

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette



July 2022

Jubilee, Fete and Classic Car
Special Edition

Annual Subscription £5

Cover courtesy Clare Joiner

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Our Local Clubs and Organisation Contacts

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Bridge Club	Margaret Stagg	01494 530736	
Cubs - Hughenden			handnhcubs@hotmail.com
Naphill	Martin Beddows		naphillcubscouts@outlook.com
Football Club - Junior	Andy Sinclair		mailto:naphillfc_cwo@yahoo.com
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Friends of Naphill Common	Chris Miller	01494 563707	chairman@naphillcommon.org.uk
Men's Club	Andrew Wasilewski	01494 562770	naphillmensclub@yahoo.co.uk
Residents Association	Gloria LeFlaive	01494 563634	glorialeflaive@msn.com
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Scouts (Naphill)	Adrian Curtis		naphill@chilternvalescouts.org.uk
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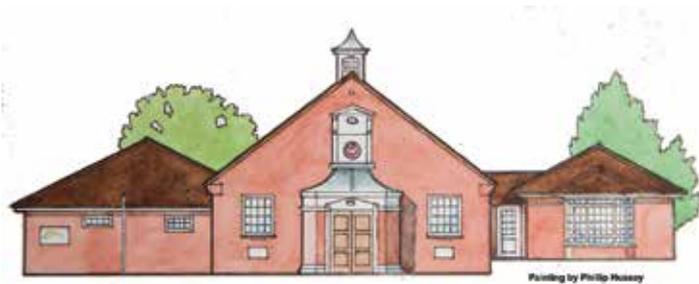
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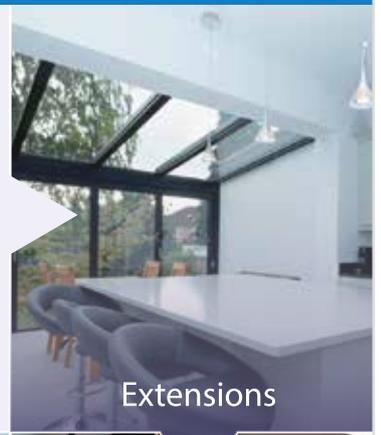
Helpful Contact Numbers

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Hearing Clinic Wycombe Hospital	Self refer	01494 526161
Specsavers Hearing (NHS hearing tests)	Self refer	01494 520304
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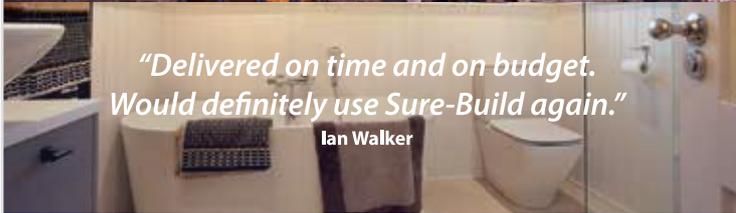


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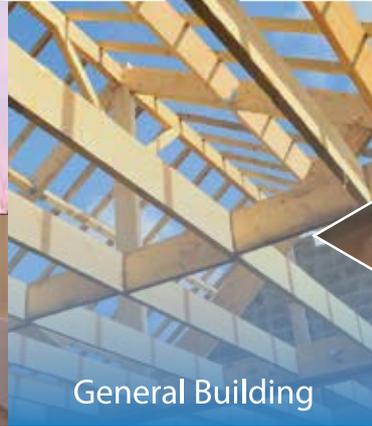
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Photograph courtesy Jonathan Hilder

Copy Date for August/September Gazette 13 July 2022

So here it is, the July edition of the Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette, all 60 pages finally finished and about to wing its way to Turville Printing Services to be printed and returned to Ian, our distribution coordinator to deliver to all our volunteer distributors to pop through your letter box. A process which perhaps we take for granted but which can only happen if there are volunteers to complete these tasks!

Sadly, Ian is resigning, I thank him for all his work and support, he does a great job! If the Gazette is going to continue to be delivered we do need **SOMEBODY** to volunteer to take over from Ian. Please see page 9 for details and get in touch with Ian if you can help.

This edition of the Gazette has been especially busy and it has taken much longer than usual to put together, a real labour of love with more than 400 photographs to sift through and a plethora of articles to fit into this special Jubilee, Fete and Classic Cars edition. My thanks to all the contributors and to Jonathan Hilder, Neil Cockle and Clare Joiner for the Fete and Classics photos.

I was delighted to receive the articles and photos about the Jubilee celebrations. Congratulations to the local schools, the street party organisers, the churches, the village hall council who managed the beacon lighting and made the Crick available for a big village picnic and to all who helped to make the Jubilee a very special four days of celebration for our community!

A week later it was our village Fete and Classic Car weekend and what a weekend this was! Many of our contributors have made a point of thanking the organisers of these events for their work and I join them in adding my thanks and congratulations. Well done to you all! I received several individual reports of these events, which I have included in this edition and which I hope you will enjoy.

Organising our village events is no easy task and often involves months of planning. The Napfest Committee are not resting on their laurels after the successful Fete, they are busy planning NapFest Music which will be held 10 September. Tickets will be on sale soon. Please see page 29. If you would like to volunteer to help at this event please contact Linda Clark.

The Gazette subscriptions have mostly been collected. If you have not yet paid and wish to do so please speak to your distributor or get in touch with Ian, distribution@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk. My thanks to Ian, the distributors, Judy our treasurer for collecting the subs and to all our subscribers for your ongoing support.

The sun is shining, it is mid-Summer and I am looking forward to relaxing in the garden! Enjoy July and I look forward to sharing the August/September combined edition of the Gazette with you next month.

Best wishes,

Sonia

Editorial Disclaimer: Although the editor has made every effort to ensure that the information in this magazine was correct at press time, the editor does not assume and hereby disclaims any liability to any party for any loss, damage, or disruption caused by errors or omissions, regardless of the cause. The content of any article is the responsibility of the contributor, if the text is edited/substantially altered, the editor will inform the contributor before publication. Any opinions expressed in articles herein do not express the personal opinion of the editor. Comments or queries on individual articles will be forwarded to the author/contributor to substantiate. The editor retains the right to refuse any contribution. No group or individual can demand that their contribution will be published or dictate how or where their contribution is placed or displayed. The editor will close comments on any subject if this is agreed by the Gazette committee members.



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Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

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Volunteer Gazette

DISTRIBUTION Coordinator

Job Description

Role: Distribution Co-Ordinator (Volunteer)

The Gazette is produced and delivered by a committed band of volunteers and this is an opportunity for a willing community-spirited resident to come forward and help continue the long-standing history of the local village magazine which has been published for over 80 years.

1. Take delivery of Gazette magazines from the printer every month – generally on the last Friday of the month (10 months per year only)
2. Bag up the magazines for each volunteer distributor in accordance with their current quantity needs
3. Deliver the individual bags to each distributor
4. Arrange cover for any distributor who may occasionally be unavailable – many of the other distributors will always help cover
5. Once a year, arrange for the distribution of the subscription collection tins to the distributors and deliver the received monies to the Gazette Treasurer
6. Small amount of general admin work

Each month should take up no more than 4/5 hours of your time for the Gazette sorting and distributing and also typically allow for another 2 hours per month for admin.

You will receive training from the existing distribution co-ordinator.

Ian Hall

distribution@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

It is with great sadness that we announce that we need a new distribution coordinator. Ian has done a superb job and we thank him for his work, support and help, he will be greatly missed! If you are interested in helping, and we sincerely hope that someone will volunteer, please contact Ian or me.

Sonía

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The community celebrations for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend got underway with the lighting of the beacon on the evening of Thursday 2 June. About a hundred people came to see the event and raised a glass to Her Majesty, accompanied by a rousing rendition of the National anthem. On Sunday 5 June we had "Picnic on the Crick". Sadly, the weather was not kind but many people attended and were not deterred by the clouds

On Monday 6 June we had the village hall committee meeting. The treasurer told us that the hall insurance has increased by £1000 and was now at £4500 for the year! We also have two other insurances, one for the Christmas tree lights and a Trustee insurance to indemnify the trustees against financial problems. These two policies have also been increased by small amounts.

