

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

February 2004



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Editorial

Dave Ratcliffe, get well soon. Mike & Pauline Pool - thanks for standing in and taking care of the distribution of this months Gazette.

In this issue you will see that David Leith has managed to see into the future, the year 2054 to be exact, and exciting changes are on the cards. Some of those changes relate to the Gazette, and in keeping with those predictions this issue was put together on a plane coming back from Florida - I stand to be corrected but I reckon that's a first for the Naphill & Walters Ash Gazette - we have gone global!

Next month will see many new advertisers amongst these pages as we are currently going through the renewal process - February marks the last month in the current advertising year. One person that will not be renewing their advert, after many years, is Richard Webb as he heads into retirement. In his letter to the Gazette Richard states "The Gazette has been a tremendous source of business for me". I wish Richard well in his retirement.

This publication needs advertisers to survive, and the advertisers need you. Please continue to support them where ever possible.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

GRASSHOPPER. Garden Machinery needs Attention, Sharpen those blades, Get your Mowers, Hedgecutters, Brushcutters, Chainsaws going ready for the season. 562310 / 07904 023022, 172 Main Road, Naphill.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

JOHN BISHOP GARDEN MACHINERY, sales, service, and hire of all mowers, garden tractors, strimmers, chainsaws, etc. Free collection and delivery, 01494 563513. Access, Visa etc.

ARALIAS TO YUCCAS! Winter promotion of specimen shrubs in 10 litre pots from my nursery site, supplied and planted for instant garden impact! Tel G C Travers HND Am Hort on 01494 563367

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

OFFICE VACANCY - We have a vacancy for a part time SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR. Please ring J.Smith & Sons (Walters Ash) Ltd on 01494 562256 for further details.

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Well, here we are again, into the new year with Christmas behind us, half way through the winter and heading for the summer season when most members play the majority of their tennis, including our juniors, who pursue other interests at this time of year. I am glad to report our Chairman was able to welcome some new faces at the AGM, which was held on a dark, damp night at the beginning of December. Business was successfully completed, with most of the committee being re-elected and agreeing to continue for the forthcoming year. We are, however, delighted to announce that two very valiant mums have 'volunteered' to join the committee and take on the running of the Junior section. Mikki Toone and Sharon Poulter were persuaded by Jan Curtis, our equally valiant long-time serving Junior Organizer, to take over from her, now that she has moved out of the area. We are sure that all Juniors, past and present, together with their families, will join us in expressing our appreciation for all the very hard work Jan has put in over many years to

inspire the youngsters to develop their skills and enjoy playing tennis at their local club. Hopefully, relinquishing her office does not mean she is cutting her ties with the club and we are sure she will be on hand to advise our new organizers, when necessary.

Whilst on the subject of Juniors, we would like to thank Richard Pushman for arranging the allotment of a very generous grant of £280 to the tennis club from community funds. We are intending to put this amount towards buying various coaching aids which we hope will benefit and encourage our youngsters (and maybe our oldsters) to play even better tennis. Further details later!

Looking back to the Sunday immediately preceding Christmas, when the cold wind did definitely blow, I am pleased to report that a creditable number of stalwart members braved the elements to play in our annual Tinsel Tournament. Fortified by suitably warming mulled wine, they worked up their appetites in order to enjoy the very excellent lunch which followed. Everyone agreed that a good time was had by all and the mood was for the celebrations that followed!

As a footnote to previous reports, I am pleased to announce that our Ladies Bucks Shield Team has now been declared as winners of Div. 4, rather than runners-up. This upgrading means that we shall have to find a matching frame for the certificate to hang proudly next to the others in the clubhouse! A few brave members are continuing to turn up to club sessions at 10 am on Sunday and 10.15 on Tuesday mornings but there is plenty of room for more! If you feel like brushing away a few cobwebs, do come and join us!

Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063

Naphill Neighbours

We had a good start to the new year with a brief but informative and amusing talk by Teresa Jones, who is the Swan's first Community and Education Officer - a post created only last year.

She gave us a short history of "The Swan" which opened in 1992 and is formed of three linked parts - the theatre, the Town Hall and the Oak Room. Dance is the theatre's main identity but you can get married in any part of the complex, on the main stage if you wish!

With diaries at the ready, the members noted dates and details of the outings planned for 2004: The Houses Of Parliament and a coach tour of the City Bridges in April, Hampton Court in June, a Mystery Coach Tour and supper at Hunters arm in August and another visit to the Magic Circle in November.

Our next meeting is on Monday, 9th February when Mark Meltonville will once again talk to us, but this time his subject will be the reconstruction of the kitchens at Hampton Court.

If you would like to join our thriving group please come along to one of our meetings. You will be most

welcome.

Hazel Vickery : 563977

District & County Councillor's Report

The New Year 2004 certainly opened with a 'bang'! Readers will have been aware of the Wycombe library having achieved international notoriety over its decision to implement the County Council's policy of not allowing publicity of any matter of religious, political or sexual interest. The library's decision not to allow a poster advertising the Carol Service at the Parish Church, High Wycombe unfortunately fell into this category.

I cannot recall, in 40 years experience of local government, any event, which has generated so much international, national or local comment. For my part, I did issue a press statement from the chairman's office which regretted the incident and the offence caused and promised an early review of the policy, which had originally been approved back in 1991 from discussions which started in the late eighties. I consider it a pity that the first County press releases of explanation did not include the word 'regret', which had they have done, might have avoided the subsequent upset. However, the matter is being dealt with as a priority and I am sure that common sense will prevail. I am endeavouring to reply to all those who have written to me, assuring them that I am only too aware of the Christian ethos of this country.

The working party, reviewing speed limits in this area is meeting in late January and as a member of that group I shall be looking closely at all the local options and proposals. From those already published for general consultation regarding Great Kingshill and surrounding areas, it does appear that a general reduction in speed is proposed on those roads with the de-restricted 60 m.p.h limit. The Quiet Lanes project, which will cover most of this area, supports a reduction from the national limit on single carriageways. The reduction to 30 from the current 40 m.p.h roads will be more controversial with drivers I suspect. I shall be pleased to have readers' views on this subject, 01494 564152.

The information published in the local papers and the District Councils own newssheet, which set out the revised collection dates over the holiday period, appears to have worked well. It takes a while for the weekly adjustments to settle down but it is a credit to our collection teams that they strictly adhered to the revised schedules.

Richard Pushman : 564152

Naphill Evening WI

Happy New Year to you all! Our October meeting was the AGM when our new president, Jessie Higham, was elected. The previous committee were re-elected together with one new member, Juliet Shortall. A big

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is aewilmot@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail Naphill@lycos.co.uk

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

thank you was given to Betty Williams, our outgoing president, for all her hard work. Members enjoyed a quiz which had been arranged and the evening was rounded off with tea and coffee.

The November meeting was an open meeting and a huge success with a talk on the Chelsea Pensioners by Colonel Danielle. He was a lively speaker and we learnt a great deal about the Royal Hospital Chelsea and the stately gentlemen in scarlet coats and ceremonial tricorn hats. He encouraged us to visit and we hope to do so in May this year. Juliet Shortall gave an enthusiastic talk on Denman College and brought along two beautifully covered boxes which she had made there on her bursary course. On the 22nd November it was the Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall and as usual the WI members served tea and cakes. Although it did well, it was not quite the success of last year. This could have been due to the appalling weather, so thanks to those of you who did turn out.

In early December two of our members went as guests to the Downley WI birthday party. The evening was most enjoyable with an appetising hot meal and humorous entertainment. Our December meeting was party night and once again the buffet supper, provided by our members, was delicious. So much variety - well done ladies! Afterwards we were entertained by the hilarious 'Old Time Follies Singers' who were great fun. Then it was time to dip into the bran tub - each member had brought along a present; tea and coffee were served and the special Christmas raffle drawn. The lucky winners went home with wine, chocolates, crackers, luxury biscuits and a plant. We all took home a special bar of chocolate as a token gift from our WI.

So now it is a new year and time for resolutions. Those of you who aren't members make it one of yours to come and join us at the next meeting – give Jessie a ring on 01494 562061 and she will be pleased to give you details. We meet in Naphill Village Hall on the third Thursday each month at 7.45pm. We briefly discuss WI business, then hear a talk by a visiting speaker. There is tea and coffee, a competition, a raffle and a sales table. There are also many events to look forward to in 2004, starting with a visit to 'We Will Rock You' at the Dominion Theatre on the 28th January (all tickets sold). A coffee morning has been arranged for the 11th March and a ploughman's lunch on the 29th April – dates for your diaries' ladies. The talk at our January meeting will be 'Pepys Plague & Fire' and our February meeting will be on the 19th when we shall hear Miss C Groves talk about 'From Pop to Opera'. The competition that night will be 'a programme from an Opera or Pop Concert'. See you there!

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Naphill 2054 - A Look Ahead

A few months ago, I succeeded in using the Crystal Ball Talents of my Aunt Gavina to take a look at Naphill in the year 2010. As she, my wife and I were planning a cruise holiday to the Canary Islands in December, I persuaded her to take her crystal ball with her to see if she could manage to distil from its hidden depths a view of Naphill 50 years hence. Getting the crystal ball on board was quite an experience in itself because security check lists do not embrace such items and it caused much suspicion, then excitement and finally amusement amongst the security staff. But eventually it was safely positioned in her cabin and we settled into the full enjoyment of the cruise whilst waiting to see whether the propitious moment would arrive when the depths of the crystal ball would permit us to see what Naphill would have to offer in the PPP, that is the Post Pushman Period.

Students of futurology will know that it is quite easy to draw a blank: the future is often reluctant to lift its veil and this certainly applied during the cruise. Indeed I had given up hope when, on 18 December after dinner, having retired to our cabins I received a call from Gavina to give the good news that the future was on display. I hurried to her cabin and quietly sat beside her to look into the crystal ball which seemed to have taken on a sparkling and dynamic hue and was already hinting at a scene readily identifiable as Naphill, but with some extraordinary changes.

The first was, to say the least, startling. At the Hughenden Valley end of the village there seemed to be a mass of water, as indeed there was. In fact most of the village of Hughenden Valley had vanished; the area was now a large reservoir which had even submerged Hughenden Church leaving only the church tower sticking out of the water. Hughenden Manor was clearly visible with a new access road. The Naphill Gazette appeared briefly on screen (June, 2054 edition)

containing an article about the reservoir which had been built to cope with the progressively serious water shortage stemming from the breakdown of the ozone layer over the South Pole.

Scanning along the Main Road (now Pushman Boulevard), the former No.3 Site of RAF High Wycombe was revealed as a large hostel complex for emigrants who were required to stage through it before returning to their lands of origin, mostly India, Pakistan and the West Indies. Apparently their economies had burgeoned and they now wanted their emigres back to sustain their economic expansion. How times change: emigration controlled instead of immigration.

Further along the road towards Lacey Green, Headquarters Strike Command was closed and the main headquarters area is now A large wind farm with numerous propeller driven generators providing 'clean' electricity for the area.

The Village Hall has been completely rebuilt and the Crick has been enlarged with a stadium complete with tiered seating. A hockey match was in progress at the time. I noted that the Village Hall has been renamed the 'Sarah Bacon Memorial Hall' in recognition of her many years as Chairman of the old Village Hall Council.

A further scan revealed that the old Officers Mess and Bradenham Married Quarters Site has been built up as a large Technical College in order to fill the heavy demand for electricians, plumbers and qualified builders which has built up over the years.

Scanning the area of the Common, it was a relief to note that no new housing had bitten into the Green Belt although infilling had been rampant. The huge Oak tree at the end of Forge Road was still standing proudly and a scan of its rings revealed that it was 237 years old. My house, Falcons Oak, looked in good condition and, to my surprise, there was a large blue commemorative plaque on the front wall. It read, 'David Leith born 1925 died 2026.' Not bad! I wonder if I received a letter of congratulations from the King (William V). Why the plaque? The wording read, 'for services as treasurer of the Naphill, Walters Ash, Bradenham, Lacey Green and Loosley Row Gazette (there's expansion for you) from 1997 'till 2022. Additional wording on the plaque read, 'died from a severe overdose of imagination'. Well, I'll settle for that. What a way to go. However as I re-read the wording on the plaque, the picture gradually faded despite attempts by Gavina to revive it. And so our peer into the future was over but we celebrated our success with a glass of wine.

Disembarkation from the Aurora the following morning was complicated by a security alarm at the West Docks so that Aurora was forced to dock at the Queen Elizabeth 2 terminal. Thus many passengers, who had travelled by car to Southampton, had to collect their cars from the other end of the docks (3

miles) during the rush hour. I was one of them and did not enjoy it one bit, but one could not blame P&O for this!

We declared the crystal ball at the Red Customs Desk and were soon on our way Home, reflecting both about our holiday and the vision of 2054. And what about Naphill in the 22nd century? We shall have to see whether a deeper look into the future is possible. Perhaps Aunt Gavina will require a Mark 2, very long range crystal ball for that.

David Leith : 562312

Chernobyl Children's Life Line

We have heard in the last couple of months that the Charity has been given an award for its work by the Celebrities Guild of Great Britain and also that it has been commended by London and Thames Today with the BA Award for the International Charity of the year 2003.

This is in recognition of the wonderful work done by the Chairman, Victor Mizzi, with the help of his band of volunteers. Victor is an enthusiastic, hardworking, extremely positive person who, since 1991, has given his life to help the people of Belarus - and his home which is the charity's office. He is an inspiration to everyone.

It is now seventeen years since the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl and the need for help is just as pressing as it has ever been. On the anniversary of the explosion, 26th April, there are to be special events throughout the country, so watch out for these.

Also please keep an eye on the television program 'Airport'. It is shortly to feature a story line about two Belorussian children. They were filmed here with their host families and back home in Belarus. We have not been given the dates yet but are looking forward to watching the programmes, which should be very interesting.

Next July we are expecting to host sixteen children, eight boys and eight girls between the ages of eight and eleven. This is a larger group than ever before and that means that our costs are going to escalate. The air fares from Minsk to Gatwick and return, visas and passports will cost over £4600, and then there will be other costs. transport. entertainment, etc. during their stay. Please help us if you can.

In preparation, there have already been several Coffee Mornings, Carol singing events, etc. Thank you to all the organisers and those who supported them. Special thanks and congratulations must go to the Naphill and Hughenden Scout Group who supported us throughout 2003. Amongst other things they arranged a sponsored hike for the whole group, beavers upwards. The financial result was magnificent and as a result of their

efforts all the members of the group have been awarded their International Badges.

Chemobyl Children's Life Line is not an aid charity although we do send back 30 kgs. of luggage with each child.

Most of the families in the villages live in wooden houses heated by wood stoves. The parents have to work long hours and the children are often left alone. Sadly this situation sometimes leads to house fires.

The special project this year is to send a smoke alarm and several batteries back with each child - a simple idea which we hope will avert some of the tragedies.

We have hosts arranged for all the party, but would be interested in hearing from anyone able to be a support host and also would be most grateful for any other help anyone can offer.

Thank you.

Ann Smith, Chairman, Risborough Link : 01844 345558

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

At our last meeting before Christmas we had the Bell Ringers, and then on the 2nd January we had our Christmas Lunch in the Village Hall. A good time was had by everyone.

On the 9th January Mrs Jean Hall gave slides and a talk on 'The Four Seasons'.

New members always welcome.

Norah Cockcroft : 564270

Horticultural Society

Dinner & Entertainment - Friday 5th March

Doors open 7.15pm

Tickets are now available, and cost only £12.00 including a glass of wine. So if you would like to join us in the Village Hall for this popular event, give me a call. As always, there will be a choice of menu, with a vegetarian alternative.

After Dinner, David Ball, the magician will entertain us with "Magic and the Magic Circle II".

Members and non-members are welcome, but I *must* have final numbers by February 28th.

Tickets always sell fast – so don't wait to be invited, just pick up the phone!

The following Wednesday, March 10th, we hold our AGM at 8.00pm in the Small Hall. As always, all are welcome to air their views. We would love to see some new faces. There will be absolutely no pressure to join the Committee – unless you want to of course - in which case you will be especially welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you all on March 5th.

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In December & January

The Moon is new on February 20 and full on the 6. Capella, the bright star in Auriga is high overhead. Orion remains a majestic constellation in the southern sky every evening. Mars sets at almost the same time, just after midnight, throughout the month. Venus is a very bright early evening star setting in the west. Jupiter rises after the Sun sets in the early part of the month but by the last week, it is too close to the Sun to be seen. Saturn is visible in the west during the mornings just before sunrise. M31, the Andromeda galaxy is about 40° above the western horizon near the square of Pegasus. Orion is majestic in the southern sky. Look for the Orion nebula below his belt. For those who are waiting for the evenings to be longer, British Summer Time comes into operation on March 28.

Blue Skies

Scattering of sunlight causes the blue colour of the sky by suspended particles in the air. The amount of scattering depends on the size of the particles and does so much more effectively for the shorter blue light from the Sun. When flying high in an aeroplane the blue is usually less distinct because there are far fewer

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Feb | Rises | 07.43 | 11.55 | 09.07 | 10.01 | 19.59 | 13.59 |
| 1 | Sets | 16.51 | 04.28 | 20.32 | 00.09 | 09.11 | 06.04 |
| Feb | Rises | 07.31 | 19.36 | 08.51 | 09.41 | 19.28 | 13.10 |
| 8 | Sets | 17.04 | 08.51 | 20.53 | 00.08 | 08.42 | 05.35 |
| Feb | Rises | 07.18 | 03.56 | 08.34 | 09.22 | 18.56 | 12.41 |
| 15 | Sets | 17.17 | 11.10 | 21.14 | 00.06 | 08.14 | 05.57 |
| Feb | Rises | 07.04 | 08.16 | 08.17 | 09.03 | 18.23 | 12.12 |
| 22 | Sets | 17.30 | 20.07 | 21.34 | 00.05 | 07.45 | 04.38 |
| Mar | Rises | 06.50 | 10.26 | 08.01 | 08.45 | 17.51 | 11.44 |
| 1 | Sets | 17.42 | 03.22 | 21.54 | 00.04 | 07.16 | 04.11 |

suspended particles. Rainbows are caused by a very different phenomenon. Here sunlight is both reflected and refracted by raindrops. The amount of refraction differs with the wavelength of the colour and the result of the rainbow is red at the top and a weaker blue at the bottom. The intensity of the bow is dependent on the size of the raindrops – the larger the drops, the more intense is the bow. There is sometimes a secondary rainbow, 10° above the main bow, and here the colours are weaker and reversed with the red on the bottom. They are weaker because the Sun's rays are reflected twice within each raindrop. Very rarely it is possible to see a rainbow caused by moonlight but they are usually white and faint.

Northern Lights

I have never seen an Aurora Borealis; they glow in the upper atmosphere of the Earth. They are very common within 2000 km of the north magnetic pole (northern Canada) but during periods of greater Sun activity they can be seen as far south as the British Isles. They are caused when fast-moving electrically neutral gas (or

plasma) of atomic protons and electrons arrive in the solar wind and collide with plasma in the Earth's magnetosphere (atoms and molecules of atmospheric nitrogen and oxygen) at heights above 100 kms. They often arrive at 27-day intervals corresponding to the rotation of the Sun on its axis. During periods of high activity they are most common when there is maximum sunspot activity that follows an eleven-year pattern. The trouble is that it is almost impossible to be accurate in forecasting their arrival. Rather like meteorite showers. They also occur in the southern hemisphere where they are called Aurorae Australis. In both cases, aurorae can be quite spectacular, the glow becoming an arc with a sharply defined lower edge. Well worth seeing I am told.

Shortest and longest days

Mr Dancer of Battingswood Gardens has written to the editor to ask me why the Sun sets at its earliest on December 13 and rises at its latest on January 30. Why do not both these events occur on the shortest day, December 21 or 22? It is mainly because the Earth orbits the Sun in an ellipse and not a circle. It is also because the Earth is nearest the Sun on January 3 (perihelion – when they are 147million kms apart) and not on the shortest day. Another factor, at perihelion, the Earth travels slightly faster in its orbit. Also the Earth is tilting on its axis by 23½°. The net result of all these factors is the odd lack of symmetry around the shortest day. This asymmetry is also reflected in the dates when we put forward our clocks to achieve British summer time. The clocks go back only eight weeks before the shortest day and go forward 14 weeks after the shortest day. To a certain extent, this asymmetry is repeated around the longest day in June. But in the summer, when the Earth is travelling in its orbit at its slowest and is furthest from the Sun (152 million kms), the effect is less pronounced. The Sun rises at its earliest on June 17 and sets at its latest on June 25 – a range of eight days.

Grant Woodruff

Fundraising Success

The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides of Walters Ash, Hughenden and Naphill held a Carol Service in the Methodist Church at Naphill just before Christmas. Throughout the year we support various charities (e.g. we sent boxes of foodstuffs to the hostel at Saunderton for use by the residents from our Harvest Challenge).

Our chosen activity for Christmas was for as many of the children as possible to give up £1.00 each from their own pocket money to donate to a charity which is providing support and relief from poverty and hunger in countries around the world. In doing this we could choose what we wanted the charity to do with our gift. It was a unanimous decision to buy as many goats as we could. This can make a real difference to their lives and will go some way in helping to provide a sustainable income.

I am pleased to say we raised enough money to send twelve goats.

So, for the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides of Walters Ash, Hughenden and Naphill - a great feel good factor

Barbara Clark : 562528

2004 Village Fete

I know you've only just finished taking down your baubles, so thinking about summer fun may seem a little strange! After a fantastic Fete last year run under the exceptional guidance of Matt Piercy, it is my turn to step up to the line and offer myself as this years Fete Chairman.

The committee is ostensibly the same, but we hope to add a few more enthusiastic members to help with new ideas and share the organisation responsibilities. I hope to announce the full committee, the date and the theme to you all in the next edition of the Gazette.

What I am asking is for you all to have a little think about last years Fete and let me know what you think was good about it, what we shouldn't change, what didn't work for you and maybe some new ideas or suggestions of how we can take our Fete to the next level. I'm sure you all agree that we want to try and keep its traditional atmosphere, but still move with the times with regards what we and our children want as entertainment.

We would also love to hear from anyone willing to help out a bit on the day, say manning a stall for an hour or so. Maybe a whole family could make a stall their own, we will furnish the stall or attraction.

Please call or email your views to me and lets all look forward to smashing weather and a day full of fun for all the family.

*Alan Jessop : 563369 – Fete Committee Chairman
email@alanjessop.com*

L.E.A. Proposal To Reduce Parents' Choice Of School

Did you know we could be losing John Hampden Grammar School as an option for our sons at age 11?

Parents of school age children in year 4 and below received a consultation document in the summer called 'Getting a School Place'. This document presented a number of proposals concerning changes to school admissions and secondary school catchment areas. All parents and schools were invited to respond to the consultation and the responses are now being analysed. This first analysis seems to show an indifference to the proposal to limit our choice of boys' grammar school.

Perhaps you didn't have time to respond, or your children are still so young you really didn't think it would affect you, or maybe you didn't realize the implications of the proposals?



Spring Jumble Sale

Saturday 6th March

Naphill Village Hall

2.00pm

Organised by The Brownies.



We will be collecting items for the sale around the village on the morning of the sale, and would also welcome any items you wish to bring to the Village Hall

Currently all the boys in Naphill and Walters Ash who pass their 11+ can choose between the Royal Grammar School (RGS) and the John Hampden Grammar School (JHGS). They are effectively guaranteed a place as we are in the catchment area for both these schools. The County Council's proposals mean that we would no longer be in the catchment area for the JHGS and, should we decide that JHGS is the best school for our sons, we would have to take our place with all other 'out of catchment' boys wishing to go to that school.

You may feel that this is not a problem as we have the RGS; however, we object on several grounds to this:

1. JHGS and RGS are significantly different in character and parents should have the right to choose the most appropriate school for their boy(s).
2. RGS is a foundation school. This means that it can decide its own admissions criteria. We currently fall into its catchment area, BUT, we, and the County Council, cannot stop it from changing that.
3. The argument that, as the girls in our area do not get a choice, neither should the boys, is based on equality of lack of opportunity! [If anything, we should be arguing for the girls also to have a choice, as indeed they do in Hughenden Valley.]
4. The reduction in catchment area is not justifiable on numbers: JHGS has recently increased the size of its year 7 intake.

If you feel strongly about this issue, we believe it is not too late to act. You can write to Marion Clayton, Cabinet Member for Schools, County Hall, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 1UZ, or you can e-mail your concerns by following the link on the website

www.buckscc.gov.uk/consult You can also inform our local councillor, Richard Pushman, of your concerns, again by following the links on the website www.buckscc.gov.uk/councillors/pushman_richard.stm

Finally, if you think this could affect you but have not yet given any thought to secondary schools and are therefore totally confused, you can call one of us and we shall try to enlighten you.

Heidi Roberts : 564918 & Sheila Draper : 563670

Naphill Common Committee

A year has now elapsed since English Nature, on a site visit, promised the villages some action on maintaining the Common. I am sad to report that due to legal problems with the West Wycombe Estate (and I fear, a lack of urgency by English Nature) no progress has been made and we are no nearer to resolving the problems on the Common. The Annual General Meeting of the Common Committee will be held on Wednesday 25th February 2004 at Poland House, 249 Main road. I am pressing English nature either to attend this meeting or to issue a formal statement on the future of the Common by this date. All villagers with an interest in the Common are invited to attend.

I have recently been informed by the West Wycombe Estate of their new policy regarding access to the Common from houses adjacent to the Common. They are prepared to consider requests for gates onto the Common but the charges are to be £2000 per annum or a one off payment of £20,000 for access in perpetuity. They intend to check on properties that have not paid these charges and either prohibit access or levy these new high charges.

There have been far fewer complaints this year about shooting on the Common. I don't know whether this is because people have given up complaining or whether our representations last year have had some effect. At the Walters Ash side of the Common I have heard far fewer guns this winter and we would be interested to hear if this is the same on other parts of the Common.

Finally, could I make a plea on behalf of the Red Kites? They are now well established in the villages and along the edges of the Common and we have had several pairs breeding. However, infant mortality has been very high and this is largely due to the diet that the kites are feeding on. They must have the roughage associated with their natural food sources for proper development. In our area, there are plenty of suitable food sources for them in the open spaces and as a result of road kill etc. So, please do not feed the kites! Feeding them on meat scraps etc will eventually lead to their demise, so villagers who are feeding them are doing much more

harm than good. Similar problems have been reported from other kite nesting locations in the area and a similar plea is being made throughout the County.

Dr Marek Pawlik : 563126

Multiple Sclerosis Society

Ploughmans Lunch

Hughenden Valley Village Hall

Wednesday February 18th 2004

Doors open at noon, lunch served 12.30pm - £3.30 including tea/coffee.

Raffle and Bring & Buy stall.

All proceeds to the High Wycombe & District Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Jean Goodman

Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

Last month's answers:

The cottages in the photo (above) are at Walters Ash. The original plaque on the buildings shows a building date of 1855 with the initials H.C. Does anyone know what the initials are? Could they belong to the builder?

This photo of nesting boxes (not very clear) was taken at the bottom of Downley Road on the edge of the common. If ever you fancy a tranquil place to rest after a walk, here it is. The Bristow seat is next to the pond and it is a haven for bird watching. A delightful spot.

Last month I gave the names of some previous Landlords at 'The Wheel', and omitted the Hussey family who are some of our longest standing village inhabitants, some of whom lived in Ash Place cottages.

Pam Smith : 563364

Village Hall Christmas Tree Lights





"Wonderful!", "Best ever!" were among the: comments received about the lights this year. Many people have expressed their thanks: The extra 50 metres of cable and 50 extra lamps certainly helped us to fill the gaps and



cope with our ever-growing tree.

Mike Leggett was the chief climber, ably assisted by Steve Payne, Stephen Fountain of Widmer End, Kelly Fountain of Hughenden Valley and Paul Rutter of Great Kingshill. The ground team consisted of Gary Putnam of Holmer Green, David Brown, Peter Brown, Peter Davis, John Harris, Ron Collins, Terry Aldridge, Richard Walmsley, Glenn Gavin and myself. We must thank also Marlene Mason who assisted in checking and repairing the cable and provided the essential mince pies and coffee.

Thanks also to the essential support of those who contributed to the cost via the collecting tins in the local

shops and pubs and via Village Hall clubs and groups. I thought I would give readers a rundown of the expenditure so you would be aware of the cost to the Village Hall Council of our annual spectacle. The equipment cost this year for replacement lamps, sockets, sleeves, etc was £269 after heavy discounts. That figure was about £140 more than in a normal year because we had to purchase another 50 metres of cable. The special insurance for putting the lights up and taking them down was £265 and the electricity cost was about £200. So the total cost this year was about £735 and in a normal year would be about £600. The total collected in the tins etc this year is not known at the time of writing but will be about half the cost, so the Village Hall Council's funds will be somewhat depleted.

If you did not have an opportunity to contribute to the usual collections this year but would still like to record your appreciation then please would you give John Harris, the Village Hall Council Treasurer, a cheque payable to Naphill Village Hall Council with "Christmas Tree Lights" written on the reverse.

John's address is Red Cott, Naphill Common (second house on the Common after turning left from Downley Road). Thank you.

Mike Mason : 563225

Thames Valley Police

Good Day To You.

Recently I visited Naphill Village Hall with a member of the Village Hall Council to discuss security improvements to the fabric of the building. Much of what I recommended will cost money that the Committee can ill afford to pay as funding is limited. My visit was necessitated by a need to look at ways of reducing the incidents of mindless vandalism to the building and reducing levels of anti social behaviour in the grounds near to the building. This damage includes breaking of windows and graffiti, the anti social behaviour is loud shouting and swearing causing distress to local residents and passers by. If this unacceptable level of damage continues the hall will eventually be rendered inhabitable and the village will lose a much valued and loved landmark and community facility. You cannot rely on the police to solve problems in isolation, this building is YOUR building, funded indirectly by YOU, so some responsibility for its continuance as a village hall lies with YOU. It appears the problems are caused mainly by local youths living in the village, the parents amongst you ask yourselves the question, "where has my son/daughter gone tonight ?" Please do not fear reporting incidents to the police, after dealing with the incident we do not need to visit you afterwards. When reporting the incident you can request to be updated by telephone with the result.

*Dave Bevan
Crime Reduction Officer
Amersham Police Station
Tel: X 715 - 6643*

Naphill Village Hall Drama

No, I'm not referring to our monthly Village Hall meetings!

Two plays are planned in March and April so make the appropriate notes in your diaries now and book your tickets soon:

Firstly, Lacey Green Productions are performing a murder mystery for us on Saturday, 13th March called 'A Family Affair'. The audience can enter into the spirit of the production by dressing in the style of the period if they so wish (more details next month) and we will have an opportunity to quiz the cast after the performance in our efforts to identify the fiendish villain. A cheese buffet is planned and a bar will be available. Tickets are £7.50 and can be reserved by telephoning me on 562099.

Secondly, the Ubiquitous Touring Theatre Company is performing 'Jeffrey Barnard is Unwell' by Keith Waterhouse, on Friday, 16th April. Further details next month.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to present first class drama for you at the Village Hall, and I hope you will support and enjoy the forthcoming productions.

John Harris : 562099

Easter Fayre

Saturday 27th March at 2.00pm in Naphill Village Hall

Come and join us at our Easter Fayre, with something for everyone – games, gifts, and attractions for the whole family – all at amazing value. Many of the stalls will be run by the Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts themselves – a real team effort.

On Saturday 27th March you will be able to:

- Buy excellent value Easter gifts
- Indulge in the always popular cake stall
- Chance your luck on the tombolas
- Play games and competitions
- Enjoy the various refreshments.

Please come along and support this event, where all the proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Scout and Guide Headquarters Building – a facility used and enjoyed by many village children.

Hope to see you there.

For further information please contact Jill Wilkinson 564271, or Linda Foster 563586

Pre-school News

This half terms interest table has been based around 'The Home'.

This is our main term when most of our fundraising activities will be taking place. We will start it off with a Children's Disco to be held on February 13th, tickets are £3 each and are available from me or any other committee member. The age group is sevens and under.

Our main event this year will be a barn dance that will be held on the 24th April, the tickets are £10 each which will include a homemade cold buffet supper. Any one is most welcome and again the tickets can be purchased from me; 562081. We look forward to seeing every one there.

As a result of last years record-breaking fundraising efforts, we have been able to buy some new play equipment, which the children seem to be enjoying. A much needed new computer was also brought, again as a result of last years fundraising efforts.

The Pre-School contact numbers are 564037(am) or 565359 (pm).

Sharon Piercy : 562081

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning

03/7812/FUL Land adj Dovecote, Hunts Hill Lane. 1x 4-bedroom detached house (amdt to 02/5371/FUL).

03/7853/FUL 36 Ash Close, Walter's Ash. 1-storey side/rear extension inc garage/store and additional conservatory.

03/7854/FUL NTL Transmitter Station, RAF High Wycombe, 'Main Road', Walter's Ash. Installation of 1 x 0.6m dish antenna at height of 25m on existing tower.

03/7855/CONCG Officers' Mess, RAF High Wycombe, 'Main Road', Walter's Ash. Temporary kitchen accommodation during demolition of existing kitchen facilities and construction of replacement kitchens.

03/7950/FUL 40 Ash Close, Walter's Ash Shed (5mx2.5m) to side of house (retro).

03/7969/FUL 73 Main Road, Naphill. 1-storey rear extension.

03/8025/FUL White Cottage, Coombe Lane, Naphill. Demolition of garage and outbuilding. Construction of part 1-storey, part 2-storey front side rear extensions incorporating single garage.

03/8095/FUL Land off Lacey Drive, Naphill. Erection of bin store (retro).

03/8119/FUL Talland, Chapel Lane, Naphill. Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of 3x3 bedroom terraced brick & flint dwellings with garages and new access. Concern that new build will be more bulky than existing and that double pitch roof will be out of keeping. Front hedge to be replaced by iron railings to match chapel. Road safety questions over new access opposite Lacey Drive.

Naphill Pre-school **Barn Dance**

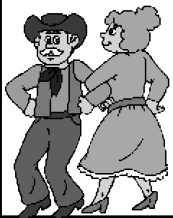
Saturday 24th April, 2004

Naphill Village Hall

7.30 'til late

Tickets £10, to include cold
buffet supper

Licensed bar



Tickets available
from
Judy; 564576, or
Sharon; 562081



03/8125/FUL 1 Prospect Cottages, Downley Road, Naphill. Conservatory to rear.

03/8126/FUL 2 Prospect Cottages, Downley Road, Naphill. Conservatory to rear.

03/8164/FUL 114 Main Road, Naphill. 2-storey side and 1-storey rear extensions.

03/8175/FUL 21 Moseley Road, Naphill. Brick built 'shed'/outhouse in rear garden. 3.6mx6m. Clearance is 1.6m from each neighbouring property. 2.3m from rear fence. Double glazed with French doors facing house. Concerns that this is not a temporary structure and is out of keeping with the rural environment.

03/8219/FUL Land rear of Country Store 247 Main Road, Walter's Ash. Erection of detached 2-bedroom bungalow with access from Ash Close. A rear garden development. Concerns on rural development and AONB grounds and potential problems of access via garage entrance on Ash Close.

03/8226/FUL Langlea, Coombe Lane, Naphill. Detached double garage with alteration to landscaping and levels.

Wycombe District Local Plan to 2011

Following local consultations, public inquiry and modifications, the district council intends to adopt the plan, which may be inspected at the council offices.

Readers Letters

Beautiful Christmas Tree Lights

Congratulations to our intrepid team who have given all who pass by great pleasure in admiring our lovely tree, so beautifully decorated to lighten our darkness. It also reminds us of the true meaning of our celebrations at this time, when a helpless babe was born all those years ago and became the light of our world. A light that has never gone out and will never die, as it radiates all round the world now and will never go out which rejoices us and helps us all to remember that this babe came when the world was in much greater need than now.

May God richly bless all who did anything to help with this wonderful work of art which improves as every year comes along.

PSALM 121

Mollie Bowler

More on the Christmas Tree Lights

"I think they were the best ever" - such complimentary comments as I was collecting the tins around shops etc.

I must thank Paul at the Fish & Chip shop, and his daughter Karen Cole, for the eye catching design on the tins this year. Thank you both.

Will put the results of the collection in next months Gazette.

Pam Smith

Village Hall Notes

This report covers the business in both our December and January meetings.

The springy toy in the play area has been removed to be repaired. Hopefully this will be done by the time the weather improves and the play area is being used to the full again. The Parish Council has offered us a whitebeam tree to be planted in the play area to provide some shade. Many thanks to them.

The weather has not helped the stains on the ceiling tiles in the Hall. We are continuing to take advice and hope that we can locate the problem soon so that it can be resolved once and for all. In the meantime there seems little point in continuing to replace the tiles only for them to be spoilt as soon as there is a significant rainfall. Let's hope we can get it sorted.

The kitchen cupboards obviously need to be replaced. Those of you have been in there recently will have noticed that there is a big space on the back wall. We have had a thorough look at the kitchen with a view to replacing all the units. Obviously this is going to be costly so we are investigating the best way to sort it. It is a priority - anybody with any contacts in the kitchen

fitting business who could get us a good job at a reasonable price please let us know.

We have a new clock in the hall thanks to Hazel Vickery. The old one that issued the bird songs disappeared during the redecoration and was missed. Hazel has managed to find a silent replacement – thanks.

Alan Jessop attended our December meeting with plans for the new sound system that we wish to install in the Hall. Not only will it provide us with an induction loop for the hard of hearing, but it will provide a professional sound system for all the Hall users and bring us right up to date. Alan is managing to use his contacts and expertise to do this for us at a fraction of the estimates we originally had. Many thanks Alan.

John Harris, our treasurer brought his proposed budget to the meeting. We have made a slight profit over the past year but we have a lot of work to do as you can see. It was accepted that the hiring rates will go up slightly, in line with inflation, and all regular hirers have been informed of their new rates.

The next events for your diary are as follows;

- Ø Quiz night on 27th February at 7.30 for 8.00pm
- Ø Lacey Green Players producing the murder mystery “A Family Affair” on 13th March
- Ø Another play on 16th April – Jeffrey Barnard is Unwell
- Ø Fete will probably be on 19th June

Do please support these events whenever you can. You will have a good time and help us to maintain and improve the Hall which is the centre of our community. Thanks, and all the very best for 2004.

Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council : 563479

News From Christians In The Community

(Members of the three local churches)

As well as enjoying the various services over the Christmas period, some of us were out and about in the community delivering mince pies and Christmas cards to all the houses in Naphill, Hughenden Valley and surrounding areas, and carol singing. In the local pubs a group of 14 adults sang carols and handed out chocolates. And in Naphill the KRASH group raised over a £100 for our Toybox sponsored child when we went carol singing in two roads. The 'Carols by Candlelight' in Naphill Village Hall was very well attended with the refreshments (especially the mulled wine) being enjoyed by all.

During February KRASH (Kids Really Are Special Here) will only meet once (on the 6th) because of half term. TRASH (Teenagers Really are Special Here) will

? Village Hall Quiz ?

Friday 27th February

**Doors open 7pm,
Quiz Starts 7.30pm**

Teams of Four

**Tickets £5pp
(includes Ploughman's)**

Full Bar Available

In Aid of Hall Funds

**? Tickets from Ted ?
(563034) or John (562099) ?**

meet on the 13th and 27th February in Church House, Hughenden.

Tickets for a quiz night on Saturday 7th February are now on sale - this will be a relaxed, fun evening and you will be very welcome whether you come by yourself, as a couple, as a team or with your children. It will be a bring and share supper. Just phone me for more details.

There will be a united service at 6.00pm on Sunday 29th February at Hughenden church.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

PENTAGON CHIEFS TOLD TO STUDY BIBLE!!!

On the 21st February 2003, an extraordinary high level meeting took place in a conference room located within the vast concrete edifice that is 'The Pentagon.' Present at that meeting were 10 senior figures from the US intelligence service including Vice Admiral Lowell E. Jacoby (director of the Defence Intelligence Agency). The meeting had been called by no less a person than Paul Wolfowitz (US Deputy Secretary of Defence). And what do you suppose was the main subject of discussion at this meeting? US Defence policy? Weapons of Mass Destruction? The threat from global terrorism? Nope. The meeting was called with the express purpose of investigating... The Bible. More specifically, the much publicised claims that The Bible contains a hidden code wherein is concealed an amazing record of specific

historical events, many of which have occurred *in our lifetime*, thousands of years after The Bible was written.

Incredible as it may sound, there is compelling evidence that The Bible *may* have predicted *specific* recent events such as the date and manner of the attack on The World Trade Centre, the destruction of the space shuttle Columbia, the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas, the starting date of the Gulf War, the first lunar landing by Apollo 11 and so on. The specifics of how this is accomplished are too complex to describe in a short article such as this but they are explained in great detail by the main publicist of the so-called 'Bible Code.' He has written two books on the subject entitled (somewhat unimaginatively) 'The Bible Code' and (even less imaginatively) 'The Bible Code II.' I have read the first book (it appeared in the mid 1990's) and, while I do not endorse or refute its claims, some of its assertions would certainly seem to warrant the further investigation that they are now receiving.

One claim that appears to be beyond dispute is that the author of the book (Michael Drosnin) discovered within the alleged 'Bible Code' an entry suggesting that the then Israeli Prime Minister (Yitzhak Rabin) would be assassinated. So alarmed was Drosnin by this apparent foretelling of an event as yet unfulfilled that in 1994 he actually wrote a letter to Yitzhak Rabin warning him of his findings. In November 1995, a little over one year *later*, Yitzhak Rabin was indeed cut down by an assassin's bullet. Amazingly, the assassin's name was then apparently found on the same page of coded text that predicted the event itself.

The reason that Pentagon officials were briefed on the alleged claims of 'The Bible Code' is that recent claims involve alleged references to specific individuals such as Osama bin-Laden, Saddam Hussein (predicted to have been 'destroyed' in 2003) and further terrorist outrages planned against New York, Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem. There are also alarming references to a possible world war or atomic holocaust in 2006.

So what are we to make of all this? Yitzhak Rabin's assassination aside, whether or not one can use the *alleged code to predict future events* is a matter of some debate. There is certainly compelling evidence that *past* events *may* be recorded in such a way that they defy statistical coincidence and that future events *after they have occurred* may be shown to have been faithfully recorded at the time when The Bible was first written. But there are profound dangers inherent in the way that The Pentagon has begun to take speculative future interpretation seriously. The risk is this: If they become convinced that specific events involving specific individuals alive today can be foretold with any accuracy, they may embark upon foreign policy designed either to support or prevent those events (depending on how favourable those events are perceived to be to the United States). Just like a nightmarish science fiction scenario wherein the protagonists go back in time to try to alter future events, thereby unwittingly *causing* those events, the USA could actually *trigger* a cataclysmic event by its very efforts to forestall such an event already foretold!

Imagine, for example, that we live in 1914 and that 'The Bible Code' appears to link Archduke Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary with the beginning of a worldwide war. Someone might consider that his 'removal' would therefore prevent this outcome. But of course, it was his very assassination by a Serbian nationalist that triggered the outbreak of World War 1. Besides which, *true* Biblical prophecy *cannot be altered* because it is *a record of what has already occurred* in the past, the present *and the future*. These things are recorded by almighty God for our enlightenment and to enable us *to prepare for the inevitable* ahead of time. They are part of God's merciful provision for those who are diligent enough to heed his voice and his warnings.

By all means *cautiously* investigate the claims of the so-called 'Bible Code' (so long as they do not refute the truths and prophecies of God's written word!). But why look for what *may* be hidden in The Bible if you have not received and digested what is in plain view? If you were hungry or starving and God sent you a huge hamper bursting with choice and wholesome food, would you ignore that food in order to search the lining of the hamper for something edible?

~ *Louis Chryssaphes*

If you would like to talk about any subject that concerns you please give us a call or arrange to come to Any Questions an informal Discussion Group usually held on a Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30

May you know the love, grace and peace of God

Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

March 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

March 2004

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Copy date for the April issue is Monday 15th March 2004

Editorial

After nine and a half years Dave Ratcliffe is retiring from his role as Distribution Manager of the Gazette to be replaced by Mike & Pauline Pool. I will miss the occasional phone call from Dave, during which we would discuss various delivery issues - he never told me the problems were my fault but somehow I always knew I needed to get it sorted! I wish Dave all the best in his retirement and thank him for his many years of cheerful and professional service.

The results of Hughenden Parish Council's Village Appraisal are close to being ready - Peggy Waterston

talks more on this subject in this issue. One point worthy of note is the response to the question "Where do you usually get information about local events taking place?". The most popular answer (68%) said 'Local Paper or Bucks Free Press. Since the Gazette was not singled out as an optional answer we will assume the role of 'local paper'. Thank you for reading.

Don't forget to put your clocks forward one hour on March 28th.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service.
Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request.
Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS.
Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

ARALIAS TO YUCCAS! Winter promotion of specimen shrubs in 10 litre pots from my nursery site, supplied and planted for instant garden impact! Tel G C Travers HND Am Hort on 01494 563367

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

"Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

WANTED - Non-fiction books on "The Great War" (1914 - 1918). Good prices paid. Please contact John Bullock 563429

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Although on several occasions Sunday morning club sessions have been affected by frost and wind, hardy club members continue to turn up for their regular Sunday injection of fresh air and exercise. Play has not always been possible, as the sun has failed to climb over the trees in order to melt the frost. Mostly, however, we have been lucky enough to play a sociable set or two, followed by a good exchange of gossip over a warming cup of coffee. Although Tuesday morning sessions have been less affected, the weather has also been responsible for the cancellation of three of our Ladies Vets team fixtures. Their results to date are: won 1, drawn 2, lost 1, with 3 to play.

Behind the scenes, we are planning our programme for the coming season which will be circulated to all existing members in early March, together with a gentle reminder that subscriptions are due, with the usual discount for payment by the 1st April. Even more favourable offers are available to new members so, if you feel like dusting off the cobwebs from your tennis racket, why not give our Membership Secretary - Sue Crooks - a ring on 01494 562539. We are hoping to enter the usual Men's, Ladies, Mixed and Junior teams in local leagues and add to successes of last season

when our Mixed 1 and Ladies Bucks Shield teams both won their divisions. Whilst we do not regard ourselves as a fiercely competitive club, probably putting more emphasis on sociability rather than competitiveness, it is good to see a framed certificate or shield decorating the clubhouse, acknowledging our teams' gallant efforts. To start the new season off, there are a number of social events in April, which include an Easter Mixed Doubles Tournament on 12th April (open to all members and friends, in addition to potential members who might like to come along and try us out!). On 23rd April, we are arranging another round at Aylesbury Park GC for our golfing members and a Club Dinner is planned for 30th April at The Chequers, Wheeler End.

