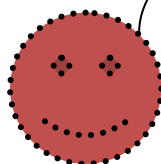




Aynho
The Apricot Village

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2016



AND Spring's on it's way!



ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2016

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

Sunday:

February 7th

Epiphany

AYNHO 11.0am Holy Communion*

(Sidespersons: Mrs.Kirby Mr.Cheney)

Farthinghoe 9.30 HC Hinton 11.0 MW

Evenley 6.0 Taize

Ash Wednesday 10th

Aynho 10.0am Communion with imposition of Ashes

Sunday:

February 14th

Baptism of Christ

AYNHO 9.30am Holy Communion*

(Sidespersons: Mrs Bellamy. Mr.Leigh.)

Croughton 9.30 HC Evenley 11.0 HC Farthinghoe 10.0 FW

Hinton ES 6.0

Pancake Party

Croughton Village Hall 4.0pm.

Sunday:

February 21st

Benefice at Farthinghoe 10.0am

Pizza Praise 4.0pm at Croughton

Sunday

February 28th

AYNHO 10.30am Activity followed by

11.00am Family Baptism Service*

(Sidespersons: Mrs.Chong. Mrs Pusey Mr.Sutton)

Croughton 9.30 C Evenley 11.0 FW Farthinghoe 4.0 ES

* Refreshments served after Service – new help always appreciated –
list for volunteers in porch.

Home Communion	Monday Jan.25 th & Feb.29th	11.00am	15, The Square
P.C.C. Meeting	Monday 1st	7.30pm	
Prayer Group	Thursday 11th	2.30pm	15, The Square
Bible Study Group	Monday 8 th	10.15am	“Cedar House” SOULDERN.
Church Cleaning	Thursday 18 th	9.45am onwards	
Bell Ringing –	Tuesdays at 7.30pm	1 st Evenley 2 nd & 4 th Kings Sutton 3 rd	Tuesday Aynho.
Weddings:	January 30th & February 27th		

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

Revd.Simon Dommett Tel:01869.810903 Email@the.revd.simon@gmail.com

Assistant Curate: Revd Shemil Mathew 07401 587151 revshemil@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 March 2016 by and before Monday February 16th to:

Sybil at 32, Roundtown Tel:810692 Email: syban@btinternet.com Vol.599

**This NEWSLETTER is issued by St.Michael’s Church Aynho
and printed by HAMPTONS ESTATE AGENTS - Deddington.**

From your Rector

A POEM FOR ALL

- 10 little churchmen went to church when fine, but it started raining then there were 9.
9 little churchmen stayed up very late, One overslept himself, and then there were 8.
8 little churchmen on the road to heaven. One joined a rambling club, then there were 7.
7 little churchmen heard of Sunday 'flicks'. One thought he'd like to go, then there were 6.
6 little churchmen kept the place alive, One bought a television then there were 5.
5 little church-men seemed loyal to the core. The rector upset one of them and then there were 4.
4 little churchmen argued heat-edly, Over all the changes, then there were 3.
3 little churchmen sang the service through, Got a hymn they didn't know, then there were 2.
2 little church-men disputed who should run the next social evening, then there was 1.
1 loyal churchman knowing what to do, Got a friend to come to church then there were 2.
2 sincere church-men each brought one more, So their number doubled, then there were 4.
4 sturdy churchmen simply couldn't wait, till they got four others then there were 8.
8 eager churchmen at church every week Soon encouraged others, troubled souls to seek.

All the seats in the church were filled - not an empty pew.

“ O God supply this grace and zeal in our parish too.”

I was shown this poem by a study churchperson who wanted to see their church grow. Maybe the poem should use the term churchperson rather than churchman or men, but that sounds too much like the two church people arguing and misses the point. There are many activities run by the church for the community where you will find a warm welcome. In the Choir, the Benefice Festival Chorus (singers), Bell Ringers, flower arranging, making coffee, Cuppa and Chat, even church cleaning, not to mention the services.

Be brave and invite a friend to come along in 2016. God Bless you all Simon

Cuppa and Chat ~ Lent Bible Studies

With Easter coming early this year, we find Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday 9th February) marking the start of Lent. This year we will again be holding our Lent Bible Study - Cuppa and Chat, and will be looking for people to host the meetings. **Subject - The Ten Commandments** –The course booklet is £5 and sign up sheets will be in the Churches or let Shemil Mathew (07401 587151) or Simon Dommatt (01869 810903) know .

