

THE

Mar-Apr 2024

Nymphsfield

NEWS & ADVERTISER



Editorial

Welcome to the meteorological spring (March-April) edition of the Nymphy News. Mild, windy and very wet seems to characterise our recent weather. It will be good to have a nice dry stretch.

Sadly, three obituaries/ eulogies this month: RIP Geoff Whitman, Eileen McAsey and Goff Smith.

The centre pages are given over to a questionnaire about the possibility of adopting the Rose and Crown as a Community Pub. Please pull out the eight centre pages, fill in the questionnaire and post it in the box in the bus shelter. Even better, complete the form online at <https://forms.gle/RnEE6AZMsvByqfdb9>

Cover photo: The bomb disposal van outside the Rose & Crown, early 60s – WW2 bomb in the garden! Any memories? (a couple more photos next issue, thanks to Jean Smith)
Email: nymphynews@gmx.com
Deadline for next edition 20 Apr

BOOKING CONTACTS

KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

Bookings:
npfbookings@outlook.com

VILLAGE HALL

Bookings Marie Knight 860115 or
nympsfieldvillagehall@gmail.com

NYMPSFIELD CLUB

nympsfieldclub@hotmail.com

BUS TIMES

The Cross, to Dursley

09:28 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
10:21 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)
11:28 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
12:36 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)
13:28 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
14:17 (165) from N'lsworth) to Dursley
then Coaley (Mon to Fri)
15:58 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
18:04 (65) Dursley to Cam & Dursley Stn
(18:35) terminating Horsemarling Lane,
Stonehouse

The Cross, to Stroud:

08:05 (08:00 Saturdays) (65) Stroud,
leaving Cam & Dursley Station at 07:30
10:25 (165) Stroud via Nailsworth (Mon-Fri
only)
11:21 (65) Stroud
11:17 (65A) Stroud (Sat only)
13:21 (65) Stroud
13:32 (65A) Stroud & Whiteway (Sat only)
15:21 (65) Stroud
17:56 (65) Stroud (leaves Cam & Dursley
17:25)
All services Mon-Sat unless stated
otherwise. No buses on Sundays and Bank
Holidays.

The online timetables can be found at:
<https://tinyurl.com/65nympsfield1> for the
Stagecoach services and
<https://tinyurl.com/65anympsfield> for the
Saturday Cotswold Green service.

POST COLLECTION
MON-FRI 09 :00 AM,
SAT 07:00 AM

Classified Ads

Services

ADAM REYNOLDS AGRICULTURAL FENCING & FORESTRY CONTRACTOR

Agricultural Fencing, Gates/ Posts/ Rails, Hedge Laying, Firewood, Mobile Firewood Processing

Contact Adam 07789 678025

www.arfencingandforestry.co.uk

AR JONES LIME AND BUILD

Specialising in lime render, plaster, pointing and lime wash. Based in Nympsfield

Contact Ash 07969 672876

BIRDHOUSE MAN

Be the envy of your neighbours with a handmade custom-built birdhouse. All made from reclaimed, locally sourced materials and designed to suit you
Contact: Rich Bloodworth 860635

CAPER CAFE at Bristol & Glos Gliding Club

Open 9:30 - 4pm Fri, Sat, Sun

Brunch & lunch, menu changes weekly

Coffee & homemade cake all day

caper.org.uk

CINDI HERBERT MAKEUP ARTISTRY

Certified and Insured Makeup Artist. Fully Mobile and available for every Occasion. Please feel free to view my Facebook page to see all previous work. Contact 07773 595057

email: enquiries@makeupbycindi.com

DANIEL TAYLOR LEATHERWORK

I make custom leather products and gifts to order, including wallets, bookmarks, knife sheaths and more! All products are made to order and can be customised to suit any need. Email: dan@dttdm.co.uk,

Phone: 01453 860968, Web:

www.dtdm.co.uk

IRONING

Like help with your ironing? Contact Julie Trinder 860078 or 07548 918659

HANDYMAN/ GARDENER

Contact: Tommy Guerin 07432650321

DOMESTIC HEATING OIL

Nympsfield (and surrounding area) oil buying group. This not only benefits the smaller users but also the bigger users significantly. Typically we save around 5p per litre over the price for smaller quantities.

Next order dates:

Mon 4 Dec

colinfairbrother@hotmail.com or

mike@leopardpress.com

FARRER FINANCIALS

Accountancy and Bookkeeping

For all your finance needs: self-assessment, book-keeping, annual accounts, company start-ups.

Contact Leah 07789 000474

Email: leah@farrerfinancials.co.uk

www.farrerfinancials.co.uk

GARDENING

Do you need some help in the garden?

