

***Are you trying to put all
your “eggs” in one basket?***



***Are all your efforts &
resources going in one
direction only?***

***Why not try spreading these
resources around a little -
perhaps with something new?***

***Maybe ... join us at our
“Easter Day Service”
Sunday April 5th 11.00 am?***



***You will be warmly welcomed at
St Michael's Aynho.***

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ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2015

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

Compline 7.0pm Monday-Evenley. Tuesday-Croughton. Wednesday – Farthinghoe.

Maundy Meal Thursday in AYNHO Village Hall 7.0pm

Good Friday AYNHO 11.0am Good Friday Service



Sunday:

April 5th

Easter Sunday

AYNHO 11.0am Easter Holy Communion

(Sidespersons: Mrs.Pusey Mrs.Kirby Mr.Leigh Mr.Sutton)

Croughton 9.30am HC Farthinghoe 9.30 HC

Evenley 11.00am FW Hinton 11.00am HC

Sunday:

April 12th

AYNHO 9.30am Holy Communion

(Sidespersons: Mrs.Bellamy Mr.Cheney.)

Croughton 9.30 HC Evenley 11.0am HC with Baptism

Farthinghoe 4.0pm Family Service on **SATURDAY 11th**

Sunday

April 19th

Benefice at FARTHINGHOE 10.0am

& Pizza Praise at Farthinghoe 4.30pm.

Sunday

April 26th

AYNHO 11.0am Matins

(Sidespersons: Mrs.Grey,Mr.Sutton)

Croughton 9.30am HC Evenley 5.0pm Patronal Thanksgiving

Farthinghoe 6.0pm E.S Hinton 11.0am HC

Home Communion Monday 30th **March** at 11.00am at 15 The Square Aynho & 27th **April**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING Thursday 9th 7.00pm in Church.

Prayer Group Thursday 9th 2.30pm 15, The Square

Bible Study Monday 13th 10.15am “Oakgates” Millers Lane,Aynho

Church Cleaning Thursday 16th 9.45am onwards

Choir Practice Thursdays 2nd & 23rd

Bell Ringing – Tuesdays at 7.30pm 1st Evenley 2nd & 4th Kings Sutton 3rd Tuesday Aynho.

Weddings: April 9th 11.0am April 23rd 2.0pm.

Information about the life of our church - baptisms or wedding enquiries from:

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 Warden: Graham Gibbs 01869 819727

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Items for May 2015 by Monday April 13th to

Sybil at 32, Roundtown Tel:810692

Email: syban@btinternet.com

Vol.589

**This NEWSLETTER is issued by St.Michael's Church, Aynho
and printed by HAMPTONS ESTATE AGENTS of Deddington.**

From your Rector.

It is a well known phrase that actions speak louder than words and that a picture speaks a thousand words. Easter is a time when both of these adages ring very true.

Jesus had spent the last three years of his life telling those who would listen about God's love for them and his creation. Jesus had told his closest friends, his disciples, what the future held for him, how Jesus would be arrested and beaten and killed and raised to life on the third day. He knew they had heard his words but hadn't understood the implications. So before he is arrested he gathers his friends together for a special meal. A meal that for generations had celebrated freedom and hope. Now Jesus shares it with his friends giving it a new meaning for them. One they would treasure and cherish and hand on from one generation to another, even to today and beyond. In the actions of that meal, in the taking, breaking and giving of bread and in sharing a common cup, Jesus' actions spoke louder than the words he had used before. His actions we still echo today each Sunday as we gather to remember and give thanks. His last great action of hope was in his death and resurrection, which we celebrate on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. This is a celebration that is not tied neatly into modern life, at the same time each year, but one that relates to the rhythm and continuous cycle of the earth, God's creation. As such it keeps catching us out, it is something that we do not have control over, yet has control over us.

