

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette



August/September
2025

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Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

August/September 2025

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Naphill Football Club	Rob McMurray-		Naphill FootballClub@gmail.com
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Hughenden Parish Council	Clerk Vacant	01494 715296	clerk@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
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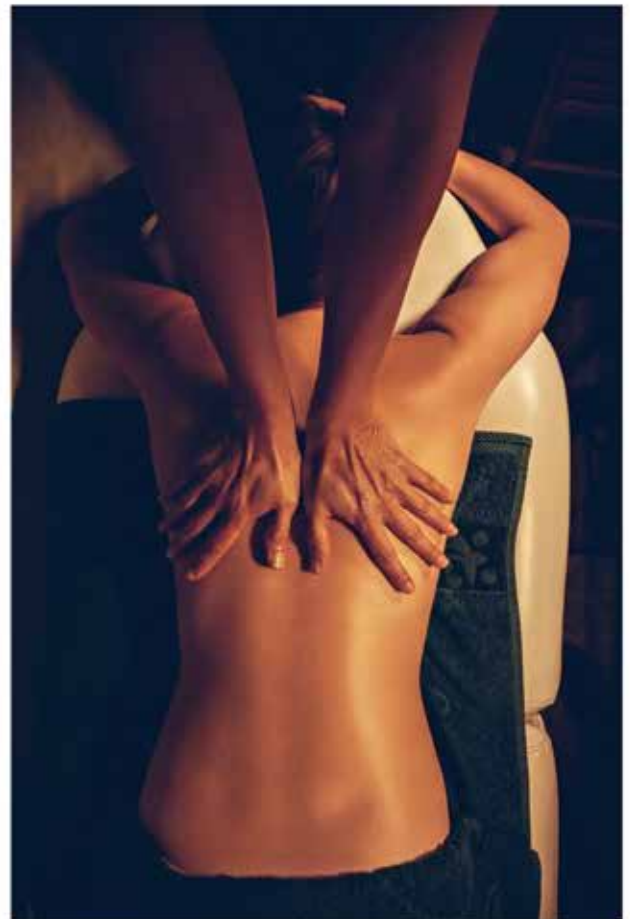
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Copy Date October Gazette 11 September 2025

Welcome to the August/September 2025 edition of the Gazette. A special header this month, the annual photograph of Ms. Gwynn, the proud headteacher of our fabulous Naphill & Walter's Ash school with a group of pupils. It gives me the opportunity to thank the school for all the great work they do and for their Gazette support, the Gazette would not be the same without you!

July, is of course, the end of the academic year, so for many young people and some staff this is a "moving on time". I wish you all happiness and success. This month's contributions from our school are on Pages 23-26 and include the last piece from this year's media group, and the year 6 leaver's activities, thank you children and staff and enjoy your summer break.

There have been a few queries re the publication of photographs in the Gazette especially relating to children, I am grateful to Jonathan Hilder, my deputy editor and a professional photographer for clarifying this, please see page 21. We love to publish your photos when we can, please do send them in, high resolution and uncropped.

Copy date for the October Gazette is 11 September. Please note this slightly earlier than usual date. It is needed to fit in with team members' personal

commitments, whilst giving me enough time to assemble the Gazette, get it to the printer and back for distribution at the end of September. I do understand that this date will be difficult to meet where group meetings are later, if you let me know I will save your space and allow you some extra time.

Time surely flies; I really cannot believe that I have been the proud editor of the Naphill & Walter's Gazette for nearly 12 years! I very much enjoy being your editor but I am looking forward to having August off and hopefully there will be lots more glorious sunshine! As always, my thanks to all our contributors, photographers, advertisers and all of you who subscribe and read the Gazette! Another very busy edition about to be proofed and sent to print. Please note that is a combined issue, so NO September Gazette.

I wish you all a very happy August and September, and I look forward to being back in this chair for the October edition,

Best wishes,
Sonia



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Chairman's Report

A monthly meeting was held on 7th July and 12 committee members attended. The following items were covered:

- The committee was told that a group is using the Crick once a week for keep fit. The lettings secretary has been in touch with them and a small charge has been agreed.
- The Napfest representative spoke about the how well the weekend had gone and that everyone seemed to have a great time. They are already planning for next year!
- The football club told us that they will deactivate the showers in the changing rooms, convert the area into a girls changing room and redecorate.

- A Downley road resident, Danny, has taken it upon himself to keep the hedge alongside Downley road trimmed. Danny has been cutting the hedge for a few years now, normally free of charge. The village hall is now paying for his green bin.

The next fundraising events at the village hall are the fireworks and bonfire which will be on 8th November, and the Christmas Fayre on Sunday 30th November. All the events rely on volunteers, and if you think you could help, please get in touch with the organising committees who can be found on the village Facebook page. I hope to see you at one or more of these occasions.

Clive Lawrence - Village Hall Chairman



Shear Madness

Firstly, I must apologise for not writing in the July issue, especially to our dear Sonia, who nearly had a heart attack because she couldn't find my contribution amongst all the Napfest articles. I had quite a few people pop their head in the shop to say "and where were you?" My humble apologies to one and all.

"THE WEDDING at last," I hear you cry! Someone likened it to a TV Soap, they couldn't wait for the next issue, made me laugh! The day was perfect, the weather was kind and they had their wish of getting married outside in the gazebo with the river Thames in the background, absolutely gorgeous. I have included a picture of the happy couple and "the frock" thank you all for your help with all the girl stuff and advice.

I hope that you all have a long hot summer, especially to those who have had exams this year, good luck for your results.

September brings new schools, colleges and university for some, it can be a stressful time for both students and parents, sometimes heartbreaking for those who struggle. As a few of you know that my hobby is creating things with epoxy resin, I am currently making back to school hugs, pocket hugs and safe travels hugs so feel free to pop in and have a look when you're passing.

Have a lovely summer, make memories and laugh,

Until next time,

Love as always,

Mandy x



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Naphill & Walter's Ash Brownies

We love the Summer term at brownies. We get to do lots of lovely outdoor activities. Amongst other things we have completed our 'Roaming and Rambling badge'.



This has involved heading out into the woods to make dens, and then sitting in them to listen to the natural world around us.

We also enjoyed a warm evening walk down to Hughenden Church, spotting all sorts of interesting plants and stones and fungi, followed by a short picnic, and a fun bus ride back up to Naphill to finish.

