



# THE PRATTLER

The Heyford Village Newspaper

December 2018 / January 2019

Issue No. 419

A festive poster for the Santa Run. It features several cartoon Santas with beards and hats, some hanging from pine branches. The text "MERRY CHRISTMAS" is written in large, bold, block letters. Below it, a string of lights is shown. The poster is decorated with pine branches and stars.

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

The villages of Nether Heyford and Flore  
host the 8<sup>th</sup> annual  
**SANTA RUN**  
on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018.  
Raise money for charity!  
Complete the event dressed as Santa and  
cross the finish line in full costume!

There have been some changes to the Prattler this month as you will have noticed. Thank you Nick Essex for the new front and back cover designs, they are a great reflection of our village.

The Website [www.heyfordprattler.org](http://www.heyfordprattler.org) has also been updated and enhanced by Jez Wilson, Please check your pages and if there is anything you would like to alter, please let us know. Many thanks to Jez for his hard work.

A quick reminder that there won't be a Prattler published in January, the next one will be on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. However, the Prattler facebook page and the website will continue to be updated with events and news.

Thank you to all the contributors this year, I'm sure you feel like me when you realise how quickly the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month comes around.

All that's left for me to say is to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you all get everything that you have wished for.

*Sue*

Thanks to Tom Dodd for this months cover picture. Further details of this year's Santa Run can be found on page 15.

## **Nether Heyford Baptist Church**

Thank you to everyone (too many to mention) who knitted and crocheted poppies, donated and loaned items to help us present the displays in the Baptist Chapel for Remembrance, especially Jez Wilson for all research and printing, Celia Caucutt and John Wilson for help and transport.

Also for all help at the Coffee Morning which raised £360.50 for The Royal British Legion with the collection tin in Chapel yet to be counted. Thanks to everyone who donated, baked cakes and attended to make the weekend such a success.

The Prattler is produced by volunteers and is supported by donations from the Parish Council, the Parish Church, the Baptist Church, Heyford W.I., Heyford Garden Club, Heyford Singers and Heyford Picturedrome as well as the advertisers. Thanks are also due to the volunteers who distribute it every month.

Cover Title Graphics © nickessex.com



# PARISH COUNCIL NOTES



**The November 2018 meeting of Nether Heyford Parish Council was held on 5<sup>th</sup> November, at the Baptist Church Rooms.**

**Public Participation.** Councillor Adam Brown reported that Northamptonshire County Council are progressing towards the Unitary Council status, and trying to consolidate finances. Last year's accounts were signed off with a deficit of £35M. The Commissioners (who cost £1500 per day) haven't been as heavy handed as expected and NCC is trying to avoid handing over an even worse situation to the unitary council. The timetable appears to be slipping back.

Councillor Phil Bignell felt the financial situation was not being well handled. Election plans may be affected by the timetable slippage. The New Homes Bonus will be available again next year, and the council should be considering schemes.

Councillor David Harries felt that the NCC situation was a shambles, and the government were not helping. He felt a shadow council should be set up.

A parishioner referred to the car parking situation and the number of school related vehicles, and wondered if the grassed area at the junction of Watery Lane and Bugbrooke Road could be used for parking.

Mr Andrews and Mr Thorneycroft spoke on behalf of the Playing Fields and supported the potential purchase of land adjacent to the Playing fields. They felt it was an one-off opportunity to buy land that would be an asset to the community. The land would be sold with covenants on it which would be acceptable, as it would not be intended to use it for anything other than utility use. They felt the opportunity should not be lost.

**Allotments.** Two Councillors had been on an Allotments management and learned that planning permission would be required for toilets, car parking spaces etc. They also learned that Heyford was overprovided with allotments in terms of the ratio of allotment land to houses. The allotments should be included in the risk assessment in future. The Community orchard has now been planted and sponsorship of £800 obtained, which covers the cost of the trees. It is felt to look extremely good and will be a future community asset.

**Churchyard.** It was reported that the north wall had now been completed at a cost of c £9,000. This brings to an end a long running problem, and will help greatly with maintenance of the churchyard.

**Sharing PCSO with Bugbrooke Parish Council.** A decision has been taken to participate in a shared scheme with Bugbrooke. Many parishioners feel there is little police presence any more, and that this initiative will help restore confidence. Final arrangements are still to be worked out, but there should soon be a regular PCSO presence. The PCSO patrols will not follow the same pattern every week, and only the Clerk and Chair will know the shift pattern.

**Neighbourhood Plan.** There will be another event on Nov 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> to allow parishioners to comment on those sites on which they would like to see development take place on in future, and those they do not wish to see developed.

**Potential Purchase of Land.** The Chair proposed that a Public Works Board loan be sought for the purchase of the land off Watery Lane and adjacent to the Playing Field. Most felt that it was a desirable option, and that there were a number of potential utility uses, though concerns were expressed that should the land simply become more playing field land, then the women of the village would gain little. It was resolved to buy the land subject to obtaining a Public Works Board loan, with no decision made as yet to the use of the land.

**Policy for scattering Ashes.** Council has adopted a policy relating to public land.

**Dog Mess.** The shorter days and darker early evenings always bring an increase in dog fouling as irresponsible dog owners use the cover of darkness to fail to clear up after their pets. Council would appeal to dog owners not to do this and to help keep our village as clear of dog waste as possible.

**Fireworks.** Bonfire night fireworks seem to go on longer each year. While many of us enjoy the spectacle, it is not universally popular. Parishioners have pointed out that fireworks late into the night on week days can disturb children who need to go to school the next day, and pet owners dread this period because of the debilitating effect it can have on susceptible animals.

