



THE PRATTLER

The Heyford Village Newspaper

February 2022

Issue No. 446



Cover: Cottages on the Green

Thanks go to Mark Newstead for his brilliant Wood Carving of the cottages on the Green.

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.

Thanks are also due to the volunteers who distribute it every month. It is all very much appreciated.

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The January 10th, 2022, Parish Council meeting was held in the Baptist Church Rooms. As Covid had flared up again the meeting was a reduced one in terms of the number of Councillors attending; in order to try and keep both Councillors and public as safe as possible.

Public Participation: A resident complained that the footpath alongside the green on Bugbrooke road had become narrowed, and the grass needed cutting back.

Reports

Lights New contractors had informed Clerk that they had ordered parts for a number of lights which they would not get until later this month. A number of lights have been out for some time. Unfortunately, there is no alternative but to wait for the parts to arrive.

Roads and pavements No change, many areas in poor condition. council had heard that new signage would be installed on Furnace Lane. CK would ask Highways for some Council input into the signs. Council shared Mr Andrews concerns as to the state of the road (edges collapsing) opposite his house.

The Memorial Green had been damaged by a vehicle belonging to contractors working on installation of broadband, but nobody would admit liability. Mr Cawley to look at the damage, but it was felt that there was no point replacing the bollards until the installation work had finished. Subsequently Mr Cawley repaired the damage and Council would like to thank him for his swift and public-spirited action.

Playing Fields It was reported that a lack of volunteers was threatening the future of the facilities. It was hoped that residents would come forward to replace those now retiring.

Allotments Rents had started to come in. C£200 collected already in advance of the rent night on Jan 20th.

JBB Meeting set for Jan 31st.

Youth Club valuation request complied with.

Defibrillators Checked and in working order.

Website LH reported that the website had been updated

Land behind Denbrook

The question of the strip of access land was raised as this is not as wide as the access required by Highways. It is 3.5 M as opposed to the required 4.5M. The question of an easement was raised.

Resolved. Council to write to the Developer's agent to ask how they intended to proceed. Residents continued to be upset that WNC appeared unwilling to enforce the conditions that they had themselves set regarding the size and nature of the house, the wall surrounding the property and the entrance requirements.

Neighbourhood Plan Draft response It was reported that there had been 22 responses and that written answers would be provided for each. He does not think major changes will be needed to the existing plan, but feels it will come to the March (rather than the February) meeting

To engage with Northants CALC Asset Mapping Project (AMP) & to appoint an AMP Working Group comprising clerk & 2 councillors. Resolved. Cllrs Kiloh and Williams and Clerk to form an AMP Working Group. NCALC will provide funding for costs and staff overtime.

To approve a budget for 2022/23. Resolved To set a budget of £96,640 for the year and to demand a Precept of £95,000.

Bollards outside the One Stop shop Highways action in inserting these had caused considerable controversy and upset. Highways had informed Council that the bollards had been put in place by the Road Safety Team because of repeated complaints from residents, some of whom use mobility scooters, that they were unable to access the pavement safely at the dropped curbs. This was because of drivers ignoring the white lines painted on the road, and parking across the dropped curb. The Road Safety Team felt that the bollards would force some drivers to park in more appropriate location, and remind them to avoid blocking the dropped curves They also feel that these measures show that they take matters of road safety and disabled access seriously.

Councillors felt that the bollards did not suit the location, but they were deliberately "high visibility" as part of their function. It was also felt that they were not working, because they had not stopped drivers parking inconsiderately on the dropped curb nearest to the One Stop shop, and possibly made this more likely by having removed 2 parking places. Numerous photographs had been posted on social media showing vehicles parked across the dropped curbs. These concerns had been communicated to Highways.

Parish Council meetings in 2022 will be on the first Monday of each month, (unless a Bank Holiday) and would start at 19.30. The next ones are on Monday Feb 7th and Monday March 10th. Full meetings.

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. Please do not report to Balfour Beatty as they deal only with major Highway lights – i.e., motorway, A5 and A45.

Roadworks locally & nationally can be seen on this site

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



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| Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact. | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| C. Kiloh, 3 Church Lane. Nether Heyford. Tel. 07779 900860 | Chairman Planning, Finance, Arnold Trust |
| L. Dilkes. 17 Furnace Lane, Nether Heyford, NN7 3JF e-mail thedilkesfamily@outlook.com 07967753216 | Youth Club, Vice Chair, Finance. |
| L. Eales – 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 341707 e-mail lyndaeales@aol.com | Allotments, Playing Field. |
| L Hall, 8 Western Ave, Nether Heyford linda.hall.netherheyford@outlook.com | Councillor |
| N. Haynes, 30, Weedon Rd, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 340167 | Tree Warden, Planning, Joint Burial Board |
| Cllr Mel Mclean, Burnham Cottage, Furnace Lane NN7 3JY mcleanmj@aol.com | Council rep. to Bugbrooke surgery |
| D. Musson. 16 Rolfe Crescent, Nether Heyford NN7 3NG Tel: 01327 344461 davemusson073@gmail.com | Footpaths. |
| Cllr Ian Parris, 1 Winston Close, NN7 3JX 07909 514916 ianparris@ianparris.com | Councillor |
| Colin Thomas, 17 The Green, Tel: 07776 180187 C.thomas327@btinternet.com | Councillor |
| A. Wallace. 5, Western Avenue, Nether Heyford. NN7 3NQ. andrew.wallace8765@gmail.com | Council rep to Village Hall |
| A. Williams 26 Church St, Nether Heyford, NN7 3LH anthony.k.williams@talk21.com | Chair of Planning, Finance, Council rep to School governors |
| Cllr Karen Cooper - West Northamptonshire Council, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester NN12 6AD www.westnorthants.gov.uk Karen.cooper@westnorthants.gov.uk Tel: 07753 638180 | Conservative Councillor for Bugbrooke Ward – Lead Member for Nether Heyford, Blisworth & Gayton |