The term finished with a presentation of a selection of badges for all sorts of different bits of the brownie programme with some girls gaining the accolade of a bronze, silver and even gold awards.

The Gold award is the highest achievement a girl can achieve at brownies and involves participating in every aspect of the programme over a 3 year period, from regular attendance at weekly meetings to completing interest badges at home. We were delighted and very proud to present Flo and Aroha with this coveted award this term. Well done!



Flo



Aroha



If you think your daughter may be interested in brownies, please visit: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-a-child/> to register your interest



There is no fee to register and no obligation to join when a place becomes available.

Ruth Daly



Naphill Neighbours

July Meeting: "Tooth, Claw and Mane" with Tom Way

This month's Naphill Neighbours' meeting, held on 14th July, was attended by 28 members and 4 guests. At our meeting, we were delighted to welcome Tom Way, an award-winning wildlife photographer and engaging speaker. Tom presented his latest talk, Tooth, Claw and Mane, a stunning visual journey through some of his most recent wildlife photography assignments.

The presentation featured breathtaking images and stories from around the world. Initially, he showed amazing photos of UK wildlife - voles, kingfishers, puffins and foxes and he explained about how much time he took to capture the character of the creature in the photograph.

Tom shared the challenges and triumphs of one of his most demanding projects - photographing tigers in India together with lions, elephants, leopards, cheetahs, zebras, giraffes and buffalo in Africa. He

expanded upon the characteristics of each when trying to get the perfect photograph.

He also recounted his experiences capturing brown bears in Northern Europe and the striking beauty of Camargue horses racing along the Mediterranean beaches.

Tom's passion for wildlife and his deep respect for the animals he photographs shone through every image and story, making this a truly inspiring meeting for all who attended.

Next month will be our annual Afternoon Tea event, which will be provided again by The Flying Tearooms. It is an event that is enjoyed by all members and eagerly anticipated.

Jan Honey



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Sat 30th August

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Speen Festival 2025

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Now in its 25th year, Speen Festival celebrates local talent and creativity. We have a fantastic programme of events to choose from, including this year's production, Annie the Musical, featuring local children singing their hearts out!

Whether you would like to create a work of art, listen to the latest developments in the fields of AI and medicine, see if your dog has the waggiest tale, test your pub quiz knowledge or enjoy local musicians there is something for everyone. You can check out the full programme of events and book tickets for them here:

www.speenfestival.org



This is a volunteer-run festival and we need volunteers! If you or someone in your family would like to help make the festival a success, please email volunteer@speenfestival.org

Liz Patroe

Festival Coordinator

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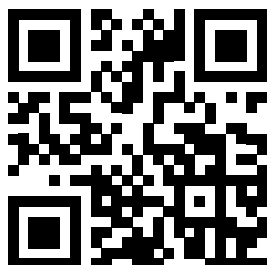
Helén Douglas House for Children - Rennie Grove and Peace Hospice Care - South Bucks
Hospice at Butterfly House - Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity

Raising Funds in Chiltern Villages Summer 2025

Following the very successful Ladies Spring Lunch in May at the Horse Trust, Speen we are launching by popular demand an Autumn Ladies Lunch on Wednesday 1st October. Tickets are £40 per person for a delicious three-course meal and a complimentary glass of wine. Tickets are selling fast, come and check this out if you have not been before and bring a friend. You can buy your ticket at the SHH website.

SHH will be represented at Speen Festival 2025 with a 'Sip & Sparkle' luxury afternoon tea on Sunday afternoon 7th September. This event is sponsored by Dennis Cook of Village Environmental Services and tickets are available at the Speen Festival website. (QR code in article above)

Elliot Wengler organised a great evening of comedy last year at Lacey Green Village Hall. For 2025 he has surpassed himself and this year's programme features five fantastic comedians and rising stars not seen previously in Speen or Lacey Green. Michael Akadiri as seen on ITV, BBC3 and Comedy Central, Kathryn Mather on Comedy Central along with Nick Byard, Caitriona Dowden and Phil Alexander will be performing on Saturday 11th October in Lacey Green Village Hall. Tickets are £20 each and available now from the SHH website, one of the few booking sites that does not charge you a booking fee! - QR code to left of poster





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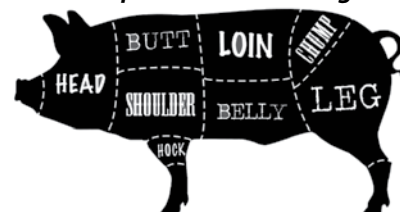
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Growing Your Own

As I write the weather men are predicting a heatwave in the next few days. It will be the third heatwave in June/July this year; completely unprecedented. Global Warming on steroids. Temperatures of over 30 degrees Centigrade for some days in some parts of the South-East, and pretty warm in Naphill and Walter's Ash too. As for growing our own crops, it is a time when we must adopt the survival mode. We have had very little rain so our plants are at serious risk of dying. So, what to do, apart from frequent watering? The first thing is to remove all weeds, which would otherwise take lots of moisture from the soil as well as valuable soil nutrients. Secondly, mulch to provide some cover to the soil round our crops from the scorching sun. The mulch could be compost from the compost heap, spent compost from grow-bags, loose soil or even grass cuttings from the lawn. Thirdly, take advantage of the moisture which emerges from the depths of the sub-soil but then is wasted when it rises to the surface of the soil and evaporates. In the vegetable patch, I have put down 6-inch-wide black plastic strips on the soil, each about 6 inches from the next. That not only halves the burden of weeding, it causes a build-up of moisture under the black plastic which can then be sourced by the plants which are only 3 inches away.

Global Warming does not necessarily mean that next year will be warmer than 2025 (but it might be). Global Warming means that extremes will happen more frequently, against a background of things gradually getting hotter.

For example, remember 2023 and 2024? Those were years of incessant rain and the sky being overcast nearly all the time so that sunshine to enable plants to grow was much reduced. Those years were examples of extreme weather. I can remember snow on 1st June twice in the past 50 years in Naphill and Walter's Ash, and severe frosts up to the end of May. That could occur in 2026. We just do not know what future growing seasons will be like. It must be very difficult for our farmers. This year I heard of a potato farmer who was having to spend £10,000 per week watering his crop just to keep his potatoes alive. Survival mode indeed. So, we as gardeners have to be prepared for all sorts of weather which could make life very difficult. But there will be good seasons as well – it is not all doom and gloom.

