



THE PRATTLER

The Heyford Village Newspaper

April 2022

Issue No. 448

The Church of St Peter & St Paul,
Nether Heyford

Church Coffee Morning

Saturday
23rd April,
10:30AM -
12:00 Noon



In The Church

Everyone welcome for a cuppa, cake,
and a chat.

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.

Pavements

Please could people stop parking their cars and vans on the pavement. This makes it extremely difficult and sometimes downright dangerous for people especially those with wheel chairs, push chairs and young children to pass.

Nether Heyford Village Hall



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

Bookings: nhvhbookings@gmail.com

Website: www.netherheyfordvillagehall.com

Phone: 01327-342167



PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The March 7th, 2022, Parish Council meeting was held in the Baptist Church Rooms.

Public Participation: It was reported that the enquiry on the former Wickes depot would be taking place shortly. Bund heights had been increased slightly. Ongoing concerns were expressed about the speeds of vehicles on the Weedon Rd, and Furnace Lane.

Reports.

PCSO – an apparently abandoned van had been reported, but was in fact taxed and insured.

Lights. It was resolved to replace lights that were out with LEDS, as the waiting time for these was less than replacement parts. Decision to be delegated to Finance Committee in consultation with the clerk. The present lighting contract continued until November. The agent CUS had recommended signing a new deal as soon as possible. Since then, the Russia/Ukraine war had broken out with subsequent fears as to the cost of power. Clerk to ask advice from NCALC.

Roads and pavement. - Hillside Rd sign has been taken down by contractors, but was already damaged. Clerk to report to Highways along with damaged Wakefield Way sign.

The Green /Play Area. An early cut had worked well, and the contractor had agreed to liaise about keeping the Green in the best state for the Jubilee period.

Trees. Council had been advised that the pollarding should proceed. Concerns had been expressed about the visual and wildlife aspects. Tree in Youth Club Garden to be checked.

Allotments. Only 3 rents need collecting. 5 new plot holders. There will be a Community Saturday shortly when volunteers will do necessary jobs.

Footpaths. From Church Lane to the river in very poor condition. DM has reported.

Youth Club. All going well. AGM on 22nd March.

Canal. DM reported that he had contacted both Highways and The Canal and River Trust concerning the deteriorating brickwork on canal Bridge 32. It appears to be Highways responsibility. It is felt that it's becoming dangerous.

Defibrillators. In working order. CK reports online regularly.

Planning. AW reported that residents had reported that WNC was not keeping to its time limits and standards on planning, and that he was also concerned about this.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Events for 4-day bank Holiday June 2 – 5th. Commemorative coin project. A committee was proceeding with the plan for the fete. CK would run a dog show. - **Resolved.** A Commemorative coin project suggested by the committee was supported by the Council.

Speed Cameras – Resolved. To purchase a mobile battery-operated unit. This would be maintained and moved by CK and the linkman. It had been advised that a mobile unit was best practice, as road users became blasé about permanent units. The post nearest Winston Close had been advised as being most suitable but it was decided that the next one up towards the canal would be chosen as the preferred site and was equally suitable.

Annual Parish Meeting. This will take place prior to the normal meeting on April 4th, at 19.00, the Ordinary Meeting will start at 19.45. The Annual Parish Meeting is a remnant of the times prior to Parish Councils which were introduced in 1895. It is still a legal requirement that it be held, and it is an opportunity for District Councillors and village organisations to give a report.

Parish Council meetings in 2022 will be on the first Monday of each month, (unless a Bank Holiday) and will start at 19.30. The next one is on Monday March 10th.

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/>

Next Meeting Monday March 7th at the Baptist Church rooms.

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	Website
N. Haynes, 30, Weedon Rd, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 340167 sansacre@hotmail.co.uk	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 April 2022

Saturday 2 nd	2:00pm	Benefice Messy Church at Flore Church
Sunday 3 rd	8:00am	Prayer Book Holy Communion Service at Flore Church
	10:00am	Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	11:00am	United First Sunday Service at Flore Church
	6:00pm	Informal Worship at Heyford
Sunday 10 th Palm Sunday	10:00am	Benefice & Partnership Service for Palm Sunday at Flore Church (incl Holy Communion)
Thursday 14 th Maundy Thursday	7:30pm	Maundy Thursday Service of Holy Communion at Heyford Church
Friday 15 th Good Friday	2:00pm	Hour at the Cross at Flore Church
Sunday 17 th	8:00am	Holy Communion for Easter Sunday at Church Stowe
Easter Sunday	10:00am	Holy Communion for Easter Sunday at Heyford Church
	10:00am	Holy Communion for Easter Sunday at Flore Church
	10:00am	Morning Worship at Flore Chapel
	11:15am	Holy Communion for Easter Sunday at Brockhall
Sunday 24 th	10:00am	Holy Communion at Flore Church followed by APCM
	10:00am	Informal Worship at Upper Stowe
	4:00pm	Café Church at Heyford Church

