to see him. "No" was the answer "He is coming home this afternoon"!! Silly me for thinking I had a say!! So we now have a 14 year old Heinz 57 who is dodgy on his legs and snores. The perfect companion for me some would say. He may spend some time in the office with me so if you are passing please pop in. He is a very friendly placid old boy and loves all people and other dogs

Alan Draper



Nature Letter

After one of the wettest, most dreary winters I can remember April came with blue skies and sunshine. With this came the butterflies and summer migrants. Chiffchaffs, Willow Warblers, Black Caps, with Swallows, Swifts and Martins passing through the Saunderton Valley.

Then at 15.10 on 9 May, on the edge of the common and Cockshall Farm, the sight and sound of a Cuckoo, heard again on five more occasions, the first I have heard on my patch for seven years.

Then on 27 May looking for early Adonis Blues on the BBOWT reserve at Yoesden (half a mile opposite The Boot, Bledlow Ridge), at 20.15 a Nightjar flew over, the first I have seen in Bucks since 1979.

We normally expect to see Siskins in gardens during February and March but this year they were noticeable by their absence, appearing in only 7% of gardens

during January to March compared to 12% last year. In fact the first few months of 2020 showed some of the lowest garden birdwatch counts not only of Siskin but also Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Collared Doves and Starling. Reporting rates from Birdtrack are also low indicating early spring numbers were low across the country.

Gordon



Naphill Evening WI

What a joy. We can now visit friends in the garden for a cup of tea (weather permitting). This, however, has led to me having to learn how to take cuttings of my hydrangea to share with one WI friend! I can't grumble though as she supplied the rooting powder and they are now growing little shoots.

On a gardening note, the pigeons ate every one of our gooseberries this year, which they have never done before. And a crow had the audacity to fly off with one of my crab apples!

Back to WI matters, we are all still receiving a telephone call once a week from our kind committee members, which keeps us all in touch, and we are obviously hoping to meet up when we can.

Good news for those WI members who have not read their WI Life or Buckinghamshire News is that the Federation have moved our membership renewal date to the end of March 2021 instead of December 2020.

The Food Group and the Sew and Chat Group have obviously not been able to meet but most of us have been keeping ourselves busy with other things. I thought you might like to see my knitting efforts though.

As always, keep safe.

Carol Gilliam



Naphill Tennis Club



'Lockdown' provided an opportunity for a much needed spruce-up of our tennis courts to combat those pesky weeds! A socially-distancing working party assembled on a somewhat drizzly Saturday morning to clear out the gullies around the single court and put down a membrane and stones. Helpers trundled barrow loads to and fro, cut and laid the membrane and finished with a neat row of stones. I hope all who pass by will admire the handywork! There is more work to be done but that can wait for another day.

It has been lovely to see so many people enjoying tennis – one of the first sports to open up again since Covid-19 reared its ugly head – and particularly satisfying to see new members joining the club. Our online members' booking system is working well and our coach has also been able to give lessons on a one-to-one basis or to small groups.

We have hand-sanitisers installed by each gate to the courts which players are encouraged to use before and after a game. With luck and careful management, we can keep the virus at bay and all enjoy some fresh air and exercise!

For further information on Naphill Tennis Club, please visit our website: naphilltennisclub.org.uk or contact our Membership Secretary at sarah.dengel1@gmail.com

Jenny Tench



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Naphill & Walter's Ash

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I agree that the above details may be shared for the purposes of judging the competition only (tick box)

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Full Details for Naphill and Walter's Ash Scarecrow Fundraiser

A fun event for the whole community - design & make your own scarecrow from recycled items – a real or fictional character. Display it in your front garden as soon as it is ready for everyone to see with a notice saying which class you are entering.

There will be three classes with a prize for the most creative scarecrow in each class.

Classes are:

- Junior (primary school age or under)
- Adult
- Family

Closing date for entries is Saturday 22nd August and judging will take place over the bank holiday weekend 29th to 31st August.

There is a £5 entry fee for each scarecrow and no limit to the number of scarecrows you can build. Proceeds will be divided between Naphill Village Hall and the One Can Trust which is our local foodbank.

You can enter and donate online at naphillvillagehall.org.uk (we can claim gift aid on these donations so this would be preferred)

or

complete the entry form on page 26 and place it in an envelope with the cash or cheque made payable to Naphill Village Hall and drop it off at either :
101 Main Road Naphill or Kate Cottage, or 252 Main Road (opposite Woodlands Drive.)

Data Protection Notice: By entering you are giving us permission to share your name, address, entry class and contact details with the judges. We will not use these details for any other purpose than the competition and we will not retain them once the winners have been announced..

If you have any queries

@ fundraising@naphillvillagehall.org.uk

☎ Sarah Bacon 563479





Classics on Your Drive

Sunday 30 August 2020

Classics on the Crick will not be held this year, so the Naphill Men's Club is organising "Classics on your Drive" instead. Back to normal, I hope, next year.

The idea is that you park your classic car at the end of your drive to be judged by independent judges on the August Bank holiday weekend. You can also walk around the village to see many interesting cars at the ends of people's drives. Cars that you never thought lived in the village!

If you wish to enter your car into the "show" just send an e-mail to:

@ NaphillMensClub@yahoo.co.uk

and we will send you the details. The cost of entering the "show" is only £5 and all profits will go to Village Hall funds.

There are 5 categories of car, which are, from newest to oldest:

- A. Sports cars 2001 to 2016
- B. Modern Classics 1980 to 2000
- C. 60s & 70s classics 1963 to 1979
- D. Post war classics 1946 to 1962
- E. Pre war classics up to 1945



The deadline for entries is 20th August, which will give us just enough time to get things ready.

