

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette



April 2023

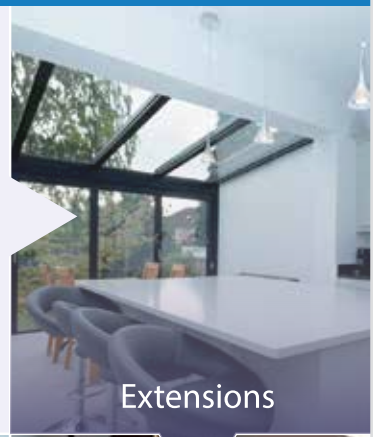
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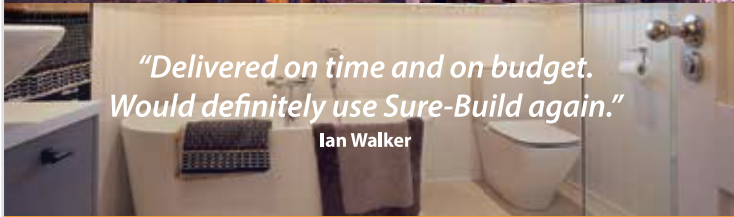


Extensions



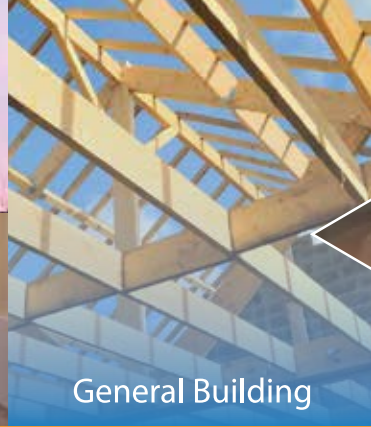
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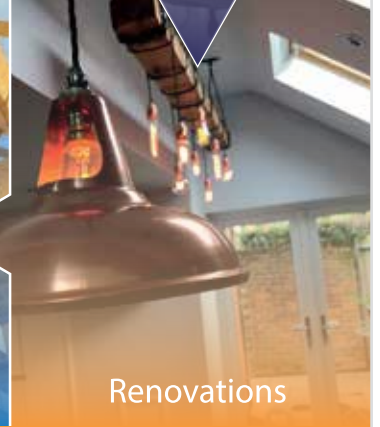


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Come and Join Us!

Our Local Clubs and Organisation Contacts

Beavers	Tony Bobbin	01494 447121	naphillbeaverscouts@gmail.com
Brownies (Naphill)	Ruth Daly	01494 565571	ruth.daly3@btinternet.com
Bridge Club	Margaret Stagg	01494 530736	
Cubs - Hughenden			handnhcubs@hotmail.com
Naphill	Martin Beddows		naphillcubscouts@outlook.com
Football Club - Junior	Andy Sinclair		mailto:naphillfc_cwo@yahoo.com
Senior	Harry Salter	07403 249208	
Friends of Naphill Common	Chris Miller	01494 563707	chairman@naphillcommon.org.uk
Men's Club	Andrew Wasilewski	01494 562770	naphillmensclub@yahoo.co.uk
Residents Association	Gloria LeFlaive	01494 563634	glorialeflaive@msn.com
Naphill Neighbours	Janet Judge	01494 563186	
Scouts (Naphill)	Adrian Curtis		naphill@chilternvalescouts.org.uk
Tennis Club	Jenny Tench	01494 562282	jttench@gmail.com
Naphill Football Club	Chris Keats		naphillfc@btinternet.com

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Email: chairman@naphillvillagehall.org.uk

Bookings - Tanya Stevens

Email: hallbookings@naphillvillagehall.org.uk

Tel: 07851 169275

www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk

Local Council Contact Information

Bradenham Parish Council Clerk	Deirdre Hanson	01494 562254	clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com
Hughenden Parish Council	Clerk Vacant	01494 715296	clerk@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
Hughenden Parish Councillors	Usha Prashar	07778 141920	usha.prashar@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
Hughenden Parish Councillors			
Hughenden Parish Councillor	Chris Janes		chris.janes@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
Buckinghamshire Councillor	Steve Broadbent	07471 144181	Steve.Broadbent@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Buckinghamshire Councillor	David Carroll	01494 716967	David.Carroll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Buckinghamshire Councillor	Clive Harris	07768 876568	Clive.Harris@buckinghamshiregov.uk

Helpful Contact Numbers

Hughenden Surgery	See website www.ourpractice.co.uk	01494 562189
Out of surgery hours		111
Breast Unit Wycombe Hospital	Breast lumps self refer	01494 526161
Stroke Support Service	Stroke sufferers, carers & family support	0300 3300 761
Shaw Clinic - Genitourinary Medicine	Genitourinary Medicine	01494 425430
Hearing Clinic Wycombe Hospital	Self refer	01494 526161
Specsavers Hearing (NHS hearing tests)	Self refer	01494 520304
Healthy Minds	Anxiety, depression, stress, postnatal wellbeing	01865 901 6000
Bereavement Listening & Support	Bereavement counselling	1296 332600
Wycombe Women's Aid/Also Men	Counselling re domestic violence	01494 461367
		Male 0808 8010 327
Carers Bucks	Help for carers	0300 7772 722
Alzheimer's Society	Dementia information & support	01296 331722

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Copy Date May Gazette 15 April 2023

The sunshine is pouring in through the office window, the clocks are going forward, the countryside is turning green, the grass has been mowed and the daffodils are blooming, it must be SPRING! I love Spring and of course, there is so much to look forward to!

Currently our two local pubs are leading the way with the Coronation celebrations, details of their events are published in this edition and they invite you all to join the fun. As I write, there are no community events planned but undoubtedly there will be street parties and group events to mark this special occasion. I have fondest memories of the Coronation in June 1953, I should like to think that such good memories will be created for us all on 6 May!

It was with sadness that I learnt of the death of Valerie Pushman, my personal condolences to the Pushman family. Thank you, Matt Piercy and Richard Pushman, for writing so beautifully about this lovely lady, a true pillar of our community for so many years. Please see page 27.

We are known as a nation of dog lovers and as many of you know, we love our little Pedro. Now I have to put my hand up here, Pedro is not well trained, he works on the "little, pretty theory", I am not proud about this but neither am I deluded that my dog "wouldn't..." So, Pedro is most definitely kept well under control when he goes out and our garden is well fenced, the gates are bolted and he is kept safe. There have been several very upsetting reports lately of out of control dogs attacking livestock. These attacks

have caused so much distress to farmers and to dog owners. Please keep your dogs under control, do not let them run free near livestock, check that your garden is escape proof and no gates can be opened when the dog is in the garden.

This month's contributions have certainly poured in and some of the layouts and the photos I planned have not gone in but I was delighted to receive such a wide variety of articles from our regular, and some new contributors as well. I have long wanted to include cookery contributions so thank you to the Beckley's for this month's "Cow pie" recipe and photos. We are also promised regular contributions from Adam Sergeant, a new contributor who is a local wine connoisseur. Jonathan, my assistant editor, and I are always looking for new subject matter for our publication, so please do get in touch with your ideas.

Jonathan's cover photo is pot plants and this has been chosen to highlight the Naphill in Bloom Competition which was introduced in last month's Gazette. NAWARA are organising this competition and there are more details about this in their article on page 42. Thank you Jonathan for our cover and the reminder that we need to get planting!

My thanks to all our contributors and I look forward to receiving all your news for the May edition on or before 15 April please

Have a lovely Easter!

Sonia

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



Naphill Village Hall
Main Road, Naphill, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP14 4SX

Naphill Village Hall & Playing Fields Council ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 3rd April 2023 at 8.00pm, Main Hall

Anyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of items to be taken under Any Other Business
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous AGM on 4th April 2022
5. Matters Arising
6. Adoption of Chairman's Report
7. Adoption of
 - a. Treasurer's Report,
 - b. Presentation of Accounts
 - c. Acceptance of Independent Examiner's Report
8. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2024
9. Adoption of new Financial Regulations
10. Appointment of Elected Members (Village Representatives)
11. Confirmation of Appointed Members (Village Organisations)
12. Appointment of Officers
13. Review of Restructure of the Village Hall Council
14. Any Other Business
15. Date of next AGM Monday 1st April 2024

Current list of Officers – 2022/23

Chairman	Clive Lawrence	Lettings Secretary	Tanya Stevens
Vice Chair	Linda Clark	Hon. Secretary	Peter Williams
Hon. Treasurer	Paul Riglar		

Current list of Elected and Appointed Members – 2022/23

Elected Members		Appointed Members	
Elected Village Rep	Clive Lawrence	Naphill Festival Committee	Linda Clark
Elected Village Rep	Sarah Bacon	Naphill Tennis Club	Jenny Tench
Elected Village Rep	June Lynch	Naphill Football Club	Chris Keats
Elected Village Rep	Cathryn Carter	Naphill Scout & Guides' HQ	Ruth Daly
Elected Village Rep	Andrew Wasilewski	Naphill Men's Club	Darren Lomas
Elected Village Rep	Bartha Pitman	NAWARA	Gloria Leflaive
Co-opted Member	Judy Whitehouse	Naphill Neighbours	Jo Keattch
Co-opted Member	Dave Evans	Naphill Bridge Club	Dennis Lynch
Co-opted Member	Tanya Stevens	Naphill & WA School	Paul Riglar
Co-opted Member	Peter Williams	Hughenden Church	Norma Clarke
		RAF Community Devt	Danielle Bowman
		Friends of Naphill Common	VACANT
		Hughenden Parish Council	VACANT

If you would like to learn more about being involved with the running of our Village Hall or wish to apply for any of the above elected roles please contact the Secretary.

