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May 2018

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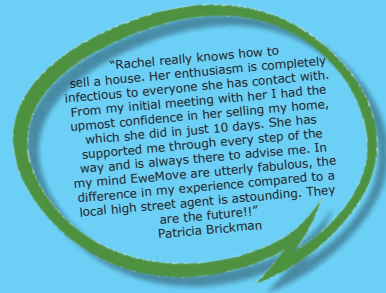
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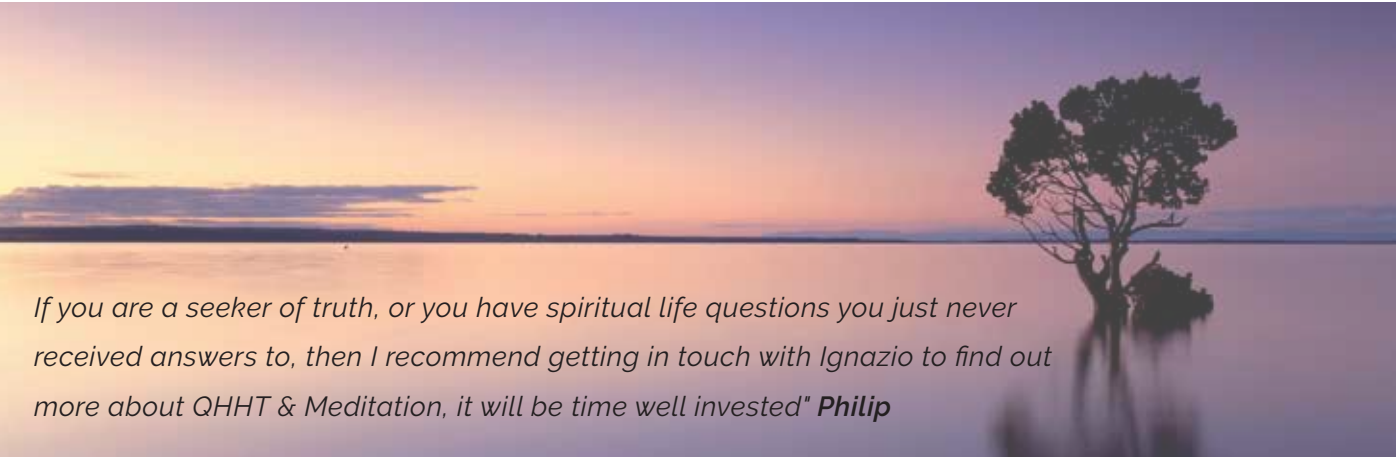
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Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

May 2018

Online now at www.naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
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Distribution:	Pauline Pool, Endsleigh, Clappins Lane, Naphill, HP14 4SL Tel: 564226 email: distribution@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
Treasurer:	Mike Pool, Endsleigh, Clappins Lane, Naphill HP14 4SL Tel: 564226 email: treasurer@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
Advertising:	Enquiries to the Editor, Sonia Goby editor@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
Photo Coordinator	Paul Goby email: photo@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
Webmaster:	Peter Davis, webmaster@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk
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Contacts Directory

Bradenham Parish Council	Deirdre Hansen	562254	(Parish Clerk) clerk@bradenham.org.uk
County Councillor	David Carroll	716967	david_carroll@wycombe.gov.uk
District Councillor	David Carroll	716967	david_carroll@wycombe.gov.uk
District Councillor	Steve Broadbent	07471-14418	steve_broadbent@wycombe.gov.uk
District Councillor	Audrey Jones	563425	audrey_jones@wycombe.gov.uk
Hughenden Parish Clerk	Shona Hadwen	715296	clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Chris Waterton		chris.waterton@hughendenpc.org.uk
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Martin Burch	566047	martin.burch@hughendenpc.org.uk
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Vacancy		
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Peter Williams	565695	peter.williams@hughendenpc.org.uk
Naphill & Walter's Ash Preschool	Debbie Conn (Supervisor) Judy Pope (Admin)	562813	office@nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk
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
Prescription Collection	Penny Leggett Ginny Ratcliffe Celia Duncan Nancy Hussey	562866 563650 564230 563767	dbartonratcliffe@goolemail.com
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 7.00-8.30pm	Scout & Guide Hut Naphill Scout & Guide Hut Naphill	handhcubs@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 in the month 7.45 for 8pm	Naphill Village Hall	Sheila Rolfe 562888 Hazel Vickery 563977
Wednesday Fellowship	Wednesday afternoons 2pm	Methodist Church	Betty Jones 564469
Residents Association	Second 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 9.30am Thursdays (April-Sept) 6.00pm		
Tennis Club - Junior	Fridays 4.15-7.30pm Saturday 9-9.45am under 7s		
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

Editorial

When I send out for the copy for the upcoming edition of this magazine I am in "Gazette mode", my brain is focused, I plan the layout, the articles and photographs flood in and I cannot wait to get started. This month I asked for photographs of favourite local places and comments as to why they are special but I have not received any. Several of the regular article and reports have not come in, so a slow start. Thankfully there are still lots of articles from our contributors to share with you and of course the great NapFest is definitely in top gear "get the show on the road" mode so we have all the latest news from them. Definitely time for me to muster some enthusiasm and start work!

We certainly enjoyed the Easter holiday here! The few sunny days over the past week do bring the hope that Summer really is on the way and the daffodils, planted for us, many years ago, by our very kind next door neighbours, are looking glorious. The two Chihuahua boys love playing hide and seek amongst them with our granddaughter when she comes home from school. In fact they cannot wait for "their girl" to come home and play with "her dogs".

One of the joys of being a retired grandparent is that you have the time to actually enjoy the children without all the need to juggle the other commitments nor do you have sole responsibility for them 24/7. I loved being a Mum but I do remember that there were never enough hours in the day! Now we are very much enjoying having two of the grandchildren living with us, it has certainly changed our lives and the shape of our home though not entirely as we expected.

When the girls came here to live it was all planned out and with a few minor adjustments, it was all going to be so easy. We had enough bedrooms, a few cupboards etc needed to be cleared to make room for their things. The huge dolls house would fit here in the office, bikes in the garden shed and scooter folded under the stairs and an extra car on the drive. I was confident that there would be little or no disruption, our home had never been home beautiful so it would obviously remain much the same.

Just how wrong could I be! Had I actually lost the plot and forgotten what it was like to have a nine year old Naomi in the house plus the existing muddy booted husband and the two spoilt Chihuahuas? Evidently YES! This morning, as I looked around the house, I smiled! Naomi is physically at school but every room, every corner, every surface has "Naomi" in it or on it. Would I have it any other way? Do I yearn to have a tidier, neater home? Definitely not! It is home, there is so much love, so much laughter and so much happiness that I consider myself to be blessed, precious time definitely not to be wasted!

Sonia

01494 569428

editor@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

www.naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

Naphill Village Hall & Playing Fields Council - Registered charity number 300309



Chairman's Report

There was a short meeting of the village hall committee on Monday 26 March. We agreed that the memorial tree would be planted alongside the main road. The seats will have been put on their bases and the Bon Ami roof will have been started by the time you read this. The main topic was that we will need several thousand pounds to replace the playground equipment which Hughenden Parish has removed from the playground. We are completing forms to apply for grants, of which the best paying one is £10,000 and the others range from £1,200. In the past we have only received about 1 in 4 grants that have been applied for so we will need to do more to fundraise. If you have any ideas on fundraising please email me at the village hall website.