**Election Dates.** It is probable that there will be no District or Parish elections in 2019 with the onset of the unitary council imminent. Council expressed a preference for 2020.

**Road Closure.** The issue relating to a gas leak and subsequent road closure finally seems to have been resolved after a very frustrating period for all who use the road between the Heyfords. The work was being carried out by an Utilities company (Cadent) who have powers to close roads without reference to Highways, and with no obligation to inform Parish Councils either. With that irritation gone, we can look forward to the hoped for benefits of the opening of the Flore bypass – which should be finished soon.

Next meeting: Monday December 3rd.

*Parish Council notes by the Clerk; Guy Ravine, c/o Old Dairy Farm, Upper Stowe, Weedon. Northampton. NN7 4SH.*

*Tel: 01327 340410.*

*E-mail: [netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com)*



<b>Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact.</b>	
C. Kiloh, 19, The Green. Nether Heyford. Tel 07779 900860	Chairman, Planning, Finance.
M Brasset, The Foresters Arms, The Green mikethepub@hotmail.co.uk	Canal Matters, Planning.
L. Dilkes, 1A Roberts Field, Nether Heyford, NN7 3BE thedilkesfamily@outlook.com 07967 753216	Village Hall Rep, Youth Club, Vice Chair, Finance
L. Eales, 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 341707 lyndaeales@aol.com	Allotments, Playing Field.
P. Green, 8, South View, Nether Heyford Tel 01327 349072 Mobile. 07763 244065	Joint Burial Board
N. Haynes, 30 Weedon Rd, Nether Heyford Tel 01327 340167	Tree Warden, Planning, Joint Burial Board
A-M Collins 25 Wakefield Way, Nether Heyford, NN7 3LU. 01327 341180 anna-twenty5@sky.com	Arnold Trust, School Governors.
S. Corner 7 Close Road, Nether Heyford NN7 3LW sue.corner@sky.com	Allotments, Planning
A. Williams 26 Church St, Nether Heyford, NN7 3LH anthony.k.williams@talk21.com	Planning and Finance.

## Advertising in The Prattler

The Prattler is the village magazine for Nether Heyford, Upper Heyford and Stowe. It is distributed to over 750 households and is also available on-line at [www.heyfordprattler.org](http://www.heyfordprattler.org). It is published 10 times a year excluding January and August.

### Advertising costs per month

£5 for small business card ad

£10 for ¼ page

£15 for ½ page

£30 for full page



## Our Churches

### Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

#### Services for December 2018

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	08:00 am	Prayer Book Holy Communion at Flore
	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	11:00 am	United All Age Service at Flore
	06:00 pm	Holy Communion at Heyford
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Benefice/Partnership Holy Communion and Gift Service at Flore Church
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	02:30 pm	Messy Church with Christingle in Flore Church
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Flore Church
	11:00 am	Holy Communion at Heyford
	02:30 pm	Christingle Service at Upper Stowe
	19:00:pm	Carols by Candlelight at Flore Chapel
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Benefice Prayer Meeting at Flore Church
Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	03:00pm	Messy Church at Heyford Church Rooms
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Flore
	06:00 pm	Carols by Candlelight at Heyford Church
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	06:00 pm	Village Carol Service at Flore
Christmas Eve	08:30 pm	"Midnight" Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	11:30 pm	Midnight Holy Communion at Heyford
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Day	09:30 am	Benefice Holy Communion at Flore Church
	11:00 am	Family Service at Heyford
	11:00 am	Family Service at Upper Stowe
	11:00 am	United Service at Flore URC
	11:15 am	Holy Communion at Brockhall

Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 am	Benefice Holy Communion at Heyford Church
	03:00 pm	Nine Lessons and Carols at Upper Stowe

**Midweek Communions are held weekly on Wednesdays, 9.30am at Heyford and Thursdays, 10am at Flore, all welcome. (Not Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> December)**

**Prayer** During December we shall be praying for people living in Winston Close, Roberts Field and Ridgeway Furlong in Heyford, Nether Lane and Thornton Close in Flore, The Green in Church Stowe and The Old Rectory, Rose Cottage and Western Cottage in Brockhall.

### **Services for January 2019**

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	08:00 am	Said BCP Holy Communion at Flore Church
	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	11:00 am	United First Sunday All Age Service at Flore Church
	06:00 pm	Holy Communion at Heyford Church
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Benefice/Partnership Covenant Service with short Holy Communion at Flore Church
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	02:30 pm	Messy Church at Flore Church
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Heyford
	10:00 am	United Service at Flore Chapel
	11:00 am	Family Service at Upper Stowe
	04:00 pm	Youth Church at Flore Church
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10:30 am	Benefice Prayer Meeting at Heyford Church
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Flore Church
	11:00 am	Holy Communion at Heyford
	06:00 pm	Holy Communion at Upper Stowe

**Midweek Communions are held weekly on Wednesdays, 9.30am at Heyford and Thursdays, 10am at Flore, – all are welcome (Not Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January)**

**Prayer** During January for people living in Church Lane and Weedon Rd in Heyford, Spring Lane and Russell Rise in Flore, Francis Row in Upper Stowe and the Stables and Coach House in Brockhall.

Dear Friends,

With the arrival of social media, there are countless ways in which people can announce that they are expecting a baby. When Deborah and I were expecting our children, a quick visit to immediate family, and a ring around close friends sufficed. But not any longer, it seems. Social media has enabled new and creative ways of announcing the good news of an impending birth. Maybe it's done with an image of a bread roll baking in the oven, or snapshot of three pairs of wellies, two pairs belonging to the parents and the third pair – much smaller and more colourful – belonging to the impending new arrival. However parents choose to announce their good news, there is always a sense of joy and excitement, the idea that their unborn child is loved and cherished and longed for, way before the actual birth.