Honest, reliable, local gardeners. Regular garden upkeep, lawns mowed and edged, weeding, pruning, planting. Planting plans/design on request. Contact Janet or David on 861067 or email janet@springsnow.co.uk

LANGUAGE TUITION

Oxford graduate offers French, Italian, Spanish, German. All ages, all levels. Annabelle 861143 / 07811 464559

PLASTERING AND GENERAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE

All manner of wet trades & stud partitioning. Contact: Rich Bloodworth 860635 /07561 325060

TRAVEL AGENT

Nympsfield born independent travel agent. Helping you sort through the current minefield of holiday options. ABTA bonded ATOL protected holidays, staycations, city breaks, ski, fly-drive, groups, cruises and much more. Contact Peter Woodman 01453 299669.
peterwoodman.notjusttravel.com

FIREWOOD

Locally sourced seasoned firewood
Contact 861117 or 07860 572905

FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER Fay O'Mahony (based in Nailsworth). 07947 634956 / faysuzanne1@gmail.com

M AND N MOTOR SERVICES LTD

Servicing and repairs to all makes and models of vehicle. Fully equipped garage facilities. MOTs. Free courtesy cars. Please visit our website for further details:
www.mandnmotorservices.co.uk
Contact: 860153 or email
info@mandnmotorservices.co.uk

PADDOCKS4PAWS

A safe place to exercise or train your dog. A secure 4-acre field with 1.8 metre (6ft) high fence in Nympsfield is available for you and your dog to hire on an individual basis. Please visit our website
www.paddocks4paws.com for more info
Contact Sue 861117 or 07815 568718

SPRING SNOW GRAPHIC DESIGN

Logos, business cards, letterheads, adverts, leaflets, brochures, posters, vehicle livery, signs and websites. Whatever you need designing or printing, just ask.

Contact Janet or David 861067
email: Janet@springsnow.co.uk

FOR HIRE: WHITE PARTY TENTS / MARQUEES

4 x 8m @£75 and 4 x 12m, we have 2 of these that can be joined together @£100 each. Self-erect and dismantle, min. 3 day hire. 3 x 3m pagoda available f.o.c.
Contact: Janet 861067 /

SEAL CONSTRUCTION

Cotswold stone tiling and walling. Member of Guild of Master Craftsmen. Listed and period property specialists. Renovations, Extensions, Roofing, Landscaping, New builds, Carpentry/ Joinery, Rendering/ Plastering, Painting/ Decorating, Loft Conversions, Insurance work. Contact: Wayne 07816 634755

ROB GAZZARD – COMPLETE BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Maintenance and repairs / Extensions and alterations / hard and soft landscaping. Free estimates and advice. Contact Rob 860112 / gazzards@hotmail.co.uk
www.robkazard.co.uk

EVERYTHING NYMPSFIELD!

Join us in the "Everything Nympsfield!" Facebook group for the very latest news

Quotation Corner

As you age do not fear the elasticated waistband. It can be a good friend

Bob Mortimer's Rules for Life



THE BOOK CLUB is

normally held monthly. We are a very informal group whose aim is to discuss the book selected and have a social evening too.

Everyone is welcome (whether you have read the book or not).

Enquiries to Carol 860610.

Next books:

20 Mar: Utopia Avenue by David Mitchell (Dave's book)

17 Apr: The Glutton by A K Blakemore (Martin & Kate)

What's On or Off

NYMPSPFIELD CLUB

See separate ad. and our Facebook page for details.

BINGO: Alternate Mondays 7pm.

THE ROSE AND CROWN INN Shut.

ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL Mon to Fri, term time only, 8:55am to 2:55pm, St Joseph's School. We accept children from the age of two. Registered provider for 2, 3 and 4 year old nursery education funded children. We are also registered to offer 30 hours free childcare entitlement.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES

Parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield

(Part of The Ewelme Benefice.)

Vacancy.

Churchwardens:

Pauline Thomas. T: 01453 860047.

Moya Wallis T: 01453 861675

Parish Office T: 01453 549280

E: ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com

Service at St Bartholomew's usually the first Sunday of the month at 10am.

Details of all services on the Benefice website.

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

ST JOSEPH'S RC SERVICES

Vigil Mass every Saturday 5:30pm in Nympsfield. Sunday Masses at St Dominic's Dursley

Parish Priest Fr Philip Thomas
542039

dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk

SEE WEB SITES FOR CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS

Contact Natalie Finn-Powers 860311 or email stjosephspresch@gmail.com. See Facebook: 'St Joseph's Pre-school' and article later in this edition.

100 CLUB

Week 9 No. 30. Carol Pittaway.

Week 10 No. 20 Katrina Douglas-Philips.

Week 11 No. 18 Paul Fisher

Week 12 No. 28 Emma James

Week 13 No. 22 Harvey Sturgess (£25)

Week 14 No. 13. Alan Morgan.

Week 15. No. 24. Brian Pittaway

Week 16 No. 21. Frank Wooldridge

Week 17 No. 6. Richard Newman

Week 18 No. 8. Lindy Egglestone

Due to people moving from the village, we have some spare number. The cost per number per year is only £12, the draw is weekly and proceeds go to the village hall. Please phone Malcolm or Pat on 01453 860696 if you are interested or would like more information.

U3A BRIDGE GROUP U3A Bridge has resumed at the Methodist Meeting Room, Dursley starting at a prompt 2 pm, and continue each Tuesday until further notice. Call Richard Gwyer on 01453 860512, or see Cam U3A website for details.