Just to bring us all down to earth - before participating in the foregoing - we also have a 'not-to-be-missed Working Party' Sunday morning scheduled for 4th April. This is when we 'encourage' all members to turn up with tool boxes, mops, buckets and elbow grease for a thorough 'spring clean' of clubhouse and courts in readiness for the new season.

Another important happening, around the 19th April, is the receipt of our allocation of Wimbledon tickets. On account of world-wide demand for these, the LTA sets out strict rules as to who is entitled to buy them and each affiliated club has to restrict sale to bone fide fully paid-up members, who in turn must not sell them on. This does, however, mean that all members of Naphill Tennis Club have the opportunity to apply for the tickets we receive as long as they have paid their subs! All they have to do is watch the clubhouse notice-board for the list and put their names against the date of their choice. In the event of over-subscription, a draw will be arranged.

Finally, evening club sessions are due to commence on Thursday 15th April!

Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063

Naphill Neighbours

At our February meeting we were entertained - fascinated is perhaps a better word - by Mr. Mark Meltonville, an Experimental Archeologist working at Hampton Court. He showed us slides and spoke about the reconstruction of the Tudor kitchens there.

It was interesting to know that Henry VIII and his court used Hampton Court as a 'party palace' just for entertaining and after a two month stay they moved on to another of his many palaces. All the raw ingredients used in the kitchens then were brought in from outside - no vegetable gardens etc. at Hampton Court, only beautiful flower gardens to underline his wealth. Now a team of people, dressed authentically in the clothes of the period, down to the smallest detail, work and cook in the kitchens as near as possible as did Henry VIII's staff.

Our appetites have now been whetted and we are looking forward to visiting the Tudor kitchens on 17th

June.

Neighbours next meeting is on Monday, 8th March at 8pm when we will learn about "Red Kites in the Chilterns". Come along, you will be most welcome.

Hazel Vickery : 563977

District & County Councillor's Report

Forecasters are now advising us that for the time being, we have received the worst of the severe weather. As readers can appreciate, with the heavy snowfall at the end of January and low temperatures it has been an extremely busy time for winter maintenance crews. On the previous Friday of the following fateful Wednesday, 28th January, our forecasters had been predicting snowfall throughout Buckinghamshire, arriving initially on Monday evening. However, this forecast changed daily moving the time of the arrival of snow forward until it eventually arrived late Wednesday afternoon.

In preparation, all Primary routes had been salted on Saturday evening, Sunday evening and throughout the night on Monday/Tuesday. Secondary routes also received an application of salt throughout the day on either the Monday or Tuesday. With the prediction of snow on Wednesday afternoon, crews were arranged to commence salting activities at 7pm. At the first sign of the snowfall this was altered to bring crews in immediately, at approximately 4:30pm. Despite their best efforts, efficient spreading of salt was hampered by the peak hour traffic and severe congestion was encountered throughout the County. This was not helped in the High Wycombe area by traffic leaving the Motorway network because of congestion and further overloading the road network. A concerted effort was made and again crews worked throughout Wednesday night to ensure that all Primary routes were passable by midnight and road users were able to get to work the following morning without disruption. Further salting of the secondary network which includes Naphill, was carried out during the Thursday morning.

I have offered this detailed information to answer those critics who complained to me about the County Council's apparent inactivity in dealing with the crisis. About 47% of the county's road network is salted by a fleet of 29 lorries, each precautionary salting costs over £15,000. I think the emergency team of drivers and their crews are to be congratulated for the difficult work they do, mostly overnight, to try and compete with the forces of nature.

Many of us own dogs and most people enjoy their company. However, there are some owners who allow their charges to foul in the most inappropriate places, such as footpaths and gateway entrances. For this nuisance there is no excuse especially as the offence is liable for a fine if the owner is known. Prosecutions are difficult and we have to rely on dog owners acting in a responsible manner and clearing up any deposits. I am sure all the readers of Naphill Gazette do so, but if anyone does

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail baclarke@btopenworld.com

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

see a lapse of such consideration perhaps they should remind the offender of their responsibility.

My Community Leadership Fund has been put to good use by Naphill Tennis Club, who have bought balls for the junior players to assist in their coaching. I have also given to the Young Musician of the Year Competition and a further amount is earmarked to restore Bradenham's pond. Any local organisation that requires further information, please give me ring on 564152.

Richard Pushman : 564152

Naphill Evening WI

Our January meeting was well attended with many people joining for a new year. We enjoyed our talk on 'Pepys Plague and Fire' by Mr Cole, who told us many facts about life in 1665 that we previously had not known. It was a light hearted lesson both in history and archaeology. We have many dates to look forward to – a coffee morning with a 'bring and buy' on the 11th March and a ploughman's lunch on the 29th April. Several of us are going to the Des and Mel show at Teddington Studios on the 12th February and we have also been successful with our application to visit Highgrove, so 25 of our members can look forward to a tour of the royal gardens in April.

We had a wonderful time at the Dominion Theatre seeing 'We Will Rock You' – quite mind blowing (but not to everyone's taste unfortunately). However, there was a standing ovation which everyone joined in. We then had a horrendous journey home due to the appalling weather – the Wednesday we had the snow - arriving back at the Village Hall about 11pm having left

London at 5pm. Thanks again to our wonderful driver Mike, from Heyfordian, who struggled with the elements and brought us all back safely.

The talk at our February meeting will be 'From Pop to Opera' and then on the 18th March Mrs M Deakin will talk about Vietnam and the competition then will be 'a fan'. Do come along and make new friends – we are waiting to welcome you!

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Marmite, Money and Marriage

The Gazette Financial Year ends on 31 January and so the annual report can appear, at the earliest, in the March edition of the Gazette which goes to press about the 20 February. However it is sensible to combine the report with the distribution of the red collection boxes in April when summer time is with us and the industrious collectors can do their job in the light evenings if they so wish. I have more or less completed the report as I write now. In fact this evening I was quietly lying in the bath contemplating the sound financial position of the Gazette when suddenly my wife burst into the bathroom and in a distinctly aggressive manner said, "What have you done with the Marmite?". Now as you know one does not trifle with the Marmite, so this episode suggests a crisis of sorts in a marriage. And yet, how can an innocent looking small jar of a rather dull looking substance generate such a situation? Of course I do recall whilst serving in the United States that Marmite was one of the big sales in the Embassy shop in Washington. Marmite, rhubarb and black currants are virtually unknown in the United States.

As you may have guessed I had done nothing with the Marmite, in fact I had not indulged in the luxury of a Marmite sandwich for several days and I so informed my wife. She looked unbelievably at me and departed in the huff. Later I ventured (cautiously) into the kitchen to enquire nervously about the Marmite only to be told that she had found it. It transpired that she had earlier taken it from the pantry but unfortunately placed it behind a saucepan, thus causing its disappearance. Harmony was thus restored in the Leith household and life carried on in its usual even handed and unremarkable way.

As far as the Gazette is concerned, it is clear that 2003 was a good year financially. We made a profit and with the population of Naphill increasing, the circulation has crept up. I wonder when we shall reach the 1000 mark. Meanwhile advertising rates will remain unchanged and the cost to subscribers also remains unchanged at £2.50 for the ten issues during the year. Now you can look forward to the boundless excitement of reading the full annual financial report in the April edition of the Gazette!

David Leith : 562312

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club



NAPHILL SNOOKER

Naphill Men's Social Club is a club for all Men who live in Naphill and Walters Ash. Our membership has fallen recently so we actively encourage new members. We have members from age 18 to senior citizens.

You do not have to be good at snooker or billiards, just come along and enjoy yourself. We are open every day of the week in a room to the side of Naphill Village Hall. We have 2 full sized tables and a dart board.

If you would like further information, please contact:

- The secretary, Clive Lawrence on 563120
- The chairman, Andrew Wilmot on 562770

On 23rd January we were entertained by Mr John Howard playing his accordion.

On Friday 6th February we had Mr B Newman, the Manager at Beaconsfort, who told us the history of the place.

February 20th - Quiz

March 5th - Bring & Buy

New members always welcome.

Norah Cockcroft : 564270

Horticultural Society

If you have not yet booked tickets for our Annual Dinner & Entertainment on Friday March 5th, be quick - I might just have some left!

Tickets are only £12.00 and include a glass of wine.

Secondly, a reminder that on Wednesday 10th March our AGM will be held in the Small Hall at 8.00pm. We would love to see anybody interested in coming along. The meeting usually only lasts about an hour, and we never press-gang anyone onto the Committee who does not wish to join!

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

Christmas Tree Light Collection Tins

Thank you everyone - the grand amount of £300.58 was collected in the tins around the village.

This will go towards the cost of the Christmas Tree Lights which, during 2003, amounted to £735.

Pam Smith : 563364

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In March

The Moon is new on 20 and full on 6 of the month. Sundials (which give *apparent solar time*) are 16 minutes slower than clock time on March 1 and 1 minute faster than clock time on March 31. The open cluster, the Pleiades or the seven sisters or M45 can be seen 45° above the eastern sky in the evening. The equinox occurs when the Sun crosses the equator and day and night are equal all over the world. This happens on March 20 this year (and on September 22). The solstice is when the Sun reaches its greatest distance north or south of the equator. The seasons are defined as the time between a solstice and the next equinox. Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are all evening stars. At the beginning of the month Venus and Mars are 22 apart and by the end of the month their separation is 10. The Moon and Jupiter are 3 apart on March 2. British Summer Time starts on March 28; put your clocks forward one hour. Apologies for using the wrong date last month.

The Sun's fate

In 2002 March edition of the *Gazette* I gave some information about the Sun's future. Here is a bit more. The Sun was formed about 4½ billion years ago. Its luminosity will gradually grow until it is between ten and twelve billion years old when quite suddenly it grows in size to become a red giant. So much will its growth be that it will encompass the Earth's orbit clearly making life here quite impossible. There is

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Mar 1 | Rises | 06.48 | 11.12 | 07.58 | 08.42 | 17.46 | 11.40 |
| | Sets | 17.44 | 04.22 | 21.57 | 00.04 | 07.12 | 04.07 |
| Mar 8 | Rises | 06.32 | 20.00 | 07.41 | 08.25 | 17.13 | 11.12 |
| | Sets | 17.56 | 07.25 | 22.17 | 00.02 | 06.43 | 03.39 |
| Mar 15 | Rises | 06.17 | 04.09 | 07.25 | 08.08 | 16.40 | 10.44 |
| | Sets | 18.08 | 10.59 | 22.36 | 00.01 | 06.14 | 03.12 |
| Mar 22 | Rises | 06.01 | 06.47 | 07.09 | 07.52 | 06.08 | 10.17 |
| | Sets | 18.20 | 20.17 | 22.54 | 23.58 | 05.45 | 02.45 |
| Mar 29 | Rises | 06.45 | 10.54 | 07.54 | 08.37 | 16.36 | 10.51 |
| | Sets | 19.32 | 04.06 | 00.11 | 00.56 | 06.16 | 03.19 |

however some more bad news. The Sun is getting hotter too – enough to scorch the Earth long before it starts the sudden expansion. We do not have six or seven billion years of grace; the problem starts in only 1½ billion years. Putting it another way, the Earth's biosphere is already three-quarters of the way through its life.

So what does humankind do? Traveling to another planet like Mars is a difficult possibility. A better solution might be to move the Earth to an orbit that is farther away from the Sun. This sounds ridiculous but there is the well-known sling-shot system of transferring energy from another planet (this time Jupiter) every time a chosen asteroid passes near the two planets. (See *Gazette* article dated February 2000). It will be necessary to use a 150 km asteroid only once every 6000 years to nudge the Earth (250,000 times) far enough away from the Sun to achieve the desired effect.

Quaoar

There has been doubt amongst astronomers about whether we should call Pluto a planet, as it is so small and clearly one of the many thousands of bodies in the Kuiper belt. In October 2002, another large body but even smaller to be called a planet with a diameter of 800 miles (about half the size of Pluto) was found, called Quaoar, pronounced Kwa-whar, after the Tongva tribe's chief god. The Tonguans were the native inhabitants of the Los Angeles basin. In a way, its discovery weakens Pluto's case to be called a planet, but it is extremely unlikely that Pluto's status will be changed after being known as a planet for 72 years.

Hubble Space Telescope

President George W Bush announced in January 2004 a very expensive space programme that includes another visit by humans to the Moon in 2012 and a visit to Mars by 2020. This program will cost billions of dollars and will necessitate cuts from existing NASA plans. One of the losers may be the Hubble Space telescope. This was first launched in 1990 and has necessitated several maintenance visits costing millions of dollars but the last one may be abandoned. Hubble has enabled astronomers to estimate the age of the universe to be 13.8 billion years, it has proved the existence of black holes, it has provided amazing pictures of parts of the universe, it has shown how stars have formed and it has allowed astronomers to glimpse the formation of the universe. The telescope can be kept in operation until 2007 or 2008 but if its abandonment is confirmed a complicated procedure will have to be adopted to bring it back to Earth safely. One plan is to send an unmanned rocket to attach itself to the telescope weighing some 90 tons and fired so that the whole vehicle plunges into a remote part of the ocean. Astronomers throughout the world are dismayed at the decision and let us hope the NASA budget is altered.

Hubble will eventually be replaced by the Next Generation Space Telescope that could be built in partnership with the European Space Agency at a time not yet fixed. We shall have to wait for the NGST to continue our incredible astronomical discoveries of the last 12 years or so.

Grant Woodruff

Hughenden Parish Council

Village Appraisal

You may be wondering what has happened to the data in the booklets many of us filled in last year. Unfortunately, the analysis of the information you provided was delayed because the Countryside Agency ran out of funds and could not pay the agreed grant to parishes at the intended time.

The analysis is now complete and we are reaching the stage when we would like to share it with you all. There will be a meeting in the village hall, probably in April, when a presentation of the results will be given. Anyone in the village will be most welcome to attend, whether they filled in the booklet or not. The important thing is that there should be wide consultation throughout the process. We shall be considering aspects of the future of our village. Hughenden Parish Council will subsequently discuss the issues and prepare a strategic plan for the whole Parish.

Some 30% of the village population responded to the questionnaire. The Parish Council has already had the benefit of a presentation of the results for all four Wards; made by our esteemed editor and Parish Councillor, Matt Piercy. Respondents consider the three best features of our village to be the surrounding countryside, the friendliness of local people, and village events. One of the worst aspects is speeding traffic!! No surprise there! The statistics related to the wealth of information provided are fascinating. The village presentation will be well publicised and we hope many residents will want to come.

Speed Review

The review that is currently being undertaken is nearing completion. The Parish Council will be further consulted early in March. Once decisions have been made about changes to existing limits it will be possible to consider how to try and reduce speeds in Main Road.

R. A. F. Police

At the request of the Parish Council, discussions have recently been held with the RAF police to see whether they can provide us with more assistance with disturbances than currently seems to be the case. The meetings have clarified the extent of RAF powers in the area. The RAF is anxious to be as helpful as possible but their powers are very limited in the UK unless they are on MOD property. However, the RAF police will respond to specific requests for assistance from the Thames Valley police, and there is already a considerable level of cooperation between the two Forces.

A representative of the RAF police has begun to attend the monthly Parish Council meetings, improving liaison further. The Council was appreciative of the fact that the new Station Commander, Wing Commander Hayward, took the trouble to come to the February Parish Council meeting to introduce himself and foster links with the villages of Naphill and Walter's Ash.

Peggy Waterston, Naphill Ward : 565969

2004 Village Fete

Well, we're off! One meeting down and we already have a web site - www.villagefete.org, and a theme - 'The Naphill & Walters Ash Olympics'. Watch next month for more information on the theme and some ideas to get behind it.

Currently we are busy securing donations, prizes and sponsorship to allow us to fund some of the more expensive attractions.

If you are able to help in any way please get in touch.

*Alan Jessop : 563369 – Fete Committee Chairman
email@alanjessop.com*

Naphill & Walters Ash School

There was great excitement at Naphill and Walter's Ash School on 22

January when a helicopter from the Air Ambulance Service landed on the school field.

Fortunately, the purpose of the visit was to receive a cheque for £1000 from the Royal Air

Force Thrift Shop rather than to attend in a professional capacity! The opportunity was used in school as inspiration for written work and art whilst the Royal Air Force organised a colouring competition for the younger children in the school.

The Great Snow provided the next notable event when the whole school turned out to play snowballs and build snowmen at break time. We just couldn't miss an opportunity like that!

There has been a great deal of interest from prospective candidates for the post of Headteacher, which will be vacant from the end of August when Mrs Conboy will be taking early retirement. The Governors will be conducting interviews at the beginning of March so that there will be a good length of time to ensure a smooth and efficient hand over.

Mrs Dooley, the school's Art Co-ordinator has organised an exhibition of children's work to coincide with the spring term open evenings. Profit from the sale of children's work will help in the fund-raising towards building a school library.

Children at the school ran a successful Bring and Buy Sale in aid of the Blue Peter appeal raising in excess of £160.

For their last competition of the season two teams of girls and one of boys took part alongside 28 other schools in the Bracknell Cross Country Championship on Wednesday 11 February. In spite of injuries and



winter colds, the girls A team came in fourth, well ahead of the only other Buckinghamshire school taking part. Their B team came in twentieth as did the team of boys. The level of competition and sportsmanship was high and our runners (as usual) did their very best and had a wonderful time.

Looking ahead, on Saturday 1st May, the school is planning to provide a team of maypole dancers to take part in traditional May Day celebrations alongside Owlswick Morris, who will be performing at dawn at the Golden Ball and at venues in High Wycombe and Longwick throughout the day. More news on the Naphill venue nearer the time.

Hilary Conboy, Headteacher

Naphill cum Bradenham Conservatives

April 23rd 2004

St. George's Day will be celebrated with a dinner at Umtata. Two courses of traditional English fare will be provided, and the ticket price includes wine.

Tickets are £14 each. Please ring Valerie (564152) or Peggy (565969) for further information.

The branch AGM will be held on March 16th 2004 at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion.

Peggy Waterston : 565969

Computer Training Course at Naphill & Walter's Ash School.

Would you like to improve your computer skills and achieve a qualification without taking any exams? Then why not support your local school?

As part of our commitment to work closer with the community, Naphill and Walters Ash School, together with Amersham and Wycombe College, are intending to run an Introduction computer course for 'The Internet, E-mail and PowerPoint'. The course will be run on Thursdays evening from 7.00 – 9.30pm, the first lesson will commence on 22nd April 2004.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information or if you are interested in enrolling, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 by Friday 26th March 2004.

Juile Schmid, I.T Lecturer : 565439

Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.



Spring Jumble Sale

Saturday 6th March

Naphill Village Hall

2.00pm

Organised by
The Guides & Brownies.



We will be collecting items for the sale around the village on the morning of the sale, and would also welcome any items you wish to bring to the Village Hall

Last month's answers:

I wonder if you were observant because the large fir tree in the Dec/Jan issue (above) was not the one at the end on Downley Road (as stated) but is actually the large fir tree by the Firs Flats at Walters Ash.

This is 'Dovecot' in Hunts Hill, which was the home of Jack & Elizabeth Goodchild. Jack was very famous for



his hand made chairs which he made in his workshop at



the rear of Dovecot. His brother Sid Goodchild also made excellent chairs (handmade). His son Jeff bought one of his Dad's chairs to my last 'Old Naphill'



exhibition in the Village Hall. Sid, born 1896, died 1976, lived in Model Cottages, Hunts Hill, with his wife Minnie (Cruthfield) and Jeff.

This photo of Blossoming Trees reminds us that spring is just around the corner (heard a delightful thrush sing



today while I was writing this). These trees are on the front of Templewood, opposite the RAF entrance in Walters Ash.

Pam Smith : 563364

Naphill Toddler Group

The toddler group runs Thursdays between 2-4pm during term times. We welcome parents/carers with babies to pre-school children. The group gives the



opportunity for parents to meet up with others in the village and for the children to let off steam with our play equipment and possibly to make some of their first friends. We also provide refreshments for all during the session.

The toddler group has recently voted in its new committee so we will be busy planning the years special events. Forthcoming extras include a visit from Phoenix cards and Chocoholics on 11th March and our Easter Egg Hunt Party on 1st April. Tickets for the party can be obtained at our weekly meeting or by ringing me on the number below.

Suzanne Farwell, Chair : 562147

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning

04/5124/FUL 37 Ash Close, Walter's Ash. Rear conservatory.

04/5139/FUL Fernlea, Naphill Common, Naphill. Two storey side extension incorporating garage and relocation of existing barn.

04/5142/FUL 36 Ash Close, Walter's Ash. Rear conservatory.

04/5173/FUL Courns Wood House, Clappins Lane, North Dean. Rear conservatory.

04/5177/FUL 320 Main Road, Walter's Ash. Detached summerhouse.

04/5210/FUL Tanglewood, 10 Main Road, Naphill. Single storey rear extension.

04/5231/FUL Kingswood, 21 Vincents Way Naphill. Single storey side extension, insertion of rear dormer & alterations in connection with loft conversion.

04/5267/FUL Talland, Chapel Lane, Naphill. Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of three x 3 bedroom brick & flint dwellings with garages and new vehicular access.

Speeding Traffic: Display of Proposals

Hughenden Valley Residents Association has invited any interested residents to view the Bucks CC proposals for speed management (new speed limits) in Area 4 (A4128 from Wycombe boundary to Cryers Hill) which will be on display in the little Hughenden Village Hall on Monday 29th March 2004 from 6.30pm to 9.30pm.

We are advised that Area 5 (North of Cryers Hill and including Naphill) is likely to be the next area to be reviewed by Bucks CC and proposals advertised.

Gloria Leflaive : 563634

Naphill Village Hall Drama **'A Family Affair'**

Just a reminder to book your tickets for this Murder Mystery evening, performed by Lacey Green Productions, on 13th March 2004 starting at 7.30 for 8.00, in the Village Hall.

A cheese supper will be served and a bar will be available. Tickets are £7.50.

Please telephone me on 562099.

Secondly, the Ubiquitous Touring Theatre Company is performing 'Jeffrey Barnard is Unwell' by Keith Waterhouse, on Friday, 16th April.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to present first class drama for you at the Village Hall, and I hope you will support and enjoy the forthcoming productions.

John Harris : 562099

Pre-school News

Just before Half term we held a Disco for the children. This was a great success, and pre school would like to thank Andy Pope (Laura's Dad) for giving up his afternoon to be our D.J. (he is now taking bookings due to his debut success). We would also like to thank Alan Jessop, for all his help with setting up the PA systems in the Village hall, and of course a big thank you to Judy and her committee for their help in organising the event.

Whilst we are on the thank you's, Pre school would like to say a very big thank you to Alan Jessop for taking time out of his busy schedule to film our nativity play, a great many hours were spent editing and copying so thank you from all of pre school.

We still have a few Barn Dance tickets available if any one is interested, please call me on 01494 562081 or Judy on 01494 564576.

Naphill preschool is an Offstead registered nursery offering free funding for all three and four year olds. We operate Monday to Friday during term time from 9.15 to 12.00. This preschool had been running for over 30 years. We have some places left at the moment and we now have a waiting list for places in September, if you wish your child's name to be added to this list please call Mo Bedder on 01494 564037 (am) or 01494 565359 (pm).

Lacey Green Productions

present

A Family Affair



A Murder Mystery Evening

Saturday 13th March 2004
(7:30 for 8:00)

Naphill Village Hall



Licensed Bar

A Supper Theatre with a little extra intrigue

Party Bookings Catered for
Why not get a group together and
come and guess 'Who Dunnit'

For Tickets Telephone
01494 562099

Tickets £7:50
Includes a Cheese Supper

Sharon Piercy : 562081

Readers Letters

From Dave Ratcliffe

Dear All, Matt Piercy, David Leith and Distribution team.

Due to my recent illness I have had to retire from the job that I have done for the last 9 years. I shall miss the banter I had with some of the distributors when they were in, like "good moaning" and "is it that time again already?" and "its that man again!!". I would also like to thank my dear friends Pauline & Mike Pool for taking on the Gazette Distribution. Thank you all for the good wishes and many get well cards I received. I am making a good recovery. I wish you all well for the future and will no doubt see you all at sometime around our villages.

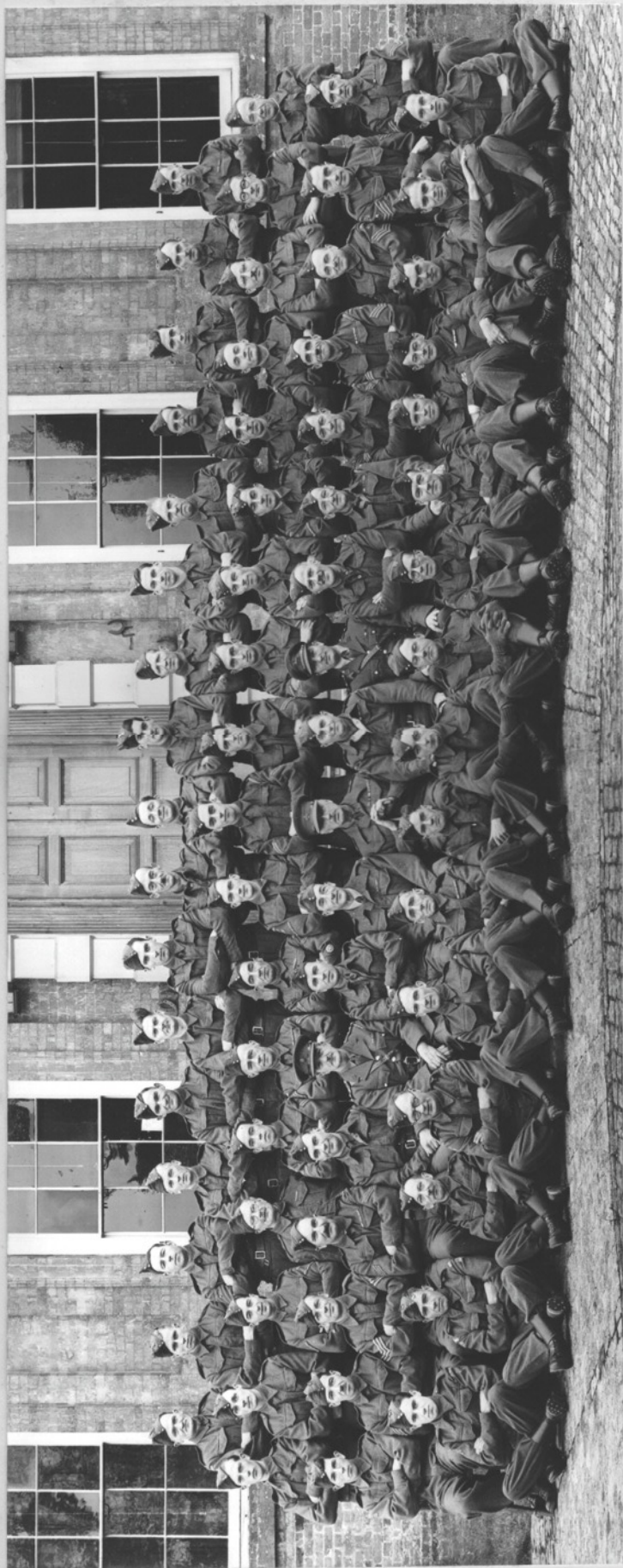
Kind regards,
Dave Ratcliffe

Sharley Domestics

An update from Sharley Domestics. As you are probably aware, from 1st March 2004 we are relocating.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all the loyal support and friendship you have shown us over the last 13 years. Due to the running costs of

No. 1 PLATOON "F" (W.A.R.C.) COY, 4th BUCKS BN, HOME GUARD.



L/C. A. Bowles, Pte. W. Chilton, Pte. D. Hockley, Pte. W. Lawrence, Pte. H. Burnham, Pte. G. Russell, Pte. J. Seymour, Pte. D. Parker, Pte. A. Meeks, Pte. G. B. Smith, Pte. G. Brown, Pte. M. Tucker, Pte. A. Page, Pte. A. Farslow, Pte. R. Langley, Pte. T. Adams, Pte. W. Sturgess, L/C C. Carrington, L/C W. Coker, Cpl. G. Langley, Cpl. H. Braisher, Cpl. G. Bass, Cpl. T. Iddon, Cpl. A. Walker, Pte. W. Newman, Pte. M. Thompson, Pte. P. Maloy, Sgt. H. Bailey, Sgt. G. Atkins, Sgt. A. Tobbs, 2/Lt. V. Lowe, L/C Smith, PL, Capt. A. W. Tothland, Altmun, Capt. T. G. Davis, Pte. J. Simmons, Sgt. E. Bagges, Sgt. A. Dixon, C.O.M.S.A. Castel, Cpl. R. West, Pte. R. Bedden, Pte. G. A. Smith, Pte. C. Rogers, Pte. G. Batts, Pte. A. Reed, Pte. F. C. Martin, Pte. E. Shrimpton, Pte. L. Taylor, Pte. H. Trendall, Pte. E. Thbey, Pte. R. Evans, Pte. J. Stroud, Pte. G. Braisher, Pte. K. Bistow, Pte. F. R. Martin, Pte. L. Stallwood.

60 Years Since D Day

To Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of D Day this year this is a photo of our Home Guard (some are still living in the village). In the centre of the photo is Cpl. R Piercy (Ron), an early Editor of the Naphill Gazette. I believe this photo was taken outside Hughenden Manor.

This lovely photo was found and rescued by Evelyn Livett who lives in Prospect Cottages - she found it at High Heavens Tip. If any of you have any photo's like this, please don't let them go to the tip - I would love to add them to the extensive collection I already have charting the history of our villages.

I will try and enter more pictures in the Gazette over the coming months, especially those of interest to the people still living here.

Pam Smith : 563364

Editors note : Due to the size of this photograph I had to scan it in two halves, hence the obvious line in the middle. All things considered it's not a bad attempt!

such a large shop we have decided to downsize and re-locate to a unit near Stokenchurch. Our high standard of repairs and sales will still apply and we will be specialising in built in/integrated appliances. And, of course, we will still provide all your spares requirements. We look forward to being of service to you in the future.

Our new telephone/fax number is : 01494 485926

e-mail : sharleydoms@freeuk.com

Mobiles : 07834 055003 and 07834 055006

From Terry and Pat Sharley and all the staff at Sharley Domestic.

Village Hall Notes

VILLAGE HALL AGM

8.30pm, 5th April 2004

All members of the public welcome

Nibbles & drinks afterwards

The Parish Council have kindly donated a Whitebeam tree to us which is to be planted on the perimeter of the children's play area to provide some shade there in the summer. Many thanks to them.

The Christmas Tree lights collection was up on the amount collected last year, possibly due to the attractive collection boxes which caught the eye. The tree is a wonderful village tradition but not a cheap one, so many thanks to everyone who donated.

We have again had complaints about the cooker and it was felt that not everyone experiencing problems with it lets us know. We can only act if we have been told, so do let us know if you have a problem with it so we can get the "little man" in to sort it out. Hopefully permanently.

The funfair has booked to come onto the Crick from the 11th to the 18th May. They specialise in providing good family fun and always leave the Crick in immaculate condition so do please come and support them and have a good time.

We might, and I will go no further than that at this stage, have found the source of the leak that is staining the ceiling tiles. Time will tell and we are certainly getting plenty of rain at the moment to test the theory.

You will have noticed that some of the kitchen wall units have given up the ghost. Matt Piercy has managed to get us replacement units at a substantial discount so we have decided to replace all the kitchen units in the Autumn, once the extension has been completed. Some cheap temporary kitchen cupboards will be put up until then as an interim measure.

We are moving towards our long awaited extension. Grants have been coming in from both the Parish Council and the District Council who have both been very generous. We hope to be able to accept a quote

Naphill Pre-school Barn Dance

Saturday 24th April, 2004

Naphill Village Hall

7.30 'til late

**Tickets £10, to include cold
buffet supper**

Licensed bar



**Tickets
available from
Judy; 564576,
or Sharon;
562081**



soon and then work will start late spring or in the summer. It should take about 3 months and we will do all that we can to keep disruption to a minimum during the work.

Once the extension is completed we hope to do a lot of work to modernise and improve the Hall so fundraising is obviously important. Please come and support us.

The next events are:

- The Quiz on 27th February
- The Lacey Green Players Murder Mystery on 13th March
- The Ubiquitous Theatre Company's production of Jeffrey Barnard is Unwell on 16th April
- The summer fete on 19th June

One final note. I have had a communication from the Police explaining their new "improved service" in dealing with calls. Non urgent calls need to be made on 0845 8505505. The person on the other end of the line will probably not be 'local' and so you need to explain the location of the problem clearly! We will see how it works in practice!

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council :
563479*

Spring Fayre

Saturday 27th March at 2.00pm in Naphill Village Hall

Come and join us at our Spring Fayre, with something for everyone – games, gifts, and attractions for the whole family – all at amazing value. Many of the stalls will be run by the Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts themselves – a real team effort.

On Saturday 27th March you will be able to:

- Buy excellent value Easter gifts
- Indulge in the always popular cake stall
- Chance your luck on the tombolas
- Play games and competitions
- Enjoy the various refreshments.

Please come along and support this event, where all the proceeds go towards the upkeep of the Scout and Guide Headquarters Building – a facility used and enjoyed by many village children.

Hope to see you there.

For further information please contact Jill Wilkinson 564271, or Linda Foster 563586

News From Christians In The Community (Members of the three local churches)

A great time was enjoyed by all at the recent quiz evening – the children could choose who would be the most useful in helping them with their answers, winners of the ‘spot’ prizes either accepted their prizes (not very useful books or out of date Christmas pudding) or rejected them! And I’m sure the overall winners appreciated their rejected Christmas present! And the shared buffet - what a wonderful mix of food.

KRASH meets on the 5th and 19th March at the Naphill Evangelical Church and TRASH meets on the 12th and 26th March at Church House, Hughenden.

The united service on Sunday 29th February has been planned around the theme of the healing ministry of Jesus and is a service of songs, prayer and laying-on of hands for healing. This service is at 6pm at St. Michael’s, Hughenden and of course everyone is very welcome.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

SAY WHAT YOU MEAN & MEAN WHAT YOU SAY

I believe that man was born to a higher purpose than this. That we were made, from the beginning, in the very image of a God who loves us. That from His abundant love for us, He chose to endow us with the ability to think and to reason, to communicate and to love as

He does; that we might in turn love Him and share fellowship with Him and with each other.

I believe that we turned away from our God and have listened ever after to the voice of one who hates us. That Satan's hatred for us is as corrupt and remorseless as our Lord's love is pure and everlasting. That in hating an invulnerable God, his anger is directed instead at that which he can subvert and destroy and which God loves the most. Thus he seeks to strike at God by separating from Him the cherished pinnacle of His creation, which is mankind.

I believe that the voice of Satan has so distorted man's reason that we have reasoned away our belief in the God who endowed us with it. Believing ourselves wise to reason so, we have instead become utter fools. And in so doing, we have renounced our birthright as the sons and daughters of God, choosing rather to believe ourselves the descendants of base and nameless lesser creatures, whose origins are as vague and unfathomable as the human folly that has invented them. We have become the greatest and the least of God's creations; the greatest, because He made us so and the least, because that is what we have made ourselves; reduced to a mere accident of chance and circumstance.

I believe that we have stolen from our God the glory and honour, the thanks and praise that is His rightful due for the awesome wonder of His creation; that we have bestowed our praise instead upon that which He created, marvelling at the picture but never acknowledging the artist. Thus we have made ourselves orphans, cast adrift upon an inconsequential planet, seeking other beings where none exists, to replace the yearning for higher companionship that was once ours but which we have long since forgotten.

I believe that our God has not forsaken us as we have forsaken Him; that He calls us back from our fruitless wanderings and that during our present separation, He has left us a written remembrance of Himself. That this book is The Holy Bible, the only divinely inspired and infallible written word of God.

I believe that God's love for us is shown nowhere more so than in this: That He did not spare His only begotten son for our sake. That He sent him down to us, to live among us, to bear our burdens, to share our sorrows, to guide and inspire us and to take upon himself all the punishment due to us for our many sins.

I believe that Jesus Christ is unquestionably the Son of God and the greatest human being who ever walked The Earth. That without his earthly incarnation and sacrifice on our behalf, we cannot be reconciled with our God. That all religions claiming another pathway to God are mere inventions, manifestly false and leading their followers away from God and the truth.

I believe that the day is appointed when Jesus will come again in triumphal glory and that the day is far sooner than men think; that most men will be caught unawares by his return because they never heeded The Bible's

words concerning that day. I believe that all who follow him will be exalted and all who reject him will be humbled. That all false gods and false prophets will be exposed and overthrown by the incandescent light of his truth. That those who claim that all faiths are the same speak falsely and that Jesus alone is 'The Way and The Truth and The Life.' That all truths, so called, will be weighed in the balance of this prophecy.

I believe that before that day, the antichrist will come and that his spirit of falsehood is already among us. It lurks amid the mindless mantras of 'political correctness' and all the fashionable foolishness that men have substituted for the timeless truths and moral laws that God alone possesses. I believe that many in the church will turn to him and that many of our 'leaders' have already betrayed their God for far less than thirty pieces of silver. Yet those who stand firm on the bedrock of God's word will not be overthrown.

I believe that everyone who truly seeks God will find Him, for that is His greatest wish and promise for all His children; that those who never find Him never truly looked for Him; that those who found other 'gods' found what they sought and that it was not God; that all who reject His son, reject The Father who sent him and that all who truly worship His son will dwell forever in his Father's kingdom.

All these things and more I believe. But we live in a nation where lies flatter and the truth offends. All too soon, it will be forbidden to say such things.

When that time comes, I shall have no option but... to go on saying them.

~ Louis Chryssaphes

What do you believe? If you have any questions or would like to talk about this or any other subject or would like someone to pray for you please contact me at Naphill Evangelical-Free Church, Main Road, Tel. 01494 563304 or e-mail: pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

May you believe and know Him who seeks a love relationship with you.

Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

St Michael & All Angels, Hughenden

Forgive me if some have read another version of this comment in the Church letter, but I have had allot of feedback about this and so thought that I would share it in the Naphill & Walters Ash Gazette. On December 4th 2003 a new piece of legislation came into force. If I have understood this correctly it is was made illegal to publicly display religious imagery in the workplace if someone else objects. So to display a nativity scene in the office on a Christmas card could be technically illegal if it is objected to and the offending item would have to be removed. In the name of sensitivity some public organisations, such as the Red Cross decided not to display any Christian imagery in their shop windows over the Christmas period.

Then of course there was Wycombe Library. Apparently the library refused to display publicity for advent services, whilst at the same time (or so it is reported) displaying an advertisement for the celebrations of the Muslim festival of Eid. This small act found it's way, rather embarrassingly for Wycombe Library into the national press. In their defense the Library was only carrying out county council policy established some years ago, but never until now put into practice. The council I am assured are looking into the wisdom of their policy.

All this in the name of tolerance, but is it tolerant? As a Christian I will disagree with some of the conclusions of other religions, for instance Muslims quite clearly do not believe the same things about Jesus Christ as Christians do. However I defend the right of adherents of Islam or of any other religion to be able to be public and open about their faith and I also defend the right of Christians to do the same. But it seems that the politically correct agenda of tolerance for all religions is actually deeply intolerant of historical Christianity which is the heritage of our nation and Christians and Christianity are targeted in ways which cause uproar if for instance Islam were so targeted. Would Wycombe library would have have refused publicity for Eid because it might offend Christians? Also I have not heard of any one case where Muslims or any one else for that matter have objected to Christian imagery at Christmas.

I do not want to be alarmist about this, but ten years ago would anyone have believed that such things could be possible? No nativity scenes in the workplace, no publicity for Christmas services in a local public library. To some this won't matter, but dig deeper and it is not the spirit of tolerance but of deep intolerance that emerges.

Simon Cronk - Vicar of St Michael and All angels

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

April 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

April 2004

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Editorial

You may recall filling in a Hughenden Parish Council survey last year that asked for your views on everything from village life, to where you work, to what you would like to see in the future. Your responses will form part of our Village Design Statement, a government initiative designed to give communities a say in the future of their villages.

Having spent many evenings analysing the responses I now have the honour of presenting the findings after the Naphill Village Hall AGM on 5th April at 9.00pm.

You are also welcome to attend the AGM that starts at 8.30pm. I probably shouldn't use this Editorial space to promote meetings such as this but given the amount of effort it took to get the survey off the ground and then to this stage it would be criminal if we did not make the most of it.

Come along and have your say.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

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Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

DELICIOUS CREAM TEAS with home-made cakes at Hughenden Church House from 2.15 on Sundays and holiday Mondays until October. Groups can book special teas on weekdays — contact Judy on 01494 562972

KNOWTEL CONSULTANTS offer cheap telephone & mobile calls, gas & electricity & expertise for computer, broadband or internet problems. Call us to save or for help with PC problems, 563041

Lorraine Baker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

PART-TIME JOB – friendly office in HW requires clerk, no experience necessary, some facility with computers/keyboard skills required – 3 days (22.5hrs) per wk - £7,500 pa after training. Tel Steve Payne or Sue Nash, HW 527100

FOR DISPOSAL, Tatty-looking but very reliable single-cylinder diesel Dumper Truck - at your price! John Bullock, 563429 or Bill Latham 563265.

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

Hopefully, all last year's members will have received the annual mound of paperwork informing them of this year's planned schedule of events and reminding them that subs are due. However, if any member has not received this and wishes to renew their membership, would they please contact our Membership Secretary - Sue Crooks - 01494 562539 - or the undersigned (who will apologise for the omission - we do try to be efficient but no one is perfect!).

As readers may have noticed, we are always on the lookout for new members so do give Sue a ring. She will be very pleased to tell you all about the club and give you the relevant paperwork if you wish to join. Alternatively, just come along on a club morning (Sundays - 10 am and Tuesdays - 10.15 am throughout the year or Thursdays evenings at 6.30 pm. from 15th April).

The LTA is again promoting their campaign entitled 'Play Tennis', with the slogan 'DO MORE THAN JUST WATCH'. They are encouraging local clubs to raise the profile of the game in their area by throwing their courts open to the public on at least one day during the summer season. Our club is planning to do this during the weekend of 19th/20th June, in conjunction with the Naphill Summer Fete. In anticipation of a pleasant sunny day like last year, we hope to be able to run a 'Fastest Serve Competition' for all ages on the Fete day itself and offer a free visit to our Sunday morning club session on the 16th June. If you cannot wait until then to try us out, why not join in our Easter Mixed Doubles tournament on Monday 12th April. This is very much a social rather than competitive occasion when we hope members, match standard juniors, parents and any tennis-playing locals, will brush the dust off their racquets and join in the fun.

Neil James, our LTA registered coach, will again be teaching our Juniors on Friday evenings for 12 sessions commencing 23rd April and Lisa Bennett continues to run her Saturday morning slot for the very young and inexperienced junior members. Neil is also available for private tuition to all ages and abilities and can be contacted direct on 01494 816490.

With 2 wins, 3 draws and 1 loss to date, our ladies team is attempting to complete its winter programme before the summer fixtures start on the 25th April when they face Beaconsfield 2 for their first game in a higher division. The same scenario applies to our Mixed 1 in the High Wycombe League who will also face stronger opposition this year, after their success last year. We wish them and our other 3 teams luck and hope to be able to report on progress in subsequent issues!

Ingrid Tomlins (Hon Sec) : 01494 446063

Naphill Neighbours

The subject of our March meeting aroused a great deal of interest and 57 people came along to the Village Hall. "Red Kites in the Chilterns" was the subject, and Cathy Rose of the Chilterns Conservation Board gave a fascinating talk illustrated with beautiful slides of the birds who now grace our skies once again. Cathy took us through the history of the birds who in Tudor times and beyond were considered to be vermin and were driven to extinction in England by the end of the nineteenth century. Thankfully between 1989 and 1993, kites from Spain were imported and released into the Chilterns by the RSPB and English Nature, this being ideal habitat for them. In 2003 177 breeding pairs were in the area. Cathy warned us not throw out food

for the birds as they will not get sufficient vitamins from kitchen waste, etc. For healthy survival they need small mammals, young birds and invertebrates to feed on, something we all need to be aware of in order to keep the kites existing in our area.

On 26th April our group is spending a day in London, visiting the House of Commons in the morning and taking a tour of the City bridges in the afternoon, including a walk across the Millennium Bridge. The afternoon will conclude with tea at the Royal Festival Hall.

Our next meeting will be after Easter on Monday, 19th April. Mr. L. Grout will give a talk entitled "A tour of Windsor Castle, Frogmore and The Royal Dairy".

New members always welcome to join our ever growing group.

Mary Shrimpton : 471613

District & County Councillor's Report

Members of the District Council have been asked for their views in designing the future. This is all part of a wider consultation process associated with "Imagine the Future" where all community organisations, Parish Councils and other interested parties will be asked for their views. We all have ideas as to what would improve the areas in which we live and perhaps we should take this opportunity of trying to plan for these improvements in a reasoned way. Unfortunately, many of our wishes involve the spending of taxpayer's money and many of us will consider the council tax burden as already too high. Nevertheless it is an interesting exercise and I would welcome any suggestions from readers as to where improvements might be made at a comparatively low cost.

There is little relation between the retail price index (RPI) and the demands placed on local councils by central government. It has been a struggle at both county and district to keep this years council tax at the level now fixed. The cost of social care, education and wage awards for our employees all exceed the RPI. I have served on the policy advisory group for children and young people. The serious problems in this area which have to be addressed are forever increasing. The Victoria Climbié case and the subsequent government legislation to prevent a future tragedy has highlighted the need for increased spending on social workers and family services. One tragic event places a disproportionate charge on all of us.

I am a member of the Speed Review Panel Area 5, which is looking at speed limits in Naphill & Walters Ash area and with a wider remit from Chequers to Bradenham. We have now looked at the first recommendations which when confirmed, will be put before the public for consultation later in the summer. The most significant change is the extension of the 30 mph limit from the Village Hall to the village entry signs on Coombe Lane. Similarly, it is proposed that there will be a reduction to 40 mph (instead of the

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail baclarke@btopenworld.com

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

present 60) on the Hughenden Valley Road past the Church entrance and which will then reduce to 30 at the doctor's surgery through to the Harrow. I know that as a driver 30 mph can appear slow but when as a pedestrian 40 mph is too fast. I think that on the whole these proposals will meet with general approval.

Another consideration is the street lighting of Valley Road. For some time I have been trying to get a change from the 'yellow' lamps to the more environmentally friendly white lights, now seen on that part of the road beneath the trees. Such lighting is costly and apparently there are now self-illuminating road studs or 'cats eyes' which improve road safety without the need for lighting. Such an introduction might improve our vision of the night sky and get rid of light pollution. The trees along the bank of Hughenden Road have recently been surveyed and several have been identified as dangerous. The County Council has a duty of care to all road users and several of these trees will have to be felled in order to avoid the risk of an accident. I am aware what an emotive subject this is but I am satisfied that where there is a proven danger action will have to be taken.