After the committee meeting at 8.00pm we had the Village Hall Annual General Meeting. This year we had 4 villagers in attendance for the meeting. In my Chairman's/Trustee's report I outlined the activities that had occurred over the year. The village hall has been busy this last year, not only with lettings but also with fund raising. Napfest was a success with the sun shining most of the day. There were a number of R.A.F. personal that kept us secure and helped with the setting up. The amount raised was £9561.50 which was a great result. On the subject of fundraising the village hall was a nominated charity for the local Co-op and at the end of the fundraising period we received £2,236.54. The fireworks event also had good weather, a great atmosphere and help from the R.A.F. It was a successful fundraising event and made £11,943.02. The Christmas Fayre also raised £1,072.

I thanked all the people who had helped in these fundraising events, the Napfest committee members and the fireworks committee and the ladies who organised the Christmas Fayre. The Christmas tree was lit up over the Christmas period by the hard-working team led by Mike Mason who decorated it with LED lights and the collection raised £738.39. There were plenty of jobs to do in and around the hall and crick, these included replacing part of the hardwood floor by the stage in the main hall. The front of the hall was spruced up and electrical work undertaken. After an incident on the crick the barrier at the playground entrance was replaced with 2 drop down posts. Various trees and bushes were trimmed including the large ash tree by Vincents Way that on

its own cost £2,000. The war memorial was kept clean and tidy by Trish Bowen who has now retired after doing a great job for many years. There are a number of projects to be undertaken when the roofing jobs have been completed.

A new village hall website has been set up and it is very popular. There have been 41.430 page visits, with the page for the fireworks most popular. Most of the visitors to the web site were local but we did have some from Scotland, Wales, France, Italy, India and the U.S.A. Many thanks to Jim Cosgrove who set the web site up and keeps it updated. In February there was a visit from Lord Gardiner of Kimble. He came to visit us as part of National Village Halls week and also visited Widmer End Hall and Dunsmore Village Hall. He was very impressed with our village hall and all the activities that are undertaken here. The visit was arranged by Community in Action. Just keeping the village hall open on a day to day basis and making sure the running maintenance is kept up to date, costs £32,000 a year. The income from the lettings, Bon Ami, Mens Club and playing fields is £24,500 so if we did not have the fundraising events, not only the hiring costs would have to increase but also we would struggle to fund the work on major projects that keep the village hall as an asset for the village.

Clive Lawrence
Chairman Naphill Village Hall

Shear Madness

Has it stopped raining yet? I do hope so, everyone is so fed up with the rain!

I have no news this month I'm afraid so have a wonderful May and let's hope it's a scorcher !!

Just a quick reminder that I close every bank holiday weekend.

Mandy

Naphill Scouts

We had three scouts attend the Buckinghamshire County awards ceremony to receive awards from County Commissioner James Palin.

Ben Curtis, Callum Hughes and Lewis Bendell all received their Gold Chief Scout Award.

The gold award is the highest award available in the scout section and involves completing all 9 individual challenges, which are adventure, creative, expedition, outdoor, personal, skills, leadership, teamwork and world. Six other activity badges have also to be obtained. I am sure you will agree that this is a significant achievement for these boys. Two other scouts, Mark Andrews and Matt Hillier were unable to make the ceremony.

This term starts with a trip to the National Space Centre in Leicester. 18 keen Space Cadets will undertake the trip. Let's hope not too many get blasted into outer space!





Growing Your Own

May is a month of living off the fruit of past labours. Apart from fruit put into the freezer the previous summer, from the allotment in May there are fresh asparagus, silver chard, seakale, perhaps some root vegetables, Good King Henry, brassicas, “chicons” growing in the loft – and rhubarb. And, of course, May is a peak month for sowing new crops. Carrots are a major crop for me. It seems impossible, if one is a purely organic gardener, to avoid the dreaded carrot root fly. My solution is to grow really big maincrop carrots. Since the carrot root fly burrows into the carrot only about a quarter of an inch, it is easy to cut out the damage and leave the rest as a completely chemical-free delicious carrot.

Nature seems to rebalance itself. It seems to have rained nearly every day since early September 2017 and it has been very difficult to work in the garden or on the allotment. I cannot remember a period so awful. Yet, the winter and spring of 2017 were exceptionally dry and the dry period extended into the third week of July. Indeed, the consequent reduction of water permeating through the ground into the aquifer has led the water companies to warn of water restrictions this summer. And after all that recent rain!

Bill Blamey said he never sowed before May, but I try to sow anything I can before May if the conditions are right, and cover with fleece if the weather turns very cold. Bill had the plot by the gate (on the Lacey Green side) of the Walter’s Ash allotments and told me that his plot had been tended by members of his family for over 100 years. He said that one year some forestry people had been clearing trees down Clappins Lane and had a huge bonfire. Bill shot down there with his wheelbarrow as soon as the ash was cool (and before rain had come to wash away the precious potash) and covered his entire allotment to a depth of several inches in ash. The results that growing season were exceptional, especially potatoes twice normal size.

Another story he told me was that when he first came to live in Naphill he brought his mother to have a look. Nervously she asked “Does it flood?” Bill replied “if it floods in Naphill then the folks in Hughenden Valley had better watch out!” Bill was a grand old soldier of World War 2 and served in India in the same area as my father.

Another veteran of World War 2 who had an allotment at Walter’s Ash was our recently-departed dear friend Ron Crutchfield who worked his plot for about 54 years. Ron had the best situation possible for an allotmenteer. He literally lived on his allotment since the only path or track to his house was through the allotments. The allotmentees at Walter’s Ash will miss him.

Good gardening!

Mike Mason

Naphill Neighbours

By the time you read this we will have had our first outing of the year – our theatre trip to Milton Keynes and names taken at our April club meeting for our seaside outing to Eastbourne on Tuesday 19 June. We leave the Village Hall at 9am and on arrival at Eastbourne you will be free to do whatever you wish for the rest of the day, leaving for home at 5pm. Seats are still available on the coach (£14 for members and £16 for non-members/guests). If you are interested in joining us, please ring Hazel on 563977. For members, the coach ticket money will be paid at our next meeting.

Just a reminder to members that we will be running our usual fund-raising cake stall at the fete on Saturday 9 June. We rely on donations of home-made cakes, biscuits and preserves, so if you won’t be baking we would appreciate a cash donation instead.

Our next club meeting is on Monday 14 May when we will be entertained by Richard Furnival Jones, his subject being THE PALACE OF KNIGHTSBRIDGE – HARRODS.

Hazel Vickery, 563977

Naphill Evening WI

Isn't it difficult to enthuse about things when it keeps on raining!



We had a disappointment in March as our speaker with her sheepdog was unable to attend. However, we had a lovely talk from a lady who brought along her two pets who are used as Therapy Chihuahuas and told us of the visits she made to such venues as homes for the elderly and children's hospitals. We were all able to cuddle and pet the dogs who were extremely well behaved throughout the evening.

Our April meeting is about 18th-20th Century Fashion in Lace, which should be interesting, and then in May we will hear about 40 Years of Bomb Disposal. Our competition that evening is to see how many words of four letters or more we can make from BOMB DISPOSAL. I've already started on this one and it is surprising how many words there are bearing in mind that there is no 'E'. So come on members, let's all have a go!