MORE BRIDGE Want to learn a fascinating and time consuming pastime – then bridge is for you! Contact Bridget Lumb (07899 968220) or google Wotton-under-Edge Bridge Club for information about lessons starting this Autumn. Alternatively contact the teacher; Ian Cooke (fully qualified member of the EBU Teachers Association) Tel:01666 890261 or 07704 946846

Email: tresham.bridge@gmail.com

CREAM TEA AND COFFEE

There will be a cream tea and coffee morning 23rd March 11am - 1pm in the village hall to raise money for Sarcoma UK. Contact Marie Knight 860115 for more details.



Wanted

UNUSED GARAGE/SHED/WORKSHOP space with electricity to rent for use as a small wood workshop. Contact me if you have any spaces available! : 01453 860968 or dan@dtm.co.uk .

Sh*t Storm

Dog poo on the playing field has been a minor issue for many years but, recently, it has suddenly got out of all proportion. A couple of weeks ago, it was necessary to remove more than 20 dumps before the field could be used for sport – some of them right next to the poo bin! If you know who it is that fails to 'pick up' after their dog, can you please explain to them that this is deeply offensive and anti-social behaviour. If it is you, then watch out, a visit to the magistrates' court and a fine of up to £1,000 could be coming your way soon.

Playing Field Committee

The Rose & Crown Community Pub Survey

The Rose & Crown is closed and has been up for sale for some time. This questionnaire aims to discover the level of support in the community for the Rose & Crown as a community pub. It is important as it will help us access consultancy and funding, as well as give us information on the viability of the venture.

Community pubs are owned by members (sometimes known as shareholders) and are run democratically on the basis of one-member-one-vote. Membership is voluntary, affordable, and open to all in the community, and is the mechanism for ensuring the community has a genuine say in how the business is run. It is a democratic structure that encourages a large membership and empowers communities by giving members a direct say in the management of the enterprise through an elected committee. A successful community owned pub can make donations for social or charitable purposes in the community too.

This questionnaire is the first step in trying to save the Rose & Crown. We need to know your views on what might be done and what would receive your support. Please be as honest and realistic as possible in your answers.

We are including paper copies of the questionnaire with the March-April edition of the Nympsfield News. You can complete the questionnaire online (preferred) or by hand. If you complete the questionnaire by hand, we would be grateful if you could pop it into the questionnaire returns box which is located in the village bus shelter. To avoid double counting, please complete either the online questionnaire or the paper questionnaire but not both!

The survey will close at 8pm on Sunday 17th March 2023. We will publish the results of the survey at a public meeting probably held at the village hall. Your response will be treated in confidence. It is entirely anonymous, unless you wish to add your contact details at the end (which will NOT be published in the final results).

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY.

The Rose & Crown Community Pub Steering Group: Matthew Burke, Jon Gazzard, Mike Hair, Dan Stewart

Contact: nympsfieldcommunitypub@gmail.com

Use the QR code to access the online questionnaire

or the following link: <https://forms.gle/RnEE6AZMvdyd9b9>



* Indicators required question

1.1 Should the sale of the Rose & Crown be left to open market forces, or should the Nympsfield residents and the surrounding community try to buy it?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ The sale should be left to open market forces
- ☐ Nympsfield residents and the surrounding community should try to buy it
- ☐ Either option is fine
- ☐ Don't know

1.2 If the community were to take on the Rose & Crown, what sort of pub should it be?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Village pub without food
- ☐ Village pub offering basic food
- ☐ Village pub offering restaurant style dining
- ☐ Gastropub/destination pub
- ☐ Other: _____

1.3 If the Rose & Crown became the type of pub you chose in Question 1.2, how often would anyone in your household use the Rose & Crown if it met your needs?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ 2 - 3 times a week
- ☐ 1 - 2 times per week
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a fortnight
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Never
- ☐ Don't know

1.4 What would be your main reasons for using the Rose & Crown in the future?
(select all that apply)

Tick all that apply:

- ☐ Socialising/drinking with family and friends
☐ Eating out
☐ Entertainment
☐ After or during recreation (e.g. cycling, walking)
☐ Sports club venue (e.g. darts, cricket)
☐ Group meetings (e.g. committee meeting)
☐ Special occasion and celebrations
☐ Other: _____

1.5 Again, thinking into the future, which days of the week would you most likely visit the Rose & Crown if it met your needs? (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply:

	Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays	Bank holidays	Never	Don't know
Drinks/snacks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.6 Also, thinking into the future, what time of day would you most likely visit the Rose & Crown if it met your needs? (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply:

	Morning	Lunchtime	Afternoon	Evening	Never	Don't know
Drinks/snacks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.7 Bearing in mind that we have The Nympsfield Club in the village, how important is it to have a pub in the village of the type that you chose in Question 1.2 on a scale of 1 – 5 (where 1 is not important and 5 is very important)?

Mark only one oval

Not important

1 ☐

2 ☐

3 ☐

4 ☐

5 ☐

Very important

1.8 What would you particularly like to see the Rose & Crown offer so that it differentiates itself from The Nympsfield Club?

1.9 How important is it for the future of the Rose & Crown that it is family and child-friendly?

Mark only one oval.

