



THE PRATTLER

The Heyford Village Newspaper

May 2023

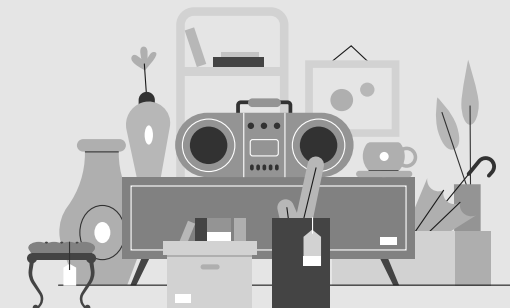
Issue 459



NETHER HEYFORD GARAGE SALE

SUNDAY 21ST MAY 2023

10am-4pm



**Maps available on the day in
Nether Heyford Village Hall - £1.00**

Please register before Saturday 13th May to be on the map

Tea, coffee & bacon rolls also available at Village Hall

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.

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.





The April 3rd, 2023, Parish Council meeting was held in the Baptist Church Rooms.

Please note that the Parish Notes and the Parish Council notes are not the same document and that there will always be differences between the two documents. The notes are based on the minutes – but they are not identical documents.

Public Participation - A resident felt that the new signs on Furnace Lane had made a difference, but subsequently a lorry had hit the railway bridge. He also expressed concern that a maintenance facility was going to be built on the Barley/Wickes site which would have noise implications, despite promises to minimise this. Another resident would like residents to clean up the pavements and guttering (removing grass, weeds, silt etc) in front of their houses, and especially at this time in order to be ready for the Coronation.

Light in the jitty between Weedon Rd and Church Lane off - Clerk to ask for an LED replacement. Light 5 in Bliss Close is not working apparently because fitters did not have a part. Clerk to query.

Meeting of Finance Committee to be arranged to discuss a policy for lighting. Roads and pavement. Road sign – Close Rd damaged, as is Hillside Rd sign on Furnace Lane Junction. Clerk to report.

The Green/Play Area - Repair of broken swings in hand.

No Mow May - Resolved. the area around the Silver birches and an area on the Hillside Rd and Close Rd crossroads were selected as candidates.

Dogs loose on the Green - A resident had been attacked by a dog running loose on the Green and felt that there should be signage to the effect that all dogs should be under control. There is currently a consultation in progress on this issue and it was felt that the conclusions should be awaited. It was also felt that such attacks should be reported to the police; In the meantime, LD would talk to the resident concerned.

Playing Fields - The issue of reclaiming VAT on behalf of the PFA was raised. The Clerk understood that the Parish Council was the custodial trustee for the Playing Fields but that did not entitle it to reclaim VAT, and this would be considered fraud. TW felt the PFA needed to take legal advice as there were ways around the issue, and as the figures involved in the building of a new pavilion ran into hundreds of thousands it would be worth investigating.

Trees - Limes to be pollarded starting 5th April.

A tree on the Furnace Lane (one of the Cockspur Hawthorns) side of the Green had split and become unsafe and had to be removed as an emergency as it could have fallen on the pavement and road. Unfortunately the Oak on the Memorial green may be either dead already, or in the process of dying. Council is taking advice.

Allotments - LE reported that the allotments were in very good order. Mot rents collected and one person waiting for an allotment.

Footpaths - Bus shelter cleaning. CK had approached a window cleaner. Cllr AB had reported that WNC were not prepared to take any action regarding the gates on the Manor Walk/Manor Close footpath.

Youth Club - LD reported that all was going well and that the children had been invited to take part in Remembrance Day by the British Legion.

Planning - Gravel extraction. Committee date still not sorted out.

The Lorry Park at Upper Heyford – Refused.

Denbrook. It was reported that a garden wall had been restored.

The land east of Winston Close has been the subject of a lengthy appeal as to whether it could have its designation changed in order that it could be built on. That appeal has been turned down. LE of Winston Close

Speed Cams - to compare quotes. Clerk to contact Yelvertoft PC and ask about their experience with their SID.

Boundary Review - It was felt that the proposed unit into which the Heyfords had been put was much larger than anticipated and that Heyford would have little in common with Harpole and Kislingbury who would soon be more urban in character.

