



# **THE PRATTLER**

**The Heyford Village Newspaper**

**July/August 2024**

**Issue 471**



**Nether Heyford Village Fete 2024 - Mick Parker**

## Nether Heyford Village Hall



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

Bookings: [nvhbbookings@gmail.com](mailto:nvhbbookings@gmail.com)

Website: [www.netherheyfordvillagehall.com](http://www.netherheyfordvillagehall.com)

Phone: 01327-342167



WEBUILDWEBS

## Website Consultants

With over ten years'  
experience in auditing,  
creating, managing and  
developing websites.

**Your business can't afford  
not to have one**

Contact us on

T: 07591 005019  
E: [info@webuildwebs.net](mailto:info@webuildwebs.net)  
W: [webuildwebs.net](http://webuildwebs.net)

[www. http://jwtreespecialists.co.uk](http://jwtreespecialists.co.uk)



TREESPECIALISTS

City & Guilds qualified  
- Experienced, Fully Insured  
& Friendly



All aspects of Tree & Hedge work undertaken.  
All risings removed from site.

Call James on 07546-033291  
Professional Arborist





The Parish Council would like to thank and congratulate all those involved in the recent fete. The event took place in good weather (which has been at a premium this year!) and was a credit to the whole village. The fete showcases the splendour of the Village Green as a venue for such events.

Community Lounge (CL). The Lounge will be open from 2.00 to 4.30pm each Wednesday until October when it will re-open all day.

### **Programme for July /August 2024**

|                         |   |              |
|-------------------------|---|--------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> July    | Cake and Chat and short trivia Quiz   | Quiz at 2.30 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> July   | Spring presentation   | 2.30         |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July   | Art Appreciation. Guy Ravine  | 2.30         |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> July   | Councillor Surgery  | 2 - 4 pm     |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> July   | Wendy Green – Drawing for pleasure  | 2.30         |
|                         |   |              |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> August  | Cake and Chat and short trivia Quiz   | Quiz at 2.30 |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> August | St Peter's Church and the Old Black Lion, Northampton. Illustrated talk Guy Ravine. | 2.30         |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> August | Councillor Surgery  | 2 - 4 pm     |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> August | Wendy Green – Drawing for pleasure  | 2.30         |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept    | Art Appreciation. Guy Ravine  | 2.30         |

The May Meeting of the Parish Council took place on Monday 13th May 2024 at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Rooms, The Green, Nether Heyford. As with all Parish Council meetings it was open to the public and press.

Election of Chairman & Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Charles Kiloh was proposed, seconded, and unanimously elected as Chair.

Election of Vice Chairman and Acceptance of office. Lesley Dilkes was proposed, seconded, and unanimously elected as Vice - Chair.

Resignation. K. Woodbridge- Dodd. Clerk to initiate the Casual vacancy process.

It was decided to maintain the situation instituted at the previous meeting regarding the dissemination of minutes/meeting reports, despite the advice of NCALC.

**Gravel Extraction.** The committee meeting will take place on 21st May. The Officer's report will not be available until 5 working days before the meeting. TW will forward the report to the Planning Consultant, and will represent Council at the meeting. The emphasis will be on Upper Heyford as it is in their Parish. Objections will centre on health issues.

**Internal Auditor report** – Resolved. To accept the Internal Auditor's report.

**Annual general return. Pt 1.** The Clerk read through the questions on the Annual general return. Pt 1. All were answered in the affirmative. Resolved. Council resolved that Section 1 of the Annual Return be signed and the Annual Return sent to the External Auditors.

**Annual general return. Pt 2.** The accounts having been previously accepted it was Resolved. that Section 2 of the Annual Return be signed, and the Annual Return sent to the External Auditors.

## **Reports.**

**Green.** The Green itself was felt to be in good shape with the new grass cutters having made a good start. DM was unhappy with some of the grass cutting, and would like to pursue a 3 year plan on several small pieces of grass. AW would contact grass cutters. It was felt the jitties needed attention. DM to inspect.

**Tree assessment Quote.** NC still pursuing a further quote.

**Wellbeing.** DM reported that aspects of wellbeing were being looked at. It is difficult for those without cars to attend some services, especially in Towcester. NC reported that a bus service may be available, and had directed an officer towards the Clerk to provide information.

**Infrastructure.** The Chair thanked Alan Whitewright for repairing a damaged bench on the Green. He had also volunteered to refurbish another bench.

**Leaking tap in Church St.** The former pump opposite the Church had been gushing water for some days. It has been reported to Anglian Water who seem disinterested, and are quibbling about ownership; although it appears the damage is to the pipe-work under the road. Council has in the past taken responsibility for repairing the tap; but there is no evidence of actual ownership.

**Heritage.** An article had been put in the Prattler, and a new volunteer had come forward.

**Community.** The Youth Club had been revalued, and LD had applied for a £500 grant for the Community Lounge. This was felt to be going well and developing.

**Parish Council meetings** in 2024 will normally be on the first Monday of each month, (unless a Bank Holiday) and would start at 19.30..

**Reporting Highway and Footpath Issues.** The Clerk will report issues that Council is made aware of, but Council would encourage residents to use the Fixmystreet service to report issues themselves as there will then be no time lag; and first-hand reports are almost always better than 2nd or 3rd hand reports.

The service can be found here: <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

It is easy to use; you can have your own account and can check up on any issues you have reported.

Streetlights within the village can be reported to the Clerk, who will report them to the maintenance company. Please do not report to Balfour Beatty as they deal only with major Highway lights – i.e., motorway, A5 and A45.

Roadworks locally & nationally can be seen on this site  
<http://streetworks.org.uk/live-traffic-works-map/>

Next Meeting Monday: Sept 2nd at the Baptist Church rooms.

