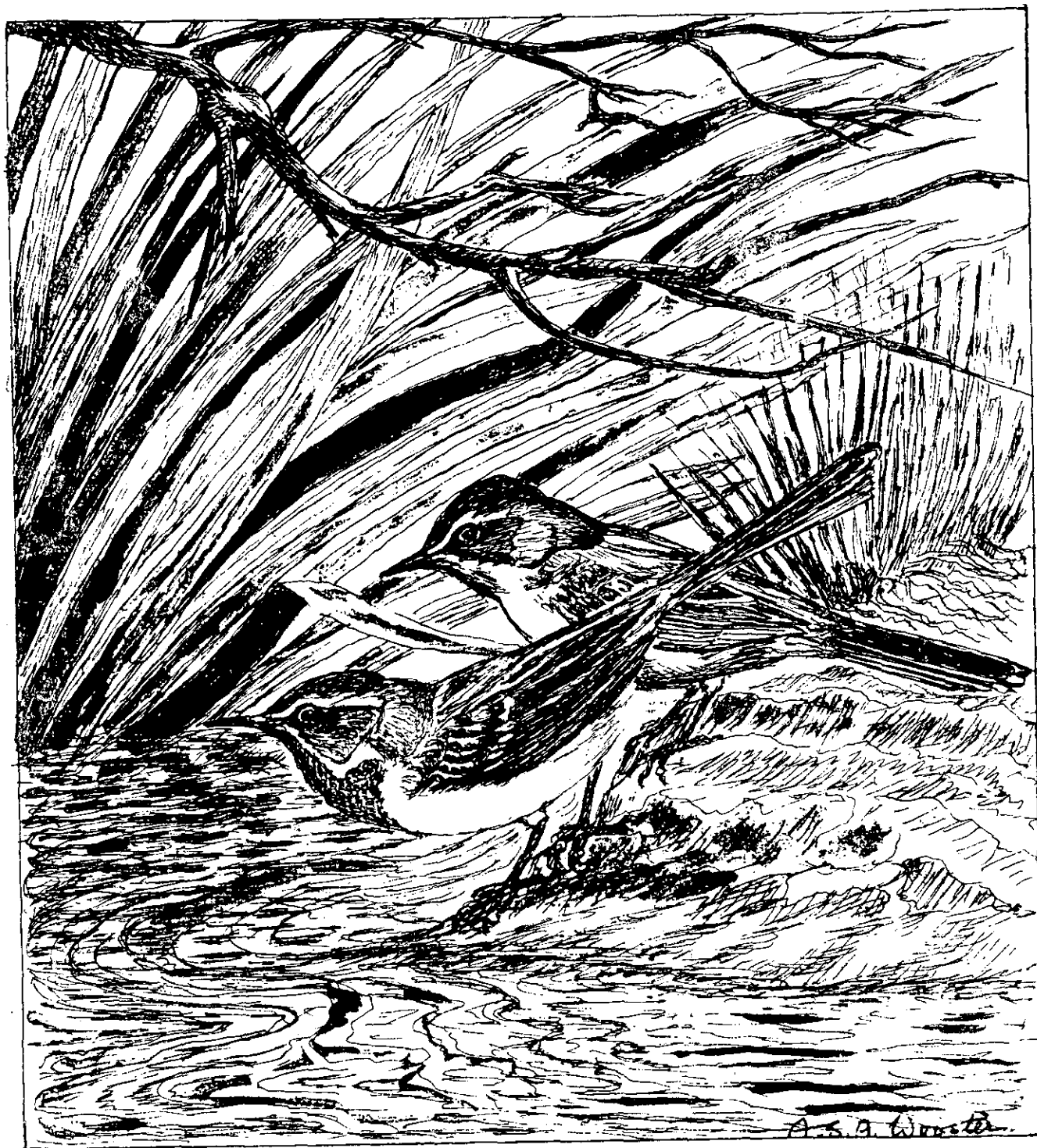


# NAPHILL GAZETTE



THE GREY WAGTAIL MALE & FEMALE

JANUARY 1974

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - JANUARY 1974

Play Group	Tues. Wed. Thur. Fri.	9.00-12 noon
Men's Club	Tue. Fri. Sat.	(BR) 7.30 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wed.	(BR) 9.30-11.30 am
Art	Every Thurs.	(BR) 7.30-9.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
Welfare	2nd 16th	
Drama	Every Tues.	7.45 pm
Dancing	Every Tues.	3.00-7.45 pm
V.H.C.	7th	8.00 pm
Whist	4th 18th	7.30 pm
Scouts & Guides Committee Meeting	10th	(CR) 8.00 pm
Over 60's	11th 25th	2.30 pm
W.I.	3rd	2.30 pm
Private Dance	11th	6.00 pm
Horticultural Supper	12th	7.30 pm
Naphill Neighbours	14th	7.45 pm
Private Dance	19th	All day
Naphill Residents A.G.M.	21st	8.00 pm
Naphill Cricket A.G.M.	23rd	8.00 pm
Football Club Social	25th	7.30 pm
Private Disco	26th	6.00 pm
"Fish" Coffee morning	26th	10.00-12 noon
Private Party	27th	3.00-7.00 pm
Scouts Open Evening	28th	7.30-9.00 pm
Tennis Club A.G.M.	29th	(CR) 8.00-9.00 pm
Horticultural Soc. A.G.M.	30th	(BR) 8.00-9.30 pm

COMMENTARY

Mr. Hugh Bridgman, Louches Cottage, Hunts Hill Lane, has agreed to become Assistant Editor - a most welcome, able and efficient addition to our staff.

There have been several complaints, recently, that some of our residents have not been receiving their copies of the Gazette. Gazettes are delivered on the Sunday paper round only, but copies are left throughout the village at the following shops:-  
 BACHELORS THE POST OFFICE THE WINE CELLAR THE MINI MARKET and KIPPING & WOOD. If you know of an elderly or bed-ridden person who is unable to obtain a Gazette, please

COMMENTARY (contd)

ring NAPHILL 3725 and leave his/her name.

Ranger-Guide, Mrs. Pam Hole has offered the services of six Rangers to do the stapling, for the forthcoming year. Mrs. Hole says that this duty will earn the Rangers their "Service to the community" badge. The Gazette thanks Mrs. Hole for this splendid idea and the Rangers for their services. On the subject of Rangers, two young members have volunteered to look after the War Memorial and spend an hour there on every suitable Sunday morning. No badge or reward involved here - just the desire to serve and keep this sacred corner clean. It is an unusual pleasure, these days, to be able to write of such a spontaneous action.

A most enjoyable Supper Dance was held in the Village Hall on 8th December. Music, food and company were splendid and a generous anonymous donor had given a large supply of cigarette coupons to obtain prizes for the raffle. The Village Hall Committee can well congratulate itself on the success of it all. One or two more tickets might have been sold.

Mr. Holmes, a former Editor, is leaving the village. He and Mrs. Holmes are going to live at Hoddesden, near their daughter. We wish them happiness in their new home and to them and all our readers Health and Happiness in 1974.

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NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for January</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
6th	Rev. P. Tucker (Annual Covenant Service)	Mrs. Pike
13th	Family Service Miss Jill Capell B.A.	Mr. E. Warden
20th	Mr. W. Parkins	Rev. P. Tucker
27th	Mr. D. Howard	Mr. D. Short E.Sc. M.A.  M.G.B.

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THEM

Our country, indeed the whole Western world, is in a mess, both economically and politically and it is not clear how we are going to get out of it, or if we are going to survive the present upset.

It is considered wrong for a clergyman to comment on the state of everyday affairs. He should keep himself to his own job, which is generally conceived in terms of giving comfort to the distressed and conducting a few services: he should not meddle in things of which he is ignorant and he must not take sides in any dispute.

THEM (contd)

I cannot see why a clergyman must be kept out of everyday affairs. God is involved in them, as we acknowledge. We enjoy thanking Him for His goodness at Harvest time, or when we have received some unexpected deliverance from a difficulty. We appeal to Him to find a solution to the problems that are beyond us, though we are unwilling to accept His solution unless it agrees with our own wishes. We blame Him if things go wrong and accuse Him of unkindness if He does not do what we want. We expect God to be involved in our everyday affairs on our side.

Certainly a clergyman is no expert in industrial relations, or international diplomacy, but he is supposed to be an authority on sin and selfishness and these seem, to me, to be at the root of our present discontent. The root of any dispute, whether between employers and unions, or Jews and Arabs, or guerrillas and governments, is that each side is unwilling, or unable, to see the other side's position and also the position of the community and to put their own concerns as secondary considerations. In other words, they are all selfish. By contrast, many of the beardy-weirdies, who have contracted out of our society and live in communes, not only help each other, they also help a great many of the people who regard them with suspicion. They are saying, in effect, 'Your society is rotten to the core, we want no part in it.' Their mistake is in regarding it as 'your' society, when it is 'our' society. We all agree that selfishness is at the root of the nation's ills, but it is not 'their' selfishness, it is 'our' selfishness. If you doubt that, look back at the way I have suggested we treat God in our everyday lives. If we look honestly at our own lives, we must all admit that there are large areas in which we are selfish, even though there are some areas in which we are unselfish. To admit that we are sinful is the first step to admitting that we need a Saviour and that is just what the Christian Gospel is all about, namely the offer of salvation. It starts with ourselves and extends through us to the whole world. Jesus Christ practised what He preached about unselfishly loving not only His friends, but also His enemies and He has had more influence on the world than anyone before or since.

A clergyman cannot help taking sides in a dispute. If he is true to his profession he is bound to be on the side of God, against sin, our sin, not just their sin.

P. Bullock-Flint

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FRYING TONIGHT !

Hundreds of fish are floating around Naphill. There is even one in your house, delivered to your door by your Fish warden. Do not throw it away, lose it, or destroy it. If you move house, please leave it. It is there to help you and your neighbours. Here is how.

contd.....



### FRYING TONIGHT (contd)

If you need emergency help and we have printed some of the ways we can help on the card, contact your warden. His name, address and telephone number are all on the back of the card. You can identify his house by the red plastic Fish sign on the door. If you cannot get hold of your local warden, there are some other telephone numbers printed on the back of the card. Ring one of them, but please make sure it is the right number for the time of day or night. If you cannot get out of the house and you cannot telephone, put your Fish card in the window. We cannot guarantee to meet every kind of emergency, but we shall try and if we cannot do it ourselves, we may know who can.

If you are walking along a street and you see a Fish card in a window, look round for a red plastic Fish sign on a door. It indicates the home of a Fish warden. Tell them about it. If there is no one at home, at the warden's house, ring the appropriate number on the back of your card at home. The usual day time central number is very easy to remember, Naphill 2468 ('Mary at the cottage gate').

Parents, please help us to make this scheme work. Do not let your children play with your Fish card, you may need it in a hurry and please do not let your children put it up in your window, 'just for fun to see what would happen', it may prevent us from answering a real emergency call.

The Fish Scheme of Neighbourly Help came into operation in this area on 1st January. Printing and publicity have already cost us quite a lot of money and we shall have to spend more yet. We have had a number of donations to get the scheme afloat. If you would like to make a donation to help the scheme, it may be sent to the Treasurer, Miss E. Cooper, Kinoull, Main Road, to the Area Organiser, Mr. F. Mall, Westaway, Naphill Common, to the Secretary, Mrs. G. Howard-Sorrell, Albany, Stonefield Road, Naphill, or to Rev. P. Bullock-Flint, The Vicarage, Valley Road, Hughenden.

In order to raise some funds, we are holding a Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy sale in Naphill Village Hall on Sat. 26th Jan. Please support us and help us to keep the Fish swimming around.

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### RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Our membership drive is now under way and every house in the village should have received an enrolment form, thanks to our valiant band of volunteer postmen. If by chance you have been missed out, don't worry, the collectors will be calling in the next few days, and you can also join at the A.G.M.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The A.G.M. of the Association will be held on Monday, 21st January 1974 at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall. On the agenda will be the election of the committee, a review of the Coombe Valley situation and other development proposals, plus other village matters such as the state of Naphill's bus service.

contd.....

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (contd)

Did you know of the plan to re-align Stocking Lane where it joins the Main Road ? Come and let off steam about these or other subjects you feel are relevant.

The meeting will also include the showing of a FILM called "THE CHOICE IS OURS", made in the Chilterns for the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. It shows many villages in the area, though not Naphill and will be of great interest to all of us who value our environment.

THE H7 ENQUIRY

At the time of writing the long Public Inquiry into the H7 development proposals is drawing to a close. There were approximately 600 individual letters of objection and the case against the proposals was very well put by counsel for the local Residents Associations and their witnesses.

The result will not be known for some weeks, but the feeling is that only a small part, if any, of the original proposal will be allowed. If this turns out to be so, it will be a good omen for our efforts against the Coombe Valley Project.

H. Bridgman

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NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

Our Christmas Party was quite successful, despite the chilly hall, but a glass of sherry, before lunch, gave us an appetite. The committee, as a team, worked very hard to serve a nice warm lunch, much appreciated by everyone. The entertainment was provided by Mr. & Mrs. Halliday, their daughter and Mr. Bass, pianist.

A surprise gift of a beautifully dressed doll, given by Mrs. Nye, was raffled and £4.80 raised for Club funds. Thank you Mrs. Nye and though you were unable to be with us, through illness, we all send you our thanks and get well soon.

To the people, who have transported members, thank you and to the committee, who have worked so hard to make the year a success, very many thanks.

A number of anonymous donations have been received, for which we thank you.

Our first meeting in January is on the 11th. Owing to the uncertainty of heat, light, etc., no speaker has been booked, but we still hope to see you all.

26th January, The Film Projection Services will entertain us.

A.G.

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NAPHILL W.I.

Members and friends who attended the December meeting of Naphill W.I. enjoyed a demonstration of "Festive Cooking" given by Miss Davis, a representative from Hampden Hall. Many colourful and interesting dishes were made from leftovers from the Christmas fare. Recipes included Pate, Lunchmeat Plait, Lemon Pudding and Candle Cake. Members were able to bid for the tempting dishes at the auction held at the close of the meeting.

The competition was won by Mrs. Piercy, Mrs.C. Smith and Mrs. Brill.

The coffee morning given by Mrs. D. Smith realised £4.40.

The speaker at the January meeting will be a member of "The Samaritans". The competition - A dressed dolly peg.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Wood Mrs. Tweedale Mrs. Dutton  
Mrs. Shakeshaft.

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NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

There was no December meeting to report on, but instead members and friends attended the Christmas Dinner at Windsor Lodge Hotel. The Raffle was won by Mrs. Scott.

At our next meeting on 14th January, 7.45 pm. Mr. Glanfield, our local butcher, will be giving us a talk and maybe a few helpful ideas on various cuts of meat.

Reminder to all members and would-be-members, subscriptions for 1974 will be due - 25P.

Thanks to all who attended Mrs. Stratford's coffee morning. £6.70 was raised for the Fish Scheme.

J.M.C.

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NAPHILL CRICKET CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY - 23RD JANUARY - 8.00 pm

BILLIARD ROOM

Please come and give us your support and your views. Can we run two teams this season? What can be done to attract spectators? Should we improve our facilities? Please attend on the 23rd and join in an interesting meeting. We need your support.

G.L.B.

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NAPHILL TENNIS CLUB

The A.G.M. will be held in the Committee Room at the village hall on TUESDAY - 29TH JANUARY at 8.00 pm. It is hoped that all senior and junior members will make a special effort to attend; we also extend a welcome to all friends interested in the Tennis Club.

A disco-Dance is being held, by courtesy of Mr. & Mrs. Huggett in the Barn on Sat. 9th Feb. Tickets (including refreshments) at 75P may be obtained from Committee members.

FROM OUR AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

When serving the Gazette in another capacity, I had some correspondence with the vicar on the subject of faith. So, when I was inveigled into attending the Harvest Supper, I feared he might ask to whom I was addressing my thanks, but he forebore.

I have been giving thanks for harvest since I first put a plough behind a tractor, many years ago, but not knowing or caring much who heard them. But I have never worshipped the false gods of money and success, as I was reminded when meeting an old friend lately. So old a friend that it was he who first took me birdsnesting on the common, when I was 5 and he was 9. I will call him Charlie, as that is not his name and I found him, as usual, looking prosperous. He said, "Ron how is it you have never moved" ? I told him I have lived for nearly 60 years in the home I love, enjoying most of my work and amusing myself collecting about 200 different trees and shrubs, so why on earth should I move. Charlie shook his head slowly, "Trees and shrubs" he said. "My Gawd". "Look" he said, "since I left Naphill I have moved 25 times and made a nice bit of money out of every move. How about that". I was struck dumb, not by the amount of money he had made, but by the sheer horror of moving house 25 times in 35 years ! So, Charlie and I parted in what is perhaps the best way for old friends to part, with each feeling a little sorry for the other.

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NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A happy New Year to all our members and their families, from your Committee, may all your gardening efforts prosper in the coming year. The A.G.M. will take place at 8.00 pm on 30th January in the Village Hall, all members are invited to attend - why not come along with new ideas and suggestions to help your committee plan an interesting years programme.

SUPPER PARTY AND ENTERTAINMENT

Our first social event for 1974 will be a members and families only supper party on 12th January at 8.00 pm in the village hall. An entertainment has been booked, the fees of which will be donated to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Tickets available from committee members, 50P. There will be a licensed bar - book early as numbers will be restricted to 90.

So far for the coming year we have made bookings for the following events:-

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Jan. 18th | Coach trip to Windsor Theatre for the pantomime "Red Riding Hood". All seats have been sold. Coach will leave the village hall at 6.00 pm. |
| 30th      | A.G.M.   |
| Feb. 18th | A talk illustrated by colour slides to be given by Mr. Potter, Sutton Vegetable Chairman.  |

contd.....

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (contd)

March 2nd Rummage Sale in aid of Horticultural funds,  
organised by Mr. & Mrs. W. Wood.  
May 15th Bring & Buy plant evening.  
July 6th SUMMER SHOW  
Sept. 14th AUTUMN SHOW

In addition to these events, it is hoped to arrange some coach outings to various gardens.

Please remember, membership fees are due for renewal from 1st January.

P.J.H.

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GARDEN NOTES - JANUARY

If there is to be snow, we usually get some of it in January. A blanket of snow is a very good protection of plants against biting icy winds. But snow can break branches and splay out hedges. So, have a long pole or a besom broom handy to knock the snow off trees and shrubs. Protect recently planted evergreens from cold winds with a wigwam of plastic sheeting, tied around bamboo canes, but open at the top.

Any mild days are suitable for rose planting, as long as the soil is frost free. It is better to heel in the plants for a week or longer, than to plant in unprepared ground. Dig at 2ft. deep, keeping the top spit at the top, but turning each spit over. Add bonemeal and dress the ground with lime. A small "tip" I have found which pays - you cannot always wear gloves when working with roses, so remember to move your hands slowly. It means the difference between a nasty gash and a slight scratch.

On suitable days keep on with digging in the veg. garden, or allotment. If you wish to grow large onions, for competition, and can get a temperature of 60 now is time to sow in boxes. After germination, a temperature of 50 or less will do. Sow in boxes 5 inches deep, place a thick layer of well rotted manure and then fill with thoroughly rich soil, firmly pressed down. After germination, use only the finest and most promising seedlings. Prick off in boxes, allowing each a space of 3 ins. Towards the end of March, remove to cold frames. Plant out about the end of April, giving each at least one foot in the rows and the rows 15 ins. apart.

Have your gardens some of these winter beauties, now at their best? Winter Jasmine with gold flowers: berried shrubs of all colours, HOLLY, COTONEASTER, PYRACANTHA, SNOWBERRY and BERBERIS: CONIFERS with blue, gold and green foliage: LAURUSTINUS - dark green foliage with clusters of pinkish-white flowers. If not, make a note of them for Spring planting.

C.P.

NATURE INTEREST

THE GREY WAGTAIL

The Grey Wagtail is among the most elegant and graceful of our British birds. Most of the Grey Wagtails stay with us for the whole of the year. They move from the Northern Highlands at the approach of winter, down to our southern districts. The Grey Wagtail must not be confused with the more familiar Pied Wagtail, the smartly strutting, usually running, black and white bird, frequently seen on our lawns during the year. The Grey Wagtail is considered to be a near cousin to the Pied Wagtail, but is very much more beautifully coloured. I was fortunate in being able to sit watching a pair, as you can see on our title page and they were within close sight for about 30 minutes. They were not at all nervous, shy perhaps, but quite friendly. The plumage of the male is a blend of bright yellow, blue-grey and quite a number of pure white streaks appropriately placed. The whole of the breast and underparts are a pastel shade of sulphur yellow, the upper parts are a slate-blue-grey, the rump is a greenish yellow, while the wings are dusky brown, edged with long outer pure white feathers. The long tail of brown centre feathers are edged each side with three longer white feathers, which are often fanned out very wide and pitched up high in the air, almost at right angles. The head of the Grey Wagtail is often held at an upright aristocratic angle, adding beauty to the dark pupil of the eyes. A streak of white feathers runs from the base of its long thin black beak right through to the bright blue-grey at the back of the head, while another slightly wider white streak runs down from under the beak, edging the black mottled throat. Its dignified flight, slow when rising and at speed when diving, appears to me like a beautifully coloured flower blossom that flies. I am unable to do this lovely bird full justice.

I saw this pair of beautiful birds when I was slowly walking around my favourite ornamental lake, to see the young Mallards and coots, but these were completely forgotten when this pair of Grey Wagtails turned up. I had seen Grey Wagtails on the Thames, but the pair I saw on the lake were tame and to them I did not exist. They were keenly watching for insects that fly or glide along the surface of the water and, as far as I could see, were "doing well". Occasionally they would approach the surface of the water a little too closely and their feet would get wet, but this did not deter the speed of their head and beak. What a pleasure they were to watch.

The Grey Wagtails prefer to be near water at all times and build their nest near water in the crevices in the rocks near the river or sometimes in the banks of the faster flowing rivers. I have often seen them at Bourne End reach in the roughage on some of the little islands in the centre of the river. They are always together, male and female. The nest is composed of reed stems, blades of grass mixed with moss and wool lined with hair and soft feathers. There are four, sometimes five eggs and they are bluish buff white speckled with dark brown-grey hairlines.

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

The next time I am over to the lake I expect the Grey Wagtail will have left, on their way south to the warmer water-sides near the coast, but who knows, there may be something just as exciting. In this bird-watching hobby one never knows but one can always hope.

A.S.A.W.

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CORRESPONDENCE

North Dean Village Craft Group.

Dear Mrs. Lawrence,

The above Group have asked me to write to you to express our thanks for having made known in the Naphth Gazette the fact we were holding our Christmas Fayre. We feel sure that this kind action of yours brought many people along. We are thrilled with our results and will be donating £40. to the Vinio School and £200. to the Village Hall Building Fund. Thank you again from us all.

Yours sincerely,  
S.J. Crawford (Mrs.)  
(Craft Group Organiser)

.....

"Sunnyhill"  
Stocking Lane.

Dear Editor,

21st December 1973

During recent years many people have expressed anxiety about the safety of children playing on the Crick, because of the practice of driving cars from the lower entrance (next to the Glebe) across to the tennis courts and so passing close to the children's playground. I understand that at a recent Village Hall Council meeting suggestions were made to make certain alterations to the area so as to improve the situation. These would include closing the present lower entrance, making a new one a short distance up towards the village hall and possibly putting up a fence around the children's playing area.

I oppose these suggestions for the following reasons. Firstly, the Crick is the one open space in the village expressly set aside for recreation, particularly for our children. They should be allowed to continue to use it; to run, cycle, watch the sports, or play on the swings, quite unrestricted. Parents should be able to allow their children to play on the Crick in the knowledge that they are free from the dangers that make the roads a nightmare. If the fence restricts the activities of the children, it is unacceptable; if it is of an open construction and so merely marks off the playground area, then it will be ineffective. In either case it will be another expensive target for "vandals".

contd.....

CORRESPONDENCE (contd)

Secondly, such alterations may cause the cars to take a more restricted route across the grass, so leading to excessive erosion. The next step will be a metalled track.

Thirdly, there is a far simpler solution. People energetic enough to play tennis should leave their cars in the existing car park and walk across the Crick to the courts. If this is asking too much, then a small car park could be provided by the existing lower entrance, bounded by posts. (The latter could be removable to allow access for fairs etc.)

Yours sincerely,  
N.E. HUSSEY (Mrs.)

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157, Main Road,  
Naphill.

Dear Madam Editor,

First, I am certain that your whole Readership would wish to join me in offering you sincere congratulations on the standard of your first two issues: long and happy may be your tour of duty, in the 'hot seat'.

Secondly, may I hope that, now that your allegedly politically-inclined predecessor is no longer 'at the helm', the local limb of the Conservative party will, at a General Meeting propose, support and agree a motion designed not only to lend its support, once again, to this excellent Community Project, but to help burnish its image, so sadly tarnished by what many (National) Party Supporters feel was a hasty, ill-considered - even petty, tantrum: this, by making that support both more generous, and, by way of reflective amends, retrospective ?

With the very best of Good Wishes for your future and that of the Gazette - with or without local political support !

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN BULLOCK

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# NAPHILL GAZETTE



THE SONG THURSH AND THE BLACKBIRD  
FEBRUARY 1974

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - FEBRUARY 1974

Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.	9.00-12 noon
Whist	1st 15th	7.30 pm
V.H.C.	4th	8.00 pm
W.I. Committee	4th (C.R.)	2.30 pm
Scouts	4th (C.R.)	7.15-8.30 pm
Drama	Every Tuesday	7.45 pm
Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
Art	Every Thurs. (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wed. (B.R.)	9.30-11.30 am
Dancing	5th 12th 19th 26th	3.00-7.45 pm
Welfare	6th 20th	2.00 pm
Guides	6th 20th	7.00-8.30 pm
W.I.	7th	2.30 pm
Over 60's	8th 22nd	2.30 pm
Conservative A.G.M.	8th	8.00 pm
Mobile Library	1st 15th 6th 20th	2.15-3.00 pm 3.25-4.00 pm
Naphill Neighbours	11th	7.45 pm
Scouts	11th 18th (C.R.)	7.15-8.30 pm
W.I. Party Night	16th	7.30 pm
Horticultural Soc. Lecture	18th	7.30 pm
Horticultural Society	20th (C.R.)	8.00-10.00 pm
Scouts & Guides	21st (C.R.)	8.00-9.30 pm
Private Dance	23rd	All day
World Wild Life Film	25th	8.00 pm
W.I. Committee	28th (C.R.)	2.30 pm

COMMENTARY

There are many contributions to the Gazette this month. Reports have come in from all the Councils and Societies and there are one or two extra items as well. "Commentary", therefore, can be brief - we must not overburden the Rangers on their first stapling session! As the Rangers take over, we thank all those who have helped with stapling in the past,

contd.....

COMMENTARY (contd)

and especially Mrs. Grace Parker who has been a member of the stapling team for the past four years. In the last few months Mrs. Parker had been performing the duty with the help of one friend and her loyalty and tenacity are to be commended.

A little bonus is offered to our readers - adverts. of three lines may now be inserted FREE. The Editor's Scots blood has gone mad !

Don't forget the Village Hall Dance.

Editor

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for February</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
3rd	Mr. H.Lord	Mrs. Darvill
10th (Family Service - Holy Communion)	Rev.P.Tucker	Mr.B.Sutcliffe
17th	Miss Capell	Mrs.Anderson
24th	Mr.E.Pullen	Rev.P.Tucker

.....  
The mid-week Fellowship meeting on 6th Feb. at 7.30 pm will be held in the schoolroom and will take the form of a programme of recordings in connection with Home Mission work. Leader Rev. P. Tucker.

.....  
M.G.B.

-----  
ANGLICAN CHURCH SERVICES

Owing to the absence of an announcement about Naphill services in the January Parish Magazine, a good deal of doubt has arisen about the service of Holy Communion in the village.

To clear up any confusion, may we say once again that the service to which the congregation from the Old School is invited is held at 9.00 am on the fourth Sunday of each month at St. Marks Church, just inside the entrance to the R.A.F. site at the Walter's Ash end of the village. This arrangement has been working very satisfactorily for several months, with the approval of the Station Commander and the warm co-operation of Padre N. Griffin, the Chaplain. Why not take your 1974 diary and mark up the fourth Sunday of each month, or better still, mark your calendar so that the date is not forgotten.

Just a reminder to parents of young children; the church Sunday School meets every Sunday at 10.30 am in the Scouts Hut, Downley Road, where Mrs. Anthea Coles will be pleased to welcome them.

W.W.

-----  
I would like to say "Thank you" to our friends who attended our last dance at Naphill Village Hall. Due to your support and generosity a profit of £40.00 was realised and this has been given to Dr.Alan Hill at Stoke Mandeville Hospital for extra comforts in the Day Room for rheumatism sufferers. (contd.....)

Our next dance is on Sat. 2nd MARCH. Strictly ticket only.

Roger Smith

---

FOR GOD'S SAKE, GIVE UP.

For most of the last two thousand years, the Church has kept the weeks preceding Easter as a time of fasting and abstinence. A period when, for God's sake, we give up something. Last year, when I wrote about Lent in the Gazette, I suggested that we should give up something as a personal contribution to the needs of the underprivileged. This year I am suggesting that we should give up something for God's sake and our own.

The very idea of going without is abhorrent to most of us. Our present national difficulties stem from the thought, 'He has it. I want it. Why shouldn't I have it?' Nor is it any answer to say that 'He has earned it,' since the key phrase is 'I want it.' The only real hope is to learn to control our appetites, learn to go without.

Most of us need an incentive if we are to go without anything. The ladies have an incentive, the tape measure! The smoker's cough may be his incentive. The Christian's incentive is God. It is for God's sake we give up. The question the Christian asks himself is, 'what controls me, my body, or my soul?' We regard the spiritual side as being the higher, the more truly human aspect of mankind and clearly the spirit should be in control. Unfortunately an honest examination of the situation shows us that it is not so, therefore, like athletes, we go into training. For six weeks during Lent we give up. The most usual things to give up are some little luxury we enjoy. This really is only the beginning of the training session. The keen athlete steps up his training until he has cut out all unnecessary items. We would do well to emulate him. We should try fasting as well as abstinence.

The athlete also undertakes a course of exercise to prepare himself. If we are trying to assert the control of spirit over body, spiritual exercise should find its place in our training programme. Many people try to pray when they meet a crisis. Lent is a good time to get in some practice.

I am often asked if a particular sentence, or event, comes from the Bible. Very few can answer the question since too few have read the Bible. A deliberate effort to do so would make a useful part of our spiritual training.

Lent starts at the end of this month - 27th February. For God's sake and your own, give up.....something.

---

VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL NOTES

On 1st January I inherited the Village Hall Council Chairman's perpetual problems of money and the means of raising it, from Bruce Holland. After the extensive and necessary programme of renovation and modernisation, which Bruce carried through in

contd.....



VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL NOTES (contd)

his two years as Chairman, I had hoped to get through 1974 without significant expenditure. It is becoming apparent, however, that the hall stage is in need of considerable repair and the children's playground equipment requires a thorough overhaul. If money has to be spent on these two items, it is appropriate to consider whether we want to repair or replace the existing arrangements, or whether the opportunity should be taken to make any improvements which may be necessary.

It has been suggested that the existing stage could be removed, thus enlarging the floor of the hall and some form of removable stage devised, which could be erected when required. There is also a proposal to do something about the access of cars on to the playing field at the playground end, in conjunction with the overhaul of the equipment, to make the area safer for children. Comments on these topics would be very welcome. The question of the stage is not likely to be finalised for two or three months, but we do hope to make a decision on the playground and access at the meeting on 4th Feb.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held in the Village Hall on 27th March at 8.00 pm and I should be glad to have a good attendance for this meeting in order that matters of concern can be thoroughly aired and the Council made aware of your views.

The six village representatives (that is those not representing a specific village organisation) are elected at the A.G.M. Nominations are taken at the meeting and competition for these six places can only be a good thing.

T. FENDOM

.....

A SUPPER DANCE is to be held in the Hall on 9TH MARCH, following the lines of the Dance which was so much enjoyed by those attending, before Christmas.

Supper will be served at 8.30 pm followed by dancing to the Alan Lewis Trio until midnight. Tickets at £1.00 are available now and we have decided to limit the number to 80, so that early application for tickets is essential.

-----  
PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The bad state of footpaths on Naphill Common was again the subject of debate. According to the definitive map there are many footpaths on Naphill Common within the Parish Boundaries of Hughenden; there is, however, only one bridleway, running from Forge Road down to Bradenham. Because of the indiscriminate use of footpaths, by traffic other than pedestrian, West Wycombe Estate is to be asked to define those paths on which horses can be ridden and to prevent such use on pedestrian paths.

A letter is to be sent to the Head Postmaster, requesting that the one collection time for the Parish be altered from 10.30 - 11.00 am to mid-late afternoon.

contd.....

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES (contd)

Residents of Pursells Meadow, as well as school children, will be pleased to know that the linking path to Chapel Lane has been re-surfaced.

We are informed by the County Council that the Ministry of Defence intend erecting a further 12 two storey blocks to accommodate 144 persons at Strike Command. The establishment number is not expected to increase, but the extra building is to provide single accommodation for airmen already working there. The development will be behind the present domestic site.

RICHARD PUSHMAN

-----  
DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

At last month's District Council meeting, a proposal to spend £30,000 on improvements to the Council Chamber at Bellfield House was rejected, only a modified scheme, to include improved ventilation, being allowed. The majority of the members felt that this was an unnecessary expenditure - a view with which I am sure all ratepayers will agree.

Among recent problems brought to my notice has been the dumping of old cars in the woods and fields around Naphill. Whilst I am sure that these are not the property of local people, it may be as well to remind people, especially newcomers to the area, of the existence of the Council's dump at High Heavens, Booker, where old cars may be dumped, free of charge.

The Coombe Lane improvements are nearing completion and should make for greater safety on the hill, the new footpath being particularly welcome.

AUDREY MOORE

-----  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Approximately 60 members attended the A.G.M. on 21st January, when a new Constitution was adopted and the following Committee re-elected to serve for the current year:

Chairman: H.Bridgman      Vice-Chairman: P.Rhodes  
Hon.Sec.: P.Bagnall-Oakeley      Hon.Treas: W. Wood  
Mrs. A.Moore and Messrs. R.Corley, T.Hussey, R.Morgan and R.Pushman.

The meeting concluded with the excellent C.P.R.E. film "The Choice is Ours" which shows several familiar local scenes, including Lacey Green Windmill, Bradenham and Hughenden Manor. Our grateful thanks go to Mr. Rigby and his colleagues of the Princes Risborough Film Society.

The hard work of the Membership Sub-Committee, under Philip Rhodes, is showing excellent results, our numbers now standing at 550, a most encouraging demonstration of support from the village.

contd.....

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (contd)

Coombe Valley Project: We have had verbal information that, as expected, the developers are to appeal. This means a Public Enquiry in due course, of which we hope to have more than the statutory minimum six weeks notice. Residents most closely affected, that is, those on the Main Road and in Stocking Lane, will have official notification from the R.D.C. We will keep all members fully informed and, if necessary, call an Extraordinary General Meeting.

The proposed residential development of the pig farm at Walters Ash, which involves the demolishing of two houses in Ash Close, has been refused permission by the R.D.C. An appeal is expected. Will members who wish to voice an opinion please contact Dennis Thomas, 38 Ash Close (tel: 2457) or Richard Pushman (3122).

H. BRIDGMAN

-----  
PLEASE SUPPORT

THE WILDLIFE YOUTH SERVICE  
of the WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

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Naphill Village Hall

at 8.00 p.m. on

Monday, 25th February 1974

SPEAKER: CYRIL LITTLEWOOD, M.B.E., Founder & Director  
of the Wildlife Youth  
Service.

Tickets: 25p each, children 15p each (including refreshments)  
obtainable from:

Mrs. Pam Smith, "Hideaway" Forge Road, Naphill. (Tel: Nap.3364)

Mrs. Kathleen McCue, "Seven Winds" Downley Road, Naphill.  
(Tel: Nap.2213)

Proceeds to the Wildlife Youth Service

THE NAPHILL GAZETTE ACCOUNTS

The Following is an abbreviated account for the year ended 30th September 1973.

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Advertising	£95.20	Printing	£153.05
Village Collection	88.26	Sundries	3.75
Donations	23.45	Excess Income over Expenditure	81.65
Postal Subs.	6.32		
Bank Interest	25.22		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£ 238.45		£ 238.45
	<hr/>		<hr/>

Capital Reserve A/c.

From the Capital Reserve A/c. the purchase of the Printing Machine for £250. was made during the year.

The village collection, which was made in Oct/Nov amounted to £90.56. Thank you all very much for your generous contributions.

The accounts have been audited and may be viewed, by anyone, upon contacting the Treasurer or Tony Lawrence.

-----  
GARDEN NOTES - FEBRUARY

This month is on record to be the worst of the twelve. If an easterly wind is blowing on Candlemas Day a second winter is likely to follow. If a westerly wind, the worst of the cold may be over. The sun is fast gaining power and the days are lengthening. In the old days, pre 1914, the gardeners time on the 1st Feb. was 6.00 am to 6.00 pm, Saturdays included. It was hardly light, six in the morning, and just dark six in the evening.

The pruning of fruit trees should be completed this month. Cut out any dead wood and any branches that are crossed or too thick. Keep the centre open as much as possible; in a crowded tree the lack of sunshine will prevent the formation of fruit buds. Any fruit trees can be planted this month. Fruit, generally, is a labour saving part of the garden. Less attention is needed over a given area than where flowers or vegetables are grown. I think the soft fruits, the raspberry and gooseberry give the best return. With a little care a row of raspberries will stand 20 years or more. Gooseberries pay well. Thin the fruit early for cooking: and later what is better for dessert than a ripe gooseberry ? CARELESS AND LEVELLER are two good varieties.

contd.....

GARDEN NOTES - FEBRUARY (contd)

Try and get the digging finished this month. Naphill soil is, I think, a hungry soil, so dig in any manure or compost or leaf-mould. If none of these is available, use a dusting of bone-meal along each spit - say about a handful to a yard.

Continue to lift and divide perennials, when the weather is suitable. In the veg. garden, plant shallots, sow early peas, broad beans and parsnips, towards the end of the month.