Community Lounge - It was reported that the project would continue for the time being. Councillor surgeries are to be held at the Youth Club/Community Lounge 2 weeks before a full Council meeting. 2 Councillors to be present. Forthcoming dates will be May 3rd and 24th, June 21st, July 26th from 2 – 4 pm at the Youth Club.

Location for restored mosaic - Resolved. Mosaic would be placed on the Memorial Green close to the village sign. Both had been Millennial projects. The probable need to remove the Oak tree may delay this project.

Litter - The Council are very appreciative of all voluntary litter collecting and would like to thank all those involved in the recent clear up. Apart from everywhere looking better it is important to avoid having plastic around that can be ingested by wildlife and damaging them.

Parish Council meetings in 2023/24 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 May 15th and Monday June 5th.

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/>

Clerk to the Parish Council: Guy Ravine Tel: 07935 931787
E-mail: netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com

Post Office Opening Times

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9-5

Wednesday 1-5

Saturday 9-1

Sunday / Bank Holidays - closed

Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact.	
Charles Kiloh, 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 07779 900860	Chair, Planning. Arnold Trust Rep.
Mrs L. Dilkes. 17 Furnace Lane, Nether Heyford, NN7 3JF e-mail thedilkesfamily@outlook.com 07967 753216	Vice Chair, Youth Club, Finance.
Mrs L. Eales – 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 01327 341707 e-mail lyndaeales@aol.com	Allotments, Youth Club
Linda Hall, 8 Western Ave, Nether Heyford linda.hall.netherheyford@outlook.com	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. Playing Field Rep.
A. Williams 26 Church St, Nether Heyford, NN7 3LH anthony.k.williams@talk21.com	Chair of Planning, Finance, Council rep to School Trustees
K Woodbridge-Dodd, 15 Bliss Close, Nether Heyford, NN7 3ND khedgehog@msn.com	Finance
Cllr Adam Brown - West Northamptonshire Council, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester NN12 6AD Adam.Brown@westnorthants.gov.uk Tel: 07714 255077	Deputy Leader of the Council Cabinet Member for Housing, Culture & Leisure
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



Parish Church of St. Peter and St. Paul

Services for May 2023

Sunday 7 th	10:00am	Commemorative Service of Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	3:00pm	Coronation Songs of Praise on Brodie Lodge Playing Field, Flore
	6:00pm	Commemorative Service at Heyford
Sunday 14 th	10:00am	Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Church Stowe
	10:00am	Morning Worship at Flore Chapel
Thursday 18 th	10:00am	Holy Communion for Ascension Day at Flore Church
Sunday 21 st	10:00am	Holy Communion at Heyford Church
	10:00am	United Worship at Flore Chapel
	6:00pm	Holy Communion at Upper Stowe
Sunday 28 th	10:00am	Holy Communion at Flore Church
	10:00am	Family Service at Upper Stowe
	10:00am	Morning Worship at Flore Chapel
	4:00pm	Café Church at Heyford

Midweek Services:

Wednesday	9:30am	Morning Prayer via 'Why Pay' conference call. (not Wed 24 th) Please contact the Rector for the numbers to use.
Thursday	10:00am 2:30pm – 3:30pm	Holy Communion at Flore Church (Not Thu 11 th) Flore Church open for private prayer
Friday	9:00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom. Please contact the Rector for an invitation

The Streets we shall be praying for during May are Brookside Place, Watery Lane and the playing fields in Heyford, Bricketts Lane and Springfield in Flore, Main Street in Upper Stowe and the Hall apartments in Brockhall.

Dear Friends,

I wonder if you'll be watching the coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6th May. I'm not old enough to have seen the late Queen's coronation, although I remember my father telling me how he went round to his neighbour's house to watch that event on a tiny black and white television. As this is my first opportunity to watch such an occasion, I intend watching the coronation on the television, as I suspect many people will. I'm sure it will be an event full of pomp and pageantry; colour and music. It will also be full of symbol and meaning. For example, the King will be anointed with oil, pressed from olives taken from the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. Anointing is an outward and visible sign of an inward grace: we pray that God will bless and equip our new king to serve this United Kingdom and the Commonwealth with joy and humility, just as his mother did.