## Food Bank

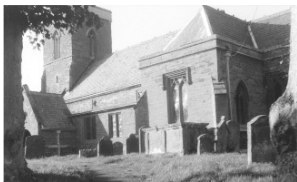
Don't go hungry – if you are in need of help, please contact Towcester Food Bank 07724 832043 (24 hours). [www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk) Leave a message and they will phone you back. They can issue vouchers for food as well as a delivery or collection service.

Alternatively if you wish to help, please leave donations for the food bank in the box outside the door of 15 Middle Street or the One Stop Shop where they are delivered to the bank once a week.

Thank you.



| <b>Councillor list with responsibilities and preferred means of contact.</b>  |   |
|---|---|
| Nick Chatt. 69 Furnace Lane. Nether Heyford. NN7 3JX e-mail n.chatt@live.co.uk  | Councillor  |
| 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, Finance, Youth Club   |
| 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, Finance  |
| D. Musson. 16 Rolfe Crescent, Nether Heyford NN7 3NG Tel: 01327 344461 davemusson073@gmail.com  | Footpaths. Tree Warden  |
| 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                                      |
| Cllr Adam Brown - West Northamptonshire Council, The Forum, Moat Lane, Towcester NN12 6AD Tel: 07714 255077 Adam.Brown@westnorthants.gov.uk     | Deputy Leader of the Council<br>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 July 2024

|                           |          |  |
|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>    | 10:00 am | Holy Communion at Church Stowe                                 |
|                           | 11:00 am | United First Sunday Service at Flore Church                    |
|                           | 6:00 pm  | Evening Worship at Heyford Church                              |
| Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>   | 10:00 am | Benefice Holy Communion Service at Heyford                     |
|                           | 10:00 am | Morning Worship at Flore Chapel                                |
| Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> | 2:00 pm  | Messy Church Olympics, Heyford Rectory Lawn (until 4:00pm-ish) |
| Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>   | 10:00 am | Holy Communion at Heyford Church                               |
|                           | 10:00 am | United Service at Flore Chapel                                 |
|                           | 6:00 pm  | Holy Communion at Upper Stowe                                  |
| Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>   | 10:00 am | Benefice Holy Communion Service at Upper Stowe                 |
|                           | 10:00 am | Morning Worship at Flore Chapel                                |

### Services for August 2024

|                         |          |   |
|-------------------------|----------|---|
| Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 10:00 am | United Holy Communion Service at Flore Church       |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> | 10:00 am | Benefice Holy Communion Service at Church Stowe     |
|                         | 10:00 am | Morning Worship at Flore Chapel                     |
| Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> | 10:00 am | Benefice Holy Communion at Heyford Church           |
|                         | 10:00 am | United Service at Flore Chapel                      |
| Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> | 10:00 am | Benefice Holy Communion Service at Brockhall Church |
|                         | 10:00 am | Morning Worship at Flore Chapel                     |

### August Services

During the summer, as is our custom, we shall be holding just one service each Sunday morning and moving around the four parishes of the benefice. I do hope that everyone who is not on holiday will also move around with us. The services will all be at 10am.

## Midweek Services

Thursday 10am at Flore Church

Friday 9am via Zoom - ask the Churchwardens or Rector for an invitation to join

## *A letter from the laity*

As we commemorated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day last month we prayed for those who gave their lives in the Battle of Normandy. The Chaplains saw to it that prayer was with our servicemen throughout the war, and on the eve of D-Day, Army chaplains prayed with troops.

Of local interest, the battle school for Chaplains was established at Church Stowe, where around 200 chaplains were trained in February and March of 1944. Training included: mine lifting; identifying battle sounds to distinguish between rounds passing close by and the general noise of battle, and evacuating wounded soldiers, as well as the ecclesiastical.

On Sunday 4 June 1944 there was a prayer vigil attended by 400 officers and men of the Second Army HQ, where the final prayer included the following:

*"As we stand upon the threshold of the greatest adventure in our history, let us now offer to Almighty God all our powers of body, mind and spirit, so that our great endeavour may be thoroughly finished."*

General Montgomery's message to be read out to all troops before the invasion included the following:

*"To us is given the honour of striking a blow for freedom which will live in history; and in the better days that lie ahead men will speak with pride in our doings. We have a great and righteous cause.*

*"Let us pray that 'The Lord Mighty in Battle' will go forth with our armies, and that His special providence will aid us in the struggle."*

General Eisenhower's Order of the Day echoed this:

*"... The hopes and prayers of liberty loving people everywhere march with you ... let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking."*

Commanders trusted in God. So should we.

Yours in Christ

*Paul.*



St Peter and St Paul Church,  
Nether Heyford



Handbell Concert  
By Weldon  
Handbell Ringers

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July

7.30pm

In Church

Admission £10 for adults, £5 children 16 and under  
(includes a glass of wine or fruit juice and nibbles)

Tickets from Jane Rands 01327 340678

[janerands@gmail.com](mailto:janerands@gmail.com)

*Proceeds towards the church's charitable giving*

## Eco-Church

The churches in our Benefice (comprising the Stowes, the Heyfords, Brockhall and Flore parishes) have been considering issues to do with the environment and ecology for some time now. Not easy when we have five old, cold churches to heat and maintain!

However, we recognize that developing an 'eco-church' also includes our green spaces, how we work within our local community and how we might contribute to wider, global environmental work.

One aspect of this has been to 'twin' our toilets in the Church Rooms with toilets in Tanzania and Nepal. This is a scheme run by the charity Tearfund who work to improve sanitation in these countries and others. If you visit the loo's in our Church Rooms, you'll see a picture of each place on the walls. The Baptist Rooms have also twinned their toilet. It's an easy and accessible way of supporting communities elsewhere in the world where clean water and decent toilets are much needed.

