

February 2020

Issue No. 430

## The Welcome Relaunch of our Neighbourhood Watch Scheme



#### February 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3 P/C Meeting 7:30pm BSR	4	5 Black / FC Wed Group 2pm BSR	6 W.I. 7:30pm VH	7	8 Bowls Comp 1:30pm VH	9
10 Garden Club 8pm VH	11	12 Blue/Green/ /FC	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Black/FC	20 Picturedrome 7:45 VH	21	22	23
24 Flower Soc 7:45pm VH	25	26 Blue/Green/ FC	27 Coffee Morn 10-12 BSR NHNP 7:30 YC	28	29	

#### Regular Events

**Monday**: Crafty Club 12:30 - 2:30 (VH), Men's Tennis 7pm (TC), Youth Club 5:30-7pm (YC), Scouts 7:30-9:15 (CR) Chip Van Evening (village round)

**Tuesday**: Beavers 6:15-7:15 (CR), Cubs 7:30-8:45 (CR), Amblers 10:30 (Green), Patchwork Club 10-12:45, 1:15-4pm (VH)

**Wednesday**: Indoor Bowls 1:50 & 7pm (VH), Viv'sYoga 9:30-10:45am (VH), Tennis Club 7pm (TC), HFC Training 6:30 (PF)

**Thursday**: Heyford Singers 7:15 (VH) or Fridays

**Friday**: Ladies Tennis 10am (TC), Café on the Green 1-5pm (BSR), Food Van 5:30 (Foresters)

Saturday: Chip Van 12:30-1:30pm (Close Road)



The January 6th 2020 meeting was held as normal in the Baptist Church Rooms.

Like all Council meetings it was open to the public.

Reports from the District and County Councillors. Cllr Adam Brown (NCC) reported that scrutiny of the Northamptonshire County Council budget was nearly complete. Staff would receive a long delayed 4% wage increase. He felt that children's services were now in much better order; although there was a nationwide shortage of foster homes and places in children's homes. Progress towards the Unitaries would soon be resumed. He expressed concerns about the development of the site opposite Clark's Garage on the A5. Planning conditions were not being adhered to and he felt that Daventry Council were being very lax as regards enforcement. He would try and go through the local Government Association to try and get the house in order regarding planning before the Unitary came in.

**Public Participation:** Mrs Wright thanked Nick Essex for his efforts regarding the village sign, which all agreed is looking in very good shape; and asked that overhanging branches were kept at bay. Mr Wright asked for assurance that the Lime in the cemetery would be cut back, this was given. The chair thanked him for clearing the entrance to the cemetery.

**Lights:** 5 lights had been declared beyond economic repair by the maintenance contractors; as the Council are investigating the installation of new lights we would ask for patience from residents while the situation is resolved.

**Roads and pavements:** Graffiti had been reported in jitties. Potholes were reappearing after poor quality repairs. The chair thanked Keith Matthews and Steve Corcoran for clearing rubbish from near the bridge. The sand bin had arrived and was awaiting positioning.

The Green and Play Area: All very wet. The Play Area had been inspected but was felt to be in need of refurbishment. An increase in dog mess was reported as is often the case with winter when some seem to think cover of darkness means they don't have to clear up. It can be accepted that lack of light makes clearing up a problem, but Council would urge dog owners to carry both suitable bags and a torch. Unfortunately, the problem with dog mess doesn't end there; the linkman has reported an increase in dog waste being put in the ordinary litter bins, which is disappointing as they are a number of specific dog waste bins.

**Playing Fields:** The Netball/Basketball Court had been completed and will shortly be in use.

**Trees:** A Corsican pine at the cemetery had shed a branch just before Christmas. The large branch was being dealt with.

**Allotments:** Rent night took place on Jan 16th and about half the rents due were collected.

**Youth Club:** 30 children had attended the new term first meeting. The situation regarding helpers was now good. AGM to be arranged shortly.

**Defibrillators:** Both checked and in working order.

**Precept:** This is the annual demand that the Parish Council makes to the District Council in order to carry out its duties. A budget of £89,790 was set, and a Precept of £80,000 set, with any shortfall being covered by reserves. This represented an increase of 6.7% on the previous year. Costs in general are rising, and particular increases for next year are an approx. 10% increase in the cost of employing the PCSO, and the need to budget for election expenses; there being elections in May this year.

**Parish Council meetings** in 2020 will continue to be at the same venue, on the first Monday of each month, (unless a Bank Holiday) and would start at 19.30. The next one is on Feb 3rd.

Reporting Highway and Footpath Issues: The Clerk will report issues that the Council is made aware of, but the Council would encourage residents to use the Fixmystreet service to report issues themselves as there will then be no time lag and first-hand reports are almost always better than 2nd or 3rd hand reports. The service can be found here

https://www.fixmystreet.com/

It is easy to use; you can have your own account and can check up on any issues you have reported.

Clerk to the Parish Council: Guy Ravine, c/o Old Dairy Farm, Upper Stowe, Weedon. Northampton. NN7 4SH.

Tel: 07935 931787. E-mail: netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com

#### 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

Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact.	
C. Kiloh, 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford. Tel 07779 900860	Chairman, Planning, Finance.
M Brasset, The Foresters Arms, The Green mikethepub@hotmail.co.uk	Canal Matters, Planning.
L. Dilkes, 17 Furnace Lane, Nether Heyford, NN7 3JS 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, Trustee of the Bliss Charity School
S. Corner 7 Close Road, Nether Heyford NN7 3LW sue.corner@sky.com	Allotments, Planning
D. Musson davemusson073@gmail.com	Finance
A.Williams 26 Church St, Nether Heyford, NN7 3LH anthony.k.williams@talk21.com	Planning and Finance.

#### The Prattler

The Prattler is run by an active voluntary committee comprising of Sue Boutle, Christine Watts, Vicki Hamblin, Jez Wilson, Nick Essex, Richard Musson and Mary Rice. If you would like to submit articles or have any suggestions for future issues, please get in touch.

The Newspaper is supported by donations from the Parish Council, the Parish Church, the Baptist Church, Heyford W.I., Heyford Garden Club, Heyford Singers, the Bowls Club, the Village Hall and Heyford Picturedrome as well as the advertisers.

We have also recently received a grant from the One Stop Shop to help with printing costs over the next few months.

Thanks are also due to the volunteers who distribute it every month.





