

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette



October 2018

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Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

October 2018

Online now at [www.naphilland waltersash.org.uk](http://www.naphillandwaltersash.org.uk)

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Naphill & Walter's Ash School	Kerenza Gwyn	562813	office@nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk
Pharmacy Hughenden Valley Surgery	Enquiries	565458	8.00am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-6.15pm
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Thames Valley Police NON EMERGENCY		101 PRNPT	
Village Hall Bookings	Tanya Stevens	563053	naphillvillagehallbk@gmail.com 07851169275

Naphill and Walter's Ash Clubs and Organisations			
Club or Organisation	Meeting Day	Location	Contact
Beavers	Tuesdays 5.30-6.45pm	Scout and Guide Hut Naphill	Barry Reading 447121
Bridge Club	Thursdays 7.15pm	Naphill Village Hall	Margaret Stagg 530736 Rene Ashby 482933
Brownies (Naphill)	Thursdays 5.45 -7.00pm	Scout and Guide Hut Naphill	Ruth Daly 565571 ruth.daly3@btinternet.com
Cubs- Hughenden Naphill	Mondays 6.45-8.15pm Tuesdays 700-8.30pm	Scout & Guide Hut Naphill Scout & Guide Hut Naphill	handnhcubs@hotmail.com naphillcubscouts@outlook.com
Football Club Naphill Junior Boys Training Sessions	U6, 7, 8, 9 Saturdays 9.30-11am	NWA School	John Hamill naphillfcjuniors@hotmail.co.uk
	U10, 11, 12 Saturdays 9.30-11am	RAF Sports Field	Bob Hathaway 563332
	U13, 14, 16 Saturdays 9.30-11am	RAF Walter's Ash	
Friends of Naphill Common (FONC)	Various	Various	Trevor Hussey 563767
Good Companions	First Thursday every month	Hughenden Village Hall	Sheila Veysey 562332
Guides (Naphill)	Wednesdays 7-8.45pm	Scout and Guide Hut Naphill	Toni Green 562089
Men's Club	Monday to Friday 7.30pm	Naphill Village Hall	Andrew Wasilewski 562770 naphillmensclub@yahoo.co.uk
Mobile Library	Wednesday 10.55-11.30am 11.35 -11.55am 12.05 -12..20pm	Naphill Village Hall Forge Road Eastlands, Lacey Green	
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday of the month 7.45 for 8pm	Naphill Village Hall	Sheila Rolfe 562888 Hazel Vickery 563977
Residents Association	Third Thursday in the month 8pm	Naphill Village Hall	Gloria Leflaive 563634 glorialeflaive@msn.com
Scouts (Naphill)	Thursdays 7.30 -9.15pm	Scout and Guide Hut Naphill	naphillscouts@aol.com
Seniors Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in the month 12.45 for 1	Naphill Village Hall	Jan Gaunt 562282
Tennis Club - Senior	Sundays 1.30pm	Naphill Tennis Club	Sarah Dengel 563706 sarah.dengel1@gmail.com Jenny Tench 565406 jttench@gmail.com Terry Crooks 562539 ter-rycrooks2001@aol.com
	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am		
	Wednesdays 11am <u>Thursdays (April-Sept) 6.00pm</u> Fridays 4.00-7.15pm Saturday 9-9.45am under 7s		
Tennis Club - Junior			
Village Hall Council	First Monday in the month 8.00-10.00pm	Naphill Village Hall	Clive Lawrece chairman@naphillvillagehall.org.uk
Help with filling in online forms	Judy Whitehouse 562742 or Sheila Draper 563670		
Naphill Evening WI	3rd Thursday in month 7.45pm	Naphill Village Hall	Juliet Shortall 565018



It's a new day over Naphill!

photograph courtesy Mike Beckley

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Editorial

We are told that time flies when you are having fun! The glorious Summer has certainly flown by and I hope it was enjoyed by you all. The Autumn colours are appearing, the days are getting noticeably shorter and this edition of our magazine is full of Autumn events, the 26th Firework Spectacular, and dare I mention CHRISTMAS!

Just where has the time gone? Is this really my fiftieth attempt at compiling the Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette? Has it been fun all the time? Well if I am totally truthful, not ALL the time, but overall, when Geoff our printer drops the latest edition off, I breathe a sigh of relief and trust that it will be enjoyed by you all.

Over my five years as editor I have introduced a lot of changes to our magazine. It is now 8 pages bigger than when I arrived and as you all know, I love colour, so we now have plenty of this in the magazine which has greatly added to the production costs. Added to this we now have a monthly software subscription to pay and there will be another steep rise in paper costs which will further add to our printing bill. This month I will be meeting with my Gussetteers to discuss the Gazette finances and set the budget for the coming year. We are likely to have to make the first rise in our Gazette subscription charges for several years but more on this next month when our ever-efficient treasurer, Mike Pool gives us the figures and his advice on this.

Here at World Headquarters, like so many grandparents, we had the two grandchildren staying over the school holidays. When it came to the Friends of Naphill Common Bat Walk neither of them was very sure that they wanted to be dragged away from their

technological devices but their Mother insisted! "WE ARE GOING"! So! a reluctant 10 year old and 15 year old sallied forth. They returned over two hours later, enthused to the extent that they immediately sat and scribed all their newly acquired, fascinating "Batty Facts". So thank you Friends of Naphill Common and please can we have more family walks and events to encourage us all to join in and appreciate our environment.

I have rarely lived in a home without at least one canine family member. For many years, these were large or giant breeds. There was nothing I enjoyed more than watching my Afghan hound run free with her gorgeous silky hair flowing as she ran or my huge black, bounding Great Dane foraging in the woods and playing with our children. All our big dogs were well trained, so I am not too sure that I was aware that perhaps they were intimidating to other people, much smaller dogs or that worse still, that they might bowl a small child over. Two Chihuahuas later, and being personally, physically disabled, my perspective has changed! The Crick is a public space and there are notices clearly stating that ALL dogs must be leashed, this makes it a safe area for everybody involved. We do have other places where dogs can run free so folk, however well trained, friendly, slow moving your much-loved pooch might be, please respect the areas where there are restrictions.

Time to start putting everything into this Autumn edition of our magazine. We are missing a few articles from some of our regular contributors. One I believe is in Australia getting married, several are on holiday, other groups are yet to meet and my new school reporters are busily settling into their final year at Naphill & Walter's Ash School. I look forward to hearing from them all next month and sharing their news with you then.

Sonia

01494 569428

editor@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
www.naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

Naphill Village Hall and Playing Fields Council *Registered charity number 300309*

Chairman's Report

The September meeting of the village hall committee was held on the 3 September. Among the points discussed were adopting the decision making protocol. An equalities policy was circulated and after discussion the committee agreed to adopt the policy. The hallmaster diary/calendar will now be used to enable us to see what activities are taking place on the Crick and if we decide that the more regular users are charging for group activities we feel that a charge should be made for using the facilities.

Approval has been given to the maintenance committee to purchase a new extractor fan for the kitchen. Also replacing the car park posts, putting 2 new doors on the changing rooms and having the pointing done on the path and wall surrounding the war memorial. It was agreed that this would cost £4100. We are also looking into having the audio cabinet replaced with a new system costing £1500 to £2000.

The fundraising for the play equipment is ongoing with the Christmas fayre on the Friday 30 November allocating the money raised to the play equipment fund. A Tack sale will be held on Saturday 27th. October with monies raised also going to the play fund. A local company has promised to donate £1000 and individual donations have also been offered. Unfortunately our application for funding from the Calor Community Fund was not successful, this was the last of our bids for funding. The initial equipment for the toddlers appears to cost in the region of £15000 and when this is in place we will continue to install more items for the children to play on, so the fundraising will continue. If you would like to donate, you can via the naphillvillagehall.org.uk website and click on the link to donate, all donations will be used for the playground equipment.

