

# NASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MAY 2008

## **Community Safety**

The Safer Community Team based at Oundle, in consultation with representatives from District & Parish councils, have prioritised anti-social behaviour and anti-social driving in Nassington as one of their target areas for the at least the next few months.

The police have made as much effort as possible to attend Parish Council meetings where the community's concerns about various matters have been made known to them. As a result of Nassington's March PC meeting, the police did a door-to-door survey in parts of the village to talk to people about their worries and as a result have made Nassington a priority.

The PCSOs who will be spending a lot of time in the village are authorised to issue what is generally referred to as a Section 59 notice. This is a written warning valid for 12 months. If more than one is issued to a driver, the power to seize their motor vehicle can be enforced.

'Section 59' refers to Clause 59 of the 2002 Police Reform act which states: "Where a constable in uniform has reasonable grounds for believing that a motor vehicle is being used on any occasion in a manner which-

(a) contravenes section 3 or 34 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (c. 52) (careless and inconsiderate driving and prohibition of off-road driving),

And

(b) is causing, or is likely to cause, alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public,"

These orders DO exist and have been issued to offenders from Nassington. A young lad from Stoke Doyle has been killed this year and a young girl paralysed in an accident in which she was a passenger both drivers were under 21. Oundle police had to deal with the aftermath of the accidents which were by account horrific. The effort to deal with the stupidity of irresponsible driving is not for fun – it's an attempt to save life or serious disability. They are not scapegoating people nor picking on anyone – just responding to public complaints and trying to avoid another fatal accident. Have a look at the 'Stop Press' or Community Safety web pages of the village website for some rather astonishing facts & figures and further details.

**BECOME AN EXCEPTION – NOT A STATISTIC.**

## **Allotments**

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM and to those who paid their annual rent. A gentle reminder to those who may have overlooked theirs – please let Andrew or Yvonne have your rent as soon as possible. In general, the improvements at the site have been welcomed. There are only 2 half plot

allotments available at the moment – if you would like one, please contact Yvonne Banke for more details on 782841.

## **Replacement of the Pavilion**

You can drop your completed questionnaire into the village shop or butchers, through the door of any parish councillor or online at [www.nassington.org.uk/page26.htm](http://www.nassington.org.uk/page26.htm) . If you would like your form collected, please contact a councillor. Please let us have your views – it's very important that the project developers are aware of everyone's views.

## **Parish Council Vacancies**

Due to family commitments, Norman has decided that it is no longer possible to continue as clerk to the Parish Council. The Council gratefully acknowledges all his input & efforts over the past 6 years and would like to pass on sincere kind sentiments and wish him and Judy well.

If you have experience in this type of role and would like to have an informal chat about becoming clerk to Nassington Parish Council, please contact the undersigned in the first instance.

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council – if you would like more information, contact a Parish Councillor for an informal chat. There is more information about what's entailed on the Parish Council pages of the village website.

If you have any queries for the Parish Council please direct them to a councillor for the time being.

### **Sarah Rodger**

pp Nassington Parish Council  
782736 [sarah@nassington.org.uk](mailto:sarah@nassington.org.uk)

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **Licensing Of Bishop John Flack.**

The service took place at Nassington Church on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April, with 250 people witnessing the licensing. Family and friends of Bishop John came from all over the country, including members of those parishes in which Bishop John was priest.

It was a great honour that The Bishop of Peterborough, Bishop Ian Cundy, was able to attend the service to license Bishop John.

Three Bishops, forty clergy and readers from the Oundle Deanery were present, along with representatives from the Roman Catholic and Methodist Churches.

We thanked God that the predicted rain did not arrive, although it was “fun” erecting the marquee in the high winds, in the morning.

Nassington PCC would like to say a huge thank you to all those who helped to make the day extra special—the marquee erectors, the bell ringers, the choir, and those who provided the lovely food for the buffet after the service.

Mostly we would say “THANK YOU” Bishop John and his wife Julia for coming to our Benefice, as we once again have a shepherd to lead us.

The one word to sum up the whole day—**WOW**.

**Family Service** This month is at Nassington Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30pm. Please do come along and join us. The Children of the Church are getting more involved with playing the violin, trumpet and piano and leading the singing. If your child would like to take part please bring them along. After the service there will be time for a coffee and biscuits and a chance to chat.

**Fellowship Meeting.** This month the meeting will be at Jo Booth’s home at 27 Church Street, and the visiting speaker will be Jenny Firth talking about relationships. If you are going along please ring Jo on 783060 for catering purposes. Those wishing to partake of the catering please arrive around 7pm, if you wish to go along just to hear Jenny please arrive around 8.15pm.

**Gravestones In Nassington Churchyard.** Sue Payne has spent a lot of time co-ordinating the names of the people on the gravestones and making a plan of where they are buried in the Churchyard. We thank Sue for all her time taken up on this. There is a plan of the Churchyard and names on gravestones in the Church, if anyone wishes to trace anyone on their family tree. If you would like to view this please call me-Wendy- on 784937 to arrange a time.

