



Happy
New
Year!



To all our readers

ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2014

AYNHO-CROUGHTON-EVENLEY-FARTHINGHOE-HINTON-in-the-HEDGES with STEANE

Sunday: **AYNHO 11.0am Communion**
January 5th (Sidespersons: Mrs.Grey Mr.Croft)
Farthinghoe 9.30am Communion
Hinton 11.0am Family Worship

Sunday: **AYNHO 9.30am Communion**
January 12th (Sidespersons: Mrs.Pusey. Mr.Leigh)
Croughton 9.30am Communion
Evenley 11.0am Family Worship
Farthinghoe 10.0am Family Worship
Hinton 6.0pm Evensong

Sunday: **BENEFICE 10.0am at Croughton**
January 19th & Pizza Praise at 4.30p.m

Sunday: **AYNHO 11.0am Matins**
January 26th (Sidespersons: Mrs.Kirby Mr.Cheney.)
Croughton 9.30am Communion
Evenley 11.0am Family Service
Farthinghoe 6.0pm Evensong
Hinton 11.0am Communion.

Home Communion at 15, The Square Monday 27th

Bible Study : Monday 13th 10.15am at 1, Cartwright Gardens.
Prayer Group: Thursday 16th 2.30pm at 15, The Square
Church Cleaning : 2nd Thursday 9th 9.45am onwards – after Christmas Decorations.
Choir Practice Friday 3rd & 24th
Bell Ringing –Tuesday at 7.30pm 1st Evenley 2nd & 4th Kings Sutton 3rd Tuesday Aynho .

Information about the life of our church or baptisms or wedding enquiries from our
Rector - Revd.Simon Dommett Tel:01869 810903.Email:the.revd.simon@gmail.com
Sign up for our weekly service news and updates with “Pews News” on the subject line or just
write in the message and be put on our weekly mailings.

Church Wardens: Graham Gibbs 01869-819727 Anthea Cowley 01869-810629

Items for February by Monday January 20th to SYBIL at 32, Roundtown.
Tel: 01869 810692 E-mail: syban@btinternet.com

Vol 575

This NEWSLETTER is issued by St. MICHAEL’S CHURCH and
printed by “HAMPTONS” Estate Agents of DEDDINGTON

THE RECTOR'S LETTER

I would like to start this New Year by wishing everybody a happy and peaceful New Year. I would also like to thank everybody for the Christmas cards, gifts and goods received. A big thank you is also required for those who produce our newsletters and distribute them, to those who help clean our churches, cut the grass, decorate the church with flowers, support the church financially and with their time and talents – the list goes on and on.

When we stop and think about it, for most of us, there is lots to give thanks for. From little to big things, from private to public things, and maybe to start the New Year is a good place to be.

Just before Christmas we saw a great outpouring of thanks for the life of Nelson Mandela, who died at the age of 95. It can be amazing to think how thankful South Africa and the world should be, and is, to this man who preached and showed forgiveness. Nelson Mandela is one of a small group of famous people who show us how one person can make such an impact on the world.

At Christmas we have been celebrating another such person in Jesus. His story is about one person changing the world and the way it thinks. Jesus' message of forgiveness was displayed in Nelson Mandela's life in a way that made it very tangible for me. For preachers often preach about our need for forgiveness and to be forgiven and people often find it hard to understand that this message can be lived out in reality. So I am thankful that Mandela's life shows that it is possible to forgive even in the most unlikely circumstances and may that encourage us in our lives and relationships. We may not live in the same league as some of the world's great heroes, yet sometimes it is not the big things in life but in the little things that we find strength and encouragement also.

I hope that in 2014 we may all find things to be thankful for in our lives and the courage to forgive ourselves and others.

HAVE A HAPPY, THANKFUL & FORGIVING NEW YEAR.

Simon.

ST.MICHAEL'S ANNUAL CHARITY SUPPORT



“PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN BOARD OF BELL RINGERS”

As befits the start of a New Year when we “ring out the old & ring in the new” thoughts turn to our Church bells. Each year we support the above charity . During 2013 we made a payment of £50.00

This organisation was founded January 5th 1924 (Charity No.258271) with the aim to be of service to the church in the diocese of Peterborough by:-

- a) ringing for divine service
- b) recruiting and training of ringers
- c) encouraging the list of change ringing
- d) helping ringers to improve their standard of ringing
- e) care and restoration of bells and their fittings.

We also have our own separate Bell/ Carillon Fund to cover expenses such as new ropes, new stays, cleaning ,oiling or repairs etc. Since 2010 an amount of £800 has been spent on Aynho bells with a large amount of gifts and labour coming from the ringers who perform in our Tower.

This is also an opportunity to welcome any new potential bell ringers into our chamber. Good company, good exercise, why not give it a go?