By the time you read this we hope to have our two judges in place. They do not know who they are yet. The judging will be on condition, originality, rarity and any interesting features and history.

We will keep everyone informed through the Naphill Facebook page.

We hope you enjoy getting your cars ready and showing them off.



Andrew Wasilewski
Chairman
Naphill Men's Club



NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS

NOTICE ABOUT REOPENING THIS PLAYGROUND

The Government has issued safety guidelines for the reopening of playgrounds from 4th July 2020.

The Village Hall Committee met virtually on 6th July 2020 and unanimously agreed that due to the following reasons this playground will have to remain shut until the guidelines are relaxed further.

1. As a charity, run by local volunteers we cannot ensure only one child plays on an item of equipment at a time.
2. The cost to deep clean the playground would be over £400 per week and only reduces – not eliminates the risk of infection.
3. We are following closely what Hughenden Parish Council is doing with their playgrounds – which at this time remain closed.
4. The company carrying out the quarterly safety inspections has not been able to conduct any playground inspections and we will need an inspection and to carry out any remedial work BEFORE the playground can be safely reopened.

WE HAVE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY IN MIND

The Village Hall Committee will review this decision monthly or if the Government guidelines for playgrounds change significantly. Any update will be posted here and on the Naphill and Walters Ash neighbourhood Facebook group as well as on our website <http://www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk>

Firework Display 2020 Update

As we continue to ease out of lockdown and get to grips with the very latest social distancing measures, sadly, at the time of writing it seems inevitable that we're some way off being able to host large events in the village. The Fireworks Committee typically spends around 6 months planning our event and in order for it to be a success for the village, a number of things need to align such as the weather, sponsors, volunteers, ticket sales, speed of service at the food and beverage points, availability of fireworks, optimising safety zones, etc, etc. With the current climate, there is a huge amount of risk staging such an event successfully. On top of this, our primary concern as a Committee is always to ensure the safety of all of our visitors and volunteers. Hosting an event on this scale, even if the government do give the go-ahead, whilst adhering to social distancing measures would be extremely challenging. A number of bonfire and

fireworks events up and down the country scheduled for November this year have already been cancelled and unfortunately, I suspect that our event this year will have to go the same way.

As a Committee we have decided to make the final go/no go call mid-August and we will of course keep you all updated with our final decision. If, as expected, we do have to cancel this year's event, you can be sure that as soon as we are through with the current situation and it's safe to stage large scale events again, Buckinghamshire's Best Fireworks Display will be back bigger and better than ever!

Until that time, stay safe and well and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Pete Dalby.

Chairman Naphill Fireworks Committee.

Chiltern Hills Arboriculture – Post Lock-down Sanity



It's been a strange few months of late. Queueing to get into the supermarkets, OK in the blistering sunshine we had in April, not so nice in the rain. No pubs or restaurants to visit. No non-essential retail therapy, except online. No cinemas or theatres open to provide a welcome distraction for a couple of hours. No sport. No close contact with friends or family. So, what to do if you are not essential or working from home?

Although restrictions have now been relaxed, it can still be a challenge to find activities and venues to keep yourself from going completely bonkers.

We must have hiked every inch of the common over the last few months, so we thought we would venture further afield to combine two of my favourite pastimes, walking and photography.

Under normal circumstances most of my pictures are travel related. But there is not much of that available at the moment. I'm also interested in architectural photography, but that involves travelling into towns and cities, and again, I am not keen right now. So I thought I would turn my hand to capturing nature.

Once I had taken pictures of every flower and bird in my back garden we took a trip to Weston Turville Reservoir. It's located in Worlds End Lane just the other side of Wendover (call in to Dobbies Garden Centre, they have a fantastic

butchers, Walter Smith, with some superb offerings). It is also a nature reserve (other nature reserves are available, Black Park at Iver Heath, Wilstone Reservoir, Spade Oak Gravel-pit at Little Marlow, and College Lake at Tring). Some of these have timber bird hides with information about which species you are likely to see and great cover from the elements. What they all have is the opportunity to get some fresh air and see some wildlife, with space for kids to run around without compromising social distancing

At Weston Turville there is safe roadside parking and a trail around the water. We saw Mallard ducks with ducklings and some Coots. I caught a Great Crested Grebe catching a fish, and some Common Terns perching on a buoy. Shooting pics of wildlife on water is like "fishing with a camera". Lots of sitting around while nothing much happens, then a frenzy of activity. Constantly questioning yourself, "What settings am I using? Is my shutter speed fast enough? Have I compensated the exposure". After about an hour or so I had collected some shots that I was happy with. Normally I generally don't have much patience when taking photos. With buildings or cities that is fine, they don't move around at will. But animals do. Maybe this will be an education for me. A parable for lock-down, we are not always in control.

*Mike Beckley -
Chiltern Hills Arboriculture Ltd*



Photograph courtesy Mike Beckley

Vivi's Winning Painting & Her Own Words Describing Her Success

In my last term of school, I was going to learn about the Rainforest but as I wasn't going to school because of Covid-19 I learnt about it in home school instead. I was really enjoying getting to know things about the rainforest, especially all the animals that live in it. My mum found a Rainforest art competition from The Living Rainforest and if you won you got a family ticket to The Living Rainforest and some art supplies. The competition was called "Draw to hang out with Cinnamon" (the sloth that lives in The Living Rainforest) and to enter we can choose to draw or paint Cinnamon or any of her friends that live with her to cheer them up because they weren't getting any visitors and hopefully raise funds for them. I entered with a water colour painting of a Chanel-Billed Toucan and named it Charley.

A week later a letter came from the competition saying that I have won my 6-9y old category with my painting. I was so happy I even let a little scream out! It felt so good to have won something big like this because in the letter they told us that there were almost 200 entries. I just couldn't believe it, I liked my toucan, but I didn't think it would win, I kept poking myself because I thought I might be dreaming.