Visit: [toilettwinning.org](http://toilettwinning.org)

*From the Parochial Church Council (PCC)*



## Nether Heyford Baptist Church

### Services for July/August

|                         |          |   |
|-------------------------|----------|---|
| July 7 <sup>th</sup>    | 10:30 am | Morning service led by John Perkins                                     |
| July 14 <sup>th</sup>   | 10:30 am | Morning service led by Clive Leakey                                     |
|                         | 4:00 pm  | Songs of Praise service led by Martin Buckby (with tea and cakes)       |
| July 21 <sup>st</sup>   | 10:30 am | Morning service led by Les Britten (coffee after the service)           |
| July 28 <sup>th</sup>   | 10:30 am | Morning service with Communion led by Martin Buckby                     |
| August 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 10:30 am | Morning service led by Alwyne Wilson                                    |
| August 11 <sup>th</sup> | 10:30 am | Morning service led by Les Britten<br>NB No Songs of Praise this month. |
| August 18 <sup>th</sup> | 10:30 am | Morning service led by Clive Leakey. (coffee after the service)         |

### Events

Tues. July 16<sup>th</sup>      10am      Prayer and bible study

**All welcome**

St Peter and St Paul Church Heyford

## **Church Fete**

**Saturday 7th September**

**2-4pm**

**In The Rectory Garden**

(in the church and church rooms if wet)

***Stalls, Tombola, Teas, Children's Activities***



**Messy Olympics**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

**2-4pm**

**In the Rectory Garden,  
Nether Heyford**

## Astronomy on the Green

It's a very, very mad cosmos (apologies to Donnie Darko & Tears for Fears). Anyone who has watched this superbly surreal film will get the "things are not what we thought they are" drift. When the JWST (James Webb Space telescope) was launched we expected it to clarify some of the questions that the Hubble telescope had raised. Ah, were life just so simple?

Let's start at the beginning, Edwin Hubble the first person to prove that there were other Galaxies beyond the Milky way also gave us the Hubble constant – the speed at which the cosmos is expanding of 67 km (42 miles) per second per megaparsec (a parsec is equivalent to 3.261 light years), parsec and megaparsecs are just units to make the vast distances in space more manageable than light years.

When the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) was launched (and repaired) it gave us a way to measure accurately the Cepheid stars astronomers use as the first 'standard candle'. These stars vary in both brightness and the fluctuation of intensity over time. From these features astronomers can calculate the distance to the stars and help us map the sky. Cepheids are just one of many 'standard candles' used to cover the vast area of space (far too many for me to cover in this article).

But the results from the HST created an issue now known as the Hubble disparity; measurements from the telescope gave us the 'wrong' value for the constant (76 km per second). In physics terms this is a major problem, it means we do not understand the fundamentals of the Universe. Various ideas were put forward, Hubble had too little resolution, (and was counting data from non-Cepheid stars) or that dark dust in space was obscuring the Cepheids.

Now then, JWST was going to clarify the situation, it has higher resolution than the HST and Near Infrared (NIR) detectors that would see through any dust clouds. Oddly the data returned exactly matched the data from the HST. So, we aren't as clever as we thought we were! Science is always subject to clarification, and we have some work to do here.

Add to this that recent images from the JWST looking deep into the galaxies just after the big bang reveals that they are far more developed and structured (than our models predicted) – simply put (as far as we know) the galaxies seen could not have developed that quickly.

Now a bigger question, do we understand the big bang? Is the universe 13.8 billion years old?

It's a very, very, mad world, mad world...

*Tony Boutle*

# HEYFORD HERITAGE



The Heyford Heritage group continues to meet regularly and there is no shortage of heritage topics on our agenda.

Our scope of interest not only covers living memory and the recent past but extends back to the Romano-British & Saxon evidence found in and around the settlement. We continue to develop ideas to promote and celebrate different aspects of this local heritage.

Part of the groups activity will be to record & digitally curate photos, text, audio and video so that it is captured, catalogued and accessible to all.

Feedback on the Village Plan showed an appetite to protect and maintain the historic features of the village as well as having information openly accessible.

The Heritage group welcomes input from residents on heritage topics ; to do so please email to the Parish Clerk on the address below.

Likewise if you wish to be involved or have expertise that you think may assist please also get in touch.

*Linda Hall, Tony Williams, Tom Dodd, Nick Essex*

**email : [netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:netherheyfordparishcouncil@gmail.com)**



## **Christian Aid Week 2024**

Thank you to everyone who donated to Christian Aid this year, and also to all those who helped with deliveries and to One-Stop and Heyford Meats for hosting collection buckets. We are pleased to report that the total raised in the village this year was £374.41. Of that £178 was gift-aided, adding an extra £44.50 to the total. Christian Aid will therefore receive £418.91 to further their work with some of the world's poorest communities.

*Shirley Waterhouse, Heyford Parish Church*



## **Nether Heyford Village Hall**

Registered Charity, No. 304256

[www.netherheyfordvillagehall.org](http://www.netherheyfordvillagehall.org) [nhvhevents@gmail.com](mailto:nhvhevents@gmail.com)

### **Village Hall Garage Sale: Sunday 8th September: 10.00 - 4.00**

#### **Apply to register your garage**

I would like to register my garage for the above sale

Your Name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

Cost is £7.50 per garage/drive.