Midweek Services

- Wednesday, Morning Prayer, 9.30am via WHY PAY? Conference Call – please contact the Rector for the numbers to use
- Thursday, Holy Communion, 10:00AM at Flore Church
- Friday, Morning Prayer, 9:00AM via Zoom – please contact the Rector for an invitation to this service

Please note that there will be no midweek services during week commencing Sunday 17th April

Dear Friends

During Lent, I've been dipping into Alison Daunton-Fear's book, 'Treasures from a deep mine'. In one of her reflections, written during the Second World War, she writes; "We are always having to face the unknown. We never tread the same path again – we always have to break fresh ground, every day...". That seems particularly true these days. After two years of covid, the old familiar ways are far behind us. However much we might look forward to a return to normality, things have changed forever. Of course, if covid wasn't enough, like the author, we find ourselves reflecting on a European war. And even if the UK is not involved in the fighting, we will feel the effects of war and sanctions; in higher energy costs, in the rising cost of living, in continued support for the millions of refugees who have fled the fighting in Ukraine, and so on. Once again, our world is changing, and we face an unknown, unfamiliar road into the future.

But we do not travel that road alone. April marks the celebration of Easter, one of the major festivals of the Christian Church. St. Luke tells the story of two of Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaus, reflecting on the events of Jesus' crucifixion (Luke 24:13-35). For the two travellers, their world had been turned upside down, their hopes shattered. As they travelled, the risen Jesus walked with them, yet they did not recognise him. Whenever I read this story, I wonder why that is. Perhaps they were just so preoccupied with recent events that they could not see beyond their own thoughts and fears. Maybe they were feeling sorry for themselves, caught up in their self-pity. Still, Jesus drew alongside and walked with them on the seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus.

They thought Jesus had been defeated, that evil had triumphed, that they had been left alone. Maybe we're tempted to feel the same, that God has left us, that he is untouched by our suffering, by the events in the world. But there, in that moment of hopelessness, he is near, he is with us. Whatever the future holds, we do not journey into it alone. By his Spirit, Jesus goes with us – into danger, suffering, anxiety, disappointment.

For seven miles, Jesus gave his two disciples a wonderful Bible study, opening the scriptures to them. Then, as they sat down to eat and Jesus broke the bread, they recognised him. How might we recognise Jesus with us? Perhaps in prayer, or in reading our Bibles. Or maybe in the people who are alongside us, loving, helping and encouraging us along life's way. If there is anything I can do to help you on your journey, please give me a call. In the meantime, I wish you all a very blessed and joyful Easter.

With prayers and blessings,

Rev Stephen (Tel: 01327 344436)



Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Services for April 2022

April 3 rd	10:30 am	worship led by Wendy Manley
April 10 th	10:30 am	Palm Sunday service led by Wally Mular
	4:00 pm	Songs of Praise service led by Les Britten with tea and cakes
April 17 th	10:30 am	Easter day service led by Martin Buckby
April 24 th	10:30 am	Communion service led by Martin Buckby

Events

April 8 th	2:30 - 4:30pm	Afternoon Tea and Cakes (books available). Donations for church funds
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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.

Hello again

As we approach Easter I welcome this opportunity to share a few thoughts on behalf of "The fellowship of The Baptist Chapel on the Green." Easter is for so many people the end of the cold dark winter with thoughts of looking forward to longer daylight days, warmer days and perhaps this year, time away. But for Christians and those with a thoughtful connection with the events of Good Friday, it remains an important time to remember and reflect on the account of Jesus' death and resurrection. And of course there are different thoughts of this time – for some it is central to belief and to others it is just a time for a longer break from work, time away, time with family and of course not forgetting the time for Easter chocolate!!

The Easter story for some is "Barmy" – by that I mean it is "mad and ridiculous" in believing and trusting in one man saving the world by dying on a cross and rising from the dead. For some it is just Barbaric; brutal, savage, vicious and unsophisticated. And yes it was but crucifixion was the common method of death for those, deemed by the authorities at the time, as needful for a crime committed.

It was Beautiful, in that the man on the cross was no ordinary man and he came to fulfil a promise made and for a purpose which only he could fulfil – "there was no other good enough to pay the price of sin" as the old hymn reminds us. But It was predicted to happen, it was promised to happen, it was planned to take place and it was procured, (to have an effect) in that the prediction, the promise and the plan was fulfilled. Can suffering and sacrifice ever be beautiful?

Yes strangely I think it can when the sacrifice of expressed love was predicted, premeditated, planned and procured for a purpose - to show us his undeserved grace, grace that is expressed to me and for me when I don't deserve it.