*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 February 2022

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 6 th | 8:00 am | Prayer Book Holy Communion at Flore |
| | 10:00 am | Holy Communion at Church Stowe |
| | 11:00 AM | United First Sunday Service at Flore Church |
| | 6:00 pm | Informal Worship at Heyford |
| Sunday 13 th | 10:00 am | Benefice Communion Service at Heyford Church with Rt Rev Bishop Ed Condry |
| | 10:00 am | Morning Worship at Flore Chapel |
| Sunday 20 th | 10:00 am | Holy Communion at Heyford |
| | 10:00 am | United Morning Worship at Flore Chapel |
| | 6:00 pm | Holy Communion at Upper Stowe |
| Sunday 27 th | 10:00am | Holy Communion at Flore |
| | 10:00 am | Informal Worship at Upper Stowe |
| | 10:00 am | Morning Worship at Flore Chapel |
| | 4:00 pm | Café Church at Heyford |

Midweek Service: Midweek Services are held weekly on Wednesdays, 9.30am via Conference Call (not 16th February) and Fridays, 9:00am via Zoom. Please contact the Rector for details of how you can join these services.

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

Dear Friends

I recently finished reading a book entitled 'How Happiness Happens' by the American author and popular theologian, Max Lucado. In the last chapter of the book, entitled 'The Happiness Challenge', the author tells the story of the most remarkable game of American Football. It was a match in 2017 between the University of Southern California – the Trojans - and Western Michigan. With just over three minutes to go, USC scored a touchdown and took an unassailable lead. At that point, the USC coach called for a substitute, Jake Olsen, to take the field to deep-snap (pass) the football back to the kicker for the extra point. The remarkable thing about this act was that Jake Olsen was blind.

As an infant, Jake Olsen had lost one eye to cancer. In his early teens, the cancer returned and Jake – a huge Trojans fan - lost his other eye. Before that second loss, the USC coach had done all he could to fill the boy's head with football memories – he met the players, he took place in the pre-match huddles and so on. But then came the darkness. After recovering from surgery, Jake attended team practice, where he received a rapturous welcome. Eventually, Jake learned to deep-snap a football. Blindness prevented him from running, tackling or catching, but he could pass the ball between his legs to a catcher eight yards away. So Jake learned to do just that, and it became his dream to play in one game for the Trojans.

To make that happen, the coaches of the two teams had to talk, and agree the conditions under which Jake might play a part in the match. But with three minutes left, and a 17-point lead, Jake's moment came. The ball was placed. Jake stepped up. The referee's whistle blew, and Jake spiralled a perfect pass to the kicker, whose kick was good. The extra point was scored and Jake was mobbed by his teammates. It was, perhaps, the greatest point in the history of USC football.

I find stories like that powerful and moving. Jake Olsen's story makes me happy – and I wasn't even there! Happiness happens when we are unselfish enough to help others have their moment. We can do that ourselves, any time of day, any place on earth. We can all serve, help, listen, donate, love. We can all give of our time, our experience, our treasure to help someone else.

So what is Lucado's 'Happiness Challenge'? It's to approach life generously, thinking who we might help, who we might encourage, who we can lift up with a kind word or a listening ear. As we strive to bring help and happiness to others, we might just find that we are happier in the process.

With love and blessing,

Rev Stephen (Tel: 01327 344436)



Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Services for February 2022

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------|
| February 6 th | 10:30 am | worship led by Trevor Boys |
| February 13 th | 10:30 am | worship led by John Perkins |
| | | No afternoon Songs of Praise this month |
| February 20 th | 10:30 am | worship led by Les Britten |
| February 27 th | 10:30 | Communion service led by Martin Buckby |

Events

| | | |
|---------------|------|----------------|
| February 21st | 10am | Church meeting |
|---------------|------|----------------|

All welcome

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.

2022 Northamptonshire Village Awards Scheme

(organised by ACRE – Action for Communities in Rural England)

By the time you read this I shall have submitted an entry 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'). The judges accept and will make allowance for the fact that during this pandemic there have obviously been many disruptions to our groups and activities, which to a certain extent, are still going on.

However, from many of the responses received, our village groups have been undaunted and determined to support and cheer up their members during lockdowns, by zoom meetings, emails often with amusing items including specially written poems, and personal telephone calls. Now that restrictions are gradually easing, they have been scrupulously following government guidelines and have resumed their gatherings as appropriate. As a result, the life of our community remains strong and vibrant.

During April, May or June, the judges will visit our village to talk to groups and view our facilities. I do hope that, if invited, you will be able to join a small group of Heyford people to welcome them and help convince them what a marvellous community we still have in our village. When this happens it would be great if our village could be litter-free and if all of us could make sure that our gardens, window boxes, troughs and, especially the small flower beds in the centre – and at the entrances – of our village can be looking their very best.

Whilst the outcome of our entry is unknown at this stage, I want to express my appreciation for the support and encouragement received from people all around the village, including Sue Boutle, Tom Dodd, Mike Langrish, Chris Watts and Jez Wilson.

Alwyne Wilson
(Voluntary Co-ordinator)



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Heyford Garden Club

www.heyfordgardenclub.com

Our January meeting had to be cancelled due to concerns about the increase in covid infections. While there is some doubt as to when we will be able to return to normal meetings the AGM will be held on 14th February in one way or Another!

The provisional programme for the rest of 2022 is as follows but may be subject to amendment at short notice:

March 14th Liz Taylor of the Woodland Trust plus Daffodil Show

April 11th John Lee Froggery Cottage Gardens on Penstemons (plants for sale) plus Tulip Show

May 9th Patsy Raynor on Plants in Literature; Origins and Anecdotes plus Spring Flower Show and seed swap

June 4th Rose Show and Fete

July Summer Party

September 12th Autumn Show

October 10th (to be advised)

and our plant swap will be held on **November 14th**.

Broad Beans

Having sowed some broad beans in December and nurtured them carefully in the green house until they were growing strongly, I planted them on the allotment in the new year. Two days later I discovered the remains; something, possibly rats, had dug all the seedlings up and eaten the beans. Sometimes gardening feels like a game of snakes and ladders-back to square one.