Opening 10 – 4.00 Maps and refreshments will be available in the Village Hall

Please return payment with booking form or BACS (preferred)

Sort Code: 23-05-80 Account No: 44704080

Reference: <YourSurname>Garage24

Cheques made payable to Nether Heyford Village Hall can be posted through letter box of 1a Watery Lane, Nether Heyford

Patricia Paterson, Events Secretary, 07802 210440 email [nhvhevents@gmail.com](mailto:nhvhevents@gmail.com)  
1a Watery Lane, Nether Heyford NN7 3LN

**NETHER HEYFORD**

# **GARAGE SALE**

**SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2024**

**10am-4pm**



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

---

**Tea, coffee & bacon rolls also available at Village Hall**

---

Please register before 1st September to be on the map.  
Application forms available in The Prattler  
and [www.netherheyfordvillagehall.org](http://www.netherheyfordvillagehall.org)

## Heyford Hills Farm

The magnificent house at Heyford Hills was built originally for the owner of Heyford Ironworks. In the late 1800's it was owned by John Hardy, a farmer. During the 1940's it was occupied by Major Campbell, and in the late 1940's, Mr Beck, a gentleman farmer came from Herefordshire to Heyford Hills and established a fruit farm for his semi retirement.

He planted 12 acres of fruit on the side of the hill to the right of the drive. He grew apples, plums, gooseberries and blackcurrants. It was a quite a good site because although it wasn't south facing it was largely frost free and enjoyed the afternoon sun. He employed local people to look after the fruit, doing pruning, general gardening duties and fruit picking. The fruit was collected in small tubs, then weighed and put into 50 lb wooden barrels. The pay was a penny farthing for gooseberries and twopence-halfpenny per lb for blackcurrants. It wasn't much, but it provided an opportunity for local people to spend time picking and chatting amongst the bushes in the afternoon sunshine. Mrs Butcher remembers on one occasion picking 568 lbs of gooseberries in 6 hours. It was a messy job with stains from the blackcurrants and scratches from the gooseberry thorns.

They used gooseberry graders to sort the fruit. The big fruit was sold locally to wholesalers as whole fruit, and the smaller ones were sent to a cannery. When the fruit was ready, it would be loaded into bushel boxes (large wooden boxes with a handle at each end) and taken away by lorry to commercial processors in Cambridge and Stratford to be canned or to make drinks and jam.

Mr Beck was the next owner. He had been a pilot in the first world war and still had the tail of a German plane that he'd shot down. He had some property in South Africa to which he returned to annually and where he retired in 1975. He enjoyed expensive cars and had four or five Mercedes. He was a hard worker and expected everyone to work hard too, but he was a real gentleman and everybody liked him. He took an active part in the village and was at various times president of the football and cricket clubs.

Mrs Beck's interest lay in dog shows for which she was a judge. She employed a kennel maid and kept Alsatis and Beagles, many of which won prizes. She often judged the dog shows at the village fete.

In 1976 Mr Beck sold the farm. Dave Lantsbury of the Jesus Fellowship first came across Heyford Hills in the early 1970's. He was a teacher at Campion school and had brought some rural studies students to see the farm. Around that time the Jesus Fellowship were starting to develop their community existence and when the farm came up for sale in 1975 they bought it. They renamed it 'New Creation Farm'. At first they took over the twelve acres of orchard. They added some sows and chickens, they installed 70 bee hives, they planted potatoes, and they extended the fruit bushes right down to the drive.

In 2023 the farm changed hands again and is now Heyford Hills Farm selling their own produce consisting of apples, greengages and plums as well as their jams, honey and apple juice throughout the fruit season.





Heyford Hills Farm, Furnace Lane  
Nether Heyford, NN7 3LB

# FRUIT SEASON IS COMING

Beautiful Apples, Plums & Pears  
grown without chemicals on  
15 acres of hillside orchards

## SHOP OPENING

Saturday  
3rd August  
9am to 12pm

then each saturday for  
the duration of the season

Find us on



HEYFORDHILLSFARM



# Village Hall News

## View from the Chair

What a busy time we have had! The fete was a great success despite clashing with the Saints big game, Northampton carnival and rain in the morning. The sun came out and so did families and friends alike and a great time was had by all. The event was only able to be such a great success thanks to so many people who worked very hard and are too numerous to mention. I do however think that our MC for the day Geoff Allen deserves a special pat on the back as an ardent Saints fan who would have been at the front of the queue for a ticket had he not promised himself to us for the day. From the chaps who prepared the green in advance of the fete to the last litter picker at the end of the day it was team work all the way. My husband was actually spoken to by a visitor who commented that our village was an amazing place. That is thanks to all that helped, participated, contributed financially or otherwise and turned out on the day. Thank you.

In other news we are carrying out some refurbishment and repairing tasks at the moment to keep the hall looking good and nice to visit. Again the outside needs a weed and tidy up. If anyone would be prepared to volunteer to spend an hour there helping out we would be very grateful. Just email me at the email address below.

Our next village event will be the garage sale on 8 September. Usual delicious bacon rolls and drinks will be in the hall during the morning. Email Pat at nhvhevents@gmail.com to register your interest. This is another essential fundraiser for the hall which will enable us to carry out some of the aforementioned work we need to do. Get sorting out those cupboards now.

Don't forget that we hire out the hall for private functions and corporate events so please bear us in mind.

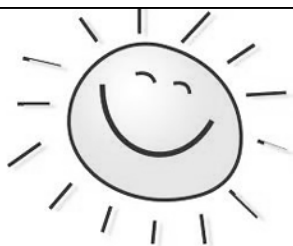
*Carol Tuckley*  
*Chair of Trustees*  
**Carolnhvhchair@gmail.com**

## Welcome Packs

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

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

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



**ALWYNE**

INVITES YOU TO

# TEA ON THE LAWN

2.00 – 4.00pm

*Saturday 17<sup>TH</sup> August*



*29 Church Lane,  
NETHER HEYFORD*

**ONLY £5.00 – contact Alwyne 01327 340803**



*Proceeds for the AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE*

 **travel  
counsellors**

## **Confidential Travel Booking Service**

for flights, packages, cruises,  
celebratory trips, etc.