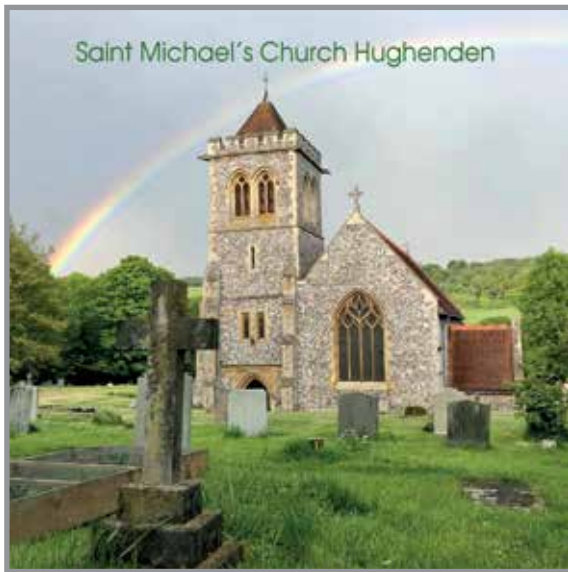


I love my prize because I was meant to go on a school trip to The Living Rainforest and was sad that it was cancelled but I am very glad that I will get a chance now to visit with my family and meet Cinnamon and her friends once they reopen. I have already received my art supplies and I got a new set of watercolour paints, pens, and sketch pad and I look forward to doing more paintings with them.

Vivi Tanceva-Cobley

Editorial Comment: *Thank you Vivi for another lovely article and of course for sharing your beautiful painting with us. I look forward to more Gazette contributions from you soon.*

A Message from Saint Michael's and All Angels Hughenden Vicarage



Our news cycles over the past year have included the General Election, Brexit (do you remember Brexit?!), Cov-19, to the most pressing and compelling footage over the past few weeks, which has grown from the shocking death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, USA, to a loud cry for an end to injustice and racism in all parts of our society.

Perhaps you have watched some of the raw footage online of alleged police brutality, reflected on the growing call for justice, often found collectively under the Black Lives Matter banner, and not just from across the Atlantic, because there have been many protests in the UK, and sadly some accompanying violence towards the police and against counter demonstrators, by a small minority of those who have been amongst the protestors.

Local protests in High Wycombe & Marlow recently, peacefully took place, and over 600 people took part. As the Bucks Free Press reported:

"There were also many positive stories of healing and beneficial sharing between Caribbean, African and Asian cultures, along with a reminder that removing the "ism" from race underlies the fact we are all members of the same race – the human race."

Following the tearing down of the statue of the slave trader Edward Colston in Bristol on Sunday, Vivienne Faull, the bishop of Bristol, said Floyd's death had "brought the issues of racism, oppression, inequality and injustice once again into the spotlight, where they should be. These are issues that the diocese of Bristol, like many organisations, has been aware of, discussed and attempted to address. However, while we have taken some positive steps, it is clear that we have not done enough."

Bishop Vivienne hits the nail on the head, in my mind. Racism is wrong. It is an evil blight upon our society. Whether consciously, or unconsciously it impacts upon the lives of many, and must be challenged, rooted out and eradicated from our society. But what can you or I do? Surely, we can play our part, and that begins with our own lives, views, language and behaviour. It should also stir us to stand up against this evil blight if we witness it in others, gently, respectfully, and appropriately.

As the famous quote, attributed to Edward Burke goes "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Friends, it is not enough for us to shake our heads in dismay in front of our television screens in the comfort of our living rooms, if we are not willing to call out racism, and be a force for change.

All people are created in the image of our heavenly father, and all are equally loved and precious in the eyes of God.

Let us be a force for good, for love, for equality, for justice, and for the kind of society we would wish our children and their children will inherit, where such inequality and racism is a thing of the past.

Rev Keith Johnson

Church News

Welcome Back to the Church

From June 14th the Church and Churchyard are open for private prayer.

We are delighted to welcome those who wish to take some time for reflection, contemplation or devotion in these difficult times.

The car park will be open ONLY FOR THOSE ATTENDING THE CHURCH.

We have been guided by advice from the diocese in providing a safe environment consistent with government guidelines.

Please observe all current social distancing and hand hygiene guidance. Online services continue as throughout the pandemic, including JC Club and Tiny tots. All details from our website: www.hughendenparishchurch.org.uk including how to access the services by phone, for those without internet connection.

Jane Tyrer

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Letter of Support for Naphill Local & Post Office

When I was reading through the very well presented June/July edition of the Gazette, on reaching the Naphill Local advertisement, I was prompted to write this contribution in support.

When the proprietor of the Downley Road Post Office announced his/hers intention to close it a few years ago, a large majority of villagers expressed a keen desire to keep a Post Office in the village

Since my family and I have lived in Naphill, there has been an ironmongers and three general shops, prior to the present one at 19 Main Road.

The arrival of the Coronavirus has influenced many local people who normally shop at say supermarkets in High Wycombe to shop at Naphill Local because it was and still is safer to do so.

There is no doubt that trade has increased which the proprietors, Nadeem and Shabana Akhtar, would no doubt be pleased about on the one hand,

however, support staff could not work because of fear of infection. The pressure on them was clearly intense.

There is no doubt that the shop is better managed and stocked with a greater variety of products than ever before, with the added service of house deliveries.

I am not aware of any Post Office in this area which is not attached to a general shop and therefore, unless the shop makes a profit, it and a Post Office would not commercially survive.

Hopefully, in the foreseeable future the virus will be defeated and normality return. May I suggest to the people of Naphill and it's surrounds that we continue to support, as now, Naphill Local so that Nadeem and Shabana can further develop a community shopping service.

