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December/January 2018/19

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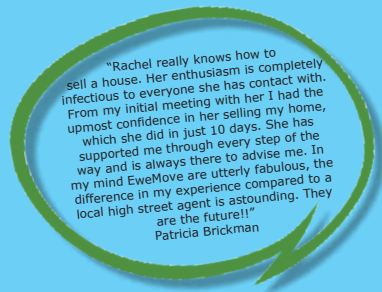
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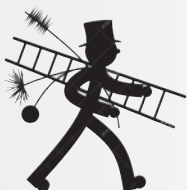
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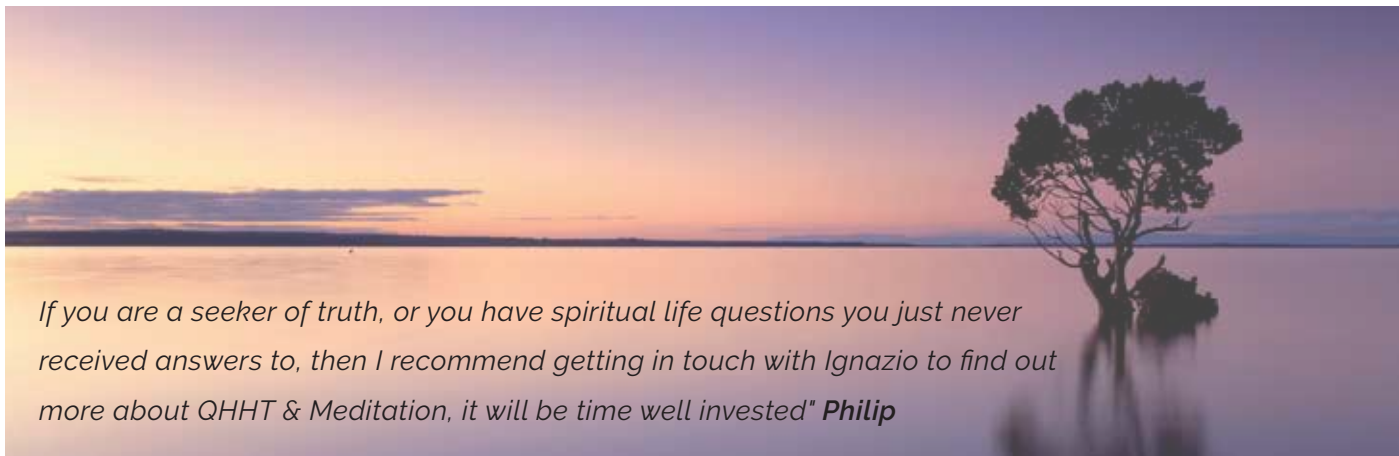
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# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

## December/January 2018/19

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District Councillor	Steve Broadbent	07471-14418	<a href="mailto:steve_broadbent@wycombe.gov.uk">steve_broadbent@wycombe.gov.uk</a>
District Councillor	Audrey Jones	563425	<a href="mailto:audrey_jones@wycombe.gov.uk">audrey_jones@wycombe.gov.uk</a>
Hughenden Parish Clerk	Shona Hadwen	715296	<a href="mailto:clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk">clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk</a>
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Chris Waterton	07968 268067	<a href="mailto:chris.waterton@hughendenpc.org.uk">chris.waterton@hughendenpc.org.uk</a>
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Anita Boekee	07931 795464	<a href="mailto:anita.boekee@hughendenpc.org.uk">anita.boekee@hughendenpc.org.uk</a>
Hughenden Parish Council	Vacancy		
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Cllr. Paul Hardinge	07810 038198	<a href="mailto:paul.hardinge@hughendenpc.org.uk">paul.hardinge@hughendenpc.org.uk</a>
Naphill & Walter's Ash School	Kerenza Gwyn	562813	<a href="mailto:office@nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk">office@nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk</a>
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	<a href="mailto:dbartonratcliffe@googlemail.com">dbartonratcliffe@googlemail.com</a>
Thames Valley Police NON EMERGENCY		101 PRNPT	
Village Hall Bookings	Tanya Stevens	563053	<a href="mailto:naphillvillagehallbk@gmail.com">naphillvillagehallbk@gmail.com</a> 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	handnhcubs@hotmail.com naphillcubscouts@outlook.com
Football Club Naphill Junior Boys Training Sessions	U6, 7, 8, 9 Saturdays 9.30-11am	NWA School	John Hamill naphillfcjuniors@hotmail.co.uk
	U10, 11, 12 Saturdays 9.30-11am	RAF Sports Field	Bob Hathaway 563332
	U13, 14, 16 Saturdays 9.30-11am	RAF Walter's Ash	
Friends of Naphill Common (FONC)	Various	Various	Trevor Hussey 563767
Good Companions	First Thursday every month	Hughenden Village Hall	Pat Furness 565501
Guides (Naphill)	Wednesdays 7-8.45pm	Scout and Guide Hut Naphill	Toni Green 562089
Men's Club	Monday to Friday 7.30pm	Naphill Village Hall	Andrew Wasilewski 562770 naphillmensclub@yahoo.co.uk
Mobile Library	Wednesday 10.55-11.30am 11.35 -11.55am 12.05 -12..20pm	Naphill Village Hall Forge Road Eastlands, Lacey Green	
Naphill Neighbours	Second Monday of the month 7.45 for 8pm	Naphill Village Hall	Sheila Rolfe 562888 Hazel Vickery 563977
Residents Association	Third Thursday in the month 8pm	Naphill Village Hall	Gloria Leflaive 563634 glorialeflaive@msn.com
Scouts (Naphill)	Thursdays 7.30 -9.15pm	Scout and Guide Hut Naphill	naphillscouts@aol.com
Seniors Luncheon Club	Second Wednesday in the month 12.45 for 1	Naphill Village Hall	Jan Gaunt 562282
Tennis Club - Senior	Sundays 1.30pm	Naphill Tennis Club	Sarah Dengel 563706 sarah.dengel1@gmail.com Jenny Tench 565406 jttench@gmail.com Terry Crooks 562539 ter-rycrooks2001@aol.com
	Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am		
Tennis Club - Junior	Wednesdays 11am Thursdays (April-Sept) 6.00pm Fridays 4.00-7.15pm 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

**If you have a NON business club or activity group which meets regularly in Naphill or Walter's Ash and which you would like to see included on this page, please contact me via email: [editor@haphillandwaltersash.org.uk](mailto:editor@haphillandwaltersash.org.uk)**





**Merry Christmas  
2018**

**Happy New Year  
2019**

## Editorial

I am always delighted that so many people want to contribute to our village magazine. This month I have had to ask several contributors to shorten their articles and I apologise if I have not included all the artwork and photographs! I am literally inundated with things to include, to the point where I doubt if I can fit everything in! This will have to be another 48 page edition! My apologies to the delivery team and to the Pools who distribute all the magazines, for the extra weight involved.

This has been another busy, successful year here in our villages! Special congratulations this month to Pete Dalby and his fireworks team for this year's fabulous 26th Fireworks on the Crick and to Richard Pushman for organising this year's Remembrance Day Service. Richard has handed the baton to Reg Horne after many years of organising this event. Reg has kindly written the report for this edition of our magazine.

Several of our local artists have kindly painted Christmas stones and I am including as many of these as I can. My thanks to them! These stones will be hidden for you all to find, so spreading the Christmas spirit, not the bottled sort, throughout our community.

My thanks to Peter Davis for this month's Christmas cover, a beautiful snow scene taken on the common earlier this year.

My long suffering Gussetteers join me in extending our seasonal good wishes to you all.



Sonia

01494 569428

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

**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.*

## A Note from the Gazette Treasurer to our Advertisers

### Advertising Rates for 2019

For those advertisers who receive, and perhaps read, a copy of the gazette each month, and for potential new advertisers, I would like to let you know the advertising rates for next year.

Because of increased printing costs we are increasing the rate for colour adverts. The rate for greyscale adverts will remain as existing for the time being. The rates are as follows:

### Colour advertising rates

Full page: - £650

Half page: - £350

Quarter page: - £190

### Greyscale advertising rates

Half page: £180

Quarter page: £90

Eighth page: £48



I will be sending out invoices towards the end of November so by the time you read this you will have received them. Prompt payment would be appreciated.

Mike Pool

treasurer@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

## Village Hall Christmas Tree Lights

By the time you read this, the Christmas tree outside the Village Hall should be lit up, brightening the dark winter evenings and bringing festive cheer to the whole village. I'm sure we all feel the stresses of the day fade away when we see the tree looking so wonderful on our way home - some even change their route home just to admire the tree!

Our Christmas tree has brought joy to the community for generations. The lights are put up and taken down each year by a team of intrepid volunteers, led by Mike Mason, who require insurance cover which costs over £200. It has 920 light bulbs plus the sphere at the top which has 350 LEDs. Each garland (we have 23 at the moment) costs at least £90 and there is also the cost of bulbs and electricity. The current equipment was purchased in 2009 and most years the effects of wind and weather take their toll.



Please make a donation to show your appreciation and to keep our tree alight. Collecting tins are in local shops and both pubs, or you can go online to make your donation:

<https://mydonatebt.com/charities/naphillvillagehallplayingfields>

Any donation, big or small, will be very welcome, and any monies left after the

running costs, repairs and insurance are covered will go to the children's playground fund.

