



THE PRATTLER

The Heyford Village Newspaper

June / July 2021

Issue No. 442



NETHER HEYFORD GARAGE SALE

Sunday
19th September 2021
10am - 4pm

Maps available on the day in Nether
Heyford village Hall - £1.00
Refreshments also available

For more details tel:07802 210440
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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.

Thank you for the donations made by individuals in recent months. Thanks are also due to the volunteers who distribute it every month. It is all very much appreciated.

Please note that we will publish the next copy in August and this will cover August / September so please send articles by 20th July at the latest.

The logo for HomeMove Estate Agents features the word 'HomeMove' in a large, serif font, with a stylized house roofline above the 'e' in 'Home'. Below this, the words 'ESTATE AGENTS' are written in a smaller, sans-serif font, flanked by two horizontal lines.

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PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Due to government regulations prohibiting public meetings the April 7th, 2021 Parish Council meeting was held online, using the Zoom platform. This was in line with national advice.

Public Participation: Mr D Williams raised the issue of his land off Winston Close, which he claims has been subject to an erroneous change of status, having been designated H6 "Open Countryside". The chair responded that a Parish Council does not have the authority to change land registration and re-iterated that he should be consulting with West Northants Council, who do. Mr Williams stated that the Clerk had been totally obstructive in this matter. The Clerk reminded Mr Williams that a Parish Clerk's function was to respond according to the instructions of the Parish Council. A Freedom of information request was made regarding this issue.

Lights: Light between 1/2 Western Avenue reported out. Light in front of Village Hall reported dangerous due to vehicle damage to the base. Both reported. Specified lights had been cleared of ivy, but AW felt that further work would be required to prevent a recurrence of the issue. DM suggested snipping the young ivy fronds as they developed.

Roads and pavements:

Hillside Rd Bus Shelter – unclear whether there had been full repair.

Wakefield Way - There had been no intention to offend, and the issue had to be checked through as it had been raised by both residents and Councillors. It transpired that there had been nothing untoward about the planting of a hedge alongside the pavement.

The Green: Clerk reported that the procedure to adopt the phone box had been initiated.

Churchyard: The PCC had donated £475 towards the cost of the pollarding work but were now considering asking for assistance with wall repairs.

Joint Burial Board: It was reported that the volunteer team led by Geoff Thorneycroft continued to do excellent maintenance work at the extension cemetery. The interior of the Lych Gate has been transformed.

Canal: Concern had been expressed that the damage to the Furnace Lane Bridge brickworks had still not been repaired.

Election: There would be no election due to lack of candidates. 7 candidates had put themselves forward, and would therefore become Councillors as of May 6th.

Impending Closure of Post Office: It was reported that a petition had been raised. It was not clear whether it was Tesco/One Stop – or the Post Office wished to discontinue the Post Office. The core of the issue would appear to be a change in government support funding. It was felt that a closure would be a major loss to the community.

Play Area signage: It was felt that there should be new signs forbidding bicycles in the Play Area.

The May meeting of the Parish Council took place on May 17th at the Baptist Church Rooms. Council were placed in a curious position concerning this. The legislation to allow council meetings to take place online ran out on May 6th. All in the sector expected it to be extended, but it wasn't. Thereby making remote/online meetings unlawful despite the continuing Covid emergency.

The Parish Council therefore decided to follow the advice of the Northamptonshire County Association of Local councils, and to hold a short, limited agenda meeting.

Charles Kiloh was re-elected as chairman.

Council welcomed Cllr Karen Cooper WNC as the new ward Councillor. There are 3 District Councillors, but as they cover multiple villages, they have divided them so that they can more effectively cover their needs.

It was resolved. To delegate responsibility for decision making to the Clerk, after online consultation with Councillors.

It was resolved. To delegate responsibility for responding to planning applications to the Chair of the Planning Committee, after online consultation with members of the committee.

It was resolved that Neil Haynes be co-opted as a Councillor.

Election

Subsequent to the Election the Parish Council is now 3 members short of its full quota of 11. In the meantime, we are able to co-opt new members, subject to them being eligible. The Parish Council really does need active new members, preferably familiar with IT – so if you feel that is you – please contact me or the Chair (details overleaf).

Reporting Highway and Footpath Issues. The Clerk will report issues that Council is made aware of, but 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.

Streetlights within the village can be reported to the Clerk, who will report them to the maintenance company.

Roadworks locally and nationally can be seen on this website

<http://streetworks.org.uk/live-traffic-works-map/>

Parish Council meetings in 2021 will continue to be on the first Monday of each month, (unless a Bank Holiday) and would start at 19.30. The next ones are on June 7th and July 5th.

Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact.	
C. Kiloh, 3 Church Lane. Nether Heyford. Tel. 07779 900860	Chairman. Planning, Finance.
L. Dilkes. 17 Furnace Lane, Nether Heyford, NN7 3JF e-mail thedilkesfamily@outlook.com 07967753216	Village Hall Rep, Youth Club. Vice Chair. Finance.
L. Eales – 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 341707 e-mail lyndaeales@aol.com	Allotments, Playing Field.
N. Haynes, 30, Weedon Rd, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 340167	Tree Warden, Planning. Joint Burial Board,
D. Musson. davemusson073@gmail.com	Footpaths.
C Thomas	
A. Wallace. 5, Western Avenue, Nether Heyford. NN7 3NQ. andrew.wallace8765@gmail.com	Councillor
A. Williams 26 Church St, Nether Heyford, NN7 3LH anthony.k.williams@talk21.com	Chair of Planning. Finance.