Richard Pushman : 564152

Naphill Evening WI

Once again we had a very successful meeting in February. Our speaker was Miss C Groves, a professional singer, who gave us an insight into her life and the many amusing stories that happen on and behind

Village party for children in Naphill Village Hall at the end of 2nd World War.

Many of these people are still living in the village. Photograph courtesy of Pam Smith.



the stage. (Our March meeting will be taking place after this has gone to press and will be reported next time!) February also saw twelve of us going to the Des and Mel show. It was great fun and Des came into the audience before the show started and chatted to us all - there were 4 groups making a total audience of about 200. Now we know what goes on in a television studio! Our thanks to Judy who arranged the trip in a mini coach and had allowed time for us to visit the pub afterwards to have a bite to eat and a drink. Most enjoyable.

By the time you read this Rita's coffee morning will be behind us - so lovely to get together with our friends and sample home made cakes etc. and raise some funds!. We next have a Ploughman's Lunch to look forward to on the 29th April, 12.30 p.m. at Sandalwood, Stocking Lane hosted by Jenny. Good value for £2.50 and there will be wine on offer for £1.00 a glass. There will also be a raffle with some nice prizes, so do come along.

Our impending visit to Highgrove is on the 26th April and as we are limited to 25 places we are going to draw names to choose the lucky ladies who have not visited before. I am sure it will be an enjoyable and enlightening trip.

We have also started thinking about the fete on the 19th June and hope that many of you will participate and help us with either the WI stall, the float or with refreshments in the Village Hall – please put the date in your diaries NOW.

A limited number of members will be attending the Group meeting to be hosted on the 14th April at Lacey Green by Windmill WI. The Naphill Evening WI meeting on the 15th April is an 'Open' meeting – anyone is welcome to attend, cost is £1 for visitors which includes coffee and biscuits. The speaker will be Louise Reed and her topic will be "Mary Kingsley – the 19th Century African Explorer" and the competition for the evening is an African artefact. Do come along and join in.

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

The Gazette Finances - In The Black

Many readers of the Gazette will be aware of the battle currently raging over the future of the Daily Telegraph, in which millionaire Conrad Black is heavily involved. He wishes to sell his shares in the Telegraph and the financial fallout from this is generating much excitement and, of course, cash for lawyers.

What is not known is why Lord Black wishes to sell his shares in the Telegraph. However I am in a position to reveal the dramatic story behind this takeover. Lord Black wishes to re-invest his money in another paper and he has been scanning the market for a suitable candidate. Yes, you have guessed correctly: his eyes have fallen on the Naphill and Walters Ash Gazette and with good reason. Here is a paper with a steadily increasing circulation, very low overheads (and underheads), a devoted staff and lashings of goodwill.

Jungle drums tell us that Lord Black's aim is to build up the circulation from its present 950+ by developing it as a Buckinghamshire Country Magazine then eventually into a mass country magazine for the entire United Kingdom. The Editor, Distributor and I are wondering how to cope with a massive increase of salary, i.e. from nothing to ???

Meantime the annual and excruciatingly dull statement of accounts is now available and is set out below.

The surplus of £387.32 arises largely from the exceptionally high small ads. intake of £166 - a record - and generous donations of £235. As intimated in the March Gazette, advertising rates and the cost of the Gazette remain unchanged. However if perchance the current financial year produces a useful profit, then the

| INCOME | 31/01/04 | 31/01/03 | EXPENDITURE | 31/01/04 | 31/01/03 |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| ADVERTS | 3985.00 | 4067.50 | PRINTING | 5862.73 | 5439.17 |
| SMALL ADS | 166.00 | 60.00 | ADMIN | 238.65 | 205.70 |
| COLLECTIONS | 2050.00 | 2132.50 | | | |
| DONATIONS | 235.00 | 210.00 | | | |
| INTEREST | 52.70 | 49.15 | | | |
| TOTAL | 6488.70 | 6519.15 | | 6101.38 | 5644.87 |
| SURPLUS | | | | 387.32 | 874.28 |

possibility arises that the Gazette could buck the national trend for increases in the cost of magazines etc., and actually enjoy a price reduction. Watch this space next February! Meantime please put aside £2-50p for swift settlement when your collector calls.

David Leith : 562312

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

On the 5th March we had a lecture with slides on the wild flowers of Australia. We now look forward to the 19th March when we have Richard Pushman coming in to talk to us.

April 2nd – The History of Dolls with Mrs. Jones

April 16th – Faberge Eggs by Mrs. Eastgate

April 30th – Bingo and AGM

New members always welcome.

Norah Cockroft : 564270

Horticultural Society

A record 95 members and guests attended our recent Dinner, and despite a few minor hiccups with the catering, the evening was most enjoyable. We rounded off with David Ball, a magician entertaining us with a talk about the Magic Circle interspersed with various tricks.

I have a pair of gloves, which were left behind on the night – if they belong to you, give me a call.

The A.G.M was, as always, a low-key affair, with only the committee present. The major point of discussion was that, given the increasing age of the current

committee, it is very likely that the society will cease to exist after little more than a couple of years.

We desperately need some new members on the committee who would be willing to take an active role in organising our social events and shows. No experience, or even horticultural knowledge, is necessary, just enthusiasm. It would be a shame to see one of the oldest village societies fold for the want of more helpers.

If you feel that you might be interested in joining us, *please* call me.

The next date for your diaries is the Plant Sale on Saturday May 22nd, where there will be the usual high quality, low price flower/ vegetable/ herb plants etc. So make a note, and there will be more details next month.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

Garden Sundries At A Discount

Readers may wish to know that they can obtain garden sundries at a considerable discount from the Hughenden Allotment and Gardening Association (HAGA). Whether you need fertiliser, grow-bags, compost, weedkiller, canes, fleece or bulbs, etc you can obtain them at the HAGA trading store at the back of Hughenden Village Hall at the bottom of Coombe Hill. The store is open from 0930 to 1100 on Sunday mornings. It costs only £2 per year to join the Association and you can join at the trading store. Why pay more? Visit the store!

For those interested in having an allotment, call the parish clerk on 01494715296. There is currently a waiting list for the Walter's Ash allotments at the top of Clappins Lane but there are vacant plots at the Naphill Allotments at Louches Lane.

Good Gardening!

Mike Mason : 563225

Olympic Honour for Naphill & Walters Ash?

It became public knowledge last week that the Olympic Flame will indeed come through Naphill and Walters Ash on its way to Rome in 2004. It is admirable that local business people have been able to secure such publicity for our villages but research and history shows this may not be quite the honour we are looking for.

Our application to be part of the Olympic route was submitted some 2 years ago, unbeknown to most villagers, and recent business developments in the area (allowing substantial Olympic sponsorship), and the fact that our village fete on the 19th June will have an Olympic theme, appear to have been the deciding factors.

Sadly there are down sides to this great honour. For example there is a law, passed by Parliament in 1907 on safety grounds, that forces gas supplies to be ceased for

12 hours before and after the arrival of Olympic Flame in every area that it visits. This law, despite its old fashioned nature, is still upheld today meaning that Naphill and Walters Ash will be without gas for 24 hours. Additionally, current terrorism threats make the Olympic procession a global media target so in response the security implications will be huge, including no parking anywhere along Main Road for 72 hours, random vehicle inspections, arial surveillance etc. It is anticipated that we will have a substantial crowd for the occasion – police estimate anything up to 5000 people along the route and will resource the event accordingly.

Clearly the positives far outweigh the negatives, and as someone who has been close to the Olympics for many years I congratulate the people of Naphill & Walters Ash on securing this momentous occasion and look forward to making history with you later this year as we line the streets to cheer on this brilliant tradition.

Ron G Doing : 1/4/04

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In April

The Moon is new on April 19 and full on April 5. Venus and Mars are in the western sky during the evening only 6° apart on 30th. Jupiter is high in the south with a magnitude of -2.2. The Moon is close to Jupiter in the constellation of Leo on April 29. It is about the last chance to see Orion until October or November. Venus (magnitude -4.4) passes through the Pleiades star cluster on April 4 (or Venus is in conjunction with the Pleiades).

Extinction of the Dinosaurs

In this column I have long argued that the extinction of the dinosaurs was not caused solely by the huge asteroid that hit Mexico some 65 million years ago. The ten mile wide asteroid that fell on the Yucatan peninsula caused iridium deposits to fall throughout the world. The latest analysis (2004) of these deposits strongly implies that

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Apr 1 | Rises | 06.39 | 14.29 | 07.48 | 08.31 | 16.23 | 10.40 |
| | Sets | 19.36 | 05.43 | 00.14 | 00.55 | 06.04 | 03.07 |
| Apr 8 | Rises | 06.22 | 00.29 | 07.34 | 08.18 | 15.52 | 10.14 |
| | Sets | 19.49 | 07.36 | 00.31 | 00.51 | 05.35 | 02.41 |
| Apr 15 | Rises | 06.08 | 05.17 | 07.21 | 08.05 | 15.22 | 09.48 |
| | Sets | 20.01 | 15.12 | 00.40 | 00.47 | 04.03 | 02.16 |
| Apr 22 | Rises | 05.53 | 06.55 | 07.09 | 07.54 | 14.52 | 09.23 |
| | Sets | 20.11 | 23.54 | 00.43 | 00.42 | 04.38 | 01.50 |
| Apr 29 | Rises | 05.39 | 13.24 | 06.57 | 07.44 | 14.24 | 08.58 |
| | Sets | 20.23 | 04.07 | 00.40 | 00.36 | 04.10 | 01.25 |

the dinosaurs died over a long period at least 300,000 years after the Yacatan catastrophe. The suggestion is that volcanic eruptions, other asteroid hits (at least two are known to have taken place) and greenhouse warming are all likely to have contributed to the demise of the giant lizards. This might help to explain why small

insects, smaller lizards including crocodiles survived the holocaust.

Some astronomers have suggested an interstellar theory that may be another cause that explains the dinosaur extinction. The Sun, in its orbit round the centre of our galaxy (the Milky Way), periodically enters what is called a giant molecular cloud (GMC) which consists mostly of high densities of hydrogen and dust grains. This GMC is encountered every 27 million years or so as a result of the Sun's orbit moving up and down through the plane of the Milky Way. The effects of such a cloud could have lasted far longer than the effects of asteroid impacts, with the hydrogen reacting with the oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere causing vast quantities of water to be precipitated as rain. The results were that between 20% and 33% of atmospheric oxygen was removed and the sea level rose.

Insects do not have lungs and the large ones were susceptible to the significant reduction in oxygen levels. Dinosaurs had much less well-developed lungs than mammals and the lower oxygen levels combined with the reduced solar radiation caused by the dust grains (which produced a colder climate) led them to die out over a million years identified by geologists. Could we have another long, cold period when the sun next enters the GMC? Possibly, but not for another 10 million years or so.

The Scientific Method

The scientific method involves the testing of hypotheses by evidence and readiness to revise or abandon theories in the light of new or better data. Following this definition great discoveries have been made since Newton's time in the 17th century. Before 1600 no distinction was made between astronomy and astrology, chemistry and alchemy, medicine and magic, and creation with the evolution of species. Against this background it is revealing to consider some articles that appeared on the same page in an American newspaper during the week ending 2004 February 21.

One article was the announcement of the discovery of a galaxy 13 billion light years away, only 750 million years younger than the big bang and the creation of the universe. The galaxy was discovered by the Hubble space telescope and confirmed by the Keck telescope on Hawaii.

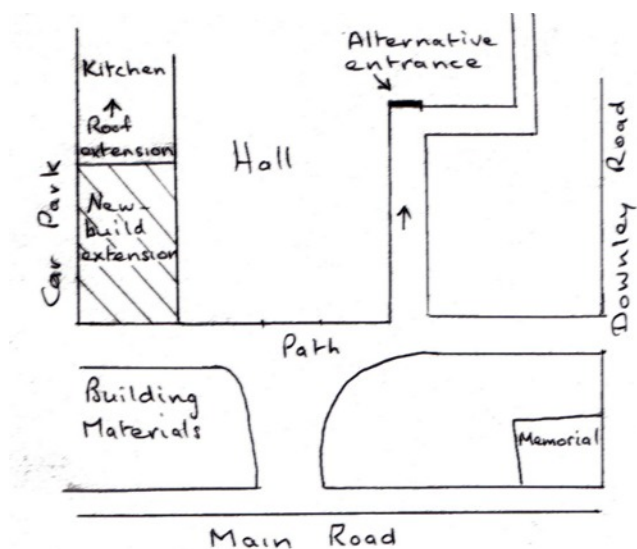
Another story was the result of the poll conducted for ABC News in the USA, which showed that a majority of Americans believe that the Earth was created in six days, that Moses parted the Red Sea and that Noah and his family survived the flood in the ark accompanied by the world's animals in pairs. This reminds me of the law passed recently in one of the states within the USA that prohibited the teaching in schools of Darwin's theory of evolution. So here we have the most advanced country in the world in which the majority of people believe in theories that transgress the scientific method.

Village Hall Building Work Disruption

By the time you read this work will have started on the Village Hall Millennium Extension. It is expected to take about 16 weeks and a certain amount of inconvenience and disruption to users is inevitable.

The present entrance lobby will not be usable so access to the Hall will be via the door on the Downley Road side (see diagram). At this stage we do not expect the large Hall to be affected except for a short period when the two windows on the car park side are being bricked up. The extension roof is to be extended over the kitchen and this work is likely put the kitchen out of use for a short while.

Every effort will be made to organise the building work around those bookings that will be most affected and we hope we will be able keep users informed of any



unexpected developments. The Village Hall Council can only apologise for all the unavoidable inconvenience and we hope that users will understand and accept that it will have been a price worth paying when they see the finished product.

Don Turner : 562645

2004 Village Fete

Nothing more to say other than:

June 19th, 2004.

Get ready!

Alan Jessop : 563369 – Fete
Committee Chairman
email@alanjessop.com



Naphill & Walters Ash School

The school A and B netball teams have just reached the end of another successful year in competition with other schools in the local league. In their section of the competition the B team has topped the league and also emerged as victors in the tournament held in High Wycombe on 13th March. The A team finished 4th in their league and narrowly missed 3rd place in the tournament. Many thanks to all school staff, parents and ex-parents without whom this event could not have taken place.

Mr Ackland, Mrs Ross, Mrs Schmid and Mr Stallwood have recently accompanied Year 6 pupils on a residential visit to Rhos-y-Gwaliau outdoor activity centre in North Wales. In spite of the challenging nature of the activities, the school and centre made sure that all pupils, including those with physical difficulties, had an enjoyable and worthwhile week away.

The term ended with a lively production of *The Lemonade Kid* with a cast of Year 3 and Year 4 pupils. The children had tremendous fun enacting some of the stereotypical characters and learning to speak their lines in close approximations to John Wayne accents. Most important of all, in the midst of all the fun, they learnt the central moral of the story that “you don’t need a gun to change the world”!

On the 1st May, the school Maypole dancers are due to be dancing at the village hall at shortly after midday so if you have ever been slightly taken aback at children describing a “pole dancing club” at the school, now is the time to come and see exactly what does go on! They will have as their guests *Owlswick Morris*, who will have been dancing at spots in High Wycombe during the morning following a dawn performance at the Golden Ball in West Wycombe. There are, as always, a number of new recruits to the Maypole Club whose enthusiasm and enjoyment helps to carry them through the intricate moves. Those of you that have ever tried will know that Maypole Dancing is not as easy as it looks!

The exhibition of children’s art was very well supported by parents. The children were so proud to see their work framed and displayed and took enormous pleasure in showing off their own pictures and in admiring those of others. The event raised over £600 towards the library fund.

Hilary Conboy, Headteacher

New Leader Required

HELP !!!!!

Do you want Brownies to continue in Naphill?

Astonishing as it seems to me I will be 65 early 2006 and in accordance with the Guide Association rules must retire from running Naphill Brownies !!!! These days it takes a little longer to fill in the cracks with Polyfilla but working with the Brownies is the most rewarding and fulfilling activity and definitely keeps you on your toes!!!

With this in mind it would make sense if someone could come in now and train to take over at the end of 2005. If no-one comes forward either as a trained Brownie Guider or a leader in training then sadly Naphill Brownies will be no more. This must not happen - I have been with them since 1969 and have seen many changes, all of them challenging but never daunting. It's not rocket science you just need to like being with children.

There is so much that is good in Brownies, some of you will remember our helping to send 12 goats to Africa, helping to build a bakery in Ifakara, sending school equipment to Kosovo as well as helping at all the village activities, in particular with the Fete-. always done with a lot of smiles and enthusiasm !!!

If you or someone you know is interested then please do consider helping keep such a wonderful bunch of children happy. The Brownies need you - please don't let them down.

Barbara Clarke, Brown Owl : 562528

Village Improvements

Under the keen and professional eye of John Moorby, parish warden a team of volunteers have been undertaking conservation work in both Vincents Meadow and the pond located at the bottom end of Downley Road.

In the meadow there has been some scrub clearance and hedge laying work carried out which has certainly resulted in a significant improvement in the appearance of the meadow.

At the pond and adjacent damson orchard the hedges that were layed in previous years have been topped to encourage further growth from the base and weeds growing in and around the hedge have been removed. John spent several hours in the pond removing a large amount of weed/grass material which if left would result in the pond drying out - not a pleasant job as even with waders on the cold penetrates through the rubber! This material was left on the bank for some time in order to allow any wildlife to find its way back into the pond before it is removed. In the damson orchard a great deal of dead wood has been removed and some thinning out of the trees has been undertaken to allow more light into the area. Following work that was carried out last year there are already signs of a regeneration of plant life at ground level which should result in further improvement as a result of this year's actions.

Our work has now finished until next winter as the sap is rising and further hedge laying should not therefore be undertaken. Also wildlife in the pond should not be disturbed as the mating season is now upon us. We volunteers have thoroughly enjoyed the time they have spent undertaking this conservation work which we all find most rewarding. If anyone would be interested in joining us in our work next winter do please give me a ring on 01494 562240. In the meantime we hope residents will be able to enjoy the fruits of our labour.

Naphill Toddler Group

The toddler group runs Thursdays between 2-4pm during term times. We welcome parents/carers with babies to preschool children. The group always welcomes new faces and gives the opportunity for parents to meet up for a chat as well as give the children a chance to make new friends and play with our selection of toys.

We will be holding our Easter party on 1st April, which includes the ever popular Easter Egg Hunt and craft table with special tea. Tickets are available at our Thursday meetings or by ringing the number below.

Our last session before Easter is 1st April and we resume on 22nd April.

Suzanne Farwell, Chair : 562147

Are you Observant?

Can you place where these photos were taken in Naphill and Walters Ash?

Answers printed next month.

Last month's answers:

The entrance gate in last month's Gazette was a picture of Cherrycroft in Louches Lane.

In Rex Leavers Naphill book he gave a little bit of history on the house. It was originally 2 semi detached



houses in 1844, they were owned by William Free and Richard Janes, but Richard Biggs acquired them before 1856 when he received the small allotment due from the enclosure of the common. He further increased the size



of the holding by purchasing an adjacent plot from the surveyor when land was sold to cover costs. This set the scene for extending the building to the greatly increased size it is today. When it became a single house it was first called Maude Cottage before being given its current name.

George Culver was the owner when he died in his hundredth year in 1935. The later name has gone to Cherrycroft Drive, built on land once belonging to the house.

The other picture is of Bristow memorial seat which is next to the pond at the end of Downley Road. Several generations of Bristows lived in Prospect Cottages, Kenneth Bristow dies in 2000. The plaque on the seat signifies over 100 years of the Bristow family - it's a lovely place to sit on a sunny day.

Pam Smith : 563364



Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning

04/5267/FUL Talland, Chapel Lane, Naphill Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of 3x3 bedroomed

Have your say.....

Village Appraisal Results

During 2003 Hughenden Parish Council conducted a very detailed appraisal of residents within Naphill & Walters Ash. Participation was extremely high.

This appraisal is the first step towards developing a 'Village Design Statement' - a Government initiative that will help to shape how individual villages look over the coming years.

5th April 2004


Naphill Village Hall Annual General Meeting starts at 8.30pm general public are welcome

The findings of the appraisal will be presented immediately after the Village Hall AGM at around 9.00pm

Drinks and nibbles will be provided.

At Naphill Village Hall, Main Road, Naphill.

For more information telephone 01494 562081.



terraced brick & flint dwellings with garages and new vehicular access.

04/5322/FUL 114 Main Road, Naphill 2-storey side & 1-storey rear extensions.

04/5344/FUL9 Bayley Gardens, Naphill Construction of conservatory to side extension/rear

04/5424/VCDN rear of Pippins, Durain & Georgia, New Road, Walter's Ash. Erection of one dwelling (rear of formerly Lucerne)(outline). Variation of Conditions 1 & 8 (time limits) for submission of Reserved Matters (Note: Lacey Green Parish).

04/5454/FUL 133 Main Road, Naphill. Demolition of 133 Main Road and erection of 1 No. pair of semi-detached 3 bedroomed houses and 1 No detached 4 bedroomed house. Alternate to that approved under 03/6699/FUL.

104/5560/FUL 2 Ash Close, Walter's Ash. Construction of conservatory to rear.

Gloria Leflaive : 563634

Jeffrey Barnard Is Unwell by Keith Waterhouse

Don't miss this opportunity to see the Keith Waterhouse classic, Jeffrey Barnard Is Unwell, at Naphill Village Hall on Friday 16 April, 7.30 for an 8 o'clock start. This very funny play will be performed by the Ubiquitous

Touring Theatre Company who have delighted us with their previous productions in Naphill.

The play is about an alcoholic newspaper columnist who, having been chucked out by his wife, ends up sleeping at his local. During the night he recalls his past loves, wives, work colleagues and friends. You may have seen the West End production during the 80's with Peter O'Toole in the lead role. I might add that the play does contain some strong language which whilst entirely appropriate within the context of the piece, makes this production suitable for adults only.

A cheese supper will be served and a bar will be available. Tickets are £7.50 and can be reserved by telephoning me on 562099.

John Harris

Pre-school News

Staff are enjoying a challenging time at pre-school this term with numbers averaging 25 each morning and a mix of children aged between 2½ and 4. We have been enjoying activities around the themes of houses, homes and journeys. We'll shortly be making our Easter Hats and practising songs in preparation for our end of term Easter Parade and celebration.

Thanks to the parents for their continuing support and fundraising efforts. We're enjoying the benefits of some new equipment, and staff will shortly be sporting new colourful tabards. Also, many thanks to Evolution Security who have produced some name badges for the staff with the pre-school logo, and to Nigel Poutney for paper donations.

Some of our older children have been visiting school this term in preparation for when they leave to go there in the summer. We shall lose a total of 23 children, hence there will be some vacancies in the Autumn. The waiting list is growing, however, so if you would like to register your child please ring me on 01494 564037 (am) or 565659 (pm).

P.S. Andrew Pope and James Campanini completed the Reading Half Marathon on the 7th March 2004 - both men in under 2 hours !, in doing so the pair have raised over £750 for the Pre-School !! The Pre-School relies heavily on fundraising throughout the year and this donation will make a significant contribution to our 2004 target.



A very warm thank you to them both and to all of their sponsors.

Mo Bedder, Supervisor

Expansive poetry

I come from the village of Infill
Not so far from here
We're ripe for planning permission
It's quite beyond compare
Houses here, houses there
Shove them in any-old-where
We don't mind builders lorries
The dust or the muck or the mess
Feel free to park on our verges
And rip all the grass to shreds
But don't say the houses are for 'starters'
For folk wanting to set up home
The cost of these bijous is priceless
You'll have to take out a fat loan
Those of us with allotments
Are minding our p's and our q's
Who knows when our turnips or onions
Will be swapped for a room with no views
So if you're unsure about infill
Take heed and beware of the plot
The South East will soon be all concrete
And I don't think we'll like it a lot!

Helen Seys Llewellyn : 563624

Village Hall Notes

Well - it looks as if all the waiting is over and the building of the long awaited extension is happening. In fact by the time that you read this I hope that it will have started. The builders have estimated that it should take about 16 weeks so by that reckoning it should be completed by the summer holidays. Obviously there will be some disruption during the work but we hope that you will be understanding and that we are able to keep it to a minimum. Don Turner is writing in this Gazette spelling out our plans to reorganise things during the work so do read his article so you know what to expect. During the work we hope to be able to investigate further the leak that continually stains the ceiling tiles and to clear away the stones from the grass by the front door.

The new kitchen units are ordered and will be fitted in the Autumn. We are ordering 120 sets of new cutlery and are counting all the crockery to see where the shortfalls are. We have also looked at some replacement chairs for the hall. By the Autumn we should really be seeing progress in the Hall.

The Quiz organised by Ted Chapman to help raise funds for all this spending on the Hall was luckily a great success. The new sound system was put through its paces, and the scoring was all very high tech! A grand evening was had by all and it proved to be a good community event with several groups of people helping out. Many thanks to them all and especial thanks to

Ted who worked so hard to make the evening run smoothly. We ended up with a healthy profit of £567.95p. The next event will be the play on 16th April. Tickets are available from John Harris (tel. 562099). The fete is on 19th June. I know that Alan Jessop has put publicity around the village asking for help and ideas. Do support him if you can.

Our next meeting is followed by the AGM on Monday 5th April at 8.30. Once we have conducted our annual business we will be serving drinks and nibbles and then having a presentation of the results of the Village Appraisal forms that you completed for the Parish Council last year. This is a very interesting, slick and professional presentation of the data and has a significant bearing on how the village develops in the future so do come along if you possible can.

All in all things in the village have really taken off this month - we live in interesting times.

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall Council :
563479*

Local History Open Day marks 200th Birthday.

Although I have grown up in the Chilterns, and spent much time walking them, it is only in the last 18 months that I have begun to really understand them.

In August 2002 I joined The National Trust at Hughenden Manor as Community Education Officer. My job is to encourage understanding of the Hughenden Estate among visiting school groups, local community groups, and all our visitors.

As I launched into researching the history of Benjamin Disraeli, I discovered his love for the woodlands and grasslands that he came to own from his arrival here in 1848 until his death in 1881. I also discovered that it is impossible to think of the Hughenden landscape without including its context as part of the Bucks Chilterns, on the edge of High Wycombe town.

2004 is a big year for us, as it marks 200 years since Disraeli's birth. To celebrate, we are planning a whole series of special events - from fashion shows of the changing styles of Victorian England during Disraeli's lifetime to a Birthday picnic on the lawn with cake and brass bands. But we know that Disraeli could never have lived as he did at Hughenden without the wide network of unremembered and local people whose skills, traditions and knowledge brought him the security he needed to overcome his chequered background and take on the role of Prime Minister.

So it is only right that as we celebrate Disraeli's life, we celebrate the lives and skills of all these people too. We can't do this alone, so we'd like to invite anyone who has researched their local family history, or the social history of the local hamlets and villages of Naphill, Walter's Ash, Downley, Chepping Wycombe, or the parish of Hughenden, to come to the

Naphill Pre-school Barn Dance

Saturday 24th April, 2004

Naphill Village Hall

7.30 'til late

**Tickets £10, to include cold
buffet supper**

Licensed bar



**Tickets
available from
Judy; 564576,
or Sharon;
562081**



Hughenden Manor Local History Open Day

on Wednesday April 21st 2004, in the Study Base from 3pm until 7pm. It might surprise you to know that your knowledge of the spread of non-conformist chapels, woodland industries, cottage industries, local schools and any other subject we haven't thought about (!) can provide a valuable resource in any study of Disraeli and his world. If you have any photos or documents that you are happy for us to copy, please bring them along too.

*For more information please visit the courses page at
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/discovery
or telephone Jessie Binns, the Community Education
Officer on (01494) 755596.*

To Feed or Not To Feed?

Should we feed red kites? Certainly, a red kite swooping down and snatching its food is breathtaking, and it's not surprising that people leave food out for the birds to encourage this behaviour. The question is whether feeding kites is necessary or helpful to the birds.

There are two main arguments against feeding. Firstly, providing extra food may increase red kite densities and may slow down the rate at which they spread to new areas. Secondly, some non-natural food sources may be bad for the birds' health.

The size and distribution of the red kite population is determined amongst other things, by food availability. There is no shortage of natural food for the kites in the

Chilterns, particularly in the form of road kill. Left alone, the kite population will find a healthy balance based on the food available, spreading out to new areas as food becomes limiting.

The range of the kite population in the Chilterns is spreading slowly, but the birds are still confined to a relatively small area. By feeding the kites, we are providing more food in this core area than the birds would find naturally, and we may be contributing to the slower-than-expected rate of spread that is currently being observed.

In the wild, red kites scavenge on the bodies of dead animals. They feed on all parts of the carcass, including flesh, fat, bone, skin and the internal organs. In particular, calcium from bones and vitamin D from skin are essential for healthy bone development in red kite chicks.

If red kites don't get a balanced diet, and are fed on processed foods, such as sausages, cooked meat, or lean meat with little bone or skin, they can end up with serious dietary deficiencies, including metabolic bone disease that can be fatal.

In the last two years, three red kites are known to have



suffered from this problem, and as birds in the wild with bone deformities will often die, undetected, at an early age, this may be a problem that is far more widespread than previously realised.

The following guidelines, issued by the Chilterns Conservation Board and English Nature, are aimed at reducing the potential for further problems:

- a) Consider carefully whether to feed the red kites in the first place. Kites are able to range over wide areas in order to locate natural food sources.
- b) Do not use processed meats which have potentially harmful additives, e.g. salt and limit the feeding of butcher's offcuts which may be excessively fatty with little or no digestible skin or bone.
- c) Whole or chopped animal carcasses are suitable for feeding red kites. Road kills may be used, provided that sensible hygiene precautions are taken. If you do decide to feed, only put out small amounts and do not feed every day.
- d) Be aware that the food you provide can attract crows, gulls or rats which may be unpopular with neighbours.

For more information, please contact:

Cathy Rose, Red Kites Officer, Chilterns Conservation Board, 01844 271 306, crose@chilternsaonb.org

St John Ambulance

ARE YOU A CARER?

Would You Welcome More Support?

St John Ambulance Sitting Service is pleased to announce that it has now extended its service to Carers in your area.

The Sitting Service provides an opportunity for Carers, who provide a substantial amount of support and care to another adult, who may be frail or disabled, to have free time away from their sometimes stressful caring role. *This free time can be used in any way that is beneficial to the Carer, either within the home, or elsewhere.*

The Sitting Service is available 7 days a week from 9am until 11pm. Sits can be arranged on a regular basis or when the Carer may just want an occasional period of time to themselves. Experience has shown that many Carers find a 2 hour break very useful, but it may be possible to arrange longer breaks.

St John Ambulance's team of Sitters are caring and experienced professional people, many with a background in nursing.

The Service we provide is FREE, but as a charity we always welcome donations.

For more information about the Sitting Service please contact:

Sheila Churn, Sitting Service Co-Ordinator : 01494 - 689955

News From Christians In The Community

(Members of the three local churches)

The united service held on the 29th February at Hughenden on the theme of the healing ministry of the church was well attended and very thoughtful and emotional especially for those who received the laying-on of hands.

This month K.R.A.S.H. meets on the 2nd and 30th April in the Naphill Evangelical Free Church. T.R.A.S.H. meets on the 23rd April in Hughenden Church House.

The next Prayer Safari (our third) will be on Wednesday 31st March starting at 7pm at 'Harrow' in Clappins Lane. Next stop at 8pm will be at 9 South Maundin, Hughenden and last stop at 9pm 'Sundowner', Cockpit Lane, Great Kingshill. Just phone me if you need transport.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

The Passion of the Christ

By the time many of you read this article you may well be aware of Mel Gibson's new blockbuster film *"The Passion of the Christ"* which will be on general release (26th March) in many cinemas throughout the U.K. One question is if the timing of the film's release, is a direct challenge to the popular secular interpretation of Easter.

Today when we think of the word "Passion" we might be forgiven in associating the word with something to do with pleasure, especially in the sexual sense, but when looking at it in the context of the *Passion of Christ* the word comes from an old English word meaning "Suffering." Therefore the film might be entitled "The Sufferings of the Christ." The film portrays very graphically the last 12 hours of the life of Jesus, His suffering and crucifixion on the Cross.

Although at the time of writing I have not seen the film myself, I am sure it will continue, as it has done in America, to invoke many comments and criticisms both good and bad amongst those who go and see it. One thing the film has done and I hope does here is to stimulate thought and discussion about the most important, history changing event to have ever taken place.

Many film productions about the life and death of Jesus, especially from Hollywood, have very much sanitised the Biblical account. The Pope has been quoted to say that the film portrays these last few hours about the life of Christ *"as it was."* If this is true then maybe we have the closest depiction of the Gospels accounts and the suffering Jesus went through ever recorded on film.

Whether we go to see the film or avoid it because we think there is an over-emphasis on the gruesome and graphic details of Christ's physical suffering, the Bible account has for nearly 2000 years shown Christian and non-Christian alike the extent of God's love for humanity and why Jesus suffered as He did.

The Bible through the Gospels reveal the *"Passion of the Christ"* in the Garden of Gethsemane as He began to feel the burden of knowing the sins of the world were about to be placed on Him even though He was without sin.

The Gospels reveal the *"Passion of the Christ"* in Jesus going through what amounted to 6 illegal and unjust trials by people who wanted Him out of the way because He proclaimed the truth that He was God which was considered a blasphemous act, punishable by death at the time.

The Gospels reveal the *"Passion of the Christ"* in that during the time of greatest need all His friends, disciples and companions deserted Him.

The Gospels reveal the *"Passion of the Christ"* in Jesus' horrendous humiliation and torture before by the Roman soldiers and the religious leaders.

The Gospels reveal the *"Passion of the Christ"* as He died of a broken heart knowing that His Father in heaven had to turn away from Him because the sins of the whole world, our sin included, was laid upon Him.

The Gospels reveal the *"Passion of the Christ"* happened because He loved every human soul, but more importantly He loved the Father and was obedient to His will. Jesus' mission was to die for our sins as He took the punishment that should have been ours.

The Gospels reveals through the *"Passion of the Christ"* God's overwhelming love for humanity and the fulfilment of His plan to reconcile mankind to Himself... if they believe.

God so loved the world that He gave His One and only Son that anyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3: 16)

The Gospels reveal that though Jesus suffered and died on the Cross that was not the end. Three days later Jesus rose from the dead, is alive today and is the only mediator between God and mankind.

About 11 years ago I became aware of what the *"Passion of the Christ"* meant for me personally, He took the punishment for my sin and that has changed my life. Have you responded to what Christ has done for you?

Mel Gibson said that He made the film so that having seen it people might read *"THE BOOK"* (The Bible). It is in the Bible that God reveals Himself, His purpose and His great love for all mankind.

Whatever way you might hear or see the *"Passion of the Christ,"* by the film or by reading *"THE BOOK"* my hope and prayer is that you will realise the Truth and you will be so *"cut you to the heart"* that you, too will have to respond. If you would like to discuss this please give us a call.

Churches across the nation and throughout the world will retell the Easter story over the next couple of weeks, come and hear it. May the *"Passion of the Christ"* change your life forever and may you personally come to know the great love God has for you.

Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

May 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

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Editorial

Many thanks to everyone that made the effort on April 5th and came along to the Village Hall AGM, followed by the presentation of the results of the village appraisal. The appraisal threw up many similar comments and some surprises, although perhaps most noticeable was the feeling by adults and youths alike that there was not enough going on in our villages for youths.

Discussions are taking place on how we can address this but I would be really keen to hear from any local

youths with regard to the Gazette. To the best of my knowledge we have few, if any, younger writers (I'm not suggesting that the rest are old!), and the Gazette is supposed to be a publication for all ages. It may be possible to dedicate some space to a regular column or feature. At the very least we should be publicising your events. Please get in touch with any ideas - I look forward to discussing them with you.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

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Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request.
Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS.
Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

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NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

DELICIOUS CREAM TEAS with home-made cakes at Hughenden Church House from 2.15 on Sundays and holiday Mondays until October. Groups can book special teas on weekdays — contact Judy on 01494 562972

KNOWTEL CONSULTANTS offer cheap telephone & mobile calls, gas & electricity & expertise for computer, broadband or internet problems. Call us to save or for help with PC problems, 563041

Lorraine Baker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

The tennis season is underway again for Naphill with the club's juniors looking forward to a summer of coaching. Under 18's can join the club for a new member's fee of just £20, which includes 12 sessions of coaching on Friday evenings with qualified LTA coach Neil James and use of the courts for the whole year. Neil takes three separate sessions for different abilities: beginners from 5-5.45pm, improvers from 5.45-6.30pm and experienced players from 6.30-7.30pm. Lisa Bennett runs coaching sessions for under

7's from 10-11am on Saturday mornings. The junior tournament will take place at the beginning of the summer holidays with competitions for different age groups. Junior coaching started on April 23 so it's not too late to join in.

Naphill's senior teams have also got a busy few months ahead. The ladies' team played their first match in division 3 of the Bucks Shield on April 25th after achieving two successive promotions. Mixed I were the club's other league winners last season and they will battle it out with the top teams in the Wycombe area. Naphill also has a second mixed team and a men's and ladies' team competing in the Aylesbury league, all of whom begin their matches in the next couple of weeks.

Club events this month include an afternoon of tea and tennis on May 31st to which all members are invited. Easter Monday saw more than 20 players enjoy a morning of friendly tennis followed by lunch kindly provided by members of the club. Hopefully the weather will be as kind later this month.

Naphill is always looking for new members of any standard. The club offers half-price membership to all new members, which includes use of the courts all year round. There are two club mornings: Sundays from 10am and Tuesdays from 10.15am, and Thursday club evenings start at 6:30pm. Adult membership for new members is £40 and families can join for £100. Please contact me for further information.

Sue Crooks : 562539

District & County Councillor's Report

The Government in its directives to both District and County Councils is placing great emphasis on Community Development. Seminars, workshops and meetings are being convened to further this aim. Indeed the Parish Council's own questionnaire was largely directed to obtain information of our community's need in order that a community plan might be formulated. This was an excellent attempt at getting all of us involved in finding out just what we see as needed for our villages, and presentations have been made in village halls throughout the parish. A good response was obtained and I know that further work will identify what councils need to address. Like all good ideas, in many cases they require money to be spent on developing them and we must not lose sight of the fact that it is our money which will have to be collected to pay for them.

I feel that there are three main issues, which I see are of great concern. Firstly, law and order and the need for an active police presence to be seen in our rural communities. Secondly, sensitive planning to maintain the rural feel of our villages whilst providing homes for our children, should they wish to remain in

the communities into which they were born. And thirdly, a proper and sensible transport strategy, which includes roads and bus services. These headings are already financed through the council tax and we must find better ways of delivering them to the satisfaction of our residents.

The 20th May sees the end of my tenure as Chairman of the County Council. It has been a wonderful opportunity to visit so many organisations within our county and see the good work that is undertaken, much within the voluntary sector. These really are the unsung heroes of the county and without their efforts many of our communities and services would just not function. What I have noticed is that the volunteers in many of our charitable organisations are retired and of senior years. At the other end of the scale the Youth Action give much of their valuable time in helping with the elderly and the young. But the missing age group are those between 30 and 50 – where are they?

Richard Pushman : 564152

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

On the 19th March we enjoyed a talk by Richard Pushman, who was accompanied by his wife Valerie.

On April 2nd we were entertained by Mrs Jones, who related to us the History Of Dolls.

April 16th we look forward to Mrs Eastgate talking about Faberge Eggs.

April 30th – Bingo and AGM

New members always welcome.

Norah Cockcroft : 564270

Naphill Evening WI

Our members appeared to enjoy our March meeting as we had a wonderful talk by Mrs Deakin on Vietnam. She guessed we would be thinking about the war years, but she spoke about the peace and tranquility of this delightful country and really made you want to go there.

All the arrangements are made for our visit to Highgrove – all we need is a nice fine day! The 27th May is the date we are off to London to see "Anything Goes", another event to look forward to. Remember to come to Jenny's 'Ploughman's Lunch', mentioned in our March report, on 29th April, 12 noon to 2pm, price £2.50 at Sandalwood, Stocking Lane. You will be among good company, have some delicious food and the opportunity to win one of the super raffle prizes.

Once again, our April meeting will have passed by the time this reaches you, but we are expecting it to be a great success, as we have Louise Reed with us as "Miss Mary Kingsley" – the 19th Century African Explorer. Watch for our report next month.... Our

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail baclarke@btopenworld.com

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

May meeting will be on Thursday the 20th when it will be our 'Resolutions and Pudding Evening'. It should be good – not the time to be on a diet! Work has started on the Naphill Village Hall extension and it appears to be making good progress. Please note that entry is currently by the door on the opposite side of the hall whilst the building work is being done.

We always welcome new members so do come along and make more friends.

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Readers Letters

Dear Editor,

Whilst reading through the March Gazette for a second time (including the religious input which you may find surprising because I am an atheist), my eye caught, in particular, the input from St. Michael and All Angels and the Naphill Evangelical and Free Church. I decided to discuss these two articles with friends (and all my friends are religious!) only to discover that they had not read them and, in general did not read this part of the Gazette because the entries were too long.

This leads me to my first point. The Gazette is not a Church Magazine but very happily includes input from our 3 churches which are pillars of the community. However it seems to me that occasionally the religious input is excessive for the size of the magazine and that the balance of the magazine is disturbed. Referring to the March Gazette, I thought that the Hughenden input was excellent: a good point about religious images in the workplace, well made. On the other hand I felt that

the Evangelical input was too long but more importantly, it trespassed into the political arena. I refer to the penultimate paragraph of the article. 'All these things I believe. But we live in a nation where lies flatter and the truth offends. All too soon, it will be forbidden to say such things.'

This suggests to me that the writer is voicing the opinion that the Government will clamp down on free speech. Frankly I cannot imagine any British Government behaving in this way. Furthermore I have just written to the Council to ask for a permanent grant towards the cost of running the Gazette and in the letter I stressed our political neutrality and I feel that this piece does not meet our standards. Perhaps the time is ripe to remind contributors that we are strictly non political and that all articles for the Gazette should abide strictly by this rule.

David Leith : 562312

Editors note : The subject of the length of the Church articles has been raised before, and at that time I was convinced that some of our readers did read them - the Gazette is after all intended for everyone. I agree with David's point on politics, although as Editor I must take some responsibility for not policing it better! Your comments on this subject please.....

Horticultural Society

Plant Sale

Saturday 22nd May

Naphill Village Hall Car Park

9.30 – 11.00am

This is the time to be planning and planting in your garden. The Plant Sale is the ideal opportunity to see what is on offer and to buy at rock bottom prices from local growers. There is always a good selection of perennials, summer bedding, vegetables, herbs, and all manner of garden plants, all set to make your garden flourish this summer. Do come along and have a look. Should you be interested in having a stall to sell plants of your own, you can book one through me at a cost of just £5.00.

This is also the time to be thinking ahead to our Summer and Autumn shows, and the schedules for these can be picked up at the Plant Sale, or from the Post Office, myself or Don Turner. Go on, have a look through – there must be something you could enter!

Membership subscriptions are also due now, and the cost remains at just £1.00 per person. Again you can pay at the Plant Sale or via any of the Committee members.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

Books Needed For Fete

Newish please. Especially novels and children's books. No 1970's cook books or 1930's maths books!! Even the charity shops don't want them so we are left to dispose of them.

Please deliver to 'Woodside', Forge Road BEFORE the Fete; it's too late to sort out when delivered to the stall on the day. Again, thanks for your help.

Sally : 562281

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In May

The Moon is new on May 19; it is full on 4. There is a total lunar eclipse May 4. The Moon rises in the east at 20.25; the partial eclipse starts at 19.49, before it rises; totality starts at 20.53, maximum at 21.30 and totality ends at 22.08. At the beginning of the month Venus and Mars are only 5° apart, gradually separating during the month. On May 25 Mars and Saturn are only just over 1° apart. Saturn is the brighter with magnitude of 0.1 and Mars 1.7. Apart from the planets the trouble for those wishing to observe this month is that the sky never really gets dark because we are near the longest day; this is particularly true at the beginning of the month because of the full Moon.

An Earth Made For Life

'An Earth made for life' was the title of a programme on Radio 4, broadcast on 2003 February 19. I have already written in the *Gazette* (1997 December) a little of what happened about the formation of the Moon some 4.5 billion years ago and the radio programme gave more detail. The Earth was hit off-centre by an impactor with a mass of about 10% of the Earth and

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| May | Rises | 05.35 | 16.04 | 06.54 | 07.41 | 14.16 | 08.51 |
| 1 | Sets | 20.26 | 04.36 | 24.37 | 24.34 | 04.02 | 01.18 |
| May | Rises | 05.21 | None | 06.40 | 07.33 | 13.48 | 08.26 |
| 8 | Sets | 20.38 | 07.36 | 24.23 | 24.26 | 03.35 | 24.49 |
| May | Rises | 05.11 | 04.04 | 06.22 | 07.25 | 13.22 | 08.02 |
| 15 | Sets | 20.50 | 16.49 | 23.58 | 24.17 | 03.07 | 24.24 |
| May | Rises | 05.02 | 06.38 | 06.01 | 07.19 | 12.56 | 07.38 |
| 22 | Sets | 20.59 | 24.43 | 23.22 | 24.07 | 02.40 | 00.00 |
| May | Rises | 04.54 | 14.59 | 05.34 | 07.14 | 12.31 | 07.14 |
| 29 | Sets | 21.08 | 02.55 | 22.34 | 23.56 | 02.13 | 23.35 |

something like 3 times the mass of the Moon. The impactor partially ripped the Earth apart and moved away from our planet only to collide again within 24 hours causing it to be totally destroyed. The result was a hot disc of material with 10% of the impactor's mass orbiting the Earth rather like Saturn's rings and the remainder of the impactor's material to rain down on the Earth. Within only 20 years or so, after this hot orbiting material had cooled, it coalesced into the newly formed Moon but 15 times nearer and appearing 15 times larger than it is at present.

The Moon is largely responsible for the ebb and flow of ocean tides, which allows seawater to form pools which were thought to be where life originated on Earth some 4+ billion years ago. The collision caused the Earth's axis to be moved to 66½ from the ecliptic (the plane of the Sun and the planets) and caused the arrival of the seasons. The Moon is also responsible for the stability of the Earth's axis. Without this stabilising factor, the Earth would probably have a very different climate that would involve significantly unreliable temperature variations within the year. The Moon has played a significant role in the evolution of life and that without it, life would probably never have developed towards the technological civilisation we find around us. There are other factors too, such as the distance from the Sun enabling the water on the planet to remain in liquid form. There is also the protection afforded the Earth by the presence of a vast planet, Jupiter, from further huge impactors hitting us and thus destroying life that may by then have developed.