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

#### Services for February 2020

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		First Sunday - All Age Service at Flore	
	06:00 pm	Holy Communion at Heyford	
Sunday 9th	10:00 am	Benefice Communion Service at Church Stowe	
	04:00 pm	'Four at Flore' – Church for All in the Millennium Hall	
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>	02:30 pm	Messy Church at Flore	
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> 09:30 am F		Holy Communion at Heyford	
	10:00 am	United Partnership Service at Flore URC	
	11:00 am	Family Service at Upper Stowe	
	04:00 pm	Youth Church at Flore	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 am	Benefice Prayer Meeting at Heyford Church	
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Flore	
	11:00 am	Informal Worship Service at Heyford	
	06:00 pm	Holy Communion at Upper Stowe	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	07:30 pm	Holy Communion for Ash Wednesday at Heyford	

**Midweek Services** are held weekly on Wednesdays, 9.30am at Heyford (not 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> February) and Thursdays, 10am at Flore – all welcome.

During February we shall be praying for people living in Hillside Rd and Hillside Crescent here in Heyford, Sutton St, Yew Tree Gardens and Sutton Acre in Flore, The Manor in Church Stowe and the Gate House and the Old Dairy in Brockhall.

#### Dear friends.

Once again, I am writing February's letter on the eve of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year, material for this week of prayer - prepared by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland - is based on the story of St Paul's shipwreck on the island of Malta. Found in Chapters 27 and 28 of the Acts of the Apostles, this is a story of peril and fear, rescue and hope. St Paul and his fellow travellers, which include the ship's crew, and the soldiers sent to guard the apostle, found themselves battered by storms, shipwrecked and washed up on the beach. To this day, tourists to the island are taken to the spot where St Paul is thought to have come ashore, bringing with him the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ. The Church in Malta still celebrates this event, as the arrival of the Christian faith on their tiny island, reminding us that Christianity is not just a spiritual thing, it is rooted in real events in human history.

Back in the original story, the survivors of the shipwreck were eventually rescued and aided by local people; "Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. The islanders showed us unusual kindness." (Acts 28:1-2) 'Unusual kindness' strikes me as a strange phrase. Kindness is not unusual. It's shown as much today as it was in St Paul's day. What's unusual was that this kindness was shown to strangers and foreigners, and battered, bedraggled ones at that.

It's easy to show kindness to people we know and like. Much harder to show kindness to people we don't know, or don't like. I suspect we all have work to do there! But Jesus calls his followers to show 'unusual kindness' telling us to love even our enemies. Such kindness sees beyond our differences and divisions and recognises our common humanity. Of course, whatever our faith, we can all show kindness; to our friends and families, and to the strangers we meet as we journey through life. We demonstrate unusual kindness by valuing and welcoming all people. We demonstrate unusual kindness by giving without counting the cost. We demonstrate unusual kindness as we love and serve others, without expecting anything in return.

At the start of this new decade, I pray that we might all aspire to show 'unusual kindness' to the people we meet. I pray that we might acknowledge our common humanity, build one another up, and strengthen our communities.

With every blessing,

Stephen (Tel: 344436)



#### Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Morning Services: 10:30 am

Afternoon Services: 4:00 pm

#### **Sunday Services**

February	10:30 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Worship led by Wally Mular	
9 <sup>th</sup>	Worship led by Wendy Manley	Songs of Praise led by Martin Buckby (including Tea & cakes)
16 <sup>th</sup>	Worship led by Tony Brown followed by coffee.	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am Prayer meeting followed at 10:30 by our communion service led by Martin Buckby.	

#### **Events**

**February 5th** 2 pm Wednesday group meeting where the subject is

"Cruising around Europe" with Clive Leakey.

**February 10**<sup>th</sup> No Prayer and bible study this month

**February 27**th 10am to 12md Community Coffee Morning – come for

a free drink and chat. (Books and Sales table)

#### **ALL WELCOME**

#### Governor Vacancy - The Bliss Charity School

As a result of a recent retirement, The Bliss Charity School has a vacancy for a Governor.

#### What do Governors do?

The volunteer Governing Body provides strategic leadership and accountability at The Bliss Charity School. It has three key functions:

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils

Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

The Governors set the aims and objectives for the school and set the policies and targets for achieving those aims and objectives. We monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making and act as a source of challenge and support to the headteacher.

#### What sort of person are we looking for?

Schools need a range of professional knowledge (in addition to education) on the governing body including finance, human resources, legal, marketing and public relations, property and estates management, and organisational change.

We are particularly keen to hear from those from a finance/accountancy background, or with buildings/facilities management experience, but this is not essential. The most important attributes are time to dedicate to attending meetings a few times per school term (usually early evenings), and a commitment to supporting school staff to enable every pupil to achieve their potential.

#### Do I have to have a connection with the School or the Village already?

Absolutely not! It is important for us to find someone from beyond the immediate families of pupils of the School on this occasion, as we already have a number of parents on the Governing Body.

It is not necessary to be a resident of Nether Heyford, so please do share this vacancy with anyone you think may be interested in the position.

For more information we would welcome enquiries to the Clerk to the Governors, Lynn Adey who can be contacted by calling into School, by telephoning School on 01327 340758 or by email bursar@bliss.northants.sch.uk.

Karen Teago Chair of Governors

#### Carols on the Green - December 2019

When I first envisaged 'Carols on the Green' I had a picture of villagers singing as in a Christmas card, with the weather 'Deep and crisp and even'. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon, standing on the green, it was more like 'Wind and rain and boggy'. The team who came to set up were incredible, completely ignored the weather and got drenched in the process. However, NEVER doubt the power of prayer as by 6.30 it had actually stopped raining and the wind was not as bad – I can't claim that the green was perfectly dry but we can't have everything! I would like to say a heartfelt, personal thank you to everyone who turned out to raise their voices to Christmas.

You raised £256.56p towards replacing our Church roof which, considering the conditions, was wonderful. I would also like to thank you all for leaving virtually no litter for me to pick up the next morning.

On behalf of Heyford Singers there are, as always, people who must be acknowledged for their help in the organisation of an evening such as this and I hope you will forgive me if I have missed anyone out!

The Parish Council for permission to use the green and help with insurance arrangements.

Unusual (Rigging) Ltd. for the use of power cables.

PPL PRS for a Charity Music Licence.

The Village Hall Committee for use of the Hall in the case of bad weather.

Alwyne Wilson for her co-ordinating skills.

Tony Clewett for the use of the sound equipment and being so sure it would stop raining!

Geoff Allen for being an incomparable compere.

Peter Squires and Jeremy Rice for fixing the power cables in the rain without electrocuting themselves (or anyone else)!

Keith Rands Allen, Jill & Mike Langrish + grandsons, Alwyne W and Tony C for erecting the gazebo despite the wind and rain.

The Rev. Stephen Burrow for his closing prayer.

And Richard Musson for providing the collecting buckets.