The announcement of Jesus' birth didn't come within the preceding nine months. God announced the impending birth of his son some 700 years early, through the prophecies of Isaiah:

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”  
(Isaiah 9:6)

At the time, Isaiah had lots of bad news to impart; God's people were about to lose their homes and freedom, and find themselves in exile. But God didn't want them to lose hope. So in the middle of all the doom and gloom, Isaiah posted the good news of the forthcoming birth of Jesus. And then, in glowing terms, Isaiah describes what this child will be like. He will be a just and fair ruler – good news to those facing oppression and tyranny. He will be a Wonderful Counsellor – good news to those struggling because of their own bad decisions, and wondering where to turn next. He will be a Mighty God – good news to those suffering after a string of rulers who had turned their backs on God. He will be an Everlasting Father – good news to those in need of care, compassion, support and encouragement. He will be the Prince of Peace – good news to a people fearing conflict and aggression.

Christmas reminds us that the birth of Jesus was good news. And to a chaotic world still at odds with itself, a world beset by insecurity and violence, Jesus' birth is still good news, offering hope in our uncertainty, and light in our darkness.

So as we celebrate the birth of Jesus this Christmas, I pray that we might all be inspired to strive for justice, wisdom, compassion and peace, in our homes, our communities, our nation and our world. And may we all know God's joy and peace this Christmas, and in the year ahead.

Yours in Christ,

*Stephen (tel 344436)*



## Nether Heyford Baptist Church

**Morning Services: 10:30 am**

**Afternoon Services: 4:00 pm**

### Sunday Services

December	10:30 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Worship led by Trevor Boys	
9 <sup>th</sup>	Gift service led by Martin Buckby	Carols by candlelight service led by Martin, followed by tea and mince-pies.
16 <sup>th</sup>	Carols and lessons led by Les Britten.	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Worship with carols led by Martin Buckby	
25 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas day family service led by Les Britten.	
30 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am prayer meeting followed at 10-30am with a communion service led by Clive Leakey.	

### Events

**December 5<sup>th</sup>** Wednesday group meeting on "Jesus is the reason for the season" where folks attending share readings / Poems and carols and also bring a gift to exchange. .

**December 10<sup>th</sup>** 2pm Prayer meeting and bible study.

**December 13<sup>th</sup>** 10am to 12md Open Door. Do come along for free coffee and chat. (Sales table / Books)

**ALL WELCOME**

January	10:30 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
6 <sup>th</sup>	Worship led by John Perkins	
13 <sup>th</sup>	Worship led by Allan Pope	Songs of Praise led by Martin Buckby (with tea and cakes)
20 <sup>th</sup>	Worship led by Wally Mular	
27 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am prayer meeting followed at 10-30am with a communion service led by Martin Buckby.	

## Events

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>** No Wednesday group meeting today.

**January 14<sup>th</sup>** 2pm Prayer meeting and bible study.

**January 24<sup>th</sup>** 10am to 12md Open Door. Do come along for free coffee and chat. (Sales table / Books)

## ALL WELCOME

I welcome this opportunity to write something for and on behalf of "the chapel on the green" at Heyford. It is towards the end of November and I observe that, shops, TV and others advertisement opportunities remind us that Christmas is almost with us again.

It is of course a time for celebration, for giving and for receiving but also a time to be **thankful**. Many of you who know me will recall that for 40 years I worked as a nurse, initially with people with mental illness and laterally with those with Learning Disability. During those many years I witnessed the impact, often the severe impact, of illness, disability and the consequences on the lives of individuals and families. As I went about my work, as I gave, I tried hard to be thankful for the common everyday blessings of life and all that could be done and enjoyed in my daily life whilst realising that for so many, life was so very different. Being thankful is a conscious decision, it takes effort and being thankful can make life feel different. Christmas is a time for giving, receiving and for saying and being thankful.

Christmas can be our time of saying thank you to God for giving to us and us receiving from him.

Christmas is a fulfilment of a promise recorded in the Old Testament. The promise was this:-

Isaiah 7 v 14.

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

And in the New Testament many years after that promise was given

Mathew 1 v 20 to 22

...20 But after he had pondered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the One conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

**21 She will give birth to a Son, and you shall give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins."**

22 All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had said through the prophet Isaiah  
The words of a more modern song sung in many churches and chapels include these words

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus  
He came to love, heal and forgive  
He lived and died to buy my pardon  
An empty grave is there to prove my saviour lives  
Because He lives, I can face tomorrow  
Because He lives, all fear is gone  
Because I know He holds the future  
And life is worth the living, just because He lives

So as we prepare for Christmas – once again – as we give and as we get may we be thankful for those common blessings of daily life and for family, friends and the faith we can have in God who promised to give and did give.

Please join us at the chapel when you can – you will be made most welcome.  
Details of services and events are provided elsewhere in The Prattler.

Thank you

*Martin Buckley*

*For and on behalf of the fellowship of Heyford Baptist Chapel*

## Remembrance Day - Thank you.



Nether Heyford's Women Section of The Royal British Legion would like to express their gratitude to all who made this year's service of remembrance so successful.

This year has seen the village come together united showing their appreciation to all who lost their lives and service our country, especially the fallen of the 1st World War, which was shown by the overwhelming volume of attendees at The War Memorial.

We have seen acts of thanks from The Baptist Church with their beautiful crocheted, knitted and bottled poppies display with the factual information regarding the servicemen of World War 1. Bliss Charity School with their wonderful display at the war memorial of felt poppies. The Scouts for their lovely silhouette display in The Church.