Clerk to the Parish Council: Guy Ravine

Tel: 07935 931787

E-mail: netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com



Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

Services for June & July 2021

Sunday 6 th June	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	11:00 am	Short service of Holy Communion at Heyford Church
	11:00 am	'First Sunday' informal worship at Flore
Sunday 13 th June	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	11:00 am	Holy Communion at Flore Church
Sunday 20 th June	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	11:00 am	Informal worship at Heyford Church
	11:00 am	Short service of Holy Communion at Upper Stowe
	7:30 pm	Flower Festival Thanksgiving service at Flore Church
Sunday 27 th June	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	11:00 am	Short service of Holy Communion at Brockhall
	6:00 pm	Informal evening worship at Upper Stowe
Sunday 4 th July	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	10:00 am	Benefice Holy Communion service at Heyford
	11:00 am	'First Sunday' informal worship at Flore
Sunday 11 th July	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	10:00 am	Benefice Holy Communion service at Flore Church
Sunday 18 th July	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	10:00 am	Benefice Holy Communion service at Upper Stowe
Sunday 25 th July	10:00 am	Holy Communion on the Facebook Page
	10:00 am	Benefice Holy Communion service at Heyford

Midweek Services are held weekly. On Wednesday at 9:30am (not Wed 2nd or 16th June or 28th July) there is a service of Morning Prayer via the WHYPAY telephone conference system. Please contact the Rector or Churchwardens for the numbers to use. On Friday, there is a service of Morning Prayer at 9:00AM via Zoom. Please e-mail the Rector on s_p_burrow@yahoo.co.uk for an invitation.

Dear Friends,

As a parish priest, I have the privilege of meeting people at key 'threshold' -or in-between - moments in their lives. There is the joy of meeting a couple preparing for and getting married. And there are sadder times, meeting people as they say farewell to their loved ones at a funeral. At other times, I meet year 6 students getting ready to leave primary school and looking forward to secondary school, and I give them a little book of wise thoughts and advice to help that transition. We find these threshold or liminal moments throughout our lives, perhaps as we start a new job, or retire, when we have children, and so on. At each of these moments, we know that life is going to change.

As a community and as a nation, we are in one of these liminal spaces at present, between step three of the government's Covid19 roadmap and step four, hopefully later in June. Perhaps, it feels like we've been in that 'in-between time' since March of last year! Living in these in-between times can be difficult. Maybe we are desperate to press on, to see what the next normal holds. Maybe we hanker for the past, for the way things used to be, and the new things to come fill us with anxiety or uncertainty. Right now, you may be looking forward to crossing the thresholds of family and friends you haven't seen or visited for months, or planning holidays to see family abroad, or elsewhere in the country. But government advice, or uncertainty about the progress of the virus, hold you back. Such is the nature of these in-between times, times between 'this' and 'that', between old and new. They can be difficult, painful places to stop and stay.

As I write this, in the Church's calendar, we are in another of those liminal moments, between the Ascension and Pentecost. At the Ascension, Jesus ascends to heaven, reminding us of just how close heaven and earth can be. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit is poured out on Jesus' followers, filling them with confidence, and sending them out into the world to share the Good News of Jesus. In the ten days between, the disciples pause, wait and pray, preparing themselves for the next normal. This story reassures us that God is with us in every liminal space. Every doorway we go through, God is with us. And somehow, God is waiting on the other side!

In closing, I pray that God will meet all of us in our waiting, and as the pandemic eases and we emerge from our liminal spaces, I pray you will find love and joy in the presence of those you have missed for so long.

With every blessing,

Rev Stephen (tel 01327 344436)

The Streets we shall be praying for during June are Middle Street, Manor Park and Parsons Close in Heyford, Brockhall Road and The Crescent in Flore, The Green in Church Stowe and in Brockhall, The Old Rectory, Rose Cottage, Western Cottage.

In July we shall be praying for people living in Upper Heyford; Capell Rise, Collins Hill, Sears Close, Muscott Close and John Campbell Close in Flore; Francis Row in Upper Stowe and the Stables and Coach House in Brockhall.



Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Services will again be held in the Church room to comply with Covid guidelines and Baptist recommendations.

Services for June / July

June 6 th	10:30am	Worship led by Clive Leakey
June 13 th	10:30am	Worship led by Les Britten
June 20 th	10:30am	Worship led by Wendy Manley
June 27 th	10:30am	Communion service led by Martin Buckby
July 4 th	10:30am	Worship led by Clive Leakey
July 11 th	10:30am	Worship led by John Perkins
July 18 th	10:30am	Worship led by Les Britten
July 25 th	10:30am	Communion service led by Martin Buckby

All welcome

Café on the Green

Now that things are beginning to open up, our customers may be wondering about the Café on the Green. For a number of reasons we have decided not to reopen the café. Thank you to all our helpers and customers for your past support.

Best wishes

Jane and Jane

Football on the Village Green

On April 30th 1988 the last competitive football match was played on the village Green. The opposition were fierce rivals Spratton, the result was a 1-1 draw. Mark Collins will go down in history as being the last Heyford player to score on the Green.

A historic day in the story of Heyford was recorded on video for posterity, with Ade Miller and John Gibbins braving the scaffolding structure to film the events of the afternoon. Ade was the camera man and John was our own John Motson commentating on the game. Well at least that was the plan but unfortunately he forgot to turn on the microphone.

After the game skipper Jeff Buck was presented with the Premier League trophy, as manager Chris Clarke's side had achieved their goal of winning the league. The presentation took place outside the changing rooms which were situated in the village hall car park.

The portacabin changing rooms were soon to be uprooted and moved to the new playing fields, where although they have since been extended they still remain. The changing rooms had been purchased in 1975, after a tremendous amount of fund raising by a very strong committee, led by secretary Eric Miller, along with players and supporters. Fund raising such as the Tote which entailed a lot of traipsing the village on cold nights knocking on doors to sell numbers. There were also jumble sales, dances at the village hall, sponsored walks and weekly bingo hosted by Roy Pancoust.

