



THE PRATTLER

The Heyford Village Newspaper

November 2022

Issue 454



SATURDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2022

10:AM TO 2:00PM

HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL



CRAFT STALLS – including Christmas Cards
& decorations

TOMBOLA



Ticket ending 0 or 5
Wins a prize!



HANDMADE GIFTS – Jewellery, Bags & much more

CAKE STALL



And why not enjoy a delicious
BACON ROLL, with a **TEA or COFFEE**
Provided by Heyford W.I.



To book a table please e-mail: burrow.deborah@yahoo.co.uk

Violet Searle

Watery Lane

Passed peacefully away on September 26th at home.

Much loved Mum, Nanna and Great Nanna.

Reunited with Dad and Lesley

Rest in peace xxx

Geoff - 'The Village'

This is how people refer to my much loved and missed husband, and as I approach the 1st anniversary of his passing it has not been easy after nearly 50 wonderful years and lots of travels together.

However there has been some wonderful old and new friends I want to acknowledge: Gil and Pauline, Mike and Faye at the Foresters, Jeff Buck, Charles Kiloh and of course Wally Cooper, who have all been very supportive and there for me along with John and Pat Steers, Lisa and Paul Hillyard, Sarah and Paul Cattell, all of you have been a great help.

Now for the new friends, Hugh Devlin 'great with a paint brush just like Gil', Geoff and Pauline who have all been available with lots of practical help and hard work.

Without all of these fantastic people being there for me I would have found it very hard to cope with the loss of my 'wonderful generous and caring husband'.

So I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all of you for being such great friends who are still looking after me.

Wendy Thoneycroft

Post Office Opening Times

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9-5

Wednesday 1-5

Saturday 9-1

Sunday / Bank Holidays - closed



The October 3rd, 2022, Parish Council meeting was held in the Baptist Church Rooms.

Resignation Neil Haynes has resigned due to health and mobility issues after nearly 40 years as a councillor, several as chair. It cannot be stressed too much just how much Neil has done during his time with the Parish Council. His local knowledge and memory of past events has often been invaluable, and a number of past and present councillors will attest as to how much help he has given them as junior councillors. Parish Council meetings will not be the same without him.

Kim Woodbridge-Dodd was co-opted as a Councillor for a previous vacancy.

Clerk to post notice of latest resignation.

Reports PCSO - report had been distributed. More NO2 canisters had been discovered.

PCSO - Resolved. To renew the contract, provided that Bugbrooke PC do the same.

Lights. Zeta - Lighting had offered to quote for replacing lights. Clerk to chase up quotes and seek another from a new company.

Roads and pavement - Planters. Highways had not offered to put something in place instead. It was decided to leave them in place for the time-being with a view to replacing them with something more suitable in spring. Clerk to approach D&M for a quote.

The Green /Play Area - Dog mess reported. Resolved. Request for National Chopper club event approved for June 3rd, 2023. This would be to raise money for the Air Ambulance. If this coincided with the village fete it could take place on the centre green.

Hags would start work on the play area by Oct 17th at the latest.

Playing Fields - AW reported that the pavilion plan was ongoing. Kit Williams would be standing down next year after many years of service on the Playing Field committee.

Trees - Resolved Quotations from Simon Blencowe for £1025 for various works were accepted.

Clerk to ask about the pollarding of the limes and to ask for a quotation for lifting the crowns on the cherry trees opposite the school.

Allotments - LD reported that plot holders would be given the revised terms and conditions in time for next year's rent night. The Church had thanked the Allotments committee for allowing the recent harvest festival.

Footpaths - The dry weather had allowed them to be in reasonable order. The jitties needed strimming.

Churchyard - The hedge needs cutting. This is in hand.

JBB - Meeting scheduled for Nov 14th.

Youth Club - It was reported that the Northampton Association of Youth Clubs had visited and had given positive comments on all procedures. DM felt that the Youth Club officers should be congratulated and felt that the village was fortunate to have a well-run and thriving club.

Canal - No issues.

Defibrillators - Charles Kiloh had reported that both were in working order.

Website - LH reported that all was in order.

Bugbrooke Surgery PPG group -meeting 10th Oct, to establish a format to gather feedback from patients.

Planning

Gravel Extraction Public meeting to be held on Oct 6th in the Youth Club. Resolved. TW to compose Councils objections to the application, and amend it in respect of new information coming to light at the public meeting.

VAS sign Traffic calming – MM had liaised with Matt O'Connell (Police) regarding traffic speed surveys (TSS) – and had requested TSS recording devices for Weedon Rd and Bugbrooke Rd - to be in place for around 5-7 days.

MM requested that Matt O'Connell meet with Council to discuss data and strategy.

Following TSS on Furnace Lane, MM waiting for feedback from Kier/Highways in response to MO'C suggestion that the look and feel of this section of FL must be changed to exact meaningful traffic calming.

MM happy to contact Truvelo as a problem still appears to exist, over this weekend several drivers speed was obviously incorrect on the display - reading at 5mph etc. Several parishioners are happy to assist in moving it (rota being compiled) It needs to be moved - drivers are ignoring it - it has been sited there since June.