I would like to thank all the poppy sellers and to everyone who brought a poppy. Every year we have managed to increase our total of money raised for The Royal British Legion and we are on target for another great year. Well done and thank you.

*Lisa King*





## In Nether Heyford

It was all change at the November WI meeting as Denise Cowling, an auctioneer and our expected speaker for the evening, was unwell. In true WI fashion another volunteer was found and we all had an entertaining time learning about the history of 'undergarments'. Paula was a very amusing speaker and brought along a selection of what would, in their day, have been called 'unmentionables'. Not quite the Antiques and Collectibles we were expecting to hear about but there was a great deal of laughter and remembering going on!

As it will be our Christmas Dinner on December 6<sup>th</sup> the next official meeting will be on Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall when we will be attempting to try 'Painting without Paintbrushes'. So, Ladies, if you are looking to escape for a couple of hours from the chaos that always follows Christmas, you will be very welcome at the Village Hall.

We all wish the readers of the Prattler an extremely Happy Christmas and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year.

*Mary Rice*  
*Heyford Lodge*  
*01327 340101*

## Nether Heyford Village Hall



Large Hall or smaller Meeting Room  
available for Club Meetings, Parties,  
Weddings, Business Meetings etc.  
Modern facilities. Disabled friendly.

### Bookings:

[nhvhbookings@gmail.com](mailto:nhvhbookings@gmail.com)  
[www.netherheyfordvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.netherheyfordvillagehall.co.uk)  
07849 356 618

# THE Heyford SINGERS

**MUSICAL DIRECTOR: MARY RICE**

**ACCOMPANIST: GRAHAM KINNERSLY**

**PRESENT**



## All on a Starry Night

**A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS SONGS**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**AT 7.30 PM**

**NETHER HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**ADMISSION:**

**ADULTS £7.50**

**CHILDREN UNDER 12 £4.00**

**REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED**

**TICKETS IN ADVANCE  
FROM BOX OFFICE:**

**01327 340741**

**07971 786912**

**[WWW.HEYFORDSINGERS.ORG](http://WWW.HEYFORDSINGERS.ORG)**

## **Great Nether Heyford Santa Run 2018**

Dig out your Santa Suits and running shoes as this year's Nether Heyford Santa Run will take place on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

### **What is it?**

5 mile road race through the streets of Heyford and Flore including half mile and 1 mile fun runs around Nether Heyford village green

### **Who takes part?**

Anyone can take part- those new to running, seasoned runners, club runners and children can take part in the fun runs. The 5 mile road race has a cash prize for the runner who catches the Christmas Pudding. The only prerequisite is you need to wear a Santa Suit! (available to purchase on the day from £6)

### **Why?**

It's a great fun event, helping bring the two communities of Flore and Nether Heyford together. There will be festive refreshments and music for the spectators so come along and catch up with friends over a mulled wine, or tea and homemade cake.

And remember all proceeds go to Meningitis Now, the charity which raises awareness, funds important vaccine research and supports families affected by this deadly disease.

### **How do I enter?**

Go to [www.onyourmarksevents.org](http://www.onyourmarksevents.org) and scroll down to the Santa Run link

### **See you there!**

## **Bugbrooke and District Flower Society**

Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.45pm in Nether Heyford village hall.

We do not meet in December and in January it will be our AGM so our next demonstration evening will be on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

A warm welcome awaits both new members and visitors and those new to flower arranging are especially welcome.

For more information please follow us on Facebook or contact Dianne on 01604 830063 or Simone on 01327 342167.



**SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018**

**10:00 am TO 2:00 pm**

**HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL**



**CRAFT STALLS** – including Christmas Cards & decorations

**TOMBOLA**



Ticket ending 0 or 5  
Wins a prize!



**HANDMADE GIFTS** – Jewellery, Bags & much more

**CAKE STALL**



And why not enjoy a delicious  
**BACON ROLL**, with a **TEA** or **COFFEE**  
**Provided by Heyford W.I.**



## Welcome Packs

Welcome packs are available for newcomers to our Village. The information in them helps people feel at home quickly. If you notice that someone has moved in recently, get a pack for them by calling:

Sue Morris  
21 The Green  
Nether Heyford

01327 349387

## Village Hall News

**'It's behind you!'** That's the theme for this month.

First: confirmation that our Pantomime: '**Jack and the Beanstalk**' will come to the village hall on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. Tickets - £8 for adults and £3 for children (up to 11) - can now be bought from: Richard on 01327 341044.

Would anyone like to donate a raffle prize? We're looking for 5 prizes for adults and 5 for children.

If you'd like to help please ring Alwyne on 01327 340803.

**'Behind you'** also covers the great amount of voluntary work which goes on continually behind-the-scenes to maintain the hall and its surroundings. For instance, thanks to the recent voluntary efforts of members of our Management Committee and the 'Friends of the Village Hall', the hall is now sporting its Christmas decorations, ready for the many festive celebrations which will be taking place, and the area outside is soon to undergo its autumn clear-up.

Recently, some of our 'Friends' have had to stand down for various reasons, and we express our warmest thanks to them for their past support. However, we would now be delighted to have more volunteers to join our team and help with our practical tasks. None of these are too arduous but all are enjoyable. If you are interested, ring Alwyne on 01327 340803.

A vital part of our work is the careful management of our finances, again voluntarily, in which we have been well served for over six years by Jane O'Sullivan. Jane will shortly be standing down, to be succeeded by Phil Letts, an accountant, and we record our heartfelt thanks to Jane for all her hard work for the village hall.