This year my Poirée (Silver Chard) is exceptional and my first sowing of climbing French beans is producing very well. Tomatoes in the greenhouse are the best ever. I have never seen my greenhouse cucumber plants produce such massive, plentiful and delicious cucumbers. Black tayberries, from plants three years old, are large and delicious, so it is not all doom and gloom!

Good gardening,
Mike Mason




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News from Hughenden Valley Surgeries

One of our larger local doctors' practices is based in Hughenden Valley with another surgery in Prestwood at the Chequers Drive Surgery and they look after some 12,000 local residents. The NHS and doctors' practices have been responding and developing to the needs of patients so I thought it would be a good idea to catch up with Wendy Jowitt the practice manager so she could update me on some of the developments and in particular the formation of a new Patient Participation Group (PP).

Wendy explained the PPG membership is made up of patients, limited to 20 and is there to help the practice share its views and help develop the offering the practice can give to its community. Patients of all ages can put themselves forward to join the group.

The aim is to build 2 way communication and cooperation between the practice and patients.

The new group first met on the 22 of April and would really like to start with the following plans:

1. Undertake a patient survey to provide feedback to the practice and to open a communication channel with willing patients
2. Develop better communications with the patient group via:
 - News updates in local publications
 - Publicise local NHS App initiatives to widen its use
 - Set up a webpage on practice website
 - Install a PPG noticeboard in both surgeries
 - Increase the number of patients happy to talk to the practice by Email
 - To look for more patients from all age groups to join to PPG

These are exciting times as technology is driving a better NHS. The NHS app which has about 80% take up in the patient group, one the highest in the area but, it is not being used fully and can really help in managing your health.

The app is updated every 14 days and can provide so many helpful areas of health care from Prescription ordering, test results, Checking your appointments and your medical notes. If everyone used it for ordering prescription it would save huge amounts of time and allow more to be done for patients. So why not give it a go?

Do you have any suggestions or ideas? If so there are boxes on reception at both surgeries that you can put them in.

Jonathan Hilder

Deputy Editor



Get the NHS APP

The NHS App gives you a simple and secure way to access a range of NHS services.

Download the NHS App or log in through the NHS website to access NHS services online.

The NHS App is available on iOS and Android:



You can also use the NHS website.: <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-app/>



To use the NHS App, you must be aged 13 or over and registered with a GP surgery in England.

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u3a Summer visit programme continues...

In June, many of our members enjoyed the annual u3a holiday. This year the trip was centred around Liverpool, Cheshire, and North Wales. The programme included visits to several National Trust properties including Powis Castle and an outing on the River Mersey. Our plans for the holiday in 2026 are well underway and we are already taking preliminary bookings.

Other summer events have included a visit in July by the Local History Group to the Anglo-Saxon monastery archaeological dig at Cookham Bridge, and our Picnic In the Park at Wycombe Museum which featured musical entertainment from the Hand Bells Group and our resident guitarist.

Many of our members have been telling their respective groups about their individual holidays. One of our

geology enthusiasts shared some incredible pictures from a trip to Tenerife and explained to the group how the Canary Islands were created by volcanic activity.

In spite of some very hot weather, we have had good attendance at our monthly General Meetings at Lacey Green Village Hall. Full details of our speakers from Wednesday October 22nd will be published in the October issue of the Gazette.

Find information on our groups at: <https://highwycombe.u3asite.uk/groups/>

Please contact gilliamph@aol.com for further details of all our activities.

Paul Gillam



Powis Castle



Handbell Group entertain guests at the Picnic



Hughenden Street Association Social Events

Part of Hughenden Street Association's vision is working to create safer and connected communities.

The monthly lunches at the Spindle and Thread on the 3rd Wednesday each month, and the Social Afternoons at Bon Ami on the 4th Monday of the month aim to help prevent social isolation by fostering community and friendships in our two villages.

We also strive to keep residents safer, informing them of scams and linking with other local agencies such as the police, the fire service and Neighbourhood Watch.

The lunch dates for the next 2 months are as follows: Wednesday 20 August and Wednesday 17 September 12 noon fr 12.30pm

There is no Social Afternoon in August as it is a Bank Holiday. We meet again on Monday 22 September 2-4pm in the back room of Bon Ami.

Why not come a bit earlier and grab a bite to eat for lunch and then stay for the afternoon?

We welcome all newcomers for both events. Please contact Susan Bickerstaffe on 07880 519323 to book a lunch place, or for more information.'



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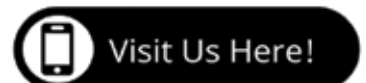


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Photography in Public Spaces: *Know Your Rights, Respect the Community*

In recent months, a few questions have come up around photography in and around our village — especially when our magazine photographers are out and about capturing the life, spirit, and beauty of Naphill and Walters Ash.

We thought it might be helpful to clarify the legal position and reassure residents of how we approach public photography.

What the Law Says:

In the UK, ***there are no general laws preventing people from taking photographs or filming in public places.*** This applies whether you're using a phone, a digital camera, or a film camera.

Public spaces include streets, parks, and village greens — anywhere the public has lawful access. That means our magazine photographers, and indeed any member of the public, are fully within their rights to take photographs in these areas.

It's also important to note:

- ***There is no legal right to privacy in a public place under UK law.***
- ***Children can be photographed in public,*** provided the images are not indecent or exploitative — though our magazine always exercises particular sensitivity in this area.

How We Work as Magazine Photographers

While we fully understand our rights as photographers, we also appreciate the importance of community trust and respect.

Our photographers:

- Are clearly visible and happy to identify themselves
- Always seek consent when taking close-up images of individuals
- Are happy to step back or refrain from photographing anyone who politely asks not to be included
- Avoid taking or using images that may cause embarrassment or distress
- We believe strongly in the value of local photography — capturing community events, seasonal changes, celebrations, and village life as it happens. These images help tell our shared story and are a key part of what makes our village magazine vibrant and inclusive.

A Note of Thanks

We'd like to thank everyone for their support, encouragement, and occasional posing! Rest assured, we will continue to photograph respectfully and lawfully in public spaces and are always happy to chat if you have questions or concerns.

