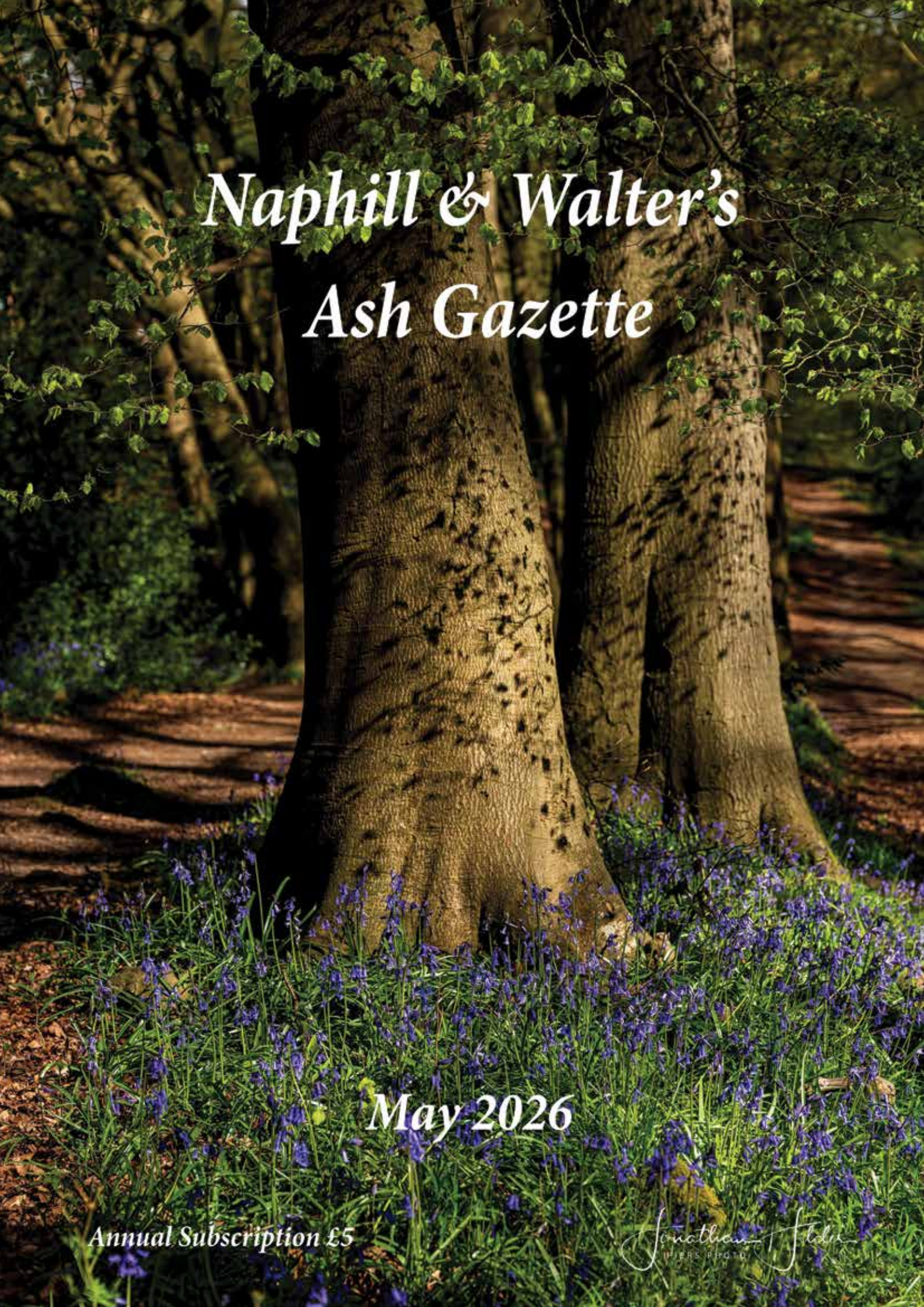


A photograph of a forest floor with large tree trunks and a carpet of bluebells. The text is overlaid on the image.

Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette

May 2026

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Naphill & Walter's Ash Gazette May 2026



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Our Local Clubs and Organisation Contacts

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Bridge Club	Margaret Stagg	01494 530736	
Cubs - Naphill			Groupleader@naphillscouts.org.uk
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Bookings - Tanya Stevens

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Tel: 07851 169275

www.naphillvillagehall.org.uk

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Buckinghamshire Councillor	David Carroll	01494 716967	David.Carroll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Buckinghamshire Councillor	Clive Harriss	07768 876568	Clive.Harriss@buckinghamshire.gov.uk





Copy date for the June Gazette - 12 May

Welcome to the real start of spring.

The gardens are coming alive, and the bluebells are bursting into colour in our local woods. We are incredibly lucky to have these beautiful carpets of blue right on our doorstep. Almost overnight, the woods transform into that vibrant green we all love — one of the true joys of this time of year.

Looking out at my own garden as it changes, it struck me that this would be the perfect moment for a village-wide spring garden competition. We would love you to take part — simply send in two photographs of your garden, whether taken on an iPhone or a camera, and we will select a collection to feature in the next magazine.

The winner will receive a professional photoshoot of their garden to keep. Please see details on page 7

The recent meeting of the Hughenden Valley Hub was remarkable, with a fantastic turnout of people keen to contribute to an organisation designed to bring village groups together. It highlighted both the strength of community spirit and the growing need to bridge the gap in volunteers that affects our ability to run local events.

I believe we could benefit from something similar here in Naphill. Perhaps this is something that could grow out of Napfest. If you would like to volunteer or get involved in supporting village activities, please do get in touch and I will happily connect you with the right people. *see page 43*

You will also find inside a plea from our local Scout group, who are in real need of support from parents and volunteers to help keep the group running. If you can spare any time at all, please do consider getting involved.

Paul and Joanne Hewitt will be retiring as the Gazette Distribution Managers at the end of this year so we will be needing a new distribution manager to join the Gazette team. Please see the job description on page 9. Paul and Jo will be happy to “explain and train”. Please get in touch if you can help. (see page 9 for details)

Enjoy May,

Jonathan

editor@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk

Naphill Spring Garden Photography Competition

Celebrate the beauty of spring in Naphill by sharing your garden in bloom!

How to Enter

- Submit **up to 2 photographs** of your garden
- Photos must be your own work and taken in **your own garden**
- Images can be taken on **any device** (phone or camera)
- Please send your entries by email
- Deadline: **12th May**

Image Requirements

- Please send images at the **highest resolution possible**
- Minimal editing is fine, but please keep images **true to life**
- JPEG format preferred

Who Can Enter

- Open to all **Naphill & Walter's Ash residents**
- One entry per household (maximum of 2 images)

Judging

- Entries will be judged on:
 - ◇ Overall visual appeal
 - ◇ Creativity and composition
 - ◇ Celebration of spring in your garden
- A selection of entries will be featured in the next edition of the Gazette

Prize

- The winner will receive a professional garden photoshoot to capture their garden at its best

Important Notes

- By entering, you give permission for your images to be **published in the Gazette**
- Please include your **name and address** with your entry
- The judge's decision is final
- Entries to: **editor@naphillandwaltersash.org.uk**





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Role: Distribution Co-Ordinator (Volunteer) – approximately 7 hours per month

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

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

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

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

Paul & Joanne Hewitt

distribution@naphillandwaltersah.org.uk

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Naphill Village Hall and Playing Fields Trustee Committee - Chairman's Report

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Chairman's report for May

There were 10 members present at the April meeting of the village hall committee. The meeting was a short one as the Annual General Meeting was scheduled to start at 8.00. The items discussed at the meeting were the ash tree, for which another tree specialist is going to write a report so we can submit it to the council. Also discussed was the financial report and a query came up regarding the definition of a tainted donation. This is when a donation comes from a source that we think is not legitimate and therefore we can refuse to accept the donation. The committee was told that there was a new vicar appointed to Hughenden church and she is Charlotte Lloyd Evan. The meeting closed just before 8.00 and the AGM followed.