Finally, another important service for the village hall is its website. Its content is relatively simple but is essential, not only in publicising the hall's facilities but also, for receiving bookings, of which an increasing number are coming through online. Due to recent changes we are now looking for another webmaster. So – **calling all you IT wizards** – can you help us? If so, please ring Alwyne on 01327 340803.

*Alwyne Wilson*  
*Chair*



## Heyford Garden Club

[www.heyfordgardenclub.com](http://www.heyfordgardenclub.com)

Our November meeting consisted of our biennial plant swap during which some interesting plants changed hands in exchange for other plants or occasionally for small amounts of money.

Our next meeting will be on 10th December when we will have a horticultural quiz and seasonal nibbles.

### Where did I go wrong?

Gardening is always throwing up odd problems that I hadn't experienced before. This year's conundrum concerned seedlings sown in pots or pans. Various batches of seeds germinated well but then stopped growing before they had got to any size and if left they would become yellow and looked very sick. I had to prick them at a much smaller size than I normally do, and then they would develop as usual. It doesn't seem to be down to compost as I used the same compost when growing them on as I did when sowing the seeds, except that in seed pans I mix in a bit of perlite or vermiculite, Was there something wrong with that I wonder?

### Leaves

Everybody is busy sweeping up leaves at this time of year, but don't throw them all away. Put some into a corner or under some shrubs and leave them through the winter for hedgehogs to sleep in. It can be surprising how small an area they need; and a pile of leaves seems just as good as an expensive hedgehog box as far as they are concerned.

### Three Jobs for December

1. Order next year's seeds
2. Plant trees and shrubs when the weather is good
3. Reduce watering of houseplants

*Mark Newstead*

# **HEYFORD BOWLS CLUB CHRISTMAS QUIZ**

**SATURDAY 22nd DECEMBER**

**HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL**

**START 7:30pm**

**£5 PER PERSON (TEAMS OF 6 MAX)**

**PRIZE FOR WINNING TEAM  
&  
BEST DECORATED TABLE/HATS**

**BRING YOUR OWN TIPPLE  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

**Contact Shirley/Mick 01327 342287  
Email: shirleybcollins@hotmail.co.uk**



## **Meal Club**

The next meal club will be held on Thursday  
December 6<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall.

Please call Debbie on 01327 349163 for further  
details


# LF3BLINDS

INTERIOR DESIGN FOR WINDOWS SINCE 1978

**All types of blinds made to measure to your specification**

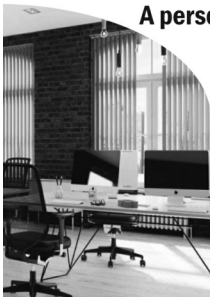
**A personal service to your home or office**

## **Domestic & Commercial Servicing & Repairs**

 **8d Boundary Road  
NN13 7ES**

 **07966 622 053  
01280 704 437**

 **info@lfblinds.co.uk  
www.lawrencefurnishings.co.uk**



## NETHER HEYFORD

OFSTED No. EY450747

CHARITY No. 1029571

### **Pre-School**

Ages 2-5 years

Open Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

Funding available for eligible 2,3 and 4 year olds

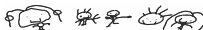
Highly qualified and experienced staff

Excellent links with Bliss School

Fantastic village location

Use of numerous outdoor facilities including:

- Bliss Schools' Outdoor Classroom
- Forest School activities
- 'Rising 5' sessions for those starting school in September
- Childcare vouchers accepted



### **Before & After School Club**

Wrap around are available for children aged up to 11 years old

Breakfast Club incl. breakfast open from 7.45am

After School Club open until 6pm

'Walking Bus' to and from Bliss School provided if required

Transition sessions available for Bliss School reception class.

**Drop in and see us at  
The Church Rooms, Church Lane,  
Nether Heyford or call on  
07984 055 828**

**info@netherheyfordpreschool.co.uk  
www.netherheyfordpreschool.co.uk**



# **The Café on the Green**

Heyford's Community Café

Every **Friday** in the Baptist Schoolroom  
1 to 5pm

**Jacket Potatoes, Things on Toast, Soup  
Hot pudding of the week**

**LOTS OF HOME-MADE CAKES!**

Everybody welcome

**PLEASE NOTE WE WILL BE CLOSED, FOR ONE WEEK ONLY, ON FRIDAY  
28<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

Amazingly **The Café on the Green** has been in operation for **Three Years** this month and we would like to thank all our helpers and customers for their support. When we started we said that any surplus funds would be used to help support local good causes and we thought you would like to know where it is going.

So far we have donated a total of **£2,850** as follows:

*The Church Bell Repair Fund £750*

*Picnic Bench £600*

*Tennis Club Flood Lights £500*

*Holiday at Home Scheme £100*

*Chairs for Baptist Schoolroom £200*

*To young people on World Challenge and Camps International £200*

*Schoolroom Kitchen, Church Stowe £200*

*Community Orchard £100*

*Bliss School Playground Equipment £200*

In addition, we have raised a total of **£1,635** for the MacMillan Coffee Morning Appeal

## Community Flood Group

Since it is now clear that the E/A has no plans to convene a Public Meeting I feel obliged to provide greater detail to those who contributed to the survey in Feb/March 2015 and have genuine concerns over flooding issues.

