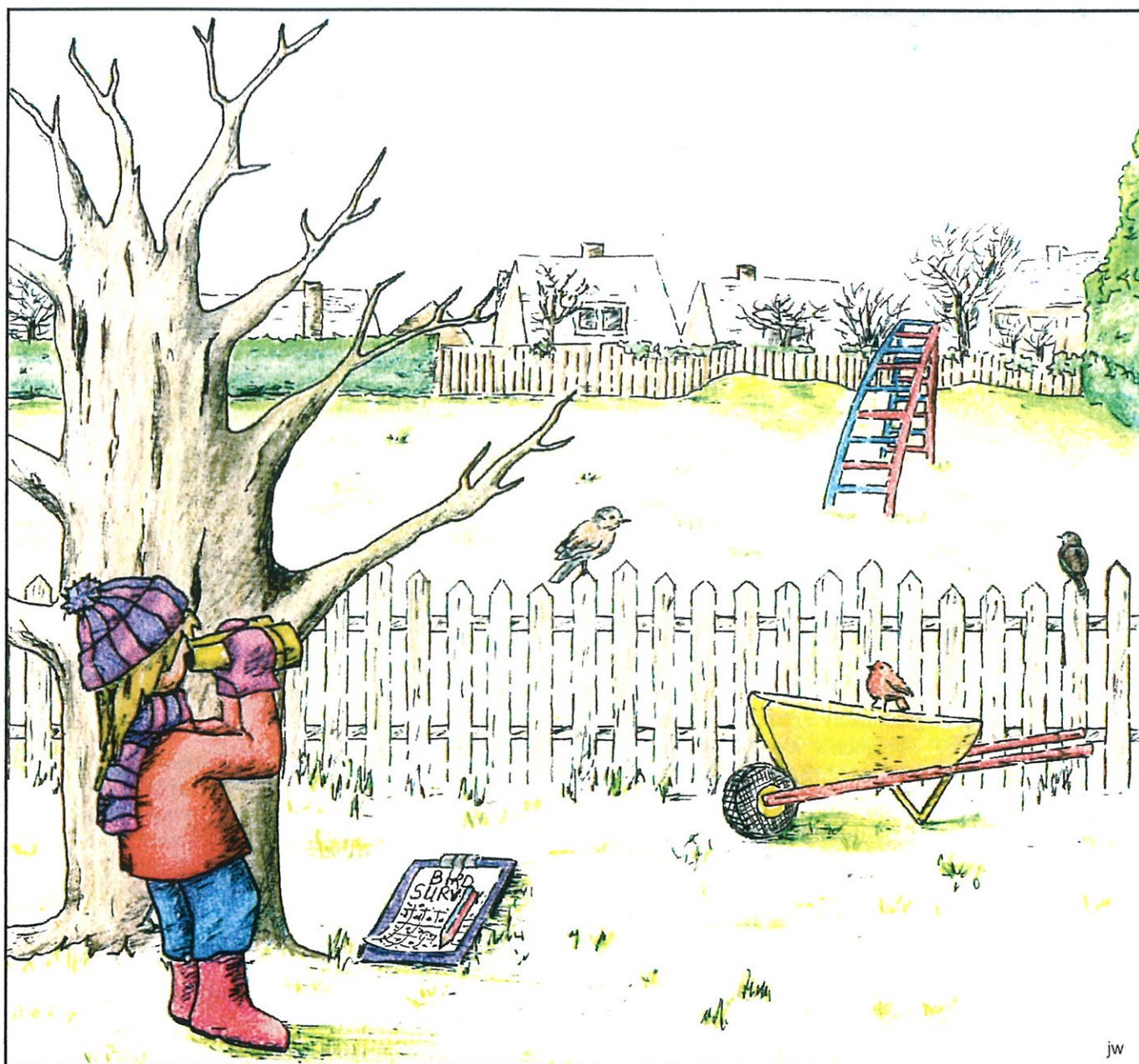


THE BIG BIRD WATCH (see inside)



ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2013

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

Sunday FEBRUARY 3rd AYNHO 11.0am Holy Communion
2 before Lent
(Sidespersons: Mr Cheney Mrs.Kirby)
Croughton M 9.30am Farthinghoe HC 9.30am
Hinton FW 11.0am
Evenley 6.0pm TAIZE Informal worship
Candle Prayers at AYNHO

Monday FEBRUARY 4th

Sunday FEBRUARY 10th AYNHO 9.30am Holy Communion
1 before Lent
(Sidespersons: Mr.Leigh Mrs.Pusey)
Evenley: H.C.11.0am
Farthinghoe: FW 10.0am Hinton ES 6.0pm

PANCAKE PRAISE 4.30pm CROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

Ash Wednesday FEBRUARY 13th 9.30am HC with ashing at Aynho
7.00pm HC with ashing at Evenley

Sunday FEBRUARY 17th

Lent 1

**BENEFICE
COMMUNION 10.0am at
FARTHINGHOE**

Sunday FEBRUARY 24TH AYNHO 11.0am Choral Matins
Lent 2
(Sidespersons – Mr.Cheney Mr.Sutton)
Croughton HC 9.30am Evenley FW 11.0am
Farthinghoe Baptism 11.0am Hinton 11.0am HC

Home Communion at 15, The Square Monday 25th – To be confirmed.

M-Matins FW – Family Worship HC - Holy Communion ES - Evensong

Prayer Group	Thursday	7 th	2.30pm	15, The Square
Bible Study Group	Monday	11 th	10.15am	at 1, The Bothy
Church Cleaning	Thursday	21 st	9.45am onwards	
Choir Practice	Friday	1 st & 22 nd	6.30pm	
Bell Ringing -Tuesdays	7.30pm	1 st Evenley 2 nd & 4 th Kings Sutton. 3 rd Aynho 5 th Croughton		

P.C.C.Meeting Monday February 18th

Women's World Day of Prayer -- Friday MARCH 1st

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

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

Items for March by Monday February 12th to SYBIL at 32, Roundtown.
Tel: 01869 810692 E-mail: syban@btinternet.com

Vol 564

Rector's letter ~ The Coming of Easter

Easter this year comes early on 31st March and you may be wondering why I am mentioning that in February. But the simple reason is that the traditional 40 days of Lent, remembered before Easter, means that Lent this year starts in the middle of February, or on Ash Wednesday 13th February to be more precise which is foreshadowed by Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day. Heather and I will be hosting an open house that evening (12th February 6pm-8pm at the Rectory, Aynho Court, Aynho) for those who don't want to cook their own pancakes. This is a fun time and everybody is welcome, but it would help if you could give us some clue if you are coming. Any donations given on the evening will go to charity.

Ash Wednesday derives its name from the marking in ashes of a cross on a person's forehead, signifying their turning from the wrong things in life (sin) and turning to Christ. It is also a reminder, if needed, about our mortality as the priest uses the words 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.' The ashes used are made from the burnt remains of last year's palm crosses used on Palm Sunday. This year we will be holding both a morning and evening service to mark (if you pardon the pun) the occasion.

Lent for Christians is a time for preparing for Easter as we recall the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness. Historically this would mean going without luxuries and hence the using up of ingredients on Shrove Tuesday. Today some people still give up certain foods or activities as Lenten discipline. If you want to try this why not give the money saved to charity. Or I would encourage taking up a profitable pastime or activity as an alternative, maybe even one of the Bible studies where you can feed body and soul. The middle of Lent is marked by Mothering Sunday which this year is on 10th March, but more about that next month.

Have a Good Lent

Simon

PANCAKE PRAISE

Come as a family and enjoy fun, games, songs, worship and NOT FORGETTING PANCAKES at Croughton Village Hall (off Wheelers Rise, behind the school) on Sunday 10th February. What a great way to start Lent.