Not important

1 ☐

2 ☐

3 ☐

4 ☐

5 ☐

Very important

1.10 Of all the pubs you know or visit in the area, which one(s) would you ideally like the Rose & Crown to resemble? And why?

Section 2: Your wishes and needs for the Rose & Crown in the future

This section looks at what the Rose & Crown might be like in the future and the services it could provide to the community.

2.1 What kind of food should be offered at the Rose & Crown? (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Crisps, nuts, and so on
- ☐ Snacks (e.g. sandwiches, paninis, baguettes, etc.)
- ☐ Bar meals (e.g. bistro, curry, pizza)
- ☐ Country pub-type meals (e.g. steak and chips, pies, hotpots, fish & chips)
- ☐ High quality gastro-pub meals
- ☐ Traditional Sunday lunches
- ☐ Themed evenings (e.g. steak nights, fish nights, Indian, Thai, tapas)
- ☐ Street food service (e.g. pop-up food truck/stall serving burritos, tacos, wraps, pies, burgers, kebabs, pizza)
- ☐ Take-away service
- ☐ Children's menu
- ☐ Vegetarian options
- ☐ Vegan options
- ☐ Gluten-free options
- ☐ Other: _____

2.2 What are your preferences for sourcing food for the Rose & Crown? (select one response per row)

Mark only one oval per row.

	Very important	Fairly important	Not important	Don't know
Locally sourced	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Organic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Seasonally influenced	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fair-trade	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2.3 What additional services would you like to see the Rose & Crown offer?
(select all that apply)

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Café/tea shop
- ☐ Village shop
- ☐ Newsagent
- ☐ Dry cleaning/ironing agent
- ☐ Parcel drop-off collection point
- ☐ Free Wi-Fi
- ☐ Big screen sports
- ☐ Visiting library/book exchange
- ☐ Function room
- ☐ Reading club or other clubs
- ☐ Printing, photocopying and scanning facility
- ☐ Local attractions information
- ☐ Coffee mornings
- ☐ Seniors' lunch club
- ☐ Children's club / youth club
- ☐ Police, councilor & MP surgeries
- ☐ Pub games (e.g. darts, pool, quizzes)
- ☐ Card games (e.g. bridge, cribbage, rummy)
- ☐ Live music nights (e.g. jazz, folk etc. - state type in other below)
- ☐ Drop-in sessions (educational, skills, state type in other below)
- ☐ Themed nights (quiz night, race nights, etc.)
- ☐ Fundraising events for charity/good causes
- ☐ Take-away food and drink
- ☐ Real ales
- ☐ Discounted accommodation for family and friends visiting Nympsfield
- ☐ Other: _____

2.4 Do you have any other visions/comments about the future of the Rose & Crown?

Section 3: Village profile and support

This section is to profile the community and establish the level of support for each stage of the community pub project

- Stage 1: Establishing the community benefit society, preparing the business plan
- Stage 2: Buying the pub - fund raising including the share offer and grant applications
- Stage 3: Running the pub

3.1 How many people are in your household? (select one response per row) *

Mark only one oval per row.

	None	1	2	3	4	5 or more
Children under 18	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adults 18 - 65	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adults over 65	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3.2 Where do you live? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Nympsfield or Cockadilly
- ☐ Elsewhere within 2.5 miles
- ☐ Elsewhere within 5 miles
- ☐ Elsewhere within 10 miles
- ☐ Over 10 miles away

3.3 Would you or anyone in your household be interested in helping a Rose & Crown community pub project during stage 1 [setting up the community benefit society] by: (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Providing professional advice/services (please put your profession/skills in other below)
- ☐ Helping with fundraising
- ☐ Possibly once I know more details
- ☐ None of these
- ☐ Other: _____

3.4 Would you or anyone in your household be interested in helping a Rose & Crown community pub project during stage 2 [buying the Rose & Crown] by: (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Buying a share in the Rose & Crown (see section 4)
- ☐ Making a loan to help buy the Rose & Crown (see section 4)
- ☐ Making a donation to help buy the Rose & Crown (see section 4)
- ☐ Possibly once I know more details
- ☐ None of these
- ☐ Other: _____

3.5 Would you or anyone in your household be interested in helping a Rose & Crown community pub project during stage 3 [running the Rose & Crown following a successful purchase] by: (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Being involved in the governance of the Rose & Crown Community Benefit Society
- ☐ Volunteering in the operations of the Rose & Crown (maintenance, marketing, book keeping etc.)
- ☐ Working at the Rose & Crown (bar staff, serving tables, pot washing etc.)
- ☐ Possibly once I know more details
- ☐ None of these
- ☐ Other: _____

3.6 A community benefit society provides services for the wider community as well as its members, and pre-tax trading profit can be reinvested in the enterprise, used to pay interest to shareholders or distributed for social or charitable purposes. If you were a member of the Rose & Crown community pub how would you like any pre-tax trading profits to be used? (select all that apply)

Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Held as reserves
- ☐ Reinvested in the business
- ☐ Distributed for social or charitable purposes in the community
- ☐ Pay interest to members (shareholders) at a rate to retain sufficient capital

Section 4: Pledge in principle

Whilst the Rose & Crown Community Pub Steering Group is in the very early stages of this project, we're working hard to secure expert advice and financial support from the Punkett Foundation (www.punkett.co.uk).