If you have ideas for features or would like to be part of a future photoshoot, please get in touch!

Jonathan Hilder

Deputy Editor



Gordon the Birdman

Gardeners have had a torrid time over the last few months but for butterflies it has been perfect. A very wet period early in the year, followed by warmth, produced very lush growth by the end of April. This was just right for the various stages of overwintering butterflies. This has resulted in more being recorded by early July than for many years. They now need a wet spell to produce that same growth for the second generation of caterpillars to feed on.

For those who have pets and use tick and flea products, they should be aware that they are highly toxic to invertebrates in water, with some species being affected by concentrations of one part per million. To be safe, owners should not allow their pets into ponds, lakes or rivers for seven days after treatment.

It has been over 60 years since Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" was published, exposing the negative affect of chemical pesticides on the natural world but birds and other wildlife continue to be poisoned by their widespread

use. Nearly all pesticides do not discriminate and will harm a whole range of species, with beneficial insects such as pollinators and pest predators being indiscriminately killed along with pest species.

Birds, bees, earthworms, frogs, hedgehogs and other wildlife, as well as plants, our water and soil are all impacted by pesticides. They spread throughout the environment via drifting crop sprays. Residues in the soil run into streams and rivers. Rather than seeing a reduction, their use has actually increased.

The State of Nature Report named agricultural and forestry management as one of the primary causes of declines in abundance of birds. It found that total numbers of breeding birds in the UK have fallen by forty-four million since 1970 and that populations of all wildlife species have decreased on average by 40% since that time.

Gordon.



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A Fond Farewell to Our Year 6 Leavers



As you read this, the school gates will have closed for the summer and our wonderful Year 6 children will have completed their journey at Naphill and Walters Ash School. The Class of 2025 have now said goodbye to their primary years and what a send-off they had!

Their final week was packed with laughter, singing, acting, dancing, games, ice cream and endless smiles. The Year 6 production was Rock Bottom — and what a fabulous show they put on!

We had originally planned to celebrate the end of Year 6 with a pool party, but unfortunately, on the day, there was a problem with the pool and it had to be closed. Thankfully, we were able to switch the party to the Village Hall. The very talented DJ kept the children entertained with dancing, games and a photo booth. The children enjoyed their hot dogs and ice creams and ended the evening with a water fight on the Crick. They all had the best time!

On the children's final day, after school, we returned to the Crick for a picnic and surprised them with a Disco Dome and bouncy castle.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who supported the Leavers' Party - whether through generous donations via our GoFundMe page or by choosing gifts from our Amazon Wish List. Your kindness helped create a day that the children will always remember.

A special mention goes to the local businesses whose contributions made such a difference. Thank you to:

Wilson Family Law

Canine Cutz

Quackers Out Of School Club

WANSA

Bon Ami

PRM Services

Co-op Walter's Ash

Retsof Design

Thanks to all your support, the children are leaving with incredible memories to treasure. We wish each of them the very best as they begin their next adventure in secondary school.

Good luck, Class of 2025 – you've made us proud!

Claire Wilson





Rock Bottom

Congratulations
to our Yr.6 Leavers
2025

A great production
enjoyed by everyone!
A lovely memory to take
with you through life!





The End of the Beginning.

As the school year draws to an end, we will shortly be moving on to secondary school. We have visited our new schools, Sports Day is done, and reports have gone home. Year 6 have had great fun performing 'Rock Bottom' which was full of laughter and toe-tapping songs - a fitting finale to a brilliant year!

Some personal memories from our time here are:

Olivia W - "My favourite memory was when I was in Year R and I got a Blue Code because I put Lego down my friends back! I never got a code again!"

Magnus P - "My favourite memory was when the whole of Year 3 had a massive water gun fight and I had the biggest gun. Everyone else was soaked but I was completely dry!"

Olivia McG - "My favourite memory was at Woodrow in Year 4 when I was one of the only people to get to the top of the High-Ropes. I was so proud!"

Tristan B - "My favourite memory was in Year 2 when my teacher offered to keep me in for 10 minutes each lunchtime to teach me Year 3/4 maths!"

Here's the secret recipe that we think makes our school so amazing:

Ingredients :

- A sprinkle of positivity
- A thick layer of a strong academic curriculum
- 42 supportive and engaging teachers and TAs
- 300 + hard-working students
- a dash of extra-curricular opportunities

Method:

1. Enjoy your lessons which will all be taught with positivity and enthusiasm!
2. Pay attention and you will thrive!
3. Look to your classmates - to laugh, cry, share and experience the journey; they will be your friends for life
4. Try every extra-curricular activity you can and experience the thrill of trying new things
5. Change can be tough but we know that the future is full of possibility, and if we are resilient, **ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!**

Thank you for sharing our journey and "Goodbye"

Olivia W, Maggy, Tristan & Olivia M,

The Year 6 Media Team 2024 - 2025

From the Editor: *Thank you to the Media Team, you have been absolute delights to work with! Thank you to the school for all your input, support, patience and kindness! To all the year 6 pupils, remember to FOLLOW THE RECIPE, never give up!*

Best wishes and good luck to our yr.6 leavers.

Sonia and the Gazette Team



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'Every query has been dealt with efficiently and helpfully. The welcome has been warm and supportive. And, where there have been challenges the approach has been clear and supportive. The best word I have for the feel the school has generated is, loving.'

PARENT 2025



'Very happy with the school! My child is happy, safe and getting a good education.'

PARENT 2025



'Couldn't be happier with the school and the staff in the support they give to my child and myself. Thank you.'

PARENT 2025

Come and visit us:

October Open Morning - Thursday 16th October - 9.15am

November Open Afternoon - Tuesday 11th November - 1.30pm





From the Vicarage

Psalm 42 opens with the following words:

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

As I write these words, we are in the midst of yet another summer heat wave. Paddling pools are in great demand, shorts show off white knobby knees, and most of us spend as much time as possible in the shade, with a fan and an iced drink.

We are not accustomed to long spells of heat and drought as a nation. Air conditioning is in short supply, dog walkers only venture out at dawn or dusk, and we find ourselves changing our daily patterns of behaviour in order to keep going.