The new king will also be invested with a ring, sceptre, rod, orb and crown. These items are all made of gold, decorated with jewels and precious stones. They represent worldly wealth beyond our imagining, yet each item is marked with or carries a cross, symbolising the authority of Jesus Christ. At the top of the rod, there is a dove – a symbol of God the Holy Spirit - perched on the cross. Taken together, these crosses remind us that Jesus is the king over all. So close to the events of Holy Week and Easter, they remind us that Christ rules from the cross, wearing a crown of thorns, forgiving and loving to the end. Christ died and rose again, that by following him and his ideal example of humanity, we might enjoy fullness of life. The golden crown that King Charles will wear is a symbol of royalty rooted in the Jewish scriptures. It proclaims the sovereignty of God, and the monarch as God's representative on earth. And as the service draws to a close, we will hear the National Anthem, a prayer for the sovereign, asking that God protect him and grant him good things as he serves us.

I hope you will look out for all these different signs and symbols as you watch the coronation, and that you will join me in praying for the King;

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and all who are in authority under him; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

And please come along and join us at one of the special services on Sunday 7th May, celebrating and commemorating the coronation.

With every blessing,

Rev Stephen (Tel: 01327 344436)



Nether Heyford Baptist Church

Services for May 2023

May 7 th	10:30 am	Church anniversary service led by Tony Brown
May 14 th	10:30 am	Service led by John Perkins
	4:00 pm	Songs of Praise service led by Martin Buckby (with tea and cakes)
May 21 st	May 7 th	Morning service led by Clive Leakey (coffee after the service)
April 30 th	9:30 am	Prayer meeting followed at 10.30am by our Communion service led by Les Britten.

Events

May 13 th	12md to 2pm	Plant Sale / Flower Festival
May 16 th	10 am	Prayer and bible study meeting
May 22 nd	10 am	Church Meeting

All welcome

Thank you to all who supported the Lent lunch on April 1st. We were able to forward £134 to The Hope Centre.

NETHER HEYFORD

BAPTIST CHURCH

FLOWER FESTIVAL

&

PLANT SALE

SATURDAY 13th MAY

9.00am – 12.00md

Drinks and Bacon butties available



Come Early



CORONATION DAY IN NETHER HEYFORD

SATURDAY 6TH MAY 2023

**After the excitement of watching the Coronation
of King Charles and Queen Camilla**

**You may be feeling a little flat.
If so, how about joining in the**

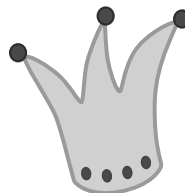
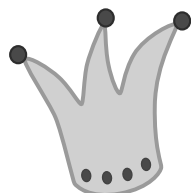
Village 'Street Party' on the Green

Any time from 1pm onwards

Bring your picnics, chairs, tables and, if necessary, awnings

**There will be drinks available from The Foresters
And ice creams from the One Stop shop.
The Village Hall will be open to provide access to toilets.**

**So come and enjoy fresh air and sunshine (we hope)
On our
Wonderful Village Green**



Village Hall News

A new Vice Chairman was appointed at our AGM and a new committee member from Upper Heyford. Carol Tuckley is our new Vice Chairman and Sian Slater is our new Upper Heyford committee member. All other office holders and committee members were re-elected. We have a very strong committee who work tirelessly to keep our village hall a vibrant part of our village.

Our treasurer Philip Letts presented the audited accounts for the year. Heating costs have risen over the year which did not come as any surprise but our income was in excess of outcome.

The new windows have been installed and the floor resurfaced and is looking very good. We do not have a post box for postal deliveries in the village hall. Our new vice chairman is looking into the costs of installation to be discussed at our May meeting.

Raffle tickets for the fete are now available from committee members. We have some very good prizes so get your tickets early. Tickets will also be available on the day.

WE NEED LOTS OF CAKES FOR REFRESHMENTS ON OUR FETE DAY JUNE 10TH SO CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE VERY WELCOME. THESE CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE VILLAGE HALL ON THE MORNING OF THE FETE.

Last year we were overwhelmed with your generosity so thank you in anticipation of another generous response.

The village hall will be open for bacon butties on the morning of the Garage Sale so I look forward to seeing you there.

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

Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

Our next meeting is on Monday 22nd May. Richard Twiselton will present 'The Art Club'.

Visitors are always welcome so if you love flowers come along to the Village Hall at 7.30pm and enjoy a relaxing evening.

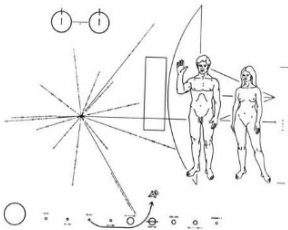
For more information please contact Simone on 01327 342167 or Dianne on 01604 830063.