29th May will see the Food Group lunching at the Spade Oak in Bourne End and following on from last month, the Craft Group are pleased to report that our member who had forgotten how to cast on her knitting has completed a most attractive scarf.

Both Naphill teams did well in the BFWI Inter-County Quiz, so congratulations to them all. I was helping with the scoring and I found most of the questions very difficult and some of them rather obscure.

As mentioned last month, we have our Annual Council Meeting to look forward to, with, amongst other highlights, Christine Walkden talking on "The Life and Times of a Gardener". All we will need then is for our gardens to dry out enough to work in them.

Carol Gilliam

ABOUT PETS AS THERAPY

Pets As Therapy is a national charity founded in 1983 by Lesley Scott-Ordish.

We enhance health and wellbeing in the community through the visits of trusted volunteers with their behaviourally assessed animals. We provide a visiting service in hospitals, hospices, nursing and care homes, special needs schools and a variety of other venues all across the UK. For more information visit:

www.petsastherapy.org

Missing Cat - Have You Seen Archie?



Has anyone seen Archie, missing from Walter's Ash for about seven months now.

Archie does not have a collar but he is chipped.

If you know of someone who may have taken him in or who might be feeding a stray please let the editor know and she will pass the details on to me.

Archie is totally black, medium to large size, and his eyes shine golden in the sunshine.

Many thanks

Jon



Coffee Morning

Christians in the Community

Tea & Coffee morning (Traidcraft)

10 am 'til 12 noon Saturday

12th May 2018

at the Naphill Methodist Church

Raffle Cakes for sale

Everyone welcome!

NAPFEST 8th, 9th & 10th June 2018



Established 1928 - Celebrating 90 Years of the Village Hall

Where has the time gone, NAPFEST is upon us already! Well, you may be pleased to know everything is in place for a fantastic weekend of fun and entertainment. This month we are announcing the bands playing at Music on the Crick, where to buy your tickets for this great event and telling you more about Fete Day.

**Friday 8th June - Music on the Crick: - Sponsored by
RAF100**

All New Bands this year!

Headlining are:



California Dreaming - an international event band featuring some of London's finest players from the session and touring world. They offer a full repertoire of hits from the past eight decades. The Band was formed by James Graydon and James Nisbet, they are joined by Lisa Law, Richard Cottle, Carl Holt and John Miller.



California Dreaming will be supported by **LFX**, who perform a blistering live show covering the biggest club anthems, from 90's dance and garage to current chart music, a truly unique band. Led by the UK Young Drummer of the Year and Artful drummer James Birt, LFX features the talents of five of the best young professional musicians in the UK. The LFX repertoire covers 90s classics from the likes of Artful Dodger and Robin S as well as current chart hits by Calvin Harris, Swedish House Mafia, Rudimental, David Guetta and many more.

Also supporting will be the '**Transmitters**' a local band made up of RAF personnel from RAF Halton and other local camps.

Our local DJ, Sean Salter, will open the evening with a disco for all ages, playing disco classics from the 70's, hidden gems from the 80's, some big box-little box from the 90's, to current anthems.

Advance tickets are available from the Wheel PH (Cash only) and online at: www.napfest.eventbrite.co.uk

£25 for a family ticket (2 adults, 2 Children) - £30 on the gate

£10 per adult - £13 on the gate

£5 per child (5-12yrs) £7 on the gate

Under 5's are free

Saturday 9th June - Village Fete

Starting with the procession at 12pm, led by the Fete Princes and Princesses, who then officially open the proceedings.



This year we have more children's rides and entertainment than ever before, this includes the Dodgems, Ferris Wheel, large Fairground rides and numerous inflatables.

In the arena we have Zumba with Sal, Kids Yoga, Fit Steps with Mia, 332 Sqn Air Cadet Band, family fun for all, RAF Halton Voluntary Band and much, much more!

Don't forget the dog show! Classes start at 1230pm and include most handsome dog, prettiest bitch, golden oldie, best rescue dog, waggiest tail and the best in show. (sponsored by Jollyes)

Stalls include: Naphill Neighbours Cake Stall, Friends of Naphill Common Silent

Auction, Grand Prize Draw, Bath Bombs, trinkets, Fudge and sweeties, greetings cards, The National Trust wooden carvings and many, many more.

Food and Refreshments: Tea and Coffee by the WI, Strawberries and Cream by the Tennis Club, Slush/milk shakes and of course our famous BBQ and Beer Tent, serving hot dogs, burgers, award winning ales and soft drinks.

Also this year..... **WANTED!**

Calling on all Pubs, sports teams, local businesses, Military departments, big groups of friends!!

Napfest 2018 will be hosting a Tug of War competition on Saturday 9 June in the main arena with a Trophy, medals and bragging rights for the winners.

All you need is 8 people (over 18) and a coach / manager – Could you be the strongest team in the village!!!

There will be some training available before the event if teams want it and a £5 team entry fee to help cover the costs of the medals.

Interested? Then register with Gareth at gareth.davies599@mod.gov.uk or call on 07970661596

DON'T FORGET YOUR VILLAGER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

This is an award presented to the Villager who has made outstanding contributions to the village in the last 12 months. All nominations should be forwarded to lindaclark894@hotmail.com before 1 June 2018.

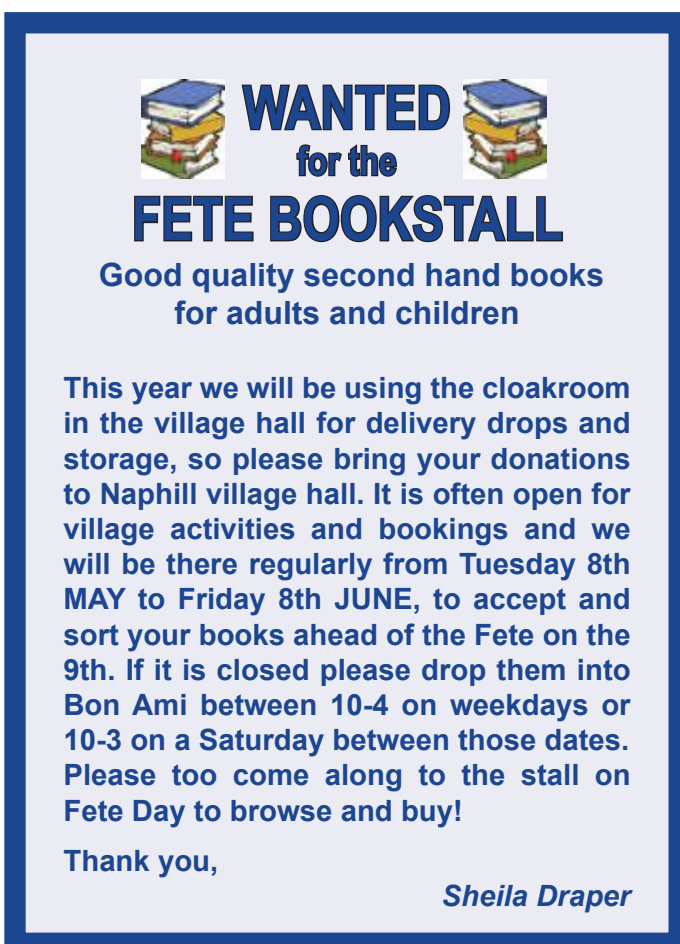
Thank you from Linda and the NAPFEST Committee





 **Naphill Neighbours** 
Cake Stall

WANTED!
**Homemade Cakes &
Bakes for Fete Day!**

Please deliver prior to the fete to
HAZEL
Irving Cottage,
89 Main Road,
Tel: 563977

 **WANTED** 
for the
FETE BOOKSTALL

Good quality second hand books
for adults and children

This year we will be using the cloakroom in the village hall for delivery drops and storage, so please bring your donations to Naphill village hall. It is often open for village activities and bookings and we will be there regularly from Tuesday 8th MAY to Friday 8th JUNE, to accept and sort your books ahead of the Fete on the 9th. If it is closed please drop them into Bon Ami between 10-4 on weekdays or 10-3 on a Saturday between those dates. Please too come along to the stall on Fete Day to browse and buy!

