

March 2020

Issue No. 431



March 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
P/C Meeting 7:30pm BSR		Black/FC Wed Group 2pm BSR	W.I. 7:30pm VH			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Garden Club 8pm VH		Blue/ Green/FC			Coffee morn 10-12 BSR	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Black/FC	Picturedrome 7:15pm VH		Lent Lunch 12-2 BSR	
					Myeloma Event 7pmVH	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Flower Soc 7:45pm VH		Blue/ Green/FC		Coffee Morn 12-12 BSR	Messy Church 3pm CR	
30	31					

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: Walking Football 6:45 pm (PF) 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 February 2nd 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 P Bignell reported that he is confident that LGR will proceed, and that much work is being done towards the introduction of the unitaries, with blueprints for the various processes being produced; although nothing is certain until the statutory instruments have gone through parliament. (Which has now happened). The larger towns (incl Northampton) will have Town councils, which is likely to change the dynamics of Town/Parish relationships.

Public Participation. A resident had noted that many runners are avoiding wet paths and verges and running in the road in the dark, many without light or luminous clothing – causing concern that vehicle drivers will not see them. Another resident asked for a speed panel in Furnace Lane as he felt that vehicles were travelling as fast as 60mph past his house. Chair responded that speed cameras were being considered.

PCSO. had supplied a January Report. Councillors were concerned that some residents misunderstood the role of the PCSO and expected too much. Despite some reports on social media he is round and about the village on a regular basis. His work pattern is not made public in advance for obvious reasons. He is shared with Bugbrooke and we pay 1/3rd of the cost against Bugbrooke's 2/3rd. He has made himself known at the pubs, the shops, the Friday café, the school and Youth Club. Just at this moment we have a remarkably low crime rate within the village; whether that is due to the PCSO being around is open to question, but his presence certainly helps.

Parking issues. There have been complaints about parking on the pavements, partly or wholly. The legality of this is debatable, and enforcement against it unlikely. The Parish Council would ask residents and their visitors to be considerate about their parking, and remember that there are wheelchairs and mobility scooters about, as well as mothers with pushchairs buggies etc who can be seriously inconvenienced or endangered if you have completely blocked a pavement.

Lights. It was reported that 3 suppliers had been short-listed, and that some nominal costs were anticipated. It was hoped to have schemes finalised in mid March ready for an application in April for New Homes Bonus money.

VE day. It is hoped to join in the national celebrations, but nothing definite yet has been planned by any village organisations. The Parochial Church Council and Village Hall Committee are understood to be looking at this at their forthcoming meetings..

Storms and Flooding. The Village has got off relatively lightly during the recent storms, although some damage and inconvenience has been caused.

Reporting Highway and Footpath Issues. The Clerk will report issues that 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.

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 March 2nd.

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 March 2020

Sunday 1st	08:00 am	Prayer Book Holy Communion at Flore Church
	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	11:00 am	First Sunday - All Age Service at Flore Church
	06:00 pm	Holy Communion at Heyford
Sunday 8 th	10:00 am	Benefice Communion Service at Brockhall Church
	04:00 pm	'Four@Flore' at the Millennium Hall in Flore
Sunday 15 th	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Heyford
	10:00 am	United Partnership Service at Flore Chapel
	11:00 am	Family Service at Upper Stowe
	04:00 pm	Youth Church at Flore
Monday 16 th	10:30 am	Benefice Prayer Meeting at Upper Stowe
Saturday 21st	04:00 pm	Messy Church at Flore – 10 th Birthday Celebration
Sunday 22 nd	10:00 am	Mothering Sunday Service at Upper Stowe
	10:00 am	Mothering Sunday Coffee Church at Flore Chapel
	11:00 am	Informal Worship Service at Heyford
Saturday 28 th	03:00 pm	Messy Church at Heyford Church Rooms
Sunday 29 th	09:30 am	Holy Communion at Heyford
	11:00 am	Holy Communion at Flore
	06:00 pm	Evensong at Upper Stowe

Midweek Services Midweek Communions are held weekly on Wednesdays, 9.30am at Heyford (not Wednesday 4th March) and Thursdays, 10am at Flore – all welcome.

The Streets we shall be praying for during March are: Close Rd, The Pound and The Peak in Heyford, The Avenue and The Glebe in Flore, The Old Dairy Farm in Upper Stowe and the outlying farms around Stowe and the Mews Houses in Brockhall.