Astronomy on the Green

'To infinity and beyond', Light Buzzyear cries in Toy Story. Well, in its own way this is what SETI does; it is the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence. The original project was the Ozma project (1960 – 1963) led by Carl Sagan and Frank Drake (we shall hear more of his equation). SETI focuses on receiving and analysing signals from space, particularly of radio and visible light, looking for non-random patterns likely to have been sent either deliberately or inadvertently by technologically advanced beings.

Why is this relevant to any of us? Well, philosophically it's a major scientific question. Many of us asked as children; "Are there Aliens"? The very nature of that profound question makes SETI itself becomes controversial; this has gifted the program a far from simple ride with NASA. Programs initiated by NASA in the 1970s were terminated by congressional action in 1993. Subsequently, SETI researchers have organised privately funded programs.

Both Pioneer and Voyager missions carried a plaque to inform 'Aliens' that found these probes what humans were and where the Earth was situated – this was our 'calling card'.



Pioneer 10 launched on 2nd March 1972 & 11 on 6th April 1973. 10's last transmission to Earth was from 7.6 billion miles in January 2003. 11's mission was different; the final transmission was on 30th September 1995 when its aerial pointed away from Earth, it cannot be manoeuvred back. It was 6.5 billion miles away.

Voyager 1 launched on 5th September 1977 and is currently 14.8 billion miles away and is still transmitting, Voyager 2 is 12.4 billion miles away. If the power on the probes holds out, they will both transmit until around 2036. Voyager 1 is still on its way through the outer reaches of the Solar system. Voyager 1 travels about a million miles per day, but the spacecraft will take about 300 years to reach the inner boundary of the Oort Cloud and probably another 30,000 years to exit the far side. Then it will leave the Solar system per se and enter interstellar space.

The Drake equation builds on the issue – space is so big, and time is so long that contacting intelligent life at all is a very long shot indeed. Calculating all the factors involved in finding intelligent life in our Galaxy means that the nearest civilization would be a few hundred light years away. If we find a signal our reply would take hundreds of years to reach them. Meaning we could be a while getting the answer to the question.

Clear skies!

Tony Boutle



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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:

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

Before & After School Club

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**

THE Heyford SINGERS Spring Concert

Conductor: Mary Rice
Accompanist: Graham Kinnersly

Stop Press!
Including the World Premier of
Dancing with Anton du Beke
by Graham Kinnersly
As featured on BBC
Radio Northampton



Hear the People Sing

Featuring Songs from: Les Miserables, Oliver!

The Beatles, Mama Mia and many more

Friday, May 12th & Saturday May 13th

Nether Heyford Village Hall at

7.30pm

Tickets: Adults £10, Children (under14) £5

From Keith Rands-Allen

01327 340741 07971 786912

kvra44@gmail.com



Heyford Picturedrome

THE LOST KING

2022 British Comedy/Drama

THURSDAY 18th May 2023

7.15pm for 7.45pm

ADMISSION: £6.00

In 1950s London, a humourless bureaucrat decides to take time off work to experience life after receiving a grim diagnosis...

Starring Bill Nighy

We look forward to welcoming you again in the Village Hall.

FILM WILL BE SHOWN WITH SUB-TITLES

TEA, COFFEE, BAR

Food Bank

Don't go hungry – if you are in need of help, please contact Towcester Food Bank 07724 832043 (24 hours) Email: 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 Daventry food bank in the box outside the door of 15 Middle Street where they are delivered to the banks twice a week.

Thank you.



In Nether Heyford

This year is flying by and, thank goodness, it does seem to be getting a little warmer! Our April Meeting was well attended, with willow rings proudly carried home at the end of the evening. Deb Jones is an extremely good demonstrator and teacher, chatting about her life and hobbies as she made us feel that we were really quite good at what we were doing!

In May we have the excitement of the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. We raise our glasses and wish them every success in the coming years. May is usually our 'outing month' and this year we are having a trip to the theatre to see 'The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'. It will be interesting to see how the story translates to the stage but I am looking forward to all the laughter - I'm sure that will happen wherever it is performed.