Things to do in February

1. Plant lily bulbs in pots for the summer
2. Plant bare root trees and shrubs if the weather is suitable
3. Take cuttings of tender fuchsias.

Mark Newstead



Our Neighbourhood Plan: Thank you

The consultation period for our Neighbourhood Plan concluded in November 2021 and the Neighbourhood Planning Group, on behalf of the Parish Council, would like to say thank you to everyone who took the time to read the proposals and submit responses.

The Neighbourhood Planning Group will publish a full response to all the submissions shortly. For reasons of privacy this response will deal with the questions and issues raised at a summary level. So, for example if there have been three submissions raising concerns about traffic management, there will be one response.

For reference there were 22 responses, 20 from the village, one from WNC and one from Persimmon Homes. From the village there was a total of 50 questions / issues raised.

The Neighbourhood Planning Group and the Parish Council will consider whether amendments need to be made to the Draft Plan, prior to formal submission to the local planning authority, West Northants Council (WNC). Once submitted the planning authority conducts a review of the Draft Plan to ensure it meets specified statutory requirements. Subject to that being satisfactory it is submitted to an independent planning inspector for final review.

Assuming approval by the inspector, the planning authority then organise a simple yes/no referendum for the village; if there's a simple majority vote in favour, the plan then becomes 'made' and is legally enforceable under the Local Development Plan, Part 2.

The benefits of having a 'made' Neighbourhood Plan for our village are significant both in terms of future development and protecting and enhancing our current assets, so we are hugely grateful and appreciative to everyone who continues to be involved in and taking an interest in getting our Neighbourhood Plan in place.

Thank you.

Tony Clewett, Tom Dodd, Tony Williams and the NHNPG Group
<http://netherheyfordneighbourhoodplan.org.uk/>

Astronomy on the Green

Happy Lunar new year!

On February 1st the new moon heralds the in new year in much of the world, most notably China (Year of the Tiger). As this year is based on Lunar phases January the 2nd 2023 will be the next Lunar new year. Our calendar is based on a Solar rather than a Lunar calendar (which can have 12 or 13 months in it). This made me think about how other members of the solar system see their days and years.

Mercury: Year length 88 days; Day length 176 days. 36 million miles from the sun. What? How can a day be twice the length a year! Well, Mercury orbits the sun rapidly, but its rotation is locked by solar gravity. So if we imagine a day on Mercury the sun rises in the west, reaches midday, and then reverses direction to set once more in the west. Average temperature range 430°C to -180°C (sun facing vs dark side).

Venus: Year length 225 days; Day length 243 days. 67 million miles from the sun. A balmy 480°C (Average). Sun unseen due to thick cloud (advanced greenhouse effect). Venus is one of only two planets that orbits clockwise. Occasional showers of Sulphuric acid rain.

Earth: Year length 365.25 days; Day length 24 hours. 93 million miles from sun. Temperature range 47 °C to -81°C.

Mars: Year length 687 days; Day length 24.6 hours. 228 million miles from the sun. A pleasant 20°C to -125°C, very high UV due to thin atmosphere (needs a good suntan lotion).

Jupiter: Year length 12 Years; Day length 9 hours 40 minutes. 778 million miles from the sun. Days go fast on Jupiter, but the years drag a bit. This is the first non-rocky planet; it is a Gas Giant (as all below are). Largest Planet: Great Red Spot is a storm that has raged for probably 500 years. Chilly environment -138°C to -230°C.

Saturn: Year length 29 Years; Day length 10 hours 42 minutes. 1.44 billion miles from the sun. Great views of the rings; fast rotation of the planet and its Galilean moons. Temperature range -113°C to -173°C.

Uranus: Year length 84 Years; Day length 17 hours 14 minutes. 1.78 billion miles from the sun. Tipped on its side at over 90 degrees (probably due to a collision). Faint rings, second planet that orbits clockwise. Temperature range -197°C to -224 °C.

Neptune: Year length 165 Years; Day length 16 hours 6 minutes. 2.8 billion miles from the sun; very high wind speeds. Temperature range -113°C to -173°C.

Clear Skies.

Tony Boutle

Allotment News

The weather may not always be to everyone's liking at this time of the year but there really isn't anything quite as good as a few hours brisk work on the allotment on a bright, cold winter morning. Good exercise on the allotment beats the gym hands down and you get something to show for all that effort. You don't get blackbirds and robins singing their hearts out when you are indoors.

Once the year turns round, you can sense that Spring is just around the corner. Snowdrops and primroses are already beginning to appear on some parts of the allotment and I've noticed that those good gardeners who planted broad beans, winter onions and garlic back in the Autumn are seeing the fruit of their labour.

Plots are available

We again have several allotments available for rent. These vary in size from small single bed plots to larger allotments for those wishing to grow a wider range of fruit, veg and flowers. We have endeavoured to cover all these with landscape fabric so that weeds do not become rampant and cultivation can be done in stages. All we ask is that you return the landscape fabric when your allotment is fully functioning. If you are interested in acquiring an allotment contact Lynda Eales on 01327 341707 or at lyndaeales@aol.com

Using what is on offer

We are very proud of all the work that allotment holders did over the past year helping to keep the allotment site looking good and growing such a rich and varied range of food and flowers.

We know you can buy lots of different fruit and veg from the supermarket, but when you grow your own you know where it has come from; you know it hasn't been dosed in chemicals and you know that you measure your food miles in metres or yards and not in hundreds or thousands of miles.

It was so heartening to see a growing number of people from the village visit the allotments last year and make use of the community space that has been created. Folk who had never ventured to that corner of the village came to have a picnic or just to sit in a beautiful quiet space. We encouraged villagers to come and pick some flowers from the community flower patch (and in return put a can of water on the plants) or take some fruit from the Jam Patch. No one will ever forget the amazing crop of rhubarb we produced last Spring. With any luck our "rhubarb hedge" will be even taller this year (and taste even better).

The community areas are clearly marked so there is no reason to fear you are encroaching on someone's allotment. Please come and join us in 2022.