C.P.

-----  
NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We had a very enjoyable evening on Sat. 12th Jan. at the Society's Supper Party. Although the weather was not too kind sufficient members and their families turned out to make it worthwhile. There was plenty to eat and drink and the bar was kept fairly busy! The entertainment by Mary and the Jolly Boys was much appreciated and as a result of the raffle, we were able to donate £12. to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Our thanks to Joyce Holland for organising the evening.

The evening's coach trip to Windsor Theatre, for the pantomime "Red Riding Hood" on Friday, 18th Jan. was well worth the journey. Young and Old had a happy evening.

Our next event will be on 18th Feb. 8.00 pm at the Village Hall - a talk, illustrated by colour slides, to be given by Mr. Potter, Sutton Vegetable Chairman. Don't forget to come along and improve your knowledge of vegetable gardening.

SATURDAY - 2ND MARCH - RUMMAGE SALE AT THE VILLAGE HALL.

This is, possibly, the first Rummage Sale ever held by the Horticultural Society, so we hope to make it a good one and provide the Committee with funds to be used for the benefit of members.

This should be a very successful venture, provided the weather is favourable and it is well advertised by the members, but above all, we must have plenty of goods to sell. If every member provides something saleable, we shall be sure of heavily laden stalls, so here are some ideas:

Clothing of every kind, in good condition, curtains and household goods, toys and books, flower pots and vases. Hardware of every description always sells well: so please look through the sideboard, the top of that cupboard in the kitchen, under the stairs, up in the loft and outside in the garage and garden shed, to see what you can find.

The hall will be open from 9.00 am to receive goods, or they may be left, before the day, with any of the following:-

W. Wood	Hale End, Christopher Close	G. Smith	Waldens, Main Rd.
J. Bullock	157, Main Road	C. Watkins	Manesty,
P. Hyre	Oatley, Main Road		Stocking Lane
A. Gilson	Stonefield House, Clappins Lane		

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

At our January meeting, Mr. Glanfield, our local butcher, very kindly came and gave a talk on various cuts of meat, bringing with him some large joints of beef and lamb, which were nice to see even if you couldn't afford them. The raffle, for meat vouchers, was won by Mrs. Saw and Mrs. Randall.

Our next meeting will be on 11th Feb. 7.45 pm. when we will be having a hairdressing demonstration by Claudette, the hair stylist of High Wycombe. The competition - Home-made Valentine Card. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Donlon and Mrs. Flett.

J.M.C.

---

NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

We have resumed our meetings and were pleased to see so many members. We wish members, who are in hospital, a speedy return to good health.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson of "The Wheel", kindly organised a raffle and presented us with £20.: may we all say, "thank you both." We also thank donors of gifts to the raffle and to the customers who so readily support this effort.

The Committee is very grateful for your kind interest in the Club.

8th Feb. Mrs. Pettet will give a talk on "India" and on the 22nd Mr. Jones will show a film and give a talk on "Safety for Senior Citizens".

A.G.

---

NAPHILL W.I.

3rd Jan. members held their monthly meeting in Naphill Village Hall. The speaker was 'Barbara' who gave an interesting talk on her work as a member of the "Samaritans." The organisation was begun 20 years ago by an Anglican clergyman, who wanted to help people with problems. There are now over 100 branches, up and down the country. The "Samaritans" is a life-line for those who need help; being a voluntary organisation, it is always in need of money. Members were able to ask questions at the close of her talk. Barbara was thanked by Mrs. Bull.

The competition was won by Mrs. Randall and Mrs. Smith.

The Fish Scheme, being run in the village, was explained by the vicar, Rev. Bullock-Flint.

A Greeting Card has been received from the 'adopted' family. The next meeting will be on 7th February, when the Speaker will be 'Martin' the butcher: his subject will be "The cheaper cuts of meat." The exhibition will be 'Relics of World War II'. Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Kent, Mrs. Brill, Mrs. Sawney, Mrs. Hewinson.

PARTY NIGHT - 16TH FEBRUARY when there will be "The Most Outrageous Hat" competition.

J.M.R.

INTERESTING - INTERESTED ?

Would you be interested in having a page in the Gazette for you and by you and about you ? There are about 1500 adults living in Naphill and the place must teem with stories of personal achievements, amusing incidents, unusual experiences etc.

The Gazette would be delighted to print a selection of these, in condensed a form as possible, each month.

We can begin this month. Mrs. Kent of Cookshall Farm has let us know of the success of Mr. Douglas Riggs, who works and lives at Cookshall. Mr. Riggs studied art, under Mr. Piggott at Naphill Village Hall, for five years and for two years with Mr. Dennis Syrett at Tylers Green. Recently he entered some of his paintings for the Amateur International Exhibition in Warwick Square, London. There were 2,000 entries for 400 places. Three of Mr. Riggs works were accepted - two Spanish Scenes and a Landscape of Pultenham Place Farm, Penn. Congratulations on this splendid and exciting success, Mr. Riggs.

.....

Chris - eldest son of Mr. & Mrs. Don Burge, Barbizon, Main Rd. a catering student at Slough College, has won a Gold Medal and the Peerless Challenge Trophy at Hotelyhpia in London. Against competition from many catering schools and colleges, Chris produced the best bread rolls and Danish pastries - a very mouth-watering achievement. Congratulations from the Gazette, Chris.

.....

Mr. & Mrs. Roy Harvey have taken a big, bold, adventurous step and sold up house and gone to live in New Zealand with their three young daughters. We wish them good fortune and happiness. Will the Gazette be reaching another far-flung shore ? It already goes to Australia, Canada, Jamaica, Rhodesia and not so far-flung Scotland.

-----  
NATURE INTEREST

THE SONG THRUSH & THE BLACKBIRD

Spring is the period of hope. The buds on the trees will soon be swelling in preparation for bursting into their bright yellow green leaves. Before this "Spring Glory" the thrush and blackbird will be preparing to find a mate. Both these birds have been busy on the lawn, this week, doing just that. The thrush struts around very sedately, while the blackbird rushes hither and thither, creating mock battle with all other male blackbirds, but making sure never to come into real combat.

Both birds, too, are now tuning up for their spring song. They prepare, in early February, for the premier position in the "Birds Dawn Chorus" at its best in March, April and May. The short bursts of broken song will improve as the weeks go by. The song of the thrush is a sweet, strong phrase, repeated from two to four times: listen to these repeated beautiful notes. You will hear them in really strong wild out-bursts from early February. The thrush also has quite exhibition powers of

contd..

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

mimicry of other song birds. These are usually followed by a throaty chuckle as if he is laughing at his own joke. Browning in his poem, "Home Thoughts from Abroad" noted this peculiarity -

"That's the wise thrush; he sings each  
  song twice over

Lest you should think he never could recapture  
The first fine careless rapture."

I give the song of the thrush first place.

While I am writing, quite a few days before February, both thrush and blackbird are foraging around for nesting material. At this time of the year they easily find their nesting sites. Neither will choose a site very high up from the ground; both will build their nests with similar material. They will twist thin twigs or strong grasses round the branches of the fork on the tree, or bush, where the nest is going to be built. This will form a sound foundation for the wall of the nest, which is made of grasses, twigs and as I have seen, paper and turf neatly built in for strength. Then both will line the nest with a type of cement made with mud, dung and saliva. The thrush shapes this mud cup to her comfort and lays her four blue-with-black-spots eggs. Not so the blackbird. After the mud the nest is lined with very soft hay, wool, hair, moss and feathers. Then four to five eggs, green-blue with greyish scrubblings are laid.

Both thrush and blackbird will have two or three broods. One special feature of the thrush, not recorded of the blackbird, is that the first born youngsters have often been seen and recorded feeding the young chicks of the following broods. Generally the thrush is known to be a very sociable creature. I have never seen or read of a thrush quarrelling, but I have had experience of an incident of the thrushes loyalty, bravery and devotion.

Between Troweridge and Lane End there was an acre or two of common land, covered mostly with trees and bushes, but a small area of which was taken over by travelling gipsies. One evening, by accident, a fire broke out and quickly spread through the growing bushes and trees. This well known spot had been a favourite nesting place for many birds and I had made many visits and knew of many nests. Hearing of the fire, I was soon up there to see the havoc caused to the poor birds. Many nests were completely destroyed. I then remembered a thrush's nest at the edge of the common, where a few days earlier I had watched the parents feeding their nestlings, so I made my way there. Dead, by suffocation, was the parent thrush on the nest of four chicks, all dead. That parent could have flown away to safety, but its devotion had kept it covering its chicks in a hope of saving them. Such is the sociability, bravery and devotion of the Song Thrush.



Dear Madam Editor,

As a father of two small children, who enjoy the playground amenities of the Crick probably more than most, I have sympathy with the anxieties expressed by Mrs. Hussey concerning the potential danger arising from cars being driven on the playing field.

As Chairman of the Tennis Club, however, I do take exception to the implication that our members are those solely responsible for the possible hazard under discussion. This, of course, is not the case. Yesterday, for example, the village hall car park appeared to be full and there were seventeen cars parked on the Crick, with their occupants enjoying the football match.

Most of our members are village family people, who fully appreciate the car problem - in fact the Tennis Club was responsible for erecting the caution signs at the playing field entrance near the Glebe.

Disappointed as we would be to lose quick access to the Courts, if a workable solution is proposed, it can be assured of Tennis Club support.

DENNIS COLE.

Longridge,  
The Glebe,  
Naphill.

21st January 1974

-----  
Mr. F. Cox and family of 8 Oakeshott Avenue, Naphill, would like to express their sincere thanks for the messages of sympathy and offers of help. Also the floral tributes sent from neighbours and friends during the recent sad loss of my dear wife, Connie. I would also like to thank everybody for their kind enquiries and help during the past two years of my wife's illness. It was most appreciated.

F.W. COX

-----  
THE FRASER - MORGAN BALLEt CLASSES

Royal Academy of Dancing Children's Ballet Examinations were held at the village hall in December. Congratulations to:-

- |                      |   |                           |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <u>PRIMARY GRADE</u> | Susan Saw (Commended)                                   | Vivienne Gray (Pass Plus) |
| (Pass Plus)          | Claire Hampton  | Claire Hussey (Pass)      |
| (Pass Plus)          | Susanne Boddy   | Susan Saysell (Pass)      |
| <u>GRADE ONE</u>     | Deborah Saw (Commended) Caroline Bagnall-Oakeley (Pass) |                           |
| <u>GRADE TWO</u>     | Claire Hayes (Pass Plus) Helen Bagnall-Oakeley (Pass)   |                           |
|                      | Suzanne Tucker (Pass Plus) Katherine Hussey (Pass)      |                           |

SYBIL FRASER

Congratulations to Instructress and instructed.

Ed.

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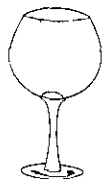
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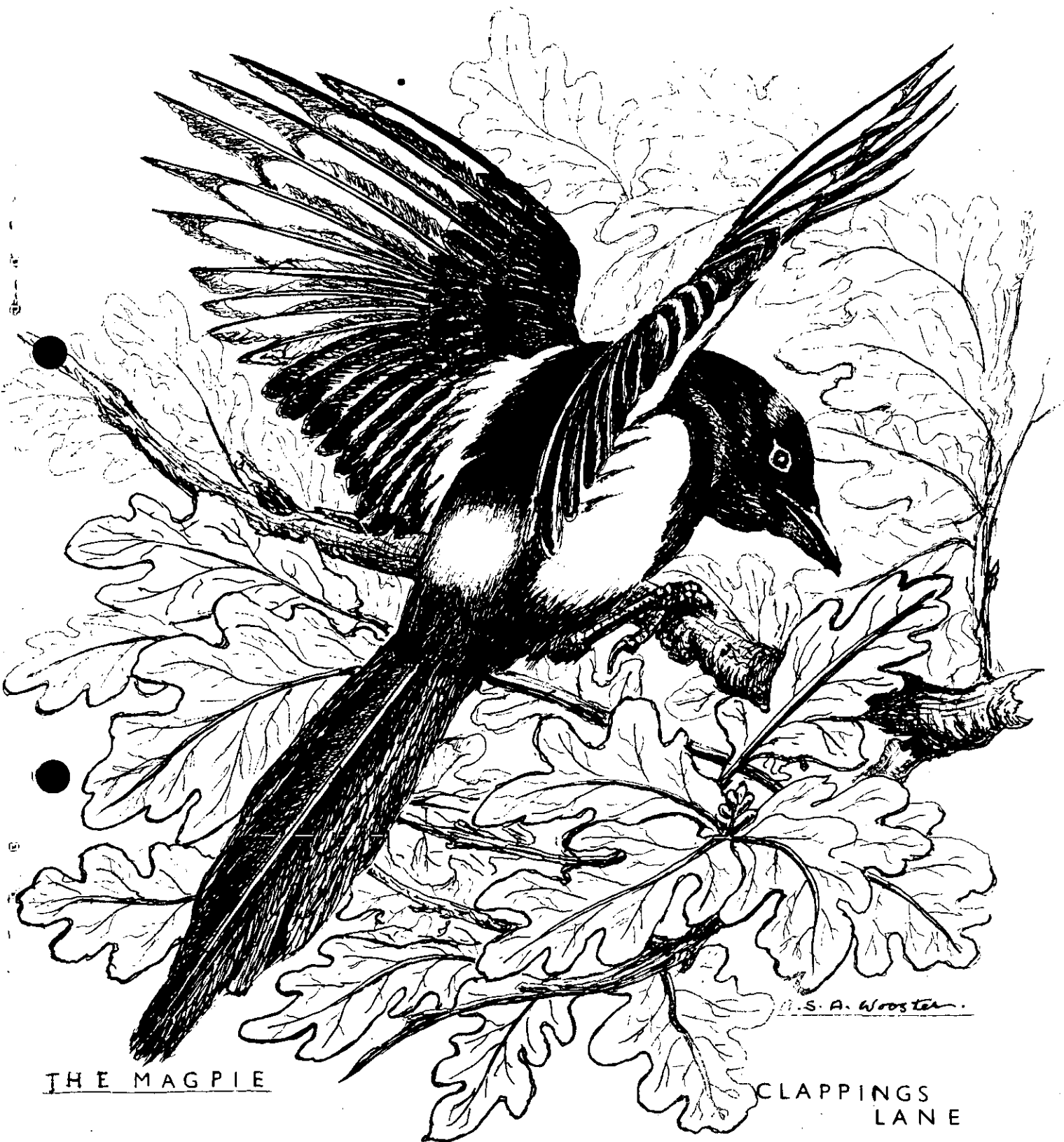
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# NAPHILL GAZETTE



THE MAGPIE

CLAPPINGS  
LANE

MARCH

1974

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - MARCH 1974

Play Group	Tues. Wed. Thur. Fri.	9.00-12 noon
Whist	1st 15th 29th	7.30 pm
Horticultural Rummage Sale	2nd	2.30 pm
Private Dance	2nd	8.30 pm
Tennis/Badminton A.G.M.	3rd	7.30 pm
V.H.C.	4th	8.00 pm
Men's Club	Tues. Fri. Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
Art	Every Thurs. (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wed. (B.R.)	9.30-11.30 am
Library	1st 15th 29th 6th 20th	2.15-3.00 pm 3.25-4.00 pm
Drama	Every Tues.	7.45 pm
Dancing	Every Tues.	3.00-7.45 pm
Welfare	6th 20th	2.00-4.00 pm
2nd Naphill Brownies Show	6th	7.00-8.30 pm
W.I.	7th	2.30 pm
Over 60's	8th 22nd	2.30 pm
V.H.C. Dance	9th	8.30 pm
Tennis Club Rummage	9th	2.30 pm
Naphill Neighbours	11th	7.45 pm
Naphill Neighbours Rummage Sale	16th	2.30 pm
Football Club Dance	16th	7.30 pm
Guides	20th	7.00-8.30 pm
Scouts & Guides Spring Rummage	23rd	2.30 pm
Private Party	23rd	6.00 pm
Fish Meeting	25th (B.R.)	8.00 pm
V.H.C. Annual G.M.	27th	8.00 pm
W.I. Committee	28th (C.R.)	2.30 pm
Wedding Reception	30th	All Day

COMMENTARY

Our problems, thank goodness, are not as great as the nation's, but little ones do exist.

The controversy over the common footpaths seems near to resolution and the question of traffic on the Playing Fields is under discussion.

A much more difficult problem - the fight to preserve Coombe Valley - is outlined by Mr. Hugh Bridgman. It is a challenge not to be ignored and one in which we should all participate.

It is an "appealing" Gazette this month - with requests for help, financial and other, from several quarters. It is perhaps difficult, in these days of inflation and high prices, to think of giving, but remember that "mony a mickle maks a muckle" which, translated, means pennies make shillings make pounds !

How many of you watched I.T.V.'s showing of The Merchant of Venice ? The part of Lorenzo was played, and very well played, by Malcolm Ried, son of Mr. & Mrs. Ried, Bagnets, Downley Rd. Also, many of the scenes were enacted at Dashwood House, West Wycombe. Our apologies that we did not advise you of this most worthwhile production in our last issue.

It is always gratifying to have a response to anything that appears in the Gazette. Mr. Wood has contributed a humorous anecdote, this month, and Mrs. White of "Mytilene" Main Rd. informs us that the Gazette also goes to S.Africa.

Editor

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for March</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
3rd	Miss Dore	Dr.Chris.Sworn
10th	Rev.P.Tucker (Family Service)	Mr.P. Green
17th	Mrs. Tennant	Mr.M. Brittin
24th	Mr.K. Peatey	Mr.D. Vinton
31st	Rev.H.Pettet	Rev.P.Tucker (Holy Communion)
.....	.....	.....

The monthly Fellowship Meeting will be held at Bryants Bottom Methodist Church on Thursday 7th March at 7.30 pm.

.....  
HOME MISSIONS We shared in a Fellowship Meeting with friends from the Bryants Bottom Methodist Church when Rev.Watts presided. A letter was read from our Secretary, Miss Shirley Smith, who had been unable to attend, in which she expressed thanks to collectors and donor with a little plea for a few more.

contd.....



HOME MISSIONS (contd)

Recordings were heard of interviews with different Christians, giving their testimony of what their faith had meant to them in extreme adversity. A short discussion followed. It made me wonder how many of us would be faithful Christians in the face of 'real persecution' !

.....

METHODIST DIARY Naphill Methodist Sunday School A.G.M. was held at the home of Miss Jean Lawrence on the 31st Jan. when sixteen stalwarts braved the weather !

Mr. Roger Berry was, unanimously, elected as our Superintendent for the ensuing year. Sad to say, two of our staff are leaving the village - Miss Jane Creswell, who has very ably tackled the task of Secretary and Mrs. Mary White. We expressed our thanks, wishing them well in their new environment, at the same time feeling a little sorry for our own loss of their good services. Mrs. Heather Wareham kindly stepped into the breach as our new Secretary. Our Treasurer, Mrs. Audrey Tucker, who always manages to keep us solvent, was promptly re-elected.

We are fortunate in having three young Trainees on the staff - Elaine Tucker, Jane Smith and Lynne Golds. However, with the pending move of Miss Jane Creswell and Mrs. Mary White, we are looking for replacements - male or female. If you are willing to help, in any way, however small, would you please get in touch with our Superintendent, Mr. R. Berry, or our Secretary, Mrs. H. Wareham - Tel. Naphill 2587.

Family Service - Sunday 7th March led by Rev. Tucker. This is now a regular feature of our worship and we invite you to join us (particularly as a family) in a special family service, held every second Sunday in each month.

The Cubs, with their Leader, Mrs. Beryl Saunders, attended this month and took an active part by demonstrating the bowline - the knot that never slips. The theme was mountaineering and brought to light our great need to 'pull together' in the greatest of all adventures - learning to live as Christians.

PLEASE NOTE House-to-house Annual Collection for NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME - first two weeks in April 1974. Please give generously !

LEPERS

It is easy as we read the Bible to feel self righteous about the way they treated lepers in those days. Anyone suffering from the disease was turned out of the village: they lived and died in little groups. They were forbidden to go near other people and had no hope of cure. It is easy to feel self righteous, but are we any better? We do not see lepers in this country, so we ignore the problem and assume that it is all under control.

contd.....

LEPERS (contd)

Exactly 100 years ago, a group of Christians at Monkstown near Dublin, pledged their support to a young schoolmaster in India, Wellesley Bailey, who was devoting his spare time to a group of leprosy sufferers at Ambala. The work grew, so that in twelve years he was giving his whole life to it. This was the beginning of the Leprosy Mission, an international, interchurch work that brings together into a fellowship of compassionate service men and women from many different walks of life.

Since those early days, medical science has made some miraculous strides forward. Hansen, the Norwegian doctor, discovered the germ which causes the disease. At first the treatment could do little more than relieve some of the suffering, but with the coming of the new sulphone drugs, a comparatively cheap and certain cure became available. No treatment can restore dead nerves, but it is now possible to straighten twisted limbs, restore hands to mobility and among the latest discoveries is a way to render the disease less infectious. The knowledge and skill is available to stamp out this disease, but of the twelve million people known to be suffering from it, at this time, only 250,000 are receiving treatment. In the countries where it is prevalent, there is still a tremendous weight of ignorance to be removed and prejudice to be broken down. More people are needed to overcome the disease, but they must be supported with our thoughts and prayers and our money.

Why should it be our efforts? Haven't we enough problems to cope with at home? I remarked at the beginning that it is easy to feel self-righteous about what the Jews did two thousand years ago. It is easy to feel self-righteous about what the developing countries are not doing now. It is much harder to do something about it ourselves.

In this parish we are giving our Lent Savings this year to the Leprosy Mission. If you would like to join us, please ask the vicar for a savings box, or shall we just leave the other 11,750,000 to fend for themselves, outcasts in pathetic groups?

P. Bullock-Flint

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HIGH WYCOMBE & DISTRICT CHRISTIAN AID COMMITTEE wish to announce it has been arranged that a Christian Aid Public Meeting will be held at the Wesleyan Methodist Church Hall, Priory Road, High Wycombe on Thursday, 4th April at 7.30 pm to be addressed by Mr. Alan Booth, the Director of Christian Aid. It is hoped that a large number will attend, as it can be stated from first hand knowledge that Mr. Booth is an excellent speaker. From his knowledge as Director at Headquarters and from his frequent visits abroad, where the work is being actually carried out in the field, he gives a gripping and intensely interesting address, which enormously encourages and enthuses his audience.

In view of the petrol shortage, we are taking steps to arrange, if possible, for buses to collect and return people attending

contd.....

HIGH WYCOMBE & DISTRICT CHRISTIAN AID COMMITTEE (contd)

the meeting, by making circular tours through areas in and around High Wycombe. If, therefore, in due course - the first 10 days March you could let us have an approximate estimate of the numbers likely to attend, it would be of very great assistance to us in our organisation of this important event and we would be extremely grateful.

Would anyone interested please ring Naphill 3486 or Naphill 3163 or contact Mrs. E. Wood or Mrs. C.B. White.

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DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

Economy was the theme of the last District Council Meeting: no Councillors or officials to be sent to Conferences during the coming year (except for two already arranged): no improvement work for the Council Chamber and no expenditure on name plates for members and officials (the stencilled cardboard ones are quite legible, anyway).

There was a lively discussion on whether Council tenants, in the new District, should pay their rents weekly, as in the Borough, or fortnightly, as in the Rural District. Eventually compromise was reached and the present systems will continue for the time being. Meanwhile, I should be interested to hear the views of Council tenants as to which method of payment they prefer.

In an effort to help alleviate the housing shortage, the Council are buying three privately built 4-bedroomed houses at Hazelmere which were offered to them at an attractive price.

AUDREY MOORE

-----

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Assurances have been given, by the Shana Riding School, that their horses will not use the footpaths on Naphill Common for the next two months. By this time, the Council, West Wycombe Estate and the Riding School hope to have agreed a route, mutually acceptable to both pedestrian and horse rider.

The Council agreed a grant of £250. to the provision of playground equipment and the necessary repairs to the existing slide and swings.

It was also agreed that we should accept 'bye-laws' in respect of public open spaces and a meeting has been held with representatives of the Village Hall & Playing Fields Council, to see if the same rules can be adopted in respect of our playing fields.

RICHARD PUSHMAN

-----

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION It is now fact that Bovis Ltd., have appealed against the planning refusal for their Coombe Valley Project. This means, eventually, a Public Inquiry into the matter, at which we shall need to be legally represented.

contd....

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (contd)

This will cost a great deal of money and to spread the financial load we have formed a small committee, in combination with Hughenden Residents' Association, to fight the Coombe Valley Preservation Campaign. This will shortly become active in fund raising, publicity, canvassing support from other interested bodies and gathering together the evidence needed to brief counsel.

The date of the Inquiry is, of course, not yet fixed, but it could be anything from six months to 18 months from now. In that time we in Naphill must raise £1,000 and Hughenden must raise a similar sum. Please support all the fund-raising activities you can to help us achieve our target.

We will keep everyone informed, through the Gazette and with posters, of what events are being organised and how the fund is progressing. Any voluntary donations will be most welcome, however small and should be given to the Hon.Treas. Mr. W.Wood, Hale End, Christopher Close.

Some members are not clear what the Coombe Valley Project means. The accompanying map is included to show just how enormous the development would be - the effect on both Naphill and Hughenden would be disastrous and we must do everything possible to prevent it happening.

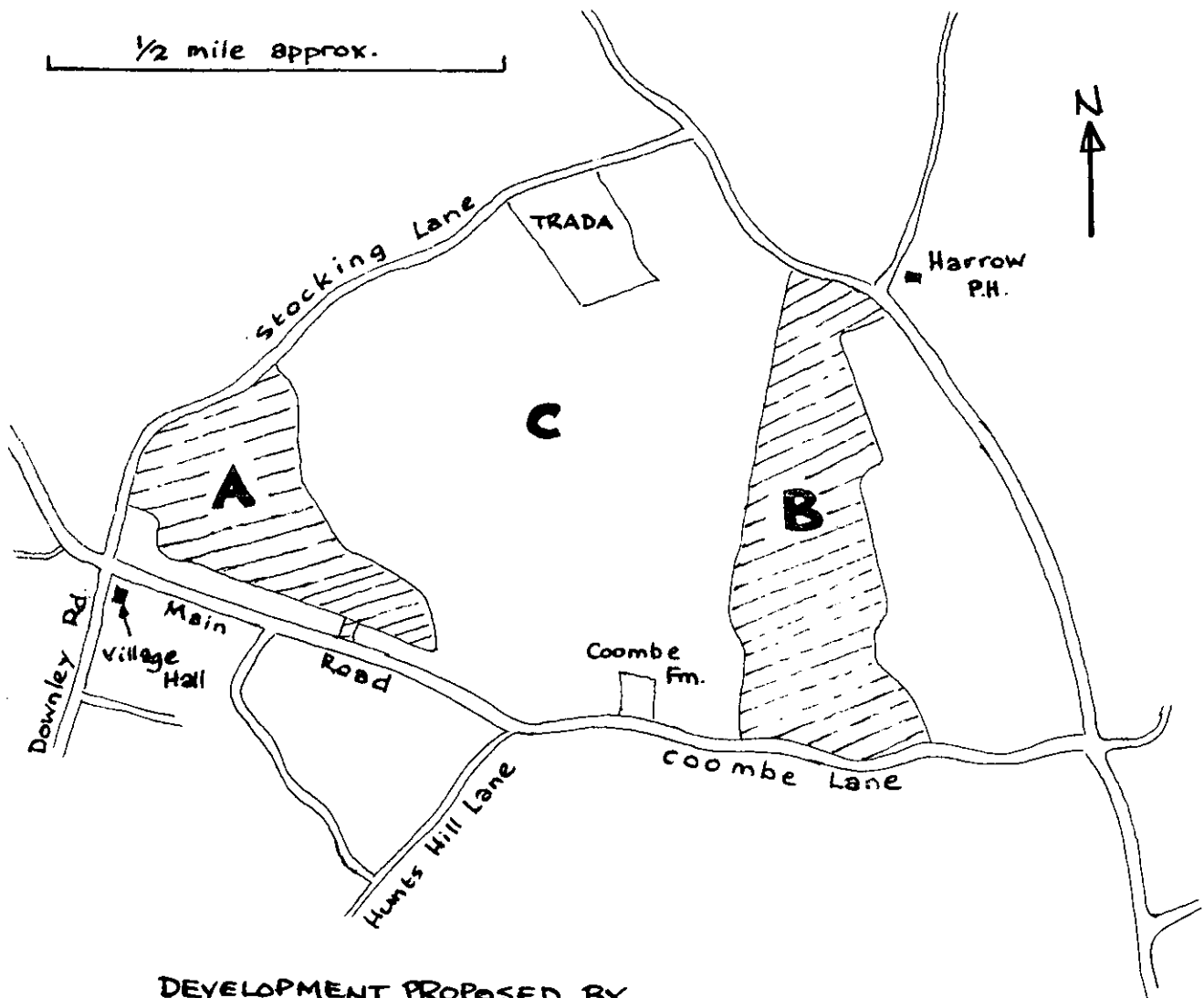
HUGH BRIDGMAN

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# THE COOMBE VALLEY PROJECT



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- A = 240 HOUSES
- B = 470 HOUSES
- C = GOLF COURSE

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The A.G.M. was well attended on 30th January. The Society had a good year of activity and ended up with an increased bank balance. A list of officers and Committee Members, for 1974 is as follows:-

PRESIDENT: Mr.H.C. Hussey "Windrush" Stocking Lane  
GENERAL SECRETARY: Mr. P.J. Hyre "Oatley" Main Road  
SHOW SECRETARY: W/C. J.P. Bullock "Travellers Joy" Main Road  
TREASURER: Mr. G.T. Smith "Walden" Main Road  
ASST. TREASURER: Mr.K.J. Lunnon 11, Friars Gdns. Hughenden

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman: Mr. C.J. Watkins  
 Vice Chairman: Mr. H.A.G. Wiseman

Mr. Boothroyd	Mr. G. Froude
Mrs. J. Holland	Mr. A.H. Kettell
Mrs. B. Tole	Mr. W. Parslow
Mrs. F. Lloyd	Mr. N. Rolfe
Mrs. P. Bowen	Mr. A.H. Wait
Mr. G. Bradshaw	Mr. M.I. Longford

.....

The lecture by Mr. Potter of Sutton's Seeds, on "In the Vegetable Garden" held on 18th Feb. proved to be a very interesting evening. Mr. Potter is a master on the subject and gave his audience of over a hundred people many useful ideas on how to grow, what to grow and when to grow things in the kitchen garden. His talk was illustrated by a number of colour slides and a lot of questions were asked and answered. Our thanks and congratulations must go to Patricia Bowen for organising such a wonderful evening.

P.J.H.

-----  
GARDEN NOTES - MARCH

Dry conditions in this month are generally helpful to the gardener. The old saying goes, "a pick of dust in this month is worth a 'King's Ransom' ". This is the month of Spring, when plants respond to the increasing warmth of the sun, air and soil.

March is the busiest month of all the year in the flower garden. Seeds are ready for sowing under glass and in the open; hardy annuals can be sown. These are a few hardy annuals - candytuft, clarkia, cornflower, godetia, lavatera, linum, nigella, poppy, phacelia and scabious. These can be broadcast or sown in small patches. When large enough to handle, thin out a few at a time to over 9 inches. All herbaceous planting should be completed before the end of the month.

Owing to the mild winter, it looks as if we shall be starting to mow the lawn earlier than usual. Pick a nice dry day and give the lawn a good brush or rake first. Keep the knives well up. Resolve not to shave the grass down to the bone this year.

contd...

GARDEN NOTES - MARCH (contd)

Lawns can be ruined by too close mowing. Start feeding at the end of the month. Early April or end of March is a good time to sow.

The end of the month is also the best time to prune the standard and bush H.T. roses. The steps in pruning are these: first cut out all dead, broken or diseased wood. Use very sharp secateurs or pruning knife. Then cut out thin weak growths that cross each other or crowd the centre. Retain only a number of strong stems from the centre, and always cut to just above an outside bud.

On the veg. plot, digging should be finished. Seeds of carrot, leeks, lettuce, onion, parsnip, peas, potato, radish, shallot, spinach and turnip can be sown. The depth of sowing is about 2½ times in thickness.

C.P.

---

APPLES FOR NAPPLE

I do not claim to be an expert on apples, but give here the results of much experience.

The first name the amateur thinks of is Coxes and the first word in my mind is "don't". I have seen too many unhappy Cox trees in Naphill producing wizened apples; leave it to the commercial grower. Another commercial apple is the Worcester, which may do well here, but to my mind its a very poor apple indeed. James Grieve is a much better apple, but I have tried them three times, in different spots, and they canker all to hell. A great pity, as its one of the best pollinators. The one to plant in place of these is Laxtons Fortune. Try Ellisons Orange, Laxton Superb, any of the Russetts, or Lord Lambourn. I have recently planted a Sunset; developed from Cox and said to succeed where Cox fails. Unless you are young and have plenty of room, don't bother with the good old Blenheim. Its slow to grow, slow to bear and needs 2 pollinators. The Bramley has made all other cooking apples redundant. With no attention it fruits every year and can be cooked from October to April. The only exception is the Codlin or similar type, which only keep a week or two, but put one of these on the hob, by the fire, until the flesh comes frothing through the skin, turn it round for a moment and then eat it with a spoon and you have a gastronomic experience.

When my father came here, nearly sixty years ago, he found, in the garden, a tree named American Mother, with a unique scented flavour. Such a delicious apple, that I had lost no time in planting a few wild crabs and then grafting them with it. They are now very tall trees and still growing, which is why the commercial grower does not use crab stock.

At a recent R.H.S. show in London, I saw a grower with 50 different apples on his stand. I pointed to American Mother and said, "That's my favourite". He smiled and said, "Yes sir,

contd.....

APPLES FOR NAPPLE (contd)

that's the one my family goes for". Its only at its best during November, so its not really commercial.

50 years ago, Miss Edith Kennedy who lived at "Umtata" on the Common, had a large tree of Gravenstein, another apple with a beautiful tangy flavour and one of my earliest memories is taking across a basket of American Mother's and bringing it back full of Gravensteins and my mouth waters at the memory.

Richard Pushman has now cut down the old tree and after much searching I have found a nursery to supply me with 2 bush Gravensteins, which should fruit in a couple of years. In fact you can get almost any variety of apple from either Allgroves Nursery, Middle Green, Langley, Slough - or - John Scotts Royal Nurseries, Merriott, Somerset.

In 1948 our Gardening Correspondent planted an orchard up at the Officers' Mess. Next autumn I will try and get him to report on how the various apples have performed.

OUR AGRICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

---

NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

One could have heard a pin drop on 8th Feb. when members listened so intently to Mrs. Pettet, a very fluent speaker, relating her experiences while living in India.

Visits have been made to members who are still on the sick list and we hope to see them back amongst their friends very soon.

8th March we are to be entertained by the 2nd Naphill Brownie Pack.

Mr. Stevens will be presenting us with some more films, which should be on South Africa etc., on 22nd March.

A.G.

---

NAPHILL W.I.

The February meeting was well attended. A talk on the "Cheaper Cuts of Meats" was given by Martin, the local butcher. Charts showing the various cuts of beef, pork and lamb were shown. Members were told that pork is a good buy at the moment. Questions were put to Martin at the close of his talk. Thanks were expressed by Mrs. Bullock.

Mrs. Bowler and Mrs. Sawney have accepted an invitation from Lacey Green W.I. to attend their Golden Jubilee lunch.

Mrs. Brill reported on the Village Hall Council Meeting.

Mrs. McCue, President, attended a Course at Denman College in January. She recalled some of her experiences.

The exhibition "Relics of World War II" proved very interesting. The tea party held at the home of Mrs. Bullock-Flint raised £8.16.

contd.....



NAPHILL W.I. (contd)

A talk, with slides, will be given by Mrs. M. Grapnell on 'Famous Inns of London' at the March meeting.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Tooby Mrs. Gillies Mrs. Blackwell  
Mrs. Reed

A reminder to members that a tea party will be held on 13th March, 2.30 pm at Mrs. McCue's residence, Seven Winds, Downley Road. There will be a 'white elephant' sale, and it will be appreciated if members would please bring their contributions for the sale to the March meeting.

Another date to mark in your diary - The Drama Group will be presenting their latest production, "RELATIVELY SPEAKING" on Friday and Saturday, 5th and 6th April. Tickets may be obtained from Mrs. McCue, Seven Winds, Downley Road.

M.R.

-----  
NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

At our February meeting, 'Denise' a representative of the Redken Co. gave us a talk and slide show on the more technical aspect of hair, it's construction and special care.

The competition, "The Best Home-made Valentine Card" was won by Mrs. Wareham, who made a most amusing and original card.

We are holding a Jumble Sale at the Village Hall on 16th March at 2.00 pm so we would be grateful for any jumble, either at the March meeting or it can be given to any committee member, alternatively the Village Hall will be open between 10.00 and 12 noon on the morning of the sale.

Next meeting - 11th March 7.45 pm Miss Evers will make a return visit: this time she will talk and show slides on birds.

Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Chamberlen Cook Hazlewood Smith

J.M.C.

-----  
MR. WOOD LENDS A HAND !..!

Some years ago, I stood, packed shoulder to shoulder with many other homegoing commuters, in an underground train going to Cockfosters. As the train rattled along through the tunnels, I was surprised to feel a small, soft, warm hand placed into mine and for the next part of the journey my hand was tenderly squeezed and fondled. Now, standing very close to me was a charming young lady, whom I did not even know, but undoubtedly it was the same young lady who was caressing my hand, although she was gazing with loving eyes at the face of the young man standing at my side.

Whether I responded to her warm touch, or remained unmoved, must be kept a secret, but although it was an interesting experience while it lasted, I must admit to being relieved when the young couple left the train, together. Even travelling in the 'rush hour' has its lighter moments.

W. WOOD

## SPORT

February was an indifferent month for Naphill Football Team. On the 2nd all they could manage was a draw, at home, to lowly placed Prestwood. An early goal from Naphill was soon pulled back by Prestwood and the score stayed that way for the rest of the game: but the following Saturday the team played a better game to achieve one of their best results of the season - a 3-1 away win over Broomwade.