Thank you,
Sheila Draper

Tombola

NapFest Fete Day – WANTED –

Suitable prizes for the tombola, to be delivered please to Andy & Judy Pope, Greenways, Chapel Lane, Naphill (as early as possible).

Thank you very much for anything you can give – toiletries, booze and chocolate are the most popular items!

Friends of Naphill Common

Silent Auction

– WANTED –

Items for Auction

**We will be most grateful
for your support!**

**Ron Collins 01494 562240,
email:ron13collins@gmail.com
or Neil McMinn 01494564667,
email:ngmcminn@hotmail.com**



Sunday 10th June Classics on the Crick

Less than two months to go and preparations are well under way. Entries are coming in thick and fast, music is booked, catering is booked so now we just need to book the weather! As usual our main aim is to raise money for the Air Ambulance and as usual they will be there supporting the event. Unfortunately, as yet we haven't been successful in finding another classic car to auction off but there is time yet so if you have something tucked away that you would be happy to donate to a very worthwhile cause, please get in touch. All the info you need is on the website, www.classicsonthecrick.co.uk

We still need volunteers to help on the day, without these we struggle greatly so please, if you can spare an hour or two please contact us at classicsonthecrick@gmail.com or call 07710 869775 and speak to Ian, we really need your help!!

Classics team

The RAF 100 Baton relay Comes to RAF High Wycombe

The RAF 100 Baton Relay is a key event in the 100th anniversary celebrations of the Royal Air Force. The Baton is symbolic of the RAF's century of service to the Nation, being made of wood, brass and aluminium – key aircraft materials throughout the ages – and holding many symbolic messages and etchings. The Baton will be visiting every region of the UK and several overseas locations from 1 April to 10 July 2018, with the Relay designed to promote the key aims of RAF 100, namely to:

- COMMEMORATE our past by involving veterans and visiting historic locations,
- showcase opportunities for sport within the RAF to CELEBRATE the achievements of our personnel,
- INSPIRE the whole RAF family and younger generations.

On 3 April 2018, the RAF 100 Baton arrived at RAF High Wycombe on horseback, with Sergeant Claire Tapp handing the Baton to Station Commander Group Captain Robert Woods outside Lancaster building on Site 1.



The Baton was met by the RAF High Wycombe Station Commander upon arrival by horseback.

The Baton was also met by our VIP Mr Len Cooper, an ex-Lancaster Flight Engineer in the 'Pathfinders' 7 Squadron, who took part in the Peenemünde raids to destroy the German V1 and V2 rocket sites. After his aircraft was shot down over Berlin he was taken as a prisoner of war by the Germans. While in the prisoner of war camp, the Red Cross delivered many letters Mr Cooper had written to his parents, containing incredible stories of bravery during those difficult times.

Mr Cooper was joined by three other engineers: the Station Commander, OC ISW and a Junior Engineer. Bringing together four engineers across the generations of the RAF, with the backdrop of the iconic Hurricane and Spitfire aircraft, provided a fitting tribute to the key values of the RAF 100 Baton Relay, allowing RAF High Wycombe to commemorate, celebrate and inspire.



OC ISW, Mr Len Cooper, the Station Commander and a Junior Engineer outside the entrance to Site 1 celebrating engineering across the generations of the RAF.

The Baton continued its RAF High Wycombe journey with a trip to Hurricane building, where both civilian and military personnel were inspired by the spirit of the RAF 100 and created a 'human 100'. The Baton was transported around the sites by the Stations' new campervan (on its first outing) and throughout the day as many people as possible were encouraged to participate in the celebrations. So, while the VIPs were enjoying lunch in the Officers' Mess on Site 2, the Baton travelled to Site 3, visiting the Station Headquarters and an RAF 100 circuits class in the gym. Later, the Manning Team ran the Baton to Wycombe Air Park, before the Station Commander completed RAF High Wycombe's celebrations by running the Baton to the next station on the Baton's journey.



Civilian and Military personnel were inspired to create a 'human 100' outside the Hurricane building on Site 1.



RAF 100 are sponsoring and supporting NapFest



Friends of Naphill Common

The exceptionally wet spring and the heavy machinery used by those doing the felling has made some areas of the Common almost impassable. This is a great pity because, with the leaves just opening, the woodland is at its most glorious. Felling is still in progress but none-the-less we hope people will venture as far as they can in the clearer, more welcoming areas.

Not surprisingly, a tour of the ponds found that they have rarely contained so much water. If we exclude Pickup's Pond at the end of Downley Road, which is not strictly part of the Common, we have traditionally had seven ponds, but the heavy rain has now created an eighth. A small pond has appeared not far from Willow pond – on the opposite side of the path leading to the Clumps. Dew Pond is still filled by the fallen Great Beech and appears to be the only one with no frog spawn. All the others – Daisy, Ash, Shipwash, Small, Willow, Lady Horse Pond and even the new one – had either spawn or tadpoles: many thousands in Willow Pond.