Rent Night

Rents for this year have now been levied and a big thank you to all those allotmenters who have already sent theirs in. This year we have tried to make payment easier by arranging for payment by bank transfer. However, allotmenters can still pay by cheque or even that strange thing called cash!

Plots were all renumbered last year and remeasured. This had been long overdue and resulted in our discovering some anomalies in rent paid in relation to plot size. Hopefully that has now all been resolved and although several allotmenters found their rent had increased slightly, the majority discovered a decrease in rents. When all is said and done the cost of renting an allotment in Heyford is remarkably good value.

Community Saturdays

We held a very successful community morning in November, when a record number of allotment holders and friends of the allotment turned out to carry out a range of routine tasks. We had envisaged this lasting all morning but in just over an hour all the tasks we'd identified were accomplished. It is amazing what can be achieved when a lot of people lend a hand.

We plan to have another Community Saturday on 19th March, starting at 10.00.am. If you can join us we would be very grateful. A shed needs painting, tables and chairs need freshening up and there will always be a bit of weeding and planting to do. We might even stretch to some refreshments - and if enough people volunteer we can begin eating by 11.00!

Sharing

Last year we held a really successful sharing day when we were able to offer to allotment holders – free of charge – a range of allotment equipment and resources that had been given to us. We plan to repeat this in the Spring. If any villagers have tools or garden equipment surplus to requirement do get in touch and we will add it to what we have on offer. Watch this space for further information.

Keeping in Contact

If you would like to know more about the allotments in Heyford or are interested in taking on a plot contact either Lynda Eales at lyndaeales@aol.com or on 01327 341707 or Mike Langrish at langrish_heyford@hotmail.com or on 01327 341390.

Good Gardening

Mike Langrish

View from the Wildlife Patch

I can't write this article without commenting on the unusually warm weather that we are getting right now and how it is affecting our wildlife. This morning, I could hear Blackbirds and Robins singing in our garden and the surrounding gardens. I was working by the Wildlife Patch last week to the sound of a Great Tit singing. We would not normally expect this till the middle of next month at the earliest. Whether this turns out to be beneficial to our wildlife is really anyone's guess.

Changing the subject, I read a report funded by CPRE that recognises Scrubland as being very valuable habitat. Scrubland is exactly what we are creating in the Wildlife Patch where in some patches we do nothing to the ground. No mowing or trimming, hardly any management at all. We just allow nature to take its course.

On the patch, our scrubland is dominated by Oat Grass and is providing secure habitat for both field and Bank Voles, Wood Mice, and all three of our UK Shrew species, as well as numerous beetles, flies, molluscs and other invertebrates. Having always recognised the value of this habitat it is encouraging to see this value backed up by scientific research.

However, We will not be able to be completely hands off with our management but will be digging brambles out and maybe choosing some large perennial Broad Leaved Plants that will enhance the Scrub. This is due to the fact that our small patch will not really accommodate all the Bush and flower seeds that may drift in over the years.

Another main habitat is our developing Wild Flower Meadow. I experimented at home by sowing Wildflower Meadow Seed on a patch of lawn. We were soon rewarded when a colony of Grass Moths. (Little pointed moths that live in long grass) developed very quickly and surprised how fast Common Field grasshoppers appeared where neither of these species had been before. Another surprise was the amount of Earthworm Casts that have appeared on that patch since I cut the grass in July. There were 4 times the amount of casts than on the surrounding lawn that had been mown regularly as normal lawn maintenance. The lesson we can take from this is how quickly our wildlife will return if we actively create homes for the various species.

On "The Patch" we are well on the way to having created 4 areas of Wildflower Meadow surrounded by Scrubland and interconnected with grassy paths. Of course we also have our Wildlife Pond which had at least one Common Frog hibernating in Autumn 2021. We also had around 4 species of Dragonfly last year as well as some Damselflies.

Rotting timber is another valuable habitat. Our aspiration to scatter piles of this around have been boosted by the acquisition of a good number of native hardwood logs which appeared on the patch. These are now awaiting distribution to their final resting places.

When placed they will provide homes for Fungi, Wood boring Moths and Beetles, Woodlice, Centipedes etc. The amount of life that lives in old dead logs seems endless.

We look forward to another good year in 2022. Hopefully with pleasant surprises.

Dave Musson



FLOWER T POT

Original Art

'Thank heavens art class is back' exclaimed one of our members as her eager face appeared around the door. **'I've really missed it.'**

Well Flower T Pot Art class began again with a flourish, drawing figures both with and without clothes using pencil or black and white charcoal and a real life model all in the best possible taste!

We all had great fun and many of us were pleasantly surprised by how much our drawing skills have progressed.

We then moved onto abstract landscapes using the beautiful medium of watercolour. All the paintings we achieved were very atmospheric, original and encouraged a great sense of freedom. We loved it!

February will see us exploring pen and ink, soft pastels and acrylics with our two leaders Andrea and Veneeta. Each week is different and we learn something new in each and every session. 'I have been painting for 60 years, but have never been taught how to do it until I joined Flower T Pot art class' stated one of our lovely ladies 'I have learnt so much.'

Come and join us for a social get together with like minded amateur and experienced people with an keen interest for all kinds of art, a chat and a piece of homemade cake. We meet on a Thursday in the Baptist Rooms 10:00 till 1:00 and 6:30 till 9:30.