The AGM was held and we had one member of the public attend. My speech was as follows:

This last year, the village hall has seen a few improvements made. A new cooker was installed in the kitchen which cost, when installed by the electrician, nearly £800.00. The valley between the two apex roofs was stripped and relaid in rubber sheeting at a cost of £3500. There are various other items of maintenance that we are obtaining quotes for, including the veranda by Bon Ami, the ceiling in the janitors cupboard, and the entrance to the Crick from the end of the car park.

The fundraising events run by the village hall have been well supported. The profit from the fireworks was exceptional this year, a very well attended event that goes from strength to strength and with up to 80 volunteers helping it is a great occasion. Napfest this year was run by a new team and had many people attending and enjoying themselves, and it will continue this year. The Christmas fayre was also well attended and the stalls were selling all sorts of Christmas gifts. The mince pies and mulled wine went down well. I must thank all the people who organise these events and also all the volunteers that help run them. The RAF has also been able to help the village hall through support at our events and we do appreciate their help.

The use of the hall is about the same as the previous year with some new weekly bookings, but we still do have some hirers who cause a few problems. We have altered

the hiring rates to make sure we cover our costs when problems are encountered.

The Christmas tree lights were put on the tree later than usual this year as the roadworks played havoc with the timetable, and then the inclement weather caused all sort of problems. So after going up late it was decided that they would stay up until the end of January. When the team took the lights off the tree in February we had a presentation to Mike Mason and Mick Leggett. Mike had been organising the lights for 50 years and Mick who has been climbing the tree for 50 years, a great effort by them. Mike has stood down from the team and his replacement is hoping to continue this tradition.

The wet weather this last winter has caused problems on the Crick and we are planning to rectify these problems when the warmer weather turns up, hopefully soon.

I would also like to thank the village hall committee for their time and effort in keeping the hall and events running as smoothly as possible, without them and the people of the village who support us, there would not be a village hall and much of our village community would be lost.

The committee does not have a secretary or a person to recommend maintenance issues and would like someone to fill either role. If you are interested please contact me via the website or chairman@naphillvillagehall.org.uk

I have now booked the Defibrillator training with the official trainer. There is a £60 donation required for the charity as they have no NHS funding and everyone is volunteers. The training will be approximately 90 minutes. *see details below*

Clive Lawrence. - Village Hall Chairman



Defibrillator Training
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As I write this month's column, the sun has finally come out, and Spring has well and truly arrived. I hope everyone across Mid Buckinghamshire enjoyed a restful Easter and is ready for the stretch through to summer.

Whilst the sun is shining over us, however, dark clouds continue to form over our economy. I have been devastated to receive so many emails from local businesspeople struggling to keep going under mounting pressures. The rise in Employers National Insurance, coupled with reduced allowances, rising business rates bills, and the new Employment Rights Act are all making a big impact.

There is a reality here, the cost of doing business has simply become too high and pushed many over the edge. A visual representation of this, the forthcoming closure of Kado, a popular shop in Princes Risborough that has been on the high street there for 25 years.

They are closing citing increasingly lower foot fall as individuals feel the pinch in their own back pockets, coupled with the increased taxes and red tape I have warned about above.

I believe this must be a stark warning for the Government and that their choices are causing damage to real businesses. In my view, no government can create growth – only entrepreneurs, risk takers, and business owners can do that, while the Government should create the economic conditions for growth. Because if the conditions for growth aren't there – incentives like low taxes and minimal regulation – then there will be no growth, no new jobs or opportunities for young people coming out of education. We see this already in the alarming unemployment numbers, particularly youth unemployment.

I have always seen an important part of my role as a Member of Parliament, relentlessly focused on the constituency, to be an ambassador for our fantastic local businesses, big and small. They are struggling right now – and I will continue to make the case to government to change course, to understand how real business works and deliver the tax cuts and deregulation that I believe will help our economy thrive again.

Greg Smith MP

Naphill & Walters' Ash Residents Association

Once again we are entering the two villages for the Best Kept Village competition. Last year we came joint second for the Pushman Cup which is for villages with a population of over 3,000 – our population is over 4,000. The previous year we earned a Certificate of Merit so we have a good record. Judging takes place in June and the first half of July. We do have a team of people who kindly carry out litter picking work in preparation for the competition but it helps if the whole village can do their bit. We are a pretty tidy bunch but sadly there is the occasional litter lout. Not only is litter unsightly but much of it can be recycled, especially the cans of coke and lager that some folk like chucking into the bottom of a hedge. Special thanks go to those who litter pick throughout the year as well as for the competition.

We shall be holding our AGM in the village hall at 8pm on 8th June and all are welcome. There will be a speaker followed by refreshments. This is a good

opportunity to meet fellow residents, especially if you are new to the area.

Napfest is back again this year and we shall be present at that on 13th June. Another date for your diary is our popular quiz on 2nd October.

Bucks Council has recently issued two draft planning documents which will affect all new developments. One concerns parking <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/planning/parking-standards/> and the other <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/planning/design-code/> a new design code. Deadline for comment is 12th May. If you do comment it would help if you can let me know please at the phone number in the Gazette.

Best wishes

David Frost

Vice Chairman





Church News

Introducing our new Vicar

The big news is that the appointment of the new Vicar of St Michael's and All Angels has now been made!

She is the Reverend Charlotte (Charlie) Lloyd-Evans and she was ordained in 2017 in the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf with St Andrew's Church, Abu Dhabi.



She returned to the UK in 2020 and was appointed to be Priest in Charge of St Mary Greenhithe and St Peter and St Paul in Swanscombe. In addition, in 2024 she was appointed as Area Dean of the Swanscombe Deanery.

Charlie is married to Gareth with three daughters in their twenties, one of whom, Megan, is still living at home with them.

That home, will, of course, be the Hughenden Vicarage as from August. As is common, the Vicarage has been let during the vacancy on a short lease whilst the new appointment process took its course and Charlie now 'works her notice' and says her farewells to her current flock.

Charlie brings with her a wealth of experience, not only from her ministry, where she actively encourages different styles of worship, but also from her previous career as an engineer and project manager. She also has been a school governor, chair of a local charity, involved in other community organisations and was chaplain to the town mayors.

A Busy Easter

In the meantime, our Church continues with a full programme of events: April has been busy with Easter matters: not only daily Holy Week services but also a number of events for children. These included the regular Easter Eggsplained where we – along with Wycombe Youth for Christ - welcomed Hughenden and Great Kingshill schools for a morning or afternoon of craft and exploration of the Easter story. We also enjoyed the (becoming regular) Easter Eggventure on Easter Saturday for craft, games (and some chocolate) as well as a fun time of worship.



By the time you read this, Tiny Tots will have restarted after our Easter Break and we will be holding Lighthouse Live for May on the 17th May at 3 pm.

To keep up to date with all Church events: go to the website (www.hughendenparishchurch.org.uk)

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A Message from - Rev Helen Peters



St Michael's is enjoying seven joyful weeks of the Easter season, a lovely balance to the six weeks of Lent that led us there! After the astonishment of that first Easter morning, when the tomb was found empty, the risen Jesus appeared to more than 500 people over the course of forty days. Each encounter helped the disciples recognise Him in new ways, preparing them for what would come next.