The village hall committee reorganisation was again discussed and it was agreed that we would have a 6 month trial period with just 8 decision making Trustees (down from 21) who will be nominated at the July meeting. The other registered Trustees will continue to attend meetings in an advisory capacity but will delegate all powers for the period of the trial. The trial will be evaluated early in 2023 and, if proved to be successful, then the correct process will be followed to draft updates to the constitution and formally seek approval of these from the community at the AGM in April 2023.

We have made a spec for the heating replacement update and 3 companies are quoting for the work. It is hoped that we will decide the way forward on this at our next meeting. The work on the rear of the hall to repair the fire damage has started and then the tarmac in that area will be replaced. The map of the village has been put back on the wall.

The weekend of 11/12 June was the annual Fete and Classics on the Crick. Always great community events and much enjoyed by us all! The Fete on Saturday was well attended and there were many different stalls and rides. The Villager of the Year cup was presented to Steve Marshall who is always willing to help at village events. The dog show was very well supported and was lots of fun. On Sunday there were an enormous number of vehicles on display at Classics on the Crick. Another hugely successful event much enjoyed by the crowd of people who attended. It is good to see the crick being used for these events and being the focal point of the village and I thank the organisers for their hard work and ongoing support for the Village Hall.

The Music Festival will be held on Saturday 10 September and the Fireworks on Saturday 5 November. A Christmas fayre will be held on Friday 2 December.

Clive Lawrence

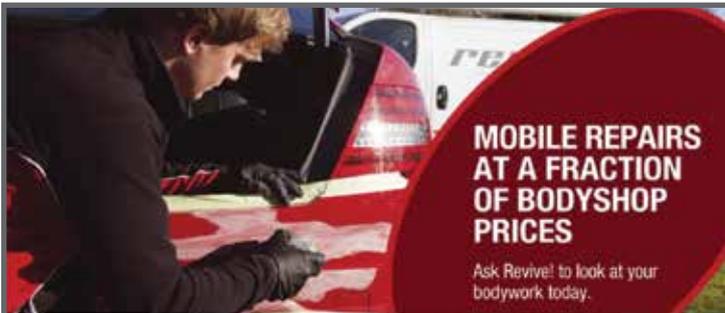
Naphill Village Hall Chairman

Lighting the Beacon on the Crick

The crowd swelled as those seeking a libation left The Wheel and joined others on the Crick to see the beacon lit. For those wondering if it would be a tall man who lit the Beacon it turned out to be a man with a tall match!



Narrative and photograph courtesy Jonathan Hilder



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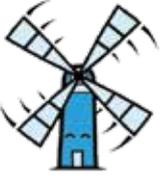


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At the full council meeting on the 9th May the Council agreed to set up a number of working groups and committees. These were :

- Human Resources Committee
- Finance and Policy Committee
- Services Committee
- Environment and Services Committee
- Planning Committee
- Communications Working Group
- Road Safety Working Group
- Jubilee trees Working Group
- Playgrounds Working Group
- Streetlights Working Group

So it now is starting to feel like we have some focus of thought and decision making and also a mechanism to craft future council decisions as well as opportunity to engage with parishioners on key subjects.

The council is mindful that the results of last year's survey has not been make public and are working on ensuring that is the case in the near future.

Office Functions and welcome to the new clerking team

The council has been very grateful to Karen Crowhurst for stepping in as Locum Clark for the last couple of months and the work she has done in finalising year end reports. Karen hands over to Nina Villa, another locum, whilst our newly appointed permanent clerk Emily Ranahan gets her feet under the table and is able to provide a consistent presence in the office dealing with parishioner questions and issues.

Council year 21/22

At a well attended Annual Parish Meeting with a presentation from the outgoing Chairman, Simon Kearey, those present received really interesting presentations on Neighbourhood Planning from Neil Homer, an independent Consultant and Nina Merritt from Buckinghamshire Council. All presentations should now be up on the council website.

It was pleasing to note that the council ended the year with a surplus (£40k – subject to year end audit) and plans are already in place for the new council and associated committees to work on where investment is needed in the parish.

New Councillors and a new Chair

At the Council meeting on the 9th May, Cllr Gareth Cadwallader was elected as the new Council Chair.

Gareth lives with his wife Nancy in Widmer End has a depth and breadth of experience in the commercial world.

Whilst all wards have councillors there are still a number of vacancies so please if you are interested get in touch with the office clerk@hughenden-pc.gov.uk to find out more.

Around the Council

It was fantastic to see so much Jubilee activity across the parish recently and we hope all enjoyed that very special weekend. Over the next few months we know that there are further enjoyable events planned in all wards. The council would be keen to support and promote any of these as they bring so much benefit to all who go to them. The new bus shelter on Valley Road has been installed and looks very much fit for purpose.

Simon



Councillor Simon Kearey
Hughenden Parish Council
www.hughendenpc.org.uk
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Millie Gillam is delighted! She achieved "most effort" for the Risborough Springs Swim and Fitness Centre Jubilee colouring competition. and she won a gorgeous dinosaur, called Elizabeth, and some swim vouchers. Well done Millie!



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Message from Bradenham Vicarage

How was it for you? The Jubilee I mean! Mine was 'different' and not what I had planned at all. My intentions of enjoying a sea-borne treasure hunt, embracing the festival in the centre of High Wycombe and joining in with events at Bradenham were well and truly scuppered by the appearance of a very dark second line on my lateral flow test. I had finally succumbed to Covid! Not that I would have known it as I was completely asymptomatic, only taking the test as an overabundance of caution before taking a service. All my plans swept away in an instant. My ideas needed to change.

As a teacher, I learned to be flexible – really flexible. Like the time I replaced an afternoon's planned lessons with an impromptu lesson on thunderstorms. During a spectacular afternoon of storms, some of the children were visibly upset and frightened. So I used the storms as a teaching opportunity. Grabbing every textbook I could find on weather, I ripped down a display that was due for renewal and set about creating a new display about thunderstorms. As the children found interesting facts, they wrote them out and handed their work to me to put up on the display. Fear turned to amazement as they read about storms, learning to count the seconds between flash and thunderclap to determine the distance. The almost simultaneous flash-bang of a thunderclap directly overhead added a real wow factor to the lesson. Stories of Greek gods and heroes emerged, along with legends of lightning trees and other folklore. I could have persevered with my planned lessons, trying to teach a nervous, anxious class who probably would have learned

little. Instead, I chose to embrace the situation, turning it to an advantage, so that, to coin a phrase 'and a good time was had by all'.

I could have sat and been very miserable about missing out on all the Jubilee celebrations, but instead I embraced the situation. I enjoyed a good deal of the live TV coverage, reflecting that although I was missing out on the atmosphere of being there, I was not missing out on the crowded trains and grotty loos that would accompany the event. I cobbled together a red, white and blue table setting, tried a supermarket chain's recipe for strawberries 'n' cream daiquiri (delicious) and had fun cooking a kebab supper over my fire-pit, which later served as a private, mini beacon at beacon lighting time. It wasn't what I had planned, but it is part of my story and my own unique memory of this time.

The best laid plans can be spoilt at no notice by things beyond our control. We are constantly at the mercy of whims of fate. It is a fact of being human and something Jesus often referred to in his teachings. Jesus' antidote is to remain focussed on things in the heavenly realms, which are eternal and not subject to whims of fate.

'Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met'. Matthew 6:33 (The Message)

Every blessing,

Rev Jenny Ellis



Hughenden Primary School News

On Thursday 26th May, parents, carers and friends of Hughenden school were invited to join us in celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Each year group had chosen a decade of Queen Elizabeth's reign and the majority of their learning that week was based around this. On the Thursday, we invited the children to dress up in a style typical of their chosen decade. The decade choices were as follows: Pre-school, Foundation + Year 1: 2020. Year 2: 1990s Year 3: 1980s Year 4: 1970s Year 5: 1960s Year 6: 1950s

In the afternoon, the invitation was extended to come into school to look at the work that the children had produced in the run up to the Jubilee. We enjoyed songs, poetry, along with whatever else staff and pupils had prepared to share with us! It was a delightful, inspiring tour of the school and which was much enjoyed by us all!