At the meeting of the village hall committee a proposal was made for a smaller management committee of

Trustees who would meet monthly for decision making and then a larger meeting for all stakeholders which would take place quarterly. The trustees agreed to consider the constitution of this monthly group before the next meeting where further discussion will take place. Any changes would need to be included as amendments to the Scheme and therefore can only be agreed at the AGM.

The Napfest committee has already met for next year's event and Linda Clark has agreed to be the chairman. The 2019 event will be on 7/8/9 June. The flypast and the marquee have been booked and the theme will be The Circus.

The fireworks on 3rd. November is also going to be a great event with £6000 worth of fireworks, a bonfire and for this year live music before and after the event. Tickets will soon be available from local shops and pubs and also from the website. It is an event that has a good attendance and we have limited the number of spectators to 3000 this year, so make sure that you buy your tickets while they are still available.

Clive Lawrence
Village Hall Chairman.



NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL
27 Oct 18
1400hrs-1600hrs



"I'M NOT COLD, MY OWNER, SHE'S COLD!"

In support of the Naphill play area
£2 Entry fee, £10 per table(Provided),
to book a table email lindaclark894@hotmail.com

What Are We Doing About Our Missing Playground Equipment?



The Village Hall Council is acutely aware of the lack of a facility for young children and is doing its best to fill the space left by the removal of the toddler unit. The activity trail will come later.

At present, our focus is on a replacement unit for children aged 2 to 6. We have some facilities for older children but the little ones are left with 2 swings and 2 springers. There have been some disappointed faces this summer. It is necessary to get three designs and quotes for a new unit because the cost will be of the order of £15,000. This is in hand. Three companies have visited, taken measurements, and are submitting suggestions; the intention is to present these to the Village Hall Council meeting at the beginning of October so a decision can be made. The Parish Council has offered a grant of £5000 provided we match that amount and organise events to raise a further £5000.

Now that the long hot summer is over it is time to raise funds specifically for the playground. This is necessary because the Council has recently had to spend about £20,000 on a flat roof and more roof work is required. Judy Whitehouse, our secretary, has made a number of grant applications on the Council's behalf with no success to date.

Some events and sources of funds are in the

pipeline. We hope the Co-op Community Fund will be helping us again, for this specific purpose. We were very grateful for the £2000 + that was raised for us last year. Linda Clarke is arranging a 'Tack' sale in October (details elsewhere in the Gazette). Profits from the Christmas Fayre on November 30th will go towards the initial £5000 target. Funds can also be donated on the 'Donate' page on our website (www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk).

Raising money for the popular table tennis table was a huge success. Can we do something similar for the playground? Once we have funds in place for the new toddler unit, we need to consult our 'juniors' and raise money for a new activity trail to go in the large empty grassy space. At a guess, the cost of this will be getting on for £30,000. SO THERE IS MUCH TO DO.

Ideas and offers of help would be greatly appreciated. Clive Lawrence can be contacted via the website, and I would be happy to hear from people by phone (565969) or email : pegwat1066@btinternet.com. I look forward to being inundated!!!!

I have written at length so there are no misconceptions about the progress we are making, and how much more there is to do.

Peggy Ewart



Hughenden Parish Council News

There have been several changes in your local councillors over the summer months.

You may be aware by now that, after several years as your ward councillor, Peter Williams has resigned from the council due to pressure of his own work. As he said, he felt able to do this as two new councillors had recently joined the council to represent the Naphill & Walters Ash Ward. Since Peter resigned however, Victoria Austwick has reluctantly also resigned due to sudden pressures in her own work.

Cllr Paul Hardinge was co-opted onto the council in July and along with Cllr Chris Waterton, they are now your local councillors. In his own words Paul says, "I am pleased to have been warmly welcomed as a new Councillor for the ward of Naphill and Walter's Ash and I am looking forward to working with all the parish councillors in helping represent and promote the needs of our local community."

There are two vacancies now in Naphill & Walters Ash and the council are keen to get new councillors on board. If you are involved in the local community and would like to represent your area, please contact Shona Hadwen, Clerk to the Parish Council on 01494 715296.

Both Paul & Chris will of course endeavour to represent the residents of Naphill and Walters Ash to the same high standards set by Peter, who consistently demonstrated his willingness to get involved in practical and constructive ways to find solutions to issues and to progress local projects.

Your local councillors:

Paul Hardinge – 07810 038198
Chris Waterton – 07968 268067

Peter Williams Resigns as a Parish Councillor

Please be aware that in July I resigned from the Parish Council. There is never a good time to leave but given the Council didn't sit again till September it was intended to minimise the impact of my departure by doing this before the summer break.

I always felt it my duty to stay on whilst our residents were underrepresented around the Council table with a depleted number of Councillors, however, I am delighted that this is no longer the case. Naphill & Walter's Ash now has two new Councillors co-opted in June and another has recently joined for Hughenden Valley. With this new injection of enthusiasm and zeal I feel that as the second longest-serving Councillor at the time it was right to step away.

The last 5+ years has seen my family expand and is now rapidly growing up, placing yet more demands on my time as well as my continued need to juggle work and other outside interests. I still believe passionately about where I live and the people who live in it. I will continue to be a local Cub leader, and be active with Naphill Speedwatch. It is my wish to retain some involvement

with the Village Hall and also the Templewood Playground Team so I will not be withdrawing from public life - far from it.

Few people realise how indebted our community is to its Parish Council for the work that gets done, largely invisibly and thanklessly, to protect and enhance this wonderful place we are privileged to call our home. The Councillors as well as Council Officers should be commended for the time and dedication they give.

Peter Williams

Editorial Comment: *Grateful thanks to Peter Williams for his tireless work as a Parish Councillor and indeed as Chairman of this council. I am sure he will be greatly missed.*

My personal thanks to him for all the regular articles he has submitted to the Gazette and for all his support, advice and help.

We welcome Councillor Paul Hardinge who joins Councillor Chris Waterton and we thank you both for supporting our community.

Sonia

Naphill Walter's Ash Resident's Association



The following local planning applications received by Wycombe District Council (WDC) between 16 July and 14 September 2018. Any responses by NAWARA appear on the WDC website.

Awaiting Decision

18/06647/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of two 4-bed two storey detached dwellings and a 3-bed detached bungalow all with detached double garages. Heatherlands Naphill Common Naphill. HP14 4RF. Received on 22.06.18. Target Date for Determination 17.08.2018 (NAWARA objection).

18/06807/FUL Demolition of existing buildings and clear the site, change the use of the site from redundant B1-B2 (business/industrial) to C3 (dwellinghouses) and erection of 1 x 3 bed low carbon dwelling house which utilizes ground source heat, grey water harvesting, very low U-value insulation and solar power Hogtrough Smallholding

Louches Lane Naphill. HP14 4QH. Received 10.07.18
Target Determination: 04.09.2018. (NAWARA objection).

18/06842/FUL Householder application for construction of two storey side extension and alteration to path at front of property. 51 Woodcock Avenue Walters Ash. HP14 4TN. Received 19.07.18. Target Determination: 13.09.2018

18/06955/FUL HA for construction of single storey front and side extensions 2 Wellhouse Way Naphill. HP14 4QP. Received 24.07.18. Target Determination: 18.09.2018.