Starting week commencing 8 February Thursday 11th 7.30/45pm **Aynho** at 15, The Square.

BFC ~Big Friendly Chorus

We have at the most 10 rehearsals between now and an early Easter, so we kick off on

Thursday 14th February at 7.30 in Hinton Church.

New members are always welcome, all you need is an enthusiasm to sing. We're happy to have singers of all voice parts and either new to it or coming back.

Shrove Tuesday 9th February

Open House Pancakes at the Rectory 6pm-8pm Simon & Heather invite you to come along and have some Pancakes and a drink Drop in any time, young and old welcome. See you there,

Pancake Party Sunday 14th February Croughton Village Hall 4pm. Lots of fun for all the family, including those lovely pancakes. For more information – ring Simon 810903.

Aynho Carol Service Collections: £250 each to Katharine House Hospice & Crisis.

Thank you to all.

Advance Notices!!!!!!

MAYTIME in the SQUARE - our lovely village tradition - May 14th

FETE – Sunday 12th June at Aynhoe Park by kind permission of James Perkins.

HOLIDAY CLUB will be from **Monday 25 – Friday 29th** July with a celebration service on the Sunday. We are always pleased to see new faces helping with this as well as our stalwarts who we could not do without.

CAROL SINGING ON THE GREEN

A very big thank you to everyone in the Village who came along to join in this now annual event on Christmas Eve, it was a very successful time with a great turnout of those staying in Aynho for Christmas.

My grateful thanks to the Leigh family and the Dommetts for all their hard work in running it this year along with those providing the music and as usual The Cartwright Hotel who kindly donated those tasty mince pies.



The amount generously donated to the Children's Society was **£110.96** This will provide much needed support to help children from all sectors of society look forward to a brighter future.

After some 12 years of being Aynho's Hon Local Secretary I shall be stepping down this year. It is important that support for The Children's Society continues as they rely very much on the Box Collection donations. **Is there anyone out there who would be willing to take over this role?** If you are interested please contact me on 01869 819727 or e-mail aynhogibbs@btinternet.com . The Children's Society does an enormous amount of work in supporting and transforming the lives of thousands of vulnerable children.

Deborah Gibbs

The Children's Society

Hon Local Secretary

Prescription Collection from Deddington Health Centre

As most of you will be aware a group of very kind volunteers collect and distribute medicines from the above centre to patients in Aynho. It is to these kind people that we give our grateful thanks for this service to those of our community who need it.

It must however be pointed out that this facility is primarily to those who are housebound and alone or who have no other means of accessing their medicines.

If you are one of those patients already assisted by this voluntary service may it be requested that you endeavour to be available when your medicine is delivered, normally on the Friday morning, or provide an alternative means of receipt, in order to save additional visits. In future if there is no access on the first visit a contact number will be given to you.

Should you have any further queries, or need help on this subject, please refer to Sybil on 810692.

An update on the landscaping taking place at College Farm House

The South Northants Planning and Conservation authority have been made aware of the strong feelings being expressed by many of the Aynho community on this issue.

This refers to the planting of extensive vegetation along the stone wall surrounding the paddock adjacent to Banbury and Station roads. If no action is taken the much treasured landscape across the Cherwell Valley will be lost for ever. Reference to the Aynho Conservation Area Appraisal 2015 by SNC highlights the importance of this several times so it is not unreasonable to expect this to be protected.

Initially the SNC authority's reaction was little could be done to address this. Recent discussions making a strong case of the potential damage to Aynho's heritage has lead to this being reviewed. We await the result of these deliberations.

In the meantime the more the local community make known their concerns the better. I would suggest you email Alan.Munn@SouthNorthants.gov.uk or write to:-

Alan Munn Conservation Officer,

South Northants Council Conservation Department

The Forum, Moat Lane Towcester NN12 6AD

if you do have some concerns.

Graham Gibbs Roundtown

ALL FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT



ARMS (Aynho Recorded Music Society)

February 3rd 7.30pm Village Hall.

A very interesting and delightful programme was presented by Keith. The selection ranged from Shostakovich to Berlioz, Rachmaninov, Debussy and included vocals from Heddle Nash, Edith Piaf and Kathleen Ferrier, ending in the full orchestral magic of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6. An excellent selection, thank you Keith. Our next presentation will be given by our newest member Lee Simmonds.