Jesus' journey to the cross is often depicted in pictures known as the Stations of the Cross. Here pictures attempt to capture the significant moments of that journey and when we view these pictures today, we can imagine ourselves as part of them. This Easter I invite you to come on a journey and see and I don't think you will regret coming.

Have a Happy Easter

Simon

An evening with Ian Tracey Organ recital ***Organist Titulaire at Liverpool Cathedral All Saints*** ***Church- Croughton NN13 5LS*** ***With Special Makin Organ***



Saturday 2nd May 7.30pm

Tickets £12 / £10 concession

Children under 16 free

10% discount to groups of ten or more

Tickets include a glass of wine or fruit juice and Canapés

01869 ~ 811445 or 810023 or 810903

Professor Ian Tracey is one of Britain's best known and most widely respected musicians, having been organist at the monumental Anglican Cathedral in his home town of Liverpool for over 30 years

Palm Sunday 29th March



On Palm Sunday we remember the day that Jesus entered into Jerusalem riding on a donkey and was greeted by welcoming crowds who waved palm branches like banners in their joy. This year Palm Sunday falls on a Benefice Sunday when all our five village churches meet together to worship. As this is a special Sunday we will be meeting for **10am at All Saints School, Croughton** to start our service with the blessing of the Palm Crosses and then process to church, re-enacting in a small way Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. At church we will listen to a dramatised telling of his passion, the last week of his earthly life before his death. The communion service will be followed with refreshments. Parking available on the main road near the school.

Holy Week 30th March—4th April

Holy Week is the week between Palm Sunday and Easter and is the most holy week of the Christian year. Each day there are special services in each of our five churches as we relive Jesus' final week. This has always been a time when Christians made extra efforts to attend church.

Compline Services

The Compline Service is a short service of Night Prayer or Prayers at the End of the Day. It's the final short said church service of the day. The English word *Compline* is derived from the Latin *completorium*, as Compline is the completion of the working day. (See Service Sheet)

Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7pm Maundy Communion Meal.

This is the day that Jesus shared his last supper with his disciples and when he was then betrayed and arrested. This year we will remember and re-enact that last meal in an extended Eucharist or Maundy meal. **This will take place in Aynho Village Hall** from 7pm and combines a simple 3 course meal with a Communion or Eucharist following Jesus' command to "do this in remembrance of him". There will be no charge for the meal, but for catering numbers **I ask that you sign up on the lists in church.** or email me the.revd.simon@gmail.com to sign up for the Maundy Thursday Communion Meal.

Good Friday 3rd April

Is the day that Jesus died on the cross. It is only 'good' because Jesus' death was followed by his resurrection and proof of his power over sin and death. **We celebrate Good Friday at 11am in the morning with an All Age Praise Services** at **Evenley** Village Hall and a Good Friday service at 11am **Aynho** followed by hot cross buns.

In the afternoon we have

2pm 'An hour at the cross' at Hinton-in-the-Hedges as we remember the last hour that Jesus suffered before his death. This is a reflective service with music and readings for adults supported by the Benefice Festival Chorus.

The churches at **Aynho**, **Evenley**, **Farthinghoe** will be open 12 noon to 3pm for quiet private prayer and reflection. **Hinton** church will be open 12 noon to 2pm

Annual Parochial Church Meetings Aynho 9th April 7:30pm in church

NOMINATION FORMS for Churchwardens and PCC members are at the back of churches or available from the churchwardens or Revd Simon Dommatt – return completed forms to Wardens or Simon



Grace Davidson reputed to be one of the most pure soprano voices of current times featuring with **Fiori Musicali** at Aynho Church on Sunday October 4th at 7.0pm. Details to be published soon. In the meantime keep your diaries free for this world music in our church.

“St Michael’s Church” Fete Saturday 13th June 2015:Start time 1.00 pm.