18/07116/TPO. Crown reduction by 1 - 1.5m to 1 x Norway Maple to clear property and cables. Ensuring tree is balanced once done. 279 Main Road Walters Ash HP14 4UU. Received 13.08.18. Target Determination: 08.10.2018

18/07145/FUL HA for demolition of rear conservatory and construction of part two storey, part single storey rear extension. The White Cottage Coombe Lane Naphill. HP14 4QX. Received 15.08.18. Target Determination: 10.10.2018

18/07199/FUL HA for demolition of garden shed and construction of attached garage. Lilac Cottage Pursells Meadow Naphill. HP14 4SG. Received on 21.08.18. Target Determination: 16.10.2018

Permitted

18/06698/FUL. Hunts Hill Farm Hunts Hill Lane Naphill. HP14 4RJ.

18/06732/FUL. Blacksmiths Downley Road Naphill HP14 4QY

com. Profits shared between NAWARA and Children in Need.

Monday 19th November 7.30pm NAWARA AGM. Naphill Village Hall. Everyone welcome. Enjoy drinks and nibbles. 8pm "THE HISTORY OF BOMBER HARRIS AND RAF HIGH WYCOMBE", a fascinating piece of local history related by former RAF Officer David Brown of Walter's Ash. Don't miss it!

Best Kept Village Competition June/July 2018. Congratulations to all for keeping Naphill and the adjacent Common looking so splendid which the judges decided was evidence of community effort. We earned 93 marks, just 3 marks below the winners Cheddington at 96. Lack of cemetery lost us 2 but Full Marks to The Common, Village Hall, Play Area, War memorial, Noticeboards and Bus stops/shelters.

Gloria Leflaive 563634

Growing Your Own

Well, what a summer! By my reckoning, in Naphill and Walter's Ash we had no rain at all from the end of the first week of May to the end of the first week of August. In addition to the rain problem, it was reported that in our part of the UK it was the warmest summer on record, with temperatures in the 30s on some days. I noticed that the sun was extremely penetrating and official statistics bear that out. This year we had over 30 per cent more sunshine than normal. The extra sunshine benefitted some crops but frazzled others in the hot, dry conditions. Some seeds would not germinate, no matter how frequently I watered. Very few weeds germinated. My allotment soil was like dust for the first couple of inches. Then I made a most important discovery. More on that later.

As for my crops, all my cucurbits (courgettes, marrows, pumpkins and squashes) were eaten by muntjac deer desperate for water. I managed to keep my carrots alive in the early stages by repeated watering. There were a few positive surprises. My beetroot were just amazing; I did not water them but they germinated and grew rapidly, having the ability to seek out water in the lower depths of the soil. This happened to my outdoor tomatoes also. I did not water them at all and they produced the best crop ever.

Now for my discovery, which I have never seen in textbooks or wherever. On 3rd August, with my allotment soil like dust to a depth of a couple of inches, I lifted a brick. The soil under the brick was very moist. In the rainless period a row of carrots grown within three inches of some impermeable black plastic was double the height of an adjacent row further away from the black plastic (see photo). Then it dawned on me that moisture in the subsoil rises to the surface by capillary action and then evaporates into the air. On encountering my brick or impermeable black plastic it could not evaporate so stayed there – and made the soil near my first row of

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Quiz Night

Friday 12th October

with popular local Quizmaster

PETER OXBROW

Teams of up to Six people

Tickets £12.50 a head

includes **Chilli Con Carne**
or **Vegetarian Lasagne**

with **Salad and French bread & butter**

Prizes, Raffle & Full Bar

Profits will be shared between



NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL

Doors Open 7pm. Quiz starts 7:30pm prompt

Tickets Gloria 563634 or Jo 07802 235578

Email glorialeflaive@msn.com or jokeattch@googlemail.com

NAWARA QUIZ Friday 12th October 2018. Naphill Village Hall. Everyone welcome. Do join us at this popular fund-raising event. Good company. Hot Supper of Chilli or Vegetarian Lasagne with salad. Full Bar, Raffle and Prizes. Teams of up to Six. Doors open 7pm. Quiz starts 7.30pm. Tickets £12.50 per head. To book - call Jo on 07802 235578 email jokeattch@googlemail.com or Gloria on 563634 email glorialeflaive@msn.com.

carrots moist, hence the row grew at twice the rate of the adjacent row of identical seed sown on the same day. This discovery would not have been possible in a normal year but in 2018, with such an extreme level of dryness, the discovery was made.



The forecasters say that such summers will occur with increasing frequency and by 2050 will be the norm. Therefore I shall cut 12-inch wide strips of black plastic and place them between my rows of vegetables to gain from this phenomenon. And slightly ridging the soil between the rows to also gain from run-off when it rains. And no weeds!

Good gardening!

Mike Mason

Iris Alma Evans

12 August 1926 – 8 December 2017



Iris was born in West Wycombe and moved to Naphill in 1952 when she married local boy John Evans. She moved into Little Orchard, Downley Road and remained there, raising her children Jonathan and Linsey, until her death last year.

Despite growing up during the Second World War, a time of great privation, Iris had a positive attitude to life. She is remembered fondly by her friends and family as a wonderful, warm, supportive person with a great sense of humour who was always fun to be around. She was a great listener and a wonderful friend to so many.

Iris played netball for Mill End Road School and later captained the Bucks County Netball Team. She also loved to sing and when she left Mill End Road Secondary School she helped set up an Old Girls Group which put on two Gilbert & Sullivan musical productions.

Iris trained as a fitness teacher attending courses at Bisham Abbey in Marlow and ran keep fit classes in Naphill Village Hall. She also qualified as dance teacher and taught ballroom and national dancing classes in Naphill Village Hall.

Iris met John whilst running the youth club in Naphill,

they had been married for 54 years when John died in 2006. She taught the local children dancing and keep fit, table tennis and other sports. The youth club was a vital part of the village at a time when there was little for young people to do, and many older Naphill residents still remember Iris from this time.

Iris's first job was with Pullin Optics in High Wycombe. She worked in the factory producing high powered lenses which were used in periscopes for submarines and aeroplanes. She loved working in the factory and would speak with fondness of her colleagues and the fun they had.

When Iris moved to Naphill she worked in the Lawrest furniture factory as a sewing machinist. The factory, formerly owned by the Lawrence family, still stands today. She worked happily in the furniture industry until retirement at 70. She was well known in the local furniture industry for her skills as a machinist. Iris always said she had enjoyed her work and never found it a chore.

She was a gifted seamstress and made beautiful clothes for herself and her family. Her beautiful hand knitted jumpers were welcome gifts worn by many friends and family members, their children and grandchildren.

Iris's cake baking was legendary. Her Victoria sponges often won first prize at the Naphill Horticultural Society shows and her Lemon Drizzle Cake is still one of the best you will ever taste.

When Linsey started riding Iris became involved as groom and driver for horse shows. She was quickly recruited as a member of the OBH Hughenden Pony Club Committee providing the catering for various Pony Club events.

The house in Downley Road was always full of people coming and going. Iris's ability to connect with people of all ages meant that Jonathan and Linsey's friends would visit freely, never needing an invitation and sometimes just to see Iris. The house was full of life and laughter and Iris always made sure that everyone felt welcome.



Iris was a kind, funny, intelligent, loving, strong, selfless woman, devoted to her children. She lived a full life and enjoyed her independence up until the very end. She will be remembered fondly by everyone whose life she touched and will live on in her family's hearts forever.

Linsay Evans



Naphill Tennis Club

By the time you read this, we will have had our Barn Dance & Supper in the Village Hall and hopefully it will have been much enjoyed by all who attended.

We have had a great summer of tennis. Our Ladies' Team came top of Division 7 in the Ladies' Bucks Shield and has been promoted to Division 6 for next year. Our Mixed Team was runner-up in Division 3 and has been promoted to Division 2. When writing this, our Men's Team still had one match to play so no final results to hand.

Improvers' Coaching from 9 – 10 am on a Wednesday is still very popular and is continuing throughout the Autumn. It's never too late to give it a go!