On such a day, imagine yourself going out for a long walk in the noon-day sun. There is not a cloud in the sky, and you find yourself taking breaks in the shade. You embarked on your walk ill-equipped – you didn't remember to bring liquids with you, to keep hydrated. The nearest café is another couple of miles away, as you struggle to make progress. Your mouth becomes so dry that you are desperate for a drink. Eventually you arrive at your destination – a local café, which to your relief is still open.

The person on duty in the café takes one look at you and pours a large glass of tap water, which you down a few short gulps. For the last mile, the only thing keeping you going was the thought of a tall glass of something cold to drink, to quench your thirst. The utter relief and delight as you recover makes you so appreciative of the water. We need water to survive. Water gives us life.

When the Psalmist wrote this Psalm, the language of intense thirst which he used to describe a relationship with the living God was equally life-giving.

As a Christian I believe that God is the source of all life on earth. In a similar way to the desperation you or I would feel before having an intense thirst quenched, so many have experienced a spiritual thirst, a deeper significance in their lives has been found in a living changing relationship with Jesus Christ. He is the only one who can truly satisfy our deepest longings, and he always has our best interests at heart, because he created us in his image.

The next time you are really thirsty and drink a long, cool glass of water, be reminded the offer of eternal life which can be found in drinking of the waters which spring up from a living relationship with Christ.

Rev Keith Johnson

Church News

On the 1st July, a blazing hot day, was the occasion for the Mother's Union annual Ploughman's Lunch. The garden was set out under gazebos but most people elected for the comparative cool of Church House. The usual marvellous repast was provided and the homemade elderflower drink was -for many- preferred to coffee.

On August 5th there will be a coffee morning in Church House in aid of Lighthouse (the summer holiday club for children run by Christians from local churches including St Michael's)



Booking for Lighthouse High Wycombe in the Summer is now almost full, but we can now announce a new venture: Lighthouse Live: a monthly event to be held at St Michael's for primary children in the Autumn term. First event: Sunday 21st September 3-4.30. fun, crafts and a celebration plus a shared tea afterwards: for details see website.

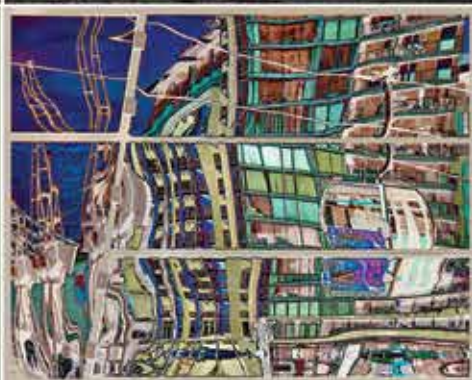


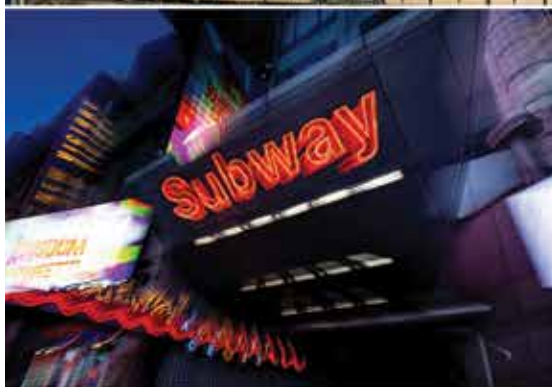
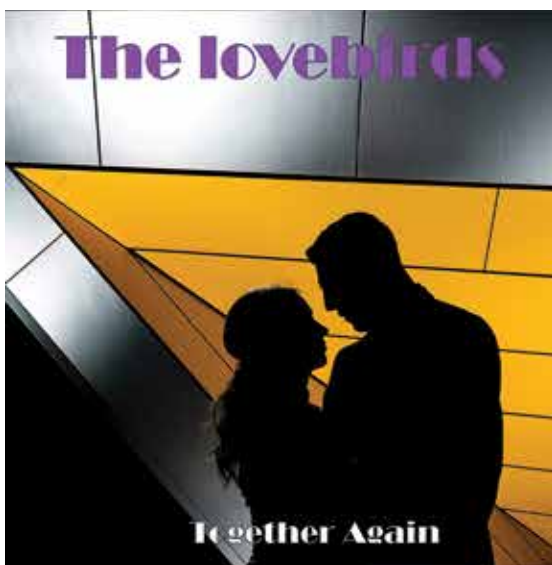
The Church Flower Festival will take place from August 23-25 (Bank Holiday weekend) and will incorporate a U3A exhibition, tours of the Bell tower on the Monday and of course refreshments every day!

On Sunday at 10 am there will be also be a service celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Church's rebuilding. (No admission to festival during service.)

As reported last month. Our Vicar Keith is moving on: his last services with us will be on September 28th. He will be licensed into his 8-church benefice in Somerset by the Bishop of Bath and Wells on 16th October.

Jane Tyrer





Discover Your Local Camera Club Wycombe Photographic Society

Love taking photos? Fancy learning a few tricks, getting inspired, or just meeting some like-minded shutterbugs over coffee (and the occasional chat about football)? Then let us introduce you to your local hidden gem: **Wycombe Photographic Society!**

We meet every **Wednesday at 8.00pm at Hughenden Village Hall**, and the brand-new season kicks off on **10th September** — the perfect time to dust off your camera and come along.

But wait – we're not your typical camera club. No competitions. No outside judges. No scary critiques. Instead, everyone gets a voice, and that makes for a friendly, relaxed and truly creative environment where photographers of all abilities feel welcome. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned pro, you'll find your place here.

What do we get up to?

During the summer, while our regular meetings take a break, one generous member opens up their studio and we dive into hands-on practical evenings. So far we've tackled still life, macro photography, and we're gearing up for sessions on movement, 'gold' lighting in the studio, and natural-light portraiture. It's been fun, experimental and full of laughter!

We also host regular **coffee mornings** — a brilliant excuse to chat about photography (and yes, occasionally football — though educating the gazette deputy editor on that is still a work in progress!).

Adventures await!

We arrange photo trips, share ideas and inspiration via our WhatsApp group, and generally encourage each other to try new things. The upcoming season runs right through to June 2026 with a packed programme of **guest speakers, themed assignments, collaborative projects**, and even our very own **annual exhibition**.

So if you've ever wanted to learn more about photography, improve your skills, or just spend time with a group of friendly, enthusiastic creatives, come and see what all the fuss is about. We'd love to meet you.