If you want to know more about Flower T Pot Original Art you can contact us via flowntpotart@gmail.com or phone 07729 105584 / 07716 410344

Veneeta Rayner

WHAT'S ON DIARY OF ACTIVITIES - HEYFORD AND AREA 2022

| Name | Venue | Day/Time | Contact |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Astronomy on the Green | Various venues | Monthly (Various dates) | Tony Boutle 07415 352550 |
| Baptist Church | | See programme within | C Ager 07939 960278 |
| First Wednesday Group | Baptist School Room | 1st Wed in month 2pm | Vi Wilson 340090 |
| Songs of Praise | Baptist School Room | 2nd Sun 4-5 | C Ager 07939 960278 |
| Beaver Scouts 6-8 yrs | Church Rooms | Tues 6.15 - 7.15 pm | Clare Webb 07484 887732 |
| Bell Ringers | Church of St Peter & St Paul | 19:30:00 | Ian Willgress 07732 406538 |
| Bliss School Friends | Bliss School | Various | See announcements |
| Book Group | Various venues | 2nd Thurs 7.30pm | Vicki Hamblin 341059 |
| Bowls Club | Playing Fields | April - Sept | Mike Davison 349427 |
| Bugbrooke & Dis Flower Soc. | Nether Heyford | 4th Mon in month (except Bank Hols) 7.30pm | Dianne Gardner 01604 830063 or Simone Squire 342167 |
| Church St Peter & St Paul | See programme within Church | | Church Warden Jane Rands 340678 |
| Crafty Club | Village Hall | Mon 12.30-2.30pm | Chris Phillips 341796 |
| Cricket Club | | | |
| Adult Cricket Nets | Playing Fields | Tues evenings July & Aug | Rob Pardon |
| Young Heyford Cricket | Playing Fields | | 07894 865194 |
| Cub Scouts | Church Rooms | Tues 7.30-8.45 | S Bird 07971 133250 |
| Flower T Pot Art | Baptist School Rooms | Thurs 10.00-1.00 & 6.30-9.30 | V Rayner 07729 105584 |
| Garden Club | Village Hall | 2nd Mon in month 8pm | Linda Hall 07803 434186 |
| Heyford Athletic FC | Playing Fields | Training Tue & Thurs 7.00pm | Bob Hancox 01604 752421 |
| Heyford Fishery | Weedon Road | Open all year 7am – dusk 7 days a week | F Dennett 340002 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Heyford Picturedrome | Village Hall | 3rd Thurs 7.30pm Sept – May | Tony Clewett 341533 |
| Heyford Singers | | Thurs or Fri 7.30pm as programme | Geoff Allen 349909 |
| Netball | Playing Fields | Mon 7pm - 8pm | Faye Brassett 07827 707599 |
| Pre-School Group | Church Rooms | Mon-Fri 9am-3pm. | 07984 055828 |
| Breakfast Club | Church Rooms | from 7.45 am | 07984 055828 |
| After School Club | Church Rooms | until 6pm | 07984 055828 |
| Royal British Legion | Baptist School Room | 1st Thurs 7.30 | Kath Pancoust 340034 |
| Scouts | Church Rooms | Mon 7.30-9.15 | Steve Rayner 07525 104534 |
| Short Mat Bowls Club | Village Hall | Wed afternoon & evening | heyfordbowls@heyfordb owlsclub.co.uk |
| Tennis Club | Playing Fields | | Linda Miller 01604 753680 |
| W.I. | Village Hall | 1st Thurs in month 7.30 | Pat Essery 340682 |
| U3A | Bugbrooke Com Centre | 3rd Mon 2.30pm | M MacIntosh 340954 |

STOWE IX CHURCHES

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Garden Club | Various events during yr | Mrs A Mason 341146 |
| W.I. | St Michael's Rooms | Louise Stockwin 07825 513349 |

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

Defibrillators

Two Defibrillators are now in position and active in the village. One is on the wall at the One Stop Shop and the other at the Playing Field.

Bugbrooke Surgery

Please contact surgery for hours and information during COVID restrictions For out of hours, weekends & bank holidays ring 111

Weedon Surgery New Croft 01327 340212

Please contact surgery for hours and information during COVID restrictions or visit website - www.gnwmp.co.uk

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fish & Chip Van | Close Road | Saturday 12-1.30 Tours south side of village Monday 7-8.30pm |
| Food Van | Outside Forester's Arms | Fri 5.00 - 8.00pm - Contact Foresters 340729 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Parish Council | Baptist Chapel Rooms | 1st Mon in month 7.30 | Clerk – G Ravine | 01327 340410 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|

Police

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community Support Officer – Daventry & West Northants - Report an incident on 101 or via online form at www.northants.police.uk | Chris Dudley - C7139 | Email – c7139@northants.pnn.police.uk |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Post Office | Mon, Tue, Thur and Fri 9am – 5pm; Wed – Closed; Sat 9am – 12 noon |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| WNC Rep | K Cooper 07753 638180 |
|----------------|-----------------------|

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| V Hall Committee | Meeting Room For Hall bookings Tel: Chairman 340370 / 342167 01327 342167 Email - NHVBbookings@gmail.com |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

SHOPS

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Tops Hairdressers | Mon-Closed Tues 9.00-5.00 01327 340747 Ladies & Gents | Wed 9.00-2.00 Thurs 9.00-7.00 Sat 9.00-1.00 |
| Heyford Meats | Mon - Closed Tues – Fri 8.30-5.30 | Sat 8.00-12.30 |
| One-Stop | 6 am – 10 pm every day except Christmas day | |
| Re-Store | Sat 10:00 – 2:00 or by appt Email suekayy@live.co.uk | |
| Refuse Collection | Wednesday | |

FARMERS MARKETS - monthly 9 am till 2 pm approx

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| BRACKLEY – 3rd Sat | GRANDBOROUGH | OUNDLÉ – 2nd Sat |
| | 10-12.30 – 1st Thurs Mar- Dec | |
| DAVENTRY - 1st Sat | NORTHAMPTON – 3rd Thurs | TOWCESTER – 2nd Fri |



Heyford Picturedrome

Unfortunately as a result of the Omicron variant, it was not possible to run our planned film for January which was **Peanut Butter Falcon** and this will now be shown on 17th February. This is an adventure story set in the world of a modern Mark Twain that begins when Zak (22), a young man with Down Syndrome, runs away from a nursing home to chase his dream of becoming a professional wrestler by attending The Salt Water Redneck Wrestling School. A small-time outlaw on the run becomes Zak's unlikely coach and ally. Together they wind through deltas, elude capture, drink whiskey, find God, catch fish and convince Eleanor, a kind nursing home employee to join them on their journey.

As usual, doors open at **7.15pm** with the film starting at **7.45pm**.

Admission is **£5.00** 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.