Naphill Tennis Club has a friendly, sociable group of members and plays tennis all the year round. Since our 'tiger turf' courts drain so well, rain and frost are not a problem – you just need to wear a few extra layers in the winter and take a break for coffee and biscuits in our little clubhouse! Details of membership and activities are on our website www.naphilltennisclub.org.uk or you can contact the Membership Secretary, Sarah Dengel (sarah.dengel1@gmail.com) for further information.

Jenny Tench

Hon. David Lidington MP

The RAF has a strong presence in Buckinghamshire, nowhere more so than in Walters Ash, Naphill and Bradenham.

I recently spent a day at RAF High Wycombe. I was wearing two hats. I am both the local constituency MP and also a member of the National Security Council, chaired by the Prime Minister, which brings together senior ministers with armed forces, civil service and intelligence chiefs to discuss both domestic and international threats to our country.

It was a fascinating visit. I spent the morning being briefed on current challenges, from issues to do with recruitment and equipment through to operational matters. We discussed the steps being taken to recruit more women and more people from ethnic communities, the long timetable needed to procure and design new

aircraft and the challenges presented by advances in both air and space technology. Every day of the week, RAF men and women are taking action to deter and protect the United Kingdom and to defend our interests around the world.

A visit of a few hours can only give you a snapshot, but even that helps when you faced with decisions on security policy.

In the afternoon I was honoured to be invited to present awards to RAF people (some in uniform, others civilian staff) who had contributed that bit above and beyond normal expectations of duty.

The recipients were men and women from many different parts of the RAF family. But what their stories had in common were two distinctive features. First, they had all in different ways demonstrated a capacity for leadership, to take the initiative to get something done. Second, they had all shown an ability to motivate and work with others,

In the RAF's centenary year, it was a reminder how much we all continue to owe to their service.

David Lidington

Christmas Gift Fayre Friday 30th November 6pm – 9pm



We know it may seem rather early to be mentioning this, but following the success of last year's event, we are once again holding the Gift Fayre on a Friday evening.

There will be plenty of opportunities for you to make a start on your Christmas shopping with a wide variety of gift ideas from local suppliers, along with essentials like mulled wine & mince pies, and the usual Very Grand Draw!

We still have a few stall spaces left, so if you would be interested in having a stall do get in touch.

Please Save the Date! we want you all to come along on November 30th and enjoy this traditional fun and festive event at the Village Hall.

Cathryn Carter (563233) & Moira Harris (562099)

Friends of Naphill Common



I'm pleased to report that both the Mini-beast Safari and our annual Bat Walk were very successful, with around 30 in attendance for each. The Bat Walk featured an appearance by Rose, the Noctule Bat, giving us all a close look at one of these fascinating mammals.

Our next event will be to host the Bucks Fungus Group for our annual walk. As usual there will be local and national experts to accompany the walks and assist with identification of finds, including Richard Fortey who has written and presented several BBC4 series on natural history and palaeontology. We will be visiting Dew Pond to view the remains of the fallen Great Beech and check whether the very rare and spectacular (for a fungus!) Lion's Mane has survived the extraction of the trunk from the pond (which it was badly over-shadowing).

The fungus walk will be on 21st October and will start at 1pm from the Village Hall. As with all our events, it is open to non-members as well as members, and is free of charge.

Meanwhile our regular activities continue. Anyone who would like to take part in our working parties is most welcome to do so. There is always some light work to be done as well as more heavy work. We have a group working every Thursday morning from 9:30am to 1pm and you can do as much or as little as you wish. If you are up to sitting on our ride-on mower for the odd hour, then we will be delighted to see you – please contact Ron Collins on 01494 562240.

Alternatively, there is a (less mechanised) Sunday morning group who work (usually) on the first and third

Sundays of each month between 10:00am and noon. After a summer break, these are expected to resume from mid-October, when we hope to start work again on the ponds. Any help welcome (don't worry you do not have to go in the ponds) – please contact Peter Davis if you are not already on the work party email list or check our website (www.naphillcommon.org.uk) for more information.

Dates may be subject to change because of weather or other reasons, so for both groups it's always best to contact the respective organisers if you plan to take part. Tools can be provided (though you are always welcome to bring your own), but you will need to bring gardening gloves.

Finally, there are also our monthly walks. The short walks (about an hour, 2 to 3 miles), led by Chris Miller, normally start from the Village Hall at 10:30 on the first Wednesday of each month, but October's walk will be postponed until 10th October to fit in with the Chilterns Walking Festival, organised by the AONB. The long walks (about 2½ to 3 hours), led by Ron Collins, depart from the Village Hall on the third Monday of each month at 9:25am prompt, and usually end with lunch at a rural hostelry for those who wish to join us.

I hope to see some of you there.

Chris Miller - Chairman

New to Area Business



I am excited to introduce my new aesthetic business to you, which focuses on educating and helping clients achieve healthy looking, natural skin by providing safe and effective treatments. I have worked as a Registered Nurse for 20 years within the NHS and continue to do so. I completed my aesthetic

training with a leading Consultant Plastic Surgeon and have also trained with the skin professionals, AlumierMD.

This brand focuses on combining light to moderate chemical peel treatments with a luxury, scientific based home care product range. As individuals, we have unique skin profiles, meaning one product does not suit all, so an initial assessment is completed and then an optimal treatment regime is devised. The results for clients with acne, rosacea and anti-aging concerns have genuinely been amazing!

If you have an interest in skin care and would like to find out more about this amazing brand, I would love to hear from you. Other injectable treatments available include dermal lip fillers and anti-ageing muscle relaxing treatments. Please feel free to contact me with any queries, or if you would simply like to find out more information – Mobile number 07788138610 or via FB Page – Holistic Nurse Aesthetics.

I look forward to hopefully starting you on an amazing, results driven, new skin care journey very soon!

Lisa D'Uva

Village Hall Remembrance Day Service, Sunday, 11th November 2018



Our Annual Service will take place on Sunday 11th November in the Village Hall at 2.45 p.m. and all are welcome to attend. This year marks the Centenary of the Armistice which signalled the cessation of hostilities in Europe

and which had killed millions of service men and displaced millions of civilians. The United Kingdom stood alone until 1917 when the United States joined in the fight against the German Forces who had sought to dominate the free nations of Europe. The total casualties from the British Isles were 704,803. Nearly every community lost one or several of their, mainly young men, in that war.

In this, the centenary year of the Royal Air Force, we must remember that over 55,000 aircrew were killed in bombing operations over Germany during the second world war.

We must never forget the debt we owe to all those men and women, who gave their lives that we might live in freedom.

It was 1970 when I took over the planning and co-ordination of our village Remembrance Day from Harold Tweedale and the time has now come for me to retire from that responsibility, fortunately Reg Horne has offered his services and will take over from me on the 11th November. My thanks to all who have helped over the years, the scouts and guides, the school, the RAF and the Clergy from the local churches and more recently the RAF Padres, the police and not forgetting our buglers. The village has always been very supportive of this event and attendance has grown over the years to make it one of the largest Remembrance Day services in the rural district. Long may it continue!

Richard Pushman

Wycombe Photographic Society

The New Year has started so action aplenty over the next 10 months, starting with our first internal competition and a couple of "away" competitions against other clubs. The "away" competitions are the first in a series against other clubs from the South East and these will continue into 2019.

This year we turn the big 80.... Yes we have been going for 80 years this year.

Following an article published in the "Bucks Free Press", in response to a letter from E.F. (Ted) Harman, High Wycombe Camera Club was formed

on 1st September 1938, after an inaugural meeting which some twenty or so interested photographers attended. In the mid-nineties, the Club changed its name to High Wycombe and District Camera Club, to reflect the broader area from which members were drawn and, more recently, a further name change to Wycombe Photographic Society to capture a wider spectrum of photographic interests extending beyond the camera.