Yours Aye
Peter Williams
Secretary & Administrative Officer
secretary@naphillvillagehall.org.uk
<http://www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk/>

Registered Charity #300309

Naphill Village Hall & Playing Fields Council Chairman's Report

Registered Charity No: 300309

www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk



Naphill Village Hall AGM Monday 3rd April at 8.00pm All residents are invited to attend.

Please do attend to hear about the work we do to keep the village hall open. This is also your opportunity to have your say!

On 6th March the village hall committee met. There were 16 members present. The following items were discussed/reported:

- Grass/ hedge cutting contract - this costs approximately £3000 a year. We have yet to award the contract for this year
- Crick playground equipment - The health and safety inspection on the playground equipment identified that some actions are required to replace and repair some items. Quotes are being obtained to cover this work
- Dog fouling bins - I reported wrongly, that Bucks Council were going to site more bins on the crick. We actually have to apply to Hughenden Parish Council for more bins, but they have delayed their meeting, so no decision has been made to date.
- New website - This has been constructed and members were given a preview, with the intention, that if all agreed, it would be used as a replacement for the existing website.
- Village Hall will hold its AGM - This will be held on April 3rd at 8.00pm. We will discuss the make up and areas of responsibility that the trustees hold, please see the notice on page 10. This meeting is open to the public. Please do attend, to see and hear what the committee do to keep the village hall open. You will also have an opportunity to voice your opinion.
- The King's Coronation, 6th May - There has been little enthusiasm for an event to be held. There is a suggestion that there could be a Picnic on the Crick event but an organiser needs to be found if this is to go ahead, *If you are interested in organising this event please contact me via the website, for more details.*

- Diary Dates - Fundraising events are being organised. The Music Night that will be on 9th. June, Classics on the 11th. June and a village Fete day will held on Saturday 10th. June. More details about these events in this publication and more volunteers are needed to ensure that these events will be successful.

Clive Lawrence

Chairman Naphill Village Hall

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At its March meeting Bradenham Parish Council welcomed Luke Shearring, Business Development Director, PGL UK and David Surtees-Dawson, Senior Manager for Hughenden & Central Chilterns & Stowe Portfolio, National Trust, to tell us about the PGL proposals for Bradenham Manor. The current lease for the Manor expires later this summer. PGL are in negotiations with the National Trust and are investigating taking on the lease on the Manor for a new PGL activity centre.

We got a history of PGL and an outline of the potential plans for the manor if PGL were to lease the site. The National Trust are supportive of the PGL plans and said PGL have the greatest empathy with the National Trust's vision and purposes. PGL intend to hold a "walk and talk" meeting for the village in the near future, details to follow.

The Parish Council is organising a Picnic on the Green on Monday 8th May to celebrate King Charles III coronation 13.00-15.00. Bring your own picnic, refreshments will be available from the cricket club and you will be able to buy fresh cakes and scones too. We will have a live band, Blue in Green, playing on the green as well. Tables and chairs will be laid out on the green if you don't feel like sitting on the grass.

On 1st April Balfour Beatty and Atkins will be taking over from Ringway Jacobs all the highway works that Transport for Bucks used to carry out. We had asked about a reduced noise road surface for the A4010, but have been told it is four times as expensive as an ordinary road surface and intended for urban areas, so it won't happen in Bradenham.

We agreed to extend our devolved services agreement with Buckinghamshire Council for one year.

There is a real problem with the litter of empty "Fast Gas" canisters and popped balloons in the parish, we have informed the police who will carry out more surveillance checks.

Our next meeting will be Monday 15th May @ 19.00 at Bradenham Cricket club. That evening we will also hold our annual Parish Meeting and our Annual Parish Council meeting.



Deirdre Hansen,
clerk to the Council.

clerkbradenhampc@gmail.com



Goodbye Wendy A VERY Favourite Postie

So, farewell then to Wendy Goddard – no longer the postperson for Naphill, she's moved on to a new beat. We're fortunate to have such friendly and efficient postal staff serving our village, always ready with a friendly wave, even when the weather is inclement.

But Wendy always stood out for her amazing holiday costumes. Who could forget the Christmas Elf or the Easter Bunny hopping up their drive? And she always knew exactly where to leave parcels, when you were out.

We'll all miss you, Wendy – gone but not forgotten!

Chris Miller

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RAF HWY visit to Royal Star & Garter, 6 March 23



It really was a case of 'digging for victory' as a team from RAF HWY lent a hand to spruce up the gardens of the local Royal Star & Garter home in High Wycombe. Always willing to lend a hand, Ft Lt White for the Station Charities Committee said:

"We had a great time at the Home, helping to get the outdoor areas ready for the warmer weather and it was helpful having residents share their gardening knowledge while we worked. We are pleased to be supporting Royal Star & Garter as our local charity and cannot wait to visit the Home again soon. We did not realise the costs involved with caring for the residents. What we lack in financial support we hope to make up for in time and effort. I regret not speaking to my grandparents more about their efforts of the 1900s and I am extremely grateful that the wonderful staff at RS&G are taking such good care of those who have served their country so proudly."

Lauren Baker, Senior Community Fundraiser commented, *"On behalf of everyone, I would like to say a BIG thank you for your support. We are incredibly grateful that you all took the time out of your day to join us equipped with gardening tools and cake! I think the residents had just as much fun watching and are thankful too."*

Well done to all who helped out!



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Gordon the Bird Man

At the time of writing, March 14th, the three Bramblings and a pair of Blackcaps first recorded during the second week of December are still taking advantage of my generosity. Gardeners talk about the hungry gap. This is the time of year when stored fruit and vegetables have finished and there are just a few Leeks and Sprouts left in the ground.

Birds, too, have the same problem with few seed, berries or nuts available. Many birds hide food including Marsh Tits, Willow Tits and Nuthatches. But it is members of the Corvid family which come to mind when thinking of birds stashing food, with the Jay being the most prominent of them. This attractive Corvid with a flash of blue on the wings is busy throughout autumn caching acorns, carefully covering each with leaves or stones. One individual bird can hide over 10,000 acorns. It was once thought that these were re-located by chance but research and studies have found they have a long lasting, highly accurate memory to recover them at a later date. Not only can they recall where and when morsels are cached but also keeping track of who else might be watching. They are known to go to great lengths to protect their caches



from being stolen by others who might be watching, using barriers and shade to obscure the view of onlookers, even pretending to bury a morsel then flying somewhere else. Consequently, Corvids have been called feathered apes for these are cognitive feats rarely found in the Animal Kingdom and once assumed to be found only in the higher order of apes. So the term "bird brain" as once used is a misnomer.

Gordon

Naphill & Hughenden Cub Groups

There are 2 very active Cub Scout packs serving our community - we currently have 50 8 to 10 year olds. Both meet in the Naphill Scout HQ (Naphill pack on Monday evening and Hughenden on Wednesday evening).

This term, the Hughenden Cub Packs have visited the High Wycombe fire station and had a fire safety evening in our Scout hut, which included a very enthusiastic fire drill. The Cubs all earned their 'Fire Safety' activity badge. We also welcomed some final year acting undergraduates from Bucks New University, who ran a drama sessions that included the Cubs acting as their favourite animal and putting together small group performances of a sketch they developed themselves.... with some interesting, almost Shakesperean, results! We also joined the Naphill Cub pack for an endurance hike on Saturday 4th March with some groups completing more than 12km hiking! We all finished at the Speen Scout HQ for well deserved hot chocolate, hot dogs and s'mores cooked on a camp fire.

We're really looking forward to next term with lighter evenings allowing us to get out into our wonderful local surroundings as we get ready for our Summer camp in June. We'll also run a water activity day in mid-May.

We are looking for new leaders for all sections, especially the Naphill (Monday) Cub Pack as the current leaders will all leave over the next few months.