An outline plan would be to place on the far side of the canal bridge, so between rail and canal bridges and then at the mid lamp post - from research and advice, it should be in place for around three weeks at each location, to ensure this captures some comparative data from the downloads. After that 6-week period, we should have the captured data from the TSS too (important as this is the only data that will really impact on support for resources etc) and this can then be collated/ analysed to give clear sight of the issues etc.

MM has begun to create an action plan - data etc is needed for this to have integrity and meaning along with some possible outcomes to explore in consultation with Police and Highways.

Boundary Review/ Electoral Reform - to respond before Nov 7th deadline. Resolved. To respond to the consultation that Council would be interested in forming a cluster with other villages (Bugbrooke, Flore and Upper Heyford) to form a ward that would have its own Councillor.

Reports from SLCC and NCALC meetings - Clerk gave reports from these two conferences. The first had highlighted forthcoming changes concerning Local Government reorganisation and Planning, where many restrictions would be relaxed. The emphasis on site selection in Neighbourhood plans would be replaced by an emphasis on good design. The NCALC conference had concentrated on how Parish Councils might help alleviate the cost-of-living crisis, and council would be discussing various ideas such as “warm rooms”, coat banks and community larders to see which might be applicable. The identification of those in need would also be addressed.

There had also been a presentation on measures a council might take to address climate change and to assist biodiversity. The B Squared experiment had provoked considerable interest.

Warm Room in the Youth Club The project was initiated on Oct 19th and will continue for the time being on Wednesdays from 9-5. Coffee, tea, squash, and biscuits were provided. One Stop Shop donated milk, squash, and newspapers. Parishioners donated cakes and biscuits and coffee. Residents also sent books, magazines, and games to form the basis for a book exchange. A steady flow of volunteers and visitors passed through during the day, and it was felt to be a worthwhile enterprise. As it was fairly warm outside – the social aspect of the project was to the fore. It is expected that the “Warm Room” aspect of the project will be utilised more as the winter bites. While keeping warm and saving a bit on heating bills at home is an important part of the project, it is also intended to promote well-being and address the issues of isolation and loneliness. So, to hear people chattering away happily was a pleasure.

Parish Council meetings in 2022/23 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 Nov 7th and Monday Dec 5th. (Short meeting).

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/>

Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact.	
Mrs L. Dilkes. 17 Furnace Lane, Nether Heyford, NN7 3JF e-mail thedilkesfamily@outlook.com 07967 753216	Chair, Youth Club, Finance.
Mrs L. Eales – 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 341707 e-mail lyndaeales@aol.com	Allotments, Playing Field.
Linda Hall, 8 Western Ave, Nether Heyford linda.hall.netherheyford@outlook.com	Vice Chair, Website
Cllr Mel McClean, 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
K Woodbridge-Dodd, 15 Bliss Close, Nether Heyford, NN7 3ND khedgehog@msn.com	Councillor
Cllr Karen Cooper - West Northamptonshire Council, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester NN12 6AD 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
E-mail: netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com

Tel: 07935 931787

Public Meeting on Proposed Gravel Extraction – Nether Heyford Youth Club – 6 October 2022

Tony Williams (TW) NHPC, said that the application relates to Upper Heyford (UH), so Nether Heyford (NH) objections have less weight than UH. NH will be objecting. It was stressed that only objections on planning grounds would be considered – property values and views are not considered, although these are a worry for many.

David Banner (DB) thanked NH for organising meeting. UH will object.

Cllr Adam Brown (AB) of WNC thanked all for attending, He is not a member of the planning committee but does have the power to “call in” and if he does then the public can attend planning committee meeting. AB was concerned about visual impact, ecological impact, traffic impact, noise, dust etc Amount of vehicle movements of concern and section 106 could provide mitigation for disturbances. Unfortunately, it won't include a road for Heygates. The site is already allocated under minerals plan so in a sense permission has already been given, which is a negative, but it has been ruled against in the past.

If the application were called in, only 2 speakers could go to the public hearing/committee plus one Ward Member.

Public Section of meeting.

Graham Smith (GS) – expressed amazement that Mick George Ltd (MG) has no knowledge of the 2004 decision. Made much emphasis on the ecological impact. GS had called it in, (as an SNC Councillor) in 2004, when cash was raised to employ a barrister.

The River Nene is apparently unique in this area in that it has an underground river underneath it, and there could be a problem with interfering with this. The Bugbrooke Site of Special Scientific Interest opposite has never been disturbed; and there are fears that excavation could disturb the flora and fauna here.

Since the Flore bypass has been built, much of the problem with traffic has now gone and the new roundabout helps with that. However, there is likely to be a problem with trucks backed up waiting to get on to the roundabout and emitting far more exhaust particulates than they would whilst in motion. Problems already with traffic on roundabout and Flore by-pass. In 2004 the Inspector agreed with the issues raised and asked that other sites should be sought.

Eco systems once damaged, will not come back, and companies will spend the minimum possible on mitigation. Adam Brown felt ecological and environmental arguments would be very important. DB felt Pannatoni Park had been an environmental disaster, and no notice was taken.

It had been hoped that, should the scheme proceed, the excavations would be flooded providing a wetland wildlife site. It seems that this would not be the case and that the quarry would be filled with “inert” material. Landfill isn't going to replace

carbon that is lost. It was pointed out that gravel quarry area in Kislingbury is now barren following extractions.

Worldwide recommendation is that this sort of activity should be at least a mile from habitation. This isn't, and it is also next to a sports field!!