Previously the football club had used the Baptist chapel, the youth club or on occasions the Foresters Arms cub room to change. The Foresters was very much the clubs headquarters in those days. My dad Alf Parker was landlord and football club chairman. Monthly Sunday morning committee meetings would conveniently finish at 12 o'clock opening time.

The hard work that had been put in off the field in the 70's led the way to the club's most successful spell. The knockout cup was won in 1974. The league was won in 1975. Then amazingly in 1976 the Blues won all 4 competitions that they had entered, the league, ko cup, Lower Junior cup and the Byfield and Bethel cup. Success brought great times and great support.

Village football was very competitive in those days. Most villages had a team, and there were regularly large crowds on the Green. Especially for the local derbies against the old enemy, Bugbrooke. Everyone that played on the Green often reminisce about the atmosphere created.

Although it wasn't the best surface to play on, there were many undulations, and a footpath ran across the pitch from the Pound towards the shop. A footpath which

was once used on a Saturday afternoon by ladies on the way to do their shopping holding up play. The goal mouths were usually devoid of grass, due to kids playing in the goal after school all week.

The ball would often get stuck under passing cars, or vehicles parked near the shops. At times a goalkeeper would be seen racing down Church Street to retrieve a ball rolling down the hill. Taking a corner from the sloping village hall side which was very close to a tree was a skill not many mastered. One player who mastered the art was the late great Martin Carnague.

We are lucky to have such a tremendous playing field in Heyford, which has taken many people a lot of time and effort to set up and maintain, but there is nothing like playing on the Green.

The earliest records of HAFC playing on Green is 1908. So there was at least 80 years of competitive football played in the centre of the village creating many memories. I'm sure not all good but many were.

Mick Parker



Post Office Closure

The petition to save the Post Office Counter in the One Stop shop has now been collated and sent to their Headquarters. There was a total of 694 signatures. As yet, there has been no response.

Village Hall News

More positive news this time.

The Hall

We will be welcoming back some of our regular users from 17th May, although Covid-19 secure arrangements will continue in the hall for the time being.

Leaks to the hall's roof have been repaired, thanks to Alderman roofing.

Air Ambulance

Due to demand, a second Air Ambulance clothes bank has been delivered to the side of the hall and the first one relocated also.

Future events:

Garage Sale

following its postponement from last year, this will now take place on Sunday 19th September. Details are on the cover of this issue.

Sponsored Tandem Parachute Jump - on Saturday 4th September.

by the Village Hall Chairman – some of you may recall that last year I had planned to do this but it, too, was postponed. Then, my aim had been to celebrate the village hall's 60th year and my 80th, with any sponsorship raised to be shared between the village hall and the Prattler, two of the mainstays of our village.

This year, both the hall and the Prattler are down in income (two fetes lost for a start), and the Prattler is only able to appear bi-monthly at present – even more reason, therefore, to try to raise some extra funds for them. Shortly, I shall provide information re sponsorship raising methods, e.g. sponsorship forms, Just Giving, etc for which I shall value your support.

Meanwhile, perhaps I need to reassure you that, while I'm still 80, I remain fit and healthy. However, I reckon that this will definitely be my fundraising swan song – but am hoping that, unlike the ballet, my swan won't die – at least not until after I've jumped and we've raised the funds.

Alwyne Wilson
01327 340803

Thinking of trying something new?

I only took up tennis a couple of years ago, aged nearly 50, when I couldn't avoid the hints from my tennis-loving husband any longer. I was worried that tennis clubs might be intimidating or sniffy if I didn't know how to play, or even how to score. But honestly, I couldn't have been made more welcome than I have been at Nether Heyford. It's the most inclusive, warm, fun and friendly place – and it's also a beautiful club with new courts and nets and the loveliest setting down at the playing fields. I admit I'm sporty, so I was happy to try anything that involves a pair of trainers, but anyone would be welcome to play at any level.

If you're interested in meeting a lovely load of new people of all ages, keeping fit, playing more tennis or starting a new sport, I'd highly recommend coming down to the club to see what you think.

The best way to suss it out is on a Wednesday night from 7pm, when we all mix in, from the very experienced, to the nervous novices. Multigenerational friendships have been an unexpected joy I've gained from playing with all ages. The seniors trying to outwit the brilliant teens is lovely to experience.

On a Monday morning there's even walking tennis for those who'd like to play without the running. Friday mornings at 10am is a gentle ladies morning, for the scaredy cats (like I was!) and Monday night is just for men. There's great value coaching available to book if you interested too, but there's no compulsion to do that.

On June 27th is the annual "subs day". Club members will be down at the courts having a knock and eating cake if Boris allows. Cake does feature quite often at NH tennis too, as it happens. It's a chance to meet lots of people who play and ask all the questions. Membership is extremely well priced, especially for families or pairs joining.

I've been genuinely surprised about the impact on my fitness of tennis. It's great for staying fit and having a great laugh at the same time. If you've any queries at all, send a message through the Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/netherheyfordtennis>

or to Jo Dickson on 07749 822016.

We'd love to see you on 27th between 10am and 2pm.

Aly King-Smith

Astronomy on the Green

Just as we get seasons in the year, these are also mirrored by seasons in astronomy. In the first three months of the year, the bodies of interest in the sky are dominated by Nebula's, gaseous clouds and the home of star nurseries. Progressing from March to April, the nebulous region moves westward until they reach the horizon and disappear from the night sky.

We then move into a period when Galaxies present themselves as targets. At one time, not that long ago (1920's) it was believed there was one Galaxy, the Milky Way. Named by the Greeks who on seeing the white splash of stars we still see in the sky (seen across the north / northwest sky at this time of year) thought it was milk spilt by the goddess Hera. In fact, it is the Galaxies disc seen from earth, our home nestling in one of the spiral arms. Just over 100 years later we now think the universe contains some two trillion Galaxies.