Our next Meeting will be on June 8th in the Village Hall at 7.30pm and the speaker will be Paul Howard, a well known photographer from Towcester and area. The title for the evening is 'The Story Behind the Story'. Having been born and spent most of my youth in Towcester I am really looking forward to the evening. The cost is £5, which includes refreshments.

I have to admit that, before I joined the Nether Heyford Branch, I thought the WI "was not for me"! But I soon found out that the Movement is not all jam, Jerusalem, knitting and cake making (although it can be, if that is what you enjoy) but is a way for all women to voice their opinions and make a difference.

As part of our WI Membership we receive a monthly magazine which keeps us in touch with what is going on in other groups in the country. Every year Members have the chance to put forward a resolution that they feel would enhance life. These are voted upon within the WI Groups in the country and one is chosen as a new WI Campaign at the NFWI Annual Meeting. Over 90,000 selections were cast on the shortlist by members this year and the top resolution was to 'Clean rivers for people and wildlife.' According to Surfers against Sewage, sewage was pumped into rivers and seas nationwide over 4000,000 times in 2020, totalling over 3.1million hours of pollution. What an horrific statistic.

In February, the WI joined fellow plastics campaigners to deliver a petition calling for research to study the effects of plastics on human health and signed by over 100,000 people. Blood-testing research found plastics in human blood for the first time - 77% of the people tested had plastic in their blood!

So, as you can see, jam, Jerusalem, knitting and cake-making can be enjoyed alongside making a real change in the world. Why not come along and see for yourself?

Mary Rice Heyford Lodge 01327 340101

100% NO SALE NO FEE

- No Upfront Marketing Fee
- No Withdrawal Fee
- Local and Experienced
- Free Energy Performance Certificate
- Free Premium Listing
- Free 360° Virtual Tour

Check out our
reviews on Facebook



Chris Gibson
- Horts Property Consultant



arla naea
propertymark



PERSONAL • PROFESSIONAL • PROACTIVE



www.heyfordsingers.org

*My breaking heart and I agree
That you and I could never be
So with my best, my very best I set you free
I wish you shelter from the storm
A cosy fire to keep you warm,
but most of all when snowflakes fall
I wish you love*

*English words by Albert Beach - French words and Music
by Charles Trenet
Arranged by Ed Lojeski*

May Concert Friday May 12th and Saturday May 13th
Tickets: 01327 340741 See advertisement in this copy

Did you see the Homeless Choir in Manchester? A wonderful little article on BBC News about a Choir formed by the homeless. The performance at Easter was the famous oratorio by Bach, St Matthew Passion, and comprised thirty people who have all been homeless – alongside a professional choir The Sixteen. It is for Streetwise Opera, an award-winning charity which uses music to help people back from the streets and trauma. And all the once homeless men and women taking part agree that the experience has been life-changing. There are many other such Choirs globally and the Dallas Street Choir has had over 2000 homeless people pass through its ever open door.

Likewise our rehearsals at the Village Hall have doors that are ever open for anyone wanting to sing. Especially men. After our Concert in May we break for the summer but we reconvene in September which gives you plenty of time to consider joining us. And come to our Concert in a few days time and listen to us. We are doing well this Spring despite the usual illnesses that prevail at this time of year. And although our original numbers before Covid are down – we were over 60 and now stand at 43 – we are providing an excellent range of voices which only a Community Choir can do. We are practising 'Lazy Man Love' composed by our pianist Graham Kinnersly, 'He Ain't Heavy He's My Brother' by Bobby Russell and Bobby Scott and the piece recorded by the Beatles 'Good Night' – words and music by John Lennon and Paul McCartney. And then there is 'I wish you Love' as per the introduction at the top of this page. You might like to access YouTube and find Charles Trenet's version. His genre is described as 'Jazz, easy listening' but to put a song across in the way he does is no mean feat. Even if he wrote the words and music himself. We no doubt will emulate this on the night... And as I have said before, although we are familiar with a piece of music, singing it properly is something else. How often have we sung a favourite song with a 'phone, CD or the radio and found that we finished before or after the recording? How often have we found that we were flat or sharp? And how often have we made up some of the words and found they didn't fit?

And now The Heyford Singers are famous. Thanks to Geoff Allen who contacted a friend of his on Radio Northampton we were mentioned in the interview between Bernie Keith and Anton Du Beke, the latter appearing at the Derngate last month. If

you remember from the previous article I wrote in April you will have read that Graham Kinnnersly composed a piece of music – 'Dancing with Anton' - and the first verse was read out admirably by Bernie Keith. Anton was very complimentary about this added status to his (very) professional career and those of us who managed to hear this interview were thrilled at his response. Who knows – he might turn up on one of our Concert nights...