The site would be lit from 07.00 and 22.00. Light damages wildlife environments, makes life difficult for bats and white light is a problem for birds too. MG need to be considering this. There is also supposed to be a net gain in biodiversity. There is no baseline for that, and it was felt that work should have been done on this.

There is a body of evidence to show there are health problems from dust etc from this sort of activity. It is felt that this has not properly been taken into consideration. A Baseline assessment has not been carried out. It is not felt that the proposed berm mitigates anything. Asthma is a particular issue. It is felt that health issues should be highlighted.

DB worried about time scales, concerned that there will be other land with same deposits, which would probably be worked subsequently if this scheme were allowed. If Heygates were get a road that will be forever.

It was proposed that a barrister be employed, again as in 2004.

Guy Ravine - Clerk to the Parish Council

Towcester Area Door to Door (TADD) Volunteer Drivers Urgently Needed

Can you spare a few hours a week to take people in YOUR community to their health and wellbeing appointments?

Since the pandemic, many of our older volunteer drivers have stepped down and the lack of new volunteers means that we now have a long waiting list for membership. As the winter vaccine programme takes off, we are having to turn down requests for transport from those who need it most.

Our community medical transport service is invaluable in helping the elderly and disabled to remain independent in their own homes particularly where no suitable public transport exists. Please help us continue to provide this essential service in YOUR community.

Allocation of journeys is tailored to your availability on a weekly basis, mileage is paid by the passenger and insurance premiums are not affected. For more details about becoming a TADD volunteer driver visit our website.

<https://www.towcesterareadoor2door.com/>



Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

Services for November 2022

Sunday 6 th	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion Service at Flore Church
	10:00am	Holy Communion Service at Church Stowe
	11:00am	Informal First Sunday Service at Flore Church
	6:00pm	Evening Worship at Heyford Church
Sunday 13 th	10:30am	Service for Remembrance Sunday at Heyford Church
	11:15am	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Heyford
	10:55am	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Church Stowe
	2:15pm	Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Flore
	2:30pm	Remembrance Sunday Service in the Millennium Hall
Sunday 20 th	10:00am	Holy Communion Service at Heyford Church
	6:00pm	Holy Communion at Upper Stowe
Sunday 27 th	10:00am	Holy Communion Service at Flore Church
	10:00am	Family Service at Upper Stowe
	3:00pm	Thanksgiving for a Life Service at Heyford Church

Midweek Services

Wednesday	9:30am	Morning Prayer via 'Why Pay' conference call. Please contact the Rector for the numbers to use. (not 9 th Nov)
Thursday	10:00am 2:30pm – 3:30pm	Holy Communion at Flore Church (not 10 th Nov) Flore Church open for private prayer
Friday	9:00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom. Please contact the Rector for an invitation

During November we shall be praying for people living in Church Street and Manor Walk in Heyford, Kings Lane and The Orchard in Flore, Main Street in Upper Stowe and the Hall Apartments in Brockhall.

Dear Friends,

We will remember them...

In June, Deborah and I visited the D-Day landing beaches in Normandy. It was a coach trip we had planned and booked in January of last year, in the depths of winter and the midst of lockdown. Conversely, whilst we were there, the weather was lovely; the sun shone, the countryside was stunningly beautiful and fertile, and the long, sandy beaches were full of people sunbathing or paddling. For a moment, something felt wrong, people enjoying themselves in the very places where thousands of men had fought and died 78 years earlier. But of course, that was why those soldiers fought, to win our freedom to live our lives, to enjoy our lives.

For the historian in me, it was a fascinating trip. I walked along four of the landing beaches (the tide was up at Omaha) and saw many of the blockhouses and obstacles faced by those brave allied troops on that fateful day in 1944. We visited places that I had read about in history books, or seen on films and documentaries. And we visited the war cemeteries; the British ones at Bayeux and Ranville, the American one at Colleville-sur-Mer (overlooking Omaha beach) and the German cemetery at La Cambe. There, the futility, the horror and the utter wastefulness of war hits home, as does the enormity of the courage and sacrifice of those who lie beneath the beautifully manicured grounds. Ruined buildings can be rebuilt, ravaged earth can recover, but the lives represented by those gravestones are lost forever. I defy anyone to stand and look at row upon row of gravestones, crosses and plaques and think that war is a good thing, that war is a legitimate policy to be followed by any nation state. Sadly, Russian tyrants consider human life more cheaply than the western democracies. War again rages on the continent of Europe, as the people of Ukraine resist the Russian invasion.

More than ever, we must remember and honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who lost their lives in the wars of the last century and this. In the Gospels, Jesus invites us to 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you'. That's a real challenge, especially as we are all feeling the global economic effects of the war in Ukraine. Jesus calls us to make a difference, to play our part - however small that might be - to challenge injustice, aggression and oppression, to overcome greed, rejection, hatred and fear, the very root causes of conflict and war. This year, especially, I pray that in our remembering, we will live up to Jesus' challenge, and do all that we can to win peace in our communities, our nation and our world.