Two local boys, Steven Burge and Mark Lawrence, played in the Oxon and Bucks Badminton Tournament at the Redefield Sports Centre on the 16th. Both boys did very well in the singles: Steven reached the 4th round in the under 18 section, while Mark was runner-up in the under 15 section, losing 15-11, 15-10 in the final.

The ladies Darts Team from "The Wheel" culminated a successful season by winning the Cup in the Courage "B" League. Gazette congratulations to all concerned and good luck for next season, which begins in September.

M.L.

---

### NAPHILL TENNIS AND BADMINTON CLUB

An invitation is extended to players of all standards to join the tennis section of Naphill Tennis & Badminton Club.

During the 1974 season, two teams will be entered in the County Shield Competition and one in the High Wycombe & District evening "mixed" league. We shall also be arranging many friendly matches with neighbouring teams. There will also be the Club Championships.

For members not interested in competitive play, there will be Club evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting as soon as weather and daylight permits and a ladies morning on Tuesdays. We also run a full social calendar.

The subscription for juniors includes professional coaching, which will also be available for seniors at a small charge per session, should there be sufficient support.

Application for membership should be made via:

Mrs. Ann Evans	10 Friars Gardens, Hughenden....	(3298)
Mr. John Kelcey	9 Allen Drive. Naphill.....	(3404)
Mr. Dennis Cole	2 The Glebe Naphill.....	(3366)

or any Committee member.

Subscriptions for the full year, which includes the supply of balls is shown below. We would point out the more favourable rates for members joining or re-joining before 1st April.

	<u>Before 1st April</u>	<u>Normal Rate</u>
Senior	£4.00	£5.00
Husband & wife	£6.00	£8.00
Lady's mid-week day	£2.50	£3.00
Student	£2.00	£2.50
Semi-Senior (over 16 & under 18)	£2.00	£2.50
at 1st Apr. '74 )		

NAPHILL TENNIS & BADMINTON CLUB (contd)

<u>Subs.</u>	<u>Before 1st April</u>	<u>Normal Rate</u>
Junior	£1.00	£1.00
.....	.....	.....

RUMMAGE SALE The Tennis Club will be holding a rummage sale in the Village Hall on Sat. 9th March starting at 2.30 pm. Entrance 3p. Refreshments will be available. Anyone with items to be collected, please contact Mrs.J.Murray - Nap.3437.

NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY - 27TH MARCH

in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm.

This is a public meeting and your attendance and participation would be very welcome. The business of the meeting includes the election of 6 independant village representatives (nominations to be taken at the meeting) the previous Chairman's Report and an opportunity for those present to raise points of interest and concern.

.....

VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL - SUPPER DANCE

In the Village Hall on 9th MARCH at 8.00 pm.

Dancing to ALAN LEWIS TRIO.

Tickets at £1.00 available from Mrs. M. Fendom  
23 Allen Drive Naphill.  
Naphill 3456.

NATURE INTEREST

THE MAGPIE

The Magpie belongs to the Crow family, but of all the crow family the magpie is the most cunning, the most inquisitive. He is extremely light-fingered, will steal anything that is bright, from trinkets to teaspoons and has a fondness for hiding and hoarding.

There is some confusion as to how the magpie got its name. A funny story comes from the country folk of days gone by. The meadows were usually full of cows and this meant many dired cow pats. Most of these "pats" covered the maggots of the dung-beetle. (This calls to mind Macbeth's reference to maggot pies). The maggot pies were a great attraction to the beautiful long-tailed, black and white birds. They would ravenously turn over the dry pats and devour the maggots. This they still do. So, the country folk called this beautiful bird the Magpie - a combination of maggot and pie. I would rather believe that the name came from the colour of the bird - black and white "pied" and their harsh chattering cries of alarm which is a continuous "Ma-ka, Ma-ka" loud and long. This could have given their call Mag and their colour pied, Magpie. Many birds are named from their call and colour, e.g. Cuckoo and pied wagtail and many others.

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST - MAGPIE (contd)

I once had a tame magpie. It was brought to me by a friend. It was a youngster, probably fallen out of a nearby nest. My wife and I brought it up, feeding it on raw meat, raw eggs, mice meal worms and maggots. To this youngster we were its parents. He became extremely tame. Within a week he was trying to pick up some of his food. Drinking he found much more difficult. For his bath I used my bird spray. Soon, however, he was doing well and feeding himself. He just loved to show off, splashing about in his baking tin bath.

We decided to make him a cosy sleeping box, turned up on its side with a good strong perch across. Then we put him in our outside aviary. He was very shy at first, but soon settled down. Each day we would say, "Good morning Maggie" and I would give him the "woof whistle". In quite a short time, when we were out of his sight, he repeated all this and in addition would bark like the dog. He was now very tame, but still very shy. I often left open the door of the aviary, when giving him a clean-up, but he did not attempt to escape. Then one morning while we were sitting out in the garden, we saw him coming towards us. I may have forgotten to close the door, or he himself had cunningly watched the fasteners. From then on the door was never closed. We would take out to our picnic table pieces of cheese for him, which had to be put on the ground before he would pick them up. He would then take them and hide them in a hole between the stones in the rockery. He was now free to fly into the trees around the house, but always at dusk he would return to the sleeping box in the aviary. He would go from the aviary to the trees, during the day, but return to his feeding box during the day. We often would hear him calling the dog and repeating many of the little things we had taught him to say. He would come down from the trees at the call of "Maggie".

All was well until Spring of the third year, when he did not always return at night time. He stayed away for a few days on one occasion, but returned to the trees in front of the house. He would talk quite a lot, while we were not visible and occasionally would visit his baking tin bath. Then his absent-eeism became more frequent and often we had completely given him up, thinking, "Well, its Spring, he may have found himself a mate". Finally the time came when, though his food box was still full and his bath water was clean and clear, they were not touched. He had left us for good. We never saw him again.

We have been interested in the pair, often seen in Clappins Lane and who knows - they may be related to ours - but I doubt it.

I have refrained from mentioning the bad habits of the Magpie. I know there are many, but..... The gamekeeper will always tell you what he thinks xx? x? ! etc. of the Magpie.

Gazette congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Ron Morgan, on the safe arrival of Oliver, who was born on 9th February and who weighed 9-lbs. Mr. & Mrs. Morgan would like to thank all friends for help given and good wishes sent.

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We report, with regret, the death of Miss Jessie Patrick of "Red Roof" Main Road, at the age of 90 years. Although Miss Patrick was not known to many people in the village, apart from her neighbours, she had lived in the village many years. She was greatly respected and loved by the members of Naphill Anglican Church, which she regularly attended.

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Auchinyell, Downley Road.

Announcements: Births, Marriages, Deaths are published free of charge, if duly notified to the Editor.

Contributions: To: Mrs. A. Lawrence, Auchinyell, Downley Road, by the 21st OF THE MONTH.

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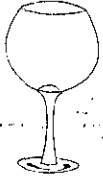
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# NAPHILL GAZETTE



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AT THE VILLAGE HALL - APRIL 1974

V.H.C.	1st	(B.R.)	8.00 pm
Parish Council	1st		7.30 pm
Drama	Every Tues.		7.45 pm
Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.		9.00-12 noon
Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat.	(B.R.)	7.30 pm
Welfare	3rd		2.00 pm
Guides	3rd 17th		7.00-8.30 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wed.	(B.R.)	9.30-11.30 am
Art	Every Thurs.	(B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.		8.00 pm
Dancing	2nd		3.00-7.45 pm
W.I.	4th		2.30 pm
Over 60's	5th 19th		2.30 pm
Drama Production	5th 6th		7.30 pm
Naphill Neighbours	8th		7.45 pm
Cubs	10th		7.00-8.30 pm
Whist	12th 26th		7.30 pm
Private Party	14th		6.00-11.00 pm
Conservative Mucisal Evening	19th		7.30 pm
Wedding Reception	20th		All day
Horticultural Society	24th	(C.R.)	8.00 pm
W.I. Committee	25th	(C.R.)	2.30 pm
Conservative Rummage	27th		2.30 pm
Private Party	27th		6.00 pm
Library	26th		3.25-4.00 pm
	3rd 17th		2.15-3.00 pm

It is, with regret, that we record the death of Mrs. Lillian Halsey, who has been resident in Naphill for a great many years. She was very well known by the older residents and will be remembered particularly for her interest in Naphill Church, which she attended regularly for many years, until her health declined.

W. Wood

COMMENTARY

Gazette contributions were due in on the first day of Spring and it was a particular pleasure to have Mrs. Bevan's letter - may the labours of Winter bring reward in the Spring and Summer. By a happy coincidence Mrs. Bevan's letter comes in the same issue as Mrs. McCue's and Mrs. Smith's appreciative comments on Mr. Cyril Littlewood's evening of films, the theme of which was, The Conservation of Wildlife. Mrs. Bevan and her family have shown how we can all help in this aim.

Mr. Hugh Bridgman gives notice of the first event in the Residents' Association's fund-raising campaign. It is important that these events should be well patronised and plenty of notice is hereby given.

Because of the restrictions imposed during the recent fuel crisis, the Brownies were unable to have meetings in the Scout Hut. Mrs. Clark overcame the problem by holding the meetings in her own home and many mothers would like to thank her. Does one thank Mr. Clark, too? Did he come home to a house bustling with Brownie activities? Did he have to wait for his evening meal? It's all over now, but one hopes he can still "thank heaven for little girls."

The Village Hall Council did it again and supplied the ingredients for a very happy evening on 9th March.

Our covers are always attractive, but this month's deserves special praise.

Malcolm Ried, our local actor, who was mentioned in last month's issue, embarks on Good Friday on a tour of Australia. He will visit Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne with the play "Front Page" in which he takes the part of a journalist. Malcolm will be away for 12 weeks. The Gazette wishes him a happy and successful tour.

Editor

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NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for April</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
7th	Mr. Colin Campbell	Mr. Ivor Mounteney MA
14th	<u>Family Service</u> Mr. Keith Lewis	Mr. D. Church BA
21st	Mrs. Tyler	Mr. E. Andrews
28th	Mr. H. Falconer	Mr. A.W. Cook

The service on Good Friday, 12th April, will be at Bryants Bottom Methodist Church at 11.00 am. This will be a United Service, conducted by Rev. P. Tucker.

.....

The monthly Fellowship Meeting will be at Naphill on Wednesday, 3rd April at 7.30 pm

M.G.B.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH - R.A.F. High Wycombe.

5.30 pm Evensong every Sunday. People from the village welcome.

Rev. Niall Griffin

-----  
CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - 12th - 18th MAY

Soon after the next issue of the Gazette, the Christian Aid collectors will be calling on you in the course of the Annual Collection throughout the village. More helpers are needed to replace those who have moved away and the distribution and collection of envelopes need not involve much time if we have adequate help.

If you are willing to help, please get in touch with Mrs. C. White, Methodist Church representative, "Mytilene", 121 Main Road, Naphill 3486, or Mrs. E. Wood, for the Anglican Church, "Hale End" Christopher Close, Naphill 3163.

Reminder - please hand your envelopes only to those wearing official Christian Aid badge.

E.W. C.W.

-----  
VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS NOTES

A firm decision has been taken to place short wooden posts around the Hall car park and to close the entrance to the field at the playground end, to keep cars off the grass. Access for pedestrians and prams and pushchairs will, of course, remain and the barrier will be removable to allow for Fete days and other special occasions. The posts are on order and I hope to have them in position by the end of April.

We have also placed an order for an "Igloo" for the playground, to replace the vandalised roundabout. My Vice-Chairman, Richard Pushman, has persuaded the Parish Council to make us a grant of £250. towards the cost of this piece of equipment and the cost of general repairs to the existing swings and slide. Bucks Playing Fields Association is also making a contribution and I hope that the necessary work can be completed without too much burden on our funds.

I am still enough of an optimist to hope that a working party of parents can be assembled, on Sunday in April, to tackle the task of re-painting the children's playground equipment. No date has been fixed and no special skill required. If your children use, have used or may one day use the playground, would you, please, 'phone me on Naphill 3456 or send me a note to say when you could give a few hours help with a paint brush.

In and around the Hall, we have set out to re-seat the remaining chairs that are in need of attention, with the Scouts doing the work. At the time of writing, the safety lock to the kitchen door (also vandalised) has not yet been repaired, but a replacement cylinder is being dispatched by the manufacturers. I have been able, at last, to obtain some additional keys for the

contd.....

VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL NOTES (contd)

temporary padlock and I hope that the inconvenience and annoyance to the regular users of the Hall, will soon be over.

I understand that the embryo Youth Club is coming to the end of its gestation period and the main outstanding problem is to find someone to house it after birth. The Hall Council have offered 3 Monday evenings a month and further developments are awaited. In the meantime, those people who question its legitimacy are premature.

The Supper Dance at the beginning of March raised over £40. for the Hall funds. I would like to thank the ladies who assisted with the catering and ticket selling and Alan Lewis who led the music to everyones enjoyment.

The Naphill Church Committee have kindly donated the sum of £50. to the Village Hall funds, upon the closing of the Naphill Church.

At the last meeting, the Hall Council decided to ask the Hughenden Parish Council to apply its new Byelaws to the Naphill Village Hall & Playing Fields. I will outline the provisions of the Byelaws in my notes next month.

T.A. Fendom

-----  
NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS COUNCIL ANNUAL FETE

This year, the Fete will be held on Saturday, 15TH JUNE: the Official Opening will be at 2.00 pm.

As you all know, everything is now more expensive - heating oil, electricity, cleaning materials, labour and repairs, as well as insurance: your Council, therefore, needs even more money to keep the Hall and Fields in good order.

This Fete is the major fund-raising event of the year and to make it successful, everyone needs to be generous - not only with money and gifts, but with time, labour and ideas. We hope to run even more stalls this year and, although this is not certain at the time of going to press, we hope to engage a 'Joyriding' helicopter. If we can get it, a trip round the area will cost about £2.50. - so start putting most of your weekly pocket money away now ! To see Bucks from the air, at that time of year, is a sight not to be missed !!.

The Organising Committee for the Fete is:-

Co-ordinator - John Bullock	Naphill 3429
Field layout entertainment - Bill Latham	3265
Stalls and stall-holders - Richard Pushman	3122
Floats & Fancy Dress - Pam Smith	3364
The Draw - Betty Brill	3575
Teas - Grace Parker	3560
Car Park - Les Brill	3575
Treasurer - Phil Hyre	2437
Press & Publicity - Don Harrison	

contd.....

ANNUAL FETE (contd)

Again, it is our hope that all the Village Organizations will 'pitch in': there will be a prize for the best decorated stall. Help from many individuals is also essential, so if you'd like to give a helping hand - before, or on The Day, please contact one of the Committee. Stall-holders are the most urgent requirement, so please contact Mr. Richard Pushman with your offer. On Friday, 14th June, and on the morning of the 15th, there is a great deal of sheer hard work to be done in setting up the whole field, so men (in particular) let Mr. Bill Latham have your names. Thank you, all: as in previous years, the success of the Fete rests in your hands.

John Bulluck

-----  
DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

The Rate was the main subject for discussion at the last District Council meeting. By many economies it was possible to keep the rate down to 39.2p for Rural householders, plus the rate levied by the Parish Council.

The controversial topic of the evening was the question of selling Council houses to sitting tenants. The Housing Committee proposed this practice should stop, but many members felt, as I did, that Rural tenants should have the same chance of buying their houses as Borough tenants have had in the past. After an even vote - 27 for, 27 against, the Chairman cast his vote against selling any more Council houses.

Audrey Moore.

STOP PRESS ! Since writing the above, the Secretary of the Environment has announced reductions in the Rate Support Grant. As far as the Rural District is concerned, this will mean up to 7½p in the pound increase in the rates.

A.M.

-----  
PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

New Bye-laws for the protection of open spaces within the Parish were approved and adopted. These can relate not only to land owned by the Council, but also to recreation grounds which are in receipt of an annual grant.

From 1st April, the new District Council will submit detailed plans of all planning applications to Parish Councils, for comment. This is the first of a series of measures to give local people a say in their immediate environment.

The Hughenden Parish Council will hold its Annual Parish Meeting at Naphill Village Hall on Monday, 1st April at 7.30 pm. All residents on the Electoral Register are asked to attend and receive the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the past year. There will be the opportunity to raise any points of particular local interest.

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The fighting fund for the Coombe Valley Preservation Campaign has been given a good start by a generous donation of £5.00 from an anonymous member. Our programme of fund raising activities gets under way with a Wine & Cheese Social evening in the Village Hall on 3rd May, when we are also planning to show a short programme of local interest films. Keep the date free - tickets will be available shortly from committee members.

Our complaint to the Alder Valley Bus Company was met with the usual excuses about shortage of staff and shortage of buses. Not very helpful and no improvement in the service has been noticed.

We have taken up, with the police, the points raised by members concerning traffic and parking at certain junctions on the Main Road. Their comments are awaited, but we feel it is unlikely that any changes can be made. It is up to the good sense of residents to park well clear of road junctions, when shopping.

H.B.

-----  
FROM MRS. BEVAN, Westwood House, Walters Ash.

"We have recently tried to improve the pond next to our garden. It is the one alongside the Main Road and almost opposite "The Chiltern Hundred".

Over the winter months we have removed quantities of road lamps, buckets, old baths, bricks, pieces of wood and general rubbish. We have also cleared the margins and removed some of the dead reed-mace.

Our object is to prevent it becoming an eye-sore and to encourage the return of wild life to it. Last Spring, a pair of Mallards nested on it, but soon left because there was insufficient water and because they were disturbed too often. Now we have cleared the pond, we hope the Mallards will come back and stay longer.

We think that the pond is an asset to the village and we do not want to keep away the children, crowds of whom come to collect frog spawn. However, we would be grateful if parents could impress on their children that we are trying to make the pond nicer and that if they throw planks from the building site, or other odds and ends in, they will spoil it all again. We would also prefer the children to use the gate through our hedge rather than have them climbing over the wire fence. This is to stop them bending and breaking the fence, thus leaving gaps through which toddlers could crawl. May we also remind parents that little children are not safe near the pond. Three years ago there were two separate incidents when children nearly drowned.

We would be so grateful if the residents of Naphill and Walters Ash would help us in our efforts.

Diana Bevan.



WILDLIFE YOUTH SERVICE

The film evening on 25th February was very successful, with a lot of enthusiasm being shown in the conservation of wildlife by the children and adults. A cheque for £16.00 was forwarded to Cyril Littlewood for his funds.

In response to an overwhelming demand for a repeat performance, Cyril will be coming to the Village Hall again to show some more of his films, on Friday evening 18th October, so make a note of this date in your diary and we hope to have another successful evening.

Pam Smith and Kathleen McCue.

P.S. Two of the children (Margo Lawrence and James Sawyer) who saw Mr. Littlewood's films, found them very much of the "more please" variety. They gained Headmaster Mr. Bradley's permission to write to Mr. Littlewood and were very thrilled to have an immediate reply, promising to pay the school a visit in September.

Editor

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FOR YOUR PLEASURE

The Conservative Association has arranged a Musical Evening for Wednesday, 19th April, at the Village Hall. Mr. Ken Matthews will give a record recital of light music, including excerpts from some of the musicals of the past few decades. The recital will start at 8.00 pm and tickets, inclusive of light refreshments, cost 30p. Tickets may be had from Mrs. B. Holland, Cherry Tree Cottage, Main Road. Mrs. C. Holland, 4 Allen Drive, or any committee member.

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NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

March 8th proved to be a most enjoyable afternoon, when 24 Brownies, under the direction of Mrs. Audrey Hampton, gave the Club a variety of performances, poems, recorder and piano solos, dancing and a play well acted by all concerned. The costumes and work put into them were most original. Thank you, mothers, also for your efforts. The finale was very pretty with all the Brownies entering the hall to sing to us, each child holding a glowing candle. This was encored. Then the Club members had tea, with the Brownies doing their good turns by helping and then clearing away for us. Thank you, Brownies, one and all. Mrs. Munger, one of our oldest members, gave them a vote of thanks.

Please note our 17th Annual General Meeting and Birthday Party will start at 2.15 pm on Friday, 5th April. The Booker Darby & Joan Choir will entertain us.

19th April Mr. Stevens will come and show another film entitled "Housewives 169".

We have come to the end of another happy Club year, in which we  
contd.....

NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB (contd)

have been taken on flights of fancy, with films, live entertainments, pantomime from Hughenden. The Naphill Neighbours entertained us with their children and also the Brownies. We have had garden parties, and flower arranging. Not all the films were fancy, some quite serious with do's and don'ts for senior citizens. "Road Safety" - "Care of the Feet" etc. Each had its own special message put over to us all. We had two very enjoyable outings, one to Hampton Court and the other to visit a Pottery near Hindhead, Surrey. On both days the weather was fine and all enjoyed themselves. The Christmas Party was another happy occasion and we hope, as your Committee, we have done our best to serve you all with pleasure and happiness. To the Committee - thank you all for your loyalty and help.

To the new members who have joined us through the year - welcome. To any person who is 60 years and over and has not visited the Club, please come to any meeting. Dates are in the Naphill Gazette. You will be made very welcome, both by the Committee and members.

A.G.

-----  
NAPHILL W.I.

The March meeting began on a sad note. Members stood in silent tribute for one of its founder members, Mrs. Halsey. Mrs. Halsey had been a member of Naphill W.I. for over fifty years.

The speaker was Mrs. M. Crapnell, who spoke on "Famous Inns of London" illustrating her talk with coloured slides. The tour began at "The Hoop & Grapes" in Aldgate, this being the oldest inn in the city. The "George" came next, then "The Mayflower" where the Mayflower sailing ship was built on the quay at the back of the pub. "The Bull & Bush" and "Elephant & Castle" followed, to name but a few inns mentioned.

The competition - A poem about a Pub - was won by Mrs. M. Brown and Mrs. R. Blackwell. Thanks to Mrs. Crapnell were expressed by Mrs. Croxson and members are looking forward to a tour of the Famous Inns, next month.

The monthly coffee morning was given by Mrs. Kent, at the home of fellow member, Mrs. D. Smith and raised £7.15.

A request for pot plants and cuttings was made by Mrs. Piercy to brighten the surroundings for handicapped children at Cressex.

The next meeting will be 4th April, when it will be Members Meeting. Six members are arranging the programme.

.....  
THE DRAMA GROUP will present on FRIDAY 5TH APRIL & SAT. 6TH APRIL

in the Village Hall - their latest production - "RELATIVELY SPEAKING". Tickets 40p. from Mrs. McCue. Light refreshments will be available.

A poem about a Pub(s) by Mrs. Naud Brown.

Old farmer Ben's fields were close to THE PLOUGH  
He said, "I must HARROW and plough them now,  
But my WHITEHORSE is lame, so I'll go to Bill Dean  
And borrow his BLACK HORSE from up Lacey Green.  
But when he returned, more trouble now,  
For THE BULL got right in, broke THE WHEEL of his plough  
And so scared THE SWAN that he flew to the farm  
Right into Ben's little son LAMBERT'S ARMS.  
And THE FALCON got caught in the bars of THE GATE  
THE SUN it was sinking, he thought it was late  
So with BIRD IN THE HAND he went off to find John  
At THE BLACKSMITHS ARMS to put THE WHEEL on.  
But Hark ! there are horses descending the hill  
I'll get a lift and be quicker still.  
A COACH AND HORSES came into view  
He jumped in the road and waved his arms too.  
With a crack of THE WHIP and "Get back you lout"  
The coachman pulled up with many a shout.  
"This is THE ROYAL coach and inside  
Sits KING GEORGE, the PRINCE OF WALES and his bride.  
They go to the Earl's BUCKINGHAM ARMS zoo  
To see RED LION, BLACK LION and WHITE LION too.  
"I'm finished", said Ben, "I'll go back to THE PLOUGH  
I've had quite enough work and worry for now."  
As he stepped up the road, THREE HORSESHOES there lay  
He said, "Well now that's lucky - it's made up for my day".

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NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

Miss Eyres was our guest speaker at the March meeting. She showed us some beautiful slides of birds, actually photographed in the hand, trapped for the purpose of ringing and recording their movements.

The competition of identifying pictures of wild birds was won by Mrs. Nancy Hussey.

The raffle was won by Mrs. Tole and Mrs. Hazlewood.

Next meeting - 8th April, 7.45 pm. when Dr. Bates will talk and answer questions on 'Child Care'.

Tea Hostesses: Mesdames Hussey, McAusland and Wells.

Many thanks to all who contributed to or helped with the Jumble Sale on 16th March. Approx. £40. was raised for Club funds.

J.M.C.

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NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Rummage Sale held on the 2nd March in aid of Society Funds, raised the sum of £74. The organisation and success of the day was due entirely to the hard work of Bill Wood. Our thanks and appreciation go to him for this magnificent boost to our funds.

contd.....

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (contd)

Peat supplies: We have recently received a new supply of peat and chasemor, which once again due to the kindness of Ron Piercy is housed in his barn, just inside the vehicle entrance to Little Mosely Lodge Farm. A call to Geoff, Smith or one of the committee members will enable members to obtain their Spring supply.

P.J.H.

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GARDEN NOTES - APRIL

It is quite noticeable, now, that the warmth of the sun is increasing. A few rainless days soon result in the drying out of the top few inches of soil and then we can sow most of the vegetable crops. All we need to grow plants well is soil, sunshine and water. The first two we get more or less, but there are times in Spring, Summer or Autumn when we do not have enough rain. So, if possible, we should never let plants go short of water. Any form of glass or plastic cover can reduce the risk of ground frosts, about this time, and gives extra warmth by day which will assist plants in their growth.

April is a good month to clip evergreen shrubs and trees. I notice several cases, in the locality, of the CUPRESSUS family getting out of hand. In a few cases they will be taking charge of the garden. Nearly all cupressus will grow over 50 ft. high and some 100 ft. C. Macrocarpa and C. Lawsoniana will stand clipping with shears, but I prefer secateurs. In large trees several feet can be cut out of the top. Around the sides up to 1 ft. can be cut. But never go back to the bare wood. With small trees, just take off the tips. Then you will have a tight, bushy tree. If you are nervous about this treatment, do one tree this year.

All the summer crops in the vegetable plot can be sown or planted before the end of this month. P'raps the tender subjects like runner and dwarf french beans can be left until early next month. Keep the hoe going to keep down weeds and open the soil to sunshine and showers. The ideal onion bed for sowing, or planting, is the plot deeply dug and well manured, dressed with lime and soot and allowed to settle. Rake it alternately until it is firm below and with a fine powdery surface 2 ins. deep.

C.P.

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SPORT

Since last month, the Football team has made only one appearance, a 1-0 home win over Wycombe United, who are placed ninth in the League. This victory takes Naphill to within striking distance of Flackwell Heath, the league leaders; Naphill having played 14 games, have collected 22 points and have just a slightly inferior goal average to Flackwell, who have played 15 with 24 points.

contd.....

SPORT (continued)

On the badminton front, the two local boys, Steven Burge and Mark Lawrence both did very well in the Hampshire Junior Invitation Tournament at Basingstoke. Steven, partnering Reggie Brough (N.Bucks) won the plate event in the doubles. They narrowly won the final 18/16, 13/15, 15/10. In the singles, Steven had a close match with eventual runner-up, Deacons (Essex) losing 14/18, 9/15. Mark reached the semi-finals in both singles and doubles and lost in both cases to Andy Goode (Herts).

In the sport of tennis, a local boy, Neil Syrett, played a major part in Beaconsfield's defeat of Berks. under 14's. The match result was 10-5. Neil won both his singles, 6-2, 6-2 and 6-1, 6-2 and just lost his doubles, 6-2, 2-6, 7-9.

On Easter Sunday, Naphill Tennis and Badminton Club are holding an American Tennis Tournament. Play commences at 2.30 pm at the local courts.

With the Cricket season starting next month, Naphill C.C. is looking for new players. Anyone in the village, or the RAF Camp who would like a game of cricket on a Saturday afternoon, please contact the Secretary, Geoff. Brown, Rosewood, Downley Road, or 'phone Naphill 2627.

M.L.

-----  
TENNIS CLUB - SAVE YOUR WASTE PAPER !!!

Please don't throw away your old newspapers, as the Tennis Club will be pleased to arrange collection of 14-lb. bales. For details please contact: Mrs. J. Price, Sandalwood, Stocking Lane. Tel. Naphill 3001.

-----  
"COPPERKINS" Mr. and Mrs. E.W. Mewett of "Copperkins" Main Road, Walters Ash, would like to convey their thanks to the anonymous good neighbour who, having found the house name plate, returned it to its normal place. Your kind deed is very much appreciated.

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NATURE INTEREST - THE HOOPOE

With its pink-brown breast and shoulders, its pink and black crest shaped like a Red Indian's head-dress, its white, black-barred wings and tail, the Hoopoe is one of our most exotic looking birds. It is a British bird, although now very rare. When it visits this country it is only to the southern counties. It is quoted in most of the British Bird Books.

I first saw the Hoopoe many years ago at the International Bird Show in London. It was shown under the A.O.C. "any other class". It seemed incredible that this beautiful bird should be shown in the British Bird class. It was quite tame and

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

while sitting on its perch it would continuously lift and lower its lovely crest. Each time it came to the front of its cage the crest would be brought forward, then closed up smoothly and quickly, each and every feather falling into place, like the leaves of a book. Then its head, with its slender long curved beak would be held high in the air and after a moments pause would be slowly lowered and brought forward, showing a look of extreme satisfaction, giving the impression of a smile on its face. The Hoopoe would then hop from perch to perch, repeating the performance.

In this International Show, I had shown some of my own birds. I had been successful with a Chaffinch, gaining a First and special award; and winning another award for a hybrid Brambling-Chaffinch, both of which I had bred in my own aviary - but - even so, seeing the Hoopoe for the first time ever, overshadowed my own successes. I came away from the show, determined to know more about this lovely British bird.

They arrive in this country April to early May, always in our southern counties and only in small numbers. Each year one or two nestings are reported, but not all are successful in hatching their young. The nesting site chosen is usually the hole in an old willow tree beside a running stream, or occasionally under the eaves of an old barn roof. Four to six eggs are laid and occasionally two broods. As soon as the young are ready they return to a warmer country for the winter.

So, now how did I revive my first introduction to the Hoopoe, the bird I have never forgotten. It was quite by accident. Two of my grandchildren were staying with us, for a week and I felt it would be interesting for them to see the water fowl at the Bird Conservation at the top of Cryers Hill. I put it to them and both agreed. I too was ready to enjoy a few hours in the sunshine in such grand ornithological company. Soon we were amongst a variety of water fowl, British and foreign, birds of prey, falcons, eagles, owls of several varieties and a very entertaining talking Jack-Daw.

Then we went into the humming birds department and there, amongst the hovering humming birds was a beautiful Hoopoe in the most appropriate surroundings. The children were delighted and so was I. It was the first Hoopoe I had seen since the International Show, many years ago.

Now please take another look at the cover page. Imagine the pink, the light-brown, the black and white. I'm sure you will share my excitement and enthusiasm. Even in the black and white sketch it is, I hope, very attractive; in reality it is superb.

You, too, can see this bird and many other beautiful attractions at the Bird Conservation at the top of Cryers Hill, on the left going to Prestwood, just beyond the "pub" at the top of the hill. It is free and I'm sure you will be made welcome and the children will love it.

URGENT

Naphill Primary School is without a Caretaker. Details of the post may be had from Miss Westbrook at the school. Naphill 2142.

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Strong lad eager to do lawnmowing, gardening or any odd jobs, to supplement pocket money. Details from the Editor.

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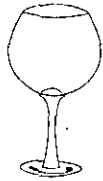
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# NAPHILL GAZETTE



THE JAY AND YOUNG

MAY 1974

Welfare	1st 15th	2.00 pm
Guides	1st 15th	7.00-8.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
Art	Every Thurs. (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
W.I.	2nd	2.30 pm
Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.	9.00-12 noon
Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Scouts & Guides	2nd (C.R.)	8.00-9.30 pm
Parents Meeting (Scouts & Guides)	2nd (C.R.)	8.00 pm
Over 60's	3rd 17th 31st	2.30 pm
Naphill Residents Social Evening	3rd	8.00 pm
Private Party	4th	3.00 pm
V.H.C.	6th	8.00 pm
Dancing	6th 13th	3.45-6.45 pm
Dancing	7th 14th 21st	3.00-7.45 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wed. (B.R.)	9.30-11.30 pm
Whist	10th 24th	7.30 pm
Private Party	11th	All day
Naphill Neighbours	13th	7.45 pm
Horticultural Society Bring & Buy	15th (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Dancing	16th	3.45-6.45 pm
Football Club Dinner/Dance	17th	5.00 pm onwards
Conservative Supper Party	18th	7.00 pm "
W.I. Fashion Show	20th	6.30 pm "
Dancing	20th	2.00-5.30 pm
Private Party	25th	7.00 pm
Private Party	26th	All day
Wedding Reception	27th	All day
W.I. Committee	30th (C.R.)	2.30 pm
Library	10th 24th	2.15-3.00 pm
	1st 15th 29th	3.25-4.15 pm

COMMENTARY

Commentary, this month, is but a P.S. to the following letter received by Mr. Wooster, who does our cover each month and contributes the nature article. Mr. Wooster has kindly let us print the letter.

Dear Mr. Wooster,

I have just been reading the article in the Mid-Week Free Press concerning your life and the various interests you are now enjoying. I am particularly interested in the mention of the Naphill Gazette and would like very much to have a copy, if one is available.

I was born at Walters Ash in May 1893. Started school when I was three, at Naphill School, in the days when Miss Todd was the Headmistress. It was a school of mixed classes; boys and girls together. I also attended Sunday School at the Mission Hall when Uncle Jim Brown was the Superintendent and Mr. Free was the Minister.

Uncle Jim was the owner of the brickyard and kiln at Walters Ash and there was a large family of my cousins. The boys, in particular, were quite prominent in local cricket circles.

I remember many other names of Naphill people of those days, such as the Hardings; Grunisdells, Mongers, Parslows and Shrimptons. Ted Shrimpton's father, Tom, was a blacksmith and worked with the Baldwins at the forge at the top of the common. We used to take our iron hoops to him to be mended and I used to love to see the sparks fly from the anvil.

As far as you and I are concerned, I feel very much that we met quite frequently in our youth. I knew several families of that name, i.e. the Boary Woosters of Bradenham Hill; Woosters, the furniture makers of Wycombe and the Woosters of West Wycombe. If you are of the latter family, you would be the friend of Bertie Rippington - a one-time workmate of mine at the South Bucks Standard, and, if I hazard a guess, you probably won a Berks & Bucks Minor Cup Medal way back in the early 1900's. The final being played at Maidenhead. \* At that time I was playing for Wycombe Spartans in the Maidenhead Boys League, but was over age for the Minor Cup.

I could go on for a long time recalling my youth, but time presses on. However, if you can send me a copy of the Gazette, I should be very grateful.

Yours very sincerely and wishing you continued good health.

(Sgd) A.J. Saunders (Jim)

\* I saw this game in company with my old time friend Ron Stanmers.

138 Amersham Way,  
Little Chalfont, Amersham, Bucks.

4th Apr 1974

Editor's P.S. This letter must stir nostalgic memories for many of the older residents of Naphill and Walters Ash and stimulate and encourage members of the Residents' Association who are striving to preserve the village from too many further changes. The landscape must, alas, have greatly changed since Mr. Saunder's boyhood days, but let us preserve what we can while we can.

It would be of great interest to newcomers and comparative newcomers (Editor included) to know more of the history of our village. Could our Darbys and Joans fill in this gap in our knowledge? A little anecdote each month would make a welcome and interesting series.

All copy by 21st please.

---

NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for May</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
5th	Sunday School Anniversary Mr. E. Jarvis	Mrs. Jarvis
12th	Mr. A.G. Newitt (Family Service)	Mr. E. Barnett
19th	Rev. P. Tucker (Holy Communion)	Mrs. Holt
26th	Naphill Preaching Group	Mr. S. Prudden

.....

We congratulate Miss Shirley Smith, a member of our choir, on her outstanding successes in the Aylesbury Musical Festival in March. Shirley, who is a contralto soloist, is a pupil of Mr. Harold Mead, L.R.A.M.

She gained the Gold Medal for Oratorio; the Silver Medal for Vocal Solo and the Bronze Medal in the Rose-bowl Class.

M.G.B.

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TWO KINDS OF WORK

During May the Church will be involved in two kinds of work to which it is specially pledged.

The first of these is collecting during Christian Aid Week (12th to 18th May). Christian Aid is the help given by Christians in this country to any who need it anywhere in the world. Part of the work of Christian Aid is to meet the needs of those stricken by natural disaster. Another part is the more long term task of helping people in the poorer countries to help themselves. Our project, this year, is a mixture of the two. Across most of Africa, just south of the Sahara, a long period of drought has wiped out whole bands of nomadic tribesmen and even those who have survived, so far, have little hope of surviving much longer unless the outside world can help now and assist in the development of this region, to prevent a

contd.....

TWO KINDS OF WORK (contd)

recurrence of the situation. Wycombe and District Christian Aid Committee have chosen this work for their special support this year. A house to house collection is being organised, bread and cheese lunches are being organised at the Town Hall, and there will also be a gift stall at these lunches. Please give generously to all these efforts. In this country it is impossible to imagine a shortage of water. In the Sahara it is not merely a shortage, it is a complete drought that has lasted for years !

Active involvement in relief work needs to be backed by prayer to be one hundred per cent effective. On Ascension Day, (Thursday 23rd May) we shall be keeping a continuous watch of prayer in Hughenden Church. The day will be divided into fifteen minute periods and there will be someone in church, praying, during each of these periods. If you can share in this work, whatever your denomination, please come and join us.

P. Bullock-Flint

-----  
CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 1974

DAILY: MONDAY 13TH MAY - FRIDAY 17TH MAY - BREAD & CHEESE LUNCHES AND A GIFT STALL - 12 noon - 2.00 pm - THE OAK ROOM HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN HALL.

Helpers and gifts very warmly appreciated. Please contact LUNCH ORGANIZER, Mrs. V.A. EVANS 102 Arnison Avenue, High Wycombe, (H.W. 31023) and/or GIFT STALL ORGANIZER, Mrs. A.H. EDWARDS 14 Shelley Road, High Wycombe (H.W. 32432).