I have been told that carol singing on the green used to happen in the past and I would love to hear from anyone who can tell me when this was. It would be lovely to start a new 'Village Tradition' but equally exciting to carry on an old one – especially as Northampton seems to be creeping ever nearer along the A45.

Thank you all for your support; hope to see you again in December.

Mary Rice Heyford Lodge 01327 340101

#### Village Hall News

#### First, a sad note

Chris Phillips, who has represented the Crafty Club on our Management Committee for some time, has decided to stand down. We want to record our warmest thanks to Chris for her enthusiastic and positive contributions to our meetings, and also her willing and active support at our various special events. We are going to miss her.

#### Pantomime: 'Dick Whittington'

Another huge thank-you to the many volunteers who helped to make our latest traditional pantomime another great success. Once again we had a packed house, making all the generous contributions of time, effort and raffle prizes well worthwhile. The children and young people enthusiastically shared in the audience participation, although the adults certainly enjoyed themselves too.

Our next pantomime by The Looking Glass Theatre will be 'Cinderella' at the end of the year. More information nearer the time.

#### Carols on the Green

A report on this appears elsewhere but it was interesting to note that, as with our Village Hall Fete in June, the weather before and on the day was awful. During our setting up it was pouring and we were all soaked - again. However, as with the Fete, amazingly the rain stopped in time, giving us a clear and relatively mild evening for the event.

The Heyford Singers, lead by their Director Mary Rice whose idea this was, are to be warmly congratulated on a successful first event. It looks as though Nether Heyford now has another traditional annual event on the Village Green.

#### Main Hall Floor

This has now been fully cleaned and restored and looks like a brand new floor, attracting many compliments from our users. Our thanks are due to Peter Squire for researching and arranging for this work to be done over the Christmas break.

#### Heating

The boiler which heats the kitchen side of the hall and rooms behind the stage has now been repaired and is working well. So no more complaints about being cold. However, we did receive a complaint during the pantomime that it was actually too hot – can't win – but we continue to do our best.

#### Future plans

Several are in the pipeline and will be reported as and when appropriate. We want our village hall to be in prime condition for its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Alwyne Wilson 01327 340803

#### Village Hall Events - The 60th Anniversary

Village Hall dates for your diary 2020 - the 60th Anniversary year.

**Garage Sale 19th April** £7.50 to register your garage. Bacon rolls in village Hall all day.

**Village Hall Fete June 20th** - Many attractions including the train which was such a success last year.

Art Exhibition Saturday 26th September

Anniversary Dance Saturday October 10th

NHVH Yuletide Festival Watch this space for further details

**Pantomime Cinderella Late December** date to be confirmed but usually between Boxing and Hogmanay.

# ACRE 2020 Village Award Scheme - Nether Heyford's Application

Following my mention of this in the October Prattler, in preparation for our application, I have been researching all that Nether Heyford has to offer to its community.

The results are staggering – in a village of 1750 people we have some 50 groups, organisations, activities and facilities all offering direct benefits, not only to our own people but to those of neighbouring villages.

But a list is not enough - I now need specific details of how all these benefits are offered and received. To this end, I am about to ask each group to help me by completing a brief questionnaire. As it's going to take me some time to get around everyone, you may not hear from me immediately. When you do, I hope you will provide a picture of the all good work that you are doing.

The application deadline is tight - the end of February. In April or May the judges will visit our village to talk to groups and view the facilities. I do hope that, if invited, you will be willing to join a small group of Heyford people to meet the judges and help convince them what a marvellous community we have in our village. Awards will be announced in July.

In advance of your support, thank you.

Alwyne Wilson 01327 340803 (Village Awards Co-ordinator: self-volunteered)

#### Dear members of the Prattler and Village Hall committees.

In answer to your question about the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village Hall, I can tell you my late husband, Ralph Faulkner, was one of the many keen volunteers who built it. There was a lot of skilled workers in the building trade and those who weren't worked hard doing the labouring. It wasn't only men who worked; the ladies did their bit too. I remember Ralph's sister, Eileen Boyes, made all the first lot of curtains on her little hand Singer sewing machine while I looked after her children. I can't remember many of their names now, 60 years ago is quite a long time, but I can still remember them and how hard they all worked; men and women together. Unfortunately a lot of them are not with us anymore.

In later years Ralph was on the village hall committee and he still enjoyed doing small maintenance jobs on the hall. The last big job that I can remember was taking the old windows out and replacing them with double glazing, that was done voluntarily by DAVE JULAND, RAY METCALFE, JIM WILLIAMSON, RALPH FAULKNER and I'm sure there was someone else but I'm so sorry I can't think who it was. Joan Juland and Chris Metcalfe went to the hall to make them cups of tea to keep them working. It is a hall to be proud of, myself and my family have had many happy hours in there. I hope the future generations in this village will continue to take care of it and enjoy using it, like us village people always have.

I am the last person to live in one of the ex council houses in Hillside Crescent since they were built in 1952.

Doreen Faulkner

On 25<sup>th</sup> August, the team assembled under the leadership of Christine Metcalfe, the Village Hall Chairman. It was split into two groups, door and windows were fitted by Dave Juland, who was also the Foreman., Brian May, Ralph Faulkner and Hughie Taylor. Tea was made and served by Ray Metcalfe who was in trouble if late. Cladding and insulation was fitted by Jim Williamson and Tony Wright assisted by Sally Sargent. Everyone brought sandwiches for lunch apart from Ralph who went home for a cooked meal. Very welcome cakes were provided by Jean Spokes, Rene Gilkes, Mary Hyde and Maureen Wright.

The old cladding was removed, and insulations batts cut to size and fitted followed by the new cladding. Pet Perkin kindly left a trailer every morning and took away the rubbish at night. Joan Juland looked after the curtains. The working day was 9am to 5:30-6:00 pm Monday to Friday. By the end of the first week, seven windows had been fitted and clad. The second week saw the remaining windows fitted and the cladding completed. Beading was fitted around the windows on the inside and on the Friday, the job was finished when Joan Juland and Marion Williamson re-hung the curtains. All agreed it was a most satisfying project.

Tony Wright



#### Happy New Year everyone!

This is the year we should complete our neighbourhood plan, and after satisfying an independent inspection, we will offer it to the village through a referendum exercise for its adoption.

Thanks to everyone who filled out the short survey that was sent to every house just before Christmas. This is to update our information about the local housing need, and enables us to consider this in the light of what space is available throughout the village.

