

# Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

Music on the  
Crick  
9th June

Family Fun  
Day  
10th June



# NAPFEST

2023

9TH - 11TH JUNE

Classics on the  
Crick  
11th June



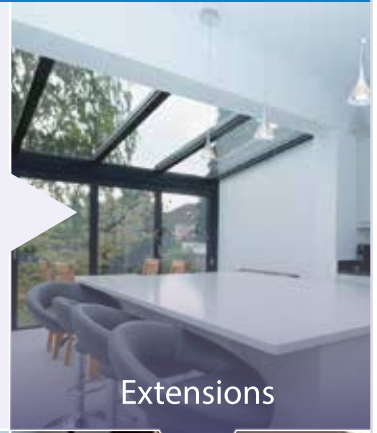
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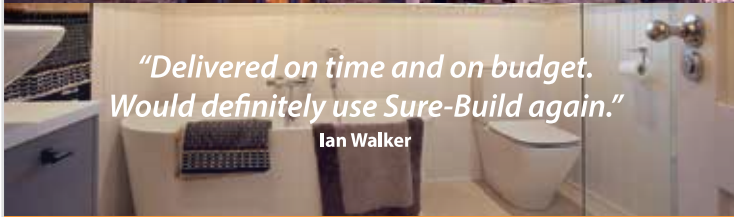


Extensions



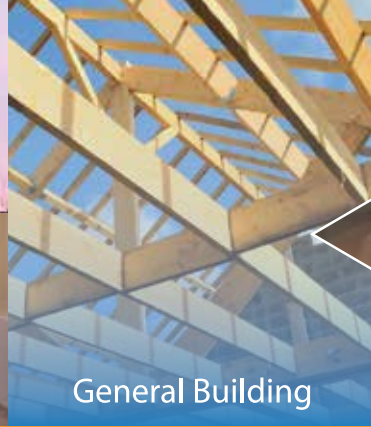
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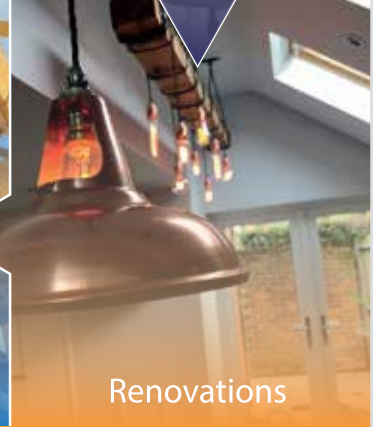


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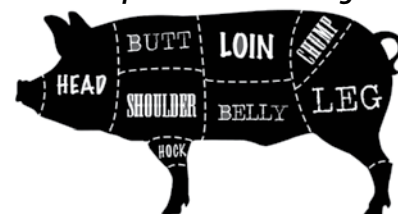
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## Come and Join Us!

### *Our Local Clubs and Organisation Contacts*

Beavers	Tony Bobbin	01494 447121	naphillbeaverscouts@gmail.com
Brownies (Naphill)	Ruth Daly	01494 565571	ruth.daly3@btinternet.com
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
Senior	Harry Salter	07403 249208	
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
Naphill Neighbours	Janet Judge	01494 563186	
Scouts (Naphill)	Adrian Curtis		naphill@chilternvalescouts.org.uk
Tennis Club	Jenny Tench	01494 562282	jttench@gmail.com
Naphill Football Club	Chris Keats		naphillfc@btinternet.com

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# Naphill Village Hall



**Chairman** - Clive Lawrence

Email: [chairman@naphillvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:chairman@naphillvillagehall.org.uk)

**Bookings** - Tanya Stevens

Email: [hallbookings@naphillvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:hallbookings@naphillvillagehall.org.uk)

Tel: 07851 169275

[www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk)

## Local Council Contact Information

Bradenham Parish Council Clerk	Deirdre Hanson	01494 562254	<a href="mailto:clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com">clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com</a>
Hughenden Parish Council	Clerk Vacant	01494 715296	<a href="mailto:clerk@hughenden-pc.gov.uk">clerk@hughenden-pc.gov.uk</a>
Hughenden Parish Councillors	Usha Prashar	07778 141920	<a href="mailto:usha.prashar@hughenden-pc.gov.uk">usha.prashar@hughenden-pc.gov.uk</a>
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Hughenden Parish Councillor	Chris Janes		<a href="mailto:chris.janes@hughenden-pc.gov.uk">chris.janes@hughenden-pc.gov.uk</a>
Buckinghamshire Councillor	Steve Broadbent	07471 144181	<a href="mailto:Steve.Broadbent@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">Steve.Broadbent@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>
Buckinghamshire Councillor	David Carroll	01494 716967	<a href="mailto:David.Carroll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">David.Carroll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>
Buckinghamshire Councillor	Clive Harriss	07768 876568	<a href="mailto:clive.harriss@buckinghamshire.gov.uk">clive.harriss@buckinghamshire.gov.uk</a>

## Helpful Contact Numbers

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Stroke Support Service	Stroke sufferers, carers & family support	0300 3300 761
Shaw Clinic - Genitourinary Medicine	Genitourinary Medicine	01494 425430
Hearing Clinic Wycombe Hospital	Self refer	01494 526161
Specsavers Hearing (NHS hearing tests)	Self refer	01494 520304
Healthy Minds	Anxiety, depression, stress, postnatal wellbeing	01865 901 6000
Bereavement Listening & Support	Bereavement counselling	1296 332600
Wycombe Women's Aid/Also Men	Counselling re domestic violence	01494 461367
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Alzheimer's Society	Dementia information & support	01296 331722

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Copy Date July Gazette 15 June 2023

So, with months of planning, a huge amount of effort and a dearth of volunteers, NapFest weekend is FINALLY upon us! Please folk, support these events, let's try to regain the community spirit which sometimes appears to have disappeared with the passing of COVID fears and lockdown. I have sat in this chair for nearly ten years, I witnessed the birth of NapFest, all the community spirit, the enthusiasm and glee of the crowds who flocked to be a part of these great events, plus the work of the volunteers who made these events so successful. My personal thanks to you all for organising these events and a thank you for letting me be a small part of your team and help with the artwork this year, it was a great honour and a pleasure to be included.

Over recent years I have received several messages, "why is nobody organising?" The answer is simple, there are very few volunteers! We have lost so many groups and events, we had a thriving horticultural society, WI, girl guides ... to name just a few, if we do not start to pull together we will become a large group of individuals with absolutely no community spirit, the small groups of community volunteers who do so much so silently, will give up and as the old saying goes, "stop trying to flog a dead horse!". PLEASE SUPPORT and please consider volunteering your help!

NAWARA have organised a "Naphill in Bloom" competition, have you got your entry form yet? This is of course a chance to share your beautiful front garden and creative garden pots but it is also a great way of helping to make our front gardens especially beautiful for the Best Kept Village competition which we won last year and for which NAWARA have entered us again this year. Do you remember how proud we all were when we won the De Fraine cup last

year? Now we are asked again to tidy up our villages and help secure another win this year. If we all pull together, if we all do our bit, we can achieve this goal! See page 41.

Still on the sensitive subject of support, I am publishing the annual Gazette subscription notification. Once again we are asking you to pay £5 towards the cost of the ten copies of the Gazette you receive each year. Each individual copy of the Gazette costs over £2 to produce, your subscriptions are vital to the survival of the Gazette and we thank you for your ongoing support.

Finally, my very best wishes to you all for a happy, healthy June! I really hope we have some glorious Summer sunshine and that we all enjoy NapFest!