*Cathryn Carter*



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

### **Chairman's Report**

At the meeting of the village hall committee, which was held on the 5th November the two new Hughenden parish councillors were introduced to the committee. They are Anita Bookee and Paul Hardinge. They agreed that one of them would attend the village hall monthly meetings.

It was agreed at the meeting that the overhanging trees adjacent to Downley road would be trimmed, it is hoped that this will be done soon. The play area equipment was again discussed and we will place an order for the activity centre at the beginning of December and should have it installed by the spring of 2019. The roof over Bon Ami was worked on at the end of October but unfortunately there was still a leak. But the good news is that I saw the roofers working on the roof today and they assured me that they had found the cause of the leak and the work they were doing would fix it! The changing room doors have been replaced and the locks are the same keys as before. Mark Booth very kindly donated and fitted a replacement LED light over the clock at the front of the hall. The sound cabinet

was appraised by a sound technician and the village hall has agreed to commission a new microphone with radio mike with an external aerial and usb point to play recorded music. This is going to cost just under £1000

The fireworks and bonfire evening was a great success, the weather was good although a little windy at times, the crowd appeared the best yet! The bonfire kept everyone warm and the fireworks were great. I know Pete Dalby has an article in the gazette, so all I will add is my thanks to the whole team of fireworks committee and all the volunteers that turned up to help on the day. There was also a tack sale organised by Linda Clark and the proceeds went to the playground fund. The next event for the village hall is the Christmas Fayre which is on 30 November at 6pm. The lights will be on the tree by the time you read this, thanks to Ross and his team.

The remembrance service was held on Remembrance Sunday and the village hall was overflowing with the crowd that came to remember the fallen in the two world wars. The wreath laying took place after the service with Main Road full of the crowd around the war memorial. The World War 1 silhouette was donated by Hughenden Parish Council, so our thanks to them for the donation. As this article is in the December Gazette, I, on behalf of the village hall committee wish you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*Clive Lawrence.*  
Village Hall Chairman.

### **Children's Multiplay Unit - progress report**

We are aiming to order the Multiplay Unit early in December so it is in place for the spring. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed so far. We do not yet have quite enough money for the new equipment and we will have to keep collecting. Village organisations such as Naphill Neighbours, the WI and NAWARA are contributing from their funds as well as sending round collection jars at meetings.

After Christmas, a group of mothers of small children are planning some special events. Fund raising efforts will have to continue for some time because we need new seats, new springers and a new activity trail. We'll consult youngsters about the trail after Christmas so we have some ideas about what they would like included. The prickly shrubs in the middle of the area have been removed so the space available is more extensive than it was.

We are grateful to a few gardeners from the Manor who have trimmed the willow tunnel and woven in some new growth. These kind ladies are willing to keep the tunnel in good order in future.

Our play area should be a great facility for our children when it is finished! It is hoped that, as a community, we can construct something special to come out of the disaster of the sudden removal of our old equipment.

*Peggy Ewart - 565969*

## Naphill Brownies

We were honoured, as ever, to attend the village's Remembrance service on the centenary of the close of WWI. The brownies turned out in force along with their Scouting and Guiding colleagues to acknowledge the 'Good Deed' done by all who have been involved in protecting us and our world.

We have been working on our communication skills in the past few weeks by 'interviewing' each other to find out about what we like and dislike. We have also tried guiding a 'blind' friend around a room to try a variety of touch, taste and smell tests. I have to say that some have more empathy than others on these things.



Our bonfire night themed evening had us learning to strike a match and then light a candle, making fruit kebab fireworks and bonfire cakes. Yum!



*Brown Owl* - Ruth Daly 565571.  
ruth.daly3@btinternet.com  
1st Naphill Brownies  
Thursdays 5:45-7pm



## Sad News from Christians in the Community

We have been in existence for some 35 years. Sadly the decision has been taken to end the official 'Christians in the Community' – our final event will be Carols by Candlelight in the Naphill Village Hall on the 16th December at 4 pm. This event will be a fitting end to our group meetings and we hope that you will join us for this service and of course for a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie before you go home.

The Christians amongst us will continue to work (and play!) in the community and in our local churches.

We look forward to seeing you at our last Christians in the Community event in the village hall

*Norma Clarke*

## No1 Shop Raffle Report.



At the raffle draw on Sunday 11 November the winners were :-

First prize winner - Sally Slade - A meal for two at The Black Lion.

Second prize winner - Judy Redrup - A nail appointment at Sunbodies.

Third prize winner - Judy Dauncey - Afternoon tea for two at Bon Ami.

All the winners were thrilled with their prizes which were all kindly donated by the local businesses concerned.

The raffle raised £1035. We are thrilled with this amount which was raised by people supporting the raffle and the kind donations of prizes by the local businesses. Thank you to everyone for supporting P.I.C.U. It is something that is very close to our hearts, an experience we will never forget and we will forever be grateful to them for saving our baby boy's and Harnoor's big brother's life.





## Changes and Challenges at Naphill Neighbours

The Annual General Meeting of the club was held on Monday 12th November. Members paid tribute to Sheila Rolfe as she stepped down as President after 18 years in the post. She has been a constant and exceptionally able President, ensuring the smooth running of the club. Her final report highlighted the events in 2018; these were typical of the diversity of activities and outings available to members. Talks had covered subjects such as The Isles of Scilly, Harrods, The Thames Barge, and the work of a district nurse. Prior to the business part of the AGM, local historian Mike Dewey gave an interesting illustrated talk entitled 'From rations to fashions', highlighting the changes that had taken place between 1945 and 1970. This was a nostalgic journey around the shopping centre for many in the audience, as well as being informative for newcomers such as myself who have only lived in Naphill for 20 years!

Outings in 2018 included a visit to the Magistrates' Court, a trip to Eastbourne on a glorious day, a visit to the theatre in Milton Keynes on a very wet day to see a riotous production of 'The play that went wrong', and a river trip, with afternoon tea, along the Thames to the Saville Gardens.

Sheila presided over all these events, ably assisted by the committee whose members have a variety of well executed roles, ensuring the smooth running of the club. A big 'Thank You' to them all. Janet Judge was elected President for 2019, a role for which she is well prepared after many years as Vice President.

This year's Christmas celebration will be a party, instead of a meal, on December 10th. This will be the final evening meeting of the club as we will be changing to meeting on a Monday afternoon from January onwards. Consultation with members indicated that many would prefer to meet in the daylight all the year round. We have over 40 members but it is hoped more will be attracted to come to meetings at the new time.

**THE FIRST AFTERNOON MEETING WILL BE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 14th IN THE VILLAGE HALL. DOORS OPEN AT 1.15pm for a PROMPT START AT 1.30pm**

The speakers on this occasion will be Ken and June Brazier, talking about 'Mercy Ships'.

They live locally and have been highly recommended.

On February 11th we have a return visit from Tom Way, who is a very popular wildlife photographer.

New members will be very welcome. The subscription remains at £15 per annum.

*Peggy Ewart* ( new committee member)

## Naphill Evening WI

We now have our new Committee for 2019 and happily Juliet has agreed to be our President for another year. Most of us managed to answer some of the quiz questions relating to 5th November, although some took a while to get the bonfire night connection with "which old banger is Del Boy most associated with?" (Of course it was his Reliant Robin.)

We hosted the Group Meeting on 26 October and the talk on "Lewes on the 5th" was very enlightening. They have some strange traditions in this Sussex town. The competition was for a small Guy Fawkes and the entries were all extremely good.

Our talk on 15 November will have been A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Retirement by Cally Foster.

The Food Group's evening meal at The Boot, Bledlow, was most enjoyable. We had to wait a little while for our starters but it gave us more chatting time, which is always good.

The Sew and Chat Group have been busy, also with plenty of chatting time. We enjoyed looking all round Sally's home at our last meeting. She has cut a dip in her hedge so that she can see the lovely horses in the field behind her home.

This year seems to have flown by and we are now looking forward to Christmas events. Quite a few of us will be going with the Food Group to St Katherine's, Parmoor, for Christmas Lunch on 4th December and on Friday, 14th December we will have our Christmas Party at the Village Hall.

*Carol Gilliam*



## Black Lion

The Christmas season is upon us and we are looking forward to welcoming you all to The Black Lion in December.

The Christmas menu is available from 1st December. Visit [www.blacklionnaphill.com](http://www.blacklionnaphill.com) to see the menu. Two courses are £19.95 per person and three courses are £23.95 per person.

### Our Christmas opening times are as follows:

Sunday 23rd December Bar open 12-7pm  
Food served 12-4pm

Monday 24th December Bar open 12-11.15pm  
No food served

Tuesday 25th December Bar open 12-2pm  
No food served

Wednesday 26th December Bar open 12-6pm Food served 12-4pm

27th – 30th December Normal hours for bar and food

New Years Eve Party free entry with a free buffet and glass of bubbles at midnight

New Years Day bar open 12-6pm Food served 12-4pm

We are very excited to be hosting our first Winter Wonderland event on Saturday 15th December. Come and meet Santa in his Grotto for £5 per child including a present. Also available on the day will be an open fire hog roast, warm cider and mulled wine. We look forward to seeing you there.