We will also be singing 'A Blessing' which is made up of traditional Irish blessings and very appropriate at the moment after the US President's visit last month and growing unrest. 'May Good and faithful friends be yours wherever you may roam. May peace and plenty bless your world. May all your days be bright. May angels always be nearby to help you through the night'. Words have been added by Jay Althouse who also wrote the music for this lovely, simple little piece.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Concert.

JRA

**St Peter and St Paul Church,
Nether Heyford**

Café Church

Sunday

28th May 4pm



in The Church Rooms

Everybody welcome for a cuppa, cake, conversation and more



Update from down the Playing Fields

Each individual sports club have their own committee; therefore the Playing Fields committee's role is to oversee and coordinate things without really getting involved with the individual sports.

We're still seeking to 'recruit' some new people for various roles on the Playing Fields committee; the time commitment can vary according to the role and according to how involved people wish to be.

To find out more, please get in touch.

Chris Andrews on 07880 996511 - Email: heyfordsportsclubs@gmail.com

Jeff Buck on 07808 705767 - Email: jeff.buck22@btinternet.com

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

Nether Heyford Community



Lounge

Based at the Youth Club
Ridgeway Furlong

The Community Lounge is a fab warm space where you can enjoy great company and relax and chat to other people from the village, it is a great opportunity to meet and make new friends.



Every Wednesday
9am to 5pm

Refreshments available at no charge, including Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, squash, cup-a-soups, biscuits and much more as well as daily newspapers



We would love to see you, so why not just give it a try, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain

**If transport is required please contact
Charles Kiloh on 07779 900860**

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:

Charles Kiloh, 3 Church Lane, Nether Heyford Tel. 07779 900860

Heyford Allotments and Garden Club

A Hive of Activity

I love this time of the growing year. Seeds can be sown, small plants set in the ground and the soil raked and hoed to a fine tilth. The allotments are a hive of activity at this time of the year and on any trip to the site you will see allotmenters busy at work. Established plots are looking as good as ever and our newcomers have worked hard to transform, their new allotments.

Quite clearly, our policy of covering plots with landscape fabric when they become vacant has been a great success, as new tenants are not confronted by a plot that is waist high in weed. Getting the soil back into a workable condition is made so much easier and neighbouring allotmenters do not have to fear a jungle encroaching onto their pristine plot! The site on Watery Lane looks as good as it has ever done.

Vacancies

We currently have no vacant allotments, although there is a possibility that one, slightly larger plot, could become available in the coming months. Watch this space if you are interested or contact us directly.

Community Use

Do feel free to come and use our community area for a picnic, a rest or simply an opportunity to escape for an hour or so. The orchard is now in blossom and the community flower patch is blooming with Spring flowers. We even have benches, chairs and tables for all the village community to use. We ask only, that you leave the site as you found it and, if time allows, you put a can of water on the flowers. There are always full cans of water available.

A villager recently asked if they could occasionally visit and help keep the area tidy. I suspect you can guess my response. Please feel free to come and help at any time. Just take care, if weeding, that you know what you are pulling up, as we shall soon begin planting out half-hardy and then, hardy annuals.

Rubbish

Very little litter is deposited on the allotments, although nearby pathways do seem to become litter traps. We are always grateful when this is picked up and disposed of responsibly. We also urge all allotmenters to take home all rubbish or non-compostable garden waste and get rid of it in their household waste bins. If they are able to compost material (and it is the most amazing free resource for gardeners) we encourage them to do so on their own plot and not use the bins at either end of the orchard. These are principally for the good folk helping maintain the community area and the pathways on the site.

Committee Meetings

A good "open meeting" was held in the village youth club on 4th April when allotmenters had an opportunity to discuss development on the site and voice any concerns they had. It is good to get as much involvement from as many people as

possible. After all, the allotments are there for their users and they are the people that matter most.

Manure and Wood Chippings

We have now provided a considerable amount of wood chippings and manure for allotment holders and I am sure good use will be made of this. As with all “imported material”, there is a word of warning. Let it stand for some while before incorporating into the soil that you are planning to grow into in the near future. It will be hot, could contain some herbicide residue and in the case of woodchip, will draw nitrogen from the soil. It is great stuff, will be of immense benefit to the plants and soil but needs to be used carefully.