Recent Impact Crater on the Moon

We are taught that the Moon is geologically dead, but did the photograph taken on 1953 November 15 suggest otherwise? For nearly half a century the photographer (Leon Stuart and his son) have been trying to prove that an asteroid-sized body had indeed crashed into the Moon and created a new crater. Quite recently in 2002, NASA scientists, Buratti and Lane were looking at all the evidence including old and recent photographs of the area. They were looking for a 'fresh' crater that would have a bluish tinge to the surrounding surface that had not been subjected to 'space weathering'. In 2003 January, it was announced that a crater 1½ kilometres wide has been found in the right place and was caused by an explosion of 0.5 megatons or the equivalent of 35 times the power of the Hiroshima atomic bomb. But further examination of all the evidence has shown that a mistake has been made. The same bright area of the photograph has been found on earlier plates, going back to a photo taken of the area in 1919. So the whole thing is a false story. Perhaps our teachers at school were right after all.

Sedna, the 10th planet

Pluto, the furthestmost planet, was discovered 74 years ago. Astronomers now believe they have found a planet that is three billion kilometres beyond Pluto which they have called Sedna. Measurements suggest Sedna has a diameter of about 2000 kilometres compared with 2300 for Pluto. Sedna's highly elliptical orbit round the Sun means that its furthest distance is over 200 billion kilometres from the Sun and takes 10,500 years to complete (Pluto takes 248 years). When the planet is at its furthest distance from the Sun, light will take 12 hours to reach us; it is 160 minutes at its nearest to the Sun. Sedna has provisionally been named after the Inuit goddess who created the sea creatures of the Arctic and its discovery

Junk Emporium

The Junk Emporium is traditionally one of the most important elements of the fete fund raiser. Last year 10% of the total revenue of the fete came from the Junk Emporium which is a massive testament to the volunteers that manned it on the day and helped gather all of the items for sale. **BUT** without the contribution of the people of Naphill & Walters Ash there would be no Junk Emporium.

Now is the time to think about all those items in your garage that you so wanted to keep but haven't looked at for years. Think about the loft space you could have by donating to the Junk Emporium. Think about the money you could be helping to raise!

Call Ian Bond now on 01494 564824 to arrange collection of your junk or where it can be dropped off.



was announced by NASA on March 15. The argument will now start as to whether it should be called a planet or a large asteroid or planetoid. There is still a similar debate about Pluto as readers of this column will be aware. The conclusion is likely to be 'yes' to both even if logic suggests 'no'.

Grant Woodruff

Naphill Toddler Group

Our Easter party was very popular and well attended. The children were challenged by the obstacle course but rewarded by a chocolate egg. We even had parents taking 12 month olds around! When we return on 22nd April we will be planning our summer activities, hopefully arranging a Teddy Bears picnic when the weather is warmer.

The toddler group runs Thursdays between 2-4pm during term times. We welcome parents/carers with babies to preschool children. The group always welcomes new faces and gives the opportunity for parents to meet up for a chat as well as give the children a chance to make new friends and play with our selection of toys.

We apologise about any disruption due to the building work at the village hall. The temporary entrance is on the right side of the village hall through the small fenced off garden. Entry is via a white door, which is

the usual entry to the Men's Club. Anyone wanting to find out more about the group can just turn up and see or contact me on the number below.

Suzanne Farwell, Chair : 562147

Are you Observant?

Last month's answers:

Last month Ron Collins (Pond Warden) gave a report on the volunteer work which has been carried out on the area near the pond in Downley Road. I, like others, would like to give a big 'Thank You' to all who did this work and continue to do so.

It was a coincidence that my photo last month was of the magnificent hedge laying in this area.

My other photo was a side view of 'The Lamp House' near Christopher Close. Back in the September issue of the Gazette I gave a little history of the house and on Emma Grace who lived there and gave land for our coffee room, which was used by the village for meetings until the Village Hall we have now was built.



It is, by the way, a pleasing sight to see the extension now being built on our Village Hall which will be a



great improvement and also meet the legal requirements to provide facilities for the disabled.

Pam Smith : 563364

Editors note : due to a lack of space we could not include new 'Are You Observant' photo's this month. Normal service will be resumed in June.

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning

04/5648/FUL 312 Main Road, Naphill (should read Walter's Ash, not Naphill). Understood to be for a new Co-op store. Single storey side and rear extensions to existing retail store, and enclosed staircase to first floor. Serious concerns over excessive size of extension (247% increase in floor area) and unattractive appearance in a rural area, out of keeping with Chiltern Design Guidelines and local AONB land status. Also inadequate parking (only 5 spaces for car-borne and passing trade shoppers, with no mention of dedicated parking spaces for flat occupants), creating a parking hazard on a through road, opposite shops, petrol station and entrance to Ash Close. Also loss of majority of rear garden space, with access to rear reduced to an extent that ensures future problems for deliveries and waste disposal.

04/5578/FUL Oakleigh, 35 Ash Close, Walter's Ash Replacement side garage and single storey rear extension.

04/5601/FUL 132-133 Templewood, Walter's Ash Two storey front extension, single rear extensions and alterations to both properties including garage to no 133 and parking (amendment to p/p 03/6982/FUL to alter garage and utility room to no 133 only).

04/5665/FUL Coombe Farm, Coombe Lane, Naphill Insertion of dormer in front elevation. *04/5666/LBC* is Listed Building Application for this.

04/5760/FUL Hill Brow, Coombe Lane, Naphill Part 2-storey, part 1-storey rear extension and rear conservatory, enclosure of front porch area and insertion of 2nd side dormer in connection with loft conversion. Concerns that the appearance is too bulky to be a sympathetic extension, and it may present problems of overlooking neighbouring properties. The plans show the existing garage is demolished but it is not clear what will replace it.

07/5784/FUL Boundary House, Downley Road, Naphill Two brick-pier lamps and one freestanding lamp-post in front garden (retro).

04/5826/FUL Louches Cottage, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill Conservatory to rear.

04/5836/FUL The Three Pigeons, Hunts Hill Lane, Naphill Detached garage and carport.

The evening closed with an impressive presentation of the statistics thrown up by the Naphill and Walters Ash Village Appraisal which is part of the Hughenden Parish Council project. If you remember, this was a list of questions about our every day routines, what affects them and what we feel could be done to improve them. The final analysis has yet to be done but when published should provide some interesting information. With the business finished we enjoyed a most enjoyable half hour with our guests and very welcome members of the public, helped, not a little, by the drinks and nibbles provided.

Don Turner : 562645

Naphill and Hughenden Scouts

As our Golden Jubilee year draws to a close the Scout Group is rapidly becoming a victim of its own success! All sections, including the newly re-opened cub pack in Hughenden, are now operating at capacity and we have had to close our lists for the time being.

Although welcome, success brings its own problems. For too long now we've been overly dependent on the goodwill of a small band of willing and extremely able leaders. Now the inevitable has happened and we will be losing both our cub leader and assistant cub leader in the summer. Once again the Group will have to focus its energies on remedying this situation rather than moving forward.

WE NEED HELP!

To help embed greater stability and continuity into the Group we're looking to develop teams of regular helpers for each section – whether you're a parent, grandparent, recently retired or someone who has been involved in Scouts before. There's a range of ways of getting involved from Approved Helper to Assistant leader and recent changes in the structure of Scouting mean the necessary training is easier and you get to choose a level of involvement and commitment that suits you.

What better way to give something back and give our young people some much needed focus? Why not give us a call for an informal chat?

Trevor Nicholls (Group Scout Leader) : 565322

Nick Corble (Chairman) : 481874

Lacey Green Windmill

Lacey Green Windmill will be open to the public from 2.30pm to 5.30pm on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays between the 2nd May and 26th September in 2004. Admission is £1 for adults and 50p for children.

The windmill is the oldest smock mill to survive in the country. It was built around 1650 and was in use until 1915. The mill retains its original massive mid 17th

century wooden machinery. Restoration to preserve the mill and bring it back to working order has been carried out since 1971 by The Chiltern Society.

The mill is located 2 miles south of Princes Risborough The mill is behind 'The Whip' at the top of the hill, Please park in Pink Road.

On Sunday 9th May, we hope to have the sails turning (weather permitting), as part of National Mills Weekend. We also hope to have the sails turning on Saturday 3rd July when we will be open from 12 to 4 for our Village Day.

Betty Hardy : 01844 343560

News From Christians In The Community

(Members of the three local churches)

All the services over Easter were well attended, and for the many people who went to the cinema to see the Passion of Christ the discussions continue. In May KRASH (Kids Really Are Special Here) meets on the 14th and 28th May at 6.30pm in the Naphill Evangelical Church. And TRASH (Teenagers Really Are Special Here) meet on the 7th and 21st May in Church House, Hughenden at 7pm.

On Sunday mornings at 10.30am there are JC clubs at Hughenden Church.

More details later of a 'lazy Sunday afternoon in Naphill' but put the date in your diary now – SUNDAY 4th JULY - there will be a brass band to listen to whilst you are drinking your tea and enjoying scones with jam and cream – and MORE! (something for the children and something for the men!!)

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

MORE POWERFUL THAN A LOCOMOTIVE?

On the 26th February this year, BBC2 aired a much-publicised program with the provocative title, '*What The World Thinks of God*'. If you didn't see it, I will not bore you with the many, varied and predictable statistics with which the program sought to paint a global picture of man's opinion of God in the 21st century. Suffice it to say that, as usual, you can make statistics say anything you like dependent upon whom you choose to ask and how you phrase the question.

As for the overall question of 'What The World Thinks of God,' I'm sure that I'm not the first person to have considered that the question one ought to be asking is, '*What does God Think of The World?*' You see, had the inhabitants of Planet Earth thought to ask themselves that question around the time of Noah, they might just have had the collective wit and humility to get down on their knees and pray for forgiveness. But no, just like the intellectual program makers of today, they treated God as *an abstract topic or an interesting*

idea for discussion and debate. So they too moulded Him and shaped Him into as many comforting or distorted images as can be invented by the vagaries of the human mind. Forgive my simple faith but The Bible remind us that *God* is the potter and *we* are the clay. That being so, precisely when was it that the roles became reversed so that the clay now moulds and shapes the potter? (Isaiah Ch. 29:16 NIV)

In Noah's time, man's image of God had become so distorted by his wicked, arrogant and hedonistic desires that only the righteous humility of Noah himself found favour in God's eyes. While the rest of humanity was treating God with the same flippant disdain or meaningless worship of false images that we see today, God's patience finally came to an end and He decided to broadcast a world-wide program of his own entitled, *'What I Think of The World'* Far more spectacular than BBC2's paltry effort, God's program flooded the world with viewer participation on a *truly* global scale as every single one of them was washed away like the stubborn, useless clods of earth that they had become. Only Noah, his family and the chosen animals remained to repopulate The Earth.

But, as the saying goes, *'History teaches us that we learn nothing from history'* Superman is back! Here we are again: Lords once more of all we survey, sitting round the table with our brandy and cigars, conjuring a god from sentences beginning, 'I think that God is like this...' 'My idea of God is like that...' 'I feel that God is Mother Earth...' As though the character and nature of almighty God will be *decided* by that which God created. And while we're all contributing to this ridiculous papier mache effigy of God, why don't we round things off completely by using the glue and scissors to cut and paste the Book of Genesis. That way Chapter 1, Verse 27 can read: *'So Man created god in his own image, in the image of Man he created him; male and female They created him.'* (NIV)

The defining moment of BBC2's offering must surely have been the popular comedian (literally) who stated the following: *'I don't believe in God but even if he did exist, I'm sure he wouldn't send me to hell just for not believing in him.'* At which point a nun who was seated next to him 'knowingly' interjected, *'Of course you're not going to hell.'* So there you have it, in a nutshell: God doesn't even exist *but even if He did*, He'd *still* have to conform to *his* idea of what God *should* be. While a nun who claims to know God personally through devotional prayer supports his *imaginary* view from *her opinion* of God. Wonderful!

May I suggest a simple experiment for them to test this novel approach to truth? Let the comedian in question try this: Take your 'wise' counsellor with you and go to a mainline railway track just outside a tunnel. Put on a blindfold and lie down on the track. Make sure that you have not read the published timetable that describes what is coming, when it's coming and why it's coming. You have no need of it since your wise counsellor will be standing within earshot to shout her comforting

reassurances to you. Wait until you hear a loud rushing noise approaching from the tunnel, as though something incredibly powerful, infinitely greater and stronger than you were bearing down upon you with unstoppable force. Ignore it. Ignore the warning sounds, the blazing light and the shrill whistles that precede the appearance of this leviathan.

If anyone tries to tell you about what's coming, don't listen; after all, you have your own imagination to sustain you. If anyone invites you to take a free ride to the most amazing destination on what's coming, reject the offer; tell them there's no such place and that *even if there was*, you *know* how boring it would be.

Finally, even if the sound of what's coming nearly deafens you and the very ground shakes and trembles as it approaches, keep your blindfold on and chant these reassuring words: *'I don't believe in locomotives but even if one did exist, I don't believe that it would run over me just because I don't believe in it.'* And do remember to have your wise counsellor join in at the very last moment with a defiant chorus of, *'Of course it won't run over you.'* (Isaiah Ch. 45:9-11 NIV)

~ Louis Chryssaphes

If you would like to know more or talk about any subject that concerns you please give us a call or drop by the church and we would be happy to help you if we can. Please note our regular weekly activities are all running again after the summer break. All at the church unless stated.

EARLY START: 07:00 – 07:30 Monday, Wednesday & Friday (short prayer & devotional Service)

CHATTERBOX: Tuesday: 09:30 – 12:00

HOME FELLOWSHIP GROUP: 20:00 (Members homes)

ANY QUESTIONS: Wednesday 10:00 – 11:30 (Discussion Group)

WOMEN'S GROUP: Friday 12:30 – 14:30 (Members homes)

KRASH: Alternate Fridays (Term Time) 18.30 – 20.00

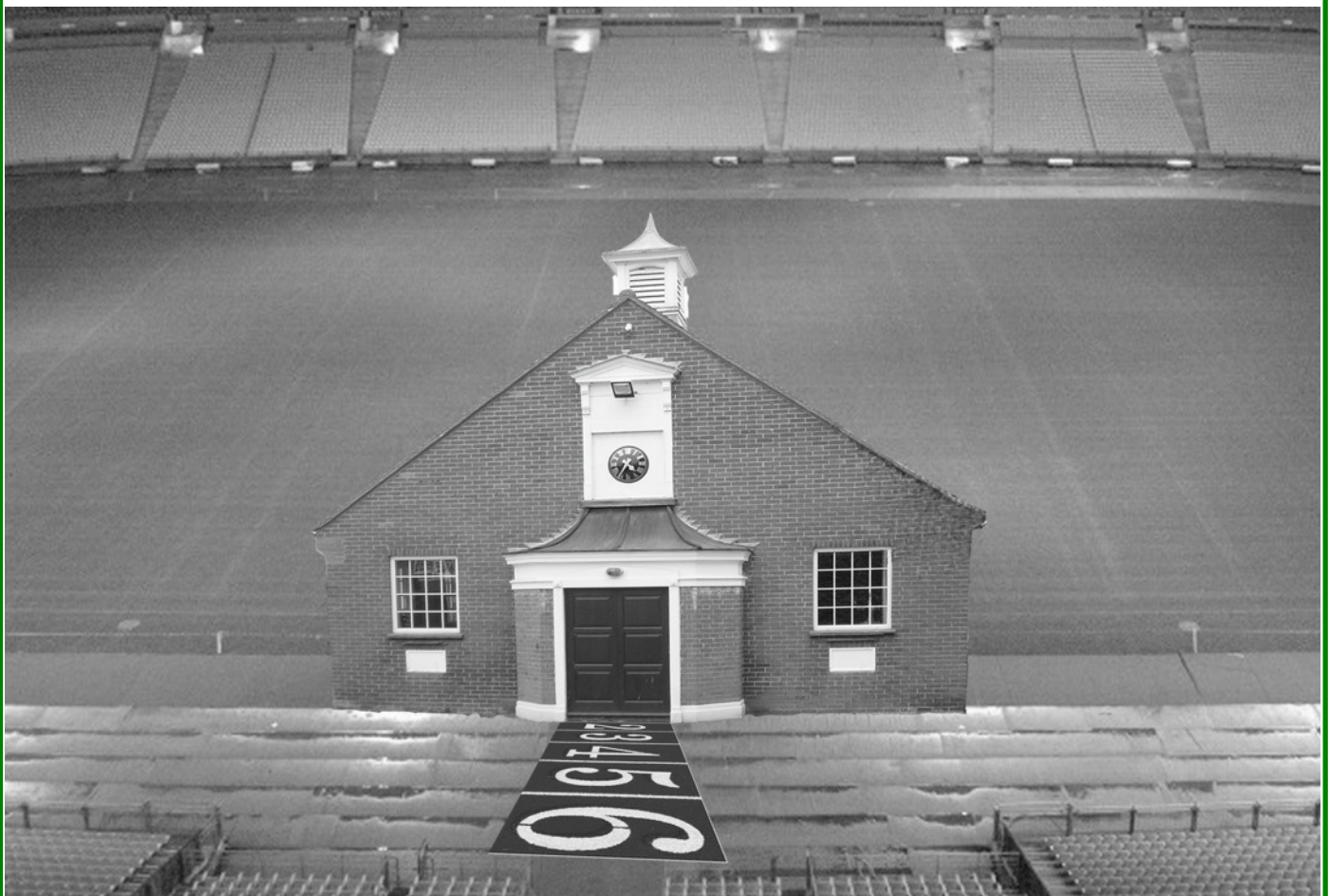
Christians in the Community Children's club (6 to 11 years)

May you all know the love, grace and peace of God

Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

June 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

June 2004

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Editorial

Lots to say this month so I'm afraid my Editorial spills over to the next page....

Last year the June Gazette front cover featured our Village Hall on a desert island, in keeping with the Hawaiian Fete theme. This year we have put the village hall into Olympic surroundings ready for our Olympic Fete on June 19th.

David Leith has a track record of sparking debate in the Gazette, and last month was no exception with his

views on the excessive amount of Gazette copy given to our local churches each month. There are a variety of responses this month but overall the message is clear so in future I will try to limit this section to one and a half pages – still a very healthy portion of the overall publication. It is not always easy to 'cut' text from an article so I am hopeful we can achieve this with the cooperation of the authors – early signs certainly indicate this is the case.

Cont...

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8–9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7–9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45–7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30–7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4–6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15–7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2–3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8–9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8–9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15–2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10–11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2–4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6–7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30–8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30–9pm |
| | U6s–U12s every Saturday | 9.30–11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00–10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2–4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am–12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8–10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30–2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Editorial cont...

We are now roughly 4 weeks away from the village fete (June 19th) and to my surprise I have recently discovered that we appear to have alienated a number of local businesses with some of the new ideas the Fete Committee implemented last year. After many years these businesses have decided to withdraw their financial support for the fete - a great shame for everyone. I am sorry that we have caused this feeling. The primary concern centres around the fact that we sought sponsorship from larger companies, outside Naphill & Walters Ash, in order to provide new (expensive) attractions on fete day. My point is that we are happy to change things where necessary, and unless people speak to us, there is little chance of us being able to keep them happy. By way of an explanation on this particular point, our approach to these larger companies was to seek larger sums to fund the expensive attractions we had at the fete last year, like the Surf Simulator, Go-Karts, and Steel Band etc. On average these attractions cost £300 each, and seldom pay for themselves on fete day. The Fete Committee was purposefully sympathetic to village-based businesses, offering them the same advertising space, cost and coverage that they had always enjoyed, but the harsh realities of finance meant that if we wanted new attractions we had to find the funds to pay for them. We did this by coming up with the new concept (for our fete) of sponsorship, and feedback on the day last year led us to believe that we had correctly moved with the times. It's a strange dilemma and I would welcome your views on whether we did the right thing last year or not.

I ought to point out that the rest of the Fete Committee did not want me to raise the above point so for the record this is my view and not that of the Committee.

Matt Piercy

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

JOHN BISHOP GARDEN MACHINERY, sales, service, and hire of all mowers, garden tractors, strimmers, chainsaws, etc. Free collection and delivery, 01494 563513. Access, Visa etc.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

DELICIOUS CREAM TEAS with home-made cakes at Hughenden Church House from 2.15 on Sundays and holiday Mondays until October. Groups can book special teas on weekdays — contact Judy on 01494 562972

KNOWTEL CONSULTANTS offer cheap telephone & mobile calls, gas & electricity & expertise for computer, broadband or internet problems. Call us to save or for help with PC problems, 563041

Lorraine Baker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

As the new season slips into gear, we are pleased to welcome several new members who, hopefully, are enjoying playing with us, particularly on Sunday mornings. Good weather on Easter Monday encouraged members, both old and new, to turn out for the first tournament and buffet lunch of the year, both of which were enjoyed by all. Providing, the weather is equally kind, we are planning to hold a 'Tea 'n Tennis' event on 31st May, which we trust will be equally successful. These social events are open to all local tennis players so, if you are not a member or you are a guest of a member, do come along and join us. The emphasis is always more on the social aspect of the occasion, rather than achievement of an unattainable high standard of play. This sociability is also reflected in two further events, which took place during April, i.e. our Golf Day and the Club Dinner. The former was held on 23rd April at Aylesbury Park Golf Club, with Gill Philpott as the winning club member and guest David (surname unknown!) winning the visitor's prize. The Club Dinner, held at the Chequers at Wheeler End on 30th April, gave the members a welcome rest from self-catering and was a great night out for all those who attended.

Team organizers are always on the lookout for new talent and are keen to encourage all those willing to play competitively to represent the club in the summer season leagues. Matches are now in full swing and, to date, our victorious Ladies team, who topped their division at the end of last season, unfortunately lost their first match against Beaconsfield. Our equally victorious Mixed 1 team, however, won their first match in their new top division. The Juniors also played their first home match on Sunday 9th May watched by keen supporters (result not known but both our boys were battling very well whilst I was there!). Whilst most players enjoy social tennis against fellow members, there is nothing quite like playing against unknown opposition to sharpen (or dampen) your game. It can ruin your life for days when

you lose but, on the other hand, winning can make you feel on the top of the world and your game tactics benefit from both experiences. This is one of the reasons we encourage our Junior members to join Seniors in the local summer leagues.

This year the LTA is running a 'Total Tennis' campaign designed to raise tennis awareness in the local community and highlight the facilities available to all ages to learn and play the game in their area. With this in mind and in conjunction with the NVC's Naphill Fete on 19th June, we are holding an Open Day. We hope people will stroll over to the Club, whilst attending the Fete, to find out what we can offer and perhaps have a go at our 'Fastest Serve' competition (prizes available for all ages!). We are also extending an invitation to anyone interested to come along to a free club session on the following Sunday (20th June). Do come along on either or both days! We look forward to meeting you! Alternatively, if you are unable to visit us during that particular weekend, contact the undersigned or our Membership Secretary - Sue Crooks - 01494 562539 for further information.

Ingrid Tomlins, Hon. Sec : 01494 446063

District & County Councillor's Report

The County Council has launched a new promotion of "Buckinghamshire, as a five star county". The purpose of this campaign is to promote the county as a good and desirable place in which to live and work. Those of us already here probably have no need to be persuaded, but with the planned growth at Aylesbury and south of Milton Keynes, it is essential that high-tech companies are attracted to these areas in order to provide local employment for those living there. In this way we shall be complying with the government's wish to create sustainable communities and not to provide more "dormitory" accommodation for commuters to London.

At the present time I am trying to resist the government 'diktat' contained in Policy Planning Guidance No 3 which requires high density building on all available building sites. I am appalled at the effect this is having on rural communities including our own villages, where the results of this directive can already be seen. It would help if more readers would write to the Planning Department of Wycombe District Council commenting on the urbanisation of our villages. Infilling is one thing but cramming is another. The development on the demolished Sharley shop is a case in point but other than the Residents Association's opposition, there was little public comment. The next issue will be the proposed intensive development of what was the garage area at Templewood.

My year of office as Chairman of Buckinghamshire County Council has now finished and I mentioned last month the good works of our many volunteers, without whom many of our services could not function. I also mentioned the absence of the age group of those between 30 and 50 and I appreciate that I may have unwittingly offended all those very much engaged in looking after

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail baclarke@btopenworld.com

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

families, young and old and the plethora of duties associated with work and schools. To those so offended I offer my sincere apologies. My comments were really directed at the lack of replacements to the ageing management committees of many of our charities. Although I understand that committee work is not to everyone's liking, we do need the organisations to provide the services.

Richard Pushman : 564152

Naphill Neighbours

Naphill Neighbours April meeting was held after Easter therefore we have two meetings to report for this month's Gazette.

On 19th April, Mr. L. Grout took us on a pictorial tour of Windsor Castle, Frogmore and The Royal Dairy. With the aid of new and old slides and a lot of knowledge we were given a very informative and interesting talk. Slides were shown of the castle before and after the fire leaving us all keen to view the restoration.

Our Spring outing on 26th April took 40 members to the Houses of Parliament and a tour of the City bridges. The visit to the Houses of Parliament was a huge success with everyone. Our guides were extremely knowledgeable, enthusiastic and humorous and it was a pleasure to be able to walk round this historic building. After lunching in the Jubilee Café we rejoined our coach along with a guide who took us on a tour of the bridges. We were blessed with fabulous weather and were able to stroll across the Millennium Bridge where BBC TV picked out a very able spokesperson, Pam Smith, who was able to give her views on the "Gherkin"! We stopped again for a stroll by Tower Bridge and then to

our final port of call, The Royal Festival Hall for tea and cake.

“Let me Entertain You” was the title of our May meeting and entertain us Mrs. Page most certainly did. With the aid of a few props in the shape of hats and jewellery, we were treated to monologues, sketches and jokes which were quite hilarious. In one sketch, Mrs Page managed to incorporate the names of all of the committee members, which naturally caused great amusement. We doubt very much if Sheila Rolfe will ever dare to sing again!!

At the time of writing we have a few spare seats left on the coach for our visit to Hampton Court on Thursday, 17th June. Tickets are £14 for members and £15 for guests. If anyone is interested in purchasing tickets, please contact Sheila on 562888.

On Monday, 14th June, Mrs. Sonia Waterton will talk to us about “Life upon the Wicked Stage”. Do come along and join us, new members are always most welcome.

Mary Shrimpton : 471613

Hughenden Parish Council AGM

The Parish Council has had another very busy year involved in a very wide range of activities. In the May 2003 election 3 Naphill & Walters Ash ward members did not stand again, they were Sarah Bacon, Jane Elmidoro and Richard Pushman. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank them for their hard work as Councillors. The 3 new Councillors that joined us in May are Councillors Peggy Waterston, Ian Bond and Matt Piercy.

One of the biggest challenges that the Parish Council gave itself during the year was the issuing of the Questionnaire that is to form the basis of the Parish Ward Appraisals subsequently the Parish Plan. Presentations of the results have taken place in each of the wards and the attendance and enthusiasm from everyone was first class.

We will now take into account the results of the questionnaire together with the comments made at the meetings to prepare our plan for the future of Hughenden Parish, with an Action plan that will be realistic and achievable both in time and content.

Turning to the village halls I cannot overstate how important these are to the community. The Parish Council try to help as much as possible to ease the financial burden that they sometimes suffer from with regards to new legislation both for the halls themselves and the playgrounds they supply. We have not only taken over the maintenance of the playground areas but also have, at the council meeting this week, agreed to fund the replacement of the actual equipment when it is dangerous or out of life

Allotments are still an important aspect of our role. A tremendous amount of work has taken place this year to bring the allotments back to a high standard by removing rubbish, tidying edges, and generally ensuring that we can maintain the areas in a cost effective way for the benefit of the Allotment holders. I would like to congratulate the winners of the Allotment judging competition -

1st was Mr. Wilson of Walters Ash

2nd was Mr. Wheeler of the Red Lion Gt. Kingshill

3rd was Mr. Bartholmew of Naphill

Looking to the future there is more of the same on a day-to-day basis, plus the Parish Plan and Action Plan, but what worries me most is the threat that we are under in the possible erosion of Green Belt and A.O.N.B. The two most important things that people wanted from the questionnaire were to retain our environment and to live in a rural village community.

Central Government and the creation of the South East Regional Assembly, known as SEERA and covers most of the South and South East of the country except London itself, need to understand our needs and not force development plans through our area that will change our environment forever. We must fight this and this Parish Council now has a mandate from the community to take as much action as we can. We should be the catalyst to bring together all the interested parties such as Resident's Associations, Village Halls, and individuals to ensure that we stand up and be counted. Safeguarding Green Belt and the A.O.N.B is vital to us all. Be warned that this is a real threat to the area in which we live.

Finally I would like to thank our staff - The Clerk Lynne Turner, The Warden John Moorby, and the clerical assistant Jenni Martin for all their hard work throughout the year.

Councillor Rick Gould, Chairman, Hughenden Parish Council : 01494 715296

Naphill Evening WI

On the 14th April we were invited to the Windmill WI who hosted the half-yearly Group meeting at Lacey Green. It was an enjoyable evening with an excellent and humorous speaker talking about "Women". A representative from each group then recited Poems about 'Women', causing more laughter and that was followed by a delicious buffet supper with tea and coffee. The following evening was our monthly meeting, equally excellent with our speaker being Louise Reed as Mary Kingsley - a 19th century African explorer. She really took us to the Africa of days gone by! We were delighted to welcome 21 visitors and hope they enjoyed their evening. The Bursary was drawn for Denman College and the lucky lady was Margaret Pearce – well deserved.

Our visit to Highgrove was another pleasant event with perfect weather. In spite of arriving an hour late, we were allowed to have a curtailed tour followed by afternoon tea which was nicely served in Highgrove's own china and accompanied by delicious Duchy biscuits. We then had time for a visit to the shop, where we could have spent all of our money. Marion will be sending a thank-you letter to HRH Prince Charles.

Having just returned from Jenny's Ploughman's Lunch, it has to be said, "Well done, Jenny". In spite of the

awful weather we were warmly welcomed, there was lovely food beautifully displayed, choices of drinks and a super raffle. Thanks go to our wonderful committee whose unstinting help make these events possible.

We will report next time on our May meeting 'Puddings and Resolutions', which is sure to be enjoyable with lots of yummy puddings to help us discuss the four resolutions. Lets hope there will be some lively debate! Then the 27th is our outing to London to see "Anything Goes" – we will tell you about that also next time.

Now for this month: June 17th is our 21st Birthday party with 'Fabulous 40's to Swinging 60's' by Mrs K Bradford and the competition will be a photograph of you in the 50's/60's. Tickets will be on sale for Valerie's Croquet and Games evening, with supper, which will be held on the 8th July. Plenty of support please, and also for the Fete on the 19th June – help is always needed. We will be doing refreshments in the Village Hall, the WI tombola (donations please) and entering a float in the procession. Do come out and give us a cheer along the route, then we hope to see you at the Crick. Fingers crossed for a fine day!

We are pleased to report that we are growing in numbers and welcome new members Janet, June and Sonja. Do come along as a visitor and see what we have to offer - then if you like it, you can join our friendly group meeting on the third Thursday evening of each month.

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Readers Letters

From The Wheel Public House

The Wheel would like to thanks all customers that participated on Sunday 2nd May at the Race Night in aid of Dr Barnardos, raising the sum of £451.00.

Thanks a lot.

Deana, Terry & Sam

In response to last month.

David Leith's article last month prompts me to say, seriously, the Gazette used to limit each contribution to half an A4 page, aiming for 1.5 pages all up from the 3 churches. You can use this fact/ custom/tradition if you like to remind the church people to cut it down - in fairness they probably don't know as they are all newish. I agree with David actually - there has been too much recently.

As to the person who wanted to know where the 30-50 year old volunteers are - tell them we are at school/Brownies etc volunteering for parent-teachers committees or as governors or as helpers in school and/or we are working in paid employment part time . Tell them the fete is run by the 30-50 year olds as is part of the parish council and village council. We are also raising the families who will be the future youths who help and moving [very] gradually towards being the elderly who will need the help!

Sheila Draper.

Second Hand Emporium

The Second Hand Emporium is traditionally one of the most important elements of the fete fund raiser. Last year 10% of the total revenue of the fete came from the Second Hand Emporium which is a massive testament to the volunteers that manned it on the day and helped gather all of the items for sale. BUT without the contribution of the people of Naphill & Walters Ash there would be no Second Hand Emporium.

Now is the time to think about all those items in your garage that you so wanted to keep but haven't looked at for years. Think about the loft space you could have by donating to the Second Hand Emporium. Think about the money you could be helping to raise!

Call Ian Bond now on 01494 564824 to arrange collection of your treasures or where it can be dropped off.



On religious content in the Gazette

Referring to David Leith's letter - I definitely think it is the Editor's decision concerning the content of the Gazette but I would humbly suggest that there should be a limit on the size of all articles - perhaps three-quarters of a page or approx 500 words.

Norma Clarke

More on religious content

Dear Editor

I am a Christian and I always read the church articles in the Gazette. I am very sorry that the Methodists and the Church of England no longer provide articles on a regular basis, although I am glad that Christians in the Community at least publish their activities. It is hardly surprising that, with no competition, the Evangelical Church has taken up all the space.

Mr Chryssaphes is not the minister at the Evangelical Church and he does not tell us whether he is expressing his own views or those of his church, but he certainly expresses himself at great length.

Perhaps it could be suggested to him that if he could cut his articles to about a third of their present length, he would stand more chance of getting his message across as more people would read them.

Yours Sincerely

Jenny Roughan

And more...

Dear Editor,

I write in response to a letter submitted in the May Gazette by the treasurer Mr David Leith. In this letter, Mr Leith makes certain criticisms about an article that I submitted in the March issue (Naphill Evangelical Free Church) and compares my article unfavourably with that month's submission by Simon Cronk (vicar of St Michael's and All Angel's Hughenden). Your own response to Mr Leith's letter invites comments on the matters raised therein and so my (necessarily lengthy) response to the specific comments made by Mr Leith are as follows:

1) **'Excessive religious input in the magazine':** *Very occasionally*, all three parish churches may contribute separate articles to the same magazine issue and thus *on those occasions* their *combined* input may seem 'excessive' for that particular issue of the magazine. In practice, this combined input is extremely rare and is most likely to occur in the Christmas issue. Is Mr Leith suggesting that Christmas is an inappropriate time for 'excessive religious input'?

2) **'The Evangelical input was too long':** Of course, if my article was too long *for Mr Leith's personal tastes*, then he is quite properly entitled to his own opinion. However, please note Mr Leith's own article on page 4 of the February issue of the Gazette. While I would not be so disingenuous as to make spurious remarks about the *content* of his article (which I quite enjoyed) I do point to the *length* of his submission, which is *exactly equal* to my own. Am I unreasonable to hope that his yardstick for acceptable length of copy be applied to himself before he seeks to limit that of others? Moreover, Grant Woodruff's regular Astronomy submissions are always of a similar size to our church's articles. In order not to show partiality on the grounds of subject matter alone, I presume that Mr Leith will be publicly censuring Grant Woodruff then.

3) **'I thought that the Hughenden input was excellent... the Evangelical input trespassed into the political arena.'** Frankly, I am absolutely incredulous at this comparison! I firmly agree with David that the Hughenden input was excellent but *the entire article dealt with political correctness!* As for the political arena, I have long believed that party politics are man's feeble attempt to *tinker* with the grave problems of the world for which *only God can provide a lasting remedy*. Moreover, I am actually employed in an occupation that expressly forbids any active involvement in politics. As for Mr Leith's own incredulity that the Government would ever clamp down on free speech, I refer him to an article on 'Blasphemy' published in the 'End column' of the Daily Telegraph (by Christopher Howse, 03.05.04). Mr Howse points out that, 'In Britain the Government has been tinkering with the law to make blasphemy a question of offence against cultural groups.' This would actually make it an offence to publicly quote certain sections of The Bible(!) and, by association, forbid the publication of forthright statements of Christian doctrine

such as the article that incurred Mr Leith's displeasure. I therefore refute Mr Leith's criticisms on this score and consider them both baseless and a matter of inaccurate personal conjecture.

In conclusion, I should like to make the following point. Our church (and I am sure I speak for the other churches also) is grateful for the opportunity to voice Biblical truth through the medium of your magazine. I agree with Mr Leith that the Naphill and Walter's Ash Gazette is not a church magazine. But neither is it an Astronomy magazine or a medium for Mr Leith's personal viewpoint alone. It is, as you the editor have generously provided, 'a magazine for everyone.' All the articles that I contribute are not my own opinions (which should be of no interest or value to anyone) but are a literal expression of Biblical doctrine and truth. Nearly every one has received some sort of positive response. My aim in writing them is to give fresh expression to the teachings of Jesus Christ. I do this for the encouragement of those readers who already believe and in the hope that those who do not believe might hear the truth, respond to it and receive the Lord's gift of everlasting life. Thus I (and the Lord) care about Mr Leith sincerely enough to tell him what God would have him hear even though it may not be what he wants to hear. As with any article in the magazine, no one is compelled to read what he or she does not wish to – the magazine caters for all reasonable tastes and interests after all. But if David is seeking to censor or unfairly restrict the voice of Jesus Christ *because he is not a believer* then I humbly suggest that it is because he has been 'offended by the truth' as my article suggested. In which case, let him ignore my article and take note instead of the conclusion to Simon Cronk's article which he himself said was excellent: 'To some this won't matter, but dig deeper and it is not the spirit of tolerance but of deep intolerance that emerges.'

Respectfully,

Louis Chryssaphes: lchryss@aol.com

(Please note that this is a personal response in my capacity as the author of the article in question)

Editors note : I have written to all the local churches asking them to try and limit their articles to half a page. In the name of fairness this should equally be applied to all other contributors. Hopefully we can make this take effect from next month.

Best Neighbour Award

Every year at the village fete an award is made to the villages 'Best Neighbour'. If you know someone that lives in Naphill or Walters Ash and is worthy of this award please let me know along with your reason for nominating them. Please call Matt on 562081, email matthew_piercy@lycos.co.uk or by hand to 300 Main Road.

The award will be presented at 3.00pm on June 19th at the Fete.

Marie Curie Daffodil Day Collection

2004 NAPHILL & WALTERS ASH FETE

Saturday
19th of June 2004

Fun For All The Family

**Kids Zone—Second Hand Emporium—
Bouncy Slide—Go Karts—BBQ—Classic
Cars—Candy Floss—Kids Meals—Coconut
Shy—Beer Tent—Tombola—Maypole
Dancing—Bouncy Castles—Face
Painting—Wl Fruit Stall—Grand Draw
Raffle—Evening Party—Football
Competition—Cake Stall—Copper Maze—
Lucky Sand Pot—Sweet Stall—Stocks—
Ice Cream—Poly Rides—Treasure Hunt—
Balloon Race plus ...**



**RAF Hawk
Display Team**

**Procession starts
at 12pm from Forge
Road**

www.villagefete.org
villagefete@hotmail.com

This year, in High Wycombe, we raised over £1,400 but with more volunteers we could double this. 2 hours of someone's time – usually the 2nd Saturday in March. Taking names now for next year! Please contact me.

Sue Nash : 563234

Horticultural Society

Summer Show

Naphill Village Hall

Saturday July 3rd

Our Annual Summer Show takes place on Saturday July 3rd and is your chance to show off what you can grow in your garden or allotment

Last year we had record entries at both shows, so help us to improve on those figures this year.

We have had excellent growing conditions recently, so no excuses – pick up a schedule and have a look through – there must be something you can enter.

If gardening is not really your thing then what about handcrafts, photography, cookery or flower arranging – we've got it all!

The Children's classes were very well supported last year, so why not encourage yours to have a go this time?

Schedules are available from Don Turner, the Post Office or myself.

If you prefer to just come along and have a look, the doors open at 2pm and the ever-popular auction of donated exhibits will take place at 4pm. There is also a sales table so if you have any contributions to this please let Don know on 562645.

This is a village show, and has been designed to be informal so that anyone can enter.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

Books Needed For Fete

'Newish' please. Especially novels and children's books. No 1970's cook books or 1930's maths books!! Even the charity shops don't want them so we are left to dispose of them.

Please deliver to 'Woodside', Forge Road BEFORE the Fete; it's too late to sort out when delivered to the stall on the day. Again, thanks for your help.

Sally : 562281

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In June

Sunset on June 25 is the latest of the year and sunrise on 17 is the earliest. The summer solstice is on 21. The Moon is full on 14 and new on 29. Saturn is too low in the sky near the Sun to see this month but Jupiter will be its normal bright self in the western sky in the evenings. Mars is south to southwest during the mornings before sunrise. Although the sky never gets really dark at this

time of the year, it should be possible to see Venus right next to Mercury on June 1 in the morning eastern horizon although the Sun rising will make it difficult. The Andromeda galaxy is beginning to appear in the north-western sky late in the evening.

Transit of Venus

Very occasionally Venus passes in front of the Sun. The last time was in 1882 and the next one is on 2004 June 8 and it will last six hours. Transit starts at 06.19 when the planet first touches the Sun. Venus is fully in the Sun's disk at 06.39. Contact III, when the planet again touches the limb of the Sun is at 12.04 and transit is finished at 12.24. Be very careful not to look directly at the Sun as it will damage your eyes. The best method is to use a proper solar filter. If you do not have one, direct a pair of binoculars on to a piece of paper so that you are seeing it indirectly. With your back to the Sun project its light through binoculars or a telescope on to a white card. You can obtain more information about viewing the Sun safely from

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| June | Rise | 04.51 | 05.24 | 04.04 | 01.34 | 09.48 | 06.13 |
| 1 | Set | 21.11 | 22.57 | 19.06 | 10.45 | 01.09 | 22.34 |
| June | Rise | 04.47 | 13.20 | 03.56 | 01.16 | 09.27 | 05.49 |
| 8 | Set | 21.18 | 02.12 | 19.27 | 10.36 | 00.40 | 22.20 |
| June | Rise | 04.44 | 23.09 | 03.52 | 00.54 | 09.06 | 05.25 |
| 15 | Set | 21.23 | 05.10 | 19.47 | 10.26 | 00.15 | 21.47 |
| June | Rise | 04.45 | 01.39 | 03.50 | 00.34 | 08.46 | 05.02 |
| 22 | Set | 21.25 | 13.52 | 20.06 | 10.14 | 23.50 | 21.23 |
| June | Rise | 04.48 | 04.02 | 03.52 | 00.14 | 08.25 | 04.38 |
| 29 | Set | 21.25 | 21.47 | 20.22 | 10.00 | 23.25 | 21.00 |

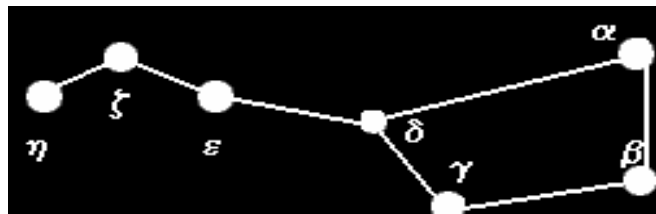
<http://skyandtelescope.com/observing/objects/sun/> If you miss this transit the next one is in 2012 but will be invisible in the UK. For UK residents they will have to wait until 2247. The last transit visible in the UK was in 12 83, well before the invention of the telescope and well before anyone knew to watch it. To emphasize the rareness of the event, there have been only six transits since the invention of the telescope in 1608 and none of them in Britain. So even if you cannot see it on June 8, you will know of the unusual astronomical event taking place that day.

Star Movement

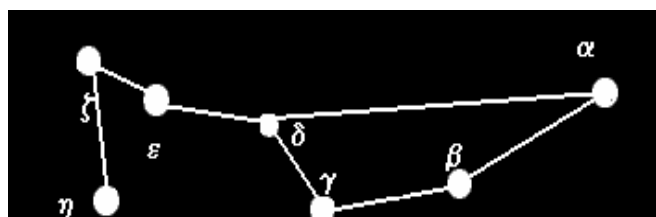
We have learnt at school that the stars do not move on the celestial sphere. Largely this is true and the stars move round the Milky Way galaxy more or less the way that the Sun moves. But there are some exceptions and a good example are two of the stars in the Great Bear or Ursa Major (sometimes known as the Big Dipper or the Plough). The present star arrangement is shown below:

All the stars shown in the Great Bear have names. Eta (η) is Alkaid, Zeta (ζ) is Mizar, Epsilon (ϵ) is Alioth, Delta (δ) is Megrez, Alpha (α) is Dubhe, Beta (β) is Merak and Gamma (γ) is Phad. Alkaid and Dubhe are the stars that move relative to the others and the second diagram shows how the seven of them will appear in 100,000 years time. Mizar is a double star that can be seen with binoculars.

At present we use the Beta and Alpha stars as pointers to find the north star or Polaris, which is in the constellation of Ursa Minor or the Little Bear. Polaris is within 1° of true north and can be found approximately five times the distance between Beta and Alpha. The phenomenon of



precession, which describes the conical movement of the Earth's axis over a 25,800 year cycle, means that Polaris will be only $\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ from true north in the year 2100 but by the year 14000 the nearest star will be Vega (Alpha Lyrae). Mizar (Zeta) is a double star and its companion is easily



visible when using binoculars. Dubhe (Beta) is an orange star and the rest are white. The whole constellation is circumpolar from Britain, which means it can always be seen throughout the year and it appears to rotate around the pole star at different times of the night and at different times of the year.

Grant Woodruff

Naphill & Walters Ash School

Although we organise educational visits throughout the year to support the teaching in school, we are now entering the peak season. Over the next few weeks, classes will be visiting Sulgrave Manor, Hughenden Manor, the Chiltern Open Air Museum and Whipsnade Zoo. The main purpose of these visits is to reinforce and extend work in History, Geography, Design & Technology and Science. This term will also see the annual residential week for Year 4 at Shortenills Environmental Education Centre. This year the staffing for this visit is even more high-powered than usual with Mr Ackland, Mrs Banks and Mr Foggo accompanying me. However, the school will be left in the very good hands of Mrs Sermon and other members of the senior management team – not forgetting probably the best staff in the world!

The Maypole Team had a wonderful day on 1st May as did their audience and Owlswick Morris. The children are due to dance again at the Village Fete, the School Fete and Bradenham Fete. The school will also be providing princesses for the Naphill Village Fete – as usual a difficult task to select from such talent! Mr McLoughlin, the head designate of Naphill and Walters Ash has agreed to join the panel judging entries in the procession.

As usual, children from the school are taking an active part in events outside the immediate community. Many of our musicians will be joining others from school around High Wycombe to perform in the Wycombe Schools Concert at the Swan. Meanwhile, supporters from the school have booked their seats for the Wycombe Swan to see Alice Young dance in the Youth Ballet production of Swan Lake. Well done Alice!

Congratulations too to Lily Forward for winning the competition to design a picture for Peace run by Soroptimist International of High Wycombe.

There is good news for the school's Library project. Our initial disappointment at not being awarded a grant for a proportion of the total cost from the government Seed Challenge has been dispelled. I am delighted to say that Buckinghamshire County Council has undertaken to provide sufficient funding to top up the money that the school and WANSa are able to contribute to the project.