We hope you can come, Simon & Heather.

Shrove Tuesday 12th February

The Rector and his wife (Simon and Heather) invite you to come to an Open House and Pancakes at the Rectory, Aynho Court, Croughton Road, Aynho, OX17 3BD. Please feel free to drop in any time from 6pm to 8pm and sample freshly cooked pancakes and Rectory hospitality. Warning of advanced numbers welcomed but do just drop in if you can. Looking forward to seeing you, Simon & Heather 01869 810903

Quiet Day.

In the busy rush of life getting some quiet can be hard to come by, yet we all need space and time to reflect and get our breaths back. I invite you to join me for a day of quiet reflection and refreshment on Monday 11th March (10am-4pm approx) at Stanton House, near Oxford. There are twelve (12) spaces for the day at a cost of £21 (payable on the day) includes refreshments, lunch and afternoon tea. Please let Simon Dommett 01869 810903 or Carrie O'Regan 01280 702300 know if you would like to book a place ASAP.

ORGAN REPAIR FUND APEAL – Croughton

Around £8000 is needed for urgent repairs on the church organ at All Saints, Croughton. Metal fatigue has set in to several of the organ pipes which are now being held in place by rope to stop them falling. We are grateful to the £2000 already donated by the Jubilee fund to this appeal and hope with people's help to raise the remaining money and complete the repairs this year. We would like to complete before the summer wedding season. Any donation or leads to funds that could be applied for gratefully received by the church wardens Angie Robbins 01869 811445 and Mary Marriott 01869 810267 or myself revd Simon Dommett 01869 810903

St. Michael's Church Electoral Roll - This year 2013 a new electoral roll needs to be prepared and anyone who wishes to be included, and were not on the existing roll, should contact Graham Gibbs Churchwarden tel:01869 819727 or e mail aynhogibbs@hotmail.com Those already on the existing roll will be contacted in due course.

Candle Prayers LAST TWO !

simply means your local church will be open from 7:30-8:00pm, lit with candles, giving you the opportunity to come and enjoy the peace of these special places. You may want to light a candle for somebody or a situation, or just sit on your own for a few minutes.

At 7:30 there will be a short opening prayer for those who want to join in followed by a time for personal space, then at about 7:50 there will be a short quiet closing prayer for those who want to join in.

You are invited to come for as much or as little as you like, I just want to offer you some peace and space for prayer, private reflection or just enjoying the beauty of the place.

1st February Friday St Michael and All Angels, Farthinghoe

4th February Monday St. Michaels, Aynho

Looking forward to Lent and Feeding Body and Soul

Lent like Advent is a time of preparation and is traditionally used as a time to explore the Christian faith. If you would like to explore more about the Christian faith or could offer your home as a place where people could meet for **an hour**, during the day or evening please let me know. Venues still wanted in Hinton and Farthinghoe, Many thanks Simon

Study groups start Monday 18th February for five weeks

Look out for sign up sheets in churches or contact me – Simon 01869 810903

Summer Holiday Club

Looking ahead to the summer our Holiday Club run at Croughton School. It will run from Monday 5th August to Friday 9th August with a special Family Praise Service to round it all off.

TAIZE SERVICE

Come and experience the atmosphere of Taize worship on Sunday 3rd February 6pm at Evenley. The **Taizé Community** is an ecumenical monastic order in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France. It is composed of over a hundred brothers, from Protestant and Catholic traditions, who originate from about thirty countries across the world. It was founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schutz, a Protestant. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage. Over 100,000 young people from around the world make pilgrimages to Taizé each year for prayer, Bible study, sharing, and communal work. Through the community's ecumenical outlook, they are encouraged to live in the spirit of kindness, simplicity and reconciliation. They have developed a unique style of quiet worship and prayer that you can come and experience.

"WHAT A GREAT TURNOUT" - many thanks to you all for supporting "Carol Singing on Green" on Christmas Eve around our lovely Christmas Tree. The playing and the singing were amazing!!