To finish the day off, there was an 'afternoon tea-style' picnic on the school field along with an afternoon of fun and games organized by Friends of Hughenden PTA in conjunction with school. This included a tombola, a raffle, cake sales, refreshment stalls, lucky dip, and an opportunity to have your picture taken with the Queen! A great afternoon much enjoyed by everybody!



Downley Road, Vincents Way & the Common Celebrate Jubilee

Our party was held on the Common including friends and neighbours from Downley Rd, Vincents Way, and the Common. The weather was perfect, friends brought their own picnics, we had a loyal toast to the Queen. New friends were made and a happy time was had by all. Looking forward to our next get together.

Lesley Horne

Join the Governing Board at Naphill and Walter's Ash School

Naphill and Walter's Ash School are looking for a Co-opted Governor to join the Governing Board.

Co-Opted Governors, in the opinion of the Governing Board, have the experience and skills required to contribute to the effective governance and success of the school. They are appointed to strengthen the Board's breadth of experience and to volunteer their professional and specialist skills.

Co-opted Governors live or work in the community served by the school, they do not have children at the school, but have keen interest in helping the community by supporting the school's success.

School Governors have three main roles.

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
2. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and the effective and efficient performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and make sure public funds are well spent.

We are looking for someone who has:

- An interest in our children's future
- Time, energy and enthusiasm
- A desire to make a difference



- Readiness to accept responsibility
- An ability to work as a team
- The ability to ask questions, listen and learn

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If you are interested in becoming a Co-Opted Governor at Naphill and Walter's Ash School please submit a written application, of no more than 150 words, detailing why you want the position and what skills, attributes, and experiences you have that will make your appointment a success. Please send your application to Governors@nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk

Thank you

Naphill and Walters Ash School Governing Board



Naphill & Walter's Ash School

On Thursday 26th May, everyone came to school dressed in Red, White and Blue and we enjoyed a whole school picnic on the field. We sang songs together including the National Anthem. Year 5 also demonstrated some country dancing, which the whole school then joined in with. It was a lovely afternoon.

For half term we had some whole school homework to create a piece of work linked to the Jubilee. The school hall has been transformed into an exhibition showcasing all of our hard work.





Church News

The Jubilee weekend was celebrated in style at St Michael's with a very uplifting (let's just say the balloons didn't always play their part) combined service followed by refreshments, picnics and complementary teas served in the afternoon, where all were welcome. After the completion of the rebuild of the Church tower (and removal of the scaffolding) the tower and bells were rededicated by Keith and the bells rung, as they had also been the previous Thursday to coincide with the ringing at Westminster Abbey.

The church was bedecked with flowers both for the jubilee and from a weekend wedding, and special displays marking Her Majesty's 70 years adorned the back of the church with photos and memories of her reign.

The following weekend Hughenden Church joined with other Christian Churches in High Wycombe in the Love Wycombe celebration in the high street. Love Wycombe is an annual celebration, this year based round prayer, social action and celebration. St Michael's free Jubilee teas were part of our social action.

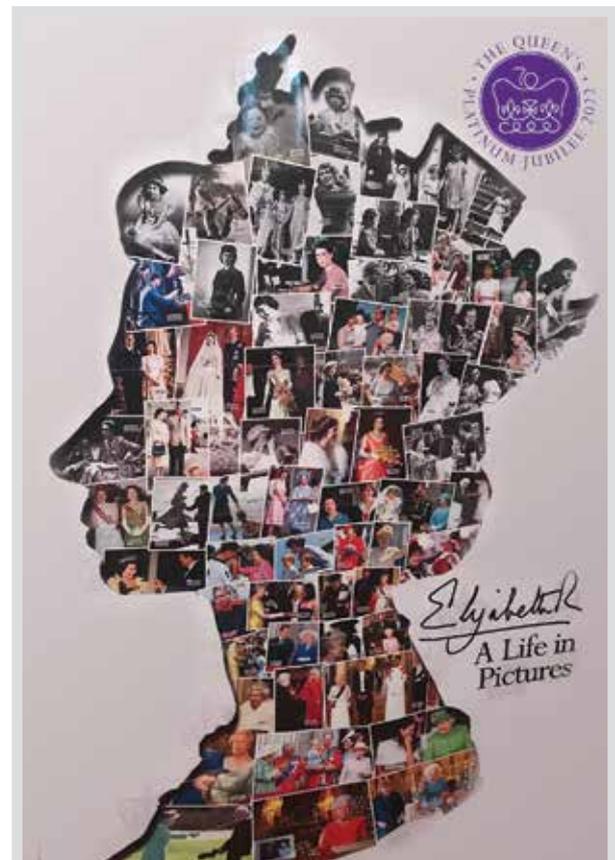
At our monthly Tiny Tots service, we welcomed 4 new babies to join the established band of toddlers. Much cake, and many scones were devoured, (not only by the children!) Plates of party food were created in the craft session, water was turned to wine, and songs were sung with gusto. An action packed morning!

As far as future events are concerned: we are welcoming Dave Pepper at morning services on 10th July talking about Project Possible (a Christian charity helping overlooked people get fundraising ventures off the ground) and on the same day we have our parish BBQ and swim. For details of all our services and other events see www.hughendenparishchurch.org.

From 25th-29th July many of the Church members will be involved either as participants (the children) or volunteers (adults) at Lighthouse, which, for those who have not yet come across this, is a week-long non-residential school holiday event for children from reception to year 6. (See www.lighthousecentral.org).

However you are spending this summer, we hope you have excitement/rest (whichever you seek) and joy.

Jane Tyrer



Message from Hughenden Vicarage

How wonderful it was to celebrate HRH Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee recently. Perhaps you followed the Trooping of the Colour on the Bank holiday Thursday, followed by the Thanksgiving service in St Paul's Cathedral the next day. I wonder did you marvel as the Red Arrows flypast over Buckingham Palace, or were you tempted to imitate Prince Louis, by putting your hands over your ears. Perhaps you were able to meet with friends or family for a picnic, to toast her majesty's good health and long life.

On the Jubilee Sunday it was my privilege to lead a service of celebration at Hughenden Church, on the day in the Church calendar that also happens to be the birthday of the Christian Church – Pentecost – so it was a double celebration.

Our Church looked stunning with a beautiful array of flowers, and some remarkable pictorial representations of the Queen's 70 years since her ascension to the throne, which are still on display at the back of church for all to see.

Our Bell-tower renovation works now complete, we were all able to enjoy hearing the bells again, over a

delightful picnic, followed by a welcome return, for just one afternoon, of Church House Teas, which were given away without charge, and enjoyed by many.

The last couple of years have been rough for many, and any opportunity to bring people together in celebration must be welcomed.

We all need time to rest, as well as work, a break from the mundane routine of life. As I write these words, I am preparing to spend this summer away from parish duties, on sabbatical, a hoped-for rest from my duties as Vicar that I have been planning for almost four years.

I am looking forward to going on retreat, attending a Christian festival, sitting on a beach with a cornetto, listening to the sound of the waves across the shingle, seeing some cricket, and spending a couple of weeks in Nandyal, with the Church of South India, on behalf of Oxford Diocese.

I hope to be able to share some of my experiences with you later in the year.

God bless you,

Rev Keith Johnson



Moseley Road Jubilee Celebrations

Moseley Road loves a street party, and we don't need an excuse but celebrating the jubilee was the perfect reason. We decided to go all out on the decorations in honour of HRH Queen Elizabeth's 70 years on the throne, so even decorating the road was a team effort and a lot of fun. Bunting of all shapes, sizes and colours, ribbons, balloons, and flags adorned houses, trees, hedges, and marquee.

The BBQ was wheeled out and lots of the Moseley Road residents, friends and families came out armed with tables, chairs, and a drink or two. The children all loved the freedom of playing out on the road, riding bikes, scooters and playing football.

Like so many others in the village and across the country it gave us an opportunity to really be together as a community. The last few years has proved to us all how important good friends, neighbours and family are and we all said how privileged we feel to live where we do.

Donations were given towards the food and our generous street gave so much that we are also able to make a £70 donation to Home of Rest for Horses in Speen. We felt this charity was appropriate due to its links with the Royal Family going back as early as Prince Albert who was an early supporter of the Horse Trust.

Now the celebrations are over but we're looking forward to future Street parties and opportunities to get together.