**Contact Lisa Hillyard F Inst TT**

**01327 342067 or**

**01327 828520**

[lisa.hillyard@travelcounsellors.com](mailto:lisa.hillyard@travelcounsellors.com)

[www.travelcounsellors.com/lisa.hillyard](http://www.travelcounsellors.com/lisa.hillyard)



Proud supporter of



## Flore Arts Events

**Jazz in the Garden, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July (afternoon). 2.30pm;** gates open 1.30pm. Rock Springs in Sutton St, Flore. This year we will again be entertained by Tad Newton's Jazz Friends.

Tickets: £15 (£5 under 18s). Please call Rosemary Read on 01327 341026 (between 9am and 6pm).

Our next **"Poetry Please"** session will have a "Dylan" theme. "Under Milk Wood" will provide the centrepiece of the session (copies will be available) but if you have a different favourite Dylan Thomas poem feel free to bring it along. Meet at The White Hart in Flore, Sunday July 28<sup>th</sup>, 6.30pm – 8pm.

**Budapest Café Orchestra: Sat October 19<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm** (doors open 7pm). All Saints Church, Flore. A return visit from a group who have previously thrilled us with varied and lively music inspired by the Eastern European gypsy tradition.

Tickets: £20 (£10 for under 18s). Call Rosemary Read (between 9am and 6pm) on 01327 341026.

Diary date: Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup>: Folk Fiddle evening featuring accomplished fiddle player Jenny Newman, guitarist Andy Glass and the Big Fiddle Band. All Saints Church, Flore.

You can keep up to date with our plans on our website at [www.floreartsevents.com](http://www.floreartsevents.com)



## Goldmasters IT and digital media

- Computer/laptop repairs, upgrades for hardware, and software issues.
- Printer, networking, accessory, and mobile phone setup.
- Website design, and social media scheduling.
- Advice about backup, safe disposal, and best practice.
- Locally based in Kislingbury.

No fix, no fee!

**Just call Jack Gold (BA Hons) on 07481 338363 or 01604 831882**

email on [Contact@GoldmastersITDM.co.uk](mailto:Contact@GoldmastersITDM.co.uk)

[www.GoldmastersITDM.co.uk](http://www.GoldmastersITDM.co.uk)

KEEP THIS BOOKLET BY YOUR COMPUTER - YOU MIGHT NEED US!

# Bugbrooke and District Flower Society

Thanks to everyone who visited our stall at the fete. As always our little boxes were very popular.

On July 8th we are visiting Ravensthorpe Nursery and gardens and on the 22nd July there will be a social evening in the Village Hall.



## U3A

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

They are usually on the **third Monday afternoon of the month**, starting at 2 pm.

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July – OUT OF AFRICA** by Roy Smart

Guests welcome at the monthly meetings – to learn more visit our website  
**[www.u3asites.org.uk/upper-nene](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/upper-nene)**



## In Nether Heyford

Mary Rice has very kindly handed on the baton to me for writing the WI news for the Prattler. Wow, these are very difficult shoes to fill. Mary has been writing interesting, and informative pieces with such care and diligence for many years. Everyone from the WI would like to thank her for all her hard work. She continues to be an active member of the committee and a fervent advocate for this organisation which has offered education, fun and friendship for the women of Nether Heyford village for over 93 years.

Our last meeting took us out on a trip to Sulgrave Manor. As someone born and bred in Northamptonshire, I am ashamed to say that I had never visited the home of George Washington's ancestor. We availed ourselves of a good pub lunch at the local hostelry (The Star Inn) and then took the short journey down to the Manor. It is a lovely old house set in a beautiful rural location. The weather was very kind to us and we were blessed to see the gardens in sunny June weather. The house's history is revealed on a journey through the rooms. More details about the George Washington connection are illustrated in one of the out buildings. I expect many of the children who visit with their school have to write an essay when they get back. Thank goodness we were spared that fate!

Talking of fate...well fete really. We all thought that this year's village fete was excellent. There were so many families, bands people, gymnasts and dogs enjoying the afternoon. We would like to thank the Village Hall committee who work so hard to bring this all together. WI members made cakes for our stall and the village hall refreshments, as well as donning the Marigolds (other brands of rubber gloves are available) to help with the washing up in the hall. Let's hope lots of money was raised to support our lovely hall.

Our next meeting will be on July 4<sup>th</sup> at 7.30. We will be welcoming Jess Nash who will be telling us about her life as a lady bus driver in London. There will be, no doubt, some amusing tales to be told but Jess will also reflect on how she overcame prejudice and made her way in a man's world at a time when it was most unusual for women to be at the steering wheel of a bus. If you would like to come along, we will be pleased to see you.

In August we have a summer themed get together. This year we will be spending the evening down at the allotments enjoying a bit of a picnic, finding out about the community garden and meeting those keen gardeners. Monty Don said he might pop in. (sorry that's a joke.)

*Jane Wareing.*  
01327 340875

# 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

# Heyford Allotments

## Pests and Diseases

There is nothing more dispiriting than to have a crop you have lovingly sown or nurtured, decimated by pests or diseases. I am afraid that is the lot of the gardener (and farmer) and it is something you come to accept as part of the process. However, with some carefully crafted steps, it can be less traumatic – and not necessarily by resorting to chemical controls. By taking that route there is every chance that the poison that goes into the ground or onto the affected crop may well end up inside you and destroy many of the helpful predators that can be of benefit.