The training and administration side of leading is light-touch and easily completed. In addition, the level of commitment is flexible and adaptable - we all have busy lives outside Cubs! Please let us know - come and chat with us after the Monday meetings or send us an email at naphillcubs@gmail.com

Naphill & Hughenden Scout Group
Group Scout Leader: Adrian Curtis – naphill@chilternvalscouts.org.uk

Naphill Hughenden Beaver Scout Colony Mondays 5.15-6.30pm hughendenbeavers@hotmail.co.uk	BEAVERS 6-8 year olds	Naphill Beaver Scout Colony Tuesdays 5.30-6.45pm naphillbeaverscouts@gmail.com
Naphill Cub Scout Pack Mondays 6.30-8.00pm naphillcubscouts@outlook.com	cubs 8-10½ year olds	Hughenden Cub Scout Pack Wednesday 6.00-7.30pm handnhcubs@hotmail.com
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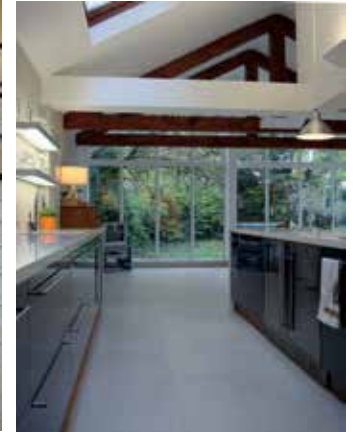
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As predicted in last month's report, some warmer weather (interrupted by quite cold spells!) has brought the frogs back to the ponds on the Common, all of which now have frogspawn. Female frogs produce large quantities of spawn which clumps together; toads spawn in long strings, rather than clumps; while newts lay individual eggs, which they delicately wrap in a leaf of a water plant. I haven't noticed any butterflies as yet, but perhaps I've just been unlucky.



Marian Miller came across an interesting article in Records of Bucks [Vol. 11 part 4 (1922)], written by Coningsby Disraeli and based on the register of Hughenden Parish Church for the year 1714, which reports on the 'beating the bounds' ceremony. Coningsby was the favourite nephew of Benjamin Disraeli, who (having no children of his own) bequeathed to him Hughenden Manor and its estate. He developed several of the houses around Naphill and had the Village Hall built.

Beating the Bounds is an ancient custom, continuing to this day, whereby a group of prominent citizens from the parish will walk its geographic boundaries in order to maintain the memory of the precise location of these boundaries. Hughenden is a very large parish, so walking the boundaries took place over two days, with regular stops for 'provisioning' and also bible readings and occasional psalm singing.

The 1714 report, written by the vicar, the Reverend John Batchler, contains the following extract, covering Naphill and Walters Ash:

... thence along the Common Through Broad pond to a Cross Thence to a Cross by two dells Thence to a Cross on the North side of the footway which leads from old Mr. Wigg's to Braddenham Thence to a Cross by a way which Leads from Mooseley House to Braddenham Thence adjoined by the same way into Moosley House Hall ye Estate of young Mr. Wigg to ye Spire where ye Vicar Read and Thomas Bampton his Tennant provided and back again by the same way to the same Cross, thence to a Cross at Davids Hole and through Davids Hole to another Cross Thence Straight to the Corner of Springwells Callins's Closes and along the ditch by ye same Closes to Walters ash Cross where ye Vicar Read a psalm was sung according to Custome and Ralph Towne provided on ye acct of Mr. Gyles Estate and likewise Andrew Leakey provided on his own acct and brought it to ye Cross.*

* Spire – generally a fixed screen near to the door with a seat attached to it; intended to keep the draught from the fireplace. The word is rare nowadays, but more commonly used in the North country. The 'crosses' were marks cut in the ground for the most part (though some may have been on boundary stones) to denote the limit of the parish in that particular direction.

It's not easy, three centuries later, to identify all the places mentioned – spelling and punctuation remained something of a work in progress – at this date, Broad Pond is probably Daisy Pond and Mooseley House is the present Great Moseley, then owned by Thomas Wigg junior. The two dells referred to seem to have disappeared and were not the current Two Dells further into the Common. You can read the complete report here: http://www.bucksas.org.uk/rob/rob_11_4_174.pdf and read more about the Bucks Archaeological Society, who produce Records of Bucks, here: <https://bas1.org.uk/>

Back in the 21st century, our working parties continue in full swing and take place on most Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Because they are dependent on the weather, it's best to check our web site for details (where our walking and other activities are also listed):

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



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Naphill Brownies

A few weeks ago the brownies decorated some flower pots and planted them with daffodils. The girls were justly proud of them. We then asked the girls to give them away as a surprise gift for someone, without receiving any thanks. Not an easy thing to do when you are 7. If you received one, we hope you enjoyed it.



Sometimes it is enough to know that you have given happiness to someone. We recognise that our kind-hearted Jumble Sale helpers do just this and we thank you. We should also like to say a huge thank you to all who supported our Spring Jumble Sale. We had a fine supply of jumble, lots of kind-hearted helpers and plenty of enthusiastic shoppers. If you came to have a browse, I hope you found a few bargains. Having just received our annual bill of over £900 for membership to Girlguiding, you can appreciate just how essential these fundraising sales are for us.

Having completed the science badge, started before half term, we have been spending a few weeks looking at some of the official brownie programme badges. Some badges can be done in our brownie sessions, but 'interest badges' are to be completed at home. Several girls have already gained their painting badge and others are doing their jobs badge.

Before we get to the Easter break we will be making cards and gifts for Mother's Day, we will visit the RAF fire station for some fire safety tips and to find out what firefighters do for their job and we will be following an Easter trail – Hooray for British Summer Time!

With brownie numbers finally on the increase again, we would welcome an extra pair of adult hands to help out on Thursday evenings (term-time). No special skills required, just a willingness to get stuck in and support whatever the brownies are doing. Please do get in touch if you'd like to give it a go.

If you know a girl aged 7-10 years old who would like to get involved in Brownies, you can either register interest via the Girlguiding website (girlguiding.org.uk), or email me directly.

Brown Owl

Ruth Daly

ruth.daly3@btinternet.com

1st Naphill Brownies

Thursdays 5:45-7pm



Naphill Neighbours

The title of this week's talk was "Secrets, Sex, Scandal and Salacious Gossip of the royal court 1660-1830. This may account for the particularly high turnout of members! This lecture was a treat, given by Sarah Slater, a guide/lecturer from Hampton Court Palace.

Sarah arrived in a dress from early Stuart times and gave a fascinating talk beginning in 1660 at the time of the restoration of the monarchy. This was, of course, immediately after the Puritan period of Oliver Cromwell.

Sarah set her talk in context by reminding us of the monarchs of the Stuart, Hanovarian and Georgian periods. Charles II, nicknamed the Merry Monarch, had many mistresses and countless children. He acknowledged them all, and provided for them. George III and his wife, Charlotte, were happy together and she supported him throughout his long illness, Porphyria (a rare hereditary disorder causing mental disturbance, extreme sensitivity to light, and excretion of dark pigments in the urine).

Prostitutes were used by the well off and made a good living. We had sight of an advertising booklet which contained the names and addresses of over 100 such women.

The Gazette is a family magazine so I cannot divulge all of the lecture!! Suffice to say we had an entertaining afternoon from an excellent speaker.

Our next meeting is on Monday April 3rd, the first Monday in the month, instead of our usual second Monday which is a bank holiday. It will start at 2pm as usual. We are planning a day's outing to Stratford in July.

Peggy Ewart

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Get your garden safe for the Spring!

Your garden, as well as your house, has valued possessions that thieves would love to steal. It also has equipment that could help them break into your house. Most burglars are looking for easy ways of getting into a house or garden. By taking a few simple precautions you can reduce the risk of being burgled and make your house and garden more secure.

Gravel paths and drives are an ideal way of cheaply and unobtrusively discouraging thieves from your garden. The gravel makes a loud noise underfoot which carries well at night, when any thief relies on moving around silently. For this reason, it is also worthwhile putting gravel near house windows or doors, as the noise of any movement on it may wake the owners or any dog.

Garden sheds are a prime target for intruders. Therefore, it is highly recommended that you regularly keep on top of the security of your shed, to ensure that the contents inside are as protected as possible at all times. Consider the use of a strong lockable box or cage within the shed in which you can store not only your garden tools but also insecticides, weed killers or other items which may be harmful to health or plants if improperly used.

Don't make a burglar's life any easier by leaving gardening tools available to act as the perfect tool with which to force his entry. Always lock them away securely after use. Likewise, do not leave ladders to provide easy access to otherwise inaccessible parts of your house. They should be chained and padlocked to a strong post or wall.

Garages are frequently used for storing not only cars, motor bikes and cycles, but also property similar to those found in garden sheds, as well as DIY power tools and sporting equipment. Considering the value of the property contained therein, security precautions are often found to be wanting, and for this reason they are identified by burglars as easy targets.

If you already have a burglar alarm system, why not extend it to the garage? Consider the benefits of alarmed padlocks and property marking pens; these and other security items are sold on our website. Security marking can deter thieves by making the items harder to sell on.

Learn more about preventing this and other crimes by joining Neighbourhood Watch!



office@wdnhwatch.plus.com

Valley Players - A History Lesson!

Thanks to our audience who attended "Play Time" recently.

This was for us, a bit of experimental theatre, as we have never produced One Act Plays before.

Our motivation was that there are two "One Act play" festivals locally in Maidenhead and Henley and we would like to enter these at some point. Before we ran, we thought we ought to walk, hence "Drinking Companion" by Alan Ayckbourn and "Shop for Charity" by Charles Mander. Both bitter sweet comedies.