The current aim is for enough funds to be raised for the community to buy the pub through grant funding, loans, donations and the community having the opportunity to buy shares. Community shares will be backed by the value of the asset (the pub) and as finances permit may pay interest and be redeemable after a settling in period. However, the group need an indication of potential shareholder investment to develop a detailed and costed community shares proposal and to understand whether there's enough interest within the community to make this a financially viable project. If there is little or no interest, sadly it's likely that we won't be able to continue with the project.

NO MONEY OR FINANCIAL COMMITMENT IS NECESSARY AT THIS STAGE

4.1 In theory, once a detailed shares prospectus has been put together, what value of shares would you potentially be willing to invest in?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ £50 - £250
☐ £251 - £500
☐ £501 - £1,000
☐ £1,001 - £2,500
☐ £2,501 - £5,000
☐ £5,001 - £10,000
☐ £10,001 +
☐ Possibly once I know more details
☐ I would not be interested in purchasing shares

4.2 Would you be willing to make a loan available towards the purchase of the Rose & Crown?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ I would be willing to make a loan (please indicate possible value in other below)
☐ Possibly once I know more details
☐ I would not be interested in making a loan
☐ Other: _____

4.3 Would you be willing to make a donation towards the purchase of the Rose & Crown?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ I would be willing to make a donation (please indicate possible value in other below)
☐ Possibly once I know more details
☐ I would not be interested in making a donation
☐ Other: _____

Section 5: Personal details (optional)

As stated previously, no money or financial commitment is needed at this stage. It is purely to help the Rose & Crown Community Pub Steering Group to understand the level of interest in financially supporting the potential purchase. If you have indicated that you may be able to offer financial support, you are welcome to provide your contact details below. This information will remain confidential to the Rose & Crown Community Pub Steering Group members only. Please also fill this in if you wish to be kept informed of progress.

5.1 Name(s)

5.2 Email

5.3 Telephone



It's official..Charity Coffee Mornings at the Club are a hit! Join us every other Saturday from 10am-12 to catch up with friends, enjoy a cuppa and even a raffle. It all makes a great start to the day.

Next up...

March

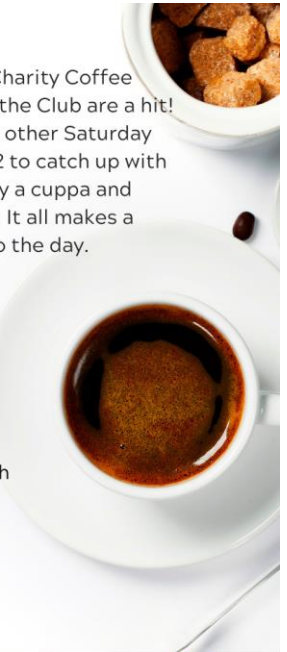
2nd, 16th, 30th

April

13th & 27th

May

11th & 25th



QUIZNIGHT

Compete for prizes, have some fun, and show off your smarts! Bring your friends and your brain power for an unforgettable night of trivia.

**Saturday
April 6th
7pm**

GAMES - PRIZES - CHEAP DRINKS

The
Nympsfield
Club
Est. 1998

BINGO MONDAYS

GET YOUR BINGO ON!

GAMES | PRIZES | RAFFLE

THE NYMPSFIELD CLUB

FROM 19:00

EVERY OTHER MONDAY

MORE INFORMATION : www.thenympsfieldclub.com

Eulogy: Geoff Whitman 1933-2023

There is a belief that states a person dies twice. Once when their physical body dies and, the final time, when the last person who remembers their name dies.

So I'd like to talk about Geoffrey Walter Charles Whitman, Geoff, or Gerald as many of the older villagers knew him, Dad, Darling or silly old sod - dependent on which mood mum was in, Nampy, co-worker, friend, someone even referred to him as a gentle bear of a man. Dementia is a terribly cruel disease. My dad died a couple of years ago, the person that looked like him died on December 8th, 2023.

Entrepreneur, fashionista, singer, extrovert and dancer were all words never used in association with him, however, caring, loving, generous, loyal and hard working were used constantly about him. Loving son, brother, husband to Judith, father to Sue, Carol and Stuart, grandfather to Becky, Rachel, Sam and Emma, great grandfather to Molly and Lila.

Dad was born in 1933 and was due to be called Gerald, however, due to grandfather deciding to wet the baby's head before getting to the registry office and only remembering the name began with a 'G' when he got there, he was called Geoff. As my grandfather wanted more children, he didn't tell his wife of the mix up and dad spent many years being called Gerald. It was years before I understood why his friends kept calling him Gerald. This confusion with names continued in his life with giving his daughter Susan the middle name 'Cherry' and me being given the middle name Lester after Lester Piggot, as he hoped I'd be a jockey. I've seen horses throw themselves in the back of the knackers van when they see me approaching.