The Milky way is home to around 400 Billion stars. Many of them with solar systems of planets. Its size is estimated at 150,000 Light years. Our nearest similar Galaxy is the Andromeda M31 also a Barred Spiral Galaxy, larger at around 220 light years containing one trillion stars. This Galaxy will collide with the Milky Way in a further 4-5 Billion years.

More locally we are due to see a partial eclipse of the sun by the moon on June 10th at 11:13 am It will be interesting to view, but please exercise caution. Do not look directly at the sun without the protection of a pair of eclipse glasses that enable you to look at the Sun safely. Before putting them on, be sure to check very carefully that they are not in any way damaged, even the smallest scratch is an issue.

It is very important to reiterate that looking at the Sun is dangerous. The human eye is full of nerves that help us see, however, none of them enables us to feel pain when they are being damaged by the Sun's harmful rays. It takes only a short period of looking directly at sunlight for our eyes to be damaged irreparably.

This is doubly true with Binoculars or Telescopes where blinding would be almost instantaneous. Again, special filters are required on the lenses for any viewing at all.

Clear skies!

Tony Boutle

View from the Wildlife Patch

I write this on the 19th of May 2021. It is raining yet again, the temperature is well below 20C and the forecast is for more of the same tomorrow. This year is proving to be difficult for some butterflies who need warm, dry weather to flourish. It is the same for some nesting birds whose young need to keep dry and warm in order to survive.

I checked my own Honey Bee Colonies today, expecting to find them needing extra space to store gathered honey. No such thing, they are strong, healthy colonies who so far have just maintained themselves with just a modest increase in numbers and hardly any stores in hand for any increase in the number of larvae. This is after me feeding them with sugar in various forms until mid April just to ensure their survival. The cause of this is that good Honey Bee foraging days have been few and far between so far this year.

I am sure that many other insect species that depend on warm dry weather will be suffering in a similar manner. There will also be those who gain from these conditions. Earthworms do well in damp conditions, in consequence, so will Moles who rely almost exclusively on Worms.

I am sure that the song of Blackbirds - who love Worms - and Song-thrushes who depend on Snails has been more in evidence this Spring than in recent years.

Pupils from The Bliss School will be beginning some studies on The Wildlife Patch soon. This has always been a major part of the planned use of "The Patch" and it is gratifying to see plans coming together to the good of all.

Regular readers of this page will recall that we intended to develop different types of habitat on the site. One of these is to be Mown Meadow which will be cut - as for hay - in July and the dried grass carried elsewhere. To be stacked and left for wildlife use. Another habitat which we have had in previous years is a Cornfield Annual Patch. This year the patch designated for the latter use was mown very short in readiness to be cultivated ready for seeding with Cornfield Annuals. Due to weather conditions and other things this cultivation did not happen. The result of the close cropping of grass, damp weather and lack of cultivation has stimulated the germination of wild perennial seeds sown previously. The resulting Flora could well provide our first Hay Meadow patch.

The long run of wet weather has encouraged the growth of lush vegetation almost everywhere. This will not be wasted. Doubtless the last week of May and the whole month of June will be warm which will encourage pupating insects to emerge in good numbers to take advantage of this extra growth and the difficult Spring will be a thing of the past.

Dave Musson

John Arnold

17th November 1930-10th March 2021

Sadly John, our much loved husband, father and grandfather passed away on the 10th of March aged 90 years.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks for all the kind words and lovely cards.

Special thanks also to the members of Heyford Bowls Club for their lovely tribute at Northampton crematorium.

Edna Arnold and Family

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Street Lights

Dear Villagers

You may have noticed some new style street lights popping up (or lighting up!) in a few locations around the village, namely, just opposite Brookside Place on Watery Lane, just opposite Parsons Close on Middle Street, on the old Chapel in Church Street and one halfway down Church Lane.

All the units previously at these locations were beyond economic repair, so we have taken the opportunity to replace these with new LED units. These produce a different sharper light to our old sodium (white) and mercury (orange) lamps and are now the accepted standard for street lighting schemes.

Energy wise they are at least 50% more efficient than the older technologies, significantly reduce light pollution (upwards and outwards) and require replacement far less frequently.

Last year a number of villages, including Heyford, sought grant funding from South Northants Council to upgrade all of their street lights to this new standard. Sadly, due to a policy change, none of the villages were successful in securing this funding.

The Parish Council is now investigating other sources to fund this upgrade, but in the meantime, we are looking to replace units as they fall beyond economic repair. As we progress with this if anyone has any comments or observations on the new LED units please do share those with the Parish Clerk.

Dear Editor

I understand my great grandmother's farming family lived next to Heyford Mill and I wonder if your colleagues or readers may be able to provide me with any information about them.

She was Elizabeth Jane Wood who married John Edward Perkins in May 1867. The Wood family lived at Hedland(?) Stone and had moved there from Derbyshire. Her parents were John and Frances Wood.

Any information about the farm or family would be much appreciated.

Many thanks

John Perkins

(If anyone can help John, please get in touch with the Prattler and I'll send the info on).

Dear Diary,

Spring 1960

Fashions are changing rapidly. The mini skirt is in, thanks to Mary Quant, pillbox hats like Jackie Kennedy wears, beehive hairstyles like The Ronettes and false eyelashes. Hippies are wearing tie-dyed shirts and bell-bottoms. All great stuff. I had a Record Player last Christmas so I bought my first record by Elvis Presley, "It's Now or Never". Brilliant. I also had a Premium Bond from my auntie. They cost £1 and your number goes into a draw each month. They are known as ERNIE Bonds (that's Electronic Random Number Indicator Equipment) and you can win prizes up to £1,000. Now, what would I do with all that money?

The first part of the M1 Motorway is now open and a new roundabout is in place at Upper Heyford. It isn't lit and there is no speed limit at the moment but I bet that'll change when more traffic gets on the roads.