Apart from the 80 Year Birthday Party we have a couple of "no competition" events before the end of 2018:

- Workshop – Post Processing - Sharpening & Clarity and Managing Digital Noise
- Guest Speaker – Abstracts, Patterns and Art in Your Eyes

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

We would love to see more members from Naphill and Walters Ash so please come along to one of our evenings.

David Greenwood

Membership Secretary
Wycombe Photographic Society

Flying High Over Naphill & Walter's Ash



Courtesy David Greenwood



Courtesy Anna Morant

Parents' Open Meeting Beginning Primary School Sept 2019

At Naphill and Walters Ash School

Tuesday 9th October 9:15 and Tuesday 20th November 1:15



A 9.15/1.15 meeting with the head teacher then an opportunity to meet staff, meet children and see the classes in action



Naphill Brownies

It's been an exciting Summer!

Naphill, Hughenden and Walters Ash brownies joined 150 other brownies at this year's County Brownie Camp in Harefield. It was the first time we have camped out in tents on a brownie holiday, so it was a new and exciting experience for all of us.

The Harry Potter theme gave plenty of scope for fun, with potion-making, magic, quidditch and an opportunity to get up close with a selection of lizards, snakes and big hairy spiders.



All this alongside the more conventional campfire-singing, crafts and wide games. It was an action-packed, and tiring, weekend for all.

This summer has also brought the long-awaited new girlguiding programme; it aims to ensure that guiding is relevant to the modern era and preparing our youngsters for their future, without losing the fun and adventure. The new programme has ongoing themes running through the various levels from Rainbows through to Rangers. It will be an interesting year as we all get used to it.



The Brownies & Guides Jumble Sale is on the 6th October. We hope you have all been collecting up your jumble for us. We will be coming around to collect around the village as usual. Doors open at 1:30pm. See you there.

Brown Owl - Ruth Daly 565571

ruth.daly3@btinternet.com

1st Naphill Brownies

Thursdays 5:45-7pm

Shear Madness

School half term is fast approaching! I hope our little ones have settled in nicely and haven't lost their school jumpers or PE kit yet, year 7's are getting to grips with the school bus and a whole heap of homework and our university baby's have at least phoned home at some point in between partying. Enjoy your half term break.

Huge apologies again for my recent absences, all I have done this year is be ill !! At the time I'm writing this we still don't know what is wrong and awaiting further tests but rest assured it is nothing nasty just something we need to get to the bottom of. So thank you for your patience and all your kind words it does mean a lot to me.

My heartfelt condolences to The Wheel family, Mark, Claire and staff for their loss of the beautiful Daisy the dog, they really are very much part of the family and she will be greatly missed by the customers too, although they can now eat their lunch in peace, sorry Claire!

Mandy

Naphill Evening WI

August was fairly quiet as far as WI activities are concerned, but some of us met at Hazel's to have a look through the archives she had collected for us over the years. It was really interesting, especially for newer members, to see what we had been up to over time. We also enjoyed tea, cake and a lot of chat in Hazel's lovely garden.

It was a lovely evening for our Games Evening at Valerie and Richard's in July. Unfortunately there were not many of us but we had a really good time with a lovely buffet supper and the usual croquet (with some cheating I think) and other games. I can't say that we were very good at the darts though. Most of the darts landed in the tree or on the ground!

There was a visit to Mapledurham In August, when some of us took a boat along the Thames from Caversham to the lovely grounds of Mapledurham House where we were greeted by the Miller and his wife who showed us round the Watermill and St Margaret's Church. The mill is the last commercially working watermill on the Thames and the church was most unusual, being divided down the centre with one half Church of England and the other Roman Catholic. One of the highlights of the trip was the cream tea with scones made from the mill's own flour. We were also shown the impressive Archimedes Screw thread Turbine located next to the mill which produces electricity from the river flow.



In August, the Food Group had tea at the Red Lion Café in Bradenham. September saw them lunching at the Hit or Miss in Penn.

At our September meeting on the 20th, we will have learnt more about the work of the Wycombe Homeless Connection and donated suitable clothes or food.

Carol Gilliam

26th Annual Naphill Fireworks & Bonfire

Hello! Planning for the 2018 Fireworks Extravaganza has been well underway for over six months now, we're making good progress and we hope you're all going to enjoy this year's event.

For the first time ever this year we'll have live music at 6pm and 7.30pm and a professional DJ hosting the proceedings, so it'd be great if you could come along a little earlier to enjoy the entertainment with a mulled wine or a beer perhaps!? The lighting of the fire will take place at 6.15pm and the fireworks display from 7pm.

We'll be offering e-tickets again this year, they will be available on our website in the coming weeks. When you arrive at the gate on the night with e-tickets please make sure you've got each e-ticket ready to scan on your phone or printed out so we can try to minimise the queues at the gate. As usual physical tickets will be available for purchase in the village shops and pubs from mid-October until 2nd November.

As per last year, we will be fencing off the bonfire area two weeks before the event. The site will be open for you to bring your own wood for the bonfire on the two Saturdays before the event but closed on other days to control the amount and type of wood and where it is put. Please note, we will only accept pallets and timber, absolutely no garden or domestic waste.

As with previous years, we cannot run our village Fireworks Spectacular without the help of our fantastic volunteers, willing to give up their time to assist before, during and after the event. If you're able to spare any time at all to help and would like to get involved then please let me know as there are plenty of roles available.

Please remember not to bring sparklers or other fireworks to the event as we will not let you in. Also please do NOT bring dogs or other pets to the event, they will be turned away at the gate. Please also note that we cannot allow you in if you are wearing a reflective jacket, this is not a fashion preference, it is to allow our marshals and stewards to be easily identified in the case of an emergency.

For all the latest information, photos & competitions for this year's event, please join our Naphill Fireworks Facebook group.

That's it! We hope you're as excited as we are about this fantastic local event and we look forward to seeing you all there!

Pete Dalby

Chairman – Fireworks committee

petedalby@outlook.com

Naphillfireworks.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NaphillFireworks>

A vertical poster for the Naphill Fireworks Spectacular 2018. The background is dark blue with stylized fireworks in yellow, orange, and red. The text is in white and yellow. At the top, it says 'NAPHILL FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR 2018'. Below that, in a yellow banner, it says 'NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL THE CRICK, NAPHILL SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER'. Then, 'ALL PROCEEDS TO NAPHILL COMMUNITY PROJECTS'. Below that, it lists 'LIVE MUSIC FROM 6PM & 7.30PM', 'FIRE LIGHTING AT 6.15PM', and 'DISPLAY FROM 7PM'. At the bottom, it gives ticket prices: 'ADULTS £5.50 BEFORE THE DAY £7.50 ON THE DAY', 'CHILDREN (AGES 5 - 12) £2 BEFORE THE DAY £2.50 ON THE DAY (UNDER 5s FREE)'. The website 'www.naphillfireworks.co.uk' is at the bottom, followed by a note: 'PLEASE DO NOT BRING SPARKLERS ETC. TO THE EVENT'.

Bradenham Parish Council

At its last meeting the parish council considered the county council's public consultation on Household Recycling Centres. It felt that the Bledlow recycling centre was a useful asset for the local community. If it were closed residents would have to visit the Booker recycling centre. It would be a great inconvenience and the parish council's preferred option would be to reduce opening hours. You are encouraged to make your own response to this consultation at: www.bucks.gov.uk/hrc-review.

It was agreed that the parish council's local infrastructure priorities are still speed reduction and some road resurfacing.

A dog bin has been installed by the pond carpark in Bradenham and it was also agreed to purchase a 2nd dog bin to be placed at the bottom of the "bunker road" along the A4010.