The local collectors in Naphill and Walters Ash will shortly be leaving an envelope at your house and will call later for it during the week May 13th-18th. Will you please hand your envelopes only to our collectors wearing official Christian Aid Badge.

E.G.W. C.B.W.

-----  
BOOKS FOR FISH

No, we're not trying to teach tiddlers to read, but planning a Book Stall to be run by the "Fish" organisation at the Naphill Fete in June.

Now is Spring cleaning time, so here is a chance to throw out your unwanted books in our direction - or rather into the box which John Bullock is kindly placing outside his house, Travellers Joy on the Main Road.

Meanwhile "Fish" continues to grow and Wardens have been found for Vincents Way, Bayley Gardens and Wellhouse Way, making a much more thorough cover of the village.

Extra help, however, is always welcome and if you feel like volunteering, please contact Fred Hall at Westaway, Forge Road (Naphill 3523).

A.S.M.



## RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Fund raising is under way. By the time this is in print our first social event, the Wine & Cheese Evening, on 3rd May, will have come and gone and the Friends of Coombe Valley '200' Club will be launched. Members of the '200' Club have a chance of winning money prizes while making a useful contribution to the fighting fund. Details and application forms now available from Philip Rhodes, The Paddock, Main Road, tel: 2483.

Recent planning applications of interest include one for demolishing Rose Cottage, Louches Lane and putting up three detached houses on the site and one for erecting two chalet bungalows on the garden of Jonathan Cottage, Chapel Lane. Also the Church authorities have applied for outline permission to demolish the old school and schoolhouse and build six cottage-style houses in two terraces of three, one on Main Road and one on Louches Lane. If this goes ahead it would result in an attractive and sympathetic re-development of this prominent site.

Some members have expressed interest in preservation orders to protect certain trees in the village and we are looking into the question of procedure with a view to taking the necessary steps. We are also trying to discover why the Main Road at Walters Ash has sprouted a solitary, rather ugly, lamp standard. It is, no doubt, to do with the RAF Domestic Site and is another example of development by stealth which we suffer from, but it would be nice to know.

H.B.

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## DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

After all the months of preparation, Wycombe District Council finally came into its own on 1st April, when the Old Borough Council, Rural District Council and Marlow Council ceased to exist.

The first task was to hold an Annual General Meeting, at which Mr. John Hester was re-elected as Chairman. The rest of the meeting was devoted to bitter complaints about the further rate increases, due to the change in the Government's rate support grant. The Council is making representations to higher authorities, as it is felt that Buckinghamshire deserves greater consideration, having to bear the burden of the new city being built at Milton Keynes, while at the same time having lost the income from Slough, which is now part of Berkshire.

AUDREY MOORE

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## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

At the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Naphill Village Hall on 1st April, only one resident from Naphill and Walters Ash attended for the whole meeting, apart from the local councillors. Publicity for the meeting was given in the Bucks Free Press and on three local notice boards. One can only presume that all

contd.....

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES (contd)

are satisfied with the conduct of local affairs - but a word of caution, as from 1st April, Local or Parish Councils have no limit to the rate they can levy - the only sanction being through the ballot box at local elections, or by attending the Annual Parish Meeting and making one's views known.

For the first time in the past twelve years, we have a waiting list for allotments in Naphill and Walters Ash. In the Parish, as a whole, we are 30 short. The Council is trying to buy extra land for this purpose.

The pond at Walters Ash, referred to by Mrs. Bevan in the last Gazette, is to be leased by the Parish Council to Mr. and Mrs. Bevan and their permission will be required by any person who might require access to it.

R. PUSHMAN

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GARDEN NOTES - MAY

May is almost the busiest month of the year, especially after a late Spring, which it seems to be this year. There seems to be barely enough time to do all the gardening work. A good idea is to stroll round the garden and make up your mind which are the priority jobs.

Pay more attention to the lawn from now onwards. Nothing keeps a garden smarter than a clean tidy lawn. Mow lightly and regularly and in a different direction each time. Don't get into the habit of getting the mower out in the same place and starting off in the same direction. No lawn is like a billiard table, so keep your eye just in front of the machine and ease it into the shallow dips, or the slight humps. Water newly sown or newly laid lawns, well.

If the weather is dry, give the loganberries and blackcurrants a mulch of manure, or peat. Spread this over the surface of the ground after hoeing to destroy weeds.

The chief work in the flower garden this month is to remove the fading Spring flowers and to replace them with annuals or other bedding plants that will flower through the summer. Fork over the empty flower-beds, working in some well decayed manure, or some other substitute. Also use a fertiliser like National Growmore about 3 ozs. to the square yard.

In the veg. garden, a late sowing of broadbeans can be made. Quick maturing dwarf varieties of peas are recommended for sowing this month. At the end of the month sow seeds of marrows. Keep up the sowing of lettuce. It's a good idea to sow a pinch each month up to September, when the hardy sorts like Artic King are best to stand the winter.

C.P.

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A plant Bring and Buy evening will be held in the Billiard Room of the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Wednesday, 15th May. Last year's Bring & Buy evening produced many bargains, so why not come along and enjoy a social chat and at the same time pick up some good plant bargains. Any plants to be put in for sale should be delivered at 7.30 pm to the Billiard Room. Proceeds from the sale will go to the Horticultural Society Funds. Tea and biscuits will be available during the evening.

A coach trip to the gardens at Ascott, Bucks. will be arranged for a Sunday afternoon during June. Further details of prices and date will be given in the June Gazette.

Membership fees for the current year are due, as from the 1st January. To members who have not yet paid their fee for 1974, please do so as soon as possible, to any Committee Member.

P.J.H.

-----  
NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

At the 17th A.G.M. and Birthday Party held on 5th April, the committee elected for the ensuing year were:-

President: Mrs. M. Bayley  
Secretary: Mrs. A. Gilson

Chairman: Mrs. M. Rhodes  
Treasurer: Mrs. G. Parker

Mrs. D. Brown

Mrs. M. Sullivan

Mrs. J. Lawrence

Mrs. D. Tuffney

Mrs. D. Smith

Mrs. E. Wood

Mrs. M. Smith (co-opted)

Mrs. C. White was asked to be Vice-Chairman

After conclusion of business, entertainment given by Booker Derby & Joan Club was very much enjoyed and club members lustily joined in singing the well known song choruses. A delicious tea was provided and an excellent Birthday Cake had been made by Mrs. J. Lawrence and skilfully iced in for-get-me-not blue, piped with white, by Mrs. D. Smith. This was cut by Mrs. E. Smith, who was the first President of the Club and Mrs. E. Brown who instigated the club.

On 19th April films entitled "Living like Lords" and "Sweet Success" were shown by Mr. Stevens.

Our next meeting will be on 3rd May, when a Cookery Demonstration will be given by Mrs. P. Burrell. There will be a competition for 6 small cakes and/or a jam sponge.

It has been decided to resume Whist Drives at members houses and the first will be held at the home of Mrs. J. Lawrence, Sunnydale, Stocking Lane on Friday, 10th May at 2.30 pm. Tea and biscuits 10p.

An outing has been arranged for 17th May. The coach will leave the village hall at 12 noon sharp for London and a trip on Jasons boat on the canal. Coffee and biscuits may be purchased on the boat for 10p. We all look forward to another very happy club year.

NAPHILL W.I.

Thursday, 4th April was Members Day. The President, Mrs. McCue welcomed two new members, Mrs. Downsborough and Mrs. P. Southam. After the business had been conducted, the President handed over to Mrs. Reed who acted as Chairman for the afternoon.

This being Members Day, six members had arranged the afternoon's programme. At the last moment they found themselves without a Speaker, owing to illness. Mrs. Molly Bowler kindly stepped in having recently returned from a W.I. tour of Rome. She related some of her experiences and amusing incidents which happened during her six day visit.

Three competitions had been arranged and these were won by Mrs. A. Bull, Mrs. G. Parker, Mrs. C. White and Mrs. N. Shrimpton. Mrs. R. Blackwell thanked the members for a very enjoyable programme.

The next meeting will be on Thurs. 2nd May when the Speaker will be Mrs. Johnson who will discuss the Resolutions for the N.F.W.I. A.G.M. to be held in June at the Albert Hall. Mrs. V. Pushman is to attend this meeting as the delegate for Hughenden and Naphill W.I.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Blick Mrs. Bowler Mrs. Coles Mrs. Butler. Mrs. Croxson and Mrs. McCue are to attend the half-yearly meeting at Aylesbury. The 'White Elephant Stall' tea party held in March at the home of Mrs. McCue raised £21.50.

Dates for your diary: 20th May - Fashion Show, Village Hall.  
22nd June - Art Evening, Village Hall.

The runner-up in last month's competition - A poem about a Pub - was Mrs. Ruby Blackwell and she expresses her thoughts in the following lines:

PUB-GRUB

In days of old, in the country pub, the ploughmen and roadmen  
enjoyed their grub.  
The hunks of fat bacon, or cheese, with bread, washed down with  
good ale, from the wood, with a head !  
But nowadays folk come from far, by car, and study the menu,  
at the bar.  
Then order the scampi, steak or mixed grill and dine, with wine,  
then a great fat bill !!

-----

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

Unfortunately, Dr. Bates was not available at the April meeting to give us the talk on 'Child Care' that we had advertised, but all being well we hope to have her at the next meeting (13th May 7.45 pm).

contd.....;

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS (contd)

Standing in, at short notice, Miss Jean Sullivan, a beauty consultant, gave a talk on skin care, telling us the proper way to cleanse and nourish our skins and which preparations to choose. Finishing with a make-up demonstration and answering numerous questions, this proved to be a most entertaining evening and of interest and (dare I say it) benefit to all.

The Hostesses for May: Mrs. Lawrence and Mrs. Sulston.

The Windsor Theatre Outing - 14th May. The coach will leave the village hall at 7.00 pm. Would members who have booked, please bring their ticket money to the meeting on the previous evening.

Special plea. We would like to borrow any old fur coats (not necessarily mink) - mohair or fur fabric type would do. These are needed for our float for the Pete. If you can help in this way, please contact Mrs. Stratford, Naphill 3057 or any committee member.

J.M.C.

-----  
1ST NAPHILL GUIDES AND RANGERS

Just before Easter the above Units held a Coffee and Cake evening, which was very disappointing due to the usual lack of support. Only about six parents came along. The girls in both Units had worked very hard to make things to sell.

Both Units are very short of funds and due to the lack of them we are unable to do the things with and for the girls that we would like to. During the last six years, badges have doubled in price but subs have stayed the same, so please may we have your support when we ask for it ?

-----  
SPORT

As the soccer season draws to a close, Naphill's chances of winning the Senior Section of the Wycombe League have faded away. Last month they twice lost to Flackwell Heath. The first defeat put them out of the Chesham Charity Cup, which they won last year; and the second sank the team's chances of success in the league. The following week they picked up two points, with a 1-0 win over Chinnor. They are now 11 points adrift of leader Holmer Green and have only three games in hand.

During April the Inter-Counties Badminton Championships were held at Nottingham University. Steven Burge and Mark Lawrence helped the Bucks under 16 team achieve their best ever position of 6th. In their group they lost 8-2 to Ulster and beat Cumberland 8-2. Then in the play-off for 5th-8th places, they beat Notts 6-4 and lost 7-3 to Lancashire.

This month sees the start of the Wycombe Cricket League and here are the matches for Naphill's two teams.

contd.....

SPORT (contd)

		<u>1ST XI</u>		<u>2ND XI</u>	
MAY	4	Cadmore End	(Home)	Cadmore End	(Away)
	11	Marsh Gordons	(Away)	Marsh Gordons	(Home)
	18	Hawrige	(Home)	Lacey Green	(Away)
	25	Flackwell Heath	(Home)	Wheeler End	(Away)
JUNE	1	Hughenden Valley	(Away)	Broorvade S.C.	(Home)

WYCOMBE LEAGUE K.O. CUP

MAY	21	2nd XI	v	Taveners Res.	(Away)	6.30 pm
	29	1st XI	v	Pakistani Club	(Away)	6.30 pm

P.S. I hope the Cricket Club can do better against Flackwell Heath than the soccer team did.

M.L.

NATURE INTEREST

THE JAY AND ITS YOUNG

It is four years since I heard the alarm call of the jay in Bradenham Wood, but, recently, while parked in one of the lay-bys at the wide of the woodland road, I heard, from overhead a loud harsh "kahk-kahk" which I knew to be the alarm call of the Jay. I was pleasingly surprised. I got out of the car and a few moments later I heard the same call again coming from the tops of the wood. I locked up the car and was soon on my way to the place from where I thought the "call" came, but unfortunately there was no sign of the Jay. I walked back to the car and hoped for another day.

The Jay is the most colourful of all our crows. Yes, the Jay is a crow and, in days of long ago, they were shot on sight for one purpose - to make their bright blue feathers into artificial flies for the fishermen, usually Trout, Salmon, etc. They were shot by the gamekeeper too. The jay would steal the eggs of the pheasants, etc. and has been known to steal the young chicks of almost all farm stock. The gardener suffers too. Rows of peas and beans sown one day have been dug up and carried away by the morning of the next. The jay possesses pouches each side of its cheeks and will carry quite large quantities of both peas and beans to a place in the wood to be stored for "leaner" days. Jay will even eat the young green peas and beans from the pod. The jay has given itself many excuses for its execution. Evidence of its slaughter is shown in my bird book. There exists among gamekeepers a custom of selecting a certain spot in preserved woods and there suspending as trophies of their skill and watchfulness, the bodies of destructive animals and birds they have killed in pursuit of their calling. The list includes a few stoats and a few weasels, two hawks, five magpies, two owls and seven jays. This list was compiled a few years ago. How different it would be now. Jays are far less

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

numerous today. I am sure my older readers will agree that most daily walks would produce a pair of jays and sometimes two or even three pairs would be seen.

The jay will also live on wild berries and wild fruits, acorns, nuts, beechmasts and the eggs and young of the wild wood pigeons. Mankind can at least say thank you for this.

My cover sketch will not allow you to see the beautiful colour of the jay, but it really is a flash of colour as it flies past. It has a mauvish-brown body, its head from neck is darker rising to mauvish pink and the crown is really pink, splashed with a lifting crest of black and white separate feathers. The small upper wing feathers are black and blue - a really bright blue. It is these feathers the fishermen like for their flies. The rump and back feathers are pure white and the tail and inner wing feathers are black.

I re-visited the top of the wood where I had first heard the jay, with a young friend of mine because I have given up the climbing game. I knew where the nest would be, if we found it. The jay saw us first and gave us a loud harsh challenge from a perch on a high tree, but we had seen the lower, more closely branched tree from which it came. There at the top of this tree was the nest. Soon my young friend was climbing and my mind went back to long ago when I had done the same thing. Another harsh alarm came from the watching jay before he flew off. Patiently I waited for my young friend to give me the news of our find. Would it be vacant? Have eggs or young? A shout came, "There are four young ones". The nest was a rough affair, quite untidy yet strongly arranged with twisted twigs, roots and long strong stems of grass. As I received the comments of my friend from his lofty perch, I scribbled some sketches in my pad. My cover sketch shows the parent bird with a wild bird's egg in its beak. I'm sure that will be the meal for one when he or she returns.

A.S.A. WOOSTER

-----  
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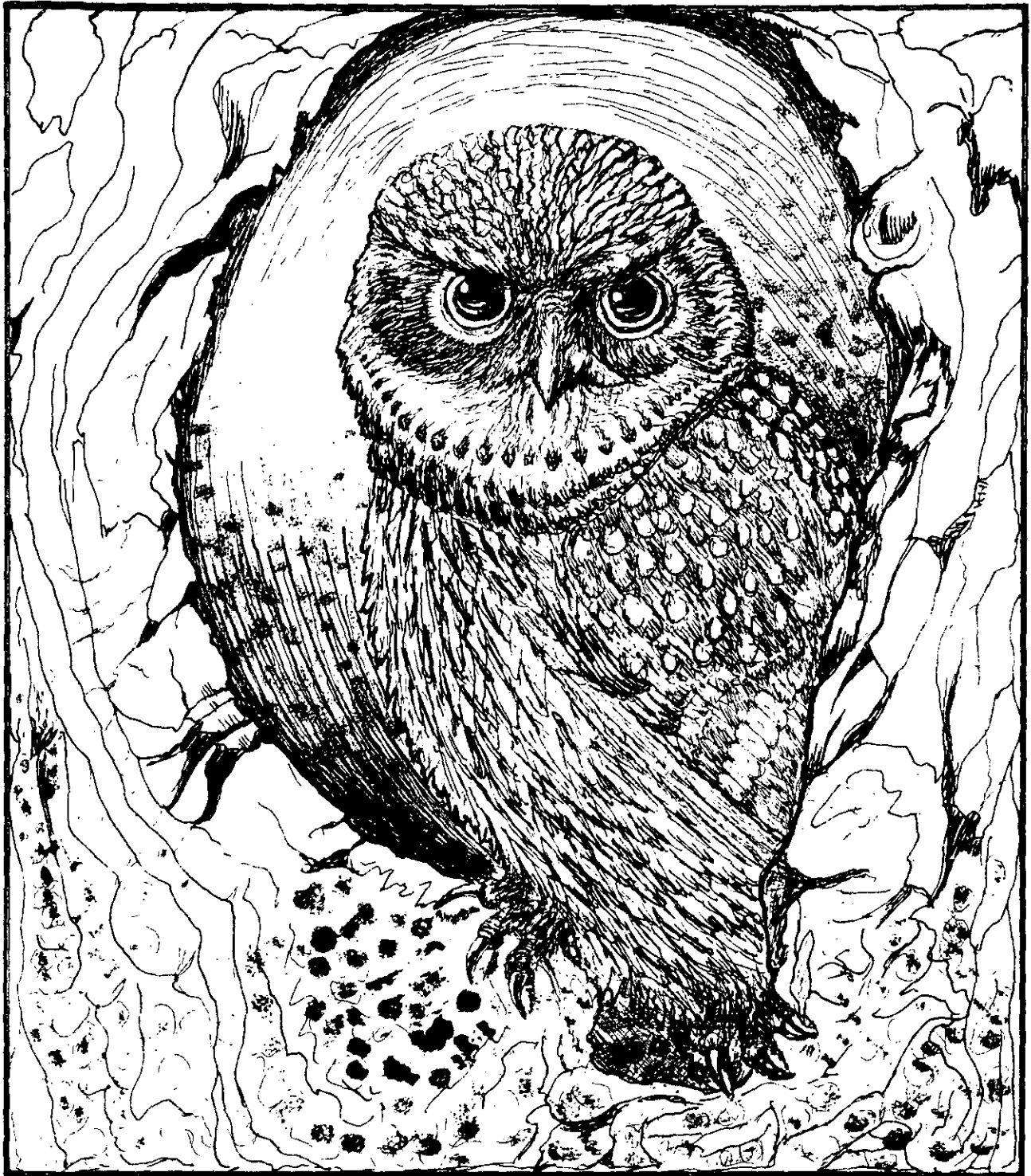
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# NAPHILL GAZETTE



THE "LITTLE OWL" AT THE EDGE OF HIS NEST HOLE

**JUNE**

**1974**

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - JUNE 1974

Library	Every Friday	3.15-4.15 pm
Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.	9.00-12 noon
Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Private Party	1st	.11 day
V.H.C.	3rd	8.00 pm
Football Club A.G.M.	3rd (C.R.)	8.00 pm
Dancing	4th 11th 18th 25th	3.00-7.45 pm
Welfare	5th 19th	2.00 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wed. (B.R.)	8.00-11.30 am
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
Art	Every Thurs. (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
W.I.	6th	2.30 pm
Whist	7th 21st	2.30 pm
Private Party	8th	6.30 pm
Concert	9th	3.00-4.30 pm
Naphill Neighbours	10th	7.45 pm
Guides	12th 26th	7.00 pm
Over 60's	14th 28th	2.30 pm
Fete Preparation	14th	Evening
<u>Fete</u>	<u>15th</u>	<u>All day</u>
Horticultural Soc.Meeting	20th (C.R.)	8.00 pm
Art Show	22nd	All day
W.I. Committee	27th (C.R.)	2.30 pm
Barn Dance	29th	All day

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VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS Please note that as from 1st JUNE, all bookings, for the Village Hall, must be made through MRS. BURGE, BARBIZON, MAIN ROAD. NAPHILL 3031.

CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION A grand total of £134.93 was raised from the house-to-house collection in Naphill and Walters Ash. The organisers thank all helpers and all donors.

E.W. and C.W.

MRS. ROSE

At the Service of Committal, the vicar of Wycombe Parish Church, spoke of her goodness and her love of goodness. Her husband said, "We would have celebrated our Diamond Wedding next February. We didn't quite make it, but we have had a marvellous, happy life together." What other tribute need be paid to this woman, as charming as her very name - MARY ROSE.

Mrs. Rose wore the outward and visible signs of her goodness and inner happiness. We shall miss the warm smile, the hand raised in friendly greeting as she passed in the car, the amused chuckle, her service to village activities.

To Mr. Rose, her son, her daughter, her grandchildren - a close and happy family - the Gazette extends its sympathy. We share not only the sadness that death brings, but also the gratitude for a lovely life.

We are glad we knew her.

-----  
COMMENTARY

Although neither stars nor soothsayers have been consulted, the Gazette predicts a busy month ahead. A big effort is demanded of you all !

FETE month is here again. The Fete is an annual event, the proceeds of which go to the Village Hall funds. We had a bumper year, last year. Can we repeat it? Even beat it? The organisation of the Fete involves a lot of hard work. Please support it, generously.

Hughenden Church celebrates a centenary this year and the vicar, in his article, gives details of the first celebratory events. They sound interesting and attractive - especially when one thinks of lovely setting in which they will all take place. We are, indeed, fortunate to have our "Church in the Park."

The Gazette is very grateful for "R.E. Corder's" contribution, which comes in response to last month's request to know a little more of the village "as it was." His resume of Mr. Herb Stacey's anecdotes makes fascinating reading. "R.E. Corder" has promised to tap other sources and to let us have future contributions.

In a way, R.E. Corder's activities co-incide with some of the aims of the proposed Local History Group, suggested by Mr. Trevor Hussey on page 9. This suggestion sounds interesting, the work challenging and the aim worthwhile.

An encouraging report comes from the Residents Association, although there are still vacancies in the '200' Club. What is the '200' Club you may ask? Read about it in Mr. Bridgman's report - a holiday bonus could be yours !

COMMENTARY (contd)

An apology for an omission in last month's Gazette. Owing to ill-health, the newsagent was unable to deliver the April Gazette. A team of men and women from the Residents' Association, greatly aided by their young, made the delivery, in quite remarkably short time. The Gazette's thanks to all for coming to the rescue.

Please note, that all copy for AUGUST'S GAZETTE must go to Mr. Hugh Bridgman, Louches Cottage, Hunt's Hill Lane. A reminder will be put in next month's Gazette.

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for JUNE</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
2nd	Miss Jill Capell BA	preacher from the South London Mission
9th	Family Service Rev. P. Tucker	Mr. C. Davies
16th	Mr. P.D. Steare	Mr.D. Short MA
23rd	Mr. Ayres	Rev.P. Tucker (Holy Communion)
30th	Mr.W.A. Dodd BA BSc	Mr. A. Cooper

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TON UP CHURCH

"Hughenden Church is holding a centenary."

"I thought it was older than that."

"So it is, but it was almost entirely rebuilt in 1874 and 1875. Much of the east end is very old, but most of the rest of the church is just approaching its century."

"Are you going to celebrate?"

"What do you think? From September 1974 to September 1975 there are lots of things going on, about two events every month. We are publishing a brochure giving details, but the first events take place this month. We are having a Festival of Flowers in the church and a Summer Pete at the Manor."

"When?"

"The Festival of Flowers will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 28th, 29th and 30th. The Pete takes place at the same time on the Saturday afternoon, starting at 2.00 pm. Have you ever seen inside the Mediaeval Church house? It looks like a row of cottages from outside, but inside it has been restored to its original condition. We shall be serving coffee and teas there, during the Festival. We don't promise any mediaeval serving wenches!"

"Pity, I would like to try out my mediaeval technique."

"Keep your hands to yourself, or you may get some painfully modern re-actions."

"Are you doing anything else?"

"Yes. On the Sunday afternoon we have a Pic-Nic Praise."



TON UP CHURCH (contd)

It is a short open air service, consisting largely of well-known hymns. Why don't you bring your picnic and share our praises? Incidentally, if you want a preliminary canter on the Pic-Nic Praise, we have one at 5.00 pm on 2nd June."

"You seem to be going to town on this."

"Hardly. Ours is the 'Church in the Park' and we want to keep it that way."

"You know what I mean. Now, let's get this straight. First you have this Pic-Nic Praise Service in the park, on Sunday 2nd June at 5.00 pm."

"Yes, and we have another one at the same time on 30th June. We shall also be having all the usual services that day, with Fr. Gerald Triffitt, S.S.J.E., preaching at 11.00 am and the Archdeacon of Buckingham at 6.30 pm."

"Meanwhile, you have a Festival of Flowers going on from Friday, 28th June to Sunday 30th June?"

"Yes, and a Fete at the Manor, which will be opened by Sir John Hall at 2.00 pm on Saturday 29th June."

"Good. I will see you at each of these things. They should be fun."

P. Bullock-Print

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CHURCH AFFAIRS

Some of the activities, in June, at Hughenden Church which are additional to the normal services and activities, will be of interest to Naphill people.

On Sundays 2nd and 30th June, services will be held at the church gates in Hughenden Park at 5.00 pm. The idea is to picnic in the park and then join in the service of praise. Two of these services were held last year and aroused considerable interest.

From 28th to 30th June, a Flower Festival will be held in Hughenden Church as part of the Centennial Year celebrations.

On Saturday, 29th June, the church Summer Fete will take place at Hughenden and Naphill has been asked to take a stall to help the funds. Mr. & Mrs. Wood are running the 'Trash and Treasure' stall, so if you have anything which is salable and can be described as 'Trash' or 'Treasure' please deliver it to 'Hale End' Christopher Close.

There are activities in the village for children. Every Sunday morning the church Sunday School meets at 10.30 am in the Scouts Hut, Downley Road, where Mrs. Anthea Coles will be pleased to welcome any children not already attached to a Sunday School. Some new children have come along, recently, but there is room for more.

For adults, a service of Holy Communion is held at 9.00 am on the fourth Sunday of each month at St. Mark's Church on the Strike Command Site, which residents of the village are welcome to attend.

contd.....

CHURCH AFFAIRS (contd)

Every Sunday at 5.30 pm a short service of Evensong, with hymns, is held also at St. Mark's Church.

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COLLECTION FOR NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME

The following is an excerpt from a letter received, re the above.

"It is a pleasure to enclose our official receipt for the very welcome amount of £104.06. representing proceeds in respect of the house-to-house collection held in your district of High Wycombe, on behalf of our work.

We are glad to have news of your appeal and would take this opportunity of extending to you and your collectors our very warmest thanks and appreciation of your efforts on behalf of our girls and boys.

Yours sincerely,  
ALAN S. ANGILL  
Appeals Secretary

Sincere thanks to all who helped in any way, from members of the Methodist Church.

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REMINDER

DON'T FORGET ! The Naphill Fete is being held on SATURDAY 15TH JUNE. The Procession will assemble at Forge Road at 1.30 pm and the Official Opening will be at 2.30 pm.

Unfortunately, John Bullock, the Fete co-ordinator, damaged his right leg early last month and is still undergoing treatment. Fortunately, for all of us, Mr. Bill Latham, who again this year had already taken on a great number of Fete tasks and responsibilities, took over as co-ordinator as well: we are all most grateful to him - his original bunch of jobs, alone, was more than enough for most !

Regrettably, we were unable to get the hoped for 'Joy-Riding' helicopter to come, after all - but there will be plenty of other things on which to spend your money, so come along; bring all your friends, especially those from outside the village. Give them a really good 'afternoon out' with us, and, by so doing, help your Village Hall Council, even more, with the task of maintaining and improving the Hall and Fields.

(Any late offers of help - particularly for running stalls - to Mr. Bill Latham or Mr. Richard Pushman, as soon as possible, please: thank you.)

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Now that everyone has received the increased rate demands, a number of people have been in touch with me, asking about the sewerage charge.

In case anyone is still puzzled, I must explain that sewerage has always been included in the rates, but under the re-organisation is now the responsibility of the Thames Water Authority on whose behalf the District Council are collecting the money. This is why it is now shown as a separate item, but it is, unfortunately, one that has to be paid by everybody, whether their property is directly connected to the main sewers or not. Even charities get no rate relief for this item.

Distribution of the news-sheet, "Buckinghamshire News" should now have been completed and I should like to express my thanks to the Editor of the Naphill Gazette, as well as her band of helpers, and the village newsagent, for their assistance in delivery in the village. I hope you find this paper a useful guide. If anyone has not got a copy and would like one, I should be glad to supply it.

AUDREY MOORE

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PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

At the May meeting, the Hughenden Parish Council considered a request from the Hazlemere Ward to set up a working party in order to investigate the existing boundaries of that ward and their relationship with the Hughenden Parish, as a whole. This could be an important preliminary to the establishment of a separate Hazlemere Parish and the loss to the Hughenden Council of half its Rate income.

Plans to convert a part of the Meeting Point at the burial ground, Cryers Hill, for use as a committee room, were agreed and the work is to be put in progress. This will allow members of the public to attend, a new requirement of the Local Government Act.

The Parish Council now meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at Cryers Hill School, commencing 7.30 pm.

R. PUSHMAN

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RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The date of the public inquiry into the appeal by Bovis is not likely to be known for some while, although we understand it is to be given priority in view of the size of the development.

The Wine and Cheese Evening, early in May, was a great success and raised approximately £35. for the Fighting Fund. Our thanks to Philip Rhodes and his helpers and thanks also to the donors of raffle prizes, particularly Batchelor's Stores, Everett's and Messrs. Lawrence & Sons.

contd.....

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (contd)

The Friends of Coombr Valley '200' Club got off to a good start with more than thirty members joining on the night. Our aim is 100 members from Naphill and anyone who would like to join should contact Philip Rhodes, The Paddock, Main Road, (2483) or Richard Pushman, Umtata, The Common (3122). The first prize draw, with prizes of £50. - £20. and £5. will be at a Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on Saturday, 6th July, at 10.00 am.

We are looking into the question of tree preservation in the village and are in the process of compiling a list of suitable specimens. Will any members who know of particular trees which they feel should be protected by a preservation order, please inform Trevor Hussey, Sunnyhill, Stocking Lane. (3767).

Our Hom. Sec., Peter Bagnall-Oakeley, has regretfully had to resign, due to pressure of work and we are, therefore, looking for a volunteer to take over his duties. Would any interested member please contact Hugh Bridgman, Touches Cottage, Hunt's Hill Lane (2428).

Membership of the Association now stands at 596.

H.B.

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NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

The cookery demonstration, given by Mrs. Burrell, kept all members spellbound as, with a small portable oven, she prepared and cooked four main dishes and two sweets. All were exceedingly tasty and very economical and members were eager for her recipes. When all had been cooked, she very kindly presented them to the Club to be raffled amongst the members. Certainly one of the best meetings we have had.

Our outing to London and canal trip was enjoyable, but proved a little "hazardous" when we all had to cross one boat, walking a plank, to get to the boat taking us along the waterway.

Members were very sad to learn of the sudden death of Mrs. Mollie Rose, who was a much appreciated member of the Club for many years.

14th June will be a Garden Party at the home of Mrs. M. Bayley, 29 Main Road, or Plumtree Cottage, as most of us know it by. Should the weather be wet, we will hold the meeting at the Village Hall. There will be a Bring & Buy stall, proceeds towards the Village Fete.

On 28th June we shall be entertained by Mr. D. Holt, with "Twenty Questions." His visit to us on 31st May has had to be cancelled and Mrs. D. Smith and sister-in-law will kindly entertain us instead with music (organ) and monologues.

NAPHILL W.I.

One new member, Mrs. How, was welcomed by the President, Mrs. McCue, when members met for the May meeting.

Mrs. Johnson was the speaker, her subject The Resolutions for the N.F.W.I. A.G.M. which will be held in London in June. Mrs. V. Pushman is to attend this meeting as delegate for Hughenden and Naphill W.I. Each Resolution was fully explained and discussed before the votes were taken. Thanks to the speaker were expressed by Mrs. E. Hussey.

Mrs. Croxson, who attended the half-yearly Council held at Aylesbury, gave her report.

The sum of £9.00 was raised for funds at a coffee morning held at the home of Mrs. A. Bull.

The competition, "Guess What" was won by Mrs. Balls and Mrs. Sawney.

Members were reminded about the W.I. Stall for the Fete on 15th June.

Mr. Idris Evans, County Chiropodist, will give an illustrated talk "Your feet were made for walking" at the June meeting.

Exhibition: An unusual pair of Shoes.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Balls, Mrs. Carroll, Mrs. Coles.

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A visit to the Guinness Factory, Park Royal, has been arranged for Wednesday, 3rd July. The coach will depart from the village hall at 1.15 pm and the cost will be 50p. Names of members interested in this visit will be taken at the next meeting, 6th June.

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A sum of money was found in the village hall during the Fashion Show on Monday evening, 20th May. It is being held by Mrs. McCue, Seven Winds, Downley Road, and she will be pleased to return it to whoever had the misfortune to lose it.

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NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

At our last meeting, Dr. Bates very kindly gave us some of her valuable time. She started off by explaining how the expression "Job Satisfaction" was first coined by an Hungarian doctor during the last war. From then onwards, she drew members into a discussion of the frustrations and satisfactions of Motherhood - thus giving everyone a chance to relate their personal experiences of coping with babies and small children.

Next meeting 10th June at 7.45 pm. A cookery demonstration will be given by a member of Aylesbury College of Further Education.

Tea Hostesses: Mrs. P. Bowler and Mrs. J. Mahoney.

We would be grateful, at the meeting, for any grocery or non-perishable items which could be spared for our stall on Fete Day.

J.M.C.

'REMINISCENCES' by R.E. Corder.

An interesting insight into the past was enlivened by some anecdotes from Mr. Herb. Stacey when we visited him recently in search of copy for the Gazette.

Mr. Stacey has lived in the village from the turn of the century and having a long memory had many fascinating tales to tell in his delightful Bucks accent.

His first bicycle, a very rusty affair, with solid tyres, was purchased from Mr. Bladwin at The Forge for sixpence. The negotiations between Mr. Stacey and Mr. Baldwin took nearly two months, because Mr. Baldwin wanted sevenpence, but Mr. Stacey was only prepared to pay sixpence. Eventually the deal was completed and the bicycle changed ownership for sixpence, finally being sold again to Alf Tilbury for eightpence !

Mr. Lacey, the village baker, had his shop next to Mrs. Jack Goodchild's house, which used to stand opposite The Crick on the Main Road. He used to bake 'jolly good bread' and having a lot to deliver, gave Herb the job of distributing, by basket, to nearby houses on Saturdays, after first helping at the bakehouse. Afterwards, he would accompany the baker, on the cart, to deliver farther afield, the only reward for the day's work being a free meal.

After the bread was taken from the oven, people could have their joints and cakes baked at the bakehouse for twopence.

While on the delivery round, Mr. Lacey would say, 'Sell up the bread,' which involved counting the remaining loaves to see whether any loaves were to spare for casual buyers. One day, Mr. Herb Stacey miscounted by five and aroused the anger of the baker because his last five customers would be without their bread.

Mr. Stacey also recalled Mr. Armstrong, an inventor who lived at or near 'Quarries' at Walters Ash and did development work on model torpedoes in the long pond at the top of Bradenham Rd. the pond being specially dug for the purpose. A serious fire broke out in the house and the horsedrawn, manual pump had to be called from High Wycombe. We do not know whether someone had to go on horseback or bicycle to fetch the Brigade, but by the time they arrived, the property was completely gutted, despite the efforts of three men on each side of the pump, pulling the handles up and down to pump the water from Mr. Armstrong's pond, which they completely emptied.

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LOCAL HISTORY

Is anyone interested in local history ? I am looking into the possibility of forming a local history group to research into the history of the Naphill and Walters Ash area. The group would be sponsored by the High Wycombe W.E.A.. I am particularly interested in oral history, which involves making recordings

contd.....

LOCAL HISTORY (contd)

of our older inhabitants reminiscing about the villages and their early lives, so as to build up a picture of life at home, school and work, during the opening decades of this century.

If you are interested in joining such a group, or if you know of any interesting sources of material, please contact the editor or myself.

Trevor Hussey, Sunnyhill, Stocking Lane.

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NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The plant Bring and Buy evening on the 15th May produced quite a variety of plants, all of which had changed hands by the end of the evening. Everybody who came seemed to enjoy the social, fortified by cups of tea and coffee made by the ladies of the committee and served with biscuits. Our Treasurer announced a profit on the evening of £14. which has been deposited to the funds of the Society.

Coach trip to Ascott Gardens, Bucks. will leave the village hall at 1.00 pm on 23rd June - 50p per coach seat - members and their families only.

Summer Show will be held on Saturday, 6th July in the village hall. Do not forget this important date in the N.H.S. calendar. The show schedules will be available shortly and will be delivered to all members, as soon as possible.

The Secretary has 4 tickets for the Summer Rose Show at the R.H.S. Hall, Westminster for the 28th/29th June and 2 free passes for the Delphinium Society show also at the R.H.S. Hall, Westminster for the 11th and 12th June. Any member who would like these tickets, please 'phone Naphill 2437.

P.J.H.

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GARDEN NOTES - JUNE

June should, perhaps, be the most pleasant month in the garden. All is green, the paeonies, lupins and other flowers of summer are coming into bloom. Climbing roses are in flower and we are looking forward to the hybrid teas and floribundas. In June, too, we should be sampling the first results of our labour in the vegetable garden. Years ago, when I was a garden boy in the south-west, it was a poor gardener who did not have ready peas, new potatoes, cauliflower and cut sweet peas at the end of May for the "house." I think this Spring has been as good as any I have known for blossom: the Spring bedding and shrubs have been wonderful.