Hilary Conboy, Headteacher

Village Fete 2004

We have approximately 4 weeks to go (depending on when you read this!) until the big day on June 19th. During the next couple of weeks you will receive a volunteer knocking at your door offering you a free Fete Program and asking you to purchase some Grand Draw tickets – please give generously and good luck with winning a prize.

Fete Procession – Ideally dress up in something that suits the Olympic theme, but as a minimum please join the procession by walking behind it as it leaves Forge Road at midday and heads towards The Crick to signify the official opening of The Fete.

Evening Dance – Tickets are still available at £12.50 which includes a 2-course hot meal, coffee and disco. 8.00pm – midnight. Tickets from Andy, 564576.

Help – At this stage we have probably exhausted all requests for help, but as one last effort please do ring me if you are able to give up an hour or two.

Anyone that knows how to influence the weather, please do it! See you all on June 19th.

Alan Jessop : 563369

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning:

04/5980/FUL Formosa, Chapel Lane, Naphill. Erection of detached 4-bed brick and flint dwelling with integral garage at rear of Formosa, demolition and replacement of existing garage to serve Formosa. Objection. Over-development in AONB; inappropriate in a back garden; adverse effect on neighbours, and on the setting of the Green Belt.

04/6000/FUL 134 Main Road, Naphill. Construction of single storey rear extension.

04/6097/FUL 11 Vincents Way, Naphill. Construction of replacement detached garage, single storey rear extension with roof over, in connection with loft conversion.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, 10th June 2004, Poland House, Walters Ash.

Gloria Leflaive : 563634

Loyal Service to Naphill and Walters Ash Gazette

We would like to thank Mrs Clements and her daughter, from Main Road Walters Ash, plus Hazel Davies of Hunts Hill Lane for the many years of faithful service they have given in delivering the Gazette to houses in their respective areas. Mrs Clements 'round' has now been taken over by Roger and Kathy Beavil from Grimms Meadow and Hazel Davies round has been taken over by Fiona Gwilt from Hunts Hill Lane. Thanks to them for volunteering their services.

The efforts of the volunteers, 31 in all, who deliver the magazine and collect the annual subscription, is very much appreciated.

If you have not paid your £2.50 yet, please make sure you do as soon as possible; this will keep the treasurer happy!

Mike and Pauline Pool : 564226

Bradenham Parish Council

Chairman's Report 2003/2004 presented 05/05/04

The chairman welcomed the members. Two members of the public was present, Mr. James Taylor from the National Trust and PC Adam Polkey. He thanked all for attending.

The year began with continued discussion about the proposed round- about. We declared that our principal opposition was the hideous overhead lighting, although photoelectric cells might be more acceptable. Easing the right-hand turn northwards from the village and noise of the road would be improved if the round- about and the road were pushed closer to the railway and there is a staggered approach to the village. Village signs on the A4010 might also help traffic calming. The good news is that now the proposed round about at Culverton has been indefinitely been postponed, the Bradenham one will be postponed even longer.

There had been a spate of burglaries in the village during the summer. The police have now caught the two burglars who have owned up to 600 and 300 thefts respectively.

Richard Langridge started the Rejuvenating of the village Pond project. BCC installed filters to cleanse the road surface water in December. In the financial year, £1000 has been received in donations/grant money, with another £1900 due at the start of the next financial year. Several organisations had been approached for grants

and the council has been successful with the Don Millar Memorial Fund (£500), Chairman of Bucks. County Council's fund (£600), The Chiltern Society Special Projects Fund (£800) and individual donations so far adding up to £1000. The National Trust has provided and will provide some labour for the project. Many thanks to Councillor Langridge for all his hard work and for obtaining quotes for the liner and getting professional advice on the project. We are now waiting for the pond to dry up so the liner can be laid.

James Campanini undertook to put together a questionnaire to be put to the residents, which could form the basis for a Parish Plan. Councillors were urged to put forward six questions, which could interest parishioners: busses, trains, parking, speeding etc.

We agreed and set a precept of £4750 for the coming year.

Parish Boundaries; Our request to enlarge the parish by including all of Walter's Ash in the Parish was countered at the last minute by Hughenden Parish Council, who wished to acquire that part of Walter's Ash that we had asked to be included with Bradenham. The end result was no change. Downley Parish Council has acquired a part of Pimlock's Wood. No people live there and it has no effect on our Parish.

Last autumn saw pressure from Central Railways. Here we must count ourselves lucky that we have Gerald David among us, who loves railways and know several influential people. Councillor David was thanked for all his efforts regarding this issue. He had reported in September that the minister of Transport, Kim Howells was not enthusiastic about Central Railways plans. David Lidington, MP, has now let us know that the Government has given the plans the boot.

The planning sub-committee has been busy during the year with various plans concerning the kitchens at the Officers Mess at RAF High Wycombe. The Parish Council approved all the trees and extension at the Old Cottage, but WDC did not approved of any of the plans for the Old Cott. The PC approved alterations at Great Barfield, but they were not happy about the fact that the plan had been retrospective. WDC still approved it. The National Trust also had various plans for the gardens at the manor, which were approved by both PC and WDC. The Trust took the PC on a guided tour of the garden and discussed the plans for the changes with them.

Due to the influence of Cllr David Devine, the new Rider on Call bus service, now also includes a stop in Bradenham. Many thanks to Cllr. Devine. Thanks have been sent Garrett Emmerson, BCC, for putting the Service in place.

A meeting of the Friends of Saunderton Station was attended and the PC decided to donate £500 to the refurbishment of the waiting room at the station.

The Parish Council was reminded of its responsibility of maintaining the Church clock and has put money to do so in next year's budget. This year we repaired the Lychgate (war memorial) and two of our bus shelters.

We have been looking into having a SID (speed indicating device) briefly in the village, and plan to do so in the summer.

The broken bollard at the A4010 end of Rectory lane by Great Barfield (now Culzean House) is to be replaced by metal bollards.

The chairman had attended a luncheon hosted by the Chairman of Bucks. County Council, in honour of those councillors in the county who have served 25 years or more on their council. The Chairman has served for 37 years.

Finally, Councillor Gilchrist will be resigning from the Parish Council after the July meeting after 10 years service. All will sadly miss her. Thanks to Mrs. Gilchrist for all her wise guidance and support over the years.

All councillors were thanked for their efforts and support during the year.

Deirdre Hansen, Clerk To The Council

Pre-school News

We are thoroughly enjoying our theme this half-term of 'people who help us'. We have been cooking, gardening and doing woodwork. We've had visits from The Police and a fire engine. Some of our parents who work as Nurses and Doctors etc have talked to us about their jobs.

The fundraising barn dance was very enjoyable. Thank you to all who helps organise it and raised over £700!

Next half-term we look forward to preparing our float for the fete and carnival procession. Linking in with that our theme for next half-term will be sports.

18 of our children will be leaving to go to school in the summer, and they will be enjoying further visits on the bus to see their new classrooms and Teachers.

Numbers for September continue to grow. Please contact me if you have a child of 2½+ and would like any information or to register on our waiting list on 564037 or 565359.

Mo Bedder, Supervisor : 565359

Village Hall Notes

Our May meeting is always confusing as we have to hold it at the end of April because of the Bank Holiday. Despite this we had a good turnout and got through our business quickly – probably because the Chairman had very little voice!

We started by voting on the chairman and vice chairman for the coming year and both these positions showed no change from last year. Andrew Wilmot and Dave Evans were both co-opted on the committee. Andrew is the web master for the village web site and Dave is one of the handymen for the hall, saving us a fortune by doing the general maintenance. My thanks to everyone who gives up their time to serve on the Village Hall Council

and thus do such a lot to keep the spirit of our village going.

The bark in the play area is due to be replaced by Hughenden Parish Council. Our thanks to them for this. I have had a call from a mother whose young child fell through the rungs leading up to the big slide. The Warden of the Parish Council who inspects the equipment weekly has checked the slide, and reports that it complies with all the standards that it should. However he pointed out that if we adapted the slide in any way to stop small children from being able to fall through the rungs, then it would no longer comply with these standards. We have to rely on the sense and supervision of adults while their children are using the equipment. This slide is not designed to be used by very young children. We obviously cannot put an age limit on each piece of equipment so do watch your children while they are in the playground to make sure that they are not being too ambitious or adventurous in their choice of play equipment. Thank you.

It has been reported that hirers are not locking all the doors and windows when leaving the Hall. With the better weather hopefully on its way this is obviously going to be more of an issue. Notices have been put up as reminders. When you are leaving the Hall please could you check that it is secure.

The extension is slowly growing. Thanks for your patience while the work is being done. It should be well worth all the disruption!

The next village event is the Fete on 19th June. Prayers are being offered up for the best of weather, and plans are well underway. There is the usual plea for extra helpers on the day. If you can possibly help out then do phone Alan Jessop to offer your services. With the right amount of helpers it is a great day and a lot of fun.

Our next events will then be the FIREWORKS on 6th NOVEMBER and the CHRISTMAS FAYRE on 4th DECEMBER. Put the dates in your diary if they are not there already.

Our next meeting on the 7th June will be preceded by the Annual Litter Blitz around the Hall and the Crick at 7.30. If you can help you would be welcomed with open arms. Bring your own marigolds. We provide the black sacks!

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall and
Playing Fields Council : 563479*

Show to have fourth production

I hear from one-time editor Alan Lewis that his musical comedy *Below Stairs*, which is set in 1914, will be having its fourth production on 21– 24 July at the Magna Carta Arts Centre, Staines. For a show premièred in 2002, this is extremely good going. The group that is staging it, Riverside Players, have fixed the ticket price at £8 but introduced a concessionary rate on the first night (Wednesday 21 July) of just £5.50 in the hope of attracting groups of over-60s to this tuneful and feel-good musical. If any readers are interested in getting a party together, please get in touch with me and I will put you all in contact. Meanwhile, those with internet access

can get more details of the show's history and rave reviews from www.belowstairsshow.com.

One interesting aspect of this and all future productions is that half of the royalties will be given to Cancer Research UK. I am glad to say that Alan seems to have recovered fully from his three major cancer operations and recently had a further 'all clear'.

Matt Piercy : 562081

Flower Festival

At Hughenden Parish Church on 4th, 5th and 6th June. The theme is "Precious Child" and as well as the flower displays there will be a art display by Great Kingshill school. Refreshments will be on sale and all proceeds will be sent to the Ebenezer Children's Centre in Uganda.

Lacey Green Productions

Friday 25 and Saturday 26 June 7.30pm for 8 at Lacey Green Village hall. Tickets cost £16.00 including dinner which is normally excellent. There are three short plays which are 'A Cut in the Rates' and 'Gosforth's Fete', Alan Ayckbourn and 'The Last Bread Pudding' by Nick Warburton. There is a licensed bar!!!

Tickets are available by ringing 01844 345956/344207. email tickets@lgp.org.uk

Janet Leigh-Dugmore : 564062

News From Christians In The Community (Members of the three local churches)

Look out for us at the Naphill Fete – we'll be running the sweet stall.

KRASH (Kids Really Are Special Here) meets at 6.30pm on Fridays 11th and 25th June at the Naphill Evangelical Church. TRASH (Teenagers Really Are Special Here) meets at 7pm on Friday 18th June at Church House, Hughenden.

On Sunday 20th June at 4pm there will be the annual Songs of Praise in the Park (on the triangle of grass by the Hughenden Church). Bring your picnics and chairs and sing along with the Salvation Army.

At Naphill Village Hall on Sunday 4th July there will be a 'Free Funday on a Sunday' with the Bisham Concert Band, bouncy castle, vintage cars and motor bikes, all enjoyed with tea and scones. We look forward to seeing you there from 3 'til 5pm

Below are the up-to-date details on service times at the local churches –

St. Michael and All Angels, Hughenden – Sundays 8am and 9am.

10.30am is the Family Service with crèche and J.C. clubs for the children.

There are other services during the week – Simon Cronk is the Vicar and can be contacted on 563439.

Naphill Evangelical Free Church – Sundays at 10.30am with Sunday School at 11am. Contact Pastor Bob Semple on 563304 for other weekly events

Naphill Methodist Church – Sundays at 11am. Contact Reverend Janice Pettipher on 562860 for details of other weekly events.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

A RUDE AWAKENING

Some years ago, I had a dream that has exerted a profound influence upon me ever since. To call it 'a dream' is not strictly accurate since I was wide-awake and standing up at the time. Perhaps 'a vision' is a more appropriate term. Whatever it was, the events that I experienced will haunt me to my dying day.

I 'dreamt' that it was night time and that I was sound asleep in my bed. Suddenly, I became aware of a voice saying, "Wake up." Not wishing to be roused from my pleasant slumber, I ignored the voice but this time I heard myself called by name and once again the voice said, "Wake up." Now thoroughly annoyed at the disturbance, I opened my eyes to be greeted by the sight of a figure I did not recognise, standing at the foot of my bed. Ordinarily, this would be an alarming experience but I was innately aware that this person meant me no harm and his voice was strangely reassuring. "You must leave this place," he said, "it is on fire." Gazing about me, I saw no evidence of a fire. No flames, no smoke, no heat. Yet the figure told me to follow him out of the room and I did so for no other reason than that his voice had an air of calm authority about it.

Once outside the room, I found myself in an immensely long and narrow corridor off which were countless doors identical to my own. The figure pointed down the corridor and said, "The exit is that way." He began to walk in that direction and almost immediately, he dissolved completely from my sight. A stranger had called me by name and woken me up in the middle of the night. I saw no evidence to substantiate what he had said. The corridor was dark and gloomy and there seemed to be no end to it, just an endless row of doors on either side. I could have returned to my slumber yet something about his voice almost compelled me to act upon his warning and so I began to walk in the direction that he had taken.

As soon as I set off, I noticed the corridor filling with smoke. As I increased my pace, the smoke became thicker and more acrid. I could see no sign of the exit that he had pointed to and I began to panic. Faster and faster I ran, stumbling stupidly along the endless corridor, passing door upon door just like my own but never an exit in sight. The corridor seemed to go on forever.

Suddenly and without warning, I burst into the light and was immediately engulfed in bright sunshine. A large crowd of people was gathered in the distance. Still running, I glanced over my shoulder to see that the building I had escaped from was actually a gigantic hotel. By now, it was well and truly ablaze, vast flames soaring

skyward. Relieved to have escaped with my life, I tumbled breathlessly into the throng of people up ahead. At their centre stood the stranger who had woken me. At once, I was filled with an overwhelming desire to express my gratitude and rushed up to him, throwing my arms about his neck. Yet I found nothing more cogent to say than, "Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!"

I shall never forget his reaction. As I stepped back to look at him I realised with a sense of awe and wonder that I stood in the presence of Jesus Christ. Time froze; the clamour around me ceased. His eyes caught mine and I was almost overwhelmed by a sense of warmth and compassion, of being known and loved, cared for and understood as no one ever had – not even myself. But then his eyes filled with tears that I would have given anything to stem. Never had I seen such sadness expressed upon a human face. "Lord," I cried. "Why are you weeping? You have saved me!" At this, he gently placed one hand upon my shoulder and transferred his grief-stricken gaze from my eyes to the burning building behind me. "My child," he said. "How many doors did you run past on your way to safety? Where are all the people who were sleeping just as you were? Could you not have brought some of them with you also?"

Even now, as I write this account, I am unable to recall those words without weeping inconsolably. I do not have the calm, authoritative voice of Jesus Christ. I wish that I had the power to make men hear the truth and believe me whenever I speak, but I do not. I'm just a simple wretch who was woken from his slumber in time to escape the flames.

If anything I write in the pages of this magazine ever offends anyone, I hope that they will forgive me. It's just that I have come to realise that a rude awakening from a stranger can be the kindest act of all.

~ *Louis Chryssaphes*

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand."

(John 10:27 – 28) NIV

May you know and hear the voice of the Good Shepherd.

Bob Semple : 563304 : pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

St Michael and All Angels Hughenden

I respond as my contribution this month to the invitation to comment on the letter from David Leith in the May edition about church input to the Naphill Gazette. Firstly I would like to begin by thanking David for his comments, but also confess that I do not now actually contribute every month but try to offer a quarterly piece. I can only speak personally, but I probably spend as much time trying to edit and shorten everything I write than actually writing it (something for which I hope my congregations are moderately grateful when they listen to my sermons!) As far as the political content is

concerned, of course if an editorial of a local magazine has a non-political policy, than that editorial has every right not to allow a piece through (as happened to one of my contributions to another local paper at the lead up to the Iraq war when I offered a personal comment about that war).

However I will say that inevitably the Church from time to time will comment about political issues. As a Christian I do not believe that God is confined to the four walls of a church but he is ultimately 'sovereign over the nations', and the church is at times called to stand up and speak out about what we see in the world. This is precisely what I tried to do in a modest way with my last contribution to the magazine. Then I commented about what I felt to be an absurd position concerning the possible banning of religious symbolism, including Christmas cards, from the workplace, a situation which if enforced would surely undermine free speech and expression!

The point I would like to make is that the church is of course at times called to offer words of comfort and hope. But sometimes I believe that it is also called to challenge with words which may be prophetic and which will not be so easy to hear. How this happens locally and on the ground will differ from place to place, but I do worry sometimes that all that is asked of the church is that we remain insipid and respectable and safely irrelevant. From its inception Christianity has always been a deeply powerful life changing force in the world. It had a huge impact on the world of its time and it still does (for over all good or ill is for the reader to decide). Yes as local Christian leaders we need to abide by and respect the ethos of the publications that we are contributing to, but please do not ask us always to take the safe and insipid route when we sometimes feel that we might have something to say. Personally I found the May contribution from Naphill Free Evangelical Church (lengthy and to the point as it was) far more interesting and thought provoking than the monthly porridge that is often expected to be offered in the name of the church which tells us little more than that 'there will be a coffee morning a week next Thursday'!

*Simon Cronk, Vicar of St Michael and All Angels
Hughenden.*

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

July & August 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

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Copy date for the September issue is Wednesday 11th August 2004

Editorial

"The sun shines on the righteous and us" - this phrase was proven on fete day as we enjoyed uninterrupted sunshine for most of the four hour duration. THANK YOU to every single person that helped or came along on fete day - the smiling faces said it all.

I extended the deadline for this issue by 24 hours in order to include fete copy but since I am typing this the day afterwards there is still so much missing,

including photographs, a full summary and the final result - all of which will appear in the next issue.

On the subject of the next issue there is no Gazette in August so the next issue will be September. Contributors please note the slightly earlier copy date for the September issue, the preceding 11th instead of the usual 15th - necessary to accommodate holidays.

Enjoy your summer break.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

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563367

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

On Friday 28th May, a group of us joined the large
congregation at Amersham Crematorium to say
goodbye to Jenny Chapman, who finally lost her
battle against cancer. With her husband Ted, she
had been a regular member of the Tennis Club for
a number of years, as well as taking part in
numerous other local activities. She was always
bubbly and cheerful on court and always willing to
volunteer for any task, whether it was opening up
for a club session or producing one of her culinary
delights at our various social gatherings. As was
evident by the numbers attending her funeral, she
was held in high regard and affection by all those
who knew her and we shall all miss her greatly.
Our thoughts are with Ted and his family at this
sad time.

The summer tennis season is galloping along and
it's hard to believe that we have almost completed
50% of our fixtures, albeit with mixed results -
some wins but also some 'second places' too! The
stars so far this year are our Junior team who have
won 2 out of 2 matches played. Junior sessions
under our coach, Neil James, are going so well that
we thought some of the older players might benefit
from his efforts. Two 'Rusty Racquet' sessions
were arranged, the first taking place on 10th June
when around 16 people arrived to hone their skills.
To enhance this tuition, particularly for the
younger players, it was decided to use the money
kindly donated to us by County Councillor Richard
Pushman out of community funds to purchase
training equipment. This included practice nets,
training balls and a speed gun. Who knows, with
all this help, we may be nurturing a future
champion to take over from poor old Tim H, on
whom we depend to raise and dash our hopes each
Wimbledon.

Despite the gloomy weather forecast, Naphill Fete
seems to have achieved its usual successful
outcome. Our younger Juniors, who are coached by
Lisa Graham on a Saturday morning, participated
in the festivities by joining the parade in the
tableaux section and winning second prize by
representing various countries who will be taking
part in the forthcoming Olympics. Tennis club
members joined the Guides to 'man' their share of
the Bouncy Castles. A steady stream of young
punters wrung 50p's from their generous parents
and seemed intent on bouncing their inhibitions
away without regard for their own safety
(fortunately, with no serious casualties!)

In conjunction with the Naphill Fete and with
Wimbledon looming, it was decided we would

promote the LTA's Total Tennis initiative by encouraging over 40 visitors and members to test their serving ability against a speed gun. We are pleased to report that the winners in the various categories were as follows:- Adam Grout (Boys U/12); Emily Dean (Girls U/12); Adam Toone (Boys 12-16); Sarah Philpott (Ladies); Simon Morris (Mens) The overall fastest serve was actually achieved by Adam Toone, who with his 'partner' Elliot Gould, form our winning (so far) Junior team.

Our next social event is a 'Pimms & Strawberries' afternoon on Sunday 11th July. As usual, we extend an invitation to all-comers so if you feel like a post-Wimbledon tennis afternoon - do come along and join us. For more details on the Club - contact our Membership Secretary, Sue Crooks on 01494 562539 or the undersigned.

Ingrid Tomlins, Hon. Sec : 01494 446063

District & County Councillor's Report

The County Council, through its Adult Learning Service, is promoting Information Technology training – IT for short, in a number of ways, one is the Internet Cafe idea within village communities. It would be necessary for a 'host' organisation to help arrange and run such an activity. The first six hour course would be free after which people using the service would be expected to make a contribution. There is a possibility that Lacey Green might be setting up such a facility in their Village Hall. If there were at least seven people in Naphill & Walters Ash who were interested in a weekly session of training, we could explore the possibility of starting such a scheme in Naphill. If anyone is interested please give me a ring on 564152 or drop me an e-mail on, richard.pushman@btinternet.com

The County Council is committed to improving the care for people in their own homes by making it more flexible and responsive. It also wants to improve the effective coverage in rural areas. Although we shall be streamlining the management and administration of our in-house service this will not directly affect our care assistants who are currently carrying out such valuable work.

The Farmers Market at Princes Risborough has been re-launched. It will be held on the third Thursday of each month between 8.30am and 1.30pm The organisers have agreed that there will be regular attendance until the end of the year.

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail baclarke@btopenworld.com

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

Garden refuse, grass cuttings and tree prunings are again being dumped in piles alongside paths on Naphill Common usually near to gates accessing the Common. I am sure that readers of the Gazette are not guilty of this illegal activity but if they do see any persons dumping on the Common a phone call to the Litter Warden on 01494 421440 will receive discreet and effective attention.

Richard Pushman : 564152

Naphill Neighbours

At our June meeting Sonia Waterton entertained us in her own inimitable way. She told of her youth in Hemel Hempstead and her venture onto the amateur stage in her talk entitled "Life Upon the Wicked Stage". Actually, it was not, in fact, very wicked but her anecdotes and brief snatches of songs from "Patience" and "The Student Prince" were very enjoyable.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 12th July when Kate Bradford will give us invaluable advice in her talk on "Make the Most of Your Memory" - advice we probably all can use!

There are a few places available for our August outing on Monday, 9th - an afternoon mystery tour followed by a ploughman's supper at Friars Court in Oxfordshire. If you haven't already booked, please phone Sheila Rolfe on 562888.

Wishing all our members a good holiday whether

at home or away.

Hazel Vickery :563977

Hughenden Parish Council

The Parish Council has completed the initial consultations with residents following the analysis of the results of the Village Appraisals. Meetings were held in all wards of the Parish. Currently, the Council is preparing a Parish Plan, based on the appraisal findings and subsequent comments. This Plan is very important because it will become supplementary planning guidance; it will have to be taken into account whenever plans for development or change are considered by Wycombe District or the County. The Parish Council will provide opportunities for villagers to view the Plan before it is finalized; it will do all it can to preserve and enhance the way of life in this delightful area of England.

Councillors recently spent an informative and enjoyable evening touring the land the Council owns within the Parish. This is an annual 'expedition' to keep councillors informed of the current condition of these assets. The Council owns 8 allotment areas, including Walters Ash and Louches Lane. Much clearance work has been done in the last year on all the allotments in order to make them easier to maintain, and to improve their appearance. In all, the acreage of allotments and associated amenity areas amounts to some 35 acres.

In addition, the Council owns and maintains the Buriel Ground in Four Ashes Road (4 acres), Vincents Meadow Conservation Area in Naphill (4.5 acres), Cockshoot Wood and Recreation Ground, Four Ashes (12 acres), and the Common at Great Kingshill (5.6 acres), amounting to another 26 acres in all. Contractors are employed for large areas of grass cutting, and hedge cutting. In addition, the Parish has a Warden, John Moorby, whose job it is to do the detailed and specialist work required around the Parish. For example, with the help of volunteers, the Warden has recently completed 30m of hedge laying in Vincents Meadow. In order to assist Village Hall Councils, the Parish Council has recently taken on greater responsibility for the children's playgrounds throughout the Parish. These are to have their safety surfaces repaired or replaced in the current financial year, in priority order.

It is disheartening that some of the Parish Council's attempts to improve our environment are thwarted by vandals. An example of this is the uprooting of

the recently planted whitebeam which was intended to provide shade in the children's playground on the Crick. If miscreants are seen in the act, digital photos of them could help to put a stop to such activities.

Please get in touch if you would like further information, or to express a point of view.

Peggy Waterston : 565969

Naphill Evening WI

In May it was our resolutions meeting. We had some controversial debate on the 3 proposals, especially about G.M. crops and then had lots of yummy puddings to follow. Another delightful evening was spent at the theatre watching 'Anything Goes'. Everyone came out humming and smiling – a real uplift. Thank you once again Marion, for organising it. On June the 9th it was the WI AGM held in Sheffield, with about 4,000 women attending from all parts of the country. It was a most enjoyable 2 days, staying overnight and then a full day conference. The resolutions were discussed and voted on with some interesting results. The speakers were George Alagiah and Esther Rantzen. On the 17th of June it was our 21st Birthday Party with 'Fabulous 40's to Swinging 60's' by Mrs K Bradford and there were some very glamorous photos of our ladies for the competition. We all had a super evening and a lovely spread as usual, ending with coffee and a delicious piece of Birthday cake, made by Rita and iced by Catherine Carter. Grateful thanks to you both.

And now to the Fete – weren't we lucky with the weather and 'Well Done' to the fete committee for all their hard work. For those of us involved from the WI, the last few weeks have flown by in a flurry of activity. Jenny collected together your much-appreciated donations and arranged them to provide our themed tombola stall, which, manned with her helpers proved as usual to be a very successful attraction and won the cup for best stall. We also won the cup for best adult float. Juliet and her 5 volunteers came up with the idea to reflect the WI's 'extraordinary achievement' at our village's Olympic Games and we hope everyone had a smile at our efforts. We would like to thank Richard Webb for once again loaning his vehicle and driving the float for us. Also, in casting caution to the wind and dressing for the part! Betty and Marion took charge of logistics to provide the traditional refreshments in the Village Hall. Many delicious cakes were baked and then

served, with teas and coffees, and not forgetting the dozen or so loaves made into sandwiches, by our rota of volunteers who helped out in the kitchen – ladies, we couldn't do it without you! So a very big "THANK YOU" to everyone who contributed to our part in this years fete. It was hard work, but we all had a good time. Roll on next year.....

Diary dates: If you want a fun evening come along to Valerie's 'games and supper evening', July 8th at 6pm. Still some tickets available, good value at £2.50. The July meeting on the 15th is an 'open' meeting' so visitors welcome to hear about 'The Shepherd's Year' from Dr John Wilson. Competition is a piece of farm-related memorabilia. A reminder of the walk around Bledlow on August 5th, starting at 6.30pm and finishing with a meal at The Lions. Those of us who had a shortened visit to Highgrove have been invited again on August 6th. Jessie's tea party is on Thursday August 19th, 2.30pm – 4.30pm and tickets in the form of a quiz will be available at the July meeting. £2 for tea, cakes, scones and the quiz! No need to do the quiz if you do not want to, but there will be a prize for the winner on the day. See you there.

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Readers Letters

From the son of the founder of the Gazette

Since I was editor of the Gazette about 20 years ago I have been posting copies to a varying number of past residents of Naphill each month.

I received the following letter today from the son of the very first Editor of the Gazette and thought that you, as the present Editor, would be interested in reading and publishing it.

"It gives me much pleasure to be able to renew my subscription for another year. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the Gazette and it has brought back many memories of my family's association with Naphill and the Gazette.

My father certainly would have enjoyed this month's copy.

Many thanks from Don Adlam"

Hazel Vickery

A considered response...

Dear Editor,

My wife and I are just back from a Spanish holiday, visiting the glorious mosques and

*An open invitation to a fun evening
organised by*

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

FERRET RACING NIGHT

Naphill Village Hall

Friday 8th October, 7.30pm

Tickets £3.00 including Ploughman's Supper

Licensed Bar

Tickets from: Sheila Rolfe on 562888



cathedrals of Madrid, Toledo and Andalusia. Perfect weather too! Now, I have just completed my perusal of the June Gazette (having distributed my quota) and my first thought is that the Gazette title should be changed to the 'Naphill, Walter's Ash and Chryssaphes Gazette'.

Actually I did wonder whether to write a considered and detailed response to Mr. Chryssaphes's somewhat big gun assault on my straightforward note of May. However on reflection, as a former Sunday School Teacher I felt that it was not really appropriate to use the Gazette in this way. Instead I would like to reply with a short quote from Hudibras' by Samuel Becket For those who do not know it, written about 1680 it is essentially an English version of Cervantes 'Don Quixote de la Mancha', written in jogging octosyllabic couplets and full of good lines. Those which I deem highly appropriate are:

'You are in logic, a great critic,
Profoundly skilled in analytic,
You can distinguish and divide,
Ahair, twixt south and south-west side.'

I look forward to a well balanced Gazette from now on!

Yours sincerely,

David Leith

Three Villages Sponsored Walk For Derek

To our friends and well wishers -

A huge thank you to all who have made donations over the past weeks to DEREK.

It was a great surprise and we have been overwhelmed and deeply moved by the generosity of so many people.

The money is to be used either to provide a new lightweight wheelchair which will aid Derek immensely in transferring into and out of his car, or put towards the alterations that need to be carried out on the house. Derek still has no access to toilet/bathroom facilities and our garage will need to be adapted to provide these as well as a bedroom. With heartfelt thanks to you all once again.

From Derek's wife Maureen Woodbridge

Submitted by Olivia Cowan

(more on Derek to follow in next months issue).

Speeding concern.

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident at 185 Main Road and I wish to highlight the speeding and unnecessary danger once the traffic has passed the speed camera situated around 300 yards from my home.

Drivers know the camera is there and immediately speed up once past, my children use the foot path at the side of the road and are all too susceptible to a vehicle leaving the road and mounting the kerb.

I understand that it is a main artery for commercial vehicles and school buses etc. but surely we can do something to slow down the drivers who use it as a rat run, and the teenagers who have no sense of risk when they are driving their vehicles at high speeds.

I would like to see a number of traffic calming measures along Main Road if we are to avoid a tragic death in this area which could so easily have been avoided. I know this is the view of most of the neighbourhood, but up until now we have not been able to express our opinions in a suitable forum.

Sincerely

Lee Eld

On the subject of religious content

Dear Editor,

On the subject of Religious / General content I have just read the articles relating to the input from churches with amazement .

I do not really consider myself a “villager” having lived here just eight years or so, I rarely get involved with village affairs apart from visiting the fete and a few events but I do read the magazine and even though it is a small amount I do pay for the privilege.

Looking at Junes magazine there were around twelve pages of actual newsprint (the rest being advertising and so on) and I happily read all of the articles and enjoyed most of them. Surely the point here is that if people do not want to read the religious articles or for that matter the stars in sky article then they can just turn the page.

An editor has a difficult job, he has to balance up the number, length and content of all the articles presented to him. He has a duty to give everyone an opportunity to air their views whilst being careful not to offend any one or come over as biased. Not wanting to do the job myself I feel that it is certainly not my place to criticise (after all if you think you can do better, then go on then and try it!).

However, at the end of the day the readers have the ultimate choice, either read the articles or don't, they could even choose not to subscribe to the journal all together !.

Personally, I enjoy reading the magazine every few weeks and would like it to continue it what ever guise it ultimately takes on.

Keep it up I say and let the readers decide what they want to read or choose ignore (even the ramblings of an “outsider” if they want to !!)

Yours truly,

Bryan Godwyn

More on that subject

Dear Editor.

I wonder if others are as bemused as I am by the debate about the length and content of articles in the *Naphill Gazette*? Quite rightly we are not supposed to offer political articles; even though politics is the art of living together in a decent society. None-the-less we are allowed to write religious pieces however silly or morally dubious.

A short while ago Messers Semple and Chryssaphes relied on ridicule alone to “dismiss” Darwin, the main architect of the central, unifying

NAPHILL BOYS F.C.

PRESENTATION DAY & 10TH ANNIVERSARY

July 11th, 2.00 - 6.00pm

ON THE CRICK



DADS & MUMS v BOYS & GIRLS!

BAR-B-QUE - BOUNCY CASTLES - BAR

EVERYBODY WELCOME

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY



Village Fete 2004



theory in modern biology. In May, Chryssaphes described, with evident approval, the near annihilation of life on Earth during Noah's flood - a story he clearly took to be literally true. He described with relish the way his god washed the people of the whole world away "...like the stubborn, useless clods of earth that they had become."

It might be worth reflecting that these 'clods' included men, women, children, babies and unborn babies, along with almost all other animal life. We might reflect too on their panic and terror as the waters rose; their desperate attempts to save their innocent children, and their slow, horrible deaths by drowning. If a human tyrant did this to only a handful of people we would want him brought before the International Court of Human Rights, but we are supposed to both admire Mr Chryssaphes's god, and worship it.

If you feel you must believe in myths, I recommend an earlier version of the flood story found in *The Epic of Gilgamesh* - the oldest known poem. At least Uta-napishti, unlike Noah, gave his boat builders beer and wine and allowed people with skills to accompany him on the ark. What is more, the god who brought on the deluge got a ticking off from the other gods for drowning everybody. If you don't believe it you can ask Utanapishti and his wife. Since they were given eternal life as a reward for saving our species, presumably they are still around somewhere.

Trevor Hussey.

Best Neighbour Award

My congratulations to Gill and David Hayes of The Miles, Clappins Lane who are the deserved winners of this years award, The award was presented to them at the village fete on June 19th.

Alan Jessop : 563369

Midnight Garden party

There will be a Midnight Garden Party for Slugs & Snails in the Mothers' Union Garden at Hughenden Church House on Friday 30th July, starting at 10.00pm. This will be a fund-raising event for Marie Curie Cancer Care and Christian Ecology Link. Tickets at £15 must be purchased in advance from Arthur Johnson at Hughenden Church House, HP14 4LA, or by phone on 01494 521471.

The price includes a hearty devouring of lettuces and other fine young shoots at 10.30pm along with

a free drink from the licensed bar and appropriate entertainments.

Grasshoppers will be on the gates to frisk for slug pellets and other weapons of mass destruction. Under cover and indoors if wet.

Arthur Johnson : 01494 521471

Horticultural Society

Please remember that our Summer Show takes place in the Village Hall on Saturday 3rd July at 2pm, so if you have not yet got a schedule and decided what you can enter, contact Don Turner right away.

There will be teas, a raffle and sales table so you can make an afternoon of it before the ever-popular auction of exhibits at 4pm.

Do come along and support us if you can.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

Christian Aid Collection - 2004

Thank you to all who collected the envelopes and to those who gave money. This year the total figure is down because we only had twelve people to collect, and only one road covered in Walters Ash. If you were one of those left uncovered and you would like to make a donation please do so - the address is FREEPOST, Christian Aid. Our final figure was £500 which goes to help the worlds poorest people in many countries. Many thanks.

Helen Seys Llewellyn : 563624

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In July & August

The Moon is full on July 13 and August 12; it is new on July 29 and August 27. Venus is a daytime star and cannot be seen unless you know precisely where to look. Mars is an evening star. Jupiter is also an evening star but will not be seen in August as it sets at about sunset. Look for Mercury in the western evening sky on July 10 when it is only ¼ from Mars. Mars' magnitude is only +1.8 and Mercury is about 2 magnitudes brighter so try to see the nearest planet conjunction this year with the help of binoculars. Saturn is a morning star. The Perseid meteor shower should be at its best on the nights of August 11 and 12 with 'shooting stars' moving with a radiant in the northeast every two minutes or so. There is an interesting open cluster in Orphiuchus 40° above the southwest by south horizon slightly northwest of the 3rd-magnitude star Beta Orphiuchi. Through binoculars you will be

able to see about a dozen 7th and 8th magnitude stars.

Star Dust

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| July 1 | Rises | 04.49 | 05.56 | 03.54 | 00.08 | 08.20 | 04.32 |
| | Sets | 21.24 | 23.12 | 20.26 | 09.55 | 23.18 | 20.53 |
| July 8 | Rises | 04.55 | 15.16 | 04.01 | 23.46 | 08.00 | 04.08 |
| | Sets | 21.21 | 01.04 | 20.37 | 09.38 | 22.54 | 20.29 |
| July 15 | Rises | 05.02 | 22.55 | 04.13 | 23.24 | 07.41 | 03.45 |
| | Sets | 21.15 | 06.27 | 20.45 | 09.18 | 22.29 | 20.05 |
| July 22 | Rises | 05.11 | 00.39 | 04.28 | 23.01 | 07.22 | 03.21 |
| | Sets | 21.07 | 15.06 | 20.48 | 08.54 | 22.04 | 19.41 |
| July 29 | Rises | 05.21 | 04.54 | 04.47 | 22.36 | 07.03 | 02.58 |
| | Sets | 20.57 | 21.43 | 20.47 | 08.27 | 21.40 | 19.17 |
| Aug 1 | Rises | 05.25 | 08.56 | 04.55 | 22.26 | 06.55 | 02.47 |
| | Sets | 20.53 | 22.41 | 20.46 | 08.15 | 21.29 | 19.07 |
| Aug 8 | Rises | 05.37 | 18.36 | 05.16 | 21.59 | 06.36 | 02.24 |
| | Sets | 20.40 | None | 20.40 | 07.42 | 21.05 | 18.42 |
| Aug 15 | Rises | 05.47 | 22.03 | 05.38 | 21.31 | 06.17 | 02.00 |
| | Sets | 20.27 | 09.18 | 20.32 | 07.07 | 20.40 | 18.18 |
| Aug 22 | Rises | 05.58 | 00.33 | 06.01 | 21.01 | 05.58 | 01.36 |
| | Sets | 20.13 | 17.27 | 20.22 | 06.30 | 20.16 | 17.53 |
| Aug 29 | Rises | 06.10 | 18.01 | 06.23 | 20.29 | 05.39 | 01.11 |
| | Sets | 19.56 | 21.02 | 20.56 | 05.52 | 19.51 | 17.28 |

The Solar System formed about 4½ billion years ago from material that in part had been the result of exploding stars. Now scientists have been able to identify meteoric interstellar dust from beyond the Solar System. The vast majority of meteorites that reach Earth are too small to see and as the material is so small it doesn't get burned, like larger meteorites, when it reaches our atmosphere. For more than two decades, NASA has been collecting cosmic dust particles on oil-coated plates flown by a U2 plane at altitudes of some 65,000 feet and some of it is this illusive extra-Solar System material created in part by other stars. The material contains pre-solar silicates and also hydrogen and nitrogen compounds that match the interstellar dust in giant molecular clouds which we see silhouetted against the star background. Research into this material will help astronomers to work out in far more detail how stars evolve.

Longest Solar Eclipse

The 1999 solar eclipse in west Cornwall had a maximum duration of 2 minutes and 2 seconds in Falmouth. I have been asked what is the maximum duration throughout the world. Duration depends on the relative speed between the Moon's shadow and the Earth's rotating surface. It is also dependent on the relative distances between the Sun, Earth and the Moon. The theoretical maximum is 7m 31s. The longest duration between 2004 BC and 2526 AD (a period of over 4500

years) occurs on 2186 July 16 and is 7m 29s. The path of totality will be over Columbia, Venezuela and Guyana in South America and will be 267 kilometres wide (compared with 110 km in 1999 in Cornwall).

Obliquity

Obliquity means declining from the vertical or horizontal. In relation to the Earth, the obliquity of the ecliptic means the tilt of the Earth's axis from the perpendicular to the plane of its orbit round the Sun. We think of it as 23½°. This has the effect of the midday Sun being low in the sky in winter and high in the sky in summer. Gravity between Earth and the planets changes it very slightly as also does nutation (like the oscillation of a spinning top). There is lunar nutation causing an 18.6-year cycle, solar nutation causing a half-yearly variation and a tiny fortnightly variation. The gravitational effect has a cycle of some 41,000 years during which time the obliquity varies from 21.8 to 24.4

Grant Woodruff

Naphill & Walters Ash School

We were delighted that so many of the pupils from the school could take part in the Village Fete – being part of the community and The Village School means a great deal to us. It was good that Mrs McLoughlin, the Headteacher designate could also attend.

The school has recently achieved the Artsmark Silver Award granted by the Arts Council for Great Britain. This is a real achievement in its own right, but even more so when one remembers that the school already holds Activemark Gold in recognition of its sporting provision both in lesson time and in extra-curricular activities provided by staff and friends of the school.

Whilst thinking about sport, I can report with pleasure that the Year 6 team won the district Year 6 games competition by a considerable margin. The team now proceeds to the next round. The highlight this year was the success in cricket – a lifelong ambition of the previous Head, Mrs Walker. Well done to this team in particular, especially the captain, Forrest Bibeau one of our pupils from the United States.

As usual, the school has many activities planned for the last few remaining weeks of the year, with sports meetings, school productions and parents' association functions.

Finally, as this will probably be my final contribution to the gazette, I should like to say how privileged I have felt being part of the two communities that make Naphill and Walters Ash so special. The interaction between an established, traditional English village and the Royal Air Force gives a unique character to the community and has meant that my six years as Head of this school have been the most fulfilling of my career.

Hilary Conboy, Headteacher

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning Applications to 7 June 2004:

04/6181/OUT 232 Main Road, Naphill (address is actually in Walter's Ash) Outline application for erection of new dwelling at rear of 232 Main Road.

04/6202/FUL 18 Vincents Way, Naphill Construction of first floor extension over existing garage; garage to be converted to study.

04/6261/FUL Land at rear of Country Stores 247 Main Road, Naphill (address is actually in Walter's Ash) Detached 2-bedroom bungalow and garage with access on Ash Close. Earlier application on this site was refused and concerns remain over access on Ash Close, overlooking, and back-garden development.

04/6329/FUL Rag Dolls and Manstey, Stocking Lane, Naphill Construction of 1-storey rear extensions to both properties.

04/6338/CONCG Site 2, RAF High Wycombe, Naphill (address is actually in Walter's Ash) Erection of 2-storey annexe to provide single living accommodation for 50 single officers. On car park by Officers Mess. 'Temporary' for 5 years!

04/6451/TPO 75 Main Road, Naphill Remove one sycamore (T1) and reduce one sycamore (T2) to 12 m.

04/6483/FUL Copper Beech, Allen Drive, Walter's Ash Erection of part 2-storey, part 1-storey front extension and new pitched roof.

Need for Comments from Residents on Planning Applications

It is well worth your while to invest 10 minutes and a postage stamp to send a short letter to the Planning Officer at Wycombe District Council with any comments you have on a planning application if you feel it affects your home or your village adversely. The Council considers applications relative to planning policies, but not

all issues are clear cut. Residents' comments (your views and mine) may well be relevant considerations that can sway the outcome. Objections are logged and added up, and weight of numbers may help, but the Council and your elected representatives have no idea what you think unless you tell them. Once an application is approved, it is too late to stop it!

Next Meeting

8pm Thursday 8 July 2004 at Naphill Village Hall.
Any Resident is welcome to attend.

Gloria Leflaive : 563634

Computer Training Course

At Naphill & Walter's Ash School Starts on Thursday 9th September from 7pm until 9.30pm

Do you want to learn how to use a computer?

Is your family leaving you behind with their knowledge and skills?

Do you already know the basics but become frustrated when things go wrong?

Would you like to increase your knowledge and skills on:

- Saving files
- Using folders
- Setting margins
- Creating tables
- Inserting graphics

Are you interested in using a word processor or spreadsheets?



Then this is the course for you. Start by learning Word Processing and Database

As part of our commitment to work closer with the community Naphill and Walters' Ash School together with Amersham and Wycombe College, are intending to run a Level 1 Word Processing and Database computer course during the autumn term, with the intention of running Level 2 and 3 courses in the winter and summer terms.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information or if you are interested in enrolling, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 before 6th September 04.

Don't be nervous; take a step forward and enhance your understanding and enjoyment when using computers, in a local friendly atmosphere. Why not bring a friend.

Juile Schmid, I.T.C Technician and Lecturer

Naphill and Hughenden Scouts

By now you may have noticed one or more of the posters we've put up around Naphill and surrounding villages highlighting the need for new leaders to come forward for the cub pack. The situation is now becoming serious and unless someone (or preferably more than one person) expresses an interest soon we will be faced with the prospect of having to close the pack down.

This is no idle threat, in recent years we have had to close the cubs in Hughenden (thankfully now re-opened after a four year gap) as well as the beavers. Practically and legally we would have no choice other than closure, and the bald reality is that losing the cub pack would question the viability of all the sections, so you see what we mean about serious.

Recent changes in scouting mean that becoming a cub leader is easier than ever – most of the training can be done remotely and we have a very supportive team. What we really need is a pool of three or four people so we can operate more of a 'pool' system to lighten the load for everyone and to help avoid these periodic crises.

Just have a think – who could get involved, it might not be you but someone back from university, someone new into the area, male or female, previous experience or not ...

Give either of us a call and we'll arrange an initial no-obligation chat.

Trevor Nicholls (Group Scout Leader) : 565322

Nick Corble (Chairman) : 481874

Pre-school News

Our main news this month is that we were given a good report at our Ofsted inspection in May. We are very proud of this, and it is a great tribute to the hard work and dedication of the staff. Thank you to them for their support. You can read a copy of the report on the Ofsted website www.ofsted.gov.uk, where you will see how positive and complementary the Inspector was about the quality of care our local children receive.

I would also like to thank Norma Clarke, the

previous

Supervisor of Pre-School, from whom I inherited many of our current procedures and models of good practice.

Finally, a thank you to all our supportive parents. We rely on the goodwill of parents and carers, particularly those who join the Committee, to help us in a number of ways throughout the year, not least in fundraising. They work hard and give up of their free time but I think (and hope.... ?) they find it great fun too!