Bernard Reading,





The Wheel

Mark and I and our team welcome everyone back to The Wheel. We also need to give a massive Thank you to everyone who has already been out to see us and supported your local pub.

It has been a very strange and difficult few months. During the full lockdown period Mark and I have worked really hard and have decorated and cleaned the whole pub from top to bottom including all furniture! We even got the chance to decorate the kitchen and cellar, so the place looks amazing.

Towards the end we worked tirelessly to organise and rethink how to make the environment safe for all our staff and customers. Huge risk assessments were written and then it was buying all the equipment and PPE. I would like to thank John Elliott for helping us organise the screens for the bar area as this really helps keep our bar staff safe. We also have hand sanitizer units on walls throughout and a massive amount of signage letting people know the rules and to understand how it all works for service. (There is plenty to read if there happens to be a queue)! The tables have all been measured and moved so they adhere to social distancing rules, and then cannot be moved.

Our staff have all been fantastic and we had a training evening for them and their parents to help understand how it all works. We are all having to adapt to the new ways, but after one whole week I think we are finally getting it!

The One-Way system is working well on busy days, which is ordering at the front bar, walking round to the back bar where you pay, collect and do your track and trace information. It's also noticeable that the customers are getting well trained too and are using the glasses, plate and cutlery collection areas, which is helping us so much.

During this very random time we are operating different opening times for both food and drink and these will keep being adapted until we are up and running properly. So, it is best to call for information and to book a table inside whether it is for food or drink. All our outside areas are not being booked and is on a first come first served basis. Our next addition to the pub is going to be pizzas as we have bought a pizza oven and will be able to offer takeaway as well as eating in. We will attempt to let you all know when this is going to start (we use Facebook to advertise the most up to date information)

I truly hope all this helps a little and we wish all our local businesses the best in their future and with their re-openings, we fully understand how hard it's been and the work involved getting started again. (Good Luck to you all).

Once again thank you for supporting us and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Mark and Claire.



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Regular readers of the Gazette will be familiar with my prowess in gardening. To say I am inept is an understatement and seasonal garden jobs are truly the most loathsome of chores for me. I aim to do the absolute minimum work possible in the garden – just enough to stop social services or the police being contacted on the suspicion of there being a deceased person on the premises due to the overgrown nature of my plot!

The one thing I can do quite well is grow herbs and tomatoes in pots, so at the start of lockdown my attention was caught by an advertisement promoting a potato growing kit for 'only' £17.99. Thinking about the deliciousness of fresh new potatoes, I explored further, discovering that this 'amazing' kit consisted of a plastic bin, seed potatoes, fertilizer and instructions – a poor bargain to my mind. But it got me thinking, and when a few days later I was offered some seed potatoes for free, I decided to have a go.

I searched the internet for growing instructions and found I already had everything I needed apart from compost. The seed potatoes arrived, I lovingly planted them in the required depth of compost and started to keep watch over them. And that's when the miracle happened! They began to grow! ME actually growing stuff!

Since then, I have been tending my potatoes with the same level of care as a mother hen tends her brood of chicks and they are rewarding me with their luxuriant growth. How many potatoes I end up with remains to be seen, but I am loving tending my 'brood'. Moreover, it hasn't stopped there. Cavolo nero is growing in a little bed I made using the sides of a banana box as edging, and some more potatoes (these had lain forgotten in the bottom of the veg rack and started to sprout, so I thought I'd plant them rather than compost them). I have dug out a border and planted flowers, cleared a rough area at the edge of my lawn and seeded it with grass, trimmed overgrown bushes and planted a little Mediterranean bed. I have discovered all sorts of things growing in the jungle that was my garden, including a beautiful pink standard rose. My daily reading now involves scanning the RHS website to check I am doing things properly or find out what might be ailing my plants (mainly my previous neglect!). I had no idea gardening could be so enjoyable.

When they ask me 'what did you learn during lockdown?' I will proudly answer 'the joy of gardening'.

Another answer might be 'it's ok to have a change of heart'. The New Testament tells the story of a young man called Saul who loathed Christians with a passion. On a mission to exterminate them, he had a sudden encounter with the presence of the risen Jesus that turned the passion of his hatred into love. That young man became St Paul – one of the greatest saints of the Christian church.

May you know God's blessing in your life – and may your gardens be lush.

Rev Jenny Ellis



Church News

In common with other places of worship, St. Botolph's is not yet open for services. However, it is open for private prayer from 10am until 6pm on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Every effort has been made to meet the government's requirements for the safe use of buildings. Seat cushions and hassocks have been removed from the nave, as have all books and papers. Hand sanitizer is available at the door.

At the time of writing we do not yet know when normal services may resume.

It is with regret that we have to announce that the Rector, Revd. Dr. Allan Barton, has resigned with effect from 30th June 2020. Our associate priests, Revd. Jenny Ellis, Revd. Veronica Beaumont and Revd. Linda Richardson, are continuing to work in the Benefice as they have done throughout the Rector's absence through ill health since Easter 2019. We are very grateful to them.

Peggy Ewart 565969



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Shear Madness

Well I must say, it's good to be back if a little strange. I'm writing this after doing my first few days and so far so goodish! I had a blip with my card reader, you know me and technology don't mix well. I'm very proud of you for sticking to the new rules it has all been very stressful but it will calm down once the rush is over, I hope.

During lockdown I held a secret competition for the best/worst lockdown home haircuts, it's been hilarious seeing all your photos and videos it's really kept me going, the winner was Keith. He's not from the village he's one who's been following me for years.