Sonia

## Gazette Annual Subscription Collection 2023 Notice

The distribution team now have their collection pots and will be calling to collect the annual Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette subscriptions for 2023. Please have your £5 ready.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Sonia - editor  
editor@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

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# Naphill Village Hall & Playing Fields Council Chairman's Report

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The meeting of the village hall committee was held on Monday 1st May, there were 11 members present. The first item on the agenda was to elect a chairman and vice chairman, I was elected chairman and Linda Clark was elected vice chairman. No new members were co-opted and Judy Whitehouse stood down as a co-opted committee member. Judy was thanked for her time on the committee and she will be missed as a valued committee member. I would like to thank Liza Fordham for her attendance at the meeting to take the minutes and Liza has worked with Peter Williams to produce the meeting minutes.

The lease for Bon Ami has been finalised and is now ready to be signed. The solicitors cost is £3000. The lease is for 3 years but it can be extended.

The commercial management report to the committee highlighted the problems that we have with hall bookings that use glitter, we strongly object to the glitter as it takes a long time to clean the hall and because of this the cost for cleaning is sometimes more than we receive for the hire of the hall. Most lets at the weekend are met on arrival and shown where the chairs and tables should be

stacked and encouraged to take photos to remind them where they should be when they leave the hall.

The maintenance of the hall is ongoing. We have a new contractor for grass and hedge cutting and he has already cut the grass. The playground swing repair, our contractor has the timber and will be erecting the new cross beams shortly. The bark in the playground has been raked and is in position around the slides and swings. It was also noted that the developer in Clappins Lane, Dandara had agreed as part of the planning permission to fund local areas like the playground and Hughenden Parish Council has received £10000 from them. We are making enquiries as to how we can benefit from this money. The best kept village competition will be judged in the near future and the residents committee are asking that the village is kept smart for the judging.

Please support Napfest, the Fete and Classics on the Crick as these events are fund raisers for the Village Hall. Details appear in the Gazette.

*Clive Lawrence*

Chairman Naphill Village Hall .

## Bon Ami



We all enjoyed celebrating Nigel Rolfe's birthday, one day early, on Thursday 6th April. Nigel is a regular visitor to Bon Ami and many of his friends joined him throughout the day to wish him well.

We always try to support local and national charities as much as we are able. This year we have donated to the Naphill & Walters Ash year 6 leavers' party. We are also currently raising awareness and funds for "Guide Dogs" and "Alzheimer's"; both very worthy causes.

Judy Whitehouse is once again preparing hanging baskets for us which is extremely kind of her. We are really looking forward to them arriving and making our terrace a bright, sunny spot for our customers to enjoy. Remember there is lots of parking available too. As the weather is warming up we are also introducing our weekly summer special to replace our homemade soups. We are also now serving sausage and breakfast baps!

We are now stocking "Beechdean" ice creams and lollies. This will also include a cool treat of doggy ice cream for your pooches.

We are receiving lots of positive feedback following our new art work display which have brightened up our walls. We have recently added two new displays featuring a range of watercolour and oil pictures.

We look forward to seeing you all.

*Dorothy & Ruth.*





## Ash Close - Coronation Big Lunch

Ash Close had a Coronation Party on Sunday afternoon, which turned out to be the best day for weather. Everyone brought food and drink to share. Residents enjoyed the chance to get together to catch up with one another and get to know each other better. As you can see, we even had a feline guest appearance! Corgis eat your heart out! If you look carefully, you can just spot a partially hidden lady under the gazebo wearing a dress with a festive Union Jack design!

*Susan Bickerstaffe*

## The Miss Sparks - Making fabulous Coronation memories!





## Moseley Road - The Coronation Big Lunch

In true Moseley Road style, the community pitched in together to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. With the fabulous organisational skills of Jo, Sarah & Annabel, we held a BIG LUNCH on Sun 7th May. Everybody brought along a tasty dish to share, from salads, to scones, to a fabulous Victoria sponge. There was laughter, food, drinks, music, a right royal quiz, pinata and pin the diamond on the crown and the festivities continued into the evening. We couldn't have asked for a better day with the sun blazing down on us all afternoon.

*Looking forward to the next celebration.....*

*Klaire Huddleston*

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Naphill & Walter's Ash School - Summer Term Art Display  
and Media Team Report

## Terrific Trips and Sombre SATs

This May, the year 4's went on their fun filled trip to Woodrow! They did TONNES of activities which included: archery, orienteering and lots more! They had a fantastic time and were extremely sad when they left.

Still on the trips topic, in March Year 6 went on their week long residential to Rhos Y Gwaliau. Some activities were: canoeing, gorge walking (which we would strongly advise not wearing your bathing suit, ziplining and exploring a slate mine. We did lots more activities too. We all had an awesome time and would love to go again.

Unfortunately, all good news has to come to an end. This May the year 6's had to suffer through SATs!!!! Luckily it was only one week of torture. It ended as quickly as it had started.

We had to save the best until last! The coronation brought a special wave of excitement around the country and the school. We all got dressed in red, white and blue and got mixed up into different classes. We did really fun activities like making scones and arts and craft.

That's all from us!!

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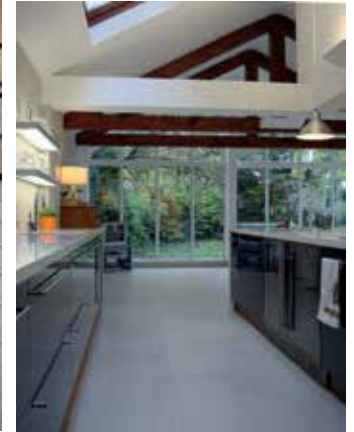
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Photograph courtesy Paul Goby

## Friends of Naphill Common

**Forthcoming Events** - On Sunday 20th August starting at 3pm from the Village Hall, we will once again be running our popular 'Minibeast Safari' led by local naturalist John Tyler. Suitable for children from age 8 to 80, we will be seeking out and identifying small insects and other fauna that frequent the Common. And on Saturday 23rd September at 7pm also starting from the Village Hall, we will have our annual bat walk, led by Julie Hopton. Both these events are free to all, but are weather dependent, so it's best to check on Facebook or the activities page of our web site before setting out.

**Nature on the Common** - At the start of May, FoNC's monthly short walk (normally on the first Wednesday of each month, but please note the June walk has been brought forward to 31st May, to fit in with the Chilterns Walking Festival) took us to Bradenham Woods, to admire their fine display of Cowslips and Bluebells. Though there are some patches of Bluebells around the edge of Naphill Common, there aren't many on the Common itself. Bluebells are used as an indicator of ancient (over 400 years old) woodland, but the Common was grazed until the 1930s and so was heathland with only a few veteran trees. The dense woodland we see today has mostly grown up in the last century, since grazing ceased.

Wood pigeons are a common sight in our woods and fields and at our bird feeders, they are among the most numerous of our larger birds (too numerous, some farmers and gardeners might say)! I've heard people claim that you never see young pigeons, but squabs (as the chicks

are called) don't leave the nest until they are almost as large as the adults, the main difference is that they lack the white neck patches and are generally duller in colour – wood pigeons have iridescent patches of metallic colour on the neck which the squabs lack. Squabs are fed with pigeon 'milk' – crushed seeds and grains from the adult's crop, regurgitated in a similar manner to that used by some seabirds to feed their chicks. Often to be seen with wood pigeons, but frequently overlooked is the Stock Dove. Like a squab, it lacks the white neck patches, but is otherwise as brightly coloured as the wood pigeon, while only about  $\frac{3}{4}$  the size. Similar in size is the Collared Dove, which is mostly grey-brown, shading to pinkish-grey and with a distinctive black collar around the back of the neck (absent in juveniles). It was unknown in the UK until the 1950s, but is now widespread. Meanwhile, the somewhat similar native Turtle Dove has become rarer – the most likely spot to find one locally is on Otmoor near Oxford.

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

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

Because both working parties are dependent on the weather, it's always best to check with the organisers before heading off!



