



Aynho  
The Apricot Village

# NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020



***HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS  
TO ALL OUR  
READERS***



# ASTWICK VALE BENEFICE CHURCH CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2020

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

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December 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AYNHO</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>11.00am</b>
		Sidespersons: Mrs.Jane Wade & Mrs.Annabel Bellamy	
		Farthinghoe 9.30am HC Hinton 11.0am Morning	
		Worship	
December 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AYNHO</b>	<b>Lay Led 10.0am</b>	
		Sidespersons: Mr.Ted Sutton & Mrs.Jenny Pusey	
		Croughton 9.30 HC. Evenley 11.0am HC	
December 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AYNHO</b>	<b>Carols with Christingles</b>	<b>5.30pm</b>
		Sidespersons: All Sidespersons	
December 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>EVENLEY</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Mass</b>	<b>11.30pm</b>
Christmas Eve			
December 25	<b>AYNHO</b>	<b>Christmas Celebration</b>	<b>10.0am</b>
Christmas Day		Sidespersons: Mr.Andrew Bellamy & Mrs.Kathy White	
		Croughton Farthinghoe & Hinton all at 10.0am	
December 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AYNHO</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>8.30am</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> after Christmas			

**The Church is also open 10.00am – 3.00pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays for Private Prayer**

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**Church Cleaning - Thursdays 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 9.45am onwards.**

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**Information about the life of Aynho church -**

enquiries from: **Rev.Sue Cooper** – [revsue.cooper@gmail.com](mailto:revsue.cooper@gmail.com) Tel: 01869 – 810903  
or on Aynho Village Facebook.

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Items for January 2021 - preferably before or by **December 19<sup>th</sup>** please to:  
Sybil at No.32 Roundtown Tel:810692 Email: [syban@btinternet.com](mailto:syban@btinternet.com) (Vol.656)  
and any comments re Newsletter to Rector ..... or \*Sybil.

\* Another year has gone by – and what a year it has been.

It is good to be back producing a “hard copy” for you all, and I would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to those of you who contributed at the last moment; to all those kind people who will again deliver “door to door”, and last, but not least, to Deborah (Gibbs) for the lovely colourful Front Covers she has been giving us each month.

*Sybil.*

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**This Newsletter is issued by “ST.MICHAEL’S CHURCH and  
locally printed in Aynho by “CICERONI TRAVEL”**

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## **Pastoral Letter December 2020. Revd Sue Cooper writes:**

Dear Friends,

As I write this, we are still in lockdown, with the hope that 2<sup>nd</sup> December will bring news that restrictions will be lifted to some degree that we can enjoy meeting with family and friends again over Christmas. We live in hope. With this in mind we are planning a schedule of services across the Benefice, but these will all be subject to restrictions being lifted, and what is permissible at the time.

Perhaps one of the most poignant things we have learnt from this year is that as good as facetime, mobile phones, zoom meetings and live streaming are, they are still a poor substitute for meeting face to face, and seeing others in the flesh, so to speak. We have been restricted from, shaking hands or hugging, and this has been a great loss, and the fashion for elbow bumping doesn't feel so good. What is it about being with someone in person, or speaking face to face, shaking someone's hand or being hugged that makes such a huge difference. After all, we can see or hear someone through virtual means and the other ways mentioned?

This year we have all experienced the negative consequences of lockdown with regards to social contact and interaction, and we have all felt the heartache and sorrow of not being able to see loved ones or hug them, and we will never forget how depressing it feels. Some folk could not be with their loved ones when they died, and some have to live with the knowledge that their loved one died alone. This is agonising.

Into this void God speaks comfort and consolation, but more than this, he reminds us that He is not a distant God. He proved this because over 2000 years ago in a small unknown town called Bethlehem, God sent his son Jesus to be born into this world of ours to live among us, and to walk with us and to guide us in the way to live. He knew our need of having a person to speak to, to see face to face, and to just be with us, so God sent his son Jesus to do this. In Jesus, God came to us in the flesh, to speak with us face to face, and to walk our walk. So if you are ever tempted to think that God is distant and doesn't understand or care about you, think again. God so loved the world that he sent his only Son, not to condemn us, or to tell us how bad we are, but to love us and save us. God's love for us is so great that he left nothing to chance; he sent Jesus to be our friend, our brother and our Lord. Why not let 2021 be the year that you open up your heart and mind to God, and allow Him to walk with you every day? You won't regret it.

I wish you all with a very joyful Christmas, and may 2021 bring us all a very happy and healthy New Year.



God bless you all, and those you love.