We made a good start from our meetings in March and thank you to those people coming forward to help. There is still plenty to do and any extra volunteers are always welcome. We have not yet been able to speak to everyone who had a stall in previous years but I hope that most of you are still available this year. The main contact numbers again are:

Kathy White on 01869 810418 - kathywhiteaynho@gmail.com

Graham Gibbs on 01869 819727 - aynhogibbs@hotmail.com

Anyone willing to donate any vegetable/flower plants or plantlets please contact Amanda Leigh or Amanda Limb by telephone and then deliver them to the stall on the morning of the fete. As both Amandas are very busy in the week leading up to the fete, can you ensure that any plants are potted up and properly labelled as to type and variety. Anyone who has any unwanted seed trays or pots please donate them to Andrew Bellamy at College Farm House for recycling to the Flower and Vegetable stalls in future years.

As usual there will be a Tombola collection around the village starting from the end of May but if you miss the collection and wish to donate, please drop off any items to your collector or to any of the committee members. We are running a separate children's tombola this year so good toys/books/games would be useful. We **really do need more people to collect bottles** and if you could help on one or two evenings, perhaps just collecting from your own street and meeting all your neighbours, please contact Graham Gibbs, and please contact Kathy if you have any raffle prizes or give them to the Tombola collectors when they call.

The cake stall is always very popular so can we put out a BIG request for some of you avid bakers out there to just make one extra for the fete. Please remember that all the tea and coffee drinkers also like a slice of cake with their liquid refreshments so we need as many as we can get. If you can let Barbara Watkins know if you can help that would be good but if not, just bring them to the fete on Saturday morning.

We have a Pig Roast again this year provided by The Loaded Hog based in Deddington.

Andrew Bellamy is organising the movement of tables/chairs etc at the start and end of the day so if he doesn't have your name already, again please contact him as many hands make light work.

As some of you may be aware, many of the windows in the church are in a poor state of repair and we are trying to raise funds towards having the work done and this is where the proceeds from the fete will be used. Therefore we are hoping to set up craft stalls etc for the children (and adults) to contribute to the theme of the stained glass windows. We have several ideas in mind but would welcome any help in setting up and running the event.

Why not get involved, learn more about your church and your village, make new friends and have fun.

Kathy

From your Parish Council

Defibrillator

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that due to the hard work and fundraising of Amanda Limb in her Winter Lunch Club supported by other donations we have enough funds to purchase and support a defibrillator for the village. The unit will be sited on the outside wall of the village hall. This is a significant resource available to everyone in the village and has been proven to be a life saver when cardiac events occur and the patient is waiting for ambulance to arrive. We will be having an initial familiarisation session at the Annual Village Meeting on 27th April so please come along and hear how the unit should be used.

The Village Green and Parking

In last years village survey the poor state of the Village Green was commented upon by residents as cars tend to park on the verge. The Parish Council are proposing that posts around the Village Green edge are re-instated (although not with chains linking the posts as before). It is appreciated that this will reduce the space to park by 2/3 spaces.

To compensate for this the Parish Council have approached The Parochial Church Council about the possibility of a small number of dedicated car parking spaces being made available to residents who live on or near Roundtown. The proposal is that residents could apply for the use of a space, which would be specially reserved for their own use. In return it is proposed that the resident would pay a small donation, as yet to be agreed but estimated at £15 a month, to the PCC for the use of the dedicated space. If you would like to apply in principle for use of one of the spaces, which would initially be on a years trial basis, or have any comments, could you please contact email Sadie (sadie.patamia@aynho.org) or on 07887548774.

Gigaclear

Gigaclear have announced that they intend to start the installation works for Ultrafast broadband in April. As mentioned before this will require the digging of shallow utility trenches in all roads and streets throughout the village. Once we are given details of the proposed plans and the schedule of works these will be published on the Village website and in the newsletter. All properties within the village, even if you have not signed to use the service, will be provided with a 'pot' at the boundary from which broadband connection can be made to the home. This works are expected to last about 2-3 months and will cause some disruption. Representatives of Gigaclear are expected to attend the Village Meeting on 27 April to provide an update on the plans. If you have not signed up to Gigaclear and would like more information you can find details at www.gigaclear.com

Annual Village Meeting Annual Village Meeting will take place on Monday 27th April in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Village Spring Clean

The next Village Spring Clean will take place on Saturday 28 March at 10am.