Dad was always busy. He never really had an off button. He poached rabbits during the war to feed his family, rode shire horses to get them shod, was a builder, grave digger, plasterer, plumber, dry stone waller, cricketer, footballer, cake maker, chef, bowls player, hiker, rugby fan, horse racing expert, foreman, pickle maker, gardener, twitcher and TV Master. If anyone ever laboured for him you'd know just how hard he worked. I remember being a very fit, rugby playing, 16 year old and thinking it would be a doddle working with him. I was broken by 10 a.m.

He was a very mild mannered man. He never spoke badly of anyone that I know of and never begrudged anyone their success, nor did he crave possessions except for helping him do whatever was his obsession at any given time - walking, bird watching, bowls or using his video camera. I only ever heard him use a bad swear word (as defined by Judith Whitman) once, and even at rugby he never indulged, and that was in the company of some world class swearers. In fact, he was very much anti-swearing until the advent of Mrs Brown's Boys which seems to have reset the rules for most people of a certain age.

Dad was never a rich man financially, but he was generous with his time and skills. He'd always help if he could and would never charge much, he loved achieving things and fixing things. Whether it was a leaky pipe or roof, smashed window, collapsed wall or building a house he would find time. My sisters and I knew if you'd phone him asking for advice about a problem with the house he'd always say he was too busy, but he'd take a

look when he had time. Then we'd put the kettle on and sure enough, 20 minutes later he'd appear saying he had to pop into town to buy a screw or something. It was never expected of him, it was just what he did.

Dad was always fearless. As a young boy he broke his leg sledding down Frocester Hill. He often said it was the first time he went flying. He genuinely believed he was indestructible. In 1982 during the blizzards he was on the roof trying to get a better TV signal. He loved going into the sea as deep as he could, with the roughest waves, despite not being a strong swimmer. He wasn't even scared of sharks. When he was on holiday with mum and my sisters he was out at sea as far and deep as possible as usual. Mum has never been a big fan of water and bravely guarded the towels. Then a man ran over to her and told her that her family was in peril as there were sharks out there. Mum looked up to see the sea empty except for Dad, Carol and Sue. She bravely waded out to save her family crying "Geoff there are sharks!" only to be greeted by "Don't be so bloody stupid, how many sharks do you know leap out the water. Those are porpoises" He would scamper across rooves and scaffolding with no safety equipment. He loved turning the car engine off at the top of Frocester hill and see how far he could coast. By the way do NOT attempt this trick now as it turns out that nothing works in modern cars if the engine is off.

Dad was always really a big child. He loved snow. I remember the blizzards of '82 and he excitedly took me for a walk to see the snow drifts on the top of the escarpment telling mum that "Stu was dying to see the snow". I was quite happy in front of the fire but he was determined. That year the village was isolated for 2 weeks so dad and a few other villagers went off to walk to Nailsworth to get supplies. I've always thought it was a very noble thing to do but part of me wonders just how much fun that gang of men had. He built me a sled that went about 60 miles an hour. When we went sledding he would have at least as many goes as I did, if not more. He loved Christmas too. The presents, moving the TV into the 'best' room, lighting the fire, Quality Street and presents in bed Christmas morning. I am sure he passed when he did not to spoil Christmas for us. We were also the only kids who had ball bearings rather than marbles and a father who brought home dry ice in his lunch box.

He was a great sportsman and played cricket for the Navy which was unheard of as a NCO. He also played football and cricket for Nympsfield. He was a very good studier of form with the horses and loved his trips to the races. As he got older he became a spectator and was a huge Gloucester Rugby fan. He took Sue, Carol and I all over the country when we were kids to watch Gloucester and Gloucestershire. Then, in the 90s, we were able to repay the favour and took him all over the UK and Europe. He loved the games and loved the companionship. He wasn't a drinker but enjoyed watching us make fools of ourselves, except the 2 famous occasions he over indulged.

He wasn't a complete angel mind you. He was a complete control freak of the TV and begrudged anyone else watching anything. His usual technique was to walk into the room grumble "What is this rubbish?", turn the channel over, then leave the room, often to go to work. It got even worse when he bought a video recorder when I had my bone

graft operation. He insisted that he had total control over all recordings, but wasn't very good at timings. It was 15 years before I saw the last 5 minutes of One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. If all else failed he could rustle a newspaper up to 100 Decibels. He wasn't the tidiest man either, despite mum's best attempts. When Nympsfield celebrated it's 800th celebration mum bought dad a lovely shirt and trousers, however he couldn't find a belt so walked out with his trousers held up by string. Mum did NOT see the funny side.

Dad was also a little unlucky. He entered every lottery, bingo and spot the ball competition going but never won more than a few pounds. Once when I came home from school, mum was waiting for me by the door in floods of tears "Dad's had an accident, don't be scared". He'd poured water into acid and it had basically blown his eyebrows, quite a lot of hair and the top layers of his skin off, leaving his face black. All I saw was an extra off the black and white minstrel show and burst into laughter. At his 25th wedding anniversary he decided to try out a trick he'd seen in Majorca where one person knelt down and the other would blow into a bottle of wine and the wine would arc gracefully through the air into the recipients mouth. Uncle Derek (who always bought out the mischief in dad) dutifully knelt down and dad blew into the bottle. I think the wine missed Derek by a good 4 foot and landed straight on Uncle Chris's beautiful white shirt. Thankfully Chris saw the funny side.