Now the history bit - One act plays as a genre were developed during the late 19th century and were the "B" movies of theatre. These short (usually 30 minute) plays were performed before the main show. If you were "poor" you wanted value for your ticket and went to see the two shows. If you were wealthy you would

have probably gone out to dinner and come later to see the main production.

The more modern versions we are usually familiar with are the situation comedies on the TV lasting 30 - 40 minutes.

One act plays can be as short as 10 minutes (a long "sketch") or as in the musical "Six" up to 60 minutes. Whatever the length a story must have a beginning, a middle and an end!

Please save the date for:

"Sherlock Holmes and the Book of Secret Secrets" by Geoff Bamber. Our Picnic and Play 8/9 July

"Panto 2023", 7/8/9 December

Thanks for supporting us,



Andrew Pitman - Chair



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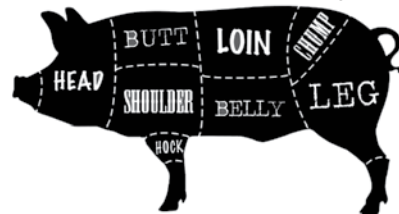
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One of the key priorities of Hughenden Street Association is to enable residents to meet up socially. We all live such busy lives – even when retired! – and sometimes it is difficult to remain in touch with friends and neighbours. In the last edition of the Gazette we promoted the Great Get Together created in memory of Jo Cox MP who was so cruelly murdered going about her constituency work. As she famously said, we have more in common than that which divides us. How true this is. Sometimes we just need the opportunity to get together.

The Hughenden Street Association Pub Lunch is going from strength to strength in Naphill and Walter’s Ash due in no small part to the sterling efforts of Susan Bickerstaffe, Ward Leader. At a recent lunch the suggestion was made by attendees about having an additional social opportunity to meet up. Following further discussions, the Afternoon Social was created in partnership with the Bon Ami Café. The idea is to offer some board games and even create a Book Club so that

residents can spend a fun afternoon getting to know each other and chatting. The first meeting took place on Monday 27th March between 2.00pm and 3.30pm.

If you would like to come along do contact Susan and why not bring a friend?

The next Pub Lunch is on Wednesday 19th April, at the Black Lion, Naphill, starting at 12.30pm. It is essential that you book your place(s) with Susan in advance. tel: 07880 519323

The next Afternoon Social is on Monday 24th April, Bon Ami Café, 2.00pm-3.30pm for more details contact Susan tel: 07880 519323

Hilda Stearn

Communications Co-ordinator

07808 229476

hughendensa@gmail.com



Hello to everyone,

As a result of the weather staying rather cold, Bon Ami are continuing to serve thick, tasty, homemade soup each day. We also have on our menu a range of “made to order” sandwiches, paninis and toasties, bacon or bacon and egg brioche baps; served until 2.30 every weekday and until 1.30 on Saturdays. We have a variety of freshly baked cakes, scones and toasted tea cakes everyday too.

To celebrate Easter we are serving warm hot cross buns and hot “hot cross bun” flavoured lattes and hot chocolates topped with fresh cream and mini egg sprinkles.

A reminder of our opening hours:

Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm

Saturdays 10am – 2pm

We are closed on Sundays and Bank holidays.

We will therefore be closed from Friday 7th April to Monday 10th April inclusive.

Do come and join us for coffee and a chat or to treat yourselves. We are always pleased to see familiar faces and to welcome new ones!

Dorothy & Ruth



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We are back from our latest two month 'tour' in Gibraltar and home for Easter. This will be our first Easter in our new home. As is our custom, the house will be full of family and there will be an Easter egg hunt after church on Easter Day. My partner will set the hunt for us whilst my daughters will set a personalised hunt for him, so he doesn't miss out on the fun. Often the weather is fine and warm, allowing outdoor activities and signalling the 'off' for the great outdoors season, but Easter is a bit earlier this year than last, and at present the weather is showing little sign of settling down. We live in hope.....

One of the nicest things (weather permitting) is sitting in the garden surrounded by spring flowers, blossom and trees bursting into leaf. This year, there is an additional element of excitement and anticipation as we have no idea what will be flowering in our garden! We viewed, bought and moved in mid to late autumn, inheriting a garden with muddy, bare patches that merely suggested something may be planted underneath. Now it's all starting to show signs of life as little spears of green begin to poke their way into the light and dull foliage plants begin to change colour – variegated leaves have brighter contrasts, red, orange and purple shoots are emerging, colour contrast planting is starting to show vibrant hues. Every day seems like a new adventure in gardening.

I have often mentioned how the spring provides us with a visual metaphor for the Christian faith and Christ's Resurrection, but this year in particular, there is the metaphor of the unexpected. As each shoot and leaf begins to reveal its final identity, there is a real wow factor. Favourites plants I'd though I'd said goodbye to are comfortingly here, new plants that I'd never heard of are pushing the boundaries of my skill and knowledge and I have become their custodian.

When Jesus rose from the dead on that first Easter Day, it was certainly unexpected. The wow factor for his Disciples must have been off the scale. They had seen him die, the end of all their hopes and dreams for a new world, but now he was alive and back. His return must have given them huge comfort and they would have hoped everything could now return to how it was. But

Jesus' resurrection signalled the beginning of something new that would push the boundaries of all that they had known and learnt. The disciples became the custodians of Jesus' message tasked with making it known to the world. The New Testament tells us how they did this, travelling to new places, abandoning preconceptions, challenging prejudice and inspiring new communities with their vision of a better world.

The message of Christ is still relevant and much needed today. As we celebrate Easter, may we be reminded of its true meaning and perhaps take up afresh its challenge of bringing about a better world.

May you have a blessed Easter and wow spring.

Rev Jenny Ellis

NEW MONTH MORE
FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

On March the 2nd, we celebrated world book day!!!

Parents and Grandparents came to read, and we had 158 people come to read with us. Some people brought in books to swap at our Book Swap. We had some trustworthy Year 6 pupils help out in the hall to serve the parents/guardians with coffee, tea and biscuits (lucky)!

In Year 3, they did a Book Bistro and made their own menus, with different genres of books.

Down in Year 2, they made bookmarks and mini book reviews.

This week we are starting Science Week. We will be having visitors who will tell us about technology and science.

This week we will be focusing on science and doing different experiments.

That's all from us!

The Y6 Media Team



Local Tales

According to Rex Lever (Naphill and Walters Ash 1999, p71) the first school to offer education to the children of Naphill and Walters Ash was set up by the Katherine Pye Charity in 1713 but it was probably not located in our parish. It was followed by a Dame School located in Naphill House in Hunts Hill Lane. In 1862 a new National School was built on a plot of land at the corner of Louches Lane and the Main Road. It was a solid, red brick building intended to serve 33 boys and 33 girls "of the labouring, manufacturing and other poorer classes in the parish of Hughenden". It served that function until eventually demolished in 1976 and replaced by houses: only the sycamore tree that stood in the playground, remains. A new school was built in Pursells Meadow.

There was no secondary education for most of the life of the school. Children left to go straight to work. My grandfather left aged eleven and my father left at thirteen. When I joined the infants class in 1953 the teacher was Mrs Brindley, a kindly mother-like lady. In the next class was another fine, kindly teacher, Mrs Hives. The older children were taught by the Headmaster, Mr Easton, of a rather different character. During the 2nd World War air-raid shelters were built in our playground and we had regular practice at sheltering in them but we were never bombed.

Mr Easton gave me the cane when I was eleven: two painful strokes on each hand. I had found a threepenny bit on the way to school and I took it straight to the village shop, (then at the crossroads). The only thing I could see for 3d was a sachet of shampoo. Why I bought it I do not know but I did. When I got to school I did something really stupid. I put a tiny drop of shampoo

in the inkwell on each of the desks. Why I did this I do not know, perhaps just curiosity but the result was dramatic. We had to do some writing. Each child dipped their pen in their inkwell and then tried to write in their exercise book but the ink ran off their pens in a stream and produced large splodges of black ink on the page. I had to confess and my reward was the cane.

One day Mr Easton announced to the class that "...there is now an 'eleven plus' examination. If you pass you will go to the ROYAL Grammar School in High Wycombe! If you fail, you will go to a secondary modern school". Then, for several weeks, he took six children into a separate room and coached them for the exam while the rest of us had a trainee teacher to stop us breaking up the furniture. The dreaded exam finally arrived and I found it bewildering. The questions were not the familiar type - 'what is the capital of France' - but were strange logical puzzles. Most of us did not realise that we had to answer the questions in a certain time. Some weeks later a sombre Mr Easton announced to the school that no one had passed the eleven plus exam. I remember thinking that did not say much for his tutoring. I went to Hatters Lane Secondary Modern School, which turned out to be a good school with teachers who cared about their pupils.

It is a pity that the fine old school building could not have been left to serve the various clubs and activities that the village has but the new schools were better for the education of our children, even without the use of a cane.

Trevor Hussey.