Please meet on the Sports Field. We look forward to seeing you there!

Contact details

Sadie Patamia is the Parish Clerk and can be contacted on Mondays and Thursdays from 3pm – 6pm on 07887548774 or Sadie.patamia@aynho.org The postal address is 25 Brackley Road, Croughton, NN13 5PP, or you can find us on Facebook and Twitter (@aynhopc)

A REMINDER of AYNHO HEALTH WALKS 10.0am Thursdays from the Pavilion – Small, Medium & Long Walks. All queries to Keith McClellan on 01869-810346

ARMS (Aynho Recorded Music Society)

1st April 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Gill produced a delightful programme with a strong accent on nature. The flight of the "Bumble Bee" by Rimsky Korsokov and Delius "On hearing the first cuckoo in Spring" were followed by "Lark Ascending" again by Delius. Recordings of the actual bird song were played after each item. Later Saint Seans "The Swan" continued the avian influence, without however a recording of bird song, we presumed it was a "mute swan". Several musical jewels were included in the first half "Clair de Lune" and "Moonlight Sonata", Mendlessohn's "Hebrides" and a jolly musical arrangement of poem by Betjeman "The Agricultural Caress"

After the interval two modern and unusual performances "The Man from the Snowy River" by Banjo Paterson and "Maple Leaf Rag" by Scott Joplin livened us up. This to be followed by Shostakovich, Elgar and Listz and the wondergul uplifting strains of Beethoven's 5th movement from the "Pastoral Symphony". Thank you Gill for a great programme.

Contact: Bob Mann 810264

Next Knit and Stitch Tuesdays **April 8th & 22nd** at 2 Portway Gardens, 2-4.0pm

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY –1st April at the “Cartwright Hotel”.

This meeting of the Society is the AGM at 7.00pm, which will be followed by a presentation from members entitled ‘My attempts at abstract photography.’ Then, on 15th April, a Workshop will be held on ‘Sensor sensitivity and white balance.’ Looking further ahead, member Randall Miles will give a presentation on 6 May entitled ‘The Maasai Mara - animal and landscape prints.’ The latter two meetings start at 7.30pm, and all will be held in the Cartwright Hotel, Aynho. Just come along and enjoy a very warm welcome.

Contact: John Branton www.adandd.co.uk

AYNHO GARDENING CLUB –8th April 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Spring is nearly sprung! The shrubs are budding and bulbs are nearly flowering and so our next talk to be held on Wednesday 8th April should be an enjoyable and timely one – John Gibson is going to talk to us about ‘Tulip Time’. Do come along and learn more about these wonderful colourful flowers. Talk starts at 7.30pm. During the evening **Jean Skuce, our Visits Organiser, will be taking names and money for the trip to Warwick. Jean’s telephone number is 810034.** Our first trip on Wednesday 10th June is to Warwick where we will be visiting two locations; the **LORD LEYCESTER HOSPITAL and the MILL GARDEN.** After a coffee/tea and biscuit in the Great Hall, at the Lord Leycester Hospital, we will be given a tour by the ‘Master’ of both the building and the very attractive and delightful gardens. In the afternoon, we are going to visit the Mill Garden which is a beautiful private garden situated below Warwick Castle on the River Avon. You will be able to go on the coach between the two gardens or walk through the town. The cost of this trip is **£20.** We are still taking subscriptions for Members – we are always very happy to welcome new Members; the Gardening Club is a friendly club where our aim is to increase our knowledge in all things gardening as well as to have an enjoyable time – nothing too serious! The annual subscription is unchanged at £5 with a 50p entrance fee for members and £1 for guests. For queries, please get in touch with **Annabel Bellamy Tel:810847 or Kath Arnold Tel: 811868**

WOMEN’S INSTITUTE –15th April 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Talk by Andrea Newman on “DEBRA” Epidermolysis Bullosa”

Tea Hostesses: Mrs.B. Williams & Mrs. K. Arnold. **Contact: Barbara Watkins Tel:811152**

AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY29th April 7.30pm in the Village Hall

“Women at War” presented by Mr.Bob Harris (re-scheduled from February)

All welcome.