For more information: **Contact: Bob Mann 810264**

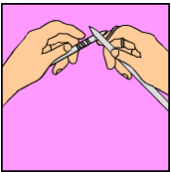


PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

February 3rd 7.30pm Cartwright Hotel.

On the 3rd our member Martin Chapman ARPS will give a presentation on "Wildlife-landscapes and infra-red photography". This will be followed on **February 17th** with a workshop on "Basic computing for photographers" All welcome at "The Apricot Room"

Contact: John Branton www.adandd.co.uk



KNIT & STITCH (& "cuppa")

2, Portway Gardens. 2.0 – 4.0pm

February 4th & 18th

Contact: Glenwys Wormald 810880



GARDENING CLUB

February 10th 7.30pm Village Hall

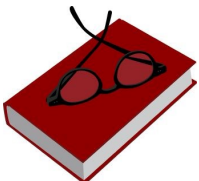
We had an excellent start to our 2016 Gardening Club programme with an enjoyable talk by Val Trinder who showed us a number of lovely gardens from around the country. Our February evening should be an interesting one; John Branham from the National Vegetable Society will be talking to us about 'Vegetables All The Year Round'. This should be very good for the vegetable growers and the fledgling Allotmenters amongst us.

We had a good turn-out in January but for those of you who were unable to come to the meeting last month we can renew your Membership card on 10 February; the annual subscription is now

£10. As many of you know, the entrance fee for Members has now been dropped, so there are no further charges for Members. Guests will be charged £2. Do please encourage newcomers to come and see what we offer, we are always delighted to welcome any new Members or guests. For any queries, please get in touch with

Annabel Bellamy (810847) or any of the Committee Members.

WRITER'S GROUP - February 13th 10.0-12.30. V.H. Committee Room



At our recent meeting we heard some fascinating stories of the sea. Samples will appear on the web page as usual. This month we will hear some first day experiences at school, college or work. Feel free to join us if you would like to share experiences. Be assured we are supportive, not critical and you will be welcomed.

Contact: Keith McClellan 810346



W.I. February 17th 7.30pm. Village Hall. Subject: "Altered Perceptions" with Mr. D. Maddy.
Tea Hostesses: Mrs. J. Ashbrook & Mrs. A. Rickard.

Contact: Barbara Watkins 811152



HEALTH WALKS Long & Short Every Thursday - Sports Pavilion – 10.0am

Contact: Keith McClellan 810346



AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY 27th January & 24th February

27th January: "A History of Oxford University"

24th February: "The 1948 London Olympics – it's impact then and now"

All welcome. Lectures start 7.30pm Village Hall.

Annual Membership as at 1/1/16 £20 p.a. Lectures then free – or pay as you go £3.00 per event. Student concession £1.

Contacts: Rupert Clark 07808 763261 rupert.ds.clark@gmail.com or

Peter Cole 811261

We are sure you have already booked your place – but just in case you missed the ad here it is again!



Quiz & Curry Night – Saturday 5th March 7.30pm – Aynho Village Hall

Maximum of 4 in a team. Licensed Bar. Proceeds to A.S.R.A.

Tickets available from: **Michael Johnson 27 Blacksmith Hill. 01869-811175**

Kay Anderson 11, Portway. 01869-810019

Cost: £10 per person – price includes Meal & Quiz entry.

Adderbury Village Morris Men – Morris Dancing Taster Session

Saturday February 20th at the Adderbury Village Institute Hall 10.0am – 12noon.

This is a free and open taster session for anyone wanting to learn about the Morris dances from our village – and perhaps having a go?

John Ekers 01869-811741

Forthcoming – Terry Benbow Memorial/Celebration – Sunday March 27th

In 2014 we sadly said goodbye to our good friend Terry Benbow who passed away after a short battle against Meningitis. Despite him dying at such an early age Terry left a mark on so many people, with his positive outlook on life, and his constant thinking of how he could help others – in death the donation of his organs helped save the lives of others. His love of motor sports, football, scouting and life in general was inspiring, and something which we want to honour!

To celebrate his life we are holding a family fun day on Easter Sunday March 27th which will include a football match between one of his former teams (Aynho Athletic – Northamptonshire/Oxfordshire) and Aynho Athletic Legends team, a raffle, auction and other activities for all the family.

As well as making sure people have fun (which Terry would have insisted on) we are raising awareness and funds for Meningitis Now (Charity No.803016 in England & Wales, SC037790 in Scotland).