During the first week or two of June, the summer bedding plants should be given their final move. Half-hardy and tender annuals can be planted in the flower beds. Allow 6 ins. between edging plants and 1 ft. between plants of medium height, and 18 ins. between taller plants. Provide stakes immediately

contd.....

GARDEN NOTES - JUNE (contd)

for plants which seem likely to require them. Prepare for next Spring by sowing seeds of wallflowers, forget-me-nots, Canterbury bells, sweet william etc. Keep the hoe going to keep down the weeds and prevent rapid drying of the soil.

What a pleasure it is to walk through the allotments these days. A few years ago, I thought their time was finished. I believe there is a waiting list for allotments now. It is good to see the hard work, keenness and interest most tenants are putting in. Up to present the weather has not been too favourable, cold spells and now too dry. I hope the first-timers will not be downhearted of a few failures. We all get them. Plant out Brussel Sprouts, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Savoys, etc. Make the soil very firm.

C.P.

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PROPOSED NAPHILL RIDING CLUB

A number of local owners and riders of horses have expressed interest in forming a riding club and Sqdn. Leader A. Holden has agreed to compile a list of those who are prepared to attend an inaugural meeting, in order to assess the possibilities. In the first instance it is thought that membership should be restricted to adults, 18 and over, as younger riders are catered for by the Pony Club. Ownership of a horse or pony is not essential to membership and non-riders would be welcome. Enquiries please to Squadron Leader A. Holden, West Hatch, Laurel Drive, Stocking Lane, Naphill. Tel: 3271.

A.H.

-----  
IT'S YOUR PAPER WE'RE AFTER ! ! ! ! !

What do you do with your old newspapers and magazines etc. ? Please don't waste them. Pack them into bundles of 14-lbs. if possible and contact any of the following. By doing this, you will be helping the Tennis Club to swell funds which are so very much needed to help improve the tennis facilities.

Mr. John Kelcey, 9 Allen Drive, Walters Ash  
Mr. Don Burge, Barbizon, Main Road  
Mr. Dennis Cole, Longridge, The Glebe  
Mr. Tony Lawrence, Auchinyell, Downley Road  
Mrs. Jennie Price, Sandalwood, Stocking Lane  
Mrs. Jackie Murray, 3 Wellhouse Way  
Mrs. Margaret Bridgman, Louches Cottage, Hunt's Hill Lane.

A.L.

-----  
LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD The Gazette is sent regularly to New Zealand. Those who remember Mr. and Mrs. Small and their two sons from Christopher Close, may be interested to hear that Vernon is in his second year at University and Nicholas is an N.A. and is now working for the Press Association as

contd.....



LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD (contd)

Parliamentary Reporter. They have sponsored him to come to London, in July, to work for Reuters in Fleet Street for two years as their overseas correspondent. Recently married, he is looking forward to showing his wife his old school and the village where he spent his happy childhood and to meet old friends.

After the two years, he will be sent as overseas correspondent to either Hong Kong, Singapore or Kuala Lumpur.

One more success story from Naphill Primary School.

D. BUTLER

SPORT Firstly, commiserations to Naphill Football Club, who faded a bit in their last few matches to finish in 6th place in the Senior Section of the Wycombe League: they finished 12 points behind winners, Holmer Green.

Last month saw the start of the cricket season for Naphill and a very successful one for the 1st XI. In their first match they beat Cadmore End by 98 runs. Naphill batting first scored 178-8 dec. J. Brown 62 J. Evans 24 and then proceeded to dismiss the visitors for 80 with W. Styles taking 4-21 and K. Timberlake 3-16.

They won their next two encounters comfortably with good batting from J. Evans who scored 37 and 38 and bowling from C. Timberlake who took 6 wickets in both matches. The second XI in division 6 have beaten Marsh Gordons res. and were beaten by Cadmore End.

This month's matches are:- 1ST XI

2ND XI

June	8	Desborough S.C. (H)	Desborough S.C. (A)
	15	Radnage (A)	Radnage (H)
	22	Pakistani Club (H)	Tetsworth (A)
	29	Bledlow Ridge (A)	Bradenham (H)

Last month also saw the start of the tennis season and Naphill, for the first time in years, entered a team in the Mixed League. They lost to Wooburn 1-3 and beat Flackwell Heath 3-1.

In the Men's League, the first VI lost 0-9 to Wendover and the second VI lost to Broomwade 4-5 and beat Flackwell Heath 7-2.

M.L.

NATURE INTEREST - THE LITTLE OWL.

Of course there are many owls of different species, the Barn, the Tawny, the Brown, the Long-eared, the Short-eared, the Snowy Owl and the subject of our interest today, The Little Owl.

They range very differently in size. The Eagle Owl (not a resident of Great Britian) is 2ft.4ins. long and has a wing span of 5ft while our "little" chap is a mere 8ins. long. It stays

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

in this country all the year round, but is well distributed in most other parts of the world. It has a large head for its size and habitually puffs its head feathers out, giving the effect of having an even larger head. This, with its fierce looking face is a real form of protection. This little owl hunts during the day as well as night. It was in daylight that I first saw him this season.

I was walking up around Chinnor wood and noticed some ejected pellets of fur lying on the ground. I inspected them, but they were small and it didn't occur to me they might be from an owl. I had completely forgotten the Little Owl which I had seen, for the first time, three years ago on one of the willow trees at Church Farm in the Hughenden Valley. I examined a dozen trees but all were healthy with no holes. Then up a larger and older tree there the owl sat, looking straight at me from his "hidey" hole. It didn't move, it just stared at me with its large yellow eyes. I felt very guilty of trespassing; I rested my arm against another tree and stared back - I don't think he even blinked. He was grand. I could have stared a long time, but decided I was in his territory, not he in mine, so I left. I turned to look back and he was still watching.

The little owl is not really a British bird. It was introduced to the British Isles from the continent in late 1800's but it is now established as a breeding British bird. It has been known to lay its eggs on the ground in a rough little hollow, but more often it will find a hollow or a hole in a tree. It will lay four to five white eggs and usually these are laid in late April or May. He is a very prettily coloured bird. Yellowish brown body, barred and mottled with white, its wings are rounded on the ends, and its flight is swift and bounding. No nesting material is used. The male is allowed to go to the edge of the nest when his lady is hatching, but though allowed to give her a juicy tit-bit, he is not allowed inside the nest hole. Little owls feed on all kinds of insects, voles and mice, some frogs and lizards. The Little Owl does not "hoot" but gives a little whining noise. At one time it was thought to be a bad omen and to hear the owl was thought to mean a death. I would say yes to this - yes, perhaps its own.

A.S.A. WOOSTER

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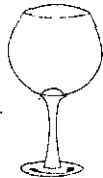
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# N A P H I L L — G A Z E T T E



T H E G O L D E N E A G L E  
J U L Y 1 9 7 4

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - JULY 1974

Library	Every Friday	3.15-4.15 pm
Men's Club	Tues. Fri.Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.	9.00-12 noon
V.H.C.	1st	8.00 pm
Dancing	2nd 9th	3.00-7.45 pm
Scouts	2nd	8.00-10.00 pm
Welfare	3rd 17th	2.00 pm
Dressmaking	Every Wednesday (B.R.)	9.00-11.30 pm
Cubs	3rd 17th	7.00-8.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thursday	8.00 pm
Art	Every Thursday (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
Scouts	4th (C.R.)	8.00 pm
W.I.	4th	2.30 pm
Whist	19th	7.30 pm
Horticultural Show	6th	
Naphill Neighbours	8th	7.45 pm
Guides	10th	7.00 pm
Over 60's	12th 26th	2.30 pm
Cricket Lunch	14th	
W.I.	25th (C.R.)	2.30 pm

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N.B. All Village Hall bookings are now made through Mrs. Pam Burge, Barbizon, 84 Main Road. Naphill 3031.

.....

Village Hall Council Treasurer. The new Treasurer is MR. R. BOWEN "Inshalla" Main Road. Naphill 3687. This appointment dates from 1st July 1974.

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COMMENTARY

A busy June was predicted and by the look of the July Gazette, in its pre-typing state, there has been much to comment on. Our apologies for a certain amount of paraphrasing and cutting.

We are fortunate, too, this month to have an interesting contribution from our Agricultural Correspondent and another of R.E. Corder's "Reminiscences", both of which throw light on Naphill's past. There seems to be a great interest in the past and a great desire to preserve. Does it take one's mind

contd.....



COMMENTARY (contd)

off a rather gloomy looking future perhaps ?

Not so pleasing to comment upon is yet another complaint of vandalism and destruction - this time from the Pony Club. Mr. Pushman reports damage through vandalism in another part of the Parish. It seems that the devil does, indeed, find work for idle hands and one hopes the difficulties in forming a Youth Club, reported by Mrs. A. Moore, may soon be overcome.

Before the next issue, Mr. and Mrs. Don Turner and their children will have left for Cyprus. Mr. Fendom thanks them for their contribution to village life in his article. The Gazette would like to wish them well. They will be greatly missed and we are very glad they are coming back. For three years Cyprus will be another country on our mailing list.

All contributions for the August issue should go to Mr. Hugh Bridgman, Louches Cottage, Hunts Hill Lane. (Naphill 2428). The Editor will be re-charging her 'batteries' in Scotland !

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for July</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
7th	Mr. D. Gregory	Rev. H. Perret
14th	Family Service Rev. R.L.J. Kaye	Mrs. Pike
21st	Mrs. Tyler	Mr. K. Peatey
28th	Mr. W. Osborne	Miss Darvill

.....

Our Circuit Methodist Minister, the Rev. Jack Kaye, is leaving us in August to become the new chairman of the London North West District. He will be taking the Family Service at Naphill on Sunday morning, 14th July and this will be the last time we shall have of hearing this popular Minister before he moves to Watford.

.....

EXCHANGE PASTORATE.      JULY - AUGUST

On 16th July, the Rev. Percy Tucker, his wife Fay and boys, David, Peter and Andrew, will be flying to New York to take part in an Exchange with an American Minister and his family. They come from North Webster, Indiana, which is in the Mid-West of U.S.A. some 800 miles inland.

The Rev. John WEEKS and his wife Pat, will come and reside at the High Wycombe Manse at 223, West Wycombe Road, together with their children, Rebecca (13 yrs.) and John. Rev. John Weeks will take pastoral responsibility for the Naphill Methodist Church and also Downley, Deeds Grove and Cryer's Hill churches.

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NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH (contd)

Any queries about Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, etc., should be sent to him whilst he is here, that is until 30th August 1974.

The North Webster Church has an assistant pastor and youth director. There are two morning services at 8.30 am and 10.45 am and Sunday School at 9.30 am. It has a membership of 526. They have a young people's choir, 'God's Children' who have just cut their first record and been on tour to Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas.

Whilst the Weeks family are here, we hope to make them welcome and help them to get to know as much as possible about ourselves and our country. Mrs. Maud Brown is our representative on the hospitality committee.

The Rev. Weeks will be taking services at Naphill on the mornings of 4th and 18th August. He will bring slides of his church back home to show on some suitable occasion.

The Rev. Tucker and family return to England on 29th August.

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RONALD WYNNE

Some few years ago, when the troubles in Angola were at their height, a little known and very primitive tribe, the Mambukushu were driven from their traditional lands. They trekked southwards and eventually found themselves in the northern part of Botswana, an African native state sandwiched between Angola, Rhodesia and South Africa. No one has yet found large deposits of any valuable minerals in Botswana, so the people of that country were left in peace by their neighbours. It is very thinly populated and the northern part is practically empty. The government of Botswana were happy to let the Mambukushu settle in that part of their territory.

The Mambukushu were grateful for permission to settle, but they were hunters and their new home was not only empty of people, but also of game. There was ample land they could cultivate, if only they knew how and had the seed, the stock and the tools. Their hosts could only offer minimal help, being themselves very poor. The Council of Churches in Botswana thought they could help by providing the 'know-how' and sent three men to the Mambukushu. These men were not going as missionaries to preach, but solely to help the tribesmen to support themselves. Very soon the Mambukushu began to ask why anyone should go to their aid in this way and they, themselves, asked for someone to teach them more about this religion which could give help, with no strings attached.

Meanwhile, back in Windhoek, a priest, who had spent most of his life in the mission field and has reached an age when most men would be thinking of settling in an easy job in which to wait for retirement, heard about the situation. He offered to

contd.....

RONALD WYNNE (contd)

go north. Ronald Wynne has now settled among the Nambukushu. He has made many friends. He has no thought of retiring and coming home. So far as he is concerned, he will spend the rest of his life living among and helping, as best he can, this little known, very backward tribe in an uncomfortable, forgotten part of Africa.

The world at large may know nothing of Northern Botswana, most of us would have difficulty in finding it on the map, but some parishes in England do not forget Ronald Wynne. We have pledged ourselves to help support him with out interest, our prayers and our money. He does not need much money, for you cannot buy deep freezers or television sets where he lives, nor would they be any use if you could. He does need money, however, to keep his car running so that he can drive the 150 miles or so to the nearest settlement to collect his post, parcels of medicines, seeds, books, new clothes, etc., and since all these things come from the outside world he needs money to pay for them.

In this parish we have guaranteed to find £50. a year to help him with these things and we shall be holding a Jumble Sale, in Hughenden Valley Hall on Saturday, 3rd August at 2.00 pm. to complete raising our share, this year. If you would like to help a man who is giving the rest of his life to helping people who cannot yet help themselves, please send us your jumble, make the sale known and come and support it.

P. Bullock-Flint

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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK      The Secretary of High Wycombe Committee has gratefully acknowledged the sum of £134.93 (to which must be added a further gift of £1.00) and asked us to pass on 'their appreciation and thanks to all collectors and donors in Naphill and Walters Ash, including Strike Command, for their splendid support.'      Our sincere thanks to all concerned.

C.B.W.      E.G.W.

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VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL NOTES.

Since my last notes in this Gazette, the Village Hall Council has, with reluctance, been obliged to increase the charges for the use of the Hall and Playing Fields.

The increases in oil, electricity and the General and Water Rates have had the effect of increasing our basic operating and maintenance costs by 50% over last year. As the small margin, built in to the last increase in 1972, had already been absorbed by increased costs at the end of 1973, we have had no alternative but to pass on the whole of the most recent round of increases with a margin for further increased costs, which

contd.....

VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL NOTES (contd)

we hope will prove adequate for the next year or eighteen months. However, with costs increasing as they are, we cannot make any firm promises.

I do want to make two things absolutely plain. First, that we do not have a secret crock of gold beneath the Hall floor boards, that we can draw on and second, that the increased rates are the minimum that we estimate to be required to keep the Hall open. In fixing the new charges, we have tried to 'cushion' the people of the village and the village organisations from the full weight of the increase by means of a lower "in village" rate of charge.

The new rates are, basically, £1.00 per hour in village and £1.50 per hour out of village and come into effect on 1st September.

We have, as you will know, just held our Fete and we were fortunate, again, with the weather. The Fete was opened by Air Vice Marshal C.G. Maughan, C.B.E., A.F.C., R.A.F. and his wife. The net figures are not yet available, but I understand that the gross takings were approximately £700, the same as last year. My thanks are due to John Bullock, the Fete co-ordinator and Bill Latham who undertook the organisation of the "It's a Knock-out" competition and the layout of side stalls. Both gentlemen expended an enormous amount of physical effort in erecting and dismantling the arena and pitches. I should also like to thank all of the many individuals and village organisations that helped to make the Fete such a success.

Roger Smith ran a Dance on Fete night, which raised about £30. for the funds. It was a sellout and was greatly enjoyed by everyone present.

It is probably known to all, by now, that Don and Anne Turner and their children, will be departing from amongst us to take up a posting in Cyprus in July. Over the past 7 years, the Turner family have been in charge of Hall Bookings and for the past 3 years Don has been the Council's Treasurer, as well. In these capacities they have played a very important part in the functioning of the Council. We shall miss Don's forthright interjections of common sense at our meetings! We thank them for their services to the Village Hall Council and wish them well in Cyprus.

Mrs. Pam Burge has agreed to take on the task of Hall Bookings and Mr. Ron. Bowen has recently agreed to take over as Treasurer.

T.A. FENDOM  
Chairman

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VILLAGE HALL NOTES

With increased costs all round, fund raising was a major topic at the Village Hall Council meeting. Plans for the Fete were discussed, as well as a repeat performance of Edna Cooper's highly successful 'Pop-In', which will take place later in the year.

Damage has, again, been caused at the Hall; this time to electrical equipment. Replacement of damaged equipment is a constant concern to the Village Hall Council, but it is very difficult to track down the culprits.

The new "Igloo" for the playground has been ordered and the existing equipment is to be repaired and made serviceable in time for the holidays.

The planned Youth Club has not yet started, as the potential leader cannot manage the only free dates at the Hall. Anyone who feels inclined to come along and run the Club will be backed by four very enthusiastic assistants, as well as doing a tremendous service to the young people of the village.

A.S. Moore

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VEGETABLES - AND - VISITORS

Now that the price of vegetables is so high, more people are thinking of cultivating their own vegetable patch. Unfortunately there are not enough allotments in the village to meet all requests. If anyone has a garden which is too large, or which they have difficulty in coping with, would they please let me know if they are prepared to let someone else grow their vegetables in it. My telephone No. is Naphill 2048.

Also, if there are any elderly people, living alone, who would like a visitor, I should be interested to know, as one or two young wives have expressed a desire to visit lonely or house-bound people in the village.

A.S. Moore

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DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

As the June meeting of the District Council has not yet been held, there is little to report. However, one matter of local interest concerns a fine oak tree in Stocking Lane.

It was brought to my attention that this tree would be in danger, if the land around should be developed. I am pleased to say that the District Council Planning Committee has agreed to my request for a Preservation Order, so this tree should now be safeguarded. I think it is important that we should do everything possible to see that our heritage of trees is preserved.

Audrey Moore.

P.S. Naphill has the distinction of having the first Tree Preservation Order made by this new Council !

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The incidence of vandalism is increasing within the parish. Considerable damage to the new equipment at the children's playground in Hazlemere was reported by the Clerk. We also informed the Council that four large plate glass windows in the Meeting Point at the Burial Ground, in Four ashes Road had been smashed. Yet more expense for the hard pressed rate-payer.

The possibility of the Naphill Horticultural Society having a storage hut at the Louches Lane allotments was discussed and it was decided to leave the matter in abeyance until more details could be provided. Allotment holders will be pleased to note that water is to be laid on at both sites, in the near future.

At the Annual meeting of the Parish Council, the following appointments were made:

Chairman: Cllr. F.G. Morton      Vice-Chairman: Cllr. R.Pushman

<u>Standing Committees</u>		(Prout
Finance	: Cllrs. Fleet, Gee, Pushman, Waterton &	
Lighting	: Cllrs. Cox, Gee, O'Brien & Tomkins	
Burial & Allotments	: Cllrs. Gray, Mills, Tomkins & Wild	
Open Spaces & Footpaths:	Cllrs. Cox, Fleet, Morgan & Willison	
Planning	: Cllrs. Gee, Pushman, Prout & Willison	

R.P.

-----  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The '200' Club first prize draw will take place on 6th July, BUT NOT with a coffee morning - the Horticultural Society Show is on that date and we apologise for creating confusion in the last Gazette ! There are still one or two memberships of the '200' Club available - details from any committee member, or ring Philip Rhodes on 2483. You could win a £50. prize.

The H7 development (Four Ashes-Hazlemere) has been turned down by the Government, following appeal and Public Inquiry. This is good news and gives us greater hope of success in the Coombe Valley fight.

We are beginning to build up a file of historical evidence about Naphill and Walters Ash. If anyone in the village has interesting documents, maps or photographs about the area, and would be willing to let us study them and, perhaps, make copies, could they, please, get in touch with Hugh Bridgman, Louches Cottage (2428) or any committee member.

Our membership now stands at 606.

H.B.

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NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

The Garden Party held at the home of Mrs. M. Bayley was, once again, a brilliant success - blue skies, sunshine and a lovely

contd.....

NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB (contd)

garden around which the members were able to roam and admire the colour. Presents had been hidden in the foliage and all were not found, though we all kept on looking. We held a Bring & Buy stall, for the Village Fete and the members raised £10.53. Well done all who attended. This was an outstanding success and thank you for your efforts.

On 12th July, Mrs. Olive Pearce and the Ever-Green Trio will entertain us and on 28th July there will be another Garden Party at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Geoff. Smith, Waldens, Main Rd. Naphill. Please put this date in your diaries, WEDNESDAY, 7TH AUGUST, when we are holding our annual coffee morning in the Village Hall, time 10.00 am - 12 noon. This is open to everyone in the village. Please come and support us. We shall have a number of stalls, raffles, etc. Coffee and biscuits will be 5P. children 2P each. Come and meet your friends, everyone is welcome. The money raised goes to help pay for the Christmas Dinner and entertainment and normally, if funds are good, two free outings per year for the Club members.

Except for the coffee morning, 7th August, there will be no meetings in August, as this is a holiday month. We resume our meetings on 6th September.

A.G.

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NAPHILL W.I.

Approximately 50 members attended the June meeting. The speaker was Mr. Pooke, who is the area chiropodist and gave a talk entitled, "Your feet were made for walking." Coloured slides were used to illustrate his subject and many showed deformed feet caused by wearing the wrong size and type of shoe. Socks, tights and stockings which were too small could cause bunions. Mr. Pooke told members that if they looked after their feet, their feet would then look after them. He was thanked by Mrs. Hyre.

A coach trip to the Guinness Brewery on 3rd July is being arranged by Mrs. E. Hussey.

The Fashion Show held in May raised the sum of £29.26 for W.I. Funds and a coffee morning given by Mrs. J. Balls raised £5.00.

The next meeting will be on 4th July when Mrs. Dixon will entertain with "Songs with Flute accompaniment".

The competition: An arrangement of Summer Leaves.

Tea hostesses: Mesdames Butler, Brown, Fryer and Chamberlen.

J.R.

-----  
NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

Miss Davis of Aylesbury College of Further Education, demonstrated at our June meeting several dishes under the heading of

contd.....

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS (contd)

'Budget Meals.' She cooked four main course dishes and one dessert. These were then raffled amongst the members.

Next meeting is 8th July 7.45 pm. This will be a Fashion Show staged by June Simmonds, plus a sale of dresses - so don't forget your money ! This meeting is open to all, so if you feel like an enjoyable evening out, do come along and join us.

WELL DONE WOMBLES ! As those who attended the Fete will know, this means Naphill Neighbours who won the rose-bowl (for the third year) with their float depicting "The Wombles." Not an enviable pastime on such a hot afternoon - congratulations and thanks to all concerned.

Thanks also to all who contributed to or helped on the stall. We received many compliments on the delightful appearance of the stall. This, too, was worthy of a prize, I feel, as all the decorations were handmade by our members.

J.M.C.

-----  
W.I. ART AND COFFEE EVENING

This has become an established annual event in the village and on 22nd June more than 70 pictures, by 22 local artists, were on display in the Village Hall, maintaining the remarkably high standard of previous years. Now under the guidance of Dennis Syrett, the Naphill Art class is full of enthusiasm and obvious talent and the variety of subjects and styles, on display, attracted much admiration from a large number of visitors. Local scenes were a popular subject and a local character, Albert Webb, featured in many excellent portraits. Some of the paintings were for sale and from various negotiations overheard, a number found buyers. The ladies of the W.I. provided refreshments and flower decorations and Graham Piggott's attractive pottery was again on sale.

This very pleasant evening raised about £40. to be donated to the Village Hall funds.

H.B.

-----  
Dear Madam Editor,

May I use the medium of the Gazette to express my heartfelt thanks to all who so willingly assisted me in the kitchen on the occasion of the Annual Fete on the 15th June. The gifts of sandwiches, cakes, etc., the "staff" at serving counter - the washers-up - and those who kept the Hall tidy, also those who aided us on the field - etc. etc. Truly a co-operative effort. Thank you again,

Grace Parker

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Dear Madam Editor,

From: Richard Pushman

May I, through the Gazette thank all those stallholders who worked so hard on Fete Day. If anyone has any observations that might make next year easier to operate, please let me know or contact any member of the Fete Committee.

Richard Pushman



ANNUAL FETE - WINNERS OF THE GRAND DRAW

1st	Ticket No.	3417	J. Pigott, Marsh Green, H. Wycombe
2nd	"	3252	Mrs. E. Clarke, White Cottage, Naphill
3rd	"	2831	A. Holden, West Hatch, Stocking Lane
4th	"	5236	Mrs. Timberlake, Herbert Rd. Micklefield
5th	"	2632	Kevin Pyatt, c/o Lawrence, Red Gables
6th	"	3827	Mrd. D. Smith, Waldens, Naphill
7th	"	4957	A. Tapping, 165 Main Road, Naphill
8th	"	4081	H. Leek, Westover Court, Plomer Hill
9th	"	5841	Mrs. Parslow, Casa Mia, Main Rd. Naphill
10th	"	4946	Wiseman, Naphill
11th	"	5009	SAC. Irwin, Cmd. Catering, H.Q. S.T.C.
12th	"	2277	Austin, The Glebe
13th	"	3273	L. Potter, 47 Main Rd. Naphill

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FLOAT COMPETITION

- (a) 'E.C.' Rose Bowl plus £1.50. (1) Naphill Neighbours  
(2) Naphill W.I.
- (b) Brownies/Guides plus £1.00 (1) Naphill  
(2) Walters Ash

FANCY DRESS

- (a) Individual under 7 yrs. (1) 'Salad Days'  
Martin Taylor ) 50P  
Suzanne Taylor )  
(2) 'Mrs. Mop'  
Rebecca Piercy 25P
- (b) Individual over 7 yrs. (1) 'Spanish Dolls'  
Valerie Harrison } 50P  
Catherine Levine }  
(2) 'Scarecrow'  
Ian McAusland 25P
- (c) Groups over 12 yrs. (1) ('Robin Hood' Ann Glainster  
( 'Friar Tuck' Susan Witney  
( 'Maid Marian' A. Taylor  
( £1.00
- (d) Groups under 12 yrs. (1) 'Three Blind Mice'  
Margo Lawrence  
Gavin Lawrence £1.00  
James Lawrence  
Darren Booth
- (2) ('Troop of Tramps'  
( Diane Warner 50P  
( Joanna Block  
( Donna Lemming

UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZE Ticket No. 63 orange - raffle on Naphill Horticultural Society stall - prize unclaimed; will go into raffle on 6th July (Summer Show) is not claimed.

Mrs. Stargo, Naphill won second prize.

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2ND NAPHILL COMPANY CAMP

Saturday, 25th May dawned cool and cloudy, but to the relief of the 'advance party' the very strong winds, which had plagued them on the Friday night, had dropped. By 10.00 am the 18 guides were arriving at the camp site, all set for a weekend in camp. They were divided into 3 patrols and soon had their tents pitched and were settled in.

Each patrol was responsible for cooking their own breakfasts, but the rest of the meals were prepared centrally, and, I should add, on wood fires - no calor gas for us !! The usual camp duties of collecting wood, carrying water from the farm and helping the Q.M's were carried out on a rota, by the patrols.

The perfect weather, on Sunday and Monday, gave us plenty of opportunities to be out and about, all day long. Most of the girls studied for their Backwoodsman Badge, which has various clauses, all dealing with 'being at home in the open.' Some tried their hand at Compass bearings and they all managed to go on some rambles towards their Ramblers Badge. Camp wasn't all work, however, and we still had time to sit and relax, play games, have camp fires and a service on the Sunday evening.

I am most grateful to the staff who, at very short notice, helped me to run the camp and worked so hard to make it a success. My thanks to - Barbara Clarke - Quartermaster  
Doreen Saw - Assistant Q.M.  
Iris Collins - First Aid

I would also like to convey my thanks to everyone who rallied round and helped in so many ways.

Jean Warkup. (Guider)

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REMINDER !!

Don't forget - the NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW is being staged on SATURDAY, 6TH JULY, opening at 2.00 pm. Admission 5P (3P for children). Classes for all and a mammoth Auction of Exhibits at 5.00 pm.

Please try and find something to donate to our very popular Gift Stall. Bill Wood or John Bullock will be happy to accept any time, before the Show - or bring it along to the hall when you come. Thank you, again, for your support.

J.P.B.

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GARDEN NOTES - JULY

If the summer is hot and dry, July can be a hard month on lawns, shrubs, trees or hedges planted since last summer. Give heavy supplies of water to the roots and spray with clean water each evening. Feed newly planted hedges with a quick acting fertilizer. Be sure it's well watered in. Care of growing plants is the chief work in the flower garden, this month. Annuals should be thinned out, from time to time, so that no plant crowds its neighbour. If you have gaps in the border, some of the annual seedlings can be carefully transplanted instead of being merely pulled out. For exhibition plants, one ounce of phosphate of potash and one ounce of nitrate of potash, mixed together in two gallons of water makes a quick acting stimulant. Cut away flowers of Delphiniums as they fade, to encourage a second crop of bloom. Feed Dahlias with liquid manure and keep the tall varieties well staked. Going on holiday? Last thing, cut the grass short as possible. Do all the hoeing you can and look for any plants that need tying up. This is a good time to increase Hydrangeas either by layering or cuttings of young wood, inserted in sandy soil in a closed frame.

There is never an off-season in the vegetable garden. Although the kitchen garden is filled with growing plants, there is still plenty to do amongst them. When hoeing French beans draw a little soil towards the stems of growing plants. Plant out Broccoli and Sprouts for winter crops, 30 inches each way is not too much. The last week of the month, sow a few seeds for spring cabbage. If weather is dry, celery and leeks should be the first for watering.

C.P.

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NATURE INTEREST - THE GOLDEN EAGLE

This bird is surely rightly named "The King of the Birds." We, here, in the south will never expect to see this magnificent creature, flying wild and free, but in Scotland it can be seen frequently, flying, gliding, circling around high in the clouds, with easy grace and perfect rhythm. This pleasure has been mine five times while motoring through Scotland, usually well up in the Highlands. This beautiful bird is slightly unusual because the female is very much the larger of the pair. She is approximately 3 feet long with a wing span of seven feet.

I was lucky enough, one year, to be invited on to the island of Stroma - a small island right in the middle of the Pentland Firth. It is owned and farmed by three people - two brothers and a sister, its sole inhabitants. At their invitation the Stromness Field Club arranged a motorboat trip to the island to see the nests of a pair of wild ravens. Fortunately I was on holiday and able to go along. We climbed the cliffs and viewed the nests, but could not get close enough to see what they contained.

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

Later, one of the brothers said, "I suppose you know the "Eagle" is back to the island again." Simultaneously about five of us said, "What eagle?" "The Golden Eagle" he said, "down there on the ledge of that cliff." There, sure enough, with the aid of our glasses we could see the huge female eagle sitting on the nest. It was too far away to photograph so we decided to go a little nearer. Suddenly she stood up and stared in our direction. I made a few rough sketches in my book. Then, high up in the sky above us, we saw the male. Moments later, the female, with a terrific shuffle and scuffle, was off her nest and her two eggs and up in the sky with her mate. It was a thrilling experience. The ravens were completely forgotten. On the return journey our "skipper" took us all round the Isle of Stroma. What a strange life for those two brothers and their sister. They have been on that island many years and if ever I am invited, I shall be pleased to meet them all again.

A.S.A. Wooster

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REMINISCENCES by R.E. Corder.

In the earliest years of this century, the Parslow family lived in Barrack Cottage, opposite the end of Purrrells Meadow and it was here that Mr. Harry Parslow was born, one of a family of six.

Bringing up a large family involved Harry's mother in many activities, beyond caring for the home. She was, without question, the fastest cherry picker in the village. She also went out into the fields, with other cottagers, to gather stones in her large hessian apron which she then loaded on to the cart, by which they were taken away for road making. Harry's mother also gathered deadwood from the trees on the Common, with the aid of a long fir pole and was a familiar sight carrying the huge bundle of sticks on her head back to her cottage.

When we visited Harry, recently, he also recalled, with a chuckle, some of his experiences in the Home Guard with Alf Page, Harold Stallwood, Jock Hunt and other members of the Hughenden Platoon. One of their duties was to mount guard at Hughenden Manor, three beds being provided in the stables for those not actually on guard duty, while the man on guard would stand outside the stable door. For night after night nothing happened, so naturally Harry and his friends got bored and decided they would all go to sleep. Unfortunately, their Commanding Officer decided to visit the post one night and found them all asleep and a severe reprimand followed.

To avoid this happening again, the friends on duty decided to close the big gates leading to the stable yard and stand a shovel behind them, which would fall and make a clatter if the gates were opened during the night and awaken the sentry who then

contd.....

REMINISCENCES (contd)

had time to take up his position long before the inspecting officer reached the stables.

Some research into the history of the Bucks Home Guard indicates that the 'first blood' was drawn by the Bucks Battalion in Hughenden Road. Two unnamed L.D.V's armed with rifles were assisting the police at a check point, with orders to fire at the wheels of any car which failed to stop at the signal from the police. Late one evening, early in June 1940 a car, driven at great speed, failed to stop when requested, so BANG ! BANG ! went the two rifles. The car skidded to a halt at the side of the road and when the constable opened the door a body fell out and lay in a crumpled heap on the verge. The driver was still at the wheel, with blood running down his face, while the two passengers in the back sat motionless, paralysed with terror. Examination of the four showed they had all been drinking heavily and the driver's injury was due to a bullet breaking the skin along the whole length of the parting of his hair. The bullet, instead of piercing the tyres, had made a neat hole in the rear windscreen, passed between the heads of the passengers in the rear and after nicking the head of the driver, had passed out through the front windscreen. They were four regular soldiers, anxious to get back to barracks, before the gates were locked for the night.

-----  
R.E. Corder reminds his readers that some inaccuracies are bound to occur, either as a result of lapse of memory by the people interviewed, or errors in the transcription of the recorded words. Unfortunately, we cannot verify any of the facts and we only offer these reminiscences for your interest.  
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HITLER'S BOMBS - FRANK NEWDICK - AND THE CLUMPS

These disparate items merge into my story in the following manner.

In 1939 a forlorn and quiet little boy named Tony Lovell came to us as an evacuee from London's bombing. Thirty five years later and neither little nor quiet, he has just bought 'Rose Cottage' down on the Common and very properly invited his old foster-parents to Christmas lunch. After doing full justice to Marion Lovell's cooking, we were shown a few things left behind by previous owners.

Among them was a nice little painting of an old lady, standing at the cottage door and looking out toward the Common. I remembered, that, in my youth a well known village character named Frank Newdick had lived here. Frank had played in goal for Naphill F.C. and the place to find him was still at a football match. So, while we watched Naphill beating Holmer Green, I asked him about the painting and uncovered a mine of

contd.....

HITLER'S BOMBS - FRANK NEWDICK - AND THE CLUMPS (contd)

information. "That was my grandmother" said Frank. "She was Mrs. Strudley and that cottage had been in the family for 200 years. That was fust bought by one of the old drovers as used the clumps on the common." Now I should explain that the 'clumps', whose remains can still be found over near the Bradenham entrance, were corrals or stockades to hold cattle when Naphill common was a well-known stop on one of the great trade routes of England, which only ended with the coming of the railways. They came from Wales and the lush pastures of Wiltshire and sheep from the Berkshire Downs, all destined for the growing metropolis. They travelled on the old green roads like the Icknield Way, turning off to Bradenham and then up to the sweet grass on the common to recuperate. This much I knew, but I had thought they went on through Wycombe, but Frank had had the old story handed down to him, through generations, from that drover who settled here. "They was going to St. Albans," he said, "which is still the headquarters of all gypsies, didekois and fair folk. They went across the common, down Coates Lane, up Green Hill, through Penn Street to the Chalfonts."

A memory came back to me of being shown a little sunken road at C. St. Giles, called Shire Lane, which marks the boundary of Bucks and Herts and I had no doubt this was the way they went: and shortly the horses would turn off to the great horse fair at Barnet, while the cattle would meet others coming from the east. The butchers and dealers would come out from London and deals would be struck by clapping together the open palms of buyer and seller. Woe betide any man who broke such a contract !

"Afore your time," said Frank, "there was a little old cottage over on the edge of the common, where the drovers slept when they weren't guarding the cattle." Albert Brown was with me as we talked and we could both remember, as boys in the 1920's, the ruined footings of a cottage just where Frank described it. No trace remains today, but the reader can find the spot by looking for a tree, unique on the common; a *Prunus Lusitanica*, the Portuguese Laurel. An old gnarled specimen and I like to think that one of the drovers planted it outside their little house.

I end with a quote from the Rev. Dickens, lately vicar of Hughenden, "I am sorry to say that Naphill Common was once the haunt of loose women, laying in wait for the drovers." What tales those scattered stones could tell !

From our Agricultural Correspondent.

.....

.....

That very "Dickensian" quote will trigger off new trains of thought as one walks on the common !

Ed.

THE PONY CLUB FIELD - BRADENHAM

The small triangular field, above Bradenham Manor and opposite the entrance to the gamekeeper's cottage, is let by the National Trust to the Old Berkeley Hunt (Hughenden) Branch of the Pony Club. This was on the strict understanding that we fenced it off and that it was to be used by our members (approx. 90) only, for riding instruction and that any trespasses would jeopardise our continued use of the field. It may be of interest to know that it was almost impossible to find anywhere to hold instructional rallies for our members, and that that small field, though far from ideal and stretched to its limits to accommodate the children, is very precious to us.

Moreover, Pony Clubs are run entirely by voluntary helpers. It is not easy to raise money for equipment, or to get people to assist in the more arduous tasks. We had to find both to fence off the field, to clear it and to provide a few very simple rustic jumps for jumping instruction. The fencing has been deliberately broken, the little gate smashed up, posts have been uprooted. The tracks, in the various schooling areas have been overused by outsiders and now, sadly, our few jumps have either been levelled to the ground, or, in the case of one made of small logs, removed in pieces from the site.

If you wish to use the field - join the Pony Club. Otherwise please keep out. You are spoiling the enjoyment of so many local children and putting to risk their continued use of the land.

Ann Woodrow. District Commissioner

-----  
BRADENHAM FETE. . . . .On 20TH JULY 1974 at 2.30 pm a Fete is to be held in the beautiful grounds of BRADENHAM MANOR. Come along and join in the fun - there will be something for everyone, even for those who just want to sit and admire the lovely gardens. All proceeds are going to help with the restoration of the centuries old church at Bradenham.  
-----

The Ladies Darts Team, from The Wheel, brought home the Silver Cup this year. They celebrated their triumph with a supper at The Wheel and later, in the same week, a day trip to France. Congratulations on your success, ladies, and good luck for 1974.