With love

**Rev Sue. Tel 01869 810903. Email [revsue.cooper@gmail.com](mailto:revsue.cooper@gmail.com)**

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### **LOCAL CHARITIES – What do we do? – What can we do?**

Through **St Michael's** the village supports local charities by putting together individual donations and gifting them to where they are needed. This has been to Banbury Young Homeless Project, to Katharine House Hospice, and then to the two local Foodbanks – Brackley and Banbury – and, after Harvest this year, to Polly in Banbury. We give what we can – we give where it is needed. AND it is needed in all these places at the moment – big time. To the Foodbanks and to Polly we give both a financial contribution and dry and tinned goods. Our focus for the food has been at Harvest Festival and this year, through your generosity, we took a carload of food to Brackley Foodbank. They were very, very grateful to Aynho. We have decided we need to continue this effort – and try to contribute over the winter ahead. So we are collecting food stuffs all the time at the Church – just in the porch – and we will deliver it as soon as we have an amount which makes sense to take to Brackley or on to Polly in Banbury.

We know people help where they can – by making contributions during their supermarket shops.....but if it helps you to help others by dropping off contributions – small or large – at the Church then please do. It will get to the people who need it – locally.

**THANK YOU.** See [Who-the-Church-helps2.pdf \(aynho.org\)](https://www.aynho.org/Who-the-Church-helps2.pdf)

## Pop Up – Christmas Fair/Bric a Brac – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Why not come along to the Cartwright Hotel on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December between **1030am and 3.30pm** to see what you can pick for Christmas from Douglas Ward's Bric a Brac Pop Up stall. The stalls will be laden with children and Christmas focus bric a brac – games, toys, puzzles and who knows what – a bit like a Christmas Fair table of goodies and at bargain prices! Not only is it good to get out after Lockdown.....but it will also raise a little money for Christmas in the community supporting those who are maybe on their own or a bit alone or just not seeing enough of families and friends or their neighbours. So it is a community effort to support those individual households with whatever we can do over the next month including Christmas and reaching into the New Year. (It will also help Douglas have some space in his flat – at the minute it is crammed with all the up and re-cycled goods waiting for the proper summer Fete stall – and he needs room!)

We might be able to support the Stall on the 12<sup>th</sup> December with a hot drink – a mince pie – or anything else that we have an idea about in the next couple of weeks. Perhaps bring a mask and think of social distancing in case we have to control the numbers over the 5 hours it is open. Keep an eye on Facebook Community for any updates. Thank you to Douglas for putting this on and to the Cartwright for hosting it. Come along and support if you can.

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## Carol Service – 20<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm

The Carol Service is at 5.30pm on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December in St Michael's Church. Watch out for details on the Village website and on the Facebook Community page – no doubt things will change during December. We really, really hope to have the Carol Service as part of our Christmas here in Aynho. We will be integrating Christingles in the normal Lessons and Carols – and this is special for the young children – please bring them along and get them to take part – everyone is welcome. There may be a cap on numbers in the Church and so we might have to make a list for the numbers allowed and let you know you have a place – watch out for the update.

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## Children's Christingle Workshop – 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10.00am

Little Ones... Please come and join us in the Church on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10 o'clock** where we will be holding a little and short '**Children's Christingle Workshop**'. The Rector will be with us and she will explain about the meaning of Christingle which, with its German origins means 'Little Christ Child' and is used to celebrate Jesus Christ as the 'Light of the World'. We will make the Christingles at the workshop - decorating an orange with a red ribbon, dried fruits, sweets and a candle - and then you can have them in the Carol Service the next day.

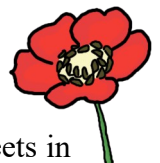
Please bring your little brothers and sisters – while you are doing the grown up things they can help us make the final touches to the big Christmas Tree in the Church - and the lights will be turned on for the first time - and then the lovely Christmas Crib will be unveiled. Everything will be provided to make your own 'Christingle'. **Please bring a parent along with you.** The heating will be on and we should have a bit of fun!

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## POPPY APPEAL IN AYNHO – THANK YOU

What generous and thoughtful villagers can do for a good cause! Collectively we managed to make a contribution to the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal of £682.64 in November.

This all came from the static collection boxes for the Poppy Appeal placed in houses on all streets in the village combined with the strong attendance (nearly 80 – and socially distanced) at the outside Remembrance Sunday Service on 8 November at the War Memorials. We did well for the Appeal – about 70% of what we normally do via the normal house to house collections. So thank you everyone for your generosity – and for remembering those men of Aynho who died in both World Wars. A big thank you to those who had the collection boxes – and found imaginative ways of reaching out!





## **OUR VILLAGE..... ENTERTAINMENTS**

### **ARMS-Aynho Recorded Music Society**

**Contact: Bob Mann 810869**

"Come Fly with me, let's fly down to Aynho,

In the Village Hall you can have a ball as we inhabitants all know.

The Music flows and our ardour grows as our favourite tunes are played.