**Golden Wedding Anniversary.** Two of our Parishioners John and Jean Wilson celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on 6<sup>th</sup> April. They were married in Nassington Church by Rev. Littlewood. We all send our love and congratulations to the happy couple, and pray that they have many more years together.

## NEWS FROM NASSINGTON SCHOOL

I write at the end of what seems a rather strange Easter holiday. The children returned to school after the Easter weekend for two weeks before taking their Spring break. Hopes that this would result in better holiday weather were, of course, in vain!

While the children have been on holiday the builders have been working hard on the refurbishment of Mrs. Allen’s classroom, and the toilets. We are all very excited to see the long awaited changes. The school environment and the enhancement of the children’s surroundings are on our minds at the moment. The eco artist Renee has been working his magic lately, creating with the children a beautiful ‘Welcome’ sign and a wonderful living sculpture adorned with stars, which the pupils had made. Plans are now also well underway for the schools’ first gardening club. This will be a parent led club which aims to engage children with their local environment, to teach them about wildlife and sustainability, and to hopefully make them future contenders for the Nassington Village Show vegetable competitions! We hope that the children will also enjoy making the front of the school more attractive with their planting, so watch this space...Any donations or offers of help with this club will be very gratefully received. We particularly need unwanted tools and a wheelbarrow.

## NASSINGTON NEWSLETTER

### **Letters to the Editor.**

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those kind people of this village who conveyed their good wishes to me during and following my recent spell in hospital. It helps to know there are people out there rooting for you.

Recovery will take some time; but I look forward to being out and about again. Once again thank you all very much.

**Terry Roche.**

### **Oundle and King's Cliffe Middle School.**

Our non-uniform day raised over £900 for "Sports Relief".

Some even managed to run a mile round the school field. Pupils and staff walked or ran the mile together and some pupils were highly inventive about how they got round their mile. Some crawled all the way, some went round tied by the leg to someone else, some hopped and some jumped. Well done everyone who took part and a special mention to Ben Howell who raised £165.25 in sponsorship for his mile. **Fantastic!**

Ben himself would like to say a big thank you to everyone he called on in Nassington for their sponsorship.

### **16 April 2008**

On Friday 28 March, vandals struck again at 16 Eastfield Crescent at 1.30 in the morning. I'm happy to say that the culprits were caught red handed.

**Eddie Lange.**

## COMMUNICARE

ALZHEIMERS DISEASE—most of us know of someone who suffers with it. We have arranged a meeting at YARWELL VILLAGE HALL on 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm., when a member of the Alzheimer's Society will talk to us. Everyone who is interested is invited to join us, so come along—entrance is free.

In April the CSG began its summer visits with a trip to Newark and Downton. Scotland beckons on 25<sup>th</sup> May for a short holiday in Lanark, which has had a re-vamp. We hope it will be warmer and fine by then!

Have you written to the Government yet about the plight of GPs, and the future of small surgeries? Already so much money has been wasted on grandiose schemes such as the flawed computer project for NHS records, the NHS Direct and walk in centres, which, while useful, sometimes are not shown to be cost effective. As patients we want to keep our local surgeries which serve us directly and are near at hand. General Practice needs to keep government funding—not have cuts to help finance other private and commercial schemes.

## PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Pre-School would like to thank all the ladies who attended their fund raiser dinner on Friday 4th April in the Village Hall. The evening was a huge success with nearly £700 being raised to help keep the Pre-School thriving. A special 'Thank-You' goes to everyone who kindly donated prizes for the raffle, as well as some people who could not attend the evening but very kindly gave us a donation anyway.

Pre-School does not get any government funding and relies solely on the money each child is charged for their place, and as such we often find our funds very tight and rely upon these fund raising events to continue to be able to pay the basics, such as staff wages and hall rental as well as replacing old equipment/toys etc.

Our next event is going to be race night, to be held in June - so watch this space for more details and if you are interested in coming along then get in touch directly with Pre-School or any member of the Committee.

If anyone would like to make a donation to Pre-School at anytime we would be extremely grateful.

**Susie Tinsley**

Chairman of Pre-School

*Nassington Ladies Group*

*Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008*

*Visit Fineshade &  
Supper*

**For Details Contact: -**

**June Atkins on**

**01832 226033**

## **Coffee Morning.**

The next coffee morning in Nassington Church will be on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, from 10.30am to 12 noon. This will be a bit different as we will just be having coffee/tea/biscuits/cakes and a Bring and Buy stall. Please come and join us to hear all the latest village news, and meet up with old friends.



A House to House collection for Christian Aid will take place in Nassington during the week of 11-17 May 2008

If there is anyone who could lend a helping hand posting and collecting envelopes in their road

please contact the organiser Keith Underwood at 22 Eastfield Crescent, phone 01780 784343. Your help would be much appreciated.

**NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> – 7:30PM AT NASSINGTON CHURCH**

## *The Wandering Minstrels*

**In aid of Spinal research.**

### WASTE BOX COLLECTION 2008

<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Red Box</b>
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Green Box</b>
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Red Box</b>
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Green &amp; Blue Box</b>

Green Box = Recyclables

Red Box = Newspapers and Magazines

Blue Box = Bottles and Jars

### **NASSINGTON MAY FAIR SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008 FROM 2PM**

The Friends of Nassington School will be holding the annual May Fair and would welcome any donations for the ever popular bottle tombola and cake stall. Please leave any bottles you would like to donate at the school on Friday 16<sup>th</sup>. Also any cakes – these could be brought along to the school on the Saturday morning. Alternatively, before Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May, bring any bottle donations to 2 Sewter Gardens, Nassington.

The Parade will start from Griffin's Coal Yard at 1.30pm. Please take care in the village as the children will be walking on the road from the coal yard to school following a decorated float with the May Queen and her attendants.

Extracts from:

Thank you very much for your support.

# ***“Aspects of the History of Nassington”***

*By Alec Jackson*

## **Ploughing**

I saw plenty of ploughing with horses but the only times I had a go was in a 1930s Fordson tractor, and I didn't enjoy the job. The tractor didn't help me as the horses helped the men. There were no hydraulics, so at the end of each furrow it was a vicious fight with hand and muscle. Left hand on the steering wheel, reach back with right hand and seize the lift rope. Slide the hand back along the rope as far as it would go and get ready to pull to lift the plough. So pull, hold, release the rope, both hands on the wheel and turn quickly before the tractor goes into the hedge. Too late! Stand up, full weight on the clutch brake pedal. Relax. The brake is now holding the tractor so put some of your weight on the other foot and let the tractor roll back out of the hedge. Just in time, full lock and round. No real damage.

Jack Gynn could trust me with one of his horses but he never trusted me with that tractor and I've often smiled over this. I think it was the. He knew he couldn't shout down from the top of the load and have his voice instantly recognised by a horse that would do as it was asked. Trust was everything. Even with reliable, trained horses at the railway station, Jack would turn them to face an approaching train and speak reassuringly to them. Several men and boys did not have that natural trust. They could only shout when something went wrong, which only made things worse.

Modern 120hp tractors are largely computerised for a days work of 23 hours ploughing and one hour for maintenance. Press a button – and things happen. Then the driver makes a mistake, confuses the computer, and there can be several days wait while it's reprogrammed. I think I agree with him except for controlling the engine and fuel efficiency. In such cases computers are better than men or boys.

# OVER THE GARDEN WALL



This daft new law banning sexual harassment of pub staff doesn't go far enough. Is there no penalty for what may be called "anti-sexual harassment.?" Picture Harriet Harman, the minister responsible for the new regulation who is also fond of doing walkabouts even if it means wearing a bullet-proof waistcoat. Just suppose she's doing a stint behind the pumps as a vote-catching exercise when this chap leans on the bar after six pints, focuses one eye at a time and says: "Listen, you old bat. I'd rather be strapped in a straitjacket and left to rot in the cellar of a Trappisht monashtery than get any nearer to you." A combat waistcoat won't stop that. But is it legal?

And there's another thing. This legislation says that landlords must protect their staff from harassment, but it says nothing about protecting their customers from acute embarrassment. Not from drunks and bores, but from tiny tots sucking dummies and still wearing nappies. They're all over the place in pubs. I've seen them in pushchairs lined up at the bar. Once I tried to enjoy a pint as an apprentice drinker filled in her colouring book at my feet. Is that what pubs are for?

No. Pubs should be where grown-ups can relax, like they used, perhaps with a spot of banter with the buxom barmaid who rather enjoyed the tease. It made both parties feel good. Now, pubs are becoming branches of pre-school nurseries where grizzled old-timers like me are expected to put up with tots running riot demanding everything in sight and screaming if they don't get it. The frightening thing is, their parents can't see anything wrong with their offspring, who are not particularly ill-disciplined but simply behaving according to their age. It's even worse than that: they seem to bring their toddlers along to demonstrate the benefits of a liberal infancy. They don't realise that the rewards of raising a family means making sacrifices, one of which is sometimes not having a pint when they feel like one.

What's to be done? Well, if there are any old-timers who share these views, they might like to join me with their six-packs and in the foyer of our school for a lunch-time noggin. Fair's fair. + I can self-righteously claim that we never took our youngsters into a pub, although we did enjoy summer pints in various beer gardens. One evening after a particularly bruising trip to Sainsburys we stopped at a pub and left them in the car for as long as it took to sink a life-saving half pint. When we rejoined them we found they had written on the steamed up windows: "Help. Parents are drinking. Save us." From that moment I had a new respect for them which has lasted to this day.

