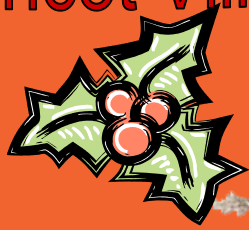




Aynho
The Apricot Village



NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2017



Warm Christmas

Greetings

to all our

Readers

May your home be filled

with the

magic and joy

of

CHRISTMAS

ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2017

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



Sunday: **AYNHO - 11.0am Holy Communion**
December 3rd (Sidespersons: Mrs.H.Dommett Mrs.J.Pusey)
ADVENT 1 Croughton 4.0pm Christingle Farthinghoe 9.30am HC
Evenley 6.0pm TAIZE Hinton 11.0am MW

Sunday: **Benefice at Evenley 10.0am**
December 10th Lessons & Carols at Hinton 6.0pm
ADVENT 2

Sunday: **AYNHO – 5.0pm Lessons & Carols**
December 17th (Sidespersons: Mrs.White. Mrs.Chong. Mrs.Bellamy Mr.Sutton)
ADVENT 3 Croughton 10.0am said HC & 4.30pm Christmas Tree Carols
Evenley 3.0pm Lessons & Carols.
Farthinghoe 6.0pm Lessons & Carols.



Sunday **AYNHO Carols on the Green 5.0pm**
December 24th Croughton – 3.30pm Family Carols
Farthinghoe 5.0pm Crib Service
Christmas Eve 24th **Midnight 11.0pm at FARTHINGHOE**
Christmas Day 25th **AYNHO 10.30am**
(Sidespersons: Mrs.Grey Mr.Bellamy)
Croughton 9.15am Evenley 10.0am Hinton 10.30am

December 31st **AYNHO 10.0am Holy Communion**
(Sidespersons: Mrs.Gray. Mrs.White)

Choir Practices Friday 1st 11.30am @ No.32 & Thursday 14th in Church 2.0pm
Bible Study Meeting Monday 11th 10.15am 1, Cartwright Gardens
Church Cleaning Thursday 14th 9.45amonwards
Prayer Group Tuesday 5th 2.30pm 16 The Butts
Bell Ringing Tuesdays: 7.30pm Evenley 1st Kings Sutton 2nd & 4th Aynho 3rd Croughton 5th
Weddings: 7th and 16th

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

Items for January 2018 by or before Saturday 16th December 2017 please to
Sybil at No.32 Roundtown Tel:810692 Email: syban@btinternet.com Vol.621
Or any comments re Newsletter to Sybil or Rev.Simon Dommett

This Newsletter is issued by ST.MICHAEL'S CHURCH AYNHO
and printed by... HAMPTONS ESTATE AGENTS - DEDDINGTON

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From the Rectory:

All I want for Christmas is.....

You may remember the film or the song in which these lines were sung. But they ask us the question what do we want for Christmas? You may put world peace up there, a day without Brexit on the news. For some people Christmas will pass them by as any other day, a day full of sorrow and sadness, a day where they have no home, a day filled with abuse, a day of cold and hunger. At this time of year our charity focus moves to the work of the Children's Society, Some people collect for this society all year round with collecting boxes in their homes, if you would like to join them, just let me know and I can get a collecting box round to you for 2018.

We have two events which particularly focus on the Children's Society, formerly called the Church of England Children's Society. The first event is the **Christingle Service** which has been used for many years as the flagship for the society. This year our service will be at 4pm on 3rd December at All Saints Croughton. Here we will make our Christingles and a collection will be taken for the charity. This is a lovely service for all the family, do come along if you can. If you cannot make the service and want to make a donation, please drop it off at the Rectory marked 'Children's Society' and I will make sure it gets to them.

Our second event is the **"Carol Singing on the Green"** or round the Christmas tree at Aynho on Christmas Eve at 5pm, usually followed by mince pies and mulled wine in the village hall.

We support the charity because of the work they do to help tackle child sexual exploitation, they work among the young refugees and migrants, they have an advocacy service that speaks up for the children in areas such as child protection and government policy. They work with children affected by adult substance abuse. They work with and for those who go missing from their homes and families, they work supporting young people experiencing mental health and emotional wellbeing problems. They also work with post adoption and care services for those who have been adopted and want to trace relatives.

See <https://www.childrensociety.org.uk> for more details.