Justice - gives to me what I deserve

Mercy withholds from me what I actually deserve

But GRACE gives me what I don't deserve

One of my favourite hymns, "I know that I have so many, is detailed below

In 2001 our son joined others on a world tour as a pianist with a Christian music group called "The Continentals". On his return home I heard him playing what was for me then a new piece of Christian music called "wonderful grace" and here are some of the words

1 Wonderful grace
 That gives what I don't deserve
 Pays me what Christ has earned
 Then lets me go free

2 Wonderful grace
 That gives me the time to change
 Washes away the stain
 That once covered me

- 3 Wonderful love
 That held in the face of death
 Breathed in it's final breath
 Forgiveness for me
- 4 Wonderful love
 Whose power can break every chain
 Giving us life again
 Setting us free
- 5 Wonderful power
 My Lord risen from the dead
 Forging the way ahead
 With new eyes I see

There is a lovely Bible verse which so beautifully supports this song
"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ that thou he was rich yet for our
sakes he became poor so that we through his poverty might become rich"

God's grace is about God giving to us and for us and that is what the Season of
Christmas is all about as Good Friday and Easter Sunday becomes the Reason for
Christmas. We will never fully understand the season of Christmas until we
understand the reason for Christ coming to us. We will never understand Easter, as
the reason for Christmas until we see and understand that Christmas is God's gift to
us and Easter is God's grace expressed for us.

Yes, Christmas can be such a sentimental time with the child in the crib, the carols,
the cosy feelings of togetherness. But the Christmas story and the Christian story
didn't finish there, and if did then it would have had no point or purpose. But Christ
fulfilled the promise by going to the cross - barmy for some, barbaric yes and yet
beautiful because through the cross we can be reconciled to God through his
restorative grace which brings forgiveness and peace for our tomorrows with all the
uncertainty that effects our personal and corporate lives

Details of services in the chapel are provided elsewhere in The Prattler

Thank you and a warm welcome awaits any who wish to come along

Martin Buckby

(on behalf of The fellowship from The Baptist Chapel on The Green"



Heyford Garden Club

www.heyfordgardenclub.com

At our March meeting we were entertained by Liz Taylor who told us of the many ancient, veteran and notable trees in the Northants area, including a very old willow tree in Towcester which is a rare thing indeed as willows usually have a relatively short life.

The evening also featured our annual daffodil bench show which which this year coincided nicely with the flowers in our gardens, as was illustrated by the many entries. This made judging difficult as all the blooms were of such excellent quality. The Large Flowered section was won by Pauline Groom with Gil and Pauline Guglielmi in joint second place. In the Small Flowered section Pauline Guglielmi and Linda Hall tied in first place, and Pauline Groom and Rosemary Dunkley were in joint second place. The Bicolour Flower section was won by Pauline Groom with Gil and Pauline Guglielmi in second place.

Our next meeting will be held on 11th April and the talk will be on Penstemons from John Lee of Froggery Cottage Gardens. John will also be bringing some plants for sale. The meeting will also feature our annual tulip show.

Pigeons

Pigeons have always been a nuisance to gardeners with their insatiable appetite for green plants but in the last couple of years I have noticed them eating the flower buds on fruit trees, particularly plums. I've never seen this before and putting nets over large trees is pretty impractical so I'm at a loss as to what to do.

Kale sprouts

Many of us grow kale for winter greens but I have recently discovered that the little flowering shoots that start to grow in the spring are a really useful second crop; they are tender and tasty, if a little fiddly to pick. We've had several weeks of harvest from our plants this year so it surprises me that I have never come across a mention of this anywhere.

Some Things to do in April

April is a busy month in the garden when we can start sowing and planting in earnest, but be vigilant for late frosts, particularly if you are planting out tender bedding plants. It's also a good time to start feeding shrubs and roses.

Mark Newstead

Astronomy on the Green

As we come fully into the Galaxy season, it's worth wondering how we know the distances of these remote deep sky objects. Firstly, let's think how we measure distances closer to the Earth. Long ago the distance for the Astronomical Unit was set as the distance from the Earth to the Sun, some 93 million miles (149,000 million km) in the solar system this lets us use more reasonable numbers to describe the distances from the planets to the Sun.

Let's look at one of the furthest, Neptune is 30,047 AU from the Sun, or at its closest 2,700,000,000 miles away. As we look outside our solar system (and Galaxy) light years are useful, one light year is 5,878,625,370,000 miles (9.5 trillion km). In between Galaxies, distances are often measured in Parsecs, 1 parsec being 3.28 light years. Then for things some distance away, Kiloparsecs (1,000 Parsecs). Yep, space is big. The observable Universe is 93 billion light years across. Indeed, how can we know this? The cosmological ladder uses indirect measurement methods (a tape measure just won't be up to the job).

The ladder takes us out through the universe in a series of steps, as no one method can be used.

Solar system: Radar ranging (bouncing radio waves off objects and timing the signal returning to the Earth). This works for distances up to 621.4 million miles (1 billion km).

Local Galaxy: Parallax, typically measurements are taken six months apart to maximise the base line (Earth's orbit). Using distant stars as landmarks, we can determine the distance to an object between us and them, good old Pythagoras. Works up to 10,000 light years.

Local Galaxies: Tully-Fisher relation (TFR), Brighter, more massive galaxies spin faster. We measure the rotation of a galaxy by analysing its light spectrum. Using the brightness of these we can calculate the distances to dimmer Galaxies. Distances up to 15 million light years.

Further Galaxies: Cepheid variables, these stars expand and contract in a regular way altering their brightness. This, like the above method can be used as a 'standard candle' (archaic; based on the use of standard candles on Earth in the past to measure illumination). Distances up to 100 million light years.