Elsie Timberlake

-----  
RAY'S FRESH FISH

Mr. R. BOWLER, 272, MAIN ROAD, NAPHILL intends starting a FRESH FISH round in JULY. You will be advised as to the exact starting date by leaflet. Look out for "RAY'S FRESH FISH" van on WEDNESDAYS.  
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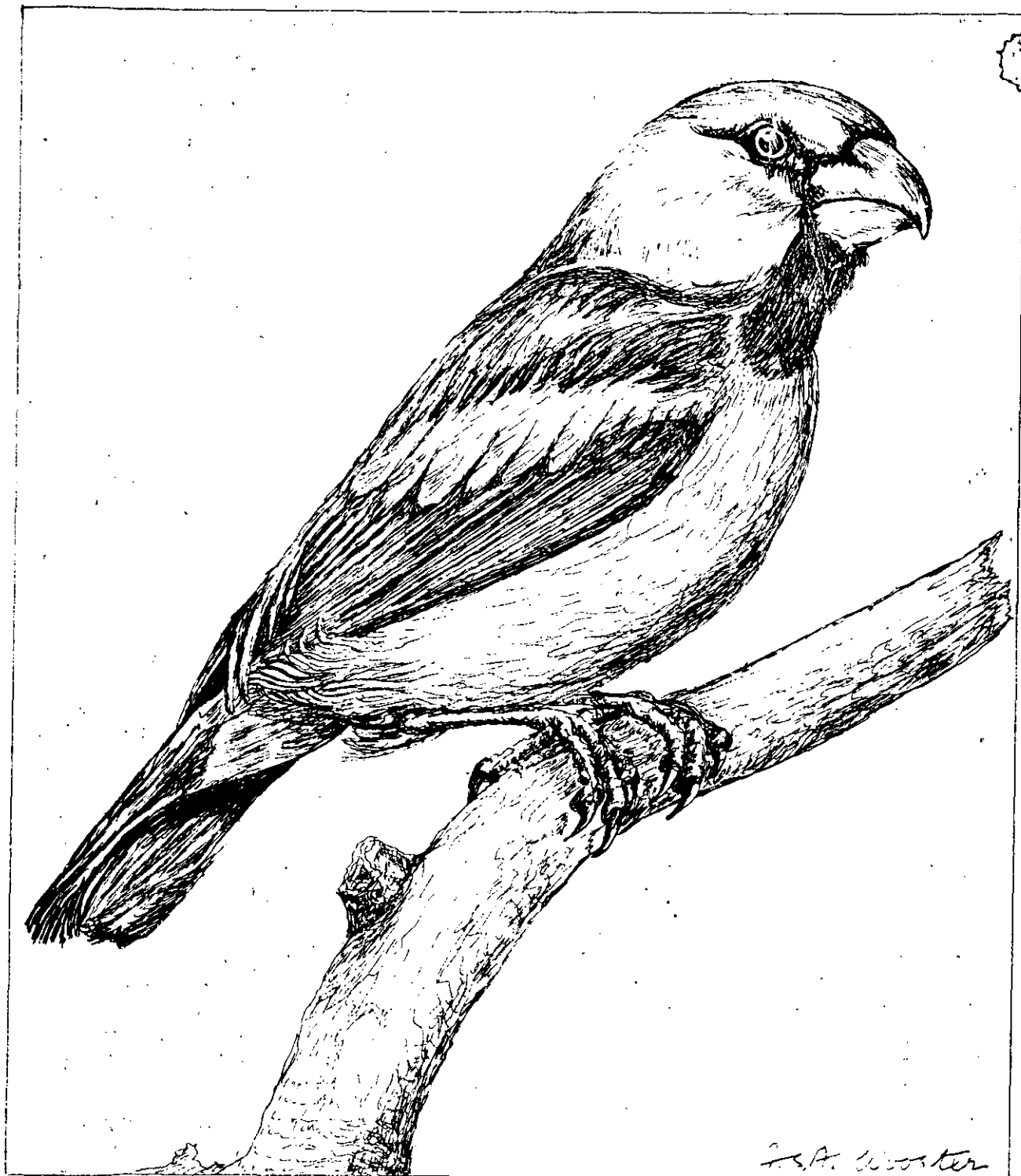
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**AUGUST**

**1974**

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - AUGUST 1974

Library	Every Friday	3.15-4.15 pm
Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
V.H.C.	5th	8.00 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
Whist	2nd 16th 30th	7.30 pm
Welfare	7th 21st	2.00 pm
Over 60's Coffee Morning	7th	9.00-12 noon
Youth Club Meeting	7th (C.R.)	8.00 pm
Naphill Neighbours	12th	7.45 pm
Drama	27th	7.45 pm
W.I. Committee	29th (C.R.)	2.30 pm

SANDING OF FLOOR - 31ST

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COMMENTARY

Comment, this month, is from the Dep. Ed. who has suddenly discovered that it isn't such a sinecure after all, Madam Ed. being away disporting herself in the Caledonian sunshine and living on haggis and bagpipes. And if she can bring some of that sunshine back with her, I'm sure we shall all be grateful.

Rumour has it that negotiations are under way, amongst the sporting fraternity, to see if they can agree on improving facilities at the Crick, to the benefit of all. An excellent idea which I'm sure would be well supported if it leads to the removal of some of the unsightly concrete structures which at present cluster round the back of the village hall.

There must be a lot of sympathy for Don and Anne Turner, whose long-planned family move to Cyprus was stopped at the eleventh hour by the eruption of the present crisis there. Don eventually went out to the unfortunate island, but naturally the family had to remain behind, with many arrangements disrupted. Let us hope that things settle down quickly and the separation is not prolonged.

The grass round the War Memorial was, at last, tidied up by an anonymous benefactor. Well done, whoever it was. It does the village no credit to let that little area look uncared for, and those nominally responsible for its maintenance would do well to reflect on why the stone is there and what it represents.

One of July's pleasures is to visit the Summer Show of the Horticultural Society - there to enjoy the sight and smell of summer's fruit and flowers. There was far from the usual abundance, this year, a reflection of the indifferent Spring and Summer weather, not any lack of energy and enthusiasm on the part of our local gardeners.

One missed the fragrance of the sweet peas - apparently the National Sweet Pea Exhibition was held on the same day - a regrettable coincidence. There was still much to admire, especially if one owns, as I do, a garden that resembles a cross between a jungle and a scrap yard for children's old and broken toys.

The floral arrangements ranged from the dainty and exquisite to the bold and beautiful. What a pity, though, that there were so few entries in the children's class. Perhaps a word dropped at the school would swell the numbers in this delightful section.

In the Billiard Room, the cakes and pastries, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, were very mouth watering and one regretted one could not taste the wine. However, a very good cup of tea was served in the kitchen.

It is pleasant to walk among flowers - to meet friends and talk flower talk - a gracious afternoon, somehow. Thank you, Naphill horticulturists.

A.M.L.

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for August</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
4th	Rev. Weeks (From Indiana USA)	Mr. F. Howard
11th	Family Service Mr. K. Lewis	Mr. C. Graham
18th	Rev. Weeks	Mr. M. Britten
25th	Mr. W.R. Kempton	Rev. H. Pettet
.....	.....	.....

A coffee morning will be held on Wed. 14th August from 10.00 am to 12 noon in the garden of KINGSWICK COTTAGE, opposite the Launderette, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Sawney, where we will have an opportunity of meeting the Rev. Weeks and his family. There will be a Bring & Buy stall.

A Social Evening, with Faith Supper, will be held in the Methodist Schoolroom on Thurs. 15th August at 7.30 pm. Rev. J. Weeks will be present.

NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH (contd)

4TH AUGUST AT 8.00 PM. The High Wycombe Salvation Army Band will give a programme of music, with Community Hymns and Songs, in the Naphill Playing Field.

Rev. Fugler, Baptist Minister of High Wycombe will be the Leader and will be assisted by a Youth Group.

If wet, this event will be in the village hall.

M.G.B.

-----  
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The environment has been a major cause of concern at recent meetings of District Council committees. Noise from aircraft was discussed and it was agreed that support should be given to the Local Authorities' Aircraft Noise Council, in their bid to cut down noise from aircraft flying over populated areas. I will support any practical scheme to reduce the noise level of jets flying over our village.

The fouling of footpaths by dogs was another topic. An owner whose dog fouls a town footpath is liable to a £2. fine, whilst a rural dog owner must pay £20. It was agreed there should be equality among dog owners and it is proposed that both should be fined the larger amount! It is to be hoped that dogs take heed of the awful warning !

The recent disaster at Flixborough caused great concern among the Councillors, who were anxious to know what dangerous processes might be carried on in local factories. Although assurance was given that there are no Flixborough type factories in this area, the Government are to be asked to ensure that local authorities have full knowledge of the degree of danger involved in processes at any factories in their area.

Salvaging of waste paper is another project that is being worked on, at the moment, and it is hoped to introduce a Waste Paper Salvage scheme shortly, after all the technical details have been worked out.

People, at last, seem to be more aware of the availability of the High Heavens tip at Booker for dumping and it is reported that it is being regularly used, large items being taken there in preference to being dumped in rural areas - such as our woods.

AUDREY MOORE

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PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

For the first time, in many years, there is a waiting list for allotments in Naphill and Walters ash and in the Parish as a whole. This fact has prompted the Clerk to ensure that all available plots are in full use and under reasonable cultivation. Where there are obvious signs of neglect, the Council is empowered to serve notice and to re-allocate to persons on the waiting list.

contd.....

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES (contd)

There have been reported instances of pilferage from the allotments and any readers, who witness suspicious behaviour, are asked to contact one of the Parish Councillors, Mr. R.A. Morgan, Mr. R. Pushman or Mrs. C. Wild, or to inform the police.

Parish boundary changes are in the news again and a special meeting of the Council will be held in early September to make its recommendations. At this point let me assure all readers that there will be no changes, without full public knowledge. In any case, it is doubtful whether Naphill will be involved in any fundamental way. If readers have particular views on this subject, please let us know.

R. PUSHMAN

-----  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The first '200' Club draw was held on 6th July. Prize-winners were as follows:-

- 1st        £50.        D.W.T. Adamson, 40 Friars Gdns. H. Valley.
- 2nd        £20.        Mrs. Rita Powell, 7 Wellhouse Way, Naphill.
- 3rd        £5.         K.V. Wall, 5 Wedgwood Drive, H. Valley.

We hope to arrange a lighthearted Challenge Cricket Match against Hughenden Valley Residents' Association, early in September. Any member who would like to take part, please contact Mike Coates, Oak End, Clappins Lane (2503).

Our next fund-raising event will be the Rummage Sale in September, and you can support the fund quite easily by saving suitable goods. If you have any storage problems, please telephone one of the committee members:

H. Bridgman	2428	P. Rhodes	2483	T. Hussey	3767
R. Pushman	3122	Mrs. A. Moore	2048	R. Corley	2008
		W. Wood	3163		

H.B.

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NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

The entertainment, given by the Ever Green Trio, was greatly enjoyed by all members present. The violin solos, played by Mrs. Olive Pearce, were superb. After the Trio had finished, their entertainment, we were given a song sheet and were able to sing most of the songs, which brought back happy memories of the twenties. Whilst tea was being served, Mrs. Pearce said she had performed at Naphill Village Hall with a concert party in 1936 and Mrs. Dorothy Smith (snr) joined her in reminiscing about the people whom they both knew.

August is a holiday month, but we do have one special effort for the Club, that is a COFFEE MORNING in the Village Hall on

contd.....



NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB (contd)

7th AUGUST at 10.00 to 12 noon. There will be a Bring & Buy stall, toys, bric-a-brac, etc. and if anyone has surplus garden produce, flowers or vegetables, we will be happy to collect. Tel. Naphill 2231. Come and have a coffee 5P and find yourself a bargain! Everyone in the village is welcome.

Our next meeting will be on 6th September and anyone who is 60 years and over will be made very welcome.

A.G.

-----  
NAPHILL W.I.

A most pleasant afternoon was spent by members who attended the July meeting.

Mrs. Dixon entertained us with 'Songs with Lute Accompaniment'. A history of the Lute was given, also a description of each song. Mrs. M. Piercy thanked Mrs. Dixon for a most enjoyable musical afternoon.

The competition - An arrangement of summer leaves was won by Mrs. Reed and Mrs. Brill.

A report on the V.H.C. meeting was given by Mrs. Brill. Mrs. Kilby, a former member of Naphill W.I. has accepted an invitation to attend the Birthday Party in October.

Mrs. V. Pushman, who was the delegate at the 53rd A.G.M. held at the Albert Hall in June, gave her account of the day's proceedings.

June was a money making month. The W.I. Stall at the Fete raised £57.86 whilst the Art Evening raised £39. all for Village Hall Funds.

A Tea Party will be held at the home of Mrs. M. Piercy on Thurs. 15th August. Everyone welcome.

August being the holiday month, our next meeting will be on 5th September, when the speaker will be Mrs. B. Hill and her subject, "Other People". The competition: A Holiday Experience written on a postcard. The Harvest Festival will be held at this meeting.

Tea hostesses: Mrs. Brill Mrs. Kent Mrs. Hewinson  
Mrs. L. Hussey

-----  
NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

At the last meeting, we enjoyed a Fashion Show staged by June Simmonds. A variety of dresses and casual clothes were modelled for us and later members and friends were able to try on and buy anything that 'took their fancy'.

Next meeting - 12TH AUGUST - 7.45 pm. will be a demonstration of Corn Dolly Making. These woven straw decorations are still sometimes seen at some Harvest Festivals. This is a very ancient country craft, which like many others is dying out.

J.M.C.

## TENNIS & BADMINTON CLUB

The season's inter Club League fixtures have been completed, with mixed success. The men's 'A' team won two of their five County Shield matches, whilst the 'B' team, in a division lower, fared marginally better, winning three out of the same total.

This year, our policy to take a more serious approach toward the High Wycombe evening mixed league has paid dividends, as we lost only one match and must be favourites for promotion to Division 1.

The end of the league season leaves us faced with several friendly inter-club matches and, of course, the Club Championships. The Club tournament is well under way, but members are reminded to observe the schedule for the completion of each round, or we shall not be able to stage Finals Day, as planned on Saturday, 14th September.

Arrangements have been made to celebrate Finals Day with a 'Fish & Chip' supper/Dance, in the evening, which will be held in the Village Hall. Unfortunately, we are obliged to limit numbers, due to the size of facilities and tickets will be offered, initially, to full senior members and partners.

Please note in your diary our FASHION SHOW scheduled for Friday 20th September and our ANNUAL DINNER/DANCE which will be held at The Bell, Aston Clinton on Friday, 8th November.

D.C.

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## NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Affiliated to: The Royal Horticultural Society  
The Royal National Rose Society  
The National Sweet Pea, Dahlia, Gladiolus,  
Delphinium and Chrysanthemum Societies.

PRESIDENT: H.C. Hussey Esq. 'Windrusg' Stocking Lane.

CHAIRMAN: Colin J. Watkins 'Manesty' Stocking Lane.  
Tel: Naphill 2600

VICE-CHAIRMAN: H.A.G. Wiseman 'Hazeldene' Main Road.  
Tel: Naphill 3402

HON. SECRETARY: P.J. Hyre 'Oatley' Main Road. Tel: Naphill 2437

SHOW SECRETARY: J.P. Bullock 157 Main Road. Tel: Naphill 3429

TREASURER: G.T. Smith 'Waldens' Main Road.  
Tel: Naphill 3302

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Minimum of 15P annually.

ACTIVITIES: Include visits to places of horticultural interest: talks and film shows at the Village Hall. Summer and Autumn Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Shows. Purchasing facilities for members.

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW

As the majority of local residents will know, the Naphill Summer Show has had, for some forty years, as the very 'centre spine' of its beautiful displays of flowers, a huge variety of the finest sweet peas in the country: their shapely elegance and exquisite perfume have served to guarantee the attendance of numerous admirers - experts and non-experts alike.

Many of the same dedicated growers of these lovely blooms, who compete in the National Sweet Pea Society's Annual Show were also regular exhibitors at Naphill - but, alas, not this year. For reasons beyond local control, "The National" apparently for the first time ever, was staged on a Saturday: the Naphill Saturday !!

Bereft of it's classic centre-piece, with but one faithful local member showing sweet peas, there were, almost naturally some dire forebodings as to the possible success of the Show, but despite this most unfortunate clash of dates and because of the strong interest in and support of this popular Society, another success was indeed registered: all who attended and passed comment to the membership were firmly of that opinion.

Most of the other many Classes were well supported, with high quality exhibits and the Judges were most complimentary in their remarks about them and of the Show in general.

Thanks to the generosity of the Exhibitors, in donating their handiwork for the Acution, the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wood on the Gift Stall, Mrs. Pat Bowen with the teas and young Philip Adams looking after the Raffle, the financial aspects worked out very well indeed - always a gratifying feature.

The Society hopes to have the pleasure of your company and that of your friends and neighbours at their AUTUMN SHOW - SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER and thanks you all for your continuing support in 'goods in kind' contributions, and in the vital matter of Show attendances. Don't forget: at the Autumn Show there will be even more beautiful bargains in the auction 'National level' exhibits of every kind - and at 'knock-down' prices without equal in the county.

J.P.B.

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GARDEN NOTES - AUGUST

August weather often follows the pattern of July with both wet and dry periods. We often get some very warm days this month, but now the nights are lengthening considerably.

If you are thinking of buying a greenhouse, now is the time to decide where it should be sited and to order it. With luck you may get delivery of it in time to have it up and open for business before winter sets in. You have the choice of wood, concrete or aluminium. Most people prefer aluminium, as

contd.....

GARDEN NOTES - AUGUST (contd)

there are no maintenance problems. A greenhouse makes it possible for the keen amateur gardener to work in comfort during the coldest, wettest months of the year and provide for his family flowers, vegetables and fruits out of season. Light is very important, so run it east to west, with the door at the west end.

The gardener always has to cope with pests and diseases attacking his crops, so keep the 'garden medicine chest' well stocked up. We all have our favourite remedies for plant illness, but prevention is better than cure and a good healthy plant is not so liable to disease. Read the manufacturer's directions very carefully, keep to them; a lot of harm can be done by over-dosing.

Pay strict attention to the tying of climbers such as honeysuckle, roses and clematis and to the staking of late flowering of chrysanthemums and Michaelmas Daises. Feed dahlias and chrysanthemums regularly, using liquid manure and applying this after ordinary watering. A good time now to take cuttings of geraniums, hydrangeas etc.

Plant out seedlings of broccoli, endive, savoys and lettuce whenever a patch of ground is left vacant. Prickly seeded spinach for winter use can be sown now. If the weather is dry, syringe the Runner Beans with clean water in the evening.

C.P.

---

TRANSPORTATION PLAN - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

You could be excused for asking, "What participation period?" As far as transportation planning for this area is concerned, if you'd blinked at the wrong moment you would have missed it. But some did keep their eyes open and a substantial amount of public comment was received by County following their production of a pamphlet describing three possible strategies, viz:  
(1) More roads. (2) More public transport. (3) A bit of both.

Most people seem to have opted for strategy 2, acknowledging that it doesn't in fact mean you throw the car keys away. There would be restrictions on car usage, but this would not apply in Naphill itself; rather in the congested areas of Wycombe. Minibus services, purpose designed for commuters, would supplement the ordinary bus service, which would also be improved, although again more noticeably in the town than outside. The nett effect on Naphill life is likely to be small, unless you commute, in which case you might choose to bus your way into town while your car, safe from the vandalism of the central car parks, is left to the tender mercies of your wife.

Contribution by Mr. P. Stoker, A404 Action Group.

NATURE INTEREST - THE HAWFINCH OR CHERRYFINCH

This is the largest of our British finches. It is slightly larger than the starling, but looks much larger because of its bold appearance - large head and beak. It is fairly widely distributed, but because of shy, retiring nature and its silent, unobtrusive activity, it is rarely seen.

I was the proud owner of a male Hawfinch, many years ago and he became very tame, but was extremely sly. I was "had" many times when offering him cherry pips. I had spoiled him by giving him too many garden green peas. I became the owner of this hawfinch from the aviary of Mr. Merriman, living at Chesham, who bred many British birds. His method was to find birds nests in the countryside and if there were three or more eggs in the nest, he would take one home to his aviary, where he kept Norwich and border canary especially for hatching. The larger eggs such as the Hawfinch would be put under the Norwich canary and the smaller eggs under the Border canary. Both are wonderful mothers and will almost always hatch out a "mixed bag." This would enable the British Bird Breeders ring to be placed on the new-hatched chick which was then registered as aviary bred.

The Hawfinch, though a lovely bird when tame and one can soon gain its confidence, is very difficult to feed. He must have plenty of fruit pips - - its the kernels he enjoys, especially those of cherries and plums. With his massive parrot-shaped beak he will split the hard pips down the middle and take out the kernels faster than one can keep count. Hawfinches do not want the fleshy part, yet give them garden peas and they can shell them as fast as we humans can - the only thing is they stop to eat them ! They will eat hawhips, the pips of the sloe and holly berries and I found my Hawfinch would also eat hemp seed and sun flower seeds.

I managed to keep him very happy for four years and although the feeding door was often left open, he never once wished to take his freedom. In a small coppice, in front of the lawn, were three wild cherry trees and during the fruiting season I built him a small aviary nearby. I would pick branches from the trees and put them in his aviary and after a few days I let him free to take to the wild. In his aviary was a shallow bowl of water and afterwards I often saw him drinking there. I tried to renew our friendship, but each time I approached the aviary he would nip out and up into the cherry trees. He stayed there practically the whole winter, but left us during the Spring and we never saw him again, or his family.

I recently saw a pair of Hawfinches in the Hampden Wood, but they were shy and their stay was far too short. I still have hopes that I may see one with a registration ring on its right leg.

A.S.A. Wooster

REMINISCENCES by R.E. Corder.

This month, I visited the cottage in which Mr. & Mrs. Gib Goodchild have lived for so many years, to hear what Gib could tell me of his life time, so full of interesting experiences.

His cottage is in Hunts Hill Lane, but Gib Goodchild assured me that in his boyhood it was always known as Hill Top Road, which connected with Ants Hill Lane, so called on account of the contour of the road, until the Council came along and raised the level of the road, in the dip, by ten feet and at same time erected a name board incorrectly naming the road as Hunts Hill Lane.

Gib's most interesting tale was about The Ghost of Hughenden Manor which was first observed between 1875 and 1878. The ghost, at first, haunted Hughenden Manor and Canon Elagdon, who was vicar of Hughenden at that time, was called in by Lord Beaconsfield to exorcise the ghost, but evidently the exorcism was not carried out effectively and the ghost just moved on to the Alms Houses and haunted the Donkey Shed instead.

Now about that time, a resident of the Alms Houses named Sammy Dean committed suicide in the Donkey Shed, so any noises heard at night were thought to be Sammy's ghost on the prowl, but as no-one had seen the ghost, it could not be identified.

When Gib Goodchild and his wife moved up to Naphill, the ghost came along as well and was seen or heard in the cottage as often as four or five times each year, until the winter of 1956/57 when it ceased to trouble them.

One night, whilst in bed during that winter, Gib saw the ghost step over the threshold, first with its left foot and then with its right and the uncanny feeling created by her presence made him sit up in bed and he was just about to speak to it when it turned back and left the room. The figure he saw was that of Viscountess Cunningham, whom he recognised from the statue he had seen under the bell tower at Hughenden Church, where he had been Verger and Clerk for ten years.

When the ghost visited the cottage, both Gib and his wife were always awakened by the feeling of a supernatural presence and they were able to describe the sound of the footsteps they heard as being like someone creeping on newly laid linoleum. The ghost was not always alone, for on one occasion two distinct sets of footsteps were heard in different parts of the bedroom; evidently the ghost had brought a companion.

Viscountess Cunningham was reputed to be one of the mistresses of George III and her descendants had told Gib of the valuable gifts she had received from the King, even the Hughenden Estate was reputed to have been purchased for his illegitimate son.

contd.....

REMINISCENCES (contd)

There also seems to have been some mystery surrounding the Festival Chalice at Hughenden Church, for Gib Goodchild was Verger and Clerk at the time it was given to Hughenden Church by Canon Blagdon, and all that could be learned about it was that it was stolen from a Spanish Church some four hundred years previously. It was darkly hinted that Viscountess Cunningham's ghost had given this information to the good Canon.

Before I left, I heard a great deal about The Crick, Napple Straights, Napple Flats, Napple Common, Napple Green and the Welsh shepherds, but this is another story.

-----

THE TULIP TREE (LIRIODENDON)

Thompson's Stores was the first shop to be built at Walters Ash (1938) and the Tulip Tree was the first tree to be planted in the tiny front garden.

Maurice has always been interested in rare flowering trees and he knew that this one was delicate, slow-growing and that it would be years before it flowered, if ever. To our surprise, about seven years later, it was covered with over sixty lovely orange and pale green flowers, like waterlilies !

His interest in trees is still as keen as ever. Do we have an Aspidestra in our sitting room window ? No ! we have a five foot Eucalyptus Tree.

If, some few years hence, you should drive past the front of our house and think the rear garden is on fire, don't be alarmed, it will be the Embbothrium or Mexican Fire Bush in full flame-coloured flower !

A. Thompson

-----

Malcolm Reid, our local actor, has returned to Britain after a successful and happy tour in Australia. While in Adelaide, he visited and stayed with the daughter of Mrs. Jack, who lives in Champion Cottage. During his tour he also met Robert Dougal, the former B.B.C. Television News Reader.

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CHRISTMAS COVER COMPETITION ! ! !

Entries are invited from children under 14 on 1st October 1974 for a competition to design the cover for the December 'Gazette.' Designs, in black and white only, should measure 8 inches high and 7 inches wide and should reach the Editor by the end of October. A modest prize will be forthcoming for the winner.

-----

\*\*\*\*\*AFTERNOON TEA PARTY\*\*\*\*\*

To be held at: "BOWLAND HOUSE"  
228, Main Road, Naphill.

On WEDNESDAY - 21ST AUGUST from 3.00 - 5.00 pm.  
Bring & Buy stall. Children welcome. Proceeds to Guides, Rangers and Brownie Funds.

CORRESPONDENCE

" Dear Madam Editor,

May I, through the Gazette, ask dog owners in Naphill not to allow their dogs to foul our school playground and grassed areas. This situation has recently become very offensive and is a health hazard to the children of Naphill First School, who play in these areas.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) K.E. WESTBROOK (Headmistress) "

"Dear Editor,

I was in Naphill for a few days holiday and while there went to Walters Ash to see if it had changed at all - it had - but I was delighted to find that the 'Tree' was still there ! My husband and I are pleased and grateful and thank the Village Council responsible for making its preservation possible.....thank you. I enclose a few lines about it that may be of interest.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgd) ALICE THOMPSON "

.....  
Warrant Officer Mason, RAF (Heraldry) painted a replica of a spray (flower and bud) as a parting gift when we left. This we have had framed and would not part with it. We left in 1957.

I was pleased to meet so many old friends again at the Fete and at Mrs. Bailey's Garden Party and send them our greetings and good wishes and thank them for their welcome.

"Dear Mr. Bridgman,

I read with great interest the article about 'The Clumps' and the extinct cottage where the Portuguese Laurel still can be seen.

Having been born in the Bradenham Hill Cottages, with my six other sisters and brothers, Goodchild by surname. With regards the cottage, the last people to live in it were Boaz and Eliza Nichols, with a large family, one being Bert Nichols, who lived at 'Vincent's Farm' Downley Road, Naphill. That also has gone. The cottage on the Common was condemned and pulled down in 1907 or thereabouts.

My grandmother was Emma Nichols, she was Boaz's sister. There was another cottage, similar to the original, 'Heyshams'. Two room dwellings, under the wood by Willow Pond, almost parallel to the Nichols cottage.

contd.....



CORRESPONDENCE (contd)

Fred Eastden lived there; when the cottage was demolished, my father used the garden as an allotment. Now all that remains is the holly trees, grown high. These were the garden hedge originally. This lies to the left of the Common, from Bradenham, above the Top Clump, also at the Naphill end of the meadow, now overtaken by bracken, which we called Nichols meadow.

My eldest sister, living in Bradenham, remembers playing with the young Nichols. The house was a two up/two down building. Bradenham Hill cottages were built around 1840/50. Previously my grandparents had lived in cottages in the meadow to the rear of the existing ones. These also were condemned and the grandparents moved into the new houses, my father taking over the tenancy when they died.

Regarding the cottage mentioned in the July issue, Dashwood's erected a First World War army hut in the garden inhabited by Bertie Wingrove and family, Commonkeeper for the Dashwoods, that has gone the way of the others.

We were walking around the Common, a few Sunday evenings ago, and found the Laurel Tree which used to overhang the cottage gate. The gorse bushes are gone, where we found long-tailed tits nests, the bracken has taken over and the oak trees.

Hoping this may be of interest.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd)

PHYLLIS D. SMITH  
(nee Goodchild)

"

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Information and payment to Mr. A. Lawrence,  
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Announcements: Births, Marriages, Deaths are published  
free of charge, if duly notified to the  
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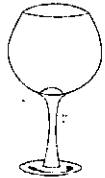
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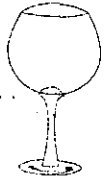
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# NAPHILL—+—GAZETTE



THE SCOTTISH WILD-CAT IN WOODLAND BRACKEN

SEPTEMBER 1974



NAPHILL GAZETTE No. 276

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - SEPTEMBER 1974

Play Group (starts 10th)	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.	9-12 noon
Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat. (B.R.)	7.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.	8.00 pm
V.H.C.	2nd	8.00 pm
Drama	3rd 10th 17th 24th	7.45 pm
Welfare	4th 18th	2.00 pm
W.I.	5th	2.30 pm
Over 60's	6th 20th	2.30 pm
Naphill Tennis Club Jumble Sale	7th	2.30 pm
Naphill Neighbours	9th	7.45 pm
Sports Club Meeting	11th (C.R.)	8.00 pm
Horticultural Meeting	11th (B.R.)	8.00 pm
Scouts	12th (C.R.)	8.00 pm
Whist	13th 27th	7.30 pm
Horticultural Show	14th	2.00 pm
Tennis Club Fish & Chip Supper	14th	8.30 pm
Dancing Class	17th 24th	3.00-7.45 pm
Guides	18th	7.00-8.30 pm
Art (start 19th)	Every Thurs. (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
Tennis Club Fashion Show	20th	8.00 pm
Naphill Residents Rummage Sale	21st	2.30 pm
Linen Sale	25th	5.00-10.00 pm
W.I.	26th (C.R.)	2.30 pm
Scouts & Guides Jumble Sale	28th	10.00-5.00 pm
Youth Club	30th	7.45-9.45 pm
<u>FLOOR SANDING</u>	<u>1st 2nd 3rd</u>	

COMMENTARY

August is a holiday month and a resting time for committees, clubs, etc. One had expected a slender Gazette, but it has turned out to be quite bulky.

Holidays are times that we all enjoy, coming back refreshed and with that "happy to be home again" feeling. It was not so, alas, for Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Holland who returned to find that their home had been vastly damaged by a senseless act of vandalism. The Gazette regrets that Naphill should be the hunting ground of such vandals and extends its sympathy to Mr. & Mrs. Holland.

It has been with the hope of combatting such vandalism that many people have worked hard, over the past few months, to establish a local Youth Club. Their efforts have, at last, come to fruition and the opening of the club is announced in this issue. The community must be grateful to all who give of their time to this cause, but at the same time parents must remember that children are only what we train and allow them to be.

Mention of "The Clumps" has stirred many memories and we have another letter, this month, from a Mrs. Willis who lives in Winslow. It has been a great and interesting pleasure to receive these letters.

Following on the Dep. Ed's. remarks on the War Memorial, there is a letter from Mr. W. Wood which will gain support from many residents. The Memorial does, indeed, look shabby.

It is seldom that the Gazette has the pleasure of announcing a marriage and we all rejoice in the announcement on page 13.

A particular personal pleasure of the holiday - sipping an early morning cup of tea in Scotland and reading the August Gazette. Thanks Dep. Ed., for an interesting and enjoyable issue.

PARENTS Would you remind your children (under 14) of our Christmas Cover competition. Designs, in black and white only, should measure 8 inches high and 7 inches wide. Entries should reach the Editor by 1st October.

-----

The Church of England Sunday School, which meets on Sundays in the Scouts Hut in Downley Road at 10.30 am will recommence after the summer break on 8th September. Mrs. Anthea Coles hopes to see all the usual children again and some new faces as well.

NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for September:</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
1st	Mr.W.Parkins	Miss Dore
8th	Rev.P.Tucker (Holy Communion)	Mr.A.Cook
15th	Family Service Mr.D.Church	Mrs.Maidment
22nd	Naphill Preaching Group	Mr.C.Campbell
29th	Harvest Festival Rev.P.Tucker (Children's Gift Service)	Dr.Rose

HARVEST SUPPER MONDAY - 30th SEPTEMBER at 7.15 pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

We say farewell to Rev.John Weekes, who is returning to the U.S.A. We have all found help and inspiration during his ministry with us. It has been a happy experience getting to know him and his family. We welcome back, among us, our own minister, Rev.P.Tucker, knowing that he will have much of interest to tell us about his stay in Indiana.

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HUGHENDEN CENTENNIAL

Hughenden Centennial started with the Flower Festival and Fete we held in June, but the Centenary of the restoration of the Church really starts this month on Sunday, 29th September, for it was on Michaelmas Day 1875 that the rebuilt Church was opened for worship. Throughout this year 1974 - 1975 we shall be holding many special events in the parish and a brochure of all the events already arranged has been published. It may be obtained from the church or from any of the church officials.

On Saturday, 28th September, Wycombe Four Choirs Festival is being held in our parish church and will culminate in a Festal Evensong, sung by choirs affiliated to the Royal School of Church Music.

On the following day, the Feast of our Patron Saint, S. Michael and All Angels, all our services will have a Festive character. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8.00 a.m. and followed at 9.30 a.m. by a special service for parents and young children.

Matins will be sung at 11 am and Evensong

contd.....

HUGHENDEN CENTENNIAL (contd)

at 6.30 pm. At both these services there will be special music and processions.

The purpose of our Centennial is to give thanks for the work of our forefathers in preserving the Church in the Park for our use. It is also intended to help all who live in this parish to use their church. We are all creatures of habit and there are some people who, having lost the habit of worship in church, would like to return to church but find it difficult to make the effort. They need some incentive or an excuse for a special effort. In the Centennial we hope we have provided such an incentive and excuse. New-comers to the area sometimes do not know where the church is. Centennial events, centred around the Church in the Park, may help them to find it.

We look forward to extending a welcome to many of our parishioners during this coming year.

P. Bullock-Flint

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DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Summer holiday time has meant few dates for the Council's committees in August, only the full Council and the Planning Committee holding meetings.

Appropriately, the subject of sport and leisure came up at the Council meeting, when the new Sports Centres at Handy Cross and Marlow were discussed.

Handy Cross is to be the more elaborate project. Situated above Wycombe, on the Marlow Road, the Council will be providing a Centre where all the sporting enthusiasts of the district should find something to their taste. The Marlow project is a much smaller affair, a scheme inherited from the old Marlow Council, which will provide sports facilities by the river at Court Gardens.

Whilst on the subject of the river, a Home & Water Safety Committee is being set up to promote greater awareness of the dangers in these environments. One has only to see tiny tots paddling inflatable boats on the river to realise how easily accidents could happen. It is also an alarming fact that there are more accidents in the home than on the roads.

It is hoped that the new Committee, in co-operation with many organisations in the area, will be able to make some contribution towards reducing tragedies in these areas.

AUDREY MOORE

OPENING OF NAPHILL'S NEW YOUTH CLUB

The new Naphill Youth Club now has a management committee and leadership team and will meet, for the first time, on MONDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER at 7.45 pm in Naphill Village Hall.

If you are aged between 13 and 18 (inclusive) and live in Naphill, Walters Ash or Bradenham, and would like to join, please fill in the application form and deliver to Brian Taylor, 'Drumlin' Louches Lane, Naphill, no later than 20th September.

The leaders must, with some regret, reserve the right to select the final membership if applications outnumber available places. Such a selection will be made with a view to producing a membership which gives a fair cross section of the three communities, the two sexes and the age groups within the stipulated range.

We hope that we will be able to welcome all who apply, but apologise, in advance, for any disappointment.

If you have NOT heard from the leader, Brian Taylor, by 29th September, please take it that you have been accepted and come along on the first night. You should bring 30 pence (20p membership and 10p for the first of the weekly subscriptions). If something happens which will prevent you from coming on the first night, please forward your membership fee to the above address to reserve your place. The club will meet on three Mondays per month from 7.45 to 9.45. The dates for September/October are ~~30th~~ Sept. 7th and 28th October.

If there are any unsuccessful applicatns, we will ensure that your name goes, immediately, on to the waiting list and inform you when we have a vacancy.

.....

APPLICATION FORM:

NAPHILL YOUTH CLUB

SURNAME.....CHRISTIAN NAMES.....

DATE OF BIRTH: .....

FULL ADDRESS: .....

.....

Deliver to: 'Drumlin' Louches Lane, Naphill, not later than 20th September, please.

NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

The Garden party, which was to have been held at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Smith Snr., had to be cancelled owing to inclement weather, so we adjourned to the Village Hall for games and tea.

The Coffee Morning, held in August, proved to be another success and we would like to say thank you to all those who helped make this, once again, a successful effort. The total sum of £43. was raised, including anonymous donations which have been acknowledged.

We resume our fortnightly meetings on 6th September. 20th September will be a Harvest Festival meeting, when we will be grateful for gifts that can be sold in the afternoon.

The outing to Ludgershall was thoroughly enjoyed by members and friends and the produce show put on by this Club was a joy to behold. After a lovely tea, the produce was auctioned and we came home with a good many bargains.

A.G.

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NAPHILL W.I.

After our August break, the monthly meetings resume again on Thursday, 5th September.