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Growing Your Own - *DUNG*

The importance of putting back into the soil at least as much as one is taking out is generally recognised. But how much? And what type?

When I took over my allotment in 1973 one of the first things I did was to use a soil testing kit to analyse the soil content. The pH was down a bit, ie a little too acid, so for many years I applied lime everywhere – except where I was applying manure and/or growing potatoes. The potash was a little down so I applied bonfire ash wherever possible. The phosphorus content was also a little down, but I thought that manuring would gradually build up the phosphorus level. However, the **BIG PROBLEM** was nitrogen, which was way, way down. Obviously, previous allotment tenants had cropped and cropped without putting anything back, so the soil had become impoverished. I resolved to apply generous amounts of manure every year to gradually restore the situation. As to the type of manure, I used pig, horse and cow. I have not used chicken because chicken manure is very highly concentrated and there are warnings about it burning plants.

PIG - When I took over my allotment there was a pig farm a few hundred yards away and I was told “help yourself”. Since it was conveniently close and **FREE** I used pig manure for a few years, transporting it in my big builder’s wheelbarrow. I was, however, somewhat put off because the pig manure was fresh and the odour was not exactly that of Chanel Number 5.

HORSE - I was put off horse manure from stables because of the low ratio of dung to straw, and the fact that the straw usually was not sufficiently decomposed. I did try horse manure from mushroom farms, and had a fantastic by-product in that mushroom spawn in the compost continued to produce mushrooms. We had copious quantities of free mushrooms. However, I then realised that in the mushroom compost were small pieces of chalk, and that if I continued to use that form of compost my soil would eventually become too alkaline.

COW - After about three years using pig manure and a further three using spent mushroom compost I turned to farmyard manure (ie cow) from a local friendly farmer, and have applied that exclusively ever since. The manure is usually two to three years old. The ratio of manure to straw is very high and nearly all the straw is decomposed. Not only am I building-up the quantity of the 19 trace elements which are essential for human health, but the fibrous nature of the manure makes my soil rich in humus and water-retentive.

As to the results of applying large quantities of manure every year, all I can say is that my crops of fruit and vegetables are excellent, with many types of vegetable of large size – and delicious!

Good gardening!

Mike Mason

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Pyramid Orchid



Common Spotted Orchid



Bee Orchid

Friends of Naphill Common



It was wonderful to see so many people at the fete, following two years of 'lockdown', and the weather was great, too! Strategic positioning of our Silent Auction gazebo next to the burger and noodle bar kept us busy all afternoon and, thanks to the generosity of many individuals and businesses, as well as the hard work of our team led by Neil McMinn, we have raised more than £1,000 in support of FoNC and the Village Hall.

I think it's important for our youngsters to be introduced to nature at an early age, so I was delighted to assist our two Naphill Beaver Scout colonies in 'pond dipping', with the highlight being several water scorpions – a small (about an inch) aquatic insect, with a scorpion-like appearance – totally harmless to humans, it's a fierce predator of tiny pond creatures. I personally marvelled at the skill of the leaders in controlling 20 or so excited 6-8 year olds, something far beyond me.

As I write, the first of our wild Chiltern orchids are appearing and this seems to have been a very good

year for them. The two species most frequently found are the Common Spotted orchid (the spots are dark blotches on the leaves), which can grow to 50cm in height and produces a large spike of small, pale pink (sometimes almost white) flowers; and the Pyramidal orchid, which has a more compact spike of a much darker colour. Less common are the Bee orchid, which resembles a smaller version of the commercial orchids sold in supermarkets; and the Fragrant orchid, which is the only one of the four with a strong scent, otherwise resembling the Spotted orchid (but without the spots on the leaves). There are other species to be found – we have 57 wild orchids in the UK – but they are much rarer.

Good places to see wild orchids are in the field edges along Bradenham and Saunderton (the National Trust retain wide borders on many of their cultivated fields and also wildflower meadows); in the wildflower meadow above the Hughenden Village Hall; and in the small nature reserve on Smalldean Lane – but we usually find some in the unmown grass verge in front of our house, keep an eye open!

Meanwhile, our working parties continue in full swing and take place on most Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Because they are dependent on the weather, it's best to check our web site for details (where our walking and other activities are also listed):

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



Chris Miller
Chairman

The Wheel

Naphill



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The Wheel

What a fantastic weekend the Fete and Classics was. The committees of both events did an amazing job as always and were blessed with great weather. It was so nice to see The Crick alive with people again and enjoying themselves.

Thank you to The Wheel Team who made a great effort with their smart dress for the theme of the Oscar's. You all looked brilliant and the Will Smith hand slaps on our faces just made it even better. Izzie and Emily were great flag bearers who had previously won our Christmas bowling event to have the honour on the day. It was lovely to be able to finish Fete Day off properly with live music from Mr Paul Adams who got everyone singing along in the front garden (I'm sure the beer may have helped)!

Classics, what a day. As always, we had a fantastically busy day and the staff worked so hard to keep the beer

and food flowing for our customers. I would also like to thank Emma for helping glass collect and clear plates when she actually came up for a beer! Bon Ami then donated their remaining rolls that we could sell later to our still hungry customers.

So hopefully now the sun is shining that is the start of a much-needed good summer. We haven't got anything major planned now but who knows. The one thing we are currently working on is updating our menu again. It has been a struggle with supplies of certain items, so we feel is best to have a change. Hopefully the new menu will be up and running at the end of July.

Once again thank you to all the staff, customers and the committees that organised a great weekend.

Claire and Mark



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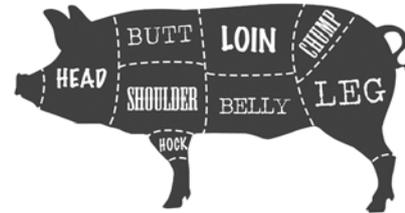
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Celebrating Fete & Classics on the Crick 2022





Brownies



Naphill Neighbours



Tennis Club



The Wheel



Friends of Naphill Common



Naphill Men's Club



Red & Grey



Our Princes & Princesses

Sam, Ellie, Henry & Sophie

Fete Chairman's Report

WOW, what a day, the weather was kind, the beer was cold, the food was amazing, our princes and princesses dazzled us by looking so fabulous. I must say a huge thank you to all the Committee, Hilary, Steve, Paul, Joanne, M.C. Paul, Louisa and Chris, for all their hard work and efforts in making this marvellous day happen. I must also say a huge thanks Tara, Charlotte and Jo for volunteering on the day, those extra hands certainly made our life so much easier.

Our Village Groups/Organisations also rallied round to provide some great stalls, Sheila and the Brownies on the Book Stall, The Friends of Naphill Common and their Silent Auction, Naphill Neighbours with the Cake Stall, Sarah and her lovely ladies selling Tea and Coffee and how can I not forget the bar provided by Clive, Andrew and the rest of the Men's Club. You are all amazing! Thanks you!

This year the procession was rather small but I would like to thank all for taking part, especially the Wheel who as always were dressed in Theme and looked amazing in their Oscars outfits, they were definitely red carpet ready. Thanks too to red & Grey who played so brilliantly all afternoon. The Dog show was a HUGE success, special thanks to Kat and Derry for organising this. Dog show results below:

Most Handsome Dog	Prettiest Bitch	Best Trick	Fancy Dress	Musical Sit
1st Bertie	1st Cashew	1st Harry	1st Elsa	1st Harry
2nd Marley	2nd Luna	2nd Ebony	2nd Bruno	2nd Otis
3rd Ragnar	3rd Poppy	3rd Crumble	3rd Bo	3rd Bo

Another big thank you for all those that attended, I hope you had a great day! If so, spread news about NAPFEST 10 September 22.



Roll up, Roll up, NAPFEST Tickets will be online from 15 July, www.napfest.co.uk, QR code below, and shortly after for sale in local shops, we are offering an early bird reduced ticket price. Under 5's Free, 6 – 12 yrs £10, adults £20 and £10 for a 3x3m Gazebo (limited numbers available). Ticket prices will increase on 31 August 22, so grab your tickets early.

So what does this get you?

Live Music from 3.30pm till 10.30pm, Crockets Rockets, Bad Neighbours, These Certain People and 'FLASH' The Queen tribute act, and maybe more. Don't forget our own DJ Sean Salter providing a disco in between acts.