Jonathan Hilder

www.wycombephotographicsociety.org.uk



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Not from the Vicarage - *All glass and gaiters*

In 1951, the armaments vessel RFA Bedenham exploded in Gibraltar harbour. The disaster killed 13 people, injured hundreds and caused extensive damage on 'The Rock'. Many buildings had their windows blown out, including Holy Trinity Cathedral, which lost most of its Victorian stained glass. The subsequent clean up and repair work replaced the stained glass with clear glass windows, but a good deal of the damaged windows was retrieved and stored in the hope that one day they might be restored.

Enter my hubby, who in a casual conversation let slip that he had worked with stained glass and expressed an interest in seeing the old glass in case 'anything could be done'. Full restoration would not have been feasible – a lot of original glass was missing, much of what remained was very dark and there were no clear images of what the original windows looked like to work from. So a plan was devised to reuse the old glass in new windows, incorporating it into completely new designs.

So the project began. All the glass pieces were cleaned and photographed. The project was announced to the congregation, who were invited to submit designs and contribute towards the cost. Funding was quickly achieved in full and there was no shortage of appropriate design ideas. The first 'new' window was to be a Galilean fishing boat in full sail and initial designs were quickly produced. A well known local artist, who happened to be a member of the congregation, drafted the full sized cartoon and a small group of people helped in deciding how the old pieces of glass could best be incorporated. New glass to complement and complete the design was ordered from specialist suppliers in Spain. The Dean of the Cathedral, who had initiated the project and had been a civil engineer before ordination, put his highly advanced engineering skills to work, building light boxes, jigs and designing a frame that would hold the glass in its final position.

All was set and hubby's best friend and fellow glass worker came out from the UK to work on the project with him. So they set to work, disappearing for entire days into the crypt of the Cathedral, which had been converted into their glass studio, only emerging at dinner time with grimy faces and blackened hands sporting an array of sticking plasters. Over the weeks, the window took shape. Old creamy beige glass made up the sails, elaborately detailed brown glass made up the prow and parts of the ship's hull, and the very dark green glass that seemed too dark to do anything with made excellent deep shadows in the sea.

The window now hangs in the Cathedral, admired by all. The team who created it are justifiably proud of their work. People are happy that at last the old pieces of glass have found a new purpose and have been resurrected to a new life. The image reflects the theme of seafaring, a key element in the Gibraltarian psyche, but also reminding us that Jesus frequently made use of boats for travel, to preach from and even for a quiet nap (in the middle of a storm!). The next window is already in the pipeline, so watch this space.....and if you happen to be visiting Gibraltar, do come and have a look.



Every blessing,

Rev Jenny Ellis

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Naphill & Hughenden Scout Group



The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have been making the most of the warm weather and light evenings during the last term taking part in a wide range of outdoor activities including archery, sailing, orienteering, hikes, history walks, running games, stalls at Napfest and a trip to the RIAT airshow all culminating in the big event of the year a group weekend camp at the PACCAR centre near Chalfont St Peter's.

About 50 Cubs and Scouts accompanied by 12 Leaders and helpers enjoyed 2 nights sleeping under canvas, with the Beaver colonies joining for Saturday.

A full schedule of activities including archery, crate stacking, zip wire, 3g swing, pioneering, tomahawk throwing, pedal carts and gladiator challenge kept everyone busy during the days. The older scouts also assisted in running the camp, preparing and serving the meals and supporting the cubs and beavers.

After a fun packed Saturday everyone came together for a group meal followed by a fun packed evening including singing around the campfire and S'mores.

The Naphill and Hughenden Scout group is the largest in the district with over one hundred young people regularly taking part and others wanting to join. It is great to see that Scouting is still relevant and in demand. More than an astonishing 7,500 hours of learning time for all the scouts to have fun, learn skills on have new experiences has been provided this year by the wonderful volunteer team. We look forward to continue growing and offering our young people the opportunity to join Scouts and enjoy similar experiences, but in order to do so we need more help and adult leaders and volunteers along with the young people to join us in our journey. Not only is this great for our young people but also enjoyable, rewarding and a chance to do new things and make new friends as part of the volunteer team. If you have children who would like join Scouts or you would like to join the volunteer team then please reach out to: groupleader@naphillscouts.org.uk

Naphill & Walters' Ash Residents Association

Our next big event is the ever popular autumn quiz. This will take place on Friday 17th October in the village hall, starting at 1930. I'm happy to say we have the same delightful quiz team with their challenging questions and Anne Tennant will once again be providing a delicious meal. Now is the time to put the date in your diary and start thinking about a team!

My invitation to come and join the committee has so far fallen on deaf

ears! We are short of members from Walter's Ash and somebody from the new homes in Clappins Lane would be most welcome. You will find my phone number elsewhere in the Gazette.

Best wishes

David Frost

Vice Chairman



NAPHILL & WALTERS' ASH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



QUIZ NIGHT!

Friday 17th October
Naphill Village Hall

Doors Open 7pm

Quiz Starts 7:30pm

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Chief Officer Report

Hughenden Parish Councillors thank the organisers of Napfest for an amazing event. Councillors Usha Prashar, Richard Wilding, Stan Jones, Yvonne Wilding, Simon Kearey and Gareth Cadwallader represented the Parish Council, sharing information about the activities of the Parish Council and hearing concerns from local residents.

On the 17th June, Cllrs Usha, Yvonne, Richard and Gareth represented the council at the annual reception at RAF Headquarters. Thank you to the RAF for an enjoyable evening and an opportunity to connect with a diverse range of people.

The current co-option process for Councillors completes in July and the Parish Council anticipates a full team of Councillors in place from the summer. Details of all the Councillors are available on the website www.hughenden-pc.gov.uk, please contact the Cllrs or the Chief Officer by email, clerk@hughenden-pc.gov.uk if you would like to discuss any local matters or projects.

Kate Rogers

Chief Officer

Chairman's Bulletin

I had the pleasure of representing the Parish Council on a glorious Saturday morning at NapFest on June 14th, along with Councillors Usha Prashar, Richard Wilding, Stan Jones, Yvonne Wilding and Simon Kearey. We had many excellent conversations with parishioners interested in allotments, or looking for updates on the recruitment of Councillors and the activities of the Parish Council, particularly relating to the work at Vincent's Meadow, the playground at Templewood, and road safety issues along Main Road. It was good to catch up with members of charities and community groups who stopped by our stand.