Dear friends,

My wife Deborah and I have had a worrying time of late, as concerns for our family have added to existing anxieties on several levels. On the global scale, the coronavirus and climate change are extremely concerning; at work, I worry about how we'll pay for the various church repairs needed, whilst at a lower level, I worry about the state of the Rectory garden. There seems to be a lot of anxiety and worry about, and much seems to have been written about it. One commentator suggests that 'anxiety is the new base line in the symphony of life', whilst another writes 'Worry is like a rocking chair; it gives you something to do but doesn't get you anywhere.'

There's a story told about a young man, a newly qualified accountant, who applies for a job with a local small business. He's interviewed by the business owner, a very anxious man, who tells the applicant; 'I worry about a lot of things, but I don't want to worry about money. Your job will be to take all my money worries off my back.' 'I see', says the young man. 'How much does the job pay?' 'I'll start you on £100,000', replies the owner. '£100,000!' exclaims the accountant. 'How can such a small business afford a salary like that?' 'That,' says the owner, 'is your first worry'.

Another story that might be a little more helpful. J Arthur Rank, the British industrialist, film maker, and devout Methodist, decided to do all his worrying on one day of the week. He chose Wednesdays. When anything happened to cause him anxiety or stress, he wrote it down, and put it in his worry box. Then he forgot about it until the following Wednesday. The interesting thing is that on the following Wednesday when he opened his worry box, he found that most of the things that had disturbed him during the past six days were already sorted out. It would have been useless to worry about them!

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says "do not worry about your life..." (Matthew 6:25-34). Jesus points us to the vastness of God's gifts, to the wonder of creation, and reminds us that God takes care of all that. And if God takes care of the flowers of the field, and the tiny birds of the air, how could he forget all of us? Jesus reminds us that when we trust God, somehow, things always work out in the end. Jesus urges us to hand over to God the anxieties that rob our lives of peace and joy. Similarly, the Apostle Peter writes, 'Cast all your anxiety on [God], because he cares for you'. I trust and pray that as we do that, rather like J Arthur Rank and his worry box, when we go back to those things, we'll find that God has sorted them out for us!

Yours in Christ,

Please note that work repairing the roof over the South Aisle of Heyford Church is due to start at the end of February, and last 4-6 weeks. As a result, services in Heyford Church may be relocated to the Church Rooms across the road.



Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Morning Services: 10:30 am

Afternoon Services: 4:00 pm

Sunday Services

March	10:30 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
1 st	Worship led by Trevor Boys	
8 th	Worship led by Les Britten	Songs of Praise led by Martin Buckby (including Tea & cakes)
15 th	Worship led by Allan Pope followed by coffee.	
22 nd	Worship led by Clive Leakey	
29 th	9.30am Prayer meeting followed at 10:30 by our communion service led by Martin Buckby.	

Events

March 4 th	2 pm Wednesday group meeting where the subject is
	Daily Bread (Bedford Road) with John Clarke

March 9th 2-3pm Prayer and bible study

March 14th 10am -12md Coffee morning (in aid of church funds)

March 16th 2pm Church Annual General Meeting

March 21st 12md – 2pm Lent Lunch

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

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

ALL WELCOME

Tord Seyford Baptist Continued to the state of the state Coffee Morning Saturday 14th March 2020 10am - 12noon 50pence

Sundries coffee &biscuite and Cakes

Proceeds for the continuing upkeep of the Chapel buildings for the ongoing use of the village and community

> Thank you for your continuing support ំងងងងងងងងងងងងង

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ACRE Village Awards Scheme: progress report

I am pleased to write that, to date, 46 questionnaires have been sent out to village groups and organisations and 28 have been returned. This is an excellent response at this stage – and my thanks go out to all those who have responded so promptly. There is still time for others to come in so I am hopeful that by the time the judges want more detailed information we'll be well prepared.

In the meantime, I now have a long list of activities and amenities, giving me a good general picture of Nether Heyford's community life. So by the time you read this I will have submitted an application on behalf of the village, with two supporting statements: one about the village as a great place to live (Community), and the other about the revitalisation of the allotments project (Creative Use of Communal Space).

I have received much support from people around the village – which has been a great encouragement to me, thank you all.