There will be our World Famous Bar, cocktails, wine tasting, Noodle Nation, Fish and Chips and many more tasty delights.

Fancy Dress is optional but to embrace the 'Queen' Theme, who's in for a bit of Glam Rock?

Looking forward to seeing you all in September,



Linda Clark



What a brilliant day, and a huge well done to the fete committee.

We had great turn out at the dog show with many super talented dogs and owners in the fancy dress and best trick. Musical sit was lots of fun and got very competitive in the final! With over 20 dogs in each of the prettiest bitch and handsome dog classes it was so difficult to judge as every dog is adorable. Big thank you to Jollyes for supplying massive bags of dog treats for each class.

Kat Mcfarlane





I just wanted to say a Huge thank you for the fete this Saturday. My children and I had such a lovely time. They enjoyed the slide, train and trampoline, and the best bit was that I wasn't riddled with financial guilt. In a day and age when we are watching every penny, we nearly didn't come as I was worried I would have to spend the day saying no but to my surprise and full appreciation I didn't have to do that once. The freedom, the fun and the sheer enjoyment of my happy children was priceless. I just wanted to say a heart felt thanks for making that possible.

Thanks for making it something that we could all enjoy and partake in. I am so very grateful!

Sarah Chick







Chairman's Report

Sunday the 12th was the 8th time that Classics on the Crick has been held, and this year's event turned out to be our biggest ever. Again, we were lucky with the weather, a nice bright and dry day. Not too hot for those old cars & bikes and their owners!

The car entries were oversubscribed, so we had over 400 vehicles of all types crammed onto every inch of the Crick. This year we also had a fantastic turnout of over 100 bikes, trikes & scooters which we managed to squeeze onto the car park.

A change this year saw the construction of a stage in collaboration with the Fete. Thanks to Maguire scaffolding for their excellent work. This allowed us to increase our music acts. The day started with Chris Weeks, a well-known local singer, famous for playing the lead in Buddy Holly Musical Tour. At lunchtime we were joined by Damo and the Dynamites. This energetic three piece from North London played a string of 50's and 60's rock n roll favourites. Finally, closing the day, it was our favourite Elvis impersonator, G Elvis, who as usual was very popular with the audience.

Judging over 500 vehicles of all types and genres proved to be a challenge, but in the end we selected the following overall champions.

Best Car in Show- Brian Foskett – 1950 Chevrolet 3100 Pickup carrying a custom Harley Davidson

Best Bike in Show – Chris Hyland – Lambretta Model D Racer

Visitors to the show voted for their favourite exhibit which was

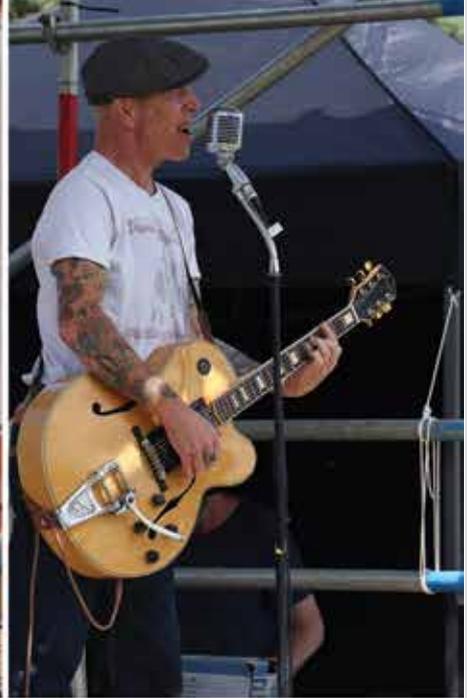
Public Choice Award – Mark Dobbs – 1971 VW Bugle Beach Buggy

As usual all profits from the event go directly to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance. This year it looks like we have raised over £18,000 thanks to the generosity of all our entrants and visitors.

A massive thanks go out to all our volunteers who made the event possible, with a special mention to the Chilton Vales Scouts who again coped magnificently with the marshalling the public visitor car park on Stocking Lane.

We would also like to thank the Naphill Village Hall Committee for allowing us to run the event on the Crick, The Horses Trust for the loan of the parking field and Sytner High Wycombe BMW for their continued sponsorship, thus ensuring that every possible penny goes straight to the Air Ambulance.

The Classics on the Crick Team



Photographs on this page courtesy Neil Cooke

How lucky are we to have so many good people who are prepared to market, organise, and run The Crick Classics. I was lucky enough to volunteer and see just how much hard work goes in and what it can achieve. All of this to help fund an amazing charity, The Thames Valley Air Ambulance, which seven of us will need every day.

The sun was kind and The Crick was packed with cars, bikes and people. What a great array of food stalls, live music, and lots of banter, beards and beer.

Thank you to all who came but more importantly a huge thank you to all who made it happen! So why not join in and help next year, it's always great fun!

Jonathan Hilder





Naphill Tennis Club

The weather was fine, the strawberries and cream sold out and the ball machine attracted lots of youngsters like bees round a honey pot! It was really good to see lots of people enjoying themselves and hopefully the Fete will have raised a reasonable sum for village hall funds. Well done to everybody who made fete day an enjoyable community event!-

Throughout the Summer we have club sessions on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, Thursday evenings and on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, just turn up and join in, new members are always welcome! Alongside this we have coaching sessions, see below.

ADULT BEGINNERS COACHING	Mondays 9–10 am	<i>'Rusty' or just want to learn the game in a relaxed sociable environment? £10 per session.</i>
ADULT IMPROVERS COACHING	Mondays 10-11 am Wednesdays 9-10 am	<i>Want to develop further? £10 per session.</i>

Please book all coaching direct with our Head Coach, Mel Burn, on 07949 128195 or email melebbles@hotmail.com.

If you would like further information about the Tennis Club, please contact our Membership Secretary, Sarah Dengel, on 07905 226203 or email naphilltennismembership@gmail.com.

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Local Tales - Accents: decline and ascent

Accents interest me. I have something of a Buckinghamshire accent and was made conscious of it aged thirteen by a rather bullying mathematics teacher at the technical school. If you had any kind of accent and had the temerity to ask a question, he would answer you sarcastically, aping your accent. Annoyingly, he had no ear for an accent and would reply in exaggerated Cockney. Now, you the reader, will no doubt agree that the Cockney accent is quite different from 'Bucks'. Take the phrase 'How now brown cow'. In Cockney it would be rendered as 'ar nar braan caw' while in Bucks it would be 'ey ney breyn cey'. A much softer accent.

Old accents are being lost. There was a time when you could recognize a difference in the accent of people of different villages. Hereabouts, they all had a Buckinghamshire dialect but with a local lilt. This was still true until the end of the second world war. Then, most children attended their village school until they began work. Soon after the war, further education mixed children in various secondary schools, and this hastened the dilution of local lilt.

Again, after the war, population movement accelerated. All over the country, people moved to other regions through necessity or choice. Social, industrial and transport changes, the increase in car ownership and the coming of television, all augmented the change in the way people spoke. Our local villages expanded, and the turnover of population increased. People worked with others with different brogues. All this diluted the local accent.

There has, of course, always been change. My father Bert Hussey like me, had an accent if somewhat stronger. But even as a boy he was aware that change was afoot. The gentrified accents of teachers, vicars, doctors and

the like together with the coming of the radio, made people, particularly young people, aware that others spoke differently.

This I understood when my dad recalled an incident as a boy walking up the Main Road in Naphill. He was accompanying an old man when a hot air balloon floated low over their heads. There was hardly a breeze, and the balloon was traveling only a little faster than they were walking. The balloonist in the basket was peering at a map and shouted down to them, asking the name of the village. "Naaple" shouted back the old man. The balloonist examined his map. "Where?" He asked. "Naaple" shouted back the old man even louder. More puzzlement on the part of the balloonist.

Dad, not really wanting to correct his senior, nevertheless recognized the problem and called out "Nap-hill" and the balloonist raised his hand in thanks, ignited his burner and gently ascended away. The old man, a little disconcerted, turned to dad and remarked "Wow thas wot iy sayed".