On **14th May we celebrate Ascension**, the moment Jesus returned to His Father. It can feel like a farewell, but it is also a moment of commissioning and sending out. Before He left, Jesus instructed His friends to wait. They were not to rush ahead under their own strength. God would equip them with everything they needed for the Christian journey. As Jesus returned to heaven, the Father would in turn send the Holy Spirit upon His people.

Then, on **24th May, we reach Pentecost**, the joyful celebration of God pouring out His Spirit on the Church.

Pentecost is often called the Church's birthday, and for good reason: it is the moment when God gives His people the power, courage, and fuel they need for all He is calling them to do.

Because that is what the Holy Spirit is for us: **fuel for the journey.**

Those of us who own petrol or diesel cars know the frustration of not being able to find fuel, or the shock of discovering we can no longer afford it. Electric car drivers know the anxiety of the battery running low. But God's fuel is different. The Holy Spirit is limitless and free, and God is eager to give generously. So generously, in fact, that His Spirit can overflow in us, equipping us with everything we need to be the people He has created us to be.

As we travel from Easter to Ascension to Pentecost this year, may we come with open hands and open hearts, ready to receive the Spirit's power, God's own life in us, the fuel for our journey of faith.

And if you're looking for a place to be refreshed or to wrestle with ongoing questions of faith, we'd love you to join us. You will always find a warm welcome at St Michael's. Details of all our services and activities can be found on our church website: hughendenparishchurch.org.uk

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Hughenden Parish Council – Update

As spring gets underway, we're pleased to share the latest update from Hughenden Parish Council with residents of Naphill and Walters Ash. This edition highlights some of the key activities and services taking place across the parish, along with opportunities for residents to get involved and stay informed. We hope you find this update useful and encourage you to keep in touch with the Council throughout the year.

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 5th May

Although we have raised this in previous articles, we would like to highlight it again as it is an important date in the parish calendar. We warmly invite all residents to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 5th May, to be held at Great Kingshill Village Hall. Doors will open from 7:30pm, with the meeting starting at 8:00pm. This annual gathering provides a valuable opportunity to hear about the Council's work, learn about upcoming projects, raise local issues, and meet your parish councillors. Further details, including the agenda, will be published on our website and noticeboards closer to the date.

Allotments – Plots Available

If you've been thinking about growing your own fruit, vegetables or flowers, now is a great time to get started. As we head into the new growing season, Hughenden Parish Council currently has a selection of vacant allotment plots available across all eight of our sites.

We have several half plots, ideal for beginners or those wanting something more manageable, as well as a small number of full plots for more experienced or adventurous gardeners. Plots are charged at £35 per half plot or £70 for full plots.

Current Availability:

- Windmill Lane – 5 half plots
- Red Lion – 0 plots
- Walters Ash – 3 half plots
- Primrose Hill – 1 half plot
- North Dean – 6 half plots
- Louches Lane – 8 half plots
- Hughenden Valley – 6 half plots and 1 full plot
- Cryers Hill – 2 half plots and 1 full plot

Whether you're a complete novice or an allotment

enthusiast, there's a space waiting for you. It's a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, grow your own produce, and be part of a friendly local community.

If you'd like to find out more or apply for a plot, please contact Marilyn on baofficer@hughenden-pc.gov.uk.

Defibrillators

The Parish Council has recently taken ownership of four defibrillators across the parish, following their transfer from the Rural Community Defibrillator Group. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the group and its volunteers for the significant time, effort, and commitment they have put into fundraising, installing defibrillators, and raising awareness of their importance within our communities.

By bringing these defibrillators under Parish Council ownership, we can help ensure their continued maintenance, oversight, and long term availability for residents. We recognise how vital this equipment can be in an emergency and are keen to support its ongoing presence across the parish. Further information about locations and access will be shared in due course.

Community Speed Watch – Volunteers Welcome

Speeding remains one of the most frequently raised concerns in our villages. Community Speed Watch (CSW) helps address this by involving local volunteers in monitoring speeds and promoting safer driving.

If you can spare some time and would like to support road safety in your community, please contact: speedwatch@thamesvalley.police.uk or visit www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/community-speedwatch/.

Training is provided by Thames Valley Police, and volunteers play a valuable role in keeping our roads safe.

Spring Grounds Maintenance Update

As the growing season gathers pace, our grounds maintenance programme is continuing across the parish, with regular grass cutting, footpath inspections, and general upkeep of public open spaces now underway.

During May, the Parish Council will once again be taking part in No Mow May, allowing selected areas of grass to grow naturally for the month. This approach supports biodiversity by encouraging wildflowers and providing valuable habitats for pollinators such as bees and butterflies. You may notice some areas being left uncut

during this period, although key locations such as paths, visibility splays, and recreational areas will continue to be managed as needed for safety and access.

If you notice any issues relating to overgrowth, visibility, or safety, please report them via www.fixmystreet.co.uk, so they can be assessed and addressed where appropriate.

Meeting Calendar

Parish Council meetings are open to the public, and residents are welcome to attend Full Council and Committee meetings to observe discussions and raise matters of local interest during the public participation item.

A meeting calendar for both Full Council and Committees was approved at the March meeting. Details of all meetings, including dates, agendas, and locations, are published in advance on the Parish Council website and on local noticeboards.

Full Council meeting dates:

- 19th May 2026 (Annual Meeting of Council)
- 16th June 2026
- 15th September 2026
- 10th November 2026
- 12th January 2027

- 9th March 2027
- 18th May 2027 (Annual Meeting of Council)

For the most up-to-date information on meetings, including agendas and locations, please visit www.hughenden-pc.gov.uk.

Get Involved

Your involvement matters! Share your ideas and views with your ward Councillors and attend Council and Committee meetings. You can also contact the Parish Office directly at admin@hughenden-pc.gov.uk or visit our website at <http://www.hughenden-pc.gov.uk>.

Councillors for your ward:

- Cllr Usha Prashar – usha.prashar@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
- Cllr Richard Wilding – richard.wilding@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
- Cllr Lee Anderson – lee.anderson@hughenden-pc.gov.uk
- Cllr Aatif Kayyani – aatif.kayyani@hughenden-pc.gov.uk



VALLEY PLAYERS PRESENT:

"The Wind In The Willows"

By Kenneth Graham

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Valley Players

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Kenneth Grahame was born in Scotland in 1859, but spent most of his childhood with his Grandmother at "The Mountain" in Cookham Dean. While living there, his Uncle David, who was the local Curate, took him and his three siblings boating on the River Thames. Thus was sown the inspiration for "The River" which was central to "Wind in the Willows"

In 1897 Grahame married Elsie Tomson, and they had an only child Alasdair in 1900. His Father told him bedtime stories about a mole, a badger and a water rat. In letters, he included stories of a toad. These stories, plus his early river experiences were the inspiration for "The Wind in the Willows" published in 1908, not to critical acclaim. However, when Vanity Fair claimed it to be "the best book ever written for children and one of the best for adults", the tide turned. The rest, as they say is history!

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Working Parties

We have two very active working parties each week, and last year a total of 1,623 volunteer-hours were spent on improvement work across the Common (an increase of 159 hours on 2024's total). 'Core hours' are 10am to noon on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, but volunteers can leave early (or work late!) and work at their own pace.