People who returned surveys were once again put into our prize draw for £100, and we're pleased to announce Mr and Mrs Goodman, who live on the Green, as our winners! Midlands Rural Housing managed the survey, and drew the lucky winners from over 270 returns. Our Chair, Tony Clewett presented them with their cheque, and we were amazed to find that Mr Goodman had been in the village for 80 years, and the cottage had been in his family since the year of the Great Exhibition (1851),



the year that Yale locks, Singer sewing machines and refrigerators were patented!. The property has a fascinating history, and once had a brook flowing through the garden – even some floors had to be dug out so that people didn't bump their heads on the beams.

We hope they enjoy spending their £100 prize.

The village achieved a 38% return rate on the survey, which is considered to be a very good response. We'll present the findings in detail next month, once the analysis report has been completed by Midlands Rural Housing. Early findings reflect the need for affordable rented accommodation and the need for small two bedded bungalows for people who already own properties within the village. MRH say that data from their review shows that first time buyers have more or less found themselves priced out of rural areas. They account for 30% of all mortgaged products in South Northants, compared with 53% in urban areas. Affordability is the main reason for this. Also, they found that over the last 5 years, Nether Heyford has, on the whole seen an increase in open market property values, across all property types. Prices have increased by £64,111 on average; a rise of almost 23%. Research suggests that properties come to the market in the village on a fairly frequent basis. 107 sales have completed since December 2014; 21 per year on average. However, MRH found that the house types to have increased in value are mainly terraced homes and flats. Decreasing values have been seen for some

mainly terraced homes and flats. Decreasing values have been seen for some detached and semidetached properties.

The Neighbourhood Plan Group will get back up to speed now and prepare the plan for the next steps. We have to review the now completed independent evaluation of the sites available around the village, and see how this fits with MRH's latest survey of need. We will be able to reflect on any changes since our last survey, and plan accordingly for the future. Once again, there is an open invitation to any villager who would like to join us in our open meetings usually held on the last Thursday of the month, at 7.30pm at the Youth Club in Robert's Field.

#### Tony Clewett, Tom Dodd, Sue Corner and the NHNPG Group



## 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





#### View from the Wildlife Patch

Well, 2019 ended very wet and 2020 has begun just as wet. This has meant that not much work has been done on the patch since Autumn last year. Before the rain came we did put the pond in place and fill it with water. However, there is still some tidying up to do round the pond edge and the pond needs planting ready for use by frogs etc. We will choose plants which provide habitats that attract species already known in the area or even attract new species. Although we have still to make a detailed list of what these plants will be. We will mostly use plants that are known to grow in the wild locally, then after establishing them in the pond, allow it all to develop with as little intervention as possible.

On the rest of the patch, Mary and Mark have sown most of the available ground with a wildflower and grass mixture that should form a sward similar to that which would have grown in antiquity and still exists in some parts of the county. It is hoped by doing this we we will encourage more species to make a home in Nether Heyford. There is also another plot planted with the "Cornfield Annual" mixture that was so successful in providing pollen as food for a variety insects last year.

What have we learned in 2019? One lesson for me has been to be prepared to change plans with new knowledge. For instance the original plan was to have a lot of flower rich grass that we could mow once a year as in many wildlife reserves. Our insect count demonstrated that long unmown grass with flower rich grassland easily available is much more conducive to what we want to achieve. Another surprise was when our insect recording (especially Butterflies and moths) demonstrated that southern species are colonising suitable habitat well to The North of their previous strongholds. We recorded a Jersey Tiger Moth and a Cream Spot Tiger Moth. Both are unmistakable large, showy, southern moths that are steadily moving North as our climate warms up. I logged a Dusky Sallow Moth which is a new moth to me and is similarly moving extending it's range to the North.

The identification and recording of wild species is major part of our work on the patch and is the main way that we gauge success or otherwise of the project. This work can be very time consuming yet exciting and rewarding. Mary and Mark have done wonderful job of recording Bees, Wasps, Beetles, Flowers etc.. I have recorded a few Moths, Woodlice and Molluscs. There is still much work to be done in 2020.

We also have a target to involve local children in the project but have yet to decide on what form this work will take.

Dave Musson



#### Heyford Garden Club

#### www.heyfordgardenclub.com

We held our AGM at our January meeting at which Mike Langrish stepped down for a well deserved rest after ten years as our Chairman. Avril Minchin now takes over the helm for a year which looks to be full of exciting talks and events. We also held a competition for the best winter arrangement which was won by Chris Watts. Looking at the offerings on display our gardens are full of colour and interest even in midwinter.

After everybody had filled up with wine and cheese, I was allowed to update them on the progress on our wildlife area.

Our next meeting will be on the 10th February when we will welcome Liz Taylor of the Woodland Trust who will talk to us about woodland flora. We will also hold our annual Art and Craft competition; the classes will be

A photograph (on a theme to be decided) A piece of visual art in any medium An item of craft work.

#### Programme for rest of the year

March 9<sup>th:</sup> Anita Thorp: Snowdrops Mini Show – Daffodils April 6<sup>th</sup> \*: Clare Price: Propagation; Mini Show Tulips

May 11<sup>th</sup>: John Lee; Penstemons; Seed Swap; Mini Show of Spring Flowers June 8<sup>th</sup>: Patsy Raynor: Plants in Literature and Anecdote; Mini Show Roses

June 20th: Village Hall Fete July 13th: Summer Party

September 14th: Autumn Show

October 12th: Philip Aubury: Garden Ponds

November 9th: Plant Swap

December 14th: Christmas Tree Festival

\*(NB a week early due to Easter)

#### Things to do in February

- 1. Plant bulbs in pots for the summer
- 2. Plant bare root trees and shrubs
- 3. Sow broad beans and sweet peas.

Mark Newstead

#### Revitalising the allotments

#### Weather

It's soggy on the allotments at the moment and too cold to do much sowing of seed, although bare root fruit bushes and trees can be planted, as long as there is no frost in the ground. It is also the perfect time to prune bushes and trees but plums, cherries and other stone fruit should not be touched until April as they are susceptible to a fungal disease called "silver leaf" if cut during the winter.

If you grow rhubarb you can also cover a few crowns with an old bucket. This will force the rhubarb to seek light and in a month or so you should have beautifully pale but succulent fruit to pick.

If that doesn't give the allotmenteer or fruit and veg gardener enough to do, these early months of the year are a good time to do structural work such as building compost bins or raised beds.

#### The Community Orchard, Jam Patch and Cut Flower Beds

These community areas go from strength to strength, although the prospect of carrying out our first major prune is a little daunting. The trees have grown well but if we want them to thrive and take on the attractive shape that marks out a really productive tree, they need some fundamental cutting back. If it looks as though someone has given our young trees a serious haircut, it is all for their good. It means that we should all have more succulent fruit to pick in the years to come.