And what of the future? Language is still changing, new accents are developing, particularly among the young. The internet has arrived. The mobile phone, social media and pop culture are changing the way they speak and write. Will we, in time all be speaking 'Estuarine' and have stopped using the 'th' in our speech and all be writing in 'Emoji'? Will the quantum computers develop human levels of consciousness as some experts believe? My May contribution to the Gazette titled 'donkey's years' acquired four unwanted hyphens implanted by a computer before printing. Was the computer trying to tell us something?

Philip Hussey.



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Monthly Guest Speakers are proving popular! We invite you to come to a meeting as our guest!

Please do join us on Wednesday July 27th at 2pm in Lacey Green Village Hall when our guest speaker, Anthony Mealing, will be talking about 'Local Architecture enhanced with fascinating stories'. On Wednesday August 24th our speaker at Lacey Green will be discussing 'The dog in my medicine cabinet'.

Over thirty Groups meet monthly. We meet in local homes and Halls* Many of our groups are taking advantage of the better weather by meeting outside.

A first visit to our u3a is always free and there's no charge for refreshments.

Our June Events Report:

Our monthly speaker gave a fascinating talk on the 'Air Ambulance Charity.'

All our groups are now operating normally and the improvement in the weather has brought smiles to the faces of our Croquet Group. The walking groups have also been able to enjoy the wonderful scenery all around us and I am sure the Pub Lunches Group have given a boost to our local hostleries. The Music Group decided that 'Food and Drink' would be an entirely appropriate topic for their June Meeting! The World We Live In Group and Discovering Science Groups have been looking into Lost London and Lost Hospitals (focusing on Bedlam). Our French Group have experienced record attendances and The German Group still proves to be one of our successful groups.



Summer gives members opportunities to discuss their holiday photographs with experts from our Photography Group. Above a scene from Lake Garda, Italy which I am looking forward to discussing with the group.

There is so much going on around the groups that it is not possible to mention them all! We are actively researching ideas for new groups. If you've an idea for a Group or not sure what we offer, please do contact me. Email: gilliamph@aol.com. You can now find us on Facebook. High Wycombe and District u3a.



Paul Gilliam

**Meetings in Halls are Subject to Government Regulations"*

Naphill Neighbours

Naphill Neighbours were kept busy at the village fete and we thank everybody who brought us produce to sell and of course, those who came to buy. Another great village fete day!

The Amazon has been in the news recently so our talk this month was apposite. Our speaker was Keith Spencer, who had been on a cruise on the Amazon some years previously and enlightened us on the variations of the two halves of this great river. The river is 100 million years old; it flows in to the Atlantic but flowed into the Pacific in its early days.

The river is in two distinct halves; the black and the white.

The Rio Negro, the Black River, feels warm, has few insects, and thus no birds or fish, and few people. The soil is sandy because sand from the Sahara is deposited here having been blown from east to west. It is full of potash and thus fertile.

The White River - Rio Solimites, is cold, fast flowing and full of insects. There is thus a marked contrast between the Black and the White Rivers. The White River floods annually to a height of 13 metres, as high as a house. To cope with this, houses are built on stilts, there are no bridges or railways, the shops are boats and school buses float. There are pink nosed dolphins in this river which can swim backwards, adapting to cope with the flood.

Our next meeting is on July 11th when Peter Mussett's topic is 'Jack the Ripper'. There will be a tea party on Monday August 8th at 2.30pm. Contact Yvonne Cook on 07702 882603 for further information and tickets if you will not be at the July meeting.

Peggy Ewart.

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The Rotary Club year ends at the end of June, so its current President, His Honour Christopher Tyrer DL is stepping down and handing over to a new incumbent after presiding over a very busy year for both himself and the Club. During his presidency we have been able to move forward from the worst of the Covid era. Thankfully, due to careful management of our meetings, we have managed to avoid spreading the virus amongst our members.

Despite all the challenges he has overseen a very successful year. We donated over £34,000 locally and internationally and we are currently working closely with the local "Ukraine to Chiltern" charity (website under construction). An organisation set up by a group of neighbours in the Lacey Green/Loosely Row area. They are offering support to many families in the villages around Princes Risborough who are hosting Ukrainian families (115 individuals including nearly 40 children between 0 and 18 years). Additionally, they are providing subsistence to a further 98 Ukrainians who are currently delayed en-route in various countries, awaiting visas. They are also funding their eventual travel to the UK.

The majority of the refugees arrive with only the clothes they stand-up in. Consequently, the Charity has established a "New2You" shop, providing a range of clothing, shoes, underwear and school uniforms. They would be very grateful for any donations of second-hand items and/or financial support to enable them to purchase underwear and shoes. To do so one can use the following contacts:

- Kate Collet-Fenson: 07970 547999
colletfenson@gmail.com
- Candy Piercy: 07976 968892
candy@candypiercy.org.uk
- David White: 07787 750889
david@dhwhite.plus.com

And if you want to learn more about Rotary, you can contact us here: rcpr.org.uk



Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

NAWARA AGM

Friday 8th July 2022, 7.30pm
Naphill Village Hall.

Followed at 8pm by guest speaker Bernie Knill on Hughenden Manor's secret map-making during the Second World War. Everyone welcome and there will be plenty of wine and nibbles to enjoy during the evening. Do Join the party!

Everyone is welcome to the NAWARA AGM, details as above. We look forward to seeing you. Did you know what important top secret map-making work went on at Hughenden Manor during the Second World War? It played a vital part in helping to win the War. Bernie Knill will deliver the whole fascinating story from 8pm. Don't miss it!

Clean for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee week Litter Pick . A very successful social occasion for which Bucks Council supplied 30 new litterpick sticks. A big THANK YOU to the 30 volunteers who assisted to clear litter from every part of the highway, including Naphill Common, between Coombe Lane and Grimms Meadow. The Crick and Village Hall grounds came in for clearance too. The number of cigarette butts littering the villages was astonishing. The 4 RAF Ghurkas who joined the clean-up did a superb job by filling numerous bags of litter from Kilwood and Main/New Road, Walter's Ash.

Best Kept Village Competition. Judging continues until 14 July so we need to keep mindful that any additional litter

will need to be cleared. The litter-pick sticks are available for anyone who wants to help. Please ring Gloria Leflaive on 563634 if you need a stick. The NAWARA committee will have assisted with an additional litter clearance on the Crick and Village Hall grounds following the Fete and Classic Car show weekend.

Naphill Fete 11th June. A thoroughly enjoyable day. NAWARA's Raffle: "Guess The Number of Treats in the Jar" attracted all ages and was won by the only person who got the exact number - Samuel Stock. In addition at the NAWARA stall, 51 more people signed the on-going Petition for Bucks Council to "Save the Clappins Lane Oak".



Local Resident Samuel Stock, Winner of NAWARA's Guess the Sweet Numbers Competition,

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John Russell
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100th Edition of the HSA Newsletter

A time to celebrate!



The current version of the weekly Hughenden Street Association newsletter is about to celebrate its 100th edition (June 23rd). A milestone that should not go unmarked due to the hard work of the volunteers and local organisations who contribute regularly to it. The newsletter was launched at the start of the Covid19 pandemic as a way of keeping residents and local groups aware of the various responses to the pandemic. It evolved into its current format on 18th June 2020 with a 'call to action' to discuss what the Association might do next as the pandemic receded (but Covid19 is still very much present). Issue 2 saw the launch of the current format with a blend of information and links to organisations that may be of interest to residents. As has been mentioned before a close relationship with the NAWA Gazette has really helped to promote the Association. The latest edition (16th June) is full of good advice around the ever-present scams and cons as well as details of dementia friendly exercise classes and the Bucks Safe Places Scheme. Keeping the content relevant is so important and if you have any suggestions please do email the editor: hughendensa@gmail.com or perhaps you would like to submit an article relating to the Association's Key Priorities: avoiding cons and scams, reducing isolation, protecting our environment and health & wellbeing. Ideally the article should be no more than 300 words and include an image or photo. The editor can make sure the number of words is achieved and any image or photo may need to be reduced to fit. Again, the editor will liaise with you to make sure that the article looks good!