Next year we will be welcoming 12 new children and at our AGM on September 20th will need to elect a new Committee as some of our present members' children will be leaving to go to school.

If you would like to register or find out more information on us, please ring me on 564037 or 565359

Mo Bedder, Supervisor : 565359

Pre-School Committee

Firstly Pre School would like to say a big thank you to Alan Jessop and his team for organising such a fabulous fete day on Saturday, I think every one will agree with me in saying the Fete was a great success. We also won the float competition for the under five category, which always makes the day a bit better. Yet another big thank you to Annabel and Sean for all their help with the float.

We had a busy Half term just gone, not only with day to day pre school activities but also because Mo and the staff were working closely with Helen and Gill from the committee for our ofsted inspection, which we passed with flying colours. On behalf of the Parents at Pre School I would like to say a very big thank you to the above mentioned people for all their hard work, time and effort involved with the report, without which there would be no Pre School.

We are now on the last half term before we break up for the Summer holiday, when we will be saying goodbye to quite a few pupils who are due to start school in September.

Sharon Piercy : 562081

Village Hall Notes

We carried out our annual Litter blitz around the Hall and the Crick before our June meeting. This is an unpleasant but necessary task made easier by the number of council members available to help. Most of the Village Hall Council arrived half an

hour before our normal time, donned Marigolds and set to work. Many thanks to all those who came to help. It would be nice to think that our efforts in tidying up would last for a while. We will see!

We have again had problems with hirers leaving the hall untidy after a hiring. One of the issues is that the wheelie bin outside the Hall is often filled with garden rubbish. This is obviously not coming from the users of the Hall and means that the debris from an event cannot be tidied away as the bin is already full. Can I plead with those tempted to put their garden rubbish in our bin to desist and leave the bin strictly for use by hirers of the Hall. Thank you.

Hughenden Parish Council kindly donated and planted a Whitebeam tree in the play area to provide some shade for the children during the summer months. It was planted on a Tuesday and had disappeared by the following Friday! Really disheartening. I don't trust myself to say any more.

The Hall extension is now progressing well after the mix up over the roof details which slowed things down for a while. The internal fittings have been chosen. It is now all going forward as planned.

I write this with my fingers crossed for good weather for the fete. By the time you read this I hope that we will have had another memorable village occasion and our funds will be significantly boosted.

On a final note it was reported that an Arriva double decker bus had been clocked as speeding through the village at 60 m.p.h.! Their acceleration between bus stops warrants a feature on Top Gear if nothing else.

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall and
Playing Fields Council : 563479*

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

We enjoyed the singing of Sally Edwards, and we must give thanks to Naphill Evangelical Church for allowing us to use their Church for our entertainment by the Happy Trio.

The next meeting on June 11th will be our birthday party and we are all looking forward to it.

25th June - Batty Hardy (Collecting)

9th July - Quiz

23rd July - Banjo Revival

New members welcome.

Norah Cockroft : 564270

Fundraising Ploughman's Lunch

Doreen Burge invites you to a Ploughman's Lunch

At: Naphill Village Hall

On: Thursday 2nd. September

12.30p.m. - 2pm

Tickets £5

This lunch will raise funds for the Joe Homan Charity – a registered Charity, based in Tamil Nadu, South India - whose principal objective is the relief of poverty by funding projects where the education, health and quality of life for boys and girls may be improved. Joe Homan, the founder of the charity, has lived in India since 1965. He is a man of vision who over the past 39 years has brought and continues to bring hope and opportunity to thousands of poor Indian children and their families. Now 72 years old he remains actively involved and works tirelessly for the charity in India.

Following a recent request for help from the Indian Government, who are trying to reduce the current high level of primary school pupil "drop out" rates, the charity has set up the "Joyful Learning" project - designed to improve the environment, facilities and children's health in village primary schools in Tamil Nadu.

In February this year whilst on holiday in India I stayed at Joe's guesthouse and went with him to visit some of the charity's projects including the pilot "Joyful Learning" project in Koopenaickenpatti village primary school. I saw the difference it is making to the school, lives of the children and their teachers. I was so impressed that I felt I wanted to help by raising some money for this specific project.

Please support this event – make a note in your diary and contact me for tickets.

Thank you.

Doreen Burge : 565430

Naphill cum Bradenham Conservatives Barbeque

Our Annual Barbecue will be on Sunday July 18th at Richard and Valerie Pushman's home, 'Umtata', commencing at 12 for 12.30pm.

Tickets cost £14 each, to include a main course, dessert/cheese, and coffee. Wine is also included in the ticket price.

We hope for a fine day but will be able to seat everyone under cover if necessary.

Please contact Valerie (564152) or Peggy (565969) for tickets. We look forward to hearing from you.

News From Christians In The Community

(Members of the three local churches)

Our next big social event is on Sunday 4th July at 3pm (yes, I know it is finals day at Wimbledon!). It is called both 'lazy afternoon in Naphill' and 'free fun day on a Sunday' (the latter being Rev. Janice Pettipher's idea).

There will be refreshments, the Bisham concert band, vintage cars and motorbikes to look at, a bouncy castle for the children and 'something for the teenagers'! Everyone is very welcome to come and enjoy the afternoon – from 3 til 5pm. at Naphill Village Hall and Playing Fields.

KRASH meets on the 9th July – last session before the summer. And TRASH meets on the 2nd and 16th.

We had a great time at the Fete – selling sweets and plants and handing out information. Well done to the Fete Committee!

Lastly, apologies to the people who like to go to the evening service at Hughenden – in the list of church services last month I omitted to say that there is a 6pm service every Sunday at Hughenden – sorry!!

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

HALF A LOAF IS BETTER THAN NONE

Just a few comments this month to draw a line under the 'Length of Submissions' debate that peppered the Readers Letters section in the last issue (and may yet spill over into this one?). The editor, Matthew Piercy, has asked that all contributors limit their submissions to half a page. We shall of course abide by this ruling. In case anyone misunderstood my own response in last month's letters section, I would like to make the following clarification: I was never advocating that we be allowed to submit articles of any length,

merely that any restriction on the size of contributions be applied equally and fairly to all contributors and not just to those articles written by the churches. I therefore take this opportunity to thank the editor publicly for his fairness and impartiality in dealing with this issue.

I should also like to thank Sheila Draper for pointing out that a half page limit is a long-established custom in the Gazette and guessing correctly that, as 'newish' contributors, we were not aware of this self-imposed limit – apologies to everyone therefore for my unwitting transgression. In fact, I'm genuinely grateful to David Leith for drawing attention to the church articles and, in the editor's words, 'sparking debate' on Christian issues. As they say in advertising, '*There is no such thing as bad publicity.*' I would rather people criticized the Gospel than remain untouched by it.

When people are bothered by what The Christian Church says or does, it shows that they care about the issues and this leaves the way open for meaningful and constructive dialogue. When people are totally apathetic toward The Church then there is either something fundamentally wrong with those people or The Church itself has ceased to have any relevance or impact on people's lives. In the latter case, the fault lies not with The Gospel of Jesus Christ, that has the power to change and transform, but with a church that has compromised on truth and speaks with a voice now indistinguishable from that of the world at large...

We wish every reader and everyone throughout the two villages a safe, pleasant and joyful Summer.

~ Louis Chryssaphes lchryss@aol.com

Please note that from July, 'CHATTERBOX' will only be open on the 4th Tuesday of each month and closed throughout August because of holidays.

Bob Semple: 563304 pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

September 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

September 2004

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Editorial

You may not be aware that Naphill & Walters Ash are considered "Prime for development" by Wycombe District Council (WDC). The current pressure from Government to build homes in the South East, combined with the lack of protection afforded by Green Belt status that most of our surrounding villages enjoy, mean that we will see an increasing number of applications being approved in our villages that would previously have been rejected.

One such example is the development on the site that used to be Sharley Domestics, next to the Fish & Chip

shop on Main Road. These houses are being built so close that they completely over power their existing neighbours and, with regard to suitability - have a look at the flint work, containing other materials beside flint - it is something we have not seen in the Chilterns before, and certainly not in Naphill. The houses are being built exceptionally close to a busy road, with the potential for pets and children to run straight into the paths of oncoming traffic. They are too tall, too crammed in, and impose badly on the street scene. Currently WDC plan to correct the flint work!

Rant over? Not quite....

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

The reason I am writing this is because in the last few weeks it has become apparent that many other people within the village feel the same way, but they have not spoken up.

Think for a second what this means to us - three houses crammed on a site where there used to be just one, unsuitable houses at that. It's a developers dream and sets an alarming precedent

Personally I would like to see the building next to the fish & chip shop pulled down. Why? Because if we let this example stand then there are no grounds for stopping future identical developments - and they will come. Pulling the building down would require tax payers money to be spent compensating the builder but if this is what it takes to rectify the mistake made by WDC when they permitted the development, and to uphold high development standards in our village, then it's money wisely spent. WDC have forged ahead with this application, despite an objection from the Parish Council and a formal request to cease building from our District Councillor.

If you agree with me, please sign and print your name on the 'FAX CHRIS SWANWICK' form on page 4. If you can't fax it yourself then complete it and drop it through my door at 300 Main Road - I'll fax it on your behalf.

Hopefully, with a united front, we can right a wrong.

Matt Piercy

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service.
Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request.
Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - if you have a particular health problem I will be happy to advise if I can help. Sheila Hendry DNN, Telephone 01844 346018

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS.
Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

SPRINGLINE CARS Private Hire. Airport transfers & long distance specialist; personal care; air-conditioned estate; local knowledge; accounts available; Loosley Row based; find me in Yellow Pages. DAVID on 01844 274474

DELICIOUS CREAM TEAS with home-made cakes at Hughenden Church House from 2.15 on Sundays and holiday Mondays until October. Groups can book special teas on weekdays — contact Judy on 01494 562972

KNOWTEL CONSULTANTS offer cheap telephone & mobile calls, gas & electricity & expertise for computer, broadband or internet problems. Call us to save or for help with PC problems, 563041

Lorraine Barker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

Aralias to Yuccas! Specimen shrubs 0.75 - 2.0m tall from my nursery site in Penn. Bargain prices. Supply and plant or supply only. Also herbaceous perennials. G C Travers HND Am Hort. 01494 563367

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

It's hard to believe that, after all the planning back in February/March, the summer season is almost over with most of our matches and social gatherings having taken place. I am a little sorry to report that our teams did not do quite as well as last year but, as some were playing in higher divisions, this is hardly surprising. Our Bucks Shield Ladies team has managed to win 2 of 4 played, with 1 still to play; Aylesbury Ladies team has won 1, drawn 2 and lost 3; Aylesbury Mens team as won 1, lost 3, with 1 to play. The Mixed 1 team, which was promoted to the top division last year, has won 1, drawn 1 and lost 5 whilst the Mixed 2 has won 1 and lost 5. In spite of some rather negative results, most members who played in the teams seem to have enjoyed the experience of competing against other local clubs and the lessons learned, hopefully, bode well for next summer season. Thanks are due to Carol, Sue, Terry and Maddy for making sure that teams were present and correct for each match!

Considering the inclement weather during most of July, we were fortunate that our 'Pimms & Strawberries' afternoon took place on 11th July as planned. Needless to report, the strawberries, freshly picked by Pauline & Maddy, were delicious and the Pimms, supplied by Mikki, helped us to believe our tennis was improving dramatically as the afternoon wore on!! Our next social gathering is the Barbecue at Bledlow on 11th September, when, hopefully, the

weather will once again be kind. Members should check the notice-board for further details towards the end of the month.

Our Chairman, Helen Leek, reports that we've had a successful junior coaching summer season with the weather being kind on Friday evenings. Tuition was split into three sessions and attended by approximately 8-10 juniors at each one, with Neil James coaching all three sessions. In addition, our very young 'wannabees' were ably coached by Lisa Bennett on Saturday mornings.

Plans are being put in hand to clean and re-paint the courts, probably in September, to give them a new lease of life. Although the actual work will probably only take a few days, members should watch out for notices in the clubhouse for non-availability of courts. They are also reminded that we continue to play throughout the winter months with club sessions on Sunday and Tuesday mornings but Thursday evening sessions will obviously cease as the evenings draw in. Our ladies have entered a team in the Vets. (over 40) league and are always seeking new talent for the team. If you would like to be considered or just want a bit of fresh air and gentle exercise playing socially on Sunday mornings, contact our Membership Secretary, Sue Crooks, on 01494 562539 or the undersigned.

Ingrid Tomlins, Hon. Sec : 01494 446063

District & County Councillor's Report

Readers may be aware of Transco's intentions to replace their ductile iron gas main and services in Main Road, Naphill. Because of the County's recent resurfacing we have been negotiating with Transco to try to mitigate the potential damage with some limited success.

The Council's resurfacing work was completed on 21st October 2003. Transco now intend to replace their main, which is 900mm deep, between Pursells Meadow and Clappins Lane starting at the end of October. Traffic lights will be used for 6 - 8 weeks whilst they insert a new main and replace all services. It runs under the Wycombe-bound land but will not be totally excavated as an insert only requires excavations at intervals, probably in conjunction with service excavations.

I know that this will come as a great disappointment to the residents on Main Road who have been enjoying the new quiet surface and will now see part of it dug up yet again. Every effort will be made to ensure that re-instatement is of a high standard and matches exactly the surface which we now enjoy. I am also endeavouring to have the stretch of road along from the Village Hall to Coombe Lane resurfaced, with the

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail baclarke@btopenworld.com

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

new tarmac finish, within the next year's estimates.

It is always important that contentious planning applications are brought to my attention by those directly affected. If the matter is of some importance I can direct that the Development Control Committee considers the application rather than it be left to determination by the planning officer. If the Parish Council and Residents Association express concern about an application the final decision is nearly always determined by the full Committee.

Illegal fly tipping of any material is of great concern to both the District & County Council. The latter, using covert CCTV, has obtained several convictions in recent months and the punishments have been severe. The District Council has introduced a pilot scheme in the Bourne End area for the collection of green waste. Alternate weekly collections operate, one week general household refuse is collected and the next week green and garden waste. Both operations use wheely bins. The two weekly cycle is causing some concern, especially in the hot weather but generally there is approval of the scheme which enables re-cycling of the green matter. The pilot scheme will be evaluated before it is introduced to the whole district.

*Richard Pushman : richard.pushman@btinternet.com
: 564152*

Naphill Neighbours

Way back in early July we were entertained by Kate Bradford. An enthusiastic speaker, her subject was

FAX CHRIS SWANWICK

FAX TO:

**Chris Swanwick, Director of Planning Services
Wycombe District Council
Queen Victoria Road
High Wycombe
Bucks
HP11 1BB**

FAX: 01494 421108

Dear Chris,

I object to the inappropriate development currently underway at 133 Main Road, Naphill and your decision to allow it despite the views submitted by Hughenden Parish Council. I also believe this development conflicts with your own departments guidelines on housing density and the impact on surrounding properties.

In light of the above I request that you revoke the planning permission for this development with immediate effect

Yours sincerely,

Signed:.....

Print name:.....



EMAIL CHRIS SWANWICK: chris_swanwick@wycombe.gov.uk

Please copy the statement contained in this fax and email to the address above.
Ensure you add your full name to the bottom of this message on your email.

“Making The Most Of Your Memory” and she involved her audience, evoking memories of past events and dates. Those of us who do crosswords and watch TV quiz programmes stand a better chance of keeping our brains active and our memories alive.

Instead of our usual August meeting we were taken on a mystery coach tour - in driving rain! - through pretty Oxfordshire villages, ending up at delightful Friars Court in Clanfield for a delicious ploughman's supper.

On Monday 15th September we will be holding an evening event. All when a volunteer from the Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust will be speaking to us on a subject of interest to us all. Members are most welcome to bring along their husbands, partners or friends.

Hazel Vickery :563977

Naphill Evening WI

Now the recess is over we are looking forward to our next meeting on the 16th September, when our talk will be by Mr Nicholls on Wendover Waterways. The competition is a ‘canal photograph’.

We had a good meeting in July and were pleased to welcome several visitors. Dr John Wilson spoke about ‘The Shepherds Year’ and he brought along several items of shepherds’ memorabilia, including some beautifully embroidered smocks. Valerie’s games evening on the 8th July was a great success in spite of the weather. We had several indoor games and everyone joined in the fun, which was followed by a delicious buffet supper with wine. Thanks to Valerie, Jenny, and the ladies who helped. The walk on the 5th August was a wash-out because of the heavy rain, but the walkers made the most of it with an earlier meal in the Lions, Bledlow, which they said was very good. The visit to Highgrove was memorable and we saw many things that we had missed the first time round. The weather was good and the ladies looked delightful in their summer attire.

We are hoping for a fine day on the 19th August for Jessie’s afternoon tea, but as this has been written before then, we will report next time and tell you who won the competition.

We hope to see many of you reading this at our next meeting and will be happy to meet anyone who may like to come along for the first time and make new friends – there is no obligation to join. If you come on your own we have a member who will make sure you won't be sitting alone, will tell you about the evening and introduce you to other members.

*An open invitation to a fun evening
organised by*

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

FERRET RACING NIGHT

Naphill Village Hall

Friday 8th October, 7.30pm

Tickets £3.00 including Ploughman’s Supper

Licensed Bar

Tickets from: Sheila Rolfe on 562888



Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Readers Letters

Speeding traffic

Dear Editor

Oh how I agree with Mr Lee Eld; I was going to write to you to express my concern about this very subject. I live very close to the Black Lion where, until the camera was erected, the police used to do spot speeding checks. I know the effects of this only worked for a while but it has been extremely noticeable since the advent of the camera that cars do slow down only to speed up at a much faster rate after it and, by the time they arrive at the road to the Black Lion, they are speeding well in excess of 30mph, in some cases, for example on a Sunday afternoon, at speeds of up to 30 and 40 mph in excess of the limit (60 to 70 mph). I have also noticed coaches, lorries, Biffa trucks speeding well over 40 MPH down Main Road and even a car transporter with BMWs on it doing such a speed the other day with the driver speaking on his mobile ‘phone.

Why is that in some areas and counties they have instigated effective speed calming measures and we do so little. I know there is much public opinion against speed humps but I am sorry - if people are going slowly in built up areas, then there really shouldn't be a

problem with them. The nearest we have ever got along Main Road is white lines on either side, which nobody but nobody has any idea what they are for and are obviously a waste of effort.

Come on Parish and District Councillors do something positive towards Naphill's speeding problem. Do you really want a child or children to be killed before something is done (there have been numerous accidents along here in the past)?

Yours sincerely

Angela Brand

A compliment (in a backhanded kind of way)

Dear Editor,

Just a quick note to say how much I enjoyed David Leith's Iberian travel monologue in the letters section of the July and August Gazette. All this and an impromptu poetry workshop too; what with his paper round and time-consuming duties as censor-in-chief of the Gazette, I sometimes wonder how he is able to fit it all in!

Yours sincerely,

Louis Chryssaphes : lchryss@aol.com

Horticultural Society

Autumn Show

Saturday 4th September

Naphill Village Hall

2pm

We are hoping that you will come up trumps and beat last year's largest-ever number of entries. This is your big chance to show off what you have been nurturing in your gardens and allotments over the year. We would love to see as many of you as possible at this village event, and always welcome more exhibitors – so, don't be shy, pick up a schedule and have a go. There are flower, vegetable, cookery, photography, and handcraft classes, and of course special classes for children. Schedules are available from Don Turner, the Post Office or myself.

If you prefer to just come along and admire the exhibits, the doors open at 2pm, giving you plenty of time to look around and have some refreshments before the ever popular auction of donated exhibits takes place at 4pm.

As I mentioned back in April, some of our current Committee are nearing their sell-by date (their words, not mine!!) and we are desperate for some new faces who would be willing to help run our social events and shows. It really isn't an onerous task – no experience is necessary, just enthusiasm. If you are at all interested *please* call me.

Lastly, an advanced notice of our annual Cheese & Wine evening, which is on Friday October 29th. The evening will start with a talk entitled "Lust and Loveliness in the Garden". This is always a sell out evening, so put the date in your diaries and I will have more details next month.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

Gazette Delivery Changes

Our thanks go to Connie Belsham, who has delivered to houses in Allen Drive and Clappins Lane for many years. Connie is now retiring.

Dave Ratcliffe, our predecessor as Distribution Manager of the Gazette, with the help of his wife, Ginny, has volunteered to take on the round. You can't keep a good man down.!

Mike Pool : 564226

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In July & August

Venus will be setting in the west only a few minutes after the Sun and will probably be impossible to see. Mars rises in the east just after the Sun sets. Jupiter rises just before the Sun rises. Saturn is a normal morning star and will be seen 50° above the south west sky before the Sun rises. The Moon is new on 26 and full on 10 when it is also sometimes known as the harvest Moon. Autumn starts on 23. Mercury is visible in the mornings at the end of the month in the eastern morning sky at about 5h 15m.

Venus

In spite of its similar size, Venus, our nearest planet, is a hellhole. The surface temperature averages at 464°C, the air pressure is ten times the air pressure on Earth. The atmosphere consists of carbon dioxide and clouds of sulphuric acid poisoned further by hundreds of huge active volcanoes that belch gases and lava into hurricane winds. Hardly the place for the evolution and maintenance of life. But recently a planetary scientist from University College London, Dr Adrian Jones, has discovered that water flowed

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Sep 1 | Rises | 06.15 | 12.16 | 06.33 | 20.16 | 05.31 | 01.01 |
| | Sets | 19.51 | 21.52 | 20.05 | 05.36 | 19.40 | 17.13 |
| Sep 8 | Rises | 06.26 | 18.23 | 06.55 | 19.43 | 05.12 | 03.33 |
| | Sets | 19.35 | 03.05 | 19.52 | 04.59 | 19.16 | 16.52 |
| Sep 15 | Rises | 06.37 | 21.03 | 07.17 | 19.10 | 04.54 | 00.08 |
| | Sets | 19.19 | 11.46 | 19.38 | 04.26 | 18.51 | 16.26 |
| Sep 22 | Rises | 06.48 | 01.25 | 07.40 | 18.38 | 04.34 | 23.42 |
| | Sets | 19.03 | 18.11 | 19.24 | 18.44 | 18.26 | 16.00 |
| Sep 29 | Rises | 07.00 | 11.26 | 08.02 | 18.06 | 04.15 | 23.17 |
| | Sets | 18.46 | 20.17 | 19.10 | 03.29 | 18.01 | 15.34 |

there in the same way as on Earth and suggested that early life may well have evolved at the same pace as here. He argues that if the temperature and climate is right for water to flow then life may well have existed

NAPHILL BOYS F.C.

RACENIGHT

NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL
September 24th
Starters orders : 8.00pm



TICKETS £5
INCLUDING PLOUGHMANS LUNCH

Tickets available from:
Bob - 563332
Or
Clive - 562845

2004 Fete Prize Winners

| Prize | Winner |
|------------------------|--|
| Best Neighbour Award | David & Gill Hayes |
| Best Children's Float | Naphill Pre-School |
| Best Adult Float | Women's Institute |
| Best Walking Tableau | The Brownies |
| Best Fancy Dress | Isabel Bond & Emily Campanini |
| Best Stall | Women's Institute |
| Tug of War | Templewood (2 nd Year Running!) |
| Brownies Treasure Hunt | Annabel |
| Guess The Cake Weight | Brenda Pears |
| BMW Z4 for the Day | Bruce Chapman |
| WI Hamper | Geoff Smalley |
| Balloon Race | Graham Atkinson |

Evening Blind Auction:

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Flying Lesson | Ian Bond |
| 2. Gliding Lesson | Clive Rowlands |
| 3. Mini Scooter | Ian Bond |
| 4. 4x4 Driving Experience | Ian Green |

Grand Draw:

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st Prize £150 | Don Woodward |
| 2 nd Prize £75 | Mrs Powell |
| 3 rd Prize £25 | Mr Gibbs |
| Reflexology Voucher | Mrs Edwards |
| Black Lion Voucher | Sue Nash |
| Leisure Vouchers | Sandra Ashley |
| Bekonscot Voucher | Martin Marianczak |
| Odds Farm Voucher | Ross Cranlee |
| Tesco Voucher | Tony & Sarah Bacon |
| Wilkinsons Voucher | Amy Cox |
| Plant & Red Wine | Tony Coles |

there. He suggests that something occurred as recently as 500,000 years ago that destroyed all life on the planet. This may have been a sudden surge of volcanic eruptions caused perhaps by a massive meteorite hitting the planet's surface. The discovery of river routes and deltas comes from radar information provided by Nasa's Magellan probe. Whether or not life developed on Venus, it is certainly not there now and we could not make it so. [Average distance from the Sun for Venus is 67m miles – Earth is 93m miles; Venus's diameter is 7523 miles – Earth's is 7928 miles; Venus length of day is 117 days – Earth 24 hours; the planet's year is 224.7 days; surface gravity is 0.9 compared with Earth as 1.0; it has no natural satellites; it rotates on its axis in 243 days in a retrograde direction ; it has a mean visual magnitude of -4.4 and a maximum magnitude of -4.7; at its closest Venus is 25m miles away from Earth].

Supernovae

Supernovae are the most explosive of all stars and they are quite rare. In the Milky Way galaxy there have been only two since 1006. The 1006 supernova was exceptional because it was as bright as a quarter Moon and was able to light the landscape; it took three years to fade from view. It is thought to have had a brightness of about -7.5 compared with the

brightest Venus of -4.7. The explosion of a white dwarf in a runaway thermonuclear reaction caused it. It took place in the constellation Lupus south of Scorpius. Supernovae are responsible for the creation of most of the elements beyond iron in the periodical table. Without supernovae, life as we know it would not exist. Human beings really do consist of star dust.

Grant Woodruff

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning:

04/6539/C0NCG RAF High Wycombe. Demolition of C Block (retro). Resulting from move to F Block.

04/6571/TPO 228 Main Rd, Naphill. Fell one lime tree to ground level and treat stump.

04/6607/FUL 39 Main Rd Naphill. Demolition of existing garage and construction of double garage.

04/6608/FUL & 6609/LBC Listed Barns adjacent to Walters Ash Farm, Main Rd Walters Ash. Conversion & alterations to listed barns to create 2x3 bed residential units. Original listing stated barns' external appearance to be unchanged. This plan does change appearance, with large number of dormer type windows. Only 4 car parking slots on plan.

04/6633/FUL 242 Main Rd Naphill. Conservatory to rear. 04/6810/FUL Rossmore, Purssells Meadow Naphill. Single storey rear extension over, incorporating front dormer window in connection with loft conversion.

04/6633/FUL 242 Main Rd Naphill Construction of conservatory to rear.

04/6648/CONCG Junior Ranks Mess, RAF High Wycombe. Erection of very large 3-storey accommodation block, 12 to 15 metres high, to provide 102xSNCO single quarters, which are only needed for 5 years. What happens to all this new residential building in Green Belt after 5 years? NAWARA will ask why RAF are selling off land and houses, changing living accommodation to offices, and then applying to build more living accommodation in Green Belt, although future of HQ STC has not been resolved.

04/6650/FUL White House, Naphill Common. Construction of link conservatory. Combined extensions likely to be well over 50% limit in Green Belt.

04/6807/FUL 312 Main Rd Walters Ash. Risborough News. Single story extension to the existing retail store and an extension to the outbuilding to the rear of store. (plan not yet inspected).

04/6778/FUL 11 Vincents Way, Naphill. Replacement detached garage, single storey rear extension with roof extension over incorporating front and rear (plan not yet inspected).

Thanks to those who contacted me about planning last month. Additional local information and a chance to sort out queries is always useful.

Gloria Leflaive : 563634

Computer Training Course

At Naphill & Walter's Ash School Starts on Thursday 9th September from 7pm until 9.30pm

Do you want to learn how to use a computer?

Is your family leaving you behind with their knowledge and skills?

Do you already know the basics but become frustrated when things go wrong?

Would you like to increase your knowledge and skills on:

- Saving files
- Using folders
- Setting margins
- Creating tables
- Inserting graphics

Are you interested in using e-mail, Internet or spreadsheets?

Then this is the course for you.

Start by learning Word Processing and Databases. As part of our commitment to working with the community Naphill and Walters' School together with Amersham and Wycombe Council are intending to run a Level 1 Word Processing and Database computer course during the autumn term with the intention of running Level 2 and 3 courses in the winter and summer terms.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information or if you are interested in enrolling, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 before 6th September 04.

Don't be nervous; take a step forward and enhance your understanding and enjoyment when using computers, in a local friendly atmosphere. Why not bring a friend.

Juile Schmid, I.T.C Technician and Lecturer

Blood Donors

In the three sessions we have had this year, over three hundred people have attended which is a credit to the folk of Naphill and Walters Ash. More and more of you are coming forward to donate to this vital service, indeed so much so that the National Blood Service have increased their sessions at the village hall from two, when we started thirteen years ago, to five last year and six this year.

The remaining sessions will be Friday 17th September, Friday 17th November, and Friday 24th December. Make a note on your calendar and please try to attend one.

The National Blood Service wishes me to thank all donors both regular and new who have made the sessions such a success in the area.

Bob Davis : 563846

Mobile Library

From the 8th September the Mobile Library will now visit on a Wednesday instead of Thursday as follows:

Naphill, Village Hall: Wednesday 10.15am – 11.15am

Naphill, Forge Road: Wednesday 11.20am – 11.45am

Walters Ash, RAF Camp: Wednesday 11.50am – 12.30pm

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

The last meeting before the holidays we had "Banjo Revival" to entertain us. The week previously we were invited to Mr & Mrs Pushman's for a garden party but because of the bad weather we spent the afternoon in their house. Many thanks to Valerie and the ladies who helped to serve us with tea, sandwiches and cakes.

September 10th - Margaret Deakin, An African Adventure.

September 24th - Bingo or quiz.

New members welcome.

Norah Cockroft : 564270

Fundraising Ploughman's Lunch

Doreen Burge invites you to a Ploughman's Lunch

At: Naphill Village Hall

On: Thursday 2nd. September

12.30p.m. - 2pm

Tickets £5

This charity set up by Joe Homan in 1965 is a registered charity based in South India which offers a home, education and stability to thousands of Indian children who are destitute or come from poverty stricken families and who would otherwise spend their lives on the street.

If you plan to come but do not have a ticket please could you phone me so that I can estimate numbers for catering.

Thank you

Doreen Burge : 565430

Naphill cum Bradenham Conservatives

Visit to Compton Verney – October 7th 2004

A visit has been arranged to this newly opened art gallery near Stratford on Avon. Compton Verney House is set in magnificent parkland created by Capability Brown. The house has recently been restored and extended. The exhibitions of Italian and German paintings and wood carvings are very well displayed. The gallery of Folk Art is fascinating, and there is an interactive modern display related to Tulse Luper.

The cost is £19 per person. The coach will leave the Village Hall at 9am and return by 5pm. The ticket price includes travel, entry fees, an introductory talk, and driver tip.

Please contact Peggy on 565969 for tickets and further Information.

St. Botolph's Bradenham

2nd Annual Harvest Supper

Last year's supper was well attended and very popular. The event raised sufficient funds to replace the worn out curtains at the west and south doors. This year we are hoping to replace some of the pew covers and carpets.

The supper will be on Friday October 8th in the church. Tickets cost £10 each to include a main course of meat casserole and vegetables, followed by fruit crumble and coffee. Glasses of wine are included in the ticket.

Please contact Valerie on 564152 or Peggy on 565969 for further information or to reserve a place.

News From Christians In The Community

(Members of the three local churches)

There will be a Barn Dance in Naphill Village Hall on the 25th September at 7pm to which everyone is invited whether you like to dance or sit and watch. Tickets are adults £4, children £2.50 and you will need to bring and share your food, and bring your own drinks.

KRASH (Kids Really Are Special Here) resumes on the 10th September at Naphill Evangelical Church and TRASH (Tweenagers Really Are Special Here) resumes on 17th September at Church House, Hughenden.

All the JC Clubs at Hughenden Church resume on 12th with all children being in church on the first Sunday, the 5th.

For more details of the above or for lifts please 'phone me.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

October 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

October 2004

Editor: Matthew Piercy, 300 Main Road, HP14 4TH. Tel: 562081

Email nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Distribution: Mike & Pauline Pool, Endsleigh, Clappins Lane. Tel : 564226

Treasurer: David Leith, Falcon's Oak, The Common. Tel: 562312

Copy date for the November issue is Friday 15th October 2004

Editorial

My Editorial last month was not met with universal approval, with a couple of people feeling that it detracted from the impartiality of the Gazette. It seems a fair point so I have covered the subject this month under 'Readers Letters' which is intended to include letters that are of general interest to readers.

Now that the Village Hall extension is near completion we need to set a date to fit the new kitchen. We were able to negotiate a very favourable price for the kitchen units, which we already have in our possession - it's just a matter of building them

up and installing them! Foolishly I agreed to organise this, and whilst I know I can rely on many of the usual crowd I think it is fair to say we are lacking in some skilled areas. If you are able to contribute for a few hours one weekend (yet to be decided) please call me - we need you. This will make a major difference to the overall feel of our Village Hall and really finish off the recent building work.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service.
Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

SPRINGLINE CARS Private Hire. Airport transfers & long distance specialist; personal care; air-conditioned estate; local knowledge; accounts available; Loosley Row based; find me in Yellow Pages. DAVID on 01844 274474

KNOWTEL CONSULTANTS offer cheap telephone & mobile calls, gas & electricity & expertise for computer, broadband or internet problems. Call us to save or for help with PC problems, 563041

Lorraine Barker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

Aralias to Yuccas! Specimen shrubs 0.75 - 2.0m tall from my nursery site in Penn. Bargain prices. Supply and plant or supply only. Also herbaceous perennials. G C Travers HND Am Hort. 01494 563367

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

I am pleased to report that the very unseasonable late summer weather did not affect the two main events which have taken place recently. On a brilliantly sunshiny 1st September, our Juniors played in their own Tournament organized by our present Junior Co-ordinator Mikki Toone (with husband Lance), under the guidance of our

past long-serving Junior Organizer, Jan Curtis. Mikki's report follows:

"There were two different age group competitions, the under 13's and the under 16's. As always at this time of year it is difficult to get a really good turnout as so many people are still on summer vacation. However, the players that were there on the day really enjoyed the tennis and displayed evidence of having attended the FREE coaching the club supplied earlier in the year. Thanks must go to Jan Curtis, Ingrid Tomlins, Judy Redrup and Maddy Morris, members of the adult section, who once again turned out to support with the umpiring and line judging roles, and to the parents of the junior members, who also turned out on the day to encourage and support all of the players.

The under 13's started with a league competition which led to a final between Duncan Foster and Adam Toone. It was a well played final with both boys putting on a good display with some excellent shots that would not have looked out of place at Wimbledon. Mention must be made of Myles Dell and Ewan Lusty who in the league stages displayed some excellent prospects for the future. It is hard to believe that Ewan, for example, only joined the club this summer and played shots that would put some of the senior players on the back foot.

The under 16's started with two leagues and then went to semi-finals, where we saw Oliver Devine go to the final after an "edge of the seat" game against Elliot Poulter and Jack Hillier was knocked out at this stage by Adam Toone. The final was eventually won by Adam Toone after a match with some exhausting rallies between the two competitors.

Finally I must say how proud I was of the effort, humour and good natured way the boys all behaved, and I look forward to seeing them all play again in the future." (*Mikki Toone*)

Our second event was the 'Barbecue at Bledlow', hosted by our President and Chairman, Helen & Ian Leek at their truly unique home. Although the food supplied was, mostly, a co-operative affair, the environment in which it was eaten made it an especially agreeable affair, hugely enjoyed by around twenty members. Although funds raised at such social event are secondary to a good time being had by all, every little does help, particularly at the present time when we



have meet the cost of having the courts refurbished. Hopefully, the expense incurred will be worthwhile and members will appreciate playing on a newly repainted, moss-free surface, which should withstand the vagaries of the winter weather. This does, of course, mean we now have to concentrate on replacing the not inconsiderable sum needed to pay for this work. To this end, we hope to organize a Grand Christmas Raffle, with the draw taking place at our last social event of the year which will be the Tinsel Tournament on Sunday 19th December so watch out for details in the near future.

Briefly, I would like to report our Ladies won their last match which should see them safely established in Div 4. Club sessions continue on Tuesday and Sunday mornings throughout the year with club booking dates for Cressex indoor sessions listed on the Notice-board. New members are always welcome - contact Sue Crooks 01494 562539 or the undersigned for further details.

Ingrid Tomlins, Hon. Sec : 01494 446063

District & County Councillor's Report

Trading Standards is a County Council Service that protects the public as consumers, from many illegal practices. One such case, not locally I hastily add, involved the selling of an inferior brand of spirit at a premium price. The practice was exposed during a routine visit to the pub. The practice of substitution both misleads consumers, who only have the label to rely on when deciding what to drink, and it gives the pub the chance to make a profit on the back of the leading brand reputation. Rogue traders are

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail mbc2@home410.fslife.co.uk

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

also prosecuted and if any reader has a grievance regarding services provided to them, they should report it to Trading Standards in Aylesbury.

Readers should now be aware of the new "Highways on Call" service on 0845 230 2882 This number should be dialed for all highway enquiries and operates Monday to Friday from 8.30a.m. to 5.00p.m. The out of hours emergency number for highway matters is 01296 486630.

Although I refrain from commenting on planning matters in these reports the Editor's comments last month prompt me to agree with his concern regarding the new build on what was the Sharley shop site. Readers might remember that I warned of the implications of the Government's directive in Planning Policy Guidance No. 3, which requires a higher building density on all new development. Having said that, there is still a need to respect neighbouring properties and the general appearance of the community. I did request a stop notice on this development because I maintained that it did not comply with accepted policy. However, the committee decided that as the outline application had been approved in August 2003, the one before them was little different and the application was agreed. With the pressure to build on every available plot we

must all be vigilant in the future to prevent repeats of this nature.

Richard Pushman :
richard.pushman@btinternet.com : 564152

Remembrance Sunday 14th November 2004

This is to remind readers that the Village Hall service of Remembrance will be held on 14th November, commencing at 2.45p.m. Further details in the November Gazette.

R.P.

Naphill Neighbours

We were back in the Village Hall for our September meeting following the August break. Although this was an open meeting the numbers attending were lower than usual as maybe members were still away on holiday. They missed a most interesting talk by Mr. Dagavino, a volunteer from the Thames Valley and Chiltern Air Ambulance Trust. It is amazing that this vital lifesaver is kept running as it receives no funding from the NHS and is unable to get Lottery grants. The helicopter, pilot, paramedics, mechanics etc, etc., all have to be paid for via sponsorship and fundraising, which in itself must be a huge undertaking. At the end of the evening we were able to purchase items, which hopefully in some small way added to their funds.

We are now looking forward to our Ferret Racing Night on Friday, 8th October, 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Tickets are selling well and we are sure that those of you who are coming along will enjoy a fun evening.

Our AGM takes place on Monday, 11th October, followed by a talk on Cottage China by Rita Beck. Rita will have her china on display and there will be an opportunity to purchase items at the end of the evening. With Christmas looming maybe this will make a start to shopping for presents.

Mary Shrimpton

Naphill Evening WI

Have you an interesting craft that you would like to share?

Would you like to book a craft table at the Naphill Christmas Fayre to be held on the 4th December?
Phone Norma on 563116 by 31st October.

Jessie's tea party got off to a wet start, but the weather suddenly brightened and with the help of so many willing ladies we quickly transported all the cakes and teas into the garden and had two hours of wonderful sunshine. The garden quiz was a success with Betty Williams and Juliet Shortall sharing the prize. The first winner was brave enough to admit a mistake had been made, so the entries were all checked again and two ladies both had 22 ½ marks out of a possible 24.

After the summer recess and our September meeting, we face the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness! Our meeting on the 21st October will be the AGM, so members please consider whether you would like to join our friendly committee. New faces and new ideas are always refreshing. The competition that night will be a 'dressed' vegetable!

This year it is our turn to host the Group meeting on October 28th. The speaker will be Val Pretlove, a London Guide, and she will be giving a talk on London, illustrated with slides. The competition is a piece of London memorabilia, and refreshments will be served afterwards. It should be a good evening, so make a date in your diary now.

*Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall :
565018*

Readers Letters

Development on Main Road

In response to the "FAX CHRIS SWANWICK" page in last months Gazette, over 70 people bothered to send the fax to Wycombe District Council - something that was dismissed by Martin Davies, the Planning Officer for this particular development as "just a fax circular". Additionally the Parish Council, Residents Association and Chiltern AONB have all tried to apply additional pressure regarding this development.

Having looked deeper into the issue it is alarming to uncover the blatant breach of policies that have allowed this development to go ahead. Without going into all the details right now, have a look at

<http://members.lycos.co.uk/wdcbadplans/> - a web site dedicated to this specific case, and something that Wycombe District Council should be ashamed of.

Despite repeated requests Wycombe District Council refuse to take the matter back to the Planning Committee. I have escalated the issue to the Local Government Ombudsman, but they are unlikely to even look at the case for 8 weeks. The only other option is to seek a judicial review, and based on the facts I suspect we would have a good chance of succeeding, but I have neither the knowledge or backing to begin this course of action. If any reader has a view on this I would love to hear from them.

Yours sincerely

Matt Piercy

Speeding Concerns

The past two issues of the Gazette have contained articles that voice concern about the excessive speed of vehicles as they use the Naphill and Walters Ash main roads. They have also questioned why we have no means of calming traffic through our villages. Like the two individuals who wrote the letters I also have similar worries, and I am sure that many more residents also share these concerns. I believe that what is needed is a handful of people, from both villages, to act as representatives for the majority of the villagers who would like to see measures put in place that would address the problem of speeding traffic.

I have seen a number of similar sized villages in Bucks, and adjacent counties, that have been successful in implementing traffic calming. My feeling is that if they can do it then so can we.

If you are a like minded member of either village who would be happy to work towards getting something done then please contact me and let me know. I am sure that with the right people at the forefront we should be able to take the concerns of the residents to the official departments that have responsibility for traffic management and safety.

*An open invitation to a fun evening
organised by*

NAPHILL NEIGHBOURS

FERRET RACING NIGHT

Naphill Village Hall

Friday 8th October, 7.30pm

Tickets £3.00 including Ploughman's Supper

Licensed Bar

Tickets from: Sheila Rolfe on 562888



Steve Payne

01494 565 031

Horticultural Society

Cheese & Wine Evening

Friday October 29th

Naphill Village Hall

7.00 for 7.30pm

Tickets £7.50

Wine & Soft Drinks Bar

Tickets are now available for our annual Cheese and Wine evening, which is always a popular event, and this year takes place on Friday October 29th in the Village Hall.

The evening will start with an illustrated talk by Roger Turner, entitled Lust and Loveliness in the Garden. Roger is an architect and garden designer and lecturer on gardens and garden history. He is also the author of three books, one on Capability Brown, one on garden design and one on Euphorbias.

We will then tuck into the now famous buffet of cheese, pâté, salad etc.

Tickets are £7.50 and include a glass of wine. Numbers are limited, and tickets always sell quickly for this event; so do book early (it also helps on the catering front if we have final numbers a week beforehand).

Secondly, very many thanks to all of you who took part in our recent Autumn Show. Whether you were an exhibitor, a viewer, or a buyer at the auction you helped to make it a great success.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

FOUND at the Horticultural Society Autumn Show: A pair of glasses found on the Domestic tables.

Contact Don Turner on 562645.

The Joe Homan Charity

Fundraising Ploughman's Lunch

The lunch was a great success and raised over £470 for the charity – a wonderful result. My thanks to the generosity of the people who came to the lunch, to those who kindly gave donations and to my happy band of helpers. Naphill Brownies met the cost of hiring the village hall – a very kind and thoughtful gesture which was much appreciated.

Thank you for your support.

Doreen Burge : 565430

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In October

The Orionid meteor shower should provide on average a sighting every two minutes during the early morning of 23 in the east. British Summer time ends on 26; put back your clocks one hour. The moon is new on the 25 and full on 10. If you missed Mercury at the end of September, it still may be visible for a day or so in the east just before sunrise. Venus sets shortly after the Sun and may be difficult to see. Mars rises soon after dark and will be a good evening star. Jupiter rises in the morning and will be a good star to observe; Saturn will also be good in the mornings.

Astronomer's Watch

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Oct 1 | Rises | 07.03 | 14.19 | 08.09 | 17.58 | 04.10 | 23.09 |
| | Sets | 18.41 | 21.28 | 19.06 | 03.22 | 17.54 | 15.27 |
| Oct 8 | Rises | 07.15 | 18.17 | 08.31 | 17.28 | 03.50 | 22.43 |
| | Sets | 18.25 | 04.45 | 18.53 | 03.01 | 17.29 | 15.00 |
| Oct 15 | Rises | 07.27 | 20.21 | 08.54 | 16.59 | 03.30 | 22.16 |
| | Sets | 18.10 | 13.04 | 18.42 | 02.43 | 17.04 | 14.33 |
| Oct 22 | Rises | 07.39 | 03.02 | 08.18 | 16.31 | 03.10 | 21.49 |
| | Sets | 17.54 | 17.12 | 18.31 | 02.28 | 16.39 | 14.06 |
| Oct 29 | Rises | 06.51 | 12.19 | 08.41 | 15.05 | 01.49 | 20.22 |
| | Set | 16.2 | 19.3 | 17.3 | 01.5 | 15.4 | 12.9 |

In the September 2004 edition of *Sky and Telescope* appears a two-page review of a relatively inexpensive Casio wrist watch that prevents you from having to fire up your computer for accurate information about the Sun and the Moon for today or any day in the near future. It was originally designed to help fishermen and hunters, but it is just as useful for astronomers. It quickly gives sunrise and sunset times, quite unusual as these data require inputting longitude, latitude, and the time zone. A prominent Moon icon is shown as a green disk with a black circumference. More details are given in Casio's web site in its Forester series. The recommended price is 50 American dollars. The web address is http://focuscamera.com/sc/main_item.asp?id=964592090. On some web sites the price is as low as 40 dollars or about £25. This is a real bargain. Casio calls the watch its Forester Hunting Timer.

Messier and Caldwell

During the eighteenth century, a great way to distinguish oneself as an astronomer was to discover comets. To help identify them, French astronomer, Charles Messier, decided in 1758 to catalogue a number of objects that were often mistaken for comets. He produced a list of 107 such objects in 1762. In the event, the list became famous and much more useful as a list of interesting objects, such as nebulae, star clusters and galaxies to be found and studied. The most famous is probably M31, the Andromeda galaxy. As the list was not designed for the purpose for which it is now used, and a large number of interesting objects are missing from the catalogue, Patrick Moore, of the Sky at Night television programme, decided to do something about it.