Several volunteers have recently brushed up their pruning skill by attending fruit tree pruning courses at Waterperry Gardens and with Andy Howard, from the Heritage Fruit Tree Company.

The Jam Patch is looking good and there are now three rows of raspberries, two beds of strawberries and a good range of currant and gooseberry bushes. Once they begin to fruit later this year we will let you know so that you can come and "pick your own". Depending on how well things progress with the cut-flower beds we are also hopeful that villagers will be able to pick some flowers for themselves. Issues surrounding imported flowers, their carbon footprint and bio-security have led many people to consider the virtues of homegrown flowers.

If, when sorting our their gardens this Spring, any villagers find they have surplus plants, tubers or bulbs, we would be most grateful if they could consider us before disposing of them. Please contact one of the numbers below.

#### **Signs**

Further information about what is available and where to find things will be signposted in the next few months. We will be installing a number of attractive notice boards around the allotment making it clear what is a community resource and what

is privately owned. Goodwill and respect will be important if our venture is to succeed

#### Help

We have a small band of volunteers working on the community aspect of the allotments but are keen to enlist as many additional helpers as possible. This can involve heavier, more labour intensive activities such as digging and clearing, or lighter, low level work such as removing the weeds from around the fruit trees. As an example, if everyone visiting the allotment were able to pull up a dozen shallow rooted weeds from the bark chippings surrounding each tree, it would save a small group of people many hours of work.

A noticeboard outlining the range of different jobs to be done will be attached to the shed situated in the middle of the allotment site. We would like the community aspect of the allotment to be as inclusive as possible and although some people are able to give more time than others, it is, as a certain supermarket says, a case of "every little helps".

#### **Equipment**

A range of equipment is now available for allotment holders to borrow when working on the allotment site, this includes mowers, rotavators, wheelbarrows, brooms and watering cans. Many people will own some or all of the above, but for those who wish to get access to such equipment, please contact either Bill Corner (sue.corner@sky.com 01327 342124) or Mike Langrish (langrish\_heyford@hotmail.com 01327341390). We can ensure that you get the equipment you require at a mutually convenient time.

Although it could not be described as "equipment", we also have a large pile of good quality topsoil available for allotmenteers to use on raised beds or for topping up existing areas of their allotment. This can be found in one corner of the orchard – you can't miss it at the moment as it is many barrow loads tall! Please help yourself.

#### **Allotment Holders**

As always, if you are considering growing your own fruit and veg and you want to try a small tester plot, or something larger, here are the usual telephone contacts: Sue Corner on 01327 342124 or Lynda Eales on 01327 341707.

As the soils warms up and the evenings get lighter, now is the time to give it a go- and it is cheaper than the gym! They'd love to hear from you.

Mike Langrish

#### Dear Diary,

What fun. When I opened my curtains this morning I saw the fields all covered in snow. It was like looking at a late Christmas card. In February 1947 it almost reached the tops of the telegraph poles and they had to dig their way out of the houses.

After breakfast I walked down the village with Mum to see Nan. Her house is draughty and the windows get iced up in the bathroom; not that she ever has a bath because it's full of apples from Pap's orchard put there to last through until next autumn. She should stay in the living room where she has a Rayburn.

We went to the shop down Church Street, not the little thatched post office which they talk about pulling down. I love looking at the rows of sweets in jars in the window. Sometimes Nan buys me two penn'oth but she hasn't got enough change left today. Next time maybe. 'Course, it could be that she hasn't forgiven me for taking the pig for a walk down the street last week. She followed me, banging on the bucket which holds the pig swill, trying to persuade the pig home for tea. His, not ours.

Somebody's in the phone box by the green. It must be an emergency like doctor or fire brigade. Well, who else would you call – nobody I know has a phone. Let's hope they get a reply. Still, if nobody answers they can push button B and get their money back. I bet the boys will be in there later just to check, Well, tuppence is tuppence.

The snow soon melted. Good job because I can see the men putting up the goal posts ready for a football match this afternoon. They keep them in a shed at The Foresters Arms. They can't really leave them on the green or the boys would be swinging on them. Perhaps we'll come and watch. I like to hear the money rattling in the collection tin that someone brings round at half time. Most of the village turn out to watch and it can be a fun afternoon.

Nan isn't very well. We could ask the doctor to call when he does his morning rounds but she says she's not that ill, or, as it's Saturday she could go and see him when he comes to a house in Close Road. She won't go though because she says everybody gets to know your business there. I'm not keen on going either because you have to sit in a lady's kitchen and wait your turn, then go into her front room to see him. By that time either somebody has decided how to cure your illness or they've had it themselves.

I brought a note home from school last week asking who would be interested in a day trip to Hunstanton in the summer and mum and dad are going to talk about it tonight. It says we would leave at 7 o'clock in the morning and get home very late. I'd love to go to the seaside, my first trip ever, and I'm 5.

We're going home now to light the fire for when dad comes home for dinner. I can play with my colouring book while mum cooks the sausages she bought at the butchers. I hope she makes an apple pie for pudding with some of pap's apples. Blimey, my tummy's rumbling.

Polly



#### In Nether Heyford

We ended our 2019 Meetings in The Barn Restaurant at the Old Dairy Farm for a delicious Christmas meal. Good food and good company - it was a happy way to end what had been a very successful year for Nether Heyford WI.

However, our last job in 2019 was to make the 'bacon butties' for the Crafty Club Sale. It is a long way from 'Jam & Jerusalem' and is always great fun. Who knows, it may even encourage some of you ladies who were there to come and join us.

We started 2020 in a similarly happy frame of mind as we welcomed several gentlemen to join us in hearing Geoff Allen re-living his sporting life. Geoff has a great ability to bring things to life and it was great to hear about people and places that we had perhaps forgotten. As well as this there was the inside view of some of the problems encountered as amateur rugby changed into professional – all alongside some of the more humorous moments. Thank you, Geoff.

The speaker for our February meeting is The Rev. William Adams, Director of the Banbury Branch of the Samaritans. His talk for the evening is entitled 'Who we are and what we do'. The Samaritans is a wonderful organisation providing round the clock telephone support to anyone in emotional distress and which, I would imagine, is much needed during the darker winter months. The meeting starts at 7.30pm and is in the Village Hall on Thursday February 6th. Should you like to join us for the evening the charge is £5 and refreshments are included.