Princess Margaret married Antony Armstrong-Jones in May in Westminster Abbey and it was shown on Television. Her brother-in-law, The Duke of Edinburgh, gave her away because her father, George VI, had died. The love of her life was Peter Townsend but he was divorced so thought not suitable.

The new Village Hall was officially opened in May as well, by Viscount Spencer. It's been ongoing for months, built entirely by volunteers from the village, and social functions have been held regularly in the Foresters Arms to raise money to build it. What a great asset this will be for everyone. I look forward to enjoying many happy events here in the future.

They've dismantled the old stone coach bridge crossing the river near the mill and replaced it with a concrete footbridge. It's not as charming as the old one but we don't have horse & carts any more so it makes sense I suppose. The old bridge was best for playing Pooh sticks though.

My cousin lives in Far Cotton and I go to stay with her sometimes. Sad to say they are closing one of our haunts there which is the Tivoli cinema, just down the road from her house. Still, the nearby Railway Club lives on. My uncle Jim is a train driver, like his dad before him, and used to live in the Railway Cottages up Furnace Lane. He said you get used to the noise of the trains.

I hear that we are to have seats around the edge of the green which will be handy for watching the football and cricket matches. There's also to be a new Secondary school at Bugbrooke, that'll be better for Heyford pupils but not me as this is my last year at school. I shall be 15 in July, the week before I leave.

The old gasworks along the Bugbrooke Road are being dismantled now natural gas is here. I hope they leave the poplar trees but get rid of the scrap by the old shed, it's an eyesore.

A gun club is being formed and they are to use the shed at the gravel pits. I hope we can still go for walks there when they start as it's beautiful in the Spring when the flowers are out.

The Methodist Church has closed and the building is to be used as a youth club. I wasn't a member of this church but for a while some of us joined in a sing-song occasionally with Noel Stanton but I think he now just preaches in Bugbrooke.

When we went out to play on Saturday "old Peet" was on the prowl, that's Mr. Peet, the local bobby. He lives in Bugbrooke but cycles to Heyford regularly. He keeps his eye on us but we know how to avoid him, so we went down the river to play on the island, out of his way. This island is only there when the water's low and, if you dare, you can climb onto a pipe attached to the bridge and jump down, then you need to jump from the island onto the bank, great fun, just like The Famous Five. I love reading about The Famous Five, they have such fun.

My uncle and his family are visiting from Yorkshire at Easter and they have a car so we get to visit places like Banbury Cross, Leamington Spa and Everdon Stubbs. The family stay with my aunt and uncle up The Peak, but we have lots of visitors in our house over the time they are here because this was always the 'family' home.

I'm now looking for a job because I leave school in July when I shall be 15. The Careers Officer is coming to school to talk to each of us and give us some guidance on our future career. I think I'd like to learn shorthand and typing and I love English so maybe an office job. I'm ready for a new challenge.

Polly

Food Bank

Don't go hungry – if you are in need of help, please contact Towcester Food Bank 07724 832043 (24 hours). www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk

Leave a message and they will phone you back. They can issue vouchers for food as well as a delivery or collection service.

Alternatively if you wish to help, please leave donations for the food banks in the box outside the door of 15 Middle Street where they are delivered to the banks twice a week.

Thank you.



heyford books

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-  @heyfordbooksnh

Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

Thank you to all our members who put flower arrangements on their doors or in the front of their houses on the 7th May which was National Flower Arranging Day – these can be viewed on our website.

With the better weather and more sunshine (as I write) we are becoming more optimistic. In the hope that restrictions continue to be eased we have put together a programme for the coming months but this will of course very much depend on the guidelines in force at the time.

26 th July	Let's get together	Social evening
23 rd Aug	Sharon Badger	Demonstration "The Midas Touch"
27 th Sept	Emma Remington	Demonstration "Tricks of the Trade"

Meetings are held at 7.45pm in Nether Heyford Village Hall and visitors are most welcome. We have our fingers crossed and like everyone are looking forward to meeting up again and enjoying our friendship and flowers.

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

PLEASE SPONSOR EMMA'S SCARY



Visually impaired Emma Richardson is at it again, raising funds for the local community. This September Emma is braving a "Wing Walk" and 50% of monies raised will go to Weedon Surgery following their fantastic response with vaccinations to the Covid 19 pandemic.

The remaining 50% will go to Nether Heyford Baptist Church following the enforced lockdown of the church and room used for community activities during the last year.

Emma would be grateful for your support and has set up a go fund page at <http://gofund.me/e2c8e4a9>.

If you prefer please send monies in an envelope to:

Emma, C/O 3A watery Lane, Nether Heyford NN73LN

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



In Nether Heyford

We have enjoyed two more Zoom Meetings since I last wrote an article for the Prattler. The first was spent listening to Dr David George who started by explaining the many ways humour can help us get through some of the more difficult aspects of life and ended by treating us to a comedy routine of his own!

The second took some of us back in time – to the war years. I have to admit there were a lot of things that I remembered from my own childhood (particularly the sweet rationing)!! Even though many memories of the war were terrible Pat Heed took us to times that also brought a warm glow as she talked of the ‘make do and mend’ attitude of the people of that era and, proving Dr David George right, the ability of the British to be able to still laugh in the worst of times.

As a complete contrast, Jane Barnes, the speaker at our next meeting on Thursday June the 3rd at 7.30 pm, will be telling us about her life as a Dairy Farmer’s wife, with amusing stories and real life anecdotes. If anyone would like to join us please give me a call. It is sad that we don’t see many cows in the fields around Nether Heyford anymore. I remember in years gone by trying to make sure I timed my journeys in and out of the village so that I missed John Smith’s cows coming down to be milked. I have to admit I rather miss them!!