Sunflowers

All our sunflower seeds have now been taken and we look forward to watching the flowers grow when they are eventually planted out in the community area.

Heyford Garden Club

The next meeting of Heyford Garden Club will be on Monday 12th June when ‘Liz Taylor from the Woodland Trust will be talking about “Trees and Climate Change”. ‘Liz was unable to attend the March meeting and I know that many of you will be anxious to catch up with her in June and discover more about this important topic.

The April meeting saw a departure from the usual village hall venue, as the club decamped to Whilton Locks Garden Centre for a special Easter afternoon tea. Their annual Tulip Show still took place and the winners were:

Large tulip category

1st Leanne Wood

2nd Fiona McCahill

3rd equal Irene Reeves and Val Jackson

Small tulip category

1st Linda Hall

2nd equal Ann Haynes, Leanne Wood and Val Jackson

3rd Brian Jackson

A special thank you to Whilton Locks Garden Centre for providing the venue and their support in the raffle.

A Good News Story

I recently reported that a much loved garden tool that had once belonged to a family member no longer with us, had mysteriously disappeared from one of our allotments. To our great relief I can report that it has now been returned. Many thanks if you were involved in this reunion. People are, despite all the gloom and

doom we sometimes hear, honest, kind and caring. I'd put gardeners somewhere near the top of that list – but then I would say that wouldn't I?

Contacts

Don't hesitate to contact either Lynda or me if you have any allotment related questions.

Mrs Lynda Eales, 3 Church Lane, NH
tel. 01327 341707 email: lyndaeales@aol.com

Mike Langrish, 28 Manor Park, tel. 01327 341390 email:
langrish_heyford@hotmail.com

Mike Langrish



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Flood Watch

The month of March ended up recording 134mm of rainfall in total being nearly triple for a normal March. The Met Office records indicated this was the wettest March in 40 years.

April is normally expected to be a wet month but currently the months rainfall is about 60% of normal.

Spring temperatures have generally been below average but forecasts predict warmer daytime temperatures by the end of April rising to above average for May. River levels have returned to low throughout April maintaining a flood free period in excess of 2 years.

Sunset will continue to give lighter evenings reaching 9.15 pm by the end of May.

The news headlines have been dominated by strikes with nurses, doctors, Rail unions and Royal Mail. Less notable was the first recorded strike in the history of the Environment Agency staff over pay and conditions at a time when river pollution is at its highest.

J. Arnold



FRIENDS OF DANETRE HOSPITAL - VILLAGE FETE STALL

Wanted – Books, Bric a Brac, Jigsaws for the above stall. If you have anything you would like to donate, items can be taken to:-

Angela – 16 The Green
Jane – 22 South View

If no one is at home, please leave items at the front door of 22 South View as it is under cover.

Thanking you in anticipation Jane 01327 342376

Flore Arts Events

The box office is now open for our next event:

Northampton Male Voice Choir, Saturday 13th May. All Saints Church, Flore; 7.30pm.

Masterfully led by Stephen Bell, this is one of Northamptonshire's premier music ensembles. They perform regularly throughout the region, delighting audiences with a varied selection of songs chosen from their wide repertoire.

Some of you may remember that the choir last visited Flore four years ago when they delivered a barnstorming performance. Reviews have described the choir as "sublime", "breathtaking" and "a triumph" with "great singing". We are expecting another fabulous evening.

Tickets £12 (Under 18s £5). Call Rosemary Read (between 9am and 6pm) on 01327 341026. There will be a licensed bar (cash only).

We're almost ready to publish our autumn programme but please note our annual summer diary date:

Jazz in the Garden, Sunday 16th July (afternoon). Rock Springs, Sutton St, Flore. Now pretty much a fixture on the Flore Arts calendar; in 2023 we'll be entertained by Tad Newton's Jazz Friends.

Don't forget that you can keep up to date with our plans on our recently refreshed website at www.floreartsevents.com and our Flore Arts Events Facebook page.

We hope to see you soon!

Heyford Lunch Club

(for the over 55's)



Will be on the first Thursday of each month at 12.30 at Heyford Village Hall.