Alwyne Wilson 01327 340 803 alwyne76@gmail.com



Heyford Spring Clean

The annual village spring clean will take part on Saturday 4th April, Heyford Preschool and the Bliss Charity School will be taking part in the week leading up to this. Once again, we are hoping to clean up the whole village.

If you would like to take part, or would like further information, please either email heyford_prattler@yahoo.co.uk stating where you would like to clean or call in at Sunrise Cottage, 15 The Green.

Many thanks to all the volunteers.

Sue

Village Hall News

In line with the aims of the original founders and builders 60 years ago, the current management committee continues to work hard to maintain the condition and facilities of the village hall for the benefit of all its users. For example:

New Storage Container

This has now been ordered and will be delivered in the next few weeks. In the meantime, the area to the left-hand side of the hall has now been prepared to form a firm base. Once constructed, the new container will provide additional longer-term storage for large and heavy items, thereby releasing space for more cupboards for use by the growing number of regular users of the hall.

Redecoration

In due course the hall will be redecorated in time for a succession of special events planned for this year. We face a challenge in finding the right time to do this, because the hall is now almost continually booked (a victim of its own success).

Kitchen

In the meantime, this is now being comprehensively cleaned and sorted, with the exception of locked cupboards used by other groups.

Outside

Shortly, another working group will tackle the weeds and moss around the hall – made far worse by the recent heavy rains. This will not only improve its appearance but also ensure safer walking on the paths.

Future plans

In addition to managing and maintaining the hall, management committee members are now organising several events such as the biennial Garage Sale in April and the Village Hall Fete in June, and are seeking a good DJ for the Anniversary Dance in October (know anyone?).

Some are also involved with a group of other village folk in gathering information for an historical exhibition covering the hall's 60 years.

Busy but rewarding times.

Alwyne Wilson 01327 340803

Sheep Dipping in the early days at Whitehall Farm

We used to take the sheep to be dipped at Upper Heyford. Jack Perkin and I would leave the buildings at Whitehall Farm around 1pm with 40 sheep, driving them along the road towards Heyford. We would pass High House Wharf where the West family (Coal Merchants) lived. On the right side of the road would be the house on the bridge where Ted Grey and his wife Ellen lived. Carrying on down the hill on the right by the side of the canal and past Mr and Mrs Fry (he was a carpenter) following on down the road towards the village, on the left the French family (now Adrian Hayes) – past the Cemetery – down the hill on the right, the Johnson family.

We are now in the village and on the left was Sid Eales shoe mending hut, past the little green. We would pass on the right the Butchers shop kept by Sid Capel (now Glen). We had to keep an eye on the sheep at this point otherwise they would escape down Church Street!! Next was Chapel Cottage, Mrs George. David Browning kept the shop, past the Foresters Arms, the landlord was Tom Rolfe. Now the sheep would take to the green where there was lots of good grass! Turn left into Middle Street past the School and School House where Mr Carrington, the headmaster lived with his wife and 6 children. Next to the Sun Inn was the Farmhouse, Mr and Mrs Will Smith, past Benns Orchard (full of Apple Trees), now it was plain sailing on the way to Upper Heyford.

Our destination was Dovecote Farm where Mr Cosford would be expecting us. The sheep would be put through the dipping bath. This would take about one or two hours. After a cup of tea and then the journey home with two tired men and a very wet dog called Nell. She had been dipped too.

Hugh Adams

Such Kindness!

On Thursday 6th February a kind man helped my husband who was experiencing difficulty with his payment card in the One-Stop shop. He paid the bill!

I would like to get in touch with him. Whoever you are, please telephone me on 01327 340180.

Thank you.

Jean Levell





Heyford Garden Club

www.heyfordgardenclub.com

Our February meeting featured the welcome return of Liz Taylor of the Woodland Trust who explained the different types of natural woodland to be found in Britain and their associated flora. She also demonstrated how to tell apart the two types of oak to be found here (sessile oaks have stalked leaves; pedunculate oaks have stalked acorns).

We also held our annual arts and crafts show, which again highlighted the range of talent amongst our members.

The photograph section was won by Mike Langrish, Tom Dodd came second and Tony Clewett third.

Philip Reeve won the visual art section with an exquisite miniature painting of a heron, Jean Spokes' cross-stitch took second place and I managed a third place.

The craft section was won by Mary Newstead with an embroidered bag, Chris West got second with a quilted wreath, and Lynn Ashbee took third with her cupcake quilt.