Mary Rice Heyford Lodge 01327 340101





## **VILLAGE GARAGE SALE**

## Sunday 19th April 2020 10am - 4pm

#### £7.50 TO REGISTER YOUR GARAGE

**contact:** Eve Matthews, 19 Watery Lane **Tel**: 07540599904 **email**: ematthews@sky.com

or Patricia Paterson, 1a Watery Lane **Tel**: 01327 340992 **email**: NHVHevents@gmail.com

Maps showing all the registered garages and refreshments will be available on the day in the village hall.

Closing date for registering your garage to go on the map is:

Sunday 5th April 2020



#### Heyford Picturedrome

The next film will be **Sometimes, Always, Never** - a 2018 British comedy-drama to be shown at the Village Hall on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The film stars Bill Nighy, Sam Riley and Jenny Agutter and is about an old man who is searching tirelessly for his son who has been missing for years. When a body is found, the whole family's life is turned upside down and they must all learn how to reconnect with each other. It is an off-beat comedy with lots of dry 'Brit' humour.

Doors open at 7.00 for a start to the film at 7.45pm.

Admission remains at £4.00 per person and there is no joining fee. There is free tea or coffee and a biscuit on arrival and there will be a licensed bar for the purchase of wine and soft drinks both before the film and during the interval.

The **March** film will be **The Horse Whisperer**, by popular request. It stars and is directed by Robert Redford and co-stars Scarlett Johansson, Kristin Scott Thomas and Sam Neil. It is a 1998 American film about a Montana horse healer (Robert Redford) who helps a girl and her horse who were both traumatized in a bad accident.

The film is 2 hours 50 minutes and therefore the start is being brought forward to **7.15pm with doors open at 6.30pm**. There will be an interval.

Tony Clewett (Phone no. 341533)

#### Prattler Website

The Prattler website has been updated and now contains more information about our village. Keep up to date with the Parish Council News, as well as the latest Neighbourhood Watch scheme information. Find out about the various groups and what's happening. There is also a section with the history of the Heyfords as well as the latest edition of the Prattler.

Find it at www.heyfordprattler.org

#### Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

We invite you to join us at our monthly meetings to relax and watch demonstrations by a fully qualified NAFAS Area or National Demonstrator. This is followed by refreshments and the opportunity to win one of the arrangements in our raffle. Learn how to arrange and enjoy flowers.

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

At our next meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> February we welcome Lucy Allan with her demonstration "Between the Covers".

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.



## Heyford Singers

are Lookin' for Men to join our mixed Community Choir We're rehearsing now for our Spring Concert on May 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and we need men who can sing tenor or bass. We rehearse weekly on alternate Thursdays or Fridays from 7.15 to 9.30 in Nether Reyford Village Hall Why don't you call me sometime.....

on 01327 340741

To find out more!

#### The Weather

2019 ended with a final month of excessive rainfall which resulted in another flood event on 21.12.19 bringing the total for the year to five. An analysis of the years rainfall data at local gauging stations in Daventry, Dodford, Towcester, Pitsford and Nether Heyford showed many similar trends, namely Jan-May below average whilst every month from June to December significantly exceeded the monthly averages. In particular June and October witnessed twice their monthly averages and although there were local variations, Nether Heyford recorded the highest yearly level of 826 mm, ie.18.8% above average. In spite of this Northamptonshire remains one of the lowest rainfall Counties in the Country, possibly due to its central location and surrounding elevated terrain.

These seasonal and now annual variations in weather patterns can clearly be attributed to the erratic behaviour of the jet stream and the effect of global warming. The warming in the polar regions have effected both the northern and southern hemisphere jet streams which coupled with increased El Nino activity have contributed to extreme variations across the UK. 2019 saw record July temperature of 38.7 degrees centigrade in Cambridge whilst Scotland recorded 18.7 degrees centigrade in December. Further evidence of global warming was seen in extreme levels of flooding, forest and bush fires, hurricanes and volcanic activity.

Already January 2020 has started with moderately warm weather interrupted by cold winds from storm Brendon and local flooding on 15.1.20 due to moderate rainfall on 14.1.20 falling on an already saturated catchment area. However the longer term forecast for the remainder of January is generally dry and sunny with overnight frosts. Day time temperatures will be nearer to the January average.

In spite of this let's hope the World's 2020 weather settles down!

J.Arnold

PS: My thanks to Tony Clewett for Nether Heyford rainfall data.

#### Nether Heyford Neighbourhood Watch

The 2020 revival is a fresh start for the village "Neighbourhood Watch Scheme" and expands the area to include the complete parish area and Upper Heyford. Also linking together with the Facebook group, Northants Neighbourhood Watch, The Parish Council, The PCSO and The Prattler.

The scheme is open to village residents only and all applications should be made online: www.ourwatch.org.uk/scheme/25380/nether-heyford-and-upper-heyford

For more information, please visit our website www.heyfordprattler.org



And I'll wager a hat full of guineas Against all the songs you can sing Some day you'll love, the next day you'll lose And winter will turn into spring

> Chorus: And the snow falls The wind calls The year turns round again

Written and performed by John Tams in Lark Rise to Candleford and War Horse

It is a cold, damp and rather dreary day in January, one of those days when time seems to be edging oh so slowly towards spring, although to be fair there are minute signs appearing everyday. One of those days when you look forward to the year ahead, whilst the memories of 2019, including the recent Christmas celebrations, still linger. We know that January is named after **Janus**, the Roman god of 'beginnings, gates, transitions, time, doorways, passages, and endings. He is usually depicted as having two faces, since he looks to the future and to the past.'

If we look back on 2019 for Heyford Singers it was, as in most families or organisations, a mixture of sadness and good times. In September we gained thirteen new singers in the choir, increasing our membership to over 60! They are very welcome indeed and include young mums from the village as well as older experienced singers who have worked with other choirs. The result is a very positive and vibrant atmosphere at rehearsals, even if space and stage management does become an issue!

At the end of the year, as Christmas approached, Heyford Singers were very actively involved with several, local community ventures. We had a second delightful entertainment from our resident pianist, Graham Kinnersly entitled "A Musical Mystery Tour" in which our knowledge of music and songs from the recent and distant past was tested. It was a lovely afternoon and sent us off in a festive mood, not only because we had collectively raised £460.00 towards the Emmanuel Benevolent Fund, which supports the Weston Favell Centre Food Bank. That same evening some of the choir went to sing at the Bliss Charity School Christmas Fayre. This was an absolute delight, especially when young children joined us to sing some of the carols.

Our annual Christmas concert, **Christmas Is ...** followed in early December and we performed to sell out audiences, who we hope enjoyed the Christmas music and singing as much as we did! Once again we were really pleased to be able to support charitable organisations, sending £175.00 from raffle ticket sales to both the **Air Ambulance** and **Dementia UK**.