Massive congratulations to everyone who ran the fireworks this year, the event just keeps getting better and better. We were very proud to be one of the sponsors and do our bit for the event. We can't wait for next year.

We are pleased to announce we have two new lagers, Moretti and Peroni and a new cider, Aspalls, so please come and try them.

Merry Christmas to everyone and a special thank you to all of our customers. We look forward to seeing you all over the festive period.

*Jack, Sian and the team.*



## Wycombe Photographic Society

December means Christmas and the chance to take lots of photos of Christmas festivities.

Photos of the Village Tree festooned in lights. Nice long, but not too long, exposure of the lights and if taken from the correct angle you will have the light trails of headlights and tail lights of the vehicles passing the tree to add that something "extra" to your photo. Long exposure means that you will have to support your camera on something solid and not rely on just handholding or else you will get movement in your photo.

I know that the Gazette Editor will be more than pleased if you submit your photos of the Village Tree in all its glory to her.

Not a lot going on this month at the club, however, we have had success in external competitions against other clubs.

The North West Federation of Camera Clubs - commonly called 'The NWFed', was founded in 1959 and currently comprises twelve Clubs who meet each year in groups for a first round of matches; and then in semi-finals and a final to decide a Club and individual champions.

The twelve member Clubs of the Federation are:

Amersham, Chesham, Ealing, Field End (Ruislip), Harrow, Hemel Hempstead, Northolt, Park Street (St Albans), Pinner, Watford, Wycombe, XRR (who are ex Rolls Royce employees).

After two rounds Wycombe is coming first in both the Prints and Projected Images sections.

The Chilterns Association of Camera Clubs (CACC) Rosebowl Competition – is a competition amongst all the camera clubs in The Chilterns (40 clubs) over a number of rounds.

After the first round we are currently in the lead, however, there are a number of rounds still to go throughout the early part of 2019.

All in all a good start to the "season" which started in September.

As always for full details of what is going on at Wycombe Photographic Society please look at our website – [www.wycombephotographicsociety.org.uk](http://www.wycombephotographicsociety.org.uk)

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



*David Greenwood*  
Membership Secretary  
Wycombe Photographic Society



## A Message from Bradenham Vicarage

### *Stables, Straw and Sprouts.*

Am I the only person in the UK who actually looks forward to the clocks going back? For me, the onset of the increasingly dark evenings heralds the start of preparations for Christmas. As a priest, this includes planning services, writing sermons and choosing hymns or carols (being careful to choose songs people will know and enjoy singing without repeating everything we sang last year) – and I love it! Around the beginning of November sees what the church calls ‘Kingdom Season’, a celebration of the sovereignty of God as the church’s year draws to a close. Kingdom Season culminates in the feast of ‘Christ the King’, the church’s New Year’s Eve if you like, the New Year for the church beginning on the first Sunday of Advent.

Amidst all the preparation for Christmas, the subtle changes in the playlists on Classic Fm, the gradual introduction of Christmas goods in the supermarket aisles, the replacing of ‘normal’ cards in the card shops with all cards Christmas, the smart shopping TV shows giving us ‘Christmas Specials’, one of the saddest things I have heard is a mother complaining that she does not know how she is going to afford Christmas this year. My sadness is not confined to the fact that in our affluent land there are still people living in abject poverty. My sadness includes this whole concept of feeling the need to ‘afford Christmas’.

Why do so many of us insist on torturing ourselves by eating food we don’t really like (because it’s traditional) and spending money we don’t really have on gifts that may seldom or never be used?

At its heart, Christmas is a religious festival, celebrating the coming to earth of God Almighty in the birth of his son, Jesus Christ. It is the Christ Mass – a solemn recognition of the bringing of hope to a world in despair, the dawning of light in an era of darkness and the healing of the rift between humanity and its creator. Viewed in this light, the biggest celebration ever would seem to be perfectly in order, but let’s go back to the original story of Christmas. A displaced couple, forced to travel at the worst possible time by occupying forces, caught up in a melee of humanity all trying to appease

their ruler. Heavily pregnant, the wife has no option but to comply with the dictates of the emperor. The need to rest on the journey, the slower pace necessitated by her condition means they arrive late at their destination and all the available accommodation is already occupied. Eventually, they find a place to stay in a stable. And it is in a stable that the most awesome event in human history takes place – God Almighty, creator of earth and heaven, is born as a human child – Jesus Christ. No turkey, no sprouts, no pudding, no decorations, no presents (well, not until some time later when the wise men from the east catch up with the family) – just a bed of straw, a feeding trough doubling as a crib and the company of the animals of travellers lucky enough to have a proper room. It does not get much more simple or basic than this. ‘No frills’ at this level makes our concept of basic ‘no frills’ anything seem like the ultimate luxury!

The Christian faith has a long tradition of feasting and fasting, Christmas being one of the principal feasts. It is important to celebrate an event so momentous as God’s coming to earth in what we Christians call the Incarnation. But feasting is not the be all and end all of Christmas. It is perfectly possible to celebrate Christmas with a fraction of the expense that the advertising companies try to persuade us is an essential part of the Christmas experience. The question ‘how can we afford Christmas’ should actually be ‘can we afford to ignore the message that Christmas brings’?

May you know the richest of Gods’ blessings during this holy season.

*Rev Jenny Ellis*

## ST. BOTOLPH’S SERVICES

Dec. 2nd	Advent 1	11am	Eucharist	Rev. Allan Barton
Dec. 9th	Advent 2	11am	Eucharist	Rev. Jenny Ellis
Dec 16th	6pm		Carol Service	Rev. Allan Barton
			No morning service	
Dec.23rd	Advent 4	11am	Matins	Rev. Allan Barton
Dec. 24th	5pm		Christmas Eve Crib Service	Rev. Jenny Ellis
		11.30pm	Christmas Eucharist	Rev. Jenny Ellis

## Bon Ami

Thank you to everyone that supported our Macmillan Coffee Morning at the end of September. We are pleased to announce that we raised a total of £221.97. This was a combination of very generous donations from our lovely customers and 50p from every hot drink we sold throughout the day. This is an extremely worthwhile cause and we are very grateful to everyone who supported it so well.

Our book club continues to thrive. We have spent some lovely evenings having lively discussions over a wide range of books that have been chosen by our members. We enjoy having a drink and some nibbles while we review the current book. If you would like to

join our group then please do contact Amanda or Ruth at Bon Ami or call Sue Chalker on 07813 177223.

Now that autumn and its beautiful colours and sunshine are here SOUP is very much the favourite lunchtime order. We are continuing to make our customers' favourite soups and there may be some new recipes too! Please do come and keep yourself warm with hot soup and a freshly baked roll & butter.

As we are now in Advent we feel we would like to let you know our Christmas opening hours. Throughout Advent we will, of course, be providing our scrumptious mince pies, Christmas cake and festive coffee. Amanda and Ruth welcome the opportunity to spend the Christmas period with their families. We would like to thank all of our customers for their great support throughout the year. Our last day of opening will be Friday 21st December ; please make sure you join us as all of the mince pies and cakes will have to go that day. We will reopen on Monday 7th January 2019. We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and look forward to a prosperous & healthy New Year.



Ruth & Amanda.

## Jingle Bells by The Wheel

Labradors, Staffadors  
Biscuits all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to run  
Got a turkey leg from mum! Hey!  
Dobermans, Greyhounds too  
short-haired terriers play,  
Great Danes are huge, it is true  
Barney's larger than you!  
Dachshund through the snow,  
It's a one-dog wonder day  
Through the crick we go  
Barking all the way. Woof Woof Woof!  
My friends' a cocker-spring  
wagging tails at night,  
Oh What fun it is to bring  
A stick into your sight!  
Jumping logs, like a frog  
Bounding all the way,  
Oh what fun it is to hide  
"COME HERE!" I must abide! Hey!  
Tennis Balls, Kong toys too,  
Panting all the way,  
Oh what fun there is to do.  
A pub dogs' holiday! Yay!

By Chloe Page

## The Wheel

Well what can I say.....simply, I lied in the last gazette!! So, we had a great holiday in Wales and instead of bringing back some souvenirs we brought back a beautiful Chocolate Labrador called Molly. (Yes, I know I said we'd leave it 6 months)! Anyway, she is doing well, getting along brilliantly with Maxii and is a great addition to The Wheel Family.

Thanks so much to the Fireworks committee again this year, it was an amazing night and the fire was huge, although the smaller one on the 5th was more manageable, Clive. The display was one of the best and it was, as always, a great night.

During December please remember to call and book tables as we have lots of Christmas bookings and don't want you to be disappointed if we are fully booked. I have included our opening hours below. New Years Eve will be tickets only as normal and it will be smart dress again this year.

### Christmas Opening Hours

1st – 23rd Dec	Normal Hours and Food
24th Christmas Eve	12pm – 12.30am 12- 2.30pm / 6-8pm Food
25th Christmas Day	12-2pm Drinks Only
26th Boxing Day	6-11pm Drinks Only
27th – 30th Dec	Normal Hours and Food
31st New Years Eve	12pm – 1.30am 12-2.45 / 6-8pm Food

1st Jan New Year's Day Closed

Then all back to normal

The Wheel would like to wish everyone in the village a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Thank you for 2018 here's to 2019

Claire and Mark – All the staff - Maxii and Molly



# Fantastic Naphill Fireworks 2018!



Photographs courtesy Gary Britton

## Fireworks Committee Chairman's Report

After 8 months of planning, countless days and nights spent finalising all the minute details, your local Fireworks Committee delivered the Fireworks Spectacular 2018!