The Tuesday working party carries out pond maintenance, but only during the winter months, when most frogs, toads and newts will have left. We can provide waders and rakes for those entering the ponds to tackle the encroaching sweet grass and flag iris (and a surprising amount of rubbish that has been tipped in over the years); but there's plenty of work to do on dry land, clearing the resultant debris from the pond 'shoreline'. Work on the ponds ceases once the amphibians return, usually around February.

The rest of the time is devoted to scrub clearance, mostly brambles and holly. We have no intention of removing all holly (and don't have the manpower even if we wanted to do so), as it provides valuable habitat for small nesting birds and other creatures; but left alone holly will completely take over, as can be seen in some of our neighbouring woods. We can tackle holly trees up to about 6" diameter using hand saws (we can't afford the increased insurance premiums necessitated if we used chainsaws) and smaller 'shrubs' are dealt with by our 'tree popper' – a metal tool that grips the base of the trunk and can then lever it out by the root.

Removing holly also frees up sight lines across the Common and turns footpaths from narrow tunnels into wider rides. Our powered flail purchased a couple of years ago has proved very effective in tackling bracken and other small scrub.

If you wish to join in our free workout with either of our weekly working parties, our web site (where our walking and other activities are also listed) has all the contact details:

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

Because both working parties are dependent on the weather, it's always best to check with the organisers before setting off: Tuesdays – Peter Davis (HW 569303); Thursdays – Ron Collins (HW 562240).

Walks

Our monthly walks – a shorter walk (about an hour) led by Chris Miller at 10:30am on the first Wednesday of each month; and a longer walk (roughly 2 hours) led by Ron Collins at 9:25am on the third Monday – continue to be popular.

Chris Miller

Chairman



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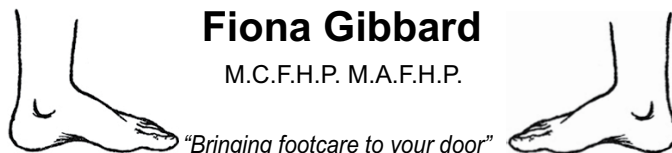
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Wycombe Photographic Society meets in the large hall at Hughenden Valley Village Hall, on the first four Wednesdays each month at 8pm. We have a wide programme of events, Guest speakers and lots more

6th May	Digital Workshop
13th May	Master Photographers
20th May	Themed Assignment – Through the Window
27th May	Presentation of projects part
3rd June	Presentation of projects part2
10th June	AGM and Social
Break for Summer. Back September 9th	

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



Photo courtesy Peter Davis

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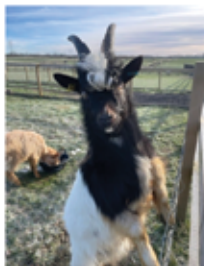
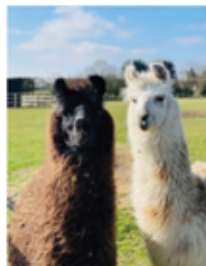
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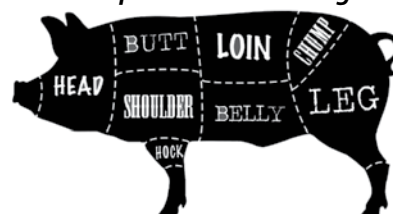
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Village Digital Tips

Five Simple Ways to Tame Your Inbox

If your email inbox feels like it's slowly taking over your life, you're not alone. I recently cleared almost 5,000 emails for someone who was being nagged for a full mailbox. Between shopping receipts, newsletters, tickets and family messages, it's easy for important emails to get buried.

The good news is you don't need to be technical to get back in control — just a few simple habits can make a difference. Here are my top five tips:

1. Clear clutter quickly

Instead of deleting emails one by one, try search for "unsubscribe" in all the marketing email lists you accidentally signed up for! Group/sort them by sender. You'll often find dozens from the same retailer or mailing list, which can be removed in seconds. It's the fastest way to make a visible dent in your inbox.

2. Keep what actually matters

Not all emails are junk. Order confirmations, invoices and warranties can be useful months later. Before deleting, think: might I need this again? A quick search for "order", "receipt" or the shop name will usually find them instantly.

3. Save tickets before you need them

If you've booked theatre tickets, flights or events, don't rely on finding the email later. Star or flag it when it arrives, or move it into a simple "Tickets" folder. You can save Ticket PDFs to your phone's wallet or screenshot the email.

4. Use AI as a helper, to avoid upset

If writing emails feels like hard work or you sometimes phrase things in a way that upsets the recipient, tools like ChatGPT (or built-in AI in some email apps) can help you draft replies, tidy up wording, or make messages clearer. It's like having a helpful assistant — just remember to give it a quick check before sending.

5. Don't clog your inbox with giant files

Photos and attachments can quickly fill your inbox. Instead of sending lots of large images, choose your best few or share a link from Google Photos or iCloud. It's quicker, and much easier for others to open.

A few small habit changes — clearing in batches, keeping the important bits, and making things easier to find — can turn your inbox from a daily frustration into something that works for you.

Chris Dadd

For friendly advice or a chat about your website or digital marketing, visit www.dadd.tv



Got a Digital Question?

I'm shaping future Village Digital Tips around what residents need help with.

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Opening Hours

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Food

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

Sunday
12pm - 3:30pm

(Bank Holiday Mondays)
12pm - 3:30pm

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

The Wheel, Main Road, Naphill, Buckinghamshire, HP14 4QA Email: contact@thewheelnaphill.com Tel: 01494 562 210

The Wheel News

We hope everyone had a great Easter weekend and managed to enjoy the sunshine once it came out. The clocks have changed, and it brings smiles to everyone's faces as we feel summer is on its way. Our staff Christmas party was great fun as always and Michael Strange and Sam Keen were the winners of the cup for the ten-pin bowling.

May is always about the Bank Holidays and there are two of them! The first is the 4th and then the 25th May, so don't forget we open 12-8pm (12-3.30pm for food) on the Bank Holiday Mondays.

June

- Sunday 7th June – Classics on the Crick
- 12th + 13th June - NapFest
- Thursday 11th June - Football World Cup starts
- Sunday 21st June - Father's Day
- Sunday 28th June - TWOOGS

RonFest is to be held on Saturday 11th July, and all the preparations are well and truly underway. The marquee is booked, we have Fonoza Pizza Van for our outside food option which will run 4pm – 10pm and our own menu will run 12-8.00pm.

There will be 15+ ales and ciders outside in the shed, and we will have live music from 3pm with three different acts. Dr Hooley, a duo who do quirky pop, rock and folk will be followed by Vo and Loz – with their mix 50's 60's 70's Rock, Country and Bluegrass style music. And then Headlining RonFest for the first time it's Bad Neighbours, (who did their first ever live gig with us in August 2021).

We have had to change the charity and will now be supporting a more local charity which is Stokenchurch Dog Rescue.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Claire, Mark and Team Wheel



Geordies in Naphill

I was born on Tyneside at the beginning of the same year as the Jarrow Crusade took place later in the year, 1936, a tenuous link between me and the 200 men who walked to London to petition the government of the day to persuade industry to invest in the Tyneside area, which had become an area devoid of employment. On the final leg they marched from Mile End to Westminster to hand in their petition. It was received but a meeting with the then socialist prime minister was refused and no action was made to help, so a largely unsuccessful endeavour.

Fast forward seventy years. When the second of our daughters announced she was to have a baby my wife and I decided it was a good idea to move from our home in Bournemouth to help in caring for our now three grandchildren, one daughter already in Naphill and the other one not far away in West Wycombe. We chose a house in Naphill and arrived on the 19th of July 2006.