*Chris Miller*  
Chairman



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## Reporting scams and fraud

In today's digital age, where we rely heavily on technology for communication, shopping, and financial transactions, it has become increasingly important to be vigilant against scams and other fraudulent activities. Unfortunately, scammers are always coming up with new ways to try and trick people out of their money and personal information. Thankfully, there are a number of organisations and agencies that are dedicated to helping people stay safe and report scams when they occur. In this article, we'll take a look at some of the most important contacts you should be aware of when it comes to reporting scams and other crimes.

**Action Fraud** - Action Fraud is the UK's national fraud and cybercrime reporting centre. They are the central point of contact for reporting fraud and cybercrime incidents and they can also provide advice on how to protect yourself from scams and fraud.

Helpline: 0300 123 2040.  
Textphone: 0300 123 2050  
[www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

**Friends Against Scams** - A National Trading Standards Scams Team initiative, which aims to protect and prevent people from becoming victims of scams by empowering people to take a stand against scams.

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Textphone (via Text Relay): 18001 0808 223 1133  
<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/business/trading-standards>

**Get Safe Online** - Government-backed website that provides information and advice on online safety and security. They also have a reporting centre for reporting online crime and a helpline for victims of online abuse.

[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

**Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)** - They provide useful information on bogus investments and fraud and advice on choosing a financial adviser.

Phone: 0800 111 6768  
[www.fca.org.uk](http://www.fca.org.uk)

**Victims First** - Dedicated to making sure that all victims and witnesses receive the support they need to cope and recover from the impact of the crime. You can make an online referral through their website.

Phone: 0300 1234 148  
[www.victims-first.org.uk](http://www.victims-first.org.uk)

**Think Jessica** - Making people aware of the danger, and financial implications, of scams which target people in their own homes.

Email: [advice@thinkjessica.com](mailto:advice@thinkjessica.com)  
[www.thinkjessica.com](http://www.thinkjessica.com)

By reporting scams and fraud, you can play your part in protecting yourself and your community from these crimes.

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# News from RAF High Wycombe

## RAF High Wycombe - Woodland Path Refresh

Photographs courtesy RAF High Wycombe



A local woodland path has been given a makeover that would make Alan Titchmarsh proud! A team of service and civilian personnel from RAF High Wycombe joined forces with National Trust Rangers in Bradenham Woods to improve the woodland path that connects the largest accommodation site and the main office site. Those who 'commute' regularly through the woods will not have to wade through churned up earth anymore, and whatever the weather they will be able to enjoy this lovely part of the Chiltern countryside.

Volunteer Angharad commented; "I feel that the woodland path project was a success, many personnel both civilian and military turned up to help and it was nice to be able to put names to faces with those we had been talking to over email. During the project many people who were walking the path between sites were complimenting us on how good it looks now and thanking us for doing it."



There may have been a few splinters, aching backs and muddy clothes, but the sense of achievement and smiles on the volunteer's faces says it all!

Well done to all who took part.

*Laurence Parker*



### RAF Family Day/NAWA Fete Day

Naphill Crick

10th June

Funfair Rides, Stalls, Dog Show



## RAF High Wycombe Commemorating the 'Dambusters'



On 16 May 2023 the Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess at RAF High Wycombe was the perfect venue for the Dambusters 80th anniversary dinner, commemorating the epic flights that took place on the 16 & 17 May 1943.

The Station Commander, Wing Commander Dennis played host to invited guests, including our guest of honour, none other than Sir Arthur Bomber Harris's daughter, Mrs Jackie Assheton.

After the salute, all enjoyed the wonderful spectacle of a Lancaster Bomber fly past. There were a few tears, some cheers of appreciation and respect for the airmen who carried out that daring raid.



Photograph courtesy Mark Christian



## A Message from Padre Andi Chapman



I was born in the North of England and grew up in what then was a mining town, then as I approached secondary school, my parents moved me and my sister to a village in the foothills of the Pennines not far from where 'The Last of the Summer Wine' was filmed. One of the defining ways that people in the North converse is through small talk.... now this is tiny talk, as simple as saying 'morning' or 'eyup' as you pass someone in the lane or street. It is still very common place today, walking around the 'Piece Hall' in Halifax last year my other half who is a Midlander was surprised on how many people greeted him.

Yet this has always been important to me, just saying hello and greeting someone. Sometimes people seem so lonely when they walk around, perhaps there is a fear of saying something to someone and getting a poor response. Yet, after the pandemic, there seems to be a social disconnect resulting from the imposed isolation that we all went through, resulting in people becoming more silent.

The Samaritans have a phrase that they use which states 'Small Talks Saves Lives'; the simple act of asking someone who may be having negative thoughts may be enough to disrupt them, or perhaps someone who is in deep isolation for whatever reason may appreciate someone saying hello, even a smile is enough to lift someone out of feeling lonely.

So, if you happen to be walking around the local area and a man in a clerical collar says cheerfully to you good morning, do not fear.... it's just a Northerner going about his ways, yet please do try it yourself, as we are all built for connection in one way or another.



Peace and all good,

*Revd. Andi Chapman*  
TSSF, RAF.



Princes Risborough Rotary Club - [www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=561](http://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=561)



One of the most important activities of the Club is to raise money for, and to provide support to local organisations and individuals needing help. We have also continued to do what we can for Ukraine. To this end, as this Rotary year nears its end on the 30th of June, our recent focus has been on supporting the local youth and elderly. For some time we have been involved with the Princes Risborough Youth Club which offers a great facility for the young people of the town but also for young Ukrainians, helping them to integrate into their new surroundings. This year the Club's annual Art Competition has been a great success involving approximately 1000 children from 9 local primary schools. On the 5th of May we helped organise a Coronation lunch for 30 over 65's at the Princes Centre, and we have also continued to support the more than 200 Ukrainian refugees being hosted by families in the town and surrounding villages. Most recently we are working to assist a Rotary District project to provide equipment for emergency operating theatres that are being developed in Ukraine.

The concept of Rotary in 1905 was friendship and companionship, which continues as our Club's objective. We are a sociable group of men and women, and our regular Monday evening meetings aim to achieve that objective. For instance, a group of 14 of us visited our Twinned Club in Wasserburg in Bavaria in mid-May, for a delightful long weekend. If you would like to help us contribute locally and internationally, and might be thinking about joining, visit our website with a view to coming to one of our meetings to see if it might interest you. Additionally, if you know of any local causes that would benefit from our support, or you would like to donate to our Charity Account, please use the contact details below.

**We would love to hear from you.**

You can contact us at: [rcpr.org.uk](http://rcpr.org.uk) or call the Club President, David White on 07787 750889 or email: [david@dhwhite.plus.com](mailto:david@dhwhite.plus.com)



## Local Tales – The lost deposit.

Beware! I cannot guaranty the truth of this tale. It is "second hand", having been told to me by someone, but someone I believe I can trust.

As some oldies may recall, there is a traditional mild animosity between Naphill and Downley, which may explain why there is no direct road between us and our nearest village. However, there has always been some mixing. Cricket and football matches, the Le de Spencer's Arms, and a shared group of allotment gardens long since redundant. The remains of the gardens still exist. If you go to where Cookshall lane joins the Common you will see an area of derelict gardens on the right-hand side when looking down the lane. I don't believe any of the plots are still being worked, but many years back they could be hired by people from both Naphill and Downley.

One spring day, in the 1950's, so the story goes, a Downley man was walking along the edge of the common from Downley, carrying a fork and spade: he was going to dig his plot. From some distance he noticed a Naple man stood in the gardens. He was looking round in a manner that suggested he wanted to see that there was no one about. The Downley man guessed that he had been "taken short" and wanted to relieve himself without an audience.