Dad had many passions in his life, but I think he had 3 true loves. Firstly, his wife and soulmate, Judith Constance Margaret (back to the names thing), Judy. Together for nearly 70 years, married for 67. They built a life, a house and a family together. They stuck together through thick and thin. They formed a formidable team and were together through everything, never leaving each other's side, even at the end. Did you know that every cold tap is on the right, except at my parents' house where in the kitchen it is on the left. I am sure that was because my mum is left handed. He met her when he was in the Navy and captured her heart by finding her lost handkerchief when she went to see him with her best friend Marjorie (his sister) on board his ship. He washed the handkerchief, pressed it and gave it back to her to show how much he liked her. Dad was always full of surprises like that.

His second love was his family. He would do anything for us. Everything he did was to provide for us. He rarely wanted things for himself. I'm sure some people would say that Dad didn't achieve greatness like Gandhi or Churchill or Einstein, but they didn't get up at 5 am to light the fire so we weren't cold, or make pack lunches, or take us out at the weekend on magical mystery tours, or make Christmas lunch when mum fell ill Christmas morning, or would taxi us around at all hours. He used to take us on trips at weekends when he wasn't working. He discovered so many places that we still go to today, like Savernake Forest. Even though he often lost the car, we remembered the places we went. He loved our holidays and we always had the most amazing times camping in Devon and Cornwall. Woolacombe will always be part of his legacy to our family. Though the actual going on holiday was hell on earth. The morning of the first day was stressful to put it mildly. Then when we got to the campsite there was always the joy of putting up the tent. Every year he'd mark the poles with letters so that they'd be easy to match up,

every year some naughty elf would get into the attic and change all the letters. Also, we were the only tent that had a fully carpeted foyer. We'd be woken at 6 am by the smell of frying bacon and be on the beach by 10. As my sisters got older they weren't quite so appreciative of this approach.

His third and final love was Nympsfield. He was born in the village in what is now known as Whackers Cottage and, apart from his time in the navy, he lived in the village all his life. He survived a fire as a young boy and lived in the pub for a while. When he got married, with his dad's help, he bought Buckle End Cottage which was due for demolition. He then spent the next 50 odd years doing it up. There was so much of him in that house, but also in the village. He helped build the houses and rooves, so many dry stone walls, bathrooms, kitchens, ditches. Though if he did any of your electrics, you might want to get them checked out. He helped mow the churchyard, fed the animals that lived in the field opposite. He walked extensively round the village, knew all the best sites for blackberries and field mushrooms, knew the history of most of the houses. He played cricket and football for the village and was regaling me with stories of how they used to carry the kit to places like Randwick, play, have a few drinks, then walk back. His generation of friends have sadly mainly all passed now – Donald, Lionel, James, Basil, Bernie – I bet they are now reunited and causing mischief again. Dad was quietly quite spiritual. I'm not 100% sure of his convictions, because he never enforced his beliefs on anyone, but I do know wherever he is he will be bloody fixing it.

Stuart Whitman

Eileen Mary McAsey 1944-2023



Our new parish priest Father Philip said a Requiem Mass for Eileen McAsey at St. Joseph's Catholic church in Nympsfield on 11th January 2024, which would have been Eileen and Mike's 55th wedding anniversary. Fr Philip very kindly took time to explain the proceedings for people not of the Catholic faith which by all accounts was appreciated. Eileen passed over on 15th December 2023 and is buried next to her youngest son Philip who passed over on 25th February 2023 and grandson who passed over on 3rd October 2021. They are all buried within sight of what used to be the family home, namely The Chapel House which was so named because Mass was said there before the R.C. church was built - 100 years ago last year. Eileen's family connection to Nympsfield goes back a long way through the

Durcan and Herbert families. She was a State Registered Nurse along with her two

Sisters Phillipa and Rosemary and niece Katherine as also were her Aunt Teresa and mum Eileen. Birkenhead was the town where Eileen met her husband Mike and they were married 18 weeks later. They later moved to Nympsfield where their four children Mark, Michael, Philip and Suzanne had an ideal country lifestyle. Eileen loved the country life in the Cotswolds and was involved in just about everything happening locally from the Christmas pantomimes to being sacristan of the church and making the vestments. They eventually bought The Royal Oak at Leighterton followed by The Tippits Inn at Tiltups End followed by The Ram Inn at Woodchester. Eileen was full of fun, loved to laugh, loved company, always had time for people and above all was devoted to her family. She is sadly missed, our prayers go out for her.

The McAsey family

Goff Smith - Eulogy



Godfrey William Smith was born on the 1st June 1955 to Kathleen and Cyril Smith in the village of Uley. He was later followed by Stephen, Yvonne, Jackie and Tracy. As a child he attended Uley Primary School and then later Dursley Modern. Dad would often talk fondly of growing up in Uley with his family and the mischief he got up to with his friends and siblings.