The first Study Report into Heyford Brook, the area of greatest flood risk, took place in 2008 by Halcrow which was updated in 2013 where the main findings were that the E-W culvert had insufficient capacity to accommodate high flows and the N-W culvert was in poor condition(A/W responsibility). The mapping indicated: 20 properties at 1:25 year risk with 50 properties at 1:100 year risk. The E/A submitted a Grant Aid funding request valued at £1.3M supported by contributions from A/W, a NCC levy and P/C with no support from SNDC as part of the Partnership Scheme. This was referred for a more detailed Study,hence the FAS Scheme initiated in 2015 with Capita Consultants in which the E/A and CFG collaborated. It was always clear that the earlier flood maps in the Public domain were not representative and as a result greater effort went into revising ground and river profiles and inclusion of areas such as Horestone Brook and its reaction with the River Nene and the addition of South View culvert, all missing from the Halcrow analysis. Initial results were presented to the E/A and CFG in February 2016 but rejected for revised modelling to improve flood risk profiles in line with actual events such as Easter 1998. Prior to this the E/A were preparing for a sign off and a Village presentation ready for a funding re-bid in August 2016. In the event 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 saw the flooding in Watery Lane and the observation by CFG and E/A that at times of peak flooding Horestone Brook blocked the outlet flow from the E-W culvert. Hence the proposed work undertaken under maintenance funding in early 2017 to streamline the outflow and re-profile Horestone Brook to reduce the height of floodwater and hence obstruction.

The work was carried out from Oct 2017 to April 2018. However it was disappointing to note that the old style grill had not been replaced so as to avoid blockages from debris thus avoiding intervention by E/A staff. In the intervening period Capita revised the modelling and completed a revised flood map which showed improved correlation to known events. A Draft report was eventually reviewed by CFG and E/A in July 2017. As a result the original flood risk was revised to 1 property in 25 years and 20 in 100 years of which 13 were residential. However it should not be forgotten that flood risk maps do not include the effect of climate change in which case the E/A own rules indicate increased flows of 65% by 2100.

Since any application for grant aid is based on cost/benefit ratios i.e. how many houses will flood, the opportunity for such funding reduced. However in setting the criteria no account is taken of the impact of stress on residents. CFG has always argued that flood management should be about prevention not dependent on allowing properties to flood before action is taken!

The report identified a number of options,namely-

(a) do nothing (b) repair the damaged N/S culvert (c) increase the outflow from the E/W culvert into the N/W culvert via Manor Walk to the River Nene (d) as (c) but direct the outlet to the W culvert upstream of the Nene Way footbridge (e) replace the existing E-W culvert with increased capacity-not feasible due to restricted road width (f) provide storage under the village Green (g) provide upstream storage to limit the peak flows into the culvert to be within the safe limit. Clearly (c) and (d) were not acceptable as increasing the flow to the River Nene would increase the risk to Manor Park so the only viable option was upstream storage as in (g) but to reduce conventional costs by investigating Natural Flood Management using storage ponds which can form a natural habitat opening the way for alternative funding sources.

The ADC camera culvert inspection of 2016 identified structural issues ie. longitudinal cracks and degradation of the inner surface as well as tree root ingress at the South View/Bugbrooke Road/Watery Lane junction. Although the Highway Agency undertook surface repairs no action was taken to repair the defective culvert. The integrity of the E-W culvert is essential for the protection of the most vulnerable areas and as Nether Heyford was identified as a priority case then funding from all sources, including SNDC, must be urgently identified and repairs completed well before 2021! In addition the E/A needs to be actively seeking alternative funding to undertake work on the upstream storage and solve the Heyford Brook problem once and for all.

*J.Arnold*

## **What a Summer!**

If anyone doubted that there's no such thing as climate change, this summer's weather should have changed their minds. The exceptionally dry period started in May with only 60% of normal rainfall and a total of 20 completely dry days in the month. The driest June in living memory followed with just 1.2 mm (0.05 inches) recorded for the whole month and having 24 days with no rainfall at all. July saw only 25.2 mm (1 inch) of rain with 27 days completely dry and August (normally one of the wettest months) having only 52.4 mm (2 inches) about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the normal rainfall for the month and having 20 dry days. The pattern continued in September with another drier than normal month with only  $\frac{1}{2}$  its normal rainfall at 32.0 mm (1.25 inches) and 24 dry days. The total rainfall for these five months was 154 mm or 6 inches compared with a 'normal' total of around 350 mm (13.6 inches).

No wonder the lawns were 'crunchy' with lots of bare patches forming. No maximum temperature records were broken but everyone will remember there were so many sunny hot days one after another. What a summer to remember!

*Tony Clewett*



## Heyford Scout Group Update

We will be carrying out our usual Christmas Card collection and delivery service within the village, at a cost of 20p per card.

Collection dates will be 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

Please see the flyer that will be delivered early in the month for full details.

We had an excellent turnout for this year's Remembrance Sunday parade with all groups contributing to the very moving displays within the parish church. Pictures can be seen at [www.facebook.com/heyfordscouts](http://www.facebook.com/heyfordscouts).

Scouts are now up and running with our new leader Ian, and we are still growing our youngest age group, with 7 new Beavers this term. The Beavers have been doing lots of team games, finding out what being a beaver is really all about.

If you would like any more information please contact one of the leaders either through the contact details in the Prattler or its website, or at [www.facebook.com/heyfordscouts](http://www.facebook.com/heyfordscouts).

# QUIZ NIGHT

In aid of the Holiday at Home project 2019

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Teams of up to six people or come along and make up a team on the night

**£6 per person, including refreshments, please bring your own drink and glass**

With thanks to Revd. Stephen and Deborah Burrow for running the quiz

Please contact Jane on 01327 340678 or [janerands@gmail.com](mailto:janerands@gmail.com) to book



## Heyford Picturedrome

Our next film to be shown on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December is **'Finding Your Feet'**, a 2018 British romantic comedy starring Imelda Staunton, Celia Imrie, Timothy Spall, Joanna Lumley and John Sessions. This will be combined with our **Annual Christmas Supper** which is an **ALL TICKET, all inclusive event**. At the time of writing this event is **SOLD OUT** however there may be late availability tickets from Rosemary Dunkley (Tel: 342588) at £14 each.