The next one is on the 4th May at 12.30pm

2 course meal with tea/coffee all for £7

To book your place please phone or message Julia on 07792 570082

View from the Wildlife Patch

As I write this, our hedgerows are resplendent with large, white patches of Blackthorn (Sloe) blossom. I can't recall a time when the blossom looked as beautiful as it does right now on the 19th of April. Is this a result of restrictions on hedge trimming between April and October? I really don't know, yet that policy must be benefiting our wildlife. I have just returned from a trip to West Wales. Most hedges have equal amounts of Gorse and Blackthorn in the area we stayed. I do believe yellow Gorse and white Blackthorn side by side looks more than twice as good as either one does on its own.

Back to Heyford and the wildlife patch. This week we have seen our first male Brimstone and Holly Blue Butterflies. Male brimstones are a lovely yellow colour which gives them their name - Brimstone being the old name for sulphur. Brimstone butterfly females are white and emerge a couple of weeks later than males. After mating they lay their eggs on Buckthorn leaves. Holly Blues lay eggs on unopened holly flowers. Both species could be benefiting from hedgerows not being trimmed over the summer months. A second brood of Holly Blues will lay on Ivy flowers in summer. Ivy being abundant in our hedge.

People who know me will know that I am especially interested in "mini beasts", particularly those with a lot of legs. These mostly consist of Centipedes, Millipedes and Woodlice. Populations of all of these are in steep decline right now. Reasons for this decline and why it matters are well beyond the scope of this short article. However we do work to encourage these animals on the Patch. For instance, we leave bits of wood around the patch. A rotting Ash log had a good population of Common Rough Woodlice under its bark. These were accompanied by a Woodlouse Spider (look it up). Also present was a Common Shiny Centipede (*Lithobius forficatus*). A fast moving predator with sharp jaws and poison claws who was probably also living on small woodlice. A Black Ants nest under a piece of slate was found to have a group of Ant Woodlice. These are tiny, white, woodlice who specialise in living in ants nests where they are well tolerated by the ants. It is believed they help to keep the ants nest clean.

Changing the subject entirely. During our trip to Wales, we were dismayed to find the fungal disease "Ash Dieback" in full swing. A whole hillside that had become covered by young Ash trees is now becoming denuded of trees by this disease. Ash Dieback has not reached Nether Heyford yet but is all around our area. Look around and imagine what our parish will be like with no Ash trees. I really believe that it is only a matter of time before this disease reaches Heyford.

On a similar subject. Our memorial Oak is dying or even dead. It may even be cut down by the time you read this. Hopefully, the tree surgeon who cuts it down will know what has killed our tree.

It is likely that we will leave the plot vacant for a year or two to get rid of any disease, then plant another tree.

Dave Musson

HEYFORD BOWLS CLUB

Open Weekend

Sat/Sun May 27 / 28th 2.00 - 5.00pm



**Just bring some flat soled shoes/sandals and come along
for a fun afternoon**



Heyford Bowls Club

Following a really wet March/April we had to delay the opening of the bowls green as it was too wet and soft. However May will see the start of the outdoor season and we look forward to the forthcoming friendly matches against other local bowls clubs. The local men's Monday Night Triples League also starts this month and with our club having been promoted to League 2 this year they are hoping for another successful season.

With the bowls green now open, Friday night is Open Night where you can take advantage of some free taster sessions. If you are thinking of taking up a new sport in 2023 then why not give lawn bowls a try. We have spare bowls for you to use and only ask that you wear flat soled shoes to protect the bowls green surface.

Lorraine Streeter
Club Captain

Tom's Blinds

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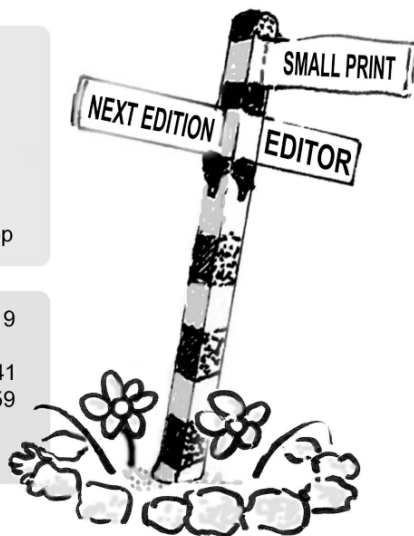
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