A meeting had been held with the Chiltern Society looking at pond management in Bradenham. The CS had provided some useful advice and the parish council will use that to put together an action plan.

It was also agreed to create a new free email address clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com

Our next meeting will be Monday 5 November at 7.00pm at Bradenham Cricket Club.

The meeting is open to members of the public.

Deirdre Hansen - Clerk to the Council

Tel: 07391-896076

www.bucksvoice.net/bradenham-parish-council

Black Lion

Firstly, we would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who came along to support the Macmillan weekend, even if the weather wasn't on our side! A special thank you too for all those who volunteered their time to make this event possible.

Our thanks go to...

- Anne Wilkinson for the tombola staff.
- Lacey Green School for letting us borrow the trestle tables.
- Sue Maguire for the fantastic tea and cake staff, plus to all the lovely people who spent time baking cakes!
- Lee and Cheryl Anderson for their incredible homemade cider where all the takings went to Macmillan.
- Billy Sutherland for running the penalty shoot out which became a game of hitting the ball as hard as you can at him!
- Finally, a huge thank you to Pervez and Jo Razzaq of SureBuild who kindly donated £100 as they couldn't make it on the day.

We raised almost £900 for Macmillan so THANK YOU!

We are now looking forward to autumn and the cosy nights in, we are adding winter warmers to our menu as well as changing some desserts and vegan options. Pop in to find out more.

Our Christmas menu is out now which you can find either on our website or pop in to pick up a pre-order form. We would love to host your Christmas party so visit www.blacklionnaphill.com. Two courses at £18.50 per person and three courses at £24.50 per person served from 1st December.

Thank you for all your custom over this beautiful summer, we look forward to welcoming you to the Black Lion again soon.

Jack, Sian and the team.

Naphill Neighbours

The summer break seems to have flown by and your committee is once again busy planning the last months' meetings as an evening club and looking forward to our new existence as an afternoon club, beginning on Monday 14 January 2019.

During the summer break we got together in August, spending an enjoyable day visiting the Saville Garden at Windsor and then a riverboat trip on the Thames from Runnymede, enjoying a delicious cream tea en route.

At the time of writing this, Yvonne (our outings organiser) is busy trying to find an interesting outing for the end of the year – not an easy task. We will keep you informed.

I think everyone enjoyed the delightful and enjoyable talk by Dinah Latham, a retired midwife, accompanied by her lovely dog, at our September meeting.

Our next club meeting is on Monday 8 October, when Jeff Rozelaar will be entertaining us, his subject AN ACTOR'S LIFE.

Looking forward to meeting up again with all our members.

Hazel Vickery, 563977

The Wheel

So how can I summarise the last few months.....Wasps, Sunshine, Patio and Dog Rescue!!

First thing that comes to mind is Wasps, I can honestly say that I have never seen so many and I would like to thank my hero Colin from Active Pest Control who has spent a great deal of time here dealing with lots of nests. We have also been scanning lost dogs, and we have had a large number that seem to have escaped during the hot weather this year. I am pleased to say that we have got them all back to their owners safely. I was given the scanner by Sarah and Kevin and I can say it's been extremely useful this year and will continue to do so in the future.

Being the oldest pub in the village, it has been necessary to give the building some much needed TLC and we have made many structural improvements over the last few months. The Court Yard (back garden) is now finished and looks amazing for both the summer

and winter months, we have had new windows and doors installed and finally treated ourselves and done some improvements in the flat as well.

When we have had the chance, we have snuck out of the pub to be children and play table tennis over on the crick. I must stress that I haven't laughed so much in ages! Long story short, I have two bats and some balls here for you to rent out if you fancy having a go! As the Village Hall is raising money to rebuild the children's play area my suggestion is a Table Tennis tournament.

By the time you read this, the leaves will start to change, and we'll be on our way into the Autumn months. On the up side the fires will be ready, and all the tasty winter specials will also be back from the chef. Our Christmas Menu will have been out for a while and we have already got lots of bookings, so get your preferred date in soon for your Christmas party. We will be running the Christmas Menu from Fri 30th November to Sunday 23rd December.

We are getting very excited for our amazing Bonfire night on Sat 3rd November, and as always, we will be running 2 sittings in the dining area, one at 5.30pm and then at 7.30pm, we will also be running the Box Menu alongside for the garden and front bar. Tickets for this great event will be on sale here (cash only) as soon as we have them.

Mark and I would like to congratulate Annie and Jack on their amazing A level results and we wish them well for the future. Jack is very happy and excited that he's off to Bath University and Annie is taking a year out first so will be with us a little longer. Also well done to Kyle and all those who got their GCSE results too. We would also like to welcome Jackie Johnson to The Wheel family.

Lastly just to prove how quickly this year has gone Maxii has been with us for a whole year which was on the 3rd September, she has had to learn so much and has loved the summer and all the attention from the families.

Thank you to everyone who came out and enjoyed the atmosphere of the candle lit pub, as we worked hard to stay open with a power cut that lasted 7 hours for us. It was an interesting evening but was also great fun. A massive thanks goes to Annabel and Julia who had to try and work in the dark!

RIP Daisy Dog - As many people know Daisy was poorly for most of her life but was always a fighter. She fought so hard and always wanted to please people (even if it was for food). I don't have the words to explain how empty we feel, but I know she brought so much joy to us, our customers and staff. She passed away peacefully in my arms on the 6th Sept.

Thank you to everyone for all their kind words and love.

As always thanks to you all for your custom and to all my staff who have worked well through the hot summer months!

Mark and Claire

Hughenden Art Group

Some of you might have already heard of us, indeed we have members from the area. But to those of you to whom we are 'strangers', we would like to introduce ourselves, and encourage you to visit our exhibition in October.

We are a friendly art group, that meets on a Monday evening during the school term time in Hughenden Valley small hall. We have forty members, both male and female (we do have a waiting list). Our talents are varied and most will have a go at everything! We have different professional tutors instruct us in various mediums, we have four or five of these a term, the other "relaxed" evenings we practice.

Our annual exhibition this year occurs on Friday, Saturday and Sunday the 12th, 13th and 14th of October. Admission is free, so please pop in and have a look at what we can do.

Maybe it's something you might consider trying, if so you will find forms etc. with the friendly ladies/gentlemen sitting at the desks by the door!

Love to see you there

Hughenden Art Group

Alan Lewis: a Reminiscence

It will be a source of much sadness for many but perhaps not a great surprise for some that Alan Frederick Grantley Lewis (AFGL in his original Sunday Times by-line) died peacefully at home amongst his family on the 9th of August. Some of us will remember a great man but the village will miss a great character. His talents always tempered by his keen sense of humour ranged from the literary to the musical and he leaves behind a typically idiosyncratic legacy.

Alan was born and brought up initially in Birmingham and he could still render a passing imitation of the sayings of those bards of the Black Country Enoch and Eli complete with the correct Brummy nasal twang. However, as a lad he was translated from the Birmingham metropolis to the rural but backward idylls of Herefordshire where he loved and lost his dog. His schooling must have been good as he was elevated to the world class science and engineering excellence of Imperial College London where, in the Royal School of Mines, he read metallurgy. This proved an interesting choice but not one that fulfilled all his talents. With other foolish undergraduates he sometimes indulged in mischief – famously informing the police that the men in the high-vis jackets digging a hole in Exhibition Road were in fact student impostors and then, in turn, telling those same men in high-vis jackets in Exhibition Road that the approaching policemen were in fact student impostors. Mayhem followed!