Deep Space: Redshift, as space is expanding, most objects are moving away from us. The faster their movement the more the spectrum of light from them shifts to the red. Their speed of movement can be calibrated to their distance.

Edges of the Universe: Chandrasekhar limit, some binary stars contain a white dwarf. This can steal material from its companion until it is 1.4 x the mass of our sun. Above that limit it explodes in a supernova and emits intense light for a few days or weeks, this can be detected over half the Universe away.

Interested? Join our Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1003339033815678>

Clear Skies!

Tony Boutle



NETHER HEYFORD

OFSTED No. EY450747

CHARITY No. 1029571

Pre-School

Ages 2-5 years

Open Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

Funding available for eligible 2,3 and 4 year olds

Highly qualified and experienced staff

Excellent links with Bliss School

Fantastic village location

Use of numerous outdoor facilities including:

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



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

Breakfast Club incl. breakfast open from 7.45am

After School Club open until 6pm

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

Transition sessions available for Bliss School reception class.

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

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

Allotment News

Sharing

A sharing morning was held on Saturday 5th March when we were able to offer allotment holders – free of charge – a range of allotment equipment and resources that had been given to us. In addition, we were able to replenish our stock of community tools, for use by allotmenters who are either new to managing an allotment or who simply forget to bring a spade or hoe with them.

Bonfires

There is probably no more contentious a subject than bonfires on allotments. The rules for allotments in Heyford are as follows:

Bonfires can be lit as follows:

After 7pm during British Summer Time (approx beginning April to end October)

After 4pm during Greenwich Mean Time (approx beginning November to end March)

Only organic material and wood can be burnt on allotments. All other materials must be removed from the allotment field by the Tenant.

I would simply add that tenants should also always check the direction of the wind and spare a thought for the good people of Heyford who live nearby. We value our neighbours.

Continuing the theme, but on a less contentious note, I happened to be recently checking up on these rules when a delightfully quirky article appeared in my mailbox from long time Heyford resident Bob Smith. Wise words from someone who has probably lit more bonfires than most of us ...

How to Light a Bonfire

When I worked for Sir Robert Grant as a gardener at the age of 17, we always used a bonfire to burn rubbish. In doing so weed seeds were also burned, as well as the actual plants. This is how we used to do it ...

Make a really good fire using dry wood, dry grass, or dry materials, not paper etc. When the fire is going strongly, and well alight, start by putting your twigs, and woody things on the fire, there will not be much smoke at this time. Gradually add the weeds, bit by bit, onto the fire. When this is done, put soil all over the fire to a depth of 5-6", covering the fire completely.

If you have made a good red-hot fire it could burn for two or three days. When the fire is dead, do not spread the ashes on the garden, but when cold, gather the ashes and use them in about 12 months time as a mulch, or mix with the compost.

This makes excellent humus for the garden.

Community Saturdays

The Community Saturday held on 19th March was a huge success with over twenty people – young and old - joining our working party for about two hours. The range of jobs we that we completed were many and varied and it has enabled us to maintain the community areas of the allotment to the good standard that we have come to expect over the past few years. A big thank you goes to all those good people who gave so freely of their time and to those allotmenters who were not able to make it on the day but who have offered help in the coming days.

Two sessions like this every year is all it takes to keep things in good order. We look forward to a similar (or even better response) when we meet again in the autumn.

Keeping in Contact

At the moment we have no vacant plots but we are anticipating that one or two could become available later in the Spring. If you would like to rent a plot or have any other queries about the allotments please 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

HSC 300-Club Draws

February 2022

1st Prize (£65) 45 Chay A

2nd Prize (£30) 93 Bowls Club

March 2022

1st Prize (£65) 32 Football Club

2nd Prize (£30) 195 Pat E

I'd also like to thank a couple of our patrons who have very kindly donated their winnings back to the PFA - thank you! Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Kit - HSC

View from the Wildlife Patch

It is good to see plans made three years ago coming in fruition on "The Patch".

Our "Meadow Areas" look to be developing according to plan. The first of these – each on the site of an old allotment - was first sown with "Cornfield Annuals". We were surprised by the success of this, both in beauty of the rich flora created but also by the amount of insects that arrived to feed on the pollen and nectar from these flowers. We had a count of 19 Butterfly species that first year. This site is now a mix of broad leaved plants and grasses just as planned. It remains to be seen just what the plant community looks like when mature but all signs are encouraging so far.

Of the other three "Meadow Sites" one had a good count of broad leaved plants but a poor show of grass species. This was resown last year by just scratching the surface to create a seed bed whilst not damaging the flora that is already establishing. All looks to be going well with this so far.

Pauline spent yesterday morning clearing Blanket Weed from the pond by hand. She was rewarded by discovering 5 clumps of Frogspawn. (Our hibernating frogs are definitely breeding). She also logged some Rams Horn Snails and Water Hog Lice which are not rare but new records for our pond fauna. She also found water Boatmen, one Smooth Newt, several Broad bodied Dragonfly Nymphs as well as many other species which we knew were there already. It's good to see life flourishing after winter.