In the next few weeks, the Association will be updating its Membership List and you may be contacted by the NAWA Ward Leader, Susan Bickerstaffe to check that your details are correct. It is perhaps timely to

remind everyone about the aims and objectives of Hughenden Street Association. In summary:

For community life in Hughenden Parish to become better connected, supportive/supported, stronger and friendlier so that all residents are involved in it to the level they desire. This means working to create safer and connected communities encouraging residents to identify the needs of their neighbours to help them engage in the community. The Association has a key role to play in helping develop links to existing facilities whilst also working to support community groups to reach out to as many residents as possible.

The Association works in close partnership with Neighbourhood Watch. Both chaired by Stan Jones OBE. It also has helpful links with St Michael's & All Angels church, Wycombe District Dementia Action (WDDA), Hughenden Valley Climate Group and Buckinghamshire Council. The Council recently provided a grant for marketing materials which will help to raise further the Association's profile within the parish.

Our principal communication tools are the weekly newsletter and a Facebook page. A more recent development has become very popular: pub lunches taking place at the Black Lion, Naphill and the Harrow, Hughenden Valley. If you have not attended, then you are missing a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and make new ones. See separate notice for NAWA details. If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, simply contact the editor: hughendensa@gmail.com

Hilda Stearn

Communications Co-ordinator
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Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association



With the costs of road fuel, gas & electricity, postage, and many food products escalating at the present time, please be aware that scammers are taking advantage of this situation.

Cyber criminals claiming to represent Ofgem are targeting householders offering them fake energy rebates so they can access their bank accounts and steal the contents.

Action Fraud is warning customers not to be duped by emails saying they are due a rebate on their energy and council tax bills. The watchdog has been bombarded with more than 750 complaints in just four days about the official looking emails promising hard-up households money off.

They also recommend checking email addresses as any emails to or from Ofgem always end @ofgem.gov.uk. Another key point is to check the branding of these communications because the Ofgem logo will always be present in official communications, and it should never look stretched, blurry or distorted.

In a council tax energy rebate scam, fraudsters claim to be associated with the council and explain a refund is due. They then ask for bank details in order to pay out the £150 rebate.

Action Fraud says: "Your bank, or any official organisation, won't ask you to share personal information over email or text. If you need to check that it's a genuine message, contact them directly."

Victims may also be targeted by someone claiming to be from a legal company collecting outstanding debts on behalf of the energy companies. Victims who fall for this may still be left with debts to pay to the energy companies.

There is also evidence of door-to-door scamming that impersonates the energy companies with offers of cut-price deals, so defrauding customers. If you receive any unannounced house visits, calls or texts from fraudsters claiming to be them, report the scam to Action Fraud.

If you think you've fallen for a scam or have given any personal information like your bank details, contact your bank immediately for help.



<https://neighbourhoodwatchwycombe.org>

Shear Madness

Well firstly, I must say how pretty the villages were for the jubilee, everyone made huge efforts and it was so lovely to see. Even the hedge man had Union Jack eyes, ha ha, I'd love to know who lives there. Well done one and all.

It's nice to have the weather at last and what an amazing turn out for the Fete and the Classic cars, well done gang. I hope you all have an amazing summer whether at home or abroad, it's all about making memories for you and your family. Some of my best childhood memories are camping in a very damp Wales. I don't think mum was too impressed but as a child you don't even notice the rain and the cold! You're too busy having fun. So go on, have some fun, we've been stuck indoors for far too long!

Without fear of constantly reminding you, appointments are staying, I'm back in on Tuesday 5th July and I'll be here all summer.

Have fun, stay safe.

Love as always,

Mandy x



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The Black Lion

Hello Naphill & Walter's Ash!

Firstly, we would love to congratulate the organisers of both the Fete and the Classic Car Show. We visited both and we're hugely impressed with how well organised and successful the events were! We are very much looking forward to Music on the Crick in September.

So, here we are, heading into the dreaded School Summer Holidays... Having two gorgeous (yet slightly crazy!) children, we know how expensive the School holidays can be, not only that, we know how difficult it is to keep the kids entertained! So, we've decided to offer a helping hand. Join us anytime during the school holidays and Children eat for only £2 when with a paying adult. So you can sit back, relax and enjoy some sunshine whilst the kids run off some steam in our extremely child friendly garden! We are working on a new child's play area to keep them entertained, this will be ready by the time the school holidays come around!

In other exciting news... We have invested in a brand-new Pizza Oven and our chefs have created some delicious recipes for our Rustic Bases and we are

proud to be able to offer these stunning pizzas. We even have takeaway boxes so if you're looking for a delicious homemade takeaway pizza you can always give us a call! We were offering the pizzas on the Jubilee weekend and were incredibly pleased with the feedback we received. So why not pop down and see what you think?

I would like to end on perhaps a slightly sombre, but very important note... In this strange world that we live in at the moment, now, more than ever, it is so important that we support local businesses. We are lucky in this area to have such a variety of different offerings from small business and we need to take advantage of that! We wish all the local business the best of luck for a great July and final half of 2022!

Thank you for taking the time to read this and we look forward to seeing you all soon!

*Tanya, Jon
and the team at the Black Lion*



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New "Firm Foundation - Move Well Fitness Classes" in the Village Hall

A few people have asked me about my classes and what they involve, so I thought it would be helpful to share a little more about what they are all about.

During the early weeks I introduce key movements that we use every day. These include squats, lunges and pulling, pushing and lifting/hingeing movements. It is really important to me that everyone uses the correct technique, using the right muscles for each job. Often, low back pain or muscle pain are caused by not using the muscles in the way they were designed, and this causes other muscles to overwork.

The focus initially is on core endurance (and stability) and posture, that underpin all movement and enable us to perform well and safely. It is important that a stable core can be maintained throughout the range of the movements. Everyone also receives exercises to practice at home, in between classes, most of which can be incorporated into normal daily activities, rather than requiring a separate exercise session, as such.

Whether you are new to fitness classes and training or whether you have done a lot in the past, it is always helpful to have someone observe and feedback, on technique and form, as we often develop bad habits over the years, and these can be made worse after injury, as we change movement patterns to compensate for, or protect, the injured area.

Keeping groups small ensures that everyone gets lots of attention and there is time to ask questions, (and do a little bit of chatting!). It also enables me to plan in exercises to address in detail, specific needs of the group, either in class, or as exercises to do at home in between classes.

Each class starts with warming up and mobilising to ensure the body is ready for the class ahead. The next section then focusses on the compound movements. These are movements that involve multiple joints and muscle groups such as squats or lifts. Following on from this we cover a range of upper and lower body exercises which vary each week. We finish with a cool down and stretch.

The group is suitable for anyone wanting to get back into exercise or build or rebuild their fitness, maybe after a period of time away from it or through injury. For each exercise, alternatives are always given so that there is something for everyone, wherever they are on their fitness journey.

In the first session I run a few simple tests to raise awareness of people's strengths and improvement areas, by rerunning these tests periodically, it is a great way for clients to track their progress.

The best results are always achieved by committing to come every week and to supplement this with practice at home. All of my lovely first group have achieved at least a 20% improvement in leg strength, and have improved core endurance and stability during the 6 weeks, which is testament to their hard work. Participants report feeling more confident and stronger in daily life, and are able to do more than before the classes, and also have really enjoyed themselves, rediscovering abilities that they might have assumed had been lost altogether! If you are interested in joining the next 6 week course, please do get in touch. Classes are currently 1pm to 2pm on Wednesdays in the Naphill Village Hall. I would be happy to add additional classes if the demand is there too!

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National Trust Hughenden Volunteer Recruitment

Hughenden Manor and West Wycombe Park recently held a drop in session to recruit more volunteers. If you missed this session and would like to volunteer, indoors or outside, serving in the café, welcoming visitors, or helping to look after our countryside places, there are lots of opportunities across our teams.

For more information email us at hughenden@nationaltrust.org.uk.

From a National Trust Hughenden Manor Volunteer

I first volunteered with the NT when I retired 10 years ago and that was with the Countryside Team based at Smalldean. I worked with them at various sites, mainly the Bradenham Estate, but also Coombe Hill, and West Wycombe Hill. I loved being outside learning about why we were doing the tasks and meeting friends.