We hope you all thoroughly enjoyed the evening, I certainly did - NOT! When you're helping out at the Fireworks Evening it's very rare that you get to appreciate the fireworks display, you're typically too busy trying to catch your breath. You spend a few minutes deliriously hugging and high-fiving your fellow volunteers and then no sooner have you treated yourself to a celebratory beer when the fantastic fireworks display concludes and the hordes of visitors return back to the bar and BBQ for round two! Eight months of planning, 2 hours of madness and then it's all over for another year!

It's hard work, and you don't enjoy it in the same way as the guests coming to watch the display but helping to deliver an event of this magnitude for the local village is so rewarding. We couldn't

do it without the help of our volunteers and this year we had 82 people on our list, all willing to give up their spare time for our local community. It's normally at this point that we'd list the names of the people that helped out at our event and the local businesses that helped sell our tickets and say a big thank you to them all, but to be honest, I'd need a whole Gazette to myself to do that. We'll be reaching out to you individually in the coming weeks and we have a cheeky little something planned as a way to say thank you. A special mention too for our sponsors. This was a bumper year for sponsorship, it's fantastic that so many local businesses were willing to support our event and again, it reinforces the view that this weekend is one of the most anticipated annual events in the local calendar.

We've developed a fantastic working relationship with the RAF for this event over the years and we of course thank them for all their continued efforts and support. This is the last year that RAF station commander Group Captain Rob Woods will be lighting our fire, so



we'd like to wish him the very best of luck with his next posting and we look forward to welcoming Rob Woods successor in 2019.



With this year being my first as Chairman, I was desperate for it to pass without incident and having a bonfire that you could have probably seen from the International Space Station didn't help my stress levels! One of our helpers that got close to the fire at the end of the evening, likened the conditions to walking on Mars! I'll be looking forward to seeing my eyebrows again in the Spring. We're very grateful to the RAF who supplied their Fire Engine and crew for the evening, they were very calm and complimentary about the way the bonfire had been built and how it was burning.

We introduced the Big Red Button raffle this year, the 3 children that won the raffle were so excited they didn't actually get to sleep until 11.10pm the night before!



Our 2018 Fireworks display exploded into the night sky. Wow, it was well worth the 8 month wait, the Naphill sky lit up with an array of multicoloured bright tracers, bangs and cracks. Fantastic. Whilst the display was in full flow, we

were desperately trying to restock the decimated bar, for the second time!

As the last firework was plummeting to earth, the crowds departed and a number of people stayed to enjoy the live music from Kirsty Fuller, who was fantastic. We've had lots of positive feedback, so we'll definitely be doing it again next year.

I'm so proud of what we as a village put on together this year! It was a huge team effort, the initial indications are that we have made another record profit for the Village Hall. Our initial estimate is approximately £15,200 profit, which is just incredible for a 2-hour local event and is around £3,000 more than last year! All the revenue that we generate at our event is ploughed back into local projects, such as maintenance and improvements to the Village Hall and playing fields.

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thank you to John Harris who is stepping down from the Fireworks Committee after 26 years of dedication! John has done a fantastic job as the treasurer of our Committee, we would like to wish him all the best as he steps away.

We hope you all enjoyed it this year and we'd love to see you all back again next year on Saturday 2nd November so we can do it all again!

*Pete Dalby*  
Chairman, Naphill Fireworks Committee  
petedalby@outlook.com



# Our Community Remembers



Photograph courtesy Paul Goby

## Naphill Village Hall – Service of Remembrance 2018

The Annual Remembrance Service was held in the Village Hall on Sunday 11 November at 2.45 pm.

This year marked the 100th Anniversary commemorating the end of the First World War on 11th November 1918.

The Hall was packed to capacity and indeed many people listened to the service from outside the hall. It was particularly gratifying to see so many children in their uniforms showing their respect.

RAF Padre Kevin Capelin-Jones conducted the service after which the congregation took their place around the commemorative stone.

The sun shone whilst many local organisations laid their wreaths around the stone.

The Last Post and Reveille were played by our bugler, Adam Pool.

Thanks must go to many people for organising the occasion. In particular, Richard Pushman and his wife Valerie, who have organised this

service for nearly 40 years.

The local police were kindly on hand to control traffic on Main Road, during the ceremony at the stone.

Finally, I wish to make you all aware that £402.91p was collected on the day towards this year's British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Many thanks to you all for attending and your kind generosity.

*Reg Horne*



Photos courtesy Joanna Doocey

# Naphill & Walter's Ash School Media Team Report



*A small section of the children's HUGE artwork display*

**Reception** - Year R have started to look at traditional stories like folk tales. They have made progress because Reception have shown their parents their amazing assembly about how well they have learnt their phonics! In Maths, they have done counting, numbers and shapes. Their teacher said that they are having so much fun while learning those three things. Reception have officially started Forest School which means they are no longer practising on the playground. A really good start to the new half term Year R!

**Year One** - Year One have started to read a new book called 'One Snowy Night'. In Maths, they have been learning how to do addition and subtraction using a number line. In Science, they have been learning how to sort animals into different groups (human and animals). One of the subjects that they are learning is RE. In RE they are learning about different celebrations such as Diwali and Guy Fawkes. Well done YR1 – you have been doing really well since the start of the year.

**Year Two** - In Year 2 this half term, they have been learning about the frozen planet or Antarctica and they have learnt about the animals that live there; e.g. a penguin or a no eared seal. In Maths, Year 2 have been learning how to add and subtract. Year 2 are getting very excited to find out who has the main part in the nativity, which they will be showing to the parents on Thursday 13th December and Friday 14th December.

**Year Three** - Recently, Year 3 have been lucky enough to visit the Ashmolean museum in Oxford. Now even people in Oxford know how well behaved the Naphill and Walters Ash School pupils are! In Science, the Year 3 children have been learning about human biology and they have made giant paper skeletons by putting all of the paper bones together. The Year 3 teachers

and children have made a giant silhouette of a soldier in World War 2.

**Year Four** - In Year 4, they have welcomed a new teacher called Mrs Richardson who has only just joined NAWAS. In preparation for Armistice Day, both of the Year 4 classes made a poppy wreath. Also, they have been practising their awe-inspiring, stupefying Christmas Assembly! For their Remembrance Day activity, they have written the names of men that had a family or that lived in Naphill or Walters Ash.

They also wrote robot poems based on their topic and book 'The Iron Giant'.

**Year Five and the Library** - In Year 5, they have been studying poetry written about the time of King Arthur. In particular, they have been learning about one poem called The Lady of Shalott. This poem is about a beautiful lady who sits in her tower, day and night, weaving a magical blanket until a dreamy knight comes along - but that is another story!

Also Year 5 have been stepping up to more imperative roles in school, such as librarians. The people chosen, such as Annabelle and Jess, are relishing in the responsibility of this job and enjoying it immensely. Jess's favourite task in the library is scanning books, whilst Annabelle loves to create reading challenges and take part in assemblies. In the library, the junior librarians help the adults who are working in the library, and put the books away. Over all, Year 5 have had a fascinating and extremely busy start to autumn half term.

**Year Six** - In Year 6, we have done revision of what we learnt in previous years and have been recapping what we have read in 'Friend or Foe'. For Remembrance,

we painted poppies with water colours and then wrote famous messages like 'We will remember them' on to the flowers in fine liner. They are now in the hall surrounding a black template of a soldier.

**Armistice Day** - For Remembrance Day, the whole school was set a mission for the half term. The mission was to create a piece of artistry with the theme 'Lest we forget'. Now, all of this artwork that NAWAS have done is in the school hall. The art is really unique; some pieces are divergent textures and some are made out of things that you can recycle. Some children even brought in pictures of their relatives who were involved in any parts of the war. Well done NAWAS, you have done an exceptional job at completing your mission.

**The Special Visitor** - At 2.30pm on Monday 12th November 2018, NAWAS had a very unique visitor to look at our half term homework. The important guest was Station Commander Woods who works for the RAF in Wycombe. The Media Team asked a few questions that we prepared before the guest arrived. The Commander believed that Remembrance Day is a chance for everyone to commemorate the people who gave their lives for ours.

Station Commander Woods served in Afghanistan. Conflict still goes on throughout the world and some colleagues in the RAF fly to countries to bring aid and supplies. He thinks that we can keep these memories alive by celebrating Remembrance Day and by passing the tradition through generations.

He became motivated to be in the RAF when he was

7 years old: his dad smuggled him into an air show and on that day he decided that he wanted to join the Royal Air Force. Because of this, he missed the first day of his recorder lesson. After that, he was never very good at playing the recorder! A big thank you to our memorable guest for visiting our school – we hope you enjoyed our tour.

*Eleanor, Sara, Fin & Shawn*



*Painting by Isla Dalby age 9*

## Naphill and Hughenden Cub Scout Groups



The autumn term is drawing to a close, and what a busy term it has been. Both packs have had a packed programme over the past 3 months. It all started back in the long warm days of September with a joint pack camping weekend. The older cubs selected to lead their sections (Sixes) navigated their way cross country from Naphill to Speen scout hut before setting up their tents for the night. The cub sixes then cooked

their evening meal of chicken and pasta casserole from scratch. The aim of the camp was to get the cubs to understand their roles and responsibilities as Sixers and Seconders, as well as getting a chance to do some activities less suitable for the younger cubs.