**Carols on the Green** was a new venture for the choir (see Mary Rice's article), and despite awful weather earlier in the day it was a lovely, memorable evening, which

we hope you enjoyed as much as we did! We are looking forward to this becoming an annual Christmas event for Nether Heyford.

Several choir members sang at the church's **Service of Nine Lessons and Carols** on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, heralding the true beginning of Christmas. I think that those who sing with, and support, Heyford Singers, would say that they have thoroughly enjoying contributing to the "feel good factor' of our local community, through a variety of music and songs.

We have looked back to 2019 ..... and now to look forward to 2020.

Our Spring concerts are planned for Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Rehearsals have begun on *Les Miserables, Mama Mia, Fields of Gold, You Raise Me up,* and many more – very exciting!

We have also been invited to perform a fund raising concert in Bugbrooke Church in the spring, yet another special contribution towards our village communities.

Then there will be the 2020 Christmas concerts as well, but enough for now as it is time to brave the rain and wind and look around the garden for emerging snowdrops and spring bulbs!

Jill Langrish

If you would like to find out more about Heyford Singers please look at our website www.heyfordsingers.org

## Nether Heyford Village Hall



Available for Club Meetings, Parties, Weddings, Business Meetings etc. Modern facilities. Disabled access friendly

Bookings: nhvhbookings@gmail.com

Website: www.netherheyfordvillagehall.org

Phone: 07849 356 618



#### Heyford Cricket Club

A lot has happened at Heyford CC since our last Prattler update in August 2019. The cricket season ended on a high with both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI gaining promotion from Division 3 and 8 respectively. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI cruised to promotion as league winners for the second successive season, while the 1<sup>st</sup> XI crept into second place on the last weekend with a convincing win and results elsewhere in the county going in our favour.

The Club continues to go from strength to strength; so much so that the Committee have decided to enter a 3rd XI into the Northamptonshire Cricket League in 2020. We hope this will enable us to provide cricket to even more local people and provide an excellent steppingstone into adult cricket for the juniors in our flourishing youth teams. We are excited to have arranged for our 3rd XI to play their home games at Everdon CC and would like to thank John Thorpe for allowing us to use his picturesque ground. So, if you would like to dust off your whites and sign up for a few games, or even help with scoring and umpiring then please get in touch!

Fixtures for the new season haven't been released yet, but keep an eye on next months Prattler or our website <a href="www.heyfordcricket.co.uk">www.heyfordcricket.co.uk</a> for updates.

#### Junior Cricket in 2020

This summer we will be offering cricket for children aged 5 to 11 at the Playing Fields.

For 5-8 year olds we will be running the successful 8 week ECB 'All Stars Cricket' programme for the third time, starting on Friday 15th May at 6pm. Registration opens in February at <a href="https://www.allstarscricket.co.uk">www.allstarscricket.co.uk</a>

This year there are two choices for 8-11 year olds. Dynamos Cricket is a new ECB initiative, ideal for beginners or children who have just 'graduated' from All Stars Cricket. The first session will be on Friday 15th May at 6pm. Alternatively our U11 Junior Cricket will continue in the same format as 2019, with fun coaching sessions on a Friday afternoon and matches played against other local teams on Sunday mornings. Winter 'Nets' (indoor practice) starts on Tuesday 4th February at Quinton House School, from 6:30-7:30pm for U11s. Boys and girls of all abilities are welcome, and all equipment is provided.

Please get in touch if you would like some more information or to register your interest!

All Stars Cricket: Matt Baker 07779 795458 matt.baker@hotmail.co.uk

Dynamos Cricket: Ed Rogers 07713 416221 edr@emrogers.co.uk

U11s Cricket: Ross Cambray 07867 515819 / Martyn Cory 07484 638932

#### **Bonus Ball:**

A full list of Bonus Ball winners can be found on the 'News' pages of our website. The December 2019 winners were as follows:

07/12/19 39 Annie John

14/12/19 56 NO WINNER

21/12/19 26 Rob Pardon

28/12/19 9 Colin Gillespie

Thank you to everyone who supports the Club by playing the Bonus Ball game. It costs just £1 per week to play and you have a chance to win £25, so if you would like to take part then please get in touch for more information.

More details about Heyford Cricket Club can be found on our website <a href="https://www.heyfordcricket.co.uk">www.heyfordcricket.co.uk</a> or via social media where we can be found on Facebook <a href="https://www.heyfordCc.">@HeyfordCC</a>.

If you would like to get in touch you can also email us at <a href="mailto:heyfordcricket@hotmail.co.uk">heyfordcricket@hotmail.co.uk</a>.

#### Thank you for your ongoing support

It is good news to report Sandy is still receiving monetary support to be donated to the Gorleston branch of the RNLI.

A monthly raffle organised by Sandy on an 'INDOOR BOWLS CLUB' afternoon is steadily raising more funds for the Yarmouth Lifeboats. They very much appreciate all the hard work put in by Mrs Davis. The branch has three life boats to maintain, and most of the money to keep them operating is raised by public donations.

A thank you to all the 'INDOOR BOWLING CLUB' members for their generosity in supporting this very worthy cause.

All monies raised will be given personally by Sandy at the Gorleston RNLI branch in Great Yarmouth. Sandy is a dedicated collector for the RNLI and anyone who would like to donate please contact Sandy on 07759 007 279.



#### We want you to come out and play!

Farthingstone golf course, just 5 miles from Nether Heyford, is a friendly, cosy place, so dust off those clubs, polish those balls, time for some fresh air, some challenging holes, get up, get out and play Farthingstone. We'll welcome you for a few holes, a beer, some food, and all important exercise with new friends.

We are now offering great deals and introduction days!

To find out more call us or visit us at www.farthingstone.co.uk

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

#### Monday 17th FEBRUARY

**'WALLIS SIMPSON AND THE ABDICATION CRISIS OF 1936'** by Roy Smart. Roy tells the story of the twice married American divorcee whose romance with the future King Edward VIII led to a constitutional crisis and abdication.

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 01604 830165 or visit our website

www.u3asites.org.uk/upper-nene



#### "NETHER HEYFORD TENNIS CLUB"

We are a friendly club that welcomes players of all ages and abilities.

We offer four social sessions – Monday-men's night, Wednesday - social play from 7.00pm, Friday mornings - ladies morning and Sunday morning open club session for league level play.

At other times the courts are available for use by members.

We offer coaching sessions - juniors and adults. This is also open to nonmembers.

We have between 5 and 7 teams playing in the Northants Leagues.

**Club News** We are now seeking funds to refurbish two of our three courts. The surface of these courts is starting to break up from the weather and many years of use.