Our next meeting will be on the 9th March when we will have a talk on snowdrops from Anita Thorp. The evening will also feature the annual daffodil and narcissus show (assuming that there are still daffodils in our gardens by then!).

I am writing this article whilst the second storm in two weeks is lashing the trees. We have already had a very wet winter although there has been little frost so far. Snowdrops are already over and daffodils are fully out and I notice buds nearly bursting on our lilac. This leaves a dilemma, if the season is so advanced, should I get on sowing seeds now to get an early start, or are we likely to get cold weather in the weeks to come? The soil is so wet now that, even without further rain, it will take a while to dry out so perhaps it would be wise to wait a while.

Speaking of plants in pots, I planted some anemone corms in pans in the greenhouse in the autumn, but some creature has been digging in the pans and nipping the developing buds off, I'm not sure whether this is due to mice or renegade sparrows, but it's all very frustrating.

Things to do in March

- 1. Top dress container grown plants with fresh compost
- 2. Prune roses
- 3. Lift and divide crowded perennials.

Mark Newstead

Revitalising the allotments

Weather

I started last month's article talking about the weather and, yet again, I think I'd better make mention of that much-loved topic. This time it is the wind. The roofs on allotment sheds seem to have stayed in place, a testament to sound construction by their owners. I am afraid the same can't be said for all manner of other allotment paraphernalia. I have never seen so many runaway compost bins, cloches and cold frames. I even spotted one item lodged up against the tennis courts. Where possible, anchor things down and hope for the best.

Getting Ready to Grow

Although the ground is soggy, it is amazing how quickly the soil on the allotments drains (and the same seems to be true for the Playing Fields as well). Those hardy souls who have begun preparing ground for the earliest of crops like shallot and onion sets and a first sowing of parsnip seed, will have been surprised at how well the ground turns over.

Now is also a good time to dig out perennial weeds, particularly couch grass. It really takes hold later in the year by spreading a clinging net just below the surface and clings on for dear life. Wise gardeners dig it out and try to ensure they leave not a scrap of root behind, for it regenerates with a vengeance from just the tiniest of root segment. Rotavating the soil when couch (or any other perennial weed) is present in the soil will result in an even more dense net of weed later in the year. The ground might look good when you finish your rotavating, but beware of what lurks beneath the surface.

There is still time to prune bushes and trees, but as mentioned last month, 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.

The Community Orchard, Jam Patch and Cut Flower Beds

Our pruning of the apples and pears in the Community Orchard is now complete and, after a general health check on all the trees, we can report that all are doing well.

Signs, indicating where the community areas are situated, have now been printed onto special weatherproof aluminium sheeting and they will be erected in the next few weeks. We have clearly identified the orchard, the jam patch, the cut flower borders and the wildlife corner, as well as the community seating area. We hope that will enable you to find your way around the allotments and make good use of the space, particularly once the weather warms up.

Allotment Volunteer Days

Throughout March we will be holding a series of volunteer days. We invite allotmenteers and anyone in the village who'd like to help, to join us on Saturday mornings, from 10.00. until 12.00. to finish clearing the few remaining derelict plots, tidying up the paths, covering vacant plots with plastic sheeting and weeding around the fruit trees/bushes and painting the tables and chairs in the community area. Every little bit of help is valued and enables us to continue to make the allotment an important part of the village.

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.

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.

And there will come a time of great plenty,
A time of good harvest and sun.
Till then put your trust in tomorrow, my friend,
For yesterday's over and done.

John Tams

Mike Langrish



Dear Diary March 1951

The Sunday School are planning a trip to Wicksteed Park in the summer holidays and I'm going with my mum and my auntie. They went there as children as well because the Park has been open since 1921. I hope we take a picnic. There are swings, very big slides, huge see-saws that hold about 10 or 12 people, a little train called Lady of the Lake and a water chute where you climb up steep steps to the little hut where the boat is kept, you get 3 drops and end up soaking wet.

Another favourite outing is to Wellingborough Zoo to see lions, tigers and bears. They also have a goldfish pond, an elephant and a giant tortoise.

Mum has a little Sunday morning job delivering papers. They come by car from Weedon and she goes to all the houses in Furnace Lane carrying a heavy bag full. I go with her sometimes but everybody wants a chat so it can take a long time and I get bored. If I go to Sunday school instead of delivering papers with mum, she takes me and lets me walk home with the other kids. We try and find a stick so that when we walk through the jitty we can drag it along the railings, making a great sound.