It was a very hot month, unpacking was hard work and I was glad to visit The Wheel one day for a cooling lunchtime glass of beer. Of course the first gentleman I spoke to in the bar was also a Geordie, surprise, surprise! He then told me that the first person he met and spoke to in The Wheel was also a Geordie who had come down south as one of the Jarrow marchers. How or why he had found his way in mid winter to a small Buckinghamshire village at a time when transport of any kind would have been hard to find is a puzzle but another tenuous link to me and the crusaders.

Slow forward ten years. In 2016 a travel journalist was looking for a project idea for a book and he discovered that the Jarrow Crusade would be eighty years back in history and seemed an interesting subject for his book. Slower forward another two years and I found the book in my local library.

To get a sense of the undertaking, he set out on the same day eighty years later to follow as far as possible the same route and the same timing as the original

journey, stopping at the places they had stopped at and asking questions of the local people if they remembered the journey. Many did have tales to tell. One person recalled that at one stop the men were given ham sandwiches but one man took the ham out of his sandwich, put it in an envelope and posted it home to his family, they hadn't had meat for six weeks.

Some of the places that they stayed overnight were welcoming but some not so, surprisingly they found more welcome in places where mostly people of conservative leaning lived, whereas some staunch labour areas were suspicious of them. I believe when they reached Northampton the local cobblers and shoemakers worked through the night to repair or replace the men's boots.

They reached London on a cold, very wet day in November and walked to Westminster to hand in their petition and hopefully to speak to the prime minister, Stanley Baldwin, who refused to see them and ignored the petition.

One hundred and seventy four of the original two hundred men who started out reached London, some may have found work on the way or fell sick and went home.

Apparently one of those who arrived did not go home, John William Farndale, one of the youngest, originally from Stockton not far from Jarrow, found work in a bakery. So, I thought, this was the Geordie who turned up at the Wheel in Naphill. Not so, he married a girl also from Stockton in 1938 in Watford, they later moved to Berkhamstead in 1939.

So who was the mystery marcher who turned up in Naphill, and how and why did he find his way here and what was his future here?

Jack Robson.

Naphill Tennis Club



What happens to old tennis balls? Most of ours at Naphill go to encourage 'doggie tennis' or, as this photo shows, some end up in a basket on a gate in Hunts Hill Lane where an eager canine awaits!

Balls at Wimbledon, typically changed every nine games to ensure consistent play, are also repurposed rather than simply discarded. They amount to roughly 55,000 per year. Many are donated to the Wildlife Trust

to create waterproof nesting homes for endangered harvest mice. Conservationists cut holes in the balls and mount them on stakes, providing warm, weatherproof shelters for these endangered rodents. Others are sold to fans, with proceeds going to the Wimbledon Foundation. Some balls are donated to sports clubs or recycled through the LTA's scheme to turn them into new tennis surfaces or other rubber products.

At Naphill Tennis Club, new balls are used for matches and then made full use of at club sessions and coaching before being offered to the canine public. You are very welcome to come and join us and earn some 'doggie' tennis balls. Just speak to our Membership Secretary (naphilltennismembership@gmail.com) if you are interested in taking up tennis or would like more information.

Our website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/NaphillLTC is also a useful source of information.

Jenny Tench



For further information about Naphill Tennis Club please visit our website: www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/NaphillLTC or get in touch with our membership secretary at: naphilltennismembership@gmail.com



Bon Ami
at the Pavilion



It was lovely to see some sunshine over the Easter holidays and to welcome many new faces as well as regular customers. We love to see our terrace filled with so many people enjoying the good weather. Fingers crossed it continues.

At the end of April we are saying goodbye to Ciara, one of our Saturday girls, who will be taking her A levels and heading off to university. We wish her all the best with her exams and exciting times ahead at university. In her stead we are welcoming Holly. Some of you may already have met her when she came in for a few hours over the Easter holidays.

A reminder of our opening hours:

Monday - Friday 10am to 4pm

(Kitchen closes at 2.30pm)

Saturday 10am to 2pm

(Kitchen closes at 1pm)



We are closed Sundays and Bank Holidays.

We are looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Ruth and Dorothy

The goods normally coming through the Strait of Hormuz include sulphur, produced as a byproduct of the refining of oil. Most of the sulphur is used to make sulphuric acid which is used for the processing of phosphorus rock into a water-soluble form which can be taken up by plants and acts as a fertiliser. 40% of the world's production of sulphur comes through the strait of Hormuz, so the world faces an immediate crisis. In the northern hemisphere farmers have already made their purchases of phosphorus fertiliser to apply this spring, but there could be unavailability for the next growing season. If the required amount is not available many farmers will miss out, whatever the price, and the amount of food grown worldwide will be much reduced.

The discovery of commercial manufacturing processes for phosphatic fertiliser in the 1840s has permitted an extraordinary increase in world population. The world population rose from the then 1.5 billion to 7 billion by 2011. The United Nations has estimated there will be 8.3 billion people by 2030 and 9.2 billion by 2050. But can we continue to grow food for everybody?

85% of phosphate rock is mined in Morocco, China, Jordan, South Africa and the USA and comes from fossilised fish bones. Phosphate rock is the only economic source of phosphorus and contains around 29 to 34% phosphate. Phosphate rock is first treated with sulphuric acid to create phosphoric acid, then with ammonia to create phosphate fertiliser P_2O_5 . The costs of refining are great. The rate of extraction of phosphate rock in 2010 was about 160 million

tonnes per year, and world reserves amounted to 16,000 million tonnes. That should give us 100 years before the phosphorus runs out completely – at which point we will no longer be able to grow crops which require artificial fertiliser. However, the rate of usage of phosphate rock is rising by 3% per year. If you do the sums, starting with 160 million tonnes per year in 2010 and increasing at 3% pa, the total used up by 2040 would be 8,000 million tonnes – half of total world reserves - and by 2087 all the reserves will have been used. The valuable water-soluble phosphorus fertiliser leaches from fields and eventually ends up in the sea. Extraction of phosphorus from sea water seems impossible since the concentration is only 6 parts per 100 million.

So, whether the blockage of sulphur coming out through the Strait of Hormuz continues or not, the world faces a looming disaster caused by the shortage of phosphorus. So, what can we do here in Naphill and Walter's Ash? We can grow more of our own food and re-use our phosphorus by composting everything which can be composted. If you don't have a large garden then apply for an allotment. An area 80 feet by 40 feet should be enough for growing most of your fruit and vegetables. One can grow vegetables all the year round but fruit for only half a year, so preserving fruit would be a good idea.

Bon appétit!

Mike Mason



Shear Madness

As I write this they are currently digging up the road for the water pipes. Well they are certainly efficient, nice bunch of lads and it's certainly going to be fun when they're outside the Co-Op! I've been jokingly saying that I'm going to write to Norris McWhirter and find out if this is a Guinness World Record for the most dug up road in Great Britain!

But be thankful that you don't live in Aylesbury like me, one minute you're just tootling along fine and then you find that you are suddenly on a brand new road and don't have a clue where the heck you're going! I'm sure it'll be worth it in the end.

Not much to say but I'm off on holiday early June, my first one of the year hopefully the world is in a better place by then.

Stay safe, love as always.