We have pulled most of the rogue bramble shoots out. These seem to pop up everywhere. Presumably spread in bird droppings, but also by animals carrying berries around. These germinate and shoot up in no time. If not culled out we would end up with one big briar patch which would be ok for biodiversity in one way but would not support the rich variety of life which we are aiming for.

Not so for a bush that Mark removed yesterday. It had nice flowers but we did not see even one insect feeding on them. Nor did we see any signs of insects eating its leaves. It has now been removed and will be replaced with a native species yet to be determined. Possibly a Buckthorn, a species which Brimstone Butterfly larvae depend on.

The Dutch Elm Disease resistant Elm that was put in to replace the Elm lost to that disease is now planted. It will need plenty of watering to keep it going over the coming Summer months. We have several of these trees planted on the Allotment Tree Nursery. These are "growing on" and when large enough will be planted on sites around the Village in an attempt to replace the trees lost to Dutch Elm disease in the 70's.

The hedge between the Allotments and Watery Lane is quite a species rich hedge. I have asked around and it seems the much of this hedge is the original, ancient hedgerow that would have had a Brook running along the roadside which was diverted relatively recently.

Some of this hedge appears to have been replanted with native British species but much of it is still original. And is possibly the only site in the Parish where Wild Hops grow. It would be good to survey this hedge during the coming year along with some other likely looking ancient hedges.

If any readers are interested in this work please get in touch with me. My contact details are in this Magazine listed among the other Parish Councillors.

Dave Musson

Village Hall News

Just a reminder our AGM is planned for 25th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall All are welcome to attend so please put the date in your diaries.

We are looking for a new cleaner for the Village Hall as sadly Lynsey Drinkwater is retiring. Lynsey has done a marvellous job in keeping our village hall in tip top condition and will be missed. Thankfully Lynsey has offered to stay on until a replacement is found. The job consists of up to 20 hours per month which are flexible. Please contact me for further details if you are interested.

Preparations for the fete on June 4th continue to go well thanks to Pat Paterson. Hopefully we will have a nice sunny day to continue our Jubilee celebrations.

Joan Kirkbride
Village Hall Chairman

Tel 01327 340370

Email jknhvhchairman@gmail.com

Welcome Packs

Welcome packs are available for newcomers to our Village. The information in them helps people feel at home quickly.

If you notice that someone has moved in recently, get a pack for them by calling:

Sue Morris
21 The Green
Nether Heyford

01327 349387



Our Neighbourhood Plan: April 2022 Update

At the March Parish Council meeting the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group presented the details of the public consultation, and subsequent proposed amendments to the Draft Plan. As the qualifying body the Parish Council have to review and formally approve any changes to the Draft Plan. This is a statutory step prior to formal submission. In summary the changes approved related to strengthening some policies and making a number of technical changes as a result of feedback from the WNC Planning Team.

There was significant discussion around the allocation of the Bugbrooke Road site (SNC310), for primarily educational purposes. As a result of this discussion, it was agreed that this allocation was in the best long-term interest of the village. It was also recognised that this could take a number of years to bring to fruition given the funding requirements and the complexity of undertaking a school relocation.

Detailed responses to all the questions raised from the consultation, including from WNC and Persimmon Homes are now available on the NHP website, www.netherheyfordneighbourhoodplan.org.uk, as is the latest revision of the Draft Plan.

Subject to a further independent review of the Draft Plan and the completion of some associated formal documents, the Parish Council will make a formal submission to WNC. WNC will review the submission to ensure it meets all the statutory requirements prior to being sent to a planning inspector.

If the planning inspector approves the plan, then WNC will organise a simple yes/no referendum for the village, and assuming a simple 'yes' majority the plan becomes 'made'. This in essence means it is legally enforceable and sits under the umbrella of the Local Development Plan for this area. As previously mentioned, 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.

After 5 years or so of significant work, it is timely that our plan moves to its conclusion. With changes to our local councils, their inherited economic pressures and the fluctuations in national directives in how and where to build, it's important that we are able show evidence of the needs and wishes of people who live in the parish, and to have a formal plan that protects those needs and wishes.

Tony Clewett, Tom Dodd, Tony Williams and the NHNPG Group




In Nether Heyford

Heather Goram, the speaker at our last Meeting, gave us an interesting talk on the many holistic treatments that can help with our aches and pains, stresses and anxieties and help us to relax. She told us how she started off her 'alternative' career and explained about massage, essential oils, reflexology and various other treatments, whilst at the same time answering our many questions. All in all it was a calming and informative evening.

Next month we have Kate Mawer who will be telling us about 'Practical Action', a Charity based in Rugby. She will tell us what they do and how they help by transforming lives and inspiring change in Africa. We know from our own recent experiences how our climates are changing. Rising sea levels, flash floods and overflowing rivers are ruining lives worldwide and the world's poorest places suffer the most. The farmers in these areas can have their crops destroyed every year. How devastating this must be. 'Practical Action' knows that solutions do exist and that "every £1 invested in prevention saves an average of £5 in future losses". If you would like to hear more please join us in the Village Hall on Thursday 7th April at 7.30 pm. The cost is £5 and includes refreshments. We would love to see you!