Valerie Pushman, 25th Nov 1934 – 27th Jan 2023

There was a possibility that I first met Valerie at the Blacksmiths Arms, situated at the end of Downley Road, now a private house, drinking a glass of lemonade when we were both about twelve years old. Valerie was staying with her grandmother who lived in a cottage on Downley Common. Our next meeting was at St Peters, Acton, where Valerie was a Sea Ranger and a Cub Guider, I was the proud possessor of a motorbike and co-incidentally had a friend whose girlfriend was also a Ranger. I remember giving six of Valerie's friends a ride around the block on the pillion seat, all without helmets, which were not compulsory in those days. This became a regular weekly date and on one of these occasions she invited me to her 18th birthday party which I was pleased to accept. From then on, I was a regular visitor meeting her on most days when she was leaving Ealing Technical College, where she was studying for a secretarial qualification and taking her home on my motorbike. At this time, I was waiting for my call-up papers which arrived in October and my orders to report to Hednesford, Staffordshire for National Service in the Royal Air Force. After three months of enforced separation, I was posted to Jurby, Isle of Man for Officer Training followed by a further two months at Bircham Newton for a secretarial course. Valerie wrote to me regularly several times a week during this period of separation.

There was some pressure on me to sign up to an extension on my National Service for a period of four to eight years but after much discussion, the possibility of a long separation or an overseas posting I declined the invitation. After a period of so-called management training, Jantzen Swimwear paid me the magnificent weekly sum of £8.50 with the prospect of the magic £1000 a year by the age of 30. Needless to say, I looked for another job and left Jantzen to join William Tatton who paid me £1000 per year plus a Mini Minor car! Having broken the magic ceiling of £1000 Valerie and I could consider marriage. Umtata became available and we bought it, I had some difficulty in getting a mortgage but eventually the Halifax obliged and the rest is history.

Valerie is now resting at Bradenham, a church we had close associations with and a fitting place for her and me to rest together in peace.

Richard Pushman

On 23rd February, in front of a packed Bradenham Church, our community said goodbye to Valerie Pushman. If you've lived in Naphill for a while, you will have known of Valerie, but there are probably a few things you didn't know about this lady's contribution to village life today.

Valerie moved to Naphill in 1962, the same year she married Richard Pushman, and immediately threw herself into village life. Valerie co-founded the first Naphill Playgroup (with the late Sally Harvey) in Naphill Village Hall where it flourished for decades before moving to its current address at Naphill & Walters Ash School.

Never one to sit still, Valerie was a member of the Woman's Institute and became a founding President of Naphill's Evening Womens Institute which was popular with working Wives and Mothers, and eventually became known as Naphill Neighbours, still active today.

She also organised the annual Poppy Day Appeal with an army of volunteers to support the cause and was publicly recognised for the significant donations collected over twenty years.

Throughout her adult life, Valerie was a supporter of the Girl Guide Association, becoming a local ranger leader in Naphill and later becoming a Girl Guiding Ambassador, proudly attending their annual banner parade at Halton.

Valerie's favourite local event was the Naphill Fete which she helped organise in the early days and later, participated as a judge for competitions as well as appearing on the floats.

And if you missed her at any of those local events, you may just have seen her walking on Naphill common – something she did nearly every day of her married life.

Her dedication to supporting various causes and associations almost belong to another era, but if Valerie could help, she would, and made lifelong friends in the village as a result. So, it's with a sad heart we say goodbye to a real pillar of our community, a Naphill institution (an accolade she would have been quietly proud of) and a true inspiration for the next generation of Naphill residents.

Matt Piercy

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Saturday 6th May

Classis on the Crick 2023

Naphill's own classic car show returns this June. Once again the event will be raising funds for the essential Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

Interest among the Classic vehicle community has been high and we are once again expecting to reach full capacity for car and commercial displays ahead of the event. So if you wish to enter your treasured vehicle, don't delay. Full details can be found at our website:

www.classicsonthecrick.co.uk.

The show will open to the public at 10am, tickets will be available on the gate on the day or in advance from the website very shortly.

Along with a fantastic variety of all types of 2,3 and 4 wheeled vehicles, we shall have entertaining live music throughout the afternoon.

Our usual great selection of food vendors will be in attendance, along with a bar hosting those great Rebellion beers.

There will also be a number of stalls selling everything from fudge to handbags.

Due to the success of the show, we always need plenty of volunteers to help out on the day.

All helpers will receive a goody bag and T shirt, plus an invitation to our volunteer celebration event later in the summer.

If you can spare a few hours on the 11th of June, please email us at classicsonthecrick@gmail.com.

The Classics on the Crick Team



Classics on the Crick
Sunday 11th June 2023
10am - 4pm

See hundreds of fabulous Classic Cars & Bikes.
All profits from the event go to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

If you have your own classic car or bike enter now at classicsonthecrick.co.uk

- Live Music all Afternoon
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Volunteers Required
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Chiltern Hills Arboriculture – British Pie Week

At the time of writing it was British Pie Week. March 6th - 12th celebrating everything that is fantastic about meat, fish, vegetables, pastry, and all other major food groups. A quote from the www.britishpieawards.co.uk website.

“The British love a pie, in fact the Pie is our unique contribution to International Cuisine. We have developed this delicacy more than any other nation to give us the range and styles of pies that we know and love today. One of them, the Melton Mowbray Pork Pie, has even gained official PGI protected status in the European Union along with its cousins the Cornish Pasty and the Forfar Bridie.”

In recognition of this, and in response to Sonia’s appeal for home recipes (and a bit of an internet spat that took place on the “Tom Kerridges Pirates” Facebook group), we decided to cook up an old childhood favourite of mine “Corned Beef Cow Pie”. I have fond childhood memories of my mum cooking this dish for us. It is great served hot, straight out of the oven with vegetables, but also delicious cold as part of a picnic or a packed lunch.

Take a tin of corned beef and mash it up to a pulp in a bowl. Add in some tinned tomatoes, fried onions, ground pepper and mix well. Chop up some potato and carrots to about the size of dice and boil for no more than 5 minutes in

salted water. Drain and let them dry well. Once the potato and carrot is properly dry, mix it in slowly and gently with the meat and other veg.

Here comes the fun part. You can now add any other vegetables you fancy. Mushrooms, sweetcorn, beans, peas, cauliflower..... anything you like. If you want to add some Herbs du Provence or Thyme, that will only add to the flavour.

Build your pie case using shortcrust pastry. Spoon in the filling and top it off. Baste the pastry top with an egg wash and bake for 30 mins at about 180°C or until it looks golden. We shared the cooking, so I’ve given Anne a byline.... only fair...

Serve hot with additional vegetables, or cold with some pickle.... equally scrumptious.

Best regards,

Mike Beckley & Anne Brown
Chiltern Hills Arboriculture

Shear Madness

Gosh, these months are rolling round quickly. I very nearly got a black mark against my name for being late with my article this month! Only joking Sonia, you love me really!

Fingers crossed that the weather has picked up and we can start to enjoy the longer days. I can’t wait to come home from work and sit in the garden and relax or enjoy a pub garden on a lazy Sunday afternoon.

It’ll soon be Easter and we will be closed that weekend so we can have some family time with our loved ones but apart from that it’s business as usual. Remember it is appointments only now and I’ve had a lot of new customers so welcome to you all.



Good luck to Wendy the Postie. She will be greatly missed from the village with her wicked sense of humour and her fabulous dressing-up box. It’s great we have proper community Post people, we all know their names and they stop to chat and pet the dog so it’s a bit like losing a member of your family. Sadly where I live I haven’t got a clue who my postie is, I think that’s why I cherish our Julian so much, we’re

like an old married couple when we get together! It’ll be sad when he retires because we value him as a true friend.

So that about wraps it up for this month, have a great Easter, stay safe. Love as always.

Mandy x



Church News

April is a lovely month: it usually heralds proper spring weather, with blossom and flowers appearing in gardens and in our countryside. In the Church, it is (usually) the time Easter falls, with its explosion of colour after the austerity of Lent.

By the time you read this, you should have received our Easter Card, setting out the times of Easter services to any of which you will be most welcome.

They begin on Palm Sunday (2nd April), with Holy Communion at various times in Holy Week (3-6th), a 9 o'clock and 11 o'clock services on Good Friday, plus an Hour at the Cross at 2pm, a 7 pm Easter Vigil on Saturday and the usual times of service on Easter Day.

Many of you will be aware there was recently a break-in at the Church with consequent damage to some of our facilities. Although some damage is still to be made good, everything has now been returned to working order, and meetings and groups can take place as before. We are grateful to everyone who has adapted to this short period of change.

The Church will have held its annual meetings by the time you read this, at which reports are made on the business and finances of the Parish Church, and Churchwardens and Parochial Church Council members are elected. Whilst this equivalent of a business AGM is not everyone's favourite pastime, ours is usually well attended, and this year the traditional 'bring and share' lunch, which was in abeyance over Covid, is back, and will no doubt encourage even better attendance!

Plans are afoot for a wide range of social events this year, to which all members of our community are welcome, and details will be given in future editions of the Gazette, and on our website: www.hughendenparishchurch.org.uk. The next two dates for your diaries, with further details to follow are:

**May 5th: Coronation Choir Event in Church
(Hughenden Community Choir),**

**May 20th: Nature Quest and dog walk,
You will be most welcome to take part.**

Jane Tyrer

Mothers' Union News

Our speaker on 7th March, was David Tester, who is a Licensed Lay Minister at St Michaels' and a former RAF officer, who talked about Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF).