It was great to have a tree this year and I think I can safely say that everyone in the Village appreciated it. Thank you also to all those who helped with refreshments following the singing and thank you to the Cartwright Hotel for their very generous contribution of the mince pies.

The amount donated this year to the Children's Society is £100. This will help provide much needed support for vulnerable children and young children from all walks of life.

Deborah Gibbs, Hon Local Secretary The Children's Society.

Mrs Anne Rickard of Portway Gardens, following a recent knee operation, has several immobility accessories, such as a pair of crutches, which she is willing to loan to anyone who finds themselves in a similar situation. Tel: 811056.

WINTER LUNCH CLUB

Dates for February Thursdays 7,14 (half-term), 21 and 28th. Home cooked food - a choice of soup, baked potatoes, simple hot dish, cake and biscuits, tea, coffee or fruit juice, served in the back room of the Village Hall from 12.15 - 1.30pm. All are welcome. After costs, this year profit will be shared between several village organisations and the Army Widows' Association (Reg.Charity No.1127921) Amanda Limb.

A.S.R.A. & PAVILION NEWS

AYNH0 PARK CLUB DRAW

By now most of you should have seen your Park Club Draw caller for your subscriptions. If you haven't and are still happy to support us PLEASE give us a call on either 810019 or 810118 and we'll come and collect it. Every subscription means we can contribute more to the activities and events and recreational equipment in the village. Thank you.

HEALTH WALKS

These are now a very popular event in the village with two walks starting from the Pavilion every Thursday morning at 10am. If one of your New Years Resolutions is to get fitter then please come and join us. Refreshments are served in the pavilion after the walks which vary in length from 1 – 2 hours depending on your level of fitness. Dogs are welcome but must be on a lead to and from the pavilion. Please note dogs are NOT allowed on the playing field at any other times. You may use the gated access from Charlton Road to reach the pavilion if you want to bring your dog to the cafe where they are places to tie them up and a water bowl. Non-walkers are welcome to come to the cafe from around 11am – 1pm every Thursday where there will be hot food and drinks and homemade cakes.

COMMUNITY MARKET

I'm thinking of setting up a Community Market in Aynho in the future. Contact me if you would be interested in having a stall to sell your wares on a regular basis. Kay Anderson on 01869 810019.

TRACK USERS GROUP

If you use the amenity track in the village, please get in touch with me and let me know. Whether you run, jog, cycle, walk, skate or whatever, it would be really helpful to have an e mail contact list for everyone in case we need to let you know about such things as potholes, maintenance, events etc etc. Drop me your details to kaynho@lineone.net please. Thank you.

THE CAFÉ

This will be open 10.0am – 3.0pm on Thursday February 7th when there will be a Pheonix Card Sale – including Valentine Cards, a Book Sale with all paperback novels now 50p – come and stock up and a Sale of Bric-a-Brac and bits and bobs!. Also as well as the usual lunches provided for walkers, there will be pancakes in celebration of Shrove Tuesday the following week. Come for a coffee, lunch or just to browse, everyone welcome and I'll make sure its as warm as possible. Kay.

Dates for your diary -VILLAGE QUIZ – Saturday March 9th – 7.30pm. Further details to follow.

Aynho Community Theatre

Cabaret Theatre Evenings

Friday & Saturday

22/23 March 2013

ACT is looking for talent to breathe new life into our Community Theatre

If you can

sing, dance, act, play music, read poetry, tell jokes or entertain others in any way and

you'd like to perform on a real stage with real lights and real curtains for the paid

enjoyment of others then we want to hear from you.

Auditions will be held on Monday 28th January and Monday 25th February in Aynho Village Hall 8pm (or at another mutually convenient time)

Contact Kay Anderson on 01869 810019 or kaynho@lineone.net if you'd like to take part.

All ages are welcome.