In May W.I. members will be going to an evening at the Shoe Museum in Northampton - a glimpse into our County Town's past.

Mary Rice
Heyford Lodge
01327 340101

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Dear Diary,

April 1966

This is my big year. I shall be 21 in July, so I shall probably meet my friends in the pub on my birthday for a bit of a celebration.

Also, my best news – I'm getting married on 17th September at Heyford Church. The Reverend Robert Hensher will marry us at 2 o'clock. We have two bridesmaids and M's brother is to be best man. The two bridesmaids are in Peach and mum's outfit matches. What a pity the colours won't be shown on the photographs. Tipplestone is to be the photographer and he has suggested I have light coloured roses in my bouquet so that they don't look black. Dad has a new set of false teeth so we'll need sunglasses when he smiles.

Someone once told me it is a good idea to plan where you would like to be in five years' time, so future plans include both of us learning to drive and having our own car, buying a bit more furniture and a twin-tub washing machine, enjoying a holiday or two and building up a little nest-egg before we think about starting a family and I have to stop earning.

We're buying a house in Duston for £3,200, which took £500 of our savings as deposit. We are using Eckford-Rands as our Solicitors as they can arrange our mortgage of £24 a month which is about what Mick (there, I've named him now he's for keeps) earns in a week. They won't take account of my wages in case I leave to have a family. My bottom drawer is growing. I've bought us bed linen and mum has bought us an eiderdown and my future mother-in-law is buying us towels. I'm also buying china from Church's - one cup, saucer & plate a month because I can't afford a whole tea-set in one go.

My biggest regret is that there are no houses we can afford in Heyford so we will move away for the time being and hope that, in the future, our village will expand enough to accommodate those of us who were brought up here. My cousin Ken is to marry his Mollie two weeks after us in Northampton. He's moving out of the village for the same reason, but I bet he'll be back when he can.

New homes are planned for Middle Street on our lovely buttercup field, and Bens Orchard. There is also Wakefield Way, Brookside Place and 3 homes in the Manor gardens, all either too late or too expensive for us. Also a new Rectory in the grounds of the old one, along with homes in the field up Church Lane, and factory units on the site of the old brickyard.

Our village has changed its name from Lower Heyford to Nether Heyford to avoid being confused with the one in Oxfordshire where the American Air base is. I'm sorry to be moving away, but I'll be back.

Polly



VILLAGE CELEBRATIONS

Thursday 2nd June:

Daytime: Family Sports Fun Day including the village Road Race
Evening in the Hall: W.I. Members Jubilee Dance Evening

Friday 3rd June:

Daytime: Street Party Day
Evening in the Hall: Open Mic Music Night

Saturday 4th June:

Daytime: Platinum Jubilee Fete and Classic Car display
Evening in the Hall: Comedy Night

Sunday 5th June:

Daytime: Platinum Teddy Bears Picnic on the Green
Evening on the Green: Songs of Praise

To volunteer some help on the day, book a stall, donate a raffle prize or any other general enquiries, then please contact: Jez Wilson: heyford_prattler@yahoo.co.uk or Pat Paterson: nhvhevents@gmail.com

Nether Heyford Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022

Join our Facebook group to follow our progress and updates. We welcome involvement from any residents, all comments suggestions are most welcome. Search Facebook for "Nether Heyford Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022" and join up.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/netherheyfordjubilee>



Quiz

Answers on page 29

1. What is the smallest country in the world?
2. Alberta is a province of which country?
3. How many countries still have the shilling as currency?
4. Which English city was once known as Duroliponte?
5. The first successful vaccine was introduced by Edward Jenner in 1796. Which disease did it guard against?
6. In tennis, what piece of fruit is found at the top of the men's Wimbledon trophy?
7. Who won the FIFA Women's World Cup in 2019?
8. Who was the only British Prime Minister to be assassinated?
9. Which vitamin is the only one that you will not find in an egg?
10. What is the chemical formula for Table Salt?
11. In what year was the first episode of Coronation Street broadcast on ITV?
12. Who is the only musician ever to have been awarded the Nobel prize for literature?
13. Which Beatles song was banned from the BBC for its lyrics?
14. Who was the winner of the first ever UK series of 'I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here!'?
15. American singer Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta is best known by which stage name?
16. Which tunnel is the longest rail tunnel in the world?



Heyford Picturedrome

Our **April** film will be **The Constant Gardener** to be shown in the Village Hall on Thursday 21st April. This is a 2005 British-German drama thriller film based on the novel by John Le Carre. The story follows Justin Quayle (**Ralph Fiennes**), a British diplomat in Kenya as he tries to solve the murder of his wife Tessa (**Rachel Weisz**) who was an Amnesty International activist alternating with many flashbacks telling the story of their love. The film was a critical and box-office success and earned four Oscar nominations winning Best Supporting Actress for Rachel Weisz.

Doors open at 7.00 for a start to the film 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.

