



*Spot the
difference!*

*Great work in
St Michael's
Churchyard.*



*Thank you
to all
those who have
given up their
time.*

*Still time to
see the
Snowdrops.*



*Mothering Sunday
26th March
Service St Michael's 11.00am*

ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2017

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

Wednesday March 1st

Ash Wednesday – Aynho 10.0am

Friday March 3rd

Womens World Day of Prayer – Aynho 2.0pm

Sunday:

AYNHO 11.0am Communion

March 5th

(Sidesperson: J.Pusey)

Lent 1

Farthinghoe 9.30am HC Hinton 11.0am MP

Evenley 6.00pm **TAIZE**

Sunday:

BENEFICE at AYNHO 11.0am (note time)

March 12th

(Sidesperson: T.Sutton)

Lent 2

Rev.Shemil's leaving Service followed by Reception in the Village Hall

Sunday:

AYNHO 11.0am Matins

March 19th

(Sidesperson: H.Gray)

Lent 3

Croughton 9.30am HC Evenley 11.0am HC

Farthinghoe with Hinton 6.0pm ES



Sunday

AYNHO 11.0am Family Service *Clocks go forward!*

March 26th

(Sidesperson: A.Bellamy)

Mothering Sunday
with posies for Mothers

Croughton 9.30am HC Evenley 11.00am FW

Hinton 11.00am CW Farthinghoe 10.0am FW

Bishop Donald's Visit

Thursday March 16th

7.0pm Village Hall

Morning Prayer at Aynho

Monday 6th

8.30am in Church

Home Communion

Monday 27th Feb & March 27th

11.00am 15 The Square

Bible Study Group

Monday 6th

10.15am Oakgates, Millers Lane

Lent Discussions

Thursdays 2nd 9th 16th 23rd

@ 13, Portway Gardens 7.30pm

Prayer Group

Thursday 9th

2.30pm 15 The Square

Church Cleaning

Thursday 16th

9.45amonwards

Choir Practices

To be announced

Annual Parochial Church Meeting March 22nd. 7.30pm in Church.

Bell Ringing Tuesdays 7.30pm Evenley 1st Kings Sutton 2nd & 4th **Aynho 3rd** Croughton 5th

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 April 2017 by or before Monday 20th March 2017 to:

Sybil at 32, Roundtown Tel:810692

Email: syban@btinternet.com

Vol.612

or any comments re Newsletter to Sybil or Rev.Simon Dommett.

**This Newsletter is issued by ST.MICHAEL'S CHURCH AYNHO
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Rectors Ramblings

As we enter March and Lent, and if you think the year is going fast, then are probably right. And if this year has gone fast so have the last two, for sadly it is time for us to say farewell to Rev Shemil Mathew.

He joined us nearly three years ago, as an assistant curate to receive his on the job training, to be a priest in the Church of England. He has now completed that training and has been offered the post of the chaplain to the Oxford Brookes University in the diocese of Oxford. He will leave us on Sunday 12th March after a celebration service at 11am followed by a buffet lunch in Aynho Village Hall. He doesn't get much of a break before being licensed to his new post on 20th March. Although we are sad to see Shemil go, as we have enjoyed his time with us, we must send him away with our blessing knowing that he has completed his training, and that we all, in our many different ways, have played a part in giving him the experiences he needed to grow. So farewell Shemil, may God Bless you in your new post, and don't forget that you will always be welcome back among us here.

With Shemil leaving many people have been asking, when will we get another curate? The answer to that one is, I don't know. There is no guarantee that a parish or benefice will always receive a curate, the process is about choosing the right place for the right person. The Peterborough diocese are very keen to train more young curates like Shemil and are looking for places for them to grow. But it has to be the right place for them and the parish or parishes. I hope we might get another chance in training a curate, as it is encouraging to see somebody grow in faith and confidence. But I am not holding my breath in the next year or two at the moment, but if the next couple of years go as quick as the last then the opportunity may come our way again, sooner than we expect. In the mean time we will continue with our work of trying to bring in God's kingdom to our villages.