Mandy x



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Seasonal bird feeding advice

*Do not feed nuts and
seeds from*

May to October

Gordon the Birdman - Advice re using garden bird feeders

Garden bird watchers will be aware of the emergence and impact of Finch Trichomonosis, a disease that has brought about significant declines in UK Greenfinch and Chaffinch populations. The long-term impact of Finch Trichomonosis has prompted a review of the evidence surrounding garden bird feeding. This review has been led by the RSPB and has brought together a wide body of evidence to clarify both the benefits and potential risks associated with garden bird feeding. Feeding can support birds in various ways and also provide opportunities for people to connect with nature. While the evidence is limited in some aspects, the strongest and most clearly understood evidence currently relates to disease transmission at feeding stations. Based on the review's findings, the revised guidance recommends to halt the provision of seeds and peanuts in the warmer months of May to October when the risk of Finch Trichomonosis is high.

Whatever the time of year, good hygiene remains essential. Offer food little and often. Clean feeders regularly and move them periodically to reduce a buildup of waste and contamination, although this can

be difficult in a small modern garden. The guidance also highlights the importance of water hygiene since water sources can be a transmission hazard for this disease. In nature, food comes and goes. In gardens it can become constant, so feeding in ways that reflect natural patterns can support birds while reducing unintended impacts. Under natural conditions birds exploit food that is scattered and short-lived. Flocks then gather, resources are depleted and the flocks disperse. Also different species often forage in slightly different areas or heights, so patterns of contact are continually changing. Supplementary feeding can alter those patterns. When food is provided consistently at a fixed location, many individuals from multiple species may return repeatedly to the same feeder over extended periods. Over time this can increase opportunities for disease transmission. So disinfect those feeders and bird baths on a regular basis.

Gordon.



News and Diary Dates for May

In March we had our first lunch at the Spindle and Thread since it's recent colourful revamp!

On the 3rd Wednesday in May we meet there on the 20th at 12 noon for 12.30pm.

Please contact Susan the week before if you'd like to join us.

Our next Social Afternoon at Bon Ami will be in June.

Susan Bickerstaffe

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Naphill Neighbours

Nadine Hodgson and Her Life-Changing Journey with a Hearing Dog

The April meeting of Naphill Neighbours included a visit from Nadine Hodgson and her dog Elvis from the charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

Hearing dogs are specially trained to alert their owners to important environmental sounds. When a sound occurs, the dog typically gains the owner's attention through physical contact, such as nudging, and then leads them to the source. This assistance enhances safety and awareness, particularly in situations where missing a sound could pose a risk, such as fire alarms or visitors at the door.

Whilst Nadine shared her personal experiences with us, her dog Elvis, a cocker spaniel, freely roamed around the hall, making friends and showing us his toy, which was a miniature replica of himself, complete with tabard and neckerchief. Regarding his name, we later found out that each litter of puppies for training were each given names from the same letter of the alphabet, so Elvis was from the letter 'E'.

Nadine, who is a Volunteer with Hearing Dogs, has bilateral congenital hearing loss. She gave us some background to the roles of volunteering with the charity and then went on to share her personal experiences.

She told us that when she first applied for a hearing dog, she hoped it would simply make everyday life a little easier. Like many people living with hearing loss, she faced daily challenges, missing important sounds, feeling anxious about safety, and navigating a world not designed for those who cannot hear.

She described to us two defining moments that made her realise she needed support. The first experience was when she was away on business, staying overnight in a

hotel during which the fire alarm went off and nobody came to alert her. The second occurred when her husband got up in the night to go to the bathroom, became unwell and collapsed, hitting his head on the sink and knocking himself out. When he came round, he called Nadine for help but she did not hear him, so he had to crawl back to the bedroom to get attention. She realised that this situation could have featured her young son needing help, so this triggered the process of getting a hearing dog.

She explained that Hearing dogs are trained to alert their partners to essential sounds, such as alarms, doorbells, or someone calling their name. For Nadine, this meant gaining a new sense of awareness and security in her own home and beyond.

However, the biggest change wasn't just practical, it was emotional. While Nadine expected assistance, she did not anticipate the profound emotional impact her hearing dog would have on her life. The partnership brought increased confidence and independence, helping her reconnect with the world around her. Elvis became not only a support system but also a constant companion. Together, they formed a partnership that allowed Nadine to feel less isolated and more engaged in everyday activities.

Jan Honey

For more information about Hearing Dogs, the incredible work they do and how you can help them, visit <https://www.hearingdogs.org.uk>



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I'm not entirely sure if this quite counts as a column for parenting small children, but both of mine are already quite attuned to my fondness for bluebells. "Oh Mummy, look your favourite!", they'll shout if they see a frail and solitary bloom drooping out of a hedgerow along Main Road. So what better way to enthuse the kids for a walk in the woods than to marvel at a majestic cerulean carpet, gently bobbing under the dappled light cast by millions of bright spring beech leaves?

Our very own woodland – Naphill Common, Bradenham Woods and more - all contain many

pockets of bluebells so we don't have to go far of course to enjoy them. I most love being able to appreciate this springtime joy simply by strolling a short way from my own front door. But slightly further afield there are a number of destinations to see some impressive displays. Hughenden Manor and Cliveden both have woodland containing bluebells for those of us able to make the most of National Trust memberships, with the Ashridge Estate and Wendover Woods also offering some beautiful views. Some of these more famous spots can get extremely busy though, so if opting for these, keep in mind there may be crowds. From scouring some local blogs, there are allegedly some more pockets in Penn Wood and Common Wood at Tylers Green. In short, we are pretty spoiled for choice!

So happy bluebell viewing and perhaps your expeditions will inspire the kids to create some bluebell themed art to adorn the fridge long after the flowers themselves have gone!

Harriet Clark- Assistant Editor



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Classics on the Crick - Sunday 7th of June, 10am until 4pm

Preparations are gathering pace for this year's Classics on the Crick, and excitement is really starting to build ahead of the big day on Sunday 7th June 2026.

Last Chance for Vehicle Entries

If you're thinking of entering your classic car or bike, now is the time to act. Entry spaces are filling fast, and with demand already high, don't delay if you want to secure your place in this year's show.

With hundreds of stunning vehicles expected, this year's display is shaping up to be one of the best yet.

Live Entertainment Announced

This year's show will feature fantastic live entertainment throughout the day, including a special performance from our favourite tribute artist, G Elvis, bringing the unmistakable sound and style of Elvis Presley to the Crick stage.

Joining the line-up is popular local band Obviously Aliens, guaranteed to keep the atmosphere lively with a great mix of music for all ages.

Visitor Tickets & Event Details

- Visitors are warmly invited to join us for a fantastic day at the Crick, packed with motoring history and entertainment.
- Public entry tickets are available on the gate on the day or in advance via the official website
- Ticket prices: Adults: £8 Children: £4
- As usual all profits go directly to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

Expect a full day of attractions including:

- Over 400 classic cars and bikes
- Great food and a licensed bar
- Live music throughout the day
- A range of retail stalls

The show opens at 10am and runs until approximately 4pm. There is free public parking available just a few hundred metres from the Crick. There are a limited number of parking places for Blue Badge holders on the display field. Well behaved dogs on lead are very welcome at the event.

For full details, entry information and tickets, visit: www.classicsonthecrick.co.uk. We look forward to welcoming you for another brilliant Classics on the Crick it's set to be a fantastic day out for all!

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Local Tales - *The Mission Hall*

I'm sure many will remember the green-painted corrugated iron chapel that stood on the plot now occupied by 122-124 Emma Grace House. Together with my twin brother Philip, I was sent to the Mission Hall every Sunday morning. We were not a very religious family and I think we were sent just to give my parents some peace. There were about a dozen children in the class. We were cared for by a Mister Haynes (or perhaps Haines). He was a kindly, generous working man who sometimes took us all on a 'treat' at his own expense. I recall going to Bekonscot miniature village and a river trip at Henley. His teaching consisted mainly of Old Testament stories delivered as simple truths. I recall upsetting Mr Haynes when I dismissed the Adam and Eve story as false, adding that I had read Darwin's *The Origin of Species*. (I don't think I had, although there was a copy at home and I knew roughly what it contained.) He walked down Stocking Lane to see my father about my awful behaviour, but I doubt if he got much satisfaction there. My father was self-educated and well read.