Later today, because the sun is out, we are going for a walk to Bugbrooke. No doubt we'll see snowdrops and daffodils along the hedgerow and we shall pass the little lane about half way that mum and dad call 'Lovers Lane'. They tell me lots of people use it but I can't think why, it's just a little lane with a hedge both sides and the canal at the top. We shall walk as far as The Five Bells pub and I might get a bottle of pop and packet of crisps with a little blue bag of salt inside.

Next weekend I shall go to church because it will be Mothering Sunday and all us children are given a little bunch of flowers to give to our mothers. Three weeks later it will be Easter so I'm hoping to get an Easter Egg, especially if it has chocolate buttons inside. I better be good for a few days.

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



In Nether Heyford

At our February meeting we were told about the foundation and history of The Samaritans. I'm sure many of us knew of their existence but hearing first-hand of the commitment and incredible work they do left me feeling very humbled. The Reverend William Adams told us of their lengthy training, which teaches them that they cannot suggest solutions to people's problems but just listen and support – and all completely anonymously on both sides. The shifts the volunteers work cover 24 hours, 7 days a week. I can only begin to imagine what the night shifts can be like, especially in the gloom of the winter months. It is a lifeline for many and one which can only survive with our charitable support.

We have a change of programme for March when Michael Peachey, a Northamptonshire artist, will be coming to talk to us. Evidently this is an evening of art for people who know nothing about art! I only know a little so, with luck, I will come home more enlightened. We will be meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday 5th of March at 7.30pm and there will be a warm welcome for any ladies who would like to join us. The cost of the evening is £5 and includes refreshments.

In April our speaker will be Jayne Jones who will be telling us about 'Foraging and Cooking'. I can't wait to see if she can tell me what to do with the enormous crop of ground elder that we always have in our garden (and probably in everyone-else's, too). Who knows, Heyford ground elder may yet be able to rival spinach in Sainsbury's next year!! But, then again...

Mary Rice Heyford Lodge 01327 340101

Walking Football

Thursday's 6:45pm @ Playing Fields

An open event in which everyone can take part.

£3 per game. All profit will be donated to Heyford Playing Fields



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

The Storms

February's main news headlines have focused on Atlantic storms, Ciara and Dennis which have caused chaos across the country due to prolonged high winds and heavy rain. Some areas have experienced 1 months rainfall in 24 hours (up to 150 mm) with the inevitable severe flooding causing evacuation of whole communities from their flooded homes. For some this has been their third flooding in 3 years! Residents effected have said "living through a flood is the most appalling experience. Every time it rains your heart beats faster". The trouble is todays news becomes tomorrows history and little action follows.

Suddenly the Environment Agency are realising that such events can effect mental health for years after an event with an increase in PTSD stress and depression. It is worth noting that our Flood Alleviation Study in 2017 mentioned health risks but the Grant-Aid funding procedure did not include such a category. Surely this should be rated highly in any cost/benefit analysis!

Clearly there is a growing problem with climate change and the increased risk of major flooding events and even the current budget of £4bn to 2026,less than 1% of the infrastructure budget,is woefully inadequate. The E/A claim that a spend of £1bn per year for the next 50 years will barely maintain the current level of risk.

Locally January 2020 had significantly higher rainfall than January 2019 and reached our expected monthly average total. With the ground already saturated and February being dominated by strong winds from storms Ciara and Dennis where wind speeds reached up to 60mph it was inevitable that another flooding event would occur on 16.02.20. Previous storms, Atiyah in Dec 2019 and Brendon in Jan 2020 winds only reached 40 mph. As a result February's rainfall looks set to exceed its monthly average with the possibility of more flooding.

As 1 in 6 homes across the country are now at risk of flooding, excluding the effect of climate change, it is about time the E/A and local Planners refused all applications for building in areas of flood risk. 10% of new homes were built on zone 3 floodplain and in areas like Lincolnshire this figure rises to 100% where they have already experienced 7 floodings in 20 years!

The Government must now realise that flooding is a National emergency and needs to take immediate action to support those currently effected and make a concerted effort to increase funding for prevention schemes capable of dealing with future long term needs.

J. Arnold



Heyford Picturedrome

The next film to be screened in the Village Hall on **March 19**th will be **The Horse Whisperer**, by popular request. It stars and is directed by Robert Redford and costars 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**.