With my prayers and blessings in challenging times,

Rev Stephen (Tel: 01327 344436)



Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Services for November 2022

November 6 th	10:30 am	Morning Service led by Wendy Manley
November 13 th	10:30 am	Remembrance service led by Les Britten
	4:00 pm	Songs of Praise service led by Martin Buckby with tea and cakes
November 20 th	10:30 am	Worship led by Les Britten. (Coffee served after the service)
November 27 th	9:30 am	Prayer meeting followed at 10.30am by our communion service led by Martin Buckby.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the abundance of harvest gifts which were very much appreciated by the Hope Centre. Monies raised for Operation Agri amounted to £281 and will go to Mozambique.

Events for November

November 11 th	2.30pm to 4.30pm	Afternoon Tea and Cakes (books available). Donations for church funds
November 12 th	10am to 12 md	Coffee morning in aid of church upgrade
November 22 nd	10am to 11am	Prayer and bible study
November 25 th	12 md	Church Christmas dinner

All welcome

Nether Heyford Parish Council will open a “Warm Room” at the Youth Club

for one day a week, on Wednesdays, starting Oct 19th.

Project aimed to help anyone who feels the need for a bit of warmth and company in these unprecedented times. This is in response to the energy and cost-of-living crises. It would a day's relief (small but worthwhile) – and if the scheme takes off could perhaps be extended. The project would also help to address wellbeing issues such as isolation and loneliness.

Where. – Nether Heyford Youth Club

Starting – Wednesday Oct 19th.

Opening Hours 9 – 5. Review after 4 weeks.

Duration. If it takes off – it will carry on till end of March. Review next year whether to continue in good weather.

Staffing. Councillors, Clerk or responsible volunteers to be present at all times (2 per shift minimum). Rota to be created.

Refreshments. Tea, coffee, squash available. (Not cans – don't want to add to waste) and biscuits. Attendees are welcome to make instant soups, pot noodles, microwave meals etc. If food is donated, that would be made available.

However, food will not be served.

Available – Daily Newspapers. Board Games. Book exchange. DVD exchange. Magazine exchange.

Future projects might be a “Coat Bank” – Blankets, Scarves, Warm Clothing – from donations.

All Under 18s must be accompanied.

Initial costs will be met by the Parish Council from reserves, and by the Youth Club. We will be seeking other funding, but hope that the project will be supported by donations. If you would like to donate, please contact the clerk at netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com

We would also hope to receive donated Books, Magazines, DVDs and Coats and Blankets. Please contact the clerk at netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com

*Guy Ravine.
Clerk to Nether Heyford Parish Council.*

Astronomy on the Green

November takes us in to the mid-autumn skies, Orion gradually appears in the East (more on the Hunter next month). It is a spectacular month in terms of ‘shooting stars’ throughout.

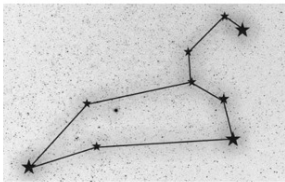
The Leonid’s put in a regular appearance on 17th, (centred in the constellation Leo), and are the result of the Earth travelling through a stream of particles left by Comet Temple-Tuttle. Now most ‘shooting stars’ are caused by particles around the size of a grain of sand, but the Leonid’s also contain meteoroids; these can reach pebble size and as they burn up in our atmosphere bright trails are produced.

The Northern Taurid shower occurs over the whole month, (centred in Taurus) associated with the comet Encke (comets are named after their discoverer’s) and again this shower has bright ‘Halloween fireballs’. Both showers having meteoroids point to a time when they originated from a single large comet (some 20 to 30,000 years ago). The Taurid stream of particles is the largest, and accounts for the length the Earth takes to travel through them. Every 33 years we hit the peak of the stream with up to 1,000 meteors per hour (the last storm was in 2002, and we have a ‘short’ wait until 2035 for the next one).

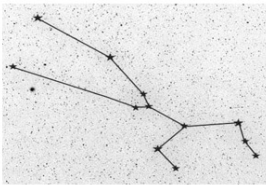
Comets that break up inside the orbit of Jupiter are the source of the showers (and stray asteroids). When comets come around the Sun, the dust they emit gradually spreads into a dusty trail around their orbits. Every year the Earth passes through these debris’ trails, which allows the bits to collide with our atmosphere where they disintegrate to create fiery and colourful streaks in the sky.

Feature	Leonid’s	Taurid’s
Average per hour	15	5
Speed mps/mph	44 mps/ 158,400 mph	28 mps/ 100,800 mph
Peak date	17 th November	12 th November
Time to view	19:00 to 03:00	02:00 to 07:00
Position in sky at time	East to Southwest	East to South

Leo



Taurus



With all showers it is best to look away from the centre or radiant point, as the meteors there will be foreshortened and will not last long.

SATURDAY

3

DEC

THE
OLD DAIRY
FARM

CRAFT CENTRE

EST 1986

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM

Celebrate Christmas With Us
10am - 4pm

- A festive day here in Upper Stowe
- With our selection of lovely local independent businesses open as usual
- A selection of different stalls appearing in some of the shops
- Perfect present shopping
- Mulled Wine & mince pies
- Food Tasting at Kay's
- Mini Christmas trees & Wreaths
- Delicious food to warm you up in the Barn
- Carol Singers for some festive cheer

FOR MORE INFO KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE,
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

The Old Dairy Farm, Upper Stowe, Northamptonshire, NN7 4SH

Village Hall News

At the time of writing this report ticket sales for our Heyford Feast Harvest Supper are going well and we are looking forward to reviving the tradition. Our next big event will be the pantomime on December 16th. Details of ticket sales will be in my next report and on facebook but please put the date in your diaries. This will be a good start to the Christmas festivities.