He produced another list in 1995 of 109 more items with the hope that it would include the 'missing' objects that are relatively easy to find in the night sky. He called them the Caldwell list to avoid confusion with the M (Messier list)



Guides & Brownies Jumble Sale

Saturday 9th October

Naphill Village Hall

2.00pm

We will be collecting items for the sale around the village on the morning of the sale, and would also welcome any items you wish to bring to the Village Hall.

No furniture or electrical goods please.

objects and partly because his full name is Patrick Caldwell-Moore. The problem is that inevitably someone would criticise his list even though it contains 35 galaxies, 28 open clusters, 13 planetary nebulae, 12 bright nebulae and a dark nebula. It excludes notable galaxies and both the Magellanic clouds. There are also complaints that a new list of C numbers has been added to astronomers' lexicon, rather than the names or numbers by which they are already known. Nonetheless, it is a welcome addition and another challenge for amateur astronomers to test their prowess in finding the objects.

Grant Woodruff

Editors note : my apologies for printing the wrong month in the 'Sky At Night' title last month. The content of the article was correctly relevant to September.

Christmas Fayre Cake Stall

Christmas, as the children's song reminds us, is coming, and so is the Naphill Christmas Fayre which will be held on Saturday 4th December, note it in your diaries now!

One of our very popular attractions is the Cake Stall and this year we hope to gather together even more scrumptious cakes than before. That is where the ladies of Naphill and Walters Ash can make a really good contribution. Put on your pinnies ladies and start baking, your cakes are needed! To help your willpower nearer to the day 'phone now and promise to help later. You can leave the cakes with us or take them to the Village Hall on 4th December. We look forward to hearing from you!

Ted : 563034 and Dave : 563839

Two Plays For The Price Of One!

The Ubiquitous Touring Theatre Company are bringing their latest production to Naphill Village Hall on Sunday 3rd October starting at 7.30pm. They will be performing two plays, Two Birds in an Office by Julia Bowden and A Train to Gorky by Phil Nash. It will certainly be a theatrical evening of quality and contrast.

Tickets are £7.50, including a cheese supper, and a bar will be available. Please telephone 562099 to reserve your seats.

John Harris : 562099

Naphill Christmas Tree Lights

The annual decoration of the tree outside the Village Hall on Main Road received a boost recently when a large part of the cost involved was donated by the regular customers of the Wheel Public House.

Terry and Deana Bird, who run the Wheel, recently organised a race night at the pub which raised the sum of £400 towards the cost of decorating the Naphill Christmas Tree.

Other fund raising events held at the Wheel earlier in the summer have also raised £450 for the Naphill Cubs and Scouts, and a further £450 for the Naphill Mothers and Toddlers Group.

For a small pub to raise a total of £1300 for local charities in one summer is highly commendable and Terry, Deana and their customers should be congratulated.

Jan Pearce

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association



Candlelit Dinner Dance. Saturday 13th November, Naphill Village Hall.

Another chance to enjoy yourself at this popular yearly event with Geoff Jolliffe's lively Late Edition Band, and high quality cuisine supplied by Morreen Catering. The menu will again include a choice of two delicious meat and one vegetarian dish with French bread and salads, and three home-made deserts including a fruit pie and custard, with coffee or tea to follow. Due to another increase in costs the price of a ticket will be £18 available from Janet 01494 564569, Carole 563508, Daisy 562602, Gloria 563634. Do join us for a great evening.

Planning:

133 Main Road. We fully agree with the criticisms made by Matt Piercy and many others about the over-development of this site, out of keeping with everything around it. The height, bulk, proximity to the road, and "flint" facing of the building which has been shoe-horned on to it, is unacceptable, and it is built too close to the adjacent property. NAWARA opposed this plan at every stage and we are now writing to WDC to say how unsatisfactory it is, and asking what the District Council are doing about it.

04/6754/OUT 232 Main Rd, Naphill, Outline application for erection of one new dwelling at rear of 232 Main Rd. (refused).

04/6770/FUL 11 Beech Park, Walters Ash. Construction of 2-storey rear extension and new pitched roof to existing garage. (permitted).

04/6778/FUL 11 Vincents Way. Construction of replacement detached garage, single storey rear extension with roof extension over, incorporating front and rear dormer windows in conjunction with loft conversion. (permitted).

04/6807/FUL 312 Main Rd, Naphill (sic). Construction of single storey extension to existing retail store and an extension to the rear of the store and single storey enclosed staircase at side of property. (permitted).

04/6810/FUL Rossmore, Purssells Meadow, Naphill. Construction of single storey rear extension with roof extension over, incorporating front dormer window in connection with loft conversion, and rear conservatory. (refused).

04/6849/FUL Rag Dolls & Manstey, Stocking Lane, Naphill. Construction of single storey rear extension to both properties. (permitted).

Applications not decided at time of typing.

04/6911/FUL 5 Honey Way, Walters Ash. Construction of garage pitched roof.

04/7157/FUL 149 Templewood, Walters Ash. Construction of 2 storey extension to side and insertion of 3 x Velux windows to rear in connection with loft conversion.

04/7187/FUL 85 Main Rd. Naphill. Construction of conservatory to rear.

04/7242/FUL 320 Main Rd. Naphill (sic) Construction of 2 storey side extension.

04/7268/FUL and LBC Moseley Lodge Farm, 208 Main Rd. Naphill. Erection of 2 side gates adjoining property and new pedestrian gate 2m high fronting Main Rd.

04/7336/FUL 21 Moseley Rd. Naphill. Erection of 16 x 13 x 8ft shed/outhouse in garden.

Viewing letters of objection (or support).

Following complaints by members of the public that they have not seen letters of objection on planning files in Planning Reception, I am told that the only information required on the statutory planning files in Reception are the application forms, drawings and covering letters from applicants. The objection letters are kept on the main planning files with the planning officers, but available for the public. If you want to see them it is best to ring up first, with application number, to make sure the objection letters can be made available at the time you want to view them.

Gloria Leflaive: 563634

Naphill Village Hall Council Notes

It was good to welcome everyone back after the summer break. It seemed a long time since our last meeting back in July. Even though we haven't been blessed by the best of summer weather the vandals have had their usual summer attack on the Hall resulting in three insurance claims. The men's club came off the worst with their newly refurbished billiard tables being damaged. It is the common story of fairly mindless damage with little financial gain to the perpetrators but with a significant bill to the Hall to rectify the damage.

We have no argument with the youth of the Village meeting by the Hall to chat, but if your offspring are part of the crowd of teenagers that meet in the car park regularly could you please help us by ensuring that they know how to put their litter in a bin! It is very wearing for those of us that have to tidy up daily!

As I write this the building work is very nearly complete and by the time your read this it may well be finished at long last. It does look good, and gives us a significant amount of extra space as well as complying with the new disability regulations. Well worth waiting for!

The replacement tree that was planted in the play area has also been demolished. It lasted slightly longer than the first one but has been snapped off. We were trying to put a bit of shade into the play area to make it more pleasant and safe for the children during the summer months but it is obviously not to be. We have also asked the Parish Council if they could supply us with a bin for dog waste but this is not possible as it is on private land. On the whole people are pretty good at clearing up after their dogs on the Crick but if you do exercise your dog there could you please take the "doggy bag" home with you and not put it in the litter bins. They are not designed to cope with this waste. Thank you.

The final result of the Fete was a great £7,250. A fantastic boost to the Hall's coffers. Many thanks to all those of you who worked towards this total. The Hall cannot operate without your efforts at this fund raising.

Our next fund raising ventures are :

- The Ubiquitous Theatre Company present 2 plays on the 3rd of October - tickets from John Harris tel. 562099

- The fireworks on 6th November
- The Christmas Fayre on 4th December - helpers wanted both with the organisation and on the day - please phone Sarah on 563479
- The Quiz Night on 25th February

Do please come and support all these events.

Finally I would like to thank Terry and Deena landlords of The Wheel who have had a series of fund raising events for Village charities including the Hall. In particular the £400 they raised at their race night to go towards the Christmas Tree Lights. Thank you very much from us all.

Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall & Playing Field Council : 563479

*Whitebeam, planted Friday 29th May 2004.
Gone by Friday 4th June.*

Christmas Fayre



The Walters Ash & Naphill School Association (WANSA) Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 27th November in the School Hall from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

The proceeds will go towards the funding of a new library at the school so you can shop for your Christmas presents locally and support a good cause at the same time!

There will be a cafe serving hot and cold food, lots of games to keep the children amused and of course Santa will be there as well.

(If you are interested in taking a table at the fair then please contact Judy Whitehouse on 01494 562742 or email judy@judyq.demon.co.uk).

Judy Whitehouse : 562742

Naphill & Walters Ash Over 60's Club

We commenced the new term on Friday 10th September with a talk on Africa by Mrs Deaken. It was very interesting and everyone enjoyed it.

On 24th Sept we have Bingo or a Quiz

New members welcome.

Norah Cockroft : 564270

World War Two Memories

Wycombe Museum are planning an exhibition about WW2 and would like to hear from the people who lived through those times and who would be prepared to share their memories with them. Any personal stories or recollections, particularly about the Home Front, would be of great interest. What was different about life then? What did you do for the war effort? What was it like at school? Were you evacuated or did your family look after evacuees? What are your personal memories? What you think might be a trivial detail could be fascinating to others. For instance, I remember being told about the fruit canning which took place at the Village Hall, organised by the WI. Was the fruit boiled up on the premises? What happened to it afterwards?

There must be many such tales to tell. You could put them in writing or, if you prefer, talk about them and, perhaps, put them on tape. In any case, contact the Museum on 01494421895 and they will sort out what is most convenient for you.

Don Turner : 562645

Naphill cum Bradenham Conservatives

Visit to Compton Verney – October 7th 2004

A visit has been arranged to this newly opened art gallery near Stratford on Avon. Compton Verney House is set in magnificent parkland

created by Capability Brown. The house has recently been restored and extended. The exhibitions of Italian and German paintings and wood carvings are very well displayed. The gallery of Folk Art is fascinating, and there is an interactive modern display related to Tulse Luper.

The cost is £19 per person. The coach will leave the Village Hall at 9am and return by 5pm. The ticket price includes travel, entry fees, an introductory talk, and driver tip.

Please contact Peggy on 565969 for tickets and further Information.

The University of the Third Age (U3A)

The U3A is an organisation that is ideal for retired or semi-retired people who would like to make new friends, explore new interests or maintain existing skills. We have a monthly general meeting in the Lacey Green and Loosely Row Village Hall (with a speaker) and also meet in small friendly subject-related study groups.

Our groups include Art, Caravanning, Computing, Croquet, Discovering Art, Discussions, Embroidery, French Conversation, Gardening, German Conversation, History, Local History, London Walks, Mah-jong, Music Appreciation, Ornithology, Outings/Excursions, Patchwork and Quilting, Play Reading, Poetry, Puddings, Quizzes, Reading for Pleasure, Science and Technology, Scrabble, Ten Pin Bowling, Walking and Woodcarving. Groups for other interests are added whenever there is a demand.

The annual membership subscription of only £14 gives immediate access to all of these activities. Some groups require a small extra donation in order to cover running costs, but these are minimal.

For more details please contact Peggy Oaten-Wareham, 562554 or Ted Chapman, 563034.

Naphill Baby and Toddler Group

Our group has now restarted after the summer break. However we met for our Teddy Bears Picnic during August so the children and parents could catch up with each other. We were blessed with good weather so the children 'picniced' and bounced away on the Bouncy castle in the

garden. In fact other parents with young children nearby saw (and heard!) the event and came and joined in.

The new term has started on a high with the very generous donation to funds from the publicans at the Wheel Pub. Thank you so much for your hard work in raising money for our group. We are a community group run by local mothers without any grants and it is often a real struggle to break even and pay the rent and insurance. Yet we provide a valuable service to parents with young children in making available a weekly space to meet up and for the very young children to play and make friends. We are now in a position to be able to buy some new play equipment and replace the battered and worn!

The group meets on Thursdays during term time between 2-4pm. Newcomers are always made welcome. Anyone can drop in and try us out. This month we have our yearly visit from our photographer on 7 October. The photos are lovely and they make great Christmas presents for doting relatives! This is a popular session and parents sign up quickly. However we are happy to accommodate other parents with children under five in the community if they want to book a time slot for the day.

Any queries regarding the above or about group please feel free to contact me on the number below.

Suzanne Farwell, Chair : 562147

No-Dig Gardening

It sounds like paradise for the gardener. It is. One simply spreads compost or manure on the surface of the soil then grows crops in it.

The scientific theory is as follows. In nature, nobody digs the soil over every year. Leaves fall, grasses and weeds die and decay, worms drag the resulting litter down into the soil and the following year's plants grow in this continuously-composting mixture. The worms do the digging and aerate the soil so that bacteria, etc in the soil can receive the oxygen they need. So the no-dig method simply follows nature.

After digging my allotment at Walter's Ash for 26 years I learned of the no-dig method and adopted it. For the past 5 years I have not dug at all. Each winter I spread well-rotted farmyard

manure over the soil, about 3 inches deep, and grow the crops in it. It works! I have better crops and avoid the effort of digging.

Now for more science. In order that plants can extract nutrients from the soil they need to have their tiny hair-like roots covered in a sheath of mycorrhiza. There are many fungi in the soil which play a part in the ecosystem. The mycorrhiza fungi have a symbiotic relationship with the plants, taking surplus carbohydrates from the plants and giving in return the nutrients in a form which can be absorbed by the plants. The mycorrhiza are simply **essential**.

Mycorrhiza are destroyed by two things - digging and the application of herbicides and pesticides, which is what our farmers do. The farmers then apply lots of nitrogen, potash and phosphorus fertiliser to the land, but the crops have difficulty in absorbing the fertiliser in the near-absence of mycorrhiza. The surplus fertiliser then runs off into streams and rivers. The farmers' fields are like deserts. To illustrate this take the example of trees being planted into former farmland. About 60% then die, starved to death because of the absence of mycorrhiza. I have to admit that I don't know what the farmers can do - growing crops in compost or farmyard manure on the scale required does not seem possible. However, we can grow crops following the no-dig method in our gardens and allotments and benefit from the friendly mycorrhiza.

Now for more science. Over the past 50 years the percentages of minerals in our food have declined calcium by one fifth, copper by one third, sodium by a half, iron by one fifth, etc. Zinc deficiency can lead to mental diseases, digestive disorders, skin problems, anorexia, infertility, birth defects, prostate problems and diabetes. Magnesium deficiency is implicated in diabetes, arthritis and osteoporosis. Need I go on? The list of vital trace elements is extensive and also includes chromium, boron, cobalt, selenium, vanadium, iodine, nickel, molybdenum, potassium and manganese. Whilst we need only small amounts of these minerals in our food, the continuing decline must be a cause of concern for the future. A possible reason for the decline is that crops containing these minerals are taken continuously from farmland but the minerals are not replaced if only artificial fertilisers such as nitrogen, potash and

phosphorus are used. Thus the percentages of minerals in farmland diminish each year - and the percentages in our food also. You can combat this decrease by growing your own food in land which is enriched with farmyard manure - putting back into **your** land the minerals taken, via the manure, from farmland.

I must acknowledge the Good Gardeners' Association in the preparation of this article. Those wishing to know more about the topic should contact the Association on 01453 520322. Those interested in having an allotment should contact the parish clerk on 01494 715296. Good gardening!

Mike Mason : 563225

Three Villages Sponsored Walk

I am sure many of you will remember when Derek and Maureen Woodbridge lived in Lacey Green. More specifically Derek and Maureen lived in the village for seventeen years and ran Hickman Stores on the Main Road providing the local community with a grocery store, newsagent, dry cleaning service and a home delivery service for the elderly. What many people did not know was Derek was a keen gardener and after Hickman Stores closed in 1999, Derek became a full time gardener working locally in Speen, Great Hampden and the surrounding areas.

Like everything Derek does he gave 100% commitment to the people he worked for. His knowledge was invaluable and his time and patience was endless. The results of this hard work could be viewed every two years in Great Hampden during the "Open Gardens Day" and "his gardens" were regular prize winners!

But his skills didn't end there. Derek was a very competent painter, decorator and tiler too and if he wasn't gardening he was decorating. Unfortunately Derek had experienced heart problems in the past and the medication he was on was inadequate and he suffered a blood clot in the spinal chord leaving him paralysed. After several months in the Spinal Unit at Stoke Mandeville Hospital Derek was discharged and returned home.

Possibly for the first time in his life he looked to the NHS and the Social Services to assist him in his rehabilitation in order to get on with his life.

Unfortunately the welfare system did not come to Derek's aid quickly enough and he finally accepted that he must sell his garden equipment and his van. In the process of selling his van, the so-called purchasers turned out to be crooks and scammed with the van and some of Derek's money. Enough is enough and many of Derek's friends have rallied round to help in whatever way they can. Various fund raising efforts were organised in Lacey Green. A recent sponsored swim and The THREE VILLAGES SPONSORED WALK mentioned above was supported by the three communities including WALTERS ASH and NAPHILL resulting in enough money to buy a super duper wheelchair to help Derek get around with the speed and agility he likes!

Derek is now back working part-time with plants in Bryants Bottom where there is a potting shed and poly tunnels with wheelchair access. As always he does everything with a smile and his great patience and calmness is a lesson to us all. At the moment he would gladly accept the offer of an extra pair of helping hands to assist him so if there is a gardener out there with a few hours to spare and their own transport, please contact the editor.

Bucks Association for Blind and Partially Sighted People

Opportunities for volunteering with BAB at



Wycombe Hospital

BAB is the county organisation that provides help

and an extensive range of services to anyone with serious sight loss within Bucks and Milton Keynes.

BAB needs volunteers for their Hospital Information Service based in Wycombe Hospital Eye Clinic.

Could this be you?

- good listening skills
- comfortable talking to new people
- sensitive to patients' needs
- 2 hours per week to spare

If so, we would love to hear from you.

Full training and support is given.

For more information, please contact - Jane Diggory, Hospital Information Service Co-ordinator, 01296 487556

Iain Rennie Hospice At Home

In association with the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation

A Walk On The Wild Side

Saturday 23rd October 2004

**The Lancaster Arts Centre,
Wycombe Abbey School,
High Wycombe**

2.00 - 5.00pm Exhibitions and Sales

We are delighted to offer a wonderful opportunity to view and purchase a selection of David Shepherd's framed limited edition prints. Among the paintings exhibited will be David's wildlife paintings and also landscapes, portraits and steam engines. David will be available during the exhibition to sign purchases and chat informally. A full range of his books, prints, videos and other wildlife merchandise will be obtainable.

7.17 - 10.00pm A Walk On The Wild Side

An extremely popular and fascinating look into the world of David Shepherd himself, incorporating all facets of his work with his Wildlife Foundation, his artistry and enthusiasm for steam. Four original paintings will be exhibited on the stage in the evening. Merchandise, including David's prints, will be available for purchase.

Tickets £12.00, from Mrs. Christine Nisbet (IRHH), Piper's Haunt, Sandpits Lane, Penn,

Bucks. HP10 SHD. 01494 812458.

St. Botolph's Bradenham

2nd Annual Harvest Supper

Last year's supper was well attended and very popular. The event raised sufficient funds to replace the worn out curtains at the west and south doors. This year we are hoping to replace some of the pew covers and carpets.

The supper will be on Friday October 8th in the church. Tickets cost £10 each to include a main course of meat casserole and vegetables, followed by fruit crumble and coffee. Glasses of wine are included in the ticket.

Please contact Valerie on 564152 or Peggy on 565969 for further information or to reserve a place.

News From Christians In The Community

(Members of the three local churches)

I am sure by the time you read this lots of us with have had a really good time at the Barn Dance, and a memorable, prayerful time on the Prayer Safari on the 30th September.

KRASH will be meeting on the 8th and 22nd October in the Naphill Evangelical

Church. On the 31st October there will be a service at Naphill Methodist Church at 6pm when the congregations of the three local churches unite. The theme is based around thanksgiving and is called

'Face to Face with the Living God'. As usual there will be refreshments afterwards.

The regular meeting of '*Christians in the Community*' will be at 7.30pm on the 7th October at the Methodist church – we will be very pleased to see you here and at the united service.

Don't forget just 'phone me if you would like a lift.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

November 2004



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

November 2004

Editor: Matthew Piercy, 300 Main Road, HP14 4TH. Tel: 562081

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Copy date for the December & January issue is Monday 15th November 2004

Editorial

There was an amazing response to my request last month for people prepared to contribute a few hours to help with fitting a new kitchen in the Village Hall. The need for a new kitchen is all the more relevant after the recent break-in that left the existing kitchen vandalised - many of the cupboard doors are still either missing or literally 'hanging'.

The response I refer to was zero - not a single call. Perhaps that is less amazing to most than me, but I really believe in the Community Spirit that exists in our villages, and when you consider the obvious need

for this improvement I will admit to being a tad disappointed.

If you want the kitchen to look half decent, and not like the Editor of the local magazine has thrown it together, please give me a call. Date to be confirmed, but likely to be a weekend in late November, early December.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service. Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request. Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

SPRINGLINE CARS Private Hire. Airport transfers & long distance specialist; personal care; air-conditioned estate; local knowledge; accounts available; Loosley Row based; find me in Yellow Pages. DAVID on 01844 274474

Lorraine Barker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

Aralias to Yuccas! Specimen shrubs 0.75 - 2.0m tall from my nursery site in Penn. Bargain prices. Supply and plant or supply only. Also herbaceous perennials. G C Travers HND Am Hort. 01494 563367

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Introductory offer. Kate 569303

NEED PC HELP? We set-up Broadband, E-mail, Instant Messengers, Internet Telephony, Web Cams, Firewalls, Wired and Wireless Networks, etc. Call Anthony on 01494 564 810 or 07703 192 614

WEIGHT WATCHERS. Thursday evenings, 7-8pm, Small hall at back of Hughenden Village Hall. Very friendly group! Tel 01494 562281.

CHRISTMAS TREES at prices well below local retail outlets. If interested email Andy Pope andy@pope-family.net Price circa £3 per foot (non-drop trees cut same day) - Available 11/12 Dec. 01494 564576

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

At this time of year, there is not too much to report on the tennis-playing front. The courts refurbishment has been successfully completed and the general opinion from those select few members, who have ventured out on them in the traditional 'off-season' for tennis, is that it is money well spent. The holes have been filled in, the moss

has been treated, the newly sprayed surface looks clean and bright, the balls bounce well and the only problem now is honing our ability to hit them cleanly! Our thanks are due to the contractor T J Swords Tennis Courts Ltd., for carrying out the work with minimum disruption, and to our member, Ted Chapman, for organizing site access. Apologies to our mid-week players who had to miss a Tuesday morning session while the work was being carried out. We hope the new surface inspires our winter-season Ladies Vets team to win their home matches and also come first in their away matches!

On a more serious note - at this time of year we have to turn our attention to putting our house in order by holding the AGM, which is due to take place on Monday 29th November at 8pm in the Clubhouse. The annual 'apologies for absence' will, no doubt, be expressed by most members when they receive agendas urging them to attend. Unfortunately, this does not help with planning for the future. Most of the present committee have served the club for many years and now wish to stand down. The majority do not live in Naphill and some are reaching an age when social tennis rather than match play is preferable. The health and welfare of most tennis clubs is invigorated by relatively younger and enthusiastic players, who enjoy both competitive and social play. Unless such members take up the reins in the very near future, preferably villagers, the club will not have a future - only a past! As we presently have a healthy balance sheet, a very adequate clubhouse and newly refurbished courts, it would be a shame to see all this go to waste!

Turning away from serious matters and in the absence of any major fund-raising this year, we are holding a Grand Christmas raffle, which will be drawn at the Tinsel Tournament, due to be held on Sunday, 19th December. The main prize will be a Christmas Hamper and we hope that, even if the weather is against us, the lunch will be up to its usual standard and members will contribute to both raffle and the spirit of the occasion!

Ingrid Tomlins, Hon. Sec : 01494 446063

District & County Councillor's Report

As a Councillor, one is expected, or rather required, to attend various teaching and information seminars, in order to understand new policies and to keep within, what are becoming prescriptive laws. One recent information seminar gave some detail of the new Planning Act, which transfers strategic planning from the County Council to Regional Planning authorities. It also requires District Councils to substitute Local Plans with a new Local Development Framework. These will contain a portfolio of strategies/policies formulated after local consultation. These strategies will contain village design statements and Parish Plans. It will place a greater responsibility on all of us to ensure that we are fully aware of what is proposed in the long-term planning of our communities. The South East of England Regional Assembly [SEERA] has already published the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Growth Area which will affect north

Bucks and Aylesbury. The increased housing proposals are far beyond what had originally been forecast both in Milton Keynes and in the County and all of us will be affected in the period beyond 2011. The purpose of these remarks is not to strike alarm but to ensure that we all follow the National Debate on housing provision. The one million new homes suggested by the Government as being required in the south-east are likely to be exceeded and already those District allocations are under discussion. There will be public consultation on SEERA's Draft S. E. Plan in January – April 2005. All readers will be made aware of this, and please remember, it is important that we all contribute our ideas and comments.

Along with several residents I attended the Planning Enquiry for the proposed development of 11 dwellings on the open land at Templewood. The importance of the green space was stressed and the fact that it had provided a play area for children. We now await the Inspector's decision expected sometime in November.

Richard Pushman : richard.pushman@btinternet.com : 564152

Remembrance Sunday 14th November 2004

This is to remind readers that the Village Hall service of Remembrance will be held on 14th November, commencing at 2.45p.m.

R.P.

Naphill Neighbours

The AGM took place on Monday, 11th October. Nearly 40 members were present and this was followed by a talk on Cottage China by Rita Beck. Rita told us amusing tales of how she set up her own business buying the white china from Stoke on Trent and then decorating it with transfers. She had a good selection of her diverse and attractive wares on display and we were given the opportunity to purchase.

The Ferret Racing evening was a tremendous success and we would like to thank those of you who came along to support us. Very special thanks goes to our race sponsors: J.H. Clark & Sons, Princes Risborough, Risborough Carers, Saunderton Lee, Paul's Fish and Chips, Naphill, P.J. Tapping & Son, Monks Risborough, Little Cherubs Day Nursery, High Wycombe, Paynes of Glass, Naphill, Venture Hire, Acton, Ace Self-Storage, Aylesbury and High Wycombe and Philip Green Estate Agents, High Wycombe. We also thank our 36 ferret "owners" for the evening. As a result of everyone's generosity, not only have we swelled the club's funds but we are also able to give a substantial donation to our chosen charities this year, The Thames Valley Air Ambulance Service and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 8th November when Alan Copeland will talk to us about "Curiosities in

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

<http://members.tripod.co.uk/Naphill>

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail mbc2@home410.fslife.co.uk

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

The Chilterns". Ladies are welcome to come along and join our ever-growing, thriving and friendly group.

Mary Shrimpton : 471613

Naphill Evening WI

Our September meeting was not so well attended, perhaps some of you were enjoying a late holiday. If so, you missed a very successful talk by Mr Nicholls on 'Wendover Waterways'. Once understood, his sense of humour was hilarious! Four members attended a meeting given by Downley and Flackwell Heath. It was a fun evening with an excellent speaker entertaining us with 'Great Lovers'. We had an attractive supper of cheese, biscuits, grapes etc. complimented with a glass of wine. There was a raffle and more entertainment of poetry reading - at £7 it was too good to miss.

Writing this in October we are in the midst of a busy month. We still have to come a visit to the Chelsea Pensioners, our AGM at the next meeting and Naphill are hosting the Group meeting on October 28th. We will report next time. Speaking about the AGM, we are sad to lose some of our committee members who have decided not to stand this year, but we are grateful for their hard work. Thank you ladies. We were represented at the half yearly council meeting by two of our members, and we should be able to tell you more in due course. And speaking of 'course' – do have a look at the latest programme from Denman College. There are some really interesting things to do, either on your own or with friends and family. Do not miss these and the many other opportunities that your WI membership offers.

The first meeting of our new year is on the 18th November and the speaker will be Jane Manley talking

about "The Royal National Mission for Deep Sea Fishermen". The competition will be an 'unusual shell' – come on ladies, let's have a good entry for this one! So once again, we are looking forward to another year of friendship, good speakers and pleasant outings. If you are not yet a member, it is well worth giving us a try. If you would like to come along but don't have transport, a lift can be arranged.

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

Readers Letters

Development on Main Road

Despite Wycombe District Council receiving a huge amount of public opinion and information pointing out their policy breaches in approving the development on the old Sharleys site, they have refused to put the application back in front of the Development Control Committee. Had they done so, there would have been no guarantee that the application would be changed, but it would have demonstrated that they at least considered the views of the many people that wrote to them.

Richard Cummins's (WDC Chief Executive) last letter to me stated "I do not accept that there is any justification for referring this matter back to the Development Control Committee. The full statutory process has been carried out in determining this application and it was not a departure from the local plan. I suggest that as you have now referred your complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman, we await the outcome".

Those of you that have read the local plan will be feeling very uncomfortable about the above statement. I suspect the High Court may well have had a favourable view on this but financially that was never an option. Get used to those houses!

Yours sincerely

Matt Piercy

Speeding In The Village

It will come as no surprise to either my friends or regular readers of the Gazette that I was not consulted over the positioning of the Village Speed Camera.

Had my opinion been sought then my advice would have been short, to the point and surgically difficult. However if inserted the right way then someone's eyes would have lit up every time a speeding car went by.

But let us suppose that I had been persuaded to give a serious opinion (a lifetime supply of Rioja would probably have done the trick). In that event I would have drawn up a list of the most dangerous bits of road in the village. Top of my list would have been traffic from Risborough approaching Bradenham Woods Lane then similar traffic approaching Clappins Lane etc etc. The current location of the Speed Camera would have been way down the list if on it at all.

Thus the speed camera stands as mute testament that these devices have nothing to do with safety but only with raising revenue.

Saturday 6 November

Fire lit 6.30pm

Display 7pm

**BBQ from 6pm
run by Sports Club**

Mulled wine

Soup

**Pavilion bar
run by Mens Club**



Tickets available from Costcutters, Paul's fish-and-chips, Country Stores, Spar, The Black Lion, The Wheel or phone 562770

**In advance
£3.50 adults, £1.50 children**

**On the night
£4.50 adults, £2 children**

Under-5s FREE

Please note: NO sparklers allowed

There is one twist to this of course. The presence of the camera makes this now one of the most dangerous parts of our village because as motorists approach it then every single one of them takes their eyes off the road to look at their Speedo.

But now we have a minority chorus of people wanting "Traffic Calming" measures. What actually is proposed?

Speed Bumps? Yes they slow the traffic but at what cost. I don't think they will find many people who want one outside their house. Take a close look at one sometime. They are surrounded by gouged tarmac and skid marks. Each of those represents a disturbance to the neighbourhood. A squeal of tires in the small hours of the morning and a scrape of exhaust or sump. No wonder one householder dug one up with a JCB !

What about emergency vehicles. I love the idea that I might be waiting for the fire brigade to rescue me but they will take many minutes longer while they pick their way delicately over the bumps. Or perhaps I will have fallen and broken my hip, what added delight to an ambulance journey those speed bumps will be.

Easy someone will say:- Use pad speed bumps. These are designed to slow cars but fire engines and ambulances straddle them and can travel at speed. Sadly that means that buses, lorries and vans are also unaffected and they are more dangerous than a car at similar speed. Add the extra danger that, at the speed bumps, they will then overtake the slowing cars.

So what about Chicanes? No one who has seen these in operation will want them. As traffic builds up they become a high risk game of chicken. The last queuing car tries to squeeze through in the face of the oncoming vehicle which has priority and is not going to give way. The inevitable collision is a glancing blow as the drivers swerve and the cars mount the pavement and end up in someone's garden. What price safety?

When I wrote some months ago about raising the speed limit to 40 I was amused by the way that correspondents latched onto that and ignored the points I made about traffic calming i.e. Reduce speed limits in the side roads and install mini roundabouts at a few junctions such as Bradenham Woods Lane and Clappins Lane

Now a well meaning suggestion has been made to form a group to discuss traffic calming. I volunteer.

C W Leigh-Dugmore

Village Design

Sir

You complain, with justification, about the development on the Sharley site. One way of avoiding such eyesores in the future might be to produce a Village Design Statement. Downley has already done so and I believe Lacey Green's is nearing completion. The task is not one to be undertaken lightly for it involves considerable work. On the other hand WDC has agreed to take account of such statements when considering planning applications. Perhaps some of the more vociferous

complainers about the Sharley site could take on the task. The WDC web site has useful guidance on the matter.

Best wishes

David Frost : 564466

Editors note: Hughenden Parish Council are about to begin a Village Design Statement for Naphill and Walters Ash, having just completed their Parish Plan. There is nothing to say that a Village Design Statement has to come from a local Council, one can be submitted by any established local group. I know that the Parish Council would welcome comments and input on 01494 718993, hughendenpc@btconnect.com

Horticultural Society

We are once again running a scheme this winter to enable you to order seeds at a greatly reduced price through Marshall's. Last year this was very well supported, so if you would be interested in placing an order, let me know and I can let you have a catalogue and order form. If you placed an order last year, you should already have received a catalogue this year.

Also, advance notice that we have booked a trip to Hyde Hall gardens in Essex on May 15th next year. This is early warning I know, but as they are now fully booked for next summer we had to get in early. I will remind you again nearer the time, but please plan to join us on what should be an enjoyable day out.

Lastly, I must make a further plea for some new faces to join the Committee - we simply cannot continue for much longer unless we have more help. *Please* give this some serious thought and let me know if you would be interested.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary : 563233

The Naphill and Walters Ash Sky In October

The Moon is new on 23 and full on 9. As in October, Venus sets about an hour later than the Sun and so will be quite difficult to see. Mars is high in the southern evening sky. Saturn with its rings rises mid-evening this month and is particularly bright. Jupiter, the largest of the Sun's planets is even brighter but rises several hours earlier. The Andromeda galaxy is overhead. There is a magnificent double cluster accessible to binocular users between Cassiopeia and Perseus. They are also known as NGC 884 and 869 or the sword handle of Perseus; their magnitudes are 4.3 and 4.4.

Binary stars

Binary stars are physically related double stars that orbit round a common centre of gravity. A *visual binary* is when the components can be resolved with a telescope or binoculars. There are many examples of visual binaries and they are often a challenge for amateur astronomers to detect the components. The best example of a pair of

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Nov 1 | Rises | 06.57 | 14.35 | 08.50 | 14.54 | 01.40 | 20.10 |
| | Sets | 16.36 | 23.59 | 17.20 | 01.10 | 15.03 | 12.27 |
| Nov 8 | Rises | 07.09 | 16.16 | 09.12 | 14.29 | 01.19 | 19.42 |
| | Sets | 16.24 | 06.20 | 17.16 | 01.00 | 14.37 | 11.59 |
| Nov 15 | Rises | 07.21 | 21.01 | 09.32 | 13.41 | 00.57 | 19.13 |
| | Sets | 16.13 | 13.14 | 17.15 | 00.45 | 14.12 | 11.31 |
| Nov 22 | Rises | 07.33 | 05.15 | 09.49 | 13.41 | 00.35 | 18.44 |
| | Sets | 16.05 | 15.18 | 17.19 | 00.45 | 13.46 | 11.02 |
| Nov 29 | Rises | 07.44 | 13.02 | 10.02 | 13.18 | 00.12 | 18.14 |
| | Sets | 15.58 | 22.03 | 17.27 | 00.38 | 13.20 | 10.33 |

stars is Mizar (magnitude 2.1) or Zeta Ursae Majoris, whose partner also has a name and is called Alcor (magnitude 4.0). Another example is Beta Cygni where the two components have magnitudes of 3.2 and 5.4. There is also Gamma Cassiopeiae (the middle of the five stars making up the W of the constellation) whose components to the main star (1.6) have magnitudes of 5.5 and 5.8. If you have some binoculars, see if you can find these combinations; all of them are visible at this time of the year.

Asteroids

In an earlier article information was given about the time it takes for material broken off by impacts on the Moon and Mars to reach the Earth as asteroids. They have been found in Antarctica and sand deserts. The Moon asteroids take thousands of years and Mars asteroids millions of years. Over the decades some 24 have been found to have come from the Moon and 28 from Mars. Intuitively one would have expected more from the Moon because it is so much nearer than Mars and no-one knows why this is not the case.

Age of the Universe

In the article in the 2003 *Gazette*, I said the latest value for the age of the universe was about 13.7 billion years. Recently, after analysing data from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) astronomers have concluded that the age of the universe is 13.5 plus or minus 0.2 billion years. Other refinements, based on SDSS and the Wilkinson Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) include the amount of unknown 'dark matter' filling space (70% of all existing matter, compared to a previous best value of 73%) and the amount of exotic or 'non-baryonic' dark matter as 23% . Several other morsels of information have emerged including the surprise that the first stars started burning only 200 million years after the big bang and that the universe contains only 4% of atoms. These figures are always being refined from later data and I guess it should not be surprising to see the age of the universe change again.

Shadows

Has any one noticed the colour of their shadow, particularly when there is snow on the ground? During the main part of the day it is dark blue. This is because where there is light, as in the daytime, there is blue scattering as seen in the sky. When the Sun sets, shadows

change to a greeny colour. As with the Sun, shadows seen under the light of a full Moon are also blue. What happens you may ask when there is a total eclipse of the Moon? Needless to say there is not much shadow, but when conditions are right shadows take on a yellowish hue. Try it with a camera. The November *Gazette* will probably be published too late to test it in the early morning (03.00) of October 28, the next total eclipse of the Moon, but there are plenty of lunar eclipses in the future to try it out.

Grant Woodruff

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Candlelit Dinner Dance, Saturday 13th November, Naphill Village Hall.

Only a few tickets now left for this lively yearly event. Dancing to midnight with the celebrated Late Edition Band. The menu by Morreen catering will include a choice of Chicken Chasseur, Beef Curry, or Vegetarian Moussaka, French bread, rice, and salads. Home-made Desserts: Apple and Cherry pie and Custard, Lemon Meringue Roulade or Tia Maria Chocolate and Walnut Gateau. Coffee or Tea. Bar opens 7.30pm. Dinner prompt at 8.15pm, please. Tickets £18 from Janet 564569, Carole 563508, Daisy 562602 or Gloria 563634.

Planning:

04/7414/FUL 228 Main Rd, Naphill, Construction of 2-storey rear extension, conversion of integral garage to living accommodation and erection of new detached double garage.

04/7417/FUL Land adj Stocken Farm, Main Rd, Lacey Green. (opp. Strike Command) Erection of extension to existing hut to incorporate secure store for archery equipment. We are asking what is happening to second hut on site.

04/7462/FUL Drumlin, Louches Lane, Naphill. Construction of conservatory at rear.

How you can help resist further creeping urbanisation of Naphill & Walters Ash:

The urban development at 133 Main Rd (formerly Sharley's) is widely regarded as an unacceptable intrusion on to the street scene in our AONB Chilterns village.

We reported our concerns about the first application 6699, which got passed on August 3rd 2003 at the height of the holiday season (often chosen for applications likely to raise a lot of objections); the alternative bulkier second application 5454 we reported in the April 04 *Gazette* in time for objections by 15 April. Our own detailed objections were sent to WDC on 17th March. Several objections were made much later, too late, after consent was given.

To resist future unwanted development

(1) Find out about new planning applications by (a) visiting District Council offices to see plans or (b) ringing Planning Dept. on 01494 421539 with application number or (c) logging in to their website on www.wycombe.gov.uk, or (d) reading planning information in Gazette and local press.

(2) It is essential to register your objections to an undesirable planning application with Wycombe District Council, in writing, immediately, by post or email, before the closing date for objections and before a decision is made. Objections received after a planning decision is made, cannot reverse the decision, as the law stands at the moment. Two impersonal sentences will do (you can always add to them later). Verbal objections won't.

(3) Contact the Residents Association committee by phone if something concerns you, and/or come to a meeting (second Thursday each month except August). We will look into the matter immediately and support your objections in writing, if appropriate. We will also advise you to send your objections in writing or email, right away, to the District Councillor.

(4) You can ask Hughenden Parish Council to support your objections at the District Council Planning Applications meeting. They can speak for 3 minutes. Make sure you, and they, first read the Officer's report about the application. You, or your representatives, can also have 3 minutes to put your case verbally to the Planning Panel (they give you very comfortable seats!) It can sway a decision in your favour.

Date of next meeting Thursday 11th November.

Gloria Leflaive: 563634

Naphill & Walters Ash School

Here are some personal reflections from the school's newest staff appointment....

"....the decision to leave the sound of bow bells and head for the country was not an easy one to take. Nonetheless one which I am glad I did. Naphill and Walters ash is a terrific school full of talent! Talented children and talented staff all working tirelessly in pursuit of putting the 'X-factor' into children's lives".

It has been a busy term so far, hence this is the first insertion in to the Gazette, with lots of new arrivals and news that the school will have a team of six OFSTED Inspectors descending on us in December.

The school said a fond farewell to both its substantive Head and Deputy Head so this term was never going to be easy. I have to say, to the schools credit, the change has been managed very well and hopefully things will start to settle soon.

Extra-curricular clubs are now up and running and we hope to make this year a bumper one now that we are fostering closer links with both Princess Risborough and Wye valley Schools as part of a national sports initiative. We are also very grateful to parents who are getting involved in Clubs here at school.

NAPHILL PRE-SCHOOL

VACANCY FOR STAFF MEMBER



We need an enthusiastic *Teacher* in our dedicated team in providing care and education for pre-school children.

The successful candidate will be prepared to supervise, lead, guide, help and play with individual children and groups of children in the daily range of activities offered, ensuring their safety and well being at all times, and allowing them to reach their full learning potential through play activities.

Formal qualifications are desirable, but not essential.

Hours of work are 8.45am to 1.15pm per session. We are looking for a member of staff to work on a supply basis (with a view to becoming permanent), to cover for staff absence and to release staff for planning and observation.

Rate of pay £4.85-£5.27 per hour depending on qualifications and experience.

For a job description and application form please contact:

- Mo Bedder (Supervisor) 01494 565359 or
- Helen Campanini (Personnel) 01494 565750

Tim McLoughlin, Headteacher

Christmas Fayre Cake Stall

Christmas, as the children's song reminds us, is coming, and so is the Naphill Christmas Fayre which will be held on Saturday 4th December, note it in your diaries now!

One of our very popular attractions is the Cake Stall and this year we hope to gather together even more scrumptious cakes than before. That is where the ladies of Naphill and Walters Ash can make a really good contribution. Put on your pinnies ladies and start baking, your cakes are needed! To help your willpower nearer to the day 'phone now and promise to help later. You can leave the cakes with us or take them to the Village Hall on 4th December. We look forward to hearing from you!

Ted : 563034 and Dave : 563839

Naphill Village Hall Council Notes

The two short plays put on in the village Hall recently, by The Ubiquitous Theatre Company were really good. If you didn't go, you missed a treat. Our thanks to John Harris and his team of helpers for a most enjoyable evening.

I am not going to say, as Sarah said last month: "By the time you read this.....". I've said that often enough over the years and, almost always, have been found wanting. However, we are close to opening the new extension. It will still have to be fitted out with notice boards,

cupboards, cloakroom fittings, etc but it can be brought into use before then. We hope to decorate the kitchen soon before installing the new units. The timetable for this is somewhat complicated at present by a hole in the ceiling where a workman has put his foot through it.

Each village Organisation will soon be issued with their own key for the new double doors. These cannot be duplicated and are expensive so we will be asking the Organisations to pay for them and sign for them.

The children's play area is to get a new safety surface which will be more effective and last longer than the present mix of mats and bark. Needless to say, it will also be more expensive initially but this is a Parish Council initiative and we are most grateful to them for this welcome project.

Firework Night on 6th November.....be there! I need a few more stewards on the night to man the access points and take money between 5.30 and 7. 45pm. Please give me a ring if you can help out.

Don Turner : 562645

Christmas Fayre

The Walters Ash & Naphill School Association (WANSA) Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 27th November in the School Hall from 11.30am to 2.30pm.

The proceeds will go towards the funding of a new library at the school so you can shop for your Christmas presents locally and support a good cause at the same time!

There will be a cafe serving hot and cold food, lots of games to keep the children amused and of course Santa will be there as well.

(If you are interested in taking a table at the fair then please contact Judy Whitehouse on 01494 562742 or email judy@judyq.demon.co.uk).

Judy Whitehouse : 562742

Books Wanted

For Christmas Fair; in aid of Village Hall Funds

Reasonably New Novels & Children's Books

Please leave in front porch of Woodside, Forge Road, or telephone 562281.

Annual Collection for National Children's Homes

Once again many thanks to all who contributed, and special thanks to the stalwart collectors. The Grand Total for Naphill amounted to £715.20, and Walters Ash £307.27

You may be interested to know that it was in 1869 when the Rev. Thomas Bowman Stephenson. A Methodist Minister, renovated a disused stable in Church Street, London, to provide a safe refuge for the homeless children, thereby founding N.C.H.

Today, 135 years later. N.C.H. Support over 100,000 people through more than 500 projects but there are many more children and families that need help.

If you are interested to know more about N.C.H. Please contact me.

Jean : 563916

Pre-School News

We ended last summer with our annual Teddy Bears' Picnic, when we said goodbye to our school leavers. This year we began with 13 new children joining those still with us. We have been enjoying activities around the theme of 'All about me', including moulding our initial letters in clay. Our AGM was held in September. My thanks go to the outgoing committee for their support last year, and I look forward to working with the new committee under the leadership of Clare Goddard.

We have got very used to sharing the village hall with the builders and electricians etc over the past few months, but are looking forward to coming and going once again through the new entrance lobby. We have looked to ensure the safety of our children by requesting the acquisition of an alarm bell on the fire exit door leading out onto the car-park, and are indeed looking into further extra safety measures.

Four staff members have recently passed a paediatric First Aid course, and staff continue to attend training courses to update their skills and ensure high quality of care. We shall shortly be advertising for a new member of staff, at first to act as emergency cover, but with a view to more permanent hours later in the year .

Our best wishes go to Mandy Woolcott, currently on sick leave.

Mo Bedder, Supervisor : 565359

A tale of Historic Changes

(related to Hughenden Manor, Buckinghamshire)

At the time of the Second World War a RAF-Air-reconnaissance unit was installed at Hughenden Manor. As they were not allowed to install large technical equipment inside the Manor, they had built a sequence of three vaulted bunkers into the north-western hillside near the Manor House, just in front of the old Ice-house.

Inside there was a photographic reproduction unit installed, to produce Air-Raid Maps for the British Bomber Pilots flying sorties over Germany during the War. - Some mountings for the repro-set can be still seen on the floor of one bunker.

As time goes by, this bunker has been used for different purposes as a storage and workshop area for the NT Warden of this place until the roof, although being built of 30cm wartime concrete above the very stylish Brick vaults, deteriorated so far, that it did no longer supply protection against soaking-in rainwater. So the building was abandoned from any specific function being a wet and cold cave.