Few could play the piano as well as Alan. His sight reading of new music was remarkable and he ranged from the classics to popular music with ease. In recent time he provided a light musical background to the monthly lunches held in Naphill Village Hall and some of us will long remember his meltingly mellifluous

rendition of J S Bach's 'Sheep may safely graze' at St John's church, Lacey Green. His literary bent eventually led him to the delicately onerous task of editing the house journal of the Cement and Concrete Association. Following major office reconstruction and refurbishment, the editorial suite was allocated to the former gentlemen's lavatories. Alan thus became the 'First Loo-tenant' soon to be joined by a 'Second Loo-tenant' but a uniform was not prescribed. Alan's special brand of humour combined with a fastidious regard for the English language eventually resulted in him becoming a paronomasiac, or someone addicted to word play. Long ago the Sunday Times benefited from his pithy contributions and a series of 'Weakly through' calendars. Eventually, his minimum opus 'Pundemomium' hit the bookshelves along with a forward by Gyles Brandreth. As the cover explained 'People who engage in wordplay certainly get up to sem antics'. Alan's literary and musical skills combined spectacularly in his joint creation with Trevor Pilling of 'Below Stairs' a musical play set at the beginning of World War 1. It has enjoyed a wide production over the years luring the modern audiences addicted to 'Downton Abbey' to join an older generation reared on 'Upstairs Downstairs'

All these skills were paraded for the delectation of Alan's University of the Third Age creative writing group where as coffee cups were being cleared he occasionally concluded with an impromptu serenade from a fine old Steinway grand piano lurking in our generous host's home.

If Alan's life has enjoyed many of the elements of a theatrical production then it has all been made possible by his co-star and leading lady, Christine, and his extended family in full supporting roles. He has been lucky to have them all just as we have been lucky to have had Alan in our midst.

An Old Friend - name upon request

The Harrow Howls for Charity!



Dog friendly pub The Harrow was crowded with canines on 25 August as Claire Hunter, managing director of a local doggy day care, hosted a charity dog show. The popular Hughenden pub teamed up with Claire's Comfy Canines of Burnham to hold a number of classes to help raise money for local charity, Battersea Cats and Dogs Home Old Windsor.

Crufts qualifier Gemma Buttery had lots of fun judging the categories including Best Fancy Dress, Fastest Agility Round, Obedience, Dog Most Like Their Owner and Junior Handler. The event raised £54.10 and almost every dog that entered the pub took part in at least one of the categories.

Claire Hunter said, "The Harrow is my local pub and as soon as I heard they were thinking about hosting a dog show I just had to get involved. It was really lovely to see people of all ages signing up to different classes and having lots of fun with their dogs. We had some dog lovers who came just for the show but also people who were coming for their afternoon drink and lunch were excited to get involved".

Claire Hunter

Pony Espresso



Now that's what I call a summer - just a shame I couldn't spend more of it outside.

Pony Espresso is going into its 7th year!

We've just had a first private party for a baby shower and what a success it was. We had gluten free, vegetarian and vegans to cater for and Samara excelled on all fronts, and Shelley came up trumps with beautiful cake stands she's created.

Talking of trumps, we had a flying visit by Donald himself. Really! A flying visit as in 100 feet overhead. Attempted throwing an egg but missed. Better luck next time.

So, remember Pony Espresso for private parties, I'm always up for one!

See you soon.

Blaine

Letter from Hughenden Vicarage

With regard to the world around us, there should be a conscious willed period of attentiveness each day. It is the will that has to be used to raise the consciousness from the depths of self to the world outside. It is important to notice positively the objects in one's environment, the things in the familiar street, the flowers and trees in the garden and park, and above all the people recognition, just as we need the recognition of others to be fully human. If we do not trouble to recognize others because of inner preoccupation, no one will trouble to recognize us.

It is important not only to recognize and acknowledge the uniqueness of each object and each person but also to flow out to them in silent gratitude for being what they are. All life is awareness is a blessing, and we show this by blessing those around us.

These words were written by Martin Israel, in *An Approach to Spirituality*, and are a timely reminder to us all, that it can be so easy to get caught up in our own lives and concerns, that we can forget to acknowledge those around us.

What a difference it can make to our lives, if someone asks how we are, and genuinely means it – giving us permission to be honest with our reply. We all have bad days from time to time, but what a difference it can make when someone takes the time and the effort to listen to us, and to console, counsel and encourage us in our troubles.

A day which might begin with darkness and despair, can be transformed into one of hope, as our spirits are lifted as we are listened to by a timely friend. Despite the natural tendency of many to keep our heads down and soldier on, or worse still, shut out the whole world, convinced that all are against us, I believe that God has made us inter-dependent upon one another, as well as dependent upon him.

Although some relationships might be harmful to our wellbeing, the support of good friends and family is crucial to our wellbeing – just as our support of others will impact significantly upon their lives as well.

You and I have been made in God's image. Whether or not we consciously welcome God into our daily lives, there exists a hunger deep within, a spiritual restlessness, which can only be satisfied through a personal relationship with God, through his Son Jesus Christ. We might spend our whole lives trying to fill that God shaped void with other things and other people, but there is only one solution that fits perfectly.

Despite what Simon & Garfunkel sang, no one is a rock, an island on their own, even when we feel that we want to shut out the world, not just hit the snooze button on the alarm for another 9 minutes, but actually turn it off, and hide under the duvet.

If I am having a bad day, I find comfort and reassurance when I open my bible, and am reminded that it does not contain stories of men and women who had their whole lives sorted out, permanently wore a halo, and hovered 5 feet off the ground, as sometimes depicted in art. Although this tendency is often used to depict a

Saint, the bible's definition of a Saint, is not a perfect person, but a follower of Jesus Christ.

I can never be a perfect person, but flaws and all, I can ask God for the strength to do my best each and every day, to maybe hit the snooze button a couple of times, but then brace myself for all the day has in store for me, launch myself out of bed, and try to avoid falling over the cats heading downstairs for the first coffee of the day.

Rev. Keith Johnson

A Point of View

Should you trust the satnav in your car? The answer is a qualified yes, provided you carry a map of the area in which you are travelling! On a recent caravanning holiday in France we entered the postcode for a campsite and followed the instructions, as we had done successfully on previous occasions. We were directed into a housing estate and ended up at a no through road sign! This required a decoupling of the caravan and a difficult turnaround. A nearby French couple came to our aid and kindly offered to show us the way to our site if we followed their car. We followed them for about 3 miles across farm lanes, narrow mud tracks and roads barely wide enough for the car let alone the caravan! When they finally stopped our helpful guide on checking with his phone established that the site had recently closed down and was no longer in existence but that they knew one that was open and to again follow them. After another horrendous trip of about 2 miles we ended up at a very good site on the main road, on which we should have originally been. This anecdote could often be repeated by Amazon delivery drivers, who frequently end up in the Black Lion car park or on my drive, looking for properties along Naphill Common!

Recently, I was fortunate to have a flight in a light aircraft from Booker airfield and was amazed to see the amount of new development taking place in Princes Risborough and Longwick. It was also interesting to see how the Green Belt designation had protected Lacey Green but not Naphill and Walters Ash, where excess infilling has changed the nature of the village and urbanised its appearance. I remember how back in the 1980's the Residents Association and local councillors had fought to have our villages "washed over" by Green Belt protection in the Wycombe District's Local Plan, sadly we failed. Whilst recognising that we do need houses for natural population growth I am not convinced that we can solve the housing problem by the saturation development of our green spaces.

Congratulations to Naphill Residents on achieving a high mark in the recent "Best Kept Village Competition", sufficient to achieve a Certificate of Merit and remarkably close to becoming a winner. Perhaps next year? The competition is looking for an Administrator, someone interested in a part-time job, working largely from home. Expenses and salary are paid, any reader interested please contact me at 564154.