The key to solving this gardeners dilemma is to get to know the things that are damaging your crops and target them specifically. Good gardeners don't seek to eliminate pests, just control them in their growing space.

### 1. Barriers

Netting is an incredibly cheap and simple method of keeping pigeons off the crops like peas or Cabbage White Butterflies off brassicas. A fine mesh barrier (at least 90 cm or 3ft high) surrounding a carrot patch will deter carrot rootfly – apparently the little critters can't fly above that height!

The barrier list is endless.

### 2. When and where to plant

\*By changing when a crop is planted you can often avoid a pest or disease because you have chosen a time when they/it doesn't flourish

\*By interplanting with other crops you can sometimes outwit the pest or disease because they either don't like the smell of the nearby item or they simply binge on that "sacrificial crop" and leave your prize plants alone.

\*Choose disease or pest resistant varieties. There are lots of new varieties on the market, just keep an eye on the seed catalogues. I have, for three years grown a very tasty outdoor tomato called "Crimson Crush" and it has proved completely resistant to the dreaded tomato blight – a disease that can devastate toms and potatoes overnight!

\*Look after your soil and feed it (it's better than feeding the plants). Rotate your crops every year so that pests and disease don't build up in the soil. Add home-made compost at every opportunity.

### 3. Biological control

It sounds scary, but it is just using nature's goodies to help you fight the things that will damage your crops. Minibeasts like hover flies, ladybirds (and particularly their larvae), centipedes and lacewings will consume vast quantities of pests. If you are container gardening you might even consider using something called nematodes –



microscopic organisms that you can buy and simply water into the soil. They love slugs!

And don't forget the bigger predators. Having kept the pigeons off your crops, encourage birds like tits. They gorge on insect larvae and aphids. Frogs and toads love nothing better than a tasty snail or slug. We even had a friendly grass snake who made a home in an old compost heap. A great way to keep rodents (and slugs) under control.

Get to know what you are after and what it looks like. That way you will protect what you are growing and all those beneficial creatures (and perhaps still find a little bit of room for the things that might sometimes be misnamed as "baddies". Like weeds they are just wild things in the wrong place).

### **Good Neighbours**

In the last Prattler we wrote about the kindness that many allotmenters show each other by helping out where they can. That is really appreciated and remains an important feature of the allotments in Heyford. However, there will of course, be the odd incident when people disagree, that is human nature. However, the Parish Council are at pains to stress that this cannot be allowed to spill over into unacceptable behaviour and the use of threatening or abusive language. New terms and conditions have been issued to all allotment holders to address this and set out a zero tolerance policy.

### **Gardeners World Live**

I recently wrote about our fellow allotmenter Leanne Wood creating a show garden at Gardeners World Live at the NEC. I am delighted to report that Leanne won no less than three awards for her garden, "Following in my Footsteps" including a prestigious Platinum Award. Our congratulations go to Leanne.

### **Plot Check**

The Parish Council will be carrying out their annual allotment plot check in July to ensure that allotments are being well tended and/or kept in an acceptable condition. For those allotmenters who are finding it difficult to keep all of their plot in good order, please don't hesitate to contact Lynda or myself and we can arrange for you to have some landscape fabric to cover your plot and keep weed growth under control.

### **Vacancies**

If you are keen to start allotmenting, contact Lynda Eales on 01327 341707 or by email at [lyndaeales@aol.com](mailto:lyndaeales@aol.com) Don't hesitate to contact either Lynda or me on any other allotment related questions.

Mrs Lynda Eales, 3 Church Lane, NH tel. 01327 341707 email: [lyndaeales@aol.com](mailto:lyndaeales@aol.com)

Mr. Mike Langrish, 28 Manor Park, NH tel. 07879777802 email: [langrish\\_heyford@hotmail.com](mailto:langrish_heyford@hotmail.com)

*Mike Langrish*

# Flood Watch

BBC4, June 5<sup>th</sup> "Jet Stream" traced the history of the phenomenon and the effect climate change is having on our weather patterns causing higher incidents of flash flooding. Each hemisphere has a jet stream with the stronger being in the northern hemisphere. Caused by differential temperatures it originates in the Pacific Ocean and consists of a strong wind moving west to east between altitude 30,000 to 40,000 feet at speeds of up to 250 mph. Changes in the jet stream wind and pressure effect weather patterns.

The jet stream moves between latitudes 30-60 degrees hence its importance in shaping our weather systems as the UK latitude is 50-60 degrees N. First theories of the jet stream were proposed in the late 1800's with balloon tracking in 1970's by Japan providing supporting evidence. However it was not until WW2 that high flying aircraft encountered the impact on speed when flying westward.

Rising ocean temperatures due to climate change causes increased speed of the jet stream and warmer sea water laden clouds over land. Hence heavier rainfall causing flash floods. As the jet stream approaches the UK it meanders causing unpredictable weather patterns such as the 11 storms we have experienced in storm year Sept 23-24 creating new records.

The instability of our weather was witnessed in May when most of the month only experienced 25% of normal rainfall but two days rainfall increased the months total to 110%. June has seen a drop in temperature, well below average with a series of short, intense thundery showers. Fortunately river levels have been low and well able to cope hence no more flooding events.

As we move from June into July its officially summer with the longest day on 20<sup>th</sup> June of 16 hrs 46 min and the latest sunset at 20.22. As the Earth circulates the Sun in its elliptical orbit and spins in its axis inclined at 23.5 degrees the north pole is at its closest to the Sun(summer solstice). By the end of July day length will shorten by 1 hour and sunset will be at 20.55, over 30 minutes earlier.