Come fly with me, till this World's troubles fade"

(Apologies Sinatra). Let's hope we can meet next year

### **AYNHO HISTORY SOCIETY**

**Contact Keith McClellan 810346.**

Sadly we have had to cancel all our meetings this year since the first lock down. As most members are over 50 perhaps the vaccine will free us for most of next year. In the meantime, the pandemic is an important phase in local history for future generations. So we wish you all a Happy Christmas.

**Keith McClellan, Chairman of A.H.S.**

### **AYNHO GARDENING CLUB**

**Contact: Annabel Bellamy 810847**

Here are some things to do in your garden in December:

- Get planting - it is not too late to plant those spring bulbs.
- Dig over any empty borders and prepare the soil for next year's planting.
- Get pruning – Wisteria, fruit trees (open-grown ones) and roses.
- Add more roses to your garden..... you can plant bare root roses now.
- Look after the birds in your garden – clean their feeders and stock up on fat balls.
- Make sure you provide some water for them and keep it unfrozen.
- Insulate your outside taps and protect your terracotta pots to prevent cracking during the frosty weather (raise them off the ground).

As Members of the Aynho Gardening Club you should have received some information and an update of the Accounts that you would have been given at the AGM. Please let me know if any of you didn't get an email or letter and I will send you the information.

In the meantime **the Committee wish all the Members of the Aynho Gardening Club a Very Happy Christmas & Happy Gardening in 2021. Best wishes Annabel Bellamy**

### **AYNHO W.I.**

**Contact: Jill Wightman 811206 or Fiona Hodges 369122**

Yes we are all still here, being very quiet because of this current situation and, like hibernation, we look forward to Spring with a more determined WI. In the meantime unfortunately, there isn't going to be our usual Christmas party to look forward to though I have to say that our Presidents have done their best to come up with ideas, all of which will not work because of, well you know what! One thing is certain for the future and that is our Membership, normally due for renewal in January, will be carried on until the end of March. In fact our Head Office have declared that the membership year will now officially always start on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. Let us all look forward to our next meeting, with possibly some new members, but in the meantime there is Christmas to celebrate and although it might be different for many this year, we hope you all have a wonderful time. Keep in touch with your friends and keep safe.

### **AYNHO WRITERS' GROUP**

**Contact: Keith McClellan 810346**

We had another successful email experience this month when we had two lots of emailed submissions on "Getting Older". The variety of thoughts and ideas was amazing, especially reading them one after the other as we do now. This will also apply to our Christmas efforts when we try our usual method of guessing the writer although, of course, there will be a major variation on how this is managed. We will be writing about an "Unusual Christmas" or anything about Christmas really and wish everyone a **Happy Christmas.**

## **HEALTH WALKS** - normally each Thursday 10.00am from the Sports Field

At the time of producing the Newsletter, we are still on lockdown and the Health Walks are suspended until at least 2<sup>nd</sup> December. If there is any change after that date, I will put an amendment on the village website. If you do not have access to that or find it difficult, please contact me at [kathywhiteaynho@gmail.com](mailto:kathywhiteaynho@gmail.com) or 01869 810418 for the up to date position.

Thank you all for your patience. **Kathy White**

## **PILATES**

**In the Hall** – Monday/Wednesday 10.00am Tuesdays 6.00 -7.30pm

## **ADDERBURY, DEDDINGTON AND DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**

Our next 'Zoom' meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7.30pm presented by Kieran Metcalfe – 'Chasing the light'. If you would like to join us, please visit our website to find contacts and details. We can't wait until we can all meet again but, in the meantime, 'Zoom' keeps us going.

*Anne Hunsley* [www.addphoto.co.uk](http://www.addphoto.co.uk)

*Contact: Anne Hunsley* [www.addphoto.co.uk](http://www.addphoto.co.uk)

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## **AYNHO PARK CLUB DRAW**

**The lucky winner of October's Park Club Draw is Norman Stacey of College Fields.**

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## **VILLAGE ALLOTMENTS**

Bids are now closed for the space at the Village allotments in 2021. Five new allotment holders will take up part plots in the New Year – and one plot holder has given up a plot for re-allocation due to moving house and leaving the village. For anyone who has failed to apply this time round and would like a plot/part plot in the future please contact the Allotment Coordinator on 810847 to get your name down on the reserve list

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## **Planning Applications:**

S/2020/1838/FUL: Oak Gates, Millers Lane, Aynho OX17 3BW

Removal of single storey element, 2 storey side extension plus single storey ground floor front extension.

S/2020/2009/FUL: Aynhoe Park House, Aynho OX17 3BQ

Extension to the commercial kitchen and installation of plant equipment, internal alterations to remove existing fabric, installation of new gas supply, minor external alterations and refurbishment works.

S/2020/2048/FUL: 1 Blacksmiths Hill, Aynho OX17 3AH

Proposed front and rear porches, loft conversion and car port.