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 **April** film to be shown on 16th will be **Peanut Butter Falcon**, a 2019 American film which has received excellent reviews and has been highly recommended by one of our projectionists – praise indeed! After running away from a residential nursing home to pursue his dream of becoming a pro wrestler, a man who has Down Syndrome befriends an outlaw who becomes his coach and ally. It stars Shia LaBoeouf, Zack Gottsagen, Dakota Johnson and Bruce Dern. One critic said 'Go in expecting the best and you'll come out smiling!'

Tony Clewett (Phone no. 341533)

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

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 23rd March we welcome Louisa Rigden with her demonstration "Spring Delights".

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.

NETHER HEYFORD

OFSTED No. EY450747

CHARITY No. 1029571

Pre-School

Ages 2-5 years

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Funding available for eligible 2,3 and 4 year olds

Highly qualified and experienced staff

Excellent links with Bliss School

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- Forest School activities
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Wrap around are available for children aged up to 11 years old

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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







Do you hear the people sing?
Singing the song of angry men?
It is the music of a people
Who will not be slaves again!
When the beating of your heart
Echoes the beating of the drums
There is a life about to start
When tomorrow comes!

From **Les Miserables** Music by Claude- Michel Schonberg, Lyrics by Herbery Kreztner

This month we follow the journey of a passionate, war torn, emotional story - from book to film, play to musical stage show, radio to TV series, and eventually to Heyford Singers' spring concert 2020.

'Les Miserables' by Victor Hugo, first published in 1862, is considered one of the greatest novels of the 19th century. It was originally divided into five volumes, each volume then divided into several books, totalling 365 chapters! It is a blazing pageant of life and death at the barricades of the political and social revolution in nineteenth century France. The story follows the life of Jean Valjean, released after serving 19 years in in jail for having stolen a loaf of bread for his sister's starving child. He later breaks parole, and police inspector, Javert, determines to hunt him down and return him to prison. Factor in beggars, factory workers, "ladies of the night", a bishop, an innkeeper and his wife, a young child, rebellious students, the police and young lovers, and the ingredients are set for a truly emotional, turbulent, and epic story. Victor Hugo drew his inspiration for the book from what he saw and heard in Paris, recording impressions in his diary. In 1846, he witnessed an altercation between an old woman scavenging through rubbish and a street urchin; he personally gathered information about working-class people's wages and living standards, about life in a convent, the toil and drudgery of different industries, the battle worn lives of those who had recently fought at Waterloo.

Thirty five years after the book's initial publication the Lumiere Brothers made a short film of 'Les Miserables'; the film industry then seized upon this epic story, resulting in over 50 versions having since been made for the screen!

In 1985 The RSC and the theatre impresario, Cameron Macintosh joined forces to produce a musical stage show of 'Les Miserables', and the music, songs and dance sequences took the story into a new dimension. Those who have seen the stage show will remember how the music surges through the theatre as chairs, tables, cartwheels and barrels are used to create the changing sets. Rousing songs such as "Red and Black", "Do You Hear The People Sing" feature beside the tear jerking "I Dreamed a Dream" and "Empty Chairs at Empty Tables". There are many more memorable songs and tunes.

In December 2012, the world's longest-running musical was brought to the big screen in Tom Hooper's sweeping and spectacular interpretation of Victor Hugo's

epic tale, although the general consensus was that no amount of cinematic spectacle could replace a live stage performance.

In 2015 the BBC commissioned 'Les Miserables' as a radio drama with Joss Ackland and Roger Allam, 25 episodes lasting nearly six hours in total, and during which the many themes were explored in the greatest detail.

At the start of 2019 there was the long awaited BBC serialisation of **'Les Miserables'**, directed by Andrew Davies and starring Dominic West, David Oyelowo and Lily Collins. The six hourly episodes enabled a very long and complicated book to unwind slowly so that viewers could appreciate the true scope of the events without being distracted by the songs!

Maybe you have read the book, seen the stage show, listened to the radio series, or watched a film of 'Les Miserables'? We each have our particular preference for the way that the story is told.

Heyford Singers humble contribution to this inspiring story is to perform a few of the wonderful songs from the musical version during our forthcoming spring concert, entitled "LET US ENTERTAIN YOU" on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th May. We do hope that you will be able to join us, and continue along the journey of this most wonderful story 'Les Miserables'.