Thanks to Chris Pardon, who organises the Zoom Meetings, we have been able to still listen to our varied speakers without getting wet on the way to the Village Hall! However, we have our fingers crossed that we will soon be able to meet in person. If all goes according to plan (and the rain stops!) our July 1st Meeting will take the form of a cup of tea and a piece of cake in Heyford Lodge garden at 7.30 (near to the Church). If you have thought that you might like to join us but been put off by the thought of sorting out the Zoom Meetings please do come along. Just give me a call on the number below first so that we know to expect you.

*Mary Rice
Heyford Lodge
01327 340101*

Allotment News

Plots

The allotments continue to look in really good condition and have been well tended by their owners. Plants are almost growing before your eyes, and, as the season progresses, things can only get better. Simply standing back and looking at what has been achieved is very satisfying and an important part of gardening.

I recently came across the word “biophilia” and discovered that it was a desire that all humans have to seek connections with nature. I guess that it is what we do when we put our hands in the soil, nurture a plant or just watch the natural world unfold. It makes us feel good.

Part of a Community

We are so grateful to all the people who have donated furniture, tools, plants or garden equipment to the allotments. Thanks to your generosity we now have a good supply of tools for community use (please remember to return them when you’ve finished using them). The “sharing barrow” is regularly topped up with plants that allotment holders have in excess and we now have a good range of tables, chairs and benches for people to use when they visit the community picnic area. It is so good to see allotment holders and villagers in general making use of this area.

The Memory Tree that we planted earlier in the year, as a way of remembering all those good people who are no longer with us, is growing away well and stands proudly in the middle of this area.

Fruit and Flowers for all

Our community fruit and flower patches are maturing and particularly notable in the past month or so has been the “rhubarb hedge” by the community shed. Do feel free to come and help yourselves. You might even return the favour by putting a can of water on the plants (a can is always on hand). Later in the season we will also have raspberries, blackcurrants, gooseberries and of course a range of flowers for cutting.

The Bliss School

Earlier in May we welcomed pupils from our local school onto the allotments as they brought their classroom outdoors to study wildlife in the wider environment. The children looked at how compost is made and how to identify wildflowers using a quadrat. They also spent a fascinating session in the wildlife area searching for, and identifying, minibeasts. The children were fully involved in everything they were taught and, as you would expect from our local school, their behaviour was exemplary. They were a credit to the school and their parents

It is good to involve young people in using the allotments. Not only is it a valuable resource for them to use, but an opportunity for us to teach young people about how they have to care for, and respect, spaces such as this.

If you wish to know more about the allotments or about anything in this article then don't hesitate to contact either:

Lynda Eales - 3 Church Lane - 01327341707 - lyndaeales@aol.com

Mike Langrish - 28 Manor Park - 01327341390 - langrish_heyford@hotmail.com

Good Growing.

Mike Langrish

Phone Boxes

2021 is a year of many anniversaries, one of which is of special interest to the Village. 1921 saw the first red telephone box installed. A rather cheap concrete affair painted cream with a red wooden door and windows. It was not very popular and so a competition was launched to come up with a design that was functional as well as aesthetically acceptable.

The competition was won by Giles Gilbert Scott, architect of the Anglian Cathedral in Liverpool and inspired by Sir John Soane's tomb in St Pancras Churchyard. The first ones, known as K2 (K stands for Kiosk), were installed in 1926 and were an instant hit with the public. K2 was followed by K3, K4 and K5. These designs did not replace the K2 and have largely disappeared from the landscape.

In 1936, Scott was asked to come up with a cheaper slightly less obtrusive version of K2 which is the one we are all familiar with today. No surprise that it is known as K6. The K6 remained in production until 1968 with only two changes. The Tudor Crown was replaced by the St Edwards Crown in 1953 and in 1955 the Scottish Crown was fitted to K6's north of the border.

Over 70,000 were made of which 8,000 remain. There are still a few K6s left in use and at least one K2 in London.

The one in the Village is currently sealed and looked after by the Parish Council and is used to direct strangers visiting the Village.

Graham Smith



Heyford Garden Club

www.heyfordgardenclub.com

Our plans for returning to normal meetings is to begin with our annual flower and produce show in September assuming that life has returned to something like that pre covid.

In the meantime we held our first virtual flower show in April, judging via Zoom photographs of members daffodils compiled by Tom Dodd.

The winners were:-

Standard Daffodil:	1 Mike Langrish	2 Jill Langrish	3 Chris West
Small Daffodil:	1 Mike Langrish	2 Mark Newstead	3 Maureen Wright
Bicolour Daffodil:	1 Pauline Guglielmi	2 Philip Reeves	3 Mike Langrish
Large Tulip:	1 Pauline Guglielmi	2 Jill Langrish	3 Gil Guglielmi
Small Tulip:	1 Maureen Wright	2 Kim Dodd	3 Jill Langrish

Spring

It is often said that Britain has a wonderful climate but terrible weather. This spring has been an example of this, the coldest for 60 years with a frost almost everyday and no rain to speak of. (Last year I seem to remember April was very hot, but also extremely dry.) As a result for a long while this spring I had a windowsill full of tomato and other tender seedlings which couldn't be moved, even into the greenhouse, because of the cold. I tend not to start too early with tender plants as I have learned that April and May can bring spells of cold weather, but this was extreme! At time of writing May has turned out a lot wetter with no frost, so hopefully I shall be able to catch up.

Parsley

Some people find parsley impossible to grow, others have no problems with it. I find the best strategy is to allow one or two plants to run to seed and then move the resulting seedlings if they are not where I want them. Last autumn I sowed some parsley seed which apparently failed to germinate, but on planting out lettuces this spring there among the other weeds were the parsley seedlings.