It was quite a relief to hear that the King's coronation will be held in May and won't clash with the preferred date of our Village Hall fete on 10th June. Unlike the last coronation I suspect we will all be glued to our TVs in May.

At our last committee meeting we were very pleased to welcome two new committee members, Veneeta Rayner (Bliss Charity Trustees) and Carol Tuckley (Parishioner). We look forward to working together to provide the excellent services our village hall provides to the community.

We are arranging to have a smart gas meter fitted soon. Our new energy providers are facilitating this. In these difficult times we are keeping a close eye on any means to save energy.

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

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.



THE Heyford SINGERS

CONDUCTOR: MARY RICE

ACCOMPANIST: GRAHAM KINNERSLY

Christmas Concert

Tidings of
Comfort
and
Joy



A Joyful Celebration of Christmas

FRIDAY DECEMBER 9TH

AND SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH

AT 7.30PM

NETHER HEYFORD VILLAGE HALL

ADULTS £10 CHILDREN (UNDER 12) £5

REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED!

ADVANCE TICKETS FROM MIKE ANDREW

07970 794321 mike@3istudio.com

BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

www.heyfordsingers.org



Heyford Picturedrome

NEXT FILM: BELFAST – 17th NOVEMBER 2022

TIME: 7.00pm for 7.45pm FILM START

COST: £6.00 (including free tea or coffee and a biscuit)

LICENSED BAR

BELFAST is a film straight from Kenneth Branagh's own experience of growing up in Belfast in 1969 at the start of the troubles. Written and directed by Branagh, the film stars Caitriona Balfe, Judy Dench, Jamie Dornan, Ciaran Hinds, Colin Morgan and newcomer, Jude Hill. The film received 7 nominations at the 94th Academy Awards including Best Picture and actually winning Best Original Screenplay. Excellent reviews!

Please do come and join us in the village hall – we look forward to seeing you all again.

This will be the last opportunity to buy tickets for the highly successful Picturedrome Christmas Film and Supper Evening at £15 to be held on 15th December.

Tony Clewett (Phone no. 341533)



**Keep our Village Green,
Footpaths and Streets Clean**

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.

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



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In Nether Heyford

The AGM of the Nether Heyford WI was held on October 6th in the Village Hall. Our Annual report looked back over a busy year of learning, laughter and friendship.

The objectives of the Women's Institute are to advance the education of women and girls, to promote sustainable development and to advance health for the public benefit.

Now, I happen to think that sounds a bit heavy going but I can assure you that our speakers over the past year have certainly not been! We have visited the Shoe Museum in Northampton, learnt about charities in Africa, heard about holistic medicine and were taught new practical skills which brought about the acquisition of new knowledge but primarily forged bonds of friendship and laughter. If we add to these the village activities that the Nether Heyford WI has supported I think you will agree that the objectives have been well and truly executed and plans are in hand for next year.

Our next meeting is on Thursday November 3rd at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall and, in keeping with the time of year, Keith Meredith will be asking "Were the Gunpowder Plotters Framed?" He describes his talk as "a bit of fun" as he puts forward an alternative narrative.

We would be very happy to see anyone who feels they would like to join us for the evening. The cost will be £5, which includes refreshments.

Mary Rice Heyford Lodge
01327 340101

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

THINKING OF MOVING THIS AUTUMN? THEN LEAF IT TO US.



HORTS

Your local estate agent for all seasons...

Thinking of selling or letting?

Contact me today for a **FREE** valuation:

01604 616883

Chris.Gibson@horts.co.uk

Check out our reviews on Facebook



Chris Gibson - Horts Property Consultant

arla naea
propertymark



Bugbrooke Medical Practice

Whilst we have had a lovely hot summer it has been business as usual at the surgery. We have been able to see many of our patients face to face thanks to our triage team dealing with patient enquiries quickly and efficiently.

Our new doctors are settling into the practice and making a difference to our ability to see more patients. Our nursing team is also increasing with the welcome addition of Beckie Thornton, who will be working closely alongside our established team.

We would like to congratulate Nurse Julie Millar who has successfully completed her training and has been promoted to Advanced Nurse Practitioner.

We are also actively recruiting new reception staff and admin staff as we write this article.

Flu Clinics

Annual Flu clinics will run through October, dates to be confirmed. Please make sure you use our services to have your vaccination when offered. Did you know, the flu vaccine lasts for approximately six months? We typically offer the vaccine in October to maximise patient protection. As we order enough vaccines to offer this service to all of our patients, please help us to reduce waste by booking and having your flu vaccination with us in the surgery.

Refurbishment

We had hoped to be underway with our planned refurbishment at the end of August, but due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to postpone the start date. Please keep an eye out on our website and our Facebook page for more updates.

Supporting our Community

We were honoured to hold our Inaugural Veterans Afternoon Tea on 10th August. We were lucky enough to meet some of our Veterans and catch up with stories of their antics whilst serving, and those of our grandparents too. We had a mixture of generations join us, including a Cadet from the Navy Marines. Stories were shared, friendships made and rekindled. We even had a family reunion.