**The next Parish Council meeting is to be held via ZOOM:  
Mon 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7:30pm**

## **Contact details**

Chris Wilson is the Parish Clerk and can be contacted on email [clerk@aynho.org](mailto:clerk@aynho.org) or phone on 07887548774 or you can find us on the website [www.aynho.org](http://www.aynho.org).

## [FROM YOUR PARISH COUNCIL](#).....

### **Keep Aynho Beautiful**

In 2020 we have not had a chance to have either of the usual two litter picks. Whilst in lockdown 2.0 and in the run up to Christmas if you go for a walk around the village or local lanes please consider spending a little time collecting any rubbish. A few 'litter picker sticks', black bags and hi-viz are located on the bookshelf at the pavilion if you wish to borrow these. Please use the sanitiser before and after use. Report any location of any large items to the [clerk@aynho.org](mailto:clerk@aynho.org).

### **SOFEA food boxes**

Brackley Community Larder is now back up and running distributing FREE weekly food and produce boxes to people adversely affected by the current Covid-19 lockdown. The food is donated by supermarkets and producers and would otherwise go to landfill. The scheme is supported by charities FareShare, SNVB, Grand Union and also by Northampton ACRE and Brackley Town Council. Thank you to the volunteers in the village that have helped collect and distribute these. Please contact the Clerk if you want to be added to the list of recipients.

Donations can be made at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sofeacommunitylarder>

### **Buses**

**Northants Ability – Bus** [www.abilitycic.org.uk](http://www.abilitycic.org.uk)

A community interest company has now set up a pre-bookable bus service. It will run on a Thursday to Banbury and on a Friday to Brackley. All passengers need to be registered for contact tracing purposes and journey booked in advance, the booking office is 01327 604123 and open (M-F) 9am to 2pm. Bus passes are accepted. Masks should be worn and seating is social distanced.

**Cherwell Valley Rural Lynx – 07923422227** [ruralandschoollynx@gmail.com](mailto:ruralandschoollynx@gmail.com)

The Rural Lynx Bus Company will be operating a weekly service on a Thursday (Banbury) & Friday (Bicester). As a self-funding Service, a contribution will need to be paid. The minimum £3 & maximum £5 depending on pick up. The buses are all accessible for anyone with mobility problems. You will need to fill in a free membership form, so we are able to track & trace all our passengers. These can be picked up from the driver or phone us.

Thursday - Aynho grammar school bus stop 09:40 to Banbury 10:10

Banbury Town Hall 13:10 to Aynho 13:35

Friday - Aynho grammar school bus stop 09:25 to Bicester stand 7 10:10

Bicester stand 7 13:10 to Aynho 14:05

### **November Parish Council Meeting**

The PC met over ZOOM again, the budget was discussed for 2021-22 and agreed to set budget and therefore precept in the December PC meeting. It was decided to investigate replacing the old sheds at the pavilion with a shipping container. An ad-hoc 'Keep Aynho Beautiful' campaign would run in the month up to Christmas.

### **Aynho's Christmas Tree**

Whilst the Christmas Eve carol singing may not be possible in the village hall this year, we will still of course be putting up our Christmas tree on the green outside the Cartwright Hotel. We invite anyone who would like to, to hang a bauble on the tree and make it their own.

We'd like to thank Hadsham Farm for their very kind donation of a tree for the village. Thanks!

### **Aynho Eco**

As highlighted last month, one of the Parish Council's initiative for 2021 onwards is 'Aynho Eco'. The ambition is to improve biodiversity in the village and finding ways to help residents who would like to be more eco-friendly.

We've got lots of ideas which we're just starting to examine and will keep the village up-to-date as we develop initiatives. And, we'd really love to hear your ideas! What would you do to improve the 'green footprint' of the village?

To make all this happen we really need YOU (residents of Aynho) to get involved! Would you be willing to get involved to make an idea happen? Let us know by emailing your ideas and to volunteer ([click here](#)).

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**CARRY ON QUILTING**

Vicky and Stephanie, long term friends are starting to run quilting courses with the help from some  
skilled teachers. Our workshop is situated near Aynho on Upper Aynho grounds surrounded by open  
fields. The classes will have limited numbers resulting in plenty of attention for everyone in a fun and  
relaxed atmosphere. Have a look at our website for more details.

In the New Year, we will start our Quilt As You Go Block Courses with a Beginners and Intermediate  
course. We hope to expand the range of courses and talks we offer as we grow to include crochet,  
knitting, children’s courses, lace making, paper piecing and many more, so if there is anything you are  
interested in please get in touch via our email and we can always happy to discuss any ideas with you.

[www.carryonquilting.co.uk](http://www.carryonquilting.co.uk) email: [info@carryonquilting.co.uk](mailto:info@carryonquilting.co.uk)

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