Shrove Tuesday 28th February

The Rector and his wife (Simon and Heather) invite you to come to an Open House and Pancakes at The Rectory. 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.

Parking available in Aynho church car park. Looking forward to seeing you.

Simon & Heather

Ash Wednesday 1st March

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.

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 26th March, which gives an excuse to have a celebration.

Have a Good Lent. Simon

Women's World Day of Prayer – Friday March 3rd – St. Michael's Church 2.0pm-3.0pm approx.

This year the service has been prepared by the women of the Philippines under the heading

"Am I being unfair to you?" How many times we do we hear that phrase "It's not fair"?

The service will be led by Aynho ladies – but we do invite the gentlemen to join us!

Refreshment served after service.

Do come and meet your Bishop at our Village Hall on Thursday March 16th 7.0p.m.

From your PARISH COUNCIL

Sports Field and Pavilion

Aynho PC is looking for a volunteer to help manage the Pavilion. This is a precious village asset and we really need someone to take over the day to day running of the facility. Management of the funding is now undertaken by the PC – so you would not have that responsibility. Without a new volunteer there is a chance the Pavilion will cease to be usable which would be a great shame for the village.

Defibrillator

The Defibrillator, located on the front wall of the Village Hall, is checked on a weekly basis by volunteers from the village. However, if you ever notice any damage to the defibrillator please report it ASAP to the Clerk so we can ensure it is always fully operational

Parking on verges and footpaths

APC would like to take this opportunity to remind you that it is an offence to park in a way that obstructs footpaths and road junctions. Cars parked in such a manner risk being fined by the police. We would also ask people to not park on the verges. The weather at this time of year makes them extremely soft and they will become damaged. The PC will shortly publish details of additional space which will be made available to residents for parking

Horses and Dogs

We have received a few complaints about horses being ridden down footpaths and fouling as they go. Although horses are a welcome sight on bridleways they can cause a problem if ridden on narrow footpaths, particularly the Black Path. APC would request riders are considerate in where they ride. APC would also like to remind you that dogs **MUST** be kept on leads when being exercised on the Black Path alongside the children's play park.

Dates for your diary

Village Spring clean 18th March – 2pm – 4pm - Meet Sports Field
Annual Village Meeting 24th April – 7.30pm – Village Hall

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.

URGENT APPEAL –

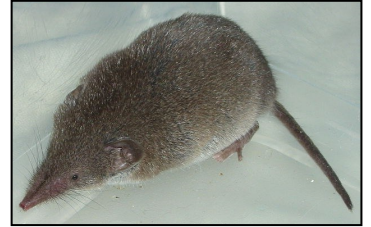
Unfortunately the **Treasurer for the Village Hall** has had to resign the position due to ill health. The Hall cannot function without someone to invoice its users and pay the bills. There may be someone in the village who could spare some time to do this job for us? It doesn't require any special skills just good old fashioned arithmetic.

If you could help please contact the **Chairman Douglas Ward on 01869 810723.**

BIODIVERSITY GROUP

Mammal of the Month: The Common Shrew

Common shrews are closely related to the mole and hedgehog. They are 5 – 8cm in length, weigh 5 – 14 grams and have dark brown backs, chestnut sides and are grey or silver underneath. Their eyes and ears are very small and their snouts long and mobile. Their teeth wear down the same as human teeth but theirs have iron deposited in the enamel making them appear red tipped but also making them more resistant. They spend most of their time in burrows previously used by other animals and, although mostly nocturnal, they can also be active during the day as they need to eat every 2 – 3 hours to survive. They are highly territorial, defending their territory very aggressively and only coming together to mate. The females have 3 or 4 litters between May and September with the 5 - 7 young having up to 3 different fathers! The mother's milk is very rich so the young grow rapidly and are independent at 1 month old. If disturbed the female will move the young, all of them travelling in a caravan fashion each one holding onto the tail of the one in front. They eat anything available including earthworms, snails, woodlice and some carrion and are important destroyers of the insects and slugs that harm crops. Shrews are themselves a food source for other animals including the barn owl, tawny owl, weasel, fox, stoat, magpie, jackdaw, adder, smooth snake and kestrel. Cats also kill a large number but usually abandon them as glands on the skin make them foul tasting. They are short lived with most dying before they are a year old.