At its height the Mission Hall played a prominent part in the life of the village. It stood in a graveyard, filled with numerous, grass covered, mounds. Very few had a cross or stone to say who was buried there. I know that one grave was for my grandfather who was killed in a steam roller accident, and I vividly remember a tiny grave with a tiny coffin for a child from the Webb family. The chief priest was a Mr Field and there were regular services. Several groups and organisations used it as a convenient meeting place. There was no

water supply to the village and people had to rely on tanks (wells) filled by the rain on their roofs. The Mission Hall had a large tank. In very dry times when smaller tanks were dry, people would queue with buckets to collect a supply.

Slowly the Mission Hall fell into disuse and disrepair. It was eventually dismantled in the late 1960s and replaced by a brick building. It puzzles me how permission was granted to build such a large brick structure over the top of graves. Two large, ornate grave stones were dismissed to the edge of the property. One has since been removed from the site, but remains of the other are still there. It was a monument to several members of the Slow family. Their deaths date to the 1930s.

It seems that the owners want to sell the new building as a residential property, so the religious history may be lost. I do not miss the old Mission Hall but I do have happy memories of the kind Mr Haynes. I last saw him decades ago when I was walking with several other young lads through Hampden woodland. He was sitting on a fallen log eating his sandwiches. He saw us admiring his lunch and offered us a taste of it. We ate the lot in seconds.

Trevor Hussey.

Artwork courtesy Trevor Hussey



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My itinerant lifestyle between the UK and Gibraltar continues to lurch along at varying paces. Sometimes it's a frantic rush to get everything done in the UK before our next 'shift' in Gibraltar begins, other times it all seems very calm and smooth. One thing that has helped enormously is the amount of stuff we no longer possess.

Before we retired from 'active' ministry, owning five boxes of wine glasses and 30+ plates was by no means excessive. We often put the lot to use when hosting Alpha Suppers, thank you suppers for our teams with their +1s and various gatherings. Living in a large vicarage meant that 30 or more guests were easily accommodated. The modest three-bed semi that we now occupy can still accommodate 30 or so guests – if everyone is happy at playing 'sardines' all evening. These days, hosting 12 is a bit of a push, but with a married daughter living a six minute drive away, we can always borrow any extras we need (this being a two way thing when she is hosting). Having such easy access to extra things on an ad hoc basis has given us the freedom to enjoy a new clutter free lifestyle. Living in the Chaplain's Flat on North Mole has taken being 'stuff-free' to a whole new level.

The Chaplain's Flat is 'comfortably spartan', with no space for frivolous, single operation gadgets that become permanently single use after they get put away and forgotten about. Entertaining is a bit of a marathon, as we have to get special permission for any guests and their

vehicles to get through security, plus we can only get four people around our dining table, so have no need for the volume of plates, glasses, dishes etc we once owned. Currently, I have five 'gadgets', all of which are regularly used. They include an electric kettle, a stick blender and a plancha (a table-top grill a bit like an indoor BBQ). Do I feel I am missing out by not having an electric crêpe warmer (yep – they are a thing!)? Not in the least, but I do feel liberated by having so little 'stuff' and making full use of the stuff I have.

Back in 2013, trend forecaster James Wallman wrote a book entitled 'Stuffocation'. Its content was simple – too much 'stuff' is bad for us and the environment. It then offered a number of ways of 'living more with less'. I have referred to it in the past, but I have now actually had the chance to live by its premise. Believe me, it works!

Two millennia before James Wallman, Jesus gave a pretty similar message. Having too much stuff is of no use to you or anyone else. Wanting too much stuff distracts us from what really matters – things like building relationships, creating memories, being part of a community, caring for others and following God. Recent world events have brought into question our reliance on certain commodities, so maybe now is a good time to put Jesus' ideas into practice.

Sending you blessings from the Chaplain's Flat, Gibraltar.

Rev Jenny Ellis

NapFest Bumper Book Stall



This year's fete will once again feature a second-hand book stall

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Making the Most of Summer Walks—Safely

We've all had a taste of the recent warm, dry weather—a perfect reminder of just how special the Chilterns can be at this time of year. For many, this is the ideal season: paths are drier underfoot, and the post-walk ritual of washing muddy dogs can take a well-earned break.

As Spring turns into Summer, it's a great opportunity to get out and explore. The longer evenings and milder temperatures make it easier than ever to enjoy time outdoors with your dog. However, there are a few seasonal considerations to keep in mind to ensure those walks remain safe and enjoyable:

- Grass seeds become more common in the summer months. They can easily embed themselves in your dog's skin—particularly around the eyes, ears, and between the toes—and can be difficult to remove. Regular grooming and checks after walks will help catch them early.
- Ticks are more prevalent in warmer weather, often picked up from long grass, woodland areas, or livestock. Using a tick repellent is a simple and effective preventative measure. As ticks can carry Lyme disease, it's important to monitor your dog after removal.
- Fleas can be encountered at any time of year but are especially active in warmer conditions. Fortunately, they're easy to treat, and many products cover both fleas and ticks together.
- Daffodils, while beautiful, are highly toxic to dogs if ingested. Although dogs often just sniff them, it's best to stay cautious and discourage any interaction.
- Young wildlife and livestock are abundant at this time of year. Even the most well-trained dogs can be tempted, so keeping them under control—and on a lead where necessary—is essential to protect both your pet and the local environment.

With a little awareness and preparation, you and your dog can make the most of everything this beautiful season in the Chilterns has to offer.

Charlie Hughes






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Princes Risborough Bowls Club



Our Club was established in May 1936 by a few local businessmen (See Chronicles). The outdoor season runs from mid April until late September, during which time there are plenty of events to suit bowlers of all abilities, from novice to superstar. (We don't currently have any of the latter!). We are affiliated to Bowls England (A/ No 03031) and the Bucks County Bowls Association. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE WAS NAMED THE 2024 COUNTY OF THE YEAR BY BOWLS ENGLAND. We are proud to be a part of that.

We play matches against many other Clubs, both home and away, in friendlies and in organised county competitions and leagues. The majority are mixed, although the ladies do have quite a few "girls only" matches. Club competitions for singles, pairs and triples formats start in May and climax on Finals Weekend in early September. Entry to County and National Competitions is open to any Club member wishing to participate.

On Tuesday afternoons throughout the season, all members are welcome to play in an organised "roll up" affectionately called the "Tuesday Triples". Good fun and a great way to meet other members and to improve your game. We are fortunate to play on one of the best greens in the county.

Our Clubhouse and well stocked bar are open on most weekday evenings during the season, and we have our own large car park. In the closed season months, October to early April, regular Bingo evenings are held plus an occasional quiz and a trip to the theatre. Our bar opens on Tuesday afternoons and Friday evenings throughout the year.

Our introductory subscription for new players is just £60 for the first year (£30 for Juniors). We also have a very generous trial membership/coaching scheme (See "News" for details). If you are interested in making new friendships and acquaintances and playing one of the friendliest sports around, offering a wide range of physical, mental and social benefits to people of all ages, then please contact us and we will be only too pleased to set you on your way. Bowls is a game of skill which can take a time to learn, but it is not found to be difficult to play by most who take it up.