I must apologise for my first notice in the window, the number was wrong, again that was me rushing to get as much information to you as soon as possible. Remember it's appointment only by phone now, I am answering the

phone in the evening between 6pm and 6.30pm as it's been quite a struggle to pick up the phone during the day. Thank you once again for being so understanding in these strange times. All I ask is that you are on time as I'm running a tight ship at the moment to get as many as I can in, if you are late you will miss your slot and I will have to charge you as the appointments are like gold dust, as I'm sure you understand.

Sadly I've lost a couple of my favourite customers, lovely Graham sadly lost his amazing long battle to cancer, I've known him for many years before we even came to the village, I will miss him and his wit, love to his family. Patrick, a true gentleman and a giant, I've seen him get slower over the years but wonderfully cared for by his daughter Melanie and her family. They will both be missed dearly.

So I'm happy but very tired but I will get back into the rhythm again, it's been a long four months, it's just so good to see you all again.

Love as always

Mandy

I know I am privileged – But

I am sitting in my beautiful garden on a sunny, warm summer's day following one of my favourite pastimes - observing the birds. The kites are soaring and swooping across the bright blue sky like sailing ships progressing across a shimmering summer sea. Their happy shrieks of delight as they dodge and "dozy do" with each other fills the air with a melee of sound. The garden robin has me fixed with his beady eye, making sure I don't take any liberties as he bravely pecks in the food tray nearby – about a dozen starlings (the unruly teenagers of the bird world) descend upon the bird bath, each jostling for space, ruthless in their determination to find a bath area in a vessel sized more suitably for the little visitors. Their cheerful chatter to each other reminiscent maybe of Roman baths long ago when communal baths were taken and gossip exchanged! The leader must give a signal, as with one accord they are off, en masse to their next disruption!

The trees are filled with birdsong, many sadly I do not recognise; doves cooing their monotonous note, pigeons repeating their only phrase, humming bees all adding to the peaceful, idyllic, romantic image of the perfect summers day - - -

I know I am privileged – but –

Why this knot in my tummy? This little worrying niggle I can't quite place? My world as I know it has been turned upside down - no longer happy visits from family - they come but we wave to them from the "the socially distanced" front door; no walks with friends, no happy afternoons spent with the Silver Swans - no shopping trips out for food - This is nobody's fault, it is nature being a little difficult with the human species at the moment.

Our protection is being eased a little now, the virus is dwindling when it found not so many humans out and about to prey on – I am taking tentative steps outside again but feel very nervous. Having spent nearly four months behind my front door it seems like a huge step that we are all going to have to relearn. There are days of joy now, the children, grandchildren and great grandchild now come for "garden fresh air" tea and cake - the bird song is joined by happy family laughter. It will be back to normality soon, not instantly I know, but the hope is there, and we all need that hope; so stay safe, and with time that niggle will leave us, and all will be right with our worlds.

Shy Contributor (details upon request)

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After Rainbows Come Horizons

Coronavirus can open our eyes to new opportunities in education, for children and adults alike.

"What do you want to be when you grow up?". The look of bewilderment on my children's faces is astonishing. They flounder for a suitable answer – how do they pick one thing? A builder, a zoologist, a Minecraft you tuber, (oh no!), are the answers on different days. Why do they need just one answer – are our careers supposed to be so straight lined?

We recently studied Ibn Al Haytham – the Father of Optics. Before him, it was believed that light came out of our eyes and this allowed us to see. During a lengthy incarceration, Ibn Al Haytham discovered that actually light is reflected off objects into our eyes. Clever man! He is remembered for his science but he was also a mathematician, a philosopher, an astronomer, a poet. If we look at other great people they are often a mixture of great skills. Leonardo da Vinci was not just an artist but a scientist and inventor. Albert Einstein was an accomplished musician. Does it encourage greatness when you combine a variety of skills?

Should we encourage our children to consider multiple career choices, help them work towards a number of different skills, options and possible ways to earn a sustaining income? Should their education also reflect more choice, variety and a different outlook to the turntable of constant testing and exams? Has this foray into home-schooling, or at least some version of it, albeit pandemic induced, encouraged parents to consider their children's skills. Watching your child, or even helping our child do homework is different, it is viewing their response after a full day's work. Watching your child learn for the whole day can be enlightening – do they work better in the morning or afternoon? Do they need to run around a lot before they can sit still? Do they immediately favour certain subjects you didn't know they enjoyed? Have you found a way to encourage them despite the stress and anxiety you may all be under?

The coronavirus epidemic has perhaps also made us consider this for ourselves and our own working habits. It has undoubtedly given a very large part of the population of the country a wake up call, a good shake and opened our eyes to not only new dangers

but new possibilities as well. People are suddenly having to do jobs they never intended, parents are dabbling in home schooling their children, small businesses are changing their way of working or indeed creating whole new strands of income via delivery or click and collect, large businesses are having to rearrange their ethos and working environments. Companies are realising that despite the pyjamas and biscuits, home working is actually quite efficient. Have you suddenly launched yourself into new technology or areas through need?

Rarely do events come along that affect a change for every part of society, but this pandemic has certainly given us all food for thought and perhaps a new direction.

Eleanor Coldwell



Thank you Will Benjamin for this beautiful photograph. At just 11 years old, Will is our youngest Gazette photographer!

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Leigh Lewis Optometrist - *I am thrilled to welcome you back to our practice.*

Over the past few months, I worked alone during what the College of Optometry called the red period. I was repairing and replacing specs, but until now, legislation only allowed appointments for emergencies and frontline services.

It was a pleasure to see many of you. Our distanced chats really eased the lockdown stress. It's inspiring to hear how much of our community is continuing to provide essential services on the frontline and in the village. Including our Becky, who made over 150 masks and scrubs for the NHS and others.

We now move to the amber period. In order to prepare our practice to resume routine examinations, we have completed the NHS resumption of services risk assessment checklist and displayed the association's hygiene and PPE examination certificate.