**Can we offer anything else?** We are always looking for ways to ensure our club is used by as many local people as possible and welcome any suggestions or ideas of what else we could do.

For further information- please find us on facebook or contact Jo 349094, <u>jodickson@btinternet.com</u>

Website - clubspark.lta.org.uk/NetherHeyfordTennisClub

## Crafty Club / W.I. Christmas Fayre Saturday 7th December 10:00 TO 14:00

The Village Hall looked absolutely amazing with all the stall holders making their tables look very inviting. W.I. commenced "frying" their wonderfully, delicious bacon butties, and apparently were sold out before the 2 o'clock deadline. All the trees were decorated and ready by the start of the Fayre and a banner was placed outside on poles.

The Christmas Trees and Mystery Boxes in the Chapel Rooms had a steady flow of people through the four hours, with many comments about how people felt the idea of the trees all being the same, giving the various groups the same opportunity to win, was a "good idea"!

At 2 o'clock votes for the best dressed tree were counted, the results were as follows:

Flower Society
ReStore
Crafty Club
Singers
Messy Church
Foresters
Garden Club
Quilters
- 8 votes
- 5 votes
- 16 votes
- 16 votes
- 6 votes
- 5 votes
- 2 votes

So, the overall winner was the Singers with Crafty Club & Messy Church tying for second place. The Singers were awarded a box of chocolates and as there were two joint seconds Crafty Club gave Messy Church the box of biscuits

Thanks to the Baptist Church for the use of their room.

The Mystery Box went well - two numbers were picked by an independent person. at 2 o'clock and the winning numbers were

126 - Jude Massingham 11 - Lorraine Streeter

I would like to thank all the people for their hard work helping with the organisation of the Fayre and for all the people who came along that made the whole event worthwhile

Finally I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

Chris Phillipps



#### Heyford Bowls Club

#### www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk

It is nice to say 2019 turned out to be a very good year for the 'INDOOR BOWLS SECTION' and good attendances were maintained throughout the year. The Wednesday afternoon bowls section has shown good attendances regularly. Well done to the organisers and supporters of afternoon bowls for creating an enjoyable afternoon bowling section.

The Christmas fun night turned out to be another hilarious bowling occasion. A good turnout was treated to a very enjoyable evening.

2020 will see the start of another year's bowling competitions. Last year they produced some excellent bowling. Competition was keen, making it hard to win a trophy. Our first competition, 'THE DAVE JULAND PRESIDENTS CUP' will be played on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1pm for 1.30pm.

January 6<sup>th</sup> saw Heyford entertain Syresham in a Wardington League match. An enjoyable competition saw Heyford win on both mats. This enabled us to pick up 4 points from this win. Our next match is away at Middleton Cheney on the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

It would be nice to say thank you to Ray and Rosemary (EVENING) and Sandy (AFTERNOON) for all their hard work throughout 2019 in helping to maintain a thriving INDOOR BOWLING SECTION. Also a thank you to all our members for making 2019 a successful and happy year for the IBC. Good luck to all our bowlers in the coming year.

For more bowls club information please visit our website address at www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk

Den Taylor

#### **Parking**

I am lucky enough to be of an age where I no longer have to push a pushchair and I am not quite of the age that I have to be pushed in a wheelchair or drive myself on a mobility scooter. Others are not quite so lucky.

It amazes me that villagers who pop into the One Stop appear to be oblivious of the dropped kerb outside the shop and the one between the planters. These areas are also identified by a solid white line painted on the road surface. Perhaps these drivers need to be reminded of The Highway Code's Rule 243?

Name withheld

#### Money in your Pocket

In a recent Martin Lewis Money programme on ITV he reminded any married couple or partnership in which one partner is a 20% tax payer whilst their partner either does not pay tax or utilise their full personnel allowance, currently at £1250, should apply to transfer the unused tax allowance to their partner. This can be back dated to April 2015 and currently amounts up to a maximum of £250 for the current tax year. Simply contact the Office of Works and Pensions and provide both partners details in order to your claim.

In addition anybody who has taken out a Lasting Power of Attorney, LPA or Enduring Power of Attorney, EPA between 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2017 are entitled to refunds varying from £34 to £54 for each attorney dependent on the date of completion. Separate refunds are available whether cover is for property/financial or health/welfare. Closure date for applications is 1 February 2021. So far over £11M has been paid out. You can claim if you are a donor or attorney. If the donor has died then the executor of the will can claim. Claims can be made to the Office of the Public Guardian by phone 0300 456 0300 selecting option 6 or fill in on-line form. If successful payment will be received within 12 weeks.

I personally have successfully completed claims and received multiple refunds.

J.Arnold



#### The Olde Sun

- **Happy Hours** -16:00 to 19:00 Monday to Thursday 50p off each pint or glass of wine.
- Curry Night- Curry and a pint or glass of wine every Thursday -£10.
- Fish Friday -18:00 to 21:00 every Friday, your favourite Haddock and Chips takeaway £7.
- Quiz Night 20:30 start win prizes, Second Sunday of the month.





10 Middle Street Nether Heyford NN7 3LL 01327 340164

#### Flore Arts

#### **BEN HOLDER JAZZ TRIO**

If you came to Ben Holder's Flore gig in 2018 you'll know what to expect: we'll be in for a sparkling evening of wild playing from a jazz fiddler extraordinaire. "An experience you won't forget" (The Jazzman) and "Get your feet tapping and your jaw dropping at the speed of his fingers" (Jazz on Tap) are just two of the great reviews you can find for this energetic group.

Ben's Trio will be completed by wonderful support from Jez Cook on guitar and Paul Jefferies on double bass.

Flore Millennium Hall: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April; 7.30pm. Doors open 7pm. Licensed bar. Tickets £12.50 (£5 under 18s) - call Rosemary Read (between 9am and 8pm) on 01327 341026.

#### **MORE 2020 DIARY DATES**

Watch out for more news on:

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2pm: Jazz in the Garden: new year, old favourite, new line-up: New Orleans Heat will be headlining. Again generously hosted at Rock Springs in Sutton St, Flore.

July 11th, 3pm: Outdoor theatre comes to Flore, courtesy of the Illyria theatre company who will be performing "The Further Adventures of Dr Dolittle". The owners of The Grange in Flore High St have very kindly agreed to host this event.

November 14<sup>th</sup>, All Saints Church, Flore: Budapest Café Orchestra; more traditional folk and gypsy-flavoured music with an exotic twist.

Don't forget to keep an eye out for updates on our website at www.FloreArtsEvents.com and our Facebook page. We'll also be providing more information in future editions of the Prattler. We hope to see you soon!



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Many thanks to Tom Dodd for this month's cover picture.



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