The theme for this term has been The Community and both packs have been involved with community projects. The Hughenden Pack visited the One Can

Trust ([www.onecantrust.org.uk](http://www.onecantrust.org.uk)) in High Wycombe who run a foodbank to help people in need. The Naphill pack has done a number of activities with the Princes Centre ([www.princescentre.org.uk](http://www.princescentre.org.uk)) in Princes Risborough. The centre is a day care centre for older people with dementia or in need of friendship as well as younger people with learning difficulties or mental illness. The pack has organised a number of activities including writing letters to some of its clients, organising a board games and coffee morning at the centre as well as a project to help renovate some of the centres garden furniture. It's been really heart-warming to see the cubs engaging with the people at the centre.

With the nights drawing in, the opportunities for outdoor activities are more limited but a group of cubs attended the High Wycombe Astronomical Society open evening at Woodrow House near Hazelmere to do some stargazing. It was not the clearest of skies but we did get a great view of the Space Station passing overhead.

One of the highlights of the term was the visit to the cubs pack by Andy Green, the holder of the world land speed record in Thrust SSC and pilot of the Bloodhound Rocket car which is attempting to travel at over 1000mph. Andy gave a fascinating presentation about both the Thrust SSC and the Bloodhound Project. The cubs and leaders alike were enthralled by the cutting edge British science and engineering involved in the project. Andy also kindly judged the competition for the rocket cars made by the cubs.

Other activities, also squeezed in, included a visit to High Wycombe Fire Station, a visit from the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf and Halloween Mug painting as well as one of the most important community events, the Remembrance Day Service.

By the time you read this the Group will probably have also had our annual Christmas Carol Service at Hughenden Parish Church. Top secret rehearsals are already underway at the time of writing with each cub pack, along with the beaver colonies and scout groups preparing to do a turn at the service.

I can't remember such a busy programme with the result being a large number of badges being awarded to the cubs. So much so that we have had to recruit our own badge secretary.

With such busy programmes we are also always looking for new ideas and activities the cubs can get involved in. If you have any ideas or have a hobby, sport or skill that will be suitable for an evening session then please let us know.

I'm sure everyone will agree that all the cubs are very fortunate to be given the opportunity to have all these great experiences, but they only happen due to the time and effort given by the leaders and helpers; so a big thank you is needed to all the cub pack leaders, young leaders and parent helpers who support the cub packs. An extra special big thank you is also needed to our two main cub pack leaders (Hamish and Beth)

who are the main drivers in putting these programmes together. The leadership team is a constantly evolving group, especially with the changing commitments of our service personnel, which can happen at short notice. At this time the Hughenden pack is very short of leaders and helpers. To ensure that the pack can continue to run we are looking for additional leader. If this is something you think will be of interest then please contact Beth at the Hughenden Cub email address at the front of the Gazette. As someone who has been involved with the Cubs in Naphill for a number of years I can tell you that it is one of the most rewarding things I have done. Not only helping our younger generation to develop life skills and have experiences that they would not otherwise have, but also has allowed me to have experiences (like the Andy Green talk) and do activities I would otherwise not have done, as well as making some great new friends and acquaintances. We have over forty cubs regularly attending pack nights in the village and we would like to be able to keep supporting the local need with two packs, but this will require more leaders and helpers if it is to continue.

Naphill and Hughenden Cubs would like to wish everyone in local area a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

*Martin Beddows*  
"One of the cub leaders"



## Shear Madness

ITS CHRISTMAS! Wow, where has this year gone?

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and I hope that Santa brings you health and happiness. Sending love to those that are working and to those who can't be with loved ones.

Thank you all for another wonderful year.

Happy new year!

Mandy and Zak the dog

## Christmas opening times

Xmas eve 9.30 - 12 noon

Xmas day Closed

Boxing Day closed

27th closed

28th 9.30 - 12 noon

29th 9 - 12noon

New Year's Eve 9.30 - 12 noon



## Calling All Budding Footballers!



If you enjoy kicking a football around and making new friends then why don't you come along to the Naphill Football Club Under 8's (Year 3) Team training session. Great fun, fab for confidence building and we have a super team spirit! Boys and girls are most welcome, from complete beginners to those with experience. We train every Saturday morning during school term time between 0930-1100 hours at Naphill and Walters Ash school pitches. There are also competitive matches taking place throughout the season. For more information please contact: David Gunning on 07872 527238 or simply turn up to a training session.

*Dave Gunning.*

## From our Wye Correspondent

I would firstly like to thank all of you who offered advice in relation to the re-stocking of my planter which was looking very sorry for itself. Many of you suggested winter pansies but we have opted for a winter heather look to be unveiled shortly. I hope it does not look too attractive to any of my four legged visitors!

Talking of my four legged visitors I have met lots of new dogs over the past month and I will be posting some new pictures on Facebook shortly. It would appear that since Daisy's Diner opened the dogs of Naphill have decided on a change of route for their daily walk, not necessarily with Mum and Dad's agreement. More than once recently a poor owner has been dragged along Main Road for their canine companion to appear at my door and stare longingly at the jar of treats on the desk. I did feel very sorry for Murphy's mum whom I met going to my car. We duly returned to the shop to get Murphy a treat. Having resumed my journey home



I noticed in my rear view mirror Murphy dragging his poor Mum down the road behind me. Dogs learn very quickly when there is a treat on offer! My most frequent visitor this month is "George" (pictured) who usually comes in with his Dad but decided that he was going to introduce his Mum to me and proceeded to drag her through my shop doorway a while ago. Always lovely to meet new people!

I was lucky enough to stay in the small village of Embsay, just outside Skipton, at the start of the month. For those of you looking for a location for a short break I would recommend the area. It is situated in the Southern Yorkshire Dales. It is close to the spectacular Malham Cove, Gordale Scar and challenging Pen-y-Ghent (smallest of the infamous Yorkshire Three Peaks). I agreed with my good lady that I was going to climb Pen-y-Ghent on the Sunday afternoon whilst she sampled a Yorkshire Cream Tea and had some retail therapy. Unfortunately when we got there this large and striking fell was invisible due to low cloud so I had to join her for the cream tea. The consequence of this was that at my Slimming World weigh-in on Monday I had put on a pound. So I was able to blame my weight gain on the weather rather than the Black Sheep consumed during our stay!!

Skipton Castle is perhaps the best preserved example of a "motte and bailey" medieval castle surviving from Norman times in England and part of it is still used as a residence. It was built by Robert de Romille in 1090 who was the lord of the estates around Bolton Abbey. Bolton Abbey is unfortunately less well preserved but is a must see if you are in the area. The ruin sits on the banks of the River Wharf and the estate is exceptionally well maintained and benefits from a stunning riverside walk taking in the gentle falls at "The Strid". The owners had decorated part of the walk in a Halloween theme for the local families to visit. They also had a nice tea room!!

It was noticeable during our stay in Embsay how the locals supported each other and used the local facilities. The village pub was well supported and was full of locals using their pub rather than travelling to nearby chain restaurants offering cheaper prices. They used the local bus service to travel to Skipton as they knew that otherwise this would be withdrawn which would be limiting to the older residents who preferred not to drive. The local store was always busy and although it offered a limited range at perhaps slightly dearer prices, it was undoubtedly a case of use it or lose it!

This led to me reflecting on my position within our village. As a resident, could I do more to support local businesses and causes and how could I encourage our residents to use me when trying to sell their house rather than some of the non-independent agents whose boards appear to be springing up. It would be so nice to be invited to quote for potential sales as the only agent in the village (no Little Britain pun intended) and talk through what I can offer as a village resident with an in depth local knowledge. I am of course very grateful

to those of you have used me in my first 9 months in office!!

I am more than happy to advertise local events in the window and sell tickets. I have agreed to be quiz master for an event at Lacey Green Sports Club in February. Tickets available from Steph Dell or I can arrange. I am happy to offer my services for other events as quizmaster but unfortunately not as a DJ. Not sure everyone would appreciate two hours of rock blues and prog rock!!

In support of the village, Wye Country will be donating £50 to the Naphill Village Hall & Sports Club and £50 to Naphill and Walter's Ash School Association (WANSA) for each instruction that reaches a successful completion during 2019.

*Alan Draper*

## Nordic Walking



On a crisp and sunny October morning, I had the pleasure of bringing together two things I love as I introduced a group from Harmony Nordic Walking to the Autumnal delights of the Common.

You may be familiar with what there is to love about the Common, but what about Nordic Walking? It's far more than simply a way to access our stunning countryside. Nordic Walkers use their poles to propel themselves along, turning a walk into a full body work out - think of cross country skiing! With a good technique you reduce impact on your joints, feel lighter on your feet, improve your posture, increase your speed and gain security on uneven terrain. This makes it a truly energising way of getting outside whilst you quietly get fitter, stronger, healthier and happier!