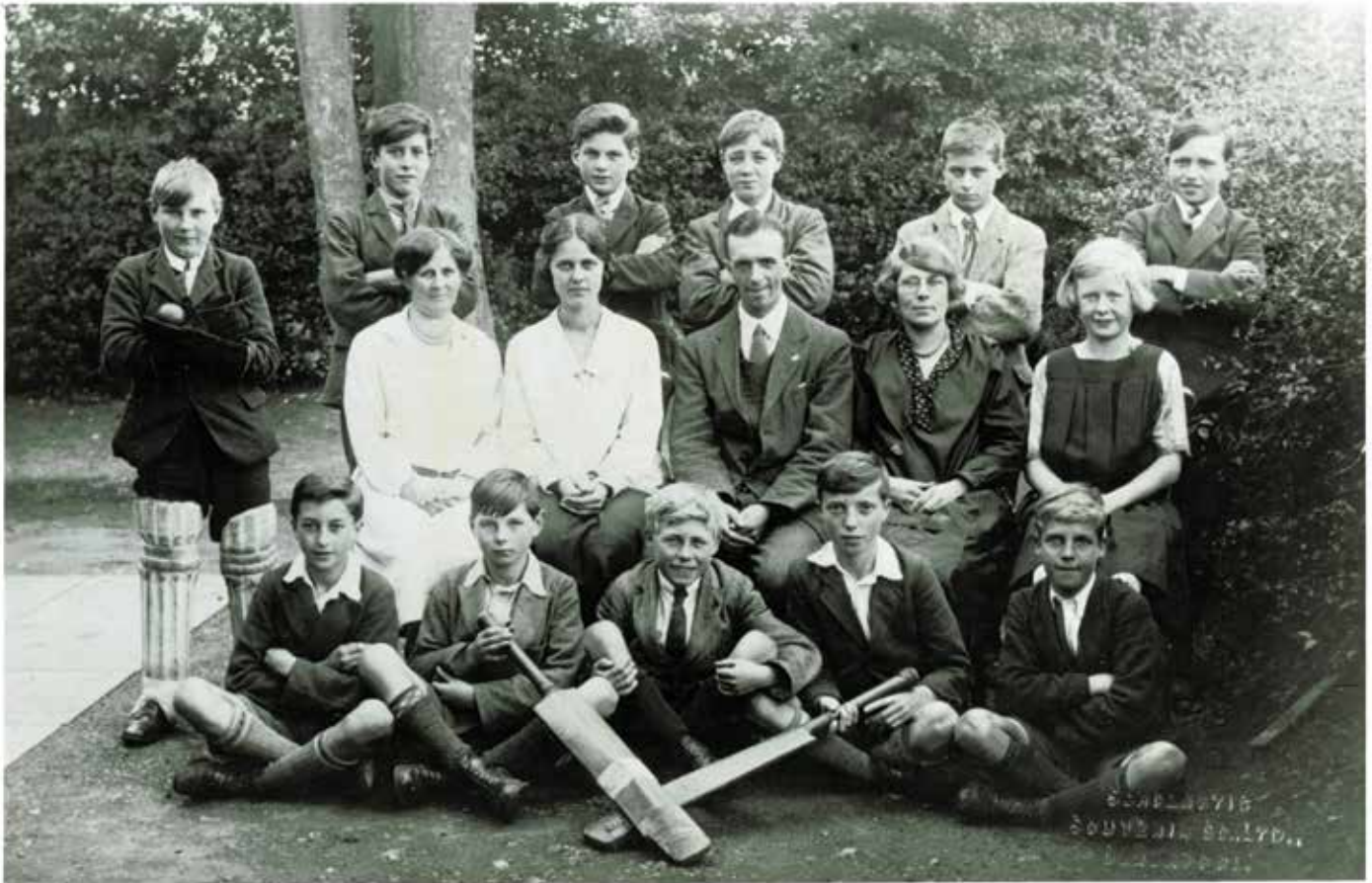
Our working parties have dragged out some of the weed and left clear water around the edge on some of the ponds and the frogs seem to like that. Newts were spotted in Pickup's pond but they are probably present in some of the others. A pair of mallard ducks is interested in Shipwash but no nest was visible. 'Shipwash' is almost certainly a corruption of 'sheepwash' and it has a promontory down which the sheep were probably driven to be washed. (As to birds, the spring visitors are hardly in evidence yet and the continued tree felling may deter many. The residents are around with greater spotted woodpeckers drumming and countless wood pigeons, magpies, robins and chaffinches. A shoot at Cookshall scatters pheasants throughout the surrounding area, but they are a bird with a reputation for stupidity and soon drift back to where they are fed.

Our walks continue as usual. The short walks generally involve the Common and they are between 2-3 miles, led by Chris Miller starting at 10.30am from the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month. The longer walks are led by Ron Collins and are about 5 miles, generally some distance from Naphill. Join them on the third Monday of each month; meeting at the Village Hall at 9.25am for a prompt start at 9:30am. Members and non-members are equally welcome. These are the usual arrangements, but as there is sometimes a need to make changes it would be wise to consult our website, posters or the two leaders to confirm the details.

Our working parties continue to clear footpaths and open areas of holly and other obstructions (remedial work on ponds is suspended for the amphibian breeding season). In addition to the Sunday morning parties led by Peter Davis (for dates, please consult our web site at <http://www.naphillcommon.org.uk/activities.html>), we now have an additional working party every Thursday morning commencing at 9.30am, though anyone wishing to help can turn up at any time during the morning. We are currently working along the area between Chapel Lane and the footpath that comes in off Downley Road and will be doing so for some time to come. Enquiries to Ron Collins on 01494 562240.

We will, as usual, run a stall at the Village Fete, and as for the last two years will be operating a silent auction. Our very ambitious target is to break last year's record when almost £1,200 was raised for the Village Hall. To this end, we are looking for a wide range of items that would appeal to potential bidders. If you can help, or know of someone else who could, please contact Ron Collins on the above number.

Chris Miller. Chairman.



Naphill School Cricket Team Circa 1929

Ken Hussey, Eric Montague, Reg Aldridge, Ted Shrimpton, Charlie Poutney, Doug Lowe, Hilda Parslow (scorer), Mrs Webb, Mr Cudmore, Miss West, Miss Williams, Pete Parslow, Frank Lacey, Lester Parslow, Dan Wheeler, Cyril Carrington,

Courtesy Maria White

An Update on Young Elliott Burggy's Swimathon in Aid of Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH)



connect				
 Elliott Burggy Lap Swimming Apr 11, 2018 • Lap Swimming				
DISTANCE	TIME	AVG PACE	CALORIES	AVG STROKES
1,800 m	39:39 h:m:s	1:58 min/100m	398 C	12 /length
GARMIN		Captured with a Garmin Garmin Swim		

I want to say a BIG thank you to everyone who has supported me so far, I have raised more than I expected and that is down to the great people who have donated. The Swimathon is getting closer each day and I am really enjoying training for it. I am currently training twice a week and am in the pool between 40min and 1 hour. There is still time to donate to this great cause so if you would like to, please sponsor me to complete the 2.5km swim for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

I am including some pictures of me enjoying my training sessions and some stats from my much loved swim watch.

Elliott

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/elliott-burggy>

Bon Ami Coffee Shop

Although it is raining (still) as we write this we are sure that by the time you get to read it the sun will be shining, our terrace will be full of customers enjoying the weather, our hanging baskets will be planted up for the summer and ice creams will be selling like hot cakes!

We are looking forward to welcoming some new members to our team so watch out for some fresh faces.

Our Monday Mingle continues to be popular so if you fancy a chat over a cup of tea then do pop down - maybe bring a friend or neighbour, it's very sociable.

The Bon Ami Book Club is due to meet on 3rd May at 7.00pm to discuss our third book. The club was established at the suggestion of Sue Chalker (customer and staff member) and we now have 22 members. If you are interested in joining please let Amanda, Ruth or Sue know.

Finally, a reminder that, with the sun showing it's face, it is definitely Cream Tea Time. There is lots of clotted cream in the fridge and a choice of jams to accompany our delicious scones, freshly made each day. Remember, it's never too early in the day for a Cream Tea - it's always Cream Tea o'clock.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Amanda and Ruth

Boundary Stones And Prayers

My house has a really interesting slate roundel on the front wall. It marks the position of a boundary stone, which historically would have been a stopping off place in the ceremony of beating the bounds. In former times, when maps were rare, it was usual to make a formal procession around the parish boundaries on Ascension Day or during the week before - Rogation week. The parish priest with the churchwardens and the parochial officials headed a crowd of boys who, armed with green boughs, beat the parish boundary markers. Sometimes the boys were themselves whipped or even bumped on the boundary-stones to make them remember. The object of taking boys along is supposed to ensure that witnesses to the boundaries should survive as long as possible. Priests would pray for the parish's protection and hymns would be sung.