One thing the Children's Society highlights is our need to be vigilant about caring for or safeguarding children where ever we may find ourselves. The church's commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is shown by all PCC members and group leaders attending Safeguarding Awareness courses to help set the standard for our communities and to help protect them.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and Christ filled Christmas and look forward to seeing you at our many events and services over the Christmas time.

God Bless

Simon (Rector)

Croughton Christmas Tree Festival

Come and enjoy the festive decorations from village groups in the first of our new Christmas Tree Festival at Croughton Church. The festival is open

Sunday 10th December 2pm – 5pm, Saturday 16th December 2pm - 5pm, Sunday 17th December 2pm - 5pm

Entry £1 for adults, children free Come and help us judge the best dressed tree.

The festival will finish with a special Christmas Tree Carols at **4.30pm Sunday 17th December** to which everybody is invited and at which the winner of the best dressed tree will be announced.

Mid week viewing for groups can be made by arrangement-please contact Peter on 01869 810023

We are very grateful to CT Walters Electrical Ltd for their support of this event.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



Thank you very much for your great generosity to the Appeal.

Our house to house collection raised just over £700 which is terrific. Grateful thanks for the 10 collectors who did a marvellous job. A further £100 was added from the Remembrance Day Church Service.

Old Lawnmower for Churchyard – Does anyone have an oldish small petrol rotary lawnmower sitting in the back of their shed, maybe needing a service or bit of welding etc., which can be used in the churchyard for nipping between the head-stones. It would be gratefully received at the Church and we would get it into service and put to good use till the end of it's life. Please ring Andrew Bellamy 810847

“ FOR YOUR ENTERTAINMENT”

AYNHO W.I.

Friday December 1st “IT’S PARTY TIME”

Many thanks to Liz Woolley for her fascinating talk in November on Oxford’s past involving “Beer, Sausages & Marmalade” bringing to us a renewed appreciation of these plus some very interesting facts of “Old Oxford”. *Liz did apologise for there not being any samples!* On the subject of food we had a wonderful “Ploughmans” after our A.G.M in October – with the next mouth-watering event being our Christmas Supper including raffle and quiz with a difference. This event is always much enjoyed by members and all invited friends and relatives – so definitely 2017s will be up to the standard – and probably better – so look forward to seeing many of you there.

A.W

W.I.Contact: Mrs B Watkins 01869 811152

ARMS – (Music Group)

Wednesday 6th December 7.30pm Village Hall



Keith presented a cascade of variety at our last meeting featuring Strauss, Verdi and Offenbach – Rachmaniov’s “Adagio” from Symphony No.2 followed by Shostakovich’s “Ravel” and Borodin. The second half started with Elgar’s “Nimrod”, Mascagni, Dvorak and Beethoven followed. The evening came to an end with

Andrea Bocelli singing “Time to say Good-bye”. A thoroughly enjoyable evening. Thanks Keith.
December 6th Lee will be presently accompanied by mincepies!!!

Contact Bob Mann 810264

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY Wednesday 6th December (note change of venue)

This month we meet at Christopher Rawlings School, Aynho Road, Adderbury.

Paul Brewerton Tel: 01295 276949 paul.brewerton@btinternet.com

WRITER’S GROUP - Saturday 9th December 10.0am -12.30pm Village Hall

At November’s meeting we had some fascinating stories from “The funny old world of the past), followed by our annual lunch at The White Horse. Our thanks to Brian for organising an enjoyable feast. This coming month we have our traditional “Guess the Writer” session, with pieces on “Dreams – Real or Imaginary” or “New Year Resolutions”



Contact: Keith McClellan 801346 – keithcarolmac@gmail.com or via Community Page

AYNHO GARDENING CLUB Next Meeting January 10th 2018



It was good to see a good number of you at the AGM and final Gardening Club evening of this year; our thanks go to Amanda for the excellent quiz that she had prepared. Thank you to all of you who brought contributions to the buffet table. The first event of 2018 will be held on Wednesday 10th January when The Hon Mrs Virginia Price will be talking to us about her beautiful garden “Pettifers” which we will be visiting in July as an evening visit. Do come and learn about the creation of her garden. Her talk will start at 7.30pm and we will be ready to re-new your annual

Membership (£10) prior to the talk.

In the meantime the **Committee wish all the Members of the Aynho Gardening Club a Very Happy Christmas**
With best wishes Annabel Bellamy

KNIT & STITCH will meet for the last time this year on **Tuesday December 12th**

Knit – Crochet - Patchwork over a “cuppa” at 1, Portway Gardens

Contact Glenwys: 810880



AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY

Next Meeting January 2018

Contacts: Rupert Clark 07808763261 ...Peter Cole 01869 811261

AYNHO HEALTH WALKS continue as usual – wind, rain or shine - from the Pavilion every Thursday at 10.0am. Three levels of Track. Medium & Long.