Things to do in June

1. Plant out bedding plants and tender vegetables
2. Prune spring flowering shrubs

Things to do in July

1. Dead head bedding plants to keep them flowering
2. Top up ponds and remove blanket weed

Mark Newstead

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The Church Rooms, Church Lane,
Nether Heyford or call on
07984 055 828

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



www.heyfordsingers.org

*I see trees of green
Red roses too
I see them bloom
For me and you
And I think to myself
What a wonderful world*

“What a Wonderful World” – Louis Armstrong

My three-year-old granddaughter loves to sing this song, performing with her exuberant and fun-loving mum! We have watched endless renditions on Zoom, WhatsApp and very soon, no doubt will be a real live audience! Whilst her world, at home with mum and dad and routine days at nursery, has been largely unchanged for the past fifteen months. But for so many children, normal life at school, time with friends and family, it has been a challenging and often difficult time. For the best part of a year many children have missed out on sporting activities, parties, sleepovers, after school visits to the park, or weekend time with cousins and friends. Sadly, the restrictions have also meant that young people *temporarily* losing out on the wonderful music creativity that is so much part of childhood, and being at school together. Whole school assemblies, Harvest Festivals, Christmas carols and concerts, dance classes and so on. Whilst watching the recent final of the Young Musician of the Year, it really struck home that a whole year elapsed between the semi-finals and the actual final of the competition!

Music is such a vital part of all our lives, whether we engage in singing, dancing, playing an instrument, following favourite singers, attending gigs or concerts. Music is everywhere, all around us. It makes us feel happy, consoles and comforts us, inspires and energises us, even though we take it so much for granted. So as the world opens up, and we are allowed to engage with others, may the sharing of music, in whatever form, continue to enrich all your lives. As for our mini-Langrish who will start school just a week after her 4th birthday in September, I wish her, and all those about to embark on this wonderful creative adventure, many happy, joyful years of music in school, shared with friends, teachers and audiences!

Now what we *all* need is a summer afternoon of music and songs! Subject to restrictions being lifted Heyford Singers invite you to a **Summer Celebration**, an afternoon of music, song and family picnics on the village green - a much needed opportunity to come together, and enjoy music. There will be a bucket collection with proceeds shared between Daventry Food Bank and Heyford Singers. So please put the date in your diaries, then bring along your chairs, picnic blankets, food and drink. It will be lovely!

Sunday 18th July at 3.00pm.

As the song says, it is, and will be ...*“a Wonderful World”*

Take care, look after yourselves and each other.

Jill Langrish



Heyford Cricket Club

Well, the cricket season is well underway, it's just at the time of writing no one seemed to let the weather know.

Perhaps the biggest news for the club is the growth and development of our mini and junior section. This summer we will be running the ECB-led All-Stars (Ages 5-8) and Dynamos (Ages 8-10) and we had to 'close the book' on registrations with over 50 All Stars and over 40 Dynamos registered. Starting at the end of May, we can't wait to see over 90 youngsters spending their Friday evenings at Heyford CC starting their cricketing journeys. In addition to this, our Under 10, Under 11 and Under 12 teams have started training and matches which together gives Heyford one the largest Junior sections in the area – luckily we are supported by 20-strong team of volunteer coaches and coordinators.

It was pleasing to be contacted by Northants CCC at the beginning of the season, they noticed the Heyford CC Juniors have one of the highest percentages of girls within the club, and we're delighted to have boys and girls playing together across the club – something the club will continue to advocate. We are hoping to look at opportunities to encourage greater participation for girls, and there may be something fun for ladies within the community who may fancy a social introduction to the game.

For the Senior teams, it's our first full season running three Adult teams, with the 3rd XI taking up residence at nearby Everdon CC. Finding 33 willing players every Saturday will be a challenge at times, but having teams in the top, middle and bottom tiers of the Northants League (Divisions 2, 7 and 14) is critical for us to provide a standard of cricket suitable for everyone. We can't wait to see our current Junior players progress to make their debuts in our Senior sides as they transition into adult cricket.

There is not much to tell you about our on-field action, as rain is currently having more influence over the cricket than anything else. There will be cricket at the Playing Fields every Saturday through to the end of August, so feel free to pop along and catch some of the action. You can follow our progress on our website <https://heyfordcc.teamapp.com> or follow us on Facebook.

One thing we are lucky to have at Heyford is a dedicated team of volunteers in the form of our Grounds Team. With this inclement weather, it is incredibly tough to prepare wickets for play, but our team of Darren, Richard, Dom, Joe, and Julian are working hard to ensure the square is the best possible condition. The whole club is incredibly thankful.

Finally, anyone following our social media channels will know we were unfortunate victims of vandalism recently, but we won't dwell on this and we know the community shares our disappointment. We must also thank the anonymous donor who sent some money towards reparations – it truly warmed our hearts.

If anyone spots the summer, please send it to the cricket club...

Rob Pardon - chairman
heyfordcricket@hotmail.co.uk
07894 865194

ALWYNE'S TANDEM PARACHUTE JUMP



Please support my Tandem Parachute Jump on
September 4th 2021
to mark my 80th year and the 60th anniversary of the
Village Hall.
(cancelled from 2020 because of Covid)

I need help to raise enough sponsorship to make a difference, as
in the past year, both the hall and the Prattler have lost significant
income - even more reason, therefore, for me to try to raise extra
funds for them.

Thank you.
Alwyne

Word Challenge

1 <u>STAND</u> I	2 <u>0</u> MD PhD MSc	3 <u>WEAR</u> LONG	4 GROUND FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET FEET
5 LE VEL	6 T O W N	7 <u>MAN</u> BOARD	8 KNEE LIGHTS
9 ECNALG	10 CHAIR	11 T O U C H	12 HIM HE's SELF
13 BLOCUSE	14 DEATH LIFE	15 <u>GI</u> CCCC	16 YOU J U ME S T

Answers on page 32

Heyford Bowls Club

Well, not only have we had a Zoom Committee meeting in April, but an actual face to face meeting in May. Our extended clubhouse worked perfectly for a socially distanced meeting, but I think our chairman was a bit hoarse at the end as he had to project his voice from one end of the clubhouse to the other.