Sure enough, the Naple man walked over to the side of the gardens, took his trousers down and squatted with his back to the hedge. The Downley

man saw his chance. He crept quietly up to the hedge and slid his spade silently through the gappy hedge until it was under the squatting Naphillite. When the job was done, he slid his spade back out with it's precious load. You can imagine the Naple man's surprise and puzzlement when he turned to inspect his deposit. He scanned the grass, looked in his trousers and on his boots, but there was nothing there! It was bewildering and must have mystified him to the end of his days. The Downley man could not trust himself to keep a straight face so, I am told, he cleaned his spade and walked quietly back home.

Of course, this tale may not be true and, since the Downley man comes out on top I hope that it isn't. The hedge between the allotments and the Common is quite thick now, but this tale is around seventy years old and holly grows fast enough to hide its part in the story.

*Trevor Hussey.*



## A Letter From David Carroll , Our Local Buckinghamshire Councillor

Dear Residents

I should like to update you on various issues.

The good news is that Bucks Council have appointed new Highway contractors who will now be responsible for clearing the back log and keeping abreast of highway repairs. I trust that things will now improve!

Many residents have contacted me regarding motorists disregarding the speed limits and speeding through our villages. I will continue to pass these concerns on to the Police.

I thank the many residents who have contacted me on various issues of concern, I am always happy to help where I can. I thank you all for your ongoing community support.

Regards

*David*

01494 716967

David.Carroll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.





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Photograph courtesy Mike Mason

## Growing Your Own - *Promise of Summer Fruit*

The photo shows spring blossom in my garden which means – future fruit! I have given up my allotment, so given up my extensive collection of mature fruit trees and bushes, but I still have several in the garden. Apart from a productive strawberry bed I have three mature espalier Braeburn apples against a sunny wall, and the same wall accommodates a fig, a conventional peach and a flat peach grown as fans. A house wall has a mature espalier apricot which gives about 40 full-sized fruit per year. I have a cherry which gives a few fruit which is covered with netting to deter the birds. During last winter I transplanted six tayberries which had layered on my allotment and they are still alive, so I am crossing my fingers that they will make it. The drought of 2022 was so severe that it killed a promising pear tree. I used to grow Victoria plums but twice they were killed off by “silver leaf curl” which is an airborne virus which enters the tree via an exposed broken branch. I have a very productive lemon bush which spends the colder months in a large pot in the conservatory and is then wheeled out to a very sunny spot in the garden. It requires a lot of TLC in the conservatory, which includes pollination by hand since the flowers open in the colder months and flood the house with a most magical scent.

Most modern fruit consist of a rooting stock grafted to a fruiting stock. The reason for that is to reduce

the vigour of the fruiting stock. One has either wood or fruit with fruit trees. However, there is always a drawback and it seems to me that grafted fruit trees have a life of only about 30 years. I am onto my third “Black Hamburg” grapevine in the greenhouse, and, referring to the photo, I had four step-over espalier “Arthur Turner” cooking apples then progressively three died after about 30 years. I replaced them and the new ones are now producing a decent crop whilst the left-hand tree is still going strong.

A quick word on figs, which will grow into massive trees unless their roots are constrained. I used to have a very productive “Brown Turkey” fig growing against a log-lap fence. I then had the wooden fence replaced with a brick-and-flint wall, which meant, sadly, that the fig had to go. I had put that fig into a brick-walled pit about 3 feet deep with plenty of rubble in the bottom to constrain growth. I then built another such pit in the garden against a brick-and-flint wall in full sun and transplanted a couple of shoots which came from the roots of a good fig on the allotment. The new figs, trained as fans, are now really getting going – it usually takes three years for fruit trees and bushes to start producing decent crops.

Good gardening!

*Mike Mason*



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(Bank Holiday Mondays)  
12pm - 8pm

#### Food

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12pm - 2:30pm then 6pm - 9pm

Sunday  
12pm - 4pm

(Bank Holiday Mondays)  
12pm - 4pm

Last food orders are 15 minutes before the advertised closing times.

The Wheel, Main Road, Naphill, Buckinghamshire, HP14 4QA Email: [info@thewheelnaphill.com](mailto:info@thewheelnaphill.com) Tel: 01494 562 210

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## The Wheel

WOW, WOW, WOW! What an amazing day CoRONation Fest was. I cannot thank people enough for coming out and braving the great British weather. With all the preparation before the day it definitely paid off to have a very large marquee! The weather was awful, but you all came out to support this great event.

I can honestly say that I have never seen so much mud! Everyone was dancing or sliding to the fabulous music and somehow all our benches survived. We had some great ales and ciders on the outside bar of which you managed to consume the lot! We would like to thank all 3 bands, the sound engineers and Jason for the street food. But the biggest THANKS goes to our incredible team of staff, they were amazing and worked so hard to ensure everyone was happy. At the end of the night, once everyone had left, they embraced the festival life by mud diving in celebration of such an amazing day. Here's to next year!

During the festivities we raised over £1500 for Rons last wish.

So what's next? More cleaning of mud, and hopefully some sleep after 3 bank holidays in one month!

At the end of May and early June we will be showing the Isle of Man TT live on our TV, so all you motorcycle racing lovers can watch the day's events with a pint in hand. Mark might even give us a wave!

- 9-11th June- Napfest Weekend - and I can't wait to see the village get together again.
- 18th June - Father's Day Sunday

I am really hoping that the summer will kick in soon and that we get to see some sunshine. We can't wait to see everyone back in the garden (It should have recovered by then).

Once again thank you to everyone who joined us on Ronfest and to our great team of staff.

*Claire and Mark*



Nicholas Plumb was not up THE WHEEL with his old buddies for the Coronation but as a true BRIT, he celebrated in style in AUSTRALIA! Thank you favourite AUSTRALIAN correspondent!



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*Clare McCaffrey*

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**NAPFEST**  
2023  
Music on the Crick  
9th June



**WOW!! What a night this promises to be!**

*Definitely not to be missed!*

**HEADLINE Group!**

**FLASH:** A Tribute to QUEEN. A renowned group of talented musicians who came together to make the 'best of the best' live Tribute to the musical legacy of Freddie Mercury and Queen.

**BACKING Group!**

**THESE CERTAIN PEOPLE** - this six piece group were live with us at Napfest 2021 and we are delighted to welcome them back this year! They will be performing a full set of popular songs, from ABBA to House of Pain and anything in between, plus their own original material.

**Gates open at 4.00pm** - **BAD NEIGHBOURS**, our very own, talented local group, will blaze the trail and start the music at **5pm**. Then it's **live music until 10.30pm**. **SO!** Over five hours of fantastic music and fun for all with lots of different food outlets, the fairground rides and of course, the bar! **SO! Roll up, Roll up, tickets are on sale NOW!** [www.NAPFEST.co.uk](http://www.NAPFEST.co.uk) Please get booked in quickly as we are limiting numbers and **tickets will not be sold on the gate**. Ticket prices below:

Adult 17+ £20, Child 6 -16 £10, Gazebo (3m x3m) £10

Family ticket - 2 adult + 2 children £50 (only available on line)

*As this is a local fund raising event, there will be NO parking, except for a few Blue Badge Holders, which should be booked online.*

*Linda Clark*  
NapFest Chairman

# Family Fun Day

Saturday 10th June, 11am - 4pm

## Car Boot + Dog Show

The not to be missed FUN DAY!

- Car Boot
- Fun Fair Rides
- Stalls
- Dog Show
- Lots more!!

Roll up, Roll up for the Naphill and Walter's Ash & RAF FAMILY FUN DAY! A fabulous fun day for the whole family is guaranteed.

Traditional village stalls will be there to tempt you with their wares and this year we are adding a great Car Boot Sale! There will be fantastic

fairground rides and games and so much more. For the barking mad, the ever popular fun dog show! SO much to put a smile on the faces of big kids and children alike.

Should you need to wet your whistle then the famous beer tent will be on hand with a great selection of beer, wine and soft drinks. There will be the usual crew flipping burgers and dogs, plus a variety of local food stalls to satisfy the rumbliest of bellies.