We look forward to welcoming our Veterans again later in the year.

We will be holding a collection for Eve project, who support domestic violence victims with emergency accommodation and guidance. There will be a list of items on our TV screen, on our Website and Facebook in the middle of September.

Swimming the Channel

Dr Toplis recently returned from his sabbatical, and yes the rumours were correct, he did swim the channel. He set off from Samphire Hoe on 4th July 2022 at 0210

hours and after 14 hours 26 min he landed at Wissant Beach in France. A great achievement and I am sure we all congratulate him on this.

Practice Closure

Please remember that we will be closed from 12:30pm on the following dates, to allow our staff attend training sessions.

9th November

14th December



Nether Heyford Playing Fields

New Changing Rooms & Social Area

Some of you may recall that the committee was progressing a new building and that planning permission had been granted. Unfortunately, COVID and the passing of Geoff Thorneycroft, who was a key person, meant that our plans were placed on-hold.

We have now formed a new sub-committee, who are revisiting the design of the building and starting to look at ways of raising the required funds.

We have a 'volunteer', from within the village, who is going to help us with the drawings and getting up to date planning permission.

We would really like to find an additional volunteer/s to help us research and apply for grants and to look at other fund raising opportunities.

We have great facilities available to the village and the surrounding community, getting new changing rooms and a small social area will stand us in-good stead for many years to come.

If you're interested in 'making a difference' by getting involved in this exciting project, please get in touch.

Jeff Buck

07808 705767

or email heyfordsportsclubs@gmail.com

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Heyford Garden Club

www.heyfordgardenclub.com

Our October meeting featured an interactive session on friends and foes for the gardener, using Tom Dodd's fabulous animated presentation. We followed this with a group discussion around problems encountered by some of our members.



November 14th 2022

8.00pm Nether Heyford Village Hall

Heyford Garden Club

Hall opens at 7.30 to
bring in your plants and
get your auction tickets

**This meeting sees the
return of
our biannual**

Plant Swap!

Our friend Mike Langrish will be guest
auctioneer



**Open to non members, allotment holders, all gardeners in
the village and beyond. Bring along pots of labelled plants
with growing notes if possible, and swap for tickets that
you can use to bid on other amazing plants!**

LET'S SWAP

Everyone with an interest or passion about gardening is welcome! Membership is only £5 for a year, and just £2 for each meeting, where refreshments, free advice, sharing of ideas and friendly chats are all included!

Some Things to do in November

- 1 Divide and replant herbaceous perennials keeping any spare bits for the plant swap!
- 2 Start planting bare root trees and shrubs
- 3 Start pruning fruit trees (except plums and cherries)

Mark Newstead

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www.heyfordsingers.org

*Falling Leaves
Drift by my window
The Autumn leaves
of red and gold*

Songwriters: Jacques Prevert
& Joseph Kosma

The above we are all familiar with – versions from Nat King Cole, Eva Cassidy and Eric Clapton are all haunting renditions of this beautiful song. (All are on YouTube for you to enjoy at leisure). And as we head into winter our concert is getting ever nearer. Please see the full page advert in this issue of The Prattler for details of how to obtain tickets. The dates again are Friday 9th and Saturday 10th December.

I have mentioned a few of the songs we shall be singing in last month's Prattler but I would also like to say that the programme includes one of our favourites 'All On A Starry Night' which is a beautiful Christmas song and supposed to be sung as a cappella. We tried this at one of our rehearsals with our pianist just giving us the first guiding chord. It is amazing how lovely it seemed to sound to all of us but when Graham played the last note we found we had drifted downwards by at least a semi-tone. Keeping in tune is not as easy as it sounds and we applaud all those choirs who sing unaccompanied as a matter of course.

'Follow That Star' by Brian Lewis is a joyful little song giving the tenors and bass section a chance to show what they can do and John Rutter's wonderful Angel's Carol is a delightful mix of four part harmony. (Five if you include the second sopranos).

Which brings me to our very own maestro's 'Memories of Winter'. Music and lyrics composed by our pianist Graham Kinnersly has captured the very essence of winters in the not so distant past. All of us of a certain age can remember ice on the inside of our window panes, open fires and the cream on our milk bottles popping out the foil tops in a frozen mass. Another haunting song.

The Tory Party Conference chose the 1993 hit single 'Moving on Up' as their leader walked on stage much to the 1990's group M People's annoyance. (And proving in these turbulent times to be rather ironic). Heather Small, a member of the music group, is the mother of an elected member of the City of Westminster council. Labour... You just can't be too careful when choosing music! I know our conductress Mary Rice spends hours choosing suitable material for our concerts, and thank goodness we don't have any political agenda to worry about. Just enjoyment for the music of Christmas.

And Christmas wouldn't be complete without our Carols on the Green. This will be held in December, (date to be confirmed in the next Prattler), song sheets provided. If you haven't been before, meet by the gazebo on Nether Heyford village green for an hour of singing of all our favourite carols. Geoff Allen will as usual be our host

and compere. So, get your tickets as soon as you can for our concert while the Autumn leaves begin to fall and we prepare to avoid heating bills by sending off for our furry hoodies.

JRA

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Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

We meet in Nether Heyford Village Hall on the 4th Monday of the month at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome at our friendly club. After a relaxing evening watching a talented NAFAS demonstrator creating beautiful designs you may be lucky enough to win a lovely arrangement in the raffle.