See Bell Ringing evenings on the “Services” page. Tower Captain: Peter Phillips

What happens on Wednesday nights!

A.R.M.S. (Aynho Recorded Music Society)

A Happy New Year to all our music lovers. **Contact: Bob Mann Tel:810264**

Photographic Society

Meet at the Cartwright Hotel Wednesday **January 8th** when members will be invited to show "My best image of 2013". Do come along and join us at 7.30pm.

Contact: John Branton www.adandd.co.uk.

Gardening Club - 2014

Wishing all our members a very Happy New Year and very much looking forward to seeing you Wednesday **8th January** for our first meeting of the year to listen to Val Trinder about "Garden Gems you may have Missed". This is an opportunity for everyone to renew their £5 membership for the year – we have an exciting and varied programme ahead of us.

We would be delighted to welcome any new Members or guests.

Wed 8 January	Garden Gems you may have missed	Val Trinder
Wed 12 February	Wildlife Visitors Love'em or Hate'em	Tony Clear
Wed 12 March	Death in the Garden	Michael Brown
Wed 9 April	Aspects of Garden Design	Michael Jackson
Wed 14 May	Visit to Birmingham Botanical Gardens	
Wed 11 June	Current Issues	Reg Moule
Wed 9 July	Evening visit to Manor Farm Herbs	
Wed 13 August	Easy Ways to Make Compost	Pauline Pears
Sat 30 August	Flower and Vegetable Show	
Wed 10 September	Visit to Kew Gardens	
Wed 8 October	The World of Roses	Ann Bird
Wed 12 November	AGM with talk on Bee Keeping & Countryside Matters-	George Fene

Any queries please get in touch with **Annabel Bellamy (810847) or Kath Arnold (811868)**

A message from Anthea.

I would like to thank the Gardening Club Members for their very kind wishes and very generous farewell gift presented to me at the A.G.M. I shall miss you all and look forward to welcoming you to my new garden before too long.

Anthea Cowley.

Women's Institute

Meet in the Village Hall on Wednesday **January 15th** 7.30pm.

Subject: "Fir Tree Falconry" a talk by Dian Hawkins, with birds.

Why not come along to the first meeting of 2014 and see what the W.I. offers.

Contact: Barbara Watkins Tel:811152

Aynho History Society

We are pleased to announce that Miss Lucinda Mills won the 2013 essay writing competition with her work on Anne Frank.

Thank you to all who supported our "War of the Roses" event in November, a full house!

Wednesday January 29th The Mitford Sisters – the celebrated and at times scandalous figures that were caricatured, according to *The Times* journalist Ben Macintyre as "Diana the Fascist, Jessica the Communist, Unity the Hitler-lover, Nancy the Novelist, Deborah the Duchess and Pamela the unobtrusive poultry connoisseur. Speaker: Mrs Muriel Pilkington

Contact: Rupert Clark Tel:810603 ru.clark@btinternet.com . Peter Cole Tel:811261



WINTER LUNCH CLUB



In the back room of the Village Hall 12.15pm-1.30pm

Dates in January 2014: 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th January

The Winter Lunch Club provides a warm, friendly place to meet for a simple home cooked lunch in the back room of the Village Hall. Choose from soup, baked potato, other hot main, pudding with custard or biscuits, tea, coffee or fruit juice to drink. All are very welcome.

After expenses (hire of village hall and ingredients) any profit will be shared between St Michael's Church, Village Hall, tennis court on the Playing Field and Myeloma UK.

I would like to thank Amanda Leigh for her huge help 'front of house' and also Annabel Bellamy for helping at busy times, without their support Winter Lunch Club would not be the same!

We look forward to seeing you over the Winter months. Amanda Limb

Also in our Village Hall:

Line Dancing

Mondays 2.0pm to 3.0pm

PILATES CLASSES Thursdays 2.30 – 3.30pm

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Contact Angie 01295-2588551

Mobile 07756 689327

Belly Dancing

Thursdays 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

“QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT”

Saturday 8th March (please put this date in your diary)

PAVILION NEWS

PARK CLUB DRAW It's the time of year when the Park Club Draw collectors come round for the annual subscription of £1 per month (paid annually in January as £12). Half of this money gets paid back in monthly prizes (currently £76) and half goes towards the upkeep and development of the sports field and pavilion. Recent things we have paid for include new changing room benches and decoration, a new storage shed and security light for the car park and painting of the building and benches. It's important that we keep the building in good repair as it is getting increased use every year.

It is quite a task for our volunteer collectors to get to everyone and it would be so much appreciated if everyone who was happy to contribute either paid by bank transfer or direct debit and notified their collector by e mail. We will be putting a slip through your door in the coming weeks advising of a date for collection so the collectors only have to come back once. If you are unable or unwilling to pay directly, please can you have your money ready or leave with a neighbour if you are out or drop through your collectors door. If you can volunteer to be a collector that would be so much appreciated as they are few and far between!