Richard Pushman

Letter from Bradenham Vicarage

How was it for you? This summer I mean. Did you glory in the long hot days, the weather forecasters introducing the day's weather with the words 'same old' as we entered in to yet another hot, cloudless day. Or have you been longing for cooler days, planning your shopping trips between stores that have decent air conditioning? This summer was brilliant for me. Not only did I enjoy the heat, but there was a most welcome and unexpected spinoff. Regular readers of the Gazette know that I am the world's worst gardener and that mowing lawns is a form of archaic, medieval penance for me. I didn't have to mow the lawn for months! Yay!

Some of us will breathe a sigh of relief as the year turns, and the weather gets cooler, others will breathe a sigh of sadness as we say farewell to the heat of summer and replace it with the cool of autumn. In spite of this, it is something truly wonderful how each season has its own unique beauty. First, there is the exquisite brightness of the stars on a frosty winter's evening. Then there's the fairy-crystal dusting of hoar frost on twigs and late autumn berries, or the intense, Spartan blackness of skeletal trees silhouetted against early sunsets. As the days darken and our bodies begin to yearn for more sunshine, so we have the brightness of Christmas and the fresh start of a new year to look forward to. Then the snowflakes turn to thistledown and the warmer months are upon us again.

It can be easy to rush through life without stopping to notice much. Paying more attention to the present moment – to your own thoughts and feelings, and to the world around you – can improve your mental wellbeing. Some people call this awareness 'mindfulness'. Mindfulness can help us enjoy life more and understand ourselves better.

The idea of 'mindfulness' and living in the present is fashionable at the moment. Being aware of the beauty that surrounds us is one thing, but it's not just the physical beauty of nature and the ever changing natural wonders that surround us – it is the beauty of the inner self. Long before mindfulness was ever a 'thing', the Old Testament writer of the book of Ecclesiastes, traditionally believed to be King Solomon, stated:

There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heaven.....He has made everything beautiful in its time. (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 11a)

Much later, Saint Paul wrote:

'whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things'. (Philippians 4:8)

King Solomon was renowned for his wisdom, St Paul for his application of Christianity to the everyday minutiae of life. Why not try out the advice of King Solomon or Saint Paul? Call it mindfulness if you like. I prefer to call it appreciation of the Creator God who made the heavens and the earth.

Rev Jenny Ellis

Services at St. Botolph's

7 October 11am	Harvest Eucharist	Rev. Allan Barton
14 October 11am	Eucharist	Rev. Jenny Ellis
21 October 11am	Eucharist	Rev. Jenny Ellis
28 October 11am	Matins	Rev. Allan Barton

Last Word

I was very sad to hear of Alan Lewis's death and my condolences to his wife Christine, his family and many friends. Alan was the advertising manager when I became editor and was himself our editor some years ago. A charming gentleman with a wry sense of humour!

Commiserations too to the Wheel family who are mourning the loss of their much-loved dog Daisy.

I really have run out of space this month! I have saved these articles and will hopefully be able to fit them in next month,

My usual moan about Word docs. Please can the contributors use the 'enter key' rather than the space bar and make sure that photographs sent as email attachments are attached as large files.

My thanks to Himself, Paul Goby for this month's cover and as always, my grateful thanks to all our contributors. Copy date for our November magazine is 15 October.

Not quite so colourful as usual but I hope you enjoy!

Sonia

Small Ads

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Small Ads

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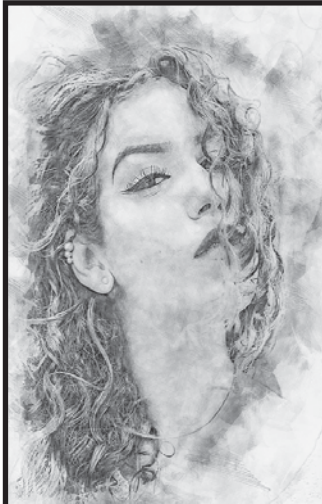
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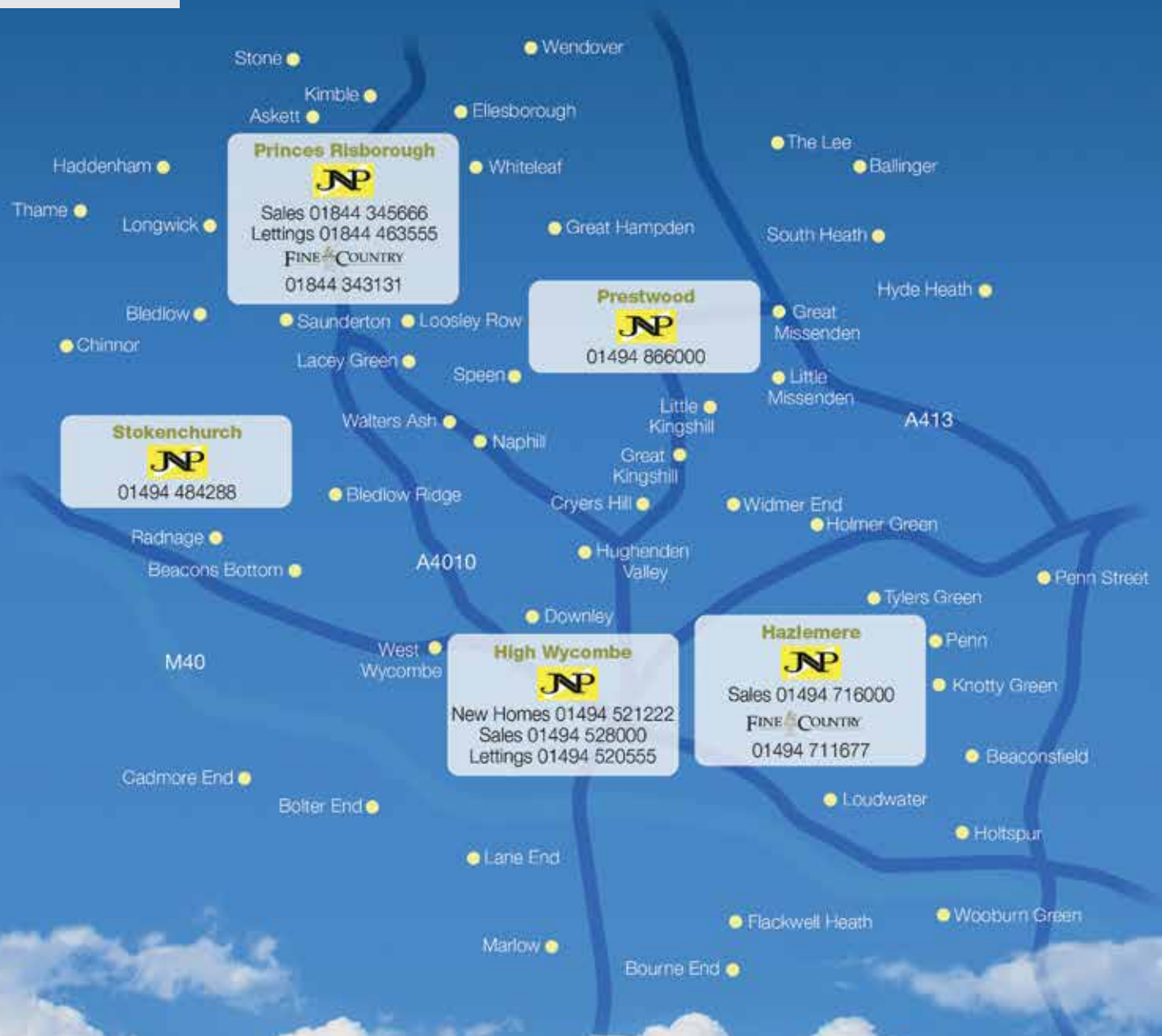
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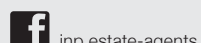
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