The **May** film is yet to be confirmed but will be shown on 19th May.

Tony Clewett (Phone no. 341533)



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www.heyfordsingers.org

*Listen to the Singing, Listen to the Sound
Listen to the Beauty of Music All Around
Listen to Each Neighbour, Listen to Each Friend
Listen to the Voices and Blend*

We sing these words as part of our voice exercises at the beginning of rehearsals. Mary Rice, our Musical Director, is very keen on not only voice exercises but a few physical ones as well. No good starting to sing when the vocal chords haven't been warmed up – or anything else for that matter. These words are very appropriate for a four-part choir, bearing in mind some of the choir members cannot read music. Most though are getting the hang of the 'f', 'ff' and 'pp' - most of musical terms being Italian, which as a child learning the piano I found most off putting. What you don't come across is a singing directive for 'let it rip'. The nearest in musical terms would be 'gustoso' which is defined as 'with happy emphasis and forcefulness; in an agreeable manner'. And this is where some of us fall down. Learning new music is not easy and light and shade in singing is essential to portray the very essence of the piece. However we tend to sing very quietly in those difficult bits we are not sure of and then belt it out when we are on safer ground. Hence the exercises to moderate our voices at all times. After all if you want 'With Gusto' you can find this at the Saints Rugby ground or The Cobblers. And, best of all, at the beginning of any Welsh or Irish rugby matches. (I was lucky enough to see Munster Rugby Team play The Saints at Thomond Park in Limerick and that was a revelation. The Fields of Athenry was magnificent drowning out 'When The Saints Go Marching In' and everything else in its path; in full crescendo all of the time, only interrupted by the collective shouts of 'Try' or 'Ref, Ref'. The lyrics were completely irrelevant. A choir is very different).

Our Open Evening to recruit new members in February was a huge success thanks to a much wider publication of this event. This time we managed to advertise in the Bugbrooke Link and the Weedon News and we acquired eight new members of which three are – men!!! To get the right balance between Bass and Tenor sections and the rest of the Choir – Sopranos and Altos tend to always outnumber them - is key and with our new members we are now achieving this, especially as one is an Alto who were beginning to look a bit thin on the ground. And we have welcomed back a few of our other members who have been missing since the beginning of the Pandemic and now feel confident enough to return.

'The Lads Go To Blackpool' on March 17th last was – not unexpectedly – also a great success. This is a time when our very talented Pianist Graham Kinnersley writes and performs his own songs and thanks to the enormous help of the Choir we provided home-made cakes and scones and even buckets and spades containing crisps and nibbles, donated by a Choir member. (These will be put to good use later on, probably at the forthcoming fete in June). We limited tickets to just over fifty and all were sold and we were so pleased to see some of our new members attend and contribute to the afternoon. The money will be used to replenish our Choir funds

which are sadly diminished after the enforced break due to Covid. At the time of writing I don't have the exact figure but we raised just over £400 which ensures that our Choir can continue. However the raffle raised £200 - prizes donated by the Choir - and this will all go to the Government Ukraine Appeal. An ironic turn of events when we are singing, laughing and imaging ourselves up North, actually participating by eating sticks of Blackpool rock, we are also raising funds for the most harrowing of modern day events.

JRA

What is wrong with Putin

Is he mad to put his boot in, to

The lovely Country of Ukraine?

The World thinks he is insane.

His troops invaded at break of dawning, rockets,

Tanks, air raids, without warning.

Putin's killing machine is advancing hour by hour

People are dying by his power

If he is not stopped soon, by sanctions, or negotiations

He will march into other Countries

Right on into the oceans.

Robin Smith (Bob)

Quiz Answers

1. Vatican City 2. Canada 3. Four – Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Somalia

4. Cambridge 5. Smallpox 6. Pineapple 7. USA

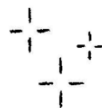
8. Spencer Perceval - May 1812 9. Vitamin C 10. NaCl 11. 1960

12. Bob Dylan 13. I am the Walrus 14. Tony Blackburn

15. Lady Gaga 16. The Gotthard Base Tunnel in Switzerland at 35.5 miles long

The Olde Sun

Takeaway



Pizzas

Margherita	£8
Pepperoni	£8
Meat Feast	£8
Hawaiian	£8
Veggie (u)	£8



Classic Mains

Venison Burger	£6
Served in a seeded bun, smoked cheese & salad	
Chicken Burger	£6
Served in a seeded bun, smoked cheese & salad	
Vegan Curry	£6.50
Served with rice	

Sides

Chips	£3
Fries	£2.50
Hallaumi Fries	£3
Mushy Peas	£1.50
Curry Sauce	£1

Scampi	£6
Served with a lemon wedge & tartar sauce	
Beer Battered Fish	£6
Homemade Pie	£6
Homemade steak & mushroom pie. (Potato & cheese pie available for vegetarians.)	