The following morning – also sunny and warm – I took my god-daughter's children to the new playground at Great Kingshill. They thought it was wonderful and could have stayed all day. It was already being well-used by children and family groups at 9am. The Cricket Club must have had almost a hundred children going through drills – with mums and dads – on the cricket pitch, while we were there. It was a lovely experience all round.

On the 17th June while the Finance Committee worked through the year-end accounts, Usha, Yvonne, Richard and I represented the Parish at the annual reception at RAF headquarters. Around 20% of residents in the Parish are connected with the RAF facilities at Walter's Ash, and we appreciate the efforts that the RAF make to work with the Parish Council and local community. It was a treat for me to be able to converse with fast-jet pilots and station commanders. I also had the opportunity to talk with the new Chairman of Bucks Council, Sarfaraz Khan Raja, who represents Terriers and Amersham Hill, and has worked in Hughenden Valley for many years. He has a real understanding of, and empathy for, the development and traffic pressures we are facing in and around the Parish. Our conversation was brought to an end by a Hercules flying over us at what seemed like a couple of hundred feet, which brought the evening to a climactic conclusion.

Cllr *Gareth Cadwallader* - Council Chair





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Saturday 16th August,
starting at 3pm from the Village Hall

Friends of Naphill Common

We warmly invite you to join our Minibeast Safari and Bat Walk!. We should be delighted to welcome you to join our regular walks and working parties, please see information below.

Walks - Our monthly walks – a shorter walk (about an hour) led by Chris Miller at 10:30am on the first Wednesday of each month (although the June walk has been moved forward a week to the end of May); and a longer walk (roughly 2 hours) led by Ron Collins at 9:25am on the third Monday – continue to be popular.

FoNC Working Parties - If you wish to join in with either of our weekly working parties, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, our web site (where our walking and other activities are also listed) has all the contact details:

<http://www.naphillcommon.org.uk/activities.html>

Because both working parties are dependent on the weather, it's always best to check with the organisers before setting off: Tuesdays – Peter Davis (HW 569303); Thursdays – Ron Collins (HW 562240).

Chris Miller



Friends of Naphill Common Bat Walk

Led by Julie Hopton
Bat Detectors Supplied

Friday 26th September
7pm from the Village Hall
subject to weather



Hughenden Players - "All's well that ends well!"

Valley Players were pleased to present "Twist" on two afternoons in July to our guests with their picnics, who decided that they preferred a show to Wimbledon and the Euro finals.

The weather was glorious, it was in the middle of our recent heat wave! Maybe a tad hot for acting but the show went on! The cast should take a bow in so much that nearly all had to learn two parts which means two characterisations. Congratulations to Nicole McCree

our latest member who easily got to grips with the Production.

Sadly, we said farewell to a long standing member, Dave Collins as this was his "swan song".

Panto time will soon be here- so watch this space.

Have a good summer,

Andrew.

contact@valleyplayershughenden.co.uk



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- OCD and neuro-diversity
- Health and pain issues

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Alison Scott



About me: I have a Diploma and Master Practitioner qualification in QCH Therapy combining CBT, Gestalt Therapy, Positive Psychology, Evolutionary Psychology, Parts Therapy, NLP and EFT. I gained my Master Reiki qualification Second Degree in 2018.

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What We Can Learn From Our Pets



Like many of us, I'm loving spending these summer days walking my dog, Bonnie, in beautiful Naphill. It strikes me that there is so much to be gained by getting out in nature, taking time to ponder and just enjoy the simple relationship that having a beloved pet can give us. That pure unconditional love is so rare and there is much to learn from them about the simple pleasures of life.

Research validates the benefits of pets for mental health and has proved how animals can help us with depression, anxiety, and stress. In addition, they provide such a lovely, non-judgmental companionship which eases loneliness and helps us to feel needed and connected.

If a dog were your teacher, you would learn the following:

- When your loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.
- Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.
- Take naps.
- Stretch before rising.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Thrive on attention and let people touch you.
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- On warm days, stop to lie on your back on the grass.
- On hot days, drink lots of water and lie under a shady tree.
- When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.
- Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- Be faithful.
- Never pretend to be something you're not.
- If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by, and nuzzle them gently

Client Testimonial – a different kind of horse play!

One of my clients owns and trains horses. They are a huge part of her life. She had a serious accident last year which brought with it some scary challenges for her. One of the significant positives that arose from our work together was to listen to her inner dialogue. Our sessions encouraged her to start treating herself with the same kindness, compassion and understanding as she held for her horses. It changed her life. She is still mending but the journey has been made so much easier with her new 'horsey' attitude towards herself and her physical and mental struggles.

How hypnotherapy can help

If you find you're struggling to enjoy life, you might benefit from some hypnotherapy. Even just a few sessions will help identify whatever is holding you back and start to change those limiting beliefs that keep you from feeling your best. Contact me for a complimentary call - 07989 535527.





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Do You Know Your Neighbours?

We moved to Naphill back in 2006, and ever since, we've often said, "We really should get to know the neighbours." But as with so many good intentions, life got in the way.

Then along came Covid. Suddenly, we were waving from driveways and banging saucepans together on Thursday nights — a moment of solidarity, yes, but not quite the setting for a proper conversation.

This summer's glorious weather rekindled that old idea, and we finally decided to do something about it. We invited the neighbours from up and down the road for a relaxed garden gathering. We had to limit the numbers slightly — based on how many chairs and glasses we had (a maximum of 32 if everyone turned up!) — but as luck would have it, not everyone could make it.