I love talking to the group for many reasons, but I never tire of hearing about the incredible changes that people have brought about due to Nordic Walking: blood pressure levels moving back into normal range, pre-diabetes being reversed and back pain disappearing to name a few. I have personally experienced its positive effect on mental health and the technique's amazing capacity to re-build core strength and fitness for intense activities such as snowboarding and endurance walks. I've also seen my 72-year-old mum use Nordic Walking for rehab following a hip operation and for it to cause the

osteo-arthritis in her feet to loosen up so significantly that her whole-body movement and wellbeing has been totally transformed!

I first got hooked on Nordic Walking with Instructor Charlotte Downing who leads two walks a week around Speen. I also walk, and have now become a Walk Leader, on the other days of the week with Instructor Adele Howlett of Harmony Nordic Walking who offers a variety of walks around Wycombe District.

With many thanks to the Village Hall for the special agreement that enabled us to start this walk from the Car Park, so our gentle-pace group could enjoy the Common. This also meant that afterwards we could enjoy a well-deserved cuppa and delicious soup in the sun on the veranda at Bon Ami!

To find out more about Nordic Walking and how you can get involved whatever your fitness level, do get in touch with Charlotte or Adele.

*Charlotte:*

07854 249486

chilternsnordicwalking@gmail.com

*Adele:*

www.harmonynordicwalking.co.uk

07711 627828

### Plots Available at Louches Lane Allotment Garden

-  **Grow healthy food**
-  **Fresh air & exercise**
-  **Family fun, friends & community**
-  **Plots available November 2018**

Annual Rent: Full plot £35.00  
Half plot £23.00

For more information contact:

Hughenden Parish Council

Tel: 01494 715296

Email: [clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk)



## Growing Your Own

For some years there have been mentions in the press of an alarming drop in sperm count. Results published in 2017 were based upon a sample of 42,395 men in 50 countries, from fertility clinics where samples were routinely analysed and, collectively, made available for the latest research. Men in Western Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand were covered by the survey.

The results were that there was an average concentration of 99 million sperm per millilitre in 1973 but that had fallen to 47.1 in 2011 – a drop of 52.4%. Our National Health Service state that men are considered to have a low sperm count where it is 15 million per millilitre. The World Health Organisation states that 15 million per millilitre would be abnormally low and if the figure is under 40 men will have a tougher time conceiving. I worked out that the annual drop is 1.9%, thus we shall

reach the figure of 40 in 2019. Also, 53 years from now the average sperm count in Western countries will have fallen to 15 where it will be classed as abnormally low and it will be difficult to conceive naturally. BBC News on 25th July 2017 said that, if the trend continues, the human race would become extinct.

What is the cause? Researchers have pointed to modern lifestyles as being the culprit. The average person has 30 man-made chemicals in his/her body, coming from air pollution outdoors, gases coming off soft furnishings, floor coverings and personal care products, perfluorinated food packaging, pesticide residues in food, and smoking and passive smoking. I would like to add another - deficiency in modern diets of trace elements. Indeed, double Nobel prize winner Dr Linus Pauling stated: "You can trace every sickness, disease or ailment to a trace mineral deficiency of one kind or another."

There is an example which points to nutrition being the major factor in the sperm count decline. In an investigation in Denmark a few years ago I recall that researchers found one village in a remote area where there was no decline in sperm count whatsoever. This was an extremely rural area where farmworkers ate their own produce which was cultivated in a traditional, truly organic manner, with animal manures being returned to the land to keep up the trace element content of their soil. Thus nutrition may indeed be the key to the future of the human race. Growing your own chemical-free crops in soil enriched with farmyard manure to put back into the soil the vital trace elements is one thing we can do. Men of Naphill and Walter's Ash – a New Year's Resolution: phone 01494 715296 and ask the parish clerk for an allotment.

Happy New Year!

*Mike Mason*

## Chiltern Hill Arboriculture

Summer is a distant memory. The fog and frosts of early winter have arrived. The clocks went back well over a month ago, and the sun barely raises its head over the horizon, making dew on the lawn a permanent fixture during the grey winter's days.

So how do we reconcile this with gardening? What is a great passion for some of us during the warmer parts of the year, now becomes a briefly snatched hour or so on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. What should we spend that precious time on?

Apart from harvesting some mistletoe and holly for Christmas decorations (keep it in water right up until you want to put your decorations up), there are a number of worthy tasks we can carry out during the "bleak midwinter".

It is a great time to carry out some important maintenance which will pay dividends come the springtime. Pruning

climbing roses, cutting away any diseased or damaged growth, and tying new shoots to the support frame is always a good use of time.

Wisteria will also benefit from a winter prune. Cut back summer side shoots to two or three buds will benefit the main body of the plant, and promote further growth next year.

If you have hydrangeas, leave the faded flower heads on the plant. They will provide frost protection to any swelling new buds further down the plant stems.

Decorative Japanese Acers and Maples will benefit from a prune at this time of year. If left until spring they will bleed sap after being cut back. This applies to any other trees you need to prune. Winter is the dormant period, so robust pruning at this time of year is unlikely to "shock" any larger trees or shrubs.

On the subject of trees, it is a great time to survey them for distress or damage. Now that their leaves have been shed it is much easier to see any structural damage to larger branches which may be a cause for concern. A proactive "lopping off" of a branch could save an insurance claim.

If the temperatures stay mild and the ground is not frozen, it is a good time to put in some tulip bulbs, ready for some spring colour. Conversely, if you are still growing in a greenhouse and are relying on heaters, make sure they are fuelled up and still working properly. If you have any unharvested vegetables, now is the time lift the last of your crop, before any ground frost strikes.

Lastly, if you are minded to feed the wild birds (as we are), the preferred feeds for species are; Tits like peanuts and sunflower hearts, Robins like fat balls and meal worms, and Squirrels....they will get trapped in your peanut feeder, trying to get at the peanuts, and you will have to cut said peanut feeder apart with tin snips to release the greedy squirrel.

*Mike Beckley*





## Hughenden Parish Council

### Signage

Over the past few weeks the council has noticed an increase in the amount of "For Sale" signs being erected on parish council land – particularly at the entrance to Templewood. This is not permissible under the Advertisements Policy of Wycombe District Council. Under this policy, signs can only be erected on the land or building to which they relate. The council has begun the necessary steps to ensure the signs are removed and that all estate agents are aware of the policy. Please see the attached link for more details:

<https://www.wycombe.gov.uk/uploads/public/documents/Planning/Planning-policy/Topic-based/Advertisements-advice-notes.pdf>

With regards to signage generally, the parish council has its own policy so please see the link below for more details:

<http://www.hughendenparishcouncil.org.uk/council-information/policies-procedures/>

### Allotments

The council have recently completed the grass cutting and hedge cutting for the year at both of the allotment sites in Naphill and Walters Ash. Over the winter months, clearance of vacant plots will be continuing with the intention of leasing these vacant plots to budding gardeners. At a cost of just £23 for a half plot and £35 for a full plot, the cost is far outweighed by the social and physical aspects of becoming an allotment tenant. Not forgetting the fresh produce too! If you would like more information on becoming an allotment tenant, please contact the clerk on 01494 715296 or via email to: [clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk).

### Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 11th November saw the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War One. Your three local councillors attended the Remembrance Day Service at the Village Hall and laid a wreath on behalf of the council. The Silent Soldier donated by HPC will be retained by the Village Hall for use in future years. Around the parish, wreaths were also laid on behalf of the council at Great Kingshill and at Bryants Bottom to remember and honour those who have sacrificed themselves to secure and protect our freedom.

### Templewood Playground

Plans to refurbish the playground at Templewood have taken a major step forward. The council have circulated the proposals to a group of parents in the area who have been working together to create a new

space for the children of the community. It is hoped that the new playground will be open for use before the Easter holidays in 2019. Further information will be available on the council website in due course.

Finally, we are pleased to report that the duck on Walters Ash Pond has been given a new home. With the help of a couple of local residents, the council have provided the duck with a lovely new shelter at the edge of the pond. It is hoped that he will take cover there in the cold winter months ahead.

### Your local councillors are:

Cllr Chris Waterton: [chris.waterton@hughendenpc.org.uk](mailto:chris.waterton@hughendenpc.org.uk) – 07968 268067

Cllr Paul Hardinge: [paul.hardinge@hughendenpc.org.uk](mailto:paul.hardinge@hughendenpc.org.uk) – 07810 038198

Cllr Anita Boekee: [anita.boekee@hughendenpc.org.uk](mailto:anita.boekee@hughendenpc.org.uk) – 07931 795464

There is still one vacancy for the Naphill & Walters Ash ward, so if you are keen to get involved in decisions that affect your local community, please email: [clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk).

The council would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents of the Naphill and Walters Ash Ward a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Shona Hadwin*

Clerk to Hughenden Parish Council

### Message from Hughenden Vicarage

I wonder, are you looking forward to Christmas this year? Does the anticipation of spending time with your nearest & dearest warm your heart? Or perhaps you are struggling to see any further ahead than weeks of Christmas shopping, great expense and over indulgence.

As a Christian, I try to remain focused upon the Christian festival, although no one is immune from the emotions which are stirred up when the latest batch of Christmas adverts are released on our television screens. Many paint an idealist, even unrealistic portrayal of what represents a Christmas to which we can aspire. Understandably, we want a memorable celebration, but surely those around the table, the fireplace & the game of Monopoly that goes on for hours are what makes Christmas special?