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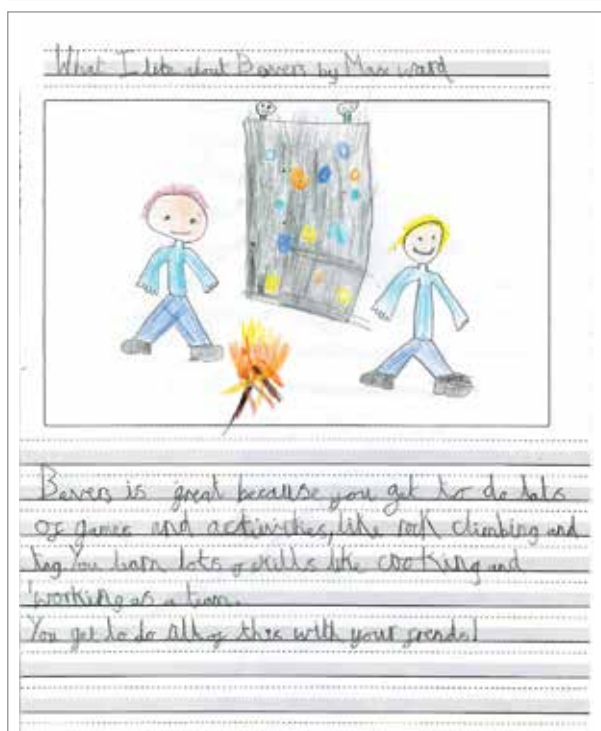
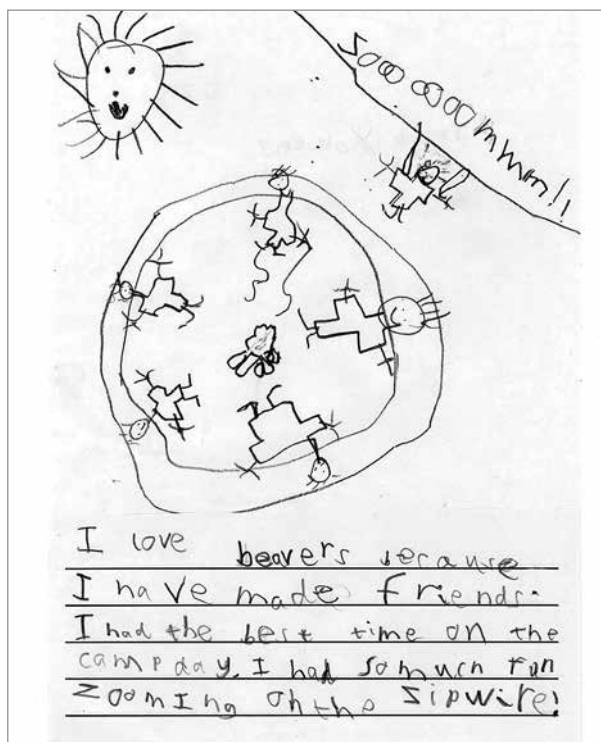
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News from our local Scouts, Cubs and Beavers



The scouting groups of Naphill, Hughenden and Walters Ash have had an action packed few months. Each of our groups (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts), have walked the Chiltern Hills, seen the stars and planets and ended with a campfire.

Now that the nights are getting lighter, we are looking forward to spending most of our time around the local area. Either building dens, looking for bugs or practicing our navigation - all interspersed with games of rounders, capture the flag or bulldog.

None of this will be possible without our current leaders and helpers. We now find that we are down to the bare bones as a few key players are moving on. If you are a person who can offer some time to scouting, or a young person wanting some adventure, then please come forward and let's see how we can help each other. I have been a scouting volunteer for over 10 years and have seen hundreds of our local young people grow and develop life and social skills. As an adult volunteer I have found new friends and challenges. This month we say goodbye to Alex Knight who has supported both beavers and cubs for over five years. It is with great sadness that we learnt about the passing of David Lowe. He was our President and supported the group for so many years. He last helped out at our carol service serving refreshments to the families of our young people.

Drop me a line if you can support one of our local sections or fill out our online form if your young person is up for the excitement.

Be Prepared

John Huddleston

Group Lead Volunteer

john.huddleston@naphillscouts.org.uk

www.naphillscouts.org.uk

BEAVERS

Scouts
Naphill & Hughenden





As many of you know by now our Club is a vibrant group of over 70 fun-loving men and women who want to 'give back' while having a good time. Community spirit is at the heart of everything. Over the past 10 years, we've raised and donated more than £350,000 through a full calendar of fundraising events. From big community days to smaller initiatives, every pound raised is helping support individuals and organisations.

But we don't just raise money, we get involved. We support local schools and facilities by helping to create libraries, outdoor classrooms, sensory gardens, and play areas. Plus we run art and chess competitions and support school Interact Clubs, encouraging young people to get involved and give back. We are very involved in a range of valued local organisations. These include the award-winning Princes Risborough day-care centre, which we helped establish, as well as a second centre in Bourne End. We also support the PR Youth Club, Saunderton Lodge Refuge Hostel, Bucks Young Carers, Blood Bikes, One Can Trust, and many more. We work closely with Princes Risborough Town Council, four of whose councillors are Club members, to support key

local events such as Remembrance Day, the Town Festival, and the Christmas lights switch-on.

This year's Town Festival (5th–12th July) promises to be bigger and better than ever, and as part of it we're organising 'Fun in the Park' on 5th July in Wades Park. It'll be a family-friendly afternoon including a chocolate hunt, Tea in the Tent, vintage and modern farm vehicles, a tug of war, dog show, fire engine, a 28-piece brass band, storytelling, golf pitching, children's games, welly 'wanging', and more. We'll also be supporting the Town Council's Farmers' Markets and helping out at Napfest in Naphill on June 13th.

If you're looking to give back, meet new people and make new friends, come to one of our meetings, as a guest, at the Whiteleaf Golf Club on Monday evenings, or visit our website: rcpr.org.uk. And, if you know of any causes needing our support, uDavid Whitese this QR code: or contact David White on 07787 750889 or dwhite2025@hotmail.com.

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What's on with u3a -Last month I gave details of all the monthly talks held in Naphill, Hazlemere and Lacey Green. If you would like more details on all our groups and talks held in private homes, please either email me gilliamph@aol.com or visit highwycombe.u3asite.uk.

There is a link on the website to our electronic newsletter which details all the Groups, General Meetings and events. On 27th May from 2pm for example, we have a talk at Lacey Green Loosley Row Village hall on 'The life and times of a film extra'. Please come and join us. We always serve free refreshments!



Pictured are Members listening intently to a talk on the history of China and Taiwan by our Guest Presenter from SOAS (University of London). So successful was his talk, he is giving a second talk on Friday May 15th at Hazlemere Memorial Hall (from 2pm). His subject: 'The sugar Trains of Taiwan.' Do not miss it!

Do you own any Whitefriars Glass? If so, please come to our Antiques and Collectables Group on Tuesday 26th May, when we will be discussing the history and successes and eventual decline of Whitefriars. Bring any examples, carefully wrapped, as Whitefriars Glass is now very collectable. This meeting is at Hughenden Community Centre from 2pm.



How much does it cost to join your local Group?

The annual membership fee covers the year from 1st September 2025 to 31st August 2026, and it is £32, or £36 to have the Third Age Trust magazines delivered. Annual Membership therefore costs less than £1 per week. How is that for value?!



Pictured: New members mingling with our Convenors at the Open Day held in March.

For further information, please contact Paul Gilliam gilliamph@aol.com or visit <https://highwycombe.u3asite.uk>

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