BIODIVERSITY GROUP

Bird Survey – we do hope lots of you have managed to do our Aynho Big Garden Bird Watch around the 26/27 January. Full instructions and the identification sheets were enclosed with the January Newsletter. We will publish the results in the Spring.

As a result of the wet summer there is a real shortage of berries and seeds in the fields and hedgerows so **feeding the birds in our gardens** is very important this year.

Website – Jill has worked hard and the website is fully up and running now. There is plenty of information, for example on deer, and a children's page with interactive games, colouring etc. Do check it out.

BTO Cuckoo Migration Project – of the 14 cuckoos tagged this year in the UK only 5 have definitely reached their wintering grounds in Congo. Soon they will start their return Spring migration, another perilous journey. Good luck, cuckoos. Gill 810279 Jill 811206

Bird of the Month

Redwing

The Redwing is the UK's smallest true thrush. It has a creamy strip above the eye and orange-red flank patches. They migrate by night some arriving in September but most in October and November, and then leave again in March or April. If you listen on clear evenings you may hear their "tseep" call as they pass overhead. They feed in the fields and hedgerows on



insects, worms, slugs, snails, fruits and berries and will only visit gardens when it is particularly cold and snow covers the ground. On winter nights they gather in large flocks in woods, thickets, tall conifers and old hedgerows sharing their roost with fieldfares and starlings. They are on the RSPB's 'red' list for birds which is the highest conservation priority, with species needing urgent action.

Did You Know?

- Redwing journey here non-stop from southern Scandinavia often in company with fieldfares and blackbirds.
 - They are highly nomadic birds and can spend one winter in the UK but others as far away as Italy, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Georgia and even Iran.
 - Redwings are among the least robust of thrushes and vulnerable to mass mortality when overcome by cold spells.
-

WHAT'S ON

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY meet February 6th in the Cartwright Hotel at 7.30pm. Presentation by Roger Tapp ARPS entitled "My digital renaissance" with monochrome and digital prints.

A.R.M.S. We meet again for the start of a New Year on February 6th with Keith presenting.
Village Hall. 7.30pm. New members welcome Contact 810264

GARDENING CLUB. At our first meeting in January we saw some wonderful slides of different regions of Iran with amazing flowers growing high up in the mountains. It was lovely to escape the fog and frost of a winter evening for the baking sun. We hope to build on this on Wednesday February 13th when Janet Copley will be showing us colourful slides of herbaceous perennials and giving us some ideas of unusual plants to grow in our own gardens. Come and get a foretaste of summer! Meeting 8.0pm new members welcome

W.I. This month we welcome you to an OPEN MEETING when Christopher Hodges will talk on "The EU, The UK and the World" Tea Hostesses Mrs.J.Ashbrook and Mrs.G.Edwards.
Aynho Village Hall - Wednesday February 20th at 7.30pm.

AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY Meet Wednesday 27th February 7.30pm in the Village Hall.
"Banbury Past through Artists' eyes - paintings, prints and drawings, sources for Banbury's local history" Presented by Mr.Simon Townsend, Curator, Banbury Museum.
Summaries of previous lectures can be found on the village website - Aynho History Society.
Annual Membership £10 paid by 28th February, junior/student concessions £1 pa. Non-Members £2.50 per event. Contact: Rupert Clark 810603 or Peter Cole 811261.

FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

Cold Weather

It's that time of year again! Can we please all do our bit to look after our vulnerable neighbours (and of course ourselves) in any inclement weather. Also, please remember, the grit in the yellow bins is for use on public paths and highways NOT private drives. Many thanks!

Street Doctor

Please ensure that any hazards or issues within the village such as pavement and road repairs clearing blocked street gullies etc are reported to NCC Street Doctor.

This can be done online at -

<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/Transport/roads/streetdoctor/Pages/Step1.aspx> or by dialling 0300 126 1000.

It's a great service that we should all utilise.