Refreshments and light lunches are available after the walks.

Keith McClellan 810346 or Kathy White 810418



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**WINTER LUNCH CLUB**



Winter Lunch Club will return to the back room of the Village Hall on the following dates in December 2017 and January 2018:



**Thursdays: 7<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 & 11<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Time: 12.15pm-1.30pm**

Christmas goodies will feature on the menu on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December

No membership necessary, all welcome. Come and enjoy a home cooked lunch in a warm, friendly atmosphere, just turn up! If you plan to come with extra friends please try to let me know so that I can make sure there will be enough food. Thank you to everyone for your patience over the late start of WLC this season. Profit (after hall hire charges and food ingredients etc) will be donated to St Michael's Church, the Village Hall and the Defibrillator to assist with ongoing maintenance for all three of these village assets.

**Amanda – Tel: 01869-810341**

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ALLOTMENTS for 2018. There is vacant space for next year on the allotments in Charlton Road just beyond the Sports Field. £5 p.a. for a whole space or £2.50 for any part space. There is water now which helps with veg & flower production. If you would like to grow something – or many things – ring 810847 to talk about what you would like to do. Sharing allotment space makes it great fun and co-operative production.

Friends in nearby villages are welcome to apply.



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**Helen Parrish** on 07805678920 or visit my online store

[www.avon.uk.com/store/helenparish](http://www.avon.uk.com/store/helenparish) [www.kleeneze.com/store/helenparish](http://www.kleeneze.com/store/helenparish)

**Treat yourself and your home**

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**THANKS:**

I would like to add grateful thanks to the 21 volunteers who have delivered this newsletter each month during 2017 and to the 13 kind people who have collected and delivered medicines each week through the year from the Deddington Health Centre..... Sybil.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL**

## FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL:

**Dog Waste** You may have seen some Keep Britain tidy posters up around the village to do with dog waste. These have been erected as a result of many complaints made to the PC about dog waste not being picked up. Unfortunately it does seem that some of the posters have been deliberately removed within days of the location of the posters as they may have been inadvertently placed in the wrong location then please contact the PC. The PC would also like to remind residents that if there is not a dog waste bin available then tied poo bags can be disposed of in the normal waste bins within the village.

**Parking** Please remember that providing it is safe to do so anyone can park anywhere on a public highway. There is no designated on-road parking in the village. As such it's not possible for individual residents to 'reserve' the public highway immediately in front of their own property. We would ask that you park considerately.

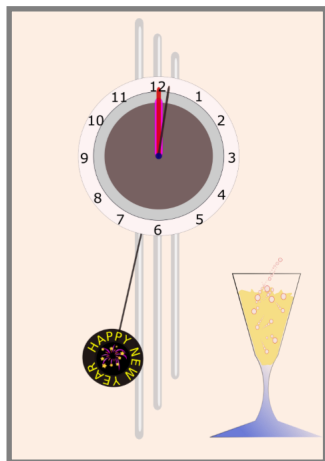
**Overhanging branches** On certain pathways within the village vegetation from individual gardens will inevitably overhang onto a pavement or footpath. We would kindly ask that residents keep an eye on the overgrowing vegetation and cut back any overhanging branches/vegetation in order that the paths remain safe and clear.

**Vacancy on Parish Council** We currently have a vacancy on the PC. The main qualification is to live and have an interest in the village. The Parish Council meets on the first Monday of every month, except January & August: meetings last less than two hours! If you would like to help make a difference within the village then please contact the clerk if you are interested in joining.

**Merry Christmas** The PC would like to wish all of Aynho a  
Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

**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](mailto:sadie.patamia@aynho.org). The postal address is 31 Brackley Road, Croughton, NN13 5PP, or you can find us on Twitter. There is also a village Facebook page (however please note it is not an official PC sponsored page).

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New Year's Eve at "The Cartwright" please come and join us!
Call 01869 811885 to book and avoid disappointment!