The ceremony had an important practical purpose. Checking the boundaries was a way of preventing encroachment and memory of the true extent of the parish helped to maintain the integrity of those borders. Modern surveying techniques make the ceremony obsolete but many English parishes carry out a regular beating of the bounds, as a way of strengthening the community and giving it a sense of place.

Beating the Bounds is closely linked to Rogation Sunday – the Sunday before Ascension Day. Rogation

Days are four days set apart to bless the fields, and ask for God's mercy on all of creation. On these days, church congregations used to march the boundaries of the parish. They would stop at a number of symbolic places such as an arable field, a well, a byre or a homestead. There they would pray for God's blessing on all fields, wells, homesteads and so forth.

In the Old Testament, the moral, physical and spiritual health of a nation was seen as directly related to the health of the land. Our modern world has lost touch with this concept and forgotten how to live close to the land – it can be no coincidence that we are experiencing some of the problems that we have. In our efforts to acquire ever more 'stuff' we have done great harm to our environment. We hear of polluted streams, air unfit to breathe, the island of waste in the centre of the Pacific – the problem of our exploitation of the world God gave us is a pressing one. Perhaps reviving the customs around Rogation Day might begin to remind us that God intended for us to take care of the earth, not ravage it.

*May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,
that you may use his gifts to his glory and the
welfare of all creation.*

Rogation Blessing.

(This year, Rogation Sunday falls on 6th May)

Rev Jenny Ellis

Associate Priest, West Wycombe Team.

Services at St. Botolph's

May 6th	11am Eucharist	Rev. Jenny Ellis
May 13th	11am Eucharist	Rev. Jenny Ellis
May 20th	11am Eucharist	Rev. Allan Barton
May 27th	11am Matins	Re. Allan Barton

Message from Hughenden Vicarage

I wonder whether you have ever met a member of the Royal family?

My first passing encounter with royalty took place when I was a young child of about 5, standing on the pavement in Bristol with my Nana, and watching HM Queen Elizabeth II drive past with the Duke of Edinburgh in a very grand black limousine, waving to the crowds and smiling.

Do you remember 29 July 1981, when the nation joined together to celebrate the wedding of Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer? We watched for hours on the TV, joined a neighbourhood party, like so many others on that memorable day, and then my Dad drove us down to Woking in Surrey, where we stood on the train platform

and watched the Royal Train go past in a few seconds without stopping, as the newlyweds headed off on their honeymoon.

I can also recall being so surprised when the Queen drove past me in a car alone, at the wheel herself (with her detectives in the car behind) that I almost fell off my bicycle in surprise. She had just driven up the royal mile from Windsor Castle, and was no doubt off to visit a member of her family in Windsor Great Park, or perhaps just craved a little bit of alone time.

May marks another special occasion for the nation and for the Royal family especially, as Prince Harry marries the actress Meghan Markle in St George's Chapel, in Windsor, on Saturday 19 May. Whatever your attitude towards royalty, I am sure that you will join me in wishing the couple every blessing on their special day and great happiness and joy in the years to come.

Most of you will be aware no doubt of the royal connections we have at Hughenden Church, through the late Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, who lived in Hughenden Manor, which is now looked after by the National Trust. He was buried in the crypt under our church, and Queen Victoria visited the Church a few days later to pay her respects, as protocol at the time did not permit her majesty to attend the funeral of a commoner.

Did you know that we also have two permanent memorials to Queen Victoria inside our Church? I'm not going to tell you what they are – so why not take some time out this summer on a Sunday afternoon, and visit our church for a tour, find them for yourself, and then enjoy one of our wonderful Cream Teas in Hughenden Church House (2-5 pm every Sunday in the summer)?

We remember the Royal family in our prayers in church every week, especially praying for the Queen. When times have become turbulent all around, and even within her own family, the Queen has remained dedicated, loyal, hardworking and loved by many. She is strengthened daily by her Christian faith and is a staunch supporter of charitable causes and seeks to celebrate and encourage all that is good within our society, as well as the wider Commonwealth.

I will conclude with the words to a prayer which the Church of England published a couple of years ago, when her majesty became the longest reigning monarch in British history:

“Almighty God, who hast set our gracious sovereign Queen Elizabeth upon the throne of this realm, and given her to surpass all others in the years of her reign: Receive our heartfelt thanks for her service to her people, confirm and encourage her in the continuance of the same, and keep her in thy heavenly wisdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who took the form of a servant for our sake, and reigneth now in glory with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.”

Rev Keith Johnson

Black Lion

By the time you read this we will have had our Beer & Gin Festival so we hope you all enjoyed yourselves and we were blessed with good weather!

Our new Spring menu comes out on 1st May so keep an eye on Facebook or our website to see what's in store for Spring.

Diary Dates:

- Napfest is Friday 8th – Sunday 10th June for more information on the fantastic events taking place visit www.napfest.co.uk We will be hosting the bar on the Sunday so we hope to see you then.
- Saturday 9th June for a Family Pig Roast Day. We are pleased to welcome Leni Buckle to the Black Lion. Leni has recently set up a Pig Roast company and we are looking forward to her cooking us a delicious pig roast! Entry is free with the Hog Roast and a pick & mix sweet trolley available so please come along from 1pm onwards after the Fete.

Congratulations to our Crib and Dominoes team who came third in their league this year. It has been great supporting you all every week.

We are looking forward to the sunshine to see everyone playing football and on our new playground.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Jack, Sian and the team

One Hundred Years On

My father, Arthur Richard Nicholls, was born at the end of the 19th century. As a young man he worked on the farms his parents tenanted in Naphill and Lacey Green, but he was also in the Royal Bucks Yeomanry at Aylesbury as a territorial. So when war broke out he had to go, and was one of the first to be called up. He was trained as a sniper. He was in France before the big battles of the Somme and Ypres, because he was always sent forward on reconnaissance missions. One story that sticks in my memory is that he had been moved forward because there was a German spy giving all the information of the movement of the British troops. So dad went up and he found this German, he was in a church belfry, and while dad was nosing around to see where he was that was when he shot at dad and split his sleeve open. Poor man he didn't get another uniform, he had to tie his shirt up with string! But the bullet didn't touch him. And so he laid his rifle in the direction where he thought this spy was, and he stayed still as he thought the German might assume he had killed him. And sure enough, he came out to investigate, and dad killed him.

He suffered two lots of gas during the war, when he was forward and the Germans sent over gas shells. He was invalided out of the army after the second one.

His chest was terrible, I don't know how he lived, he was constantly wheezing. You could hear him coming, my sister and I used to joke about the tune his chest played. Despite this though he always worked hard and never gave up his jobs, running two farms. The only transport between them (Naphill and Lacey Green) was his bicycle, and he used to cycle along with his old dog Bob running at his side. His dad had Vincent farm as a tenant farmer, and after his death my grandmother carried on until she couldn't go on any more and then she asked dad to take over. And that's when we moved over the field from Red Cottage to Vincent Farm. My grandmother went to live with an aunt. I was five then (1927).

I wouldn't have this house if it weren't for my father. In the early years of the farm my parents bought the plot for this house and for the one next door. And I'd been married for about a year and was talking about getting a house, and my mum said well you can have that plot of land and build on it, so that's what we did. And the cousin down the road was the architect, so I got that for free as well.