If anyone would like to donate a raffle or auction prize please contact either :

Tom Cliffe cliffetom@hotmail.com or Peter Tustain petertustain@btinternet.com

Look out for posters with kick-off time. Let's make it a day to remember.

STOP PRESS: ASRA meeting in Pavilion 7.30pm 28th January. All welcome

A.S.R.A. Park Club Draw from Kay

Thanks to those who have supported us again this year. It's not too late to have a draw number. Contact me on 3030 113 6008 (new landline number) if you have missed our collectors and still want to be a part of the monthly draw. You can save our volunteer collectors a trip by paying your subscription directly into our bank account. Its £12 per annum to A/C 00467143 S/C 30-11-08. Please mail me at kaynho@lineone.net to let me know and remember to put your name as reference please on the payment.

Aynho Community Facebook Page

Just a reminder that if you are a Facebook user and wish to get updates and information about the village, share, sell, buy, moan, talk, inform, observe, advertise etc. please do join us. Look for the Aynho Community Group, just make sure you join the right one as the first one set up was a Page and not a Group. We have 111 users to date, please spread the word. Whilst not to everyone's taste, this method of communication is invaluable in informing people of important information (such as break in's, lost animals etc) relatively speedily. It will also replace my e mail round robin which is rapidly becoming out of date and quite time-consuming for myself.

AYNHO COMMUNITY THEATRE

This has been dormant for a couple of years but the group has funds, costumes and two large boxes of scripts for anyone wanting to re-start it. The village hall is equipped with stage, lighting etc and there will be some willing actors I'm sure BUT we need directors & organisers to get it going. Anyone interested contact Kay on 0330 113 6008 or kaynho@lineone.net

BIODIVERSITY GROUP

Bird of the Month: The Magpie

At first the magpie looks like a black and white crow with a long tail which is over half the bird's total length. Close to, however, the black wings and tail take on an iridescent hue of blues, greens and purples. They are sedentary holding a territory of about 12 acres all year round and rarely moving far from their birth place. They mate for life and in Spring, over a period of several weeks, both birds build a large nest high up in tall trees. These sometimes have 2 entrances as well as a domed roof to prevent predation by other crows. The female lays approximately 6 eggs which she alone incubates while the male feeds her. After 18 – 19 days the eggs hatch and both birds then feed the young who fledge after 26 – 30 days. The young are fed for another 4 weeks and stay in the parents' territory until September or October when they form loose flocks, feeding and roosting together. In areas where nesting sites are limited between 25% to 60% of birds do not breed at all. Magpies are scavengers, predators and pest destroyers feeding on insects, rodents, carrion, eggs, nestlings, grain, berries and fruit. They have a reputation for stealing shiny objects but when Exeter University scientists conducted an experiment they found that magpies were rather nervous of unfamiliar shiny and dull objects indicating they suffered from neophobia which is a fear of new things. If they manage to survive their first year, and many do not, their average life expectancy is 3 years although the oldest recorded was over 21 years.



Did You Know?

- The length of a magpie's tail is an indication of the bird's status in its society.
- In the spring, large numbers of magpies often gather to resolve territorial conflicts and social standing. These gatherings, called parliaments.
- Until the mid-19th century, magpies were popular with farmers as they ate harmful insects and rodents but heavy persecution by gamekeepers up to WW1 caused their numbers to plummet. However, from 1970 to 1990 their numbers trebled and now seem stable which may be the result of the all year round supply of carrion from road kill.
- Magpies are highly intelligent and are able to solve puzzles, mimic human speech and recognise themselves in mirrors.

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CHRISTIAN on 01280-840241 or 07921 675400. info@ahandymanwithavan.com

Letter sent from a "Troubled Aynho Resident" to, perhaps, an equally troubled car owner.

"On the evening of December 20th I attended the Carol Service in St. Michael's Church, Aynho, and my car was parked in the church car park. On leaving I noticed substantial damage had been caused to my driver's door, the wing mirror and surrounds. This could not have been caused without the knowledge of the driver concerned.

Having lived in Aynho for a number of years and knowing the integrity of its residents and church attenders, I cannot believe that someone would not have a conscience about this incident and, at the least, made an apology."

If you are this person and feeling a "little guilty" then you can make your confession, in complete confidence, and without any obligations, to SYBIL on 01869 810692.