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MONDAY CLOSED

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WEDNESDAY

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THURSDAY

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FRIDAY

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SATURDAY

12:00 - 2:30 & 5:00 - 9:00

SUNDAY

12:00 - 4:00

SPECIALS

2 STEAKS & A BOTTLE OF WINE £30

2 PIZZAS & BOTTLE OF WINE £20



Heyford Bowls Club

Since my last article the Village Short Mat held its first club competition since 2020. The President's Cup, a mixed drawn triples competition, was held on 25th February. Five teams took part and there were several spectators cheering them on. The teams were drawn randomly by computer and we had the unique scenario of our eldest and youngest members on the same team. It was a close competition enjoyed by all. The winning team members were Ellie Deakin, Elizabeth Davison and Den Taylor with Rosemary Haddon, Barry Coles and Graham Drake the runners up.



The outdoor season is fast approaching and all being well the greens will open this month. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for dates of open sessions for potential new members wanting to try out lawn bowls. Our friendly matches against other local bowls clubs start early May. These are usually held on Thursday evenings, Saturday or Sunday afternoons both home and away. You can find a schedule of these matches on our website under Fixtures – Club Friendlies. Spectators are always welcome at our home matches.

The Short Mat sessions in the village hall continue throughout the year on Wednesday afternoons (2.00pm) and evenings (7.00pm) so if you would like to pop in to have a go you would be most welcome.

On the weekend of May 28th and 29th this year we will be holding a special celebration weekend. During the pandemic the outdoor section of Heyford Bowls celebrated its 25 year anniversary. We also had the clubhouse extended. Obviously due to Covid restrictions neither event could be celebrated so we are taking the opportunity to mark both events on this special open weekend. Details of the weekend's activities will be posted on both our website and Facebook pages so keep those dates in your diary.

Lorraine Streeter
Club Captain

Flood Watch

Climate change analysts have predicted that rising global temperatures are causing trees and spring flowers to bloom up to one month early. Certainly March has been extremely mild with temperatures forecast to reach nearly 20 degrees by the end of the month. With daffodils in full bloom in early March it raises the question of how our seasons are defined. Generally there are two definitions, meteorological or astronomical, the former dividing the year into four equal segments of three months in line with the calendar year or the latter dividing the year into two equinoxes and two solstices. Hence spring could be 1st March or 20th March (spring equinox) when day and night are of almost equal length. As the Earth orbits the sun the Earth's seasons are defined by its rotation and the 23.5 degree tilt of its axis with the northern hemisphere experiencing warmer months when tilting toward the sun and colder months when tilted away from the sun. Locally 12 hours of daylight occurs on 17th March increasing to 15 hours by the end of April, approximately 4 minutes per day increase.

After a wet month in February (170% above normal) March remained very dry until 16th when 30mm rainfall in less than 12 hours caused the River to rise 1.4m overnight to cause water on some areas of the floodplain. The E/A responded by issuing a flood alert warning early on 17th. Whilst some of the floodplain water resulted from topping of the bank other areas resulted from seepage water when the rising water table exceeds the adjacent terrain levels. Although recorded by definition as a flooding event neither caused any concern and within 12 hours river levels reduced to normal. This single incident raised the months rainfall to normal and with the wet February raised the years total to 100% of normal.

No further answers have been received with regard to urgent maintenance work required on the culverts although the E/A have indicated their intention to discuss these problems with A/W/Highways and West Northants Council. The concern relates to who takes responsibility for these structures whether they form part of the River infrastructure, ie E/A responsibility or do they form part of the adopted road infrastructure. In either case this situation needs to be resolved once and for all.

The word "Riparian responsibility" regularly occurs in correspondence with properties adjacent to a watercourse being responsible for maintenance of the riverbank and up to the mid point of the river width. Whilst the former is in the interest of the owner to maintain the integrity of the bank the latter is unrealistic and should be the responsibility of the E/A to maintain the full capacity of the river channel.

J. Arnold.

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U3A

Monthly meetings take place in Bugbrooke Sports & Community Centre, Camp Close, Bugbrooke NN7 3RW.

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 11th APRIL – SHIPWRECKED IN ANTARCTICA by Georgie Hale.

Georgie was on board a cruise ship which sank in the Antarctic in 2008. She was on a cruise with her husband to view the wildlife of the region and tells the story of how it all went wrong.

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

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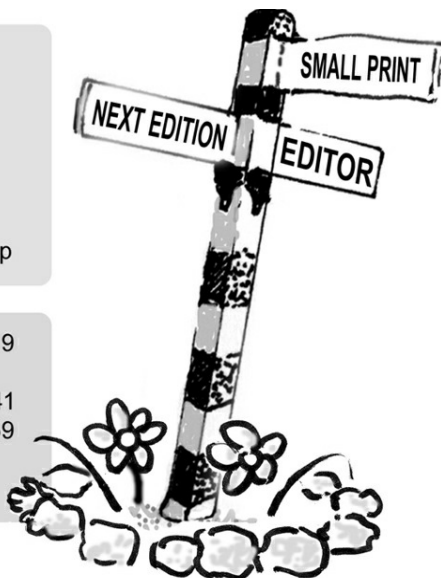
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Typing & Distribution: Christine Watts 01327 340041
Adverts & Payments: Vicki Hamblin 01327 341059
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