Sunday 2 December marks the start of Advent, the beginning of a new Church year. The season of Advent is all but lost to most, as the countdown to Christmas reaches fever pitch. Traditionally Advent has been a time of preparation for the Christmas festival, but also a time to reflect upon our lives, spend some time in prayer, as we invite God to change those areas of our lives which we know need

reshaping by the Holy Spirit.

As you read these words, probably seated beside a pile of unwritten Christmas cards and a long to-do list, I encourage you to spend some time this Christmas exploring (or perhaps re-exploring) the Christian message of Christmas. The miraculous birth of a King in a stable, who would become the saviour of humanity.

I would like to also extend a personal invitation to you and your family and friends to attend one or more of our Christmas services at St Michael & All Angels Church, Hughenden.

May you know the peace and the joy of the Christ child this Christmas and always.

God bless you

*Rev Keith Johnson*

## **Christmas Services at St Michael & All Angels Church Hughenden**

### **Sunday 9 December**

3pm Christingle service

### **Sunday 16 December**

4pm -Christians in the Community Carol Service Naphill Village Hall

### **Sunday 23 December**

6pm Nine Lessons & Carols by Candlelight

### **Christmas Eve**

3pm Crib Service

11.15pm Midnight Holy Communion

### **Christmas Day**

8am Said Holy Communion

9am Choral Holy Communion

11am Family Holy Communion

5pm Carols by Candlelight



## **From our RAF Padre**

### **Waiting...**

Having just returned from 4 months abroad with work, I've been flung headlong into the busy time from Remembrance to Christmas. During that time I spend a lot of time in Airports and Departure Lounges, waiting. Lots of waiting. Particularly when flights are delayed. But it wasn't all bad – I managed to do lots of reading whilst sat there, waiting.

Waiting, it seems, is something that we're not that good at nowadays. The impatience that builds towards Christmas, with decorations and trees going up earlier and earlier; parties and functions from the beginning of December; and obviously the shops turning on lights and stocking Christmas gifts and treats from early September.

And in amongst this busyness we miss the opportunity of Advent. The season of expectation, of waiting. Traditionally, the 12 days of Christmas starts with Christmas Eve. Now Christmas seems to have no defined start, and for many the tree and decorations will be down, boxed, recycled well before 6 Jan (the 12th day of Christmas) due to an impatience to get on with the new year, and fatigue of Christmas lasting so long!

Advent means 'coming', and during which we prepare for the season of Christmas – Traditional Advent Calendars with the scene of the manger, finally arriving at the door for the baby Jesus [Spoiler Alert!], now partly lost with Advent Calendars of Chocolate, Lego, Gin, Wine etc. In churches we light the Advent Wreath, and many churches hold a Christingle service as part of our preparations.

There are scientific studies that show the benefit of Delayed Gratification on our emotional and mental health – (the Wikipedia article on Delayed Gratification is a great start); and if you search 'Marshmallow Experiment' on Youtube, you'll see a number of scenarios where young children are offered 1 marshmallow immediately, or 2 marshmallows if they can leave the first one alone for a number of minutes. The greater our self-control in delaying gratification can have a remarkable impact on many areas of our life and health.

Take the time this advent to yes, put up the decorations, open the Advent Calendar and eat the chocolate from inside. But also to pause, to reflect on the year gone, and more importantly also on what is to come. The meaning of Christmas, the Coming of Christ, the promise of peace. If we can hold off some of the joy of Christmas until Christmas, maybe we'll appreciate it all the more, and our decorations may survive until the 12th day of Christmas.

*Padre Kevin Capelin-Jones*



Photo courtesy Melanie Watson

## Friends of Naphill Common

We hope you enjoyed the brilliance of the autumn leaves: the golds and browns of the beech and oaks; the red of the wild cherries and the pale yellows of the ash trees. Even the dour hollies have made a real effort this year, with a magnificent crop of berries – more than for many years. The hedgerows are full of haws, sloes and bullaces so, along with the holly, the redwings, fieldfares and mistle (or missel) thrushes will have a feast this winter. And have you ever seen so many acorns and beech nuts? Our common is an open larder for birds and animals – unfortunately including grey squirrels.

Fifty years ago there were numerous juniper bushes on the Common along with large areas of gorse and heather. The spread of trees meant that by five years ago we were down to only four ancient and rather decrepit junipers, a handful of gorse bushes and very little heather. However, we have been trying to recover some of these earlier features. The recent felling will let in more light and encourage them, and we have taken cuttings and seeds from our venerable junipers and grown them into healthy young bushes. We now have eleven little junipers planted out in the sunniest spots; they are protected by wire netting and all appear to be thriving well. (They are alongside paths so you might like to see if you can spot all of them.) When planting them out it became obvious why the area was left as common land rather than being used for agriculture. The heavy yellow clay is so packed with flints that it was difficult to dig a small hole or drive in a stake.

Despite the winter weather our walks will continue. The short walks are led by Chris Miller and generally involve the Common and they are between 2-3 miles, 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 Ron 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.

As last year, there will be an extra walk on Boxing Day, this year led by Neil McMinn, starting from the Village Hall at 10:30 and heading into the country before stopping at the Le De Spencer's Arms. Once again, all are welcome including families, children and dogs. There was a special walk on Monday 26th November to raise money for the 'Children in Need' charity. Walkers each donated a minimum of £5. Those of you who watched the BBC tele-marathon on the evening of 16th November may have caught a glimpse of our common.

Our working parties continue to clear footpaths, attend to ponds and open up areas from holly and other obstructions. Sunday morning parties will be led by Peter Davis (for dates, consult our web site at <http://www.naphillcommon.org.uk/activities.html>), There are also 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. Enquiries to Ron Collins on 01494 562240.

We hope everyone has a splendid Christmas and a fine New Year. Don't forget our AGM which is on Friday 15th February 2019, at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. Please come along and give us your ideas and opinions about caring for our common. Any criticisms, comments or commendations are welcome, as are volunteers to join our committee – although we all remain (thankfully) hale and hearty, we are none of us getting any younger!

Our guest speaker at the AGM will be Michael Kushner, who is a guide and lecturer at Bletchley Park, and can tell us about the code breaking work carried out there and the part played by Dilly Knox, who lived at Cournswood down Clappins Lane, and who donated the now very large conifer at the front of the Village Hall car park as well as planting many other trees.

Chris Miller Chairman.

### Friends of Naphill Common AGM

**Friday 15 February 2019 - 7:30pm**  
**Naphill Village Hall**

Our guest speaker will be Michael Kushner who is a guide and lecturer at Bletchley Park, and can tell us about the code breaking work carried out there and the part played by Dilly Knox, who lived at Cournswood in the village. Please come along and give us your ideas and opinions about caring for our common.

## Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

**PLANNING:** *The following are local planning applications received by Wycombe District Council (WDC) between 15th October and 19th November 2018. Any responses by NAWARA appear on the WDC website.*

**18/07782/MINAMD.** Proposed non-material amendment to permission for construction of part two storey, part first floor, part single storey front and side extension with porch canopy to front and installation of flue to side elevation. granted under householder planning ref **18/06879/FUL. 6 Battingswood Gardens, Naphill. HP14 4SR.** Officer: Heather Smith. Received 24.10.18. Target Determination 21.11.18. Delegated Decision.

**18/07811/FUL.** Householder application for a two-story front and rear extension including internal alterations. Works to existing driveway to create additional off-street parking and bin store. **Drumlin, Louches Lane, Naphill. HP14 4QJ.** Officer Valerie Bailey. Received 29.10.18. Target Determination 24.12.18. Delegated.

**18/07895/FUL HA** for the construction of single storey rear extensions replacing existing porch and proposed pitched roof over existing garage incorporating roof-light. **Pine Trees, Downley Road, Naphill. HP14 4QY.** Officer Valerie Bailey. Received 31.10.18. Target Determination. 26.12.18. Delegated.

**18/07689/FUL.** Alterations & sub-division of dwelling to create 1 x 2-bed & 1 x 3-bed dwellings, new access & associated parking. **Bristows Barn, 380 Main Road, Walter's Ash. HP14 4UU.** Officer: Heather Smith. Received 07.11.18. Target Determination. 02.01.2019. Delegated.

**18/07690/LBC** Listed Building application for alterations & subdivision of dwelling to create 1 x 2-bed & 1 x 3-bed dwellings, new access & associated parking. **Bristows Barn, 380 Main Road, Walter's Ash. HP14 4UU.** Officer: Heather Smith. Received 07.11.18. Target Determination. 02.01.2019. Delegated.

### Permission

**18/07504/MINAMD** Proposed non-material amendment to permission for construction of single storey rear extension granted under planning ref **17/08303/FUL (allowed at appeal).** **Lark Rise, Stocking Lane, Naphill. HP14 4NE.**

### Unitary Authority

On 1st November 2018 Secretary of State James Brokenshire announced that Bucks would be controlled by a single Unitary Authority rather than the two Council system favoured by the four District Councils.

All that is known at present is that the five Councils in Bucks will merge, there will be one chief executive rather than five, and shadow authorities will be formed to draft the necessary changes to put before Parliament. The

Unitary Authority will come into force in 2020. Council staff and Councillor reductions are a concern, but for the time being Council work will carry on as normal.

### Wycombe Local Plan Examination Update. – Clappins Lane Field

The Inspector will be publishing modifications to the Wycombe Local Plan for consultation at the beginning of January 2019, possibly earlier. She expects to provide her final report to the District Council by 28th March 2019.