Doors open at **6.30pm (please note the earlier than usual start time)** in time to take seats, etc with the supper commencing at 7.00pm. It is anticipated that the film will start at 8.15pm.

Our **January** film will be the 2016 Oscar nominated American political thriller **'The Post'**, starring Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep and directed by Stephen Spielberg about the Washington Post's journalists attempts to publish the 'Pentagon Papers' and Richard Nixon's attempts to thwart them.

*Tony Clewett*  
(Phone no. 341533)

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*Come they told me (Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum-mm)  
Our new born King to see ((Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum-mm)  
Our finest gifts we bring ((Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum-mm)  
To lay before the King ((Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum-mm)  
So to honour him ((Pa-rum-pum-pum-pum-mm)  
When we come.*

From **The Little Drummer Boy** arranged by H Simeone

A few weeks ago, on a blustery autumn afternoon, Graham Kinnerly (Heyford Singers' resident pianist) entertained a packed audience with a delightful programme of music and songs. Taking us through a fictional love story Graham included songs that we were asked to identify. Who were they sung by, when, and from which show or film? You know, that feeling of "Oh yes I do recognise that song, but what *is it* called, and who sang it? Graham's wit was as sharp as ever, a great deal of fun was had by all, and moreover we raised over £300 through ticket sales towards a support group for osteoporosis sufferers in Northampton.

In the forthcoming Heyford Singers Christmas concert, Mary Rice has once again arranged a lovely programme of Christmas songs, and like the one that heads this article, some of them will be familiar from days gone by! The **Little Drummer Boy** (originally sung by?) has the ladies in the choir singing the words and tune whilst the tenors and basses maintain the beat of a drum throughout. A beautiful song, very plaintive and wistful. Another one to be taken out of the *memory box of our past* is **Do You Hear What I Hear?** a set of musical questions between a lowly shepherd boy, a lamb, a mighty king, his people and even the night wind! A traditional French carol called **Masters in This Hall** celebrates the nativity but with a completely different musical style. The composer John Rutter has written some very beautiful songs, and Christmas carols; the choir will be performing his **Angels' Carol**, which many in the audience will recognise. Even more *present day* will be the world premiere of our own Graham Kinnerly's **Come All You People**, written especially for Heyford Singers; it is wonderful example of Graham's musical skill as he infuses a jazz rhythm into the singing of the Christmas story.

As in previous Christmas concerts the second part will focus on the festivities of Christmas, and the wintry weather! The ladies in the choir will try to get their head around **Jingle Bells** – a very familiar song, known and sung everywhere by everyone... at least that is what we thought until we saw the music! Returning to the original idea from Graham's entertainment of recalling familiar songs from bygone days, we have **Baby It's Cold Outside**. This was written in 1944 towards the end of the second world war, and is an enticement to stay indoors out of the cold and the dark, and enjoy the evening! **It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year**, written comparatively recently in 1963, is celebration of activities associated with the Christmas season, focusing on friends and families coming together. Many Victorian Christmas traditions have passed into history (telling ghost stories, roasting marshmallows and sledging) but the message survives, of visiting family and friends, spending time with one another, sharing stories about past Christmases,

and enjoying Christmas music! And of course the concert will, as ever, include an opportunity for everyone to come together singing Christmas carols.

Please join us for our Christmas concert, "**All on a Starry Night**" on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the village hall.**

**Adults £7.50 Children under 12 £4.00**

Tickets available from **01327 340741 or 07971 786912**

**Everyone in Heyford Singers wishes you, your families and your friends, a very Happy Christmas and a happy, healthy 2019.**

*Jill Langrish*



Meetings are in Bugbrooke Community Centre at 2.00 pm  
(except where noted otherwise).

### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

#### **THE HISTORY OF MUSIC HALL** by Colin Ray.

An entertaining and amusing talk on the history of the music hall.

### **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY**

#### **RICHARD III, HENRY VII AND THE DISAPPEARING PRINCES** by John Perkins.

The story of the brothers Edward V and Richard of Shrewsbury, Duke of York who disappeared while being held in the Tower of London.

The special interest groups which meet separately include:

Book exchange	Classics for Pleasure	Genealogy
German (intermediate)	Jigsaw Exchange	Literature
Luncheon Club	My Kind of Music	Photography
Play Reading	Scrabble (2)	

Guests welcome at the monthly meetings and to 'try' the groups.

To learn more, call 01327 340954 or visit our website  
**[www.u3asites.org.uk/upper-nene](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/upper-nene)**

## **Revitalising the Allotments**

Despite the onset of colder weather and all that it brings, it has been good to see so much activity on the allotments during October and November. People are still tending their plots and in many ways a few jobs done just now can reap huge dividends in the new growing year.

The allotment site is looking well cared again. Not only are pathways mown and vacant plots cleared of rubbish and weed, but most importantly, those areas that are occupied look in good condition.

Plots of all sizes are available for rent, from the tiniest of spaces to full sized allotments. In almost all cases they are in a good state to begin cultivating. What better way to get a workout and at the same time grow something healthy to eat. If you are interested, come and have a look at what is on offer and then contact either Sue Corner on 01327 342124 or Lynda Eales on 01327 341707.

## **Community Orchard**

November has been a very special month in the development of our community orchard for it has seen the planting of our first fruit trees. On Monday 12<sup>th</sup> a team of volunteers collected and planted 20 trees. They are staked and protected by strong tubular guards and warm mulch of wood chippings. The final 9 trees are bare root plants and will be planted next month or when it is safe to lift them. Do go and look at this orchard in the making. It is ours, the community's and I am sure the good folk of the Heyfords will do everything they can to help nurture and protect it for future generations. It would be lovely to think that in years to come, folk from the village will not only be able to make use of the fruit that the orchard bears, but also sit in the shade of the trees and enjoy a quiet moment in a beautiful place.