As I explained in the last newsletter, I am having a year off from the Cafe and village events but I am still looking after Pavilion and Sports Field matters so please feel free to contact me on 810019. I am also still selling Phoenix cards and stationery so anyone wanting any greetings cards or gifts is welcome to drop by or phone me. KAY.

PAVILION CAFÉ I have had some interest in taking over the café but no one who is able to fully commit to it every week all year round. If there is anyone out there who would be interested in maybe job sharing one day a week (or more to develop if they wish), please get in touch with me as soon as possible. Kay.

“ALLO ALLO” We are almost there with the casting – just need a chap to play Le Clerc (“It is I Le Clerc”) if you remember from the series. It is not a big part. Rehearsals are Sundays 3.0pm and Mondays 7.30pm at The Pavilion. Performance APRIL 4-5-6. If interested please phone Kay on 810019 or Keith on 810346.

FROM your BIODIVERSITY GROUP

The world's largest wildlife survey fun, the Big Garden Birdwatch, takes place on 25th January, helps garden wildlife and couldn't be easier! Starting life as something for young people to take part in, the Big Garden Birdwatch has grown into fun for all the family. All you need to do is count the birds in your garden, the play area or sports field, for one hour over the weekend of 25-26 January 2014 then tell the RSPB what you see. It couldn't be easier! Almost 590,000 people took part last year.

1. Record the highest number of each bird species you see at the same time. Don't count the total over the hour as you may get the same birds visiting more than once. Also, please only count those birds that land within your garden - not flying over.

2. Once your hour is up, tell the RSPB what you've seen. Even if you didn't get as many birds as you expected, or your 'regulars' didn't appear, do still please let them know. It's all really useful information.

Report your findings on www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch/

Good luck and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Les 810209 Jill 811206

Bird of the Month.....Wood Pigeon

The wood pigeon is the UK's largest and commonest pigeon. It is largely grey with a pinkish breast and a green, purple and white neck patch. Juveniles are browner, duller and lack the white neck patch and so are sometimes confused with the smaller stock dove. Nesting begins in early spring. Both parents build the nest which is a rather loosely put together collection of twigs in a tree, bush, building or even on the ground. They lay just 2 eggs but can have as many as 3 clutches over the breeding season. Incubation is shared by both parents and both feed the young from regurgitated food that is sometimes called "pigeon milk". The chicks leave the nest at around 25 days but are only fully fledged at 35 days. In the meantime they perch close to the nest and continue to be fed by the parent birds. Wood pigeons eat crops like cabbages, sprouts, peas and grain as well as buds, shoots, seeds, nuts and berries. They drink a lot, mainly because they do not get sufficient moisture from their food. They use their beak like a straw sucking up the water unlike other birds that scoop it up. Many farmers consider wood pigeons to be pests due to their habit of raiding crops and feeding on the abundant food in large flocks. The majority of young birds are likely to die within their first 12 months, but the record age for a ringed wild bird is over 16.



Did You Know?

- It is one of the few birds that thrive in intensively farmed countryside, while it is also equally at home in town parks and suburban gardens.
- Oilseed rape is a favourite winter food, and partly explains why these birds are thriving in the modern countryside.
- 'Pigeon milk' is more nutritious than human or cow's milk.
- The capacity of the bird's crop is remarkable: it can hold as many as 150 acorns, 1,000 grains of wheat or 200 beans all of which are digested overnight.
- Although wood pigeon is the most commonly used name, this bird is also known as the woody, cushat, cushy-do, quist, ringdow and ring dove.

LIBRARY MOBILE VAN will next visit Aynho on Friday January 3rd 11.40 – Noon in the area of "The Butts". Books borrowed from Brackley Library can be returned or renewed at this mobile.

LONELY OLDER PEOPLE – Help offered on **"SILVER LINE" 0800 4 708090**

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – Please continue to be vigilant as we have had a couple of burglaries in our village within the last months.

ADDERBURY COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET extends a warm welcome to the people of Aynho. The market is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, commencing 13th February at The Institute, The Green, Adderbury 18.00-20.30, and aim to bring quality local food produce closer to your door. Details can be found on website <http://marketadderbury.org>

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STOP PRESS

Rector's landline telephone number until further notice 811250



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Sent to me

as "A Rare Sight"

The Square with no vehicles in sight.

Our Banbury road
Lay-By Sign has been
restored – thank you
to the wood carver.





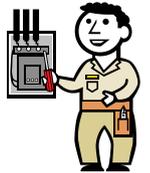
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**Aynho Parish Council wish everyone a HAPPY NEW YEAR and hope you all
 enjoyed the Christmas Tree on The Green.**