It is not intended that there will be any open windows or social distancing or any other Covid related restrictions in place at the event.

Tony Clewett
(Phone no. 341533)

Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

Our meetings are held in Nether Heyford Village Hall on the fourth Monday of the month at 7.30pm (please note the new time). We have a demonstration by a fully qualified NAFAS Demonstrator who is always willing to give advice and tips on the use of flowers and foliage. All the arrangements are raffled at the end of the evening.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 28th February when we look forward to Lee Berrill with his demonstration "A Wonderful World". Please join us for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening - new members and visitors are always most welcome.

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

Quiz

Answers on next page

1. What colour are the seats in the House of Commons?
2. What colour is found on 75% of the world's flags?
3. Which film was the first to be recognised as part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe?
4. What is the name of Wendy's dog in Peter Pan?
5. What year was Heinz established?
6. Which seaside is home to the longest pier in the UK?
7. What year did Elvis die?
8. The song 'How Far I'll Go' features in which Disney film?
9. What is Queen Elizabeth II's surname?
10. Which new British military force was established in 1918?
11. In which English seaside town was 'Fawlty Towers' set?
12. Who discovered Penicillin?
13. What is Keir Starmer's constituency?
14. How many times has Katie Price been married?
15. What is the name of Boris Johnson's youngest son?
16. What is the most spoken language in the world?
17. What is the name of the headteacher in Roald Dahl's Matilda?
18. In what year was the Chernobyl disaster?
19. In tennis, what piece of fruit is found at the top of the men's Wimbledon trophy?
20. Who was the first female Prime Minister of Australia?

Village Hall News

The main topic of discussion at the Village Hall management committee in January was the much missed Village Fete planned for June after two years absence.

This is a special year in the 2022 calendar because we celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the overall opinion at the meeting was that we should hold the fete on Saturday 4th June instead of the planned 11th and combine it with all village celebrations planned to make the weekend a very special occasion for everyone in the village.


We plan to set up a working group of all interested parties to discuss ideas and plans to make it a celebration to remember. Nether Heyford is good at community projects so please contact me if you would like to be involved.

We are looking for ideas from individuals as well as the group organisations in the village. I look forward to hearing from you.

Joan Kirkbride
Village Hall Chairman
Tel 01327 340370
Email jknvhchairman@gmail.com

Quiz Answers

1. Green 2. Red 3. Iron Man 4. Nana 5. 1869 6. Southend-on-Sea
7. 1977 8. Moana 9. Windsor 10. RAF 11. Torquay
12. Alexander Fleming 13. Holborn and St Pancras
14. Three (Peter Andre, Alex Reid and Kieran Hayler)
15. Wilfred Lawrie Nicholas Johnson 16. Mandarin 17. Miss Trunchbull
18. 1986 19. Pineapple 20. Julia Gillard (2010-2013)

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In Nether Heyford

Although the rest of the year had been unpredictable and complicated, the ladies of Nether Heyford WI ended 2021 with a long awaited celebration of their 90th Birthday. We had patiently waited 12 months for our party but I can assure you that it was worth waiting for! There was a lovely meal, which we hadn't cooked for ourselves, followed by time to chat with friends and the exchanging of Christmas cards. During lockdown every person was given a random name from the membership list for whom to make a Christmas card. We repeated the exercise this year, displaying the end results from both years and proving that everyone has artistic skills they knew nothing about!

2022 started in true style with Deborah Burrow demonstrating Quilling for Beginners. Those of you who attended the Craft Fair in the Village Hall before Christmas will have seen some of Deborah's work on her stall – her version of the Nativity was quite beautiful. Quilling is the art of rolled paper and those words on their own cannot describe the incredible art works that it can create. From every day Birthday and Christmas cards to gift tags, from jewellery and flowers to Victorian works of art and all in glorious colours. Everyone went home with their own creations having had an enjoyable and interesting evening.

Our next speaker is Andrew Tennet, a Detective Chief Inspector who retired in November 2013 after a successful 30 year career. He will be talking about his Father's experiences through WW2 from 1940 – 1946, including his harrowing time in France, giving a real insight into the day-to-day life of the ordinary soldier. This is backed up by photographs and various other mementos which has allowed him to build up an almost complete record of his service and how it affected life back at home.

All this will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday February 3rd at 7.30. The cost will be £5 and will include refreshments. You will be given a warm WI welcome should you like to join us for the evening.

Mary Rice
Heyford Lodge
01327 340101

Dear Diary,

February 1964

We're off to Wembley soon to the New Musical Express Awards. Jimmy Savile is hosting the show, starring Roy Orbison, The Rolling Stones, Gerry & The Pacemakers, The Dave Clarke 5, The Shadows and The Hollies. That's great because last year we saw Cliff Richard, Adam Faith and Joe Brown.

They are building some new houses along the Bugbrooke Road and also at the top of Furnace Lane just past the Council houses. The two thatched cottages at the bottom of Furnace Lane have been demolished and new modern ones have replaced them.

Today M is off to see Patsy Burke in Jimmies End to get his hair cut. Patsy is more than just a barber. You can get your hair cut, buy your fishing tackle including maggots, 10 fags, and "something for the weekend". Should I worry?

Tomorrow is Sunday so we are going fishing up the cut, probably along Lovers Lane. The footpath is very overgrown but there are some places clear enough to set up our rods and the weather looks good but we better wrap up because it's very cold – well it is winter. Mum's family all learnt to swim in the canal. Their dad would throw them in and expect them to get out on their own, which they did, obviously. I'm glad we can now go to a swimming pool with warm water, even if it is an outside pool at Midsummer Meadow.

I passed my shorthand exam at Tech for 110 wpm and have had promotion at work in the Personnel Department working for the Manager so I will no longer be asked to traipse around the factory with new notices. I shall still go on Apprentices outings though.

I had a lift home from work with Roy the other day. His car doors open at the front and I hadn't closed mine properly so I tried to pull it shut and it tugged me outwards. Luckily Roy clung to my coat and pulled me back into the car, probably saving me from a nasty accident. Roy and his mate, Ken, were Teddy Boys, rare in our neck of the woods. The girls thought they were really 'with it' in their drainpipe trousers, long bright coats, boot-lace ties, Brothel Creeper shoes and fancy waistcoats, not to mention their DA hairstyle.