We have now split into two teams to ensure we are able to provide care if one of us falls ill and to self-isolate.

Many of you are aware that we have an experienced Optician Judith Haynes joining the practice to complete one team. I have asked her to introduce herself with a few words as COVID restrictions have put a stop to the nicety of popping in to meet her.

"Having worked as an Optometrist since qualifying in 2002, I have gained a wide range of experience. I find the best thing about working for an independent practice is the opportunity to get to know the people whose eyes I test and provide consistent, continuing eye care within a community.

Outside of the testing room I am a mum of two and enjoy family time exploring our local countryside or relaxing with friends.

I love in no particular order, adventure, food and great company. These passions have taken me scuba diving in Zanzibar, snowboarding in the mountains of Japan, dining in Tuscany and sailing around the Isle of Wight amongst other memorable journeys. Sharing new adventures with my family as we grow together is very important to me.

I look forward to meeting you all".

We are now open by appointment on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

This gives us time to disinfect surfaces and equipment, sterilise frames and change our PPE to be ready to greet you with a mask covered smile.

We will continue to review our opening times as we move forward, ensuring we can still provide personal eye care while upholding the stringent hygiene measures.

Please feel free to call us on 01494 564600 or text on 07769652960. We will do our best to schedule appointments and answer any questions you have.

Best wishes to you all.

Leigh Lewis

Naphill Neighbours

At the time of writing the Village Hall remains closed and thus out of use. Our Monday afternoon slot was popular with members, and an interesting programme for 2020 had been arranged. This included several outings and extra events. We are all missing the social contact with friends and look forward to when 'We'll meet again'. We do know where but we don't know when.

Yvonne Cook has been busy altering some bookings planned for 2020. Our thanks to her for her efforts on our behalf.

Our scheduled afternoon tea, booked with 'Flying Tearooms', for 10th August, has had to be postponed. It has now been booked for 11th August 2021. The half day outing to Mapledurham House, followed by a cream tea, has also had to be put back. It had been planned to

take place in September but will now be the first outing in 2021. The new date is Tuesday May 11th. Not long to wait! Please make a note in your diary.

We do not yet know when our next meeting will take place but will notify everyone as soon as possible. Please keep safe.



Peggy Ewart

565969

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Toddle In Group

nurturing curious minds

As we begin to tentatively step out of our homes and dip our toes in to our old lives, we do so with a strengthened desire to live a healthy, strong, and fun life! Here at Toddle In Group, most of our families have now re-joined us, and the children's reactions have been that of immense pleasure that friendships can once again be enjoyed. We celebrated the children's resilience and the part they have played in keeping each other safe by staying at home with an invitation to come back to Nursery, and a medal to keep.



From our first day back at Nursery we have strived to spark the children's curiosity with beautiful invitations to explore, and to play together.

A simple way to do this is to start with a good quality, and engaging story book! Children enjoy books so much more when they can be a part of the story. We engage the children in story telling with puppets and props, by linking reference books to the story, and by creating activities to develop themes that the book introduces. 'We're going on a bear hunt' inspires us to take our socks off and feel different surfaces with our toes, whilst 'The very hungry caterpillar' explained a little more about the metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly, which we filmed and shared with our children on our Facebook page. Books provide deeper meaning and rich vocabulary! It is a great way of playing at home, and helping your child to develop their concentration, as well as their love of books.

Since returning, our children have been enjoying a book called 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas. The Colour Monster has lots of different feelings, all jumbled up inside and he can't understand them. His friend helps him to separate all of his colours and feelings, so



that he can understand them a little better. Not only is the book well written, but the children really engaged with creating the Colour Monsters jars, separating and labelling their feelings. They have used the language in the book to talk to each other. One child said 'I feel a bit blue today', and their friend replied 'What can I do to help you feel yellow?'. Understanding our emotions when we are very little is a big learning journey, so we have created a little area inviting the children to revisit their jars, the story books, and their drawings. It sparks curiosity to explore, and helps the children to describe how they feel even if they aren't sure of the label. Our school leavers are also finding the 'The Colour Monster goes to school' by Anna Llenas a great way to relate to their own excitement and nervousness about leaving us and joining primary school.



We hope you all keep safe and well, we will continue to work as part of a close, and supportive community as we recover from the lockdown and plan for the future. We are open as normal, and we are now booking families in who wish to join us in September for invitations to learn and to explore!

For all enquiries please call us on 01494957196 or email Kim at enquiries@toddleingroup.co.uk.

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Firstly, a massive thank you to all of you who have supported us by partaking in our take away "Afternoon Teas" for two. For those of you who have not heard about them, our Afternoon Tea for two comprises:

8 x finger sandwiches

4 x scones with clotted cream and jam

6 x cakes (2 each of 3 varieties)