The saying goes 'that the best things in life are free', and it is! Free entry all day!

*Linda Clark*

NapFest Chairman



# Classics on the Crick

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 10am - 4pm



Show Opens at 10am

Tickets available in advance at [www.classiconcrick.co.uk](http://www.classiconcrick.co.uk) or pay on the day.

Adults £7, Children £3, Family Ticket ( 2 x adult, 2 x children) £17

All profits go to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance

- \* Well behaved dogs on a lead are welcome.
- \* Hundreds of fantastic and fabulous cars, commercials, bikes and scooters.
- \* Live music throughout the afternoon.
- \* Rebellion Beers Bar, Cocktail Trailer and a fantastic selection of food vendors.
- \* Trade stall village. Electric go-karts. Mega Raffle.

*So why not have a great day out whilst supporting an essential local charity.*

*The Classics on the Crick Team*



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## Naphill Family Fun Day Book Stall

---

The fabulous fete book stall will be back with more bargains this year.

We need your donations of good quality books

Paperback fiction and children's books are always in great demand.

We struggle to sell reference books, especially old, out-of-date ones.

Donations can be dropped in the Village Hall cloakroom from 1st June

### Shear Madness

---

Well done to those who put flags out and had street parties for a very soggy coronation and coRonation fest although I don't think it dampened spirits and fun was had by all.

Hopefully the sun will shine for the Napfest weekend, I'm assuming I'll be selling tickets as usual for the music fest on the Friday which is very popular so don't forget to get your tickets early as the tickets are limited. Fete on the Saturday and classic cars ( ticket only) on the Sunday, again all very popular. Parking can be a bit of a problem so if you're not close enough to walk you can always catch the bus as they go every 20 minutes.

Quick gym update: The unthinkable has happened, I am now a gym bunny! I know, how strange! Julian and I are off to the gym at least three times a week and I can now leg press more than Julian's weight. Crazy as this sounds, we are

loving it and it's doing wonders for our mental health as well as our fitness.

Enjoy Napfest!

Love as always

Mandy x





**Our Coach Trip to Stratford on Avon  
Tuesday, June 20th  
Cost is £23**

*A few places left. If you would like to join us please call Yvonne Cook - 01494 563960. Full payment is expected on booking but, if you are unable to attend, the amount less the deposit will be returned if appropriate.*

**Naphill Neighbours**

At their May meeting Naphill Neighbours were pleased to welcome Sheila from the Wycombe Homeless Connection.

This charity started was founded some years ago after a lady was found dead in the stairwell of a multi-storey car park in Wycombe. Last year this charity was able to help over 600 people whether it was with accommodation, food, clothes or other essentials. The Homeless Connection works with landlords, County Councils, Social services, the Police and YMCA.

This Charity is faith based but but it welcomes volunteers of all faiths to help them in their work.

There are a very few spaces left for our trip to Stratford on Avon, details above, please get in touch if you would like to join us.



**Naphill Neighbours  
Cake Stall**

Our slightly older residents need your help!

**WANTED**

**Homemade Cakes, Bakes & Preserves for Family Fun Day!  
SATURDAY 10 June**

NO SHOP BOUGHT BAKES THANK YOU!  
Please wrap items and list ingredients if possible

**Please bring to the stall 10am  
on fete day or to arrange  
delivery**



**call Jo Keattch  
01494 569393**



Neighbours will be doing their usual cake stall at the Family Fun Day, Saturday, 10 June. If you would like to donate a homemade bake or preserve we would be very grateful! Details on the poster above.

***Our next meeting on the 13th June we will have a speaker from the Greatmoor Recycling Centre.***

*Norma Clarke*



Photograph courtesy Amanda Gillam

Woodcock Avenue residents met together to celebrate the Coronation



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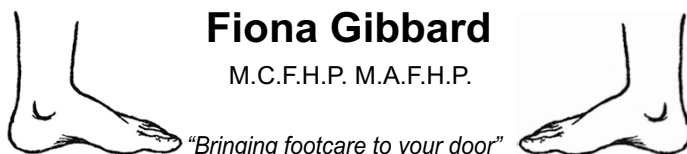


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Photographs courtesy Mike Beckley



## Summer Days Out – Part Two

Last month I wrote a piece about College Lake Nature Reserve. A great place for a day out during the summer holidays... IF the sun is shining.

Given the weather over the coronation weekend we all know that our great British weather really can't be relied upon. So I looked for an alternative "rain proof" attraction for the extra Bank Holiday we were all granted. Something that could be enjoyed on the wettest of days.

The Royal Air Force Museum is located in Colindale, North West London. It's just short of an hours drive from Naphill. Plenty of parking on site, and entrance to the museum is free of charge.

It proved to be a bit of a gem. The exhibits are spread across six hangars. The first hangar starts by documenting the end of the First World War in 1918, the end of the Royal Flying Corps, and the creation of the Royal Air Force. There are some fantastic early planes that are barely more than kites with engines, created to test the bravery of the early flying pioneers.

As you pass through the other hangars you can see all manner of planes from other conflicts over the last hundred years, from the polished aluminium planes of the nineteen fifties to the Harrier Jump Jets and Euro Fighters from collaborative projects. There is extensive information on every plane and vehicle. A couple of highlights for me were standing beneath a Lancaster Bomber and a Vulcan Bomber. These planes are nothing short of awesome. Their size and scale are incredible.

Also on site there are play areas for smaller children, and an excellent restaurant to keep everyone fed and watered.

It's a great day out. Something for everyone, and affordable.

<https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/>



*Mike Beckley*  
Chiltern Hills Arboriculture





## From the Vicarage

Every year, as the Church prepares to celebrate its birthday – on the Day of Pentecost, my thoughts naturally turn to Jerusalem, and the time I have been privileged to spend, on Pilgrimage, in that most holy of cities.

As I walked through the narrow streets of the walled city, marvelling at the huge variety of different nationalities and faiths which somehow manage to co-exist in one place, albeit not always peacefully, one cannot help but be moved by so many historic reminders of its rich and often tragic past.

Precious churches, many of which are centuries old, and have been visited by countless pilgrims, in search of spiritual enlightenment, home to Christians from Armenia, Abyssinia, Austria, France, Ethiopia, Franciscans, the Greek Coptic Church.... I could go on.

Jerusalem is naturally a focal point of Christian worship for many different denominations across the world.

Pentecost means fiftieth, and is a Jewish festival which is celebrated 50 days after the Passover – and so it naturally falls seven weeks after Easter Sunday – this year on 28th May.

After Christ rose from the grave, and prepared for his ascension, he instructed his disciples to go and wait in Jerusalem for the comforter, who he was going to send. There was a great sense of expectation amongst the disciples, and the growing group of believers. But what did it all mean?

At Pentecost, Jews from all over the known world had gathered to celebrate the festival of Pentecost, but this was overshadowed by a powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which understandably caused quite a commotion in the City, and caused many people to flood out into the streets to find out what was going on.

We read that there was a sound like a rushing wind, tongues of fire rested on the Apostles, and they were given the supernatural ability to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in foreign languages which they didn't know – but which were the native tongues of many who were gathered on that day.

What began as a Jewish celebration gave birth to the Christian church as thousands responded to the message preached by Peter, invited Christ into their lives and went home, to lands near and far, as the Gospel was planted in countless new locations.

The Apostle Paul and other Apostles would then spend the rest of their lives visiting such places and building on the miraculous events of this remarkable day, planting and building up churches in Ephesus, Corinth, Philippi and even Rome itself.

Let us give thanks to God for the first Christian Day of Pentecost, and all those which have followed since. The Church has survived and even thrived for almost 2,000 years since that day, thanks to a faithful God who calls each of us by name, as his precious children, and longs for us to be in relationship with him and share in the blessings of the kingdom of heaven.