Dog Fouling

There are still many instances of dog fouling in the village. We have 6 dog poo bins in the village so there really is no excuse. PLEASE clean up after your dog and encourage others to do the same.

Contact details

Sadie Patamia is the Parish Clerk and can be contacted on Mondays and Thursdays from 3pm – 6pm on 07887548774 or aynhopc@gmail.com.

New Year – New Challenge

Was your New Year's Resolution to become a volunteer? If not, maybe you could consider it? And if volunteering is something you're interested in maybe you could do it with 1st Charlton Brownies? We need new leaders to help maintain the work done by our current team. We meet on Friday evenings in Charlton Memorial Hall at 6pm – 7.30pm during term time. Did you know:

- There are currently around 44,000 girls and young women on lists waiting to join Girlguiding UK.
- By becoming a volunteer, you can help ensure that as many girls and young women as possible get the opportunity to experience the fun and challenge of guiding.
- You will be joining more than 80,000 other adult volunteers who contribute over ten million hours to guiding every year. Like them, you will enjoy the personal rewards and satisfaction that volunteering brings.

Helping girls achieve their potential is hugely rewarding. But there are lots of benefits for you too.

- A role in Girlguiding UK can give your CV a boost! As a volunteer, you could get involved with marketing, recruiting other volunteers, raising funds, handling budgets and managing large-scale events. In the process, you'll develop skills in communication and organisation, teamwork and leadership.
- If you become a Leader or Assistant Leader, you will take Girlguiding UK's Leadership Qualification, and will be offered lots of other training at a local and national level. Perhaps you've always wanted to become qualified in first aid or event management. Volunteering with guiding can provide the opportunity.
- You'll have lots of fun! The guiding programme is packed with activities and challenges, and you'll have a chance to experience them along with the girls.

If you are interested please contact Sadie Patamia (Brown Owl) at

WORKERS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION - BANBURY would like to draw your attention to events and courses taking place during 2013.

Saturday March 2nd 10.0am - 4.0pm. The History of Celtic Knotwork - a practical drawing Course.

Saturday March 16th 10.0am - 4.0pm. Antiques & Collectables.

Thursday April 18th 7.30pm - 8.50pm. Place names, landscape and settlements in Banbury region.

All take place at Hanwell Fields Community Centre, Banbury.

Definite booking two weeks in advance please.

Ring Jenny Gough 01295 690326

email jennyanngough@yahoo.co.uk

THE MILESTONE SOCIETY. On Saturday 2nd March the mid-shires region of the Milestone Society will hold its annual meeting in Aynho Village Hall from 10.0am - 3.30pm. This is an open meeting and all are welcome. The programme will include 3 presentations about milestones in Wiltshire, Warwickshire and Oxfordshire. A selection of books and publications will be on display and members will be pleased to impart information about milestones and related waymarkers such as boundary stones and fingerposts. A small charge of £2.50 will be made to cover costs. If you would like to attend please register at the door 10.0am onwards, when light refreshments will be provided. The meeting will formally start at 10.30am break for approximately 1 hour around 1.0pm and finish around 3.30pm. Information can be found on our website: <http://www.milestonesociety.co.uk>

N.D.M.ELECTRICAL
 Domestic & Commercial
 Installation & Maintenance
 Tel:N.D.MOBLEY
 Tel: 01280-700905
 Mobile: 07922005629

DEREK MASON
 Landscape & Property Maintenance
 Patios ■ Drives ■ Fencing ■ Turfing
 General garden maintenance
 For a free estimate and a few ideas
 Call: 01295 710036 Mobile 07759 307928
 Fully Qualified & Insured

BULLS HEAD GARAGE
 (Souldern)Ltd
 Car & Light Commercial
 Vehicles - Repairs
 Servicing - M.O.T.
 Tel: 01869-345281

W.S.BUILDING SERVICES
 General Building Plastering
 Wall & Floor Tiling
 Guaranteed Damp Proof &
 Wood Work Treatment
 Tel:01295-758657or 01869-810724
 Mobile:07798523046