Mission Aviation Fellowship, whose UK headquarters is in Folkestone, was founded immediately after World War Two in both the UK and the USA. It has grown to become an international Christian organisation, serving in 25 countries, with over 1,400 partner organisations, more than 120 aircraft, and flying to over 1,200 destinations – more than any airline! Every six minutes an MAF aircraft takes off or lands somewhere in the world, transporting people who live in remote communities, assisting aid and development agencies, missions and churches and bringing the love of Christ to isolated people. The charity is funded in the most part by donations.

Travel is extremely challenging in many parts of the world today, and thousands of communities in our world are cut off from help by different sorts of barriers, whether geographical, or as a result of conflict and natural disasters. MAF is a vital source of help in many of these situations and in recent years has assisted in relief efforts in the earthquake in Nepal, hurricanes in Haiti, earthquake and tsunami in Sulawesi (Indonesia) and cyclones in Madagascar. This is where small aircraft come into their own, crossing physical obstacles quickly and safely, bringing help, hope and healing to remote communities.

Our next MU meeting is on 4th April at 2pm in Church House when our speaker will tell us about the work of the charity Ukraine2Chilterns. This is the charity, based in Loosley Row, which has been instrumental in finding homes for Ukrainian refugees in our area and supporting those who have offered accommodation. Much of their work is currently concerned with rematching those who need to move on, and helping those who are ready, to move into independent living. As always, visitors are very welcome to any of our talks.

Sylvia Clark



Over the past couple of years, we have been prayerfully exploring how we might encapsulate what we are about as a Church family, into a fresh vision.

On Sunday 26th March, on the same morning that our annual church meeting takes place, I will be introducing our new vision to the Church, and speaking in more detail about how we will endeavour to put this into practice across all areas of Church life.

Here is the new St Michael's Church vision:

To know God's love, and to share that love with everyone

That vision can be broken down into two areas, both inspired by passages of scripture from the New Testament:

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:16-19

Our aim is that all may know Jesus Christ, become his lifelong followers, and grow into mature members of the Church.

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

Our Church family will actively contribute to the life of our local community. Our Church activities & facilities will be accessible and we will welcome all with warm and generous hospitality.

Two working groups are being formed – one with an emphasis on Community Engagement, chaired by Rev Helen Peters, our Associate Minister, and the other looking at Buildings and Facilities, which I will chair. Our hope is that initial proposals will be submitted to Hughenden PCC in July, so watch this space for an update later in the year.

Living out this vision in practice will surely be really challenging, but my hope and prayer is that such a focus

will give us fresh inspiration from God to live out what it means to be a Christian in our parish in the 21st Century.

I am confident that you will see some positive changes before too long, although this is very much a medium to long term vision as well, and some changes take years, or even a generation to happen.

Early April marks Holy Week in the Christian calendar. During Lent we have been preparing to remember the last few days that our Saviour Jesus Christ spent on earth, before his painful death on a cross on Good Friday, and his glorious resurrection on the 3rd day!

Our desire to know God's love and to share that love with everyone is founded on the grace, healing and forgiveness which we receive, thanks to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, hallelujah!

Rev Keith Johnson

Easter Church Services

Palm Sunday 2 Apr

9.00 am Palm Procession & Choral Communion

11.00 am All Age Service

6.00 pm Evensong

Holy Week 3-5 Apr

Holy Communion:

Monday - 6.30 pm Tuesday - 11.00 am Wednesday - 7.00 pm

Maundy Thursday 6 Apr

7.00 pm Holy Communion

Good Friday 7 Apr

9.00 am Morning Prayer & Sung Passion

11.00 am All Age Service

2.00 pm An Hour at the Cross

Easter Eve 8 Apr

7.00 pm Easter Vigil

Easter Day 9 Apr

9.00 am Choral Communion

11.00 am Family Communion

6.00 pm Evensong



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Clara McCaffrey

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If you're curious about any of the above then take a look at my website: www.loveforlifecoaching.co.uk or contact me at clare@loveforlifecoaching.co.uk



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The 6lb “Carotte de Colmar a Coeur Rouge 2”



Elephant Garlic

Growing Your Own

After Swiss chard, climbing French beans, sweetcorn and pumpkins, my next favourite to grow in the vegetable plot in my garden just has to be carrots. For nearly 50 years I have grown the variety “Carotte de Colmar a Coeur Rouge 2”. This is a maincrop carrot giving large carrots. The main problem with carrots is carrot root fly. They fly very close to the ground and some gardeners put a little fence round their carrots about a foot high to keep them out, but after a few attempts I gave up on that idea. The carrot fly maggots do not penetrate very far into the carrot and so it is easy to cut out the damage – provided one grows large carrots. My Carotte de Colmar are usually very large, and delicious. The seeds are available in garden centres in France, so that gives you an excuse to pop across the Channel! They can be sown in the open ground from April in rows a foot apart, and should be thinned to 2 inches spacing in the row.

Something strange happened in 2014. I grew my carrots on the allotment in soil which had been prepared in the usual way, but the carrots (from the same seed packet as usual) were enormous. Instead of having green leafy tops about 12 to 18 inches high, they had tops 3 feet high! It so happened that summer that the Director of the Good Gardeners’ Association and his mum were visiting my allotment to see what it was like after I converted to “No-Dig Gardening” 14 years earlier. Needless to say they were astonished to see the size of

my carrot plants. Carrots in subsequent seasons, again from seed from the same packet, were back to their usual size. Referring to the photograph accompanying this article, when I had removed the foliage and washed the carrot it weighed over 6 pounds! I feared it might be woody inside but it was not. It was entirely edible and delicious, and kept us in carrots for some time. Other carrots that year were also very big and I still have no explanation of why they were so big that year.

My next favourite must be elephant garlic. As the name suggests, the cloves are very big, up to 10 times bigger in volume than cloves from normal garlic. Their most useful attribute, however, is their almost-100% immunity from onion-rot, which is a fungus which goes down rows of normal garlic. (Affected plants look OK until harvest time, when they become limp and one finds that the roots are a slimy white mess.) The immune elephant garlic cloves cost about £1.70 each but each one gives 6 to 8 massive cloves which can be planted for the following year’s crop. In just a few years one has many cloves to give to friends – as well as a year’s supply for the kitchen!

Good gardening!

Mike Mason



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Naphill Tennis Club

The new tennis season has started and we'd love to see everyone on the courts!

We have some excellent courses for adults and youngsters alike. If you've never played tennis before now's your chance to join our Adult Beginners Xpress course or, if you've played in the past but are feeling a bit 'rusty', come along to our Adult Improvers course. Both of these are evening courses and it's a great way to get some fresh air and exercise after a day at work.

Youngsters are provided for with Junior Summer Coaching (see below) and a Children's Easter Camp on Friday 7th April.

For all courses, please book your place with Mel, our head coach, as soon as possible as numbers are limited.

For further information on Naphill Tennis Club, please contact our membership secretary on 07905 226203 or email: naphilltennismembership@gmail.com. You can also visit our website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/NaphillLTC> or find us on Facebook: Naphill Tennis Club



Jenny Tench



Play Local League Competitive Tennis - Join our Team

Are you new to the area? Do you enjoy competitive tennis?

Stef Ayres, our women's team captain, would love to hear from you!

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Look forward to hearing from you!

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Summer Junior Coaching

Commences Friday 21st April

10 week course

3 Groups - from 5yrs to 17 yrs

4.30pm/5.15pm/6pm

Non-members welcome

All levels welcome.

Adults Tennis Xpress

Commences Monday 17th April

6 week course.

Beginnner adults 6pm - 7pm

Improvers adults 7pm-8pm

Non-members welcome.

All levels welcome.

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Wycombe Photographic Society meets in the large hall at Hughenden Valley Village Hall, on the 1st, 2nd & 4th Wednesday each month at 8pm. We have a new programme of events, wider range of Guest speakers and lots more.

5th April Members questions answered

12th April Visiting Photographers – The PiC Group visits

26th April Members images & critique

To see everything that is happening at Wycombe Photographic Society please visit our website at: - www.wycombephotographicsociety.org.uk

Peter Davis

Membership Secretary

Wycombe Photographic Society



Princes Risborough Rotary Club - www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/homepage.php?ClubID=561



The recent cold snap didn't feel like Spring, but with Easter approaching the weather should be improving. The first Farmers' Market on the 9th of April is the first of the Town Council's such events this year, at which the Club is focusing on the Princes Centre, the next ones being in June, September and the final in October. We are now planning our celebrations for King Charles' Coronation on the 6th of May.