Mrs. B. Hill is to give a talk entitled "Other People". The competition will be "A holiday experience" written on a postcard. Members are reminded that at this meeting our Harvest Festival will be held.

Tea hostesses will be: Mrs. Brill, Mrs. Kent, Mrs. L.Hussey and Mrs. Hewinson.

A proposed visit to Westonbirt on Thursday, 10th October, is being considered.

J.M. Rhodes

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NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

Our August meeting proved to be a most entertaining evening and was well attended, despite the fact that many members were away on holiday.

Mrs. Badby gave us a demonstration on the art of Corn Dolly making. She brought many different designs of dollies, several of these named after the area or county from which they originate. These varied from the relatively simple to the really elaborate, which took a great deal of skill and patience. This fact became only too obvious as we were then invited to try ourselves with Mrs. Badby's step by

contd.....

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS (contd)

step instructions. The results ranged from the "quite good effort" to the "absolute disaster". Nevertheless, it seemed to be enjoyed by all present.

It was nice to see some new-comers amongst our numbers. We hope you found it of interest and to see you again at the future meetings.

The raffle was won by Mrs. N. Hussey and Mrs. Griffiths.

Next month's meeting - MONDAY - 9TH SEPTEMBER, 7.45 pm. will be a Cheese & Wine Party, plus the Annual General Meeting. No speaker has been arranged, at the time of going to press, but we hope to have arranged something in the meantime.

Tea hostesses for Sept: Mesdames Lawrence, Stone and Tucker.

J.M.C.

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GARDEN NOTES - SEPTEMBER

September can appear as a summer month or with quite an autumn feeling. In other words, it can "dry up ditches or break down bridges". We may get some strong winds, so put a couple of strong posts with the runner beans; once they've blown over its no use propping them up again.

Harvest time commences this month in the vegetable garden. Lift potatoes as the haulms begin to die down. ~~Put~~ the tops at once, unless they are diseased. This helps them to decay quickly and the soil is improved. Examine every potato before storing; diseased tubers will affect the whole store. Store carrots and turnips; parsnips are best left in the soil. Store beet in sand in boxes; twist the tops off, do not cut them and do no other trimming. When lifting onions lay them to dry for a day or two before storing. Plant out seedlings of winter and spring greens and sow winter spinach. Earth up celery and leeks, as necessary. Sow a pinch of hardy lettuce.

Now is a good time to clean up the bush fruits. After pruning out the old canes of raspberries, lightly fork over the soil. Cut out the old wood on the blackcurrants, the young wood they have made this year is the fruiting branches for next year.

In the herbaceous borders the gardener's year begins this month for preparation for next year's show of flowers. Poppies, Irises, ~~Roses~~ and Delphiniums are best moved now to settle before the frosts. Pinks, Saxifrages and other early summer edging plants should also be set in position as soon as possible.

C.P.

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

AUTUMN SHOW

The 29th Autumn Show will be held at the Village Hall on Saturday, 14TH SEPTEMBER 1974 at 2.00 pm. Show Schedules are now available to members from our Show Secretary, 157, Main Road, Tel: 3429. It is hoped that the Show will be well supported by all our members, and, if any non-members feel they would like to have a go, for a minimum of 15p annual subscription, they can join the Society and participate in any section of the Show they wish. You do not have to be an expert, we have special sections in the Show for 'hill villages only', i.e. Naphill, Walters Ash, Lacey Green and Looseley Row. There will be a gift stall - any produce, plants, books, bric-a-brac, antiques - for inclusion on the stall can be taken to 157 Main Road or 'Oatley' Main Road, at any time between now and the Show date, or to the stall on the morning of the Show. Tea and biscuits will be on sale during the afternoon and, as always, at 5.00 pm after the prize money has been distributed, there will be the now famous flower and vegetable auction, ably conducted by John Bullock.

COACH TRIP

A full day's coach trip to Westonbirt, Gloucestershire will be organised for 20th October. Westonbirt is on the edge of Silkwood Forest, near Tetbury and has a collection of trees and shrubs from many parts of the world, begun in 1829 by Robert Stainer Holford, Squire of Westonbirt. The long vistas and secluded bays, the old oaks and giant conifers are beautiful in all seasons. Prices have not been fixed yet, but any member and their family interested in a day's outing to this beauty spot should contact the Secretary, Naphill 2437 for their names to be put on the list. It is suggested that members take a packed lunch and have a picnic in the grounds. A further announcement will be published in the October Gazette as to departure and return times and prices.

P.J.H.

NATURE INTEREST

THE SCOTTISH WILD-CAT

Yes ! at last I have seen one. It was but a fleeting glimpse, nevertheless, I saw it, but only just long enough to watch its terrific speed and exceptional agility. Its tree climbing and surefootedness was superb. In the short time I was watching I saw it was striped, like a light coloured tabby cat and had a thick, shortish tail with a thick black, fluffy, round end.

I did a few very rough sketches of it, when I first saw it, in the thick bracken, see cover. The Scottish Wild-Cat is

contd.....



NATURE INTEREST (contd)

entirely different from our domestic cat in build, bone and shape. Its head is flat and ears straight out from the skull and slightly slanting downwards. The tail of the domestic cat is longer and thickest near the body, going to a point at the end. The wild-cat's tail is shorter, but thicker and at the end is fluffy and very thick and black. The wild-cat is held together by skeletal muscles of which there are more than 500. By this build up it is very hardy and extremely strong. Two hundred years ago the real wild-cat could be found in parts of England and Wales, but today throughout Britain they are only to be found in the Scottish Highlands.

How I came to be in the wild-cat's territory was very lucky. A friend, staying at the same guest house, came in one evening saying he had seen a wild cat. He was sure it was a wild-cat by its drooping ears and flat head and thick tail. It was almost dark when he told his story, but the usual chatter followed, - where? how far? which direction? etc. Could we get there by car? Yes, most of the way; it was along the road on the other side of Loch Maree and a short walk up the mountain side. If I would care to get up very early in the morning he would take me to the place. So, very early dawn we were on our way. Naturally I used my car and he, my friend, did the directing. When we arrived at the forest we parked the car on the side of the road and started to walk up the mountain side. It was quite a good footpath that could have been used by the red deer, although it was the wrong time of the year to see them down as low as we were. We both had our "glasses" at the ready and it was still very early in the morning.

The wild-cat is nocturnal and seldom, if ever, shows itself in daytime. I found myself feeling a little doubtful. We were approaching a large clump of mixed shrubs and tall bracken. My friend said, "It was somewhere about here that I saw it". He was looking up into the thick bushy trees. Suddenly we heard a slight movement in the clump of bracken, quite near. Neither of us moved or spoke. He just touched my shoulder and we both looked into the bracken and there sure enough, looking at us, was the wild-cat. Neither man nor beast moved for a moment and then, like a shot, the wild-cat took to the trees. It simply flew over the branches and away to only she knew where. It was just a fleeting glimpse, but I had seen the Scottish Wild-Cat.

On the way back down the mountain side, we chanced to meet a farmer, near his small croft. The conversation, naturally, was about wild-cats. He said he shot them whenever he had the chance. He said he had once shot a female wild-cat and

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

found her four kittens in a burrow in a clump of bracken. Knowing one of his farm cats had just two young kittens, he took the four wild cat kittens down and put them with her. All was well. The farm cat took to them with her own two and brought them up. All six kittens played together, fed together and seemed to be just a happy family, but as they grew older each of the wild-cat kittens went back to the wood.

There have been recordings of cross breeding between wild-cat males and domestic cat females, but very few of the kittens reach successful maturity. The wild-cat and the domestic cat are entirely different species.

The domestic cat was mentioned in very early history and may have descended from a small furry animal, a flesh eating mammal that flourished about 70 million years ago. We also know by fossilized remains formed in rocks 50 million years ago, these were referred to as Creodonts. From these evolved the Miacids. These were forest dwellers, efficient climbers, often hunted among the trees. They were small and similar to our domestic cat. 35 million years ago there appears to have been two distinct types of cats and these lasted until only a few thousand years ago and from these two species evolved all the cats we know today, even the sabre-toothed tiger, now extinct.

A.S.A. WOOSTER

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REMINISCENCES by R.E. Corder

In the course of a quiet chat with another of the older residents, Mr. Bert Hussey of Stocking Lane, many interesting items of information came to light.

Our Village Hall was built in 1929 with money raised by regular subscriptions, donations and interest free loans from people in the village, the cost of the building being £1,200.

The War Memorial, in the form of a cairn of uncut stone, was built from hard white sandstone found at Walters Ash, when digging clay for brick making and some of the names to be seen on the Memorial are those of men who actually dug the stones from the clay.

Digging for sandstone was a village industry at one time. Long iron rods being driven into the soil to estimate the size and depth of a stone before the work of digging out began. They have been found in several places along the Naphill ridge and it has been suggested that they were thrown up by a glacier which is thought to have moved along the valley in prehistoric times.

contd.....

REMINISCENCES (contd)

In the year 1908 a wealthy family named Dawson, in the theatrical profession, lived at Mosely Lodge Farm and built an aeroplane in the barn. How they got it out and whether it ever flew, no-one seems to know, but Bert recalled that Ron Piercy certainly found a propeller on his premises. Perhaps this is the propeller used each year on a sideshow at the village Fete.

The Dawson family is also recalled in connection with a play written especially for the Buckinghamshire Players by Gertrude Robins, who was in fact Mrs. Charles Dawson. This one act farce, based on a poaching incident, was first performed in Naphill in November 1910. In the cast were Mr. Charles Lacey and Molly Lacey with Ernest Shrimpton and Arthur Shrimpton, all from wellknown families in the village. The play was thought important enough to justify reviews in the London Daily Mirror and Daily Chronicle, together with illustrations of scenes from the play. Subsequently it was performed in Wycombe Town Hall as part of a Gala Concert, in which Naphill Brass Band, under Mr. W. Hussey's baton, also took a part.

Espionage also touched this tranquil village for in the early days of radio telegraphy it was discovered that a radio receiver was secretly operating from the grounds of 'Cherry-croft' in Louches Lane, to pick up radio signals from Mr. Armstrong's experimental work in torpedos from the pond at his home in Walters Ash.

Perhaps the most amusing tale was about Fred Rixon's pig which appeared, one day, to be ailing, so realising that a slaughtered pig is more profitable to the owner than one that has died, Fred decided to drive the animal, without delay, over the Common to the slaughterhouse. Unfortunately the journey did not go too well because the pig collapsed on the way, so Alf Parslow, the bacon butcher, had to be hurriedly called from his shop to despatch the animal, in the usual way, before it could expire naturally, at a considerable financial loss to the owner.

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SPORT

Cricket: Last week the First XI looked set to win the Third Division of the Wycombe & District Cricket League, but last Saturday their hopes were dashed by a 4 wicket defeat at the hands of the Pakistani Club. Naphill now need to win their one remaining match against Bledlow Ridge, at home, on 31st August. Should they lose this, they are almost certain to stay down. The top of the league now looks like this:-

contd.....

<u>SPORT (contd)</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pts.</u>
Flackwell Heath	17	12	1	4	37
Naphill	17	11	2	4	35
Pakistani Club	16	10	2	4	32

So the situation is very tight with only two clubs to be promoted. Should any two clubs tie for first or second place, or if all three finish level, there will be playoffs to decide.

The Second XI are placed midway in Division 6, but last week almost provided a shock by nearly beating league leaders Tetsworth, but ran out of time with 9 runs needed and 4 wickets in hand.

The football season starts again this month and Naphill have three fixtures against Prestwood, Richardson Rovers and Sands Rovers, the dates of which have not been finalised.

\* \* \* \* \*

NAPHILL TENNIS & BADMINTON CLUB

WASTE PAPER The Tennis Club wish to thank everyone's efforts. They have just received a cheque for £30.37 for 2.1 tons of waste paper. As the storage space is still available, please continue to collect paper and magazines, but could those magazines etc. containing metal staples be bundled separately ?

JUMBLE SALE The Tennis Club Autumn Jumble Sale will take place at the Village Hall on Sat. 7th September at 2.30 pm. There will be a considerable quantity of plastic foam off-cuts on sale. Jumble will be gladly received by any committee member, as will offers of help.

CLUB TOURNAMENT FISH & CHIP SUPPER/DANCE A Fish & Chip Supper/Dance will be held on Sat. 14th September at 9.00 pm. Tickets are 75p each and a bar licence has been applied for. It is still hoped to stage the finals of the Club Tournament on this day, but this depends on the completion of the preceding rounds.

FASHION SHOW There will be a Fashion Show on Friday, 20th September at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall. Fashions supplied by Ian Suter of Marlow. Tickets 30p.

DINNER/DANCE This year's Annual Dinner/Dance will be held at The Bell Hotel, Aston Clinton on Friday, 8th November. Tickets £4. per head.

Anybody wishing to attend any of these events should contact Mrs. J. Price, "Sandalwood" Stocking Lane.

The Badminton Club restarts this month at Booker. There are two fixtures, both at home this month. On the 22nd the

contd.....

NAPHILL TENNIS & BADMINTON CLUB (contd)

men's team are playing Penn and Tylers Green and on the 29th the mixed team (B) entertain the 'Wednesday' Club from High Wycombe.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

A marriage has been arranged and will shortly take place between Ronald C. Rose of Jesselton, Downley Road and Mrs. Margaret Bayley of Plumtree Cottage.

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NAPHILL VILLAGE FETE - JUNE 1974

The Village Fete held on 15th June - now just a pleasant memory - made an all time record profit of £531. which will help towards the upkeep of the Hall and Playing Field.

The Fete Treasurer has decided that after counting the cash for 5 years, he will stand down and take a rest.

Fete Treasurer

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CORRESPONDENCE

11, The Walk, Winslow,  
Bucks.

Dear Editor,

I also read with great interest the article about "The Clumps" and the cottage where the Portuguese Laurel can still be seen and Mrs. P. Smith's (nee Goodchild) letter to you in this month's Naphill Gazette.

I was born in that cottage. My parents were Boaz and Eliza Nicholls. There were seven of us born there, five boys and two girls. We used to play for hours in The Clumps and I can remember the stories of the drovers and the cattle; also that years ago, when there were wars going on over the country, that the soldiers would hide behind the banks of The Clumps and fire on any enemies. What truth there is I don't know, only we children would pretend to be soldiers waiting for the enemy to come up Bradenham Hill. I remember the Goodchilds and the Nappins who lived next door to them; Haw Goodchild was my father's cousin. Mrs. Smith in her letter says her grandmother was Emma Nicholls, my father's sister. He only had one sister named Carrie and 4 brothers. I think Emma was the name of my father's mother.

I have a photo of the cottage and the Laurel Tree taken about 73 years ago. Standing in the garden is my mother, Eliza Nicholls, my two eldest brothers, my mother's cousin and her father, Mr. John Hill, who when he returned from the London Police Force became the landlord of "The Black Lion" Naphill and on leaving the pub, went to live with my grand-

contd.....

CORRESPONDENCE (contd)

mother at the cottage known as "Poachers Cottage" on the common.

I remember the Wingroves living near us and Bertie Wingrove who lived in a converted railway carriage, after leaving the Militia. My counsin, Mrs. E. Shrimpton, sent the Gazette to me, she lives at "Brakenside" The Common. Our fathers were brothers. I hope this will be of some interest.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Florence H. Willis (nee Nicholls)

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Madam Editor,

30/7/74

May I endorse all that was written about the Village War Memorial by the Deputy Editor in the August issue and provide some information to show that other people in the village are also interested in the Memorial.

When the committee of Naphill Church were disposing of their funds, last year, the condition of the War Memorial was discussed and it was decided to make a donation. In September 1973 the sum of £50. was given to the Village Hall Council with a written request that part of this sum should be used to refurbish the Memorial. Perhaps not a very precise request but, so far, not one penny of that money seems to have been spent, as the committee intended.

Although not a vast sum of money, it was surely sufficient to have provided new chains and posts, or something to replace them.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) W. WOOD

-----  
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION RUMMAGE SALE

This month the Residents' Association will, for the first time, venture into the Rummage Sale field of activity, on Sat. 21st September in Naphill Village Hall.

Already we have some very attractive goods, amongst them an electric floor polisher, a vibro massage outfit and a medical heat treatment lamp, all in good condition and working order. If you have any goods for this worthwhile cause, please 'phone any of the committee members, listed in the August issue of the Gazette, or get into touch with Mr. & Mrs. Wood of Christopher Close, Naphill 3163, or Mrs. A. Gilson of Stonefield House, Clappins Lane, Naphill 2231, who will be pleased to help you.

W.W.

PRINCES RISBOROUGH ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE

Detached Classes in the Lacey Green-Naphill Area - 1974/5

AT LACEY GREEN VILLAGE HALL:

Art	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm
Yoga	Tuesday	1.15-3.15 pm
Wine making (short course)	Friday	7.30-9.30 pm

AT LACEY GREEN C. OF E. SCHOOL:

Keep-Fit	Wednesday	7.30-9.30 pm
Needlework	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm

AT NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL:

Dressmaking	Wednesday	9.30-11.30 am
Art	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm

AT NAPHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Yoga	Tuesday	7.30-9.30 pm
Badminton (beginners)	Wednesday	7.30-9.30 pm
(advanced)	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm

AT R.A.F. HIGH WYCOMBE DOMESTIC SITE:

G.C.E. 'O' Level		
English Language	Monday	7.30-9.30 pm)
B.B.C. "Living Decisions"	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm)
		Fee £3.50 for 3 terms )
Pre-Driver Training	Monday	7.30-9.30 pm
Amateur Photography	Tuesday	7.30-9.30 pm
French Conversation	Tuesday	7.30-9.30 pm
German Conversation	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm
Beginners Shorthand	Thursday	7.30-9.30 pm

CLASSES START WEEK COMMENCING 24TH SEPTEMBER 1974

ENROL FIRST MEETING OF THE CLASS.

FEES: 1 Term £2.50 2 Terms £3.80 3 Terms £5.00

SENIOR CITIZENS:  $\frac{1}{4}$  of normal fee.

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HIGH WYCOMBE BOROUGH LIBERAL ASSOCIATION The High Wycombe  
Liberal Association will be holding a HARVEST SUPPER and  
BARN DANCE on 4TH OCTOBER at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm - 12.00 pm  
at NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL.

Folk song and country dancing will be led by the "WHIRLIGIGS"  
from Cambridge.

Tickets: £1.50 each should be obtained, in advance to  
facilitate catering. 'Phone NAPHILL 2390

FRASER - MORGAN BALLET CLASSES

R.A.D. Ballet examinations were held in the Village Hall in May. The examiner was Miss Dibb. Congratulations to:-

PRIMARY GRADE Kathryn Drake (Pass Plus)

GRADE ONE Nicola Coates (Comm) Philippa Glasgow (Comm)  
Carolyn Jones (Comm) Ruth Bolton (Pass Plus)  
Linda Warkcup (Pass Plus) Billian Berry (Pass)  
Kate Phillips (Pass) Bridget Woodruff (Pass)

GRADE TWO Sally Hornsby (Pass Plus)  
Philippa Shaw (Pass) Jane Phillips (Pass)

GRADE THREE Elaine Tucker (Pass) Cherrie Steel (Pass)

\* \* \* \* \*

The Autumn Term commences on Tuesday, 17th SEPTEMBER at Naphill Village Hall.

Further details from: Mrs. Fraser Mrs. Morgan  
Naphill 3308 P.Risborough 4050

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Roger, Olive, Gillian and Kevin Berry, late of 16 Battingswood Gardens say thank you to all their friends at Naphill and Walters Ash for the friendships they have enjoyed. Their new address is:- The Little Shop, Shabbington, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP18 9HE

\* \* \* \* \* 1

Lilian and Fred Healey, for some years proprietors of "The Stores" Walters Ash and lately of 27 Battingswood Gardens, would like to thank their friends of Naphill and Walters Ash for the happiness they have received over the last seventeen years. Their new address is:- 5, Kimbells Close, Shabbington, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP18 9HE  
Tel: Ickford 743

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APOLOGY The Gazette Committee apologises for the late publication of the Gazette, this month. This was due to printing difficulties outside the control of the Committee, which has every intention of meeting next month's date line, in the usual manner.

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Contributions: To: Mrs. A. Lawrence, Auchinyell, Downley Road, by the 21st OF THE MONTH.



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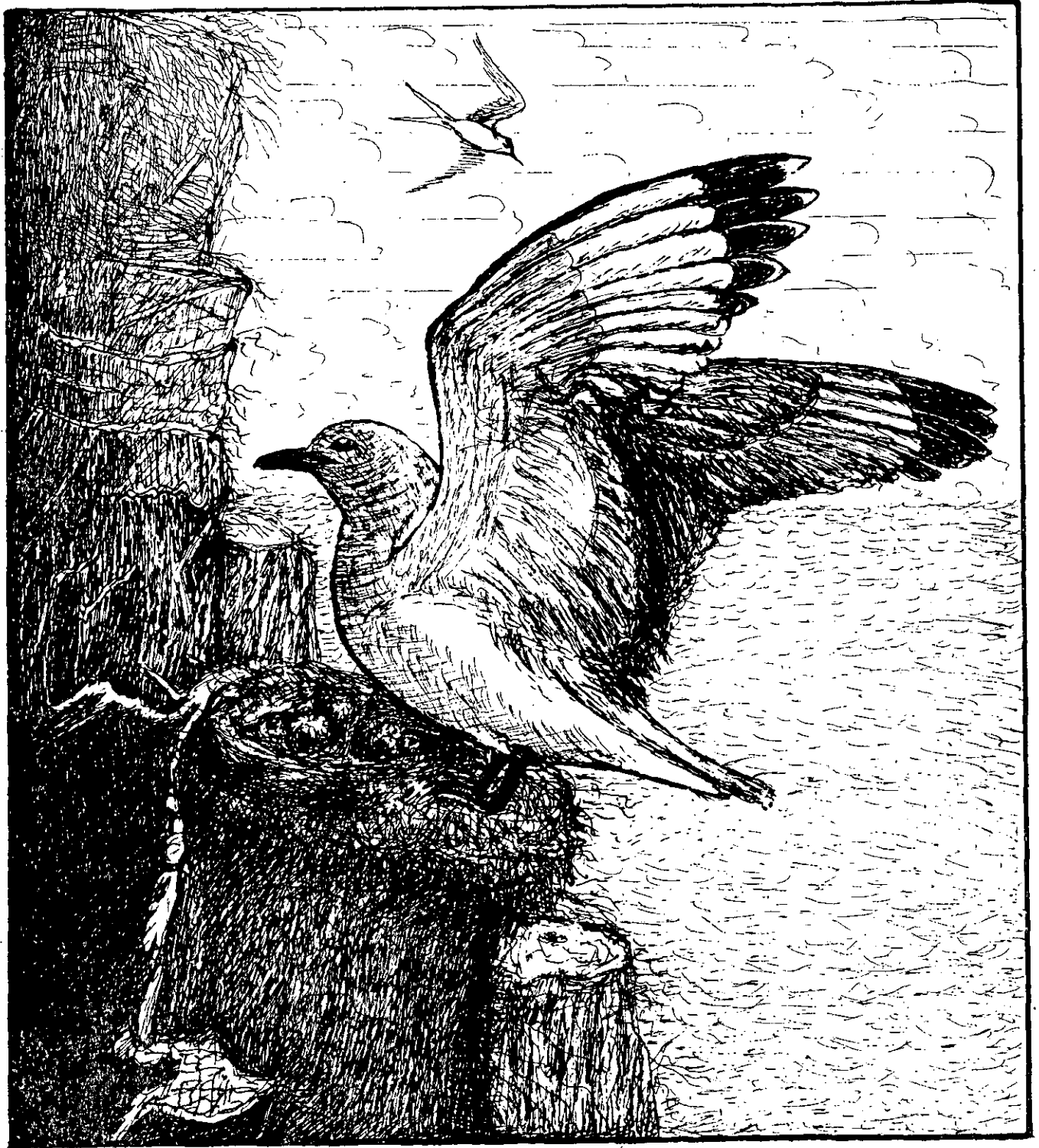
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# NAPHILL GAZETTE



A KITTIWAKE ALIGHTING AT ITS NEST AND YOUNG  
OCTOBER 1974

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - OCTOBER 1974

Men's Club	Tues.Fri.Sat.	(B.R.)	7.30 pm
Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thur.Fri.		9.00-12 noon
Dancing Class	1st 8th 15th 22nd		3.00-7.45 pm
Drama	1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th		7.45-9.45 pm
Welfare	2nd 16th		2.30 pm
Bingo	Every Thurs.		8.00 pm
Guides	2nd 16th 30th		7.00-8.30 pm
Art	Every Thurs.	(B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
Scouts	3rd 16th	(C.R.)	8.00-9.30 pm
W.I.	3rd		2.30 pm
Over 60's	4th 18th		2.30 pm
Private Dance	4th		
V.H.C.	7th		8.00 pm
Youth Club	7th 28th		7.45-9.45 pm
Horticultural	9th	(C.R.)	8.00 pm
Whist	11th 25th		7.30 pm
Conservative Rummage Sale	12th		2.00 pm
Kennel Club	13th		All day
Naphill Neighbours	14th		7.45 pm
Wild Life Film	18th		8.00 pm
Scout & Guides Bazaar	19th		2.30 pm
Horticultural Wild Life	21st		
Wedding	26th		
W.I.	31st	(C.R.)	2.30 pm

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Please note that all Village Hall bookings are now made through MRS. DON BURGE, BARBIZON, MAIN ROAD, NAPHILL. NAPHILL 3031.

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The Marriage Ceremony between Ronald Charles Rose and Mrs. Margaret Bayley will be performed by the Rev. P. Bullock-Flint at Hughenden Church at 2.00 pm on the 5th October (Saturday). All friends will be welcome at the Church.

COMMENTARY

Autumn always brings a bustle of fund-raising activities and this month the Gazette offers a selection. It is impossible to support all, but please choose one and give as generously as you can. There is so much nationally that we have to accept, but within our village and community we can help preserve what we like and change what we do not. The words of an oft-heard school prayer come to mind....."The patience to accept the things we cannot alter, the courage to change those we can"..... It is perhaps a debasing after-thought but societies and causes do need funds.

The Gazette needs funds, too, and the time for our yearly collection is here. During October volunteer collectors will be calling on you and again your generosity is appealed to.

Mrs. Pipe has contributed a fascinating account of life in Naphill in 1921. It will be of particular interest to modern housewives, but husbands might note, with relief, the incident of the gentleman with his yoke.

Mr. Fendom answers Mr. Wood's letter re the War Memorial, but leaves unanswered the question whose is the responsibility for the all-the-year-round appearance of the Memorial ?

Parents please note Mrs. Audrey Moore's recommendations for 5th November.

Mrs. Turner, Adam and Jamie have, at last, joined Mr. Turner in Cyprus. We wish them happiness and look forward to hearing from them.

Finally, may the sun shine on 5th October for the marriage of Mr. R.C. Rose to Mrs. M. Bayley.

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for October</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
6th	Mrs. Ing	Mr. E. Jarvis
13th	Family Service Mr. E. Barnett	Mr. W. Kempton
20th	Mr. E. Jarvis	Rev. P. Tucker (Holy Communion)
27th	Overseas Missions Sunday Mr. K. Peatey	Mr. A. Cooper

\* \* \* \* \*

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Annual METHODIST CHURCH BAZAAR - SATURDAY - 2nd NOVEMBER  
at 2.30 pm

REFERENDUM:

I know it is impossible to please all the people all the time, but it would be nice to please as many as possible of the people as much as possible of the time. It was for this reason that Hughenden Church instituted an enquiry to find out what time people preferred for Sunday evening worship and which form of service they preferred. We received an encouraging number of replies, but they showed such a wide divergence of opinion that the only certain thing we learned is that, whatever we do, we are sure to displease a lot of the people a lot of the time.

Despite these gloomy conclusions, there were some noticeable trends to guide us. The votes cast for 6.30 pm and 4.30 pm as the time for the service were evenly divided, while 3.30 pm received very little support. There was a large majority for the traditional Evensong and Sermon as the form of service and although a fair minority wanted some variation in the form, from time to time, hardly anyone wanted a complete change. In view of the often repeated remark that it is difficult to get to Hughenden Church, for lack of transport, it was surprising to learn that only 3 people would use it frequently if transport were provided, while practically everyone said they would never use it.

As a result of our enquiries, we have decided that from the day the clocks are altered (i.e. Sun. 27th Oct.) and for the rest of the winter months, Evening Service in Hughenden Church will be at 4.30 pm. Readers of our Centennial Brochure will know that we have already arranged for some special items to take the place of Evensong during these months and on 17th November and 9th February, the Sermon will be replaced by a Discussion. We hope this will go some way to meet the wishes of those who want a change from time to time, while the traditional Evensong and Sermon will form our normal service. We would ask readers of the Gazette to make a note of these things, especially of the change of time. These changes apply only to Evensong, all other times and forms of service are unaltered.

Before we come to the alterations in Evening worship, we shall have started on our Centennial Celebrations. 29th September is our Patronal Festival and on the following Sunday, 6th Oct. we shall be holding our Harvest Thanksgiving Festival, with a Communion Service at 8.00 am: Family Communion at 9.30 am: Mattins at 11.00 am: and Evensong at 6.30 pm.

18th October is St. Luke's Day, the patron saint of missionaries and from the 16th to the 19th we shall be mounting an exhibition to illustrate the change that has taken place in the work of the Church overseas, between 1874 and 1974. We live in a rapidly changing world and these changes have affected the church no less than other bodies. Even so, many of us still picture the missionary as we were told about him in our

contd.....



REFERENDUM (contd)

Sunday School days. Come and see this exhibition in Hughenden Church and clear up some popular misconceptions. In support of the exhibition there will be a meeting in the Church House at 8.00 pm on 18th October, which will be addressed by Miss Zoe Pullen.

These are some of the items in our Centennial programme. Other will be mentioned in subsequent issues of the Gazette, or you could collect a copy of the Brochure for yourself.

P. Bullock-Flint

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VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL NOTES

Over the last few weeks, Mr. Roger Smith has sanded down the hall floor and re-sealed it with a solution which should obviate the need for wax polishing. With the ingrained grime and wear of 35 years removed, the floor looks as good as new. In order to preserve this appearance, hirers of the hall are asked not to drag tables or stacks of chairs about the hall.

The appearance of the hall has been further refreshed by the efforts of Mrs. Timberlake and Mrs. Leek who have washed down the walls to such good effect that they appear to have been re-painted.

I am most grateful to these three people who have undertaken these hard and dirty tasks.

Regarding the War Memorial, we share the concern expressed in Mr. Wood's letter to the Gazette. Monies donated by the Church will be used in a renovation programme for the Memorial Stone and the surrounding area. Conflicting wishes concerning the grass surround and the post and chains has led to delay in carrying out these repairs, but we have decided to retain the grass surrounding the Stone and to remove the post and chain fence. Arrangements have been made to carry out this work, together with any necessary re-pointing, at the beginning of October and the Memorial will be in good order for the Remembrance Day Service on 10th November.

We are organising another 'POP-IN' for December and we shall be scouring the village for items for the sale, in the next few weeks. Would you please give some thought to what you might have to offer, please? We should be glad to have anything saleable, from one of those spare toast racks, or the Picasso, which clashes with the new colour scheme, or even a bag of sugar!

T.F.

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NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELDS COUNCIL

Second Annual Fund Raising Event This is an advance notice of a repeat of last year's 'Pop-In' which many of you may remember either by the fact that you came to it, or that you were cross that you didn't ! This year you can

"POP-IN AGAIN"

to the Village Hall, on Saturday, 7th December at 2.00 pm. for a cup of tea and biscuit AND a gift to which your entrance ticket will entitle you. ADMISSION 10P. - children 5P.

We hope, again, to have Mammoth Tombolas, produce and white elephant stalls, with every ticket drawn winning something. As last years, this will depend on the generosity of Naphill Residents who will be visited in November with a request for gifts of any size and kind. The response last year was beyond all our hopes and we look forward to the same this year. More in the November Gazette, but may we ask you to start now putting something by for the collector.

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COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL ENGLAND - MID-CHILTERN BRANCH.

The above Branch of the C.P.R.E. will be holding its AGM on Saturday, 19th October at 2.30 pm in the Hall of Hughenden County First School, (off Valley Road.) Everybody who is interested in the protection of the environment is invited to come and hear Mr. Christopher Hall speak on conservation and allied subjects. Mr. Hall is a speaker of National repute and visitors are assured of an interesting afternoon.

For any further information, please contact Mr. R. Pushman, Naphill 3122.

\* \* \* \* \*

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Some discussion centred on the solitary street lamp which has appeared on the Main Road at Walters Ash. Apart from the discourtesy of the Dept. of the Invironment and the County Council in not informing the local Council, we are assured that all costs will be borne by the County Authority. As it could prove to be a safety aid at the junction with the Middle School, the Parish Council will not take action for its removal, unless we receive strong representation from local residents.

The subject of Boundary changes was discussed at a special meeting and it would seem unlikely that we in Naphill or Walter's Ash will be affected. There are, of course, anomalies at Great Kingshill and Hazlemere, where villages are split between two authorities and it is right that these should be adjusted.

Richard Pushman

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Council's newly formed Home & Water Safety Committee met last week and considered, as its most urgent problem, how to stress the dangers of fireworks. Within their limited means, a small publicity campaign is to be launched in the hope that it will reduce accidents on Bonfire night and encourage more people to take their children to organised fire-work displays, rather than let off fireworks in their own gardens.

Rubbish dumping in the woods is still quite a problem and I was horrified to see the state of the woods at the Hunts Hill end of the village. If people only realised that the Council's ~~dump~~ at Booker is available for all to use, without charge, they might stop coming to Naphill to dump their rubbish.

Public participation in Council affairs sometimes means some noisy interjections from the public during Council meetings - particularly Planning ones - but it is far better than indifference and makes one aware that people really do care. Dates of all Council and Committee meetings are obtainable from the Council Offices, if anyone cares to come and hear what their elected representatives are doing on their behalf.

Audrey Moore

-----  
COME TO THE BATTLE OF BRADENHAM !

The Civil War is coming to life again on Sunday, 6th OCTOBER at 2.30 pm when the Roundheads and Cavaliers meet to do battle down at Bradenham. Programmes available on the day at 30p each.

-----  
NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

We resumed our fortnightly meetings on 6th September when three of the members entertained us. Mrs. W. Tuffney played the piano, Mrs. Grace Parker sang and Mrs. Monger recited.

Most of the members will have heard the news of Mr. R. Rose and Mrs. M. Bayley's forthcoming marriage. We congratulate them and wish them, both, every happiness together. They have very kindly arranged for a coach to take members of the Club to Hughenden Church for the service on 5th October. It will leave the Village Hall forecourt at 1.25 pm and return to same. Please make your own way to the coach as no transport can be laid on for collecting you from your homes.

There will be a meeting at the Village Hall on Friday, 4th Oct. as we have arranged a coach outing. We leave the village hall at 2.15 pm for a pleasant country ride, with a stop for tea.

The speaker for 18th October will be Mrs. B. Luttmann, of the Southern Electricity Board.

A.G.

PLEASE COME TO ANOTHER WILDLIFE FILM EVENING

PRESENTED BY CYRIL LITTLEWOOD

IN NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL

ON FRIDAY, 18TH OCTOBER 1974

AT 8.00 PM

TICKETS: 25p including refreshments. (children 15p.)

OBTAINABLE Mrs. Kathleen McCue,  
FROM: "Seven Winds", Downley Road. Tel: Naphill 2213  
and

Mrs. Pam Smith,  
"Hideaway", Forge Road. Tel: Naphill 3364

ALL PROCEEDS FOR WILDLIFE FUNDS.

-----

NAPHILL W.I.

Despite the inclement weather, the September meeting was very well attended. The speaker was Mrs. B. Hill, who gave a talk entitled "Other People." Mrs. Hill, a free-lance journalist, spoke of the many different people who had influenced her life. Mrs. E. Croxson thanked the speaker for her amusing and interesting talk.

A report on the Village Hall Council meeting was given by Mrs. B. Brill.

At this meeting our Harvest Festival was held. The gifts were later auctioned raising the sum of £10.45.

Thanks to two retiring members of the committee, Mrs. N. Randall and Mrs. E. Croxson, were expressed by the President, Mrs. K. McCue.

The tea party given by Mrs. Piercy in August raised £11.17. for W.I. funds.

The next meeting will be on 3rd October: this is the 52nd Birthday Party. We are to be entertained with Sea Shanties by Mr. H.E. Todd.

J.M.R.

-----

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

At the September meeting the retiring chairman thanked the committee and members of the club for all their work during the past year. Cheese and wine was then served, after which a new committee was formed as follows:-

contd.....

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS (contd)

CHAIRMAN  
SECRETARY  
TREASURER

Mrs. E. Croxson  
Mrs. N. Hussey  
Mrs. P. Blamey

Mrs. B. Chamberlen: Mrs. E. Chamberlen: Mrs. P. Ayres:  
Mrs. A. Tapping: Mrs. J. Rushby: Mrs. S. Rolfe:  
Mrs. O. Stratford.

Mrs. P. Smith has offered to stand, once again, as our  
representative on the Village Hall Committee.

NEXT MEETING - 14th OCTOBER

This will be an open meeting, when we extend a welcome to  
anyone interested in seeing and hearing about Costumes through  
the Ages. These will be shown and described by Miss Hibbard,  
who I am sure many of you will remember from her previous  
visit, when she showed us Underwear through the Ages.

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RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Still no indication of when the Public Inquiry on the Bovis/  
Coombe Valley development will be. Meanwhile we proceed with  
our fund-raising activities so that we shall be well-prepared  
when the time comes.

Our successful Rummage Sale realised a profit of about £50.  
Many thanks to Bill Wood and his assistants who put in a lot of  
hard work.

The next '200 Club' draw will take place on 5th October. For  
those members paying £1.00 quarterly collectors will call during  
the next few days for the subscription due.

A light hearted diversion was provided by the cricket match  
against Hughenden R.A. which resulted in a well-deserved win  
for Naphill and Walters Ash. Under the able captaincy of  
Mike Coates, Naphill, batting first, made 130 for 6 and in reply  
Hughenden had scored 109 for 8 when they ran out of overs.  
Notable performances were Naphill's opening stand by Doug.  
Isham (43) and David Sawyer (42) while for Hughenden Hains had  
the distinction of getting a hat-trick with the last three balls  
of the Naphill innings (all clean bowled for 0 !)