The work became a bit too hard for me as I got older so I asked if I could volunteer in the "house" – Hughenden. I was welcomed with open arms and decided to become a Conservation Assistant helping to open the house in the mornings and care for the heritage items. I had just started an induction when Covid came along, and the house was closed. When it was partially open, I tried as a room guide but could not communicate well enough with my poor hearing and everybody wearing masks. When the house was eventually opened, I started properly and enjoy being part of the team on Tuesdays with the other volunteers, mainly room guides and the staff.

There is always a member of the house team to help, and explain what to do and how to do it. I find it very interesting seeing the objects close up and how to care for them, learning a bit about their history and also the history of the house and the Disraeli family. When I started the first time, I went to the talks that some of the volunteers give to the public and learnt a great deal of the history of the house, Disraeli, and Hughenden's role during the 2nd WW.

My main role at the moment is helping prepare the house for opening in the morning by cleaning and tidying. Christmas was fun, decorating the 8 ft. trees and seeing the beautiful floral decorations done by other volunteers. I have done a variety of jobs since starting – waxing the beautiful wooden floors, condition checking some of the heritage items, how to treat the different surfaces such as marble, wood, lacquer and metals.

So, there is always something new to see or learn. I enjoy meeting with the other volunteers and feel part of the team with the house staff who are always so supportive and encouraging and will find tasks that you feel you are capable of.

Kate Davis





Dandara

A little help to safeguard the local bee population with two bee hotels recently donated to Naphill and Walters Ash Primary School

Warnings of a so-called “insect apocalypse” have been highlighted through research published recently by University College London, revealing that ‘in some parts of the world insect numbers have slumped by almost 50%.’ In attempts to help stabilise the local bee population in the area, Naphill and Walters Ash Primary School has recently received two bee hotels from housebuilder Dandara who are building a development, The Chilterns, just down the road from the school.

Alongside tackling climate change, one of the main conclusions from the research has been to ensure, going forward, a renewed focus on reserving more space for wildlife to help stem the decline. The Forest Stewardship Council approved wooden Bee and Bug Hotels donated to the pupils will provide a home for the bees, especially during late September, when most bees are looking for shelter. The hotels have been installed in a quiet part of the school grounds, creating a safe location away from predators for a variety of solitary bees such as orchard, mason and leafcutter bees. It will be used as an educational aid for the pupils, introducing them to the role bees and other insects play as native pollinators, vital for the growth and spread of plants and flowers in nature.

Simon Pendlebury, Managing Director at Dandara Northern Home Counties, comments, “As a responsible housebuilder, we are constantly working to try and find simple but effective ways to safeguard local wildlife, so are really pleased to be able to continue our work with Naphill and Walters Ash School and donate these bee hotels. Research shows that the bee populations are declining, so our hope is that the donation to the pupils will protect the local bees and reverse this trend and also stimulate discussions around the long-term conservation of these populations.”

Hannah Clarke, a Year 6 Teacher at Naphill and Walters Ash School, adds, “With our bees under threat the prevention of even further losses of these pollinators is absolutely crucial. This activity is a great way of ensuring that the next generation is discussing this problem from an early age. We are glad to see Dandara encouraging this with the donation of our new bee homes and look forward to seeing in the autumn term if any bees have moved in over the summer!”

Nicola Laggett
nicola@building-relations.co.uk



Photograph courtesy Jonathan Hilder

Local Farmer Leading the Way to Support Wildlife Manor Farm Recognised as a Wildlife Haven with Award of New Local Wildlife Site Status



Chilterns based farmer, Andrew Stubbings, has been turning his farm into a stronghold for nature and wildlife over the last 20 years. His entire farm has been designated a 'Local Wildlife Site' – a recognition given to the most exceptional and valuable wildlife areas in the UK. Manor Farm is now the biggest Local Wildlife Site in Buckinghamshire, with an impressive 225 hectares of land achieving designation.

This is the first time in the UK that a whole farm has been designated - it's more common for specific fields or smaller areas on farms to gain designation, so the scale of this award is unprecedented.

A tenant of the National Trust on the Bradenham Estate, Andrew first began working with his father on the process of reverting a good deal of their arable land back to chalk grassland. 20 years on, the farm has become one of the biggest and best sites for nature and wildlife in the Chilterns. What's especially impressive is that Andrew has achieved such a high level of diversity of plants, birds, butterflies and even reptiles whilst running a commercially viable working farm.

In summer 2020, the Chilterns Conservation Board and Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre carried out full botanical surveys across the farm. They found no less than 280 species of plant. The farm has four different species of orchids and a very large population of the rare Chiltern Gentian.

Wildlife on the farm also includes breeding Barn Owls, Common Lizards, and breeding Corn Buntings – a locally scarce and endangered farmland bird. 35 species of butterfly have been recorded on Manor Farm including Duke of Burgundy, Chalk Hill Blue, Adonis Blue, Dingy Skipper, Grizzled Skipper and the Silver-washed Fritillary.

The Great Green Bush Cricket has also been found on the farm!

The survey findings were submitted to a panel of local ecologists and other experts on the Local Wildlife Site panel who awarded the designation set against strict criteria.

Andrew Stubbings said, "I'm so proud to think that I started this with my dad 20 years ago. Before the surveys I didn't really know what I had living on the farm and have been blown away by the results. It's so great to know that I am doing my bit to help our wildlife to thrive and has given me an extra buzz as I am out and about on the tractor. To top it all this spring breeding barn owls have taken to a new box installed on the farm - just magical!"

Nick Marriner from the Chilterns Conservation Board said, "Andrew is leading the charge in supporting Nature's Recovery in the Chilterns and has shown that commercial farming and wildlife can work together. He is an inspiration and it's great that we have been able to help him along the way and hopefully inspired him to do even more."

Andrew is one of 18 farmers in the Central Chilterns farmer cluster (supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund) all driving to do more to support wildlife on their farms too. Helping wildlife at a landscape scale is vital and farmers are leading the way in the Chilterns.

Julia Carey from the Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Records Centre added "Our survey team couldn't believe the scale of what Andrew has achieved. Field after field of our surveys throwing up so many important chalk grassland and rare arable flora species. Our Panel were blown away by the wildlife recorded on the farm"



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Valley Players - It's A Sell Out!

That's what Valley Players were able to post at least a week before their second "Picnic and Play" over the weekend of 11/12 June.

This year we presented "Pride, Prejudice and other Useful Qualities" by Geoff Bamber. Our audiences were treated to excellent performances by all the cast, and it would be wrong to choose to highlight any one over others. However the Bennet daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, Lydia and Mary, (Willow Randall, Claudia Hayes, Holly Arnold and Louise Bayliss), worked together on stage to make a formidable team against Mr Mc Bingley (in this version he was Scottish!) and of course the glowering, brooding Mr Darcy (Peter Morrison and Ross Grayson). He of course wilted when eventually proposing to Elizabeth Bennet, despite Caroline Bingley (Jocelyn Pearce) and Lady Catherine de Bourgh (Celia Johnson) trying to disrupt the path of true love. Mr and Mrs Bennet (Andrew Pitman and Daphne Hicks) could at last see three of their daughters married as even in this version Lydia eloped with Captain Wyckham, (Alex Kolling). The Reverend Collins (Dave Collins) did get wed after being turned down by all the Bennet daughters, to the Bennet's maid, Constance (Diana Gibbons).

The cast was prompted by Lin Smith who also made the sun shine!

If you have never experienced theatre in the open air, I urge you to give it a go, it is very different to "indoors". Watch out for next summers production. If you can't wait try the Open-Air Theatre in Regents Park. It's only a tube ride away from Amersham and a short walk from Marylebone station. On a sunny afternoon I saw an excellent production of "Legally Blonde" the musical. Closer to home, the Wycombe Museum has an excellent programme of plays for all ages!

In the height of Summer our thoughts turn to winter and our Pantomime for December 2022. This year we shall be presenting "Aladdin – Adventures in the East" by Susan Holder. Susan (who has worked for the BBC on Mrs Brown's Boys) has written a very witty up to date version of the traditional tale (oh yes, she has). We shall be casting the play in July, which will give our actors the summer holidays to learn their lines.

Meanwhile on the 3rd September we shall be inviting you all to our postponed Murder Mystery supper. Check our website for details - www.valleyplayershughenden.co.uk

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