*Rev Keith Johnson*

## News from St Michael's and All Angels.

The Coronation weekend was full of music and good cheer at the church.

Friday saw the Community Choir raise the roof with a rousing 'Sing for the King' featuring favourites old and new. Audience and choir under Richard Peters' guiding baton joined voices in celebration and in raising funds for the One Can Trust.



Saturday morning saw a quarter peal of bells as part of a nationwide 'Ring for the King' just before the service in Westminster Abbey.

On the Sunday a special combined service celebrated the new monarch commencing with Helen inviting the congregation to comment on their favourite or most poignant moments from the previous day's proceedings. Answers included: the anointing, behind the screens; the moment when Prince William pledged his loyalty to his father with a kiss; the moment of crowning. The service was followed by an opportunity to toast Their Majesties' healths in bucks fizz, accompanied by some beautifully decorated coronation cakes.

By the time you read this, our Nature Quest will have been held on 20th May. This precedes the national 'Churches Count on Nature' from 3rd-11th July, which is an endeavour to create a national database of flora and fauna in English churchyards. Churchyards together comprise a huge resource of largely undisturbed ecosystems throughout the country.

In many ways (such as phasing out our use of plastic in the church) we are seeking to improve our own eco-awareness, and as part of our effort to increase biodiversity we have recently installed swift boxes on our newly refurbished bell tower, and other bird and bat boxes in the church yard.

*Jane Tyrer*

## Mothers' Union News

We welcomed Bob Moore to our meeting on May 9th. Bob's topic was "Gershwin and his Music". We were treated to a variety of his music sung by artistes well known to our members. These included Ginger Rogers, Jo Stafford and Adele Astaire.

These brought back many memories and it was a very pleasant and peaceful way to spend time in the afternoon.

Next month we will be visiting the Wren Davis farm for a tour of the estate and enjoying afternoon tea!

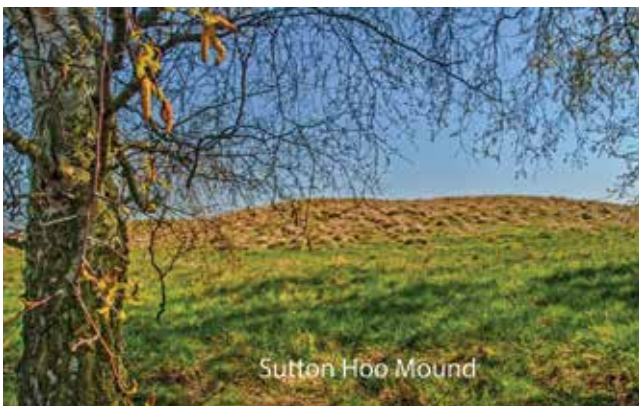
*Ann Gee*



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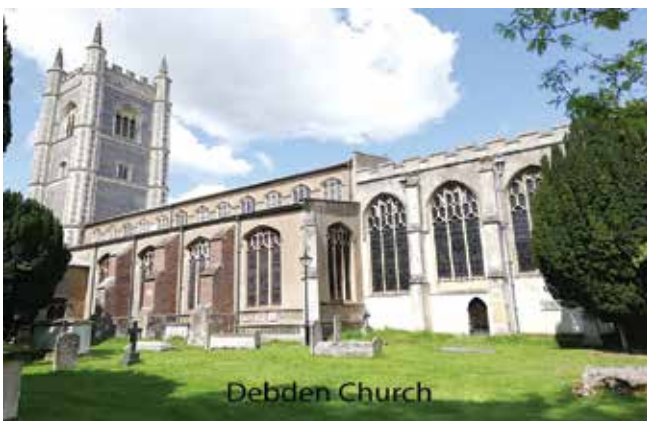
Everyone is welcome!



Sutton Hoo Mound



Flatford Mill



Debden Church

## New Group & News

This month we have been assessing the demand for a Local History Group. An introductory meeting attracted around 20 members where options were sought and a local historian explained how he had researched the history of his house and its former inhabitants. The outcome was positive and the Group now welcomes new members to enjoy visits to local places of interest and listen to talks researched by members on subjects of general interest.

We are also planning to introduce a Psychology group and as always, new members will be welcome to join this new group.

On our annual holiday this year we visited the historic houses and heritage of Suffolk, affectionately known as Constable Country.

For many, Sutton Hoo and the Snape Maltings were the highlight. Our annual holiday is popular with singles as well as couples. This year we stayed in an exceptional spa and golf hotel in Stoke by Nayland close to Debden and Flatford Mill.

Please email Paul Gilliam if you would like more details of all our groups including the new local history and psychology groups.

*Paul Gilliam*

[gilliamph@aol.com](mailto:gilliamph@aol.com)





## Black lion

Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who joined us to celebrate the Coronation Weekend. We were incredibly proud to be able to help people enjoy this monumental time – one of which will never be forgotten!

We would also like to send an apology out to anyone who has been affected by our cellar flood and cooler issues. This has meant that the beer has been incredibly temperamental for a long time now. We have finally had the issues resolved and now have perfectly chilled beer ready for the glorious weather to kick in! So please again accept our apologies and we look forward to be able to serve you an ice cold lager or cider as we roll into the Summer!

Coming up this month, we are celebrating our lovely fathers on Sunday 18th June! So why not book a table and treat your Dad to a delicious homecooked Sunday Lunch with all the traditional trimmings! We will be giving a little gift to all the Dad's to get your table booked in now to avoid making your dad miss out!

We are busy getting ourselves ready for Summer with big plans ahead for the summer holidays including Gin Festivals, Family Fun Days and plenty of other big

plans! So watch this space or head on to our social media @theblacklionnaphill to keep in the loop with all our exciting plans!

Thanks for taking the time to read this!

Tanya, Jon and the team at the Black Lion





# Camomile PT



## Retraining after Stroke – it is never too late to start

Every year in the UK, there are in excess of 150k new strokes, two thirds of whom leave hospital with at least one disability.

I have been studying “Functional Rehabilitation and Exercise training after Stroke” with a fantastic charity set up by Dr Tom Balchin, who had a stroke himself in his early 20’s and learned quickly, that the retraining effort required to restore use of lower and upper limbs was significantly more than was available from the NHS, who were/are excellent during the acute phase of illness, but often lack resources to provide sufficient retraining support thereafter.

Tom established the charity, Action for Rehabilitation from Neurological Injury (ARNI) in 2001 to research and develop safe and effective training methods. He now trains exercise professionals and therapists throughout the country in these methods, to enable him to help more stroke survivors regain as much ability as possible. I am delighted to share with you that I am now qualified to offer exercise training to stroke survivors in this area who are referred to me by the charity.

The good news is, that the brain is much more retrainable than used to be believed, however it can take many repetitions of tasks and exercises to establish these changes. The technical term for this is neuroplasticity, and research has found that the brain is able to change both its structure and the connections within it, to take over from areas damaged by the stroke thus enabling regaining of lost function. It may help to imagine that the brains connections are like a road network and when a road becomes blocked (by the stroke for instance) then retraining effectively reroutes or creates new routes to avoid the blockage. Research has also found that cardiovascular exercise boosts the brain’s ability to learn new things, so this is something that is relevant to everyone, but also is a very important part of

retraining after stroke. It really is never too late to start.

The ARNI training approach for exercise specifically, covers four main areas, these are:

- Cardiovascular training
- Strength training
- Task Specific training - relearning skills needed to complete day to day tasks e.g walking, dressing, preparing meals for example
- Physical coping strategies - learning new ways to do tasks by working around lost abilities. these can be short term or longer term depending on rehabilitation progress.

The charity also provide speech and language therapy where required. The aim is to help stroke survivors to have the best quality of life possible for them and their loved ones.