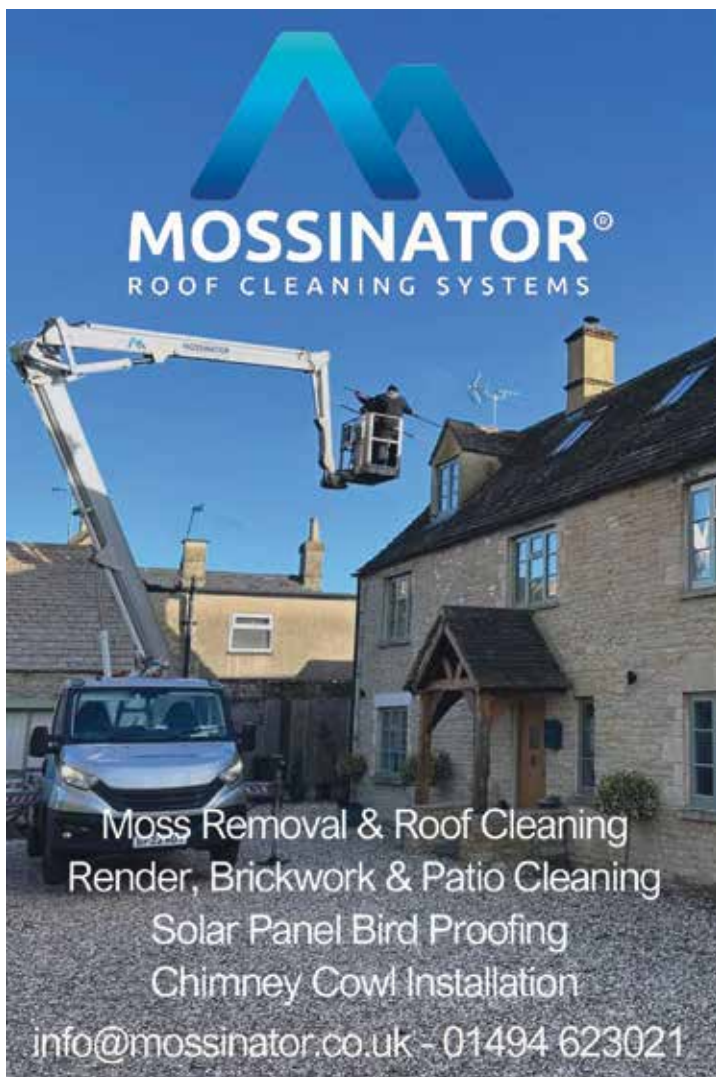
Those who did were treated to a beautiful summer evening. As the sun moved around the garden, everyone naturally gravitated to the shady end, which became the hub of the party. People were incredibly generous, bringing along delicious homemade dishes, all neatly labelled, and there was a wonderful feeling of warmth



and shared spirit. More than once, we heard people say, "Why haven't we done this before?"

It was a simple idea that turned into something really special — and we're sure it won't be the last such gathering. So why not give it a go yourself? A few chairs, a handful of invites, and some sunshine might be all it takes to start something lovely. Let's bring more of that neighbourly spirit to Naphill and Walters Ash!

Jonathan Hilder - Deputy Editor



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Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Now that the excitement of Wimbledon is over, the tennis 'bug' is beginning to bite! We have recently welcomed a new family to the Club and hope they, together with other new members, will enjoy the action and friendly atmosphere. There was a good turnout and wonderful weather for a recent weekend barbecue held at the Club.



The Juniors enjoyed their Friday after-school coaching as shown in this photo. That has now finished for the summer holidays. There is likely to be a further coaching session for teenagers in the Autumn. The current Monday Improvers' Coaching at 9.15 and 10.15 will continue throughout the Summer and a 5 week Improvers' Tennis Session is being planned during September/October from 7.30-8.30 pm. Our Club Sessions continue as usual for members to just turn up and join in.

So, as you see, plenty of activity to keep everyone happy!

For more information on Naphill Tennis Club, please visit our website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/NaphillLTC or contact our Membership Secretary at: naphilltennismembership@gmail.com

Jenny Tench



The Rotary Club of Princes Risborough

The weeks of July sunshine saw us supporting the Town Council's Summer Festival. Part of our Club's contribution being our annual Ramble which included a choice of different distance walks in the countryside around the town, a barbeque and a children's chocolate hunt. All of which were in aid of Scannappeal, Shelterbox and local charities, and we were generously sponsored by Beechdean Ice Cream and Wainwright Shoes. We also supported the Saturday Street Festival with a Rotary stall and with the road closures.

During our Club meetings, after our meal, we were entertained by talks on the Florence Nightingale Hospice, the experiences of a Police Crime Scene Investigator and the work of the Wildlife Trust. Talks in the coming months include the One Can Trust, Ashridge Home Care and a talk by one of our Members, a Consultant Gastroenterologist. The Club members' Wives' group met for lunch at the Harrow at Bishopstone, and the Curry, Breakfast and Walking groups all also enjoyed their monthly outings. The Childrens' Chess Competition was a great success, with the youngsters displaying some amazing skills, as was our Childrens Art Competition which involved 8 schools and nearly 1500 participants. In addition, we ran 2 Sailing Days for Bucks' Young Carers at Bury Lakes Rickmansworth.

These are just a snapshot of the wide range of Projects in which we are involved in the local community. If you feel that you might wish to be involved in such activities, and perhaps "give Back", our Club comprises a group of lively, fun-loving men and women focussed on contributing to needs in the local area and wider afield whilst having a good time. If you want to be part of this, visit our website and come to one of our Monday evening meetings at the Whiteleaf Golf Club to see if it might interest you. Also, if you know of causes that would benefit from our support, or you would like to donate to our Charity, please use the contact details below.

You can contact us at: rcpr.org.uk or call David White on 07787 750889, or email: david@dhwhite.plus.com



Along with the rest of you, we have been sweltering at Bon Ami and are now looking forward to some slightly cooler temperatures. We have been doing a roaring trade in cold drinks, ice creams, lollies and our doggy ice creams and ice cream bones have been flying out of the freezer.

From September 1st we are excited to be introducing a new brunch menu on Saturdays. As we close at 2pm on Saturdays we have decided to serve a brunch menu from 10am until 1pm when the kitchen will close. Our usual cakes and teacakes will, of course, be available until closing time along with a selection of hot and cold drinks.

Ruth and Dorothy

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Senior Partner Practice
St James's Place

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NAPHILL LOCAL MINI MARKET



Post Office

- Newspapers & Magazines (home delivery available)
- Lottery
- Fresh fruit & vegetables
- Freshly baked bread, rolls, sweet pastries & hot savouries available daily
- Frozen food & ice creams
- Organic & Gluten free products

- Refillable Bio D washing up & fabric conditioner
- Stationery & mailing products
- Greeting cards
- Beers, ales, spirits & wines
- Wide range of everyday grocery essentials
- Postal services, free cash withdrawals & cash deposits

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