A splendid tea was served by the ladies organised by Jean  
Sawyer and Cherry Coates, who also scored. Our thanks to them  
and to Geoff Brown who prepared the pitch, Naphill Cricket Club  
who allowed us the use of their equipment and to Naphill Tennis  
Club who provided accommodation for the teas.

H.B.

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NAPHILL YOUTH CLUB

We have, to date, received 30  
applications for membership and hope to increase this number  
during October. Unfortunately, we can only meet twice this  
month due to previous booking of the hall. If you would

NAPHILL YOUTH CLUB (contd)

still like to join you will be welcome at either of our meetings on 7th and 28th OCTOBER, 7.45-9.45 pm.

We hope to be able to provide a programme to cover all interests as well as table tennis, darts, chess, etc.

Brian Taylor

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NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

COACH TRIP The full day's coach trip to Westonbirt on 20th October will depart from the Village Hall at 9.30 am. Departure time from Westonbirt will not be later than 4.00 pm. It is estimated the journey time will be 3 hours each way. The fare per coach seat will be £1.20 (admission to Arborsetun free) and bookings can be made to the Secretary, Naphill 2437. It is also recommended that members and their families take a packed lunch for a picnic as only drinks and snacks can be obtained at Westonbirt.

LECTURE ON LIFE AND WILDLIFE We will be having the first of our Autumn and winter evenings on the 21st October at 8.00 pm in the village hall. The lecture will be given by Mr. John Humphrey's who was at one time a resident of Naphill and now lives in Wales. He will give a talk on Life and Wildlife in Wales, illustrated by slides. Tea and biscuits will be provided during the interval.

AUTUMN SHOW The Autumn Show held on Sat. 14th September was a great success and attracted 325 entries, making it the biggest show in the Society's history - 325 entries were actually exhibited. Some exhibitors held back their prize blooms for the National Chrysanthemum Show due to be held on 17th September. The judges congratulated us on the high standard and in particular the Gladiolus, indicating they would like to sponsor a new class.

Although the Floral Art exhibits were very good, there were far too few entries. The domestic classes were well supported and impressed the judges who were local people - Mrs. O. Corley and W/Cdr. D. Harrison, the RAF Strike Command Catering Officer.

The judges, including our new judge, Mr. West, liked the friendly atmosphere of the Show. Some of our professional exhibitors were not able to show their best blooms due to their losses the previous Saturday in the gale and hazards of the Wycombe Show.

Exhibits which attracted most attention were the miniature gladiolus and the very large and beautiful dahlias. We would like to thank local people for their magnificent support and also for the many exhibits in all classes that they entered.

Our President, Bert Hussey, thanked everyone for their generous support in helping to make the Show a success. Some of the

contd.....

NAPHILL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (contd)

exhibitors were very generous and donated a large number of their vegetables and flowers to the great auction which was ably conducted by our Show Secretary, John Bullock and made about £19.00. Many also donated their cash prizes to the Society. The Gift stall made a profit of £13. but the overall loss on the Show was approx. £20.00.

The committee will have to look at ways and means of effecting economies on next year's Shows. One of the savings which could be made on postage would be for members to collect their Schedules from the Show Sec. or committee members, who are scattered about the village. More on this in later issues.

P.J.H.

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GARDEN NOTES - OCTOBER

As far as the calendar is concerned, this is the month of autumn. At this time the garden can be very rewarding. There are some nice michaelmas daisies, dahlias, chrysanthemums and other autumn flowers. The foliage is taking on its best autumnal colour and the berried shrubs are looking gay. But this is the start of another year. Early in the month, summer bedding must be removed, often with great reluctance, to make way for the spring bedding plants. It is important to get these in the ground while it is still warm and can make new roots. Fork over the borders and work in four ounces of bonemeal or hoof and horn to the square yard. If the soil is at all dry, water the plants thoroughly. Before the days of weather forecasts, one of the important rules was expect frosts any time after the first week in October. So get the last of the tender plants into the greenhouse for the winter - geraniums, azaleas, and late flowering chrysanths. Almost all the ordinary herbaceous plants can be lifted and divided now. Where a plant has grown to a large clump, break off pieces from the outer edge for re-planting and scrap the old worn out crown. All spring bulbs, except tulips, should be planted immediately.

Weeds and falling leaves are the plagues of the season. It may seem they do no harm, but they are injurious to every crop upon the ground for they encourage damp and dirt by preventing a free circulation of air amongst the crops. Keep all clean and tidy even to the removal of the lower leaves of cabbage.

Clear away beans and peas and burn tomato tops after the last fruits have been gathered. Sow broad beans to stand, the ~~other~~ longpod is best. Dig any vacant plots.

C.P.

-----  
SPORT

Our congratulations to the 1st XI cricket team who won the 3rd division title after a play-off against the Pakastani Club. Playing at Hampden, Naphill batted first, scoring 110 runs, J. Evans 27 - C. Timberlake 27 and then bowled

contd.....

SPORT (contd)

extremely well to dismiss the Pakastanis for 48.

W. Styles 5-21      J. Evans 4-13.

The football team have had a poor start to the season winning only one of their four opening matches and being in 12th position.

The badminton club played its first ever match in the Wycombe league last Sunday and the men's team were narrowly defeated 4-5 by Penn & Tylers Green.

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NATURE INTEREST

THE KITTIWAKE

The kittiwake, I would say, is the most home loving, timid inoffensive and kindly of all gulls. It is really British and stays with us all the year round. Records have been taken, since bird-ringing, and though during food searching and shortage the kittiwake has been known to travel long distances, it is customary for them to return to the same nesting site each year. It is a real sea bird and fish is its main feeding material.

Each year it will come back to land for breeding - usually two broods - and then return to the sea until the next breeding period. Its favourite choice for nesting is the North and seldom is it seen in the South. It keeps close to the coastline and does not fly inland like other gulls.

Kittiwakes nest in colonies and I was very lucky to get the photograph of the kittiwake alighting on its nest without the many other gulls that were nesting just around the corner. These photographs were taken on the Sule-skerry islands out in the Atlantic.

Most of the tall cliffs in the north of Scotland are covered with kittiwakes and mixed with them are cormorants, shags, common guillemots, puffins and razor-bills. Its a sight no-one can forget. From the lighthouse keeper I learned that the kittiwakes would bathe in the fresh water loch on the island. This was surprising because with the exception of the breeding season the kittiwakes were always at sea. Of the Gull family the kittiwake is a superb diver, only beaten by the gannets.

The colonies of kittiwakes choose extremely narrow ledges for their nests, then bind the seaweed nest together with mud and lime and this is then bound to the rock in a solid "cement". The gulls come to the island to nest in March. They choose their spot, build this soft muddy breeding spot, leave and go back to sea for awhile and return towards the end of April. If the nest is secure, then by early June the eggs are laid, usually three. The young do not leave the nest until July or even August. The young are then taken to sea and within days are left to fend for themselves. They will not return to land until matured and ready for breeding. This may be the third year, from hatching, and records show they return to the island where they were hatched.

contd.....



NATURE INTEREST (contd)

Kittiwakes pair for life and return to the same cliff-ledge year after year. The kittiwake's claws are longer and sharper than those of other gulls, giving them a more secure footing on those narrow ledges. The young stay in their nest longer than other young gulls. They stay at least six to seven weeks after hatching until they are able to fly - to leave earlier would mean a fall to death. The kittiwakes become very tame and friendly with the fishing trawlers which they follow for many miles - an excellent source of food.

A.S.A. WOOSTER

-----

REMINISCENCES by R.E. Corder

Stone Cottage, in what was once known as Church Lane but now unimaginatively called Main Road, has been the home of Mrs. Hall, her parents and grandparents for over 130 years.

One summer evening we had the pleasure of visiting the cottage to talk to Mrs. Hall, or, as she is better known 'Dick' Saw and of looking through some old family photographs and souvenirs of the past. Among them was a handsome invitation from Mr. Conigsby Disraeli, to a Garden Party at Hughenden Manor to celebrate his taking over the Estate, to be followed by fireworks at 8.30 pm. Mrs. Hall's grandfather, always known as 'Skipper' Saw probably received the invitation because he worked on the Estate in his youth as 'boy' and 'keeper.'

After leaving the employ of Mr. Disraeli, he took on a job with a Wycombe furniture firm and every morning walked over the fields, wearing his poacher's jacket with big inside pockets, accompanied by young Herb. Stacey who worked at the same firm.

On his way to work, 'Skipper' would set his snares and in the evening, on his way home, would collect the rabbits and tuck them away in his vast pockets. Herb. Stacey was puzzled, at first, by the various excuses Skipper made to drop behind so that he could attend to his snares. When Herb realised what was afoot, he made a special effort, on one occasion, to get well ahead of Skipper Saw and remove the rabbits, much to Skipper's bewilderment, when he found all the snares empty.

Until recently, the bacon hooks could still be seen in Stone Cottage and these were used by Skipper as racks for his guns, which were always kept loaded. It was his habit to stand at his gate, each evening, and gaze reflectively over the fields towards the Coombe Valley. Sometimes he would dash inside for his gun, saying, "I've seen a couple of partridges" and with a couple of shots he would secure them for the larder.

The first time 'Skipper' was taken for a ride in Mr. Hall's Austin Seven, he was so nervous of the new fangled form of transport that he sat with his legs protruding through the open door in order to jump out quickly.

contd.....

REMINISCENCES (contd)

Even at the age of seventy years he learnt to ride a bike, but did not quite master the art of applying the brakes. One day whilst going down Coombe Lane he came upon a herd of cows crossing from Fleet's Farm, but not being able to stop, finished up in a bed of stinging nettles in his attempt to avoid them.

Benny Grimsdell was another wellknown figure Mrs. Hall recalled, because he was a regular visitor to Stone Cottage every Sunday morning, where he picked up his copy of the Christian Herald and drank a cup of cocoa. Benny did carting for people in the village with his horse and cart and appears to have led a fairly uneventful life. Unfortunately he was the unlucky victim of a Coronation Night prank, for during the village celebrations his hut, on the small piece of land where now stands the telephone box, was completely burnt out and no-one knew who was to blame.

-----

NAPHILL IN 1921

We moved from a London suburb found Naphill "truly rural." No piped water, electricity or gas; no buses, no telephone. Church, school, chapel and our homes lit by paraffin lamps and candles. Our 'oil man' came from "Stores", shop in Wycombe and van was drawn by 2 pie-bald ponies.

For many years the post office was Mr. Lee's shop (now the much enlarged Mini-Market.) Apart from every day shopping there, our needs were met by several of the stores in Wycombe. A traveller (on bike) used to call for our order on Mondays and the goods were promptly delivered, by van, on Thursdays. This practice continued to the end of the second war and with less rationing, folks began to travel to Wycombe, as we had, by then, a bus service.

In 1921 water was a serious need as everyone depended on rain water tanks. It was about 1926, after a dry summer, that the village was nearly "dry" and the Council sent a tanker of water which was run into the tank which was then in front of the old Mission Hall and in the mornings we went with buckets to get our supply. One elderly gentleman used to appear with the old wooden "yoke" on his shoulders to make the job easier.

The old chapel and Mission Hall had quite a large attendance on Sunday nights and the annual Sunday School treats consisted of a picnic tea and games held in a meadow then farmed by old Mr. Harding. The children's procession to the top of Coombe Hill was led by Naphill Brass Band, which was a really talented band and won many awards for their playing. There are still a few of the original players living in the village who could tell more about the band - also about the purchase of the Playing Field and building of the Village Hall.

I think too of later events - the beginning of the war and the arrival of coachloads of evacuees and the few bombs that fell

contd.....

not far away - and the early days of the "camp" but I guess our Editor will think I've written enough.

E. Pipe

-----  
R.S.P.C.A. Annual sale will be held in the Methodist Schoolroom (Chapel Lane) on Saturday 26th October at 2.30 pm. An opportunity to purchase hand knitted garments and a good selection of homemade Toys suitable for Christmas gifts. All at reasonable prices.

DOMESTIC STALL with homemade cakes, jam, marmalade, etc.

Also WHITE ELEPHANT STALL with many useful bargains.

We shall be most grateful for gifts, however small, for any of the stalls.

Please come and support the R.S.P.C.A.

-----  
FOR SALE

Cot with interior spring mattress	£9.00
Playpen with hinged wooden floor.	£4.50
Belling 3kw. Radiant Electric Fire	£4.50
Monopoly set, as new	£1.50

Apply 137 Main Road

-----  
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Apply Editor

-----  
Accommodation required for quiet single gentleman.  
'Phone Naphill 3012.

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Information and payment to Mr. A. Lawrence, Auchinyell, Downley Road.

Announcements: Births, Marriages, Deaths are published free of charge, if duly notified to the Editor.

Contributions: To: Mrs. A. Lawrence, Auchinyell, Downley Road, by the 21st OF THE MONTH.

-----  
The green check plastic table covers have gone astray.....the covers used for the card tables in the Village Hall. These may have been put away in a cupboard. Will all cupboard holders please investigate and if found return them to their normal home - on top of cardtable cupboard. Thank you.

**YOUR FRIENDLY VILLAGE STORE**

**KIPPING & WOOD LTD.**

Walters Ash

Naphill 2140

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Groceries Meat and Confectionery?

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**NAPHILL'S POST OFFICE & GENERAL STORES**

**WAVY LINE special grocery offers  
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Frozen Food, Confectionery, Chemist Sundries, Paraffin,  
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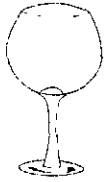
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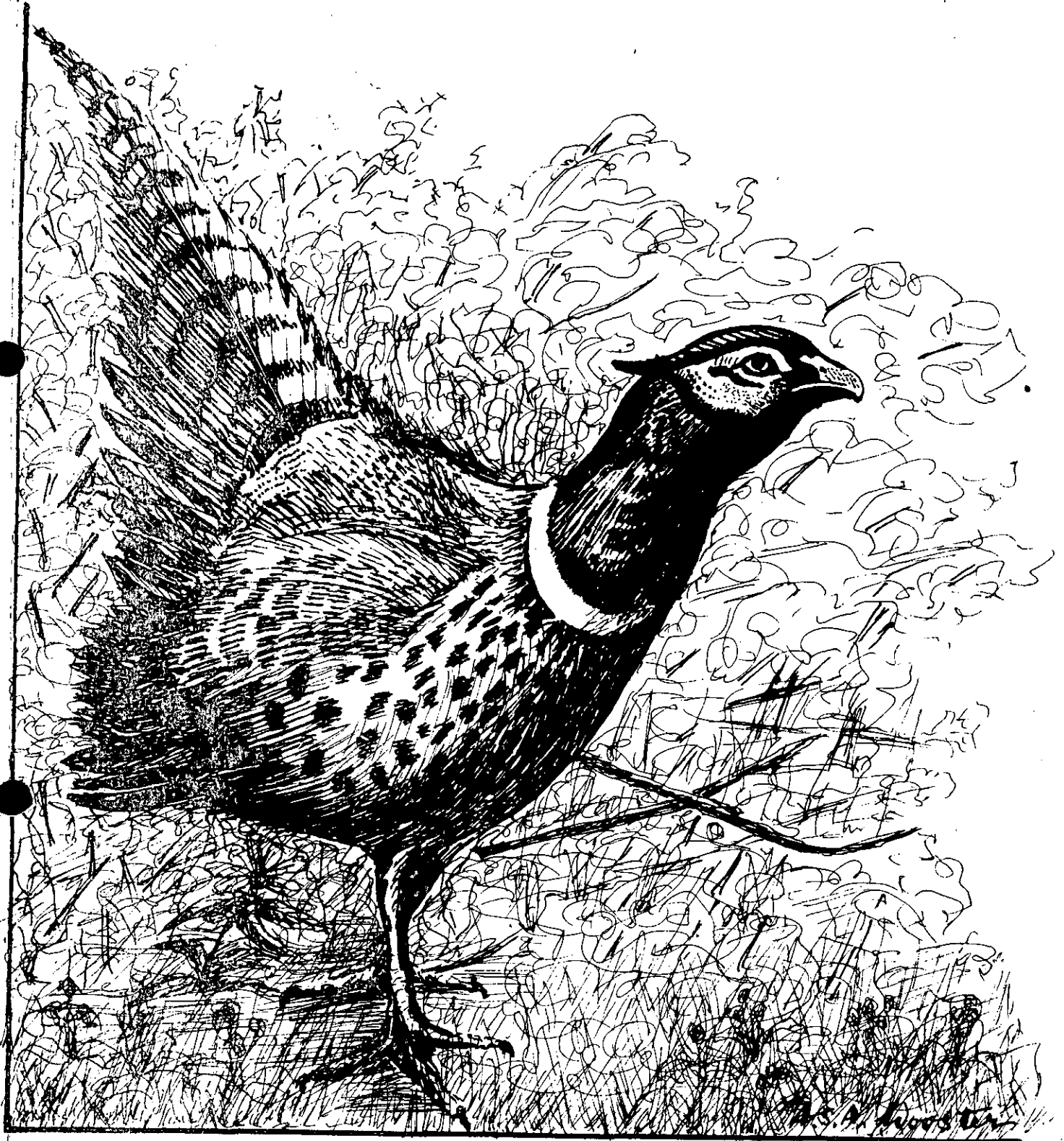
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# NAPHILL — GAZETTE



THE WHITE NECK-RINGED MALE PHEASANT

**NOVEMBER 1974**



NAPHILL GAZETTE No. 378

AT THE VILLAGE HALL - NOVEMBER 1974

Over 60's	1st 15th 29th	2.30 pm
Methodist Bazaar	2nd	2.30 pm
Private Party	2nd	7.00-Midnight
V.H.C.	4th	8.00 pm
Youth Club	4th 18th 25th	7.45 9.45 pm
Dancing Class	5th 12th 19th 26th	3.00-7.45 pm
Welfare	6th 20th	
Youth Club	6th (C.R.)	8.00-10.00 pm
Bingo	7th 14th 21st 28th	8.00 pm
Art	Every Thurs. (B.R.)	7.30-9.30 pm
W.I.	7th	2.30 pm
Play Group	Tues.Wed.Thurs.Fri.	9.00-12 noon
Drama	5th 12th 19th	7.45-9.45 pm
Whist	8th 22nd	7.30 pm
Conservative Rummage	9th	2.30 pm
Private Party	9th	5.00-Midnight
Bucks Canine Soc.	10th	2.00-5.00 pm
Naphill Neighbours	11th	7.45 pm
Guides	13th 27th	7.00-8.30 pm
Drama Dress Rehearsal	13th	8.30 pm
Drama Play	15th 16th	
Private Dance	23rd	5.00-Midnight
W.I.	28th (C.R.)	2.50 pm
Cricket Club Dinner/Dance	29th	5.30 pm
Private Dance	30th	

-----  
 All village hall bookings through MRS. D. BURGE,  
 BARBIZON, MAIN ROAD, NAPHILL 3130.  
 -----

NAPHILL CRICKET CLUB

A Dinner/Dance is being held at Naphill Village Hall  
 on 29th NOVEMBER - 7.30 pm to 1.00 am.

TICKETS: £2.50 Obtainable from Committee Members.

G.L. Brown  
 Hon. Sec.

COMMENTARY

At the end of December the Rangers will staple their last Gazette. The Gazette Committee is extremely grateful to Mrs. Hole and the Rangers who have performed this duty for the current year. We now appeal to any club, organisation or group who would undertake the task for the coming year. It is not an onerous job. It requires a team of 4-6 people to meet once a month for 2 hours - usually on a Thursday or Friday evening. Would any volunteer group please contact the Editor.

This month we print the last of R.E. Corder's contributions. These have been much appreciated and many of you have been curious about his identity. R.E. Corder is, in fact, Mr. W. Wood of Christopher Close. On behalf of all readers we thank Mr. Wood for the time and effort he has put into this entertaining series.

We have heard from Don and Ann Turner. They are obviously very happy to be a family again, were lapping up some welcome end-of-season sunshine and managing to enjoy life despite some very tiresome restrictions. Ann sounded very much her usual ebullient self.

Our former Editor, Mr. Ron Piercy and his wife, Muriel, leave for Tasmania on 7th November. Mr. Piercy has contributed an item to the Gazette, this month, under an interesting title. The Gazette wishes Mr. & Mrs. Piercy a happy and interesting stay "down under" and look forward to the promised report.

Please read about the POP-IN again so that you know what it is all about.

-----  
POP - IN - AGAIN !

Until last year it had been the custom of the Village Hall Council to hold a Christmas Bazaar to raise funds for the running of the village hall. Last year they had an innovation - a "POP-IN". It was so successful that they are holding a "POP - IN - AGAIN" on 7th DECEMBER.

Briefly a Pop-In is a give-and take. During November you will be asked, by volunteer collectors to give something and on 7th December you are invited to come to the village hall and for a 10P ticket have a cup of tea and biscuit and something from a "take" stall. There will, of course, be other stalls where it is hoped you will try your luck or be unable to resist a bargain. Children will have their own stalls, so please remember them in your giving.

We all - from the youngest to the oldest in our community - use and have need of a village hall, so please

contd.....

GIVE GENEROUSLY.

Be twiced blessed - give and come and take on 7th DEC.  
at 2.30 pm at the Village Hall.

If you are out all week and likely to miss the  
collectors, perhaps you would like to leave your gifts  
at one of the following addresses.

Lawrence	Auchinyell, Downley Road.
Bridgman	Louches Cottage, Hunts Hill Lane.
Cook	Kingston, The Glebe
Bull	Avonlea, Coombe Lane.
Bullock	157 Main Road, Naphill.

A.M.L.

-----  
NAPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

<u>Preachers for November</u>	<u>11.00 am</u>	<u>6.15 pm</u>
3rd	<u>Chapel Anniversary</u> Mr. S.R. Donoghue	Rev.P. Tucker (Holy Communion)
10th	Family Service Rev.P. Tucker	Mr.E. Andrews
17th	Dr. C. Sworn	Preacher from Hinde St.
24th	Mr.B.Sutcliffe	Mr.B. Rixon

-----  
There will be a Missionary Evening on Friday, 8th Nov.  
at 7.00 pm when the Rev. P. Tucker will give a talk, with  
slides, illustrating his recent visit to America. There  
will be refreshments and a Bring & Buy Stall.  
-----

THE METHODIST CHURCH BAZAAR on SATURDAY - 2ND NOVEMBER  
at 2.30 pm. To be opened by MISS MARGARET DARVILL.

M.G.B.

-----  
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

With everything going up in price, it is nice to know  
one item is to be a little cheaper - the rate demands  
which will be arriving through your letter boxes in the  
next few days will be reduced by about 5.8%. This is  
a reduction on the whole year's rate, but could not be  
processed in time for the last half year. The rate  
varies slightly from Parish to Parish, depending on the  
Parish Council's precept.

My attention has been drawn to a number of overhanging  
trees and hedges encroaching on public footpaths. Where  
these are the responsibility of the County Council I have

contd.....

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (contd)

asked them to take action in cutting them back. Private trees and hedges are, of course, individual owners' responsibilities.

It was a shame to see the lovely old brick and flint "Firs Cottage" in Walters Ash going up in flames, but it is to be hoped that the old building is still capable of preservation.

AUDREY MOORE

-----  
PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

As most readers will appreciate, Hughenden Parish covers a wide area and includes the villages of Hazlemere, Widmer End, Gt. Kingshill, Cryers Hill, North Dean, Hughenden Valley as well as Naphill and Walters Ash. Hazlemere represents about a half of our total rate income and as such takes up a high proportion of our meeting time in matters relating to its problems. In contrast Naphill and Walters Ash could be considered to have no difficulties requiring solution. Our Village Hall and Playing Fields are managed locally: we have a roadside footpath throughout the length of the village and we have no vandalism of street lighting which is maintained.

There are, however, two important areas to which a solution must be found; first, housing for the elderly amongst us, who require smaller and more manageable accommodation, as was apparent in the survey conducted by Miss E. Cooper some little while ago. Secondly, Naphill Common, that priceless possession of an open space on our doorstep but which is now almost unpenetrable due to heavy rain and increased traffic. The latter we shall solve in co-operation with all interested parties, but the first item will require a longer and more sustained effort in order to achieve success.

Richard Pushman

-----  
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 10TH NOVEMBER

The Annual Service of Remembrance will be held at Naphill Village Hall at 3.00 pm on Sunday, 10th November. The Service will be conducted by the Revd. Michael Stokes of R.A.F. High Wycombe, who is already known to the residents who attend at the Station Church.

All are invited to this interdenominational Service, held to commemorate the men, especially those from our village, who gave their lives in the two World Wars.

-----  
NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB

The weather was grey and wet when we set off from the village hall for the Autumnal ride through the countryside,

contd.....

NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH OVER SIXTIES CLUB (contd)

but by the time the tea rendezvous was reached everybody was happily chatting away. The restaurant tea was excellent and the return home came all too quickly.

On 1st November we shall be entertained by Mrs. D. Smith and her organ and her sister-in-law with her wonderful dialogues.

The 15th November will be an interesting afternoon as Mrs. B. Showler will give a talk on "Patchwork" and will also have a display of work.

The last meeting in November, (29th) will be a talk given by Mr. G.T. Acland on the "Eye Bank."

A.G.

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NAPHILL W.I.

On 3rd October the Institute celebrated its 52nd Birthday. Members, along with friends from Hughenden, Hampden, Lacey Green, Loosely Row and Downley W.I's. enjoyed a musical afternoon. Mr. Todd entertained with "Sea Shanties" accompanied on the piano by his wife. Mr. & Mrs. Todd were thanked by Mrs. A. Bull. Afternoon tea was served by the Committee Members. The birthday cake was made by Mrs. K. McCue and beautifully iced by Mrs. K. Stewart. The cake was cut by two founder members, Mrs. Ted Brown and Mrs. Monger.

The President welcomed three new members - Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. P. Smith and Mrs. Latham.

A coffee morning held at the home of Mrs. Jean Cole raised £7.04.

The 7th November meeting will be the A.G.M. VCO. Mrs. Snow. Exhibition: Tomorrow's Heirlooms. Tea hostesses: Mesdames Gillies, Shakeshaft, Dutton and Davies.

A Bring & Buy Stall will be held at this meeting, proceeds going toward the cost of Christmas presents for the patients in Booker Hospital.

J.M.R.

---

The W.I. Drama Group will present "THE HOLLY AND THE IVY" a 3-act play by Wynyard Browne, in the village hall on Friday and Saturday, 15th and 16th November at 8.00 pm. Seats may be reserved at 40P each (unreserved 30P). Apply: Mrs. McCue, Seven Winds, Downley Road. Tel: Naphill 2213.

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NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

At the October meeting, Miss Hubbard brought her collection of historical costume, dating from Saxon times to Queen Victoria. These were modelled by club members, all of whom agreed that although they looked very elegant,

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS (contd)

they were most uncomfortable and impracticable.

The November meeting will be a Demonstration of Christmas Decorations and Dried Flower Arrangements, by Mrs. Barbara Tole.

The competition will be a hanging Christmas decoration.

Once again, we would like to invite any newcomers to the village. There is no age limit and any lady who would like to meet fellow villagers and enjoy a couple of hours of chat and light entertainment should come along. I am sure they will be made very welcome.

The coffee hostesses for November are: Jane Rushby, Marion Wilks and Olive Stratford.

6TH NOVEMBER Mrs. E. Chamberlen has offered to hold a coffee morning in aid of club funds. This will be held at Rowan, Stonefield Road (off Clappins Lane) between 1.30 am and 12 noon. The admission will be 10P and there will be a raffle and bring and buy stall.

-----

NAPHILL YOUTH CLUB

We now have a paid membership of 43 and the two meetings, so far have, I think, been a success.

A committee of members has been elected to plan the future events and outings of the club. At the date of writing only two meetings have been held, the first one included a musical quiz and the second was a games evening. We now have the use of table tennis, darts, chess and draughts etc.

The village hall committee has agreed that we fit out the hall with new speakers, wired up with the record playing facilities we already have.

Our next meeting on 4th November will be a "Hallo'een" night with special refreshments including potatoes, hot in their jackets with sausages.

May the senior members of the club committee take this opportunity of thanking all the volunteers who have helped with the refreshments, set out the games and cleaned up the hall each night after our meetings.

Brian Taylor.

P.S. Youth Club meeting dates for November are -  
4th 18th and 25th. 7.45pm - 9.45 pm.

-----

FOUND

Umbrella in the bus shelter, opposite the Village Hall on Tuesday, 15th October. Owner please 'phone NAPHILL 3163

RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

The winners of the '200' Club draw made on 5th October were:-

£50. E. Jarvis, 22 Friars Gardens, Hughenden Valley.  
£20. A. Lawrence, Auchinyell, Downley Rd. Naphill.  
£ 5. S. Dennis, 10 Beech Park, Walters Ash.

The next draw will be in January.

We would like to assemble a collection of photographs showing all aspects of Naphill village life over the years. If any reader has some old photographs on this theme we would be very grateful if we could borrow them for a short time so that they could be copied. The originals would be returned in good condition to their owners. Please contact H. Bridgman, Louches Cottage, Hunts Hill Lane. (tel: 2428) or any Committee member.

The local bus service is, once more, the subject of much complaint and we are, again, taking this up with the company. In anticipation of an unsatisfactory explanation, we are considering what further steps we can take, to try to ensure that buses are run to the timetable.

The combined fighting fund of the Coombe Valley Preservation Campaign now stands at about £1,200. a magnificent effort in so short a time. It places us in a strong position to defend our environment when the Public Inquiry is announced, which we hope will not be delayed much longer.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

21st November Wine & cheese evening, Hughenden Village Hall (joint event). Tickets will be available early in November.

22nd January 1975 A.G.M. Naphill Village Hall.

7th February 1975 An evening of entertainment by Aylesbury Dramatic & Operatic Soc. Naphill Village Hall. Refreshments.

We still have no Hon. Secretary - please will somebody volunteer for this not very irksome job? There must be some kind person who would be willing to keep the Minutes and write the occasional letter.

H.B.

-----  
FOR SALE

Fidelity portable record player £8.00 ono  
New hockey boots size 6 £1.50  
New shin pads 50

Apply: 13 Louches Lane.

GARDEN NOTES - NOVEMBER

The necessity for tidiness and the quick disposal of all decaying refuse apply as forcibly to this month as to October. The atmosphere is moist, the leaves are falling and the utmost care should be taken not to make things worse by scatterings of vegetable and flower rubbish.

Begin to prepare for next year's crops by trenching, manuring planting and collecting stuff to burn. Land dug now for spring seeds and roots and kept quite rough will only require to be levelled and raked down to be ready for seed when spring comes. Protecting material must be ready in view of the fact that a few nights of hard frost may destroy lettuce, endives, celery and cauliflowers, worth many pounds which a few shillings of labour and litter would have saved.

November is a good month to plant all kinds of deciduous shrubs and trees. Planting rules are: dig deeply and break up the subsoil well; there will be no opportunity to improve the soil underneath after the plant is established. Provide stakes during planting operation, swaying in the wind breaks the roots. Plant firm and press the soil into actual contact with the root hairs.

I have yet to find the garden without a rose of some sort. This is the best month for planting. BLACK SPOT is a very troublesome disease among roses. The following are the most resistant.

- EXTREMELY RESISTANT: Allgold
- VERY RESISTANT: Goldilocks Jiminy Cricket  
McGredy Sunset Peace Pink Peace  
Rose Gaujard Violinista Costa  
RESISTANT: Ena Harkness Etoile de Hollande  
Gail Gorden Iceberg Korona  
Louis Laprierre Perfect Piccadilly  
Picture Queen Elizabeth Shot Silk  
Show Girl Super Star

C.P.

-----  
A SLEEPY LAGOON - A TROPICAL MOON..... and.....

just the wife !

My son has long been urging me to visit him in Australia, but I have never been very keen on that land of sun and sand. But when he wrote that the poultry firm he works for were sending him to Tasmania I began to feel an itch in the feet. Apparently the Tasmanians are great orchardists but somewhat backward in the poultry world and his job is to bring them up-to-date.

He wrote, "Dad, it's a big job and I could do with your help and advice." Now, I know a bit of 'flannel' when

contd.....



I see it as well as the next man, but the chance was too good to miss. So, provided I can sell my cattle for about half their real value, we shall be off in November and back in April, and in that time I should manage at least one report for the Gazette.

But there's a bit of a problem. I like to see my hens running about in the grass. How shall I conceal from the good poultrymen of Tasmania that I am just as old-fashioned as they are !

Agricultural Correspondent

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REMINISCENCES by R.E. Corder

So far, of all the people we have interviewed, Mr. Bert Day, known to many during his ten years as landlord of The Wheel, is the man with the longest memory and a fund of good stories to draw on.

We very fortunately met him during one of his visits to the village, at his son's home in Stocking Lane. In his youth, Bert Day was a member of the village detachment of the Boys Brigade, about thirty strong, which used to meet in the Church School at the corner of Louches Lane, and he still clearly recalls their drum, bugle and fife band, when Harry Munger was the drummer. The occasion of a summer camp at Shoreham was also remembered, as they were flooded out by torrential rain and were forced to take refuge in a nearby college for the rest of the night.

During his service with the Brigade, Bert held the rank of sergeant, until one Christmas Day when he fell out of favour and was asked to leave the Boys Brigade. On this particular Christmas Day, Bert had to choose between attending a church parade at Hughenden Church, or taking a position in the team he had formed, who were due to play a local match. The decision went in favour of the match, although it meant the end of his connection with the Brigade.

Naphill has good reason to be grateful to Mr. Bert Day for he was one of those who initiated the idea of building a village hall.

Life was very hard when he was a child, for when he was three years old his mother had to apply for Poor Law Relief at the Saunderton Workhouse. The regulations allowed the Guardians to provide relief only for children, so his mother was compelled to find work to support herself. Canon Blagdon of Hughenden Church heard of her troubles and made it his duty to provide work for her by bringing her all his own family laundry and he

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REMINISCENCES (contd)

arranged for other prosperous families in the parish to do the same.

Bert Day recalls, vividly, the continuous frost from November to March in the winter of 1894/5 and the heavy falls of snow. Coombe Lane, at that time, was only a single cart track with passing places at intervals. One particularly heavy fall of snow resulted in drifts, which filled the road to the level of the top of the hedges, making it possible to walk along the hedge tops. People who usually walked to High Wycombe for work were compelled to dig a road through to the valley to restore communications with the town. During this winter, skating became very popular, while the ice on The Dyke was so thick that a bonfire was started on the ice.

Until 1924, when a private bus service was started, many people had to walk to High Wycombe. The bus service was started with a Ford wagon which carried only seven passengers, three on each side and one at the front with the driver. The route from Wycombe was through North Dean, along Clappins Lane and through the village to the Church School, but the incline in Clappins Lane was too much for the bus with a full load of passengers, so everyone got out and walked. Later, another private bus company provided a service from the Church School to Wycombe by way of Bradenham Road, running a forty-five minute service. Finally the Thames Valley Company took over the route and provided us with the service we have today.

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NATURE INTEREST

THE RING NECKED PHEASANT

October 1st yearly marks the lifting, for a few months, of the pheasant protection law.

It was late one September when we in Walters Ash and Naphill were visited by this magnificent creature - the ring-necked cock Pheasant. Early one afternoon he came into our garden walking on the lawn. If I could have understood his language, I'm sure he was begging to be allowed to stay there, safely, until after the dreaded date of 1st October.

It proudly strutted around hunting for insects or sampling the berries, especially favouring the cotoneaster berries. I was able to approach him quite closely and managed to make a number of sketches. He was very tame and appeared to be quite familiar with humankind and stayed with us for quite two hours. I classed this beautifully multi-coloured game bird as second only to the magnificent peacock. Excuse my over enthusiasm, but as he slowly, jauntily, strutted around I felt I was

contd.....

NATURE INTEREST (contd)

watching poetry in motion. Each step was precise, carefully taken and all samples of food were selected with great care. As I watched my welcome visitor my mind wandered into the morbid. What could happen within just a few days the day when gamekeepers would lead their team of "drivers and stops" with sticks to the chosen acres. Opposite to this team would be gentlemen with their guns and their loaders, dogs ready to obey every command. These would await the forced flight of these beautiful birds. The gun triggers would click and many would come tumbling to earth. I took another look at our visitor and wished him luck. If it happens, at least he will know little about it.

I came back in doors, I did not see his going so the end of this story is like many of our television stories of today - you and I can finish it in our own way.

The pheasant was imported to Gt. Britain from Colchis, a country on the shores of the Black Sea, was plentiful near the River Phasis and, therefore, deserved its name from Colchis and the River Phasis, Phasianus Colchicus - Pheasant to us. It was the Athenians who endeavoured to acclimatize it for the sake of its beauty as well as the delicacy of its flesh. The Romans received it from the Greeks. It was little known except in Germany, France and then to England.

The custom of introducing it to the table decorated with its tail feathers and its beautifully coloured head, first came to us from Constantinople. It was then reserved as a special dish for Kings and Emperors, replacing the peacock which until then had always taken this place of honour.

The Kings of France greatly encouraged the naturalization of the pheasant in the Royal Forests and was given the title of "Royal Game of the First Class." The killing of the hen pheasant was forbidden at all times. Now the Royal Pheasant has almost disappeared and only a few remain within a few of the French walled parks. Should the pheasant, in this country, ever lose the protection of the Game Law, it will dwindle away exactly as it has done in other countries. Its predators are many, especially in the egg stage. The nest is on the ground in a shallow hollow, often 8-15 eggs, colour pale olive and easily seen. Incubation is by hen only. The Ringed-neck Pheasant, as shown on our cover sketch, at one time was thought to be a distinct species, but is now considered a mixture of the pure white and common pheasant. The cock pheasant is not a "true husband" but is a ready mate for any hen. Nevertheless, he is extremely handsome, a real beauty to behold.

A.S.A. WOOSTER

The family of the late Kenneth Hussey, 5 Oakeshott Avenue, would like to thank all neighbours, friends and relatives for their help and kindness. Grateful thanks for the beautiful floral tributes and messages of sympathy.

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