The orchard has come about not only because of the hard work from a team of allotment holders, but because of the generosity of people from our community who have donated money to purchase trees and the ancillary items needed in preparing the site. Without them this exciting project would not have happened.

The Community Orchard Planning Group would like to take this opportunity to thank the following organisations, businesses and families in our community who have contributed to this project so far:

Heyford Singers, Heyford Garden Club, Heyford Bell Ringers, The Café on the Green, The Bliss Charity School, Heyford Bowls Clubs, The Crafty Club, Heyford Cricket Club, Heyford Tennis Club, Heyford W.I. Randall Electrical, Percy's Plumbing, Heyford Meats, Macflex International, The Foresters Arms, Roger Coe Joinery, Knight Engine Services, Heygates Flour Mills. Richard Musson, Jayne Jones, Jeremy and Mary Rice, Lynn Finn, Chris and Murray Ager, Mike and Jill Langrish, Graham Smith, Kim and Dominic Cawley, Lynda Eales and Charles Kiloh, Jean Spokes, Philip and Irene Reeves, Spud and Jayne Murphy .



Additional thanks goes to Wickes Building Supplies, Adrian Haynes, Geoff Thorneycroft, Chay Adams, Ken Wade and Julian Moriarty for their practical help and advice in preparing the site.

We plan to have an official opening in the Spring of 2019 when hopefully our trees will be in blossom. More details of that in future issues of the Prattler.

A Merry Christmas to Everyone.

*Mike Langrish*



## **Heyford Athletic Football Club**

Hi Everyone, firstly my apologies that you have not seen anything from me in the past couple of months. I am in the midst of changing jobs and also planning a wedding (I don't do things easily) and so unfortunately articles from me have been lacking.

It's also been very busy on the football club front as well since you last heard from me. The early season optimism has sadly very much faded for the club and a number of personnel have left the club for a whole variety of reasons. We were very hopeful a new person supporting the existing set up would give us a fresh influx of players and whilst the early indications were promising it unfortunately did not materialise. As such there have been some very challenging weeks for the club over the past few months were a number of people on the committee have had to put in a lot of additional time to ensure the club fulfilled its obligations. A lot of thanks in particular to Fraser Bennett who put in a lot of effort to ensure as a club we continued to get two teams out every week in some trying circumstances.

We are now a few weeks removed from that period, and whilst I don't think we have fully come through this sticky path yet we are certainly in much better shape. What now remains is a number of committed individuals who will do their utmost for the club. A number of reserve team players have stepped up and performed very well in the Premier Division and the 1st team have now won 2 games on the spin. And as I look at the fixtures I cross my fingers as I say this but there are other games round the corner where I think with the teams new look, and growing confidence we can pick up some more points and climb away from the bottom of the table. In turn I hope with a few new faces it will help the reserve team as well and help them start to get a few wins under their belt.

Our youth teams continue to make me proud – in their various leagues. We have 4 teams currently ranging from U16 to U8's and we are hoping we will be able to set up a new U7 for next September. I know a few have asked me, and I would love us to have one, however we need the support of the parents, to help run these sides

for training and weekends as without the adult support we cannot get these teams off the ground. So any budding coaches out there please get in touch.

We are also working hard on our new field to get this ready for next September for the youth sides – if you have been down the club recently I am sure you will agree we are making some great strides thanks to our groundsman Ash Hammond and the work he puts in to all of the pitches.

I would also like to give you a date for your diaries. March 16th will see the club host a Comedy Night at the Village Hall. Laughs and drinks aplenty are guaranteed on what should be a fun night raising funds for the club. I will talk more about this in future Prattler's but for now please make a note. This will be a fab night out.

Finally, whatever you are doing over the Christmas Period on behalf of the club I wish you a Very Merry Christmas season. I love this time of year, and I hope you all get an opportunity to spend time with loved ones and families

*Gary McMahon*

07801 276488



## **Heyford Bowls Club**

**[www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk](http://www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk)**

It has been a very good year for the Heyford indoor bowls section. Turnouts have been maintained throughout the 12 months. Thanks to our friends and bowlers from Flore who once again have supported us so well. It was nice to see an excellent turnout for afternoon bowls on 31<sup>st</sup> October. Well done to all the people who organise and support the afternoon bowling session.

All our competitions this year have, as usual, been most enjoyable. They have all been closely fought matches and the standard of bowling has been very high. The ladies v the men on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November produced some good bowling and was finally won by the men. The fixture was enjoyed by all and we hope to repeat the fixture again next year. Don't forget our Xmas bowls fun evening on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. It will as usual be a mixture of different bowling games.

It has been nice to get off to a good start in the Wardington winter league. We have played our first two matches, both away, where our hosts have given us a warm welcome. We won at Syresham by 3 points and a very good win at Wardington by 29 points. Let's hope we can keep this going. Our next match is at home on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 1.30pm in the village hall.

If you would like to try indoor bowling just turn up at our Wednesday sessions in the village hall at either 1.40pm or 7.10pm.

*Den Taylor*

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**[www.lookingglasstheatre.co.uk](http://www.lookingglasstheatre.co.uk)**

## Farmers Markets - Monthly 9am until 2pm unless stated

**Brackley:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday


**Daventry:** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday

**Grandborough:** (St Peters Church 10am - 12:30pm) 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday March to December

**Northampton:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

**Oundle:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday

**Towcester:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday



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