At our meeting at the end of February we were enlightened by a talk by Susan Staff about plastics and the benefits of their recyclability. On the 13th of March Nick Kavanagh (a Rotarian), talked to us about his parachute jump, raising money for an Epilepsy Charity. On the 20th one of our newer members told us about himself, and on the 27th we learnt about John Hampden, a 17th Century local MP (and Oliver Cromwell's Cousin) after whom the High Wycombe school is named. This month several Club members are visiting our "twinned" Club in Wasserburg, Germany (coinciding with St George's day). The recent Quiz Night organised by Princes Risborough School Interact (Interact introduces under 18s to the concept of Rotary) was a very successful fund raiser. Apart from our regular Monday evening meetings, we also have groups that meet socially for

breakfast gatherings, coffee meetings, curry nights and games nights (ten pin bowling, snooker, darts etc). Our annual schools' art competition (on 22nd of April) has attracted over 1000 entries from 8 local primary schools, the theme being THE GREEN PLANET.

We are always looking to provide support, both in person or financially, so if you are aware of anyone needing help, if you are interested in joining the Club, or if you wish to make a donation, please use the contact details below – we would love to hear from you.

You can contact us at: rcpr.org.uk or contact the Club President, *David White* on 07787 750889 or email: david@dhwhite.plus.com.





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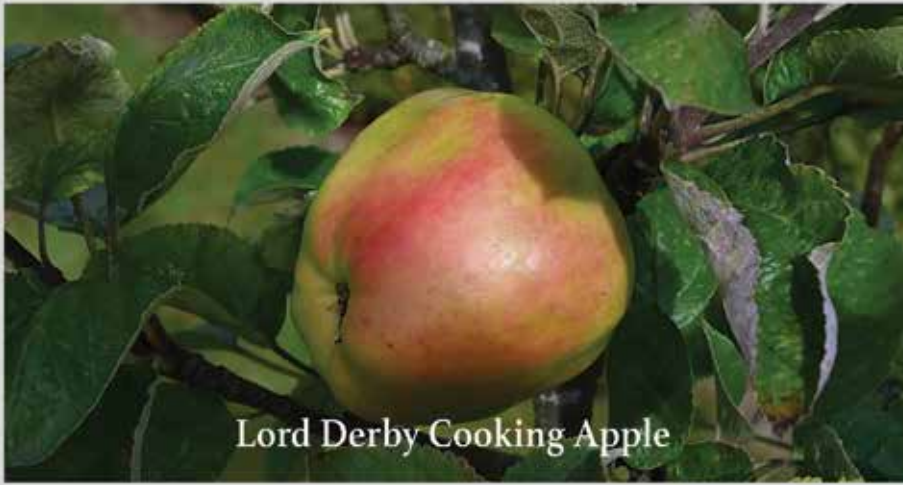
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Lord Derby Cooking Apple



Mid Shires Orchard Group

Who knew we had so many local apple varieties!

We have an apple tree which was given to us with no label and we had no idea what variety it was. So, when Buckingham Nurseries had their Apple and Honey Festival in late September, we took along a couple of apples and leaves to be identified by an RHS apple expert who was there. It turned out to be an early cooking apple called Lord Derby so now we know.

At the festival, there was an exhibition by the Mid Shires Orchard Group of apples found in the four 'mid-shires' counties of Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. The Mid Shires Orchard Group is a community orchard group of volunteers who aim to discover, research, identify and raise awareness of local and heritage varieties. We were very much surprised to find a few varieties local to our villages. The Speen Chapel variety attracted our attention as did a couple of apples originating by the Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway.

The 'Speen Chapel' apple was named after Speen Baptist Chapel where the old 47 feet tall apple tree is reputed to stand. The Chapel was one of the earliest

Baptist meeting houses constructed in 1802 by the villagers (the ladies of the village bringing flints from the surrounding fields in their aprons). The history of the immediate area is one of orchards and some trees remain. Though now owned by the Chapel and within the 'churchyard grounds' which are separated by a road, the tree stood in grounds once owned by the 'House at Pye Corner'. It was used as garden or domestic orchard in the distant past and several years ago, some cuttings and apples were taken so trees of this variety are still available from specialist apple tree growers.

My internet search did not reveal much about the other two varieties which originated by the Chinnor and Princes Risborough Railway so we can only go from the exhibition descriptions. Chinnor Loop West' being a juicy dessert apple and 'Thame Junction' being described as a great all-purpose apple with a unique lemon sherbet flavour which sounds quite yummy!

Nina Talbot

nina.downes@outlook.com



A Message from Rob Butler MP

Spring is finally here and with it the traditions of rural life continue as they have done for centuries across the Chilterns.

This is an incredibly busy time for our hardworking local farmers, many of whom are in the midst of the lambing season, while others are completing their planting for produce that will be in our supermarkets in the autumn. Whenever I visit local farmers, I am inspired by their commitment to high standards of animal welfare and their dedication to being good stewards of our wonderful landscape. But too many of them face the blight of rural crime – specifically the theft of agricultural equipment and vehicles. The loss of these vital tools and machinery not only causes immediate financial loss, but also disruption for their business. That is why I was so pleased to support new legislation being introduced by my constituency neighbour, Greg Smith, to tackle these thefts. Greg's Bill has now moved to the House of Lords and will hopefully become law in the coming months.



This is a really good example of the way MPs can take the concerns of local people to Westminster, and is why it's so important for me to hear the opinions of my constituents. My residents' survey is still running on my website, www.robbutler.org.uk, so please do take a few minutes to share your views.

Despite the challenging economic times, I know that many people are looking forward to the King's Coronation in May. This will be a wonderful opportunity to come together in our communities and celebrate the start of the reign of Charles III. However you choose to mark this momentous occasion, I hope you have a thoroughly enjoyable Coronation weekend.



Kind regards,
Rob Butler MP

Naphill Residents' Association

Good News on the Clappins Lane Oak

Indications are that the Oak in Clappins Lane has been saved with Buckinghamshire Council's Directorate for Planning Growth and sustainability confirming "the developers commitment to save this tree". Thanks must go to everyone who campaigned to save the oak and those who negotiated a satisfactory conclusion including the residents who sacrificed some of their garden and the developers for listening.

Best Kept Village Competition

Last year we won the Defra Cup for villages with a population between 1501-3000, so we cannot compete in that category this year. Instead, we will compete against the other 2022 winners for the Tindall cup. Judging takes place between the 1st June and the 14th July. It goes without saying the villages needs to be litter free, dog poo free, tidy and cared for but how do judges compare very varied villages? Individually most marks are given for green spaces (17.5%) i.e., playing field, playgrounds and designated nature conservation areas, but collectively marking covers community facilities, general environment like hedges and verges, bus stops, noticeboards etc the list is endless. It even covers community engagement which includes the gazette and village community websites. Last year's win, the first in 20 years, was a community effort, so get your litter picks ready, together we can make this happen.

NAWA in Bloom

Entry forms including judging criteria are available by emailing hello@nawara.co.uk The competition has been designed that almost everyone should be able to enter if they wish even if it's a container at the entrance to a flat or the end of a driveway. The competition poster details each category and judging will take place between 1st July and 8th July. So start planning and we look forward to a wonderful summer display we all look forward to enjoying.

Shout out to all green fingered residents this spring when they are splitting their perennials or dividing their house plants. Can we have your surplus plants, potted and labelled for the plant stall we are manning at the family fun on The Crick in June? If you haven't got room to store until June 10th email hello@nawara.co.uk and we will arrange collection and storage.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be a zoom meeting on 17th April 2023 at 7.30pm as the second Monday of the month is Easter Monday. Any resident wishing to attend can request the zoom link.



Bartha Pitman
NAWARA Chair
www.nawara.co.uk



Group News and Updates

Our general meeting was held in March and featured a talk about Audrey Hepburn, focussing on her experiences during the Nazi invasion of Holland.

A small contingent of our Shakespeare Group had an amazing day visiting The Bodleian Library, Oxford. Their

visit was based around celebrating 400 years since the 1st Folio of Shakespeare's plays was published. We talked to world renowned Shakespeare experts, had a chance to write with a quill pen as Shakespeare did. (see below)



Our Creative Needlecrafts group continues to welcome new members and our members voted this as one of our most enjoyable Groups. Spring offers a feast of opportunities for photography, bird watching, walking and so much more. We have a wide range of groups so whatever your interests there will be a group for you!

Even if you are not a member of the u3a, you are welcome to come along and enjoy our presentations, have a cup of tea, and find out more about all the activities we do! We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month, 2pm. at Lacey Green Village Hall.

Paul Gillam

Email gilliamph@aol.com for details



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Dog Walking Etiquette

Even if you are a seasoned dog owner, there's never any harm in being reminded about dog walking etiquette whilst out and about with your dog.

We've all heard the words "don't worry, he/she's friendly" shouted from afar, when a dog is bounding up to us, when out walking our dog? But these situations do not always end well, as dogs are like humans, with very different personalities, being social, extrovert, nervous, etc.

Take the lead (no pun intended!) – if you see another dog walker with a dog on a lead, do the right thing by calling your dog(s) to you and putting them on the lead or control them until you pass. There could be several reasons why another dog is on a lead, such as:

- Training – a dog may be in the middle of training with its owner/walker
- Reactive – towards other dogs or people
- Nervous – of its surroundings
- Rescue Dog – being rehabilitated
- Bitch in heat
- Health Conditions – may have recently been through surgery, etc

If an off lead dog approaches one that is on lead, this can force a greeting that the on lead dog doesn't want and can cause further challenges in the future.