Dad met mum at the age of 16 in Nympsfield where they were both members of the local youth club. After meeting mum he would ride his bike up to

Nympsfield from Uley to meet her. She would ride on the cross bars of his bike and when dropping her home, dad peddling very enthusiastically; they were often going too fast and would sail past mum's house and end up in the village hall car park, falling off the bike as it came to a sudden stop. When talking to mum she recalled her dad, Bern, coming home one day and telling his wife, Joan, to keep the girls in as there were long haired 'yobs' (as he described them) in the village. Little did he know that one of these would soon become his son in law.

Mum and dad were married here in St Joseph's Church, Nympsfield on the 20th December 1975 tomorrow will be their 48th wedding anniversary. They set up home in a mobile home in Woodfields, Dursley and later moved to Olive Grove in Dursley. Marie was then born in 1980. When Marie was 3 months old they moved to Nympsfield and then eventually began to build our family home. I came soon after followed by Thomas and then lastly Terence.

In 1970 dad began working for Listers in Dursley, later moving on to Springfield

engineering in Stroud. When that factory closed he moved to the hangar in Aston down and finally finishing off his working career making engines using Listers parts, in Quedgeley until his retirement.

On his retirement dad and mum would make the most of their new found freedom of no work and no children living at home, except for Ter of course, and spend their time going on holiday together. Some of these holidays involved visiting Scotland. Dad loved it there and would often talk to me about how beautiful it was.

Dad was then sadly diagnosed with both bowel cancer and a sarcoma. During this time we would go to Birmingham hospital and dad always showed enormous strength during these visits. He later began radiotherapy at Cheltenham hospital. On one of his visits he encountered a charity called Focus. He turned to Marie and mum and told them that he wanted to do

something to support this charity. In usual Marie style she made his dream of this a reality and began organising coffee mornings to raise money for them. To date nearly £4000 has been raised to support this charity and we as a family will continue to raise money for them.

Dad's final days were a testament to how loved he was. Friends and family rallied round to support him in his most difficult time. For me it was an enormous privilege to spend this time caring for him and I will treasure one of the last things he told me: You're a good girl.

He will be remembered for enjoying a good time with friends, being a family man who always worked hard to ensure we had all that we needed, a brilliant husband, father, brother, uncle, father-in-law and gramp.

Jenny Lowe

NYMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Nothing from the Parish Council this month

Your Parish Councillors: Cllr Sophia Price (Chair) Cllr Peter Tomiak-Baquero (vice-chair) Cllr Trevor Gaunt Cllr Anne Robertson All can be reached via the Clerk: clerk@nympsfieldparishcouncil.org	Your District Councillor Cllr Martin Pearcy cclr.martin.pearcy@stroud.gov.uk Your County Councillor Cllr. Wendy Thomas wendy.thomas@gloucestershire.gov.uk Your Member of Parliament Siobhan Baillie (Con) siobhan.baillie.mp@parliament.uk
--	--

USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergencies

Electricity 0800 6783 105
24h Floodline 0845 9881188
Severn Trent 0800 783 4444
Police 999
Childline 0800 1111
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
Doctors' Surgery Nailsw'th 01453 832424
Doctors' Surgery Uley 01453 860459
Glo'ster Royal Hospital 0300 422 2222
NHS Direct 111
Nuisance callers (Information Commissioner
Office if you are registered with telephone
preference service) 0345 070 0707

Police (non-emergency) 101
Police: Neighb'd Policing, Dursley & Cam
Team (non-emergency) 01453 753500
Rose and Crown Inn 01453 860612
St Joseph's School 01453 860311
Stroud District Council 01453 766321
Building Control 01453 754871
Dog Warden 01453 754491
Pollution, noise, bonfires etc 754478
Neighbourhood Warden -
Andy Beamish 07834 419332
Rubbish collection 01453 754424
Village Agent – we no longer have one!
Vet (Bowbridge) 01453 762350

The Nympsfield News and Advertiser is produced bi-monthly and delivered throughout Nympsfield on a voluntary basis and is free. The cost of printing is met by Nympsfield Parish Council. You can download old copies from www.nympsfieldparishcouncil.org/newsletter. Published in England ISSN 2755-3655 (print) and 2755-3633 (online)

Views published in the NN&A are not necessarily those of the Editors or of any other contributor. Contributions are published at the Editors' discretion. Please note that the NN&A is merely offering a platform for services and cannot accept any responsibility for the quality of work offered. Information is usually correct at the time of going to print.

Produced in the village by Ian Crossland and Martin Phillips and delivered by Katrina Douglas-Phillips, Lindy and Brian Egglestone, Barbara Thomas, Christine Keith, Rachel Pegler, Ute McFarling, Julie Trinder and Peter Tomiak. The editors can be contacted via email at NympyNews@gmx.com. Copy must be provided by the 20th of the month preceding publication and may be modified without notice (e.g. for reasons of space).

It is free to advertise in the Nympsfield News and Advertiser. All we ask is that you are a resident of the Parish or have a close connection to the village. Advertisements will remain until you ask for them to be removed. Please check for correctness. We accept no responsibility for errors.

Printed by LEOPARDPRESS Tel: 01453 872123