I've spoken to the Environment Agency over the culvert maintenance issue but they were unable to report any progress with Anglian Water.

*J.Arnold.*

## View from the Wildlife Patch

Rachel Carson, in her 'Silent Spring', published in 1962 as a damning indictment of the use of pesticides and their effect on the natural world, broke ground in this area. In, I repeat, 1962. We are now in 2024. And looking on as her predictions come true: a world without birdsong. Initially, the title 'Silent Spring' was to be used only as a heading for the chapter on birds, but ultimately, Carson decided to take it as the title of the whole work, foreseeing the death of the natural world, if humanity did not learn, and act. The death of the natural world as we are now witnessing in our time.

'It is a cold and dismal prospect. The triumph of humanity's greed and arrogance.' (Guardian, 17 April 2024).

The above quote is especially significant to me. I read Rachel Carson's book in 1968, as a 23 year old, 5th generation farmer. This book greatly affected the way I viewed the environment, the profession I was born into and my own farming practice. I don't recall Carson mentioning the added enemy to life on Earth that is Climate Change. In 1968 I read an article in an environmental magazine that warned us we were in danger of overheating our Planet through a process that was called "The Greenhouse Effect". Now known as "Global Climate Change". (Global Warming). If you read the statistics that are available, the figures on the loss to wildlife due to this are truly horrendous.

How is all this affecting us here in Heyford?

It was in Spring that we noticed a lack of life in the wildlife pond. Tony checked out the pond chemistry and found nothing to deter insects. At the time we had no idea how badly the cold and very wet weather was affecting our insects. Then the usual spring butterflies failed to emerge. Small tortoiseshells had already been decimated by a parasite imported from Europe, however Peacocks, Commas etc. which had been unaffected, all but failed to show up either. Clearly the severe, cold, wet weather that continued till quite recently has had, and is still having a disastrous effect on our butterflies and moths. As the year moves on, it is becoming clear that more species of insect are affected. Wild bees and wasps are very low in number, as are most species of fly and most other insect groups.

Of course this has a knock on effect to all that depend on insects for food, birds, bats, other mammals etc. Potentially we have an impending ecological disaster. How many butterflies have you seen this year? How many Bees? Flies? Can wildlife recover? No one knows. Are there unknown factors in this? Given ideal conditions, wildlife can recover from anything. Hopefully our late Summer wildlife will see insects showing up in some numbers.

There are a number of our native, flying insect species that cross the English Channel to boost the home bred populations. If continental populations have not been as badly affected as our natives we could get influxes of these in July and August. I am still finding it difficult to believe that the situation really is as bad as it appears to be right now. There must be a mistake.

There is some good news. Many plants are doing really well. Just take a walk round the wildlife patch, it's looking really good. We may find summer insects to be less affected.

*Dave Musson*



*The only thing better than singing  
Is more singing*

*Ella Fitzgerald*

**[www.heyfordsingers.org](http://www.heyfordsingers.org)**

And didn't we witness this on Britain's Got Talent? The NSO Choir did us all proud, being an amalgam of various choirs under Gareth Fuller's guidance. He has been with the Wellingborough Community Gospel Choir from the start and his Northants Sings Out group is now in its 9th year, coming appropriately 9th in the final of the well-known talent contest. If you missed this you can see them on ITVX or on YouTube, Instagram or Facebook. Well worth watching. But I have to say Sydnie Christmas stole the show coming first, and quite rightly so as her voice was extraordinary and absolutely pitch perfect. She gave a heart-rending performance of 'Over the Rainbow' and at just 28 had the composure of a seasoned performer. She had a really beautiful voice and did what Mary Rice, our Musical Director, is always telling us to do – really lived the song. And this was (almost) the first time I had watched Britain's Got Talent as I always thought they had missed out the word 'no' in the title and gave up at an early stage. But how wrong can you be where singing is concerned?

And although we are not on the television (yet) we have the passion to continue singing in September as we then prepare for our Christmas Concert. Already we have the list of songs we will be singing and are searching through our mountains of music to extract the relevant pieces. Another varied programme awaits us and our Open Evening, should you wish to join us, will be announced shortly. We shall of course be singing about the joys of this season and hope we get the right balance of music for you in our Concert. All newcomers will be very welcome and we strive to get more singers in our Bass section. Men are always difficult to come by!

So continue enjoying this very mixed summer – mainly wet – and listen to whatever music you enjoy. I know that some of you will be attending concerts either locally or around the country. And as there is no August Prattler you will see from the September issue what we plan to do once our rehearsing starts again. We all need the summer break (and none more so than our Musical Director and Pianist) but there is definitely something 'missing' when Thursdays or Fridays come round and we no longer meet in the Village Hall. And sing.

*JRA*



## Heyford Bowls Club

Our Big Bowls Open weekend over the May Bank Holiday was another huge success with over 65 people attending over the two afternoons. We would like to thank all those who came to visit the club and made this event enjoyable, together with all the members who helped out. I am pleased to report that we have already signed up three new members with further visitors showing a keen interest. We always welcome new visitors to join us Fridays evening from 6.00pm onwards who are interested in seeing what bowls is all about.

We were pleased to be part of the Village Fete again this year. We decided on a change of activity this year and did a Spin The Wheel with a prize every time which was a huge success. We would like to thank all those who supported the club and again we were surprised by how quickly we ran out of prizes. We would like to thank all those members who helped to run the stall throughout the afternoon.

Other news. We have just returned from our Bowls Tour to Eastbourne. A great time was had by all over the five days. We played matches at Eastbourne, Peacehaven and Hastings. We were made very welcome by all three clubs and it was great to see how other clubs manage their players and venues. I can report that we won two of the three matches, however it was not about the winning but more about the company and atmosphere in which they were played.