Contacts: Rupert Clark: Tel:810603 ru.clark@btinternet.com

Peter Cole: Tel:811261

WRITER’S GROUP - Meet Saturday April 11th 10.0am—12.30 in the Village Hall

At the March meeting we heard some interesting and some amusing tales based on St.Patrick’s Day including descriptions of kissing the Blarney Stone. A couple of people described some ‘very big lies’ and a first for us was a spontaneous description by Peter Ottens describing his early life. We await next month’s episode impatiently as well as written stories about Great Aunts & Uncles or The Empty Chair. As ever there are examples of members work on the village website.

Contact Keith McClellan 810346

“Croughton Cinema”

Next Production: April 10th ‘The Imitation Game’ with Benedict Cumberbatch & Keira Knightly.
Based on events at Bletchley Park.

For more details email keithgelder@tiscali.co.uk

May Time in Aynho

 SATURDAY 16TH MAY 2015 

2pm in The Square

Stalls
also
available
Call KAY

6pm-8pm Village Hall

**FOLLOWED BY
FAMILY BARN DANCE**

TICKETS

In advance from Kay 01869 810019

£10 Adults, £5 Children

To include food.

Under 4 yrs free

News from ASRA

I hope those 80+ people who attended thought the third annual Quiz and Curry night was a huge success. My thanks go to Michael Johnson and his team for putting together a fun and challenging evening for everyone. I am delighted that the profits for the evening were in excess of £1000 which is amazing and greatly appreciated. Thanks to the caterers, servers and helpers who pitched in.

MEETING If this newsletter reaches you in time, please come along to the meeting on Monday 23rd March in the pavilion at 7pm. This meeting is

intended to gather interested parties to decide how we spend some of the funds raised by this quiz and the Park Club Draw and as many people as possible are welcome. Refreshments have already been purchased!!!

PARK CLUB DRAW In response to a request to announce Park Club Draw winners more regularly, here are the first three winners draw by The Parish Clerk (who incidentally is not in the draw) at February and March's parish council meetings.

The prize is a cheque for £80.

January – K Anderson (thanks Sadie!) – Portway

February – N Gallagher – College Fields

March – N Stacey – College Fields

TALL SHIPS ADVENTURE!

Sev Young and Harry Leigh, Aynho residents and Year 9 students at Blessed George Napier School, have been selected as crew members for a 5-day voyage in June on a 72-foot Challenger yacht. The voyage is organized by the Tall Ships Youth Trust (www.tallships.org), which is dedicated to the education and personal development of young people aged 12 to 25 through the crewing of its fleet of vessels.

Sev and Harry are responsible for raising over £400 each to secure their places on the yacht and make the most of this exciting opportunity. To achieve this, they have organized the following events/services for the village, and would very much appreciate your support



COFFEE MORNING on THURSDAY 2 APRIL at 10.30 a.m. till 12 noon in the VILLAGE HALL (back room) Come and enjoy coffee/tea and cake, meet Sev and Harry and find out more about their challenge. Everyone welcome. All donations appreciated!