A reactive dog that is on lead can feel threatened by an off lead dog and things can escalate quickly, causing stress for dogs and owners alike.

www.yellowdoguk.co.uk is a relatively new project in the UK, set up to raise awareness for dogs who need space for any of the above reasons. If you see a dog with a yellow lead, ribbon, bandana or similar, this is a dog that needs space, indicating that their dog cannot be close to other dogs. How close is too close? Only the dog and his owner know, so maintain distance and give them time to move out of your way.

If you have a dog that is generally walked on lead, then you may want to consider taking a look at Yellow Dog UK and adopting the "wear something yellow" to alert other dog walkers that you and your dog need space.

With the Spring weather upon us, get out and about and enjoy all that the Chilterns has to offer, with your dog.

Charlie Hughes

 This block contains the Ruby & Me logo at the top, followed by the text 'Dog walking & Pet Care'. Below this is a list of services:

- Regular or adhoc dog walking
- Solo or group dog walks
- Pop in pet care

 A green-bordered box contains the text: 'Does your Dog need walking, every day or just on an ad hoc basis? Do you want someone that will care as much for your dog as you do?'. Below this is a paragraph: 'With many years experience of the local area and a love of dogs, I will make sure your dog will experience a variety of walks in Naphill and beyond.' Another green-bordered box contains contact information: 'Get in touch: e: charlie@Rubyandme.uk.com m: 07780600977'. At the bottom are social media icons for Facebook and Instagram, and the website 'www.Rubyandme.uk.com'.

This block features the Yellow Dog UK logo on the left, which includes the text 'yellow dog' and a yellow silhouette of a dog with a yellow ribbon around its neck. Below the logo is the text '..some dogs need space'. To the right is a QR code. At the bottom, the website 'https://www.yellowdoguk.co.uk' is displayed in white text on a black background.

Small Ads

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Welcome to The Wine Giant

Time magazine and Vogue were both in touch looking for some wine related content to freshen up their output, but both were rejected in favour of having a little corner of one of the world's all-time leading publications – the Naphill and Walter's Ash Gazette! So welcome to 'The Wine Giant' and my monthly attempt to educate and engage you in the world of wine, with a more irreverent and accessible approach.

Before I dive in I thought it worth explaining how a combination of world-ruining illness, mid-week gambling and a penchant for wild comparisons led to a fascination and love of wine...

Our day-to-day existences were tipped on their heads in early 2020 with COVID outdoing any past (or present) dictators in showing them how to achieve world domination in an instant. Like many, my career and hobbies were instantly thrown into disarray as I came to terms with the reality of 'The New Normal' and being housebound for months on end. I quickly learned what Zoom was and engaged in countless quizzes with friends (in between using it to try and teach virtual lessons to 12 year olds). Once those had been exhausted, we searched for something new and fresh - 'Anyone fancy a game of poker instead?' Phil asked. Naturally, this led to me starting a blog about wine...

To accompany our weekly hands of poker our diverse group of friends from across the UK, Bermuda and Chile would have various tipples and the conversation would inevitably turn to what each of us were drinking. Fairly soon we agreed it was time we all drank the same wine at the same time, so I headed onto The Wine Society's website and everyone was furnished with an identical case. A brief preview of the first bottle was written, by the second glass we agreed a scoring system was needed and by the fourth the spreadsheet and self-populating graphs were set up and ready to go. Fast forward a couple of years and over

40,000 words on wine were written but only shared with a twelve person WhatsApp group, one of whom is tee-total. After another few months of frenzy and fervor, a website was created, Instagram and Twitter profiles were made and a WSET Level 2 course was completed, all under the title of 'The Wine Giant'. A giant in terms of unparalleled knowledge about wine or the esteem in which the wine world holds me? Not really - I'm just really big and like wine...

So what can you expect from my monthly offerings? Well, much of what you see or read about wine can be fairly serious and inaccessible to a layman. Wine can be a daunting topic and one that seems able to attract the sort of unbearable wannabe snobs who like to rely on the assumption that the little they know about wine is a little more than you do and so blag their way through the conversation with the sole intention of making you think how clever and sophisticated they are, and how uncouth and primitive you are for not knowing that not all sparkling wines are called Champagne (imagine that awful bloke in the bar scene in Good Will Hunting, but when he's 40...). Of course, most people with an actual interest in wine are bloody lovely and do not even nearly fall into this category, but I am often left wondering if we are missing a certain type of writing about wine. Something a little more playful, casual and irreverent, yet still offering an element of wisdom that can be accessed by anyone, no matter their knowledge base.

Alongside this will be some recommendations of easily found wines that will improve your lives, many of which will also satiate your urge to support local businesses and can be found on the shelves of the wonderful, independent and incredibly local Lloyd's Wine.

Next month we will be kicking off with my slightly controversial take on Bordeaux...

Adam Sergeant
Aes46@cantab.net

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Black Lion

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Fingers crossed for the weather warming up so we can finally enjoy the benefits of our amazing beer garden!

Obviously we have a very exciting and historical event coming soon with the King's Coronation so keep an eye out on our social media, website and the gazette for upcoming events including our Family Fun Day on Monday 8th May!

We hope to see you all at our upcoming events!



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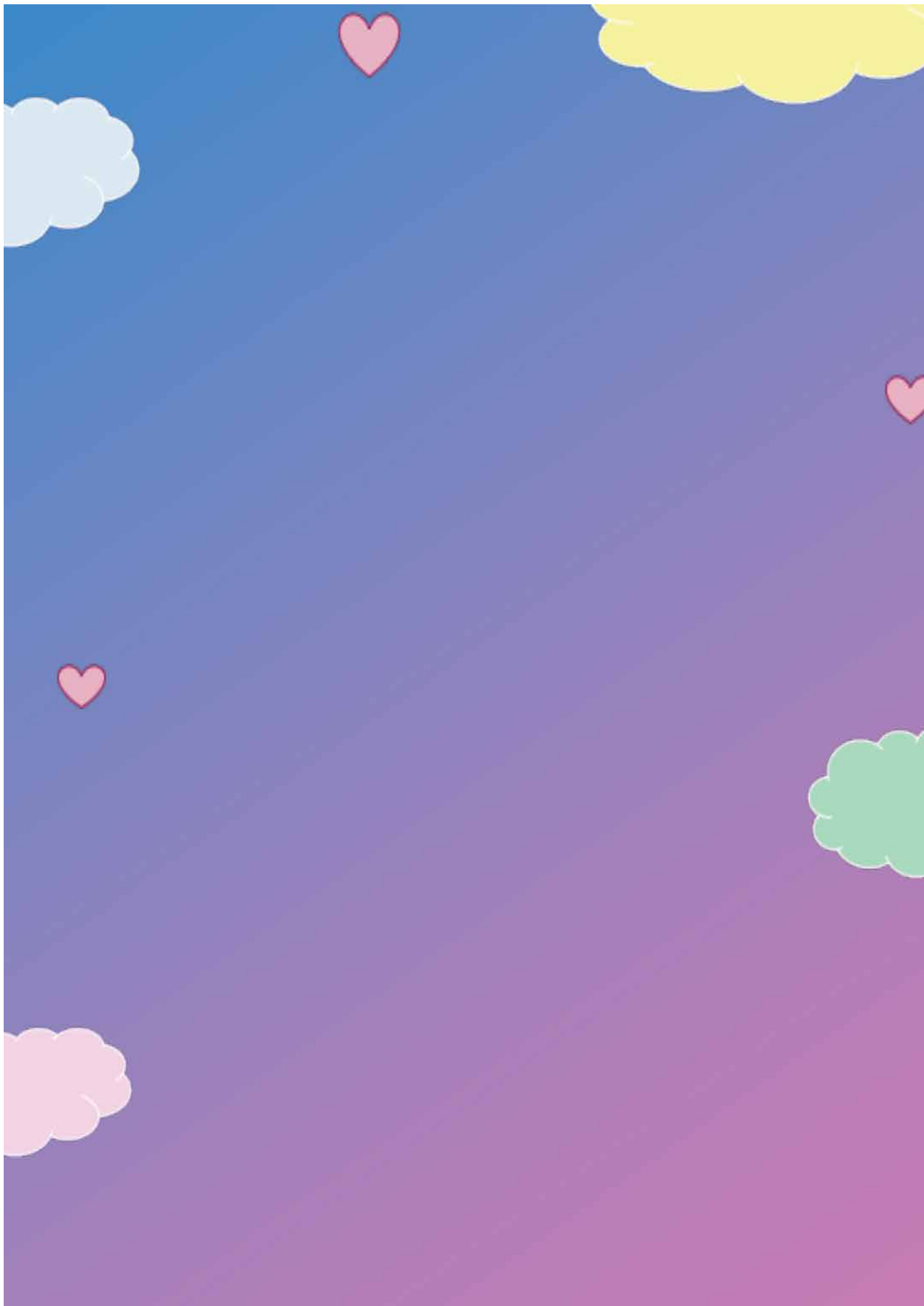
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