Did You Know?

- Shrews must eat 80 – 90% of their body weight every day and will starve to death if they don't eat for just half a day.
- They do not hibernate but become less active in winter. Their size shrinks (which includes their liver, brain and skull) so they need less food.
- Shrews have the highest metabolic rate of any other animal.
- Shrews are noted for providing a home for a large number of parasites, normally transmitted to them from their prey

News from Kay at the Pavilion

PARK CLUB DRAW Many thanks to everyone who played this year keeping our winnings at £85 per month. First draw winners are Ian Calderbank who has kindly donated half back to ASRA and half to The Church. Thank you Ian. Sarah Harding was our second winner, congratulations! She kindly donated all hers back last time so have insisted she keep it this time!

VILLAGE CLEAN UP – SATURDAY 18TH MARCH 2 – 4PM MEET AT THE PAVILION We need some people to come and help sweep and clean up the track and field please. It doesn't just happen by itself so if you value this facility and are a walker, cyclist, jogger please come along with a broom and help us free the track of leaves and debris to keep it safe. Also, if you have young children and would like to see a sandpit and play area for the little ones by the pavilion please get in touch with me to come and help make it happen. Again, it won't happen without people getting in touch and coming along to help.

AYNHO COMMUNITY FACEBOOK PAGE Just a reminder for those of you who are on Facebook (and those of you who are not – you can join) that we have a thriving Facebook page with 300 members now. It's a useful place to find out about what's going on and a very quick way of getting information about, especially useful if it's about dodgy door to door sales people, crime alerts, lost dogs etc. You are also welcome to sell and request household items, advertise events etc. Business advertisements are restricted to once a week maximum.

AT AYNHO SPORTS PAVILION - SALE. BOOKS, BRIC A BRAC AND HOMEGOODS

SUNDAY 12TH MARCH 2 – 4pm

TEA/COFFEE/HOME MADE CAKES FOR SALE

ALL FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT
Don't forget to come along to the Village Hall Annual General Meeting
Monday March 13th 7.30pm (Committee Room) and see how
YOUR Village Hall is managed. All welcome.

ARMS (Aynho Recorded Music Society). 1st March 7.30pm Village Hall

A most attractive programme was given by Keith at last months meeting. He used CD, tape and vinyl in order to blend Classical & Modern music into a very imaginative presentation. Interesting comments enhanced the proceedings. Very many thanks Keith.

Contact: Bob Mann 810264

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY 1st March 7.30pm at the Cartwright Hotel.

At our February meeting Paul Brewerton delighted his audience with a well-recorded trip showing breath-taking beauty and vastness of Alaskan landscape with charming images of wildlife there.

On March 1st Robert Harvey will present "By the sea – the wild edge of Britain"

On April 5th we have our Annual General Meeting.

Everyone is most welcome to attend, just come along and meet us all.

Contact: Paul Brewerton www.addphoto.co.uk Tel:01295 276949

AYNHO GARDENING CLUB 8th March Village Hall 7.30pm

On Wednesday 8th March we are going to have a talk by Andrew Mikolajskie who comes highly recommended as a good speaker. He is going to be talking about York Gate which is a garden on the outskirts of northern Leeds. This is an inspirational one acre garden - a hidden gem with many different areas within the garden and packed with fascinating paths and vistas. Somewhere to enjoy and maybe inspire as we get going in our own gardens. If you have been unable to come to the earlier meetings in the year we can renew your Membership card on that evening; the annual subscription is now £10 and this includes the AGM evening. 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



AYNHO W.I.