If you or someone you know has been affected by a stroke, please encourage them to get in touch to find out more, or to contact the ARNI Institute directly [www.arni.uk.com](http://www.arni.uk.com) (Tel 0203 053 0111)



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## How resilient is your community? Are you aged between 18 and 35?

Let's begin by defining 'community resilience'. For Hughenden Street Association (HSA) this is captured in our Vision Statement:

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.

What this means in practice is something that HSA keeps under constant review. At the moment, the Association provides a weekly e-newsletter, has a Facebook page, hosts monthly pub lunches with regular speakers on key topics especially scams, well-being and safety matters, access to useful information sources including the Bucks Directory and a point of contact via our Ward Leaders. Most recently the Association has launched its Afternoon Social in partnership with the Bon Ami Café in Naphill which is proving to be popular. Also, the good partnership with residents' associations and other local groups including St Michael's & All Angels, Great Kingshill Village Hub and the Hughenden Valley Climate Group help to promote our common agenda of making our communities more resilient.

The Association works collaboratively with Buckinghamshire Council via the Northwest Chilterns Community Board, participating in several of its working groups including the Community Resilience Working Group, where there was a very useful discussion on the priorities for 2023/24. It was concluded that we need to explore what the younger adult residents of Hughenden see as their priorities and what groups including the Association can do to support their delivery. This could be acting as an advocate at the Community Board or working with other interested community groups to deliver specific projects. This is where we need advice from this group of residents.

Recognising that we need to begin by defining 'younger residents': the Association is interested in hearing from young adults to mid-30s. At a gestimate using Local Insight data (2018) provided by Buckinghamshire Council this will be around 13% of the Hughenden population i.e., 1,000+ residents across the four wards of Great Kingshill, Hughenden Valley & Bryant's Bottom,

Naphill & Walter's Ash, and Widmer End. Members of the Community Resilience Working Group will be convening over the next few weeks, and we would be delighted to have direct input from this key group of residents.

If you would like to be part of the conversation, then do get in touch. All you will be committing to is sharing your views as this is an essential starting point. You may belong to a group working with the residents we are keen to talk to, and it would be good to work together, thereby minimising any potential duplication of activities as well as creating new projects drawing on the collective resources available. Email: [hughendensa@gmail.com](mailto:hughendensa@gmail.com) We look forward to hearing from YOU!

*Hilda Stearn*

Communications Coordinator  
Hughenden Street Association

07808 229476

[hughendensa@gmail.com](mailto:hughendensa@gmail.com)



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## NaWA in Bloom Competition

1st July to 18th July

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1. Best Container display by a resident
2. Best front (or visible) garden display
3. Best Container display by a business
4. Best creative garden by a young person defined as school year 6 or below

## Naphill Residents' Association

### A Report on our AGM on held 19th May 2023

Our AGM is always an opportunity to look back and reflect on the successes of the year and I was delighted to report as follows:

- Our Best Kept village success! In September, in front of an impressive number of residents and dignitaries, we accepted the DeFraine Cup on behalf of our two villages.
- Early this year we had confirmation that after our long battle, the Clappins Lane Oak is to be saved.
- Our 2022 AGM and our Quiz night were well-attended and enjoyed by all.
- We now have our own website which ensures that local planning applications and local information is more easily accessible.
- Speed watch has had a quiet year due to roadworks and a lack of volunteers but we now have two additional volunteers and we look forward to resuming this road safety measure soon.
- Congratulations to Usha Prasher on becoming a Hughenden Parish Councillor, we know that she will do an excellent job for our community.
- I thanked our hard-working committee members who have made this a successful year.

Following the formal part of the AGM we welcomed Marie-Louise Morley who gave a short explanation as to what "Ukraine to Chilterns" are doing locally. We also displayed samples of the volunteering opportunities within our villages which we enjoyed discussing in a relaxed atmosphere over a drink.

### Best Kept Village Competition 1st June to 14th July

This year we are entered for the Tindall Cup (2022 Winners Cup) competing against the other four Buckinghamshire

villages that won their category last year. The judges will be touring our two villages marking us on the provision, maintenance and overall appearance of our villages. We can all do our bit by removing out of date advertising, keeping hedges and verges neat and generally keeping the villages neat and tidy.

**Litter Pick 20th-21st May 2023** - A big thank you to everyone who took part. If you missed the date don't worry you can still help by picking up litter when you see it. Unfortunately, there are some non-residents who seem to delight in decorating our hedges with their fast-food rubbish. Your help in keeping our village clean and tidy is much appreciated.

### Family Fun Day on The Crick

10th June 2023 - 10am to 3pm

NAWARA Plant stall

*On offer will be a varied selection of perennials, houseplants and patio pots, with seasonal planting, lovingly grown or donated by local residents. Come along and see what's on offer you may find some interesting surprises. Proceeds from the sale will go towards Village Hall funds. If you would like to donate some of your plants to the stall either email me or bring along to the stall on the morning.*

**Our next meeting is 7.30pm 12th June at the Village Hall.**  
**All residents welcome.**

*Bartha Pitman*

NAWARA Chair

[hello@nawara.co.uk](mailto:hello@nawara.co.uk)

[www.nawara.co.uk](http://www.nawara.co.uk)



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## Naphill Tennis Club

Our courts will be open to all who wish to try some tennis at the Family Fun/Naphill Fete Day on Saturday 10th June. Racquets and balls provided.

Our very popular Ball Machine will be ready for action and there will be Strawberries & Cream and Strawberry Cakes for those who are feeling a little peckish!

Summer Junior Coaching is in full swing on Friday evenings and, for those beyond the junior years, we have Adults Tennis Xpress on Monday evenings for beginners and improvers. There are also our usual club sessions, weekday coaching and plenty to keep everyone entertained.

As usual, further information on Naphill Tennis Club is available via our website: [www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/NaphillLTC](http://www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/NaphillLTC) or find us on Facebook: Naphill Tennis Club.

Jenny Tench





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## Not from the Vicarage

My family loves its tea, in particular, some of the better known speciality teas such as Earl Grey and Lapsang Suchong. Aficionados of tea will know there is currently a problem with one of the said teas. Lapsang Suchong has all but disappeared from the shelves of grocers, supermarkets and specialist tea shops. Apparently this is due to a range of issues affecting the source of the tea in China. Known to have been Winston Churchill's favourite blend of tea, Lapsang Suchong has a distinctive smoky flavour which I find exquisitely complements a freshly made smoked bacon sandwich. A leading tea manufacturer (which holds a royal warrant) has tried and dramatically failed to compensate with its own smoky blend of tea - the on-line reviews have not been kind, and to me the substitute blend tastes like it would be better suited for tarring and caulking ships! This 'crisis' has led to a very first world problem in our home - my daughter was heard bemoaning the fact that the only Lapsang we had was from Fortnum and Mason!

Honestly! Can you credit that - complaining about one of the finest tea blends on the face of the planet!? It did make me take stock though. On the funny side, I wondered what kind of a mother I had been to raise a daughter who finds Fortnum and Mason tea not good enough. On a more sobering note, it has again brought home to me how interdependent we now are as a planet. Since the war in Ukraine, we

have all become increasingly aware of our reliance on products from all around the world. If it's not the product itself, then it is the means of transporting, distributing or harvesting that can easily be disrupted by any number of things.

As always, the Bible offers significant insight - it is, after all, the Maker's instruction book for the world we have been given. In the beginning, humanity is charged with taking care of the earth ('nuff said!). In St Paul's letters, the Saint likens communities to a body. Each part of the body has its own vital role; if anything happens to one part, then the body ceases to function properly. The Gaia hypothesis, first published in the 1970s, envisaged the earth as a super body where all is interrelated and interdependent - we are becoming increasingly aware that what happens in one part of the world affects the whole planet.