My dad was a happy man. Like everyone else he didn't like going to war of course, but I don't think he was troubled by his time in the war. He worked hard and died aged 67, which was a good age considering everything his body had gone through.

Geoff Nicholls

High Wycombe Photographic Society

April and May are the months when we hold our Annual Exhibition in conjunction with the Wycombe Arts Festival and is our biggest event of the year.

The exhibition gives our members the chance to show the residents of and visitors to High Wycombe their best projected images and prints.

The Exhibition will be held in the Eden Centre directly opposite Zara and is open to the public Friday 4th May and Saturday 5th May from 11:00am to 4:00pm, Friday 11th and Saturday 12th May from 11:00am to 4:00pm. The Exhibition closes at 4:00pm on Saturday 12th May.

If you are in town on these dates please drop in and have a look at our talented members' photographs. Looking at great photographs is far better than standing watching clothes being bought – trust me!

There is no cost to come and have a look.

A number of the prints on display will be for sale by the members as well as a large collection of gift cards featuring work by our members.

May 3rd there is an evening Outdoor Photoshoot to which you are invited, however, the location has not yet been confirmed at time of going to press so for more details of the Photoshoot please see our website.

May means that the Bluebells will be in full bloom and the best way to photograph them is to get down and personal with them to get that photo of the best bluebell

you have ever seen.

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

David Greenwood

Membership Secretary - Wycombe Photographic Society

Naphill Tennis Club

Come and visit our stall at NAPHILL FETE on Saturday 9th June for mouth-watering STRAWBERRIES & CREAM. You will find it next to the tennis courts where you can also enjoy 'pitting your wits' against the BALL MACHINE or just watching the entertainment.

Before then, we are opening up the courts to members of the public for the

GREAT BRITISH TENNIS WEEKEND on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th May from 10 am – 4 pm. This is your opportunity to have a go at tennis free of charge. If you haven't a racquet, we can provide.

Junior Coaching and Adult Rusty Racquets/Improvers' Coaching are now underway but it's not too late to join in the fun!

Please contact our Membership Secretary, Sarah Dengel (01494563706 sarah.dengel1@gmail.com) for further information or see our website: www.naphilltennisclub.org.uk.

Jenny Tench

Naphill Brownies

I am writing this as I sit down after a very successful, somewhat-postponed, Brownies and Guides Jumble Sale. Even the sun shone...possibly for the first time this year. I cannot say a big enough 'Thank you' to all the wonderful people who give their time to help. The money raised is used to keep our costs down allowing all Brownies and Guides to participate in all sorts of activities without making them too expensive

So, the summer term is upon us. We will be getting out and about as much as possible enjoying the summer weather (?). Naphill crick and the common provide us with so many wonderful possibilities for games and outings.

What's more, for the first time ever, we are hoping to enter a Naphill brownie team into the Competition Hike early in May. This is a map and compass challenge organised by Bucks Girlguiding. Last year the brownie event was won by Walters Ash brownies. I'd like to think we can muster a team to put up a challenge.

On top of all that we will be playing an active part in Naphill fete.

So much to look forward to.

Brown Owl - Ruth Daly

565571. ruth.daly3@btinternet.com
1st Naphill Brownies, Thursdays 5:45-7pm



New to Area Business:

Hampden Car Hire

I retired from the hospitality industry after nearly forty years last year and decided on a new challenge. Having always been active the Private Hire business was an obvious choice. I enjoy meeting people and at the same time offer a local and reliable service. Based in Great Hampden with an executive license and a Mercedes estate vehicle I hope to continue the high standards that I maintained throughout my previous career. If I can assist with any of your travel commitments—airports, seaports, rail stations local or national including business clients .

Please call TIM WINTER on 07787 558405.

Doppler Scanner Appeal

Harrison Gallagher, the son of Dr Anthony Gallagher at the Hughenden Surgery has set up an appeal for a Doppler Scanner. You may be a patient at the Surgery and want to donate to this appeal. A Community Doppler Machine is an important piece of equipment for scanning patients suffering from leg pains who might, for instance, have Deep Vein Thrombosis, and who might have to wait months for a hospital appointment if the scan can't be done at the Surgery. The Doppler Scanner costs £2,700. If you would like to find out more and make a donation please go to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/hughendenvalley>



Nancy Taylor is showing her iPad prints and artwork from her studio (garage) again this year during Bucks Art Weeks, formerly known as Bucks Open Studios. You will find her at Pine Trees, Downley Rd, Naphill HP14 4QY on Saturday 9th, 16th and 23rd June 11am -4pm or Wednesday morning 13th and 20th June 10am – 12 noon. All Welcome. Plenty of parking www.nancyetaylor.co.uk

James Foster's Cycle Challenge

54 miles a day for 54 consecutive days from Monday 7th May to Friday 29th June 2018 raising funds for Marie Curie.



James is training very hard in readiness to undertake this huge Challenge in memory of his father who sadly died of cancer nearly 16 years ago.

You can follow his progress and of course still sponsor him!

www.sittingonwheels.com

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

The following local planning applications received by Wycombe District Council (WDC) between 8 March and 16 April 2018 were discussed, and any responses by NAWARA appear on the WDC website

18/05515/FUL. 1 Cherrycroft Drive Naphill HP14

4QG. Householder application for demolition of rear conservatory, construction of replacement single storey rear extension, replace two front flat dormers with two front pitched dormers and new roof light, reduce width of garage door, new front open porch and render brickwork to sides and rear of building.

Received 26.02.18. Target Determination:

23.04.2018. **18/05553/FUL Manesty, Stocking**

Lane Naphill HP14 4NE HA for demolition of existing outhouse and garage, construction of single storey side/front extension, new front porch bridging connection between garage and existing canopy, demolition of existing dormer on rear elevation roofslope and construction of replacement rear dormer window, 2 x side and 1 x front dormer windows and associated internal and external alterations. Received 28.02.18. Target Determination. 25.04.2018.

18/05622/FUL Hideaway Naphill Common Naphill HP14 4SU. HA for extension to the

existing garage roof to form a covered car port with open sides. Received 21.03.18.

Target Determination. 16.05.2018. **18/05704/**

CLP Melvern Stocking Lane Naphill HP14

4NE Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed for the erection of single storey rear extension. Received 05.03.18. Target Determination 30.04.2018.

18/05342/CLE Hogtrough Smallholding Louches

Lane Naphill HP14 4QH. Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use as B8 (Storage and Distribution) for classic cars, their spare parts and machinery. This is now being determined by WDC Legal Dept. All correspondence was removed off the WDC website within 2 hours of appearing, being classified by WDC as "sensitive". All those who responded to the application have now been asked to produce their evidence as statutory declarations.

Wycombe District Local Plan. The Wycombe District Local Plan was submitted on 28 March 2018 to the Secretary of State and the Planning Inspectorate. The Local Plan covers the whole of the district area and the policy framework for the District to 2033.

Nicola Gulley, the independent Planning Inspector will decide how and when the Examination of the Local Plan will take place. Further information from Programme Officer www.wycombe.gov.uk/wdlpexamination.

Submission Documents. The 2196 responses to the Local Plan including 189 from N&WA (listed alphabetically and by policy) are available on www.wycombe.gov.uk/wdlpexamination

wycombe.gov.uk/wdlpexamination Also available on the website, or at the WDC offices, is the publication version of the Local Plan; the Sustainability Appraisal Report; the submission Policies Map; a Statement of Consultation; and the plan's supporting documents. Any queries contact Planning Policy Team by email at newlocalplan@wycombe.gov.uk or by phone on 01494 421158.