Our friendly matches against other clubs are still on going. On the County competition front, we have several members taking part in the Mens, Ladies and Mixed teams playing in the initial rounds so I will report on these towards the end of the season. Our Mixed Teams have just won the Area Quarterfinal in the National Tony Allcock Trophy so now go forward to the Area Semifinal to be played before the end of June.

June 29th will see our Men taking part in the County Manfield Cup in a joint entry again this year with Bugbrooke. As usual whilst the Men are away we will take the opportunity to hold a Ladies fun afternoon at Heyford. Several ladies from other local clubs will join in the fun ending with a lovely Cream Tea with fresh strawberries, Pimms and a raffle.

July and August sees further friendly matches against other clubs scheduled. Our various players will continue with their county competitions and there will also be a number of inter club competitions starting with the various rounds spread over the two months ending with our Finals Weekend on the 31st August/1st September. Don't forget to check out our website [www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk](http://www.heyfordbowlsclub.co.uk) for all our news, events and match information.

*Lorraine Streeter - Club Captain*

# BELLA INTERIOR DESIGN



- Beautiful painting & decorating
- Expert Interior design
- Professional wallpapering
- Home decluttering/organisation
- Furniture upcycling
- Room layout planning
- Home or retail styling
- 5 star reviews ★★★★★
- Village based

 Annabel 07801 455030

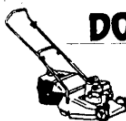
 @bellainteriordesign

 @bellainteriordesignnorthampton

## Tom's Blinds

Tom Brown  
Blind Fitter with over 10 years experience  
07740743628  
Located in Nether Heyford  
Call for free no obligation quotes  
Find us on Facebook

## DOUCE MOWER SERVICE



Free collection and delivery

All work guaranteed

Will your lawnmower work again next Spring?

For peace of mind, a winter service is the answer.

Ring Northampton 638055 daytime, or call

George Rands after 6pm on Weedon 340678



# Percy's Plumbing & Heating

**William Percy**  
Plumber & Heating Engineer  
percysplumbing@gmail.com  
Mobile: 07526539176

**LTD**

5 Winston Close  
Nether Heyford  
Northampton  
NN7 3JX

*Call Today!*

**01327340654**

## Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service of individual items through to complete property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or email **info@leauktion.co.uk**

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

[www.leauktion.co.uk](http://www.leauktion.co.uk)



**LOCKE & ENGLAND**

AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

**01926**

**889100**

18 Guy Street, Leamington Spa, CV32 4RT

## RANDALL ELECTRICAL

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR**

For all types of  
Domestic Electrical  
Installations

*Free no obligation quotes*

**Tel: 01327 349144**

**Mobile: 07703 258169**



## IAN SUMMERLING, ELECTRICIAN

All electrical installations,  
burglar alarms, extra sockets, etc

Tel 01604 862710

Mobile 07971 426775

39 Wallwin Close, Roade, NN7 2NA

## *Radmore Cattery*

- Luxury & modern boarding chalets operating to Feline Advisory Bureau (FAB) standards
- Located on a family run farm overlooking a picturesque fruit orchard
- All chalets with an indoor heated sleeping area & outside covered exercise run

Enquiries to Kathryn (01327) 830825  
Mobile 07732274252

Radmore Farm, Northampton Rd,  
Litchborough, Towcester,  
Northants. NN12 8HR

# THE PRATTLE

## NEXT EDITION

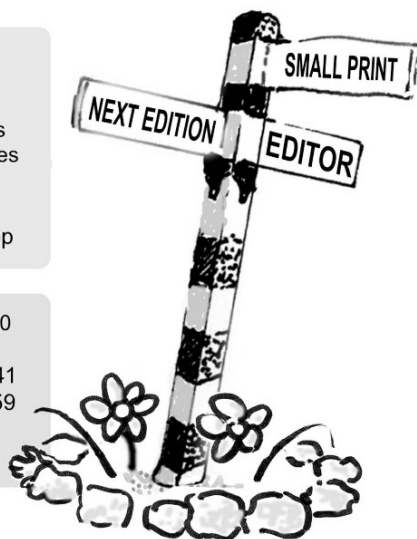
**Submission date:** 15th August 2024 for written articles  
20th August 2024 for emailed articles

**Publication date:** 1st September 2024

**e-mail:** heyford\_prattler@yahoo.co.uk

Or drop off at Heyford Meats or the One Stop Shop

|                                |               |              |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Editorial:</b>              | Sue Boutle    | 07415 352550 |
| <b>Proofreading:</b>           | Tony Boutle   |              |
| <b>Distribution:</b>           | Mick Watts    | 01327 340041 |
| <b>Adverts &amp; Payments:</b> | Vicki Hamblin | 01327 341059 |
| <b>Design:</b>                 | Nick Essex    |              |
| <b>Website:</b>                | Jez Wilson    |              |



We welcome Prattler contributions, please send these to the Editor. Please include your name and full contact details. We prefer items by e-mail & all images should be JPEG files.

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

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of any member of the editorial team. Advertising material does not imply any endorsement by the editorial team.



/HeyfordPrattler



[www.heyfordprattler.org](http://www.heyfordprattler.org)



[heyford\\_prattler@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:heyford_prattler@yahoo.co.uk)

Please mention that you saw it in **THE PRATTLE** when responding to advertisers !

*The Prattler* is printed by



Design to Print Limited

46 Daventry Road

Norton Daventry

NN11 2ND

01327 872950

[www.designtoprint.org.uk](http://www.designtoprint.org.uk)