MACARONS by Sev: Sev's handmade French Macarons will be available at Maytime in The Square on Sat 16 May. Or made to order call Tim Young on 07952524033



ODD JOBS by Harry Garage in a mess? Simple gardening jobs getting you down? Going away and can't take your pet? For these and other odd jobs, call Harry: 01869 810843



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Bio diversity - Plant of the Month: The Bluebell

The bluebell is common throughout England and Ireland, but is now rare in the rest of Europe and completely absent in the rest of the world. It is a member of the lily family. Its shoots emerge in January, it flowers in April and May and by June it has disappeared for another year. Because it does most of its growing and flowering early in the year, before the leaves on the trees open, it has plenty of light and so is able to replenish nutrients stored in its bulb. Its pollen and nectar rich flowers are also an important early food source for bumblebees, hover flies and butterflies. Our native bluebell, however, is under threat from the more aggressive Spanish variety which was introduced to English gardens nearly 300 years ago. This is easier to grow, less choosy about its habitat and can rapidly meld with its host and change its biological make-up. Increasingly it is spreading from gardens into the wild and into the preferred habitat of the English bluebell – the woodland areas. The English bluebell is much slower growing than its relative taking 5 years from the seed stage to flower and even then is in no hurry to spread. One study discovered the flower extends its range by only 50m in 35 years. Because of this slow spread they are considered an indicator of an ancient woodland site (one that has been in existence since before 1600 and may link back to the wildwood that grew across Britain after the last Ice Age) whether there are trees still there or not. This April and May look out for the bluebells we planted under the trees by the Sports Field main entrance and visit one of our local 'bluebell woods'!

Know your Bluebell

English Bluebell		Spanish/hybrid Bluebell	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrow leaves - 1cm Deep blue (sometimes white narrow, tube like flowers with tips turned back Flowers mostly on one side of stem and drooping. Distinct sweetish scent. Cream pollen. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broad leaves - 3cm Paler blue/white or pink conical or bell shaped flowers with tips spread out. Flowers all round a straight stem. Almost no scent. Blue pollen. 	

Did You Know?

- The bluebell is a symbol of constancy and is probably the origin of the '.... something blue' that a bride should wear on her wedding day.
- Folk myth has it that bluebells ring to call fairies to meetings.
- Bluebell glue was used to attach feathers to arrows in the Bronze Age and by bookbinders in the Middle Ages.
- It is estimated that the UK has half the world's population in wild bluebells.
- Bluebell plants are poisonous. The chemical that makes them poisonous was used in alchemy and is being researched by modern day scientists for medical use.
- It is illegal to uproot any wild plant without the landowner/occupier's permission and since 1998 it has been illegal to uproot or pick for sale wild bluebells.

Collections for KATHARINE HOUSE HOSPICE – Foreign Currency, Postage Stamps & Old Greetings Cards. Thank you for all received so far. Keep them coming! **Marlene.**

Sometimes it does pay to complain! As most of you will be aware the road between Portway and the Butts shows signs of deterioration. I reported this to the Oxfordshire County Council on the 9th March and they carried out an inspection **within 10 days!** F.Moore. Portway Gardens.

Are you using the **Post Office** now up and running in the small room of our Village Hall.? Day and Time Tuesdays 1.30-3.30pm.

Aynho Delivery of Medicines from Deddington Health Centre. It would be most helpful if patients, or persons responsible, were **at home** on FRIDAY mornings to receive and sign for delivery of medicines. This is a voluntary service we do not want to lose.

CAMERON ANDERSON Available, until April 17th for Maths & Physics tuition
£10 per hour.GCSE & A level.. **Call: 07875 948457**

(Sorry I have had to "squeeze" you all up a bit closer this month – I try to keep to 8 pages! – Sybil)

SMITHS NEWSAGENTS – Early delivery to your door – any combination of days/weeks catered for – just ring
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THE CARTWRIGHT HOTEL

ST GEORGE'S DAY SATURDAY CELEBRATION

SATURDAY APRIL 25TH FROM 6.00PM

Menu

Welcoming Glass of Pimms

Traditional Prawn Cocktail

Steak & Bombardier Pie with Creamy Mash & Vegetables

Bread & Butter Pudding with Custard

Quiz & Pianist, Chris Langdown

All for £25 pp

Tickets available on 01869 811885