Clappins Field . Grant Application to Parish Council.

HPC considered a grant towards cost of the Consultant engaged to oppose WDC policy RUR7, that 5.6 acres of Smiths Field at Clappins Lane be taken out of Green Belt and made available for an estate of 64 houses. To make sure the 97% opposition to RUR7, evident in the written responses to the Local Plan, was reflected in the N&WA population as a whole, HPC asked for a petition. It was requested in the Easter break with many families away on holiday. We had only 2 weeks to produce it. So concerned were many to safeguard the GB that 18 people immediately volunteered to help. They visited almost every house between the bottom of Coombe Lane in Naphill to the end of Grimms Meadow in Walter's Ash, not deterred by the constant drizzle. The results are not dissimilar. The figures rounded show 5% support RUR7 but 95% oppose RUR7. With some abstentions, HPC kindly awarded the grant.

Gloria Leflaive 563634

The Wheel

This summer is all about big Birthday Parties, we have lots of celebrations happening during the next few months which does mean Saturday nights are going to be busy and you may wish to give us a call if you are wanting to book a table on a Saturday evening. On the 12th May we would like you all to be aware that we will be closed to the public from 5pm as we have a very big 50th Birthday Celebration for Mark (yes, he is really that old)!!

For all of you that follow the Motorbikes, the Moto GP has started and as always, we will be showing the main race on the Sundays on BT sport, so the front bar will be full of bike fans. As we move in to the summer we also start getting lots of Bank Holidays for you all to enjoy, so just a little reminder that we are open all day on the Bank holiday Mondays. Hopefully you will be able to enjoy the sunny weather and be out in the gardens.

Napfest is coming up fast and the staff are all getting ready for Fete day and choosing their costumes for the parade on the Crick. I can't wait to see all the families out supporting this brilliant village event, this year's Fete is going to be extra special as it is 100 years of the RAF. The committee have been so lucky to get extra money, so there will be so much more on the field. Doesn't matter what your age, the entertainment will be there for everyone. Music on the Crick has a great line up this year and we will be selling tickets for this great family evening at the pub and online. Classics on the

Crick is already getting booked and is a great day (its worth booking a table for the Sunday if you are wanting to eat with us).

Dates to look out for:

- Mark's 50th Party (pub closed to the public)
- Napfest – 9th June – 11th June
- Father's Day – 17th June
- Dog Photography Day – 21st July (data to be confirmed)

The Dog Photography Day is a fabulous day to get your greatly loved pets photographed by professional Nick Ridley who is the UK's leading dog photographer. We do book in times for you to come up and the wonderful thing is you can get prints to take home on the day. We have used Nick before and he is excellent, I know it will be a fantastic day.

Mark and I would like to welcome James Atwell and Chloe Fairbrother to The Wheel team, who have joined to help and will be here over the summer, during the lovely long summer days (here's hoping).

As always Mark and I would like to thank everyone for their custom over the last few very wet months, we appreciate your effort! Lastly, we would like to thank everyone who came out for Roscoe's funeral, which was a fantastic celebration of life. His family were so happy to have all your support.

Cheers to you all

Claire and Mark

Chiltern Hills Arboriculture

Spring is threatening to burst out any day soon, apparently. The birds are chirping and the sun occasionally pops out from behind the wintery cloud cover. Even the air temperature gets into the higher teens now and again. So, as gardeners, what should we be doing to set ourselves up for Summer? The answer..WEEDING!!! (yes, we all know that weeding is very, very tedious... personally I am a huge fan of the flame gun approach, when appropriate, of course)

All weeds can be controlled without weedkillers, but persistent or deep rooted weeds may be very difficult to eradicate. Ongoing control is likely to be necessary.

Annual weeds (which only live for a year) and ephemeral weeds (which live for less than a year) are the easiest to control, as they are usually shallow rooted. However, they can scatter seed prolifically, so usually reappear and require further control.

Deep-rooted perennial weeds (which die down in the winter and re-grow each spring) will re-grow from their roots if the tops are removed or burned off. They can be difficult to dig out and may grow up through weed barriers in time.

Weeds can be controlled whenever they are troublesome, which is usually in the spring and summer months.

It is a good idea to put weed barriers in place in late winter or early spring, as they work better as a preventative than when an existing problem requires suppression.

Weeds can be controlled by hoeing: Run a hoe over a bed or between rows to kill most weed seedlings. Hand-pulling or hand-weeding with a fork: Pull up annual weeds by hand before they set seed. Perennial weeds should be dug out with as much root (or bulb) as possible, using a hand or border fork. Weed knife and other weeding tools: A weed knife has a hooked end and is a useful tool for weeding between paving slabs and along path edging. Repeated cutting: In large weedy areas, repeated cutting to ground level over several years will weaken and even kill some weeds. This is usually done with a strimmer or sickle-type weeder. Flame gun: Scorch off weeds between paving slabs and on driveways by blasting them with a flame gun. Mulching: Use deep organic mulches such as bark or wood chip to smother weeds around plants. Edging boards or strips: These can be used to edge lawns and grass paths to prevent unwanted grass growth into the border. Root barriers: These can be inserted into the soil to stop the spread of perennial weeds such as ground elder and horsetail into neighbouring areas or gardens. They can also be used to restrict invasive plants such as bamboos, or suckering trees, shrubs and raspberries. A straight barrier can be formed from paving slabs or corrugated iron sheets. Ground cover or landscaping fabrics: These can be laid over recently cleared soil to suppress re-growth of old weeds and prevent new weeds from establishing. They can be woven, spun, or plastic. Each have more expensive or cheaper options. So you have plenty of choices according to your budget.

Mike Beckley

Last Word: On Monday, when I settled into my office chair, here at World Headquarters, I was a little alarmed as to how or even if there were enough articles or photographs to actually FILL this month's magazine. At least four of the regular reports were not appearing and my plea for photographs had fallen on deaf ears. I really should know better than to fret! Needless to say, as usual, I have spent three whole days and one very long evening fitting everything in! As always, my thanks to all our contributors and to my great webmaster, Peter Davis, who is also a superb photographer, for this month's glorious front cover.

Next month's copy date is 15 May - the BIG pre NapFest edition when we get to meet the Fete Princesses and Princes. A polite reminder! *There is no magazine without your articles and photographs!*

Sonia

Editorial Disclaimer: *Although the editor has made every effort to ensure that the information in this magazine was correct at press time, the editor does not assume and hereby disclaims any liability to any party for any loss, damage, or disruption caused by errors or omissions, regardless of the cause. Any opinions expressed in articles herein do not express the personal opinion of the editor.*

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All the details on page 15*

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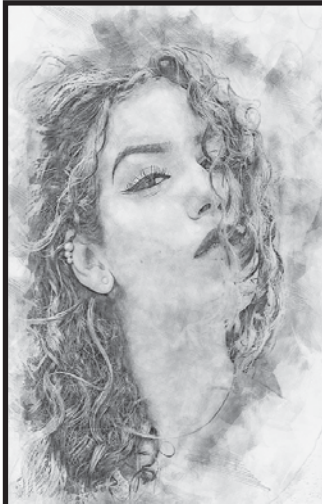
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