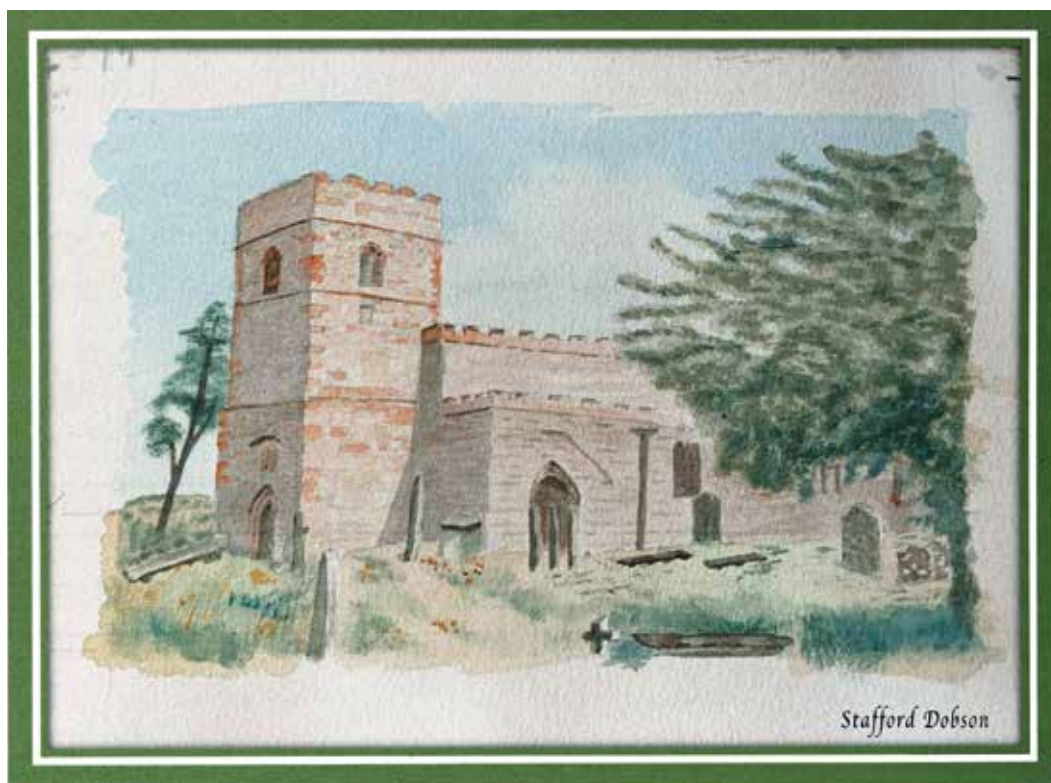
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We are constantly reviewing when it may be safe to reopen. In view of current government guidance we feel unable to adequately protect both customers and staff. We hope to be able to give you brighter news next month. In the meantime we will continue to offer our "Afternoon Teas".

In these difficult times we hope that you all stay safe and well. We very much hope to see you all in the near future.

Amanda and Ruth

Announcing the Death of Stafford Dobson



Stafford was a kind, thoughtful, generous, artistic man. He died on 7 May having lived in Naphill for 56 years. He had so many interests. Sadly missed by family and many friends



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Announcing the Death of Elsie Hussey

12 August 1923 – 23 May 2020

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Elsie on 23rd May 2020, she was the much loved mother of Diane, Robert and David, Grandmother and Great Grandmother

Elsie was born on 12th August 1923 in London. She lived in Kilburn until she was around 3 years of age. Her father then purchased 1.5 Acres of land at Marlow Bottom. He subsequently built a home for them and used the land to keep pigs and chickens and also grew fruit and vegetables. Elsie had a sister several years older than her, a brother several years younger and a second brother born when she was 19 years of age.

She went to school in Marlow until she was 14 years of age, travelling into Marlow with all the Marlow Bottom Children on the back of a lorry. It was a long walk when you missed the lorry, as she found out one day.

When she left school she worked in a furniture factory and then in Lyons Tea Rooms in High Wycombe. She was 16 when the Second World War started and by



this time was working at Ernest Turners Electrical in High Wycombe, producing parts for Aircraft Dials. After the war she continued working there and met her future husband, a Naphill boy, John Hussey.

They married in September 1951 and moved into a caravan in Walters Ash, their daughter Diane was born July 1952, and not long after that they moved to Princes Risborough where they lived for about 3 years. They were then able to move to the house they lived in for the rest of their lives, in Stocking Lane, Naphill,

next door but one to John's parents. They went on to have 2 sons, Robert born in 1955 and David in 1961.

Elsie became part of village life and various village organisations including Naphill Neighbours and WI. She learnt to make lace in the late 1980s and attended various lace groups until very recently and had many friends through her love of Lace making.

The Hussey Family

Old Lace-Makers Never Die, *they just keep bobbin' along*

That is what it says on the kitchen magnet given to me by my dear friend Elsie Hussey a few years back and it was certainly true of Elsie. You may recall an article about her entitled 'The Story of Naphill's Most Senior Lace-maker', in the Gazette' March 2019 issue. She was thrilled to feature in our village magazine and to share her memories of our community with so many of us in person at last October's Heritage Day in the village hall too, when she came along to help demonstrate lace-making ... she was still making Honiton lace having celebrated her 96th birthday just three or four months before and very willing as well, to pause the work in hand to draw on her bottomless stock of fascinating stories accrued during her lifetime in this area.

It was with a very heavy heart that we learned of Elsie's passing towards the end of May. For some time her



body had struggled to keep pace with her mind and early this Spring, the day their doors closed to visitors due to the pandemic, she moved into a care home at Holmer Green, having lived in the same house in Stocking Lane on the edge of Naphill since 1954. It was very sad that thereafter both family and friends were only able to keep in touch with Elsie via phone calls due to

Lockdown but I know a part of her is still here among us in our hearts and doubtless if it is possible Elsie is bobbin' bobbins wherever she is now, making Honiton lace and keeping all entertained there.

R.I.P dear Elsie. 12.08.1923 – 24.05.2020

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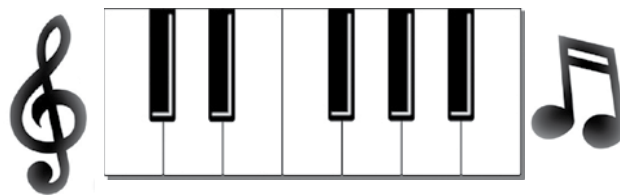


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A Message from Padre Chrissie Lacey - Fruity

Our teaching series at church over the next few months is the Fruit of the Spirit. It's a bit in the Bible where this guy Paul (who wrote a lot of letters to the new churches that were forming after Jesus had died and resurrected) describes what living out the Christian life is like. Sure, he writes about highs and lows...he himself went through some pretty crazy stuff, in fact he wrote a lot of his letters from house arrest, basically in lockdown! But, when Paul is writing about the Fruit of the Spirit, he is explaining that when Christians root themselves in God, by reading the Bible and imitating Jesus' example, some pretty epic 'fruit' grows.