Our final meeting of the year is on 28th November when Alison Suffolk presents 'Christmas is all Around'.

For further information contact Dianne on 01604 830063 or Simone on 01327 342167

Allotment News

The upkeep of plots

The parish council carried out a scheduled allotment inspection in July. These twice yearly checks give the parish council a chance to see where allotments are becoming overgrown or have been abandoned. Where possible we try to support folk who need help. We can provide landscape fabric to cover areas tenants are finding it hard to manage and we have just acquired a petrol strimmer that can be borrowed to keep tall grass in check.

Vacancies

We currently have no one on our waiting list and there are three small vacant plots available to rent. These have been cleared and covered and are ready to be cultivated. If you know of anyone who would like to take on an allotment, do tell them to contact us on the usual numbers and we will be happy to show them what there is to offer or add them to the waiting list.

At a time when food is becoming more expensive, growing your own produce makes good sense and provides the growers with exercise, fresh air and real sense of well being. A new allotment holder I was talking to recently seemed to sum up so much of what I have thought for many years when she said, completely out of the blue: "Coming down here just makes me feel so happy".

Terms and Conditions of Use

The Allotment Terms and Conditions of Use, that all tenants will have signed when they took on a plot, have been updated to reflect changes that have taken place on the allotments, or clarify areas about which tenants may have been uncertain. There is a particular reference to the use of water and hosepipes. In an age when resources such as water can become scarce it is important that we conserve wherever we can. It has always been assumed that as we have cisterns, rather than taps for supplying water to allotment holders, that tenants could not use hosepipes and had to rely on watering cans. However, this was not made clear in the original Terms and Conditions of Use. This oversight has been corrected and it is now policy that hosepipes are not permitted.

Community Use

St Peter and St Paul's Church held their annual Harvest Festival in the community area of the allotments in September. The service was well supported and the generous donations were given to Daventry Food Bank.

The Sharing Barrow

Many thanks to all of you who have made use of the sharing barrow this year, whether it has been to add items or make use of surplus equipment and produce on offer. It can be found in the community picnic area.

Community days

We shall be organising another “community morning” on Saturday 29th October. This is open to all villagers and is an opportunity to maintain and further develop our community areas. Hopefully we will have completed all our tasks by 12.00 noon. If you are able to help us complete some of our important tasks do join us in the community area at 10.00 am. Many hands make light work.

Committee Meetings

When the refurbishment of the allotments and the creation of the community orchard began four years ago, we held several meetings to which allotment holders were invited and where we shared our ideas. We are grateful to those of you who joined us. Sadly, the onset of Covid prevented these open meetings from continuing and we had to rely on informal meetings organised on an ad hoc basis. However, we tried to keep allotment holders informed of what was going on via a quarterly newsletter. We are aware that we cannot please all of the people all of the time but hope that allotmenters and the villagers in general will acknowledge that there has been a big improvement in the general state of the allotments and the way things are organised. We were so pleased when this was recognised at a county level earlier this year with Heyford Allotments' ACRE Gold Award.

We are ever mindful that there may be more people who would either like to join us on a regular basis or who would like the opportunity to come along to the occasional meeting. We are certainly aware that we have allotmenters out there who have ideas, knowledge and skills that they may wish to share.

Our next committee meeting will be held at the Nether Heyford Youth Club, Roberts Field at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 8th November.

If you are thinking of taking on 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

Flood Watch

Last months issue of the Prattler introduced the electromagnetic spectrum as it related to deep space telescopes. Whilst these use the IR region, closer to home our everyday weather and climate change is constantly monitored by satellites using a wide range of the spectrum. Two satellites in particular in which I worked closely with the UK Space Agency and ESA provide us with data on cloud height, rain/snow content and wind speeds that assist in the preparation of our weather forecasts. Meteosat, first launched in 1977 is in a geosynchronous orbit 36000km above the earth covering Europe, Indian Ocean and South America. The satellite spins at 100 rpm collecting data using the UV range.

The second satellite, Envisat, was launched in 2002 into a polar orbit of height 800 km circulating the earth every 100 minutes. The nine on board instruments cover C band (4-6Ghz) up to IR and UV. This satellite of size 26mx10mx5m is the world's largest and most technically advanced. The C band radar, ASAR, allows each of the 320 transmit/receive modules to change amplitude and phase of the transmitted and received signals to form multiple beams to scan the earth in each orbit. This satellite provides daily data for forecasting but more importantly enables detailed information on land masses, forest deforestation, ice, glaciers and the atmosphere to monitor climate change.

Land based radars in x band and Lidar (pulsed laser) provide data on rain, sleet, snow, hail and wind speed to compliment the satellite data. All of the collated data is processed by the MET Office in a super computer to provide our daily and longer term weather forecasts which form a vital warning of potential flooding. For those with an interest in satellites the 28th of October marked the 51st anniversary of the only British launched satellite. Based on Blue Streak the multistage rocket carried X3, Prospero, into a low earth orbit from the launch site in Woomera, Australia. Along with other scientists from RAE Farnborough and Marconi Space I was selected to join the team with specific responsibility for the RF payload.