Menu:

Champagne & Canapés
Smoked Salmon Gravadlax, Dill Dressing, Rocket & Lemon
Butternut Squash & Vanilla Soup, Herb & Parmesan Croute
Pan Fried Pigeon Breast, Micro Herb Salad & Warm Raspberry Balsamic Glaze Mash
Chargrilled Fillet Steak, Sauté Potatoes & Cognac Sauce
Baked Fillet of Turbot, Crushed New Potatoes, Lemon Béarnaise Sauce
Mushroom Bourignonne topped with Puff Pastry & Garlic Mash
All Served With Panache Vegetables

Cappuccino Crème Brûlée, Pecan Nut Cookies
Platter of Local Cheeses, Grapes, Celery, Apricot Chutney & Biscuits
(To Share) - Chocolate Fondue, Shortbread Fingers, Strawberries, Marshmallows,
Chocolate Brownie
Coffee, Mints & Petit Fours

£45.00 per person

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**LOST** in the village: A striped fingerless woollen glove – if found please contact 811183 or 810692

**Library Van – Note change of time – Dec.1<sup>st</sup> The Butts 11.30-12.00**

**TOWCESTER MUSEUM** warmly invite you to their magical Victorian themed Christmas Event –  
Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> 10.0am- 4.0pm *Free all day.*

**CROUGHTON CINEMA - New Season – Dates for your Diary**

January 5<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> February 16<sup>th</sup> March 9<sup>th</sup> April 6<sup>th</sup> May 4<sup>th</sup>  
Membership still only £10.00

**KAY'S CHINA HIRE-AYNHO.** Vintage China, Cake Stands, Bunting, Tablecloths available for your weddings, christenings, baby shower, funeral, tea party. All for just £1/head (minimum hire £20) Local delivery available.

Contact Kay on Tel: 0330 113 6008 or 07980 546332 or [kaynho@lineone.net](mailto:kaynho@lineone.net)

**BED & BREAKFAST ACCOMMODATION IN AYNHO.**

Accommodation in a spacious self-contained annexe with king sized bed, private en suite bathroom and conservatory for continental breakfast.

£60 per room per night Sunday-Thursday. £65 per night Friday & Saturday.

Phone 0330 113 6008 (Aynho landline) or [kaynho@lineone.net](mailto:kaynho@lineone.net) or find us on Facebook No.11. We are dog and child friendly for a small extra charge!

**SMITHS NEWSAGENTS** – Early delivery to your door – any combination of days/weeks catered for – just ring Tel:01295 – 268499

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Phone: **07494 119 478** **Google:** Sarah Dean Counselling. Concessions available.  
**It's good to talk.**



### Plants of the Month: Common Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)

The common holly, one of Britain's few native evergreens, can grow up to 15m in height and live for 300 years. It flowers in May or June with each bush producing either male or female flowers. The female bush alone produces the bright red berries but only if there is a male plant nearby to pollinate it. A wide variety of wildlife rely on the holly bush.

Birds use its dense cover for nesting in and the berries are an essential food source in winter. Small mammals also eat the berries and along with toads, slow worms and hedgehogs use the deep leaf litter for hibernation. Bees and other pollinators visit the flowers for the nectar and pollen whilst caterpillars of the holly blue butterfly and some moths eat the buds, leaves and flowers. Deer also eat the leaves but choose the smooth ones found at the top of the bushes. The use of holly as a decoration at Christmas dates back centuries to pagan times when the Romans used it in wreaths and garlands during their Saturnalia festival held in December. If you are using it as a decoration be aware the berries and leaves are poisonous to both pets and humans.



### Did You Know?

- Scandinavian myths state the holly bush originally belonged to Thor the god of thunder. Ancient Romans believed holly protected against lightning strikes. According to The Holly Society this may have some truth in it as they suggest the spines of the leaves act as miniature lightning conductors protecting the tree and other objects nearby!
- The Celts believed that the Holly King ruled during winter days while the Oak King ruled over the summer.
- The mistle thrush jealously guards the holly berries in winter preventing other birds from eating them.
- In heraldry, holly is used to symbolize truth.
- Holly wood is heavy, hard, fine grained and easily dyed. It is used to make walking sticks and is sometimes dyed black and used instead of ebony for piano keys. It also makes good firewood, burning with a strong heat.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**CAROL SINGING ON THE GREEN**

**SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2017**



Meet 5.00 p.m. (outside the Cartwright Hotel)  
Please come and join us for a festive sing-a-long.  
**ALL WELCOME**  
(Children must be accompanied by an adult)

Complimentary seasonal refreshments served in the Village Hall afterwards  
Donations in aid of the Children's Society  
*Thanks to the "Cartwright Hotel" for sponsorship*