Jill Langrish

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

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The Royal Ordnance Depot at Weedon

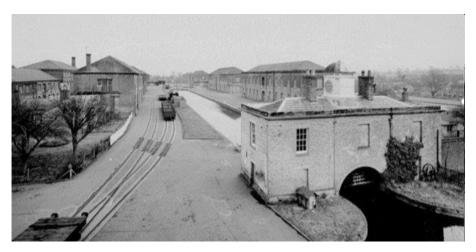
If you have an interest in History, Architecture, Canals, Railways, Military or local history then you should take the time to visit the Ordnance Depot at Weedon Bec.

Shortly after the Grand Junction Canal (now the Grand Union) was routed through Weedon in 1793, surveys began to find a location to safely store ordnance in a central location. Europe was in turmoil and Napoleon was making threatening noises across the Channel. As most of England's ordnance (arms and military equipment) was either made or stored near to the Channel coast it was deemed prudent to find a location somewhere better protected but still with access to all areas. In modern times we call such a place a logistics centre.

After procuring land, work commenced at Weedon in 1803, starting with a spur from the Canal that would run into the Depot. Narrowboats could carry many more tons of goods than horse and carts. First cargoes were the bricks and other materials to build the storehouses and other buildings. By 1806 canal access was functioning and the building was under way. An extension to the canal was then added that continued to the 'magazines', to the west of the site. This enabled large quantities of gunpowder to be brought in from the Royal Gunpowder Mills and safely handled and stored. At peak times there was upwards of 2000 tons of gunpowder on site!

In 1816 the Depot was completed along with many other facilities on the large 200 acre site. Barracks, a hospital and officers houses were also built and the ordnance began to flood in. Napoleon never did invade Britain but arms, uniforms ammunition and other equipment was allocated to the Army and shipped around the country and the world to support battles in Europe and at sea.

Of course, wars did not stop with the demise of Napoleon and the Ordnance Depot continued to support our forces through many subsequent wars and campaigns including, the Crimean War, The First World War and the Second World War.



If you would like to learn more about how the Depot operated, see the incredible architecture or view artefacts from the time, then visit our Visitor Centre - in fact, if you are even more interested, why not volunteer as a guide / host at the Visitor Centre and help to inspire others with the story of our local military history. Training and supervision will be given and just a few hours per week can lead you into a whole different period of time when the world was at war and sleepy Weedon Bec had the power to support our forces around the world.

Could it be you? Volunteers needed for independent visitor service

Volunteers are needed to join the Northamptonshire Independent Visitor service and become friends and mentors to more children and young people in care. An Independent Visitor (IV) is a fully checked volunteer who is paired with a child or young person in care. They go out on social visits, share hobbies and interests and maybe even try new activities. They act as a friend and mentor and aim to build helpful and positive long-term relationships.

There are currently 50 children and young people in the county currently being supported by an Independent Visitor and a campaign 'Could it be you?' is now being launched to double this figure to 100.

Northamptonshire County Council cabinet member for children, families and education Councillor Fiona Baker said: "Independent visitors visit young people at least once a month to enjoy fun activities together and help to provide support and consistency in their lives where possibly there has been none before. All of our Independent Visitors are fully checked, plus they receive training and expenses for activities and travel. You can come from any background and there is no upper age limit, the most important thing is that you are reliable and committed to regularly spending time with the child or young person.

"This can be such a rewarding role. Independent Visitors become friends and mentors, and a consistent person the young person can confide in and talk things through with. Could it be you?"

People interested in finding out more can visit www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/independentvisitor.

There are also drop in sessions on the first Tuesday of every month between 10.30am and 2pm at One Angel Square.



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 16th MARCH

'TRUE TALES OF A TOUR GUIDE' by Jo Golby.

From the laughable to the unbelievable, an informal talk on the weird and wonderful experiences during her years as a tour guide.

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"

Our **Court Refurbishment Project** is soon to start. Two courts are being fully renewed and our third court will be cleaned and painted to match. The surrounding fencing will also be upgraded.

Watch out for our Grand Opening/Open Day in May

During this time we will be playing on them as much as is possible -with only a little break. So do come along and join us at any of these times -

Monday evenings: 7.00 – 9.00pm Men's night
Wednesday evenings: 7.00 – 9.00pm Social club night (all ages/abilities)
Fridays: 10–12noon Ladies tennis morning
Sundays: 10-12noon Open "club level" tennis session

During school holidays we aim to offer again "Free Friday Tennis" Children and adult coaching also available.