Our little hiccup with the tea is just that - a minor inconvenience in the scheme of things. We are blessed that we live in a country of such abundance that the scarcity of a favourite blend of tea is seen as a problem. Hopefully 'normal service will resume as soon as possible'. In the meantime, let us never forget to be grateful for what we do have, giving thanks to God our maker and provider.

May God bless you

*Rev Jenny Ellis*





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## Wycombe Photographic Society

NapFest is coming soon, a great opportunity to take photographs of events, people, and animals. Don't forget the Gazette is always looking for good quality photographs from its readers.

Wycombe Photographic Society meets in the large hall at Hughenden Valley Village Hall, on the 1st, 2nd & 4th Wednesday each month (except July and August) at 8pm. We have a new programme of events being planned for our 2023/2024 season, with a wide range

of Guest speakers and lots more. We expect to hold our Autumn Exhibition in early October.

To see everything that is happening at Wycombe Photographic Society please visit our website at: - [www.wycombephotographicsociety.org.uk](http://www.wycombephotographicsociety.org.uk)

*Peter Davis*

Membership Secretary

Wycombe Photographic Society



## Valley Players

Valley Players are hard at work rehearsing our Picnic and play presentation for 8th, 9th July. This is the third such production and the concept of eating a picnic in an Orchard while being entertained under a summer evening sky, seems to have caught the local imagination! Fingers crossed for good weather this year.

The play follows the Musketeers story fairly accurately with the Cardinal trying to take over the Throne of France aided by his Henchman, Brie and of course Milady. Trying to stop them are of course Porthos, Athos and Aramis and perhaps the "4th Musketeer".

However please remember this is a comedy adaptation by James Barry, so the story may not be exactly as Alexander Dumas wrote!

Please pack your Picnic, dust off the camping chairs and don't forget some warm clothing – this is England!)make

a date and book some tickets.

Information is on our website:

[www.valleyplayershughenden.co.uk](http://www.valleyplayershughenden.co.uk)



*Andrew Pitman* - Chair, Valley Player

### VALLEY PLAYERS PRESENT "THREE MUSKETEERS"

*By James Barry*

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Further details at our website

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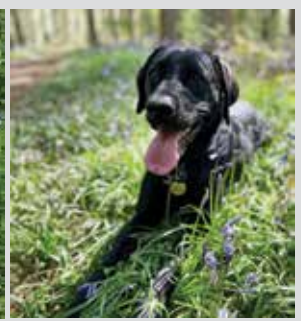






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## Dog Friendly Pubs & Cafes Within Our Community

Most of us are already aware of the fantastic pubs and cafes we have within our Community, but for those who are not (where have you been?!) I am delighted to inform you that they all welcome dogs!

**The Wheel Pub** – recent winner of the Bucks Free Press most dog friendly pub in Bucks. With their 2 resident Labradors, it's not surprising the pub is so popular with dog owners. They also have a microchip scanner, to reunite dogs with their owners when they have been separated. In the colder months, a blanket and good spot in front of the open fire has been much appreciated by Ruby.

**The Black Lion Pub** – popular with walkers passing through Naphill Common, with a large beer garden. Only out of bounds area for dogs, is the carpeted dining area.

**The De Le Spencer Arms** – technically in Downley, but only a short walk through the woods and dells at Hunts Hill. Another large garden, with dogs welcome in all areas of the pub, but must be kept on a lead.

**Bon Ami Café** – The Crick, Naphill – offering doggie ice cream in the warmer months and a resident Labrador onsite, a popular spot to stop for a cuppa when out and about.

**Pony Espresso**, Walters Ash – dogs are welcome inside the café. Having visited all of the above




venues at one time or another with Ruby, I can vouch for the warm welcome that they offer, as well as a selection of dog treats! There are many other fabulous cafes & pubs within easy walking distance, so check websites before visiting if you are unsure what their policy is with regards to dogs.

If you are wanting to venture further afield, take a look at the [www.dogfriendly.co.uk](http://www.dogfriendly.co.uk) website, where you will find dog friendly accommodation, places to visit, eat and other dog related services.



*Charlie Hughes*



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## A Wine Giant Essay on Rosé Drinking Window



In preparation for the UK's painfully short rosé drinking window, I thought now would be the time to share some thoughts on this wonderful thing. It is impossible to get inside the mindset of a British rosé drinker without considering the fact that the UK spends most of the year being cold and wet (without the geography and climate needed to give us ski resorts to make it fun). After months of travelling to and from work/school in damp darkness, spring pops into view and there is a week in April when temperatures soar to 19°C and we all turn the heating off, dust off our shorts and thank the Lord the bleakness has passed. 'I'll get some rosé in – Summer is here!', you foolishly shout. Obviously, the following week you wake up to frost on the car windscreen, sleety snow in the air and you kick yourself for being so pointlessly optimistic (whilst still defiantly wearing the shorts).

By the time June ends, there will have been some unbelievably beautiful weather. Combine that with the luscious green British countryside and you have a brief glimpse of heaven. Obviously, then the rest of the summer limps along with drizzle and cloud at a tepid 17°C (apart from the three days in August where it reaches the mid-30s and we all complain about it being too warm, the rest of Europe laugh at us and society nearly collapses in a sweat induced panic).

It is for this reason that rosé is more than just a drink to us Brits. It is a symbol. A symbol of fleeting paradise, of the season of holidays, of escaping the usual bleakness of reality. When a Brit opens or orders rosé it is not because they necessarily want the specific grape variety or because it pairs well with the dish in front of them. No, it is a statement. It is us hollering to the world around, 'I am relaxed. I am content. I am no longer stressed and miserable! I am on holiday and I will be happy!'

All of the above is why I cannot think of rosé in the same way I would a red or white. A Brit's fondness of any particular rosé is not really dependent on how good the wine was

but on how good the wider picture was. This is why 100% of us would state with absolute certainty that a £6 bottle of supermarket 'meh-ness' is far superior than a Château d'Esclans Garrus, if the former were drunk with friends at a hot Bank Holiday Monday BBQ and the latter in a restaurant in February.


So, to your text book Brit, a good rosé is not to be compared to a white or red. It is an art of its own that plays by different rules. A successful rosé is not to be defined by depth and length. Structure and weight can sod off. Rosé should entice and enhance your imagination. It should transport you to a far-off place, somewhere you've been or want to go. It creates an emotional awakening that celebrates those few moments of genuine summer joy that us Brits cherish and cling to throughout the miserable winter. Like the summer itself, a fine Rosé should be fleeting and refreshing - dancing on the tongue and energising your palate. It is not hefty and haughty. It does not carry around the baggage of expectation or pomp and ceremony. Like a teenager's summer fling it should be inexpensive and without great investment, yet be something the heart and palate longs for in months to come, as they spend the Autumn term telling their mates how fit this girl from Tenerife was.


So which rosé was more than just a wine to me? Which liquid summer fling trumped the beauty of the 'Orange Kappa Coat Girl' who took my attention away from watching Lilian Thuram's stonking double in the 1998 World Cup semi-final? Which rosé has more majesty than the stunningly beautiful Italian goddess to whom merely talking to in the Maltese sea was worth nearly drowning for back in 2004? Alpha Zeta Rosato Veronese (from The Wine Society).

This is a wine I shall always remember. The wine that saw me through the first Covid lockdown and gave solace after a long day of stressful remote teaching and attempts to educate my own 'Little Angels'. Just a few sips and the pains of working out how to stop the Year 8s kicking each other out of the Teams call were a distant memory. There may be better rosés out there, but none with greater symbolism.

N.B it is also worth pointing out that there is a lot more to rosé than the pale pink of Provence that is so in vogue right now. I urge you all to try a few different styles from Lloyd's Wines in Hughenden. In particular, the Rosapasso Biscardo is a wonderful example of Italian rosé, whilst the Llumi Rosat by Cellar Alimara is quite possibly the best rosé you can find on these shores.

*Adam Sergeant*

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