Now, I'm not an avid gardener, but my parents are. I grew up on copious amounts of home grown produce and they froze, bottled and jammed things to keep them throughout the year. We would often take carrier bags of courgettes, runner beans or spinach to church for people to take at the end of the service. But this harvest didn't simply happen. My mum and dad were often in the garden. They would rotate the different crops round the different plots, add chicken bone (ewww) and manure (pongy) to the soil in preparation, nurture the seedlings in every available sunny patch in the house (genuinely, it was like living in a scene out of the jungle book!), put netting over the plots, beer out for the slugs and the watering seemed relentless. And all of this was important, because to nurture the best fruit/produce, the plants themselves and the soil they were in, needed attention and intentionality.

And if you are so inclined to grab a Bible or google it, in Galatians 5: 16-26 we find the bit in Paul's letter where he writes about how what we root ourselves in will determine the fruit in our lives. He explains that yes, the Christian life is hard work, because we might need to say 'no' to some temporarily enjoyable things and to a lifestyle which kind of goes with the flow...but, if you choose to root yourself in God's teaching then with a little nurturing, tending, protecting and nourishment the fruit we produce not only blesses us but those around us too. So, what are these fruits? They are 'love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.' If you want to find out more contact me, Padre Chrissie, for details on the online and physical –

Contact Padre Chrissie on:

christina.lacey102@mod.gov.uk or 01494 494469



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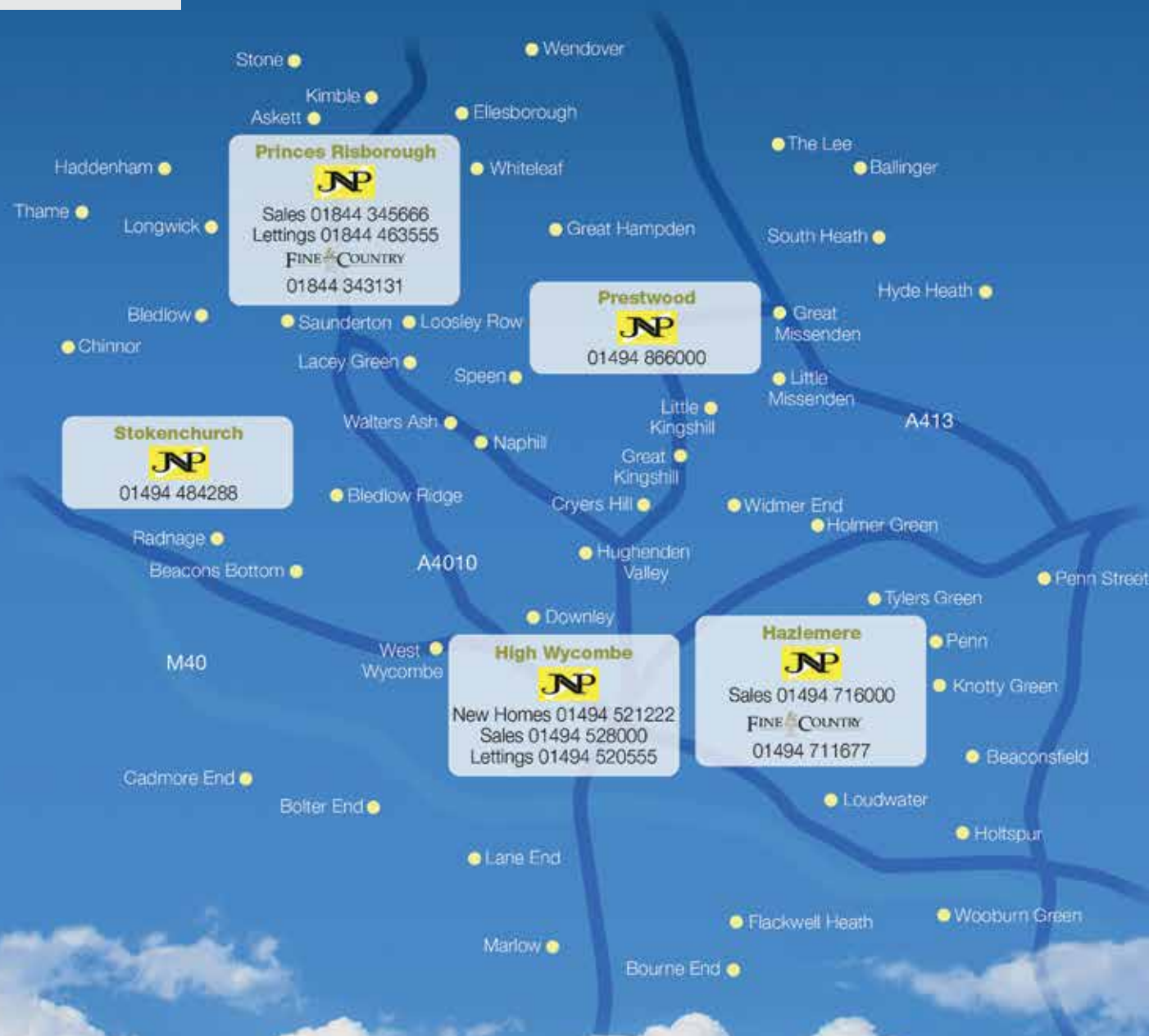


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