We will then know whether we have managed to persuade the Inspector that the 5.5 acres of Chilterns AONB/GB field off Clappins Lane should retain its Green Belt status and be protected from urban development and a 64-dwelling estate. We hope for the best.

Next NAWARA meeting, 8pm Monday 10th December 2018 in Naphill Village Small Hall.

A Very Happy Christmas and New Year to All.

*Gloria Leflaive 563634*

## Naphill Tennis Club

The courts have been well used this autumn, and our next social event is the Festive Tennis on Saturday 8th December at 11 am: light-hearted tennis, mulled wine, mince pies and a 'Bring and Share' lunch.

Our teams have had an excellent year. In the Bucks Shield 2 Pair League the Ladies were top of Division 7, winning all their matches, and the Men were 2nd in Division 9. The Men's Aylesbury League team and the Mixed team in the High Wycombe League were both runners up in their divisions, and all the teams have gained promotion.

By the time you read this, the AGM will have taken place. The committee will start to plan activities for next year, to provide coaching, social and competitive tennis in a fun and enjoyable club environment. As usual, further details are on the website [www.naphilltennisclub.org.uk](http://www.naphilltennisclub.org.uk) or can be obtained from the Membership Secretary, Sarah Dengel ([sarah.dengel1@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.dengel1@gmail.com))

Wishing you all a happy Christmas.

*Terry Crooks*

## A Point of View

The coming of the 'Festive Season' is a statement of political correctness, in that it seeks to redefine what is really the celebration of Christ's birth, a fact often forgotten in the commercial promotion and shopping frenzy that always surrounds us at this time of the year. It is the time when one reflects on the past events of the year; the broken resolutions, the holidays enjoyed and the friends lost. It must be a product of ageing but there appears to have been so many more funerals

this past year and one can only hope that 2019 will see a slackening of the pace! Remembrance Sunday has come and gone and what wonderful attendance there has been at the numerous commemorative events that have taken place, including a packed Naphill village hall, full to overflowing. 'We will remember them'.

The announcement by the Secretary of State for Communities that he was minded to create a new Unitary Council to replace the county and four district councils, was announced in November. Whilst the county council had hoped for this decision, the district councils were disappointed as they had hoped for a north and south divide. After much reflection I think that the Sec of State got it right, as the majority of services that the county council provides are on a county wide basis and a county wide authority will naturally keep these services without having to divide them into two, with the consequential need of two sets of officers and the added costs involved. Planning control will need to be more localised and the county had the original intention, when unitary status was first mooted, of having local or neighbourhood 'hubs' to make decisions on building applications.

The New Year will have some interesting political developments, hopefully Brexit will not dominate the news agenda and other important domestic concerns will be addressed. We shall see a firming up of plans for the Oxford/Cambridge road and rail link routes and the considerable housing developments which will fill in the land between Milton Keynes and the existing settlements in North Bucks and around Luton and Hertford. I suppose this is the inevitable consequence of a population increase of around two million persons and the subsequent increasing birth rate and the current demand for housing.

*Richard Pushman*

## Bradenham Parish Council

At its last meeting the parish council considered the costs of refurbishments works in and around the pond area in Bradenham. The parish council took on responsibility of looking after this pond when it installed, with National Trust permission, more than 10 years ago a pond liner and persuaded Buckinghamshire County Council to install a filter for the road run off. Even though the road run off has caused a great build-up of silt in the pond, the pond is healthy. It has been looked at several times and we have always been surprised how the pond and the area around it teems with wildlife. The Chiltern Society have helped us in the past and recently gave some guidance on the management of the area. With National Trust permission ( they own the land) the parish council plans to improve the area so it becomes a more pleasant public amenity.

The parish council is pleased with its 'Silent Soldier' placed on the green in front of the church by its WWI memorial, which this year has had a substantial refurbishment.

Although we have installed a dog bin in Bradenham by the pond, it is not well used, people are still leaving "doggie bags" in inappropriate places. Please use the bin. We are having a 2nd one installed as you leave the track onto the A4010.

The budget for 2019/20 was discussed and will be finalised in January.

We wish you all a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Our next meeting will be Monday January 14 2019 at the cricket club. All Welcome.

Deirdre Hansen, clerk to the council.

Please note the new email address:  
clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com

Please use this in future.

[www.bucksvoice.net/bradenham-parish-council](http://www.bucksvoice.net/bradenham-parish-council)

Naphill artist, Nancy Taylor.  
invites you to join her at  
a Christmas Craft Fair  
1st December 10am-12 noon  
at Saint Mary' Church, Princes Risborough

## Last Word

Definitely a creative use of space edition! I apologise for omissions and errors and I thank everybody for their contributions which have gone to make this a festive edition of our magazine.

Season's greetings to you all and I am sure that by 15 January 2019 I will be looking forward to compiling the February edition of the Gazette.

*Sonia*

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**Continued on page 38**

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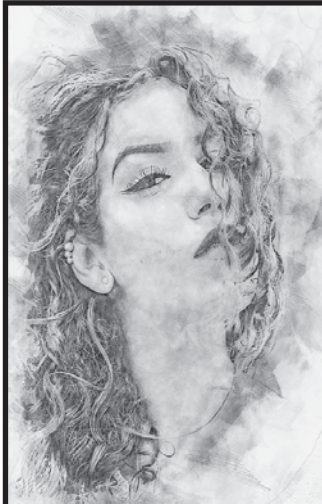
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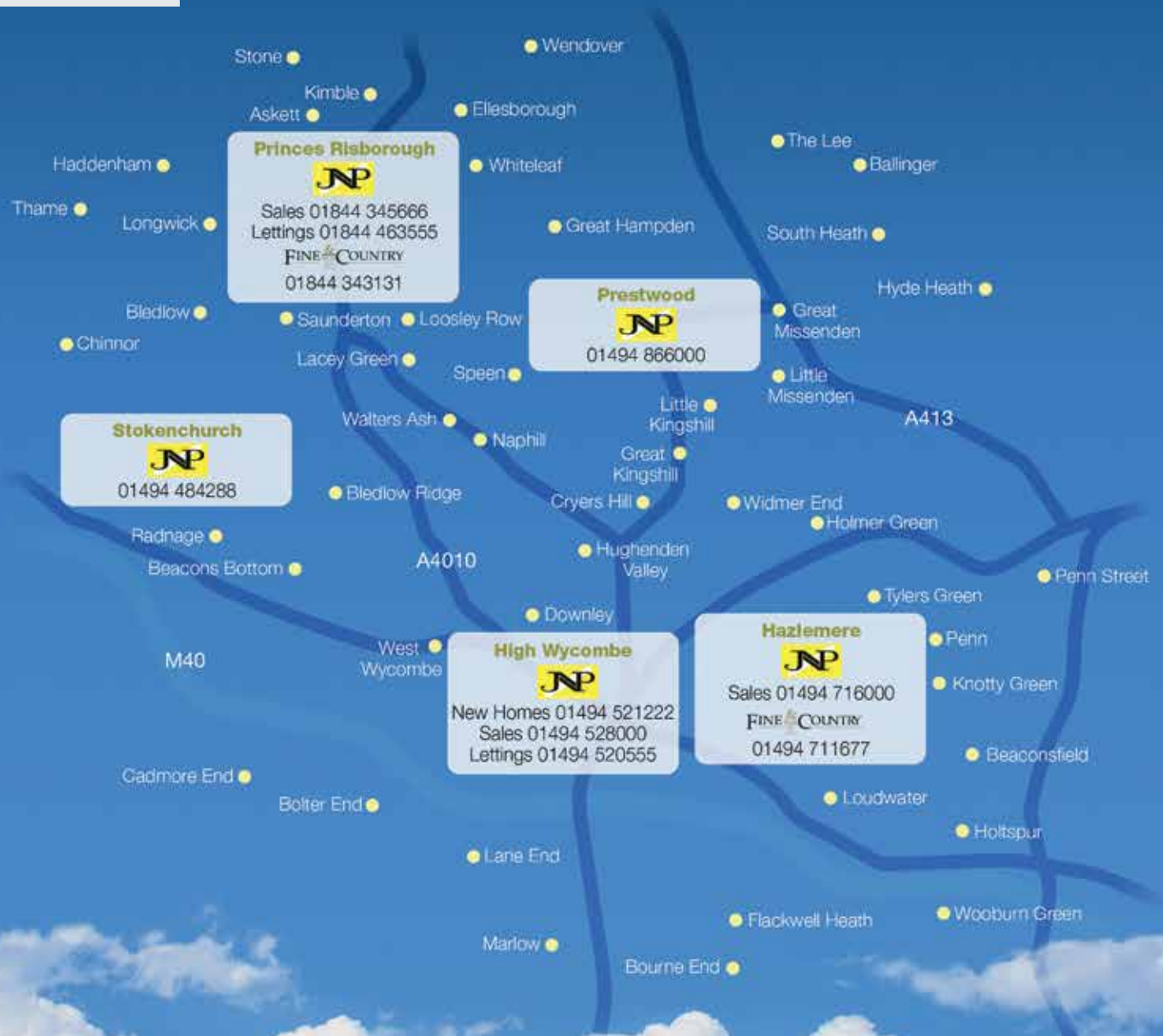
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