When Frank Parge took over at Hughenden as the new Gardener in Charge in 2002, he inherited two extensive Orchards with 56 different Apple varieties on more than 80 Trees with an enormous harvest volume but no proper storage facilities yet. In search for a suitable storage room for his apples he came across the unused space of these bunkers and was allowed to take them into use. With the help of his eager volunteers he transformed one of the vaults into a sophisticated apple storage with wooden batten-shelves and an air ventilation system that works together with the existing moisture like a perfect fridge at a constant temperature of 6°C.

With all that historic background in mind Frank, being of German origin, is now putting his apples into this perfect apple storage with a certain smile ... amazed how things can change in the history of a place.

Frank Parge, Hughenden Gardener in Charge

Brownie & Guide Jumble Sale

We found a purse at the Jumble Sale with no identification so if anyone has lost it or knows someone who has lost it then please give me a ring on 562528

We had a brilliant return for all our effort on Saturday and appreciate the contributions that we had to sell.

Barbara Clarke : 562528

News From Christians In The Community (Members of the three local churches)

A Metropolitan police officer will be talking about his experiences at the united service at the Methodist Church at 6pm on the 31st October. During his work, his strength of faith and belief have a profound on the people he meets. Two other people will be talking about their faith in their lives. Everyone welcome to this service.

We hope to run some courses next year covering family/parenting issues and I would be pleased to talk to you if you are interested. In addition, Hughenden church will be running an Alpha course in January.

Nearer to Christmas we will be delivering mince pies to widows or widowers living alone. If you know of someone who would appreciate a gift please let me know.

Dates for KRASH (Kids Really Are Special Here) in November will be 12th and 26th at 6.30pm in the Naphill Evangelical Church.

TRASH (Tweenagers Really Are Special Here) meet on the 5th and 19th November 7pm Church House, Hughenden.

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

Rejection is one of the greatest sources of pain we as human beings inflict on one another and whether we admit it or not I'm sure we at some point have been affected by others rejecting us in some way whether that is from family, work, friends or society.

Many of us oldies might remember a song sung by Diana Ross called "*Reach out and touch somebody's hand and make this world a better place if we can.*" This title will still resonate with many people today who have suffered or are suffering through the pain of rejection because they long for the loving touch of someone who will love, accept and truly understand their pain.

There is of course someone who understands better than anyone the pain of rejection and that is God's One and only Son Jesus Christ. *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. (Isaiah 53: 3)* The opinion pools of 2000+ years ago put Jesus to death. Yet despite the rejection He faced throughout His life Jesus never responded as most of us might with bitterness, hatred, anger or some other negative response, He kept loving, accepting in order to complete all that He came to do to ensure mankind might be reconciled to God. Even at His death He said for his executors and tormentors: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. (Luke 23: 34)*

However, His death was not the end and because of the his resurrection everyone who has come to faith and puts their trust in Him as Lord and Saviour can know the joy of being fully accepted no matter what they have done. The power and pain that rejection has over people can and is healed because an individual knows they are loved unconditionally by God. God through Jesus Christ *reached out* so that the world might be a *better place*.

There is much more to the Church and the Christian faith the Sunday Services, Weddings and funerals as many today are finding out through courses like Alpha, Christianity Explored and the Y Course.

Many choose still to reject Jesus, the teachings of the Bible as irrelevant and outdated but if you're not a Christian before you do that, check out the claims we as Christians make. Find and join an Alpha or Y course and you may well find as many have that Christianity has the answers to hope, love, life and healing from past hurts. Please give us a call.

May you know the love and peace of God today and always.

Bob Semple : 563304
E-mail: pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

December 2005 & January 2006



Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

December 2004 & January 2005

Editor: Matthew Piercy, Albany House, Stonefield Road, HP14 4SP. Tel: 562081

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Copy date for the February issue is Saturday 15th January 2005

Editorial

I am delighted to say that eight very capable volunteers came forward after my appeal in the Gazette last month for assistance in fitting the new kitchen in the Village Hall. Faith in community spirit restored! The Village Hall only had one free weekend before Christmas and not everyone was able to make it so the kitchen will now be installed early in the New Year.

For those who deliver copy for the Gazette by hand please note my new address (above) in future. The phone number remains the same.

As another year-end approaches I would like send a heartfelt thanks to the people who make the Gazette happen every month, and especially David Leith, our Treasurer, and Mike & Pauline Pool, our Distribution team. It's a big job coordinating copy, printing, advertising, finance, distribution, delivery etc. and takes a great deal of commitment. Mike Pool has written in this issue to thank the people that deliver the Gazette every month. Thank you to them and thank you to our readers.

Have a great Christmas and happy New Year.

Matt Piercy

Naphill Village Hall: Organisations' Diary

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Aerobics/body conditioning | Each Wednesday | 8-9pm |
| Art group | Each Thursday (Small Hall) | 7-9pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Monday | 4.45-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Tuesday | 3.30-7.30pm |
| Fraser Morgan Dance Classes | Each Wednesday | 4-6.15pm |
| Ballet (Pam Sheen) | Each Wednesday | 6.15-7.45pm |
| Evening W.I. | Third Thursday in month | 7.45pm |
| EXTEND gentle exercise class | Each Monday | 2-3.30pm |
| Horticultural Society Committee | Occasional Mondays (Small Hall) | 8-9pm |
| Line dancing | Each Tuesday | 8-9pm |
| Luncheon Club | Second Wednesday in month | 1 for 1.15-2pm |
| Men's Club | Monday to Friday | 7.30pm |
| Mobile library | Each Thursday | 10.10-11.10am |
| Mother and Toddler | Each Thursday (Term-time) | 2-4pm |
| Naphill Boys FC training sessions | U14s every Wednesday* | 6-7.30pm |
| | U16s every Wednesday* | 6.30-8pm |
| | U18s every Wednesday* | 7.30-9pm |
| | U6s-U12s every Saturday | 9.30-11am |
| Naphill Neighbours | Second Monday in month | 8.00-10pm |
| Over Sixties' Club | Alternate Fridays | 2-4pm |
| Pre-school | Each weekday (Term-time) | 9.15am-12.30pm |
| Residents' Association | Second Thursday in month | 8pm |
| Village Hall Council | First Monday in month | 8-10pm |
| Yoga: stretch, tone and relax | Each Tuesday | 1.30-2.45pm |
| Tennis Club Sessions | Every Sunday | 10am onwards |
| | Every Tuesday | 10.15am onwards |
| | Thursday (summer only) | 6.30pm onwards |

* At RAF Astroturf

Small Ads

ITALIAN LESSONS and translation service.
Telephone 562782.

BED & BREAKFAST in Naphill. Lovely House and garden. Reasonable rates. Leaflet on request.
Telephone Sally on 562281.

NUTRITIONAL THERAPIST - Are you suffering from ongoing health problems? Contact Elizabeth Thorn Dip ION, on 01494 563104, who may be able to help you. BANT registered.

Mr Little Odd Jobs" - for those jobs you want done but can't get anyone to do because they are too small. Will also undertake home security, garden maintenance and pet feeding whilst you are on holiday. Ron Collins : 562240

Rockley Park, Poole, Dorset. 6 berth mobile home to let. Lovely position. Sports, Amusements and Entertainment on site. Phone 01494 562169

SPRINGLINE CARS Private Hire. Airport transfers & long distance specialist; personal care; air-conditioned estate; local knowledge; accounts available; Loosley Row based; find me in Yellow Pages. DAVID on 01844 274474

Lorraine Barker - Person-Centred Counsellor, Stokenchurch - I am able to offer counselling for a wide variety of issues, including work, personal and bereavement. Telephone 07866 164986 in complete confidence.

Aralias to Yuccas! Specimen shrubs 0.75 - 2.0m tall from my nursery site in Penn. Bargain prices. Supply and plant or supply only. Also herbaceous perennials. G C Travers HND Am Hort. 01494 563367

BACKACHE, STIFF ACHING SHOULDERS, STRESS. Experienced qualified therapist, offering Therapeutic Massage, Reflexology, Indian Head Massage and Seated Acupressure. Kate Davis 569303

NEED PC HELP? We set-up Broadband, E-mail, Instant Messengers, Internet Telephony, Web Cams, Firewalls, Wired and Wireless Networks, etc. Call Anthony on 01494 564 810 or 07703 192 614

WEIGHT WATCHERS. Thursday evenings, 7-8pm, Small hall at back of Hughenden Village Hall. Very friendly group! Tel 01494 562281.

CHRISTMAS TREES at prices well below local retail outlets. If interested email Andy Pope andy@pope-family.net Price circa £3 per foot (non-drop trees cut same day) - Available 11/12 Dec. 01494 564576

Naphill Lawn Tennis Club

At this time, particularly this year, interruptions from bad weather do seem to dampen enthusiasm for tennis and the temptation to stay in the warm and dry is certainly one to which it is not difficult to succumb! In spite of this, around 8 tennis club volunteers turned out on a distinctly damp 6th November to help with the annual NVC Firework Night.

However, it does also appear to be a time when charity appeals gain momentum. Although time was short, we did manage, to respond to an appeal received via Bucks LTA from Annie Lewis, a member of Gt. Missenden Tennis Club, who was organizing help for Grenada after the terrible devastation caused by the recent hurricanes. She had managed to persuade the RAF to consider transporting aid to the stricken island and was anxious to fill the total vacant space. Thanks to modern technology, I was able to contact committee members via e-mail, one of which was Pauline Styles. She works for Wyeth Pharmaceuticals and, in turn, circulated the appeal around her office. The response was amazing with the company generously contributing boxes of baby milk, food and other items, which filled two cars to the gunwales. In addition, there were other contributions from Maddy Morris and Carol Armitage, together with myself and husband, and we were obliged to make two separate trips over to Annie Lewis' house to off-load everything. Her very large barn and other outhouse appeared to be filled up with all sorts of contributions and we can only imagine that the plane was well and truly loaded up! Hopefully, her efforts have helped a very deserving cause.

We have not, however, been left to rest on our laurels as, the next time I turned on my computer and checked my e-mail, there was a note from Richard Chapman, who plays at Widmer End Tennis Club. He is intent on raising funds for the BBC Children in Need by repeating his 'Round the Clock Tennis Marathon' during the weekend of 20th-21st November. Tennis players are urged to book an hour to play at the Bucks Tennis Centre at a cost of £6 each, which goes toward the appeal as the Tennis Centre have donated the courts free. Last time Richard organized this event two years ago, he managed to raise over £2,700.

At the time of writing, the AGM on 29th November is still looming on the horizon and I am pleased to report that at least three newer members have been persuaded to offer themselves as potential committee members. I am certain their contributions will help to take the club forward and ensure its continuation as part of the Naphill Village community. All we need now are a few more members who are willing to play in our teams against other local clubs. Social play is always very enjoyable but a certain amount of competitive play does raise the standard of the club as

a whole. Our Ladies Winter Vets team has made a good start, with 1 win and 1 draw to date. I know our Membership Secretary - Sue Crooks - (tel 01494 562539 - email: smcr2000.aol.com) would love to hear from you!

NB - Just a warning - there is an AGM proposal to change Sunday club sessions during December and January to allow frost to clear off the courts. Members who do not attend AGM should check to see if this has been passed to avoid a wasted journey on a cold morning!

Ingrid Tomlins, Hon. Sec : 01494 446063

District & County Councillor's Report

It was good news that the open green at Templewood has not been lost to new housing. At the recent Appeal, the Inspector agreed that the openness of the site was an important feature along the Main Road and should be retained. The ownership remains with the landowners, Annington Developments, but I hope that part of it can be used for a children's play facility in the near future.

Road safety is a very important issue and is connected with the County's speed limit policy. Thirty percent of road crashes relate to speed and 95% of all death and injury crashes result from driver error, with 5% related to vehicle defects. In Buckinghamshire, only 3% involve road engineering in part. These interesting figures came out of a Community Safety briefing I attended recently at County Hall. It was pointed out that where death or injury resulted, the police now regarded the crash site as a "crime scene" and full details are ascertained to enable any subsequent prosecution. It was further reported that in the case of aircraft or trains we refer to the word crashes and look for a cause. In the case of motoring collisions, we call them "accidents", whereas they also were "crashes" and with more driver care could have been avoided. In 2003 in Buckinghamshire, 43 people were killed, 349 seriously injured and 2014 slightly injured. The cost saving to society for the prevention of these casualties is estimated at £125 million for Bucks and £18 Billion nationwide.

The Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority of which I have recently become a member, is proud of its community safety record. It is an efficient service and provides a wide range of services to the public. It costs the average Council Taxpayer less than one Pound per week and must be one of the best value options for the safety of our homes and workplaces. We are indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated team of brave and efficient fire fighters. We only have need of them in an emergency but they provide a round the clock service to us all.

Names and numbers to note

The Gazette's e-mail is nwagazette@lycos.co.uk

Naphill Website is at :

http://members.lycos.co.uk/N_aphill/

Andrew Wilmot designed and maintains the site - his e-mail address is naphill@lycos.co.uk

Village Hall bookings can be made by ringing 565604: e-mail mbc2@home410.fslife.co.uk

Local Community Beat Officer is Tug Wilson. For the police control room, ring 431133

Crime Reduction Officer is Steve Kirby on 686111

Naphill and Walter's Ash School has a website at <http://www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk/>

Prescription Collection Service: Doreen Burge 565430; Betty Williams 563366; or Ginny Ratcliffe 563650.

As we approach the end of 2004, may I take this opportunity of wishing all readers a very happy Christmas and healthy New Year?

*Richard Pushman : richard.pushman@btinternet.com
: 564152*

Naphill Neighbours

Members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed the trip to London to "Meet the Magic Circle" recently. It was a fascinating experience and a well-organised evening learning of the history of magic and having the opportunity to watch the skills of the members of the Magic Circle, both intimately and on stage.

At our November meeting "The Curiosities in the Chilterns" were brought to us by Alan Copeland with his audio-visual presentation. He told how he started studying the unusual and quirky things in our local villages and towns in 1984 and even has his own website now. From village stocks to public lavatories, from mile posts to topiary bears and from amazing notices to a totem pole – it was a light-hearted talk given by a very enthusiastic speaker and those present had a most entertaining evening.

We look forward to seeing our members and guests at our Christmas dinner on Monday 13th December. Just a small reminder to arrive no earlier than 7.30pm, and no later than 7.45pm.

On Monday 10th January – after the stresses of the festive season – we will learn to relax with Mrs











HELP US TO HELP YOU PROTECT YOUR HOME AND NEIGHBOURHOOD

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the largest and most successful crime prevention initiatives ever. It's aim is:

to reduce opportunities for crime, to promote community spirit and to make life harder for the criminal

Everyone knows that the police are there to fight crime, but they cannot succeed on their own - they need the support of the public.

What are the advantages of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme?

-  You are less likely to become a victim of crime.
-  Members receive advice on various aspects of security and potential risks, both in and out of the home, as well as an essential quarterly newsletter.
-  Members get invited to forums to discuss local issues relevant to their community: Such as Vandalism / Rogue Traders / Burglary etc.
-  NHW encourages people to look out for their neighbours, especially the elderly, and to report anything suspicious to the local Police or to Crimestoppers anonymously.
-  You may get a discount on your house contents insurance.
-  NHW aims to reduce the fear of crime in a community.
-  NHW is free to join; there maybe a small operating / start up cost.
-  NHW is a vital and essential communication tool between the police and local residence.

REMEMBER, CRIME CANNOT FLOURISH IN A COMMUNITY THAT CARES

So please contact either of the numbers below to discuss Neighbourhood Watch:

The Neighbourhood Watch Office, The Police Station, King George V Road, Amersham, Bucks HP6 5AL

Telephone: 01494 736642; E-mail: chilternvalle.ringmaster@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

OR

Kate Worthington: 562158; E-mail: kateworthington@aol.com

Eastgate who will be demonstrating and encouraging us to take part in Tai Chi.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy new year.

New members are always welcome.

Hazel Vickery : 563977

Naphill Evening WI

Now that the AGM is behind us we are looking forward to another prosperous year, with many enjoyable events. Our funds are very healthy so we are able to give a donation to Dial-a-Ride, a very worthy cause. We are also sending a donation to the Florence Nightingale Hospice at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in memory of our dear committee member, Gwen. We are all saddened by her recent death, but no more pain for you now Gwen.

Recent events include our visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, which was most entertaining with our amusing guide, Chelsea Pensioner Paddy Fox, telling us interesting tales of the building and life there. We are pleased to report our Group Meeting was a pleasant, well-organised evening. Thank you to all the members who helped to make it so. Well done! The talk on gardens in London was quite surprising. Did you know there are green places to sit and relax in the

City? The half yearly Council meeting was a great success. There was a talk on crime prevention and a wonderful man who overcame his handicap of being very deaf, to become an accomplished musician. We gave him a standing ovation because not only was he brilliant, he was funny too!

In December we will have our Christmas party. It should be fun, with home entertainment and plenty of delicious food. Yum Yum... We also have a special birthday in December. One of our members, Dorothy Butler is 90 this year. She is still very active running our WI stall at every meeting. Congratulations Dorothy! There is our visit to Sulgrave Manor on the 16th December and Christmas at Kew on the 18th, with our return journey through the lights of London. Do not forget the Village Hall Christmas Fayre on the 4th December and Jenny who will be running the WI tombola stall – prizes please. Once again we will be providing the tea and home made cakes. Our first meeting in 2005 will be on the 20th January when our speaker will entertain us with 'A touch of glass – a magic lantern show'.

Seasons Greetings from Naphill Evening WI, wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Jessie Higham : 562061 & Juliet Shortall : 565018

2004 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

It was marvelous to see so many people crowding into our village hall for the village's Annual Service of Remembrance on 14th November. Many were young people from the Scouts and Guides Associations who proudly carried their flags/banners and formed the Guard of Honour. Thanks also to the young scout who, at a moment's notice, played the trumpet to mark the occasion. We are also grateful to the Leaders who give up so much of their time to help this younger generation.

The Rev. Simon Cronk conducted the service and the collection yielded £215.79.

The final total sent to The Royal British Legion this year is £1,581.48 and once again my thanks to all collectors, to the three village stores, the school, the Post Office, the garage, the Wheel public house and Paul's Fish Shop. Without your help, none of this money would have been collected.

Valerie Pushman : 564152

Almost A New Treasurer

I began to write this note on a greyish day in the Bay of Biscay. Indeed it could well be that this is the first time that an article for the Gazette has in penned in

such circumstances. The sea is a blue/grey colour and the light southwesterly wind is pushing us gently towards home. So very different from the outward voyage in which the Bay was at its worst and the dining room staff almost outnumbered the diners.

Our first port of call on this cruise was Barcelona and there we had a surprise meeting on La Rambla, the magnificent main street of this fine city, with a happy Naphill family group, the Murrays, who were enjoying a short break in the home of Gaudi, the great Spanish architect. I am not sure who was most surprised by this unexpected encounter but it gave us all a good laugh. We then visited Saint Tropez, Rome, Naples, Taormina and Gibraltar, all in sunny dry weather, enjoying out cultural outings and collecting cheap malt whisky and cigars in Gibraltar.

The quiet weather in the Bay of Biscay and the Channel resulted in an early arrival in Southampton followed by an easy disembarkation and a swift passage out of the docks and, in due course, we found ourselves on the M3 homeward bound. A few miles short of the Winchester exit I was overtaking an open backed lorry at 75mph when, suddenly, a large metal panel flew off the back of the lorry and flashed across the bonnet of my car about 4 feet in front of me and crashed into the outside lane, which was fortunately clear of traffic at the time. I heard it crash onto the

Naphill Christmas Fayre

**Saturday 4th December
In the Village Hall**



Doors open 1.00 p.m.

Santa to arrive at 1.15 p.m.!

Santa's Grotto

Raffle



Refreshments

Mulled wine

Craft Stalls

Games

Tombola etc. etc. etc.

All proceeds go to the upkeep of the Village Hall.

road as my window was open. The lorry immediately pulled off the road into a layby. I suspect that the driver must have had a tremendous shock when the incident occurred. It was immediately clear to me that if I had started to overtake a fraction of a second earlier, the panel would have struck my windscreen and it would have resulted at least in hospitalisation. Hence the title of this article.

As it is we are home and back to the routine of life in Naphill including Gazette affairs. In this last respect you may recall that the Gazette financial year ends on 28th February. However I am glad to say that it is already clear that 2004 has been a sound financial year for the Gazette, indeed our reserves are a shade on the high side and so we are in a position to REDUCE the annual subscription from £2.50 to £2.00 for 2005. Whilst this is unlikely to change your way of life (!), it amounts to a 20% reduction. If only this applied to general taxation. Ah, perchance to dream.

David Leith : 562312

Gazette Deliveries

We would like to thank all of the volunteer deliverers of the gazette, most sincerely, for their continued service to the villages of Naphill and Walters Ash. There are thirty-two volunteers who deliver a total of 970 copies of the gazette. The individual rounds vary considerably in number with the largest round being 65 copies. Every effort is made to get your copy of the gazette to you as early as possible so that you can keep up to date with what is going on in the villages.

Our sincere thanks again to all of our volunteers and may we wish them, and all readers, a very happy Christmas.

Mike and Pauline Pool : 564226

The December 2004 and January sky in Naphill & Walters Ash 2005

I have to apologise for the errors that have crept into these articles. The first paragraph in the October 2004 article mysteriously shows the information for 2003. It therefore fails to mention the total lunar eclipse during the early morning of October 27. The November 2004 table shows incorrect October data. So I have not done very well. For all those who have the correct information – apologies once again and I thank those who have spotted the errors. I have taken special care to show correct data in the table below for December 2004 and January 2005.

Sunset will be at its earliest on December 13 and sunrise will be at its latest on 30 and the shortest day on 21. The Moon is new on December 12 and January 10; it is full on December 26 and January 25. The Geminid meteor shower should be at its brightest on December 14 in the east with an expected 75 hourly

rate of hits. The large galaxy in Andromeda (M31) is overhead and Orion is prominent in the south in the evenings. Look for the so-called Alpha Persei Association. Go between Alpha and Beta Persei (the famous variable star Algol) and then concentrate on the 4° from Alpha and you will be able to see over two dozen stars brighter than 7th magnitude.

Great Walls of Galaxies

Another recent discovery of astronomers is the largest structure yet found in the universe. This is a wall of

| | | Sun | Moon | Venus | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn |
|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|
| Dec | Rises | 07.48 | 19.34 | 05.03 | 05.23 | 02.30 | 19.16 |
| 1 | Sets | 15.57 | 12.01 | 14.50 | 14.47 | 13.54 | 11.15 |
| Dec | Rises | 07.57 | 03.06 | 05.25 | 05.23 | 02.08 | 18.47 |
| 8 | Sets | 15.54 | 13.44 | 14.42 | 14.30 | 13.28 | 10.47 |
| Dec | Rises | 08.03 | 11.34 | 05.47 | 05.22 | 01.46 | 18.17 |
| 15 | Sets | 15.53 | 19.55 | 14.35 | 14.14 | 13.02 | 10.18 |
| Dec | Rises | 08.08 | 13.14 | 06.07 | 05.22 | 01.24 | 17.47 |
| 22 | Sets | 15.56 | 03.59 | 14.32 | 13.58 | 12.36 | 09.49 |
| Dec | Rises | 08.10 | 18.35 | 06.26 | 05.21 | 01.01 | 17.17 |
| 29 | Sets | 16.01 | 10.28 | 14.32 | 13.44 | 12.10 | 09.20 |
| Jan | Rises | 08.10 | 22.14 | 06.34 | 05.21 | 00.51 | 17.04 |
| 1 | Sets | 16.04 | 11.15 | 14.33 | 13.38 | 11.59 | 09.08 |
| Jan | Rises | 08.07 | 06.28 | 06.49 | 05.19 | 00.26 | 16.33 |
| 8 | Sets | 16.13 | 13.26 | 14.39 | 13.25 | 11.33 | 08.39 |
| Jan | Rises | 08.03 | 08.03 | 07.00 | 05.17 | 00.01 | 16.02 |
| 15 | Sets | 16.23 | 23.13 | 14.39 | 13.13 | 11.06 | 08.10 |
| Jan | Rises | 07.56 | 13.13 | 07.08 | 05.15 | 23.32 | 15.32 |
| 22 | Sets | 16.34 | 06.34 | 15.03 | 13.03 | 10.40 | 07.41 |
| Jan | Rises | 07.46 | 21.18 | 07.11 | 05.11 | 23.05 | 15.01 |
| 29 | Sets | 16.47 | 09.34 | 15.20 | 12.54 | 10.13 | 07.11 |

many thousands of galaxies, at a distance of about 1 billion light-years, measuring almost 1.4 billion light-years across, (report J. Richard Gott III of Princeton University and colleagues). This great wall is three times farther away and 80 percent longer than the famous Great Wall of galaxies uncovered in 1989 by Margaret Geller and John Huchra (Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics). Although unexpected by cosmologists, the existence of such a gigantic structure is not inconsistent with current ideas about the origin and evolution of the universe.

New Binocular Telescope

Back in 1947 when the 5 meter telescope was moved by road to its final destination on the top of Mount Palomar, the 258 kilometre route was traversed at 15 km/hour and took two days. In contrast, over 50 years later, astronomers, engineers and police moved the first of the new large binocular telescope's twin 8.4 metre mirrors to the summit (3190-meters) of Mount Graham in Arizona. This time the mirror and encasing weighed 50 tons taking eight days and two stages. The mirror was scheduled to see first light in the summer of 2004 and will be joined by the second mirror in early 2005. The University of Arizona's

telescope in Tucson will then become a true monster when it comes into operation.

Lunar Eclipse

I set the alarm for 2004 October 28 03.00 so that I could see the total lunar eclipse. Walked round the house and could not see a single star. The sky was cloudy and the eclipse was invisible to me and no doubt to others living in Naphill, Walters Ash and Bradenham! So we all have to wait until 2007 when there are two. The first is on March 3 and the second on August 28. The second one will be in day time and this will be interesting to watch. The first will be at about midnight.

Your personal naked-eye magnitude limit

Most of us can see over a thousand stars in the sky but do we know our magnitude limit? On a clear night away from street lighting pollution, the limit for most people is magnitude 6. To find out yours, look at the Square of Pegasus and count the number of stars you can see within the square. The rule of thumb if you can see only two stars is a visual magnitude of 4.6 and the skies are probably polluted. If you can count eight stars your visual magnitude is 5.5. If you can see 13 stars within the confines of the square, your visual magnitude is probably 6.0 and you can almost certainly see the Milky Way, which is excellent. Try to do this exercise on a moonless night. The Square of Pegasus is visible south of the zenith.

Grant Woodruff

Editors note : I did not help the incorrect data in this article last month by putting the previous month's title at the top. My apologies.

Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association

Planning

04/7662/FUL. Gention Cottage, Coombe Lane, Naphill. Construction of single storey front porch and garage extension, rear sun lounge, first floor side extension and pitched roof. Alterations to front, side and rear.

04/7723/FUL 4 and 5 Prospect Cottages, Downley Rd., Naphill. Construction of first floor rear extension with tiled roof to existing ground floor extensions and new front porch (both properties).

04/7747/FUL Rossmere, Downley Rd., Naphill. Construction of two storey rear extension and single storey covered terrace to rear and new detached garage. Concern over size of triple garage in relation to size of property and possible overshadowing of gardens at No's. 5 and 6 Braeside.

Naphill



Pre-School
A Registered Charity

VACANCY Deputy Supervisor

We need an enthusiastic person to join our dedicated team in providing care and education for pre-school children.

The successful candidate must have:

A minimum of three years experience of working in the pre-school environment, a diploma in Pre-school Practice, NVQ level 111 or equivalent
The ability to assist the supervisor in the planning and implementation of the pre-school curriculum
The ability to liaise with the Parents Committee and maximise parental involvement
Commitment to equal opportunities and understanding of religious and cultural diversity

Hours of work are 8.45am-1.15pm per session
Rate of pay £5.20-£6.10 per hour
For a job description and application form, please contact: Helen Campanini (Personnel, Parents Committee) 01494 565750

04/7884/FUL 43 Main Rd., Naphill. Construction of single storey rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable accommodation.

Landmark Appeal Decision by Inspector Jeremy Eagles on Templewood Open Space – former children's playground. The Appeal Inspector has saved the former playground from development - at least for the time being. The issue, now, is how it can be re-equipped and maintained as a children's play area.

It is essential we put pressure on the Parish and District Councils to negotiate, immediately, with Annington Homes as to how this is to be done. If it is neglected, this valuable green amenity land will become derelict. Although the Inspector has quoted SP Policy SRI in refusing development on this site, there will be further applications for development if the land becomes derelict. There are some 30 children at Templewood alone, and many others locally could benefit from this green amenity land reverting to a children's playground.

So go for it residents. Read pages 3 and 4 *Open Space Provision* from the Appeal Decision APP/K0425/A/04/ 1141638 of 13th October 2004. Ring me if you need a copy. Use all the ammunition the Inspector has given you and put pressure on the District and Parish Councils to ensure this amenity

green space is safeguarded for our children, and kept out of the hands of developers for a long time to come.

Write to Mr C. Swanwick, Chief Planning Officer, Wycombe District Council, Queen Victoria Rd., High Wycombe, Bucks. HP11 1BB. OR e-mail www.wycombe.gov.uk/planning. Copies to Cllr R. Pushman, and Clerk, Hughenden Parish Council.

The Residents Association will be supporting you.

Chiltern Intervillage Quiz. Saturday 12th February 2005, Hughenden Valley Village Hall. A Naphill Team will require four team members, with one acting as Captain. A couple of extra people, as reserves, is always a good idea. Last year only one member of the public rang up to say he would like to be part of a team, so Naphill did not manage a team. If you would like to enter the Quiz please ring me on 563634 as soon as possible. I will put volunteers in touch with one another. If you win you will be organising and running the Quiz in Naphill next year. The organiser this year is Mr David Sharp of Hughenden Valley on 562033.

Gloria Leflaive: 563634

Horticultural Society

Should any of our members be interested in visiting Wisley Gardens, the Society has a Garden Entry card, which allows entry at a reduced rate for two people and is valid any day except Sunday. If you wish to borrow the card, please let me know.

Our next event is the annual dinner on Friday 4th March 2005. Details later, but make a note in your diaries.

If you have not yet returned your seed order to me, please can you do so by December 5th at the latest, so I can collate and send off the order.

Finally, on behalf of the Committee, thank you for all your support over the past year, and we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a fruitful New Year.

Cathryn Carter, Hon. Secretary :
563233

National Blood Service

NBS asks the people of Naphill to roll up their sleeves and give one of the most precious gifts this Christmas – the gift of life.

Blood donors living in Naphill are being encouraged by the National Blood Service (NBS) to roll up their sleeves and give one of the best Christmas presents you can think of – the gift of life.



NBS staff are asking the people of Naphill to support their Christmas Eve blood donor session (Friday 24th December) which will be held at The Village Hall, Main Road, Naphill, from 10.00am until 2.00pm. Donors can drop into the session on the day or they can make an appointment in advance by calling the NBS helpline.

Louise Coxon, the Service's spokesperson for Buckinghamshire, explains, "The holiday season is traditionally a difficult time for the NBS because giving blood can fall low down on the list of things to do, as understandably people are enjoying the festive season and busy with the planning and preparation that for many Christmas involves. In fact, our blood stocks can fall by as much as 10 per cent during the Christmas period"

The NBS is hoping that Naphill's regular donors who have been invited to attend the session will make it if they can and that new and returning blood donors will also turn up to the Village Hall donor session to give a lifesaving pint of the red stuff.

Miss Coxon says, "It is worth remembering that every time you give blood you could be helping to save and improve the lives of up to three patients in our region. Taking an hour out of your day to donate a unit of blood could mean a lifetime for someone else this Christmas."

If you would like to become a blood donor you must be aged between 17-60, weigh over 7st 12lb (50kg) and be in good health. For further information about blood donation or to make an appointment please call the NBS helpline on 08457 711 711.

Session details:

Friday 24th December

The Village Hall, Main Road, Naphill

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm

Some facts:

- Everyday the NBS needs to collect up to 9,000 voluntary blood donations so that hospitals throughout England and North Wales can carry out life-saving surgery and treatments on a range of patients.
- The NBS supplies 310 hospitals across England and North Wales.
- There are 1.6 million blood donors on the register, donating over 2.4 million blood donations each year.
- However, currently only 6% of the eligible population give blood.
- The NBS loses 15% of donors each year through retirement, relocation and ill-health so it is



Out of School Clubs

Naphill and Walters Ash School

Kilnwood,
Walters Ash,
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire HP14 4UL

Telephone: 01494 562813
Fax: 01494 565806
Email: office@nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk
Web: www.nap-walt.bucks.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr Tim McLoughlin



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



**SPORT
ENGLAND**
ACTIVEMARK GOLD

AFTER SCHOOL PLAYWORKER

Applicants are sought for a Play worker at our successful out of School Club.

Hours: After School Club – 3.00 to 6.15pm, 5 days a week

Pay: Approximately £5.60 per hour + dependent upon qualifications

Job Purpose: To work as part of a team in the provision of out of school play care for children aged 4 to 11 in a safe and stimulating environment.

Apply to: Fatima Boutaouhima at the school

Closing date: Thursday 16th December at 3.30 pm

essential that new donors come along to their local sessions.

- You can donate up to three times a year.

Christmas Fayre Cake Stall

Christmas, as the children's song reminds us, is coming, and so is the Naphill Christmas Fayre which will be held on Saturday 4th December, note it in your diaries now!

One of our very popular attractions is the Cake Stall and this year we hope to gather together even more scrumptious cakes than before. That is where the ladies of Naphill and Walters Ash can make a really good contribution. Put on your pinnies ladies and start baking, your cakes are needed! To help your willpower nearer to the day 'phone now and promise to help later. You can leave the cakes with us or take them to the Village Hall on 4th December. We look forward to hearing from you!

Ted : 563034 and Dave : 563839

Naphill Village Hall Council Notes

This meeting was dominated by discussion about the door leading out onto the car park from the new extension. Grave concerns were raised about the safety of hall users leaving the hall straight into the

car park especially where young children were concerned.

Since the meeting the door fastening has been significantly tightened so that it is harder to open. We have also started to investigate and cost putting up a barrier opposite the door blocking the route straight into the car park and necessitating a 90 degree turn. Also we want to put up lights over the door. The bollards outside the door are to be painted with some kind of luminous paint which will make them easier to see on a dark night.

There was also concern about the nightly use of the car park by youths who can be intimidating, noisy and tend to leave a lot of litter. The police are aware of this problem but unfortunately it comes low on their list of priorities. We need to make sure any incidents of anti-social behaviour are reported to the police so that we get a better chance of action from them.

The hot water in the new toilets was reported as being much too hot and the thermostat has been reduced accordingly.

The next major job will be to put up the new kitchen units. All organisations that use the existing cupboards for storage will be notified well in advance so that they can empty their old cupboards and keep

their stuff safe while the new cupboards are being erected.

Keys for the new door have been cut and each organisation will be asked to sign and pay £10 for their key. In the past we have had far too many keys to the hall in circulation and we would like to limit issue to only one per organisation. Should this cause a problem we will obviously talk to the organisations concerned.

If any of you have looked at the millennium yew tree recently you will have seen a very sad specimen. It does not seem to have grown since it was planted for the millennium and is certainly not a healthy colour. We have written to the suppliers and are trying to get a replacement.

The bonfire display was even better than usual lasting approximately 40 minutes. Many thanks to everyone involved, especially on such a damp and miserable night. The bonfire was enormous and still smoking on the following Thursday! Another lovely village occasion.

The next event is the Christmas Fayre on the 4th December. Do come along, find those stocking fillers and have a quick word with Santa about your hopes and wishes! Grand Draw tickets are on sale through all the village organisations and at the Fayre. Many thanks to all who have supported us by donating prizes for this event. All proceeds will go to the hall.

See you at the Christmas Fayre.

*Sarah Bacon, Chairman Naphill Village Hall and
Playing Fields Council : 563479*

Books Wanted

For Christmas Fair; in aid of Village Hall Funds

Reasonably New Novels & Children's Books

Please leave in front porch of Woodside, Forge Road, or telephone 562281.

Naphill Fireworks Committee 2004

Despite the wet weather and the mud on the Crick the fireworks display this year was a great success. It was unfortunate that two of the big display pieces did not go off as planned because they were too damp. But it did not spoil the evening. I would like to thank all those who were involved which included:

- Bob Hathaway and the Football Club for the BBQ
- The Men's Club for running the bar
- Don Turner and the Tennis Club + others for supplying the stewards on the entrances

- The marshals around the bonfire and the fireworks
- Steve Curtis for the electrics
- The team of fireworks lighters
- Phil Crawshaw for the car with loud hailer
- The staff who sold the mulled wine, soup and necklaces
- The shops and pub that sold tickets prior to the event
- And many others who helped during the day.

I also extend thanks to Mr & Mrs Z. Vlaisauljevic for donating the hamburgers and rolls, and to Paul Dixon for supplying the sausages.

We had to push two cars off the Crick out of the mud during the day so only a little remedial work is required on the football pitch. The bonfire was higher than I can remember and it burned well considering the dampness. The attendance was up on last year with as many as 1,300 people enjoying the spectacle. Early indications suggest that the profits were also up on last year and are between £2,500 and £3,000. We ran out of necklaces early, so we will be doubling the numbers for next year.

If anyone has any suggestions on how we could improve the event please send an e-mail to Naphill@Lycos.co.uk and we will look into every suggestion.

We all hope that you enjoyed the event and now look forward to Christmas.

*Andrew Wilmot, Chairman Naphill Fireworks
Committee : 562770*

Naphill Pre-School

All of the new children are now settling in well at Pre-School and enjoying it's great range of education and fun.

We had a very productive month at Pre-School in October. The children took part in a "Sponsored Find" over the half-term break to interest them and to raise ever necessary funds for our Pre-School.

The interest weeks are all relating to food this month; bread, vegetables etc: Mo has been co-ordinating bread and biscuit making sessions with the children which they have all really enjoyed.

In December the children will be thinking about Christmas and rehearsing for their nativity play which will take place on Friday 10th December. They will end the term with their much loved Christmas party. Pre-School will also be playing their part at the Village Hall's Christmas fair. We will be running "Santa's Grotto" where children can write a wish list for Father

Christmas and visit him in his cabin. It is always a lovely experience for the children.

On a different note we are very sorry that Lesley Fenn will be leaving us next month. Lesley has been a valuable member of the Pre-School team and will be missed very much. We do, of course, wish her well in her new position as laboratory technician. As a result we will be advertising for a new member of staff.

We are also preparing for our pending "Ofsted" inspection that is due to take place in December. Our previous inspection was very good and we hope to repeat this. If you require any details regarding Pre-School please contact Mo Bedder, supervisor, on 565359

Ruth Bond : 564824

Computer Training Courses continue at Naphill & Walter's Ash School

Would you like to improve your computer skills and achieve a qualification without taking any exams?

As part of our commitment to work closer with the community Naphill and Walters Ash School together with Amersham and Wycombe College, are intending to run a TRAC Level 2 Excel Spreadsheet and Word Processing computer course from 6th January 2005 at the school.

The course will be delivered over a period of 12 weeks (excluding school holidays) at the cost of £38.00 per person. For further information, please contact the School on 562813 or myself on 565439 by 17th December 2004.

Julie Schmid, I.T. Tutor : 565439

HELP!!! Naphill Brownies Need You

To date no-one feels able to continue the very long tradition of Brownie Guiding in Naphill after my retirement at the end of next year. This means that Naphill Brownies will be closed in December 2005 if a qualified Brownie Guider cannot be found. This surely cannot happen, there must be someone who would be willing to give time to such a worthwhile activity. The children get so much out of it as does Brown Owl!!!

Please don't let us down - do consider what we would be losing, if I can do it then anyone can. During the thirty-five years I have been Brown Owl I have held down a full-time job, brought up two daughters, helped to look after elderly parents and run Brownies. Super woman I'm not, I just love being with the children. All you need is a lot of enthusiasm and a sense of humour, the children provide the inspiration.

We have an Adult Leadership scheme which takes about a year to complete so unless we get a response soon we are facing a very uncertain future.

Please give this some thought and if you feel able to respond then ring me on 562528 - I really don't want to have to contemplate the alternative.

Barbara Clarke : 562528

Remembrance Day and Naphill War Memorial at Village Hall.

I am putting together the history of our Memorial Stone, erected so that we do not forget the brave men who lost their lives in the two wars, 1914 – 1918 and 1939 – 1945.

I have photos and details of most but am missing the following:

1st World War

Henry Brooks
George Keen
Ernest Riches
James Shaw

2nd World War

Frederick Blaby

It would be marvellous if anyone locally can supply me with a photo or details, for example regiment pictures and where they lost their lives, where they are buried etc. This will really assist me complete all the names on the memorial stone for my book.

Pam Smith : 563364

News From Christians In The Community (Members of the three local churches)

What a wonderful united service we had on the 31st October in the Methodist Church. The church was full and it was very interesting to hear how a Christian police officer feels his faith helps him work within the Metropolitan police.

KRASH will be meeting on the 10th December when the children will be enjoying Christmassy arts and crafts as well as some special seasonal food.

Also on the 10th TRASH will be finishing for Christmas with a party.

On the 17th December the KRASH children will be carol singing along Downley Road and Vincents Way and we will be collecting for the Toybox charity – between 6.30 and 8.00pm.

For the second year running a group of adults will be carol singing in the local pubs – Tuesday 14th December. We start at 7.00pm. in the White Lion at the top of Cryers Hill, then 8.00pm at the Harrow,

Christmas Carols By Candlelight

Sunday 19th December

Naphill Village Hall

4.00 - 5.00pm



Mulled wine,
coffee and
mince pies
afterwards

Hughenden and 9.00pm at the Black Lion, Naphill. Do come and join us – we can give you a lift.

Carols by Candlelight in the Naphill Village Hall will be on the 19th December at 4.00pm and mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards.

The times of all the Christmas services will be in the Christmas cards delivered to all houses within the area but if one of these cards does not land on your doormat just phone me on 563116.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

Norma Clarke : 563116

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

PEACE:

Does Christmas time raise a hope in your heart for “peace” in your homes and maybe nationally and internationally? Even though the “season” is called one of “peace,” the time leading up to Christmas is usually anything but. However, the hope remains.

“Peace” may be thought of as a quiet or calm, hassle free, restful life. Many will think of “peace” in the sense of no more conflicts or wars especially if we want loved ones home from the “front line.”

In the Bible, the Hebrew word for “peace” is “*Shalom*.” Basically it means *completeness*,

soundness and well-being and is used, amongst other contexts, as “when one is in harmony or concord with another.”

As mankind refuses to acknowledge its position before God, in whose image we are made, we find ourselves in a serious dilemma. If we ignore the Creators plans we will soon damage all of creation, is it not deteriorating before our very eyes? So we are continually endeavouring to try and rectify the mess we ourselves have made. We usually fail miserably to do anything lasting to bring about the “peace” our hearts need and desire.

“Peace” in the sense of *completeness, soundness and well-being* is a gift from God and can be found even in the midst of our troubled times. It has been found by millions over the previous 2000+ years in and through God’s Messiah, Jesus Christ. “Peace” because they are reconciled to God the Father by believing and trusting in His One and only Son and all He came to do. They are in harmony and concord once more with God.

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men” (Luke 2: 14) were the words of the angels on the night of Jesus’ birth in a dirty stable in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago and so began the earthly life of the most amazing person in history. Thirty three years later God’s One and only Son,

Jesus was tortured, crucified, died on a cross and three days later was raised to life again. Jesus took the punishment that was due to all of mankind so that all may know "peace" with God, with themselves and with others.

To believe is to respond.

Jesus is called the Prince of Peace, in Him the peace of *completeness, soundness and well-being* is found. That gift is still being offered to every man, woman and child. Jesus said: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 4: 17)

My prayer is that, like the three wise men, you might also start a journey to find Jesus Christ who offers *completeness, soundness, and well-being* "PEACE."

May the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

A Happy Christmas and New Year from

*Bob, Polly, Abi Semple & all at NEFC : 563304
E-mail: pastor.nefc@dsl.pipex.com*

St Michael and all Angels, Hughenden.

Looking back over the last few months we have seen terrible examples of the depths that people can descend to in the support of a cause. The siege in the school in Breslan, the beheading of hostages in Iraq. Today, the words of St Paul are by no means past their sell-by date, when he claims that 'Our struggle is not against enemies of flesh and blood, but against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places'. (Ephesians 6). The Christian faith has always borne witness to a power at large in the world which is not simply a matter of human psyche but lies outside our control. This power seeks to thwart the purposes of a Good and loving God in the world and is deeply rooted in the motives and actions of human kind. Of course a rationalist would dismiss all this as superstitious nonsense, but to me it makes sense when we see the depths people can reach, and the destruction they can cause, whilst still believing themselves to be in the right.

Once again Christmas is almost upon us. I write that with a mixture of feelings. Firstly there is the 'bah-humbug' take on things! Quite frankly I hate the excesses of it all, the false joy and the fact that once again most will be leaving out the Christ at Christmas! But on the other hand I still love the purity of the message of Christmas, I love the symbols of the lighting of candles at our services that display those wonderful words from John's Gospel of a light shining in the darkness. For some the 'church bit' is a sentimental add on to the seasonal escape from gray

reality, for others though it represents the true reality, the message that God has invaded enemy territory to win it back again. In this world, evil is no new concept, it has always been a present reality, but then again so is the love of God, and at Christmas we declare that for all the darkness and evil in our world, the light of God's love has never been and never will be extinguished.

So do go to celebrate with others the true meaning of Christmas, the light which shines in the darkness which has never overcome it. There are details of the various services that you can go to in the Christians in the Community Christmas card that you should be receiving. Can I remind you though of the Special Naphill Carols by candlelight service to be held in the village hall at 4.00pm on Sunday the 19th December.

*Rev Simon Cronk,
Vicar of St Michael and all Angels, Hughenden.*

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES 2004

St. Michael and All Angels, Hughenden

Sunday 19th December

10.30am - Children's Nativity and Christingle service
6.00pm - Nine Lessons and Carols by Candlelight

Friday 24th December

3.00pm - Crib service (a service of Holy Mayhem!)
11.15pm - Midnight Communion

Christmas Day

8.00am - Holy Communion
9.00am - Matins
10.30am - Christmas Family Communion
5.00pm - Christmas afternoon family carols

Boxing Day

9.30am - Communion and carols

Naphill Evangelical Free Church

Christmas Day - 10.30am

Boxing Day - 10.30am

Naphill Methodist Church

Christmas Day

10.30am - Family Service

Boxing Day

10.30 am - Morning worship

Cryers Hill Methodist Church

Sunday 19th December

3.00pm - Christmas carols

Christmas Eve

6.30pm - Carols and mince pies

Christmas Day - 10.30 am