Fred Potter has died. Dad always called him Uncle Fred. I think he was related to his foster mother. On the other hand we call all adults Mr or Mrs or Aunt and Uncle, never by their Christian names. He was a big supplier of milk in the village at one time. I remember sitting on the milk cart with Jane while her mum delivered it. The horse always knew where to stop without being told.

Me and M are off to Torquay this summer for two weeks holiday with two friends who just got engaged. We shall go by train and I can share a room in the boarding house with Freda and M can share with Eddie, should be fun.

The Beatles came to Northampton ABC last November and we went to see them. It was 8/6 a ticket but worth every penny. They did 10 numbers, the last one being Twist and Shout, and did we shout.

Polly



Heyford Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022

Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June.

The bank holiday will provide an opportunity for communities and people throughout the United Kingdom to come together to celebrate this historic milestone. The four days of celebrations will include public events and community activities, as well as national moments of reflection on The Queen's 70 years of service.

Plans are being drawn up to celebrate the occasion in Nether Heyford. The Village fete will be taking place on Saturday 4th June and other ideas are in the pipeline.

If you would like to get involved or have any ideas to contribute, b please visit the facebook group:

Nether Heyford Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022

or contact Patricia Paterson at nhvhevents@gmail.com



Garden Waste Collections

West Northamptonshire Council

Garden waste services across West Northants are changing so that all residents receive the same service at the same cost.

This means that from 4 April 2022, residents in the South Northants area will need to opt in and pay an annual fee to continue receiving a garden waste collection service.

The annual subscription charge for all West Northants residents who opt in to use the service has been set at £42 per year, per bin for 2022/3.

For more information and FAQs, please visit <http://ow.ly/wgwS50HyKic>

Rotary Club of Danetre Daventry

Wow ... what an amazing Christmas Santa had in Daventry. Even with all the challenges faced this year with covid, a few eggs, and the weather the Rotary team and all the volunteers who helped raised a whopping £20,545.77. This is the most we have ever raised. All this money stays local, and over £10,000 is already allocated for all the local charities who's volunteers helped collect this year.

We would like to thank:

- Cummins for all their help in refurbishing our sleighs
<https://www.cummins.com/company/overview>
- Browns for their loan of a tractor <https://georgebrowns.co.uk/branch/daventry/>
- Whitehall's for their assistance with the new trailer
<https://www.facebook.com/whitehalltrailers/>
- Anytime Fitness for the use of their changing facilities
<https://www.anytimefitness.co.uk/.../daventry-east.../>
- all the tellers at HSBC for their patience in the daily banking's of many pounds of coins!
- all the volunteers from different local charities who came along and helped collect with us

And of course all the Rotary team who helped organise and run the collections. There is a huge amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to make this event happen every December.

If anyone would like to know more about joining the team please get it touch with us.

S.P.A

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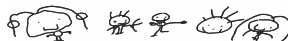
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School reception class.

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



www.heyfordsingers.org

The February Thrush

'Full lasting is the song, though he,
The singer, passes: lasting too,
For souls not lent in usury
The rapture of the forward view.'

George Meredith

I would like to thank Jill Langrish for the many years she has written fine articles about The Heyford Singers in this magazine and has now finally put down her pen. I would, however, like to make it quite clear that I was 'volunteered' for this task...

The above quote is written at the beginning of Joanna Trollope's *The Choir* which bears absolutely no resemblance to The Heyford Singers. For a start it is about an exclusive Choir School in a Cathedral where they all have perfect pitch. But it is about saving a Choir. And in our twentieth anniversary year that is precisely what The Heyford Singers are doing for the Community. All types of voices, all types of problems, disabilities and Covid, the Singers produced a concert at Christmas against all odds. And for each and every one of us there was a tremendous amount of satisfaction – perhaps not for the audience (although the response tells us otherwise) – that we had produced a 'rabbit out of a hat'. As you will all know by now that everyone is welcome in our Choir whether you can sing or not. Believe me the Second Sopranos came under that heading (me included) and were put into 'special measures' which meant more practice at Mary Rice's house. Under her eagle eye we all managed to come in on precisely the right note. More or less. You only have to enjoy music and singing in the car or shower. (Why is it loud music and singing makes you drive faster?)

For all those that haven't sung in a choir before you needn't worry (and I certainly hadn't; I was put into the 'growler' section at school as I was too shy to produce a single note in public worried what was going to come out, which turns out to be rather annoying as my music master was Charles Proctor who became a well known concert pianist and conductor). And you don't need to read music. With the tremendous help of our Conductress and Pianist, the choir somehow shapes itself.

For those of you who saw Kate's Concert in Westminster Abbey you would have seen Ellie Goulding sing 'Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas' which we sang at our concert. She sang it beautifully but we preferred the original words which appear in the middle 'We'll Muddle Through Somehow' as so many people have done and are still doing just that. Judy Garland sang it originally in *Meet Me in St Louis* (1944) in which her character comforts her younger sister and the words were written by Ralph Blane and Hugh Martin. Feeling it was a bit too downbeat Frank Sinatra altered the words to 'Hang a Shining Star on the highest Bough' in 2007 and this became the most popular version.

Carols on the Green was a great success as so many of you turned out just before

Christmas. There were about 150 of us singing all the traditional Carols with a closing prayer by The Reverend Stephen Burrow. However if Geoff Allen hadn't been around to help take down the Gazebo it would still be on the Green now. We badly need more men in our Choir, not only to sing but to help out on these occasions. My husband, Keith, had organised this event and being very tired we went to the Fish and Chip shop in Weedon. He only realised how exhausted he was when he went in to order with the tent peg bag over his face.