A.L.LOAKES
BANBURY
 Oil Fire Boiler Service
 Tel: 01295-269718
 Mobile:
 07966533524

JOHN'S ANTIQUES REPAIRS
 Antique & Contemporary
 Furniture restored with
 care & feeling
 Upholstery Polishing & Gilding
 Cane & Rush Seating
 145, The Causeway Banbury
 Tel:01295 - 268996

TAX ASSIST
ACCOUNTANTS
 Account & Tax Returns
 for Small Businesses &
 Individuals.
 Free Quotations
 Call: Brian Molyneux
 ☎ 01869 337887

PILATES CLASSES
 Thursdays 2.30-3.30pm
 Aynho Village Hall
 Relaxes the body & mind
 promoting a sense of wellbeing
 Contact Angie 01295-2588551
 07756689327

ANGELA EWENCE
 Beauty & Aromatherapy
 Treatments also CACI
 (Non-surgical facelift) &
 Electrolysis.
 Fully Qualified & Babcac
 Insured. Home treatment
 17, Cartwright Rd.Charlton
 Tel: 01295 - 811359
www.angelashouseofbeauty.co.uk

AYNHO COMPUTERS
 New & 2nd user systems
 Computer Repairs & Upgrades
 Virus & Spyware Removal
 Software installation-
 Window software & Internal
 problems
 PHIL Aynho Wharf ☎338107
 Mobile:07801 499392
 E mail: phil@aynhocomputers.co.uk

GARY SHERGOLD
 All types of plastering work
 undertaken
 No job too small
 Over 20 years experience
 Free no obligation quotes
 Tel:01280 705538
 Mobile: 07770 414716
 E-mail:
gshergold@bethere.co.uk

SMITHS NEWSAGENTS
 Deliver to the village and to your door
 any combination of days/weeks
 catered for - just ring
 01295 - 268499 or
email onfo@smithsnewsagents.co.uk

BOUNCY CASTLES♦SLIDES ♦CANDY FLOSS
 For Indoors & Outdoors.
 Bookings taken all year round
PARTIES ♦ FETES ♦ SHOWS ATTENDED
ED'S OF AYNHO
 Tel: 01869 - 810808 Mobile 07811 225698
www.aynho-bouncy-castles.co.uk

**This NEWSLETTER is issued by ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH
 & printed by HAMPTONS Estate Agents at DEDDINGTON**

Croughton, Aynho & Middleton Cheney

villagenetworks

advice and support driven to your door

A unique project outreaching to residents in the villages and towns of South Northamptonshire. Hear about help and support for job-seekers, ideas on volunteering, discover ways you can reduce your household bills and improve your quality of life.

Take advantage of free, independent and expert advice on debt and welfare benefits, provided by Community Law Service: the largest independent advice provider in the East Midlands.

**For more information
contact Nick King direct
on 01327 358264 or
villagenetworks@snvb.org.uk**

Drop in and hear about:

- **Benefits Advice changes in 2013** inc. Rent Restrictions, Benefit Cap, Personal Independent Payments (PIP), Universal Credit
- **Reduce your household bills** water, gas and electricity
- **Debt Counselling** specialist advice and help
- **Job-seeking advice & support**
- **Volunteering opportunities**
- **FREE transport to a venue might be possible**

Wednesday 20th February

Croughton Village Hall, Wheelers Rise 3pm-6.30pm

Wednesday 27th February

Aynho Village Hall, Croughton Road 3pm-6.30pm

Wednesday 20th March

Middleton Cheney Village Hall, 3pm-6.30pm



**COMMUNITY
LAW SERVICE**
Northampton and County



LOTTERY FUNDED

snvb South Northants Volunteer Bureau, Moat Lane, Towcester, NN12 6AD
www.snvb.org.uk Registered Charity 1104848 Company Limited by Guarantee 5068116.