Back on earth September rainfall total ended up near typical for the month. October has been relatively dry with mainly overnight showers. Currently it looks like 2022 will be one of the driest on record. These change of conditions has resulted in the longest period, now nearly 2 years, with no flooding events.

As we near the end of October the longer dark nights are becoming more apparent with daylight reducing to 10 hours and sunset currently at 17.45. With the clocks going back on October 29th sunset will be at 16.30 and continue to reduce by 1-2 minutes per day thereafter. Autumn will run through until 21st of December.

I have recently been in a continued dialogue with the E/A over flood risk and environmental issues while they continue to have meetings with Anglian Water to resolve the culvert maintenance issue.

J. Arnold.

View from the Wildlife Patch

I was walking and “mooching about” on the patch yesterday. Our Grasshoppers are still active as there has been no frost to kill them off as has happened in previous autumns. The pond remains very low in water. It will remain so until we get enough rain to fill it up again. There were even two Dragonflies flying around there last week. These were Common Darters who are our most common, late flying Dragonflies. I was pleased to see a young Field Vole dashing for cover when I moved a piece of wood. For some reason I always enjoy finding Voles.

Voles play an important part in the ecology of the countryside and are one of the reasons we leave so much of the patch to what many would term “Rough Grass”. We have 2 species of Vole living and breeding on our patch. Field Voles and Bank Voles. Both are little brown animals with short tails and stubby noses. Most numerous are Field Voles, whose tail is about 1 third the length of their body and head combined. Whereas Bank Voles tails are about half the length of head and body. When I was a boy, I could always tell the difference when I picked them up. Field voles rarely bite. Bank Voles always bite.

With an estimated population of over 75 million, Field Voles are one of our most numerous mammals - which is why they are so important in maintaining our biodiversity - and the vole you are most likely to encounter in long grass. Here they live in a maze of runs at the base of the grass stems. These runs are easy to spot as are the remains of their meals as short bits of green grass stalk left in the runs.

Being so numerous they are an important food source for many of our predators, and are estimated to supply 80% of a Barn Owl's diet. Woodland Trust literature states that the Field Vole population size is often closely linked to barn Owl numbers. Voles don't hibernate but make nests of dry grass under fallen branches etc. This is one of the reasons we leave pieces of wood, piles of dead vegetation etc. lying around on the ground surface and is why you should think about doing the same in your garden.

The other Vole species that we have present is the Bank Vole. There is quite a difference in appearance but unless you are familiar with Voles, you will struggle to tell which is which without handling them. Bank Voles are not so numerous and tend to live in marginal ground and woodland. I am told they sometimes come into houses but have not seen this personally. They are slightly bigger than Field Voles and have more varied diet. They will even climb vegetation to eat berries etc.

If you go to our Wildlife Patch and “Mooch about” in the bottom of the tall grass, before long, you will find a pattern of little runs made by our Voles. Please don't lift logs etc. These provide shelter for a huge number of species as well as Voles. None of our Voles hibernate and remain active all year round.

Our only other mainland Vole species is the Water Vole which is considerably larger than either the Field or Bank Vole, being closer in size to a Brown Rat. Until the 80's, these were numerous. These are the original “Ratty” in Kenneth Grahame's book “The Wind in The Willows.”

The release of captive Mink in the past by well meaning people has caused an enormous amount of damage to our water margin fauna with the Water Vole being arguably the worst affected. To the extent that a sighting of Water Vole is now something to get excited about.

Dave Musson



Heyford Bowls Club

With the outdoor season closed we are now focusing on our social events during the winter in an effort to top up the funds ready for the next seasons green maintenance bills. Saturday 15th saw a popular and very successful Beetle Drive evening supported by over 50 members. Although a simple game we always find that people really enjoy the evening getting very committed and competitive to win each round.

We will have the ever popular Christmas Quiz on Saturday 3rd December at 7.30pm. The format will be teams of 6 (maximum) with a supper provided at a cost of £5 per person together with a raffle. If you would like to take part then please contact Shirley Collins on 01327 342287 to book your place.

Although the outdoor season is closed the indoor Short Mat still continues in the Village Hall on Wednesday afternoon and evenings (2.00pm and 7.00pm). New members are always welcome so why not come along and give a try.

Lorraine Streeter - Club Captain

The Prattler

The Prattler is run by an active voluntary committee comprising of Sue Boutle, Vicki Hamblin, Mary Rice, Jez Wilson and Mick Watts. If you would like to submit articles or have any suggestions for future issues, please get in touch with us by email or messages left in Heyford Meats or the One Stop shop.

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

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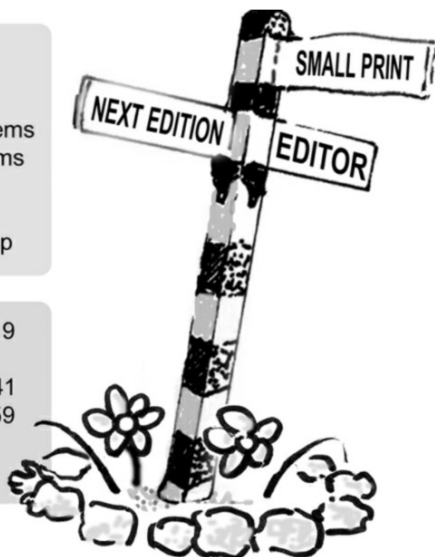
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