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

Website - clubspark.lta.org.uk/NetherHeyfordTennisClub

View from The Wildlife Patch

I have never really explained the underpinning belief that provides our framework for planning development of The Wildlife patch. Before Spring "springs" and there are many other subjects waiting to be aired I will now attempt to remedy this.

You will already know that as a team we seek to recreate local habitats (often "micro habitats") that existed on this site in past times. In doing this we try to provide as many ecological niches as we can in the available area. Before doing this we consider likely species and their lifestyles. We know that each species needs its` own unique conditions in order to thrive. They need to eat and to drink, they need to be safe night and day, winter and summer and they need to perpetuate their species. Each species needs to do this without competing with other species.

We narrow our search to seeking to attract sustainable populations of insects and invertebrates. Some would ask "Why focus on these? Why not try to attract Birds or Mammals? Or a really varied flora maybe?"

The answer is that Invertebrates (insects are invertebrates) underpin the entire Ecosystem of life on Earth. Life on Earth depends on Invertebrates thriving. A recent study measured the effect of restoring neglected farm ponds. This demonstrated an increase of insects due to this restoration which led to an increase both in numbers and in species of Farmland Birds feeding nearby. They attributed this rise in birds to the rise in insects numbers stating that these creatures (invertebrates) are "at the very heart of nature's food web) (Waterlife Magazine, Spring 2020).

We believed this when we put the wildlife pond on the site but it is gratifying to see good research supporting this belief. The same report found that active ponds can act as "insect chimneys" pouring vastly greater numbers of insects into the surrounding countryside. We decided to put our pond in as there had previously been a brook flowing alongside the patch. We could not recreate the brook so a pond is the next best thing. In addition to the pond we have piles of logs-and are hoping for more. We have a pile of dry grass mowings with a hedgehog nest box inside. It is used by something, maybe not hedgehog. We are intending to create and maintain a bare earth area for Mining Bees, maybe a sandy patch as well. We already have 4 or 5 bird boxes ready for occupation.

The area is just entering its second year as a Wildlife Patch so is still in its infancy. Necessarily we have destroyed some good habitat in creating the pond and reshaping that area generally to provide better habitat. It will be interesting to find at the end of next year if we still have our 19 species of butterfly etc. on the site. Our hope is that due to work completed in this first year the count will rise and continue to rise in following years. That will be the measure of our progress to an ideal species rich local habitat.

Dave Musson



Heyford Bowls Club

www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk

Indoor

A good turnout of 21 players contested the 'THE DAVID JULAND PRESIDENTS CUP' on Saturday 8th February. The eventual winners after a hard fought final were Jean Cullin, John Dunkley and Peter McClean over Gill Guglielmi, Barry Cole and Roger Schofield by a score of 9 to 3.

An excellent result in our 'WARDINGTON LEAGUE' match was a win on both mats over Boddington with a combined winning score of 57 to 10.

The 'LADIES PAIRS' Competition will be played on Saturday 14th March at 1pm for 1.30pm. Entrants as usual via the notice boards.

Members' support has been good in maintaining attendances at our Wednesday bowling sessions.

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

Den Taylor



The Olde Sun

Special Menu - Mothering Sunday & Easter Sunday

Two courses £ 18.00 Three Courses £23.00 (please see Website for full details).

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Desserts : Sticky Toffee Pudding; Baked Apple & Blackberry Crumble; Lemon Meringue Pie; Cheese & Biscuits

Please Book in advance using the phone number below.





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 25th 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 28th, 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 14th, 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!

Village Hall Exhibition

As part of the Village Hall 60th Birthday celebrations, we are holding an exhibition of its history. If anyone has any memories to share, photos etc, we would love to see them. Please send to heyford_prattler@yahoo.co.uk or contact Sue Boutle, Sunrise Cottage, 15 The Green. Thanks in anticipation.

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We welcome Prattler contributions, please send these to the Editor. Please include your name and full contact details. We prefer items by e-mail & all images should be JPEG files.

The Editors reserves the right to edit or refuse any submissions at their discretion. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of any member of the editorial team. Advertising material does not imply any endorsement by the editorial team.

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



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