This brings me to our Open Evening on Friday 18th February at 7.30pm where we invite you to attend and see us at a rehearsal. If nothing else, there will be tea and biscuits. We are all taking a lateral flow test before each rehearsal so it would be good if you could do the same. All our rehearsals are very safe and the chairs spread out, windows open. For those of you at our Concert, again it was very safe with tables in 'cabaret' style, well back from the stage, and a one way system with no interval. We will probably be doing exactly the same at our May Concert as Covid is going nowhere.

And to end I would like to reiterate what I said in an email I sent round the Choir when spirits were getting low. ' No-one expects Pavarotti or Callas. In fact while rehearsing we often sound more like Florence Foster Jenkins. But her famous saying gives me comfort. People may say I can't sing, but no one can say I didn't sing.'

And on that note...

JRA

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

Heyford Bowls Club

With the beginning of 2022 comes the start of our preparation for the new outdoor bowls season. The green has been over wintered and is starting to look good. It has had its first cut and now we can focus on getting it ready for April when we usually open the green for practice before the season gets under way early May.

The start of the 2022 Short Mat sessions in the village hall were postponed in January due to the increased cases of the Omicron variant. It is hoped that that these will resume in early February. The start date will be posted on the club website, club Facebook page and the Nether Heyford Facebook group.

Over the winter we have spent time updating our club website (Heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk) with the results from last seasons club competitions together with useful information regarding our forth coming enrolment evenings for both the outdoor and Village Hall Short Mat. There are links on the Prattler website that take you straight to our website or our new Facebook page.

The enrolment evenings will take place on Monday 21st March at 6.30pm in the clubhouse for Outdoor and Wednesday 23rd March at 2.00pm and 7.00pm in the Village Hall for Short Mat. Anyone interested to find out more, come along and have a chat with us and other members. We look forward to seeing you there.

Lorraine Streeter
Club Captain

These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Weight Watchers will meet at 8pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 8pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your Husbands.

Flood Watch

The UK weather pattern continued to baffle the forecasters with record breaking temperatures of 16 degrees Celsius to end December 2021 whilst the months rainfall reached 140% of an average December. Locally flood alert warnings were issued when the river rose 1m on 26th, not due to heavy excessive rainfall but more as a result of saturated ground conditions. Fortunately no flooding resulted. The start of the New Year saw a rapid drop in temperature with overnight levels of -5 degrees and freezing fog, but rainfall has remained low.

The impact of climate change on our weather pattern extremes was highlighted in BBC4 Horizon "What's wrong with our weather". Polar warming, rising temperatures and the reduced temperature difference with the equator caused a reduction in jet stream speed from 300 mph to 100 mph resulting in it meandering. This caused extremes of cold air from the north alternating with warm air from the southern tropics. Meteorologists have discovered that the behaviour of the jet stream in the troposphere (10km high) is also effected by disturbances in the stratosphere (50km high), our ozone layer which provides UV protection. Warming air and rising sea temperatures result in more saturated cloud formations and higher levels of rainfall. These variable climate conditions are difficult to model and are reducing the accuracy of weather forecasting to only a few days ahead.

The lighter evenings are now apparent with daylight hours increasing by 1 hour 20 minutes by the end of January and then continuing to increase by 3.5 minutes per day during February.

A 2 hour meeting was held with the Environment Agency when all issues were debated in an open and frank exchange. All items on the agenda will be investigated and a detailed response is expected in several weeks. In the highest risk areas caused by Heyford Brook the Agency felt the outflow work in Horestone Brooke would reduce the risk but as the study reports emphasised the major problem is the capacity of the E-W culvert for which the only solution is upstream storage. Unfortunately cost is the major issue with the few properties affected giving a poor cost/benefit ratio. Follow up maintenance to the E-W culvert first identified in 2016 needed to be addressed urgently as well as remedial work to the N-S culvert.

The Agency is under pressure to address as a priority properties in areas flooded in December 2021. A strategic study will look at options for storage along the Upper Nene, but it is clear that they see resilience measures for individual properties at risk (self funded) as a possible solution.

An article by James Bevan, head of E/A, entitled "Defusing the Weather Bomb" The Future of Flood Defences highlighted the need for continued build of flood

defences, regular maintenance, upper stream storage using low cost nature based solutions as well as an individual property resilience. All good principals but they need to be addressed in practice.

J. Arnold.

U3A

Monthly meetings take place in Bugbrooke Sports & Community Centre, Camp Close, Bugbrooke NN7 3RW. They are usually on the **third Monday afternoon of the month**, starting at 2 pm. An exception is the December meeting, which is on the second Monday.

Following the AGM on 17th May, prospective Committee Members are still being sought – please consider this carefully, for the existing Committee is at the minimum for a viable Group. Offers of help and participation are always welcome.

Meetings will be subject to prevailing government guidelines in relation to coronavirus.

Monday 21st FEBRUARY – GROWING UP IN BULGARIA and LEARNING TO PLAY THE CELLO by Milena Kavrakova

A cheerful and humorous account of Milena's teenage years in communist Bulgaria at the time of perestroika, Chernobyl and AIDS, and the fall of the Berlin wall, while learning to play the cello. Milena also incorporates a delightful mini concert.

Guests welcome at the monthly meetings – to learn more visit our website www.u3asites.org.uk/upper-nene

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THE PRATTLER

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Or drop off at Heyford Meats or the One Stop Shop

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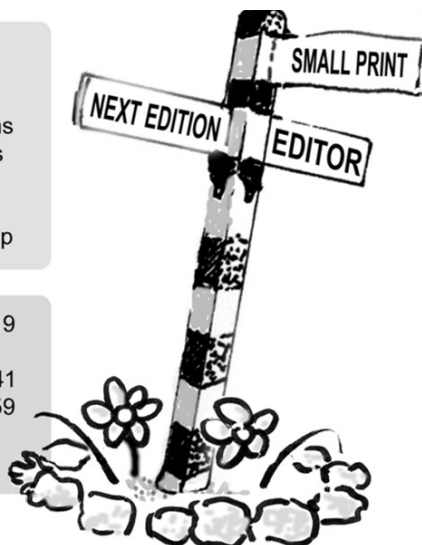
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The Editors reserves the right to edit or refuse any submissions at their discretion.

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