15th March 7.30pm Village Hall

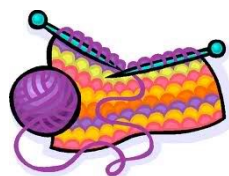
Our thanks to Jenny Wightman for her very interesting and informative talk last month on the work of those involved with the "Chain of Hope" Her own enthusiasm and devotion to this charity certainly impressed us all. Our talk for March is a little more frivolous, though informative, on the French Can-Can given to us by David Price. David is a history teacher for the Adult Education system and, having seen the real Can-Can in French cabaret mode, became interested enough to read up more about it and make it a subject

of one of his talks. Unfortunately, unless a WI member feels inclined, there will not be a demonstration, though maybe whilst

enjoying our refreshments we will be enthused enough to do a little bit of jigging around!.

Tea Hostesses: Carol McClellan & Gill Phillips.

Contact: Barbara Watkins 811152



KNIT & STITCH & a CUPPA!

March 7th & 21st 2.0 – 4.0pm @ 2 Portway Gardens.

For information:

Contact: Glenwys Wormald Tel:810880



WRITER'S GROUP - Saturday March 11th 10.0am – 12.30 Village Hall

Last month we had some enjoyable diary extracts true and imagined and “a lovely piece of Africa” (see our selection on the village website). This month we will be hearing about “Grand-parents” our a story beginning “Are you feeling brave?”

Contact: Keith McClellan 810346 or via Community Page



AYNHO HEALTH WALKS

Health Walks start from the Pavilion each Thursday 10.0am to suit all tastes & fitness. Trained leaders on all walks.

Warm up afterwards with delicious refreshments in the Pavilion

See village website for walk descriptions. New walkers welcome.

Contact: Keith McClellan 810346 or Kathy White 810418



AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY – March 29th 7.30pm Village Hall

“Stowe House an extraordinary story of opulence and debt” presented by Paul Carter.

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

or Peter Cole 01869 811261 petercole39@outlook.com



WINTER LUNCH CLUB

Dates for W.L.C. during **March** in the back room of the village hall will be **Thursdays: 2nd 9th 16th & the 23rd which will be the last of the season.**

Time: 12.15pm-1.30pm. If you would like any further information contact

Amanda tel: -01869 810341



CINEMA - Croughton Village Hall – Fridays Doors Open 7.30p Licenced Bar.

Next showing 10th March. “Queen of Katwa”



This is your last chance to book a table at the

AYNHO QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT on Saturday **18th March 2017**

Licensed Bar. Maximum of 4 in a team.

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

Tickets available from:

Michael Johnson, 27, Blacksmith Hill mjohnson.deepdale@gmail.com 01869 811175

and Kay Anderson, 11, Portway kaynho178@gmail.com 03301136008

All proceeds towards Aynho Sports & Recreation Association

YOGA GROUP Interested in joining our friendly Hatha Yoga group in the village hall, Wednesdays from 9.30 until 10.30 with Barb Nievens? If you've never tried before and want to come along to see what it's all about please do so. £6 per session or £5 per session for a block booking. Contact Kay on 0330 113 6008 for more info. Hugely beneficial for your wellbeing and gently exercising those joints and muscles that are seizing up!

KAY'S CHINA HIRE, AYNHO- Vintage china, cake stands, bunting, tablecloths available for your wedding, christening, baby shower, funeral, tea party. All for just £1 per head (minimum hire £20).
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Accommodation in a spacious self-contained annex with king sized bed, private en suite bathroom and conservatory for continental breakfast.

£60 per room per night Sun – Thursday. £65 per night Friday and Saturday.

Phone 0330 113 6008 (Aynho landline) or kay@lineone.net or find us on

Facebook: No. 11. We are dog and child friendly for a small extra charge!

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