We are slowly getting back to some form of normal. The Men's Monday Night Triples League is up and running, but with three triples rather than the usual four, drinks from the bar, but no after match food. Heyford have started well with a 5-0 win over Kislingbury "B". Roll-ups continue, but our internal Friday Night League will not commence until after the proposed fourth stage end of lockdown on 21st June. It will all depend on this Indian variant.

Assuming all goes well (us bowlers are optimists), the home games in June and July are: -

Monday 7 th <u>June</u>	Brackley	6.30
Monday 14 th	Carlsberg	6.30
Monday 21 st	Cold Ashby	6.30
Wednesday 23 rd	Whyte Melville Ladies	2.00
Saturday 26 th	Outdoor v Short Mat	2.00

Monday 5 th <u>July</u>	Harpole	6.30
Wednesday 7 th	St. Crispin Ladies	6.30
Monday 19 th	Kislingbury "B"	6.30
Tuesday 20 th	Roadie Ladies	6.30
Monday 26 th	Abington "B"	6.30
Wednesday 28 th	Kislingbury Ladies	6.30
Saturday 31 st	Bugbrooke	2.00

Spectators at our games are always welcome; the bar will be open. The game on 26th June will be momentous as we will be officially opening our clubhouse extension. We hope to make a special day of it with food and drinks, but as always, we are in the hands of Covid 19 and its variants. And because of uncertainty we have still to arrange our AGM.

Our Short Mat Section will be restarting at the Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd June from 2.00 until 5.00pm. Everyone is welcome to participate or just have a look as what is going on.

Keep safe, keep strong, and keep in touch.

Geoff Allen
349909

Flood Watch

What a difference a year makes to the British weather with April and May in 2020/2021 completely transposed. For over a month from late March to 27th April 2021 negligible rainfall was recorded and hence was heading for an all time record only broken by rainfall on 28th. April also set records for its prolonged cold spell with night temperatures well below freezing for at least a two week period. May on the other hand saw a month of unsettled weather, alternating heavy rain showers and below average daytime temperatures caused by the jet stream being locked in the south of the UK by high pressure in Greenland. This caused a system of low pressure to settle over the UK hence the unsettled conditions. Locally the average months rainfall was exceeded by 8th May with very divergent levels across the local area. Towcester recorded 80mm in one day. This unsettled weather will continue to the end of the month when it is expected that May will double its normal average. The longer term forecast currently predicts similar conditions into June but the second half of June will be set for temperatures to rise to 20 degrees.

Throughout, river levels have remained relatively low with no risk of flooding clearly helped by the dry ground and low run off in the catchment area.

21st June will mark the summer solstice, that is the end of spring and the start of summer. Daylight hours will continue to a maximum of 16 hours 47 minutes on that date.

Further exchanges have taken place with the E/A with the latter emphasising their priority efforts will go to areas where properties are being flooded in preference to areas like smaller village locations. Unfortunately whilst I have sympathy for those affected the guidelines laid down for the Upper Nene by CFMP emphasises the reduction of flood risk to existing developed areas where standards are not met by providing upstream floodplain storage. An important role for the E/A is maintenance to rivers and culverts on a 5 year cycle. Clearly this is not happening, but more concerning is the lack of maintenance where damage has already been identified in areas such as the E-W culvert, now 34 years old.

It is now 4 years since the Capita Report recommended an upstream storage solution for Heyford Brook to overcome the limited capacity of the E-W culvert. Whilst the remedial work on the Horestone Brook outlets was welcomed, the upstream storage solution needs to be followed up by the E/A investigating low cost solutions and funding from National England, Historic England, Anglian Water and the benefits offered by ELMS, Environmental Land Management Scheme.

I will continue to raise these issues with E/A until solutions have been identified.

J. Arnold.



IT'S GETTING CLOSER!!

SUMMER CELEBRATION



***SUBJECT TO LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS BEING LIFTED
AN AFTERNOON OF MUSIC AND SONG
AND A FAMILY PICNIC***

***ON NETHER HEYFORD VILLAGE GREEN
AT 3.00PM
ON SUNDAY JULY 18TH***

***KEEP THE DATE FREE IN YOUR DIARIES
LOOK OUT FOR OUR POSTERS AROUND THE VILLAGE
THERE WILL BE A BUCKET COLLECTION
ALL PROFITS TO DAVENTRY FOOD BANK AND
HEYFORD SINGERS***

Quiz Answers

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. I understand | 2. Three degrees below zero |
| 3. Long underwear | 4. Six feet underground |
| 5. Split level | 6. Downtown |
| 7. Man overboard | 8. Neon lights |
| 9. Backwards glance | 10. High chair |
| 11. Touch down | 12. He's beside himself |
| 13. See through blouse | 14. Life after death |
| 15. G.I. Overseas | 16. Just between you and me |



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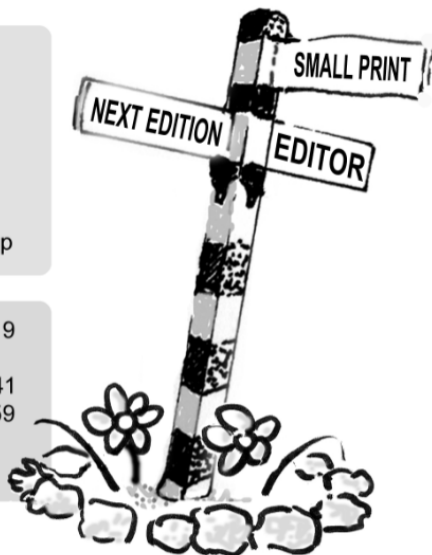
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